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Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

Newsletter Sept/Oct 2000

Website: <http://morwellnp.pangaeon.net>

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Welcome to the early newsletter for September and October. As this editor and family are going to be away for a while, we have decided to produce this small piece of up to date information to carry you through until November. Don't forget to send in any newsworthy articles so that there is a nice collection for me to sort through when we get back. The address to send them to is PO Box 112 Boolarra 3870.

A GENEROUS GESTURE

It is with great pleasure that I am able to announce that the Friend's of Morwell National Park have received a \$1000 legacy from the estate of Ellen Agnes Lyndon.

In our June newsletter there was a shortened version of the eulogy that was given by Eulalie Brewster at Ellen Lyndon's funeral. The eulogy described how Ellen's interest in native plants, particularly the Butterfly Orchid, set her to enlisting the help needed to have the gully area declared a national park. Lyndon clearing was named in appreciation of the work that she did.

The committee of the Friend's of Morwell National Park now have the challenging task of deciding how to spend the money in a way that shows their appreciation of the generous gesture from Ellen Lyndon.

The Friend's of Morwell National Park say *Thankyou*, Ellen Agnes Lyndon.

Below is a cut of slip that can be used when paying your outstanding membership dues.

To: Treasurer, Friends Morwell National Park. PO Box 19 Churchill 3842

Please find enclosed the amount of \$_____ (\$10 Single, \$15 Family/
Group), being for membership.

Name:..... Telephone.....

Address:.....

ACTIVITIES FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Our activities over the next couple of months are as follows:

- On September 17, we will hold our last tree planting session of the year. We will meet as usual at the Junction Road carpark at 10.00am. Hopefully we will finish the bulk of the replanting along Billy's Creek, except where the willow piles have yet to be burnt.

- On October 15, we will hold our annual Koala Count survey. We will meet at the Kerry Road carpark at 1.30pm

For all activities, please remember to bring your own food and drink, suitable clothing and footwear.

THE 3RD TREE PLANTING

On Sunday the 20th August, we had a very successful day tree planting at Junction Road. There was a great turn up of people with 5 new individuals to help us out, as well as the usual regulars. We made the most of all the volunteers and put everyone to work. The result of everyone's efforts meant that there were 480 trees planted for the day, just about a record in recent times. The trees planted were Blackwoods, Silver Wattles, Swamp and Manna Gums. They are going to make a great addition to the wonderful display of wattles that are currently in full bloom. It is worth going for a gentle meander along the track to view the brilliant display.

As we head into warmer weather the challenge is going to be keeping the spring growth of weeds under control. Currently growing are tutsan, stinging nettles and thistles, with a few willow sticks sprouting here and there as well.

No major disasters occurred during the day. The only minor hiccup was when Nicole fell into some stinging nettles, causing an immediate physical and vocal reaction. The picking of some docks to rub on the red lumps helped to relieve the physical problem and some TLC helped to eventually relieve the vocal one.

We also managed to make an addition to the species list for the Park, with a skink unwillingly unearthed during some grass clearing in preparation for planting a tree. Subsequent identification by Ken Harris (or was it just an excuse for a cuppa?) at his home, found the wee beastie to be *Pseudemoia rawlinsoni*, or Rawlinson's Skink, characterised by the location of a certain stripe on a certain row of scales. Please refer to Ken if you would like a more precise description.

All in all a very successful day was had by all. The weather even co-operated and only started to rain as we were leaving. With all the work that has been put into the revegetation of the areas of willow removal along Billy's Creek, we should have a very picturesque place to spend our quiet Sunday's in a few years time.