

# MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF KNOCKLOFTY PLANNING MEETING 18 January 2023

**Present:** Astrid Wright (*in the chair*), Sonya Stallbaum (CoH), Greg Summers, Rod Arnold, David Smith, Anne Hughes, and Bruce Champion (*Minutes secretary*).

**Apology:** Sally Wayte and Jeff Dunn, Rob Giblin, Tony James, Stephen Mattingly, Gabrielle Balon, Heidi Krajewsky and Roland Painter

1. **Convenor's Report:** Astrid's report was presented and accepted, see pages 3 and 4.

2. **FoKL Officers:** The following agreed to hold positions for 2023

Office	2023
Convenor	Astrid Wright (happy to do again provided the support from the core members is maintained). Will possibly be looking for a replacement next year or, at the latest, when her First Aid qualification is up for renewal.
Equipment Officers	Tony James (Battery Point) storage and maintenance, back up Craig Macaulay if Tony is to be away for the next activity.
Qualified in Senior First Aid Astrid Wright      Rod Arnold Greg Summers	No retrainings will be required this year as no one is due; more volunteer supervisors required
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 without an amendment see pages 4 and 5.

### 3. Weed Control

Two species of *Cyperus*, *Cyperus eragrostis* and another, are taking hold in the Salvator Rosa Glen area of the Reserve beside Salvator Road and must be removed before they choke the stream line. Astrid and Bruce to sample the unknown species for Tasmanian Herbarium identification.



### 4. TasNetworks

The meeting with Wayne Smith of TasNetworks is yet to take place to walk through the wayleaves to see if he is now satisfied with our removal of the *Allocasuarinas* and other tall growing species. There was some discussion about the *Pomaderris pilifera* groves. Bruce was very concerned that they not be cut out because the large swathe of them which were growing on the northern side of the NW wayleave all died when burnt in a control burn several years ago despite him pleading with CoH personnel not to burn them. He hasn't seen any sign of regrowth and will have to inspect the area again. They have never grown any higher than they are now, so don't, in his opinion, pose a threat to the TasNetworks overhead cables. He would like to be present during the walk through with Wayne when it is organised to plead his cause.

Action: Astrid and Sonya to make contact with Wayne again.

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### **5. Funds**

The funds are covered in the Convenors Report. There was some discussion as to where we could use them (which would please the CoH who hold them for us). Sonya suggested that they be spent where it is worth spending them for the benefit of Knocklofty Reserve, such as weed spraying in the Reserve, not in neighbouring properties.

### **6. Future Officers**

Astrid advised that she would like to relinquish the position of Convenor at the end of 2024 if not before. Her Senior First Aid certification expires then and she may not renew it. So, if there is a FoKL Member who can take on the Convenor role they should discuss it with Astrid.

Bruce advised that he would like to cease preparing the activity notices and installing them at the 6 entrance locations. He can pass on the files for another keyboard warrior and the laminator, sleeves and Velcro dots, show them how the task is performed and where and how they are located. Please contact Bruce if you can help on 0408 146 041.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **7. Activity Calendar**

FoKL's Activity Calendar 2023 Rev. 0 was issued to Members and discussed. Some minor revisions and additions were made. The revised calendar is included in these minutes, pages 5 and 6, and the management areas referred to in the Program are shown on the Knocklofty Reserve map on page 7.

### **8. Guides for School Groups**

Last year, when Astrid had to go to Victoria for personal reasons she had to say no to leading school groups around the Reserve. She would like to be able to call on others to help with this very enjoyable activity. Please contact her if you can help and to find out what is involved.

### **9. More Volunteer Supervisors Required**

It would be good to have a couple of more volunteer supervisors in the core group. This involves learning the responsibilities and doing the training for a Senior First Aid Certificate, for which the CoH pays. Please contact Astrid if you are interested.

### **10. Native Animal Survey**

FoKL own 10 (to be checked) very large (stored under Bruce's house), 10 large and 10 small animal traps (stored at Astrid's house). These were purchased when David Obendorf organised the group to conduct trapping in the Reserve for Bandicoots and other native animals on 2003 & 4. He would like to have another survey of the Reserve done this year so that we know what has happened to our native animal population over 20 years. Due to the difficulty in obtaining permission for a lay person to do live animal trapping now, he suggests FoKL talk to UTAS try to get an Honours student to try to obtain permission and if successful he is prepared to mentor the student. Professor Mena Jones may be the person to contact and Sonya offered to investigate on our behalf.

