



Hamilton Park Co-Op Ltd

Keeping You Updated about Your Community www.hamiltonpark.org.au



hpboard@hamiltonpark.org.au

Hamilton Park Co-Operative 26 Kurrajong Lane Glenrowan 3675

AUTUMN 2023



LOCAL ACHIEVERS 2022 - OUR AWESOME THREESOME

We extend our congratulations to our awesome threesome Ros Janas, Margaret Butt and Doreen Wheeler, who were recognised by the community for their outstanding contribution in producing the 50 Year History Book of Hamilton Park. Over a period of two years Doreen, Ros and Margaret spent many hours researching and documenting information to include in this beautiful book. The three ladies received their award at our Breakfast Under the Gum Trees community gathering on Australia Day.

Over 50 people congregated in our community area to enjoy a lovely breakfast and to celebrate being part of this unique community. Guest Speaker, Councillor Irene Grant spoke of how fortunate we were to be living in this great country. The traditional quiz, provided by Margaret Butt, music by Ruth Pendavingh and a rousing bush poem narrated by Ian Dickson, ensured that all who attended enjoyed the morning. Thank you to the volunteers who provided the breakfast and to those who assisted with the setting up and a special thanks to our master of ceremony, Keith Arnott.



BREAKFAST UNDER THE GUM TREES



The **P**lough
Inn
Tarrawingee

OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY & MONDAY

PHONE: 5719 2450

LIVING IN HAMILTON PARK

MONTHLY LUNCHEONS

Our Monthly Luncheons have commenced for the year with the first luncheon held at the North Eastern Hotel Benalla and in February we gathered at the Plough Inn Tarrawingee. The luncheon's are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Contact person Tina Norton 0419880761



WALKING GROUP

We continue to enjoy the Thursday walk into Glenrowan and home again, although we have had some adverse weather conditions. This is a great social get together with the added attraction of morning tea in Glenrowan. Some residents join us for coffee and others walk part of the way. The walk is promoted on Facebook or I can be contacted by text on 0421348711.



GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club members and helpers recently spent a very busy morning tidying up the Arboretum. The group then enjoyed a chat over morning tea. The next meeting will be held on March 27 at the home of Tony and Marion Rak. Thank you to volunteers, who moved the cuttings etc to the pruning pile— three ute loads and two trailers loads !!



JO'S CREATIONS

Jo Dickson has very kindly shared her floral arranging skills with the community. The table arrangements for our 50th celebration and our recent Breakfast Under The Gum Trees were provided by Jo. The arrangements consisting of native flora, certainly enhanced these events. The Garden Group also participated in a morning workshop with Jo demonstrating her art.

Thank you Jo

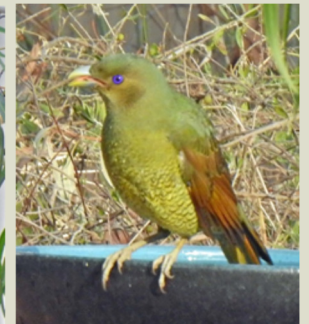


A friendly reminder of the 40k speed limit on Henley Drive and that parking is not permitted on the dam bank—thank you .

HAMILTON PARK BIRDS

On hot summer days our bird bath gets good use. A male Gang Gang Cockatoo was a rare visitor recently. The Rainbow Lorikeets were not very pleased with him, it's a favourite bathing spot for them but this time they had to wait their turn. A thirsty female Satin Bowerbird also appreciated a drink.

This Turquoise parrot a previous special visitor.



There were a lot of baby birds around last summer like these three little ones. Do you know what they are? Answers below.

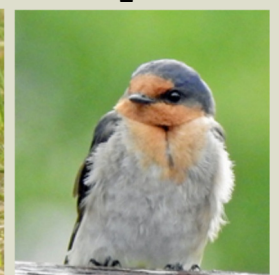
3



1



2



Thank you Margaret Butt for the beautiful bird photos and information.

1: Superb Fairy Wren 2. Welcome Swallow 3. New Holland Honeyeater

Time to Clean Up for Winter

After a successful Christmas party for residents of Hamilton Park, we celebrated what our community is at the "Breakfast under the Gums trees" event on the 26th January. These events are a corner stone of our community and help to bring us altogether, well done to all who worked hard to ensure that these events are a such a success.

To reach this time of year and have full water storages is unprecedented. But now summer has been and gone and we now are officially in Autumn and with the ground mostly dried out, it is time for us to give our parklands that spring clean it would usually have received last year.

To help us achieve this goal we are holding a "working bee weekend", starting on a Friday night and the usual Saturday morning. There are lots of things to do as we have had many trees give into gravity with the extended wet conditions and the grass has done nothing but grow. We hope that we will see some new faces as well as the usual loyal group of volunteers.

Let us know what you think about the Friday night time as we want to encourage as many to attend and we understand that Saturday mornings are already committed. We hope that we can use the last days of daylight saving to get things in order for the winter.



