

# FIELD NATTER



## FIELD NATURALISTS ASSOCIATION OF CANBERRA

OBJECTS: To foster an interest in, an awareness and an understanding of nature.  
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MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY;  
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Meetings are held downstairs in the Division of Zoology and Botany, ANU, on the first Thursday of each month. Meetings commence at 8.00 pm and are followed by refreshments.

### NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2003

**MEETING:** Thursday 6 March 2003. "An insight into AQIS" with Jan Christofani. The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) provides quarantine inspection services for the arrival of international passengers, cargo, mail, animals and plants or their products into Australia, and inspection and certification for a range of animal and plant products exported from Australia. This should be especially interesting with the arrival of grains from the UK and the USA to feed our stock during the drought. Please come along, bring a friend and stay for supper and a chat afterwards.

**OUTING:** Explore Mt Rogers on Sunday March 9. Meet at 3 pm at Wickens Place in Fraser.

**MISS LUCKY** is the name given to the sole surviving koala in the enclosure at Tidbinbilla after the bushfires had left their mark on Namadgi and Tidbinbilla. She is being cared for at the National Zoo and Aquarium. Lucky was being fed fluids by hand, but is now feeding herself eucalypt leaves. When Lucky recovers the public will be invited to visit her. It is possible to send Lucky emails at: luckythekoala @act.gov.au [Information from 'Community Update' Issue No 2]

**ENVIRONMENT ACT:** facility update. Due to the ACT Bushfires, the following areas will be closed until further notice: Namadgi National Park; Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve; Murrumbidgee River Corridor (including Kambah Pool); and most of Canberra's nature parks on the south side. These closures have been made in the interest of public safety.

### COURSES AND TOURS

**ORCHIDS** with Ian Fraser. Ian is running a course on Orchids on Tuesday 11 and 18 March 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Canberra Seniors' Club, Watson St., Turner. This includes refreshments. Also a **FIRE ECOLOGY** course on Tuesday April 1 and 8 same times. Please phone Ian on 6249 1560 between 8 am-7 pm to book or leave a message. Cost \$40 per course.

An unusual **BOTANICAL TOUR:** Alpine wildflowers of the Hunza-Pamir, Northern Pakistan, 16 June - 2 July 2003. It includes visiting the Indus, Naltar, Sumayar and Hunza valleys to explore the wildflowers in alpine meadows, finally reaching those at Khunjerab Pass (4,900 m altitude) in the Karakoram Mountains on the border with China. The trip is a mixture of staying in hotels and camping during two short treks, plus experiencing local culture in towns like Gilgit and Karimabad. Further information is available from Rosemary Purdie (6248 8052 or rwpurdie@netspeed.com.au).

## CAMPBELL PARK WALK

by Benj Whitworth

The Canberra Field Naturalists walk in Campbell Park on Saturday 7 December from 9 am was led by Marnix and myself. We had checked out the site the afternoon before when it was quite windy, but the morning was calm and sunny and the wind was replaced by loud cicada calls (Redeyes mainly *Psaltoda moerens*).

About 10 people turned up including some from COG and 3 'overseas' people who were very interested in for example - Crimson Rosellas, Crested Pigeons, Eastern Rosellas and Kookaburras.

After walking for one hour and covering only about 200m we had noted birds such as White-browed Woodswallows (including a nest - both sexes incubating at different times), Western Gerygone, White-throated Gerygone, White-winged Triller (on nest - both sexes seen on nest at different times), Crested Pigeon on nest, Dollarbird, Common Bronzewing and Marnix had heard Sacred Kingfisher and Oriole. No sooner had I said to Marnix that we should move a bit faster if we wanted to try and find the Painted Honeyeater that we had seen the day before, than one called in a gum tree quite close to the carpark. Everybody got great views of the bird as it was sitting on dead branches at the top of a tree in sunlight, showing off its colours while calling.

