



Friends of Cornish Hill

News from 'The Hill'

APRIL 2015

Welcome to the April 2015 newsletter from 'The Hill'.

The weather has been kind to us mortals but unfortunately, a lot more rainfall is needed before we can begin planting again.

However, we are well on the way to completing the *Communities for Nature Grant* which permitted us to remove the final stand of willows along the creek. The photo on the right (thanks to Ed Butler) shows the great view from the top of the Argus mullock heap and you can see the enormous amount of work that has been completed.



Another application for funding has been submitted, this time through *Funding for Regional and Rural Renewal*. If successful, this will cover costs of Gettin' Dirty tree planting as well as a reptile workshop, dates and times to be confirmed.

Weekend working bees

**Clean Sweep working bee – Sunday 26th April, 10am-12pm.
Meet at the picnic table.**

No need to bring your broom. We can supply!! All hands on deck to hand pull Broom seedlings. Can you be part of the team? To register call Margie on 5348 6541. Or email at thomato@aanet.com.au

We have been trialling weekend working bees and on sunny Sunday of March 29th, 12 members attended a working bee, which was a great success. Gorse and Broom were cut and painted, Correa cuttings taken and potted up, and the sites of recently planted trees upstream from the picnic table were brush cut in time for autumn rains. It was also great to see the Reserve being enjoyed by so many visitors. A big thankyou to Pam, Milla, Mollie, Greg, Peter, the 2 Jan's, Helga, Jane, Michelle and Barbara.



Removing Gorse by hand



Walkers seen enjoying The Hill on 29th March



A well earned morning tea

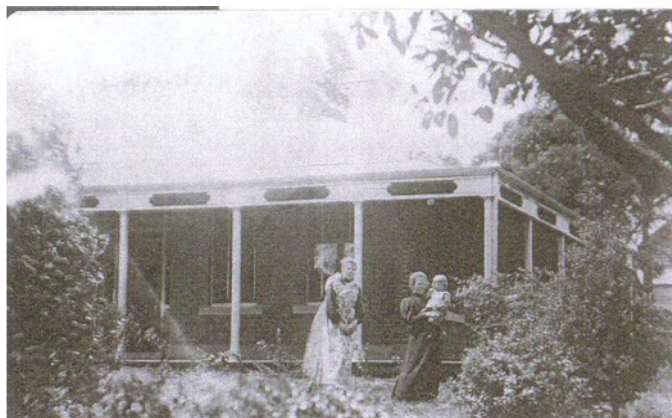
New members making an impact

Thanks must go to new members Tim Allen, Leanne Shaw and Pat Kermode. We are very grateful to Tim for sharing his fantastic computer skills to update our website. Please take some time to check it out at

www.cornishhilldaylesford.com.au

And Pat Kermode has been busy modifying the fantastic map she created for the Big Back Yard event last November. The map, which is still a work in progress, will eventually include relevant text for inclusion in the Information centre and other locations and it will soon appear on the website.

Leanne Shaw has been busy sourcing old mining photos of Cornish Hill and she has discovered some interesting facts about Cornish Hill Reserve. For example, Smiths Creek was named after Joseph and Florence Smith. Thanks to Jenny Jordan for providing this image of Joseph and Florence Smith's house, the 100 acre property 'Mayfield', through which the creek ran. According to Leanne's research, it seems likely that the railway line would have run through the property as well.



Did you know that Bonnard's mine became known as Cornish mine and Colliers mine became Mitchells? Relics of both these mines remain on Cornish Hill. The photo on the right is of the Argus Mine and was supplied by Leanne Shaw. These photos will be used for the AGM presentation on 5th September 'Cornish Hill old and new.'



Thanks also to Jan Bragg who researched the information about the Lookout for inclusion in a recent article in the Advocate newspaper on 1st April. Jan, together with Daylesford Historical Society member Les Pitt, will be researching more info for the AGM. And we are appealing to our members as well – do you know any neighbours, friends who may have photos we could borrow and scan? Please contact Margie either by email thomato@aanet.com.au or phoning 5348 6541.

Dharma School gets involved on Cornish Hill again this year

Things are on the move with the Dharma school for this year already. On Friday 24th April, we will be returning to 'take 2' of the Blackwood seed planting day held last year. With the students encouraged to take more care and awareness, we hope to have a better success rate this time. If you would like to join us for this session then call Margie on 5348 6541 or email thomato@aanet.com.au

The Dharma school will also be taking part in the NCCMA's River Detectives program when the students will test the water quality at Smiths Creeks using a number of different measurements. Then the info will be logged back the info back into their website.

If you're interested in becoming a River Detective yourself, training sessions are free but you need to register your interest with Margie. To find out more, copy the following link into your browser

<http://www.nccma.vic.gov.au/Water/Waterwatch/Education/index.aspx> or contact Margie either by email thomato@aanet.com.au or phoning 5348 6541.



The photo to the left, courtesy of Sandy Sheltema, shows students from Bullarto Primary School testing water.



NORTH CENTRAL
Catchment Management Authority
Connecting Rivers, Landscapes, People

Add these dates to your diary

April 24th BLACKWOOD SEED PLANTING DAY WITH DHARMA STUDENTS

April 26th (10am – 12pm) NEXT WEEKEND WORKING BEE – A CLEAN SWEEP!!

September 5th AGM

Contact us – we'd love to hear from you!

Margie Thomas thomato@aanet.com.au ph 5348 6541

Our postal address is PO Box 470 Daylesford 3460

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Visit our website at www.cornishhilldaylesford.com.au

"A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead