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Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

Newsletter – July 2008

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

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G'day everyone and welcome to the July edition of the newsletter. At last it has rained a bit, not just here, but a few places around the State and some that need it a lot more than we do. It's cold too; we have had one really chilly night of -2°C in the garden, which is perhaps 2°C warmer than outside the garden! The bird bath was set solid, providing a puzzling skating rink for the local honeyeaters. There has been another half dozen nights of 0°C that have required frost removal from the cars first thing in the morning before we could get underway. What can we expect, though? It is winter!

July Activity

Our trusty program once again says track maintenance, but I'm informed that the chain gang finished what needed to be done on the Coprosma Track last month, so we will busy ourselves with other things. A couple of jobs that Rob has flagged are the removal of some tree guards near the base of the Zig Zag Track and the planting along Billys Creek of some Muttonwood (*Rapanea howittiana*) seedlings that Ken inadvertently germinated in a plastic bag that he had forgotten about. To this end we will meet at the Junction Road gate at 10am on Sunday, July 20. Don't forget to bring along your own lunch and refreshments and wear clothing and footwear suitable for the season, the weather conditions on the day, the terrain we will be working in and the work we will be doing.

Track Maintenance

June Activity Report by Cathy Beamish

The morning was overcast and cold but the regulars turned up anyway, well, most of us did, where were Mike and Ken? It turned out that Mike had a hangover (*I did not, it was just dehydration and lack of sleep! Ed*) and was still in bed (*that's true, catching up on the lack of sleep! Ed*), while Ken had mixed up the dates and hadn't planned on going to the Park. A phone call from Rob set him on the right track. Meanwhile, a quick catch up on happenings around the Park informed us that our grant application for further weed (Californian Thistle and Tutsan) control had been unsuccessful, but funding would be found from other sources. A request from Parks Victoria to consider changing our activity day from the weekend to mid-week, to reduce the requirement for their employees to work weekends and thus reduce their labour costs, was met with a resounding negative vote, as it would probably make the Friends Group unviable as many members have other commitments mid-week.

We all piled in to Rob and Reg's 4WDs and set off for the Coprosma Track on the far side of the weir. The plan for the day was track maintenance after the recent falls of rain. We picked up the tools and headed up the track, clearing the debris as we went. Once the track started heading up the hill Rob, Darren, Reg and Peter began digging out the gutters across the track to enable water to run off more efficiently without washing the track away.

Ken turned up while we were on the hill; he'd had to walk for half an hour from the car park to reach us. Lunch time saw us walk back to the vehicles for sustenance and a rest, and then it was back along the track for final clean-up. Everyone worked hard again, with the exception of me!

Friends of Morwell NP Annual General Meeting

Our AGM is hereby declared to take place at the home of Jane and Denis Sultana, 37 Tulloch Way, Traralgon, on Sunday, August 3 at 1.30pm. Thank you to Jane and Denis for offering to host the meeting, allowing them both to attend while minding their children! A draft agenda is included below. Please bring along all your ideas for the next 12 months, as well as a plate of goodies to share for afternoon tea. For those who don't know, Tulloch Way is in the eastern end of Traralgon, near the Glenview Park Racecourse. Turn south off the Prince's Highway onto McNairn Road, cross the railway line and take the first right turn into Tulloch Way, opposite the southern boundary of the racecourse grounds.

Agenda (Draft)

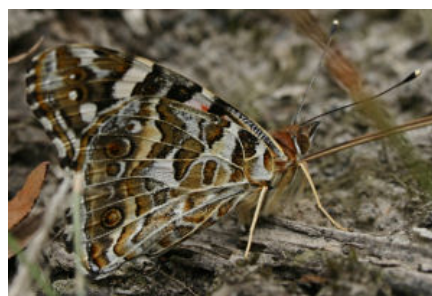
- 1. Attendance**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Previous AGM Minutes**
- 4. Business Arising from Previous AGM**
- 5. President's Report**
- 6. Ranger's Report**
- 7. Treasurer's Report**
- 8. Election of Office Bearers**
- 9. General Business**
 - New Members
 - Membership Fees
 - Incorporation Fees and Forms
 - Consolidation of Bank Accounts

Of course, AGM time means subscription renewal time, too, so please make use of the renewal form below if you need to. Here are some of Ken's photos of various critters we have found around the Park over the last few months.



Above: *Cleobora mellyi*

Below: *Utetheisa pulchelloides*



Above: *Vanessa kershawi*



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

Please find enclosed the amount of \$ _____ (\$10 per person, \$15 per family/group) being for membership 2008/2009.

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

Address:.....