



FRIENDS OF MORWELL NATIONAL PARK INC.

P.O. BOX 19
CHURCHILL 3842

SECRETARY ph 69 6496
RANGER ph 22 1478

3rd September, 1992

Dear Friends,

Another winter of successful tree planting has been completed and a big thankyou is extended to all who have participated.

The August activity day was another delight and saw the interspersing of Goodia lotifolia, and Austral indigo into the "Verbena Patch" and the "Lodge Site ". A few plants of Twining Silkpod were planted on the "Workshop" site and two Forestbind weed seedlings put in near the weir. Altogether approx. 110 plants~ were planted as well as some work on established trees on the lodge site.

Our weekend for this month promises to be busy but in the nicest way. Here's our chance to get to know our fellow members in a social setting.

Saturday SEPTEMBER 19th -TREE PLANTING WAKE.

A social evening .with a shared meal and some good old fashioned conversation. Committee members are to provide a casserole and everyone to bring a salad or sweet to share. From 7 p.m. at Judy and Paul Lambert's; Evans Road, Jeeralang Junction. Ph. 221636.

Every body is most welcome, this is your reward for all that hard work over the winter

Sunday SEPTEMBER 20th -KOALA SURVEY

In past years we have observed how important the success of the day depends on the participation by large numbers of members, their families and friends. The whole school class, brownie or cub pack, youth group or every kid in the street would be a great start. This is a great opportunity to get to see a part of the park you may not have previously explored.

1.30 pm at the Fosters Gully Picnic Area.


Sunday OCTOBER 18th - Visit to FRIENDS OF MT. WORTH STATE PARK.

This visit has been confirmed and we are expected at Mt Worth (Sth of Yarragon) by 10.00 am. A car pool will be organized so any person intending to come please let me know before that weekend. (Ph. 222597) The visits in the past to various groups have been interesting and pleasant days, this promises to be no exception. We will accompy the Mt. Worth group to the Waterfall area where they intend carrying out some maintance. B.Y.O. Lunch & drink.

Reminder ---- Subs are now due, thankyou to those members who have rejoined, your support is most encouraging.
Single \$10 Family \$15

Bye for now, lookforward to seeing you at our dinner.

Yvonne (Temporary Editor, Wendy back next month
luckly for you - she can spell.)



*You are
Invited!*

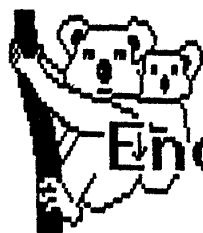
*To A Post Tree
Planting Wake.*

WHEN: Sat. 19th September

**WHERE: Judy & Paul LAMBERT's
Evans Road.**

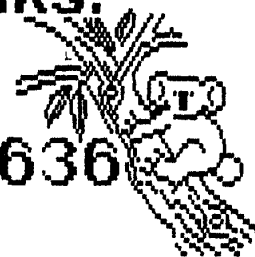
Jeeralang Junction.

**WHAT TO BRING: Salad or Sweet
to share. BYO Drinks.**



7.00pm.

Enquires: (051) 221636



Friends of Morwell National Park

President's Report 1991-2

I must begin by apologising for not being present to deliver this report in person.

We have completed another very successful year, and I believe that the Park has once more gained from our efforts.

As is now becoming normal, the year begins and ends with tree-planting. We completed our plantings last year, with a total of about 1800 trees and shrubs planted. We can also report now that our 1991 plantings were far the most successful so far. As a result of our improving technique and the most robust tree guards so far, we have a very high survival rate on all planting sites. We achieved, not only a high survival rate, but also phenomenal growth rates on the flats adjacent to Billys Creek. The best is a blue gum which is well above two metres already, but several trees of manna gum, swamp gum, silver wattle, blackwood and hemp bush are all close to two metres and have already been released from their wire cages.

The end of the season's hard work was again celebrated by an evening get together. This time we invited all who helped us plant, to a casserole evening at Joanna Aziz home. The evening was a huge success and our warm thanks are extended to Joanna. A similar function will be held this year once the last planting is completed.

Tree-planting has expanded to unprecedented heights this year thanks to our ranger, Rob Howell. Rob has succeeded in interesting the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers in a major planting exercise that will take place in September, sponsored by the S.E.C. Some 7000 trees will be planted, to extend the restoration of the paddocks beside Billys Creek to a more natural state. The trees have all been grown once again from seed collected in the Park by the Friends.

Thanks to these plans, we have reduced our efforts a little this year and have concentrated rather more on denuded areas in the bush. We have completed two successful plantings, both of which were well attended by members and attracted several newcomers to our ranks. One more planting is all we have planned, so come along and earn your casserole supper.

Our efforts this year have been further assisted by local Scouts, who have been recruited by Rob to assist him in preparing our planting sites, by transporting tree-guards and spreading them in position prior to planting.

Between these efforts our activities have been perhaps a little less energetic, but all our usual programs have been maintained. Koala Survey were held in September and November as usual, and the butterfly orchid survey was also completed again in November.

In October we once more made a visit to another Friends Group. This time we visited the Friends of the Merri. The merri Creek flows into the heart of Melbourne from the North and The Friends area of concern is some 30 kilometres long, but only a few hundred yards wide. A daunting task indeed! We were taken to a number of sites along the creek and helped with a bit of weeding. Sites ranged from well-established areas already revegetated to stretches where the introduced shrubs dominate huge extents of the creek. The native grasslands, with their own special flora were of particular interest. We were impressed by the success already achieved by the Friends, but did not envy them the tasks still before them.

More relaxing was our end of 1991 barbecue and spotlight walk a particularly successful one, especially for greater glider sightings. 1992, started gently, with seed collection and various minor tasks completed, including the installation of a picnic table on the Billys Creek potato flats.

As usual members of the Friends assisted at the Yinnar South Fair and once again we obtained a generous donation from the profits. We thank the Fair Organisation Committee. This Committee is to be restructured for next year and we have been invited to provide one person on the committee.

A few members attended the first Friends Seminar at the Melbourne Herbarium on the subject of revegetation and obtained many useful ideas.

A minor setback was our attempt to attract the public to an advertised guided walk through the Park at Easter. Only members attended, despite a particularly beautiful day.

News for the future of the Park has been good this year. The preparation of the Management Plan has been revived and we are once more being told that it will soon be available for our inspection, although the first promise for May has slipped by yet again.

The best news has been that C.F.& L. have allocated money for the next three years to build the access road from Braniffs Road into Billys creek, including the bridging of the creek. The road will be build in stages over three years. We are already using Braniffs Road as our main entrance to Billys Creek instead of Tebbs Terrace.

The provision of an assistant for Rob for a year is another welcome move, which is enabling Rob to get many outstanding tasks completed.

Those who have seen some of our earlier tree-plantings devastated by the goats will be pleased to hear that the flock has been considerably reduced. Rob reports only about 6 left out of the original 19. This is very welcome news, but we won't feel secure until the last goat has been eradicated.

I would like to conclude by thanking Rob for his superb efforts throughout the year in and on behalf of the Park and his continuing co-operation and friendship with the Friends.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Ken Harris
President