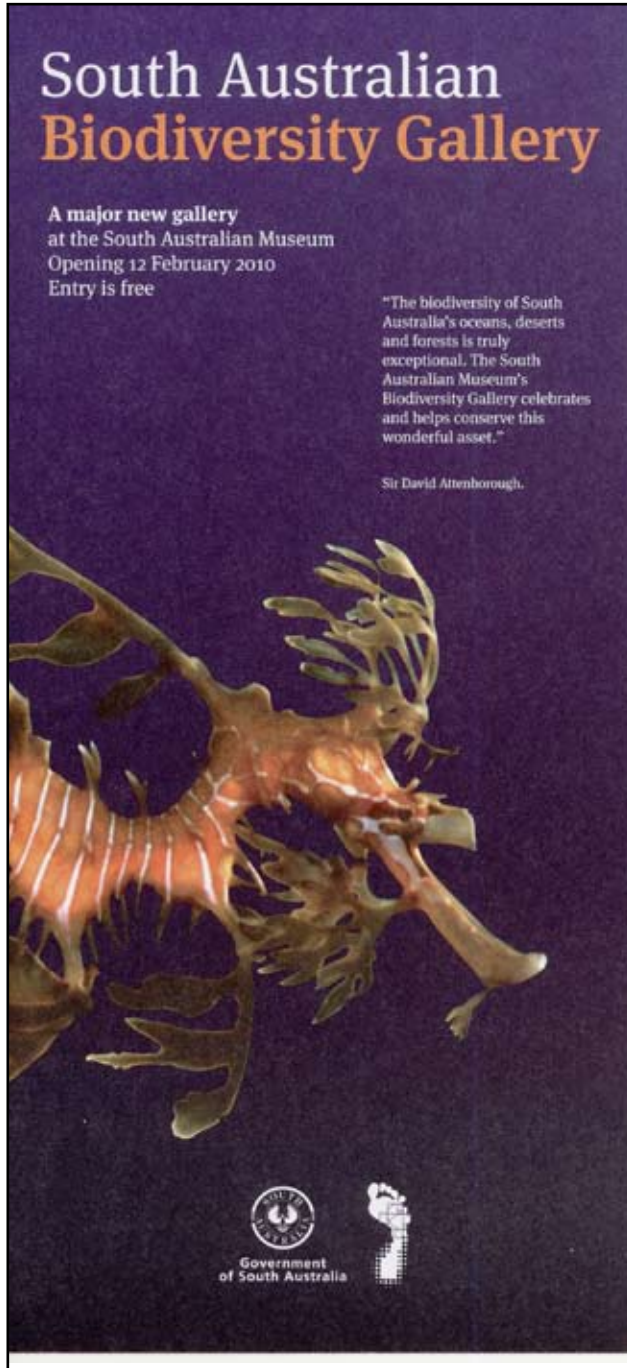


FRIENDS of the GREAT VICTORIA DESERT PARKS

Newsletter Number 37, March 2010



IN THIS ISSUE

- South Australian Biodiversity Gallery.
- Welcome to new Office Bearers
- Editors note
- Cooks Corner - simple scones
- Social event to the Salisbury Wetlands and Watershed Cafe
- 2010 Field Trips
- Membership fees are now due
- Douglas Scrub
- Diary Dates
- Web sites

The new Biodiversity Gallery at the SAMuseum provides visitors with a journey through South Australian habitats from the Arid, Semi-Arid, Temperate Woodland, Coastal to the Underwater. Eighteen concept cases also feature. These include: 'Parasites you live with'; 'Feeding at Sea'; 'Life Underground'; 'Extinctions'; 'Evolution'; 'Camouflage and Deception'; 'Survivors' and 'The Need to Breed'.

WELCOME to new Office Bearers

At the AGM held on 19th February the following officer bearers were elected: Neville Hudson President; Gordon Smith Secretary; Ross Mathews Treasurer; Doug Smith Sales Manager; Peter Facy co-ordinator of the 2010 field trips; Katherine Gaukroger Supper Supervisor; Jim Bond Social Organiser and Bill Dowling/Fiona O'Connor Webmasters. Editor and Safety Officer positions to be advised.

Sincere thanks go to outgoing office bearers, especially Bill Dowling for his outstanding contribution as outgoing President and Shelagh Bond for her sustained contribution as Treasurer.

