

# LAND FOR WILDLIFE



Newsletter of the Land for Wildlife Scheme in Alice Springs Municipality, NT

February 2007

## Land for Wildlife Update

Welcome to the summer 2006/7 edition Land For Wildlife newsletter for Alice Springs.

## Membership

We now have 47 properties registered with LFW! Welcome to the following new members: Steve & Allison Dixon, Ian & Yvonne Rowan, Siobhan McDonnell & Laurence Wilson, Janet Pierce & Marc Gooch, Rosie Gibbins & Steve Baskerville, Alison Males & Seamus Coye, Pat Hodgins and Power and Water Corporation. Olive Pink Botanic Garden and Jude & Nick Pringle are also in the process of completing their assessments and registration. It's fantastic to have so many new members – and we're still looking for more! So please let your friends and neighbours know about LFW. Information is available at [www.lowecol.com.au](http://www.lowecol.com.au), or call Heidi on 89 555 222.

## Coordinator changes

We have said our fond farewells to Cassie Wright as she has moved to seaside Victoria where she will be taking on a new position with Greening Australia. Cassie has been an enthusiastic coordinator over the past 1.5 years and has developed many new and exciting workshops and newsletters, which have led to a substantial increase in LFW membership. Many thanks to Cassie and best wishes for your exciting adventure in Gippsland.

Hello LFWers! Its time to introduce myself (Heidi Groffen) as your new LFW coordinator. I have been working with wildlife conservation for nearly 10 years, mainly with the Royal Zoological Society of South Australia where I worked on a number of native mammal endangered species recovery programs. Over the past 3 years I have been working overseas with the Endangered Echo Parakeet and Spix's Macaw recovery programs. Recently I have been working at the Alice Springs Desert Park. I am very excited about my new position with LFW and GfW and my new direction in wildlife conservation, I look forward to meeting you soon!

## Future

Garden for Wildlife is a new scheme, which Cassie has been successfully developing over the past few months and is aimed at property owners in urban Alice Springs. GfW will assist property owners in creating wildlife habitats in their backyards, which will enhance existing corridors and develop new natural corridors for wildlife to safely move between Alice Springs town blocks.

GfW is similar to the LFW program in that it will provide an opportunity for the Alice Springs town community to participate in nature conservation and environmentally friendly practices. Currently we are designing a website for GfW and bringing together the final stages of the scheme which will be launched on the 24<sup>th</sup> March at 10am at Olive Pink Botanic Garden. If you or your friends are interested, please come along to the launch. We are also trying to create a short, snappy slogan for GfW, please email Heidi if you have a slogan idea!



## Happy reading!

Heidi Groffen and Bill Low  
Land for Wildlife Coordinators

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# Workshops

## Bat Night Highlights!

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2006 the Bat workshop was held at the Hewett's place, Wannardi Caravan Park, Illparpa Road. Dennis Matthews brought along his Bat Detector, which demonstrated to LFWers how to track and identify a bat by picking up ultrasonic frequencies. Dennis explained how the vocalisation calls often heard from bats were either distress calls or socialisation calls. The hunting vocalisation (echolocation) of a bat is only heard by the bats themselves as it is too high a frequency for human ears to hear.



**Bat expedition down to the river.**

The most common Bat species seen and heard on the expedition down by the river was the Gould's Wattle Bat *Chalinolobus gouldii*.



**Gould's Wattle Bat  
*Chalinolobus gouldii***

From "A Field Guide to the Mammals of Australia" by Menkhorst and Knight 2004.

