

# *The Murrumbidgee Naturalist*



**October 2009 - Issue #165**

**Journal of The Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists Inc.**

**PO Box 541, LEETON 2705 ISSN-1327-1172**

**Website: [www.mfn.org.au](http://www.mfn.org.au)**

## **Objects of the Club**

To facilitate and promote the knowledge of natural history, and to encourage the preservation and protection of the Australian natural environment, especially that of the Murrumbidgee River Valley

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

Office Bearers and Subscriptions.....	2
Bird of the Month – Grey Falcon .....	2
Ground Orchids in the Region.....	3
Campout – Booligal Station.....	4
Booligal Campout Bird List.....	6
Booligal Station – aerial photos.....	6
Stackpoole State Forest .....	7
What is happening? Our ever changing landscape .....	8
Lake Eyre ‘Buzzover’.....	9
From Your Editor .....	9
Sightings.....	10
Coming Events Calendar .....	10

## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

**For the next issue by  
Wednesday 4 November**

**To Rowena Whiting**

**Email [ericwhiting4@bigpond.com](mailto:ericwhiting4@bigpond.com)**

**Phone 6953 2612**

**For October Outings  
see the Back Page**

**Lachlan River nr Booligal,  
Black Honeyeater (female)  
Photos by  
Phil and Penny Williams**



## Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists Inc. Office Bearers and Annual Subscriptions

<b>President:</b>	Bill Moller	6960 1341	<b>Editor:</b>	Rowena Whiting	6953 2612
<b>Vice President:</b>	Nella Smith	6959 1210	<b>Committee:</b>	Colin Sell	6962 1864
<b>Vice President:</b>	Eric Whiting	6953 2612		Max O'Sullivan	6953 7376
<b>Vice President:</b>	Joanne Tarbit	6962 9441		Betty Bradney	6959 2901
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jan Cameron	6953 2202	<b>Web Co-ordinator:</b>	Johanna Botman	6963 4855
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Phil Tenison	6953 4869			

**MEETINGS** ARE HELD EACH MONTH, EXCEPT JANUARY

**FIELD TRIPS** NORMALLY TAKE PLACE ON THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND.

**LEETON** MEETINGS SECOND THURSDAY - Seminar Room 1, Block 34 at Dept. Primary Industry at 7.30 PM

**GRIFFITH** MEETINGS FOURTH THURSDAY - Conference Room, Dept. of Primary Industry AT 7.30 PM

INTENDING NEW MEMBERS, GUESTS AND VISITORS WELCOME.

### Membership enquiries:

<b>Leeton</b>	Eric Whiting	6953 2612	<b>Griffith</b>	Joanne Tarbit	6962 9441	
<b>Narrandera</b>	Nella Smith	6959 1210	<b>Coleambally</b>	John Wilkinson	6954 4129	
<b>Annual Subscriptions:</b>	Family	\$45.00	Adult/Single	\$35.00	Journal only/Concession	\$25.00

Opinions expressed by authors are their own and do not necessarily represent the policies or views of the Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists Inc.

## Bird of the Month - GREY FALCON *Falco hypoleucos*

I am making a bold statement and saying that this rare and lovely falcon is here in our area, namely around the Binya State Forest. After reading Stephen Debus "Birds of Prey", Penny Olsen's "Birds of Prey", Philip Burton's "Birds of Prey of the World" plus Readers Digest and Simpson and Day, I am totally convinced that on two occasions in the Binya State Forest, once with June Sell and last October with Melanie Baulch, both times near a dam, a swift low flying, white bellied raptor with black wing tips was witnessed by us.

These medium size birds are swift strong flyers which skim low over waterways, but can soar with upturned wings or glide with flat wings. Much of their hunting is aerial favouring parrots and pigeons but lizards and large insects are also on the menu.

The Grey Falcon nests between June and November using large stick nests of other birds (mainly from the corvid family) high in a living tree. They lay 2-4- eggs with incubation taking 35 days and fledging around 12 weeks.

