

Friends of Brisbane Ranges

Incorporated

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October
2006

*Grevillea
steiglitziana*

Next Meeting

Sunday 8th October

Meet at;

10am at the
Anakie/Staughtonvale Hall

Activities;

Wildflower Show

What to bring;

Your friends and relatives
and anyone else you can
think of.

**BYO your lunch plus a
plate for morning tea** (with
something on it, food)

Next Month

Sunday 12th November.

Dean Ingwerson from Birds
Australia is giving of his time
to peruse and identify our
feathered friends in the
Brisbane Ranges

In this Issue

- Last Month at Boar Gully
- House keeping, wildflower
Show
- In and Around the Park

Up Coming Events

Sunday 10th December.

Christmas is just around the
corner so this is the last one
for the year. Come along and
enjoy a leisurely day at
Stony Creek Picnic Ground
along with the Friends of
Werribee/Gorge Long
Forest, Friends of
Lerderderg and the Geelong
Field Naturalists Club. More
details to follow.

Last Month at Boar Gully

Well where do I start, well actually I can't as I was not there, so what more can I say? So I asked Judy if she had anything to report and all she could come up with was, and I quote "I don't know I wasn't even in the country" end quote. So what now? where do I go? what do I do? what do I say? who do I ask? I turned around to get some input from someone else and guess what? there was no one there. So I said to myself and I quote; " self, just do what you can and that will have to do" end quote. So this report is from self in the aftermath of the event, in the knowledge of three events may or may not have occurred. Just remember the words of a famous man "The truth is out there".

One thing I do know is that this activity coincided with the day of the Great Australian Bush Walk. Organisers of the walk had previously been in contact with Park staff and confirmed that several walks were taking place in the Brisbane Ranges National Park and were to start at Boar Gully Camp Ground. Now this is where guess work comes into play, I am presuming that since both activities were in the same place that there was some interaction between the two groups.

The other thing I do know, and this is going on my own observations, is that some works have been undertaken. Weeds have been removed and maintenance has been carried out on tree stakes and guards. Excess guards and stakes have also been removed. I can only presume this was all caused by an enthusiastic and dedicated group of friends.

Now for the third thing I do know for a fact, and this is because of photographic evidence, unless someone is playing funny buggers with me and has doctored the picture. It would appear that a Powerful Owl was spotted in the Camp Track area and one member being prepared for just such occasion had a camera handy. Below is the result of that encounter.

Well that's the three things so I guess its goodbye from me and goodbye from self.



"Powerful Owl by Elspeth Swan"

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House Keeping

Wildflower Show Volunteers

To all those people who put their names down to assist in the setting up and running of the show, thank you. It is now time to stand up and be counted, hopefully you have all been contacted and are aware of what needs to be done and when. To assist you, included with this newsletter is a spreadsheet outlining everyone's role in the event.

"In and Around" the Park.

Ok now for the big news, the last closed area of the Brisbane Ranges National Park is to re-open to the public on Sunday 8th October. Some may think that this has been a long time coming but it is actually about three months ahead of schedule. The Opening Strategy put in place to manage the Parks Fire Rehabilitation Program had the opening scheduled for around Christmas time.

It has been a big task for all involved to get everything back in shape so as everyone can enjoy what is a fantastic part of the world.

Even though all of the Brisbane Ranges National Park will again be open, works within the fire affected area will still be continuing. Some of the works still to be completed are installation of bollards, some signage and rehabilitation of recently identified dozer lines. As with all works of this magnitude I am sure other areas requiring attention will come to the surface, I guess you could call it Murphy's Law.

Mother Nature is also doing her bit for the rehabilitation program. The on set of spring has seen a blaze of colour come over the Park so all is looking good for the coming weekend. A bit more rain would be good but what you get is what you get.



"Olearia pannosa"

"In and Around" the Park cont.

All right then, where was I up to? That's right, the Park. Yep, all is looking good for the weekend, so what has been happening with the rehabilitation program since last we spoke?

The boardwalk at the end of Join Track has been completed and work on the Outlook Track version is well under way.

Both of the historic mine sites have been resurrected and are now also open, unfortunately the hut at the end of Century Track was a little bit beyond saving.

Anakie Gorge walk is completed with all interpretive plaques installed and a follow up inspection of tree hazards also undertaken. Most of the plaques on the Ted Errey Nature Circuit have also been installed.

The new gas BBQ at Anakie Gorge Picnic Ground has been installed and is now being enjoyed by visitors to the area. When you visit the area you may also notice the other recent works that have been carried out.

Old Mill Camp Site has also been visited by contractors. As we speak work is being undertaken to remedy damage to the toilet building and plumbing as well as installation of a picnic table.

I guess that's it for the rehabilitation for now so what else can I tell you?

As I said earlier Mother Nature has a remarkable ability to self heal. I guess the flora within the fire affected area is the most notable aspect of this healing process as everywhere you go new life is appearing, whether it is new plants sprouting or existing ones sending out new shoots. The other not so noticeable aspect, unless you are in the area often, is the fauna moving back into the area. Park staff have noticed large numbers of Eastern Greys within the Park as well as Swamp Wallabies, Kookaburras, Parrots and the odd Koala wandering around.

So on that note it is goodbye till next we meet.



"A New Era Begins"

President

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