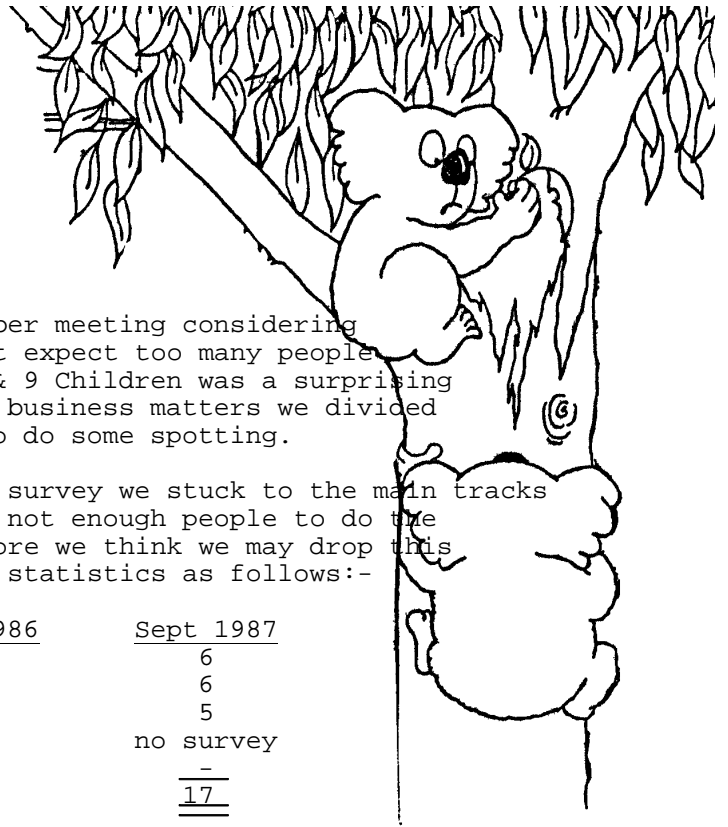


F.O.M.N.P.,
F.O. Box 19,
CHURCHILL. VIC. 3842.

21st September, 1987.



Dear Friends,
What a great turn out for our September meeting considering the damp conditions, we really didn't expect too many people to brave the elements, so 17 Adults & 9 Children was a surprising attendance. After a brief talk over business matters we divided up into four groups and headed off to do some spotting.

In keeping with last years September survey we stuck to the main tracks through the park, however there were not enough people to do the Western boundary of the park, therefore we think we may drop this area from our future surveys. Koala statistics as follows:-

	<u>Sept 1986</u>	<u>Oct 1986</u>	<u>Sept 1987</u>
Fosters Gully	6	6	6
Nth & Eastern Bdy	4	-	6
Stringybark	4	1	5
Western Bdy	1	-	no survey
Southern Bdy	3	3	-
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>17</u>

Our surveys now are starting to make some headway so our first aim will be to establish the viability of the Koala population within the park and then ultimately if the survey results indicate that the population is dwindling then the aim of our research will be to establish why and how to remedy the situation.

Thankyou to all those who attended because without your help this valuable information would not be possible.

Once our survey was complete we had a very pleasant afternoon tea around the fire which finished off the day on a high.

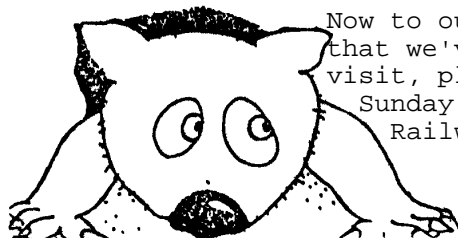
A brief recap of the days business:-

Please don't forget that the Third Biennial Friends of National Parks Conference papers is available to anyone interested in reading them.

As discussed it looks as though we will have to charge a membership fee in 1988 naturally we'll try and keep it to a minimum, enough to cover mailing expenses and photo copying etc. plus the cost of incorporation. Those who pay their membership fees will continue to receive the monthly newsletter. Also in an effort to vary our activities we will endeavour to incorporate some physical activities next year with perhaps removing pine trees and revegetating the area. Your ideas are needed in respect to next years projects. Please think about it and give us your suggestions.

Background information has been recieved from the C.F.& L. Assistance program grant, so this will be investigated and applications forwarded to the relevant department. Details in future newsletter.

Now to our October 10th meeting. I'm pleased to say that we've had a great response to the French Island visit, please note it is a Saturday instead of the usual Sunday. For those coming please meet at the Morwell Railway Station at 7.30am sharp in order to pool cars.



Continued..2..

The programme is as follows:-

1. Drive to Stony Point to catch the ferry by 10am.
2. Ferry to Tankerton, meet Alan Chandler at approx. 10.20am board bus.
3. Alan will drive us to Rangers Station where we will be given a talk by Ranger-in-charge Mick Douglas.
4. Have lunch. B.Y.O. everything, including afternoon tea. Packs can be left on bus if needed.
5. After lunch we will be taken on a tour of the Island, if time allows we will visit - mangroves, salt marshes & mud flats see wildflowers, Koala habitat and walk along Mt. Wellington Rd. through rural bushland. Last but not least see the excellent views of the whole Island and Western Port from The Pinnacles.
6. Catch the 5.10pm ferry back to Stony Point.
7. 5.30pm head for home, arrive Morwell approx. 8.00pm.

It will be a long day but a rewarding one, so be prepared with lots to eat & drink.

The cost per person is \$15.00 adults \$10.00 child over 5 years old, which includes the ferry return trip and the bus on the Island. Petrol costs will be approx. \$5.00 per person.

You are most welcome to bring along any other friends, so feel free to do so. Looking forward to seeing you all there. For more information please contact Margaret Loughborough on 22 3127 or Gail Roche 22 1478.

Bye for now.

Yours sincerely,



Gail Roche.
CO-ORDINATOR.