

**MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INC. HELD ON 31 MAY 2022 IN CHARLES HAWKER ROOMS101/102 AT THE WAITE CAMPUS**

1. **OPENING:** The meeting was opened by the president, Steven Langley at 21:00 pm, following the AGM.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Karen & John Donkin, Stuart Hull, Lynton Huxley and Greg Johnson.
3. **MINUTES:** Minutes of the meeting held 26 April 2022 are not yet finalised and will be issued for confirmation at the next meeting.
4. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**  
**Minko Scrub:** Steven Langley advised that nest boxes will be installed on 18 & 19 June and invited members to participate.

The second Landcare Day is on Saturday 2 July 2022, in conjunction with Trees for Life.

**Hindmarsh Tiers National Park:** Birds SA are still looking for volunteers to undertake bird surveys and members who are interested in participating should contact Steven Langley.

**Location for Library:** Steven Langley stated that despite canvassing all likely venues, a new location for the library, has not been found. Unless one is found the library may have to be disposed of. Some suggestions were offered by members present and these will be followed up. Members strongly indicated that they wished to be consulted about the options available if the Management Committee cannot find a suitable location.

**Educational Webinars** the following webinars have been arranged:

Wednesday, 8 June 2022 - Fairy Wrens by Andrew Black

July – Black Birds (Ravens, Crows and Choughs) by Marilyn Browne

Steven Langley invited members to provide suggestions of topics and also for volunteers to present.

5. **NEW MEMBERS:** Alan Burns advised the following new members for May 2022

Kenneth Day & Dimity Knight	Eden Hills
Anita Corbran	Williamstown
Rob & Matilda May	Waterfall Gully
Ronald & Margaret Taylor	Modbury
Rebecca Prince	Crafers
Deby Prince	Victor Harbour
Patrick Reed	Exeter
Christine Denham	Mannum
Mark Leedham	Adelaide

6. **GUEST SPEAKER:** Dr Ray Nias – topic **Rats, Birds and Islands** – saving island species by eradicating invasive animals.

Dr Ray Nias gave an interesting presentation on the effect of eradication programmes undertaken on islands around the world and the benefit of these programmes to endangered bird species.

John Hatch thanked Ray for his presentation which was acknowledged by the members present.

7. **CONSERVATION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Ray Nias, the newly appointed chairman of the Conservation Sub-Committee presented an update on the major activities of the sub-committee.

**Future Meetings of the Sub-Committee**

The Sub-Committee aim to make the meetings accessible by Zoom as this would allow members from regional areas the opportunity to participate on the Sub-committee.

**Beach-nesting birds conference (May 1 – 3, Moonta)**

Ray Nias, Steven Langley and other Birds SA members attended the Birdlife beach-nesting birds conference 1 M – 3 May in Moonta. The conference was attended by 126 people with 20 guest speakers. The conference included presentations, many from Yorke Peninsula and South Australia, workshops and field trips. The documentary On the Right Track was shown and a group discussion held to gather views on the current situation with regards to recreational vehicles on beaches.

**Survey at Dry Creek (WB)**

Survey's conducted at Dry Creek have noted that the area is in poor condition and has few birds. Degradation of Buckland Lake was also noted.

**Current initiatives with respect to off-road vehicles. (JG)**

The discussion paper on vehicles on beaches commissioned by the previous government is due to be released for public consultation in the near future. The Conservation Sub-Committee is finalising a formal position paper on the issue for Birds SA.

8. **FIELD TRIPS:**

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 June long weekend: two night camp at Brookfield Conservation Park. Leader Ali Ben Khan.

Thursday 6 June Bushland Park, Lobethal. Leader Ali Ben Khan

Details of Birds SA field trips are in The Birder and on the Birds SA website.

9. **BIRD CALL:**

Albatross and other pelagics may be seen offshore on the southern coast with this bad weather blowing them in.

Robins are starting to turn up, Flame Robins at Strathalbyn  
Spinebills are thinning out  
Masked Woodswallows at Lake Hart  
Little Tern at Coobowie and Price  
Variegated/Purple Backed Fairy Wren at Giles Point Coobowie  
Owlet Nightjar and Southern Whiteface at Innes NP  
Ospreys on osprey towers at Gleasons Landing  
30 Painted Finches at Wichelina  
Black-chinned Honeyeater at Nangawooka Floral Reserve  
John Hatch advised that with the recent wet weather there were many birds on the Birdsville Track especially south of Mungeranie including grey falcon, bustard, inland dotterel, red chat, orange chat and large flocks of budgies. Members reminded to check out track conditions and closures in these areas.

#### **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Speakers for General Meetings:** John Hatch advised we had speakers for June and August meetings but was looking for 5 -6 people to give short talks at the July meeting. Anyone interested in giving a short presentation should contact John.

**Little Terns:** Andrew Black referred to the photographs of Fairy Terns at the Coorong in the last issue of The Birder and said that on closer inspection one looks like a Little Tern, possible some cross breeding.

**Bird Prints:** two birds which had been donated were offered to members and were accepted for donation to the Morphettville Medical Centre.

**11. NEXT MEETING:** To be held along with the AGM on Tuesday, 28 June 2022, at the Waite Campus, Charles Hawker Building rooms 101/102.

**12. CLOSURE:** The meeting was closed at 22:10 pm.