



Bandicoot Tails

Newsletter of the Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park

No. 169
December 2017 – February 2018

The President's words:

Here is Peter Watton's President's Report for 2017, given at our AGM on the 16th. November at the Cherry Gardens CFS rooms.

This was another challenging but successful year for the Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park; there always seems to be a lot going on, both on and off park.

It pretty much started off with the prescribed burn in Bushrat Creek towards the end of November 2016, taking in some 67 hectares of the park. This burn had been in the planning stages for some time and, after a number of delays due the protracted rain that spring, eventually took place without any major problems. Some areas that we and DEWNR wanted to burn didn't take, like a couple of patches of the weed Erica, but all in all it was a success. Both the native vegetation and weeds have responded well to the burn, and DEWNR staff have been proactive in managing regrowth of fire responsive weeds like Blackberry, Boneseed, Broom and Erica.

Once again a considerable amount of time and effort has gone into the Almarda Project. In addition to the time our own volunteers contribute to the on-ground work restoring the park, we rely heavily on grants and fund-raising to engage contractors to do much of the heavy lifting.

Anyone keen to learn more about the Almarda Project are encouraged to check out the Almarda Report 2017, soon to be uploaded onto our website. While this year's report is a more modest publication than the first two, I am confident anyone interested in the progress of the project over the last financial year will find it a good read. There are also still copies of the 2015 and 2016 Almarda Reports available, which cover the background and purpose of the project and progress over its first two years – www.friendsofscottcreek.org.au

Since last year's AGM, there have been less fund-raising events, but we have been very successful in obtaining grant funding. There have again been significant funds raised through grants and contributed through DEWNR and Natural Resources AMLR. In this regard I have been helped immensely by our Ranger Jen Pitman, Volunteer Support Officer Kat Hill and District Officer Mark Fagan, who can all see the benefits of supporting our efforts to protect the biodiversity values of Scott Creek CP. They have all taken an active lead role in obtaining

the funding and managing the contractor work. Other grant funding has been received from the City of Onkaparinga and Adelaide Hills Council during the year.

This year John Wamsley again took the lead in developing the walking trail used at our Almada Project Open Day in May. Our autumn walk is now used to help showcase the Almada Project, with a self-guided walk along Almada Creek and through Almada Valley. Nearly 80 labels were placed along the walking trail, which matched numbers in a printed guide to help identify and provide information about various native plants and other points of interest along the way. Thanks to all the members of our group who helped set up and attend the event and a special thank you to Steve Davey for his efforts on the brushcutter, slashing the main parts of the trail. A total of about 70 people attended the event, with \$272 raised.

Thank you, once again, to all members of the FoSCCP who have contributed to our activities and been a part of our group this year, both on and off park.

In addition to our regular scheduled working bees restoring the 840 hectares that makes up Scott Creek Conservation Park, John Wamsley has started regular almost weekly bush gardening days at Almada Creek, which, as mentioned above, is a focal point for showcasing our Almada Project. There are also a number of our team who head out into the park in ones or twos to undertake additional, often specialist restoration work. Thanks to every one of this small but dedicated group of “Hands-on” volunteers.

Bird banding continues to run smoothly, when the weather permits, under the leadership of Don Reid, while our latest A Class bander, Jim Spiker, prepares to take on more of the record-keeping associated with our bird banding program over the next twelve months, to ease some of the workload on Don.

There is also our social committee who arrange monthly lunches at various locations around the district, giving us the opportunity to catch up and chat about life in general. A particular benefit of these outings is that it allows some of our “more mature” members, who are unable to get out in the park as often as they used to, to get to know and mingle with some of our newer members.

Once again we had an ornithological excursion to Laratinga Wetlands in Mount Barker earlier this year. While it was only a small group this year, we saw plenty of birds and enjoyed a lovely cuppa at Millies’ afterwards. An even smaller group of two (yours truly and Don) visited the Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year 2017 exhibition at the SA Museum at the beginning of September. In October, our spring walk did a loop around Bushrat Creek, to see first-hand the regeneration of the native vegetation following the prescribed burn about ten months earlier. A group of 13 of us, including some neighbours, enjoyed perfect weather for the walk and ran into plenty of other people enjoying a walk in the park. Among other things, we saw plenty of orchids along the way.

