



Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

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Secretary: (051) 221046

MARCH NEWSLETTER 1996

FEBRUARY ACTIVITY

On 18 February 1996 Friends potted Muttonwood (or Tumipwood) *Rapanea howittiana* from the Billys Creek section of the Park. The muttonwood seedlings have been placed in the Propagation Centre and will be transplanted by the Friends at one of the 1996 tree planting sessions.

A quantity of Muttonwood seed was picked from a tree on the edge of the vehicle track. The fruit consisted of sm~ globular, violet drupes which form in clusters along older branchlets. The seeds will be sown at the Propagation Centre for planting in the Billys Creek section.

Later in the afternoon, Friends removed tree guards from blue gums which were planted by the Friends three years ago in the Billys Creek section. The guards (and some stakes) will be reused for subsequent tree plantings.

While participating in the afternoon's activities, Friends sighted fauna in the Park. An echidna was out for a stroll and a sleepy koala was perched in the fork of a manna gum. Magpies, kookaburras and blue wrens took the opportunity to be out and about. Indigenous common brown and introduced cabbage white butterflies fluttered around. A communal huntsman, a red-and-black spider and a long-horn beetle were found. The Friends observed several Imperial White Butterfly spent chrysalis. The chrysalis were attached to Drooping Mistletoe and the butterflies had only recently emerged.

FAREWELL TO JOHANNA AZIZ

On Friday evening 9 February 1996, the Friends gathered at Paul and Judy Lamberts home to farewell Johanna Aziz. New look President Ken Harris acknowledged Johanna's contribution to the Friends and the Morwell National Park. An appropriately iced farewell cake was cut in her honour and she was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Friends and the Ranger.

Johanna has been a member of the Friends for several years and frequently attended the Friends monthly activities. She participated in the organization of the Friends and at different times held the positions of secretary, newsletter editor and committee member. Johanna was also interested in the activities of other Friends groups and regularly attended the annual visit to other Friends groups. On several occasions Johanna made her home available for Friends social gatherings.

In the immediate future Johanna and Hassam will be travelling overseas. The Friends of Morwell National Park thank Johanna for her contribution to the conservation of Morwell National Park and hope in future she'll continue to contribute elsewhere to the conservation of Australia's flora and fauna.

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MARCH ACTIVITY

Saturday 16 March 1996 Yinnar South Country Fair

Martin Walker Reserv~ Yinnar South

Friends are required from 9:30am to assist by providing damper and billy-tea for the public and to promote Morwell National Park. In the past Friends have also assisted at the Fair by helping in the catering van. This assistance has resulted in the Friends receiving a donation from the Fair's proceeds.

Wendy Steenbergen ph 221140 intends to organize a roster for those Friends assisting on the day. Please advise Wendy of your (and others) availability.

ADDITIONAL MARCH ACTMTY

1:30pm Sunday 24 March 1996

Braniffs Road

Removal of tree guards.

