



News from 'The Hill'

OCTOBER 2016

Friends of Cornish Hill

Welcome to the spring newsletter from the Hill for 2016.

RAIN AND MORE RAIN...

Just in case you haven't been walking on the Hill over the last month, or maybe been out of Victoria for a while, we have had record rain fall and Jan Thompson has taken some great action photos of Smiths creek. And Helen Greenwood has captured the mood of Cornish Hill on a cold and frosty morning.



Thanks to Helen and Jan for the great photos.

LANDCARE AUSTRALIA



This year Landcare Australia is celebrating 30 years in the business. We are just one of the 5000 Landcare community-based groups in Australia and one of the 900 based in Victoria. Friends of Cornish Hill feel privileged and grateful to be recipients of 2 rounds of Landcare Australia funding and in the last newsletter, we reported our success with the Coca Cola Foundation funding.



Martin Scuffins from Hawk and Owl with Kevy the Kestrel (thanks Gayle Osborne for the photo).

In this newsletter, we are delighted to report that Landcare Australia in partnership with RACV is also supporting us with 3 school programs. Gettin' Dirty kicked off on October 18th will a follow up session on 25th when 130 trees and 200 grasses were planted. The students enjoyed the experience of Blacksnake productions again as well as Leigh Valley Hawk and Owl. Two other programs will take place in 2017.



Gettin' Dirty Morning Tea

AGM SUNDAY 25th SEPTEMBER

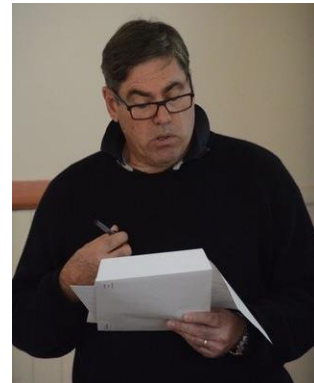
After the formalities, those who attended were treated to a special session of photos and YouTube videos recorded by Steve Syers, Libby Woodward and son Ted from Victorian Natives. Footage of endangered and threatened species of birds and mammals was captured using motion sensing cameras set up alongside hand created ponds of water. They had captured images of animal behaviour which had never been seen before. Wonderful!

Our new committee was also elected Steve Millard (Treasurer), Gael Shannon (Secretary), Tim Allen and Jan Thompson (Communications) and we welcomed Kathleen Murray as a new member. To Bill and Liz Corbett, Gillie Gough, Barbara Webb, Denise Purdey, Helen Greenwood and Kate Redwood- thanks for helping out on the day.

Farewell to Pam Hicks and Tanya Loos and we thank them for their contribution and hope they will remain in touch.



Firetail Finch - Victorian Natives photo



Steve Millard, Treasurer

FROG WORKSHOP

Friday October 7th saw the Dharma school students searching for frogs on the Hill. Lead by Ray and Sherrie Draper, with little daughter Kira in tow, the students discovered that there are a variety of different frogs residing in our area and that they each have a different call. Back in the classroom and with local artist Rosie Laszlo at the helm, students designed their own frog templates, which will be used as stencils later this month as part of Daylesford Rotary's Artober festival. Big thank you to Hepburn Shire for funding us to complete this



Ewing's Trees Frog



Where Are You?

COMMUNITY FAIR on NOVEMBER 20TH 12 – 3PM

This will be the third time we have partnered with the Friends of the Community Park to hold the Fair. Friends will be hosting a guided walk (see below) as well as a Raptor Display by Leigh Valley Hawk and Owl Sanctuary. More can be read about this amazing organisation www.hawkandowl.com.au

Would you be free to help by manning the stall for short time on the day?

Please let Margie know by calling 5324 2112 or emailing thomato5324@gmail.com.

MUZZA'S SEAT

Over the wet and windy weather, we have lost a number of large Blackwood trees. Thanks to the local DELWP crew and the skills of our contractors Ed and Ian, some these have been fashioned into simple seats. One of these seats has been located on the Hill where Murray Winter toiled away for a number of years and on his own with a small mattock to remove the gorse and broom. We are really pleased that recent funding has enabled us to keep in check the re-emergence of weeds on the Hill we now know as Muzza's Hill.



Thanks to Ed Butler for the photo.

MOTION SENSITIVE CAMERAS

Thanks to Gayle Osborne from Wombat Forestcare, 3 cameras were set of on 3 different sites, the purpose being to find out what creatures actually reside on the Hill. We were excited to discover that as well as the usual feral subjects, we found images of a brush tail possum, tawny frog mouth (see photos below, many thanks Gayle), an echidna, various images of scrub wrens and blackbirds and also bush rats. It is confirming to those who beaver away on the Hill to know that indigenous creatures DO actually call Cornish Hill home. It's important to mention that a great deal of time was spent in setting up and taking down the cameras to relocate them to another site.



BROCHURE UPDATE

Funding secured from both Landcare Victoria and Landcare Australia (Coca Cola Foundation) enabled our dream of a brochure with walking trails and historical markers to come true. We are looking forward to hosting a guided walk lead by Ed Butler and Ian Scott on Sunday 20th November as part of the Community Fair. Copies of the brochure will be held in the Information Centre and will be available to locals and visitors alike.

POPUP DINNER WITH GARY THOMAS

On October 13, the food and the venue at Spade to Blade (The Woodshed) were perfect for our first popup dinner. Gary Thomas catered for all dietary requirements, using seasonal and local produce. Special thanks to Michelle Stephenson for her informative talk on Plastic Bag Free Daylesford (PPFD). We have no doubt her enthusiasm and energy will result in a successful campaign. PPFD will be present at the Community Fair on the 20th of November, another reason to come along! Thank you Helen for the photos.



MEMBERSHIP

Chasing membership is tedious and time consuming. Bank details as follows: BSB 633-000, Account no. 108306721, please state your name as the reference. \$20 per person, \$35 per couple.

NB: No payment of fee by November 15 means no membership.

Contact Margie Thomas thomato5324@gmail.com ph. 5324 2112

Our postal address is *PO Box 470 Daylesford 3460*

Do you read the newsletter and emails sent? Do you access our FACEBOOK page? We'd love to hear from you if you have any suggestions or ideas.

Cornish Hill is on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/cornishhilldaylesford>

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