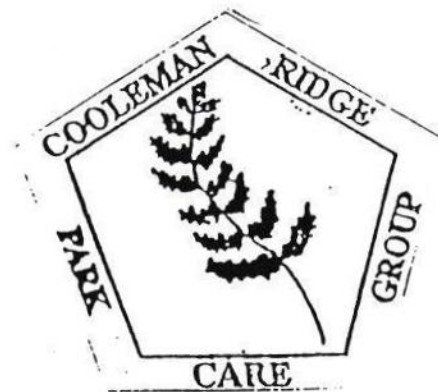


JANUARY 1996



Hi Everyone.

I hope you all enjoyed a very Happy Christmas and are still keeping all those New Year resolutions. Welcome back in 1996.

We ended 1995 on a high note, with good attendances at our November and December planting days. And what a glorious growing season we are now having for the 1529 trees and shrubs and 1087 grasses we planted in the Spring! What a tremendous effort that was! We will have plantings again this year in Autumn and Spring. If anyone is interested in growing things for the Ridge please let me know and we'll hold a potting day.

We have been told that cows will not be returning to the Ridge in the foreseeable future so Hal has begun work on restoring one of the worst "cow camps" and we will spend time on another one once the hot weather has gone.

You may have noticed the extra fire breaks cut among the grass and the rangers have put a wooden seat at each of the two dams. Canberra Nature Park are paying a contractor to spray the brambles and briars on Mt Arawang and the adjacent area. This will reduce our workload considerably and enable us to spend more time on constructive restoration.

Just for a change, on our next working Sunday 4th February, we will be laying carpet on the Ridge at the Kathner St end - curious? Come along at 1.30pm to find out more.

CNP are holding a Park Care Night at Athllon Drive on Wednesday 21st February. There will be tools on display for us to try and then decide if they would be of any use.

Just a reminder that a group meets every Friday at 9.30am at the Kathner St entrance; every Monday at 9.30am at the Namatjira Drive entrance. The Monthly meeting is on the Sunday of the first full weekend each month, usually at 1.30pm but all day when there is a lot of planting to do.

We also encourage individuals to be responsible for a small area of the Ridge where they can work whenever the opportunity arises. On Saturday mornings I am usually parked at the Monkman St steps and work up the hill from there, and on Wednesdays I go wherever the need seems greatest, at the moment a huge thistle patch near "Stonehenge". I'm always willing to share the workload!

We are interested in receiving observations of birds, animals or plants, from anyone at any time, also details of any weed infestations etc which need attention.

Statistics for December: 11 people at Monthly Meeting; total hours 196.
Planted 77 trees, 227 shrubs, 656 grasses.
Cut & sprayed 379 woody weeds, 13800 herbacious weeds.
Pauline documented plants in her 10 sq m patches.

Dates to Remember:

Sunday 4th February Meet 1.30pm Kathner St
Wednesday 21st February Athllon Drive 5.00pm

Cheers

Bess (2887576)