



ORAPARINNA TELEGRAPH

Official Bulletin of Friends of Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park

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STAYING SAFE

Safety on the job is a long standing practice in our group. We each readily accept responsibility for ensuring our personal safety and that of our colleagues.

The bar was raised on this a little last month when the number of qualified first aiders in our group was increased. Now if you need some TLC while in the park you can happily call on any of the following and know you are in good hands – Margaret Williams, Terrie Coleman, Julie Owen, Helen Monterola, Bob Geary, Frank Williams, Norbert de Rozario, Trevor Coleman or Vince Monterola

Peter and Robyn Trezise will be added to the list after completing training early next year.

We appreciate each of our members taking on this extra responsibility.

FIRST AID KIT

What better time to review our first aid kit than when more friends have completed training. While we reckon we are well stocked with the essentials we have already identified one item of benefit – a cold compress pack. This will substitute for ice when needed to treat a soft tissue injury.

If you know of any item that is worth including in our kit let Secretary Helen know.

Good to know we now have more members who are comfortable about using our defibrillator should it ever be necessary. Defib use was included in the first aid course.

FROGS IN THE FLINDERS

Would you believe that more frog species are found in the Flinders Ranges than in the Mount Lofty Ranges? It's a fact. While the Lofty Ranges has 8 species, we have 12 in the extended Flinders Ranges, i.e. from Melrose to Mount Freeling.

Three of our frogs are endemic to the Flinders Ranges, the Flinders Ranges Toadlet, the

Flinders Springs Froglet, and the Southern Flinders Ranges Froglet. The names suggest these are tiny frogs and while we may not often see them we can often hear them.

A joint venture in SA between various Government and private entities is developing a clearer picture of the health of waterways and abundance of frog species. Volunteers are being recruited under the Frogwatch SA banner to survey for frog presence wherever they live or visit regularly in SA.

DEWNR is offering short courses around the State to introduce potential volunteers to frog identification and reporting. Both are simple.

Bob Geary, Helen and Vince Monterola attended one of these sessions in late September and are already spotting. An app. provided at the course provides photos and recordings that assist identification. Volunteers are encouraged to find their own sites for survey and to monitor those sights indefinitely. Naturally our trio will be monitoring known water sites in the park and nearby.

It is not necessary to take the short course to download the app. and to report your sightings. If the idea of adding to your current interest in the animal kingdom has appeal, go to www.frogwatchsa.com.au to learn more about this project and download the informative app. It may surprise you how interesting these amphibian creatures can be.

2017 PROGRAM

Secretary Helen has provided dates of our proposed meetings in 2017 to park staff with a booking request for the Oraparinna Shearers Quarters. The six week cycle between meetings has been continued. School holidays and Public holidays have been avoided.

Staff will review the dates to ensure no clash with other planned events or pre-existing bookings. They will also seek to match rosters of Tom and Steve so that they are working

when we are at the park.
Meeting dates will be provided to members when confirmation is received from staff.

GREEN ARMY

IFRNP has been successful in getting funding that enables them to have the Green Army on site for 12 months in 2017. Five local people will be employed for the 12 months to work on eradication of noxious plants in the park. They will be supervised by a DEWNR employed staff member.

Green Army members will work out of Oraparinna from Monday to Friday. It is expected they will be assigned to projects outside IFRNP at those times we will occupy Oraparinna.

WELCOME

We are all pleased to welcome Peter and Keren Reeve to membership of our happy campers. Peter and Keren who live in Warrnambool VIC. have a long standing love of the park. We look forward to having them join us at Oraparinna from time to time.

GRANT APPLICATION

DEWNR has again offered grants to Friends Groups for projects of value to their park.

We have lodged a grant application to enable us to proceed with the increasing stonework projects that park staff are keen to tackle.

Our application seeks financial support to enable at least 2 members to undertake the Stone Masonry course, and to purchase tools and materials. We are hoping to secure a grant of \$4,000.

Condition of this grant offer does not enable us to seek fuel reimbursement. Earlier this year we applied to Arid Lands Branch for a fuel contribution, but have yet to hear if we have been successful.

PARK VISITOR APP

Bob Geary has proposed an excellent initiative for which a grant application will be made. Because consultation with staff and the Co-management Board is ongoing we need to wait until a new round of grants before applying. Bob is offering to provide his time and IT ex-

perience to the development of an app. that park visitors could download. It would provide them with ideas of places of interest they could visit, either by car or by walking. On arrival at a site the app. would provide information of interest to a visitor. The app. could also include maps, provide information about flora and fauna, and anything else expected to interest a visitor to the Flinders Ranges. Members will be fully briefed on the proposal at the November meeting.

JOHN McDouall Stuart

Don't miss out on your chance to see this special one-man performance on one of South Australia's best known and most famous explorers. Writer/Actor Danny Gillies provides a fascinating insight to the life of a young Stuart.

The performance is at the Sporting Car Club, 51 King William Road, Unley, on Friday 11 November. Tickets are \$15 each which includes pre-show pizza at 6 p.m. The performance is at 7.30 p.m. Contact Trevor Coleman for tickets at tcntc@optusnet.com.au

NOVEMBER MEETING

Keep November 17-23 free for the last meeting of the year. Weather permitting we will install a couple of picnic sets and re-oil all tables and seats around the park. There are other general maintenance jobs to keep us occupied.

Saturday night will be a BBQ to celebrate the end of another year of contribution to our park.

Let the Secretary know asap, if you plan to attend and if you need a room.

HISTORY SNAPSHOT

On March 9, 1802, crew of the sloop Investigator were the first Europeans to sight the ranges north of the gulf they had sailed. Captain Matthew Flinders was commander of Investigator.

Governor Gawler named the Flinders Ranges in 1839, 25 years after the death of Matthew Flinders in recognition of his discovery.