



Friends of Belair National Park

volunteers working for Conservation

Established 1985



Best Newsletter 1996 - Friends Group of the year 1998
Friends Group of the Decade 1994-2004.

MARCH 2005

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2004

2004 was a very successful year for the Friends of Belair National Park and I would like to highlight some of those successes.

The number of members of the group during 2004 was 113. This includes both individual and family memberships (counting two members for each family membership). While it is important that we aim to increase our numbers, and in doing so, hopefully increase the number of people involved in our park, we should not overlook the importance of retaining our existing membership. Each of us can have a part to play to make Friends of Belair a dynamic group.

Friends of Belair is an active group whose work reflects the broad range of interests and talents of its members who enjoy what they do. Our group has recorded close on 4000 hours of voluntary assistance in the Park during 2004, and I am sure that there are hours of work not included in this figure. We can feel very proud of our efforts.

Working bee co-ordinator Eric Cole has overseen the working bees each Tuesday and Friday and working bees have also been held on Sundays during the year. The members of these working bees have contributed 1350 hours. As well as the follow up work in previously weeded areas targeting boneseed, broom, South African daisy, sollya and bridal creeper, work has been done in block 20 to remove olives, pittosporum and blackberry.

Belair National Park was divided into 52 Vegetation Management Units (VMUs) for a vegetation survey in the mid 1990s, prior to the preparation of a vegetation management plan for each unit. Friends of Belair members have adopted some of these units in our own "Adopt-a-block scheme". Those involved in this work, individually or in small groups, get to know the area particularly well while weeding. The adopt-a-block groups, the special project teams and weeding interest groups have contributed over 1770 hours, nearly half of this being the personal contribution of Vaike Aldridge. I want to particularly thank Vaike for her untiring efforts and dedication, and thank all weeders, whether at working bees or working in small groups, for their work. Your work in reducing the weeds in Belair is effective and visible.

In July we launched our Significant Tree Register. This contains information, photographs and a herbarium for the 54 trees/groups of trees listed on our Register. Now that we have a hard copy of the Register we are working on putting this information on CD. Work on the next stage of the Tree Project, the Noteworthy Trees, is well under way. During 2004 nearly 800 hours were spent on these tree projects.

In 2004 we were successful in gaining grants to the value of \$1815. A City of Mitcham Community Development Grant of \$600 has provided funding to continue with our eradication of olives and other woody weeds. This project focuses on the Peroomba Creek catchment area north-east of Playford Lake and complements the earlier work along the Workanda and Kurru creeklines. An Australian Government Volunteer Small Equipment Grant of nearly \$555 enabled us to purchase a digital camera and accessories for the group. A Friends of Parks Grant of \$400 for the removal of woody weeds in VMU 20 will link up with the Envirofund Project to restore the habitat of the leafy greenhood orchid (*Pterostylis cucullata*) further to the east. Our trailer has been repainted by students at the Torrens Valley TAFE at cost and we were successful in obtaining funding of \$260 from the Blackwood Lions Club to cover this.

This year the Volunteer Centre has been used over 35 times by other conservation groups and this has produced donations of \$565 for our group. The venue has been well presented for these groups as well as Friends of Belair and I thank Tony Nicholson for her thoroughness and the time she has spent cleaning the Volunteer Centre.

At the Mid North Friends Forum in the Clare Valley we were awarded the McLaren Shield for Friends Group of the Decade 1994-2004. A cheque for \$5000 went with the award. As President it was good to acknowledge the contributions made by the other presidents during this period - Daphne Johncock, Ron Pitman, Lynda Knight and Brian DuBois - at our Birthday Tea on December 19th.

I want to record my appreciation to the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, all of the Committee members and those co-ordinators of other activities for their efforts over the past year. My thanks to you all.

Ron Tamblyn
President

INDUCTION DOCUMENT

This document has been updated, as at 4th January 2005. All volunteers working in the Park should read it. Among other things, it explains conditions of working in National Parks. Copies are freely available from your team leader, the Volunteer Centre at general meetings, and secretary Jill Salvi, telephone 8278 6736 or email jrsalvi@chariot.net.au.

