

Friends of Brisbane Ranges

Incorporated

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June
2009

*Grevillea
steiglitziiana*

Next Meeting

Sunday 14th June

Meet at:

10am at the Anakie
Community Depot (Old PV
Depot)

Activities:

1/ Hothouse – propagation
under the watchful eye of
one Judy Locke (Limited
spaces)

2/ Burchell Trail – Survey
and GPS alternate routes for
track realignment between
the Crossing Picnic ground
and Fridays Camp Ground.

What to bring:

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

Next Month

July 2009 - TBA

In this Issue

Last Meeting

Up Coming Events

Wildflower Show

11th October 2009

Last Meeting

Who is the Phantom Journalist you may ask, at this stage I am afraid I cannot answer that question, all I know is that he/she walks amongst us and is constantly aware of the goings on within the group and is called the PHANTOM JOURNALIST. The report below arrived on my desk at Bacchus Marsh in a plain brown envelope with no post mark and what looked like indentations from a pigeons beak on one edge, so please peruse at your leisure.

The day started like any other at the Sony Creek Picnic Ground, the birds were singing, kangaroos grazing and insects of all kinds and sizes searching for a meal. Then the pristine sounds of the bush were broken by the onslaught of noisy man made abominations, spewing all manner of chemical compositions into this natural environment causing the local residents to flee for their lives for fear of their existence coming to a premature end.

So why all the fuss? well it was all for the greater good. As most would know, Caitlin from the VNPA, along with numerous volunteers, has been doing some fantastic work on monitoring *Phytophthora cinnamomi* and its effect on grass trees in selected areas within the park. Still none the wiser? Ok then, this day was selected as a get together for all those involved and any other interested parties to hear from Caitlin and other guest speakers on both the results of the program and other related works and programs.

The day started with most people arriving soon after 10:00 am for a lavish morning tea and chat prior to the start of the more formal proceedings. Ranger Peter Box started things off with a Welcome to the Land on behalf of the local aboriginal group, the Wathaurong, followed by a general information session on the Park itself. Caitlin then spoke on the project, including distributing handouts of the results to date. David Cahill followed this up with the importance of the findings to date and how it marries with the work being carried out by Deakin University. Des Peters, Parks Victoria Planner, then took the stage and spoke of the relevance of this research to the management of the Brisbane Ranges and other areas under threat from the disease. David Cahill once more took centre stage and elaborated on the work being carried out by his group on Phytophthora. Then came the important part, LUNCH, before breaking into two groups and exploring either the Ted Errey Nature Circuit or Anakie Gorge Walk. It was then back to the picnic ground for afternoon tea, goodbyes and heading for home.

Special thanks must go to the following;
Caitlin – for all her time and effort both on the day and during the project
Bernie Fox – MC and assistance on the day
David Cahill – Guest Speaker
Des Peters – Guest Speaker
Julia Pickwyck – games co ordinator
Carolyn Edwards – assisting Judy
Judy Locke – organising the catering and setting up
Peter Box – Guest Speaker

NB. Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of the summary report should contact Caitlin at the VNPA on (03) 9347 5188

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"Attendees sit quietly while Caitlin imparts the summary findings of the program so far"



"Relaxing in the sun"

"I remember when I was your age, well actually no I can't, lets be honest, I can't remember much at all!"