



FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM

NPA Environment Centre

March 15, 2019

Those Long Red Dunes of the Simpson Desert



Lying in the hottest, driest parts of South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory, the Simpson Desert contains the longest and largest parallel linear dunes in Australia, often stretching unbroken for two hundred kilometres in length from SSE to NNW.

Returning from his 1939 crossing of the Simpson Desert, Cecil Madigan wrote:

Lizards are much the commonest and most conspicuous inhabitants of the desert, the outstanding features of which are sand, spinifex and lizards, in that order.

Bob Tooth, this week's guest speaker at Noosa Parks Association's Friday Environment Forum cites Madigan's expedition that returned an extensive collection of botanical and zoological specimens for the Royal Society of South Australia. The Simpson Desert is unusual in that the source of the materials for building the dunes continues to accumulate in vast quantities, as a result of the geographic and hydrological characteristics of the Lake Eyre Basin. **Bob will examine the age and composition of the dunes, surrounding features and sparse vegetation.**

Join the audience on this fascinating journey into Munga-Thirri (Simpson Desert) at the Environment Centre, 5 Wallace Drive, Noosaville from 10am for coffee, with the forum commencing at 10.30am and finishing at 12.15pm.

All welcome.

**Enjoy a birding walk in
Wallace Park.**

**Meet Valda and the
Interpretive Birding Group
in the car park at 8.30am.**

Simpson Desert in bloom.

