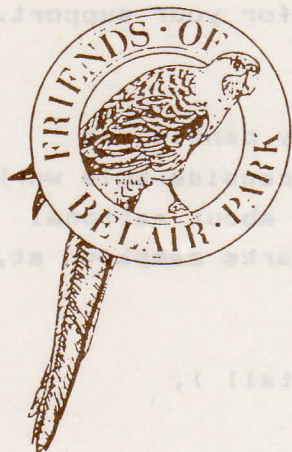


FRIENDS OF BELAIR PARK NEWSLETTER # 9, May 1988.

The Friends of Belair Park.



The Friends group exists to provide opportunities for people, young and old, to be involved in supporting the work of Park Rangers in maintaining the park. For those wanting to know more about the park itself, there are General Meetings on the 2nd Thursday night of the month in the Belair Information Center at 7-45 p.m. Also on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoons the Friends have a nature walk in the park lead by Ray. Nash. For people who wish to work there is, seed collecting, propagation of seed and the care of the seedlings, weed removal, cutting and selling Christmas trees in December, rubbish collecting, planting trees and shrubs followed by watering and general care etc.

To ensure that all the above happens, there is a planning meeting to which all members may attend if they wish, on the 4th Thursday evening of the month. This meeting is held at the home of Ron and Beth Pitman's home at 7-30 p.m. If you want to join in, you will always be most welcome:- if you want something to be done that is not presently occurring, then feel free to discuss it with any member of the group.

For further information read the various notices below.

The Executive Committee is:-

John Hunwick President.
Ron Pitman Secretary.
Paul Reece Treasurer.
with members Barry & Marianne Burley,
Beverly MacLean and Paul Hallam.

RECENT EVENTS.

1 Street Stalls.

The assistance of Friends in running our street stalls has been overwhelming! In March we raised \$162.00 and in April \$174.00. This money has been used to support the ST.O.P. Campaign in relation to advertising in some five country newspapers about the plight of our parks. A special thank you must go to Marianne Burley for all her organisation of the stalls, and to Barry Burley for the splendid banner and display material.

Here is a note from Marianne regarding our third and final street stall for the time being,

"The Friends of Belair Park announce our third and biggest trading table yet, to support the ST.O.P. Campaign. With wonderful support from Friends, family of Friends and N.P.W.S. staff we raised \$174 from our last effort. Can we achieve \$200 this month? We would be pleased to receive produce from 9.15 a.m. onwards outside Blackwood Chem-mart on Saturday May 21st or phone Marianne Burley 278-2782 if you wish your goods to be collected. Thank you for your support."

2 Display Screens.

The Friends have purchased a series of display panels, as mentioned in the last Newsletter. Owing to the considerable work of Barry Burley we have been able to put on displays about national parks, Friends of Belair Park and the Staff our Parks campaign at,

- (1) Blackwood Library,
- (2) Victoria Square,
- (3) Main Road, Blackwood (with street stall),
- (4) Elizabeth Shopping Center,
- (5) Blackwood High School Library.

3 Support for Park Staff.

During March the Friends refused their work services in the park to support the ST.O.P. Campaign.

4 Weeding Program.

On Sunday the first of May five Friends and two members of the S.A. National Parks Association spent about three hours pulling African Bone Seed on the Pines Oval Road, quite a significant area was cleared. Our thanks go to the two S.A.N.P.A. members for their welcomed help. During the afternoon four Friends collected Eucalyptus seed and made a short and interesting walk.

COMING EVENTS.

1 Next Meetings.

The General Meeting for May the 12th will discuss the Main Oval Pavilion and will be followed by a talk on 'Birds' by Brian Glover. This should be a very interesting evening so please arrange to attend.

Project meeting for May will be held on the 26th.

Sunday Activity meeting on the 29th of May will be more African Bone Seed pulling and seed collecting, along with the V.I.P. people.

The June General Meeting on Thursday the 9th will be a members night, so if you have anything of interest to discuss then come along with it.

