



# FRIENDS OF MORWELL NATIONAL PARK INC.

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Howdy all,

Sorry about the delay - it's that time of the year.

About 12 trenchant souls headed west to visit Churchill and Lysterfield National Parks last month. Apart from seeing Rob in his ecological niche, the biggest impression left on our group was the pressure put on these parks by the encroachment of suburbia.

The exploration of Churchill N.P. involved hiking around the boundary area and checking out the building relics. Apparently, if you could ignore the power-lines, the view across the city was fantastic. (I didn't go, so you'll have to bear with this hear-say).

The Morwell Mob then headed across to Lysterfield N.P. for lunch and to meet up with the local friends group. By all accounts, what Lysterfield Friends lack in numbers, they make up for with enthusiasm. The Morwell Friends joined them to take part in the conceptually unique task of tree-planting. They say that the first step in dealing with an addiction is acknowledging that you have a problem.

Recreation in Lysterfield N.P. is focussed on the picnic area and adjacent lake. As such this area is highly developed to handle the activity. A highlight of the park is facilities to cater for the waterbirds. These include artificial islands and a network of bird hides to allow for observation. At the time of the visit, the lake was very high, which, in turn, flooded many of the islands. There was suggestion of setting up some kind of drainage system, for the lake to give the birds a fighting chance during high rainfall periods.

Getting back to our park, our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 18 at 1:30 p.m. I hope that you've all-been doing those neck exercises, because we'll be having the follow-up koala count. We'll be meeting at Foster's Gully car park. Once again, we need as many pairs of eyes as we can muster, so bring along as many of your friends and family as you can get hold of. The last count was a great success: let's follow up with a better one this time.

That's about all the news. Hope to see you Sunday.

Bye,  
  
Steve Shinnars.