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Friends of  
Morwell National Park Inc.  
*Newsletter – December 2008*

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

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Hi Everyone, I can't believe that I am saying this, but 2008 is nearly over – already! Where has the year gone? We have been busy again with weekend's away, work and driving our son to and from work. Mike has been working constantly and has run out of time again to put together this newsletter. I really hope he gets to have a break over Christmas. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year and I hope to see you all again in a fit and healthy state, ready and raring to work in our favourite park for another year.

### **December Activity**

Our activity for December is the Christmas break-up. We will meet at the Kerry Road carpark at 10am and will then go for a walk somewhere in the park. The exact location will be determined on the day. We will then meet back at Kerry Road between 12-12.30pm for a BBQ lunch. Rob will bring the meat and soft drinks and we would appreciate everyone bringing either a salad or a dessert, or one of each if you a feeling generous! Please bring other 'drinks' if you would like something other than soft drink. Please remember to dress appropriately for the weather conditions on the day and come and join us celebrate another successful year in the park.

### **Weed Removal and other things**

November Activity Report  
By Cathy Beamish

Our November activity saw us meeting as usual at Billy's creek. Well, we eventually met at Billy's creek as Mike and I went to Kerry Rd first to see if anyone had turned up there as their had been a mix up between what was advertised in the LV Express to what was put in the newsletter. Our esteemed editor hadn't put the newsletter out early enough and Denis was too efficient at notifying the LV Express of our monthly activity!

Once we got to Billy's Creek, the day started with Darren volunteering, (if that is the right word!) to assist Ken with the annual Butterfly Orchid count. Once they had left for Kerry Rd, the rest of us piled in to the vehicles and went in search of what we hoped was the last remaining willow in the park.

Not sure how we missed it, but as you can see from the photo below, it was a reasonable size and off the beaten track a bit. It didn't last long once Reg had cleared the undergrowth, as Rob then got stuck into it with the chainsaw and the remains were then piled up on other fallen trees to prevent the willow from re-sprouting.

Once we had finished we then drove or walked further up the track clearing away debris as we went. This involved more chainsaw work by Rob in a couple of places. Mike and Reg spent their time removing some large Pittosporums that were along the side of the track.

We travelled to the weir to have our lunch in comfort and then travelled slowly back along the creek looking for tutsan that we weren't able to see when we walked the creek. We also found a lot of foxgloves, which were promptly removed. They may look pretty, but they certainly looked out of place in the park.

As you can see from the photos below, some of the tutsan was hidden very well in amongst the stinging nettles and Mike was brave (or mad) enough to scramble through them to despatch the annoying weed. The end of the day saw us looking for the nesting boxes again. We plan taking a closer look during our December activity.



The Willow – before it is cut down



and after



Mike and Wendy in the nettles



Track clearing

**Friends of Morwell National Park Inc: PO Box 19, Churchill, 3842**

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