President: Neville Hudson nhudson@senet.com.au

Secretary: Gordon Smith 08 8556 2308

Treasurer: Ross Mathews

Membership fees from 1st January 2009 will be \$25 pa payable to Treasurer, 9 Harrow Road, ST. PETERS 5069 S.AUST. payable on 1st January of each year.

Newsletter Editor: Jan Forrest OAM - forrestjan@adam.com.au

Articles for newsletter may be posted to Editor, Friends of the Great Victoria Desert, C/- South Australian Museum, North Terrace, ADELAIDE, 5000

Meetings: three meetings are held annually in the Camden Community Centre, 7 Carlisle Street, CAMDEN PARK.



COOKS CORNER
 recipe courtesy Ray's Outdoors

Simple Scones

What You Need:

- 3-4 cups flour (self raising is better but plain is ok)
- 375ml can of lemonade or lemon flavoured soft drink
- 300ml Thickened Cream



Method:

1. In a bowl mix flour, soft drink and cream to form a soft dough
2. If mixture is wet, add more flour
3. Tip onto a floured surface
4. Using hands, flatten and shape into about 4cm thick
5. Using a glass with a touch of flour on the rim, press into mixture to form scones
6. Place in greased dutch oven with lid on and cook for about 10-12 minutes until golden brown
7. Makes about 12.

Ray's Outdoors



CLUB OUTING to SALISBURY WETLANDS followed by lunch at the WATERSHED CAFE
 Thanks Ruth for the photos.

Our **next meeting** will be held at 7.30 pm on Friday 18 June 2010 at the Camden Park Community Centre, 7 Carlisle St, Camden Park.

All members and prospective members are welcome. The agenda will be posted in the member's area of the website before the meeting. The guest speaker will be Geoffrey Sandford who has researched the exploration of the GVD area.

our website address: www.fgvd.org.au

An apology from the editor - Jan Forrest.

Please accept my apologies for not providing a newsletter since March last year.

I have been fully occupied at the SAMuseum working on the Museum's new Biodiversity Gallery. This stunning new gallery opened to the general public on 12th February and unfortunately my commitment to this project last year left little time for outside interests.

I retired on 26th Feb (after 37 years at SAM) and I am now keen to continue my involvement with FGVD and your newsletter. Please send me some articles!!!

When next you visit the Museum I am sure you will be amazed at this new gallery which we hope will prove to be one of the most exciting new galleries to be found in any Museum in Australia. The gallery contains over 2,500 animals and will be a celebration of the South Australian landscape and the animals that call our state home.

The **South Australian Museum Biodiversity Gallery** contains over 2500 vertebrates and many many more invertebrates. The **underwater** habitat contains a replica of one of the Normanville Jetty piles and contains over 500 invertebrates specimens. Each specimen was individually cast and painted. You will be amazed by the bright colours and weird shapes of some of these animals. Video of jetty piles around SA illustrate the diversity of these habitats.

Later in the year Friends of the GVD and Friends of the Simpson Desert might like to combine to view the new gallery with Jan Forrest as their special guide.

Further information in the next newsletter.

2010 FIELD TRIPS

The field trip this year will be run as two groups to reduce size and allow more members to participate. Each group will be limited to a maximum of 8 vehicles and each will travel similar routes over separate two-week periods.

The first group, led by Peter Facy, will carry out bird surveys, animal track surveys and photographing of existing DEH vegetation plots. This group will leave Ceduna on Thursday morning 22nd July and travel via Maralinga, Emu and Tallaringa, finishing in Coober Pedy on Wednesday 4th August.

The second group, led by Phil Gaukroger, will carry out new vegetation plot surveys between Maralinga and Emu and also if time permits, between Tallaringa Well and the Dog Fence on the Anne Beadell Highway. This group will leave Ceduna on Monday morning 9th August and will travel the same route, finishing in Coober Pedy on Saturday 21st August.

We are hoping that both groups will be taken on a tour of the Maralinga village and bomb sites on the way through.

Registrations for the two Field Trips will open on Saturday 12th March. Registration details will be sent to all members by email and post.

Attention all Friends and Prospective Friends!