The bird is described as a pale grey falcon with long pointed black tipped wings, short tail, and when perched appears broad-shouldered and short legged with orange-yellow cere, eye-ring and feet.

Additional features:

Male 33-36cm, female 41-43cm

Malar stripe paler than other falcons

Tail slightly barred.

Voice chuckling and chatty.



Photo from Dr. Penny Olsen's "Australian Birds of Prey"

### Sue Chittick-Dalton

**A correction to the last issue** - Bill apologies for misappropriating one of Phil Tenison's photos to himself. The photographer of the Plains-wanderer on page 9 should read Phil Tenison.

## Ground Orchids in the Region - September 2009

Unfortunately Ground Orchids flower for such a short time every year and you want to be about searching every day for the two short weeks that you have.

We were lucky this year that we went to Shepherds Hill and came across a *Caladenia* which proved to be *Caladenia stellata*. There were also many Dwarf Green hoods *Pterostylis nana* and Midget Greenhoods *Pterostylis mutica*. On the way home we dropped into Yelkin SF and we came across some Daddy-long-legs Orchids which Col Sell had also found in the Cocoparras. There were two species *Caladenia filamentosa filamentosa* and *Caladenia filamentosa tentaculata*. There, we also found two other species of Spider Orchids: *Caladenia stellata* and *Caladenia concinna*.

The greenhoods are relatively easy to sort out. Not so the Spider orchids, so I sent a few to the herbarium.

The spiders at the top of Pine Hill Road in Narrandera were also *Caladenia concinna*. I was looking for *Caladenia arenarea* the threatened species at Gillenbah State Forest but found another and it proved to be *Caladenia rileyi*.

At the same time we are looking at Pink Fingers *Caladenia carnea* and Blue Fingers *Caladenia caerulea*.

Next in the procession are the Donkey Orchids. They were everywhere this year, the ones I saw proved to be *Diuris goonooensis*.

*Glossodia major* are everywhere as I write and the Sun Orchids *Thelymitra paucifolia* are flowering on hot sunny days.

Our visit to Stackpole State Forest last fieldtrip saw emerge the *Pterostylis biseta*.

This species was puzzling because the description in Flora of NSW seemed different to one we had photographed. We consulted Bishop and he noted this more distinctive form "A form from Mallee north of Griffith having green-toned flowers

with a green labellum, oblong with an angular outline and virtually lacking a basal constriction. Similar but smaller flowered plants with short filaments on the lateral sepals grow on Callitris-covered slopes in the Rankin Springs area."

Bishop also noted a second form, from the same patch of Mallee north of Griffith with olive-green to brownish flowers.

And to add to my excitement, I took a different walk around Rocky Waterholes and found a dozen specimens of *Diuris tricolor*, a threatened species. I have looked for these at Gillenbah as well and here they are my nose. They are flowering later than the *Diuris goonooensis* and are much lighter in colour, smaller and less robust in stature. They are mostly light yellow with some purple and white around the labellum and very long lateral sepals, almost twice as long as the labellum.

*Diuris tricolor* are predominantly of western slopes, extending from south of Narrandera. It is usually in Callitris woodland in sandy soils or on top of small hills.

And the excitement continues, I have found a Gillenbah Spider Orchid *Caladenia rileyi*. It is only found from Narrandera to Jerilderie and flowers in spring. The flowers are moderately small, yellowish and red, sepals and petals have thickish clubs, lateral petals and petals obliquely deflexed, labellum with white central patch, labellum margins with thin green teeth. This *Caladenia* is considered endangered.