After Murray and the COG gang left us, we moved further in and saw more Noisy Friarbirds, Jacky Winter, a Hobby, interestingly Indian Mynahs and a Galah (in dense woodland), and many cicadas. In one spot the air was filled with cicadas flying about and being picked off by White-browed Woodswallows, Black-faced Cuckoo Shrikes, Indian Mynahs, and Friarbirds. The day before we also saw a Brown Falcon, Nankeen Kestrel and Speckled Warbler in the woodland.

Interesting plants included many Lemon Beautyheads (daisy) and Sticky-paper Daisies, and some potential patches of native grassy woodland although this was difficult to determine as most had been grazed. By far the majority of trees appeared to be Yellowbox, with some Red Gum, Applebox, and Stringybark.

## TWO WEEKS AFTER THE FIRES.

by Ian Fraser

Today (3 February) I accompanied Environment ACT officers into the Brindabella section of Namadgi National Park. Our planned trip last Thursday was called off due to the appalling weather conditions. This was the first time anyone had been up there since the fires. I was asked along in order to improve my ability to report accurately to the community (eg you!), both directly and via the ABC.

A disclaimer to start with. I am very aware of the importance of reporting 'objectively' and non-sensationally, but I doubt that I am able to do that. For over 20 years the Brindies and Namadgi have been my 'back yard' and my work place. Through the books that I (and of course Marg) wrote about them, and through 18 years of Environment Tours, I think that I know and 'feel' the area, especially between Coree and Gingera, better than many. I always felt that one of the more useful things I did with my life was write a report which had a (minor) influence on the inclusion of the northern Brindabellas in 1991. All of this is just to explain that this is very personal to me, and you must take that into account in this report.

As with the Tidbinbilla fire (same fire actually, of course) both the extent and intensity of the blaze are quite shocking.

Today we drove (and walked) along Brindabella Road and Mt Franklin Road to the Ginini Gate, down to Ginini Flat, down to Bendora Dam and out along Warks Road. In all that I would not have seen a square metre of unburnt ground. (Prior to that too, from the road closure on Cotter Road near Weston to the ranges, everything is scorched.) That is actually not quite true; the gully across the road from The Boulder on Bendora Road contains a ribbon of tree ferns about a metre wide. And this is really ALL there is left that I saw, though as I shall explain there are variations in the intensity of burning.

There are potential positives. Sections downslope of the Mt Franklin Road between Bulls Head and Aggie Gap, on both sides, have intact green canopy. This suggests some hope for arboreal animals in these areas. I emphasise the 'green' because in vast areas dead leaves persist, but leaf fall has begun.

In addition, I saw and heard more bird species (in very low numbers) than I'd have expected in the conditions. In particular, a source of amazement to us all was the number of lyrebirds seen (close to 20 altogether); how the hell (literally.) did they survive? Where? I have to assume that somewhere there are gullies that the fire leapt over. Most of those seen seemed to be foraging in roadside soaks, presumably the only source of ground surface invertebrates? How long will these areas be able to support them? Next most widespread were White-throated Treecreepers; against the odds, inverts must be surviving in bark crevices. Also more Brown Falcons than I've seen in Namadgi; I'm aware of their reputation as fire 'associates'. Also in the high burnt Snow Gums, Gang-gangs, Crimson Rosellas, Spotted Quail-thrush, Flame Robin, Striated Pardalote, Brush Cuckoo, Kestrel, pair of Wedgies, White-browed Scrubie; lower down (including Bendora) Pied Currawongs, Sacred Kingfisher, Yellow-faced and White-eared Honeyeaters, Common Bronzewing. In each case, one or very few.

Higher up were Red-necked Wallabies, lower were Swampies (ie Black, Black-tailed, depending on your origins!). I can't imagine what they've been living on, though along the lower burnt creeks *Carex* (a sedge) is shooting.

Along the Murrumbidgee (at the Cotter): River Oaks *Casuarina cunninghamiana* are all burnt. Does anyone know of their longer-term fire response? I'd guess that they die and reseed, but it is a guess.