PLANNING meeting for June will held on the 23RD

The Activity meetings for June will be held on Sunday the 26th and will be again held with the V.I.P. people, this time collecting rubbish and seed collecting.

The July General Meeting will be held on Thursday the 14th and R. Nash will give a talk and slide show on Carnivorous Plants of Australia.

Project meeting for July will be held on the 28th.

Sunday Activity for July will be held on the 31st and will be a planting day.

The General Meeting for August will be on the 11th with a talk on Heritage Grants.

2 Meeting Dates for the rest of this year — 1983 are as follows:-

GEN Meeting		PLANNING Meeting		SUNDAY Activity	
May	12	May	26	May	29
June	9	June	23	June	26
July	14	July	28	July	31
August	11	August	25	August	28
September	8	September	22	September	25
October	13	October	27	October	24 *
November	10	November	24	November	27
December	8	Birthday Party Monday December 19th.			

* The Cleland Walk is to be held on October 24th.

Activity Meetings to end of year.

May 29th, (with V.I.P.s) weeding (Bone Seed) and collecting seed. (RAY NASH)

June 26th, (with V.I.P.s) collecting rubbish and seed. (RAY NASH)

July 31st, planting. (RAY NASH)

August 28th, planting. (RAY NASH)

September 25th, Cleland Walk preparations. (JOHN HUNWICK)

October 24th, the Cleland Walk. (JOHN HUNWICK)

November 27th, pulling Soliya and seed collecting. (RAY NASH)

December 17th, SELLING Christmas TREES (RON PITMAN)
AND 24TH

All evening meetings to start at 7-45 am, unless indicated, in the Belair Park Information Centre, enter the Park via the Western entrance off the Upper Sturt Road, the gate will be unlocked at 7-30 pm, if coming later than 7-43 pm, please latch the gate after you. PLANNING meetings will be held at the home of Ron and Beth Pitman, 10 Lowan Ave., Glenalta and start at 7-30 pm. Sunday Project meetings will start from the Information Centre at 10-00 am. Generally the Sunday meetings are held on the following Sunday after the PLANNING meeting unless stated otherwise in subsequent Newsletters.

3 Tuesday afternoon walks.

These walks in the park, start at 2 p.m.—on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, meeting at the Information Center unless

notified differently.

4.

The walk for Tuesday 10th May will be near the Upper Sturt entrance.

The walk for Tuesday 24th May will be to the lower waterfall.

Bring your car entry permit if you have one, otherwise beg a lift into the park from one who has such a permit.

Special Note:

Due to the insurance problem, only Friends of Belair Park will be allowed to attend these walks. Ray. Nash wishes to discuss this problem further with members.

Come along and explore the park with Lynda Knight and Ray. Nash. Contact Lynda (tel # 2782623) or Ray. (tel # 2785694) for further information.

4 Membership.

Subscriptions fall due in January (fees run from January to December, and so 1988's are due). Pay at one of the meetings or contact the Treasurer, Paul Reece (tel # 3730548). Fees are, Family \$15-00, Single \$10-00 and Concession \$7-50. Subscriptions to 'People Parks and Preservation \$5-00.

5 Library for the Friends.

It has been suggested that the F.O.B.P. start to establish a library of books relevant to wildflower identification, bird watching, the Belair Park etc. Daphnie Johncock has volunteered to be responsible for it. What do you think? Do you have any suggestions for purchases? How would you like to see it operate (if at all)? Your ideas on this would be welcome.

6 Main Oval Pavilion.

Members of the Friends are urged to seriously consider the proposition that we or the S.A. National Parks Association, on our behalf, lease this building from the N.P.W.S. It is believed that such an arrangement could be used to upgrade this historical building to be used for example, as a Community Education Study Center. For a few months it could be hired out as a shelter shed for those using the Main Oval and the money raised, along with other money we are able to raise by sponsorship support, would allow us to supervise its restoration. A person capable of doing this task is willing, it requires community support to see that it happens.