The meeting, which was held again in Jenny and Greg Summer's home, closed at about 8.30 pm and was followed by another splendid supper provided by Jenny and Greg. This was greatly enjoyed by all.

Thank you Astrid, Jenny and Greg.

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Hobart, January 2023

## KNOCKLOFTY RESERVE Annual Report 2022

The winter was milder and a little drier than usual, and the spring and early summer colder and wetter. It seems these conditions were ideal for some native plants, and Knocklofty Reserve is burgeoning with Poas - *Poa labillardierei*, and fireweed – *Senecio minimum*.

However, the same conditions were bad for the butterflies, and our walk/talk about the Chaostola skipper butterfly was cancelled, as there were no butterflies.

In the cleared area above the Weerona Trail, where we planted with 250 grasses in August 2020, the Poas are thriving, but of the other four species less than 10% have survived. However, the small low native grasses that grew around the edges of the area are doing well and spreading downhill. We have spent quite a few hours keeping the thistles and seedling gorse down, to improve the grasses chances of taking over.

At the beginning of the year all volunteers were required to be double vaccinated against COVID, but now all restrictions have been lifted.

For some time, we have been worried about the proliferation of self-seeded Blackwood – *Acacia melanoxylon* in Salvator Rosa Glen. It was beginning to reduce the biodiversity of the area.

Bruce and I met with Andrew North (from northbaker Ecosystem Services) for an assessment of the area. After a report and comments from Andrew, we submitted it to COH and then had a meeting with the relevant managers from COH Parks/Bushland division. A management plan for Salvator Rosa Glen was drawn up, and we were able to remove some of the young Blackwoods in September.

A rustic seating arrangement of three large logs were constructed next to the Bandicoot Corridor.

Very pleasant!

### WEED CONTROL

As usual we went through the reserve little by little removing the introduced plants. The nine ha of land, that COH acquired four years ago on either side of the Weerona Trail, is still one of our main concerns. We had eight activities there, removing gorse seedlings, thistles, forget-me-nots, wild turnip, Euryops, elderberries, hawthorn and broom. By the Poets Rd. end of the Glover Track the hemlock is a concern, and foxglove at the end of Forest Rd. is also worrying

### TASNETWORKS

The half-yearly check of the wayleave under the power lines were done, and we cut down any young trees that might interfere with power lines.

### MICELLANEUS ITEMS

Melva Truchanas, who was one of the founding members of FoKL in 1991/92 died.

The annual plant-give-away was combined with a walk/talk by Peter Stronac from Landcare Tasmania, talking about pre-European land management and changing landscape.

Tours were conducted for Mt. Stuart Primary School and Tasmania university.

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There was a small hazard reduction burn between Salvator Rosa Glen and the main reserve.

There was no 'Volunteer Recognition' in the Town Hall this year, but a small video production with the Mayor Anna Reynolds and a few volunteer groups, FoKL were one of them.

Every year the council gives us a special morning tea as a Christmas present. Ours was a lovely picnic by the table/bench next to the Forest Rd. car park, catered for by Sonya from the CoH bushcare unit.

### FINANCES

We have:

\$12,395.52 held by COH

\$621.24 in CBA account

\$42.95 in petty cash

Total funds \$13,059.71

Income

\$1,950 from TasNetworks for wayleave work

\$150 grant from Landcare Tasmania

\$50 donation from Anne-Lise Bard

\$30 re-imburement from COH for subscription to Landcare Tasmania.

\$0.08 interests

Total \$2,180.08

Expenditure

\$907.15 on tools, web charges, refreshments, subscriptions and notices production.

Surplus \$1,272.93

### VOLUNTEERS

The Thursday's activities are very well attended with 12-16 members every time.

The Sundays are not so popular with 4-5 people, and most of them Thursday regulars.

The 'on ground' time worked by our members as a group + individually came to 1235 hours.

Add to that 200 hours in preparation and posting of notices, meetings, first aid training, web page management and administration.

