

Brisbane Ranges Friends News

NOVEMBER 2011

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Sunday 13 November

Waterwatch at Lower Stony Creek reservoir

This will be followed by removal of old wire fence from Switch Road

Saturday 10 December

FoBR end of year evening event -BBQ and presentation by guest speaker Marilyn Hewish on "Moths of the Brisbane Ranges"

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Honorary Membership Presentation At the Wildflower Show

A highlight of our successful Wildflower Show was our presentation to Clive Trigg with FoBR Honorary Membership for both him and his wife Merle who unfortunately died last year. They both made a unique contribution to the Friends of Brisbane Ranges and the National Park as featured in the September Newsletter http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fobr/sep11.pdf

Clive was very pleased to receive the award and spoke of the great relationships that he and Merle had with our Parks Victoria rangers and the Friends of Brisbane Ranges over the years. It was great to hear that he enjoys receiving the newsletter. Being a real orchid lover who cannot get out into the park much these days he particularly enjoys Cathy's orchid photos!

Although Clive's old Ranger mate Chris Worrall was away on holidays, we were lucky enough to have some familiar faces to help us celebrate - Nola Haines (our first FoBR President), Stuart Willsher (now rangering at Bellarine), Judith Lewis, Judy Locke, Peter Box, Colin and Wendy Cook and Chris Lindorff. The gift was a beautiful Eastern Spinebill photo by Ruth Woodrow - thank you Ruth!

It was a delight to see Clive and present this overdue award! We do appreciate his family bringing him to the event. We all wish him good health and hope to see him again in the Brissies soon.

Caz Bartholomew



Presentation of the honorary membership award to Clive Trigg.

Above, pictured left to right, are Judith Lewis, Stuart

Willsher, Nola Haines, Judy
Locke, Clive Trigg, Peter Box,
Colin Cook, Wendy Cook and
Chris Lindorff at the presentation.

Left, Clive Trigg receives his

Left, Clive Trigg receives his award from Caz Bartholomew Photos Susan Trigg



Wildflower Show a Success

The Brisbane Ranges National Park was truly in its spectacular form, showing off its colourful display of wildflowers for those that attended the Friends of Brisbane Ranges biennial Wildflower Show.

A small committee of locals had been beavering away for 18 months, and their pure dedication and enthusiasm had delivered a successful show. The weather was a bit ordinary on the day but that didn't stop over 500 people attending the show. They came from all over Melbourne, even as far as the Mornington Peninsula.

The two bus tours were extremely popular, even so that they were booked out 3 weeks prior to the event. The free workshops that were on offer (orchid identification and macro photography) added a great educational element to the show.

The hall was filled with a vast array of wildflowers that were on display in vases, Uncle David Tournier from the Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-op provided information about the bush foods in the area and the aboriginal history of the Brisbane Ranges.

Department of Primary Industries had a display of pest plant and animals and Corangamite CMA WaterWatch had a an interactive display of water critters for children. The local schools that surround

the Brisbane Ranges; Anakie Primary School, Meredith Primary School and Meredith Kindergarten had three colourful poster displays of wildflowers.

I cannot finish without thanking the wildflower show committee for their support, hard work and enthusiasm for putting together, yet another successful show and

a thanks to all the FoBR members that assisted on the day. Thank you to Maude CFA for feeding the masses. The cups of coffee and yummy homemade cakes went down a treat.

A special thanks goes out to Peter Box, Chief Ranger in Charge and Judy Locke from Parks Victoria for their support and encouragement over the numerous years that this show has been running.

If you would like to see photos of the show or would like more information about the Friends of Brisbane Ranges, visit our website: http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fobr/.

Our next activity is on Sunday 13th November at 10am at the Anakie Community Depot, Ballan Rd, Anakie (old Parks Vic office in Anakie).

Cheers, for now: Helena Lindorff.

Marvellous artwork from Meredith Kindergarten, Anakie and Meredith Primary Schools Photo Helena Lindorff



Thankyou!

On behalf of all FoBR members, a huge thankyou to all the Wildflower Show Committee for a wonderful contribution to the great success of this event! Again Helena Lindorff has excelled in her ongoing commitment to FoBR and her role as Co-ordinator. She ably lead a great team - Cathy Powers, Beverley Phillips, Vicky Grosser and Melissa Doherty with again the exceptional commitment of our Judy Locke and Peter Box who we are very lucky to have involved. Caz Bartholomew

For your diary!

• Sunday 13 November

Waterwatch activity at Lower Stony Creek reservoir. Followed by removal of old wire fence from Switch Road

Saturday 10 December

FoBR end of year evening event -BBQ and presentation by guest speaker Marilyn Hewish on "Moths of the Brisbane Ranges".

Sunday 12 February 2012

First FoBR event for the new year -Waterwatch at Sutherlands Creek & Lower Stony Creek reservoir. Remove weed wattles.

Sunday 18 March

FoBR activity - remove pine wildings near Lease Road

Sunday 15 April

FoBR activity - Remove suckers along brick aqueduct

Sunday 13 May

FoBR activity - Waterwatch Sutherland's Creek and reservoir. Planting and weed removal at Anakie Gorge

Sunday 17 June

FoBR activity - Remove Clow Street fence and prune/replant fruit trees - Steiglitz

Sunday 8 July

FoBR activity - Koala Survey with Janine Duffy

Sunday 12 August

FoBR AGM and waterwatch survey.

