

Hi everyone

This is the **HFNC Newsletter for August 2022**.

General Meeting Thursday 18 Aug, 7.30 pm at HIRL – general business (see attached Agenda and Minutes of previous meeting).

Excursion on Saturday 20 Aug – Wild Mans Cave, Burrunj (Black Range). We leave Hamilton Visitor Centre at 9.30 am). If we find the Muirfoot Track beyond Mt Byron closed then we have a choice of a walk to the ‘cave’ at the Sth end of the range (about 2 km) or a drive to the Mudadgadjiin Picnic area Nth of HGH Corner and 0.5 km walk to the rock art sites on the Nth end of the range. Wendy & Peter McDonald will be our guides.

Report on Kanawalla Rail Flora Res tree-planting on Sunday 31 July – 6 volunteers (DL, RB, RZ, PH, PM, WM) spent the morning (9.30 am-12 noon) doing some weeding and replacement of 7 Silver Banksia, 4 Sheoak and 1 Bursaria from the 2020 planting plus a new planting and guarding of 17 *Leptospermum continentale* (Prickly Tea-tree) at the MacFarlanes Rd end. The plants were grown from seed collected from a lone near-dead shrub there (the only one in the reserve) in 2021. I planted a further 7 trees (5 Banksia & 2 Sheoak) on 4 Aug to complete the replacement of dead plants.

Report on the July excursion to Troopers Ck/Garr waterfalls walk in northern Gariwerd NP – we enjoyed a pleasant cloudy day with intermittent sunny periods. There were 11 participants, including Cathryn Carlyle and Ross Simpson who organised the walks. A report is attached.

Report on the June excursion to the Byaduk Caves and The Great Barrier in the Mt Napier SP – this was also held in fine weather and enjoyed by those who attended. A report will be distributed soon.

Acacia paradoxa removal at Wannan Flora Res, Sunday morning 28 August – volunteers required to continue our work in removing new seedlings of Hedge Wattle and continuing the work of cutting out larger shrubs that are eradicating the heath flora. Please bring stout gloves. The seedlings can either be pulled up or cut off at the base with loppers. Meet at the reserve at 9.30 am.

Fulham Reserve Cape Tulip/Sparaxis/Wild Gladiolus/AWO control Saturday 10 September – we will meet at the reserve near the first bend in the river at 10 am. We have worked on this reserve now for a dozen years and have at least succeeded in greatly reducing the weed infestation in this significant heathland reserve. We hope to continue while our members can help. All equipment and herbicide solutions will be provided for the wiping of the pest plants but please bring gloves.

September excursion and meetings – a reminder that there is a **campout Friday 16-Sun 18 Sep at Lorne**, with a trip to Anglesea Heath and Lorne forest area. The usual monthly Thursday meeting has been postponed to **Friday 23 September**, when we hope to have Birgita Hansen talk on ‘The Ecology of Latham’s Snipe’

Rod Bird
Secretary
Hamilton Field Naturalists Club