

PO Box 19  
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# Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

## *Newsletter – July 2011*

President:  
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Website: <http://morwellnp.pangaeaan.net>  
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Hello everyone and welcome to this month's newsletter. This has been a busy month with the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Friends of Morwell National Park and a bit of tree planting as part of the June activity. The Annual General Meeting will be soon, so it is time to consider renewing or becoming a member of the group. The membership form is given below.

### Friends of Morwell National Park Annual General Meeting

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August  
1.30pm

Parks Victoria Office - 71 Hotham Street, Traralgon

A committee meeting will follow the Annual General Meeting

At the conclusion of both meetings we will have Afternoon Tea – Bring a plate

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 2010/2011.

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

Address:.....

Friends of Morwell National Park Inc: PO Box 19, Churchill, 3842, <http://morwellnp.pangaeaan.net>.

President: Ken Harris, 51223137

Vice-President: Peter McDonald

Secretary: Beryl Nelson

Treasurer: Wendy Steenbergen

Publicity: Denis Sultana

Public Officer: Jane Sultana

Newsletter Editor: Darren Hodgson, 51222108, [hodgson.darren.d@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hodgson.darren.d@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Members: Mary Austin, John & Margaret Barker, Mike & Cathy Beamish, Eulalie Brewster, Reg Felmingham, Tom Lawless, Peter & Wendy McDonald, Joan Sikkema, Kate Richardson, Hilmar Batza, Australian Plant Society (Latrobe Valley).

## Friends of Morwell National Park 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June the Friends of Morwell National Park celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The day started with a walk and finished with a celebratory dinner.

The overcast day started with a crowd of around 40 people for the afternoon walk. Bronwyn, Andy and other Parks rangers were in attendance to welcome the volunteers and the public. The walkers included some original and some past members of the Friends of Morwell National Park. Some were familiar with the Park while for some others this was their first walk in the park. Another person we were happy to welcome back was Jenny, the past ranger for the Park.

The group was welcomed by both Ken - the President of the Friends Group and Andy - the Parks Ranger in charge of the local area. For those who wanted it, they could be transported in by vehicle. None wanted the lift and all readied themselves for a walk to Billy's Weir.

The group had a lovely stroll along Billy's Creek to Billy's Weir. Along the track the group observed the many changes that have occurred along the creek over the years. 25 years ago this area was swampy farm land and now it is a thick forest, with a wide range of wildlife.

At Billy's Weir the group was welcomed with the opportunity to have some hot tea and a snack. A wide range of treats were available and the group had an enjoyable snack and restful break. During the afternoon tea Ken spoke to the group about his recent experiences in the park and showed photographs of some Slime Mould he has recorded over the last few years. It demonstrated that there are many treasures to be found in the Park, both small and large.

The group after the break strolled back to the car park and remarked that although the day was overcast, it had been the perfect day for a walking.

Later that evening a dinner to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was held at Dal Mondo restaurant, Traralgon. The group included Bronwyn, Andy, Rob and other Parks rangers. A smorgasbord meal of pizza, pasta and salad was enjoyed by all. The restaurant also handled well the gluten-free needs of a couple of the diners.

Andy welcomed all to the celebration and Ken and Rob (Rob has been the ranger for Morwell National Park for over 20 years) spoke of their experiences in the Park with the Friends group and the importance of this Friends' group to Morwell National Park.

A special treat for the evening was a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake created by Cathy. The cake was decorated with an Australian native floral display created totally from icing. A fitting tribute to conclude a wonderful day. Thanks goes to Cathy, Wendy and Bronwyn was organized all of the details for the anniversary and where instrumental in a very successful day.

The photos on the following page show the groups at each celebration, the afternoon tea delights and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake created by Cathy.



## June Activity Report

For this month's activity we had John (and Grandson), Beryl, Wendy, Peter, Ken, Hilmar, Cathy, Mike, Bronwyn (and brother) and Darren in attendance. The group met at the Junction Road car park to be ferried to Jumbuk Road. We had 400 plants to plant since the 100 of the original 500 seedlings were Silver Wattle and by Ken records of the Park there are no Silver Wattles in the Fosters Gully part of the park. These wattles will need to be located in the Billy's creek part of the park where other Silver Wattles are located.

Bronwyn had been in discussions with the neighbors about the replanting and it was decided to allow a 20 meter fire break near Jumbuk Road. So planting occurred on the southern side of this boundary. Bronwyn will meet again with the neighbors in relation to the size and location of the firebreak.

The team broke up into smaller work groups. Ken located the sites for planting while a number of workers followed him with planters and tree guards. The tree guards we used this time were cardboard like milk cartons, so hopefully these will degrade correctly over time.



## July Activity

10.00am Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July

The group will meet at the Junction Road entrance to continue with the tree planting we started last month. The area to be planted out will be either the area adjacent to Jumbuk Road, or along Billy's Creek. Bronwyn will need to bring the seedlings and planting gear. Firstly meet at Junction Road and then the group will decide upon our planting location.

You will need to bring your lunch, clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.