We have recently completed and had our new booklet published, in recognition of the first 25 years of our group’s commitment to restoring and protecting Scott Creek Conservation Park and a special celebration of our past president Tom Hands’ guidance and leadership during this time. The booklet will be launched at our AGM but, in addition to all other contributors, I would again like to thank Donna and Don Reid for their efforts putting the booklet together, and Les Peters for digitising it with InDesign.

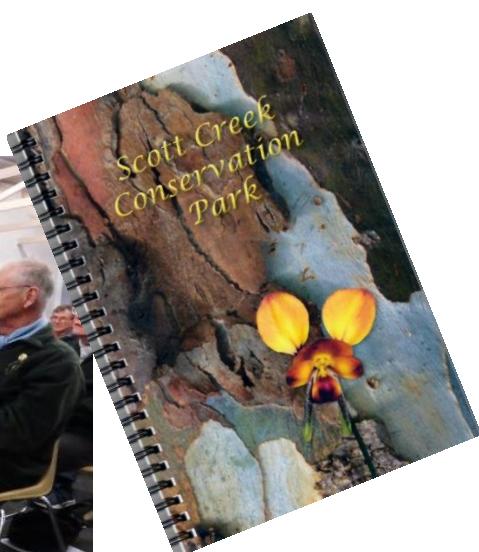
As usual, there is plenty of other work done behind the scenes, like organising the schedule of activities, including working bees and bird banding, people contributing articles for Bandicoot Tails and having it all put together. After 25 years as the group's Secretary, this year Don Reid has decided it is time to let someone else have a go, and so we are looking for one or more people to take on the various tasks that Don has taken care of so admirably for so long. I think it is safe to say that several major IT issues have caused him more than a few headaches in recent years. Last AGM Jenny Dawes took on a role as Administration Assistant, a suitable vague title that means I can ask her to do anything, but mainly involves publicity and the distribution of relevant email correspondence regarding upcoming events, plus plenty to do with our activity schedule. Though she tends to downplay her value, our very competent Treasurer, Donella Peters, also does a great job keeping the books for the group.

There was a total 2,913 FoSCCP volunteer hours contributed for the year to 30th June 2017, as reported to DEWNR (thanks to Jenny for compiling these for us), made up of:

- 910 working bee hours (666 hours for regular working bees plus 244 hours for additional informal work)
- 154 hours on surveys and assessments throughout the park
- 644 hours bird-banding, including data management
- 232 hours on events, including the Almada Project Open Day, *Wirrapunga* Open Garden fundraiser and a display at Belair NP Open Day celebrating its 125th anniversary
- 513 hours on administration and meetings, including Bandicoot Tails and grant writing and acquittals
- 173 hours compiling the Almada Report 2016
- 247 hours compiling the booklet celebrating the first 25 years of FoSCCP
- 30 hours on the website
- 10 hours on cartography

Peter Watton
President FOSCCP

At the AGM, Isobel Redmond launched our new booklet, celebrating the first 25 years of FoSCCP and paying tribute to the leadership of our inaugural President, Tom Hands.



The booklet is available for the special price of \$15 (plus postage and handling if applicable)

As mentioned in the President's Report above, Don Reid has decided that, after 25 years as the group's Secretary, it is time to hang up the pencil and give someone else the opportunity to take on this important role.

It is generally the Secretary who is responsible for keeping us in touch with both our own group's activities and information about broader environmental issues and events. There used to be a couple of dozen pieces of mail posted to us that got reported on at our regular general meetings, which Don and Donna thought they may have to build an extension to their home to store, although they ended up using a shed instead. In recent years the deforestation slowed and snail mail was replaced largely by emails, although Don said he still likes using paper for record keeping.

For much of his time as Secretary, Don was also responsible for compiling our newsletter, Bandicoot Tails, chasing Tom for the President's Words, and the schedule of activities from Tom and John B, before putting it altogether and posting or emailing it to our members. Other duties included managing the Friends' membership and taking minutes for our meetings, while Don and Donna also developed much of our early display materials, which were used at markets, field days and other events to promote our group's activities, and were major players in producing our 20th Anniversary calendar and the booklet launched at our AGM celebrating the group's first 25 years. At the same time, Don was also running and reporting on the group's bird banding activities...thanks Don, for such an amazing effort.