I am sure that most of the 1939 stands of Alpine Ash (*Eucalyptus delegatensis*) will die and reseed. In some areas (eg past Bulls Head) many of them will survive. The fate of the regrowth from 1983 is a real worry though; they may well not be able to seed at this age.

We don't know much, I think, about Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) recovery. My guess (again! - this is very frustrating) is that most in the widespread intensely burnt areas will die; I'm hoping that the largest will have sufficiently protected underground shoots.

The Riverine vegetation along the Cotter River below Bendora Dam is burnt to ground level and to the water line.

Mt Franklin: the Chalet doesn't resemble a burnt building - the closest I can come to it is like a section of a rural rubbish tip. The ancient

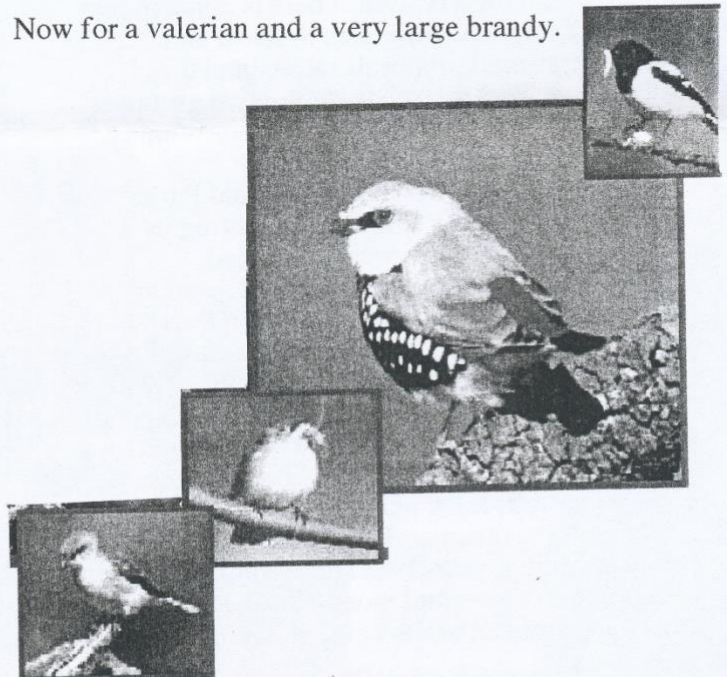
Snow Gums are in tatters, some just held up by a ribbon of trunk.

Ginini Flat: one of the worst shocks of the day. The earlier reports are now obsolete; obviously another fire front arrived, or perhaps a smouldering peat fire persisted. Perhaps 25-30% of the swamp vegetation remains in the sections we visited, and saw from the top of Franklin. Of the rest, up to 30cm of sphagnum is burnt. This represents centuries, perhaps a millenium or more, of growth. I don't even want to speculate on the impact of the already greatly-diminished Corroborree Frog population.

Lees Creek area: I had hopes that this lower area (ie without a fire roaring up to it) may have been spared. Instead it is close to the worst that I saw at Tidbinbilla. In a few places (eg where Warks Road descends from the west into Bulls Head Ck) there are some shrivelled but intact tree ferns; these will reshoot. Elsewhere though, down Bulls Head Ck, Blundells Ck and Lees Ck, the tree fern beds are just blackened stumps. We have little experience of this I think; perhaps there are some records from the Dandenongs from the '39 fires?

Not much more I can add, especially in the way of good news. We must just trust that this must have happened many times before, though not, I think, in European times. It will recover, though I for one will not see it. I am so sorry to be the bearer of such grief; I don't for a moment think that my love for this place is unique.

Now for a valerian and a very large brandy.



## A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

by Rosemary Blemings

The night of 20 February 2003 was memorable for several reasons.

As the evening began the Third Community Forum on Woodland Conservation was held at The O'Connell Centre. Efficiently hosted by Environment ACT and offering delicious 'light refreshments' the Forum began by showing the thirty participants how data gathered and analysed by the ACT's Wildlife Research and Monitoring Unit has contributed to significant maps and overlays to show the extent and distribution of remnant lowland woodlands and grassy woodlands in the ACT. Numerous debates and discussions have led to refined definitions of these ecosystems within the contexts of ecological history, landuse since 1750, their current state and the status of the native flora and fauna dependent upon them.

