



# F.O.L.K.L.A.W

PO BOX 28 SOMERS 3927

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2005

*Spring has sprung and therefore another newsletter has to be created.*

*It is always difficult to think of what we put in the newsletter so if you have any ideas, please don't be shy and let us know.*


*The lovely rain and now the warmer weather, means the weeds are growing like mad. Whenever you have a spare half hour please take that time to pull out some weeds.*

*The rains has also given the frogs something to croak about and as you go for a walk around the reserve you will be rewarded with their orchestral talents.*

*A royal spoonbill was seen in the reserve foraging for some food in the shallows, and of course we have had numerous ibises and ducks visiting.*

*For tree planting day this year [31st of July] we did plant in the Koala reserve.*





*It was good to see young and old attending the tree planting day, and all enjoyed a good productive morning with Peter doing the rounds with his lollies to give everyone sustenance .*

*Since that day we have had another working bee in the Koala reserve where of course the weeds were on top of our list, as always.*

*The September working bee was also our 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday party and we did mulching in the Stone reserve. The plants we planted as a community there last year have done quite well although we had in areas significant losses. We are hoping that by mulching the planted areas we will no longer lose plants to the mowers or have the plants smothered by the kikuya grass. Thank you to Hans for moving all that mulch from the rear of the reserve, without him we wouldn't have been able to do as much.*

*The party afterwards was an eating feast, and all who attended left with full bellies Thank you for being part of our special day.*

*Also a **thank you to the committee of Stone Reserve** for letting us use the hall free of charge.*

*Our **next working bee will be on October the 30<sup>th</sup>** and we will **go this time to the foreshore** to help the foreshore committee with the enormous task of planting 9000 plants. Already 4000 plants have been planted with the help of Conservation Volunteers Australia. It would be good if we, as a community, could join forces to finish the remainder of the plantings*

*The project is just too large for any one organisation to cope with on their own, so let us all lend a hand.*

***Don't be shy and bring your friends, the more the merrier.***

*The work already done on the foreshore is a credit to the foreshore committee and **especially Rosemary**, who is the driving force behind the whole project.*

***JENNY BRYANT is the kind person you can call when you find a Koala in desperate need of some care.***

*Jenny is always at the ready to help our furry friends, she doesn't get any funding from the government, only kind donations from individuals.*

*We wish to give our condolences to Jenny as she just recently lost her partner, who was the person she could count on for moral support and strength when needed.*

*FOLKLAW donated just recently \$500 to Jenny to assist her and we are currently at the closing stages of a raffle, of which all the moneys raised will go to Jenny.*

*Allan Lim Joon has been so kind to donate a beautiful block mounted picture of a mother koala and her baby as first price in the raffle.*

*The raffle will be drawn at the Somers School art Fair on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October.*

## **KOALA RESCUE AND REHABILITATION**

***Jennie Bryant***

***MOB: 0417 395 883***

***Help for Wildlife***

***Wildlife Care Network***

***Ph: 0500 540 000 ( all hours)***



***Tetragonia tetragonoides* [New Zealand spinach]**

*Other common names are Botany Bay spinach or Warrigal greens.*

*It is a common shrubby herb growing under a variety of conditions from coastal sand swamps from open plains to arid woodlands.*

*The leaves are triangular and thick, a bright green colour and glistening as if covered in dew. The yellow flowers are followed by hard pods.*

*New Zealand spinach was one of Captain Cook's many famous discoveries.*

*First seen along the coast of New Zealand and later at Botany Bay.*

*It was cooked and eaten by the crew of the Endeavour to prevent scurvy.*

*Joseph Banks took seeds to Kew gardens. In the 1880's it was promoted in the European seed catalogues as a hardy, summer growing spinach substitute.*

*In recent times the wild food promoters in Australia have brought it to the public's attention again, and in bush tucker restaurants it can be ordered as "Warrigal greens"*

*The fresh leaves cooked or served raw in salads are very tasty.*

*The Aborigines rarely ate the New Zealand spinach and it is reported that its use was made known to the aborigines by the white man.*

