PO Box 19 Churchill 3842



Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

Newsletter – December 2021

Website: http://morwellnp.pangaean.net
Official Address of FMNP - contactfmnp@gmail.com
A0016319X

Hello everyone and welcome to this month's newsletter.

November Activity Report

For this month's activity we had Tamara, Matt, Mike, Cathy, Gordon, Anj, Esmae, Darren and the Hatherly family. Joelle rode in on her bike for the pre-activity meeting. Matt and Tamara had started early upon the Orchid survey and had surveyed the first two plots before we met together. The agenda for the day was to complete the Butterfly Orchid survey and some track maintenance. Gordon welcomed the group to the day's activity and Matt went through the JSA for the day. Above the car park a koala watched our progress.





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President: Gordon Duncan Vice-President: Cathy Beamish Secretary & Public Officer: Beryl Nelson

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Other members: Eulalie Brewster, Graeme Busch, Matt & Kerry Campbell, Joelle Champert, Wendy Davies, Jay Duncan, Ken Harris, Hayley Mildenhall, Rose Mildenhall, Anjali Pal, Grant Pengelly, Wayne Pengelly, Chris Sikkema, Joan Sikkema, David Stickney & Wendy Steenbergen.

After the equipment was collected and prepared for use (it was found that the chainsaw was leaking bar oil from the chain saw body – so we did not use it), the group headed to Fosters Gully. Matt and Tamara returned to the Orchid Survey while the rest cleaned up the Foster's Gully track. A number Butterfly Orchids were found along the track.



The group clearing Foster's Gully, enjoyed finding and identifying many orchid species and investigating many treasures beside the track. There is still one tree across the track at the end of the Foster's Gully loop that needs a chainsaw for it to be removed. Another tree has come down across the first access track to the storage shed which will be more work for a chainsaw.

Matt and Tamara completed the Butterfly Orchid survey finding that they have rebounded well after a poor year last year. The orchids are generally healthy displaying many flower spikes. Sadly the storms have resulting in one of the plots being mostly lost in a land slip. The following photo shows Matt in the centre of the original 10mx10m plot. Only one plant with three orchids has survived in this plot. The results from the other plots were better.



The groups met up for lunch back in the picnic area. We were entertained by a friendly pair of Lewin's Honeyeaters seeking food scraps. They were under our feet and occasional sitting on us.





December Activity

Sunday 19th December - Kerry Road

Activity 1 - 10.00am

The group will meet in the Kerry Road car park to collect seed that will be used for plantings in future activities. You will need to bring clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.

Activity 2 - The Christmas BBQ will start at about 1.00pm in the Kerry Road Picnic Area.



Friends of Morwell National Park Christmas BBQ

Come along and enjoy in a BBQ lunch to celebrate and reflect upon our year in Morwell National Park

When: Sunday 19th December

Time: 1.00pm

Where: Kerry Road picnic area

What to bring: BYO plate, cutlery, cup/glass, drink, folding seat and bring either a salad or sweet.