EMAIL ADDRESS

Please note that our email address has been changed so that it is now similar to our website name. It is now friendsofbelairpark@msn.com.

AMBULANCE COVER

The issue concerning ambulance cover has been discussed at Management Committee of Friends of Parks Inc meetings, and has been advertised in The Chain, and has also been raised at the General Meeting of Friends of Belair.

Community Liaison recommends that all individuals and families take out a subscription as a protection against the cost of ambulance services. (The coverage is Australia-wide and includes air transport). If a volunteer is injured in the Park, the Department does not pay for ambulance cover, the volunteer is responsible.

Any incident must be reported to your supervisor, and then to the Park Office within 24 hours. Medical treatment is recovered by the volunteer from Medicare, and private cover, any gap then being recovered through the Park, the Dept., or SAICORP, but not for ambulance.

FRIENDS OF BELAIR NATIONAL PARK. ABN 38 093 387 757

PO Box 2 Belair SA 5052

Email : friendsofbelairpark@msn.com

Website : <http://www.communitywebs.org/friendsofbelairpark>

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2005

PRESIDENT Brian DuBois 8278 4275
VICE PRESIDENT Jim Trueman 8278 9359
We have two Mike Cerchez 8339 6801
SECRETARY Jill Salvi 8278 6736 4 Colton Rd BLACKWOOD SA 5051
TREASURER Betty Wise 8278 3805
COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Eric Cole, Barry Palmer, Ron Tamblyn,

VOLUNTEER CENTRE BOOKINGS Jill Salvi 8278 6736
LIBRARIAN Pam Tamblyn 8278 6593
NEWSLETTER EDITOR Ann Ross 8278 8051
WORKING BEES Eric Cole 8278 3816
SIGNIFICANT TREES Ron Tamblyn 8278 6593

STURT DISTRICT DUTY OFFICER AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT.

Telephone 1300 650 411. Quote pager number 465 283. Leave message.

Duty Officer will then respond.

SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS

You may have noticed that Judith O'Hara's name is not listed for GUIDED WALKS this is because poor Judith has been in the wars and has a broken ~~her~~ arm. We send her our Best Wishes for a speedy recovery. Judith now feels that she does not wish to carry on leading the walks. We would like to thank her most sincerely for everything she has done over the years with the Tuesday and Professor Cleland and numerous other walks. Maybe you would like to volunteer to lead these walks in Judiths place. There is 10years worth of knowledge available to help you?

TUESDAY WALKS

NB. Walks will be cancelled if forecast is 32 degrees or higher on day of walk.

Our 2nd and 4th walk will commence on 29th March. 2pm. Information Centre Belair National Park.

April 12th and 26th

May 10th, 24th and 31st

June 14th and 28th

Look forward to your company

Flowers in the Park

March and April Garland Lily - Valley Road from Nookoo to Joseph Fisher
Garland Lily - Minno Creek on Northern hill side
Garland Lily - Pines Oval

May Parsons Band - Upper Sturt
Flame Heath - Upper Sturt
Astroloma - Upper Sturt

CALENDAR 2005

MARCH 2005

Saturday 5th 1pm General Meeting,
talk -Correctional Services Volunteers
Tuesday 29th 2pm Guided Walk

APRIL 2005

Saturday 2nd 12.30pm Barbecue
followed by General Meeting
Tuesday 12th 2pm Guided Walk
Tuesday 26th 2pm Guided Walk

MAY 2005

Saturday 7th 1pm General meeting
talk -A Peep Down Under
Tuesday 10th 2pm Guided walk
Tuesday 24th 2pm Guided walk

JUNE 2005

Saturday 5th 1pm General meeting
talk - Waterproofing Adelaide
Tuesday 14th 2pm Guided walk
Tuesday 28th 2pm Guided walk

JULY 2005

Saturday 2nd 1pm General meeting
Tuesday 12th 2pm Guided walk
Tuesday 26th 2pm Guided walk

AUGUST 2005

Saturday 6th 1pm General meeting
Tuesday 9th 2pm Guided walk
Tuesday 23rd 2pm Guided walk