There are many difficulties, as well as advantages and disadvantages of our Friends group being involved in this venture. If you are interested and/or feel strongly about this issue then please come along to the General Meeting of May 12th to share your views.

7 Belair Nature Notes.

The bush is awakening again, quite a few orchids will now be coming into bloom, other plants are also beginning to flower. Already

fungi are being found and in June many will be seen if hunted for. It is suggest that members go out and see what they can find and perhaps write a short article for this column.

8 Sunday Volunteers In Parks (a non-member group of F.o.B.P.)

Once a month various people gather at the information center at 10 am and led by Ray. Nash perform various volunteer duies. If you are interested then you will be most welcome to come along and help.

These meetings for 1988 will be held as follows:-

May 29th (also F.o.B.P. activity), Bone Seed pulling and seed collecting.

June 26th (also F.o.B.P. activity), Rubbish and seed collecting.

July 24th, planting.

August 21st, planting.

September 18th, weeding and planting.

October 16th, Bone seed pulling, rubbish and planting.

November 13th, 3.5 hour walk, collecting rubbish on the way.

December 11th, watering plants and collecting seed.

Also if you wish to pull Bone Seed plants then there is an area for this very useful and exercising activity. It is along the right hand side of the road to Pines Oval, starting at the western end, where there are piles of pulled Bone Seed plants. For further information contact Ray. Nash or Ranger Terry Gregory.

If any person is interested in weed control work during the week then please contact Ray. Nash or Ranger T. Gregory.

BIRDS OF BELAIR - PART 1

Acanthiza chrysorrhoa. Yellow-rumped Thornbill.
Uncommon, restricted to open areas.

Acanthiza lineata. Striated Thornbill.
Abundant in Messmate Stringybark forests, but has been recorded from most areas of the park.

Acanthiza nana. Yellow Thornbill.
Uncommon, recorded most recently from the north-western and south-eastern sections of the park.

Acanthiza pusilla. Brown Thornbill.
Commonly observed in dense undergrowth.

Acanthiza reguloides. Buff-rumped Thornbill.
Common throughout the park.

Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris. Eastern Spinebill.
Frequently seen throughout the park.

Accipiter cirrhocephalus. Collared Sparrowhawk.
Rare, last recorded from Sugar Gum plantation in 1978.

Accipiter fasciatus. Brown Goshawk.
Individuals have been reported from Long Gully, Sparkes Gully and Peroomba Creek.

Acrocephalus stentoreus. Clamorous Reed-warbler.
Used to be a regular spring-summer visitor to Railway Dam between 1948 and 1957, but has not been recorded since.

Aegotheles cristatus. Australian Owlet-nightjar.
One specimen collected from the park between 1971 and 1974.

Anas gibberifrons. Grey Teal.
Infrequent sightings have been made on Playford Lake and Minno Creek.

Anas platyrhynchos. Mallard.
Common, often interbreeds with Pacific Black Duck.

Anas superciliosa. Pacific Black Duck.
Commonly found on Playford Lake, Raihway Dam. and in Minno and Tarnma creeks.

Anhinga melanogaster. Darter.
Rare, one female was sighted on Railway Dam in 1957.

Anthochaera carunculata. Red Wattlebird.
Fairly common throughout the park.

Anthochaera chrysoptera. Little Wattlebird.
Uncommon, an irregular visitor to the park.

Anthus novaeseelandiae. Richard's Pipit.
Rare, noted as having been recorded from the park.

Aquila audax. Wedge-tailed Eagle.
Occasionally seen overhead, usually in the eastern half of the park.

Ardea novaehollandiae. White-faced Heron.
Frequent visitor to the lakes, ovals and Sparkes and Long gullies.

Ardea pacifica. Pacific Heron.
One was recorded in 1952 and another flying overhead in 1975.

Artamus cyanopterus. Dusky Woodswallow.
Common throughout the park.

Artamus personatus. Masked Woodswallow.
Not recorded since 1933.

