Altona, and Newport Lake in summer.

After a pleasant walk along Koroit Creek to its entrance to Bay we made our way to Newport Lake via the Old Williamstown Race Track. At the ford there were a few swans with collar, some black, some white and all numbered, they are a part of a study. The Black Swan Collar Project is a research project by zoologist Raoul Mulder, of the University of Melbourne. It began at Albert Park Lake in 2006, and there are about 300 birds fitted with collars.

Females are fitted with white collars and a black number-and-letter combination. Males are fitted with black collars with white codes.

The project relies on people reporting swan data onto a website and its then possible to build up a picture of the movement of the birds.

The website is www.myswan.org.au

Each report gives some data on that swan and its previously reported movements, Peter O’Connell had a photo showing the Swans with collars. David J took the other photo on our outing.

So on to Newport Lakes which used to be a quarry, then a tip and now a delightful habitat for many birds. The park is 33 hectares in size and is a great place for a picnic with family and friends, for a leisurely walk or just to relax in a tranquil bushland setting. The lakes area of the park has been extensively revegetated using native plants, with over 200 species of plants and 85 species of birds recorded here.

Sincere thanks to Andre and Len for managing to find a good spot for morning tea and ensuring none of us rushed off to join the circus. I hope I am able to attach a brochure about the annual Wildflower and Bird trip Neil Marriott, son of Nance, is a peat of organising each year.