August

Friday 26, Saturday 27, Sunday, 28
21st Friends of Parks Forum at Victor
Harbor "Encounter with Friends"

SEPTEMBER 2005

Saturday 3rd 1pm General meeting
Tuesday 13th 2pm Guided walk
Tuesday 27th 2pm Guided walk

OCTOBER 2005

Saturday 1st 1pm General meeting
Tuesday 11th 2pm Guided walk
Tuesday 25th 2pm Guided walk
Sunday 30th **20TH BIRTHDAY PARTY**
Date and details to be confirmed

NOVEMBER 2005

Saturday 5th 1pm General meeting
Tuesday 8th 2pm Guided walk
Tuesday 22nd 2pm Guided walk

DECEMBER 2005

Saturday 3rd 1pm General meeting
Tuesday 13th 2pm Guided walk
Monday 19th 6pm **Park Birthday**
Tuesday 27th 2pm Guided walk

JUMBLED FRIENDS GROUPS (each of two words)

PHUGEBRACKT _____

BROECKELBREC _____

THISLEANLY _____

GROUPFRASKEN _____

HANNAWELDED _____

TUGGEROOMEN _____

MASSADONNA _____

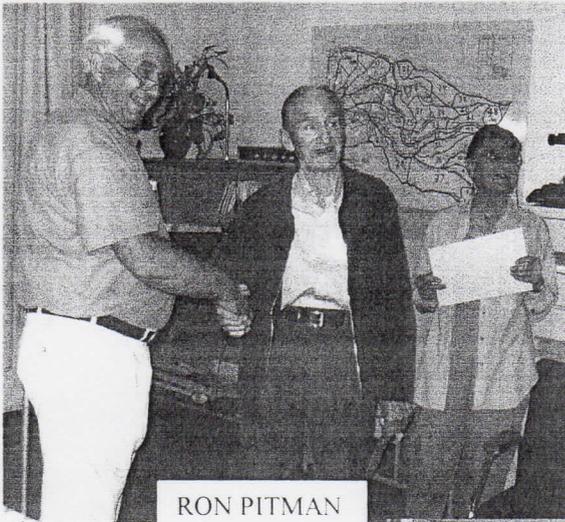
BRAYKESTAY _____

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother has several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?"

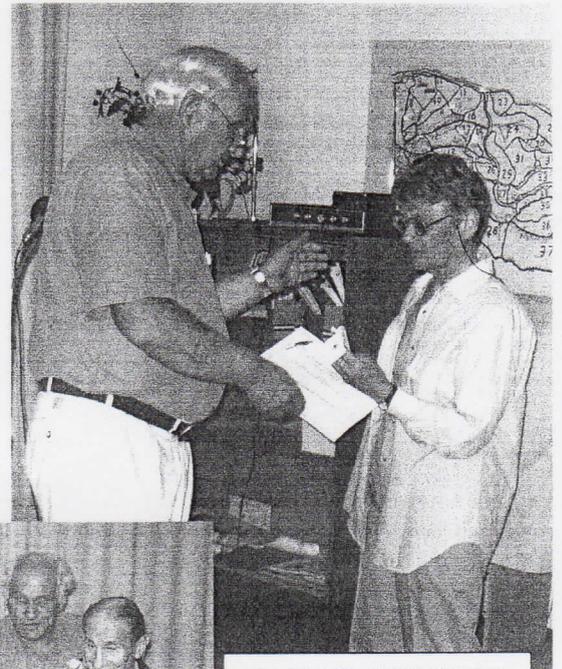
Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white."

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Momma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"

PAST PRESIDENTS PRESENTED



RON PITMAN
PRESENTED



DAPHNE JOHNCOCK
PRESENTED

LAST 10 YEARS
PRESIDENTS DO THE
HONOURS WITH THE
BIRTHDAY CAKE



LINDA KNIGHT
PRESENTED



RON TAMBLYN
PRESENTED AND
BRIAN DUBOIS
PRESENTED

God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones that I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

Anon

Department for Environment and Heritage

TO ALL HOLDERS OF ENTITLEMENT CARDS

Over 3500 Entitlement Cards have been issued to Consultative Committee members (blue pass), Associate members - rostered volunteers and members of special boards and councils (green pass), active Friends (orange pass), and staff of National Parks & Wildlife SA (buff pass) since the introduction of the cards in 1998.

