

April 1988

Secretary,
FRIENDS OF MORWELL NATIONAL PARK,
P.O. Box 19,
Churchill 3842

Dear Friends

Does it always rain when we have our Project Days at Billy's Creek? It always seems to do so whenever I've been going there! Anyway, we were fortunate to have a small group present to go into the Billy's Creek. The Roche family, with Margaret, drove down into the Park from Jumbuk Road reporting the fact that they had seen 3 koalas along the road down into the creek. The rest of us walked into the Park, with Ken giving occasional comment about several points of noteworthy interest. Ken had recently entered the Park and had noted 2 Rails flying in the undergrowth, but is not sure what particular kind they were. All the same, Ken had some other finds for the day. Three more first-recordings for Billy's Creek area, and probably for Morwell National Park: Calystegia marginata (Forest Bindweed, a native), Callitriche stagnalis (Water Starwort) and Picris echioides (Ox-tongue), both weeds.

On arriving at the proposed (inner) picnic area, we held our first-ever "Special General Meeting" in a tent set up to protect us from the rain. The report of this is given below.

Later, Ian, Neil and I removed an old cable that spanned the Creek. Afternoon tea followed, with most of the group returning by foot. Neil and I had the privilege of riding up the road to Jumbuk Rd on the back of Ian's truck. It was a magnificent ride despite the poor road and the steepness of the road - especially the hairpin bends! The views down into Billy's Creek and across to the other ridges opposite (with the old Camp) are worth seeing. I would recommend a walk up the road sometime, but be prepared for a steep track and allow for a casual walk of up to an hour. The view's are worth it, despite the steep track.

We must pass our congratulations on to Frank Carter who has just gained a position with the Dept. C,F&L working in a Pine Forest at a place near Tallangatta in NE Victoria. Frank should be starting this new position by the end of April. Persistence has paid off!

Our next Project Day will be Frank's last to organize, with a 10am start on April 10th. A BBQ lunch will be held, and then the normal afternoon programme will start at 1.30pm for those who can't make it to the earlier part. The main activities for the day are collecting any rubbish, removing and repairing bridges along the Billy's Creek area. Meet at the roundabout at the end of Tebb Tce at either 10am or 1.30pm, to start the Project work. See you all then - this time without the rain, I hope!!

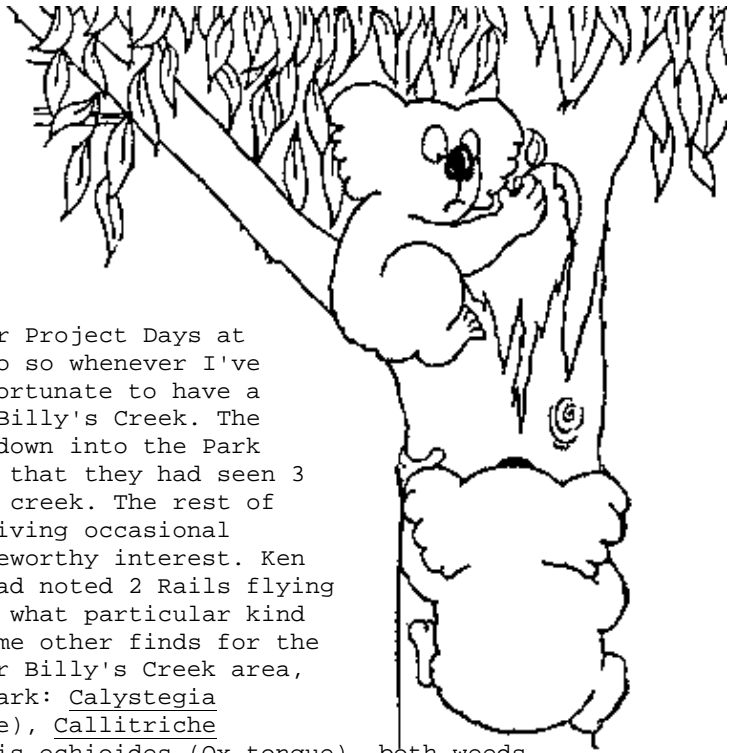
Peter Bryan

SGM Report:

After hearing reports about the Yinnar South Fair, Incorporation and the Fund-raising Task Force, it was decided to accept the use of the Butterfly Orchid as our official Friends of Morwell National Park logo. To help in its design, Neil Beggs and Ken Harris are going to approach Post-Secondary institutions in the area to see if Art students will enter designs in a Logo competition. First and Secqnd prizes totalling \$100 will also be sought. Neil and Ken will be co-opting the help of a third person to help in judging the competition.

SGM's are to be held bi-monthly on Project Days, at the discretion of the Committee.

It was decided to extend the period for membership transfer to the new system by one month due to the low number of Friends at the last meeting and those having paid Fees. Please do so by the end of April!



Ken Harris was nominated to replace Frank Carter as Vice President/Activities Organizer until the AGM. Finally, we would encourage people participating in Project Days to help out with afternoon teas - particularly with items to eat - drinks are provided.

