

JUL 83

LAST MEETING AND BUSY BEE

The last meeting was held at West Mount Barren during a quiet spot in the busy bee organised by the Great Southern Volunteer Conservation Programme which was being



held there on the same day. The weather was perfect and the views superb. A few of our members had a lot of trouble finding their way into West Mt Barren, but there were sufficient people to do all the work available. This involved laying brush on an old car track, and building small diversion dams across a higher part of the track that was still inclined to erode. In the picture the

National Park truck is being unloaded of brush well up West Mt Barren. Mount Bland is clearly visible.

LOST AND FOUND

One of our Perth members, Ken Broadbent, left a camera at West Mount Barren car park during the May school holidays, and was unable to return for it. Geoff Keen, the Ranger of the area, was informed of this and searched a couple of days later. Although he looked for almost two hours, he failed to locate the camera. He left the area and three kilometres down the track observed --- another mallee root? Not this time. So we are pleased to report a happy ending.

ARTS GROUP WORKSHOP

Thirteen women under the guidance of Ian de-Sousa of Fremantle Arts took part in a workshop held at Twertup in April. Despite problems of near failure of fridge and total failure of generator, it was a most successful venture. Although Ian's art slides could not be shown, he just happened to be an accomplished singer and guitarist (and had brought his guitar) so disappointment over the slides was soon forgotten as the group sang in the candlelight. Roe's Rock and the reflections in the pool provided plenty of challenge on the second day. Those too frustrated by their efforts to portray the pool were able to cool off by swimming in it. Work was done in oil, pencil, charcoal, and watercolour. Ian's specialty is watercolour and he gave helpful demonstrations in this medium. He was very pleased with the workshop results. All appreciated the wilderness experience and the rare opportunity to concentrate singlemindedly on their art.

GRANT FROM RKM BRANCH OF NATURALIST CLUB WA

A grant application was made earlier this year to the Kwinana Rockingham Mandurah Branch of the Naturalist Club which had offered a grant of \$200. Our application, prepared by Andrew Chapman, was for \$100 to purchase equipment to aid a research programme on two species of gecko:- *Phyllurus milii* and *Diplodactylus granariensis*, both of which are found in the Park. The equipment was to include 4 headlamps, 1 25 gram Pesola spring balance, and 1 min/max thermometer. We have now been advised that the application has been successful.

AUSTRALIAN RANGER BULLETIN

This bulletin, largely for and by Rangers, contains much information about Australian National Parks, their features, facilities and problems, and discussion of programmes to conserve the natural assets of various parks, as well as control and education of the public. The Association is on the "Australian Ranger Bulletin" mailing list and they will be available at Twertup.

RAIN GAUGE

A rain gauge has now been installed at Twertup, just in time to catch the best winter rain for a few years. So if you visit there, do read, empty, and record contents on the chart on the noticeboard. Record "0" if that is the case so that it will be seen when readings were made and it will give a clearer picture of when the rain did fall.

NEXT MEETING

This will be at Mylie's Beach at 1.30pm on Sat. 13th August. Saturday was chosen so it would not clash with local sport and the location as well as being pleasant is easy to find and requires no special vehicle. So do come.

T-SHIRTS

At the August 13 meeting, some FRNP T-shirts will be available for sale to help raise money for the Association. They will be a new design and there will be a good range of size and colour.

COURSES

There are to be three or four courses at Twertup this Spring. BIRDS, PLANTS, and ROCKS will be certain topics. At Twertup there is always something to enjoy so if a particular weekend suits you, even though the course may not be your cup of tea do consider going anyway. The first course will be called 'Regional Geological Processes and the Fitzgerald River National Park'. Don't let the title put you off. It's an opportunity to learn how the local landscape was formed and about the types of rock and minerals present from a local man, Bill Moir, who from personal interest over many years has become an authority on the subject. This course will be 16-17 September. Another will be BIRDS taken by Ray Garstone of Woodanilling in late October. Ray Garstone has studied and photographed birds for many years and also knows a lot about the bush.

Courses are not reserved for members. If you know anyone who has an interest at whatever level in any of these topics do let them know. If you want more information or wish to book, ring Keith Bradby 098 381129.

TABLES

By the time these courses begin, two new trestle tables should have been installed there. Table or bench space has been extremely scarce there and at last meeting, encouraged by a donation from the Art ladies it was decided to remedy this.

SUBS ARE DUE

They go from AGM March each year. If you haven't paid this year by the time this newsletter was prepared, a cross (what else?) will appear at the end of this sentence as a reminder.

Of course you may not wish to be a member anymore or at all, in which case you will be crossed off our list for next newsletter (Sept.) Subs are \$3 single, \$5 family.

PRESIDENT: Bill Lullfitz, Box 82 Jerramungup. 098 355011

SECRETARY: Brenda Newbey, Box 42 Ongerup. 098 282023

TREASURER: Kaye Vaux, c/o P.O. Ongerup 098 282037

NEXT MEETING MYLIE'S BEACH 13 AUGUST

Aug 27/28

Probably. a course on spiders led by
Barbara York Mair.