

Wandoo Woodlands Workshop

DRYANDRA Woodland looked beautiful, as always, when more than 60 people assembled on November 7 for a two-day workshop organised by Narrogin District's Land for Wildlife officer Avril Baxter.

On the first day, participants looked at the different kinds of habitats that can be found within the woodland, while senior zoologist Peter Mawson from CALM's Wildlife Branch explained what features were suitable for various native animals. The role of understorey, especially for small bird habitat, and the use of fire was also discussed.

As dusk started to fall, Clare Anthony gave a talk on some of the region's more interesting fauna, followed by

Nathan McQuoid of Greening Australia on the detail of Wandoo regeneration.

To fortify the inner person, everyone consumed quantities of pizza, then set off spotlighting. The night was cool, calm and very dark. Numerous grey kangaroos, woylies and possums were seen, as well as the occasional tammar, but no chuditch or nocturnal birds were sighted.

At dawn the next day the birds were more cooperative, the highlight being watching a pair of striated pardalotes bringing food to their noisy nestlings, via such a minute hole, you'd wonder anything could get into it!

Then it was down to business, discussing management techniques in detail, and trying to work out what would be

an appropriate goal to aim for.

Brett Beecham talked here about looking at the bigger picture, while Penny Hussey highlighted techniques for remnant bush management.

For an example, the group visited *Land for Wildlife* members Ed and Linda Blanchard's property at Popanyinning to look at actual management issues and devise a suggested management plan.

The day concluded with a brainstorming session on just about every aspect of getting the message across.

The participants were about equally divided between *Land for Wildlife* members and advisors, but everyone agreed that the two days had been informative, entertaining and very worth while!



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Penny Hussey.

Pic: Peter Mawson talking about fauna in Dryandra Woodland