



Next Meeting

Sunday 12th August

Meet at;

10am at the Anakie
Community Depot

Activities;

Presentation and field trip on
Phytophthora cinnamomi
(see agenda under
housekeeping)

What to bring;

Ok, by now you should have
this down pat, but just in
case, please bring lunch,
enthusiasm, sense of
humour and appropriate
clothing and footwear for this
time of year in the great
outdoors.

Next Month

September; Sunday 9th

To be advised

In this Issue

- Last month's activity
- Housekeeping
- Plant matters
- In and Around The Park

Up Coming Events

October 14th:

2007 Wild Flower Show

November 9th,

Koala research update and
survey

December 9th,

Christmas/25th Anniversary
celebration

Last Month's Activity

Judy Locke

Weed removal in Anakie Gorge.

The day started as cold, bleak and blustery and I was thinking that no one would turn up for the day. But no, our Friends are a hardy lot and the usual members arrived ready to start mattocking weeds out of Anakie Gorge.

Weeds, such as thistles, Ink weed, Cape weed along with the occasional Boneseed are appearing along the creek bed, all of which have been given a new lease on life by the 2006 wildfire. So with a spring? in our step and a chill in our fingers the team headed along the walking track ready to chip out weeds with the extra incentive by doing this, we would be able to keep warm.

Following lunch in the picnic shelter, it was decided to take a leisurely walk along the Gorge. By this time the sun had appeared and off down the track we went to inspect the changes post wildfire. Due to the recent rainfall, water was actually flowing in the creek much to the delight of the frogs and birdlife. Some of our younger members, namely of the Cook variety, took great delight in paddling in the water flowing over the top of some of the rock bridges.

The water has promoted much growth along the damper areas of the gorge; it was pleasing to see many of the larger shrubs such as *Bursaria spinosa*, *Hymenanthera dentata* and *Leptospermum lanigerum* with many new shoots coming from the base of a blackened trunk along with carpets of *Eucalyptus viminalis* ssp. *viminalis* and *E. yarraensis* seedlings. There are many other tiny seedlings appearing all of which will make a springtime walk well worth the effort.

So, summing up the day; some serious weed removing occurred during the morning followed by a leisurely walk along our very own picturesque Anakie Gorge.

"Kids and water" – Anakie Gorge



Photo by Roger Curtain

President

Colin Cook
Colin.Cook@dpi.vic.gov.au Ph 52 861 252

Secretary

Helena Lindorff
hlindorff@people.net.au

Newsletter

Peter Box
pbox@parks.vic.gov.au Ph 53 660 055

House Keeping

Agenda; Sunday 12th August.

- 10 am > 10.30 am – Morning tea (Depot)
- 10.30 am > 12 Noon – Jim Rookes, Plant Pathologist, Deakin University, will deliver presentation on Cinnamon Fungus
- 1 pm > ? – Site visit and afternoon tea. Remember to help our environment and car pool

Wildflower Show

We need your support!

All members or their friends are invited to submit framed prints for the photographic exhibition. This will be a first for the Wildflower Show and we need your support.

So.....all those of you who take photos, have a think about entering them into the exhibition, but they **MUST** relate to the Brisbane Ranges. Just to clarify the subject matter, scenes of the Brisbane Ranges, its flora or fauna are the prerequisite. An entry fee of \$4 for members and \$5 for non members will be charged per print to cover costs. Entry forms will be available on the Friends Web Site or by contacting Cathy Powers by email at (banjarah@hotmail.net.au)

Wildflower Show Bus Tours.

Do you require seats? Morning or afternoon tour? As per last year seats are limited so book early by Contacting Peter Box or Judy Locke on 53 660 000.

Memberships

Yes I know we are on about that again, but are you up to date? Have you paid for this year's membership yet?

If you have then please ignore this notice but if you have not gotten around to it yet, remember – we know where you live!

That was last months gentle reminder, now for this months. Currently we have less than a **50%** renewal rate which is pretty dismal considering March was the due date. Ok so what do we do about it, well nothing and that is what non financial members will also get, **NOTHING, NO MORE NEWSLETTERS**, so please if you want our group to survive and prosper as it has, renew your memberships or at least let us know if you no longer want to be involved. If not sure of your status please contact the Friends Secretary for an update.

Centenary Walk – Werribee Gorge S.P.

On the 20th October 2007, members of FoBR are invited to the Centennial celebrations of Werribee Gorge S.P. Activities will include the official opening of the Centenary Walking Track, a new track giving access to "The Island". Guided walks will also be held throughout the day

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Plant Matters

Ron & Cathy Powers



Veined Helmet Orchid

Listed in the Wildflower book as *Corybus diemenicus* (a name change has occurred since the books publication) this is a herb to 4cm with flowers to 15mm long in winter, preferring cool damp areas

"In and Around" the Park

Ed.

Well I guess one would expect that seeing as how I have been back for over a month I would now have some idea of what is happening, guess what? I do, sort of.

We now have a replacement for one Stuart Willsher who departed some weeks ago.

Joe Stewart has now joined the team and will take over where Stuart left off, focusing on the Steiglitz area, walking tracks and interps. So if you are out and about and see a new Ranger in the park don't be shy, stop for a chat.

On July 22nd the VNPA launched their new Nature Watch Program at the Stony Creek Picnic Ground with approx. 60 people eager to listen and learn from several presenters who gave of their time. Talks on the Brisbane Ranges, *Phytophthora cinnamomi* plus demonstrations of hygiene stations and short walks kept all entertained till late in the afternoon. The success of the day was due to the time and dedication put in by Caitin Griffith of the VNPA.

The object of this program is to carry out biodiversity monitoring surveys within parks and reserves throughout the state. The project within the Brisbane Ranges, will focus on PC and the invaluable work previously carried out by Gretna Weste. Results of the programs will be made available to the relevant land managers to assist them in managing the health of their parks.