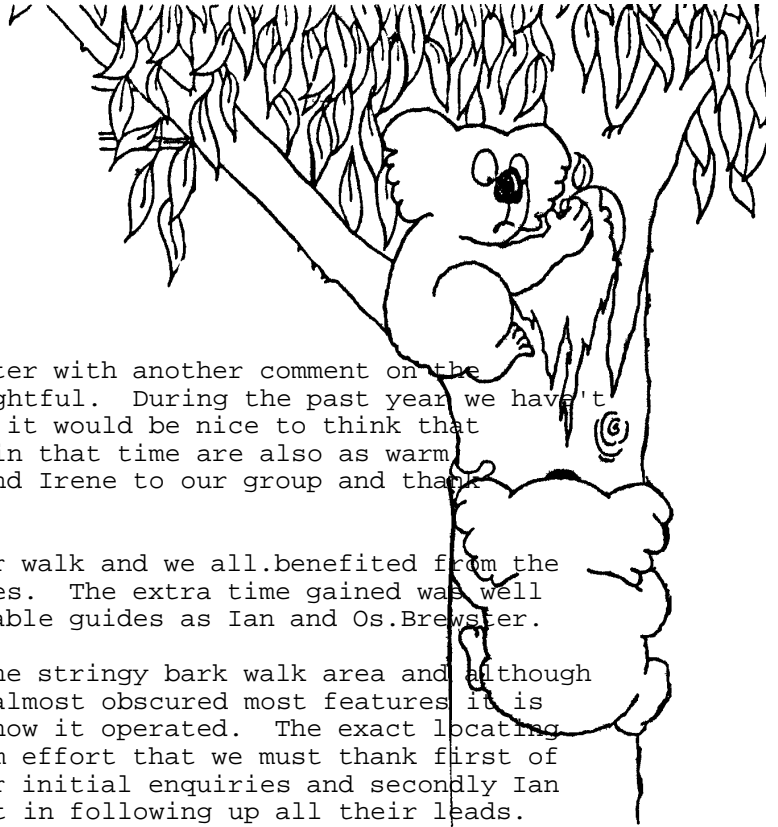


F.O.M.N.P.  
P.O. Box 19,  
CHURCHILL. 3842.

13th May, 1987.



Dear Friends,

I must again begin this newsletter with another comment on the weather, it was completely delightful. During the past year we haven't even come close to bad weather, it would be nice to think that some of our friendships formed in that time are also as warm. We welcome Peter, Rani, Carol and Irene to our group and thank them for their support.

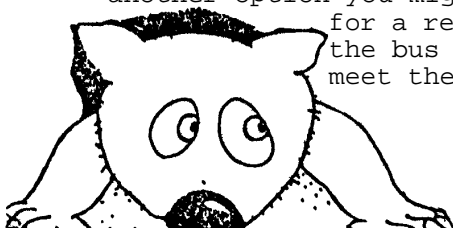
A smaller group met prior to our walk and we all benefited from the extra time to discuss some issues. The extra time gained was well spent in the park with such capable guides as Ian and Os. Brewster.

The <sup>saw</sup> spot mill was situated in the stringy bark walk area and although time, fires and vegetation has almost obscured most features it is possible to see and understand how it operated. The exact locating of the site was very much a team effort that we must thank first of all Margaret and Frank for their initial enquiries and secondly Ian for his persistence and interest in following up all their leads. Only his retelling of how it operated made us understand and see what was there.

The mine shaft we thought would be a bit of a search but Mr. & Mrs. Brewster made an effort to be with us and led us directly to the site. Os and his brother had the dubious pleasure of digging this shaft to a depth of 104 ft in 1946 before it was abandoned and, it was eventually filled in without ever yielding gold or tin. Again there is little to see but listening to what Os had to say about the shaft itself and the bush around it was most interesting. I cannot thank Mrs. Lyndon and Mr. & Mrs. Brewster enough for making the effort to join us and sharing so much of their knowledge with us. Hopefully we will slowly be able to build up a file of the history of the park so that it will be there as a reference for all future rangers and friends alike. We would appreciate hearing from anyone with anything of interest.

Our birthday was celebrated in style with a huge cake made for the occasion by Gail and decorated in the traditional birthday manner by herself and Kathleen. The candle was enthusiastically blown out by the children present, and the whole cake went very quickly the way all good birthday cakes should go. Very nice it was too. The B.B.Q. tea was enjoyed by all and accounting for all the comings and goings as people juggled a busy calendar a total of 28 adults and 11 children joined in with us. Thankyou all for making a special effort to be there.

The exchange trip to French Island has narrowed down to the 10th/11th of October at this stage. Tentative information so far has the cost of ferry from Cowes and transport by bus on the island at approx. \$15. There are no camping fees for those who are equipped with camping gear or there is full board available at Tankerton Lodge for approx. \$48 per day. There is also a ferry service running from Stoney Point which is another option you might like to take the cost being \$5.20 per adult for a return trip but bare in mind that does not include the bus trip on French Island itself we would have to meet the others there if some of us chose to go that way.



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The French Island Friends group is most anxious to show off their park and I feel our efforts will be well rewarded. Please let Gail or Margaret know if you are interested and if these arrangements are suitable. Margaret will be looking after you for the next few months while I'm away on our trip up north. I will be back in time for the French Island visit so take care and see you then.

Our next meeting is the 14th June and it is planned that we will visit the proposed area of land to be purchased on Billy's creek with the object of discussing the concept plan the Dept. of C.F. & L. has sent to us. Gum boots are essential to keep dry feet. We will meet again at 12noon for those who would like to discuss the general business of our group then at 1.30pm with the intention of walking into Billy's creek. It will be a little different this time in that instead of meeting at the park, Kathleen Long has offered her house as the meeting place, her property backs on to Billy's creek so we can walk in from there. Lot 5 Tebbs Terrace (down the hill, just around the bend on the left) there will be a sign on the post so look out for it. If you need more information please contact either Gail on 22-1478 or Margaret on 22-3127. Needless to say a billy tea will be available at the end of the day. Lets hope the weather will hold out.

Yours most sincerely,



YVONNE APLIN.  
CO-ORDINATOR.

PS.

Just a reminder to tell you not to forget your lunch if you are coming to the business side of our meeting.