Environment ACT has ensured that input from over 100 people at the first forum in August 2002 was recorded as their reasons for supporting the retention and maintenance of these invaluable ecosystems were heard and listed. With the passage of time and since November's forum, there are fewer members of the concerned community attending the Woodland fora. There is a grave fear that, despite this input and the consultative and data-utilisation processes facilitated and co-ordinated by Environment ACT personnel, the fate of specific areas of woodland such as East O'Malley and sections of Canberra Nature Park will still be decimation and destruction rather than preservation. There is concern that the Government will listen to fiscal and developmental proposals rather than the evidence from scientists, ecological groups and the concerned but too-silent community.

By 8 pm the magnet of the National Parks Association (ACT's) monthly meeting in O'Connor was too strong and I also abandoned the woodlands. Guest speakers from ACT Parks and Conservation Service eloquently and thoroughly explained and illustrated the state of Namadgi National Park as a result of the January bushfires. A capacity crowd heard of the destruction and losses seen and assessed by Parks and Conservation Service staff. Each person brought a love of Namadgi to this meeting borne of years of bushwalking, years of rehabilitation, countless moments of awe and wonder at the park's beauty, flora and fauna and, indeed, the

protracted battle to proclaim the park several decades ago.

We were awed but, in the wake of previous bulletins from Environment ACT's reliable sources, not surprised by the extent of the devastation to the natural, cultural and heritage 'essence' of Namadgi. We heard of small miracles of specific and micro-habitat survival and of the extreme fragility of the soils and ash-covered surfaces bared by the fire and awaiting the next ravages ... from essential but 'dangerous' rain. The extent of reconstruction necessary is enormous and, like the fires themselves, unprecedented.

There is no doubt that members of NPA, augmented by concerned community members, will turn the grief they share with Environment ACT and the Parks and Conservation Service personnel into action through the varied forms of rehabilitation. They will volunteer their labour so future generations will be able to see the biodiversity and beauty we have long taken for granted, photographed and written about.

As the twentieth' night turned to early morning gentle but consistent rain fell as forecast for 21.02.03. Stricken plants with regenerative capabilities are being given impetus for a while until La Nina arrives. They will gradually bring the full spectrum of life back to Namadgi but this will take decades. As this healing proceeds:-

Will the ACT Government see the need for reappraisal of the Region's needs? Will they be strong enough to see that retaining the natural ecosystems we still have in order to protect the species threatened and habitat still heading for destruction as a result of human 'needs' is more important than succumbing to the pressures of residential and infrastructure development?

Will they see that, as a memorial to those affected by the fires and to the losses in Namadgi, Tidbinbilla and south-eastern Australia, Canberra Nature Park, as-yet vulnerable open space and Urban open space should be legally safe from destruction in perpetuity? Can the messages from scientific data and the voices of the majority who want the ACT and Region to remain a natural haven we are privileged to share be recognised and listened to?

Please be a voice that is heard, don't leave it to others who may be more inactive than you realise. Phone:

John Stanhope 6205 0104  
Simon Corbell 6205 0000  
Bill Wood 6205 0005  
Kerrie Tucker 6205 0161  
your MLA (see page 54 of the 2003 ACT  
Phone book)  
Environment ACT 6207 9777

Explain your view.

The concept of the ACT as a natural place, a garden city, the Bush Capital should remain in spite of the tragedy and scare of the fires, that pieces of bush such as Black Mountain, Bruce and O'Connor Ridges, East O'Malley, North Bruce should not be subject to modification or destruction (for their own and biodiversity's sakes), that Environment ACT's resources be increased so that all our open spaces, reserves and parks can be managed as they've always deserved, and that unstinting support is given to the processes of rehabilitating Namadgi, Tidbinbilla and affected Nature reserves in the wake of the January fires.

