

FEBRUARY 1996



Hi Everyone,

What a wonderful start to the year. We have a very energetic family joined the group (son George has an article later in this newsletter) and 21 volunteers attended the February meeting! All the available underfelt was laid and I have been watering the planted grasses to help them survive and spread.

CNP have employed a contractor to remove rocks from the slash trails so that they can be better serviced. The launch of the walking trail is getting nearer with good progress on the leaflet and we are tidying the area to make it as attractive as possible to the walkers.

Thank you to the people who returned questionnaires; for those of you who said they would pull weeds as they walked please attack the new green oats, they pull up very easily. David and I walked the area from Kathner St to the large reservoir the other day and there are only a couple of patches which obviously need larger weeds removing.

I have applied for a grant to employ someone to spray briars etc in the area from Guinness Place to Mt Arawang. We are also applying for money for further plantings this year, also near Mt Arawang.

When we issued the library list last month we forgot to include the series of large maps of the Ridge which we own. This month's attachment is the membership list for 1996.

There are notices on most gates now reminding people that their dogs must be on a lead AT ALL TIMES in the Nature Park, you are at liberty to remind them nicely.

George's family have arranged the monthly meeting for March, see the following article, meet at Kathner St dam at 1.30pm on Sunday 3rd March.

" Hello Parkcarers,

At the end of last year we did a Waterwatch activity at the old dam and the new dam. Since then we've adopted the old dam and plan to take readings there on a regular basis. We thought you might be interested to know what we found at the two sites. The pH reading told us that both dams are pretty acidic (6 for both). The water in the old dam is much clearer than the water in the new dam, which is probably why there is such a large variety of animals there. We found hundreds of water boatmen, frogs, bloodworms, leeches, caddisfly larvae and snails at the old dam, whereas at the new dam we found lots of snails and some water stick insects, but not much else. The water-lily growing on the old dam is indigenous to the area - hurray!

At the moment we are concentrating on clearing weeds from the area around the dam; scotch thistles, Paterson's curse and oats mainly. We are hoping Ginnie Lovatt from Waterwatch will be able to take some accurate readings from the dam and tell us what we should be planning when she visits the site on Sunday 3rd March.

George Powell "

P T O

~~If anyone else can lead or find a leader for a meeting I would love~~

If anyone else can lead or find a leader for a meeting I would to hear from them. I will not be here for the March meeting, for further details phone Claire Powell on 2884900.

If you have put in hours on the Ridge during February please phone Pauline Lynga on 2887009 or give details to her on 3rd March.

There will be a General Meeting on Wednesday 13th March 7pm for Committee, 7.30pm for meeting proper. It should be nice and short so that we will have time for a chat and a piece of cake. The shop will be open for the sale of cards, chutneys etc but the blackberries have been sprayed so no new jam as yet.

Statistics for January:

No monthly meeting Total hours 154
Planted 6 shrubs, 20 grasses
Removed 235 woody weeds, 35700 herbaceous weeds (mainly thistles)

Dates to Remember:

Sunday 3rd March	Meet 1.30pm Kathner St
Wednesday 13th March	Meet 21 Ordell St 7.30pm
Sunday 24th March	Community Environment Fair
	Botanic Gardens 10 - 2pm
	(details at March meeting)

Cheers

Bess (2887536)

