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# Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

## *Newsletter – February 2019*

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Hello everyone and welcome to this month's newsletter.

### John's Jottings

This snippet on the activities of the Friends of Morwell National Park was sourced from early Newsletter files.

"December 2, 1989

Hello,

After the miserable koala count in September, the results of last meeting can only be seen as a rip-roaring success. The tally was 4 for the Jumbuk Road end of the park, 1 for the Fosters Gully walk and 8 for Stringybark Ridge. Two males were also heard serenading in the distance. Most important of all, no Chlamydia infection was evident in any of the koalas seen. The success of the Stringybark Ridge count was due solely to the group of kids and adults from St. Vincents Primary School, in Morwell, who helped out with the count. We owe them a big thanks, both for their assistance, and their illustration of the need to have as many eyes as possible on the flora and fauna surveys we hold. Thanks again folks.

The Butterfly Orchid survey was, unfortunately, less successful. In the sites examined the numbers of orchids, spikes and flowers were all down. A grim picture in anyone's book.

In what was a pretty busy day, a few friends, as well as Rob and Ian Leversha from DCF&L, showed Peter Hall around the Billy's Creek extension of the park. He was quite impressed with the area and acknowledged the necessity of adequate public access. This followed a recent visit by Morwell Shire President, Liz Olquist, who was also quite impressed with the area.

Hopefully, you will be able to slot our final meeting into the frenzy of end of year activities. We meet at 1:30 at Fosters Gully car park on December 17 for a seed collection day. This will be followed by barbeque tea, so bring everything you need, as well as either a salad or a sweet for the group. To round all this off, we will be having a spotlight walk after the barbie. With stuff like this who needs Christmas?

Don't forget to bring your old aluminum and glass.

Bye,

Steve"



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Official Address of FMNP - [contactfmnp@gmail.com](mailto:contactfmnp@gmail.com)

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## January Activity Report

We had Matt, Ken, Beryl, Wayne, Grant, Graeme, Joelle, Jay, Rose and Darren for the day's activity. We met in the car park and discussed what has happened over the last month. The Parks contractors have been in and slashed the park. They have done a great job of slashing the tracks, spaces adjacent to the tracks and the park boundaries. In other news the barbeque at the Kerry Road Picnic Area is still to be fixed and the tools stolen from the shed are yet to be replaced. Both of these problems will hopefully be followed up by Parks over the next month.

Matt went through the JSA and for those who needed to, they signed in. The day is a good one for walking being sunny and cool. The group split into three teams. Two teams were to collect seeds from two different locations, while the third worked on removing ivy from beside Billy's Creek track.

Matt drove to the beginning of Lodge track to take a group to collect a few seed varieties from trees along this track. Ken drove around to Reidy's Road and walked in to the top of Blue Gum Hill looking for Blue Gum seed. These groups collected their seed which was then put into storage for future use. It is hoped that these seeds can be grown on, for planting on the barren Blue Gum Hill.

Beryl and Darren worked on removing ivy from beside Billy's Creek. Much ivy was found and removed. The first sections were bad and there was a lot of ivy to remove. We will need to follow up later to see whether all pieces of ivy were removed.

The park has dried out over the last month. These sections of park where lush last month and now are dry. The only place where it is still lush is around the creek where the rushes have grown large. Wallabies were found in area near the creek.



## **February Activity**

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

The group will meet in the Junction Road car park to complete track maintenance and weeding. You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.

