



Next Meeting

Sunday 12th November

Meet at;

10am at the Anakie
Community Depot

Activities;

Bird walk and ID day led by
Dean Ingwerson of Birds
Australia

What to bring;

All the usuals including
binoculars, walking boots
and bird id books.

Next Month

December; Sunday 10th

Christmas Party/BBQ at
Stony Creek Picnic Ground.
BYO meat drinks etc.
Salads supplied.

In this Issue

- Wildflower Show
- House Keeping
- Wildflower Show
- In and Around the Park
- Observations of the Unknown Correspondent
- Wildflower Show

Up Coming Events

Christmas Party. December
10th.

Remember, January is your
month off. Yep, that's right,
we even give you a month
off for good behaviour.

Wildflower Show

Judy Locke

The annual wildflower show, organised by the Friends of Brisbane Ranges and supported by the Anakie Tree Group and Parks Victoria, was held on the 8th October in the Anakie Staughtonvale hall. This show proved to be the most successful yet with over 400 people visiting the display and 120 people taking part in the wildflower tours.

All plant species were collected from private property with kind permission of the owners. It is an offence to collect protected plants off Crown land without a DSE plant collection permit.

The collection consisted of plants indigenous to the Brisbane Ranges. People attending the display and/or walk were able to discover and learn about the delicate, colourful and diverse display of plants that grow within this area. It was by no means a complete display but a small snapshot of what can be seen, at this time of year, when visiting the Brisbane Ranges National Park, Steiglitz Historic Park and adjoining private property bushland.

The plant show was complemented by additional displays from a number of other associated organizations. These were; DSE Land for Wildlife, Trust for Nature, DPI Pest Plant and Pest Animal and Parks Victoria, all of which were able to provide assistance to the interested public either by discussion and/or by issuing free handouts.

The show was extensively advertised within the local print media and radio. This advertising, the use of the hall as a venue and the magnificent post fire floral display in the wildfire affected areas, encouraged peoples curiosity enough for them to take the journey to see the show.

The Friends group are already planning for their next show in 2007 and to build on this year's success.



"Well I really think it is a plant, not a flower at all"

President

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House Keeping

Considering the group has now moved into the electronics age and playing such a huge role in shaping the 21st century, it has been deemed time for the logo to play catch up. So what does this mean, well a redesigned/updated logo would be a good start. So with that in mind, the next issue will give you all a chance to participate in this historic event and also include the details/specifications etc.

Wildflower Show

Colin Cook

Well. What a wildflower show! No doubt inspired by the extravagant display of wildflowers put on in the park, Helena and co-organisers put together a magnificent display in the Anakie-Staughton Vale hall. Fourteen FoBR and three Anakie Tree Planting Group volunteers helped collect the wildflowers and set up the hall. Boxy also rounded up a collection of stuffed animals from the Parks offices (no, not the staff!) and put together a very impressive fauna display on the main stage. Other groups also had tables set up in the hall with information on pest plants and animals, tree planting and Land for Wildlife. The FoBR table sold honey, books, wildflower CDs and indigenous plants. Overall, approximately \$1500 profit was made which will be put back into the kitty for running the show next year.

Due to curiosity about the park after the fire or improved publicity, this year we had approximately 200 visitors to the wildflower show. Two bus tours were run with approximately 115 people going on the tours. People came from all over the place, with visitors being recorded from Anakie, Bacchus Marsh, Ballarat, Balliang, Brighton, Collingwood, Corio, Drysdale, Geelong, Hoppers Crossing, Inverleigh, Lara, Little River, Melton, Mentone, Meredith, Mt. Waverley, Nunawading, Ocean Grove, Queensland, She Oaks, Steiglitz, Torquay, United Kingdom and Werribee. They were treated to a stunning display of wildflowers, including a grand army of flowering grass trees. We're still waiting for Chris Worrall to finish counting the flowers and provide a report on whether his initial estimate earlier in the year was accurate.

Speaking of Chris, he performed an important duty on the day by officially opening the remainder of the park to the public (several of whom wandered down the track from behind the ceremonial ribbon during his speech!). The "Park Closed" sign has gone from the road down to Stony Creek, and may it never return!

"In and Around" The Park The Editor

Yes, you heard right, it is **OPEN!**

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Observations of the Unknown Correspondent

The threat of "PC" (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) is being appreciated.

Saturday the 14th of October, early AM (about 9.30 AM) as I drove to the local shop with the kids in the back of the ute to pick up the local papers I passed the Anakie Primary School and it was here I noticed a small gathering, perhaps a pod, of similar aged people parked, similarly dressed, similar types of vehicles and on their chests the glint of name tags. The brain told me these people were dressed and looked like they could be bushwalkers (perhaps?), here to try and find the elusive flowering grasstrees.

I parked at the shop, patted the kids, chatted to the locals about the weather, or lack of it, picked up the papers and drove again past the school again. The pod were still mingling, name tags glistening, hovering around like dogs who hadn't seen each other for a few days. Then I see it, the leader of the pack spraying other people's soles (I mean the soles of their boots) out of a back pack, and I think to myself "The Friends Groups educational program about spraying to prevent PC spread is spreading".

Well done the Friends group and well done Boxy.

The Wildflower Show

The wildflower display and show was a wonderful occasion. Lots of smiling friendly faces, buses chock full of investigative individuals all wanting to flavour what nature has provided us with, tables displaying labelled flora, tables displaying environmental awareness ideas and prompts, the stage boxed beautifully with the diorama that Boxy had set up using a few of our locals. Some of them looking a bit uncomfortable, but maybe I would to if I had to sit on a hard branch as long as this guy had.

The lady with the new child did a marvellous job organizing a group of dedicated individuals to help create, expand an awareness of our wonderful local environment.

Now with the opening of the Anakie Gorge to Stony Creek section of the Brisbane Ranges National Park everyone with a keen eye will be able to peruse the strikingly beautiful velvet daisy bush.

Wild Flower Show

Helena Lindorff

This year we had a very successful Wildflower Show with over 200 people attending. A lot of planning went into this year's event with 13 Friends members helping out and as always a huge amount of help from the Bacchus Marsh Parks Victoria Staff. This year we formed a sub-committee to coordinate the event and on their behalf I would like to thank all those that helped especially the following people; Barbara Baird, Beth Palmer, Beverley Phillips, Chris Lindorff, Chris Worrall, Colin Cook, Judith Lewis, Judy Locke, Lance Lewis, Mark Urquart (PV), Nola Haines, Gwen McDowell, Peter Box (PV), Roger Curtain, Stuart Wilsher (PV), Virginia Grove (ATPG), Virginia Lawrence (ATPG), Wendy Cook.

If you wish to help out next year in any capacity, please drop me an email as we will be starting the planning process for 2007 Wildflower Show in the next couple of months.