



# Brisbane Ranges Friends News

**NOVEMBER 2016**

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## Upcoming Events

**Sunday 13 November, 10am at Anakie Depot**

Installing nest boxes

**Sunday 11 December, 10am at Anakie Gorge Picnic Ground**

End of Year celebration

## 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

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*FoBR stand at the Back to Steiglitz Festival  
Photo: Colin Cook*

## Activity Report - Grass tree monitoring

Colin Cook

In conjunction with the VNPA NatureWatch people, we managed to conduct some monitoring of PC sites along Lease Rd. Infected and healthy sites exist on either side of the road, so it's a good location to conduct monitoring. We didn't manage to complete all of the quadrats as, due to increasing winds and a wind warning, the Rangers asked us to leave early.

NatureWatch are planning to come back on Nov 26 or 27 to finish off the remaining sites, so if you are interested, please let me know.



*Waxlip Orchid Glossodia major at monitoring site  
Photo: Colin Cook*

# Back to Steiglitz Festival

Colin Cook

The Back to Steiglitz Festival was held on Sunday 23 October. We were keeping a close eye on the weather forecasts due to the recent windy and wet weather we have been experiencing, but the day turned out OK with just a few sprinkles of rain. The new FoBR marquee proved very useful in keeping us dry and out of the wind, even providing shade from the occasional burst of sunshine.

We had a steady stream of visitors interested in the wildflower books and maps of the area. We had a good number of attendees for the wildflower walk, wonderfully organised by Deirdre Murphy and led by Cathy Powers. Many thanks to the PV Rangers for doing some track clearing before the walk.

## Wildflower Walk

Deirdre Murphy

Magnificent flowers, like the delicate orchids (*Caladenia*, *Diuris*, *Calochilus*, *Glossodia*), colourful peas and bright daisies, were on show in October during the Back to Steiglitz event.

Visitors from the area and from across Victoria came to Bert Boardman Reserve, with books and cameras in hand, to take part in the free Wildflower Walk provided by FoBR.

The FoBR ran this walk to support to the Back to Steiglitz event and to improve the experience of visitors to the park. Cathy Powers expertly led the walk, and was also able to pass on some of her knowledge to others in the Friends group for future public events.

The high rainfall in winter in spring has provided lush growing conditions for native plants resulting in a great display of wildflowers in Brisbane Ranges. We suggest you have a stroll around Bert Boardman reserve soon while the flowers are still at their peak.

## For your diary! Join us

**Sunday 13 November**

Installing nest boxes near Sheep Track

**Sunday 11 December**

End of year celebration

**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)



Clockwise from top left: Back to Steiglitz Festival (C.Cook), Small Spider Orchid *Arachnorchis parva* (formerly *Caladenia parva*) (D. Murphy), Back to Steiglitz Festival (C.Cook), Wildflower Walk (D. Murphy)

## Upcoming events

### Nest box installation

This Sunday we will be installing some nest boxes at a site near Sheep Track. All equipment will be provided but we will need help with tree scouting and selection and carting the gear around. Meet at Anakie Depot at 10.00am.

Also, students from Wyndham College will be coming out on Friday 18 November to install some of the nest boxes they have made, so if you want to turn up for that one, please let Colin know.

### End of year BBQ at Anakie Gorge

We will be having a walk and talk with Mel King, from Echidna Walkabout, the Koala Clancy Foundation and the Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-op. She will be educating and entertaining us with her knowledge and passion for koalas. Afterwards, we will have a BBQ lunch, with meat provided by FoBR (please let us know of any special dietary requirements). Please bring a salad or dessert to share.



Above: *Crimson Rosella*, *Grey Fantail*, *Fan-tailed Cuckoo*, *White-naped Honeyeater*

Below: *Purple Beard Orchid* *Calochilus robertsonii*, *Flying Duck Orchid* *Caleana major*, *Rufous Greenhood* *Pterostylis squamata*, *Hornet Orchid* *Diuris sulphurea*

Photos: Carolyn Edwards



## Local News

### Have your say on new fire zones

DELWP is seeking input into proposed changes to the Fire Management Zones on public land in the West Central Bushfire Risk Landscape. Your comments will need to be received by 25 November 2016.

<http://haveyoursay.delwp.vic.gov.au/west-central-bushfire-risk-landscape>

### Wurdi Youang in the news

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-10-12/aboriginal-astronomy-provides-clues-to-ancient-life/7925024>

### Steiglitz Schoolhouse in danger

The BtS are trying to save part of Australia's heritage; an irreplaceable school building.

<http://www.backtosteiglitz.org.au/steiglitz-connections-blog/90-the-red-tape-roundabout>

<http://www.backtosteiglitz.org.au/images/blog/steiglitzschoolhistory.pdf>