

Hello everybody

## **HFNC's activities and events in March 2024**

**Special Meeting at 7.30 pm on Thurs. 21 March at HIRL – Wendy McDonald** is our first presenter for 2024: featuring the **Natural histories of Christmas Island and Cocos Keeling Islands**.

Four members of HFNC Club travelled to Christmas Island and Cocos Keeling Islands; Diane & Rod in 2022 and Wendy & Peter in 2023. Wendy will showcase the beautiful birds and crabs seen there and will also cover some of the geology, history, flora and other fauna of these islands.

These trips were led by Peter and Rhonda Barrand of Heywood, who have been taking small groups of people to these islands for the past 20 years. Peter and Rhonda treated the groups to the best birding spots across these islands.

**Membership subscriptions for 2024** are due – these remain at \$20 for individuals or \$25 for families. Thank you to those who have already responded. As mentioned earlier, it would help our treasurer greatly if we could establish our membership numbers now, as that information is required by our insurer, Landcare Victoria Inc.

The easiest ways to renew membership is to use the internet option: CBA, BSB 063 513 and HFNC's A/C No. 00901086 (print your name and 'subs' in the description section of the internet form). Steve is also happy to accept subscriptions in cash at our meetings.

**HFNC Program of Activities & Events for 2024** – our program has now been finalised and you will find the details in an attached pdf and/or on our website. .

**Excursion on Saturday 23 March to Clarke Reserve & Cape Northumberland in SA** – we leave the Hamilton Visitor Centre at 8.30 am (Ruth Graney will be our leader).

**Report on the February excursion to the Jenawarra wetlands** – see attached pdf

**Forthcoming event – the launch of Jenni Mitchell & Mervyn Hannan's Gariwerd Art Book** is at 3.30-5.00 pm on Saturday 30 March, at Sterling Place Hall in Dunkeld. Everyone is welcome. For catering purposes, if you would like to attend then please rsvp Jenni on 0417 585 102.

**Recycling – the Container Deposit Scheme (a donation option for you to consider)**  
HFNC has been setup as a Donation Partner in Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic). For information please refer to <https://cdsvic.org.au/how-to-make-a-return> and <https://mytomra.com.au/digital-payout/cds-vic-west-app>

CDS Vic will provide a 10 cent refund for every eligible drink container returned with a readable bar code. Don't crush the cans! Most aluminium, glass, plastic and liquid paperboard (carton) drink containers between 150 mL and 3 litres are eligible.

Locally in Hamilton the refund point is the Hamilton Bowls Club at 92 Kennedy St.

The **attached bulletin** is about putting the CDS Vic West app on your smart phone and setting HFNC as your preferred payout for refunds. The funds will be used to support environmental projects.

The CDS Vic West app shows HFNC has received \$4.20 to date from donors.

Rod Bird

Secretary  
Hamilton Field Naturalists Club