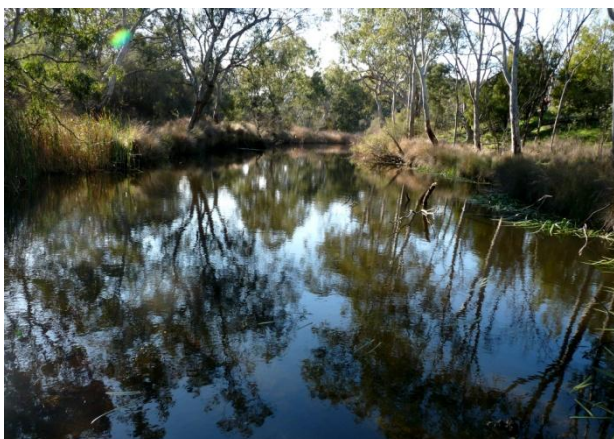


HFNC Excursion to Four Posts Streamside Res. & Hewett Pk – 19 June 2016

Rod Bird, Diane Luhrs & Dave Munro

Participants – John & Glenys, Dave & Lyn, Janeen & Ken, Diane & Rod, Karen, Peter, Hilary, Darryl.

This outing was conducted on a beautiful, sunny winter's day. We started at 10 am, at Four Posts Streamside Reserve, parking at the terminus of the closed road that begins about 500 m south of the bridge and runs past the old quarry. The parking area is adjacent to the reserve, near the bridge. On the basis of flora surveys made by HFNC members, and the presence of a good stand of Drooping Sheoak, in the late 1970s, HFNC's submission to the LCC was that this area of Crown frontage (12.4 ha south and 11 ha north of the river) be gazetted as a Flora Reserve. The government created a Streamside Reserve.



Wannon River from Four Posts Bridge



Four Posts Streamside Reserve



Rhyolite outcrop on N side of Wannon River



Four Posts Streamside Reserve vegetation



Southern Boobook

Three highlights resulted from our wandering in this reserve:

1. The sighting of a Red-necked Wallaby (*Macropus rufogriseus*) on the Wannon River frontage – the species had not been seen during any of the many flora surveys and excursions undertaken between Red Rd Bridge and the Wannon Falls since 1975. This 'new' record follows our first sightings of the species at Mt Rouse, Mt Napier State Park and Mt Eccles National Park in recent years.
2. The sighting of a Southern Boobook in the reserve.
3. A great display of fungi, including Ghost Fungus.

The dry run of years has resulted in the death of many eucalypts and Prickly Tea-tree; many Cherry Ballart (*Exocarpos cupressiformis*) are also showing dieback. The ground flora is heavily grazed by Eastern Grey Kangaroos (a mob of 31 were flushed) but seems to be in good health. *Drosera peltata* (Tall Sundew) had colourful leaves.



Macropus rufogrius



Drosera peltata

We added one plant (Austral Forget-me-not – *Myosotis australis*) to the Four Posts list, now being 131 native vascular species for both sides of the Wannan River.

Our next stop was for lunch at the eastern end of Hewett Park. This large laterised tableland site was once owned by Hamilton City Council and used as a gravel and sand quarry. The topsoil was pushed off down-slope and left in mounds, consequently the native shrub and groundcover vegetation on the tableland area is rather poor. The situation was made worse when the council allowed a Field Archery club to establish a number of stations in the reserve and a proliferation of tracks through it resulted. A rough shed was built and bales full of plastic bags were used as backstops for each target. Over time, the bales collapsed and plastic began to ‘decorate’ the reserve. The years have passed and that problem remains. The best vegetation is undoubtedly on the slopes and along the Crown frontage to the river.

From that parking place we walked down the steep slope to the Wannan River, a distance of about 200 m. Regrettably, vehicles have been creating quite a mess, driving over much of the higher ground. Vandals (perhaps children with a hatchet) had also chopped off several River Red Gums near the river. That aside, many more fungi were seen and the leaves of several species of orchids were noted. Two ‘new’ species for this reserve were found – Parsons Bands (*Eriochilus cucullatus*) and Gnat Orchid (*Cyrtostylis reniformis*). The Parsons Bands had finished flowering but the stalks and seed heads were still present and the leaves were very prominent.



Amyema pendula



Eriochilus cucullatus leaves and old head

We found very few plants in flower – a few Cranberry Heath, Wood Sorrel and Drooping Mistletoe (*Amyema pendula*). The mistletoe was a new record for Hewett Park, taking the total of recorded native vascular species to 114. The plant was growing on Manna Gum and Blackwood and several species of birds were busy at the flowers. Eastern Spinebills flew in as we were about to leave; this is the first time that species has been seen on this reserve. Our list of birds was modest; there were few where we went.