The Entitlement Cards are a plastic card (about the size of a credit card), to be produced at entry gates and ticket booths at National Parks Reserves. A dashboard card, the same colour as the plastic card, is for placement on the left-hand side of the dashboard of a vehicle, and displayed where a fee is charged for entry etc.

The Botanic Gardens was part of the National Parks & Wildlife SA Division for some time. After some discussion, the Director of the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide, and Director of National Parks & Wildlife SA, decided to have a reciprocal arrangement in the concessions for facilities which the cards can authorise.

The card will provide the following entitlements for National Parks & Wildlife SA services:

Activity	Blue (statewide)	Green (statewide)	Orange (own region)	Buff - now identity card
<u>Vehicle entry</u> , i.e: Belair NP, Para Wirra RP, Mt Lofty Summit, Deep Creek CP, Innes NP, Lincoln NP, Coffin Bay NP, Gawler Ranges NP, Mount Remarkable NP, Flinders Ranges NP, Bool Lagoon GR	Free	Free	Free ^{see over} (restricted to own region)	Free
<u>Person entry</u> , i.e: Flinders Chase NP, Cleland Wildlife Park	Free	25% discount	25% discount	Free
<u>Desert Parks Pass</u> includes: Innamincka RR, Wiljira NP, Strzelecki RR, Lake Eyre NP, Simpson Desert CP and RR.	25% discount # (50% discount to Outback CC members)	25% discount	25% discount (50% to Desert Pks Friends)	25% discount
<u>Statewide Parks Pass</u> (excluding Desert Parks Pass)			50% discount	
<u>Hire/use</u> of facilities at all parks.	25% discount	25% discount	25% discount	25% discount



<p><u>Guided Tours (subject to availability) i.e:</u> Cleland Wildlife Park, Naracoorte Caves NP, Tantanoola Caves CP, Seal Bay CP, Kelly Hill Caves, Cape Borda Lightstation, Cape Willoughby Lightstation, Discovering Penguins (Kingscote), Martindale Hall, Adelaide Gaol</p>	<p>Free</p>	<p>25% discount</p>	<p>25% discount</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p><u>Camping</u> (up to 5 nights at a time) in any one location at any one time</p>	<p>Free (up to four weeks)</p>	<p>Free (seven nights)</p>	<p>Free * (restricted)</p>	<p>Free</p>

* The Orange pass is restricted to access/camping only in the regional parks where the member undertakes Friends Group activities. No entrance fee will be applied to Friends Members visiting a park whilst engaged on Friends Group activities.
 # 50% discount applies to Desert Parks Pass for members of the Outback Consultative Committee

The card will give free entry or access to the following Botanic Gardens of Adelaide services or features:

Bicentennial Conservatory (normally \$3.30 for adult admission)
 Adelaide International Rose Garden (normally \$3.00 for adult admission)

Concessions do **not** include:

- Car parking at any DEH site
- Special Events such as school holidays programmes or events sponsored by DEH
- Services, accommodation and events conducted by third parties on DEH site.

REMINDERS

Please remember that the cardholder **must be present** to obtain the concession, free entry, or service.

It is your responsibility to **display your entitlement cards** in your vehicles. Staff have no way of knowing that you have entitlements if you do not display your cards. Hence you may receive an Expiation as per the general public. There have been some occasions where staff have had to deal with this and in a recent case issued an Expiation for Failure to Display a Permit, only to have irate cardholders confront staff. This is still a relatively regular occurrence.

