

FRIENDS OF LOCAL KOALA, LAND AND WILDLIFE FOLKLAW

NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER 1995

Since the first public meeting on September 24th, the community group, FOLKLAW, has formed and has held one other public meeting (Oct 22nd) and 4 committee meetings (to which any interested people are invited). Also Jenny Bryant has informed us that she has admitted 19 koalas to her wildlife shelter since that date of which only 9 have survived.

Much time has been spent on drafting a constitution and group aims to allow FOLKLAW to incorporate as soon as possible. There are a number of reasons for this, the main ones being

- (1) the provision of personal indemnity and group insurance during meetings,
- (2) to enable the group to apply for the numerous government grants available during the next few months.

Other activities in which the group has been involved include:

1. A visit to the sandy Point area of HMAS Cerberus to look at the problems Koalas are facing.
2. A visit to Phillip Island by Judy Jack and Penny Gillespie to meet Patsy Hunt and Margaret Handcock of the Friends of Koalas and to view their Koala display.
3. Snez, Jenny Bryant and Judy met with Ian Stevenson from the Mornington Peninsula Shire to discuss the erection of the Koala information shelter in Balnarring.
4. A bank account has been opened in the group's name so we are able to receive your membership dues which will help pay for the production and postage of this newsletter amongst other things.
5. Peter Maganov (DCNR) spoke at the meeting on October 22 about the aims of Coast Action and how FOLKLAW could participate.

Because the committee has spent the last two meetings developing a constitution, not much time has been spent discussing group activities that could be carried out this summer.

It has been suggested that a workshop be run on Sunday January 21st to develop a calendar of events for 1996 to which everyone will be invited. Tracey Neilson has been asked to convene this afternoon. Please come as your input is necessary to get the group going. The venue is Somers Primary School, 1.00 to 4.00. More information available from Judy Jack in the weeks to come.

In the interim there are lots of ecological activities currently happening on the Peninsula in which you may get involved.

For example:-

1. Working Bees, Somers Foreshore.

Judy and Peter Jack will be running informal weeding mornings every Friday morning in January between 10am and 12pm. BYO gardening gloves.
Further information - Judy/Peter Jack, tel. 831 034.

2. Working Bee, Lorna's Triangle (Cr South Beach Rd & Disney St. Bittern).

Working bees are on the 2nd Sunday morning of every month, 9.30-12.30.
Meet at the Monument at Trafalgar St, all welcome, BYO gardening gloves.
January's working bee is on 14/1/96. Further information- Robin Adair, tel 839408.

3. MEAFAC

Working bees are 3rd Sunday of the month, ie January 21, 1996
Meet at Moorooduc Quarry. Further information- David Stewart, tel 793 583.

4. Bill Carol Reserve, Palmers Hill Rd, Merricks.

Contact Joanne Ferguson- tel 03 9489 4232 or (BH) 03 9309 1052.



5. R. W. Stone Reserve, Camp Hill Rd , Somers.
Contact Geoff Griffiths- tel 831 836.

6. Balnarring Wetlands
Contact Heather Goddard 831 633 or Ian Wisken 831 911 (Balnarring PS).

Other future activities in which FOLKLAW may participate include a Koala count in Cerberus around the 25th of February 1996 (please contact Judy if you could help with organisation or want to participate) and a direct seeding program in Cerberus in Autumn 1996. At some stage there will also be a meeting with Shire Officers to establish a working relationship between the Shire and FOLKLAW. Input to this meeting would be gratefully received.

Any other ideas or thoughts would be welcome, so please ring any of the people listed below to give your input.

We hope to see you at least one activities or perhaps at our meetings next year.

**Remember, every weed you pull, every tree you plant,
every person you talk to about koalas, may help to
save another koala.**

For your information, the FOLKLAW interim office bearers are -

President: Judy Jack, tel 831 034
Secretary: Snez Plunkett, 821099
Treasurer: Trish Birchill, tel 898524.

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* Next Committee Meeting
Friday Dec. 8th
7:30pm
Somers Primary School



The main item on the Agenda is approving the Constitution



FOLKLAW wishes to acknowledge the following business for their support and donations.


We also wish to acknowledge Somers Primary School for the support and copying of newsletter.

**The Indigenous Garden
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