

Friends of Brisbane Ranges

Incorporated

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February
2008

*Grevillea
steiglitziana*

Next Meeting

Sunday 10th February

Meet at;
10am at the Anakie
Community Depot

Activities;
New Year catch up
AM; Depot tidy up
PM; Weed removal, rubbish
collection and inspection of
Anakie Gorge

What to bring;
Gloves, lunch, drinking water,
pruning and weed removal
implements, tales of times past
and of course those all
important qualities.....

Next Month

March; Sunday 16th

**AGM, yes it's the big one, so
start thinking about who will
be filling those all important
seats and any special
activities you wish to
partake of**

**NB; to be held on the 3rd
Sunday due to public holiday**

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Up Coming Events

Clean Up Australia Day.

AGM!

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Last Time We Met

Some thoughts on the FoBR 25 year celebration.....

Judy Locke

A belated **Best Friend Award**
was presented to **Cyril Curtain** by Sue Wright
of the Victorian Environment Friends Network
Committee, VNPA. Cyril was one of the founding
members of our group and has been a very active
participant involved in all the usual activities as
well as being very much involved with the Wildflowers
of Brisbane Ranges book. We thank you Cyril and
your family for your outstanding contribution to our
park throughout the 25 years and look forward to
working with you in future activities and or projects.



- Nearly 40 people turned up, some "old" and some "new" Friends, some very young and some of mature age. Talking about mature celebrations, a Friends couple celebrated their birthdays by enjoying a Slumber Safari staying in luxurious Zoo surroundings overnight! (Caz and Bart) and not behind bars either!
- A bus collected a group from Anakie along with a picnic lunch and headed to Werribee Open Range Zoo to rendezvous with those who had made their own way there.
- The eager group then went on a Safari tour – a little squeezezy but we all managed to see and experience the adventure of seeing African animals grazing or wallowing in the ponds. A trained guide presented a very informative interpretation of a range of animals normally seen in the grasslands of Africa, Asia, Nth America and Australia
- Following the tour, people walked the self guided tours and enjoyed the park like surroundings or took up an offer made by Zoo staff to look behind the scenes.
- Picnic lunch was enjoyed under some trees in a fairly secluded spot pointed out by the friendly zoo staff, many thanks.
- Then we headed off to Werribee Mansion and enjoyed self guided tours of the mansion or extensive gardens (green green grass everywhere!)
- Afternoon tea was enjoyed in the farm homestead. **Many thanks to Nola who very generously baked our 25 year anniversary cake**; it was delicious and everyone indulged and enjoyed!
- Presentations were made to PV staff; Chris Worrall, Peter Box and Judy Locke for their contribution to the Friends group. Congratulatory presentation to FoBR by Hamish MacLennan PV District Chief ranger.
- Meeting of 5 past presidents of group; Nola Haines, Richard Sullivan, Chris Lindorff, Bernie Fox and Colin Cook.
- Then it was time to go and head for home with full bellies and big smiles and thoughts of "until we meet again....." well at next meeting not in 25 years time we hope!

Editors Note

- It should be pointed out that the presentations to the "Three Amigos" was out of the blue, totally unexpected but greatly appreciated by all(and whoever was behind it lookout!!)
- You have probably noticed no photos of the big occasion, well stay tuned there is more to come... when I get time that is.
- Last but not least, a big **thank you** to the organisers and all who attended.

House Keeping

Clean Up Australia Day:

For those wishing to partake in this annual event, please contact Colin Cook and register to be involved in this very worthwhile activity.

Annual General Meeting:

Yes it's another reminder, but a very important one as some of our Office Bearers are coming to the end of their term, so start thinking about who you would like to see in office and put the date in your diaries and BE THERE.

Plant Matters

Cathy Powers



"Spiranthes australis"

"In and Around The Park"

Ed

Ok then, short and sweet! Pest plant program almost completed, Serrated tussock and Furze. Fox program to start in early March. Tree risk in Anakie Gorge and Stony Creek Picnic Grounds completed. Project Fire Fighters working solidly on clearing management tracks and Butchers and Ballan Roads fire breaks.

Anakie Gorge Walking Track severely damaged due to three flash flood events in late November/early December, repair works started but walk remains closed. See you next time.

President

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Vale Elsa Dunn

Elsa Dunn, a long term member of our Friends of Brisbane Ranges, very sadly passed away on the 5th January 2008. Elsa had fought cancer for the past 3 years and had been only critically ill during her last few months.

Elsa and Harry lived along Butchers road, in the Brisbane Ranges, from the 1980s to late 1990s, living on 20 acres of natural bushland and extensive garden. Elsa's love of her garden extended to her love of birds. Sometimes the Friends group would hold their Christmas meeting at the Dunn's and Elsa would proudly point out the many native birds seen in the treetops parallel to their balcony. Due to health reasons, they moved to Narre Warren but continued as members.

Prior to moving, both Elsa and Harry were active members of our Friends group. Elsa contributed many hours to organising the Wildflower Shows when it was in the Catholic Church and was part of the Back to Steiglitz yearly celebration. The church was some distance from the where the main celebration was held, so to entice visitors to the wildflower show, Elsa constructed, painted and florally decorated an A frame to advertise the show. This A frame is still used today.

Elsa loved her craftwork and was very much involved within the Meredith Community and local CWA. She spent many hours teaching her art skills, particularly folk art to the local community.

Elsa is survived by her husband Harry, sons Peter and Jeff, daughter Linda and grandchildren Lachlan and Hanna. I am sure all who knew Elsa will join with me in extending our sincere sympathy to her family. The Friends group have made a donation to the Cancer Council in lieu of flowers.

We also extend our best wishes to Harry who is about to undertake a hip replacement. We wish him well and hope the operation is successful allowing him to walk freely again.



Elsa and Harry Dunn