At the AGM we ended up splitting up the tasks previously included in the Secretary position between a number of people, perhaps a sign of how much work Don has been contributing as Secretary over the years. Jim Spiker will take responsibility for the correspondence component, while Lorraine Billett will become the Membership Officer and Donella has offered to add Minute Secretary to her existing Treasurer role. Meanwhile, I relieved Don of the task of compiling Bandicoot Tails a year or so ago, and we will rely on all members to help out with promotional opportunities.

Peter Watton

Our warmest congratulations to our FoSCCP President who is a very well-deserved 2017 SA Landcare Award winner. He was nominated by his colleagues at *Trees for Life* for the 'Australian Government Individual Landcarer Award'. Our best wishes to him for next year, when he will join the winners from the other award categories to represent SA at the 2018 National Landcare Awards.
(Jenny Dawes)



Don in his customary position at the front of the room taking minutes next to Peter at this year's AGM.

“Tails of Brown and Blue – the secret life of an Aussie Battler”

was the title of Petra Hanke’s excellent well-illustrated AGM talk. Petra certainly provided us with some fascinating insights into the lives of our lovely Superb Fairy-wrens, such as the number of nest predators that these tiny 10 gram birds must battle: e.g. ravens, currawongs, kookaburras, goshawks, rats, snakes and cats! It seems a wonder that any nests survive, and about 75-90% don’t.



While Petra explained that any Superb Fairy-wren with a black bill is a male (which is pretty obvious when he’s sporting his blue-and-black breeding plumage), his gender is less clear when he’s brown like the adult females and immature birds. So, if the bill is brown, we can’t really be sure what gender the wren is just by looking at it. Petra told us the wrens live in pairs or family groups in their own territories. The abundance of insects and spiders (their food source) and the amount of protective understorey habitat can impact on their density.



Studies in Canberra’s Botanic Gardens have revealed one secret about their lives – the (usual) three eggs nestled under the mother are not necessarily those of the resident ‘social father’ who is busily protecting them. It takes the eggs about 14 days to hatch, and the hatched young fledge in about a fortnight. The daughters usually make their own way in life soon while the sons stay around.

Petra’s particular research builds on the discovery of her research group that, amazingly, the mothers teach their young a specific call while they are still in the egg, which the young use to beg for food from the tender age of two days after hatching, when they are still naked and blind.

Petra will be continuing her Ph.D studies on this at Flinders University for which she uses wrens in Scott Creek and Cleland Conservation Parks. Along with her husband Chris, she is also a valued member of FoSCCP and very welcome in our birdbanding group. We were pleased we could show our appreciation of her talk by giving her a copy of our newly launched beautiful 25th Anniversary Book about the park.



Petra during her presentation at the AGM

Summary by Jenny Dawes and edited by Petra

Congratulations and thanks to Glenn Giles for being the first to point out the “deliberate” mistake in the last Bandicoot Tails, when I inadvertently left the *Hibbertia virgata* name in while cutting and pasting text boxes for the photo of *Leucopogon concurvus*; for his trouble he wins...absolutely nothing!

Right: *Leucopogon concurvus* was inadvertently labelled *Hibbertia virgata*



Contractor work being undertaken in the park:

It is around this time of year that new grant funding is made available and other contractor funding is being planned. During October, FoSCCP submitted two new grant applications, to follow-up and extend previous work:

- AMLR Community NRM Action Grant 2017-18 – \$5000 for contractor woody weed control in Blechnum Creek and Scott Creek.
- DEWNR on-park Volunteer Support Grant 2017-18 – \$5000 for contractor woody weed control in Derwentia Creek, Kangaroo Gully and Helipad Hill, and Bridal Creeper control in the Panhandle.

Once again this financial year, additional funding will also be provided by our NRM Volunteer Support Officer, Kat Hill, and NR AMLR District Officer, Mark Fagan. The work orders for this funding are being put together at the moment.