The bat detector also picked up echolocation calls from the:

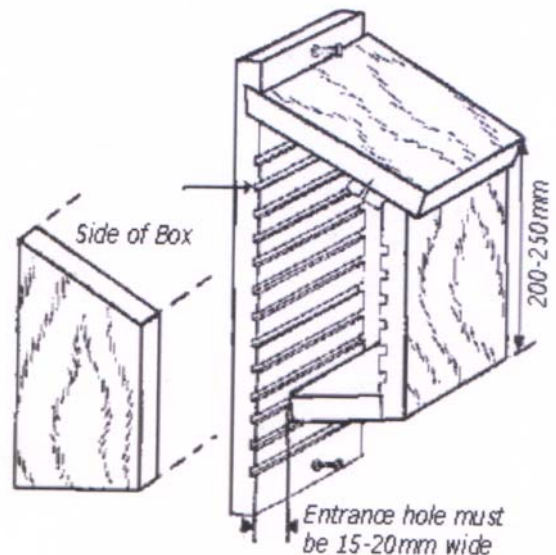
- White Stripped Mastiff Bat *Tadarida australis*,
- Lesser Long-eared Bat *Nyctophilus geoffroyi*,
- Little Cave Bat *Vespadelus finlaysoni*
- Western Broad-nosed Bat *Scotorepens balstoni*.

Thanks very much to Dennis Matthews for sharing his bat knowledge with LFWers & guests.

The evening ended with a slide show, which highlighted the different species of bats that can be seen or heard around Alice Springs.

A LFW Bat Fact Sheet will be out soon to help you understand the Alice Springs insectivorous (insect eater) microbats.

If anyone is interested in placing a bat box or two on your property please get in touch and we will send you a design instruction sheet. Or you can have a look on the Western Australian Land for Wildlife website, follow the links to the bat box design page.



**Bat Box Design**

Nat Hoffman from Wildcare spoke about what you can do if you find an injured bat. Keep in mind that Lyssavirus can be present in all bat species and care must be taken when handling bats as the virus is transferred via bites or scratches. If you can, avoid handling an injured bat by covering it carefully while you wait for a vaccinated wildcare volunteer to arrive than please do so. Thanks to Nat for the valuable information and Wildcare fridge magnets.

If anyone missed November's bat workshop and you would like to come along to another one please let us know and we will organise one in the very near future!

## Weed and Landscape Management Workshop!

A Weed and Landscape Management Plan workshop was held at Low Ecological Services on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January. The workshop detailed the best ways to prioritise weed control on private land. A slide show provided clear photographs of local weeds that may be present on properties around Alice Springs. Tactics and strategies were discussed, which helped LFW members develop property management plans that suited specific problem areas. Each property was mapped to best view the problem areas, which detailed a time scale of management priorities. We had 7 keen LFWers attend and enjoyed a few drinks and a BBQ after.

If anyone else is interested in coming to another Weed and Landscape Management Plan workshop in the future please email Heidi.

## Practicalities

Rains are Welcome.....

but not the Weeds!

By Andy Vinter

Recent rains have provided an excellent opportunity for you to work in your garden or rural block.

Dormant Buffel grass clumps have responded quickly with lush growth and are now developing seed for future spread. Couch grass is also lush, green and growing rapidly. This is shaping to be a major reproductive event for these invasive grasses, but it is also a time of opportunity to control them. Spraying with herbicides will work excellently on the lush green leaves. Take care not to accidentally spray native grasses that are growing amongst the weeds. The soil is also soft making digging and removal of buffel clumps much easier. If you are considering slashing

large areas of buffel grass try to do this before the seed has matured. Regrowth can be sprayed when the leaves are about 10cm long or longer.

Its also an excellent time to observe the native plants that regenerate after summer rains such as Button Grass *Dactyloctenium radulans* and Broad-leaf Parakeelya *Calandrinia balonensis* and of course the Mulga and Witchetty are starting to flower.



**Broad-leaf Parakeelya *Calandrinia balonensis***

The moisture in the ground also makes it an ideal time to plant seedlings, but be sure the plant stock is sun hardened to cope with the hot weather that may return. It's also a good time to propagate plants. The humidity and relatively mild temperatures are good for striking cuttings or germinating seed.

So as you can see it's too good a time to be sitting around. Get out there and enjoy this time while it lasts.

