

Hi Everyone,

Apologies for the late arrival of the newsletter but I've been waiting for a ranger to return from holiday to confirm some dates, more later.

We had a most enjoyable Park Care time with the visitors from Sydney, they were very interested in what we were doing and put in some good work at the cow camp near Stonehenge. We will be back there on Sunday clearing thistles and planting grasses.

Tina and I spent the next weekend planting 156 trees and shrubs in and around the grant area.

Stromlo High school have planted 55 trees on Mt Arawang. They have another 800 which they have donated to us so we will have to have a planting day on Sunday 19th May from 10 to 3.

Chapman Primary School are growing trees to be planted in the Spring. We have a new scout group becoming involved and Stirling College are hoping to get a grant to improve their propagation area and they will allow us to grow things there.

Malcolm Gill has drafted an outline of a Management Plan for Cooleman Ridge. Would anyone who would like to be involved in the formation of this plan please let me know.

Caretakers are reminded that they will be getting their 6-monthly report forms next month. If you haven't visited your area in the past 6 months please make an effort to go and monitor your "patch" and, maybe cut down thistles and verbascum if you have any.

The Group meeting is this Sunday 5th May 1.30pm at Titheradge Place (bottom entrance).

Planting Day will be Sunday 19th May: come to the stile on Sulwood Drive between Namatjira Drive entrance and Kamba Pool Rd at 10am or as soon as possible thereafter, and follow the signs:

On Sunday 1st June there is an Environment Fair in Garema Place and we are sharing a stall there: I hope to see some of you there.

Cooleman Court are having a Carnival for community groups on Sunday 23rd June, we also have a stall there and will be Delling whatever we can for Group funds, all articles welcome.

If you have any Trash or Treasure Stirling College are going to have a sale day and I have said we will have a stall to support them, contributions welcome for this too.

The biggest date of all is Wednesday 5th June - Environment Day - when we have Chief Minister KATE CARNELL to open our walking trail at 1.30pm. Anyone wishing to be involved in the organisation of that day please phone me.

We have added Ian Fraser's latest book "Neighbours in Trouble" to the library and it is available for loan.

I hope I haven't forgotten anything in this long list of activities. If you have put in hours during this month please let me know soon.

## Statistics for March:

Monthly Meeting:

8 members "waterwatched".

Total hours:

 $287 \frac{1}{2} + 26$  at Community Fair.

Removed: Planted:

282 woody weeds, 32550 herbacious weeds.

315 trees, 40 grasses.

## Dates to Remember:

Sunday 5th May Sunday 19th May Sunday 1st June Wednesday 5th June

Group Meeting, Titheradge Place 1.30pm Planting Day, Sulwood Dr. 10am onwards Environment Fair Garema Place, all day Opening of Walking Trail, meet at Kathner St at 1pm.

Sunday 23rd June

Carnival Cooleman Court

Cheers

Bess (2887536)