

BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

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GUIDELINES FOR LEADING GROUPS ON CLUB OUTINGS

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WHY LEADER GUIDELINES?

Many Club members hesitate to become Leaders because of lack of confidence and self-assurance, or feel they have not the abilities and knowledge to lead. Leaders need to be able to plan an outing but certainly do not themselves need to be experts in the field.

As it is obvious that field expertise is a bonus (which can be acquired), then the future Leader must start from their present standard of expertise and gradually improve by taking advantage of the experience gained.

These notes have been formulated to help everyone, experienced or otherwise. First class walks have taken place with the most 'unsuitable' persons as Leader but these people have coped because they had

- local knowledge, or
- recent experience in the area, or
- a good knowledge of birds, or
- a feeling for the bush, or
- had done some pre-study, or
- had a set standard of procedures, or
- a combination of the above

Each Leader will adopt the method most suited to their individual personality, type of walk, number of participants etc.

New Leaders will find these notes essential reading for their early ventures, while the experienced may well find points which will improve their established presentation.

Acknowledgements

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