## Problems with pests?

### Rabbit Calicivirus Release update

The June 2006 LFW newsletter highlighted an increase in rabbit numbers around Alice Springs region. Rabbit Calicivirus Disease (RCD) was released on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2006 to try and reduce the rabbit population in the Ross River Highway area along the Todd River. It was hoped that the disease would have spread further than the initial release site. Observations suggested that RCD had only localised impacts on the population, killing mainly sub adult rabbits. Many young rabbits (less than 2 months old) survived the infection and may have built up immunity against the infection.

Unfavourable weather conditions may have also limited the spread of the virus, although it did extend from the camel farm to the Alice Springs Desert Park. Ideal conditions for RCD release are:

- Autumn and Spring
- About a month after good rain.
- When there are a lot of insects present such as bush flies, mossies and blowflies.

Margot Webster has observed that rabbit numbers were extreme in winter and spring of 2006. RCD reached their property in late September and within a week the population went from hundreds (possibly thousands) to zero.

2 weeks later, Margot observed that about 10 babies appeared and the number has slowly crept up to perhaps 20 - 30.

Kym Schwartzkoff from Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory has suggested that RCD may increase its spread once the hotter weather decreases. Since talking with Kym, we have had a lot of rain in Alice Springs. The rains have increased the insect population and since insects spread the disease, they may enhance the kill rate in rabbits.

Information has indicated that Myxomatosis, which is a disease of rabbits caused by a virus, may have gone through the rabbit population just before Christmas 2006 around the racetrack area. Mosquitoes are the vectors for the spread of the disease. We can only hope that with the increase of mossies in the area since the rains, will increase the spread of myxo.

If you find active rabbit warrens on your property, fill them in with dirt or contact LFW and we will investigate fumigation control.

Reference:  
Bill Low, personal communication, Kym Swartzkoff, personal communication.

## Climate Change

You must see **AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH**, which is out on DVD now and offers a passionate and inspirational look at one man's fervent crusade to halt global warming's deadly progress in its tracks by

exposing the myths and misconceptions that surround it. That man is former U.S.A Vice President Al Gore. With wit, smarts and hope, **AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH** ultimately brings home Gore's persuasive argument that we can no longer afford to view global warming as a political issue - rather, it is the biggest moral challenge facing our global civilization.

The DVD is packaged to make the smallest possible environmental footprint - it is made of 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper, no excess materials, and absolutely no plastics. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this DVD will benefit the bipartisan climate effort, The Alliance for Climate Protection.

The DVD is available at Block Buster NOW!

References: <http://climatecrisis.org/>.

## Prepare for climate change invaders

Australia should take urgent steps to prepare for fresh invasions of pests under climate change.

The warning has been issued by two of the nation's scientific leaders in the field of controlling pest species, Dr Rachel McFadyen, CEO of the Weeds CRC and Dr Tony Peacock, CEO of the Invasive Animals CRC.

"A great many pests will expand their range under climate change, and we can predict this with some confidence. As rainfall patterns shift, Alien plants will invade new areas of the continent," Dr McFadyen says.

"The point about invasives is that they are highly resilient," explains Dr Tony Peacock. "They are successful because they can bounce back quicker than native species, as rabbits can, for example."

"Everything I know about climate change points to the invaders doing better than native Australian species when the going gets tough. Essentially, climate change creates fresh opportunities for pests."



Particularly at risk are the northern and central parts of the continent, Dr McFadyen cautions. Of particular concern is the risk of losing vast areas of the native landscape to an invasion by African grasses, which is threatening to take over whole ecosystems.

Dr McFadyen agrees. "We have to redouble our efforts to identify and wipe out invasive plants as they penetrate new areas, and before they become permanently established," she says. "That means increasing nationwide surveillance by people who are trained in what to look out for, and increasing our effort to find suitable biological and other means of controlling these weeds, to combat their efforts to spread into new areas or take over existing ones."

Reference:  
Weeds CRC – Enviroweeds

## Bush Detective

What Frog creates that croak?

