

PO Box 19  
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# Friends of Morwell National Park Inc.

## *Newsletter – August 2025*

Website: <https://friendsofmorwellnp.com.au/>

Official contact of FMNP - [contact@friendsofmorwellnp.com.au](mailto:contact@friendsofmorwellnp.com.au)

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### July Activity Report

For this activity we had Anita, Caitilin, Gordon, Olga, Mike, Ken, Matt, Beryl, Tamara, Rose, Graeme, Peter and Darren. We had an apology from Cathy.

Over the last month there have been a few meetings. Caitilin and Gordon met with Ranger Renee and Ken Hughes to look at the working at heights restrictions which we are required to follow when we want to repair or replace nesting boxes. Parks Victoria has many strict rules about working on and using ladders. A risk assessment is to be undertaken and then another meeting will be held.

Caitilin, Peter and Gordon met with Ranger Gabby at the Jumbuk Road end of the park. Gabby determinate that from the remaining pines trees, there are still a few more pine trees located in the park and a few more in HVP space. The pines trees that had previously fallen were all in the National Park. Gabby will follow up with getting the remaining pines trees cut down. There have also been a few trees that have been fell illegally on Stringybark Track. The trees have simply been cut down and left so it is hard to determine the purpose of the felling of these trees.

The work on the new signage for each of the three main entrances continues. The contractor for the bridge replacements across Billys Creek has been selected and it is planned for the works on the new bridges to start in September.

The group expressed that it good that we now have regular meetings with Parks rangers. It has not been like this in the recent past. The rangers sort our feedback on the many feral animals being seen in the park and surrounding area. If people see feral animals in the park the rangers would like to know about what was seen and where it was seen.

The AGM for the group will be held in August and it will be held a week later than originally planned on the 10<sup>th</sup> of August. Details for the AGM are at the end of the newsletter.

The activity for the day was to complete some track maintenance along Billys Creek Track and perform tree planting into the section of track that was diverted away from the creek. A few vehicles drove into the planting work site with the plants and equipment while the rest of the group walked in from the car park.

Peter had propagated all the seedlings and trees to be planted. Peter and Graeme had brought all the digging tools and tree guards to protect the trees from the grazing animals. The group worked in small groups to plant and then guard the planted trees. It was great how everybody just put in to take on different roles to plant the different plants.

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**President:** Caitilin Punshon

**Vice-President:** Anita Pither

**Secretary & Public Officer:** Cathy Beamish

**Treasurer:** Mike Beamish

**Publicity:** Tamara Leitch

**Newsletter Editor:** Darren Hodgson, [darren.hodgson@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:darren.hodgson@education.vic.gov.au)

**Other members:** Eulalie Brewster, Graeme Busch, Matt & Kerry Campbell, Joelle Champert, Wendy Davies, Gordon Duncan, Jay Duncan, Peter Earl, Ken Harris, Jackson & Tony Lea, Rose Mildenhall, Anjali Pal, Anita Pither, Grant Pengelly, Wayne Pengelly, Alex Raymond, Chris Sikkema, Joan Sikkema, Wendy Steenbergen & Hayley Stone.



We put in 135 plants, comprising Muttonwood (*Myrsine howittiana*), Hemp Bush (*Gynatrix pulchella*), Musk Daisy-bush (*Olearia argophylla*), Snowy Daisy-bush (*Olearia lirata*), Kangaroo Apple (*Solanum aviculare*), Forest Hound's-tongue (*Austrocynoglossum latifolium*) and Silver Wattle (*Acacia dealbata*).

Thanks go to Peter for germinating all these plants from collected seed and over a few years growing these on for the day's planting.



After planting the group worked together to move a tree which was across the track stopping all vehicle access beyond that point. Lunch was held on the walking track, and we enjoyed the winter sun. Some groups of walkers and bicycle riders travelled past appreciating the day while we ate lunch.

After lunch most of the group got to stretch their legs as they walked back to the car park, while the other equipment was driven out.

In August we will have our Annual General Meeting. It is hoped that all members can attend. Included is the membership form to complete if you are unable to come to the Annual General Meeting.

**Friends of Morwell National Park**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August**

**1.30pm**

13 Limonite Road Boolarra (corner of Fairmont St)

Please bring a seat and a plate to share.

Subs for the new financial year are also due and payable.

A committee meeting will follow the Annual General Meeting

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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 2025/2026.

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

Address:.....

Email: .....

**August Activity**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 10.00pm

The group will meet at the Kerry Road picnic area to undertake some track maintenance. You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.