

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER NO 75
AUGUST 1999



Hi Everyone,

Nine members attended the July meeting, we managed to plant 200 grasses and 15 rushes as well as a quick business meeting before the rains came. Thank goodness for all day meetings, if it had been afternoon only we would have been rained off. Although the meetings run from 10 am to 4pm you are not expected to spend the whole day on the Ridge; I thought the extended meetings would give everyone more flexibility. However, if attendances don't increase we will probably go back to afternoons only.

The August meeting also starts from Kathner St, walk up the horse trail until you get to the burnt area where Pauline will explain the Bradley method of encouraging regeneration. David and I will be in Queensland thinking of you! As you walk along please admire the work which new member Alan Ford is doing along the trail and dig up a few extra Paterson's Curse for him on your way.

We have obtained permission from Landcare Australia for donations to be tax deductible. The official reason is to finance our whipper snipping, but if you care to make a donation for some other activity we will diversify. Growing plants on contract (from our seed) works out at \$1 per plant. Labouring is \$10 per person/hour. Make any cheques out to Landcare Australia Ltd and give them to any committee member, we will send them on to Landcare Australia with a covering letter.

Pauline says she has had only 5 caretakers reports from May. We do keep these and use them as historical references so PLEASE fill them in and send them in. Even if you haven't worked on your area have a look at it and put down your observations. After several years without cattle most areas are showing a definite improvement in the ratio of natives to exotics.

Sunday 12th September is Green Up Day and we are joining with Mt Taylor members and Fisher residents to weed an area in Fisher Parkland. Members of Friends of Grasslands will be there identifying the plants and you will see another part of the 'Bush'. Bring a digging tool and a thermos of hot water, we will provide tea, coffee and soft drinks. Meet at Namatjira Drive where the Fisher houses end at 1.30pm.

Tuesday 14th September is a VERY IMPORTANT DAY for the group. After two successful meetings with CNP staff it is now our turn for a private meeting with the Manager. Please read the accompanying notice carefully.

Please remember I need your hours at the end of the month, and an idea of what you did.

Statistics for July :-

Hours	On Ridge	476.75 (230 of these were whipper-snipping)
	Off Ridge	34.30
Woody weeds cut & sprayed or dug		1514
Herbaceous weeds pulled or sprayed		23370
Trees and shrubs planted		45
Herbaceous plants planted		148
Grasses planted		415

Dates to Remember:

Sunday 15th August	10am - 4pm Kathner St .	Bring you own digging tool
Sunday 12th September	Namatjira Drive 1.30pm - Green Up Day	
Tuesday 14th September	Meeting with Manager, 21 Ordell St Chapman, 7pm	

Cheers

Bess (62887536)

PAULINE 62887009

COOLEMAN RIDGE PARK CARE GROUP INC.

PLEASE! Put Tuesday 14th September 7pm in your diary NOW!

On that evening we will host the Manager of Canberra Nature Park South, one or two of his staff, Ann Connolly (who came to last years AGM) and Alison Elvin, a bush care expert who we have taken round the Ridge.

At that meeting we will exchange ideas of what we all hope will happen on the Ridge in the future and how we set about making it happen in a partnership. This marks a big shift in CNP staffs attitude to volunteers so PLEASE come along and show that we care.

Supper will be served!

Cheers

**Bess
(Ph/fax 62887536)**