**Present:** Astrid Wright (*in the chair*), Jim Anderson, Ann Hughes, Gabrielle Ballon (CoH), Sally Wayte, Robyn Mounster, Greg Summers, Rod Arnold and Bruce Champion (*Minutes secretary - later*).

**Apology:** Geoff Dunn.

1. **Convenor’s Report:** Astrid’s report was presented, see pages 3 and 4.
2. **FoKL Officers**:The following agreed to hold positions for 2019

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| **Office** | **2019** |
| Convenor | Astrid Wright (happy to do again provided the support from the core members is maintained) |
| Equipment Officers | Robyn Mounster storage and Jim Anderson maintenance |
| Qualified in Senior First Aid  *\** | Some retrainings will be provided by COH to people who need it. *(To be confirmed)* |
| Flora Officer | Bruce Champion |
| Fauna Officer | David Obendorf |
| Web Master | Rex Bunn |

**ISSUES ARISING FROM THE CONVENOR’S REPORT.**

The report was accepted as presented with some minor financial amendments, see pages 4 and 5.

1. **Weed Control**

Permission was received from CoH to commence weed removal in Mrs Fielding’s former property, 66 Summerhill Road. Since July 2018, FoKL, especially Rod and Greg have made huge inroads into dealing with the gorse and hawthorn and many more activities have been scheduled for this new addition to our beautiful Reserve.

The family members that own 193 Forest Road, the only private property along the extension of Forest Road, who allowed us to clear the woody weed infestation in early 2017 are to be contacted again to request renewal of their public liability insurance policy. This is to enable us to do more work in this property as there has been considerable regrowth of poorly treated and seedling gorse and hawthorn.

A self-employed contractor was engaged to do weed control along the Salvator Rosa Glen area that has been added to our Reserve. We considered employing her for more spray work in 2019.

Astrid moved and Jim seconded that:

“*FoKL contract Karen Bennet to spray some small gorse regrowth in the 66 Summerhill Road, KR08 and KR14, areas for up to 6 days at $350/day*”

Carried unanimously. Astrid to organise.

1. **Funds**

The funds held for FoKL by CoH are still very healthy at $11,846.02, an increase of $950 from 2017. The surplus for the year was $1,325.70. Some funds are still required for the replacement of the Glover Track signs.

There was some discussion as to how we cost our wayleave activities. Astrid explained that we charge $30/hour/person, we have on average 6.5 people per activity and we do four 2.5 hours wayleave activities per year, So, we bill Tasnetworks $30\*6.5\*4\*2.5 = $1,950/year.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Activity Calendar**

FoKL’s Activity Calendar 2019 Rev. 0 was issued to Members and discussed. The first two month’s activities have mainly been allocated to woody weed removal along the extension of Forest Road until the hazard reduction burn planned for the south western slopes of Knocklofty, KR16, KR21, KR23 and MG09, takes place. The areas of the Reserve that were surveyed for woody weeds in early 2019 showed that while the Reserve is very dry, the rain in May and November 2018 has allowed much of the small gorse to continue to grow.

Bruce did a GPS survey across KR18 and has plotted many small clumps of gorse that have survived the dry periods. He will lead Members to the patches during the Sunday activities for the first half of the year. Sally and Geoff found some gorse in KR10 and it was agreed that this occurrence would be dealt with on a wayleave day. This also applies to some small occurrences of Erica in the upper section of KR12 near the wayleave toward the summit that Bruce has plotted.

Considerable time has been allocated to work on 66 Summerhill Road/KR13 and KR14 areas that have now become part of the Reserve. Two activities have been scheduled in October to work on special problems in KR14; Forget-me-nots and Thistles will be tackled in the Providence Rivulet gully area. Euryops continues to be of concern and activity sessions have been allocated to treat the infestations in KR4 and KR14.

Another session has been allocated to work along the Salvator Rosa Glen to try to control the Forget-me-not infestation.

The usual four sessions have been allocated to work on the TasNetworks wayleaves, two in May and two in November.

No session has been allocated to work with the Valley Street Group in the Leonard Wall Reserve as our help is not required this year.

FoKL’s Activity Calendar 2019 Rev.0 is included in these minutes, pages 5 and 6, and the management areas referred to in the Program are shown on the draft Knocklofty Reserve map on page 7.

1. **Glover Track Signage**

Bruce and Sjaan Field (CoH) inspected the Glover Track signs and determined that all the small Track signs as well as the large beginning and end signs need replacement. Sjaan was shown the Wildlife sign near the picnic lookout made by Eye Spy Signs as an example of the large signs we would like to be used to replace the Glover Track lower and upper signs. Sjaan advised that all the signs need to be replaced to change the HCC logo to the CoH one. They also decided that the Janets Pond sign needs revision and replacement. Sjaan was to take the software and requirements to the CoH signs section for action. This matter was again chased at the end of 2018. Bruce to follow up with Sjaan.

