

JUNE 05 11:57 AM. STOP PRESS. PLEASE READ

FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION (INC) NEWSLETTER JUNE 1984

Twenty members and 2 visitors and Ranger George Duxbury assembled at the Macrandra Waterhole on May 5th. 1984.

The main aim of the meeting was to discuss the buffer zone land to the north of the park. Unfortunately time, due to the build up of other business did rather run out! However the committees hard work was recognised when the meeting decided to endorse points 2-7 in the prepared discussion paper.

These being :

2. That the association policy and views on the matter be released to the media

3. Contact be made with the organisations supportive of previous moves to preserve the natural values of the northern buffer zone asking them to request the W.A. Government to completely re-appraise the future of the area.

4. The association endorse the executives action in applying for National Estate funding to allow delineation of the effect of any agricultural development in the northern buffer zone on the park. Individual members to prepare documentation of aspects they feel should be included in such evaluation.

5. The association nominate the northern buffer zone for inclusion in the register of the National Estate and documentation of significance and photographs required to support the nomination be collected and collated (see also 6&7).

6. The association Audio visual on the park be updated to include the significance of the northern buffer zone.

7. That efforts be made to have magazine articles prepared on the northern buffer zone, its values and the present threat.

Individual members are urged to play their part by writing to the minister stating their views.

Congratulations to the committee on the work already done. May the fruits of your labour bear in the not too distant future.

Windcheaters. Andy gave us a dress rehearsal with the only garment so far printed. Hopefully by now there are more off the production line. Price decided upon was Adults \$16 Children \$14. A. Chapman is taking orders. Phone 098 38 1186 if you can catch him home! He tells me the most likely time is between 7&8 am!

Display board completed and now on display at Jerramungup Shire. Local reaction pleasing.

MOST EXCITING OF ALL Just prior to the last meeting Ranger George found near the northern buffer zone a recently deceased dibbler. As a fresh specimen of these mammals has not been found for many years this was a most exciting discovery. This may give us lots more teeth regarding the retention of the buffer zone as natural bush land. All this after dibbler remains were found at the Owl & Pussycat weekend.

See photograph at end but please keep on reading.

FRNP had been a very busy place over the long Easter Anzac break. Large numbers of people were to be found there at any one time. Visitors were from afar rather than locals. Most people respected the locality and quite a few had camped at Twertup.

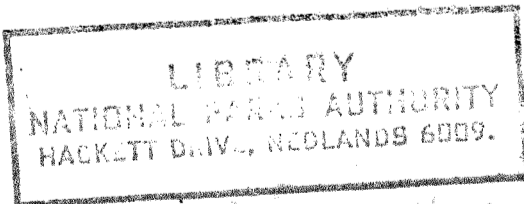
Brenda and Ken have made a further addition of 30 cards to the Herbarium at Twertup and the information sheets have been updated.

Brenda is also working on a new system for watching the birds... I mean the feathered varieties. Keep an eye out for the system and the birds you may be able to help.

Courses. Heather has organised a Creative writing course to be held at Twertup. Dates and details available. Fee please contact Heather 098 38 1129

Please give thought to how and when future courses could or should be run over the rest of the year or early next. My thoughts for all they are worth are that we are relying on the same people to support each course so it is vital we space same to advantage. On the horizon we have possibilities of Bert & Babs Wells Photography these folks have a close affinity with nature. Andy Chapman, Reptiles. Barbara Yorke Main, Spiders. Bill Moir, Geology. As quite a lot of time and effort goes into preparing for a course a fair go for all is a good deal.

Thanks are extended to Ella Mattner from Ongerup who donated a lounge for Twertup... Make sure you are at the next meeting to try it out. Thanks Dennis for delivering it safely there.



ATO

I urge you all to read the following page being a memo from Keith and Andy. Executive members have agreed to its inclusion in this newsletter. If you are unable to attend the next meeting please drop a line to either K. Bradby Ravensthorpe, A. Chapman Ravensthorpe, A. Moir Borden, W. Lullfitz Jerramongup. Your vote is important.

Bob Bathgate has agreed to be Twertup Committee chairman and booking officer. His address is Box 77 Jerramongup Phone 35 5020. Bob will be working in close liason with George. His phone number is 35 5043 if you can't raise Bob.

River Salinity Project. Preliminary analysis of the data collected at these streams reveals that in spite of widely fluctuating rainfall in 1983-4 salinity and chlorinity remain approximately constant in Fitzgerald, Hammersley, and Phillips Rivers but fluctuates in both Twertup Creek and West River. Now that I've had you darting all over the place looking for this or that please note that the next meeting will be held at Twertup on Sunday July 22nd 1984 at 10a.m.

There are as you have seen a number of important subjects to be discussed and processed. Interested persons are invited to participate in a round table conference on Saturday evening for open discussion.

See you at Twertup.

Amelia Moir



*Barry Muir N.P.A.
holding a DIBBLER*

*PHOTO
Courtesy W.A. Newspapers
Ltd.*

We are both concerned that continued Government unwillingness to spend money on developing a management plan for the FRNP, when coupled with Government willingness to spend money on capital works in the FRNP, may have detrimental long term effects on the (as yet unquantified) biological and recreational values of the Park.

We are particularly concerned that while perceived recreational and fire protection requirements have been extensively catered for since the FRNP's gazettal, management of the Park's biological properties has continued to be neglected.

This is not meant as a criticism of those putting NPA policy into practice as wisely and efficiently as possible given the limitations of that policy (or non-policy). It is a criticism of those who set NPA policy, and expenditure priorities.

We feel that now is a more than appropriate time for the Association to adopt a firm stand on the matter. Two reasons for this are:

1. We see no urgent reasons for any further new capital works to be conducted in the FRNP.

2. Government is presently acting on the recommendations of a Report (Task Force on Land Resource Management, Jan.84) which identified the conflict between management for recreation and management for conservation in W.A. National Parks, using the FRNP as its specific example (p.32). Despite this it is planned to incorporate National Parks into the recreation section of the new Department of Natural Land Management.

Given these points we feel that now is a very appropriate time to press for the formulation of a FRNP Management Plan. To continue with further developments and capital works prior to the formulation of such a management plan would be unwise and may in the future be regretted or require expensive rehabilitation measures.

Accordingly we move that the FRNPA Committee resolve that:

"NO FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS INVOLVING EARTHWORKS, MECHANICALLY CONSTRUCTED FIREBREAKS OR IMPROVED VEHICLE ACCESS BE EFFECTED UNTIL A COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN BASED ON KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES OF THE PARK HAS BEEN FORMULATED AND PUBLICLY DISCUSSED."



CHEERS!

Kelly Dreyfus

*A weekend
at Luvestup*