The recent rains have also brought the frogs out in great numbers. Here are 3 different Frog species that might be present on your property!



**Spencer's Burrowing Frog**  
*Limnodynastes spenceri*

Spencer's Burrowing Frog are generally found around sandy river beds and creek lines. They hibernate over summer and come out as soon as it rains. The males call in a short, intermitted repeated "bok", while they float in shallow ponds or puddles.



**Red Tree Frog**  
*Litoria rubella*

Red Tree Frogs are found near permanent and temporary water and they come out to breed after summer rains. Males will call a repeated rasp of rising pitch. This frog is common throughout the McDonnell Ranges and can often be found around human dwellings, like your pool or water tanks.



**Main's Frog**  
*Cyclorana maini*

Main's Frog are often seen after rains when they emerge from their burrows to feed and breed in temporary water bodies like claypans and creeks after rains. The male sounds like a sheep bleating.

Why do Mulga Ants shape their nest entrance in a funnel shape?

Des Nelson has a few interesting ideas about Mulga Ant nests, one of which commonly describes the nests shape as a tool to prevent flooding by overland water flow during heavy rainfall periods.

Des has been observing these insects for many years; here is a description of what he has recorded.



**Mulga Ant Nest**  
*Polyrhachis macropus*

The nests entrances are funnel shaped with a mass of mulga phyllodes surrounding the outside. The inner surface is a thin layer of dirt and if you look closely you can see small freckle-like dots. After rain, especially at night and on damp, heavily overcast days, the ants emerge from the nests and appear to be feeding/drinking from the freckle-like dots. At night time, during periods of fine weather, Des moistened the inside of the nest funnel and observed that within a short time, the ants had ventured to the opening and again appeared to be feeding/drinking from the damp dots. Des has speculated that the dots may be deposits of a fungus.

Of course this poses the question of "*how do the ants survive during prolonged dry periods*". The answer could lie in the structure of the under ground chambers within the nest.

The nests are narrow and deep; Des believes they could be about 1 metre in depth. Galleries radiate for relatively short distances down much of the length of the tubular nest. The wide, funnel-like mouth of the nest directs rainfall readily, allowing water to accumulate at the bottom of the nest where it will soak into the soil creating a long-term store of moisture. Moisture vapour is released from this deep store in the early morning when atmospheric humidity is at a maximum. This released vapour could activate the small freckle-like dots.

Des believes that the source of the ant's nourishment may be derived from the closely interlaced ring of phyllodes (leaves) at the top of the nests. The food organism would flourish with the soil, moisture and appropriate biotic starter.

Another observation involves the method used by the ants to transport mulga phyllodes to the nest. Most ants move objects by dragging them. Very often this

means that the ants move in reverse, sometimes in quite a clumsy manner. When collecting a mulga phyllode, the mulga ant straddles the seed, 3 legs on either side, finds the phyllode's point of balance, then seizes it in its mandibles, and proceeds quickly in a forward movement. The ants do not operate in a trail but move around as individuals.

Written by Des Nelson 2006

## Red Kangaroos, Euros & Black-footed Rock Wallabies!

I hope you all saw the newspaper article about Kangaroo warning signs being installed along Illparpa Road. Thank you to all the LFWers that informed us about the Euro deaths occurring along that road. We hope that the new signs will help prevent the Euros being injured or killed on our country roads.

Here are some interesting observational facts that might help you identify between the 3 commonly seen macropods around the Alice Springs area.

The word Macropod means, "Big foot" and there are about 45 different kinds of macropod in Australia, ranging from small wallaby to rock wallaby to tree kangaroo, larger wallaby and finally kangaroo.

### Red Kangaroo

Red Kangaroo are the only truly arid zone kangaroo, occurring where rainfall is generally less than 500mm per year.

