



Mammal Survey Group of Victoria Inc.

September 2015

Hi everyone,

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 18th August this year, where a new group of committee members was elected. A sincere thank you to all of the past committee members who have given of their time and effort to make the Mammal Survey Group of Victoria a success.

The new members for 2015 – 2016 are:

Chairman: Kathy Zonneville.	kathyz@optusnet.com.au
Vice-chairman: Andrew McCutcheon	awmccutcheon1@bigpond.com
Secretary: Chris Wilson	christopher.wilson@monash.edu
Treasurer: Chris Wilson	
Record's Officer: Nancy McMurray	
Equipment Officer: Paul Sparks	
Ordinary Members: June, Mary, Shirley and Tony.	

Many thanks to 'Web Master' Mary, for updating the new web site: www.mammalsvic.org.au. Don't forget to check out the 'Gallery' to see great images of native species seen on past camps. These include Agile Antechinus, an Eastern Horse Shoe Bat, a Brush-tailed Phascogale, a White-footed Dunnart and many more! Click into the 'Newsletters' to see more incredible pictures taken at recent camps, and click into 'About Us' to get a picture of what this group is all about!

Many thanks to Chris and Nancy for taking the minutes.

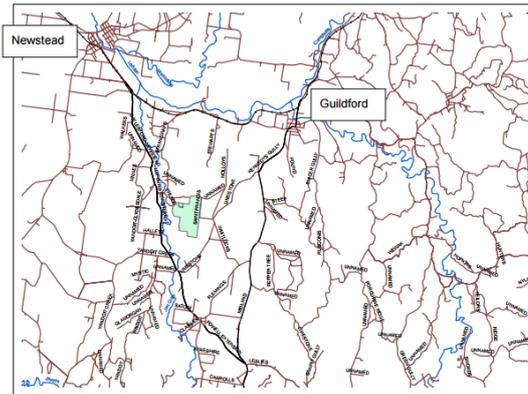
Contacts for the group are as above.

Treasurer's and Record Reports from the Annual General Meeting are available upon request.

We look forward to a new year of successful surveying.

Our first two camps for the year will be held on:

3rd & 4th October 2015 – a Nest Boxing Camp at Clydesdale.



Take Newstead road from Daylesford, turn right at Jones-Reece road (signed). Cross Jim Crowe creek, turn right into Wilson lane, take first left (ie. don't go straight ahead south), then first right (severely eroded track). Enter via first gate on left. Newstead road from Daylesford & Midland Hwy from Castlemaine are both shown in black. North to top of page

from Daylesford

Kathy will be the camp commandant for the above camp and can furnish any further details of this camp.

31st October – 3rd November 2015, at Mali Dunes. Bernie has invited the Renmark Field Naturalists Group to camp in the week prior and encourages everyone to come early if we want to join them.

Directions and information for the Mali Dunes Camp:

"Mali Dunes" is a private property located on Millers Rd, Yanac North (VicRoads Country Directory Map 24G2). It is 621ha (1552 acres) in size (approximately 4kms by 2kms) of rolling sand dunes some 12 km south of the Big Desert Wilderness and 30 kms east of the SA border. It has been chained and farmed in the past (as late as 1995) but is now a Community Land Management (CLM) project site and is fully protected under a 'Trust for Nature' covenant. There is significant natural regeneration supplemented by extensive revegetation of direct seeding and plantings of local provenance.

It is 419km from Melbourne and is accessed by the Western Highway (A8) to Nhill (370km) and then the C225 road to Yanac (31km). From Yanac (don't cross the old rail line but turn left and pass the silos), continue north on the Nhill-Murrayville Track/Rd for approximately 12kms to the Millers Rd intersection (an all-weather road curving to the left/west). At Millers Rd, turn left and travel for 5.9kms passing the Dahwedarre Bushland Reserve on the left. The driveway to the gate of Mali Dunes is on the left opposite a windsock on an airstrip in the paddock to the right. The gateway is immediately before a white roadside post with 'double red reflectors' and the gate has 'Trust for Nature' and 'Community Land Management' signs on it. (If you go past a railway carriage in a paddock on the right you've gone too far and have to turn back - look for the white roadside post then immediately turn right into the driveway opposite the windsock.)

To get into the camp from the gate, the track goes for 1.6km and is firstly south (straight ahead) then west (right) past the access to the Terradome, then a little bit south (leftish) then swings east (hard left) at a bend with a 'Camp Sign' then goes between two dunes passing a small (normally bone dry) dam near the end then a bit north (leftish) and you are there. Phew - you think you've nearly done a circle - wait and see! The track is accessible by 2WD vehicles - please take care in the possible mud (we wish) on the clay and on the sandy rise after the bend and the dam on the last leg. This lot isn't meant to put you off - just making you aware - but please don't be deterred as there are vehicles to

help if needed and if conditions are really bad we will open an alternate route.

What to bring - There is plenty of space for tents and campers and the extensive facilities are:

2 toilets (1 luxury bush toilet and 1 builder's toilet)

Communal fire/cooking pit and water pot (personal fuel stoves are welcome - however we ask that no other fireplaces be made).

Shower-base and 'derrick' for shower-bag.

Lots of open space, animals, birds, reptiles, plants, sky and 'serenity'.

Good company.

In addition to bringing all your own camping gear and food, you must bring water as there are only very limited personal supplies at Mali Dunes. The nearest petrol, ice and shops are at Nhill (48kms away) and Kaniva (52kms). NextG mobile phones with an aerial will work at Mali Dunes and the GPS Reading is: E 141 15 001 - S 36 00 001.

Looking forward to seeing you - please give us a call if any other details needed,
regards, Bernie & Sue

Hope you can join us on the camp. Learn about surveying animals in their native habitat!

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