**Nella Smith**



*Diuris goonooensis*  
Photo by Nella Smith



*Diuris goonooensis*  
Photo by Nella Smith



*Caladenia stellata*  
Photo by Johanna Botman



*Caladenia rileyi*  
Photo by Nella Smith



*Diuris tricolor*  
Photo by Nella Smith



*Diuris tricolor*  
Photo by Nella Smith



*Pterostylis biseta*  
Photo by Nella Smith

References: *Flora of NSW*, edited by Gwen Harden, *Orchids of NSW and Victoria* by Tony Bishop

## Campout - Booligal Station – 11 - 14 September 2009

Booligal Station has recently been purchased by the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) not only for the natural values of the property but also for the preservation and the management of the Booligal Wetlands.

It has been a sheep grazing property for more than 100 years with some flood irrigation in more recent times.

Booligal Station has been in the Naughton family for at least 2 or 3 generations, the last owner is buried in the front yard.

The property is about 8000 hectares, it straddles the Cobb Highway north of the Booligal township with the Lachlan river forming its eastern boundary. Although the property holds only a small proportion of the Booligal wetlands, it is the key to water management for the wetlands. The Torrigeny Weir is a key component of that control: it backs up water and diverts it to the Muggabah and Merrimajeel creeks which feed the wetlands.

The wetlands are an important breeding area for several wetland birds including Straw-necked Ibis which are important in the control of several damaging agricultural insect pests.

The property sports several vegetation types, these range from Riverine Forest/Lignum found primarily along the Lachlan River in the eastern side of the property, this is generally a mixture of River Red Gum *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, Black Box *E largiflorens*, and River Cooba *Acacia stenphylla*. These trees are interspersed with Lignum *Muehlenbeckia cunninghamii*. Moving to the west away from the river the vegetation grades into Black Box Woodland/Lignum and to Lignum in the area of the two creeks, this is the area of the Booligal Wetland that is actually on the Station, this grades into a small area of Cotton Bush/Dillon Bush on the western boundry. There is quite a large area of Dillon Bush that straddles the Cobb Highway, the Dillon Bush vegetation type being dominated by Dillon Bush *Nitraria billardieri*. There were obviously a number of other species present also.

The Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists (a tremendously enthusiastic group of people) took an opportunity to visit the property. The extensive garden initially kept many folk wandering until the sun was past the yardarm.

Mind you, a few birds were also enjoying the shrubs and trees that afford them food and shelter in this well kept garden, these including a number of families of Superb Fairy-wrens and some Striated Pardalotes were using some tiny hollows in black box and were observed courting.

We woke each morning to a dawn chorus serenaded out of slumber by Superb Fairy-wrens, Grey-shrike Thrush, Rufous Whistlers with a Western Gerygone giving an occasional soliloquy.

We had a well attended meeting after a sumptuous meal followed by a spot of spot-lighting led at a cracking pace by David Egan. Three Brush-tailed Possums were spotted gazing furtively at our lights, numerous spider-eyes, a Kookaburra and a few White-striped Mastiff Bats which is one of the larger micro-bats and one of the few (2) of which we can hear the high pitched squeak they use for eco-location, navigation and hunting. The squeak of the rest has too high a pitch for the human ear to detect.



Next morning many of us rose early for a dawn walk along the river and navigated a few deep meanders, which the Lachlan produces on the nearly flat country. At first the river is on your left and then you wake from your reverie only to find it is on your right! I've seen these wide meanders turn into billabongs over 30 or 40 years.

We set off after breakfast prepared to be exploring for the day. The woolshed and shearers quarters haven't been used for some time but in sound structural condition.

We followed Torigenny Creek which led us to the weir where we could cross over to the island. The "Island" is surrounded by the Lachlan River and the Torigenny Creek. Dot spied a Swallows nest under the bridge with 6 eggs in it.



**Torigenny Weir (June 2009)**  
Photo by Bill Moller



**In the Lignum**  
Photo by Bill Moller

The wind and temperature was rising so it was forward to the Lignum, which is the Booligal Wetlands. The windmill in the middle was still pumping some water into the trough and overflowing for the birds and roos. A pig-trap was near by...this would be pig heaven.