Despite living in the arid zone the red kangaroo depends upon green, quality herbage rather than dry, low nutrient plant matter. A study in Alice Springs found that 75% of the red kangaroo diet was grass, mainly Narrow-leaf Neverfail *Eragrostis setifolia* and the other 25% was forbs (non-woody, non-grass herbs) (Dawson, 1989).

Reds move to areas where rains have produced flushes of young grass and in times of drought they retreat to feed on vegetation along the watercourses. They have recently been seen in the open areas around the Clay Pans in Illparpa Valley.



**Red Kangaroo**  
*Macropus rufus*

**Euro**

The Euro is the most commonly seen macropod around Alice Springs, this is the one you will see along the side of the road near the hills during the dry periods as they have come down from the ranges to eat the fresh grasses, which persist on road verges in response to light showers or stored moisture. There is a marked ecological separation between red kangaroos and euros. Euros are found in the rocky ranges and hills, feeding on low nutrient herbage including soft spinifex (Dawson, 1989). They rest in the full shade of caves and rock overhangs during the day.



**Euro**  
*Macropus rubustus*

**Black-footed Rock Wallaby**

The Black-footed Rock Wallaby is widely scattered in ranges of central and western Australia. You can often see a resident group at Simpson's Gap and on top of Mt Gillen. Black-footed Rock Wallaby will come down to the road side to feed on grasses during times of drought.



**Black-footed Rock Wallaby**  
*Petrogale lateralis*

References:

Dawson, T. J. 1989. Diets of macropodoid marsupials: general patterns and environmental influences. pp 129-142 in Kangaroos, wallabies and rat-kangaroos.

ASDP Guide files: The Largest Marsupial – The Red Kangaroos.

**Wildlife Calendar**

What kind of critters are you seeing at the moment?



The Clay pans at Illparpa Valley have had plenty of water in them for a month now, wildlife observations include, Crimson Chat, White-winged Triller, Richard's Pipit, Pied Honeyeater, Grey Teal, Black-fronted Dotterel, a group of Plumed Whistling-duck and a lone Red-kneed Dotterel. If you have a good look along the waters edge you will see many Shield Shrimp, Brine Shrimp and bi valve Shrimp.

Leslie Riley has seen an increase in Spinifex Pigeons around her property at Honeymoon Gap and I have also seen a pair running between my property and Doug Graham and Maria van der Krogt's property on Lillecrapp Road. A Hooded Scaly Foot made its presence known to Leslie as well!

**Some tips for wildlife spotting over the next month or so**

We are in the middle of summer now and the reptile activities are on the increase. Watch out for the basking Bearded Dragon, Long-nosed Water Dragon and Sand Goanna that are out and about. Keep your



eyes out for Fat-tailed Gecko and the Tree Dtella, which is the common gecko seen on your house windows.

I am sure you have all observed the return of the Rainbow Bee-eater a few months back, most chicks would have fledged the burrow by now and would be enjoying the influx of insects in the area due to the recent rains. To help you identify the males from the females have a look at the central tail-streamers, the male's streamers are longer (up to 4cm) than the females and the females are thicker. Below is a good picture of a juvenile (with no tail-streamers), an adult female (thicker tail-streamers) and an adult male Rainbow Bee-eater (long tail-streamers).



**Rainbow Bee-eater**  
***Merops ornatus***

Reference: Field Guide to Australian Birds By Steve Parish Publishing. Pp 210 – 211. (Morcombe 2000).

The lovely rains will certainly boost the fledging success rate of all the breeding birds in central Australia! Look out for the ever-keen pairs that are attempting a double clutch due to these favourable weather conditions.

Channel-billed Cuckoo have also returned from Indonesia/PNG/QLD to Eastern and Northern Australia, which includes Alice Springs. It isn't well recorded as to why they travel this far north considering they are frugivorous (have a diet consisting of fruit). Specialist bird keeper at Alice Springs Desert Park, Pat Hodgens described the cuckoo as a bird that searches for host nests to lay their eggs in. The cuckoo looks for a crow, magpie, bird of prey, or another large bird nest, kicks the host eggs out, lays their eggs in the nest, ensuring that the host bird rears their chicks.

