



Friends
Belair National Park
Volunteers working for Conservation
Established 1985
Friends group of the decade 2004



Best Newsletter 1996 - Friends Group of the year 1998

NEWSLETTER 1, MARCH 2010

Please note this is a quarterly newsletter. 4 per year. March, June, Sept and Dec.

Deadlines are the 3rd Monday of the month preceding its issue.

Contributions can be emailed to Michael Cerchez at cerchez@tpg.com.au

WELCOME TO 2010!

FRIENDS OF BELAIR NATIONAL PARK. ABN 38 093 387 757

PO Box 2 Belair SA 5052

Email: friendsofbelairpark@msn.com. Website:

www.communitywebs.org/friendsofbelairpark

This newsletter is available by Email. If you prefer not to receive a printed copy please let a committee member know.

IMPORTANT!

When a meeting is scheduled on a day of a TOTAL FIRE BAN it will not go ahead. In the case of the AGM it will be rescheduled to occur with next month's general meeting

CALENDAR 2010 REGULAR EVENTS

General Meetings on the first Saturday of the month. 1.00pm at the Volunteer Centre, Long Gully, Belair National Park.

Visitors welcome. **Note that April meeting has been changed to Saturday 10th to avoid the Easter long weekend.**

NO MEETING IF THERE IS A MOUNT LOFTY RANGES FIRE BAN.

Barbecues – Meetings of 10th April and 6th November are at 12.30pm for a barbecue.

Please bring plate of salad or sweet slice to share and \$2.50 donation for meat.

Working Bees on Tuesdays and Fridays, meet outside the Information Centre, Belair National Park before 8.00 am in the during Day Light Saving, or 8.30 am during the rest of the year. Enquiries Mike 8339 6801

For Sunday working bee telephone Ron on 8278 6593.

Want a different day or different time? Telephone Vaike on 8277 9596.

NO WORKING BEE IF THERE IS A MOUNT LOFTY RANGES FIRE BAN OR IT IS DECIDED TEMPERATURES ARE GOING TO BE TOO HIGH.

greatly missed. Eric Cole was our working bee coordinator and a dedicated surveyor of the Park. As yet we have not been able to find another working bee coordinator. Toni Nicholson was the dedicated cleaner of the volunteer centre. We are pleased that Noelene DuBois has taken over this role.

This year has been a year of involvement with young people. We had a very successful partnership with the Blackwood Scouts who had to fulfil 200 hours of community service. They were a great help with some of the weed control. We also had a very successful planting morning in the Dianella Precinct Area with some of the students of Hawthorndene Primary School. We also had a group of year 10 girls from Walford come and spend some hours in boneseed weeding.

We have been involved in all the usual activities during the year. A dedicated group of weeders have continued to battle the ever present weeds of Belair National Park. Our meetings have had an interesting collection of speakers. Monthly Walks and the Cleland Walk have shown people interesting parts of the Park. A good contingent attended the Annual Friends Forum. We had a good representation in the Blackwood Christmas Pageant.

Our Liaison Ranger, Leah Egan, who went off to be a mother, has left the District and moved to Broken Hill with her partner, to be involved in a supermarket enterprise. Leah was a dedicated Liaison Ranger and helped our group immensely over the years. We will miss her. Luckily, Jen Pitman has taken over as our Liaison Ranger, and is proving to be very good in

this role. We hope she can win this position permanently.

Finally I would like to thank,

Jill Salvi, who has put in many hours as secretary, and on monitoring the Trails Master Plan.

The committee –Brian, Eric (Feb to April), Ron, Jim, Barry, Carol, Isobel.

Shirley and Mary who have kept the Dam Ladies working.

Jenny Skinner who has been instrumental in organising many of the walks.

Noelene Dubois for cleaning the Volunteer Centre

Pam Tamblyn who has kept our library.

Carol Parrott and Shirley Callaghan for organising the afternoon teas.

Faye and Les Loffler for their efforts in producing 2 excellent panels for our forum display and also the animals and birds who accompanied us in the Blackwood Christmas Pageant.

All of you for your efforts throughout the year.

Financial Report to the Annual General Meeting

6th February 2010

Our income for the year came mainly from membership fees and interest on the term deposit accounts. In spite of the much lower interest rates that have prevailed recently the term deposits have performed relatively well and with interest rates on the rise again this will be of benefit to us in the coming year.

