

Hello everybody

This is the **HFNC Newsletter about activities and events in November-December 2022**

Special Meeting Friday 18 Nov, 7.30 pm at HIRL – please note that this is not on our usual Thursday evening AND that our original speaker (Tien Hyynh) cannot attend. Yvonne Ingeme will present on the *Ecology of Southern Bent-wing and other bats*. Her talk will cover their ecological role in pollination, dispersal of seeds and consumption of insect pests as well as current research on bats and threats to various species from climate change, disturbance in maternity and roost caves, clearance of native vegetation and drainage of wetlands.

Excursion on Saturday 19 November – Gariwerd NP Peaks Trail (Mt Sturgeon circuit walk). We leave the Hamilton Visitor Centre at 9 am and will stop briefly at Dunkeld Tourist Office before proceeding to the Mt Sturgeon car park. Ross Simpson will be our leader.

Bear SF Fauna nest box inspection on Sun 27 November – leave Hamilton Visitor Centre at 9.0 am. Reto will lead this trip. The main aim is to check for fauna occupying the 10 boxes on trees.

HFNC AGM/General Meeting on Thurs 08 December, 7.30 pm at HIRL – election of office bearers and some discussion on possible speakers and excursions for 2023.

End of year get-together – our windup activity this year will be held on **Sunday 11 December at Nelson**. The format for the Sunday event will be a picnic lunch at mid-day, probably at the main park area in Nelson. Please bring your picnic food and drinks. For those who have time, there are a number of interesting places nearby to visit.

For those who care to stay overnight on Saturday, George Turner has kindly offered the use of Hillary's house at Nelson. If anyone is interested then please contact Reto (0467 090 906).

Report of Excursion to Dundas Range Scenic Reserve Southern sector on 23 October – please see the attached Pdf. We had a very interesting day despite some light rain. This was a new area for most members and many orchids and other wildflowers were seen.

Weed control activities – 3 members attended our AWO removal work at Nigretta Flora Reserve on Sunday 13 Nov. Rain was expected but did not arrive and we had a lovely warm afternoon and a great display of flora. In the morning we dug up 485 AWO and wiped 785 plants in the afternoon – unfortunately we were not able to cover all of the area. Our total this year for 3 visits was 4720 AWO. On Sunday we also sprayed 7 small areas infested with Cleavers (*Galium* sp.) – a bad weed resulting from garden rubbish dumping.

Rod Bird

Secretary, HFNC