



Werribee Birdwatchers.

July Newsletter, 1998

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Melbourne Zoo Outing. July 7th. Travelling by train seemed to be a new experience for many. It was so easy off the Werribee train and just a few steps onto the Upfield line train. It was interesting to see the City Link Road from the train. It is a massive piece of engineering and appears to be in the finishing stages. At the Zoo we were very fortunate to have Carol and Chris, Friends of the Zoo and Volunteer guides at Werribee, to show us around. The Zoo has a large number of birds in large aviaries (not sure that I like it) but it was a great way to view them. I intend to return with my 'What Parrot Is That' book and try to become more familiar with them. The Flight Aviary, built in 1980, is very large. It has different areas with vegetation to simulate wetlands, rain forest and grass lands so it is possible to see many bird varieties. You actually walk in with the birds, it is interesting to see many birds in the outside trying to get in. There are 50 different birds in the Aviary but is very difficult to see them all. You need to look up, down and sideways too.

I have not published a bird list but have been able to obtain a list from the Education Section of the Zoo which gives all the birds which can be found there. This list is very extensive, so if you wish to see just ask me.

Were you listening to 3LO in February when that violent storm destroyed so many trees at the Zoo? The only signs of that devastation seemed to be a very large tree near the station entrance which had had many large limbs removed and the sound of the chain saw cutting down another tree. A lot of hard work must have been put in by many people to have the whole place looking so great. If you have not recently been to the Zoo you will be very surprised and are assured of an interesting day

August 4th. Werribee River, Bunge's Hole and Island. Meet at the Station St., entrance to Werribee Station at 9-30am. Bring your thermos for morning tea. I will drive the morning teas down to Bunge's Hole and have some one drive me back so we don't have to carry gear.

Sept. 1st. Cherry Lake and mouth of Koroit Creek. We will meet in the car park At Centenary Hall at 9.00 and car pool before setting out for Cherry Lake.

Oct. 6th. Salt Works at Point Cook to greet the wader. *Note additional outing.*

October 16th Friday On the Community Bus. Western Treatment plant for those very keen to learn how to identify the waders. Martin Hulzebosch will provide expert tuition. Do please let me know if you intend to come on this occasion.

November 3rd. or 10th Belmont Common, Hospital Swamp and Barwon Heads.