



# Brisbane Ranges Friends News



## Talk and Walk

We were pleased to have our park neighbours and Friends, Trish Edwards and Mark Trengove join us following our AGM in August and share some of their experiences with their special property high on the eastern slopes of the Brisbane Ranges.

Part of the arrangement made when they purchased the property involved the hand-over of some of the land - near the Little River Gorge - to the Brisbane Ranges National Park. This took a while to get finalised and has effectively now grown the park by another 20 hectares.

Earlier in the year we were invited by Trish and Mark to visit this newest part of the park with access through their property - however overnight rain made it all a bit slippery and the walk was postponed to August in the hope that even though it was winter - it would be bit less slippery.

Following their talk, it certainly made the visit to their property and the walk much more interesting. This part of the park is not easily accessed from the other end however the gorge does get a few visitors. We headed off after lunch and - yes you guessed it - it did rain as we walked down the gorge to the mostly dry Little River, and clambered up the other side of the gorge. We were fascinated by a long dry stone wall which followed the ridge and included some of the natural rock outcrops along the way. Even though the day was cool we managed to dry off again and rain only resumed when we arrived back at the vehicles.

It was a great day - thank you Mark and Trish!



## Next FoBR Meeting

Meet at the Anakie community depot at 10am on Sunday 14th September.

**The morning activity:** plant out Brisbane Ranges plants in large pots currently located in the "cage". Plant in the front area outside the fence, within the roundabout and south east

corner, to establish a display garden. Also need to organise for the FoBR stall at the Back to Steiglitz festival, which will be the FoBR October activity.

**Afternoon activity:** go for bush walk in Lower Stony Creek area opposite Furze track. Look for and remove Sallow Wattle seedlings.

Take loppers, small handsaw and roundup for lopping and pasting.

SEPT 2014

## In this issue

- Talk and Walk
- After the AGM
- For Your Diary
- Parks Vic News

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday 14 Sept, 10am at Anakie Depot**

Create a display garden at the Anakie depot, organise a FoBR stall for the Back to Steiglitz festival, and after lunch, bush walk and weed in the Lower Stony Creek area

## FoBR Membership Fees

Annual fees \$11 for single and \$22 for families are due  
Pay straight into FoBR bank account - BSB: 633-000  
A/c No. 115314882

**Friends of Brisbane Ranges inc**  
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[FoBR Facebook](#)

ABN: 30 120 139 564 Reg No. A0032647M

## After the AGM

### FoBR and the year ahead

Well, I'm back in the saddle for another term as President of this fine organisation. This is becoming a habit, but I promise it's the non-addictive kind and not harmful to your health. We face a few challenges in the year ahead, including deciding on the future of the Wildflower Show (see below). Another issue is the lack of new members over the last year. Membership numbers normally fluctuate up and down a bit but it's rare for us not to attract any new members, so this is something we will need to investigate. Finally, the proposed changes to Parks Victoria staffing and management may change the way we interact with PV and who we interact with. There's a few things there to keep us on our toes, but remember that getting out into the park and lending a helping hand is our main focus.

We're taking any ideas for Friends activities for the next year. If you can think of any activities, or even short or long term projects, that we could be involved in, please contact me or email the FoBR address ([friends\\_br@yahoo.com.au](mailto:friends_br@yahoo.com.au)).

### Wildflower Show 2015 - To be or not to be?

We couldn't coax any volunteer at the AGM to take on the position of Wildflower Show Coordinator. The question that needs to be answered soon is do we have a Wildflower show next year and, if so, in what format does it take place? Do we attempt to run it as previously or do we scale it back somewhat so we can organise it effectively? I'm willing to take any and all feedback on what the future of the Wildflower Show should be, as it is in your hands.

One suggestion was that we organise the show without a central coordinator and delegate individual tasks to volunteers to manage. This would spread the workload around and any decisions would be made by general consensus. I'm hoping to generate a list of the required tasks for circulation soon, but if anyone would like to nominate to help, please get in touch with me. Whether it's a little or a lot, every bit of volunteer support will help us keep the Wildflower Show running.

Colin Cook

Ph: 5286 1252

## For your diary! Join us

### Sunday 14 September

Meet at Anakie depot to create a display garden, plan for the FoBR stall at the Back to Steiglitz festival, lunch break, finish with a bush walk and weed in the Lower Stony Creek area (and look for early wildflowers)

### Sunday 12 October

Back to Steiglitz Festival and wildflower walk

### Sunday 9 November

Phytophthora monitoring of our iconic grass trees at Switch Rd- VNPA Naturewatch and FoBR followed by Waterwatch

### Saturday 6 or 13 December

evening end of year event venue tba

Also at a date to be announced monitoring mammals and/or reptiles with Colin Cook – can be midweek if you are interested – please let us know your thoughts at [friends\\_br@yahoo.com.au](mailto:friends_br@yahoo.com.au)

**Your articles:** We would love to publish your stories of bushwalking in the Brissies. Send in your contributions to [friends\\_br@yahoo.com.au](mailto:friends_br@yahoo.com.au)

## Parks Vic News - Organisational restructure

Parks Vic are currently working through a restructure which is planned to be in place by end of 2014. Prior to this a number of issues involving changes to roles and need to be resolved, currently staff submissions are being evaluated.

At a District level, the proposed changes for the Western Basalt District ( Brisbane Ranges NP is located in the district) , will mean the current Ranger in Charge role for each work centre will be replaced by a Chief Area Manager who will instead manage a number of work centres and will have a less operational role, and more managerial role.

To put in context for FoBR, Peter Box will not be the Ranger in Charge but instead will be replaced by a Chief Area Manager who will manage the parks/reserves which come under Bacchus Marsh, You Yangs, Serendip and Bellarine areas. The Chief area Manager is yet to be appointed and unfortunately Boxy cannot apply, a great loss to our beloved BRNP, we shall miss him. Hopefully whatever his new role may be, will not take him too far away and he can still be involved in some way with the Brissie ranges!

Both Scott Nicholson as Ranger Team Leader and myself as Ranger will remain operationally responsible for Brisbane Ranges National Park, Werribee Gorge State Park and Steiglitz Historic Park. FoBR will continue to have a close association with myself and Scotty but will also have the opportunity to work with the Area Chief Ranger and District Manager (Tony English) if required.

Please note, the above is the proposed restructure and I will keep FoBR informed regarding changes and final decisions.

Judy Locke

