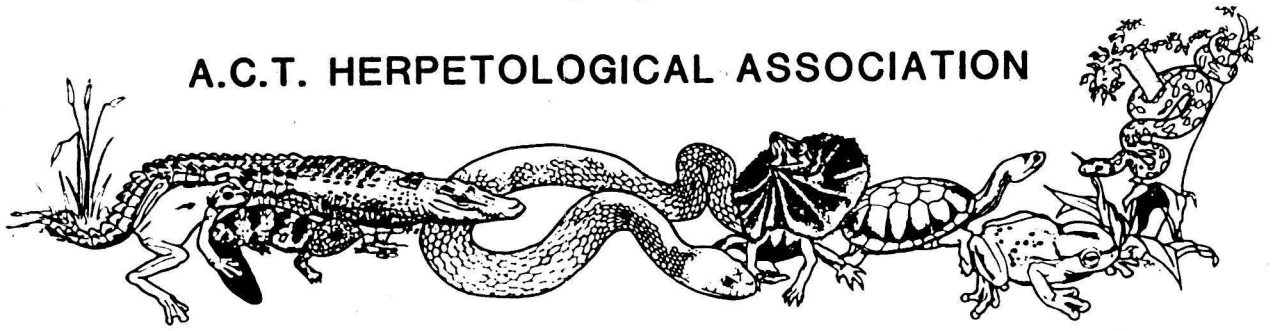


A.C.T. HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



14. April 1986

Meetings and talks

Our last meeting was well attended (10 people). Will Osborne gave his talk on the influence of an experimental burning on reptiles; Mark Lintermans summarized the results of the Jervis Bay survey: While some of the drift-fence lines and pit-fall traps could not be used due to flooding, a large number of specimens were caught in those traps which were operated. Most captures were frogs and a few common lizard species but two Tiliqua casuarinae were also trapped. Mark's report showed that the trap lines need maintenance work and that additional hand searching will be desirable. How important surveys like ours are may be demonstrated by the fact, that responsibility for Jervis Bay will be shifted from ACT National Parks to the Department of Territories - and the same may happen to Nymagee National Park. For Jervis Bay this definitely means a considerable decrease in the size of the park and its value as national park. Without a good knowledge of the distribution of animal groups like the herpetofauna it is difficult to make even recommendations which areas should be saved. Unfortunately, this is exactly the situation, Klaus Henle was warning against in our initial talks to set up our ACT herpetological association. I remember that hardly anybody understood such arguments at that time. If we don't watch it, it may be too late once we realize what should have been done. So I can just hope that we all can show our initial enthusiasm again.

Our next talk will be a beautiful slide show on the amphibians of Kakadu NP by Ken Thomas. We will meet on 29.5. at 7p.m. for the business meeting and at 7.30p.m. for the talk.

Data sheets

No summary could be given during our last meeting as only three persons handed in their data sheets so far. Therefore I have to send out a new reminder to all to handle their data sheet in either to Will Osborne or Klaus Henle.

Jervis Bay Survey

We intend a short survey at Jervis Bay either next or the following weekend. If you are interested to join us, please contact either Will Osborne (493057) or Klaus Henle (494074).

Klaus Henle