Birds seen at Four Posts and Hewett Park on 19 June 2016:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Australian Magpie | 9. Grey Fantail | 17. Eastern Spinebill |
| 2. Little Raven | 10. Brown Thornbill | 18. Southern Boobook |
| 3. Pacific Black Duck | 11. Yellow-rumped Thornbill | 19. Sulphur-crested Cockatoo |
| 4. Australian Shelduck | 12. Superb Fairy-wren | 20. White-throated Treecreeper |
| 5. Crimson Rosella | 13. Red Wattlebird | 21. Grey Shrike-thrush |
| 6. Long-billed Corella | 14. Whistling Kite | 22. Striated Pardalote |
| 7. Little Pied Cormorant | 15. White-eared Honeyeater | |
| 8. Laughing Kookaburra | 16. New Holland Honeyeater | |



Omphalena chromacea – Yellow Belly Buttons



Omphalotus nidiformis – Ghost Fungus



Psilocybe subaeruginosa



Psilocybe coprophila



Cortinarius australiensis



Aleuria rehana – Stalked Orange Peel Fungus



Scleroderma sp. –Earthball



Pisolithus tinctorius



Amanita xanthocephala



Xerula gigaspora



Cortinarius areolatoimbricatus



Cortinarius archeri



Native Truffles



Paxillus infundibuliformis



Austroboletus sp.



Amanita sp.



Ramaria ochraceo-salmonicolor



Boletus sp. and *Mycena*, *Lacaria* or *Marasmius* sp.



Hexagonia sp. ?



Lycoperdon sp. ?



Hygrophorous sp. ?

Fungi list, Four Posts, Wannon Streamside Reserve, Hewett Park on 19 June 2016

Species Name	Common Name	Comments
<i>Aleuria rehana</i>	Stalked Orange Peel Fungus	1 small colony, Hewett Park
<i>Agaricus</i> sp.	A Mushroom	Few, Hewett Park
<i>Amanita ochrophylla</i>		Several, Hewett Park
<i>Amanita xanthocephala</i>	Pretty Grisette	Few, Hewett Park
<i>Australboletus</i> sp.		Reticulated stem diagnostic.
<i>Clitocybe clitocyboides</i>	A Funnel Cap	Several groups, Hewett Park
<i>Cortinarius archeri</i>	Emperor Cortinar	1 specimen, Hewett Park
<i>Cortinarius areolatombricatus</i>		Clustered group, Hewett Park
<i>Cortinarius australiensis</i>	Skirted Cortinar	Caps 250 mm diameter, Hewett Park
<i>Discinella terrestris</i>		Small colony. 4 Posts
<i>Entoloma</i> sp.		Scattered, 4 Posts
<i>Hexagonia</i> sp. ?	Honeycomb Fungus	4 Posts, 1 specimen on a scarred eucalypt
<i>Hygrophorous</i> sp. ?	Snowy Waxy-gills	Hewett Pk
<i>Lycoperdon</i> sp.	Puffball	Scattered throughout
<i>Mycena sanguinolenta</i>	Bleeding Mycena	Single clump on dead Eucalypt, 4 Posts
<i>Mycena</i> sp.		Grey-brown, single. Throughout
<i>Omphalina chromacea</i>	Yellow Belly Buttons	Several colonies; throughout.
<i>Omphalina nidiformis</i>	Ghost Fungus	Several colonies; throughout
<i>Paxillus infundibularis</i>	Funnel Pax	2 specimens, Hewett Park
<i>Poronia erici</i>	Dung Buttons	Two specimens, 4 Posts
<i>Pisolithus tinctorius</i>	Horse Dropping Fungus	Few specimens; throughout
<i>Psilocybe coprophila</i>	Dung Psilocybe	1 specimen, 4 Posts
<i>Psilocybe subaeruginosa</i>	Blue-staining Psilocybe	1 colony, 4 Posts
<i>Ramaria gracilis</i> ?	Slender Ramaria	2 colonies, Hewett Park
<i>Ramaria ochraceo-salmonicolor</i>	Salmon Fairy Clubs	1 colony, Hewett Park
<i>Rhodocollybia butyracea</i>	Buttery Collibia	Several, 4 Posts
<i>Scleroderma</i> sp.	Earthball	1 specimen, Four Posts
<i>Xerula gigaspora</i>	Rooting Shank	Many throughout

