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# Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

*Newsletter – April 2021*

Website: <http://morwellnp.pangaeon.net>  
Official Address of FMNP - [contactfmnp@gmail.com](mailto:contactfmnp@gmail.com)  
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Hello everyone and welcome to this month's newsletter.

## March Activity report

In our March activity we gathered to enjoy twilight in the park. This month we had the prospect to enjoy some of the riches of the park. For the activity we had Cathy, Mike, Ken, Matt, Tamara, Beryl, Gordon, Kerry, Darren, Joelle and Jay. We had an apology from Rose.

We started with a barbeque and were joined by four community members mostly from the Plants Society. The event was advertised in a few different publications, so it was great to have others join us. Cathy had done an amazing job of preparing the food including making two varieties of homemade hamburgers and salads. Mike cooked a range of hamburgers, different varieties of sausages and chicken pieces on the barbeque and a feast was enjoyed by all.



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After the barbeque, with twilight approaching many more people joined us for the nighttime activities. Two further activities were planned for the night – a spot light and a moth survey. Ken, David and Cathy set up three different sheets for the moth surveys. Ken setup beside the return leg of the Foster’s Gully track, while David setup his moth sheet across the track near the toilet and Cathy was in the picnic area. David was to use a black light to see whether it would attract different moths.

When it was dark, Tamara, Gordon, Jay, Joelle, Kerry, Darren and Mike from the Friends’ Group and 15 additional community members undertook a spotlight walk along Foster’s Gully up to Landon’s Landing. It was a great rollout with some locals and regular park users keen to observe what can be seen at night. At the beginning of the walk it was great to see that the signage at the start of the Foster’s Gully Walk had been repaired. A tree had fallen across the track, so that provided the group an early challenge. (to climb over the tree in the dark)

Tamara led the walk while Gordon was the back marker. With some high powered torches and an infrared torch, a range of animals were found. Over the walk multiple greater gliders, bats, mountain brushtail possums (Southern Bobcats) and koalas were found in the treetops. Some of the walkers were very happy to see these animals for the first time in the wild. Also a wallaby and a bobble frog were seen.

On returning from the walk the walkers got to see the array of different moths that had come to the mothing sheets. A wide selection of moths had come to each mothing sheet. Many photos were taken of some of the colorful and/or unusual moths. Sadly one group had recently taken photos of a bee hive in one of our nesting boxes. We will need investigate this at a later activity.

Some of the community members enjoyed the night so much that they were keen to join the group at some future activities. More helpers are always welcome. Anybody from the community is welcome to come to any of our activities which run on the third Sunday of each month.



Cathy setting up her moth survey stand



David's moth survey using black light





### **April Activity**

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am

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