Chris Golding, a local Alice Springs resident remembers a Channel-billed Cuckoo, kicking crow's eggs out of a nest in his backyard last summer. Chris observed the crow's rearing the cuckoo to fledging age.

These large birds can be heard before they are seen, often in pairs making a call that is a raucous, repeated, rising shout, "oik" or "awk". They have been observed around town, Colonel Rose Drive area and in the Illparpa Valley. If you have spotted them elsewhere please let us know!



**Channel-billed Cuckoo**  
***Scythrops novaehollandiae***

Reference: The Field Guide to the Birds of Australia By Pizzey & Knight-2000

Dave Leonard has been spotting some interesting wildlife and has a few tips for us. If you like to recycle, you may have storage bins and garbage bins laying around your property. If so, watch out for the marauding Pygmy Mulga Goanna *Varanus Gillenii*.

Pygmy Mulga Goanna are very clever climbers but smooth and vertical plastic or steel surfaces can defeat them. So when Dave's (steel, 60litre) oil drum for storing empty food tins developed a persistent rattle, he soon discovered an inquisitive, but vertically frustrated Pygmy Mulga Goanna. If the Goanna's rattles for help had not been heard, he would have perished quite soon. By chance, Dave had a piece of shade cloth handy and when he lowered it into the bin, the clever goanna, with an eye for an escape root, scampered to the top and lowered himself almost to the ground with his long tail.

So to ease Dave's conscience and keep the bins quiet, a piece of shade cloth has been installed in each bin. The piece is only about 100mm wide, reaches to the bottom and is attached over the top with a "Tek" screw or one of those large size "Nalclip" paper clips. Quiet bins are "all the go" at Dave's place now.

On something completely different, Dave has recently seen a pair of Golden-backed Honeyeater and Little Button Quail, which are the first seen for years!

### **What else have you seen?**

Write in and let us know: [lfw@LowEcol.com.au](mailto:lfw@LowEcol.com.au), P.O. Box 3130, or 89 555 222.



# Books Worth a Look



**Alice Springs 2006-2007 Vegie garden companion.**  
*An excellent planting guide, seedsavers manual and seasonal eating almanac.*

When to plant, what to eat, where to grow, how to sow, and who to know. Includes a short history of Tinh & Lan's Market Garden, surviving the heat and dry information as well as many delicious recipes. Available at Afgan Traders for \$15.00.

## **Integrated Weed Management (IWM) Manual**

Ten years of study and painstaking data collection by Australia's leading weed scientists have created a new weapon for farmers in the fight against crop weeds.

The new Integrated Weed Management (IWM) manual, a 250 page "bible", grew out of a concern at the speed with which unwanted plants are becoming resistant to herbicides.

The manual encourages land managers to use the full range of control methods available and not rely on a single 'quick fix' solution, such as herbicides alone.

The IWM manual contains specific details of 20 of the worst weeds of Australia's cropping areas and individual weed management tactics, as well as detailed information on how to develop and assess effective weed management programs. The manual also contains a comprehensive section on herbicide resistance.

Available through Weeds CRC at \$88 plus \$10 postage -  
[http://www.weeds.crc.org.au/publications/iwm\\_manual\\_flyer.html](http://www.weeds.crc.org.au/publications/iwm_manual_flyer.html)