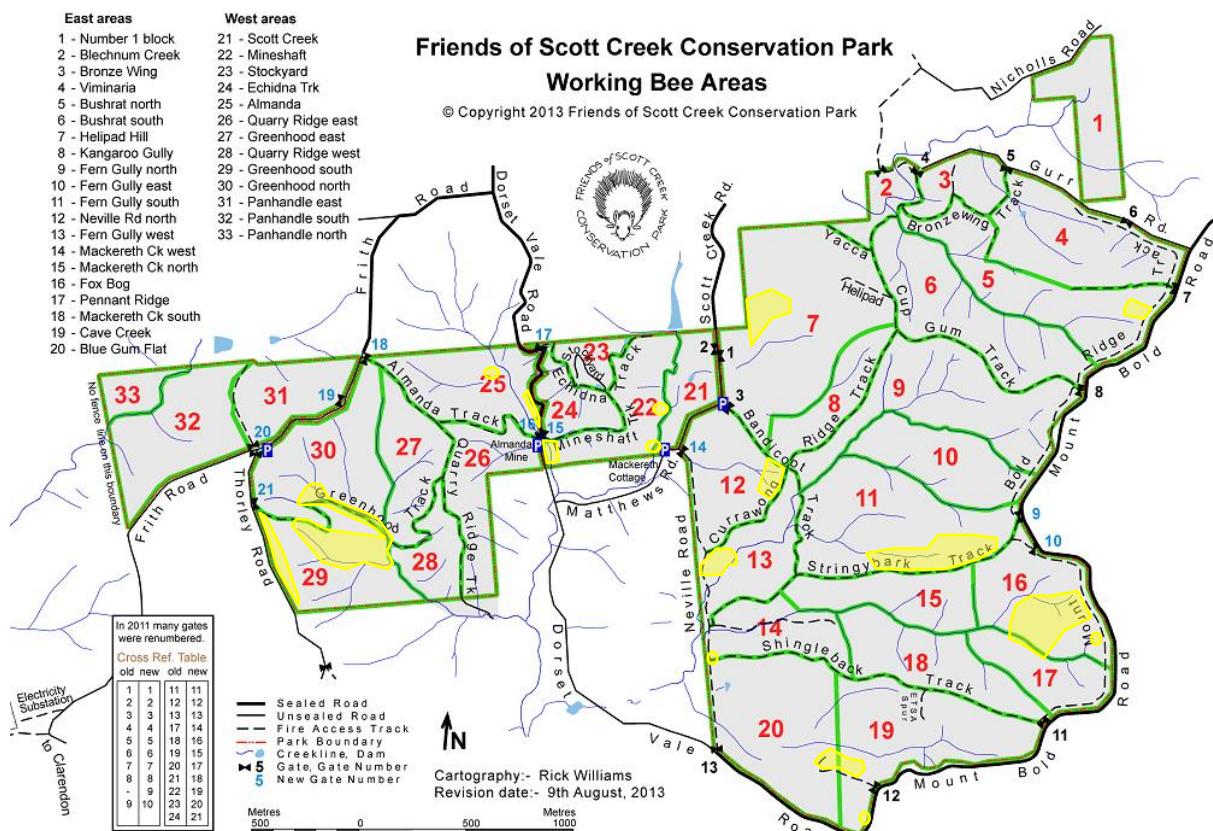
As mentioned in the last Bandicoot Tails, most of the contractor work arranged last year has been completed, with the following having a few loose ends to tidy up:

- \$5000 DEWNR on-park Volunteer Support Grant 2017: \$2000 woody weeds Panhandle, \$1000 Bridal Creeper Neville Road, Blue Gum Flat and Panhandle, \$1000 Blackberry follow-up Derwentia Creek, \$1000 Blackberry follow-up Kangaroo Gully – due date 31st December 2017.
- Almanda Project funds in FoSCCP account, work mostly completed but still to be invoiced:
 - \$5000 Brown Frog Creek follow-up woody weeds including Boneseed and Erica.
 - \$4000 North Bushrat to follow-up and extend Blackberry and woody weed control in unburnt areas.

Working Bees:

Once again, the group's regular working bees over the past three months have been spread throughout much of the park. Most of the activities went ahead as planned, although there were a couple of changes due to absentees and a report by our local NRM District Officer, Mark Fagan, of a largish patch of Pink Erica regrowth just south of Fox Bog, which resulted in our moving one working bee to that location.

Additional work done by our volunteers on top of the regular activities included a couple of trials using different herbicides to spray Cape Tulip and Periwinkle, treatment of Olives by drill and fill or frill and fill, and some other woody weed control.



