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Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

Newsletter – August 2009

Website: <http://morwellnp.pangaean.net>

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G'day everyone and welcome to the latest edition of your newsletter. It is nice and early this time around, as August is the month for our AGM and since it is programmed for the first Sunday, I'm obliged to get cracking and let everyone know what is happening! First though, a couple of items of interest concerning the Park:

- Rob has informed us that there is grant money available targeted at walking tracks, so here is our opportunity to make some progress on our plans for the Coprosma Track along the upper section of Billys Creek and the rear of Blue Gum Hill.
- Rob is also applying for a grant for the replacement of the toilets at the Kerry Road picnic ground, including some post-works landscaping. Fingers crossed that we will get a positive response.
- In the mailbox we have received the latest edition (May 2009, No. 38) of Under Control, a newsletter from the DPI on pest animal and plant management. Wendy also handed over a Land for Wildlife newsletter, not strictly ours, but anyone can have a read if they wish.

Friends of Morwell NP Annual General Meeting

Our AGM is hereby declared to take place at the home of Jane and Denis Sultana, 32 Comans Way, Moe, 3825, on Sunday, August 2 at 1.30pm. Thank you to Jane and Denis for once again offering to host the meeting, allowing them both to attend whilst child-minding and fulfilling work availability obligations. Note though the change of address: Jane and Denis are no longer in Traralgon! Comans Way is out the back of Moe, behind the Edward Hunter Bush Reserve. Take Wirraway St off Lloyd St, Comans Way is on the right about 2km up. Bring along all your ideas for activities over the next 12 months and a plate of nicies to share for afternoon tea. A draft agenda is included overleaf.

Of course, AGM time means subscription renewal time, too, so please make use of the renewal form below if you need to.

To: Treasurer, Friends of Morwell National Park, PO Box 19, Churchill, 3842

Please find enclosed the amount of \$ _____ (\$10 per person, \$15 per family/group) being for membership 2009/2010.

Name:.....Telephone:.....

Address:.....

Agenda (Draft)

1. Attendance
2. Apologies
3. Previous AGM Minutes
4. Business Arising from Previous AGM
5. President's Report
6. Ranger's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Election of Office Bearers
9. General Business
 - New Members
 - Membership Fees
 - Incorporation Fees and Forms
 - Consolidation of Bank Accounts

August Activity

Aside from the AGM, we have an activity scheduled for Sunday, August 16 at 10am. We will meet at the Kerry Road entrance to organise a car shuttle for a "Walk in the Park" along the southern and western boundaries from Jumbuk Road back to the picnic ground. You will need your own lunch and refreshments, clothing and footwear suitable for the terrain and weather conditions on the day.

More Planting in Paradise July Activity Report

On Sunday, July 19, Rob, Ken, Darren, Wendy, Reg, Jane, Cathy and I met at Junction Road at 10am to organise our next round of tree planting. Two vehicles were sufficient to get us up the hill to Reidy's Road, where we made our way down the fenceline to our planting site on the hillside overlooking the upper reaches of Billys Creek, with Jumbuk Road on the opposite ridge. Our task was to fill in the gap between the fenceline and the regenerating shrubbery of Blackwood Wattle, Prickly Currant-bush and the odd Blue Gum further down the slope, leaving a little space as a fire-break.

Despite Bureau predictions of showers, none were in sight, but the northerly wind was a bit stiff and lazy and made our life difficult, upsetting our balance on the steep stuff and blowing away our tree-guards if they weren't weighted down with stakes. Never-the-less, we persevered and soon had our normal planting methods in full swing, perhaps just a bit slower than usual while dealing with the conditions. We still had 125 trees in the ground by lunchtime (100 Blue Gums and 25 Blackwood Wattles) and were happy to head for a more protected site to have our lunch. Darren, Jane, Wendy and Ken all decided to walk down the hill to the weir while the rest of us drove the vehicles back.

A leisurely lunch at the weir was followed by a short, sharp tree-planting session on the creek flat upstream and around the corner from the weir. We only had 25 Silver Wattles left, so it didn't take long to get them into the ground, despite some rocky territory that made it difficult to dig the holes. We didn't plant them up on the hill because there weren't any growing naturally up there, although there probably was some in the past before the hillside was cleared. So there ends our tree-planting sessions for another year! A roundabout drive back to Junction Road along the Tebb Terrace boundary disturbed the mobs of Kangaroos that like to hang out in that part of the Park, but saved us the trouble of negotiating a fallen tree across the main Billys Creek track. We said our goodbyes and headed off to home for a nice, hot shower before settling in to watch some football on the telly.

Friends of Morwell National Park Inc: PO Box 19, Churchill, 3842, <http://morwellnp.pangaean.net>.

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