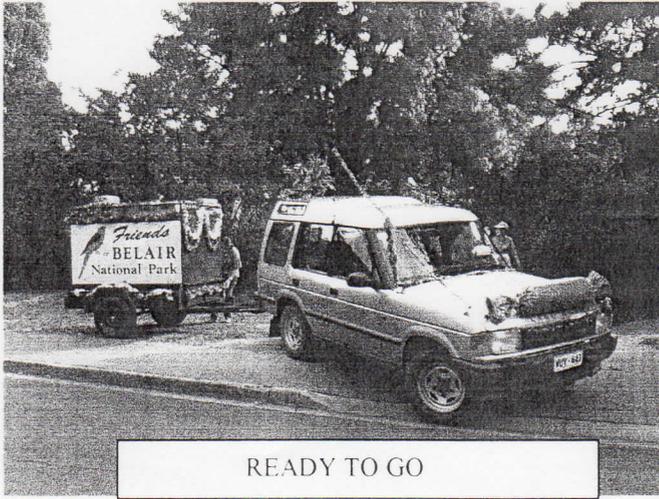
This unnecessary irritation to both the card holders and the Warden can be avoided. As Wardens the staff are within our rights to issue the expiations and not withdraw them.

Yours sincerely

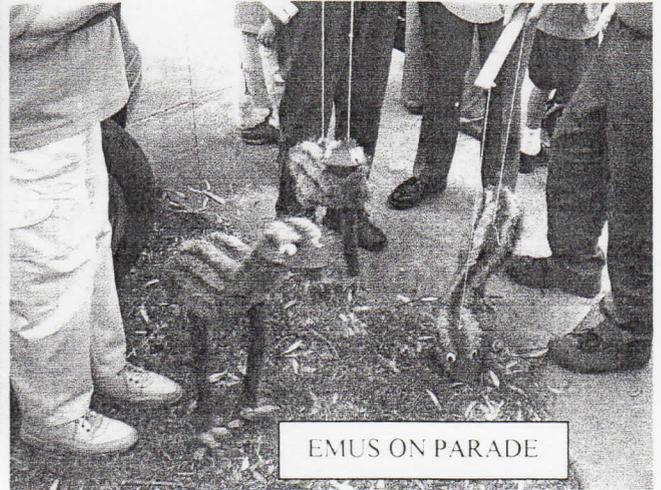


Dene Cordes
MANAGER, COMMUNITY LIAISON UNIT

Department for Environment and Heritage Staff - please note - The Staff Pass was replaced by a Department for Environment and Heritage Identify Card in late 2003/early 2004. Please note that the former buff coloured plastic card and dashboard card will no longer be accepted by ticket boxes, entry gates, or by Wardens. If you do not have a new DEH card and are eligible to receive a card, please contact your Accommodation Rep to organise a new card (this information is on the Hub).



