



COOLEMAN RIDGE PARK CARE GROUP

Newsletter September 2003

Previous Sunday meeting, August 17th

Arawang thistles – again. We did a lot of chipping by the track near the summit where the thistles are intermingled with horehound. Concentrating on a discrete patch of thistles gave us a sense of achievement and we invite you all to experience this buzz with us at our next work party. The CVA group was not sighted but there was evidence of their repairs to the track. ☼

Next Sunday meeting, September 21st

As hinted above, it's to be thistles again.

- 1.30 - 4 pm
- meet on Namatjira Drive just north of the Kambah Pool Rd junction. There is a track across the paddock linking up with the Arawang summit track
- bring hat, gloves, drink, snack, chipper, raincoat if it is wet ☼

Future programme

October 19th to be decided

November 16th to be decided ☼

Hours

Now that caretaking is getting back to normal, please remember/bother to let Janice know your monthly hour tally, and the weeds you have been targeting. CNP harasses her, for their own good reasons.

Janice: phone 6288 3953 (h) email
janice.paull@aph.gov.au ☼

Web site

The new address for the Park Care Group's web site is now as follows, since the merger with iinet:
<http://members.iinet.net.au/~kpelling/> ☼

August log

150803 Echidna on Fencepost Hill

290803 *Wurmbea dioica*, male, flowering

Spraying

The spring spraying programme seems about to commence.

Notices have gone up at the Namatjira Drive and Kathner St entrances, perhaps more, urging people to stay away from the machinery.

Presumably broad leafed exotics are the targets, and they should be more susceptible now than they were last autumn.

Rabbits

Gösta took coordinates of the warren in the horse paddock just up from the Kathner Street dam and sent them to Steve. He passed this information on to Graham Blinksell, the Vertebrate Pests Officer and to East district rangers.

Let us know when you find specific problems for which you need outside help.

Thanks, Alan, for pointing the warren out. ☼

New group

Steve tells us of a new Park Care Group.

"The Friends of Mt Majura Park Care Group held its inaugural meeting on Sunday 20th July and community support for the group appears strong. Waltraud Pix was nominated as the Group's interim Co-ordinator and can be contacted on 6247 7515(h) or jzeil@bigpond.net.au Waltraud may contact some of you for advice or support and I'm sure you will join with me in welcoming this new group and wishing them well." ☼

What's around



Family: COLCHICACEAE

Wurmbea dioica

Early Nancy

F. van Wurmb: 18th century Dutch merchant in Batavia, amateur botanist and naturalist
dioica: Gr. two houses. Having male and female reproductive organs in separate flowers on separate plants.

Perennial herb

Flora of NSW states they can also be polygamous: having bisexual and unisexual flowers on the same plant.

The flower pictured is male. The female flower is conspicuous with its dark- coloured ovary ☼

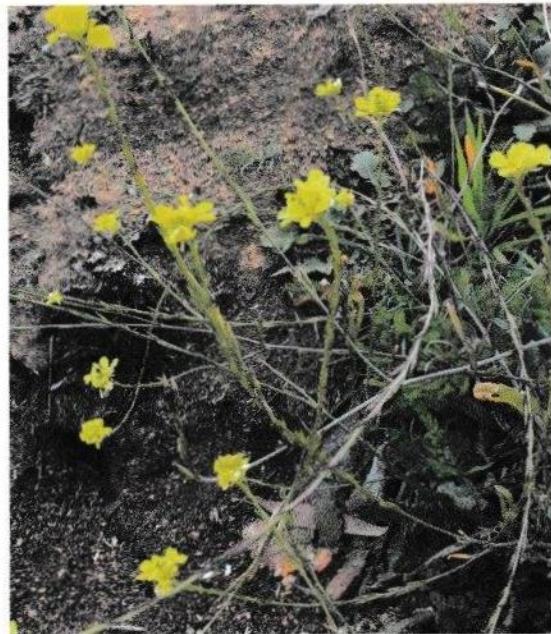
Landcare awards

Doug writes:

"More accurately, we are joint winners with Farrer Ridge and Mt Taylor Park Care Groups of the Alcoa Landcare Community Group Award. As part of Landcare Week last month, the annual ACT Landcare Awards were presented to winners. Wendy Rainbird of the Farrer Ridge group put together an application for the community group award that recognised the work done in all three Park Care Groups over the years.

The award is made to a community group (in our case, three groups) that has adopted sound land management practices on public or private land and is working towards sustainable land use and/or enhancing or protecting an area on behalf of the community.

Well done, team." ☼



Family: BRASSICACEAE

**Hirschfeldia incana*

Buchan Weed

Incana: L. *incanus*, hoary or grey

Annual or biennial herb

Native to Mediterranean

This is the family of mustard and cabbage. ☼

Classification of the Plant Kingdom

(cont)

Notes from Gwen Harden and John Williams' booklet *How to Identify Plants (1990)*

"The most primitive plants are those which have not developed the capacity to live and reproduce on land. This is due largely to the reproductive structures being uni-cellular and not having any protective structures round them. Also the plant body is not differentiated into true vegetative structures as in the higher plants.

Such primitive plants with chlorophyll (green pigment) are called *algae* and those without chlorophyll *fungi*.

Algae: wide distribution, mainly fresh or salt water, but also in damp soil. May be single celled, in filaments or form colonies. Seaweeds may have very large plant bodies but no root, stem or leaves.

Fungi: lack chlorophyll so unable to manufacture their own food. Live as parasites or saprophytes.

Lichens: two completely different organisms form one composite body. The organisms are an alga and a fungus. ☼

Ranger

Our present, temporary ranger relieving Vivien is Tlaloc, 042 961 8308 ☼