



FRIENDS OF MORWELL NATIONAL PARK INC.

P.O. BOX 19
CHURCHILL 3842

SECRETARY ph 696 306
RANGER ph 22 1478

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Dear Friends,

Well, it's been a pretty hectic month, starting with the visit of a few friends to Coolart on August 20. By all accounts, the hospitality shown by the Friends of Coolart was almost as impressive as the parkland that they represented.

It was our turn the following week to play host, this time to members of Friends of Warrandyte State Park. Fortunately, the bleak weather had no effect on the enthusiasm on the large group of visitors, who first tackled the Fosters Gully Walk, then had a look at the new park extension at Billy's Creek. We also took the opportunity to pin down the Roache's to present them with a belated send-off gift.

Our next meeting is on Sunday, September 17. We will be meeting at Fosters Gully at 1:30 p.m. for a Special General Meeting, followed by a koala survey. As a couple of administrative items stemming from the A.G.M. need to be sorted out, your attendance at this meeting will be appreciated. More importantly, your eyes are urgently required to make the survey a success.

Some of you may have noticed the snippet of good news in Keith Hamilton's column in the L.V. Express of 18/8/89, in which he announced a \$40,000 grant to Morwell National Park "for staffing and new facilities".

I received a letter recently from Deborah Burke apologising for missing the A.G.M., as well as outlining progress with the Morwell National Park Management Plan. Essentially, the draft report is about 75% complete, with the Park development chapter yet to be commenced. No recommendations regarding development of the new area of the park have been made. As the letter is quite extensive and informative, we will be discussing it at length at the next meeting.

Please note that DCF&L have invited us to help staff a display board dealing with Morwell National Park at Mid Valley shopping centre on Friday, September 15 and Saturday, September 16. We will also be taking the opportunity to inform people of the Friends group, so if you wish to volunteer a couple of hours, please ring Ken Harris on 223 137 (a.h.). The more volunteers we get, the less time each of us will have to attend, so please don't leave it to the others to help out.

Finally, if you haven't paid your subscription for the upcoming year, please do so soon, either by posting payment to the address above, or bringing it along to the next meeting. Good Friends are hard to find, so please keep in touch.

Bye for now,

Steve Shinnars.