



Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

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CHURCHILL 3842

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APRIL NEWSLETTER

MARCH ACTIVITY REPORT

Saturday 14th March, Yinnar South Country Fair.

Many thanks for all who turned up and helped out on the fine day it was, Wendy reported this to me as I couldn't be there.

Ed set up the tent on Friday night and did an excellent job in banging in the pegs into such dry hard ground. Ranger Rob, arrived as usual early on Saturday morning with the gear all ready to go for the billy tea and damper. This also included several green willow sticks for cooking the damper on, which were used so much that they spontaneously combusted after a lot of eager use by the damper cooks. John and Danny were our firemen who tended the fires during the day to keep the billy tea on the boil and, it seems more than enough heat to cook the dampers.

Stan also made himself available to help out for our day at the Fair and provided the expertise required to whirl the billy tea around and around as is done to make the best billy tea (the billies holding out well enough to withstand the "G" forces of being whirled overhead).

Tom helped out too, by supervising the pulling down of the tent. This went OK as far as the folding up of the tent went some trouble was had removing the tent pegs from the ground (Ed did hammer them in a long way). The Boolarra tug of war team was called upon to remove them from the ground. John and Dot managed to have the tent collapse on top of them as the poles were being taken down, should really do this outside of the tent.

Dot had control of the damper making and was going very well in keeping the flour off her clothes, that is of course, till it was noticed that her black shoes were showing up the white flour (or were they white?).

Two books were sold, and Wendy and Helen helped out in the catering tent.

Sunday 15th of March.

The Billy's creek, walk/willow pulling activity saw Dot, Wendy, Anne, Rob, Danny and two students of Forestry; Lee and Deanne in attendance.

Well, there were some very scared willows in the creek, which were shivering in their roots so to speak, when they saw the chain saw come out and Rob eyeing them off. That is until the saw was about to be started and started and started. Well that has let them off for this year. A lot of "tutsan" (I think that is how it is spelt) berries were picked off the bushes and plants removed. Anne had to leave early (dare I say, to save face about getting a mention in this newsletter with something about how deep the creek is). But Dot had to test the water depth and to her surprise and everyone else's entertainment, it is much higher than her gumboots. Some ragwort was pulled on the way back to the cars, and before Dot left the park she did the right thing by emptying her gum boots on the park side of the fence, good to see her practice good park etiquette and not take home anything from the park. Oh, yes, Di's paddling in the creek was missed. Hopefully she will be able to take leave for a few hours next activity.

SENIOR CITIZEN'S WEEK SPOTLIGHT WALK.

The 18th of March The friends group hosted a spotlight walk for Senior Citizen's week. This started off with a sausage sizzle and billy tea before walking along Foster's gully with the spotlights. 3 visiting and 3 member senior citizens attended which made a good number of people for a spotlight walk as there were about 10m of us all up and two spotlights.

We saw:

One wombat.

One koala.

Three or more sugar gliders (some of which were very close up).

Four ring tailed possums.

One brush tailed possum.

Two scorpions.

Many bullants (Dot can vouch for this as she had a very close brush with some)

Some frogs croaking (Ryan heard these and decided that they were definitely frogs of some sort which we all agreed upon).

Two boobook owls.

Not a bad count for a spotlight walk, everyone was able to make it around the walk but those who did, sat down for some late night damper.

APRIL ACTIVITY.

The April activity is on the 19th of April at 10:00am and will be starting off at Braniffs Road (but may be at Fosters gully, so if there is no one at Braniffs Road go to Fosters gully). The activity will be track maintenance.

I think that Rob will be providing all the tools so just get your work boots on and take your lunch with you (Danny this means you too).

And a drink.

MORWELL NATIONAL PARK IN PRINT.

Well it featured in the 1996-1997 edition of the RACV Experience Victoria magazine, and probably the 1997-1998 edition as well. See attached copy of this for your interest.

MORWELL NATIONAL PARK 3842

Pop Nominal (165km S of Melbourne) (16km S Morwell)

ACTIVITIES: bush walks.

ACCESS: Car via Morwell on the Princes Hwy. Head south through Churchill and Jeeralong Junction, down Jumbuk Ad to Kerry Ad which leads to the entrance of the park.

ATTRACTIONS

📍 **Morwell National Park** For location: See above ACCESS information.

☎ 051-221478.

Covering approximately 500ha, the park offers vast scenic views which are best seen from Jumbuk Road on the park's eastern boundary. There are two main walking tracks which both start at the picnic area, the Fosters Gully Walk (one hour) includes a well laid out nature trail with an accompanying brochure to guide visitors. Stringybark ridge walking track is slightly longer (90 minutes) and passes through the aged forest of the Strzelecki Ranges.

Admission: No charge. **Amenities:** bbq, picnic facilities, toilets.

No camping permitted.

Any information for this newsletter can be forwarded to myself at. 1 Townsend St. Churchill 3842.

Or phone me on 51223364.

Or leave information at Churchill Chiropractic located in the new shopping centre in Churchill; David and Laberta Forys can then pass it on.

Martin Gwynne. The newsletter editor.