

**SOUTHERN NEWS**  
**27/8/2010**



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**Friends of Aranda Bushland 20th anniversary**

FAB will celebrate their 20th anniversary on Sunday afternoon, 12 September from 1pm to 3.30pm with a short wildflower walk, a talk by Dr Rosemary Purdie on things botanical and a celebratory feast with hot drinks provided by PCL rangers and eats by ourselves. If you don't want to walk join us before 2.20pm for the talk and feast. It should be a great time for wildflowers given the recent rains. We will take a short walk up and down Aranda hill breaking into small groups if many are interested.

*Rosemary will talk on Black Mountain Interlopers*

[Synonyms: blow ins, floaters, foreigners, invaders, weeds ...]

Springtime brings a flurry of native plants strutting their blooms on Black Mountain. But what's that I see tucked away on its slopes and valleys? - oh no, interlopers!! There are the usual woody suspects, like Cootamundra Wattle, and species of Crataegus and Pyracantha. But there's also a surprisingly high count of other woody species, both non local natives, and non-natives. What are they, where are they, and how did they get there? And are some really interlopers, or have we just failed to notice them before? And does it really matter anyway?

Dr Rosemary Purdie is a botanist who has spent most of her life working on heritage and environment matters in various state and national government agencies. As an "inner O'Connor" resident she considers Black Mountain to be part of her back yard. In this talk, she will share some of the results of a survey she carried out, in June-July-August last year, on the distribution of its tree and shrubs species.

**All welcome - especially those who have contributed to parkcare.**

Enter Aranda Bushland at lowest Bindubi Street gate by the horse paddock and look for the balloons.

**RSVP to FoAB.20Years@gmail.com for catering.**

Contact: Jean Geue, convenor on 6251-1601.

[www.friendsofarandabushland.org.au](http://www.friendsofarandabushland.org.au)

## **Hawthorn eradication an Aranda Bushland story**

Australian National Botanic Gardens Friends Talks

Thursday 2 September 2010 12.30 – 1.30pm

Hawthorn thicket to diverse woodland is possible with diligent weed control and nearby remnant diversity. This story celebrates twenty years of dedicated Parkcare. It tells how Friends of Aranda Bushland demolished a 300 x 100 metre hawthorn thicket over eight months in 1992 with enthusiastic work parties. The story continues on how they blitzed subsequent weeds and have continued with hawthorn hunts at least three yearly. It covers twelve years of removing the seed source of hawthorns and briars in the adjoining rural lease and working slowly enough for natural regeneration of wildlife habitat. It looks at the weed control techniques used, successes and setbacks and how weedbusting can be all that is needed to encourage natural regeneration of resilient diversity.

Contact Jean Geue [jean.geue@bigpond.com]

## **Radio Landcare**

For an interesting update on local landcare listen to:

**2XX FM 98.3** Tuesdays 9 - 10am

**QBN FM 96.7** Sundays 8 - 9am

Southern ACT Catchment Group has a regular spot on 2XX every third Tuesday of the month. Contact Steve or Martin if you have a desire to be involved.



## **Leap into Frogwatch this Spring!**

- Find out all about our local frogs
- Learn how to identify different frog species
- Take action to protect these fascinating creatures

Preparations are in full swing for this year's ACT and Region Frogwatch Program, and I hope that you are enthusiastic to participate in this year's activities! Please forward this email to others you think may be interested.

Frogwatch is an exciting community activity that is open to everyone with an interest in frogs. Frogwatch aims to involve large numbers of volunteers to undertake frog monitoring in the ACT and region.

To participate, simply come along to one of our free Frogwatch training events, where you will learn all about our amphibian friends. You will receive your free Frogwatch Kit that includes all you need to know to participate in the ACT and Region Frogwatch Census in October 2010.

If you have participated in the Frogwatch Census in previous years, but do not wish to attend any of the training events, please let me know and I will register your interest and arrange to get a copy of the Frogwatch Census Kit to you if you require one.

**Latest news...** you can find the 2009 Frogwatch Report online [here](#)

**Coming soon...** online site registration and data entry... please be patient (and gentle) as we make this important transition!! An email with details will be sent in coming weeks.

## **FROGWATCH TRAINING EVENTS 2010 - DETAILS**

This year ACT and Region Frogwatch in conjunction with local frog experts will be conducting a series of Frogwatch Training Events. You will only need to attend one of these to participate in the spring Census in October. We recommend attending one of the Introductory Seminars if you have never done Frogwatch before, or if you'd like a refresher on the basics of Frogwatching. The Advanced Field Trips are suitable for experienced Frogwatchers who would like the opportunity to learn more about frogs and frogwatching.