**Dot's Nest**  
Photo by Bill Moller

The western boundary turned from Lignum to Cotton Bush/Dillon Bush, it was better vegetation for viewing largely composed of Dillon Bush, Cotton Bush *Maireana spp* and Copper Burr *Sclerolacae spp* among many others. White-winged Fairy-wrens occasionally ducked their heads out and were nearly blown off their perches by the 30-40km winds.

Baird's Truck Stop was a more sheltered treed area. Last time we were here there were birds everywhere but on this day they were hanging close to the branches for fear of being battered by the blustery, hot, dry northerly wind.

The homestead truly was a cool oasis for us. We didn't waste much time getting back there.

Sunday morning was pleasantly cool and not so windy. A lone Nankeen Night-heron flapped from its perch. The Variegated Fairy-wren caused us to speculate about the foraging habits of the two different wrens that share the same habitat.

Pack-up -The journey is often as good as the destination. A stop to inspect the veg and photograph the iridescent magenta Pigface (Round-leaf Pigface *Disphyma clavellatum*) gave a female Black Honeyeater the opportunity to take shelter from the wind on the gunnels of the trailer only feet from where we stood.



**Female Black Honeyeater**  
Photo by Bill Moller

Further on, a dam surrounded by decent shrubs of Dillon Bush, Old Man Saltbush *Atriplex nummularia*, Nitre Goosefoot *Chenopodium nitrariaceum* and Senna *Senna artemisioides* was ample shelter for Zebra Finches and White-winged Fairy-wrens

The Spotted Bowerbird's bower had recently been attended but no bird today

**Sturt's Deserts Peas *Clianthus formosus***  
Photos by Bill Moller



Most left us then to go home but we knew where there were some Sturt's Deserts Peas *Clianthus formosus* and they flower at this time of the year and so they were.

**Nella Smith**

**Bird List for Booligal National Park 12 September 2009**

- |                         |                            |                           |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Emu                     | Horsefield's Bronze-Cuckoo | Grey Shrike-thrush        |
| Australian Wood Duck    | Southern Boobook           | Restless Flycatcher       |
| Pacific Black Duck      | Laughing Kookaburra        | Magpie-lark               |
| Grey Teal               | Brown Treecreeper          | Grey Fantail              |
| Little Black Cormorant  | Superb Fairy-wren          | Willie Wagtail            |
| Great Cormorant         | Splendid Fairy-wren        | Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike |
| Royal Spoonbill         | Variiegated Fairy-wren     | Ground Cuckoo Shrike      |
| Yellow-billed Spoonbill | White-winged Fairy-wren    | White-winged Triller      |
| White-faced Heron       | Striated Pardalote         | Masked Woodswallow        |
| Nankeen Night Heron     | Weebill                    | White-browed Woodswallow  |
| Black Kite              | Western Gerygone           | Pied Butcherbird          |
| Wedge-tailed Eagle      | Inland Thornbill           | Australian Magpie         |
| Brown Falcon            | Chestnut-rumped Thornbill  | Australian Raven          |
| Nankeen Kestrel         | Yellow-rumped Thornbill    | Little Raven              |
| Black-fronted Dotterel  | Yellow Thornbill           | White-winged Chough       |
| Masked Lapwing          | Southern Whiteface         | Apostlebird               |
| Common Bronzewing       | Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater   | Australian Pipit          |
| Crested Pigeon          | Striped Honeyeater         | House Sparrow             |
| Galah                   | Little Friarbird           | Zebra Finch               |
| Little Corella          | Noisy Miner                | Mistletoebird             |
| Cockatiel               | Yellow-throated Miner      | Welcome Swallow           |
| Crimson Rosella         | Singing Honeyeater         | Tree Martin               |
| Australain Ringneck     | White-plumed Honeyeater    | Australian Reed Warbler   |
| Blue Bonnet             | White-fronted Chat         | Rufous Songlark           |
| Red-rumped Parrot       | Red-capped Robin           | Silvereye                 |
| Pallid Cuckoo           | Grey-crowned Babbler       | Black Honeyeater          |
| Fan-tailed Cuckoo       | Rufous Whistler            |                           |

