

Hello everybody

HFNC's activities and events in October 2023.

This notice is a little earlier in the month than usual, in order to inform members of a change in the date of our scheduled activity at Fulham. This was to have been this Saturday 08 October but will now be on Sunday 15 October (see below).

Work activity at Fulham Streamside Reserve – 10 am on Sunday 15 October. Meet along the track off Edgewood Rd. Our aim is to complete the herbicide-wiping of Cape Tulip in the southern half of the western block that we have operated in for the last 15 years. We will take time to look for orchids and other wildflowers in the heath section.

General Meeting on Thursday 19 October at HIRL – meet at 7.30 pm. This is a general meeting to deal mainly with club business matters.

Excursion to Scrubby Hill on 'Brie Brie', Sunday 22 October – this is the date proposed in February when developing our program but I am waiting now on contact with Ted Mann to confirm that it will suit. If there is a change I will let you know. We would be leaving the Hamilton Visitor Centre at 9.00 am and Dunkeld Visitor Centre at 9.30 am. The area that we would like to visit is the 100 ha bush block on Ted Mann's historic property near Glenthompson. This bush remnant is a rarity in the district, something that Ted is proud of, and we will endeavour to make a list of the flora that we see. Our guide for the day will be Ross Simpson.

Work activity at Nigretta Flora Reserve, Saturday 28 October – we will leave the Hamilton Visitor Centre at 9.00 am. Our access will be from the northern side, courtesy of the adjacent landholder. We have worked on this site for 14 years, usually with 3 visits each Spring, to control African Weed Orchid (AWO) and others (e.g. Phalaris, Cleavers and Wild Gladiolus).. We will have only 2 visits there this year and probably only one visit next year. It is always an interesting site to visit, with just over 200 native species of flora, including many orchids. Hopefully we can have several helpers on the day (as usual, if there is 2 mm or more of rain expected we will not go there – but if less we will go but may choose to dig up the AWO tubers rather than herbicide-wiping them).

Report on previous activities

- **Fulham work activity on Sunday 24 September** – 3 members managed to herbicide-wipe the Cape Tulip on about half of the southern half of the western block.
- **Excursion to Weecurra & Wilkin on Saturday 30 September** – we had 6 members on this trip. Unfortunately several people confused the date or time and missed out. Also unfortunate was the breakdown of one vehicle (mine) along the way, resulting in a slight revision of the activities, but those who continued enjoyed the sunny day and the wildflowers on show. A report will be circulated later.

Rod Bird,

Secretary, HFNC