Spring walk 2017:

On Sunday 8th October, a group of 13 Friends and neighbours attended our spring walk. We headed off from gate 7 on Mount Bold Road, following the Mount Bold Ridge Track to Cup Gum Track and on to Tom's seat, where we stopped for a break. Our photo, below, shows a typical scene for our group, with some on hands and knees looking at or photographing tiny flowering plants, others taking in the views and still others having a drink and a chat.

We continued around Cup Gum Track until we got to Bronzewing Track, where we cut up to the walking track alongside Viminaria Creek. Until this point, we had been circling around the area of the Bushrat Creek prescribed burn, undertaken by DEWNR late November 2016.

The regeneration is very impressive and we saw a good variety of native orchids along the way, including what I believe are both the green and dark forms of *Prasophyllum elatum* (Tall Leek-orchid). Below is some information about this interesting orchid from the 2011 DVD *South Australia's Native Orchids* by R. J. Bates, edited and distributed by the Native Orchid Society of SA.

“This is perhaps the best known of the South Australian leek orchids and is commonly seen after fire near Adelaide. Displays are spectacular after fire or ploughing. In fact, except on limestone, it rarely flowers without fire. Many years ago farmers planting wheat on newly rolled and burnt scrubs had even noted *P. elatum* flower spikes sticking up above the crop.”
...and...

“Leaves on non flowering plants are typically greenish, small and spindly but after fire the same plants are many times larger and often much darker. This dark colour makes the plants look like dead sticks and probably gives them some protective camouflage as kangaroos do eat the plants.”



A Lament

1972 saw the release of the film ‘Silent Running’. It passed under the popular radar but has come to be regarded as one of the best science fiction films of all time.

In the story, all of earth’s remaining natural systems are housed in a series of domes floating in space, outside the orbit of Saturn.

The tension in the film begins when the order goes out to destroy the domes because ‘no one cares about the forests anymore’. After violence and difficulty the film ends with just one remaining dome drifting off into interstellar space, tended by the remaining little robots who are the real stars of the story.

Silent Running echoed the environmental sentiment of its day, but sentiment fades and changes with time. Earth’s current situation has become more like that futuristic scenario, with the last of the planet’s remnant forests falling to make artefacts for landfill or to open up land for mega-farms, feeding a population explosion which no one seems to care about any more.

I was recently appalled to read that a previously untouched area of the Amazon rainforest is about to be mutilated by a series of dams designed to create a navigable waterway for transporting agricultural produce from the Matto Grosso, an area south of the Amazon which has been under wholesale clearance for decades.

But I lament this no more than I lament the loss of our own unique and priceless natural systems in South Australia.

We never had a lot of high rainfall country to begin with, so what we have lost is all the more devastating, though only to those who know and care about what used to exist. Herein lies part of the tragedy from the past and a glimpse of what the future holds, for our population, already the most urbanised in the world, will become increasingly alienated from all but the most immediate and regulated bits of the natural world.

The litany of destruction is long and I am not sure if we can assign blame when people only acted in a way that was conditioned by their era.

Still, it is hard to comprehend the totality of the eradication, and how no dissenting voices were raised in parliament where we might have expected to find some enlightened thought for the needs of future generations.

Mine is a eulogy for the lost earth, for the vast expanses of the mallee, for the bushy sugar gum woodlands of lower Eyre Peninsula, unique in all the world, for the swamps of the south east, teeming with life, the mysterious forested valleys of the Mount Lofty Ranges, for Yorke Peninsula (nearly all of it) where the woodland used to come right down to the sea. The heathlands and swamps of the Fleurieu. For the mid north and the arid woodlands beyond Goyder’s Line, cleared for crops which never grew, the magnificent ephemeral wetlands and Red Gum forests of the Murray River, now reduced to a degraded, dish-water-filled artificial lake.

And so much of this alteration was for the benefit of a very small number of people and minimal returns. But perhaps the greatest and most inexplicable loss can be found on Kangaroo Island. Without researching the matter, I think it is safe to say that no other sizable area of liveable land on the planet remained uninhabited into the nineteenth century.

Kangaroo Island represented a natural historian's dream, yet even in my lifetime the stunning tall sugar gum forests and numerous, pristine, wooded river catchments were cleared, again for the sake of a very small number of people. We even managed to render the Kangaroo Island emu extinct before the date of official settlement. What might we have gained in unique tourism opportunities and scientific research to offset the loss of agricultural produce?

