

PO Box 19  
Churchill  
3842



# Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

*Newsletter – April 2016*

Website: <http://morwellnp.pangaean.net>  
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Hello everyone and welcome to this month's newsletter.

If you want to get out into the park there are is a Green Walk scheduled on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April. The 60 minute guided walk has a meeting time of 10.00 with the walk departing at 10.10 am. The walk will go to the Billy's Creek Weir so meet at the Baniff's Road car park.

Registration at [www.walking.heartfoundation.org.au/events/event](http://www.walking.heartfoundation.org.au/events/event) or call the Heart Foundation's Health Information Service on 1300 362 787

## John's Jottings

This snippet on the formation of the Friends of Morwell National Park was sourced from early Newsletters files. All the files are available for viewing on the website.

"Newsletter August 1986

Dear Friends

The July excursion into the Billy's creek property proved to be quite an adventure for young and old, and also a delightful surprise to those who had not been there before.

The adventurous parts were the four crossings we made of the creek, which was in full spate. Not everyone had remembered that gumboots were to be the order of the day (or had not received that information), so every time we crossed the creek those with gumboots went across first and their gumboots were either thrown or carried back for the others to use. After the third crossing we built a fire by the weir and thanks to Gail and Ian had a welcome cup of billy tea.

The surprise part was the hidden valley of semi-cleared flats along the winding creek, surrounded by steep slopes topped with tall eucalypts. It would certainly make a tremendous extension as a recreation annexe to take the strain off the existing park facilities.

Many thanks to those who came along and made it such a happy meeting.

Yours sincerely, Margaret Loughborough"

Early Newsletters, documents, statistics and photos relevant to the Park can be found on our website <http://morwellnp.pangaean.net>.

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

**President:** Matt Campbell

**Vice-President:** Ken Harris

**Secretary:** Beryl Nelson

**Treasurer:** John Barker

**Publicity:** Peter McDonald

**Public Officer:** Beryl Nelson

**Newsletter Editor:** Darren Hodgson, [hodgson.darren.d@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hodgson.darren.d@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**Other members:** Mary Austin, Margaret Barker, Mike and Cathy Beamish, Eulalie Brewster, Kerry Campbell, Brenda Chatham, Tamara Leitch, Wendy McDonald, Joan Sikkema, Neil Slater, Wendy Steenberg, Australian Plant Society (Latrobe Valley).

## March Activity Report

At this month's activity we had Matt, Tamara, Ken, Beryl, John, Margaret, Mike, Cathy, Yuto and Darren. This month's activity had us enjoying the benefits of the park. We started with a barbeque and had a twilight walk followed by a moth survey.

The evening started around the barbeque where John and Yuto cooked while the group caught up. John, Matt and Craig have started getting new equipment for the group. Two hedge trimmers have been purchased and a brush cutter and ladder are still to be brought.

After the confusion of last month's early activity John, Beryl and Matt came the following week for another activity. They positioned the motion detection cameras around the Billy Creek area. One camera caught many images while the other had only a few except images of the camera being turned off. This was an unusual occurrence since you would not expect cameras in the National Park to be turned off.



John and Margaret had also earlier in the day put some new nesting boxes around the Billy's Creek area. John erected four new boxes to replace boxes which had come down. Box C (original constructed of chipboard) was replaced. Boxes 4 and 26 were replaced with new boxes since they had come down and had been missing for a period of time. Rob Howell had found box 14 and pasted it onto John. John remounted this box a well.

During John and Margaret's trip in the mount these boxes they encountered many trees down across the main track. The park boundary was clearer but they still could not travel far enough the complete the other planned box repairs. They will need to left to another time. The strong winds from storms a few days ago have brought down many trees in Churchill and in the park. While we started the barbeque the group heard a large branch fall further along the track. It had fallen across the beginning of the Foster's Gully track.

While the barbeque was running, Ken, Tamara and David were setting up the generator, light and sheets for the moth survey. They returned to eat their quotas of allocated sausages. After dinner it was starting to get dark and we left for a twilight walk up to Lyndon's Landing. The group needed to climb over the newly fallen branch to walk along Foster's Gully. The group searched and located many animals. Many different Ringtail Possums along with three different Koalas were spotted. A Sugar Glider in the fork of a branch watched us while many wallabies were heard in the undergrowth.



At Lyndon's Landing we stopped to take in the many stars. It was a clear evening with many stars on show. Many constellations were identified and many satellites were seen to pass between stars. The group moved back to the beginning of Foster's Gully track where Ken, Matt and the David's were monitoring moths. The moth numbers were small with only a few out.

## **April Activity**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 10am

The group will meet in the Junction Road to work on weed removal along Billy Weir track and from Billy's Creek. We will be working in and beside the creek, so gumboots or waders may be useful.

You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.

