

Woorndoo Common in late spring. Image: Liz Fenton

A celebration of native grassland communities on rural roadsides and reserves

Our guest and field guide for the day is Neville Walsh, Senior Conservation Botanist, National Herbarium, Victoria.

**The Woorndoo Project** 

In 2017, The Woorndoo Land Protection Group was awarded funds from Victoria's Community & Volunteer Action Grant Program 2017 – Biodiversity On-ground Action, to extend the successful 2013 grassland restoration on the Woorndoo-Streatham Road at Woorndoo. The project includes detailed scientific experiments on planting and sowing grassland species, and the restoration of a further 1.25 ha of diverse temperate native grassland. The project is due for completion in November 2020.

Program - Friday 1st November, 2019

8:30 am to 9 am - Woorndoo Common and Recreation Reserve

Meet and register either at the Recreation Reserve for early morning tea, or across the road at the renowned Woorndoo Common, a diverse and beautiful example of rare, species-rich native grassland.

9 am – Depart for the morning Field Excursion (Site 1), a diverse remnant grassland, Woorndoo-Streatham Rd.

A bus will depart from the Recreation Reserve or you can join the convoy - car pooling encouraged.

Alternatively, join the group from 9:30 opposite the corner of Woorndoo-Streatham Rd and Pagels Lane.

10:15 am - Depart from Site 1

10:30 am - Arrive at the Woorndoo Project site – cnr. Woorndoo-Streatham Rd. and Bolac Plains Rd., Woorndoo.

Review progress on the Woorndoo Project and inspect the recently-completed 1.25 ha. direct sowing, extending the restored grassland to 2.5 ha.

11:15 am - Morning Tea - Woorndoo Recreation Reserve

11:45 am - Welcome: Susan Bosch, President, Woorndoo Land Protection Group

11:50 am to 1 pm - Guest Speaker: Neville Walsh, Senior Conservation Botanist, National Herbarium

'The enchantment of an under-described flora - a botanist's odyssey through Victoria's western plains'

1 pm to 1:45 pm - Lunch - Woorndoo Recreation Reserve

1:45 pm - Ben Zeeman (GHCMA) 'The critical value and potential of small vegetation patches'

2:15 pm - Depart for the afternoon Field Excursion to Wickliffe roadsides (Site 2)

A bus will depart from the Recreation Reserve or you can join the convoy – car pooling encouraged.

Subject to site selection and conditions on the day, see a wide diversity of spectacular grassland species, including orchids, nationally endangered daisies and a profusion of other colourful native grassland species.

4:30 pm - Arrive Woorndoo Recreation Reserve for Afternoon Tea and convivial conversation

Registration (preferably by Wednesday, 30 October, please)

Please register by texting or emailing Jodie Leske (0419 583 853); jodie.leske@bigpond.com. Please include any dietary requirements.

When registering, please indicate if you would like a seat reserved on the bus for the morning and/or afternoon Field Excursions.

Free event: There is no cost for the day's activities but your gold coin or small note donation would be appreciated and will assist WLPG's ongoing grassland preservation and restoration work.