

An Introduction to Bird Banding 2023

12 – 13 August 2023

Bird banding is an important study technique that contributes to the conservation of birds throughout the world. This course introduces the banding process, which is a great way to find out what banding birds is all about. It is also an opportunity to see birds up close in the hand and discover the fine detail of different species not easily seen through binoculars.

We will spend most of our time in the field. You will see how birds are caught with mist nets, and how they are safely extracted from the net. You will experience how birds are handled, and what methods are used to age and sex them. You will observe the techniques for banding, weighing, measuring, and data-recording the birds we catch. We will spend some time in the classroom learning about, the role bird banding plays in conservation, some of the discoveries researchers have already made, and how to become a bird bander.

Painting Nature 2023

2 – 3 September 2023

Bring nature to life in front of your eyes. If you have ever had the desire to paint or draw our wonderful birds, mammals, plants or insects, then this is the course for you. This two day workshop is open to everyone regardless of their painting experience. A variety of techniques using watercolour, gouache, acrylic, pen and pencil will be explored. At the end of this workshop you will have found a style that suits you and lots of examples to remind you of technique.

An Introduction of Scientific Botanical Illustration 2023

16 – 17 September 2023

This two day workshop aims to introduce participants to the beauty and enjoyment of botanical illustration and provide you with knowledge and practical experience to create your own scientific botanical illustrations from a beginners level. The workshop will take you step by step through the process of creating an illustration, focusing on drawing and painting techniques, aims and components of an illustration. No prior drawing experience is necessary.

An Introduction to Birdwatching

14 and 15 October 2023

A two-day course which steps participants through the techniques and basic knowledge required to get more out of your birding. Birdwatching is fun, educational and healthy and the two-day workshop covers techniques and fundamentals of birdwatching and also includes guided trips around some of the best birding locations on Gluepot Reserve. Facilitated by Ian Kerr.

An Introduction to Birds and Birdwatching 2023

28 – 29 October 2023

Note that this is nearly booked out as we are planning on running an additional course in September with a different facilitator.

A two-day course which steps participants through the techniques and basic knowledge required to get more out of your birding. Birdwatching is fun, educational and healthy and the two-day workshop covers theories and issues of birdwatching and also includes guided trips around some of the best birding locations on Gluepot Reserve. Facilitated by Phil Barron.

Studying Insects at Gluepot 2023

4 – 5 November 2023

The aims of the workshop are to satisfy the curiosity of people who are interested in insects and their interactions with the environment; to train volunteer citizen scientists to observe, collect and preserve insect specimens at Gluepot; and to add specimens to the Gluepot reference collection of insects and other invertebrates. Participants in the workshop will be updated on current knowledge of the Looper problem that has defoliated large tracts of mallee trees in the past three years; and will be taught how they can contribute to increasing that knowledge.

Getting to Know Reptiles 2023

18 – 19 November 2023

A two day course on the basics of observing and identifying lizards and snakes in arid environments. It is aimed at anyone who has an interest in observing nature and would like to improve their abilities in finding and identifying reptiles. The course will include a lecture on lizard and snake essentials, especially the roles that temperature and humidity play in determining activity levels. Also a workshop on identification and making the best of the reference books. Day and night field trips.