Please Note: These activities are proposed only and are subject to change.

Cathy's Column

Contributions Great and Small

I am sure that there will be lots said and written regarding our recent Wildflower Show. I will put in my observations and note my thanks in this column.

Thanks must go to the photograph suppliers as listed: Tania Chalmers, Colin Cook, Kristen Cook, Owen Cook, Wendy Cook, Chris Lindorff, Helena Lindorff, Judith Locke, Beverley Phillips, Cathy Powers and Sher Swinden.



The comments by the attendees were positive and complimentary. We have very talented and passionate photographers as members of our Friends group.

The workshops were once again very popular and well attended. Thank you to Chris Clarke for his presentation on photography. His ability to share his knowledge and skill at a level for all who attended was commented on by many. For those of us who were unable to practice the new skills on the day, these are some of the 'shots' we missed out on.



Glossodia major & Argentipallium obtusifolium



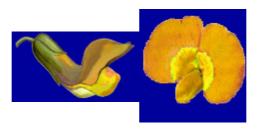
Diuris orientis & Brachyscome multifida

If you like a pea in the bush, now is the time to go. (This sentence is loaded with puns) The flora in the Brisbane Ranges is certainly glorious at the moment and the varied species of Fabaceae show the yellow/red/orange combinations at their best.



Sphaerolobium minus (Leafless Globe-pea)

Fabaceae is derived from the Latin word 'faba' meaning bean. It is the third largest family of flowering plants with about 12,000 species world-wide and > 1100 Australian species.



Thanks to the Fabaceae Study Group presentation by Jenny West.

Why is it a pea? The flower has 5 petals: 1 standard, 2 wing and 2 keel. They can be a tree (only a few), a shrub (most pea plants), a climber or herb (lots).

About the only habitats they are not found in are aquatic & saltmarsh.

Nature loves to mix colours, even in a single family group –



Hovea heterophylla & Pultenaea humilis



Gompholobium huegelii & Kennedia prostrata

The beautiful and enticing flowers are followed by pods (legumes) which contain hard seeds. The seed is shed annually after the pod turns brown and splits.

Like acacias, many Fabaceae species occur in areas where bushfires are common and in these habitats, they are often 'pioneer' species, quickly re-colonizing burnt -out areas.

One we don't find in the Brisbane Ranges but is always a favourite photograph subject of mine is:



Swainsona procumbens (Broughton Pea)

I travel to the Stawell area annually just to enjoy these big, beautiful peas in the bush – well actually I travel to photograph orchids but once in a while I see other things.

Speaking of orchids, our little spider orchids near Furze track flowered again this year but moved to a new spot. Always a challenge but worth looking.

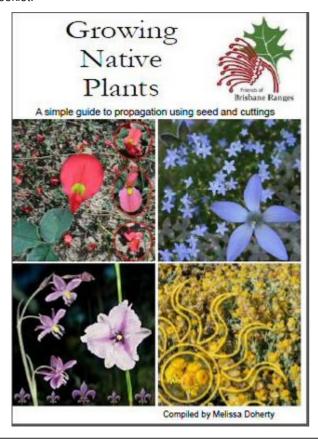


Until next time – enjoy your peas. Cathy

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Growing Native Plants

Thank you to Melissa Doherty for preparing a great new FoBR booklet "Growing Native Plants" which was sold at the show but will soon be available on the website along with Helena's new "Plants and Wildlife of the Brisbane Ranges Species List" booklet.



Plants and Wildlife of the Brisbane Ranges Species List

Congratulations and thank you to Helena Lindorff who has created time to produce a great new booklet during her busy preparations for the Wildflower Show. Thank you also to Chris Lindorff and Trevor Pescott for their valuable input and Ruth Woodrow who has provided her bird photographs. This new booklet combines the fauna and flora lists with a full bird list including "Chance of Sighting" in the Brisbane Ranges.

A wonderful new resource for FoBR - Well done!



Barn Owls and Other Raptors

Some FoBR member were able to take up an invitation from the Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group to join their October event featuring Martin Scuffins from Hawk Haven wildlife shelter - a raptor specialist and wildlife artist near Ballarat. Martin is a very interesting speaker who rescues, rehabilitates and releases owls and birds of prey and creates amazing wildlife art featuring these feathered friends. More information – see Martin's website http://www.raptorshelter.com/. His presentation was interesting and entertaining. Some ways we can help these amazing birds –

- Only rescue birds that really need rescuing some are not yet flying properly but are being fed by their parents and should be fine unless predators are around.
- If you do need to rescue one of these birds place it in cardboard box not wire cage so that their flight feathers are not damaged and be careful their talons are fast and sharp!!!
- Note and pass on the **exact** location they were found so they can return to their own territory
- Remove road-kill from the road, if safe, so that raptors do not also get killed while feeding
- These birds need specialist care and have to be totally flight- fit for successful release
 Keep 1300 233 427 (BADGAR Rescue) and 13 000 94535 (Wildlife Victoria) phone numbers in your mobile in case a wildlife rescue or help is needed

New website - Feral Animals

A new website has been launched to record sightings of feral animals across Australia.

http://www.feralscan.org.au/default.aspx

Go to this site and discover how many feral animal sightings have been discovered so far by landholders and community groups in each state. You may be surprised by distribution of ferals reported to date.

More photos from the Wildflower Show

