

PO Box 19
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Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

Newsletter – August 2022

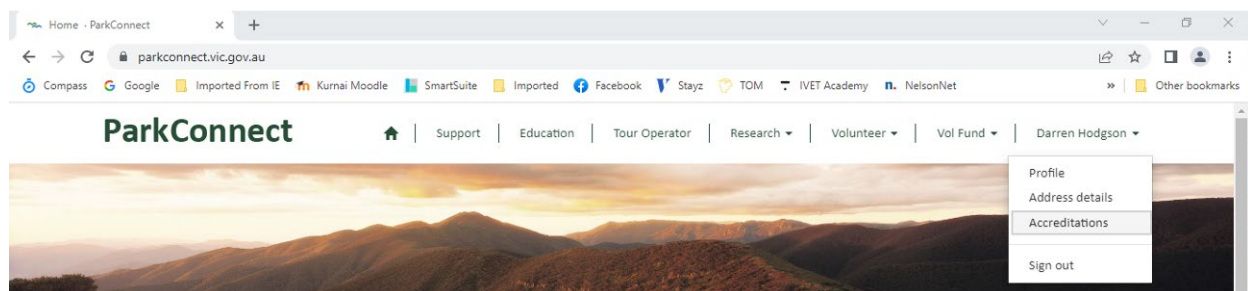
Website: <http://morwellnp.pangaeaan.net>
Official Address of FMNP - contactfmnp@gmail.com
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Welcome to this month's newsletter.

July Activity Report

For the activity we had Gordon, Matt, Joelle, Caitlin, Ken, Darren, Wendy, Anita and her friend Jenny. Jenny was keen to see some possums. There were apologies from Tamara, Mike, Cathy, Graeme, Jay and Rose.

The group met in the car park before the activity started. Parks Victoria have mandated that all members of these volunteer groups must have a valid Working with Children Check (WCC) and have evidence of this uploaded on Parks Connect. This ruling started from July 1st 2022. Since it is not a requirement that people must be enrolled on Parks Connect, it has not clear how this ruling will be enacted. Since anybody from the public can come along to an activity – do we refuse access to the activity for anybody without WWC evidence? There is no information on the Parks Connect website about the WWC requirement. If you have collected your WWC evidence it can be uploaded in the Accreditations section of Parks Connect.



Parks staff have decided to knock down and/or replace the information booth at the Kerry Road car park. Since only this booth and one picnic table survived the 2021 storms, it seems so wise to remove it. The broken BBQ, picnic table and fencing lost in the storms have yet to be replaced and there are no known plans for their replacement. Since it has been many years since there have been information brochures about the walks, it makes poor sense to remove the only thing that explains which walks there are. Since the last activity Matt has removed our groups' information from the information board, ready for removal.

The day was forecast for rain, so rain was very likely to disrupt the activity. We started at the car park and moved to the boxes closest to the car park. Matt explained how to operate the pole mounted camera to the group of interested new users (Matt had made more repairs to the camera since the summer activity). A challenge that made the activity more difficult was that a number of boxes had come down in the 2021 storms and need to be replaced (or repaired). A list of boxes to be repaired or replaced was made and this will be done in our next activity.

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

Official Address of FMNP - contactfmnp@gmail.com

President: Gordon Duncan

Vice-President: Cathy Beamish

Secretary & Public Officer: Beryl Nelson

Treasurer: Mike Beamish

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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, Anita Pither, Grant Pengelly, Wayne Pengelly, Caitlin Punshon, Chris Sikkema, Joan Sikkema, David Stickney & Wendy Steenbergen.

During the activity we worked down the main track and observed:



The group organising to survey the first box.



One of the kangaroos seen during the day.



A new shed and track created on the northern side of Billy's Creek.



Surveying one of the nesting boxes – Matt is operating the pole mounted camera while Anita analyses the video footage on the handset.

After Section C was completed the group stopped for lunch beside the track. During lunch it started to rain. It had been good to go for a few hours without rain, but we needed to finish after lunch. The pole mounted camera was not to get wet so the activity needed to finish at the first sign of decent rain. At the next activity we plan to finish the survey and make replacement and repairs to missing and damaged boxes.

Over the short activity we saw at least 19 sugar gliders and two ringtail possums in the boxes and multiple kangaroos, wallabies and koalas along the way.

At the beginning of August we will have our Annual General Meeting. It is hoped that all members can attend. Included is the membership form to complete if you are unable to come to the Annual General Meeting.

**Friends of Morwell National Park
Annual General Meeting**

**Sunday 7th August
1.30pm**

Kerry Road Picnic area (work shed)

Rug up in something warm.

A committee meeting will follow the Annual General Meeting

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 2022/2023.

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

Address:.....

Email:

August Activity

Sunday 21st August 10am

The group will meet in the Junction Road car park to finish the winter survey of the nesting boxes and make repairs and replacement to some of the other nesting boxes. You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day. Note - this a change from the original calendar.