

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER NO 80
JANUARY 2000



Hi Everyone,

A New Year welcome to all our readers! May the year be as successful as 1999. Pauline and I both said it was the first Spring that we had not felt overwhelmed by the weeds. We ended 1999 on a real high with 17 people weeding or whipper snipping and the improvement to the Bracteantha area was very evident. It is a stunning area and this month we will be returning to increase the size of it. (Pauline was delighted to find more native species than exotics even before the weeding). Park at Kathner St or Chauvel Circle and walk up to the fire trail.

Caretakers also, have excelled themselves; apart from the marvellous work they are doing, all but 2 have given in 6-monthly report sheets, a real record! Keep it up! Could we now impose on you further by asking you to begin compiling a species list for your area, we can arrange help if you don't know what some things are but I imagine everyone knows Paterson's Curse and Oats as a starter! We have begun compiling vegetation lists for the Ridge and this would help us greatly.

With this newsletter comes a copy of Scribbly Gum. If you would like to write something for the next issue (before 14th February) I would be delighted to receive it.

This year I hope we can dig up areas of Phalaris and replace them with native grasses. If anyone would like to grow some grasses I have seeds collected on the Ridge (with my permit of course).

At our last general meeting we decided to have an extra activity in February. On Tuesday 15th Feb. we will be meeting at Kathner St at 6pm and walk to the area weeded in August. There we will weed and have a picnic followed by bird observation led by Alan Ford and looking at the night sky with Gösta. If you can't be there at 6pm follow the signs. The 'birding' will begin about 7pm.

Please remember to phone in your hours for January at the end of the month and send or ask me to collect the Volunteer Report Sheet if you have one.

Statistics for December :-

Hours	On Ridge	370	(128 of these were whipper-snipping)
	Off Ridge	41.30	
	Total	411.30	
Woody weeds cut & sprayed or dug			18
Herbaceous weeds pulled or sprayed			334,550
Trees and shrubs planted			0
Herbaceous plants planted			0
Grasses planted			48

Dates to Remember:

Sunday 16th January

Monthly working meeting 1.30 - 4pm above the fire trail up from Kathner St or Chauvel Circle.

Tuesday 15th February

Evening Excursion (reminder in next months newsletter)

Mondays, Fridays or weekends - phone to see where we are and join us.

Cheers

Bess (62887536)