

F.O.M.N.P.,
R.M.B. 1405,
JUMBUK. via. YINNAR. 3869.

10th January, 1987.

Dear Friends,

Our last meeting for 1986 was a boomer with at least forty people (including children) attending our end of year B.B.Q. and Spotlight walk. Both were a great success.

It was very pleasing to see so many new faces. We welcome you to our group and hope to see more of you in 1987. Our thanks goes to all of you for providing the lovely cakes and deserts, which made a delicious ending to our B.B.Q.

Now down to some serious business. We have sent a letter to Yarram Region concerning the lack of a Concept Plan for the proposed addition of Billy's Creek which, as I see it, is the stumbling block holding back the Minister from making her decision regarding the purchase of the land. It is essential we keep the pressure on the Region and the Minister so they can't just brush the matter aside and forget about it. We will keep you posted when we receive a reply to our letter.

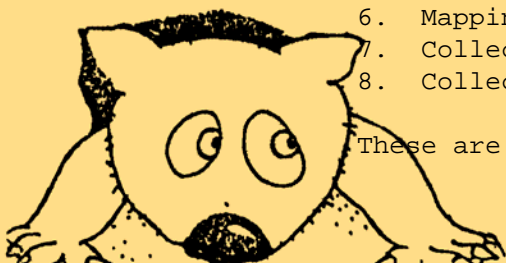
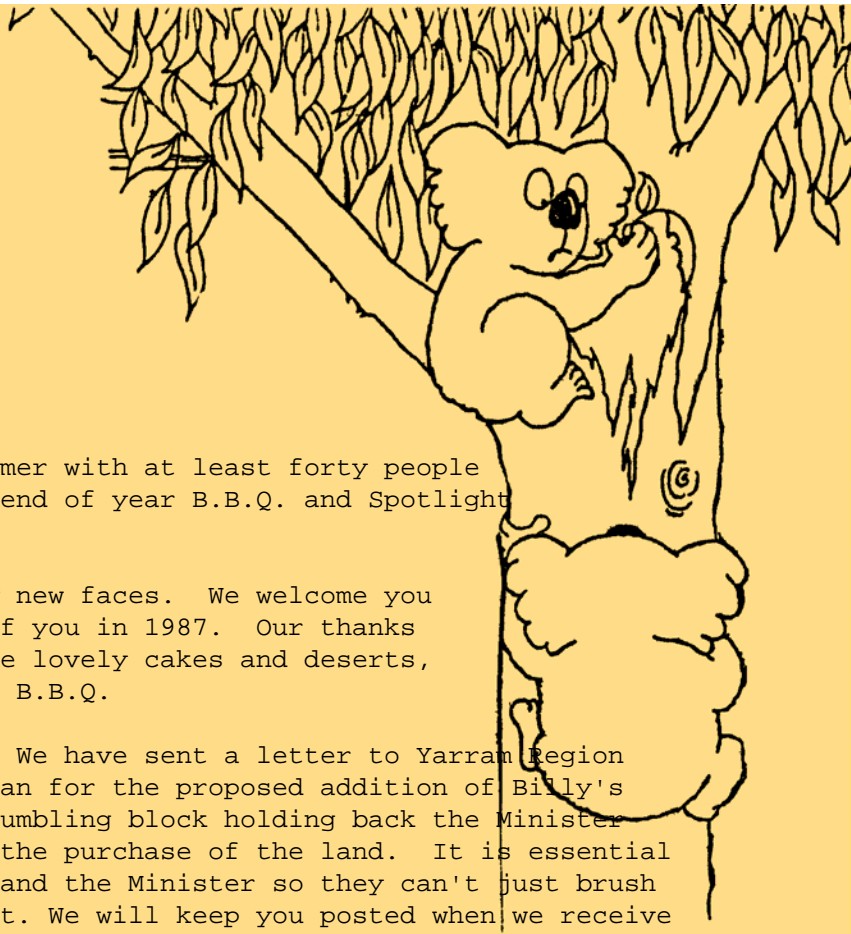
The other point of business is that we have received a letter addressed to Ms Val Callister M.P. from the Minister Ms Joan Kirner stating that "The Government has carefully considered the recommendations made by the Land Conservation Council, and has decided not to accept Recommendation G14. This means that the Government does not accept the proposed change in status of Morwell National Park." The Minister also stated "I cannot envisage there being any change in the need to have a Ranger resident at the Park. A sufficient workload exists in and near the park to require a full-time officer, and it would be difficult to provide security to the values within the park without a resident Ranger."

This means that the question of the down grading of the park can now be laid to rest.

I must say a few thankyou's before finishing this Newsletter. First of all to Margaret Loughborough and her husband George for their assistance and distribution of our Newsletters. Without their efforts the workload would fall to a meagre few. Secondly to Kathleen Long for her help in the publicity department which helps to advertise the F.O.M.N.P. in the Newspapers and on Radio. I'd also like to thank Yvonne on behalf of Ian and myself for all her efforts in helping start our Friends Group. Last of all to those people who attended nearly all our meetings. You are the back-bone of our group so please keep up the good work in 1987. This year we hope our projects will be more interesting and varied than those of the past. Some proposed projects at present are:-

1. Collection and propagation of seeds.
2. Tree planting - Fosters Gully.
3. Re-vegetation - Other areas.
4. Koala Survey.
5. Removal of old boundary fence.
6. Mapping, plotting and photographing.
7. Collection of data - Butterfly Orchid.
8. Collecting plant specimens for plant library.

These are just a few of our exciting projects planned for 1987.



If you have any ideas for projects please bring them along to our first meeting on the 8th February as we would like to draw up our annual programme with your help.

At this meeting it has been decided after much deliberation to get stuck into an aspect of park operations that we haven't attempted as yet. We will widen/reconstruct a section of the Fosters Gully walking track. This will be a very physical activity and those less physically inclined will still be able to participate by performing light jobs or by supporting the others.

Requirements for the project will be good humour, strong back or rake, shovel, mattock or pick, just bring one tool and the park will supply any others that are necessary.

This will be a test case to see if this type of work is desirable to be included into the annual programme, all comments are most welcome.

We will meet at the park workshop at 1.30pm and finish with our usual billy tea and discussion.

Please contact either Yvonne on 22-2597 or myself on 22-1478 if you require additional information. See ya there.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Roche".

Gail Roche.
CO-ORDINATOR.