Artamus superciliosus. White-browed Woodswallow.
Not recorded since 1933.

Barnardius barnardi. Mallee Ringneck.
Two reports, both in 1944; probably an aviary escapee.

Barnardius zonaris. Port Lincoln Ringneck.
One bird seen at scattered locations, probably an aviary escapee.

Biziura lobata. Musk Duck.
One record only of a bird on Playford Lake in 1977.

Cacatua galerita. Sulphur-crested Cockatoo.
Uncommon, occasional sightings from open areas in recent years.

Cacatua roseicapilla. Galah.
Common, especially in the River Red Gum associations and other open areas.

Cacatua sanguinea. Little Corella.
Rare, several sightings of one pair near court 29.

Callocephalon fimbriatum. Gang-gang Cockatoo.
One record only of a single bird near Playford Lake, probably an aviary escapee.

Calyptorhynchus funereus. Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo.
Uncommon, chiefly a summer visitor feeding on pine cones and banksia seeds.

**Carduelis carduelis*. European Goldfinch.
Small flocks are frequently seen in the western part of the park, not recorded prior to 1933.

**Carduelis chloris*. European Greenfinch.
Frequently recorded as a spring and summer visitor.

Cecropis ariel. Fairy Martin.
Uncommon, with small groups reported from the vicinity of Railway Dam.

Cecropis nigricans. Tree Martin.
Common, being most numerous in open areas and during spring and summer.

Chenonetta jubata. Maned Duck.
Frequently seen on Playford Lake.

Chrysococcyx basalis. Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo.
Rare, although a regular spring-summer visitor.

Chrysococcyx lucidus. Shining Bronze-Cuckoo.
Only one record since 1933, from the south-eastern portion of the park in 1977.

Chrysococcyx osculans. Black-eared Cuckoo.
Rare, recorded prior to 1933 and then not until 1976 when one sighting was made near the northern boundary.

Cinclosoma punctatum. Spotted Quail-thrush.
Rare, recorded prior to 1933 with one subsequent sighting in 1953.

Climacteris leucophaea. White-throated Treecreeper.
Common throughout the park, favouring the Messmate Stringybark forests.

Climacteris picumnus. Brown Treecreeper.
Uncommon, a small population is resident in the area between Pines Oval and the Woods and Forests Department nursery.

Colluricincla harmonica. Grey Shrike-thrush.
Common throughout the park.

**Columba livia*. Feral Pigeon.
Flocks are frequently seen overhead.

Coracina novaehollandiae. Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike.
Common throughout the park, being most numerous in spring and summer.

Corvus mellori. Little Raven.
Common throughout the park.

Corcorax melanorhamphus. White-winged Chough.
The only records are of a single bird sighted several times on the golf course in 1958 and 1959.

Coturnix novaeseelandiae. Stubble Quail.
Rare, one flushed near Upper Sturt Lodge in recent years and one dead bird found in 1977.

Cuculus pallidus. Pallid Cuckoo.
Only two records since 1949. One dead bird picked up between 1971 and 1974 and one observed near Upper Sturt Lodge in 1977.

Cuculus pyrrhophanus. Fan-tailed Cuckoo.
Uncommon, with small numbers present in the more densely vegetated areas of the park.

Cygnus atratus. Black Swan.
A pair of released birds are resident on Playford Lake.

Dacelo novaeguineae. Laughing Kookaburra.
Common, being most numerous in the developed areas.

Daphoenositta chrysoptera. Varied Sittella.
Commonly observed throughout most of the park.

Dicaeum hirundinaceum. Mistletoebird.
Uncommon with only scattered sightings in recent years.

**Dromolus novaehollandiae*. Emu.
Commonly seen in western portion of the park. These birds were released from the Native Fauna enclosure and have not been recorded as breeding since their release.

Egretta alba. Great Egret.
One record only from Playford Lake in 1977.

Elanus notatus. Black-shouldered Kite.
One record only of a bird near Melville House in 1976.