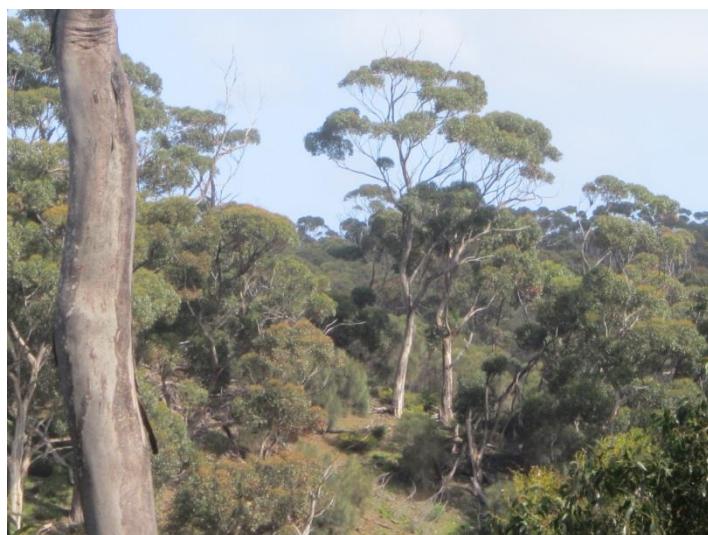
It is easy to be critical, and unproductive to simply lament, but I cannot help seeing what has been lost, having been painfully aware of it since I was a child.

If people no longer care, or even know what they ought to care about, maybe it doesn't matter. Maybe people in some future age will be happy in the reality of their apartments and virtual worlds, but there is the other possibility, even if it is remote, that the human race will reach a point of enlightened governance. What then will people think of us?

One positive note is that in South Australia's North West we still have one of the world's significant, largely untouched wilderness areas in the Great Victoria Desert. The third largest desert in the world and the most vegetated in Australia. So far, we haven't been able to 'use' it.

One last chance.

Stephen Davey



Above & left: Remnant tall Sugar Gum woodland in the Western River Conservation Park on the North West coast of Kangaroo Island.

Photo Gallery

A few of us have been lucky enough to get some good looks at our local Square-tailed Kite.

According to the Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges website,

"Square-tailed Kites are considered Endangered in South Australia due to their low abundance – perhaps fewer than 10 birds in the whole state – so we're very lucky to have them here!"

Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges is running a research project to learn more about this incredibly rare visitor."



To avoid potential disruptions to nesting and breeding, locations of nests are not publicly revealed, but it is known that there has been at least one Square-tailed Kite sighted in our region periodically over the past few years. Jenny was lucky enough to get an extended look at it in Scott Creek in September (above photo), while the Hands-on Team got their own show put on as the kite circled overhead just above the tree canopy at our recent working bee in Kangaroo Gully (below photos)...perhaps a rename to Square-tailed Kite Gully required...



On the next page, we have photos of some of the many orchid species in the park, which have been flowering during this spring. Top to bottom, left to right, we have *Prasophyllum elatum* (dark and green form Tall Leek-orchid), *Pterostylis nutans* (Nodding Greenhood), *Pterostylis plumosa* (Bearded Greenhood), *Diuris pardina* (Spotted Donkey-orchid), *Diuris orientis* (Wallflower Donkey-orchid), *Calochilus robertsonii* (Purplish Beard-orchid), *Thelymitra antennifera* (Lemon Sun-orchid), *Thelymitra rubra* (Salmon Sun-orchid), *Caladenia pusilla* (Pigmy Caladenia), *Glossodia major* (Purple Cockatoo), *Thelymitra glaucocephala* (Scented Sun-orchid), *Thelymitra ixiooides* (Spotted Sun-orchid), *Caladenia tentaculata* (King Spider-orchid), *Caladenia leptochila* (Queen Spider-orchid) and *Pyrorchis nigricans* (Black Fire-orchid). Names are from those used in the Census of SA and several of these have other names accepted by the Native Orchid Society of SA, like *Calochilus robertsonii* is *C. platychilus*, *Caladenia pusilla* may be *C. pygmaea* and *Caladenia tentaculata* and *C. leptochila* are now in the genus *Arachnorchis*. I am happy for anyone to correct any other names that may have been mis-identified.



