



FRIENDS OF MORWELL NATIONAL PARK INC.

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February 28th, 1989.

Dear Friends,

Well, we are back into it and heading into 1989, it could prove to be a busy year one way or another. 13 people gathered at Fosters Bully for the first meeting of the year, before setting off up the walking track to attack the thistles, we started with a General meeting. A warm welcome was extended to Rob a relieving ranger over from Yarram to watch over the park for the weekend. Robyn has returned to Buchan and Craig Campbell from Tarra-Bulga N.P. is filling in on a full time basis until Ian is officially replaced. It is all getting very complicated but hopefully a couple of months will see it all finalized and settled. Thankyou Robyn for your time & effort during your short stay.

The business arising in the meeting was as follows :-

: Concern expressed over the apparant in activity in Billies Creek. I have since rang Neil Ward at Yarram and there are plans to begin spraying of weeds in the very near future. Some of the other work will depend on when plant is in the area. Region has received the full amount promised of the \$92,000 and has returned \$15,000 on a deferred basis until next year. They are none the wiser as to whether the next 2 years allocation will be as promised and in some ways this is limiting the works program.

: Debra Burke sent me a very well presented report on her progress with the management plan - unfortunately it arrived on Monday. Of interest is the purchase of the narrow strip of land along Jumbuk Road; a pamphlet requesting the general public's say (I now have some if anyone would like to contribute); The commencement of a Botanist; and survey work to be done by a GIAE student. Debra is hopeful of having the proposed plan ready for public comment by September.

: Geoff Galvin reported the appeal was only very slowly collecting donations although hundreds of letters had been sent out to businesses in the whole valley area. Many thanks to Wendy for addressing and enveloping all of the Moe area - 250 envelopes in all. A display in Mid Valley is to be planned, anyone interested in helping for an hour or so please contact me.

: VNPA Calendars that have not been sold and there are a few were to be sent back with a request for a refund. This I have done and we can only hope.

: Peter Bryants resignation as secretary was sadly accepted, and the hunt is on; anyone out there willing to replace Peter, PLEASE. I am constitutionally and physically unable to both jobs so please think deeply. Ken was happily most willing to replace Peter as our representative to the forthcoming Friends Conference in the Grampians. His family is to go along as well and after a short glimpse at the proposed program they should enjoy themselves. In an endeavour to cover some of Ken's costs only, I am asking if you could make a small donation. It has been put into the minutes that a levy be made in our membership fees to cover this regular reoccurring cost. We will have a report from Ken at the next meeting.

: Ken made a report of his activities, most of us have been taking it easy but not him; his vigilance is appreciated. He has completed a flora & fauna list detailing his observations in Billy's Creek. This has been forwarded to Debra to assist in the preparation of the management plan. In checking back on the orchid sample plots he is very disappointed to again report

that no plant has set seed and so far he has not observed any plants to do so in the park. This has raised many questions and I have written to two prominent amateur botanists who know this local area very well. By chance he met with Craig in Billy's Creek and they removed the last clump of Pussy Willow. Those that were there last December may remember I refused to go into deep rushing water, even in the name of conservation! He was most delighted to report seeing a small young Lace monitor (goanna) in the park, we also have one around our house area and they have the most wonderful clear makings on their bodies.

: Yinnar South fair on March 18th looks to be a quiet affair. I have been unable to contact Craig at this stage although I will keep trying. We do not know if CF&L are to have a manned tent and it was felt that some of the effect and appeal would be lost if we were to be alone. Some members have volunteered to help the fair committee by donating an hour's labour on the day - the group received a very nice cash donation for our trouble last year. Anyone interested please contact myself or David Crane (Fair Committee) direct.

: Thanks to Johanna Aziz and her family we can now proudly advertise to the community our group via pin on badges. A small donation towards the conference fund will secure one of these master pieces. Very soon hopefully our logo will also be able to be worn on T Shirts etc.

The next meeting on the Third Sunday; March 19th at 1.30pm is a walk down the access track into Billy's Creek from Jumbuk Road. If you start to think we are going to just let you enjoy it you may be wrong. On the way we hope to have Ken tell us just what's a weed and what isn't. And why do you need to know you ask? Well we can't have you pull out the wrong plant can we. Needed will be a plastic bag and something big or small to help dig up the offenders. We will meet at 1.30pm at the Fosters Gully picnic area and organize a car pool to minimize the parking problem on both Jumbuk Road and Tebb Terrace. We will exit via Tebb Terrace, the access track is too steep for me.

Please remember: "Have your say" pamphlet.
Donations to conference fund.
Yinnar South Fair - its a great day.
Our trip to Coolart in August, mark your calendars now.

See you all on the 19th.

Regards



Yvonne Aplin.