We had no major purchases this year. Mostly the expenses that were incurred

were for the provision of fuel, tools, herbicides & first aid supplies needed by the individuals and groups actively involved in weeding programmes in the park.

Income remains slightly higher than expenses.

Late last year it was decided that the "Restoration Fund" be renamed "Restoration of Minno Creek in the Dianella Precinct" & that this fund be comprised of the existing \$507.48, plus the \$2000 Channel 10/Telstra Award & a \$50 donation from Dr David Hansman. Total: \$2557.48.

Total funds available @ 31/12/2009
\$8171.33

Carol Parrott, Treasurer 2009

EXCELLENT POSITION AVAILABLE

WANTED NEWSLETTER EDITOR FOR FRIENDS OF BELAIR NATIONAL PARK NEWSLETTER.

CURRENT EDITOR HAS BEEN DOING THE NEWSLETTER FOR 4 YEARS AND HAS OTHER ROLES AS WELL.

NEW EDITOR COULD BRING NEW IDEAS TO THE NEWSLETTER.

TRAINING AVAILABLE.

PARK LAPTOP AVAILABLE.

PAY NON EXISTANT.

DEH COMMUNICATION **AGREEMENT WITH FRIENDS OF** **BELAIR**

We have updated our agreement with the Rangers, so that we keep each other informed. Briefly, they will advise us of DEH or Park plans, staff changes, and funding and training opportunities. Also details of other groups or contractors working in the Park.

We will keep them informed on new projects, new areas planned to be worked, or new techniques, and report on progress of our current projects and any safety issues.

Please help by keeping Mike Cerchez up to date with your work and plans by phoning him on 8339 6801, or email cerchez@tpg.com.au or through any committee member.

FRIENDS' RATES FOR ANNUAL PARKS PASS – SECOND CAR.

Following our enquiry, Allan Holmes, CEO of DEH, has advised that an annual parks pass for a second car registered at the same address as the first one can be purchased at 50% of the usual cost.

Friends of Parks can receive a 50% discount on this reduced price, so the cost of an annual parks pass for your second vehicle is only 25% of the cost of the first one.

Annual Parks Passes are available through the office at Belair National Park.

SKILLS REGISTER FOR SOUTHERN LOFTY DISTRICT.

Kat Mroczek, Volunteer Support Ranger, Southern Lofty District is currently looking at putting a "skills register" together for the Southern Lofty District. This skills register will incorporate any Friends member who has specific skills/ qualifications or expertise in a certain area that they would like to share with other Friends Groups in the district.

An example of Skill sharing: if one person from **Group A** has their chainsaw ticket and **Group B** are looking for some assistance to do some chain sawing in their park but don't have a ticket, then they could look at the register & contact the person from **Group A** to ask for some assistance.

Welcome to new members who have recently joined our group:
Bob & Debby Carmichael,
Steph Donaldson,
Mette Cordes – Harvey and Peter Harvey.



Jen Pitman, FOBNP Liaison Ranger, giving her report at District Thank You Barbecue, with District Ranger James Crocker, in front, Rangers, Bryn Troth, Kat Mroczek and Tim Fuhlbohm in the background



Di Neill and Jenny Skinner in discussion at the District Thank You Barbecue.

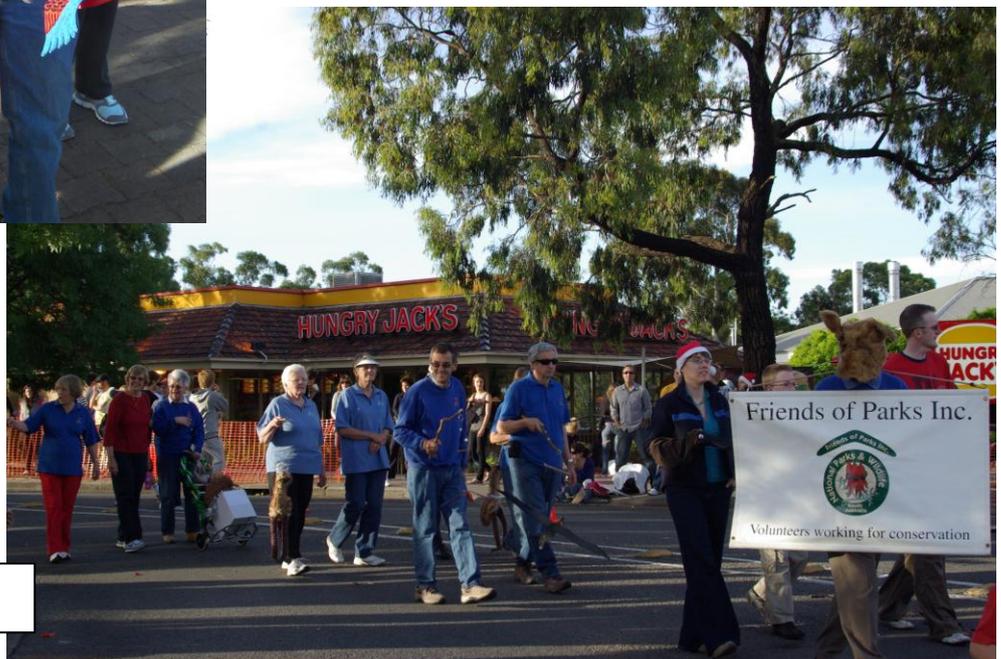
THE BLACKWOOD CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 2009



