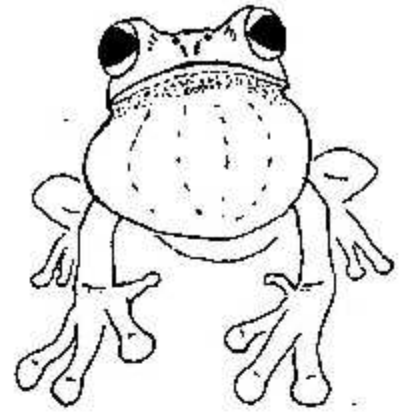


FROG CALL

Newsletter No.5 of the
FROG & TADPOLE STUDY GROUP : a special interests
group of the **AUSTRALIAN HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY INC.**
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Telephone enquires: Harald Ehmann (02)2173290 FAX:(02)2174034
David Millar & Martyn Robinson (02)3398226

THE NEXT MEETING will be a unique opportunity to meet many interstate frog and tadpole workers. It will be held on Monday 7 December at 7:30pm for an 8:00pm start at the University of Sydney's Nepean Hall, Camden (map enclosed) thanks to the Australian Society of Herpetologists who are meeting there from 6 to 9 December. There will be many well known interstate/overseas frog workers there including Marg Davies, Graeme Gillespie, Gordon Grigg, Murray Littlejohn, Jim Menzies and Will Osborne.

THE LAST MEETING was the Frog and Tadpole Workshop special at the Australian Reptile Park, Gosford. I haven't had time to prepare a report on it, but the comments from those who attended (about 35) were from strongly supportive to attempts at leaping over the moon! Many thanks to John and Robin Weigel for their generous hospitality and support.

FATSG INFORMATION LEAFLET is enclosed - more copies will be available at the meetings.

COVERING COSTS Thanks to the corresponding associates who sent stamps to cover postage costs: even some participants who attend meetings kindly sent stamps. Thank you. If you do receive the FATSG Newsletter but do not attend meetings then please read the FATSG Information leaflet and send your 8@ 45c stamps to help meet the cost of mailing. Please pass the newsletter on to others who may be interested. Usually only one copy is mailed to the one address or institution.

THE LATEST ON OUR FIELD WORK FUNDING APPLICATIONS to carry out field surveys of the threatened vulnerable and rare "at-risk" frogs of New South Wales is that we have been successful, that we should proceed with planning (a planning committee meeting was held in early November), and that the funding should be made available by late December! This will mean field work (expenses paid for) for any group members wanting to work on the surveys. We will discuss aspects of the planning at our meetings on the 7 December at Camden, and on the 27th January 1993 at Ultimo.

FROG WEEK 1993 - Yes! A most promising and exciting development! We have arranged an official statewide Frog Week in NSW in 1993, from 1 to 7 November! A wonderful opportunity to publicise frogs and our interests in them. Ideas and people interested in organising publicity events are needed, so please contribute if you can. We've had a few mind bending suggestions already that are guaranteed to generate public interest and awareness. The Miss Neobatrachus Competition, Frog Call Competition, state wide schools involvement in surveys, and more!

AND THE MEETING AFTER THE NEXT MEETING i.e. the first meeting in 1993 will be held on Wednesday 27 January at 7:30pm for an 8:00pm start in the Biological Sciences Building (E) of the Sydney Institute of Technology, corner of Thomas and Harris Streets, Ultimo on the Level 3, Staff Room (follow the FATSG signs).

There will not be another newsletter or reminder before that meeting!

Whatever happens, happy frogging!

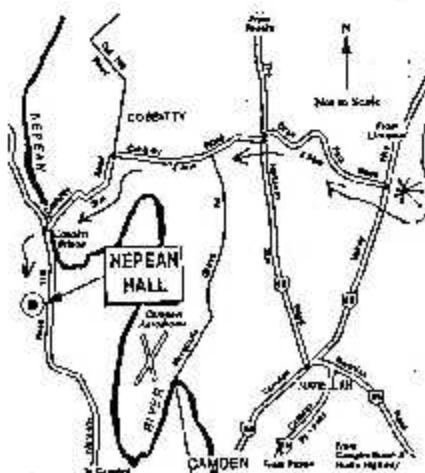
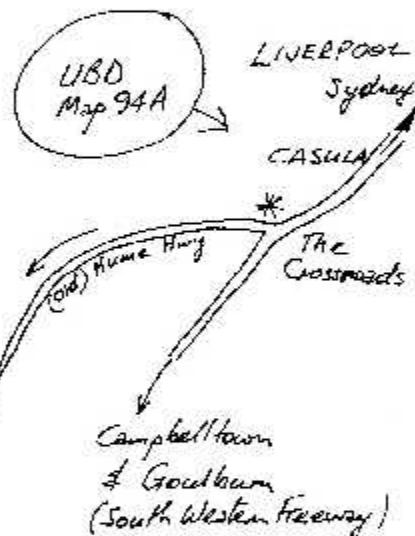


NEPEAN HALL, CAMDEN AREA

Harald

Harald Ehamnn
Convenor

- From Sydney:
- * Home Hwy to Liverpool, on through Casula to The Crossroads. TAKE A SPEEDO READING!
 - * take road to Camden = (Old) Home Highway which becomes Camden Valley Way
 - * at 15.5 km (± 0.2) turn ~~right~~ left (west) into Oran Park Road
 - * follow the map detail below




Keep your windows down - you could hear Green & Golden Bell Frogs calling (*Litoria aere*)!

Happy Motoring

Corrections on write-up of Pseudophryne australis Talk in last Frog Call (No.4)

Karen Thumm

1. The distribution area of the species has probably not changed radically, apart from in the areas now covered by housing. The statistics generally quoted, ie. 160km radius around Sydney or 30,000 - 100,000 km² do not give a realistic picture of the core distribution area, which I have calculated to be approximately 18,000 km². I don't want to seem pedantic: I just think it is necessary, when discussing the status of a frog, to be as precise as possible.
2. Shale indicator plants: Darwinia biflora, Logania albiflora
Hakea teretifolia is just an indicator of a damp area.
3. The escarpment protection rules of some Councils are actually a farce. P. australis habitats are typically below the escarpments. Nevertheless, they get affected by run-off which is high in nutrients from the housing developments on the sandstone ridges.

 A new definition of motherhood as expressed by an herpetologist:

When you've just collected six bucketfuls of rainwater to set up your aquarium and your dear son tells you he's peed in one of them, but he can't remember which one.

Bless the little'uns!