# Calendar of Events

## **Evening Classes 2007**

### **Horticulture/Conservation & Land Management Classes**

**Charles Darwin University  
Alice Springs Campus**

#### **Term 1**

**Monday evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm 12 February – 2 April.**

RTF3012A Implement a plant nutrition program  
\$108.00

**Wednesday evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm 15 February – 5 April.**

RTC2016A Recognise plants \$72.00

#### **Term 2**

**Monday evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm 16 April – 18 June.**

RTF2013A Pot on plants \$54.00

**Tuesday evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm 17 April – 19 June.**

RTC3401A Control weeds \$126.00

**TBA evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm. Lecturer:**

RTF3011A Implement a plant establishment program  
\$144.00

#### **Term 3**

**Monday evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm 13 August – 24 September.**

RTC2026A Undertake propagation activities \$54.00

**Tuesday evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm 7 August – 25 September.**

RTC3704A Prepare and apply chemicals \$126.00

**TBA evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm.**

RTD3034A Implement revegetation works \$144.00

**TBA evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm.**

RTD2803A Observe and report on plants and animals

RTD2126A Recognise animals

RTC2016A Recognise plants \$216.00

#### Term 4

#### **Monday evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm 8 October – 3 December.**

RTC2306A Operate vehicles

FPIFGM147A Read & interpret maps \$72.00

#### **Tuesday evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm 9 October – 4 December.**

RTF3503A Sample soil and analyse results  
\$108.00

Further information contact:

Student Services

Phone: 08 8959 5311

Course Coordinator :

**Alan Harrison phone: 8959 5428**

**Email: [alan.harrison@cdu.edu.au](mailto:alan.harrison@cdu.edu.au)**

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#### **Australian Plants Society - Wednesday 7th March**

Peter Latz on, "A History of Botanical Exploration and Discovery in the Northern Territory". Olive Pink Botanic Gardens, 7.30pm. Ph. Tim on 8952 2631 (AH).

#### **Olive Pink Botanic Garden - Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup>**

Olive Pink Botanic Garden Plant sale (8.30am) and *Art in the Garden* botanical art exhibition opening at 3 pm (the exhibition then runs until March 31st), including sketches and drawings by the Garden's founder, Miss Olive Pink. At the plant sale there will be a large range of hard to get hold of central Australian native trees, shrubs and bush food species. All welcome. Please phone Colleen O'Malley 8952 2154 for more details.

#### **Garden for Wildlife Launch - Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

Garden for Wildlife Launch at **Olive Pink Botanic Garden** (10am) – Come along and register and learn about wildlife habitats in suburban areas and view Olive Pink's Exhibition. There will be a plant sale through Greening Australia and Tangentyere Nursery.

#### **Australian Plants Society - Wednesday 4th April**

Angus Duguid on "Eremophila spp. Rainbow

Valley, Ipomoea spp. Stirling and the new Triodia ID book" Olive Pink Botanic Gardens, 7.30pm. Ph. Tim on 8952 2631 (AH).

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#### **Alice Springs Field Naturalists Club (FNC) - Field Trips**

##### **Sat 10 Feb 07**

Bird watching at Sewage Ponds. Meet 7am at the Ponds. .

##### **Wed 14 Feb 07**

FNC monthly meeting, 7:30pm Olive Pink Botanic Garden. Speaker Mike Barritt "The Story of World Extinctions"

##### **Fri 16 Feb 07**

Barbie and night walk at Old Telegraph Station. 6pm

##### **Sun 4 Mar 07**

Walk in Kurrajong Hills. Leader: Rosalie Breen. Contact 8952 3409

##### **Sat 10 Mar 07**

Visit Kyumba Reserve. Leader: Connie Spencer. Contact 89524694

##### **Wed 14 Mar 07**

FNC monthly meeting 7:30pm OPBG. Speaker Chris Palmer, second part of "Introducing the Insect"

##### **Sat 24 March 07**

Owen Springs Reserve. Visit waterhole near ranger station.

##### **Sun 25 Mar 07**

Planning/Committee Meeting 2pm at Olive Pink Botanic Garden. Meeting to be open to all members

##### **Apr 07**

Newhaven Reserve if it rains before hand. 4WD

##### **Wed 11 Apr 07**

FNC monthly meeting 7:30pm OPBG

This newsletter has been produced by  
Heidi Groffen and Bill Low, *LfW* coordinators, W.A. Low  
Ecological Services, NHT, Alice Springs Town Council  
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