Before the Pageant, an array of animals and Friends



The Lofflers have been busy producing more birds and animals to accompany us in the pageant



On the march at last

FROM THE LIBRARY

The following list is of the books which are the most in demand for borrowing or the most useful for Belair NP.

All members are welcome to borrow these or any other books, usually for a four week period.

If **non-members** wish to look at any books (e.g. on weeding), those items must be borrowed on the non-member's behalf by a Friend of Belair, who will then be responsible for the book until it is returned.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AND WEEDING

Costermans L 2003 *Native Trees and Shrubs of South-Eastern Australia*

Robertson E 1999 *Restoration of Grassy Woodland in Watiparinga Reserve*

Robertson M 1998 *Grasslands and Grassy Woodlands of the Mount Lofty Bioregion* 2 copies

Robertson M 1997-2005 *Stop Bushland Weeds* 3copies

PLANT AND SEED IDENTIFICATION

Bonney N n.d. *What Seed is That?* 3 copies

Costermans L – as above

Dashorst G and Jessop J 1998 *Plants of the Adelaide Plains and Hills*

Gibbs J 2003, 2005 *Grass Identification* 2 copies

Jessop J, Dashorst G and James F 2006 *Grasses of South Australia*

CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL REFERENCES

Daniels C and Tate C (eds) 2007 *Adelaide Nature of a City*

Kraehenbuehl D 1996 *Pre-European Vegetation of the Adelaide Plains*

Smith P, F D Pate and Martin R (eds) 2006 *Valleys of Stone The Adelaide Hills Face*

Tamblyn P 2007 *Haven on the Hill Old Government House*

OTHER

Coombe G 2006 *Snakes and Humans*

Hunt L, Grund R, Keane D and Forrest J 2007 *Attracting Butterflies to your Garden*

Management Plans – various

Pam Tamblyn
February 2010

SHIRTS AND JUMPERS

It is a few years since we have had an order for our polo shirts and windcheater jumpers. If you are interested in buying one or both please let me know and I will investigate an order under way. Prices will be found out, once I know there is some interest. Mike Cerchez

2009 PARK BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AND END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS



We've eaten, now comes the formal part of the evening

The presentation of 10 year certificates and badges to Vaike Aldridge and Heather Beckman by James Crocker, District Ranger.



Cutting the Park's Birthday cake by Dene Cordes

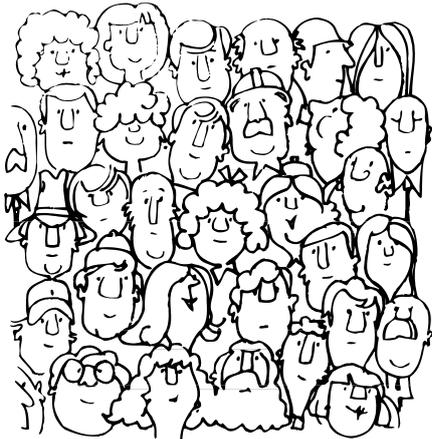
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS



Is this you?



Join the Group!



Renew your Membership or join as a new member of Friends



The fees remain the same as they have been for several years.

The Treasurer

Friends of Belair National Park

P.O. Box 2

Belair 5052

I/We enclose my/our membership fee of \$10 single/ \$15 Family or Group.

Donation.....

Name(s) :

Address :

Telephone :Email