Rex is our trusted volunteer web master.

Bruce does the notices.

Tony is the new 'tools keeper'.

This year it was the Thursday people who carried Friends of Knocklofty, they are a really, really good group, and I enjoy working with them very much.

Astrid D. Wright,  
Convenor.

And all of us Friends of Knocklofty Bushcare Group say:

***"Thank YOU, Astrid, once again, for all the work you do and your excellent coordinating!"***

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<b>FoKL Activity Calendar for 2023. Revision 0</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays [9 to 11.30 am], 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays [2-4.30 pm].</b>	
Please note this is only a guide, activities may change to suit Reserve requirements.	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Meet at Poets Rd. carpark for hemlock and regrowth gorse weeding along both sides of the Glover Track especially along the Salvator Rosa Rivulet, KR20c.
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for gorse weeding above the Sandy Spit Track near Salvator Rosa Glen on the wayleave side, KR18
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determine on the day.
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Meet at end of Bimbadeen Court for grass planting area thistle and gorse removal above the Weerona Trail, KR7.
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse weeding on both sides of the Mount Stuart Track from below to well above the two hairpin bends, KR12 and KR20
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse weeding between the Eastern Wayleave, the Summit Loop Track and the Main Trail in and around all the sandstone borrow pits, KR25
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse weeding in the small quarries and borrow pits along the extension of Forest Road at and beyond the main entrance KR24
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse weeding along Forest Road from 133 Forest Road to opposite Thelma Drive KR26
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse weeding downhill along Forest Rd. extension beyond the bollards along the western side of the Ross Rivulet and the uphill side of Forest Road to 193 Forest Rd, KR23
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Meet at the Forest Road carpark for wayleave maintenance from the west/south split up to the summit, & Mt Stuart carpark for walking to wayleave maintenance from the Lenah Valley end up to the summit.
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> 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, then regrowth gorse weeding along Forest Rd extension.
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse and other invasive species weeding uphill from the Sandy Spit Track, KR18.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for follow up regrowth gorse and other invasive species weeding in the private property 193 Forest Road, KR23
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for follow up regrowth gorse and other invasive species weeding in the private property 193 Forest Road, KR23
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determine on the day.
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Meet at Mount Stuart Lookout carpark for Euryops and gorse weeding E of the Fiona Allan Track, KR04
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determine on the day.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Meet at Bimbadeen Court carpark for gorse removal along the old fence line area uphill from the Weerona Trail, east of the Mount Stuart Track, KR13.

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<b>FoKL Activity Calendar for 2023 Revision 0 [continued].</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays [9 to 11.30 am], 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays [2-4.30 pm].</b>	
Please note this is only a guide, activities may change to suit Reserve requirements.	
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	Meet at Poets Road carpark for roving weeding for gorse and other invasive species up the NE side of the Glover Track, KR21.
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determine on the day.
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for regrowth gorse weeding along the edge of the uphill side of Forest Rd. extension well beyond the bollards and well beyond 193 Forest Road, KR22.
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Meet at the end of Weerona Avenue for Euryops, Boneseed and gorse plus above the Weerona Trail, KR04 and KR7.
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Meet at the upper Salvator Rd carparking area for weeding Forget-me-nots and hemlock along the Salvator Rosa Glen Track from Knocklofty Reserve Track toward the City, KR28.
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Meet at the end of Bimbadeen Court for forget-me-not and thistle removal in Providence Rivulet Gully, KR14.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Meet at the end of Bimbadeen Court for forget-me-not and thistle removal in Providence Rivulet Gully, KR14.
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for a plant identification walk around the Reserve with Members of the Australian Plants Society Tasmania Hobart Group led by FoKL's Flora officer, Bruce Champion. Followed by CoH Plant Give-away ( if provided)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determine on the day.
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Meet at the Forest Road carpark for wayleave maintenance from the west/south split up to the summit, & Mt Stuart carpark for walking to wayleave maintenance from the Lenah Valley end up to the summit.
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> 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 along Forest Rd extension.
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determine on the day.
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Meet at Forest Rd carpark for an activity to be determine on the day.

FRIENDS OF KNOCKLOFTY 2021 map with KR areas tracks & trails