**3. Salvator Rosa Glen**

Astrid is to take a Scout Patrol to the Salvator Rosa Glen for weed maintenance at a mutually agreed time. This leaves FoKL free to concentrate on other areas and is a follow up to the September planting and mulching activity.

The meeting closed at about 8:30pm and was followed by another splendid supper provided by Jenny and Greg. This was greatly enjoyed by all.

Thank you Jenny and Greg.

January 2019

**KNOCKLOFTY RESERVE**

**Annual Report for the year 2018**

Hobart had some very inclement weather in May, with severe flooding and high winds. In the reserve several of the tracks and fire trails were washed out, and many trees uprooted. So though our total annual rainfalls were average, 50% of it came down in May, and ran away at once. That’s why the bush is quite dry, and the frog ponds empty. Several of our activities had to be cancelled in May, but many FoKL Members were seen at the CoH clean-up of Hobart Rivulet and Cornelian Bay.

At the beginning of the year the upgrade and re-alignment of the track through Salvator Rosa Glen were discussed with CoH managers, Ald. Anna Reynolds (now Mayor), FoKL and local residents. Luckily the construction had not yet started when the flood hit and it became obvious, that the track had to be set higher along the southern side of the glen, as the rivulet had washed through the proposed alignment.

The conditions have not yet been ‘just right’ for the proposed hazard reduction burn in the reserve.

After lengthy negotiations between the owners of Mrs. Fielding’s old property at 66 Summerhill Rd. and council, the CoH purchased 9 hectares and extended the reserve. The area includes the eastern slope of Knocklofty and the gully where Providence Valley Rivulet starts. We have looked at this tract of land for more than 10 years, and wishing for its inclusion in the reserve. And now it’s a reality! It shows how much the CoH is committed to preserve the city’s green and natural values.

**WEED CONTROL**

The main reserve is looking pretty good with regard to weeds (very, very few), so from July we put all our efforts into the newly acquired 9 hectares. The area was heavily infested with old growth gorse and badly burnt, re-sprouting gorse, bone seed, hawthorn, Euryops and broom. I thought we would need contractors to come in and clear, but Rodney Arnold and Greg Summers took the job on as their special project, and over four months they cleared 80% of the area. Rodney spent at least 200 hours and Greg at least 150 hours working in this area. A tremendous effort. It’s amazing to have Friends like that. There are pictures and a story about the newly acquired tract in the summer edition of Bandicoot times.

The hemlock and forget-me-not are a worry in Salvator Rosa Glen, and we had the area sprayed with glyphosate in October. The hemlock is under control, the forget-me-not is harder to get rid of. A few invasive mainland wattles*, Acacia decurrens* and *Acacia howittii*, were spotted near the Forest Rd. entrances and removed.

We had one session with the Valley St. group at the Leonard Wall Reserve, mainly dealing with re-growth gorse, cotoneaster, thistles, blackberries, hawthorn and bone seed.

**WAYLEAVE TASNETWORKS**

We did our half yearly checking of the wayleave under the power lines, pruning or removing woody plants, ‘cutting and pasting’ eucalyptus trees and wattle that might interfere with the lines; and reporting any trees that might need TasNetworks attention.

**MISCELLANEUS ITEMS**

We had a ‘Community Day’ at Salvator Rosa Glen in September, and some 93 people attended, half of them young scouts from the Mt. Stuart Troop. 150 plants and 2 loads of mulch were added to the sides of the reconstructed track. This was before the hemlock was sprayed, and some people were worried, but no adverse effect was reported. The day was also used as our ‘plant-give-away’, and the participants took home two plants each.

Dr Rod Griffin (Adj. Prof. UTAS) is still very interested in the wattle with the triploid genome, and has borrowed archival material from our collection. He would like to know the age of the mutation.

I conducted a guided tour of the reserve for two Grade II students from Mt. Stuart Primary School. They enjoyed the day, in particular looking for fossils. In appreciation, they donated some biscuits for FoKL morning teas and a voucher for $50 that we used for glyphosate.

There are reports of sightings of fallow deer in the reserve.

Suzanne Smythe, author of ‘KNOCKLOFTY – Hobart’s Back Yard’ took us for an interesting walk & talk and search for old building sites.

**FINANCES**

Because we earn money for doing the wayleave work for TasNetworks, we are in a better financial situation than many bushcare groups. So our finances are like this:

* $ 11,846.02 held by CoH $ 441.12 in CBA account $ 191.75 in petty cash

Total funds = $12,478.89

* Income

$1,950 from Tasnetworks for wayleave work

$ 120 grant from Landcare Tasmania

$50 voucher donation from Mount Stuart Primary School

Total Income = $2,120

* Expenditure $ 317.35 on contractor (spraying)

$50 voucher used to purchase glyphosate

$ 426.95 on web charges, tools, subscriptions, and most important, REFRESHMENTS!

Total Expenditure = $794.30

* Surplus =$1,325.70

**VOLUNTEERS**

We worked a total of at least 940 hours ‘on ground’ + 180 hours from the ‘Community Day’, add to this 200 hours in meetings, updating First Aid courses, preparation of notices, administration etc.

