



COOLEMAN RIDGE PARKCARE GROUP

Newsletter September 2002

Previous Sunday meeting August 18th.

What an inspiration it was to visit David's newly acquired area at Cooleman Trig! The *Euphorbia* is reeling under his geology pick and he is confident in having it all out in the next few weeks. It will be interesting to follow its re-emergence, but its days are clearly numbered. David told us a bit about the local geology, and we observed the wreck of the mysterious cairn. Its rocks have been tossed around nearby and David has to shift them aside to get at his weeds. He has been in touch with the Rangers to report vandalism to the pamphlet box at the foot of the track. And he is, in passing, clearing a swathe on either side of the path - it's all looking really good.

I did a quick vegetation survey recording 31 species of which 14 are native. Things can only improve!

Tina and Mary made the most of their long walk to the Trig collecting litter on the way. With them David, Janice, Reet, Erika and I cut and dabbed briars and cotoneasters on the far side of the hill, gathering old tree guards for removal and stacking stakes. Then we had a go at *Euphorbia* removal, developing a personal interest in the project.

Janice told us

- of a survey about volunteering being sent to all members, with a reply paid envelope.
- the personal and public liability insurance matter is resolved. We will all be sent new sign-on forms reflecting the changes.
- she still hasn't succeeded in being issued with a key to our park. If she were able to drive in it would lighten the hauling in of the equipment we need for our work parties. ☼

Next Sunday meeting September 15th.

- 1.30 - 4 pm
- 35 Bendigo Street, Fisher; then through the Namatjira Drive entrance. See note *Planting* below. And there's always woody weeding
- bring hat, gloves, drink, snack, loppers or secateurs; spray will be available
- a brief general meeting will follow
- please note that children must not be close to where spray is being used but there is plenty for non-sprayers to do. ☼

Future programme

October 20th AGM, then woody weeds, Namatjira Drive
November 17th Plant Walk to be led by a botanist
December 15th Tree survey ☼

Activity figures for August

Hours from 11 people - 49 for weeding; 20 for administration.

Contact Janice with your hours at the end of each month on 6288 3953 or e-mail at janice.paul@aph.gov.au Could you please let Janice know what weeds you are removing when you provide the statistics. This level of detail is forwarded to CNP. ☼

Web page

Look out for our newly-designed web page which should be displayed soon. Karina has reworked the page and it's stunning. The address is www.webone.com.au/~kPELLING. Your comments and suggestions would be very welcome. Is anyone interested in having a fauna page, showing birds and other creatures that can be seen on the Ridge? We hope to move the site to a new location where more people may see it. So far we have had one suggestion about a free web hoster: any others? You can ring Karina on 62882097 or email her at: kpelling@webone.com.au. ☼

August log

XX0802 pamphlet box at Trig path vandalised - reported to CNP ☼

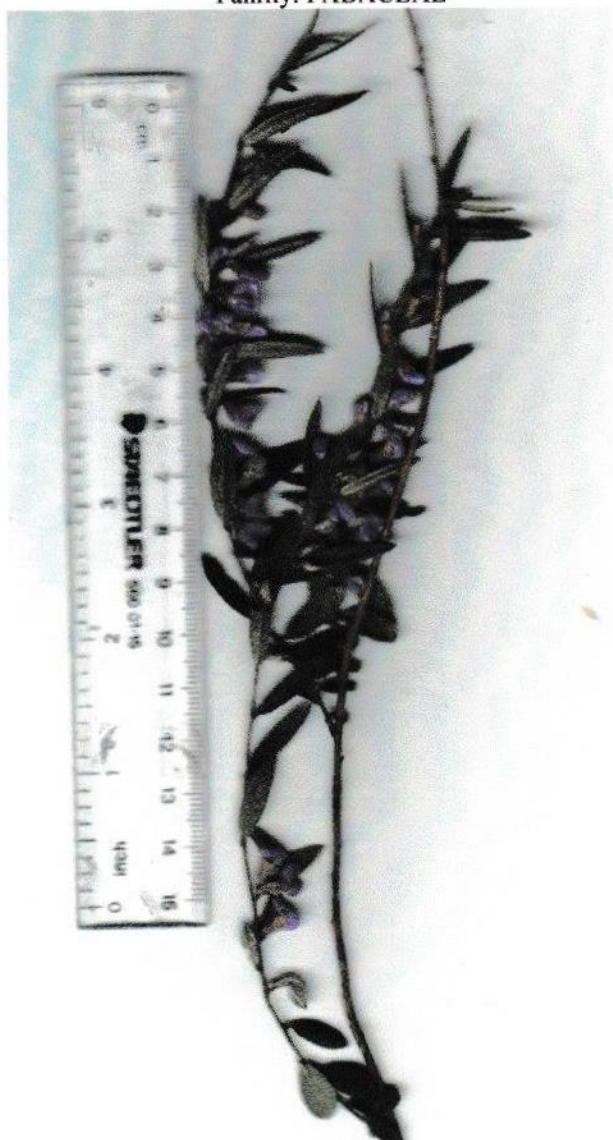
Planting

Elaine has been looking after seedlings for the Group and they are now outgrowing her garden. On Sunday 15th September we'll meet at her place to pot them and replant them on the Ridge. Those of you who wish to plant in your own areas are strongly urged to come and make some choices. These include:

- *Eucalyptus nortonii*: grows on rocky knolls - perhaps not at the southern end of the Ridge
- *Cymbopogon refractus*: on north-facing slopes
- *Poa sieberiana*: suitable anywhere
- *Allocasuarina verticillata*: suitable anywhere
- *Dodonaea viscosa*: it is not known to occur naturally on the Ridge - should we then be planting it? ☼

What's around

Family: FABACEAE



Hovea linearis

Anton Hove was a Polish botanist who collected for Banks and Kew Gardens.

linearis - from Latin linea meaning line, referring to leaves.

This is an early-flowering purple pea, with simple leaves.

Family: EPACRIDACEAE



Melichrus urceolatus

Urn Heath

Melichrus - Greek melichros, honey-coloured, referring to sweet nectar from floral glands.

urceolatus - Latin urceolus, small pitcher



Members

Michelle is moving to Ainslie, and she hopes to find more time for Parkcare - good luck over there!

Sally has moved interstate.

I've been enjoying Karina's company while weeding these last few Fridays - I think she's hooked!

Pardelote

A bonus these spring days is listening to a Striated Pardelote and catching a glimpse of it coming and going through its hole in a *Eucalyptus rossii*. ☼

Survey

The *Survey of ACT Landcarers 2002* duly arrived and looks like an easy way to try and influence policy.

The other survey mentioned in the covering letter, *ACT Community Landcare Groups 2002*, is being processed by Janice. ☼