**Aerial view s of Booligal Station and Laclan River** Photos by Phil Williams



## Stackpoole State Forest - 20 September 2009

It just will not rain, I remember the late 1990's, wet Autumn and Winter setting up a magnificent Spring. The memories of Taleeban and Stackpoole still swim through my mind and I hope against hope that next year will bring a "normal" Spring, but alas dear reader, this spring has been little different from the past eight or nine, a dry Autumn and not much better for winter, leading to a meagre showing and an early drying-off.

What can you do but go for a good long walk, admire the patterns in the dust and hope that next year will be different.

Well at least some of us fronted up for a sortie around Stackpoole. It was a Hare and Tortoise affair with a frazzled sheepdog trying to keep the group together.

We started out at a pretty good clip, but it wasn't long before the true colours came through, the Minatos' had streaked ahead while the balance flounced along oogling the sparrows and smelling the spent flowers.

Time and distance tends to sort most groups out and at the halfway point the group had briefly coalesced, but it was short lived, the turn of the heads for home was too much for the old grey mares, the pace had quickened towards the coffee cart and the line was stretching out again but this time with a different group in the lead.

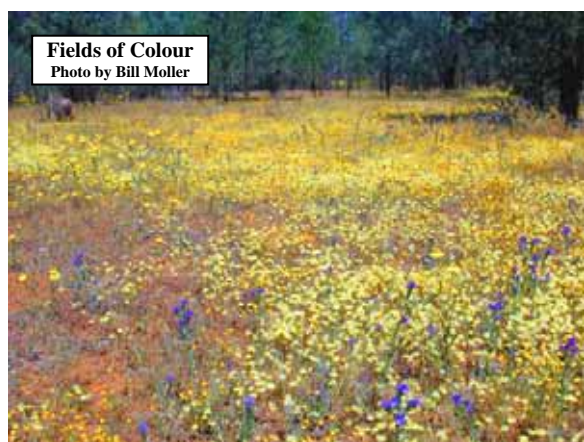
A choice of direction at a junction in the carriageway once again allowed the group to come together as some advice from the navigator (who was languishing at the rear) was sought.

Advice obtained from the leaders with some changes once again made haste toward the refreshments and rest. It was walk of some 9.5 km.

It wasn't all just walk, we did spend some time looking for the Daddy Long-legs Orchid among the Mallee but all that was



Spur-wing Wattle  
Photo by Bill Moller



Fields of Colour  
Photo by Bill Moller



Minnie Daisy  
Photo by Bill Moller

found was some spent Greenhoods. We did however find two fine specimens of a Greenhood that we later determined as *Pterostylis biseta*. Apart from the fields of Everlasting Daisies there was very little of anything else about save a few Minnie Daisies *Minuria leptophylla* and the odd Spur-wing Wattle *Acacia triptera* with a bit of flower on.

Regardless of all of that, Stackpoole is always a great place to visit, there is a great range of vegetation communities from Box Pine woodland, to Mallee to Broombush Shrubland, with interspersed patches of grassland here and there filled with colour. This is a forest that has had very

little disturbance, there is some great specimens of Mallee and Hakea that have obviously seen plenty of moons.

The birds were pretty quiet but we managed a reasonable list, no surprises though.

