

August 16th Coach Trip

Although the weather forecast predicted wind and rain the coach was full for the planned trip to the Neutrog Factory, Monarto Zoo and State Flora at Murray Bridge on Friday 16th August.

Gavin provided a commentary on the countryside and points of interest as we travelled to Kanmantoo for our first stop at Neutrog where we were split into two groups with one having a tour of the site while the remainder were entertained with an illustrated talk in the Boardroom. It was interesting to learn about the sources of the different materials used to make the products and the problems encountered during production. I am sure we will all regard each handful of fertiliser with greater respect and understanding now that we know the details of its manufacture.

After gathering up our sample bags and draining our teacups we boarded the coach for the short drive to Monarto.

From the comfort of the coach we watched the low clouds racing across the sky and the tree tops bending in the wind. The animals out in the weather had either taken shelter in their various homes or were standing with their rumps to the wind. However we were still able to enjoy the sight of rhinos, giraffes, zebra, bison, lions, cheetahs, hyenas, painted dogs and the other African animals in their various enclosures while our guide Kevin gave us detailed information about their care and habits. During the lunch break we had time to visit the Chimpanzees in their magnificent enclosure watching as they enjoyed their lunch of fruit pieces served up in pine cones. As we were driven around the grounds of the Zoo the efforts of the volunteers who work on revegetating the site were apparent and they are to be congratulated for undertaking the mammoth task.

The rain set in as we departed the zoo and headed up to Murray Bridge for our retail therapy visit to State Flora where, despite the uncomfortable conditions, many plants were purchased. When shopping for plants the combined knowledge of Garden Club members is a welcome asset to have at hand for advice and recommendations.

Our thanks to Maria Maxwell for organising the trip, Mary Golden for managing the money and to Gavin for transporting us safely.

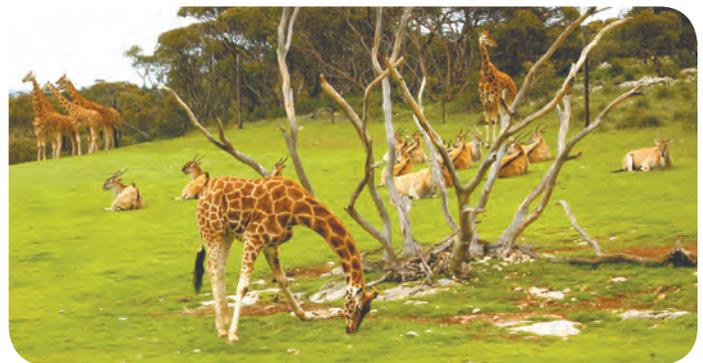
Thanks also to Margaret Croser for the well stocked lolly tin and Janet Jones for the name badges and photos.



• Above - Heaps of it • Below - Lecture in the tank room



• All Creatures Great and Small



• Plant shop until you drop

