

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER NO 92
February 2001



Hi Everyone,

Depite all the hot weather our plantings of 2000 seem to be surviving, the last big rains will have helped them considerably. It is very rewarding to see how well the grasses we planted have grown and will now out-compete some of the exotic ones (we hope). I would like to mount an attack on wild oats which are very easy to pull up. If you go on the Ridge could you please make a habit of pulling up half a dozen and encourage others to do the same; they are an annual so we could make a big impression on them. You have no doubt noticed the *Verbascum* everywhere. We will have to have a big attack on the new ones when they show.

In January we weeded hundreds of small weeds in the burnt area near Doyle Terrace. Some members hadn't realised what a good area that is in general so this month we are going to expand the area and get rid of as many weeds as possible to let the native plants have more room.

The results of our survey of meeting times revealed that most members prefer Sunday to Saturday, they were split evenly between am and pm, so we have decided to meet in the mornings during hot weather and afternoons when the days are cooler.

We welcomed two new members recently; Mary, who has adopted a patch at the top of Arawang and Elizabeth, who is clearing a delightful area which adjoins her back garden. A few of our longer standing members have not yet returned their membership forms. A red dot will tell you if you are one of them, if you have lost your form ask for another one. If you are not rejoining us we thank you for your past efforts and hope you continue to take an interest in the Ridge.

This year is nominated as the International Year for Volunteers and March has been chosen for dedication to the Environment. It's a pity it's also Canberra's Festival month but we hope you can all spend some time with us. Sunday 4th March is "Clean Up" day. I will not be having a station this year but will walk the hill tops on the Ridge where most of the litter accumulates. Sunday 18th March is ACT Alive Day (changed from its usual Monday slot) but it is also our Parkcare Day at the Olympic Site. Thursday 29th March we will repeat last year's successful weed/stargaze/spotlight walk evening. More about these events in the next newsletter, just keep the dates free.

Statistics for January:-

Hours	On Ridge	156.30
	Off Ridge	23.30
	Total	180
Woody weeds cut sprayed or dug		122
Herbaceous weeds pulled or sprayed		14366
No plantings		

Dates to Remember:-

Sunday 18th February	Weeding near Burnt area (15 on map) above Redgrave Pl. 9.30am - 11.30am
Sunday 4th March	Guinness Place entrance, walk left on fire trail up the slope.
Sunday 18th March	Hill top Clean Up, meet at Kathner St Entrance at 9.30am
Thursday 29th March	Olympic Site, 10 - 12 and 1.30 - 3.30 Kathner St 5.30pm.

Cheers

Bess

(62887536/dsledge@webone.com.au)

Status of Tree Survey on Coleman Ridge, 2000-04-05

Area	Caret(s)	Address	Phone	Data base entries	Tagged trees	GPS	full examination	Photo
1. Kathner Street	Pauline and Gösta Lyngå	89 Warragamba Avenue	Duffy, ACT 2611 6288 7009	130	130	130	130	130
2. Chauvel Circle	Sandra Hand	51 Kallara Close,	Duffy, ACT 2611 6288 6038	405	405	404	115	405
3. Titheradge Place	Bess and David Sledge	21 Ordell Street,	Chapman, ACT 2611 6288 7536	439	439	0	0	437
4. Niblo Place	Malcolm Gill	57 Percy Crescent,	Chapman, ACT 2611 6288 4122	0	261	0	0	0
5. Darrell Place	Paul Weiss	17 Rubbo Crescent,	Weston, ACT 2611 6288 2584	20	20	0	12	0
6. Guinness Place	Naarilla Hirsch and Jonette McDonnell	30 Chillagoe Street,	Fisher, ACT 2611 6288 2413	30	319	41	30	321
7. Somerset Street	Duffy, ACT 2611 6288 7829				5	5	5	0
8. Namatjira Drive	Tina Nevins 9 Andamooka Street,	Fisher, ACT 2611 6288 6387		0	309	0	0	0
	and Rohan Thomas							
Total				1029	1888	580	292	1293

Comments: Whenever a square contains a zero, there is no information yet to the data base. It has turned out to be efficient to tag all trees in an area first, to do GPS measurements when trees are already tagged and to make the full examination later. Areas 1-4 are fully tagged, areas 1 and 3 photographed, area 1 examined

In areas 2 and 4 several tags have been removed and will have to be replaced. We don't know who removes them but it could be a continuing nuisance particularly near the houses. Once photos and GPS data define the trees, the tagging is less important for identification: we should at a parkcare meeting discuss not replacing the tags in those cases. Another matter that should be discussed, particularly for those areas where there appear to be a daunting number of trees is the priority for detailed examination. My suggestion is that the old plantations of non-local species have lower priority and that trees near houses also are less important than those in the heartland of the Nature Park.

Please note that I now have a GPS and am quite happy to lend it and/or to come along to help with that phase of the project whenever the trees have been tagged.

Gösta Lyngå