**Bill Moller**

### Bird List Stackpoole State Forest - 20 September 2009

Australian Kestrel  
Spotted Harrier  
Crested Pigeon  
Galah  
Red-rumped Parrot  
Blue-bonnet  
Austalian Ringneck  
Rainbow Bee-eater  
Striated Pardalote  
Chestnut-rumped Thornbill  
Yellow Thornbill

Weebill  
Western Gerygone  
Inland Thornbill  
Striped Honeyeater  
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater  
Brown-headed Honeyeater  
Jacky Winter  
Red-capped Robin  
Crested Bellbird  
Rufous Whistler  
Magpie-lark

Grey Fantail  
Willy Wagtail  
Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike  
Pied Butcherbird  
Australian Raven  
Little Raven  
Australian Magpie  
White-winged Chough  
Apostlebird  
Yellow-throated Miner

## What is Happening? Our ever changing landscape

The earthquakes in Samoa and Indonesia have given us a dramatic reminder that the Earth's crust is still on the move. In particular the Indo-Australian plate continues its march northward at around 70 metres per year. The adjacent Pacific plate is also moving westward as it spreads out from the East Pacific Rise. At the contact zones the Pacific plate is being subducted under the Indo-Australian plate.

It is the molten mantle of the Earth that is circulating with the lighter continents being pushed around as they float on the mantle like the froth on boiling jam. Any continental material drawn down into the mantle is subjected to great heat and pressure and physics demands that lighter materials try to rise to the surface; hence mountain building and, more dramatically, eruptive volcanoes.

The Indian part of the Indo Australian plate has already crashed into the China plate (the latter is already fused onto the Eurasian plate) giving rise to the Himalayan mountain chain. The impact is still going on, Everest is still getting higher.

The South-east Asia part of the China plate is being pushed under the Australian plate giving rise to the volcanic island arc of Indonesia. As the crust is brittle movements come after a steady build up of pressure being relaxed in jerks – earthquakes.

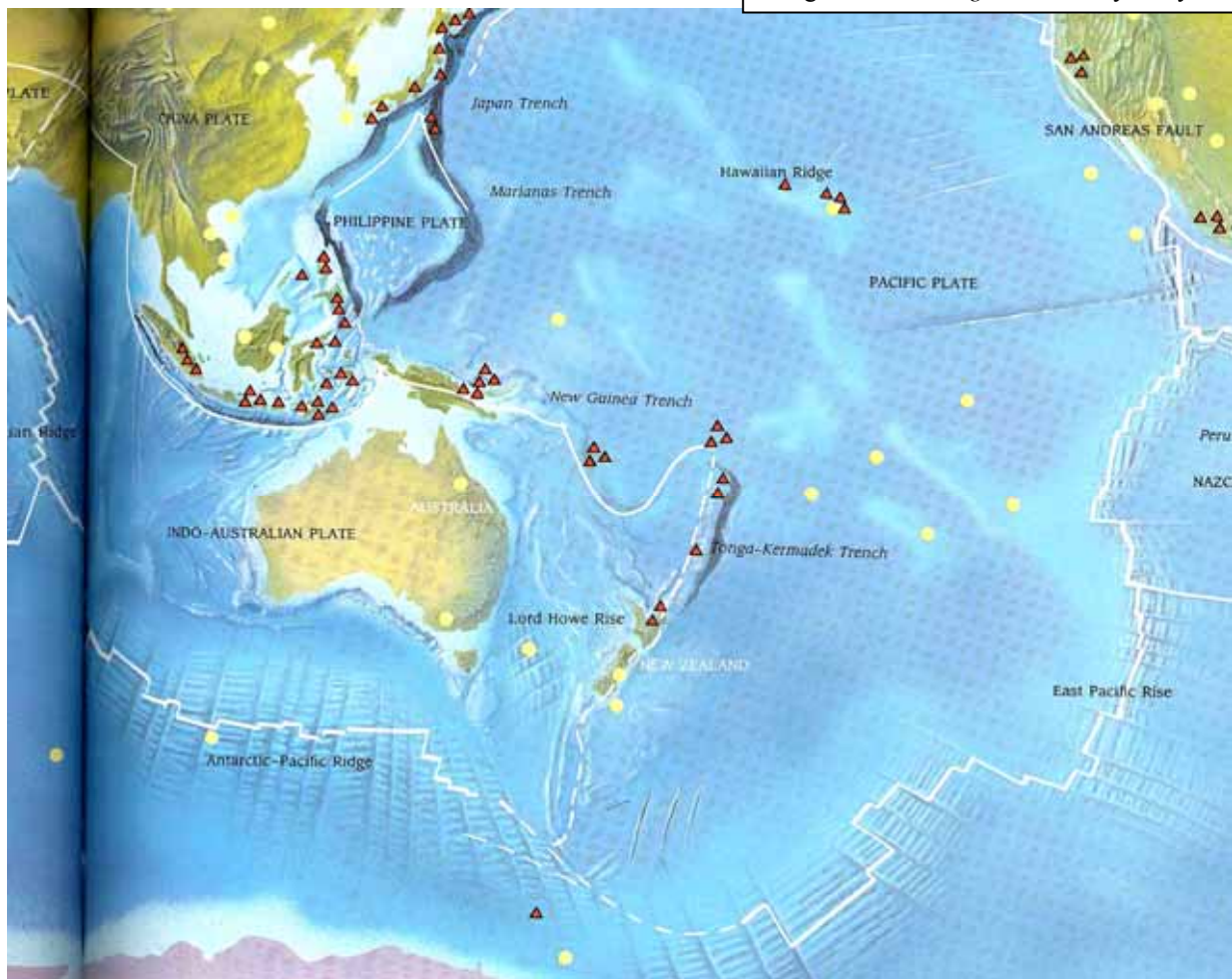
Further east the northern half of Papua-New Guinea, part of the Pacific Plate, is being subducted transversely under the advancing front of the Indo-Australian plate which here is the southern half of Papua-New Guinea.

