



# FRIENDS OF MORWELL NATIONAL PARK INC.

P.O. BOX 19  
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Ranger: 221478  
Secretary: 696496

Dear Friends,

Attached is a very comprehensive description of the planned itinerary, complete with Melways references, for the visit to the Friends of Merri Creek group on the Sunday 20th October .

I am sure you will appreciate the amount of thought and planning which has gone into this by the Merri Creek group, and hope a good number of you will be able to go down with the Friends of Morwell National Park. It looks an interesting day, and an opportunity to see Quite a different range of aims and problems in connection with the preservation and beautification of a city suburban creek and its environment.

**Transport will be by car pool, and members are asked to meet at Morwell Railway Station at 8.00 a.m. sharp on the 20th. You will need to bring your own lunch.**

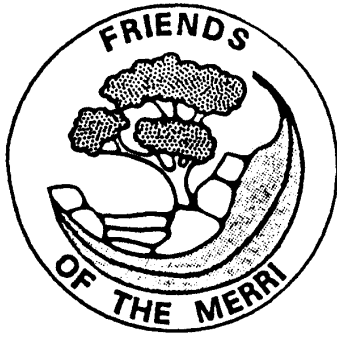
The koala count on Sunday 15th September was well attended (despite the overhead rumblings of thunder). Three groups covered the Stringy Bark track (1 koala), Fosters Gully track (6 koalas) and a route from the top of the Park (accessed from Jumbuk Road) back down to the carpark (3 koalas). Thanks to those members who took part. A follow-up survey will take place on Sunday 17th November.

On the way down the hill from the top of the Park it was interesting for our group to see traces of the old road winding around the spurs of the hills, and we were able to walk a short section. It is well and truly overgrown now, and has some large trees growing right in the middle of the old route. As Rob suggested, it would be nice to find out when the track was closed, to gain some idea of the age of these trees. Can anyone help?

The Australian Conservation Fund was recently approached by The Fun Shed, Princes Highway, Morwell, with an offer to local conservation groups of a donation in exchange for supply of promotional material, etc. for a Conservation Day. A display on a tree planting theme -was provided by FMNP, and seedlings were sold. An amount of \$140 raised from a day's -taking for the minigolf was donated to be split between FMNP and the Churchill Wilderness Club. We must extend thanks to David Haynes of ACF who co-ordinated the project, and to Lisa and the management of The Fun Shed for their generous donation - I am sure we will make good use of it.

Hope to see you on the 20th!

Wendy Nickson



# FRIENDS OF THE MERRI

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## **INFORMATION FOR FRIENDS OF MOREWELL NATIONAL PARK FOR VISIT TO MERRI CREEK PARKLANDS HOSTED BY FRIENDS OF THE MERRI, SUNDAY OCTOBER 20, 1991.**

Friends of the Merri welcome the visit by Friends of Morewell National Park and hope we can share a pleasant and informative day taking a look at some of the sites along the Merri (and maybe even helping with our weeding day in the morning).

### ***WHERE WE'LL MEET***

At the western end of Broadhurst Avenue, Reservoir, adjacent to the Merri Creek. **The Melway map reference is 18 B 3.**

### ***TIME***

Our weeding morning starts at 10am and finishes about 1 pm. However, to fit in taking you to a couple of other sites on the Merri, we'll leave Broadhurst Av. before noon. We will finish at Merri Park, Winifred St Northcote about 3:30pm.

### ***SITES WE'LL VISIT***

From Reservoir, we'll head north to the Cooper St. grassland at Campbellfield After parking at the end of Northbourne Rd. (map 180 J12), we'll walk out onto the grassland towards the Creek. *(Bring some gum boots in case its wet underfoot).*

The Cooper St. native grassland has been the subject of some dispute in recent years. At the last State election the government promised to purchase the site, but has since reneged and only a one-third acquisition is proposed at this time. Friends of the Merri have fought a long campaign to save the grassland which is of State-significance. It is proposed to sub-divide the remaining two-thirds of the site for factory development This would be a great tragedy as Cooper St is a peaceful and wonderful place. We might even catch some chocolate lillies in flower out there.

After Cooper St. we will call in at the Barry Rd. escarpment at Campbellfield (park in Sarah St., map 7 K5). This area offers some superb views of the Creek from; its high escarpments and has some features of geological and botanical significance.

Last stop is Merri Park, Winifred St, Northcote (map 30 C8). This park was a former Board of Works depot which was extensively earthworked and planted in recent years to provide flood protection and parkland for local residents. It is a good example of how the Merri is being transformed from a neglected urban drain to a healthier urban waterway with restored indigenous vegetation and informal parkland.

### ***ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE MERRI***

Friends of the Merri was formally constituted in 1988 following 12 years of community involvement in the protection of the Merri primarily through the Merri Creek Co-ordinating Committee. In 1988 the Co-ordinating Committee was superseded by a new Merri Creek Management Committee which employs a Manager, Revegetation Supervisor and a 6 member works crew. Friends of the Merri have 6 representatives on the Management Committee and much of our time is spent on activities associated with it The Management Committee also comprises the 8 Merri Creek Councils and the Board of Works. Friends of the Merri currently have 65 financial members from all suburbs along the Creek and hold meetings quarterly.

**FRIENDS OF THE MERRI LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON OCT. 20**