



COOLEMAN RIDGE PARKCARE GROUP

Newsletter January 2002

Sunday, December 16th. The Steadfast Six met at Kambah Pony Club's parking area for quick access to South Arawang. In three teams we spread up the slope, Tina and Rowan securing the heights, Malcolm and Gösta sticking to the middle ground, while Alan and Pauline took what remained above the fire trail. Each pair had loppers and herbicide spray, converging to deal with woody weeds as they were encountered. Between the *Eucalyptus bridgesiana* and the track from the horse agistment we cleared about 90 woody weeds from the slope - the usual pests as well as a small pine. Gösta's saw chewed through some of the bigger stuff, but a flourishing, laden, apricot tree at 0685578/6083914 (easting/northing) was left for CNP's attention. The positions of a couple of colonies of *Hypericum perforatum* were recorded (0685641/6083725 and 0685500/6083909), and there was a liberal peppering of isolated plants.

But it wasn't all bad news. The slope has a wonderful showing of the grass *Sorghum leiocladum*, there were clumps of *Caesia calliantha*, while *Dianella longifolia* and the fern *Blechnum cartilagineum* made their debut in the herbarium.

Location Location Location! Gösta and Malcolm checked out a small cave - would suit modest hermit. Great views. Address: 0685578/6083914.

Sunday meeting

- Sunday 20th January 2002
- 1.30 -4 pm
- park at the Kambah Pony Club's parking area beyond the far end of Hake Street.
- proceed right (East) to the park entrance leading up to the big *Eucalyptus bridgesiana* where we will meet
- target: woody weeds on SE slopes of Mt Arawang
- bring hat, gloves, drink, snack, loppers or secateurs. Spray will be available.

Please note that children must not be close to where spray is being used. ☼

Activity figures

The month's tally was 39 hours, contributed by 8 members, and a prospective member. Please notify Janice at the end of each month how much time you spend on Parkcare if you wish to be counted. Phone her evenings excepting Tuesdays on 6288 3953 or email her at janice.paull@aph.gov.au ☼

December log

The BMX trail reported last month was checked out by Alan who observed three males operating radio-controlled cars on a circuit.

Arawang Trig - Tina found the remains of a small fire with many large Acacia branches stacked beside.

101201: Tina spotted an echidna half way up Arawang.

Twice Tina has seen a brown snake coiled on the fire trail near the big *Eucalyptus bridgesiana*.

161201: *Blechnum cartilagineum* and *Dianella longifolia* added to herbarium

281201: Excited children spotted a fat black snake through holes in the inside wall of the Kathner St dam. As we watched, a small brown frog hopped to shore...morning tea? ☼

Equipment minders

The whippersnippers are with:

- Danny 6288 3509
- Kath 6288 0015 (also hard hat & spare cord)
- Elizabeth 6288 3377

Malcolm 6288 4122 has herbicide and spray bottles

WEEDecks - these are flip-books of some common weeds, a few of which concern us.

- Malcolm (6288 4122),
- Doug (0407 946 995),

Janice (6288 3953, janice.paull@aph.gov.au) ☼

Membership

Note from Phil:

I am in Indonesia for 10 months. About 3 months ago I was invited to apply for a position working on a coral reef management program. 5 weeks later I was in Jakarta and am coming up for 2 months here soon. So exciting things here. I should be back in Canberra for the spring.

Current membership stands at 41 ☼

What's around

Family: PLANTAGINACEAE



Plantago varia
Native Plantain
varia from Latin for *different*
Perennial herb - note toothed leaf and long flower spike



Plantago lanceolata
Plantain - annual or biennial weed.
lanceolata from Latin for *little lance*

Tony sent me a communication about *Plantago*, but I've mislaid it. From memory - NSW Agriculture is developing *Plantago* for pasture improvement. No parallel here with *Phalaris* I hope. ☺

On March 17th, time should be ripe for dealing with Tina's thistles. ☺

Visit to Mt Taylor

Mt Taylor has a bushfire regeneration area that would be interesting for us to study. Tony has arranged with the Mt Taylor parkcarers for our group to visit it on our monthly meeting Sunday 17th February. We will meet at 1.30 just off Sulwood Drive opposite Mannheim Street.

Scribbly Gum

Ann Connolly mails *Scribbly Gum* to our members - if you don't wish to receive it, please let Pauline know. ☺

Pauline Lyngå, 6288 7009, gostaL@ozemail.com.au