## NEWS RELEASE

**Kosciuszko bushfire phenomenon is a major attraction**

Media Contact Stuart Cohen 0418 820504  
February 24, 2003

A once in a lifetime opportunity has emerged in the aftermath of the fires that have burnt two-thirds of the Kosciuszko National Park since early January when the area was hit by an extraordinary series of lightning strikes.

As more and more of the park is reopened to the public visitors are now being invited back to the area to witness something that will not be seen again in our lifetime - nature's rebirthing of an entire landscape that has been savagely burnt in the most severe fire seen in the region since 1939.

NPWS Snowy Mountains Regional Manager, Dave Darlington, said today that the burning of the State's largest national park was a natural event on a scale that must humble all people.

On January 8 a massive storm cell passed over the park. As many as 60 lightning strikes were recorded hitting the mountain range along the full length of this 690,000 ha park. The weather was extremely hot with strong northwesterly winds. Because of the hot, dry,

windy conditions the fires took hold across a wide area almost immediately, making containment in the first 24 hours virtually impossible.

Despite this a number were extinguished early on while our planners battled to develop strategies to attack a bushfire scenario never experienced by any of the veteran fire fighters involved in the operation.

Over the next month the region endured a relentless cycle of hot, dry weather combined with lethal west-northwesterly winds, which fanned the fires constantly. Eventually these fires became one enormous bushfire complex that ran from Talbingo in the north of Kosciuszko National Park to Bright at the foot of Mount Buffalo in Victoria, a single fire of some 1.8 million hectares.

In the aftermath it has been obvious from aerial observation that these fires have been intense, in as much as they have severely burnt certain areas. This is not surprising given the time of the year and arguably the worst drought on record. This fire, like most, has been random in its pattern of burning. In some areas, particularly on the western fall and in the Alpine ash country to the south and southwest on the Murray, the fire has burnt extremely hot in large areas leaving a picture of burnt, black sticks and a thick bed of ash. In other areas there remain small patches of green which will be refuges for native animals that survived the flames while elsewhere there are still large areas across the park where the canopy remains green but the understorey is gone. Such is the mosaic pattern of fire behaviour.

There have been at least 100 of these types of mega fire events in this region over the past ten to twenty thousand years. It is a natural process which has shaped the landscape into what it is today, a highly fire prone and fire adapted bushland. As such, the bush has not been 'destroyed' it has been burnt and it will take this opportunity to regenerate, something that will become increasingly obvious in the weeks ahead as green shoots begin to emerge from the blackest of landscapes.

Kosciuszko National Park contains a diverse range of vegetation communities and each one will respond in a certain way to the introduction of fire. Such is the enormity of this event that scientists from across the country and overseas have been contacting the NPWS to discuss various scientific projects and opportunities in the years ahead in order to

learn more about the landscape and its lengthy and interdependent relationship with fire.

NPWS South West Slopes Regional Manager, Steve Horsley, said that in the northern end of the park a considerable amount of the park remains unburnt.

The Goobaragandra and Bogong areas of the park as well as Long Plain remain unburnt and will be important as native animals in the unburnt country begin to colonise those areas further south that have been burnt.

Importantly many of the major thoroughfares through the park are now open to the public and will offer people a chance to see this phenomenon for themselves. What they will see is a mosaic of burnt and unburnt areas which will be important for the longer term regeneration of the park's flora and fauna, Mr Horsley said.

Much of the park has been reopened to the public particularly in the north where numerous camping and picnic areas are now accessible as well as Yarrangobilly Caves. The resorts are open, as are most of the walks in the Alpine and resort areas. Visitors are reminded that travel to all towns and villages in the region is now possible where accommodation and other services and facilities can be obtained.

## **JERRABOMBERRA WETLANDS FIELD TRIP**

**SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2003 8 am.**  
by Rosemary Blemings

Meeting at the wetlands carpark off Dairy Flat Road, Fyshwick, meant a cool start with welcome humidity in the air following evening thunderstorms which preceded a few hours' gentle rain in a few suburbs ...the first rain for over 35 days.