Calendar of Environmental Events coming up:

Monday 11th December 2017 is International Mountain Day

Organisation: United Nations

International Mountain Day is an opportunity to create awareness about the importance of mountains to life, to highlight the opportunities and constraints in mountain development and to build partnerships that will bring positive change to the world's mountains and highlands



Website: www.un.org/en/events/mountaintoday/

International Mountain Day is celebrated on December 11, 2017. The day was designated by the United Nations General Assembly in 2003, as they encouraged the international community to organize events at all levels on that day to highlight the importance of sustainable mountain development. The day is observed every year with a different theme relevant to sustainable mountain development.

FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) is the U.N. Organization mandated to lead observance of International Mountain Day. The days aim is it to raise awareness about the relevance of mountain forests and the role they play within a Green Economy as well as in climate change adaptation measures. International Mountain Day adopts a different theme every year.



This year's theme is *Mountains under Pressure: climate, hunger, migration.*

A mountain is a large landform that stretches above the surrounding land in a limited area usually in the form of a peak. A mountain is generally steeper than a hill. The highest mountain on Earth based from sea level is Mount Everest (8,848m (29,029ft)) in the Himalayas of Asia. The highest known mountain in the Solar System is Olympus Mons on the planet Mars at 21,171m (69,459ft). (With material from: Wikipedia)

Websites: <http://www.fao.org/international-mountain-day/2017-theme/en/>
<https://www.cute-calendar.com/event/international-mountain-day/27905.html>

According to NatureMaps, the DEWNR website, the highest point in Scott Creek CP is 407m, near the powerline tower on Shingleback Track, although there are several other spots along the side of Mount Bold Road that are also just over 400m, while Mount Lofty is 700m.

Website: <https://data.environment.sa.gov.au/NatureMaps/Pages/default.aspx>

Friday 2nd February 2018 is World Wetlands Day

World Wetlands Day is celebrated internationally each year on 2 February. It marks the anniversary of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention) in Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971.

World Wetlands Day was first celebrated in 1997. Since then government agencies, non-government organisations and community groups have celebrated World Wetlands Day by undertaking actions to raise public awareness of wetland values and benefits and promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands. These activities include seminars, nature walks, festivals, announcement of new Ramsar sites, newspaper articles, radio interviews and wetland rehabilitation.



Website: www.environment.gov.au/water/wetlands/world-wetlands-day

The Standing Committee of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands approved "Wetlands for a Sustainable Urban Future" as the theme for World Wetlands Day in 2018.

Website: <https://www.ramsar.org/activity/world-wetlands-day>



Bird Banding Notes:

We have had another busy 3 months, but with cancellations due to winter weather (not unexpected). Here are our results:

16/17 September	Mackereth Creek	76 captures inc. 10 recaptures 13 species We were flooded with New Holland Honeyeaters, with 57 of them in our total. At least a third of them were juveniles (photo to the right), obviously the result of a successful breeding period this year. Notable recaps were a 4+ Red-browed Firetail and a 5+ Yellow-faced Honeyeater.	
30 September/ 1 October	Gate 7 site	37 captures inc. 7 recaptures 15 species An average weekend with some notable recaps. We recorded a 12+ Brown Thornbill, our oldest to date. The record is held by a bird banded at Arbury Park, Bridgewater and last captured in November 1995, dating it at 17 years 5 months. We also captured two Striated Thornbills aged 9+ and 8+. These small birds have surprisingly long life spans, if they can dodge the predators out there. Our other exciting recapture was a White-throated Treecreeper aged 7+ (again our oldest). The record here is held by a bird banded at Kennedy, Queensland and last aged at 8 years 25 days.	
4/5 November	Scott Creek	22 captures inc. 2 recaptures 8 species Although conditions were good the birds did not co-operate very well. There were plenty around – in fact we achieved our best ever observed list with 43 species seen and/or heard over the weekend but most were in treetops high overhead. One of our captures was a male Superb Fairy Wren aged 6+, a good life span for this species.	
18/19 November	Thorley Road (Gate 20)	6 captures A most disappointing weekend at a site that usually gives us plenty of work to do. Conditions were very good, but the birds weren't at home. To add insult to injury, one of the local kangaroos decided to take short cut through one of our nets. The result is one not very happy A class bander now patiently wielding a netting needle to repair the damage!	

