



COOLEMAN RIDGE PARK CARE GROUP

Newsletter July 2003

Previous Sunday meeting, June 15th

Elizabeth's lovely garden above Monkman Street gives on to bushland which she caretakes. We were awed by her graphic description of the fire, and cheered by the recovery she could show us. Hers is a particularly fine remnant of bush and she welcomes us to return in spring to follow the recovery. Close by, the ground has taken a beating from heavy-vehicle traffic, but even there *Chrysocephalum apiculatum* was struggling to reassert itself. And yes, there were weeds for us to remove. ☼

Next Sunday meeting, July 20th

Potting of eucalyptus seedlings growing just above the (very low) water line of the Kathner Street dam.

- 1.30 - 4 pm
- meet at Kathner Street
- bring hat, gloves, drink, snack, spade or trowel, raincoat if it is wet

Janice is organising clean pots.

We need volunteers to care for the seedlings at home till it is suitable to replant them on the Ridge. ☼

Future programme

August 16th CVA track work and weeding (?Arawang)

August 17th follow-up of CVA's track work and weeding (? Arawang)

September 21st to be arranged

October 4th CVA track work and weeding ☼

Web address

is www.webone.com.au/~kPELLING

Check for up-dates which feature more of Karina's remarkable before-and-after views, and more illustrations linked to the plant list. ☼

Track work

Conservation Volunteers Australia are scheduled for track work and weeding on the Ridge on Saturday 16th August and Saturday 4th October. The team will arrive on site at about 9.00am and come with their own transport and supervisor. Rangers will provide access for the team and show them the work involved. Clearly it would *be* good and *look* good to have our members working on the site for any time they can spare. Presumably August 16th will be on the Arawang summit trail, and our Sunday meeting the next day will be at the same spot. ☼

June log

060603 **Trifolium arvense* flowering

150603 *Geranium solanderi*, *Stipa bigeniculata*, *Plantago varia* flowering

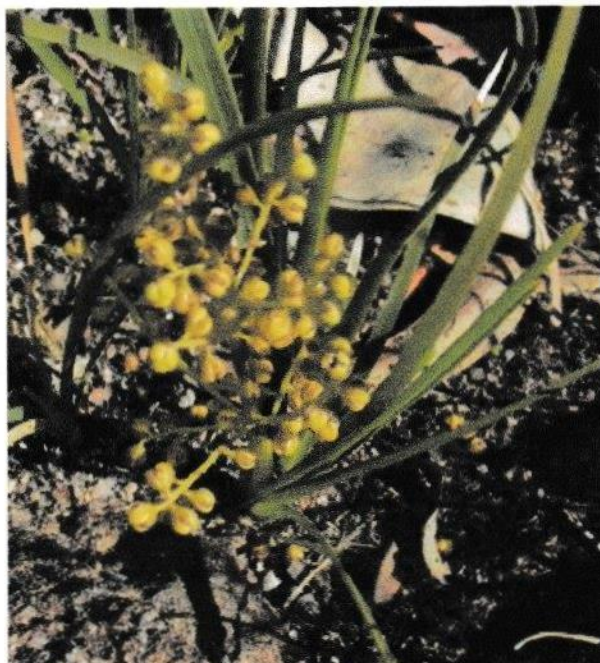
180603 *Hardenbergia violacea* in bud; *Stackhousia monogyna*, **Salvia verbenaca*, **Tweedia coerulea* flowering. *Cassinia quinquefolia* with basal shoots. *Exocarpus cupressiformis* with basal and stem shoots. *Indigofera adesmiifolia*, *Indigofera australis* recovering ☼

Classification

Gwen Harden and John Williams' inclusion of bacteria among Plants raised a few eyebrows as well as prompting the question "What is a plant anyway?" I haven't got to the bottom of that yet, but Andrew Beattie of Macquarie University in his book *Wild Solutions* writes of four kingdoms: *plants*, *animals*, *fungi* and *bacteria*. He goes on to comment that some think there are five kingdoms including *protocista* which contains all not fitting into the first four named. Example: slime mould.

After kingdoms come phyla, whose members display a basic unique body plan. ☼

What's around



Family: LOMANDRACEAE

Lomandra multiflora

Many-flowered Mat-rush

loma: Gr fringe, referring to anthers in some sp.;

andros Gr man

Perennial native rhizomatous herb with strap-like leaves.

Survey

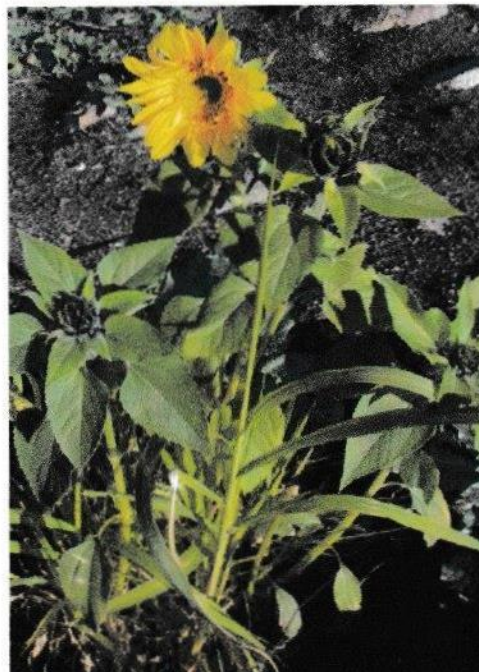
Many replies have been received. If yours is still to come please fill it in and return to Janice. This will provide her with a more comprehensive view of what is happening on the Ridge and give her some substance to report to CNP. And it will keep you on our mailing list.

Janice: phone 6288 3953 (h)

e-mail janice.paull@aph.gov.au ☼

Arawang

Arawang Primary School is keen to engage the students in planting on the Ridge. We'll let them have hardy seedlings from our Sunday 20th potting afternoon. The children will then care for them till planting time and beyond. The Principle will let us know how many they would like to have. ☼



Family: ASTERACEAE

**Helianthus annuus*

Common Sunflower

heli: Gr helios sun; *anthos* Gr flower

Annual or perennial herb from North America, scattered as bird seed following the fire ☼

Site assessment

Jen, Gosta and I went round with Steve and Ron from Canberra Nature Park on the morning of June 18th listing jobs to do and recording positions of rubbish and blackberries.

Steve plans to have a schedule of tasks for volunteer groups to be put on to when they ring him, and is working towards a management plan. We looked at tracks and trails, talked about pamphlets and the potting of the Kathner Street dam seedlings. ☼

Tools

Janice has obtained a small grant for the replacement of tools; she has ordered choppers and light-weight mattocks ☼

Sadness

It is with sadness that I tell you of the death of Naarilla's husband. We offer our support, Naarilla – please call on us when the time is right for you. ☼