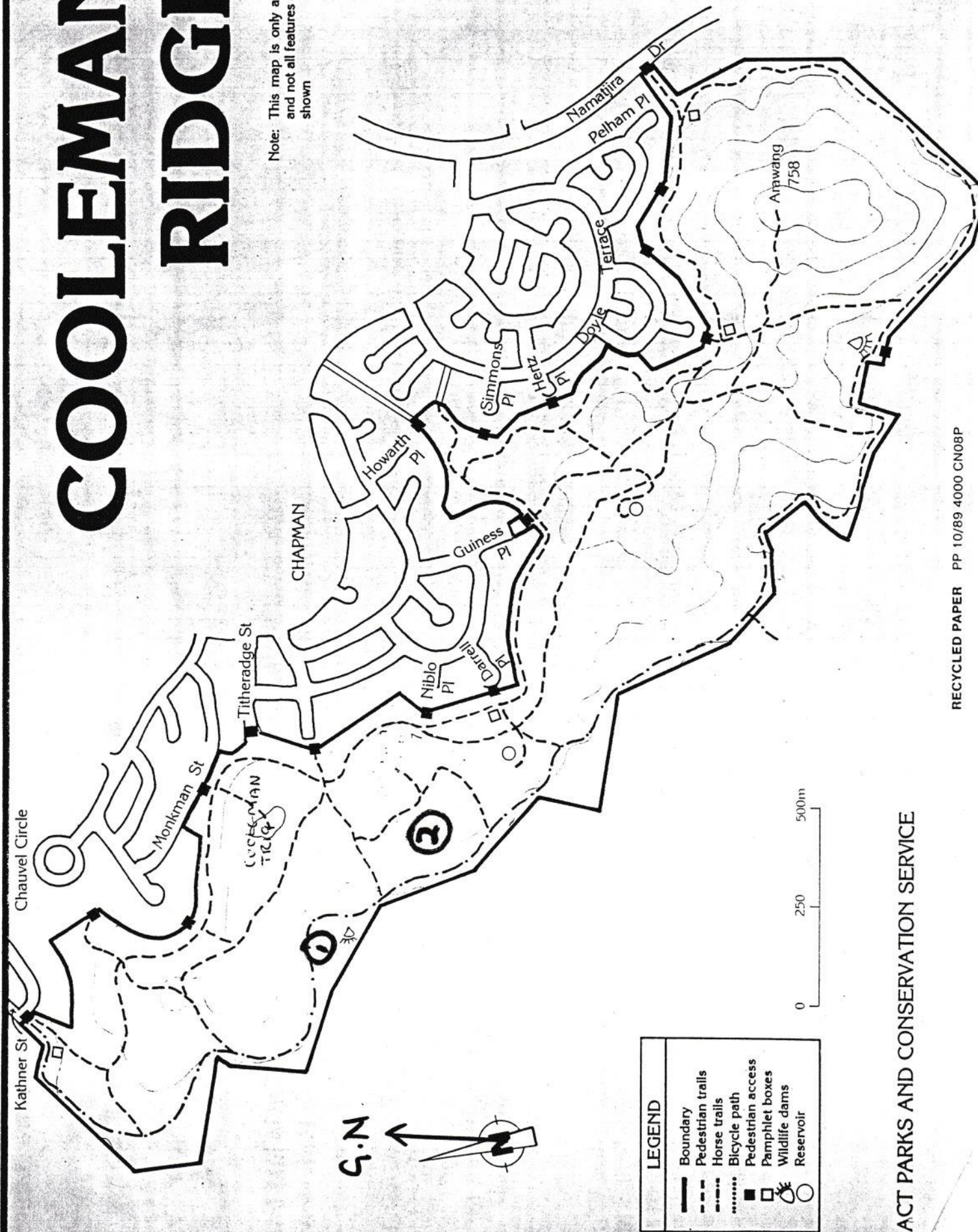
MEMBERSHIP LIST
COOLEMAN RIDGE PARKCARE GROUP INC

Halvard & Margaret Andersen - Dalheim
Margaret Aston
Liz Brophy
Paul Carmen
Ron Champagne
Elizabeth Done
Tony Fearnside
Luisa Fearnside
Malcolm Gill
Ann Gordon-Smith
Clive & Pat Hackett
Sandra Hand
Julian Henschke
Wayne Henschke
Gerin Hingee
Naarilla Hirsch
Martin Hofmann
Bruce Lindenmeyer *Dianne Lancaster*
Kay Lindsay
Julie Long
Pauline & Gösta Lyngå
David Mackenzie (Monkman St)
David H Mackenzie
David Mallinson
Jenny Manning
Ann McKenzie
Robyn Navin
Tina Nevins
Jenny & Lloyd Odgers
Judy Olditch
Alcina de Oliveira
Claire Powell
Alice Powell
George Powell
Fiona Riley
Janice Scarabottolo
Robin Seeley
Bess & David Sledge
Reet Vallak
Hermann Wehner
Paul Weiss
Margaret West
George Wing

Kathner St
Chauvel Circle

COOLEMAN RIDGE

Note: This map is only a guide
and not all features are
shown



LEGEND	
	Boundary
	Pedestrian trails
	Horse trails
	Bicycle path
	Pedestrian access
	Pamphlet boxes
	Wildlife dams
	Reservoir

ACT PARKS AND CONSERVATION SERVICE

COOLEMAN RIDGE

Welcome to Canberra Nature Park. Cooleman Ridge is just one of the many hills and ridges that form Canberra Nature Park — a place where you can enjoy bushland and wildlife close to home.

Mt Arawang is the highest of the seven knolls along this ridgeline at the back of Chapman. Take time to discover some of its special features.

Grazing

The ridge's long grazing history has left only scattered pockets of native trees. Cattle are still grazed in some parts to reduce the risk of fire. If you are walking your dog please keep it on a lead so livestock and native animals are not disturbed.

Walking Trails

There are a variety of trails on Cooleman Ridge. You can follow the circuit trail around the lower slopes of Mt Arawang or enjoy

the delightfully changing views of Bullen Range and Tidbinbilla Range as you walk the length of the ridge from Mt Arawang to Kathner Street. The large volcanic boulders you see along the way are called tors. Watch for lizards basking among these rocks in the morning.

Revegetation

Canberra Nature Park staff are returning the ridge to a more natural state by controlling the weeds and planting native species. The prickly, shrubby garden weeds such as boxthorn, sweet briar and firethorn are sprayed and cut. Young trees and shrubs are planted into cleared, open areas. If you would like to help with revegetation please contact a ranger.

