



Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

PO Box 19
CHURCHILL 3842

President: 03 51221213
Secretary: 03 51276501

Incorporation number A0016319X

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Well much has happened since our last newsletter. To start on the 3rd and the 10th of January we were potting seedlings at the propagation shed. We started at ten in the morning and went through to about two in the afternoon on the 3rd. But on the 10th we arrived to find that there were no new seedlings to pot and so we went back home. Over all we potted about three-quarters of what we had planned to do on the 3rd and because of the lack of rain not enough seedlings had come through.

On the 17th we began seed collection in the Billy's Creek area. It was a long day! We started at 10:00am at the end of Braniffs Road and worked our way all through the Billy's Creek area collecting about half all the seeds we need to collect for the year. (The rest will be collected this weekend.) Ranger Rob was away so Ranger Craig came to lead the expedition. (Thanks) Nearing the second part of the day we travelled up the hill and round the small windy roads up the top of the hill. But the most exciting part was not on the way up but on the way down because we had Craig's Parks Victoria ute. We were able to ride instead of walk but on the way down we had to travel down an almost impossible track that zig zagged all the way back down the hill. When we came to the narrow corners it was a battle for

Craig to get around them but there was one corner in particular that was so narrow we had to jump out and push the ute to the side to get it around the corner.

Ranger's Report

The Morwell National Park Management Plan was officially released on Wednesday 13th of January 99, so copies are now available to members free of charge on request. The cost to the general public will be \$8.00 per copy.

If you notice that things have changed on Stringybark Ridge, it will be due to the efforts of the Campus Conservation Corps who have spent two weeks removing Pittosporums from the Stringybark/Peppermint community where it has become a problem. The C.C.C. are students who have volunteered to do environmental work over the Summer Holidays and are organised by the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers. They have done an excellent job and covered a large area, considering that there were only six of them.

Spraying works on Ragwort and Thistles have been done and Blackberries are being targeted next. Fire protection slashing of firebreaks and clearing of tracks (both walking and vehicle) are also being done at the moment.

I will be on leave until the 8th of Feb so I will see you at the February Activity.

Cheers,
Rob

NEXT ACTIVITY

On the 21st February we will be continuing the seed collection at Billy's Creek it will start at 10:00 at the end of Braniffs Road. We may also go to the Propagation shed but the meeting place is still at the end of Braniffs road at 10:00am.

On the 13th of March (Sat) the Yinnar South Fair is on once again at the Martin Walker Reserve its starts at 9:30 and we will be having a display there if you can come along and help at anytime during the day please call Wendy on (51221140). P.S And yes there will be billy tea and tamper.

And finally after that on March the 21st there will be creek works on the weir walk. It starts at 10:00am at the end of Braniffs road. So bring gum boots, gloves, and a plastic bag, and lunch of course.

P.S And by the way there are still heaps of Flowers and Ferns of Morwell National Park books left if you're interested call Wendy on the number above.

Editor Lee Theissling.