All this push and shove at the edges of the Indo-Australian plate has a rippling effect back into the plate. Forty million years ago the Kosciusko Uplift began to form the Great Divide. It is still rising though only gently. The modest movements still cause some earthquakes, there was one near Melbourne earlier this year, but thankfully they are nowhere as strong as around the rim. And as the Divide goes up the Murray-Darling Basin goes down, only to fill with more sediments from the eroding mountains.

Whoever said that Australia was a stable continent?

**Eric Whiting**

Major Plates: Spreading ridges and trenches of the South Pacific with volcanoes (Δ) and hotspots (o)  
Image from *Reading the Rocks* by Mary E White



Sorry about the fold in the book!

It was with great pleasure that MFNers Sue, Johanna and myself, with friends Ron and Lyn and pilot Nigel, took off from Griffith for a two day buzz over Lake Eyre and the Channel Country.

We have seen it all at ground level, and even had a swim in the lake in 1989, but what a different perspective from the air. We didn't expect the lake to be the highlight, and it was impressive, but the most interesting was the system of creeks which flood through the desert to the north, branching out like capillaries, flooding out into huge lakes, filling swales between dunes, creating mud right up against the desert dust, creeks cutting through dune fields or running along the line of dunes, swamps with thick green growth and flat overflows with green just beginning to tinge the mud.

All the time, the water of life was just there, but then just over there was always the harsh desert – don't stray too far!

Already the lake was drying up. There was water everywhere, but the rivers had stopped flowing and were now huge billabongs kilometres long blocked by occasional sandbars.

Of course, not only the natural, but the man made patterns of road, town, stock dams, fences, and cattle tracks also take on a different dimension.

Birdsville was full, but Bedourie had friendly locals, good pub food, a free outdoor natural spa pool, good beds, and a short walk down to the legendry Eyre Creek at sunset and sunrise.