### **RSVPs are essential.**

To register your interest in the Frogwatch Training Events, or to register your participation in the Frogwatch Census, please contact:

**Emma Keightley - ACT & Region Frogwatch Coordinator**  
**Ginninderra Catchment Group**

**Ph: 6278 3309**

**Email: [frogwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au](mailto:frogwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au)**

### **Introductory Seminar - Frogwatch Basics**

This seminar is essential for the first time Frogwatcher or as a refresher for those who have participated in previous years. It will cover all you need to know to participate in the 2010 Frogwatch Census, including identifying frog species, using Frogwatch Field Data Sheets, undertaking habitat assessments and performing your first frog monitoring activity.

This seminar will include a short walk outside to practice our frog identification skills. Please be prepared by bringing sturdy shoes, a torch, and wet weather gear if necessary.

Please note: both of these introductory seminars will cover the same information - you only need to attend on one evening.

### **Introductory Seminar 1**

DATE: Wednesday 15th September, 2010

TIME: 6:00 - 9:00pm

VENUE: Queanbeyan Public School, Isabella St Queanbeyan.

RSVP: ESSENTIAL

### **Introductory Seminar 2**

DATE: Wednesday 22nd September, 2010

TIME: 6:00 - 9:00pm

VENUE: Australian National Botanic Gardens - Education Centre (Crosbie Morrison Building) Clunies Ross St, Acton

RSVP: ESSENTIAL

### **Advanced Frogwatch Training Field Trips**

These field trips are aimed at experienced Frogwatchers, who would like to further develop their identification and monitoring skills. Participants will have the

opportunity to investigate important components of frog habitat, and talk with expert ecologists in the field. Each field trip will involve walking as a group to observe a number of sites throughout the evening. Please be prepared by bringing sturdy shoes, a torch and warm clothing and wet weather gear if necessary. In case of severe weather conditions, participants who have registered will be advised of an alternative venue closer to the date.

**Field Trip 1 – Queanbeyan Region**

DATE: Monday 11th October, 2010

TIME: 6:00 - 8:30pm

LOCATION: Queanbeyan Region. Details will be provided upon registration.

LEADER: Dr David Hunter

**Field Trip 2 – Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve**

DATE: Tuesday 12th October, 2010

TIME: 6:00 - 8:30pm

LOCATION: Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve. Details will be provided upon registration.

LEADER: Dr Murray Evans

**Field trip 3 – Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve**

DATE: Wednesday 13th October, 2010

TIME: 6:00 - 8:30pm

LOCATION: Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve. Details will be provided upon registration.

LEADER: Dr Will Osborne

**KEY FROGWATCH DATES FOR 2010**

**15 September** – Introductory Frogwatch Training Evening 1 - Queanbeyan

**20 to 24 September** - ACT Frogwatch at Floriade Look 'n' Learn Marquee

**20 September** – ‘Creating a frog friendly habitat’ talk at Floriade Look 'n' Learn Marquee 10:00 – 10:30am

**22 September** - Introductory Frogwatch Training Evening 2 – Botanic Gardens

**1 October** - Start of Frogwatch monitoring period

**11 October** – Advanced Frogwatch Training 1 – Field Trip Queanbeyan region

**12 October** – Advanced Frogwatch Training 2 – Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve

**13 October** – Advanced Frogwatch Training 3 – Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve

**17 to 23 October** - National Water Week - FROGWATCH CENSUS WEEK (all Frogwatch sites monitored this week)

**31 October** - End of Frogwatch monitoring period

The ACT and Region Frogwatch Program is coordinated by the Ginninderra Catchment Group with the assistance of funds made available through the Caring for our Country Initiative with the support of the ACT Natural Resource Management Council.

The Ginninderra Catchment Group would also like to acknowledge the generous contributions of Dr Murray Evans, Dr Will Osborne and Dr David Hunter as well as the Australian National Botanic Gardens.

## **Tuggeranong Community Council AGM**

Tuggeranong Community Council AGM will be held on Tuesday 7 September. The AGM will be preceded by a normal TCC meeting. Consider running for a position on the TCC Executive. All nomination forms need to be lodged with the TCC Secretary Jane Hedges 10 days before the AGM.

Darryl Johnston

President

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