Robyn Mounster and Jim Anderson were our representatives at CoH ‘Volunteer Recognition’ evening.

Bruce Champion does all our notices, minutes and other things.

Without willing FoKL members on the ground and in their homes, we would not be able to function as well as we do.

I would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to them all.

Astrid D. Wright.

Convenor.

Friends of Knocklofty Reserve.

And all of us Friends of Knocklofty Bushcare Group say:

**“*Thank YOU, Astrid, for all the work you do and your excellent coordinating!*”**

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| **FoKL Activity Calendar for 2019. Revision 0**  **Thursdays [9 to 11.30 am], Sundays [2-4.30 pm].**  Please note this is only a guide, activities may change to suit Reserve requirements. | |
| Thursday 7th February | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse & hawthorn weeding along Forest Rd. extension well beyond the boom gate in 193 Forest Road, KR23. Unless the area has been control burnt; then KR13. |
| Sunday 17th February | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for GPS located gorse weeding above the Sandy Spit Track from the Mt Stuart Track towards Salvator Rosa Glen, KR18. |
| Thursday 21st February | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse & hawthorn weeding along Forest Rd. extension well beyond the boom gate past 193 Forest Road, KR22. Unless the area has been control burnt; then KR13. |
| Thursday 7th March | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse weeding along Forest Rd. extension well beyond the boom gate in 193 Forest Road, KR22 or KR23. Unless the area has been control burnt; then KR13. |
| Sunday 17th March | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for GPS located gorse weeding above the Sandy Spit Track midway from the Mt Stuart Track towards Salvator Rosa Glen, KR18. |
| Thursday 21st March | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for old growth gorse removal above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Thursday 4th April | Meet at the end of Corby Avenue for pruning along the Salvator Rosa Glen from Knocklofty Reserve access track toward the City. |
| Thursday 18th April | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determined on the day. |
| Sunday 21st April | Easter Sunday no activity |
| Thursday 2nd May | Meet at the Forest Road carpark for vehicle travel and Mt Stuart carpark for walking to wayleave maintenance from the west/south split up to the summit and from the Lenah Valley end up to the summit. |
| Thursday 16th May | Meet at the Forest Road carpark for wayleave maintenance from the Forest Rd carpark up to the west/south split and down the South Hobart feeder. |
| Sunday 19th May | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for GPS located gorse weeding well above the Sandy Spit Track from the Mt Stuart Track towards Salvator Rosa Glen, KR18 |
| Thursday 6th June | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for old growth gorse removal above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Sunday 16th June | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for GPS located gorse weeding well above the Sandy Spit Track midway from the Mt Stuart Track towards Salvator Rosa Glen, KR18 |
| Thursday 20th June | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for old growth gorse removal above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Thursday 4th July | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for old growth gorse removal above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Thursday 18th July | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for old growth gorse removal above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Sunday 21st July | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for GPS located gorse weeding high above the Sandy Spit Track from the Mt Stuart Track towards the wayleave, KR12 and 18 |

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| **FoKL Activity Calendar for 2019 Revision 0 [continued].**  **Thursdays [9 to 11.30 am], Sundays [2-4.30 pm].**  Please note this is only a guide, activities may change to suit Reserve requirements. | |
| Thursday 1st August | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for Euryops, Boneseed and gorse removal toward the Mt Stuart Track above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Thursday 15th August | Meet at the Mt Stuart carpark for Euryops, Boneseed and Gorse weeding along eastern boundary south from Fiona Allan Track in the Bimbadeen Court blocks, KR4. |
| Sunday 18th August | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for old growth gorse removal above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Thursday 5th September | Meet at the end of Corby Avenue for weeding Forget-me-nots along the Salvator Rosa Glen from Knocklofty Reserve track toward the City. |
| Sunday 15th September | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for old growth gorse removal above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Thursday 19th September | Meet at Poets Road carpark for maintenance of the plantings at the entrance area and roving weeding up the Glover track and uphill across to the Hotel Pacific Trail, KR21. |
| Thursday 3rd October | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for forget-me-not removal in the Providence Rivulet gully in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Thursday 17th October | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for thistle removal in the Providence Rivulet gully in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Sunday 20th October | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth growth gorse removal around Trig Hill, KR25. Plant give-away maybe? |
| Thursday 7th November | Meet at the Forest Road carpark for vehicle travel and Mt Stuart carpark for walking to wayleave maintenance from the west/south split up to the summit and from the Lenah Valley end up to the summit. |
| Sunday 17th November | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for old growth gorse removal above the Fire Trail in the CoH area of 66 Summerhill Road, KR13. |
| Thursday 21st November | Meet at the Forest Road carpark for wayleave maintenance from the Forest Rd carpark up to the west/south split and down the South Hobart feeder, then regrowth gorse weeding around Trig Hill, KR24. |
| Thursday 5th December | Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determine on the day. |