As the 12 of us assembled several species were overflying, with a Great Cormorant and a White-faced Heron causing the greatest interest. Crested Pigeons were numerous, spaced along wires contemplating their next moves. As people entered the first hide a mixed feeding flock of small birds was heard or seen in the shrubs landscaped-in during the hides development. Red-browed Finches, Wrens, Silvereyes, Grey Fantails and three Rufous Whistlers were among these.

After a Spring and Summer when reports of rare sightings excited numerous regular birdwatchers it's to be hoped those individuals that have swelled the ACT/Canberra species lists have now found more durable water elsewhere. The drought's evaporative effect has turned several of the Jerrabomberra Wetlands lakes into baked mud and cracked clay-pans.

Purple swamp Hens, Coots and Moorhens have not given up these places which teemed avian life on 3rd November when 'Jerra' proved to be a great introduction to birdwatching for Daniella, aged 6. Pelicans preened and others thermalled overhead. Spoonbills delighted with their functional beaks whilst Ibis probed with theirs...Sedentary targets for youthful binocularists.

Magpies with strong white-backed tendencies dug into mown grassed areas whilst Magpie Larks harassed those that perched on the electricity wires. Australian Ravens, a Kookaburra and Sulphur-crested Cockatoos were noticed as we moved round towards Kelly's swamp.

This stroll emphasised the timeliness of a proposed Jerrabomberra Wetlands Care Group. Publicised in COG's Gang Gang the group is the brainchild of Shane Breynard. He'd be interested in hearing from those with time and energy 02 6207 2380. The wetlands are infested with invasive weeds at all vegetation levels.

After driving around the one-way-system to enter the Sewerage ponds complex and signing in the visitors' book another viscious weed greeted us. African Boxthorn. (*Lycium ferocissimum*). Rich in red berries and armed with thorns it's no wonder one 3m high by 4m width dome-shaped specimen was host to more than a dozen grassy nests. Such large shrubs provide shelter for small birds.

Introduced grasses feed hundreds of seed-eaters around the wetlands. Pine trees provide lookouts for, for example, the magnificent Brown Falcon (?) spotted as the last car-load was about to leave. Black-faced Cuckoo Shrikes were silhouetted in a tall, dead eucalyptus for some 10 minutes and a Goshawk/Collared Sparrowhawk had earlier used another as a lookout and launchpad. Weed and "untidy" vegetation removal is a complex issue best studied and implemented as part of a multiple-decades maintenance plan,

especially in the environs of prime habitat such as these wetlands.

We visited the levees and banks of each of the 7 sewerage ponds and were richly rewarded by the numbers of waterbirds present.. Pink-eared Ducks were spectacularly numerous at least on the water. Grey and Chestnut Teal, Hardheads (also called white-eyed Ducks so we found out) and Shovellers ensured that the binoculars were focused on each pond in turn. Masked-lapwings and Black Duck utilised the pond' edges. The light played tricks, at first, with Blue-billed Ducks. Four swam almost like a convoy of Medieval galleons on one pond as we returned to the cars. One male aided identification with his characteristically raised tail. Of all the feeding birds Hoary-headed and Australasian Grebes seemed most unworried about our presence, persisting in feeding, usually well away from the ponds' banks. Amongst the reeds Clamorous Reed Warblers appeared fleetingly with Paula also spotting a Golden-headed Cisticola.

The waterbirds and calling frogs (tok tok) seem unaffected by the ponds' green water...the effects of Cyanobacteria. Huge flocks of Starlings and feral Pigeons took to the sky at various times. Would that we could trawl the air and reduce their intrusive numbers in a few effective swipes!

Thank you for leading this walk, Benj. New experiences for some, return visits for others but for all a very worthwhile Sunday morning.

## **FROG DIP DETECTS KILLER FUNGUS:**

Infection-detecting bath could aid conservation.

February 7, 2003

KENDALL POWELL, Nature Magazine

Alex Hyatt of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in Australia has developed a frog dip that helps detect the often-lethal, skin-borne chytrid fungus (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*), which causes widespread frog decline in the Americas, Europe, and Australia by disrupting breathing and water absorption, and maybe secreting a toxin.