Next month we will try to get to the Derwentia site, which has had its access problems due to track washouts. Jenny has tried the Greenhood Track in from Gate 24, Thorley Road and finds it passable to 4WDs. However, we may have to arrange a shuttle for those with regular cars. I will be in touch with our active participants about this before the event.

Don Reid



Above: Don, Paul and Jim hard at work.

Programme December 2017 – February 2018

During summer, all working bees meet at Gate 16 Almanda Car Park at 8.30am

NOTE: WORKING BEES CANCELLED IF FIRE BAN OR SEVERE WEATHER WARNING/THUNDERSTORMS ANNOUNCED FOR MOUNT LOFTY RANGES.

Working Bee Committee contact details at the end of newsletter.

Month	Date	Activity	Location
DECEMBER			
Saturday, Sunday	2, 3	Bird banding	Gate 15 Mineshaft Track, 6.00am
Tuesday	5	Working bee	Gate 20 Area 33 Panhandle NW, Sollya & Broom
Sunday	10	Working bee	Gate 1 Area 7 west, Sollya & woody weeds
Friday	15	General mtg followed by the FoSCCP Christmas Function	At Butler's residence, 5 Trevelyan Court, Coromandel Valley, general meeting at 5.30pm followed by Christmas get-together 6.00pm start. BBQ available, BYO meat, drinks, chairs and a salad/ sweets to share
Saturday, Sunday	16, 17	Bird banding	Gate 21 Derwentia Valley Greenhood Track, 6.00am
Saturday	23	Working bee	Gate 15 & 16 Area 22, 25 Almanda Creek, various weeds
JANUARY			
Tuesday	2	Working bee	Gate 6 Area 4 east, woody weeds & bulbs
Saturday, Sunday	6, 7	Bird banding	Gate 9 above Fox Bog, 6.00am
Sunday	14	Working bee	Gate 5 Area 3, <i>Acacia longifolia</i> & other woody weeds
Wednesday	17	Social Lunch All welcome!	Fred's – Aldgate, 12 midday (220 Mt Barker Rd)
Saturday, Sunday	20, 21	Bird banding	Gate 3 Crossroads, 6.00am
Saturday	27	Working bee	Gate 2 Area 22, Rose etc. on west bank of Scott Creek
FEBRUARY			
Saturday, Sunday	3, 4	Bird banding	Gate 4 Gurr Road, 6.00am
Tuesday	6	Working bee	Gate 8 Area 9 east (Cup Gum Track's south slope), woody weeds
Sunday	11	Working bee	Gate 13 or 14 Area 14 north slope of Twisted Chimney Track, woody weeds
Tuesday	13	General mtg All welcome!	Venue and time to be advised
Saturday, Sunday	17, 18	Bird banding	Gate 3 Kangaroo Gully, 6.30am
Thursday	22	Social Lunch All welcome!	The Artisan - Blackwood, 12 midday (down lane beside Bendigo Bank)
Saturday	24	Working bee	Gate 9 Area 10 eastern end, woody weeds

Meeting at the Almanda Mine for working bees enables everyone to be brought up-to-date with late changes to the programme. Bring a small back pack in case we are working further from the cars.

NOTE: NEW 8.30AM START FOR SUMMER WORKING BEES

Office bearers: Any queries on Friends activities, please contact your office bearers.

President: Peter Watton (H) 8270 4354 (M) 0427 010 949, 11 Banes Road, Coromandel Valley, 5051. Email: peterw@treesforlife.org.au

Vice President & Correspondence Secretary: Jim Spiker (M) 0430 247 705, 42A Vancouver Avenue, Panorama 5041. Email: spikpics@internode.on.net

Treasurer & Minute Secretary: Donella Peters, (H) 8339 5639 (M) 0407 417 247, 10 Boomerang Cres, Aldgate, 5154. Email: dld@internode.on.net

Administration Assistant: Jenny Dawes (H) 8388 2297 (M) 0427 841 425, Email: jdawes@chariot.net.au

Membership Officer: Lorraine Billett (H) 8278 6623) (M) 0427 093 839, Email: lfbmrb@adam.com.au

Bird Banding Coordinator: Don Reid (H) 8388 2123 (M) 0488 174 992, 224 Mt. Bold Road, Bradbury, 5153. Email: dre00249@bigpond.net.au

Working Bee Co-ordination: Peter Watton, Jenny Dawes, John Wamsley & Glenn Giles