Emblema bella. Beautiful Firetail.
Single record from Sparkes Gully.

Emblema guttata. Diamond Firetail.
Recorded prior to 1933 with one subsequent record from the vicinity of Echo Tunnel.

Emblema temporalis. Red-browed Firetail.
Common, small flocks can be seen throughout the park.

Falco berigora. Brown Falcon.
Infrequently seen in the park, last recorded in 1977.

Falco cenchroides. Australian Kestrel.
Infrequent visitor to the park, last seen in 1978.

Falco longipennis. Australian Hobby.
Frequently observed near Playford Lake.

Falco subniger. Black Falcon.
One record only of a single bird in 1978.

Falcunculus frontatus. Crested Shrike-tit.
Uncommon, but probably resident in the park.

Fulica atra. Eurasian Coot.
Frequent summer visitor to Railway Dam and Playford Lake.

Gallinula tenebrosa. Dusky Moorhen.
Common and resident on Playford Lake and Railway Dam.

Gallinula ventralis. Black-tailed Native-hen.
Not recorded prior to 1975, but now frequently encountered around Playford Lake.

Geopelia placida. Peaceful Dove.
Rare, last record is of a pair on the railway line near the Woods and Forests Department nursery.

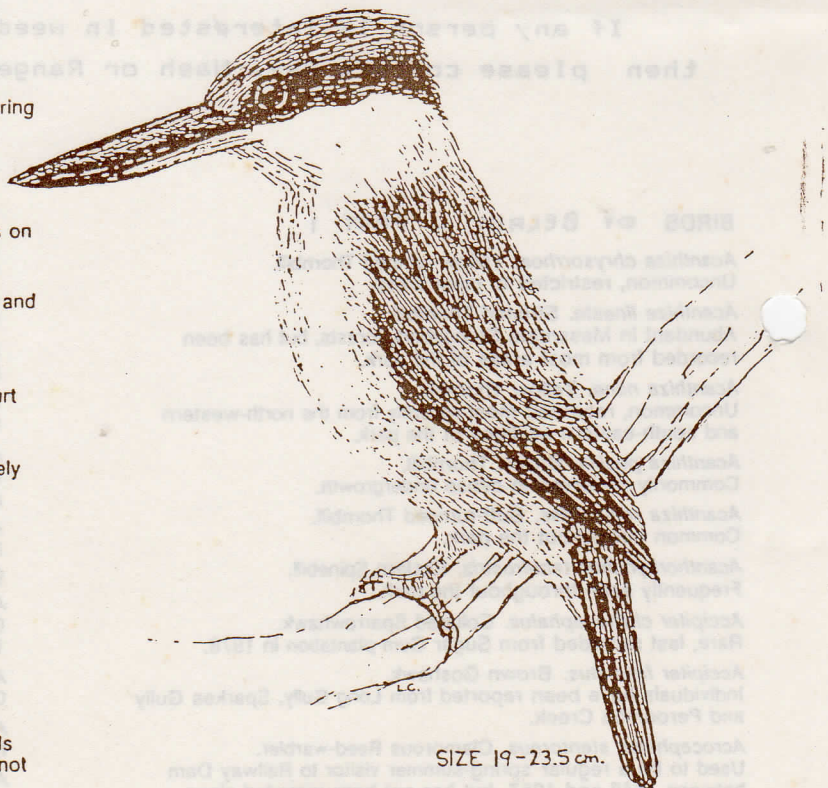
Glossopsitta concinna. Musk Lorikeet.
Very common in the western half of the park.

Glossopsitta porphyrocephala. Purple-crowned Lorikeet.
Abundance varies but may be common at times.

Grallina cyanoleuca. Australian Magpie-lark.
Common, especially in developed areas.

Gymnorhina tibicen. Australian Magpie.
Common, especially in open areas.

Halcyon sancta. Sacred Kingfisher.
Common spring-summer visitor, usually confined to gully areas.



SIZE 19-23.5 cm.