### Neil Palframan

Oodnadatta Tracks, road and ex rail, near William Creek



Fingers of water  
In the desert



Lake Eyre receding



Oodnadatta Tracks, road and ex rail, near William Creek

---

### From Your Editor

I had the pleasure of reading last month's issue of the newsletter as a reader, thank you Bill. A welcome opportunity to see it in a different light and not looking for correct spelling, capital letters or how to 'stretch' or 'squeeze' an article to fit the page. As usual for this time of year it was full of outings and observations and of course a little disappointment that I had missed it all. It seems that the local orchids have been having a flourishing season and still are. Hopefully the weather will be favourable and they will last for next Saturday's outing.

Ironically in the West where Eric and I have just spent a few weeks the wildflower season is not so good this year. Still we found plenty in flower though the consistent windy conditions made photography a challenge.

This is another great issue; thanks to all contributors. Enjoy.

Rowena

\*\*\* *SIGHTINGS* \*\*\*

<i>Caladenia rileyi</i>	Gillenbah Spider Orchid	Narrandera	15/09/09	Nella Smith
<i>Diuris tricolor</i>		Rocky Waterholes, Narrandera	15/09/09	Nella Smith
<i>Diuris tricolor</i>		Gillenbah State Forest	15/09/09	Nella Smith
<b>Marsh Tern</b>		Lake Talbot, Narrandera	25/09/09	Nella Smith
<b>Speckled Warbler</b>		Lake Talbot & Rocky Waterholes	25/09/09	Nella Smith
<b>Superb Parrot</b>		In and around Narrandera	25/09/09	Nella Smith
<b>Rainbow Bee-eater</b>		Cypress Street, Leeton	03/10/09	E & R Whiting

\*\*\* *COMING EVENTS CALENDAR* \*\*\*

- 8 October Thursday**    **Leeton Meeting** at 7:30pm in the Seminar Room 1, Block 34 at Department of Primary Industry. Yanco Ag Institute  
**Speaker: Nella and Max Double Act – Kimberly Birds.**  
 Contact: Nella Smith 6959 1210
- 10 October Saturday**    **Leeton Outing – Brobenah Hills for Spring Wildflowers**  
 Meet at the Leeton Post Office at 9:00am  
 Contact Eric Whiting 6953 2612
- 18 October Sunday**    **Bush Walk – Bundidgerry Walk, Narrandera**  
 Bring morning tea and lunch. Walk is about 8km.  
 Meet at Narrandera Information Centre at 8:30am.  
 Contact: Nella Smith 6959 1210 or Eric Whiting 6953 2612
- 22 October Thursday**    There will be **NO** Griffith Meeting
- 25 October Sunday**    **Griffith Outing – Scenic Hill** – Meet at the Green Tank at 8.30am  
 Bring morning tea and lunch, Contact Col Sell 6962 1864
- 31 October to 1<sup>st</sup> November**  
**Saturday/Sunday**    **Twitchathon**, Contact Nella Smith for further details email [bill.moller@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bill.moller@industry.nsw.gov.au) or phone 69601311 or Mobile 0427102673
- 4 November Wednesday** **Copy for November newsletter is due –**
- 12 November Thursday** **Annual General Meeting, election of office bearers, to be followed by the Ordinary Monthly meeting** at 7:30pm in the Seminar Room 1, Block 34 at Department of Primary Industry. Yanco Ag Institute  
 Contact: Nella Smith 6959 1210
- 13 November Friday Evening**    **Leeton Outing – an evening of astronomy – details next month.**  
 Contact: Nella Smith 6959 1210
- 13-15 November**    **Australian Birdfair “AUSTRALIA THE LAND OF PARROTS”**  
 At the Yanco Agricultural Institute, Leeton-Narrandera Road, Yanco.
- 26 November Thursday** **Griffith Meeting** - Meet at DPI Conference Room 7.30pm  
 Guest Speaker. TBA. Enquiries Bill Moller 6960 1311.
- 28 November Saturday**    ***Christmas Party*** at Gogeldrie Weir  
 Starts at 4:00pm for a look around before dinner.  
 Cost \$10/head. (Camping available additional \$7.50/head)  
 Details in the November newsletter.