WORKING BEE WEEKEND

Friday 17th March from 5:30 until 8:00

Followed by a sausage in bread and complimentary drink (beer & soft drink) why not bring the family and make it a social event.

Saturday 18th March 8:30 until 11:00

Followed with an egg and bacon sandwich and a refreshment.

Please advise any special dietary requirements **0437 555 083**

Jobs to do:

Moving fallen trees to the pruning pile, re-gravelling of paths, cleaning grass from drains, mowing grass.

What to bring:

Wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, line trimmers, trailers and your enthusiasm



From the Editor

Dear Residents: I hope you enjoy reading our Autumn 2023 Newsletter. I extend my thanks to the people who have contributed items for this edition and encourage you all to submit items. Even though, we are a small community, we all have diverse backgrounds and knowledge and it makes interesting and enjoyable reading if you can share your stories, photos, recipes, etc.

Dianne — newsletter@hamiltonpark.org.au

Native Vegetation Group - Margaret Butt

Over summer we have continued to tackle the lush weed growth due to by persistent wet weather and removed large infestations of St John's wort as well as briar rose, prickly lettuce, thistles, privet and Wonga Wonga vine. Wonga Wonga vine (*Pandorea pandorana*) although native to Eastern Australia is not indigenous to this area* and without the checks and balances of its natural environment it grows vigorously and smothers indigenous species forming a dense canopy, preventing light getting to other plants.

We have also collected seeds of shiny everlasting, prickly tea tree, spiny bitter-pea and common fringe myrtle and spread them in the bushland areas.

* There is a comprehensive indigenous species list on p37 of *the Common Land Management Plan Hamilton Park 2021*, www.hamiltonpark.org.au/clmp/

As well as weeds proliferating over summer so have rabbits and from now on they will start to breed. Unless all HP residents take steps to control them by spring there will be hundreds. It is important to check for burrows on your property and to destroy them by ripping with e.g. a crowbar along the length of the burrow (can be 4 metres or more) to the breeding chamber. Then flatten the soil to prevent re-entry. This exposes them to predators and keeps their numbers in check. Also check any harbours that the rabbits may be using to hide on your property and dismantle or block access to these spots. A detailed review of rabbit management called **Integrated Rabbit Control** can be found on www.agriculture.vic.gov.au website.

The sighting of the critically endangered Regent Honeyeater at Hamilton Park attracted birders from all over Australia and a visit from the DELWP Biodiversity co-ordinator for the Hume region, who was impressed at the biodiversity of HP's grassland. He has agreed to our request, to hold an information session here sometime this year and is quite keen to give residents the opportunity to find out why our bushland and grassland areas are so special.

Colin Atkins departure leaves us in urgent need of new members. Do you enjoy living in the park and are able to spend an hour a week, even if only occasionally, to help maintain it. Activities and their timing are described in the HP Common Land Management Plan and the group's activities posted on the Hamilton Park Facebook page. No experience necessary, it's a great learning experience.



GARDEN CORNER

Gillian's Garden

Did you know that there are 362 species of Grevillea? Most of them are native to Australia. I have 6 or 7 varieties in my garden and find they grow easily in our local soil. One of note is Grevillea Alpina-Warby Range subspecies which has red and yellow flowers as it is endemic to this area. Grevillea Peaches & Cream grows on the North wall of our house and gives shade, habitat for birds and colour and the bees also love it.

Flowering natives and grasses in our gardens are an important food source for birds and insects. Many birds including the turquoise parrot are seed eaters, which make microlena, spear grass, lomandra, dianella and kangaroo a wonderful bird attracting addition to your garden.



Lomandra Species



Grevillea Peaches and Cream

Our community is saddened to see the departure of long time residents Loretta and Colin Atkin, who are relocating to Wangaratta. Colin and Loretta designed their mud brick home using several solar passive principles, including north facing windows, thermal mass eaves to control direct sunlight, and airflow. The house was completed in 1988 and the couple have been very involved in the community over many years. Colin's passion has been the Native Vegetation Group and he has been able to share his great knowledge with this group and the community.

We wish them well in their future ventures and we extend a warm welcome to the next generation of Atkin - Tom and Maddie and family.



Gillian's Easy Lemon & Lime Cordial

INGREDIENTS

- 1 Tbsp grated Lemon Rind
- 2 Tsp Grated Lime Rind
- 200ml Lemon juice
- 200ml Lime Juice
- 250ml Caster sugar
- 600ml boiling water



METHOD Place rind, juice & sugar in saucepan

Add boiling water and stir until sugar dissolves

Leave to cool

Put into sterilised bottle

Serve approx 1/3 cup of cordial to 1 cup chilled soda water, or plain water. Store in fridge. I sometimes use lemon myrtle leaves or kaffir lime leaves for flavour You can add 1 Tsp citric acid or Tartaric acid if needing to keep more than a week.

It usually goes very fast!