



### Next Meeting

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**Meet at;**

10am at the Steiglitz  
Courthouse Carpark

**Activities;**

Stroll with Col !

Learn about the history of  
gold around Steiglitz.

**What to bring;**

Food, liquid refreshments  
(Water), wet weather  
clothing and good "strolling"  
shoes, and the other guff the  
"Friends" are famous for.

### Next Month

**October; Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**

Assisting Caitlin with the  
Nature Watch Program

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### Up Coming Events

**October 26<sup>th</sup>;**  
Back to Steiglitz

**November 15<sup>th</sup>;**  
Nature Watch Anniversary

### Last Month

### Wendy & Owen Cook

On a very cold morning, a dozen brave and well rugged up Friends met at Furze Track. We were given fluorescent vests to wear, so that anybody driving by would see us walking along the firebreak, and set off in search of sallow wattles and other weeds to pull out, dig up and cut down. We found a few of the wattles, and learnt to tell them apart from young furze hakeas and blackwoods, then ran out of weeds!! As we wandered along, we picked up rubbish, and found flowers and fungi to examine. We found four species of greenhoods -tall, dwarf, nodding and banded. The banded greenhoods (which have brown hoods) were of particular interest, as none of us had seen them before. As well as the usual red and green correa flowers, we found some with cream and green flowers. We found a few types of fungi growing on dead wood, including some bright orange bracket fungi. There were also some large puffballs popping up with the descriptive name of horse dung fungi, tiny white oval shaped fungi with black spots growing on kangaroo poo (small dung buttons), and a few species of 'little brown fungi'. We found a few more sallow wattles, just as it was time to head back to the cars.

After lunch at Anakie Gorge, Judy led us on scenic tour of the Brisbane Ranges, to meet our head ranger and geological expert, Mark Urquart, at Fairley's Track. In cold wind and some rain, we walked past signs of old quarrying activity to a large slot cut out of the rocks beside the track. Lumpy rock on one side of the slot was the top coarse sediments, from a long ago underwater avalanche (which are called turbinites). The neighbouring rock, which had been quarried, was made up of the fine sediments from the bottom of the next avalanche. These fine sediments became shale and slate. At some time, all these avalanche rocks had been tipped on their sides. Mark also showed us that mudstone really is made of mud. It was interesting to be able to see the geology and have it explained. We all agreed it was time to find warmer places, and went home.

#### Geology Report by Owen Cook (aged eight)

Turbinites are underwater avalanches that are formed by sediments sliding off the continental shelf. The sandstone side was on the right side of the quarry and the left was slate, shale and mudstone. The You Yangs were formed by hardened lava moving upwards. The rock in the You Yangs is granite. It formed at the same time as Mt Buffalo, but it cooled more slowly, so it has more quartz in it.



*"Listen to mee, listen to meeee"*

**President**

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## House Keeping

### Back to Steiglitz Volunteers.

Do you plan on attending? Well how about setting up and manning a "Friends" stall/display. If you would like to be involved please contact Judy Locke on Mob. 0427 218 520 or email [jlocke@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:jlocke@parks.vic.gov.au)

### Volunteer Activity Forms.

As part of Parks Victoria's OH&S Policy, the contact details of all volunteers need to be recorded. Please fill in the attached form and return to Peter Box at the Bacchus Marsh Office in either electronic or hard copy form.

**To date I have had very few of these forms returned, please do so ASAP if you have not already done so.**

## "In and Around" the Park

Well here we are again, another month down already. Ok so what is happening around our little piece of the world that may be of interest?

Goats, yes our little friends who seem to eat just about anything, including would you believe grass trees, have found that frolicking through the little river gorge area is much to their liking. That was up until recently as their blissful existence has now come to a rather sudden end. It would appear that 24 of said trespassers have had the lights turned out. That's not to say that all have been taken care of but work is continuing on giving any stragglers a similar message, trespassers are not welcome in our park!!!!

Then there is our other visitors who make themselves at home, weeds. Yes, its that time when those undesirable plants like serrated tussock, start getting nervous. Over the next month contractors will be seeking out these intruders and giving them some liquid refreshment of the chemical type. Next on the hit list will be our English friend, furze.

Nature watch is starting up again for another season under Caitlins guidance. The weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> is the first activity with a camp over at Old Mill. This group of enthusiastic volunteers will be joining the "Friends" for lunch at Fridays Picnic Ground on the Sunday. They will then join in the afternoon "Stroll with Col".

What else is happening you may ask, well spring has sprung, the birds are singing, the bees are buzzing, the flowers are flowering and the animals are..... smiling. Yes the park is coming alive with an array of colour and sounds so get out and enjoy it.

A sample of what is out in the park.....



## Back to Steiglitz Celebration 26<sup>th</sup> October

"If you've ever been to Steiglitz, then come back again. This time for a fun-filled family day that won't break the bank, for many of the days activities are gold coin donation. Whether you come for a natter, to eat good old fashioned home cooking, for the kids to enter the three legged race, to find a treasure on the white elephant stall, hear the secrets of this living ghost town as you take part in the historical tours, try your hand at gold panning or damper making, search for your relative's faces amidst the museum's collections, or are tempted by the thrill of an old fashioned billy cart race, this years Back to Steiglitz Festival has all that and much more. For more information , please phone Lindy on (03) 52 819 390

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