Aside from frogs, the fungus infects toads and salamanders in the Americas, New Zealand and Europe. It first reached Australia in 1993, is now known to occur in 30 frog species and may have contributed to the extinction of six

Australian species. The 15-minute dip is a harmless mix of water and salts that washes the frog's skin. The dip is then tested for the fungus using antibodies or genetic testing. This procedure should eliminate the old sampling method of toe clipping and can be used to non-invasively screen amphibian shipments for pet and lab trade.

Edited by Y.Dettlaff. For more of the article go to  
<http://www.nature.com/nsu/030203/030203-11.html>  
HerpDigest Volume # 3 Issue # 24 Allen Salzberg

## **WOODLAND BIRDS SEMINAR**

Saturday 22 March 2003

A seminar to promote the conservation of woodland birds and their habitats, hosted by Canberra Ornithologists Group (COG) and the Bird Interest Group Network and the ACT (BIGnet).

Many woodland bird species are declining in our region, indeed all over Australia - due to habitat loss and other factors.

Speakers from the Australian National University/Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, CSIRO, Conservation Council for the South-east Region and Canberra and COG will discuss what they are doing, their good news stories.

The seminar is free. For more information please phone 02/6247 4996 or 02/6286 5780. Bookings must be made by Tues 18 MARCH.

## **GREEN LIVING FAIR**

23 March 2003

(The day after the Birds Seminar),  
run by the Canberra Environment Centre,  
Childers Street Canberra City.

10 am - 4 pm.

The Green Living Fair will be a collection of informative stalls and demonstrations by suppliers of products and services and voluntary organisations that can help communities and households steer a course for more ecologically integrated living.

Workshops have been organised for mud brick building, strawbale construction and alternate motor vehicle fuels along with the management of recyclables and waste.

# FIELD NATURALISTS ASSOCIATION OF CANBERRA INC.

The Field Naturalists Association of Canberra was formed in 1981. The aim of the club is to stimulate interest in the natural history of the ACT through regular meetings and field outings. Meetings are usually held on the first Thursday of each month. Field outings are also planned each month and range from day outings to long weekends and camping. The emphasis is on informality and fun. New members are always welcome, especially family groups and young people. Information on activities is circulated in the monthly newsletter. If you wish to join FNAC, please complete the form below and send it with the appropriate subscription to:

The Treasurer, FNAC, GPO Box 249, Canberra ACT 2601.

FAMILY NAME: ..... FIRST NAME: .....

If a family membership, please include the first names of other members of the family.

POSTAL ADDRESS: .....

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Workshops have been organised for mud brick building, strawbale construction and alternate motor vehicle fuels along with the management of recyclables and waste.

# FIELD NATURALISTS ASSOCIATION OF CANBERRA INC.

The Field Naturalists Association of Canberra was formed in 1981. The aim of the club is to stimulate interest in the natural history of the ACT through regular meetings and field outings. Meetings are usually held on the first Thursday of each month. Field outings are also planned each month and range from day outings to long weekends and camping. The emphasis is on informality and fun. New members are always welcome, especially family groups and young people. Information on activities is circulated in the monthly newsletter. If you wish to join FNAC, please complete the form below and send it with the appropriate subscription to:

The Treasurer, FNAC, GPO Box 249, Canberra ACT 2601.

FAMILY NAME: ..... FIRST NAME: .....

If a family membership, please include the first names of other members of the family.

POSTAL ADDRESS: .....

SUBURB: ..... STATE: ..... POSTCODE: .....

PHONE: HOME: ..... WORK: .....

SUBSCRIPTION ENCLOSED: \$..... Single/Family \$20.

How did you hear about FNAC? Please circle. FRIEND OTHER Please state .....

# FIELD NATURALISTS ASSOCIATION OF CANBERRA INC.

To foster an interest in, an awareness and an understanding of nature.

If undeliverable return to:

The Secretary  
GPO Box 249  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

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