



# Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

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Incorporation number A0016319X

## MARCH NEWSLETTER

### FEBRUARY ACTIVITY REPORT

A very good day was had by all who attended (six or seven people, I think. I have left my notes at home again and am working from memory). A lot of wire tree guards were removed followed by lunch at the weir. Apparently Danny likes to go home for lunch as he did not take his lunch along with him (the newsletter editor should send him out a newsletter so he knows what is going on).

### MARCH ACTIVITY

**Yinnar South Country Fair.**  
**Martin Walker Reserve 9:30 am. (Yinnar South)**  
**14 March Saturday**

Some help is needed to set up and run the “show”. If you can help out during the day please give some indication of when you could help out and pass it on to one of the committee members (I think Wendy Steenbergen has volunteered to be the co-ordinator of the roster, a very informal one so you can get to have a look around the fair as well as help out. You can phone Wendy on 51221140) so we have an idea of who can help out and when so a roster can be worked out to share the duties.

What will be required to be done?

Setting up the tent. – Early on Saturday morning such as 8:30 or 9:00 am.

Setting up the billy tea and damper cooking fires. – After 9:00 am.

Making the damper dough. – As required

Supervising the damper, billy tea, selling of books and spruiking up new members.

Many hands make easy work so if you can help please do so, as it is usually a very good day for a look around. Also don't forget the bush dance which is usually held at night after the fair.

**Sunday March 15**  
**Braniff's Road 10:00 am**  
**Weir walk, Willow pulling.**

This a casual day and not much work is required to be done other than pulling out the willows which have grown up since last year. BYO lunch (Danny, you don't have to go home for lunch this time we will let have lunch with us) and drinks. As most of the willows grow along or in the creek wear long gum boots or shoes which you don't mind getting wet if intend on getting in the creek and having a splash along the creek bed – definitely a different view from there and very refreshing if it is hot.

This is also a day to introduce new members to the group who express an interest from the day before at the Yinnar South country fair.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Happy Birthday to Anne Bailey, who celebrated her birthday the day before the last activity. I can't say how old she is but as she didn't turn up for the last activity I suspect she had something to celebrate and may have gotten up to something "norty".

## **COMMITTEE MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 98**

Rangers report: We now have tax exemption for the friends groups costs incurred for the park but not for the group itself, such as we don't pay tax on tree guards or pots.

Rob spent ten days up in the Alpine national park helping out with fighting the fires.

There was a fire in the park next to the Zig-zag track below Jumbuck Road which burnt out approximately 1/8<sup>th</sup> of an acre. The fire started in a big blue gum which had to be felled by a DNR crew to get the fire inside it out.

Our nursery watering system failed once during January but fortunately Rob saw the problem after only one day of not working and had the system back up and running again. It suffered a blocked inlet filter. No trees suffered from its short drought, but Rob is intending to spray for fungus again this year.

As part of the Good Neighbours scheme, \$7,000 has been allotted to spraying weeds in the three parks Rob looks after (Morwell, Tarra/Bulga and Mt. Worth) by now all spraying in Morwell National Park has been done and we should be seeing a lot less weeds around.

Gippsland Education Skills Training (GEST) is growing 2000 trees for us from our seed collected in the park. They have also expressed an interest in buying seed from us as it is very expensive to buy (from \$100 per kg to over \$240 per kg) but as we are a non-profit organisation we could swap seed for plants grown for us.

Rob also extends his thanks to everyone who has got in and done things while he has been away fighting fires and such.

Rob Howell.

Presidents report: The January seed collection went well, starting at the Branniffs Road entrance Blue gum and Swamp gum seeds were collected from branches which were knocked down by lightning the night before. We hope the seeds are still viable after being struck by lightning. Silver wattle seed was collected down by the creek and no Blackwood seed could be found at the normal spot, if you find some please collect it and forward it to us with the where found etc for our records. Messmate seed was collected below Tebb Terrace from a

very big tree and Manna gum seed collected from trees next to the creek nearby as well.

Kangaroo apple seed was collected in the gully below the large Messmate tree.

Ed Steenbergen.

General buisness: Seed plots up on the hill a wombat has gone under the fence (which is still not yet completed). Has anyone been up there lately?

Wendy says that the wire tree gaurds need removing asap these are located near Billys Creek.

Last year's trees are growing well despite the lack of water.

All of the seedlings we and GEST have planted out this season are growing well.

## **SENIOR CITIZENS WEEK**

For senior citizens week the friends group have been asked to conduct a spot light walk for the Latrobe Shire. We have agreed to do so on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March starting with a sausage sizzle at 7:00pm at the Kerry Road picnic area followed by a spotlight walk at 9:00pm. This event will be published in the Express and we will be catering for the sausage sizzle and billy tea, money being donated by the Shire.

If you know of some senior citizens in need of a spotlight walk then put your/their names down to allow for catering needs (see Wendy or Ed Steenbergen).

## **EAST GIPPSLAND FORREST FOREVER CAMP**

Over the Easter weekend April 10<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> at the Goongerah Campground Bonang Road. This put on by the Concerned Residents of East Gippsland (C.R.O.E.G.) see attached flyer for more information.

## **APRIL ACTIVITY.**

The April activity is on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April at 10:00am and will be starting of at Brannif's Road.

Any information for this newsletter can be forwarded to myself at, 1 Townsend St. Churchill 3842.

Or phone me on 51223364.

Or leave information at Churchill Chiropractic located in the new shopping centre in Churchill; David and Laberta Forys can then pass it on.

Martin Gwynne. The newsletter editor.