READY TO GO

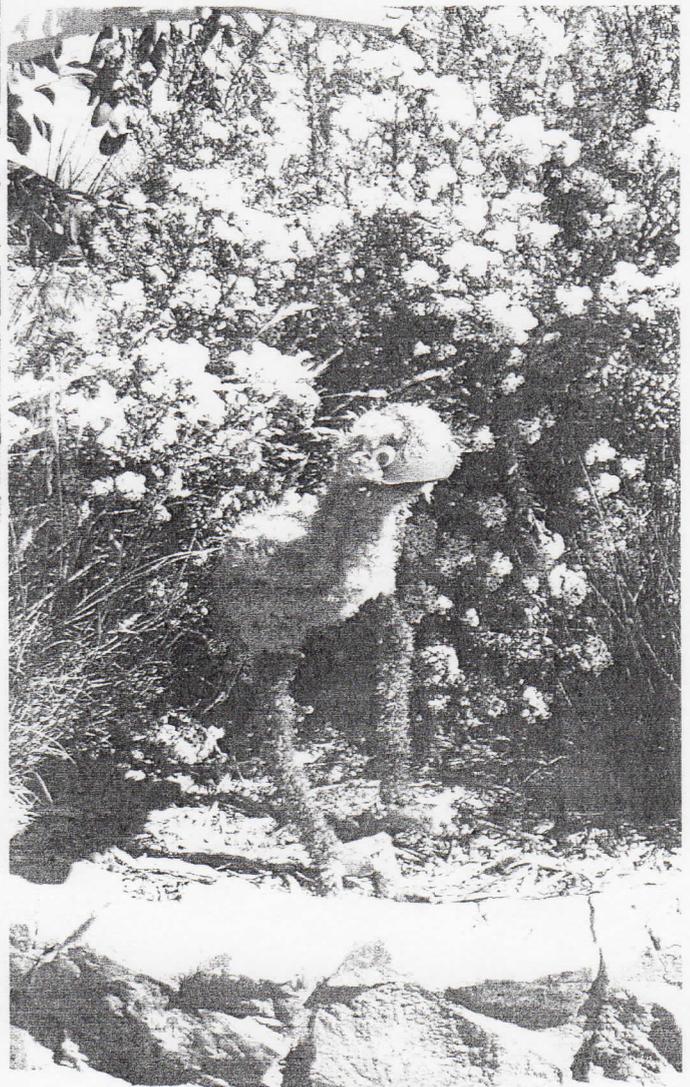


EMUS ON PARADE

2004 BLACKWOOD CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



KOALA DRIVER



EMU CHICK



DECORATED TRAILER

Friends of Belair National Park

Annual Report on Working Bees for Weed Eradication 2004

Are we just putting off the inevitable? Our weeders who work Tuesdays and Fridays and those who have adopted blocks are doing an outstanding job but we are all aging and no younger helpers are joining us. Where will we be in 10 years time?

This year has seen a change in our working procedures. We have been working in very steep areas with some of the biggest boneseed I have ever seen and it has been very difficult especially for the ladies. Early in the year one of our members noticed the mass of African Daisy between the dam and Walnut Paddock (VMU 20). It was enormous, shoulder high and it was seeding. In order to prevent the seed from spreading our ladies decided it would be better to cut it down and that is how the ladies splinter group started (now known as the Dam Ladies). There was also a lot of Verbeena and regrowth ash. Our ladies found it very satisfying and pleasurable working in this area and they have been working there ever since. Those of us who can recall what it was like when African Daisy was first tackled can see what a huge difference has been made.

Our menfolk have also spent a lot of time on VMU 20 to the east of the children's playground and south of Queen Jubilee drive. This was the steep area already referred to and it looked like an olive grove with many huge boneseed scattered around. A sample of a boneseed trunk is on display in the volunteer centre prepared for us by Doug. As we worked to the east we took out all the boneseed and the young olive. The mature olive needs to be poisoned and that is a massive job. At the other end of this unit above the Joseph Fisher Picnic Area the Threatened Plant Action Group (TPAG) were poisoning Boneseed in order to preserve a small growth of endangered orchids. We are working towards them but still have a long way to go.

VMU 23 was overdue a follow up visit and this was put off due to Sheoak Road being closed however we decided to go into this unit in October. We always endeavour to follow up before the regrowth boneseed seeds but on this occasion we were too late. We should have gone back 12 months earlier. It was in fact about 3 years since we were last there. It reminds one how important it is to revisit about every 18 to 21 months. The lower slopes of this unit have a few mature olive most of which have been poisoned but on the upper slopes there were many young olive, up to 450 mm high, and it can only be assumed the seed had been dropped by birds.

Early in the year we were working in VMU 29, along Sheoak Road, accessing through gate No.11. For those not familiar with gate numbers this is near the upper waterfall. When they closed Sheoak Road we abandoned this unit and started VMU 20. I referred to this unit in last year's report and will say no more other than to say it is not yet finished. There are some boneseed still to be dealt with and a considerable amount of broome. While working in this unit we found 6 abandoned emu's eggs.

Last February we did follow up work in VMUs 38 and 40. These units are located at the eastern end of the park in the vicinity of Waverley Lodge. They are not large and easily worked.

Mid year we did quite a lot of follow up work in VMU 17 located between Pines Oval and the nursery.

During the year we were approached by a company (who incidentally found us through our website) called Transitions Optical of Lonsdale who requested we organise a working bee for the whole of their workforce to do something for the environment. Their ages ranged up to 60, male and female, and two were pregnant. I picked a sight up Queen Jubilee Drive and to the right about 100 metres along the Tilti Track. This was in VMUs. 27 and 33 where there were no steep slopes and the boneseed was plentiful on average about hip high. They coped well but by 1½ hours they had had enough having completed 58 hours in total. Before lunch Judith and Linda took them for a short nature walk. It was all about bonding and no employees were exempt.