2010 MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE

If you haven't already paid, please photocopy, or tear off the form below, or download a form from www.fgvd.org.au and send it with your \$25 membership fee to:

Ross Mathews
Treasurer, FGVD
9 Harrow Road,
ST. PETERS 5069 S.AUST.

APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

SURNAME: GIVEN NAME:
PARTNER'S / FAMILY MEMBERS NAME(S):
ADDRESS:
SUBURB:
STATE: POST CODE:
TELEPHONE: (HOME) (WORK)
MOBILE: EMAIL:
VEHICLE TYPE:(PETROL / DIESEL)
REGISTRATION NUMBER:
HF RADIO: (YES / NO) CALL SIGN(S).....
SAT PHONE: (YES / NO) NUMBER:

A membership fee of \$25 (for individuals or families) is enclosed. (New members who joined after 30 September need not repay for the following year). New memberships will receive an iron-on GVD Friends Logo and a copy of the book "Shrubs and Trees of the Great Victoria Desert".

SIGNED:..... DATE:

DOUGLAS SCRUB - McLAREN VALE'S BEST KEPT SECRET

Located near McLaren Flat in the southern vales winery district *Douglas Scrub* is the Girl Guides camping, conference and environmental education centre.

This is your invitation to attend an OPEN DAY at Douglas Scrub, Douglas Gully Road, McLaren Flat (opposite Woodstock Winery) on Sunday 23rd May from 10.00am - 4.30pm.

This wonderful property which includes a portion of heritage listed scrub, caters for all age groups. Clubs especially adult clubs and family groups are welcome.

A total of 58 people can be accommodated (or 29 using bottom bunks only) in comfortable bunkhouse accommodation. Camping sites are unlimited and there are a number of secluded camping areas so campers, caravan clubs (powered and un-powered sites), four wheel drive clubs, walking clubs and family groups can be afforded privacy, yet still have close access to toilet blocks. There is one on-site van.

Douglas Scrub also caters for day picnic groups and day conferences and seminars.

The **Open Day** will provide an opportunity to check out the facilities, walk the nature trail and view the native animals.

This property is a wonderful venue for weekend get-aways. Although the location is so close to Adelaide, the heritage scrub setting, tall trees, birds and facilities ensure a relaxing time. The local area also provides tourist venues to visit, including a cellar door winery just across the road.

If you are interested in viewing the property at another time contact Managers Stephen or Vicki on 08 83820155 or email dscrub@senet.com.au. Bookings are made at Guide House 8418 0900.

So if you, a member of your family, your school, adult club, youth club or business are looking for an inexpensive venue for overnight accommodation for a family reunion, weekday or weekend get-away, a day conference, seminar or picnic please contact the Douglas Scrub Managers, Guide House staff or Chairman of the Management Committee Jan Forrest.

In recent years very large capital costs have meant financial viability of the property has been compromised. As a consequence the Board of Girl Guides SA are considering selling *Douglas Scrub*. This would be a tragedy for the people of South Australia. The committee have twelve months to 'turn the property around' and your booking will ensure the property remains viable. Please pass this information onto others who may be interested in checking out Douglas Scrub at the open day or who may be interested in making a booking.

Contacts:
Douglas Scub Managers: 08 0383 0155
Guide House for bookings and info. : 08 8418 0900
Jan Forrest (chairman): 08 8297 8230
Helen Goldney (deputy chairman): 83325341



DIARY DATES

MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING: Friday 18th June 7.30 at Camden Community Centre, 7 Carlisle Street, CAMDEN PARK at 7.30. Guest speaker will be Geoffry Sandford who will speak on exploration of the GVD area.

FOLLOWING MEETING DATE: Friday 5th November, 2010

FIELD TRIP DATES: trip one - 22nd July (from Ceduna)- 4th August (at Coober Pedy)
trip two - 9th August (from Ceduna) - 21st August (at Coober Pedy)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Neville Hudson	President	08 8556 6782
Gordon Smith	Secretary	08 8556 2308
Ross Mathews	Treasurer	
Doug Smith	Marketing	08 8268 4625
Jan Forrest OAM	Editor	08 8297 8230

WEB LINKS

DEH information on Mamungari Conservation Park:
<http://www.parks.sa.gov.au/mamungari/index.htm>

Friends of Great Victoria Desert: www.fgvd.org.au