



## Next Meeting

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February**

### Meet at;

10am at the Anakie Gorge  
Picnic Ground

### Activities;

Clean up – weed eradication

### What to bring;

All the usuals, plus sun  
protection, water etc and  
don't forget some form of  
nutritional sustenance to  
keep you going

## Next Month

### March 2009

**AGM** – Yes it is that time  
again, so think long and hard  
about who you would like to  
see filling the official roles,  
**and don't forget to turn up**

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## Up Coming Events

### NATURE WATCH

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2009 Info to follow

## Last Meeting

**Judy Locke**

The final activity for the year was celebrated at the Anakie Community depot with Cathy Powers presenting a powerpoint display on Western Australian wildflowers, lunch then followed by a leisurely stroll down Anakie Gorge.

The day started with morning tea where everyone was invited to “bring a plate” resulting in a wonderful spread of sweet things including an enormous chocolate mud cake made by Cyril. After much chatting and lots of cake and other goodies, Cathy gave her presentation on her and Ron's trip to Western Australia last September and October where they toured the wildflower areas between Perth and Albany. Cathy is very passionate about orchids and she was on a mission to find and discover rare and interesting species. As to be expected Cathy's presentation was full of interesting anecdotes, mixed with the occasional grump from the back seats from her ever faithful roadie husband Ron, and lots of colourful close up photos of flora and fauna. There was lots of ooh and ahhs over the size and brilliant colours and we could not help but compare them with our own small and delicate orchids. (not that we should feel that our Brisbane Ranges diverse array of orchids and other wildflowers are insignificant!)

I believe that we all came away from the presentation feeling like we should organise a FoBR activity over in WA! Although, under the recommendation of Cathy and Ron, we will be taking a truck load of insect repellent.

We then all enjoyed a leisurely lunch of home made pastries, wraps and salad rolls from the Anakie Shop. More eating and more chatting was had by all.

To help settle lunch, we then relocated to Anakie Gorge for a walk. During early December, Anakie received several welcome downpours of rain of up to 75mm (or 3 inches for the oldies). This was very evident as we walked along the gorge as we listened to the sound of flowing water and sighted debris collected along the banks and rocks. Fortunately this time all crossings remained in tact, particularly the stone bridges which replaced the steel bridges which were found some metres downstream after the last deluge.

Our younger members did what all kids love doing – they paddled and splashed thoroughly filling their boots with water. The day ended about mid afternoon and hopefully all enjoyed the day.



*Somebody HELP! This stuff is all around me*

### President

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### Secretary

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**Brisbane Ranges Dieback Community Monitoring project:**

Thanks to all of those volunteers in the Friends of Brisbane Ranges for their assistance in carrying out monitoring of Grass Trees and Dieback on the Brisbane Ranges Dieback Community Monitoring Project with NatureWatch. Keep your eyes open for a 'Celebration and Summary' day for volunteers on the project in May. This day will give you an overview of the project so far and be a thanks to everyone for their work with food and drinks provided.

Monitoring on the project will continue every second year and will start up again in Autumn 2010. As part of allowing the project to develop, NatureWatch has been working on developing Team Leader training for volunteers to assist groups in monitoring.

If you are interested in helping out on the project as a Team Leader, this would assist NatureWatch and the Friends of Brisbane Ranges to carry out monitoring of Grass Trees and Dieback Disease through providing good leadership and guidance.

**Invitation to you to participate in NatureWatch Team Leader Training:**

NatureWatch would like to invite members of the Friends of Brisbane Ranges group to participate in Team Leader training. This would be for the NatureWatch Brisbane Ranges Dieback Community Monitoring Project.

Training will involve attending a weekend on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of June, some First Aid Training and involvement in the Brisbane Ranges Dieback Project to ensure you understand all of the methods involved.

It would be great to have some volunteers from the Friends of Brisbane Ranges involved in Team Leadership, so if you are interested, please give me a call or send me an email and we can have a chat.

**Please contact me with questions and/or your interest:**

Contact - [caitling@vnpa.org.au](mailto:caitling@vnpa.org.au) or (03) 9341-6513

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**House Keeping****Annual General Meeting**

As mentioned earlier our next meeting is the AGM which means you, the members need to nominate and elect some new office bearers so start thinking. We have already been without a President for the last 12 months so lets not have it happen again. Also memberships will become due so let out the moths and sign on the dotted line so to speak.

**Wildflower Show**

It's been almost 2 years since the most successful venture the group has undertaken so it is now time to get organised for a bigger and better show. Anyone wishing to be part of the organising committee should put their names down now as the first committee meeting is not far off and when the SECRETARY (that's Helena by the way) says jump, well we jump and then ask how high! So want to be part of it, contact can be made via Helenas' email address, [helena@pacific.net.au](mailto:helena@pacific.net.au)

**May Activity**

In previous years this activity has fallen on Mothers Day. So this year we will be giving all you mothers out there a rest as the activity will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May. This is so as to assist Caitlin in the setting up and running of the Brisbane Ranges Dieback Community Monitoring project Celebration and Summary Day. So take note, put in your diary and be there!!!!

**President**

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