Over the year I have recorded 1217 hours of work. I say recorded as this includes some work other than the Tuesday/Friday working bees. The Tuesday/Friday working bees have done 979 hours and I think this is a splendid achievement. If you take into account 11 days of rain when no work took place this result looks even better. I don't think I can recall any year when so many days were lost through rain. The ladies made a very significant contribution to these figures.

One more thing. I must say a big thank you to the few who regularly turn up and do whatever is required in the way of weed eradication.

Eric Cole

Working Bee Coordinator
24-1-05

H E L P !

FRIENDS needed to follow up regrowth. The worst part has been done by our Tuesday and Friday teams but this work is wasted if the regrowth is left unchecked. Blocks or part blocks could be adopted or you could work with other Friends on their blocks. I'ts not hard and can be very satisfying.

Celebrating Life

LET us join in celebration
For the beauty of each day,
Nature fading, yet renewing
Life, which never goes away.
Seasons turning, seasons passing
Shining summer, golden fall,
New life waking in the springtime,
Winter simply cradles all.

Beauty on the moors and mountains,
Fragrance on the dewkissed grass,
Stars and oceans live for ever,
Only time will ever pass.

Let us join in celebration
Of the earth which round us lies,
Nature's promise of tomorrow,
And the life which never dies.

— Iris Hesselden.

JUMBLED FRIENDS GROUPS

Butcher Gap	Cobbler Creek
Anstey Hill	Ferguson Park
Newland Head	Mount George
Moana Sands	Streaky Bay

Safety Procedures

Parking

We have been requested to ensure when parking in other than official parking areas that we park on the verge ensuring there is sufficient room for Fire Trucks etc. to be able to pass. I'm sure we all do.

Emergency Assistance

I have always been of the view if an emergency such as a snake bite occurred I would first call 000 requesting they call at the office for help in locating us. Then I would ring the office detailing my problem and advising my location. Janine has advised we should first ring the park (8278 5477) and they will call 000.

I am also advised that if the patient is treated on the spot there will be no charge for the ambulance service but if transported to hospital the patient will be billed. This cost I understand is not recoverable under the government insurance and I am totally flabbergasted to learn this. I have always thought we were totally covered. I believe volunteers do sufficient work to justify a call be made to change this situation.

Janine also mentioned in the event of an accident an investigation would be carried out and if found the person(s) involved were not complying with the appropriate safety requirements then the government insurance would be null and void.

Fire Ban in the Mount Lofty Ranges

We have been asked not to work in the park on days when there is a Fire Ban in the Mount lofty Ranges.

Eric Cole
(Liaison Officer)

An Aussie flag

I found this poem at the RSL building in Rosebud, Victoria, and thought you might be interested in it.

KEEP THE FLAG

(By an unknown soldier in World War II.)

Our flag bears the stars that blaze at night,
in our Southern sky of blue.
And the little old flag in the corner,
is part of our history too.

It's the English, Scots, Welsh and the Irish,
who were sent to the end of the earth.
The rogues and the schemers, the doers and dreamers,
Who gave Australia its birth.

And you who are shouting to change it,
you don't seem to understand.
It's the flag of our law and our language,
not the flag of a far away land.

There are plenty of people who will tell you,
how Europe was plunged into night.
That little old flag in the corner,
was the symbol of freedom and light.

It doesn't mean we owe allegiance,
to a forgotten imperial dream.
We have the stars to show where we are going,
And that little old flag to show where we've been.

This poem is displayed in a Cabinet of memorabilia at the RSL in Rosebud, Victoria.

**R. T. Lonnee,
Sale, Vic.**

Editor of Berserk! in Aussie Post magazine, Robin Northover, pleads guilty to the authorship of the poem R. T. Lonnee found. People who were there at the time say he wrote it on the spot to fill a hole in one of the pages he was editing. Robin says, "The poem was originally published in Aussie Post in 1982. Since then it has appeared in just about every publication in Australia, been read out on radio and TV, been turned into a song, printed on the backs of T-shirts and been quoted in Federal Parliament. I believe it has the dubious honour of being the only poem to be quoted in full in Hansard (the record of everything that is said in Parliament)." (One more thing, Robin was not a soldier in World War II.)



FRIENDS OF BELAIR NATIONAL PARK

Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December 2004

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
Award - D.E.H.	5000.00	Books - Library	48.00
Bank Interest	26.95	Catering	14.35
Barbecue surplus	64.50	Community Web	48.00
Donations :		Gifts	10.00
Volunteer Centre	565.00	Govt. Debits Tax	14.80
Lions Club - trailer	260.00	Grants	4467.26
Other	70.00	Membership Fees	5.00
Grants	14736.55	Newsletters	193.79
Membership Subs.	895.00	Photographs	26.60
		Postage, telephone & stationery	237.11
		Tools, fuel, repairs	402.88
		Trailer - Registration	53.00
		Painting & repairs	260.00
		Volunteer Centre :	
		Computer Stand	79.00
		Drinking mugs	22.75
		Electrical lead	8.30
		Sundry : Key	3.65
		Christmas pageant	35.00
<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>21,618.00</u>	<u>Total Payments</u>	<u>5929.49</u>
Balance at 1.1.04	4975.64	<u>Balance at 31.12.04</u>	<u>20,664.15</u>
	<u>26,593.64</u>		<u>26,593.64</u>

GRANTS & SPECIAL FUNDS		
	Payments	As at 31.12.04
In progress as at 1.1.04 :		
Restoration Fund	507.48	507.48
Significant Trees	700.00	329.07
Bridal Creeper Control	260.00	260.00
Historic Maze	1000.00	-
<u>Grants received 2004</u>	<u>2467.48</u>	
Restn. Orchid Habitat	13182.00	10982.00
Peroomba Creek	600.00	363.00
Small Equip. (camera)	554.55	-
VMU20 Link Project	400.00	295.22
	<u>17,204.03</u>	<u>12,736.77</u>
General Account Funds	7927.38	15664.15
Grants, etc.	12736.77	5000.00
<u>TOTAL FUNDS 31.12.04</u>	<u>20,664.15</u>	<u>20,664.15</u>

Having audited the books and records of the Friends of Belair National Park for the year ended 31.12.04 I find them to reflect a true and correct position.
 Gavin [Signature] 12.1.05.

What If!

What if I hadn't pulled those thousands of small olives since I started working in the park in 1996.

What if all the other weeders hadn't also pulled thousands of small olives over that period of time.

What if Doug and his colleagues had not spent years poisoning olives.

Can you imagine how the park would look now.

I first started working in the park in 1996, pulling boneseed along Queen Jubilee Drive. At this time I cleared the area between Queen Jubilee Drive and a line between Old Government House and the nearby water tanks. I can clearly remember this area was fairly clear of shrubs and trees but with a few small olives in the open spaces. I refer to the open spaces as the Queen Jubilee Drive flanks were filled with large mature olives. Look at it now. It is thick with olives, much more dense than would be seen in an olive grove. I would say there are ten times more olives in the open area than there were nine years ago. If we do nothing, in ten years it will be impenetrable.

What can be done? Ideally, as a first step, all the large olives bordering Queen Jubilee Drive together with those in the nursery should be totally removed. This would eliminate what I believe is the biggest seed bank in the park. It would be costly as it would have to be done professionally. I am a great believer in short term measures and if too costly then cut them down and remove the cuttings. This will destroy the seed bank and regrowth can be dealt with.

WHAT IF some kind benevolent organisation offered to subsidise this operation.

One can dream.

Eric Cole.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Membership renewals were due 1st January. If you have not yet paid please complete the form below and forward with your remittance.

The Treasurer
Friends of Belair National Park
P.O. Box 2
BELAIR 5052

I enclose my membership renewal of \$10 Single/\$15 Family.

Name : Address :
..... Telephone :