



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

NEWSLETTER Winter Newsletter 2015

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Hi all,

20 years of F.O.L.K.L.A.W being a volunteer organisation will have passed in October. FOLKLAW was formed in 1995 by concerned residents of Somers. To celebrate we are holding a planting day on Sunday 29th November 9.30 - 11.30 in the Koala Reserve. Meet at the normal place as detailed below.

F.O.L.K.L.A.W. will have a stall at the Somers Arts Fair 25th October from 9 am. Volunteers will be manning the stall. Come along and say hello.

One of our members volunteered to make additional possum rehabilitation boxes for injured and orphaned baby possums. They will be donated to the Balnarring wildlife carer that looks after them.

From little thing big thing get to grow.

A set of financial year accounts have been sent to Mornington Shire Council for scrutiny. We have 2 end-of-financial year returns every year - one ending 31st May and the other ending 31st December for the Federal Government.

June Working Bee: Phil Birchall organised the group to weed inside the protective planting bags of the new plants in the Coastal Banksia area.

July Working Bee: Pam Banister organised the volunteers to weed and cut back braches from the paths around the Reserve.

August Working Bee: Pam Bannister organised the event and with 8 other volunteers planted and bagged 90 new seedlings.

Next Working Bees:

27th September from 9.30am to 11.30am.

There will be no working bee in October as we will have a stall at Somers School Arts Fair.

29th November - 20 Years Celebration Community Planting Day.

Meet in the Koala Reserve entry via the gate at the end of Campsie Court, Somers.

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All Welcome

Refreshments provided.



Banana Passionfruit (Baddie): (*Passiflora Mollissima*)



Banana Passionfruit is a vine with cylindrical stems which are densely coated with yellow hairs. It is a vigorous climber, growing up to seven metres. The leaves are a shiny green with clearly defined veins. The flower is large, pink and green petalled with a yellow and white centre. The fruit is yellow-orange when ripe and contains a sweet edible orange-coloured pulp with black seeds.

The banana passionfruit is native to the Andean valleys from Venezuela to Bolivia. It was domesticated around the time of the Spanish Conquest and today it is commonly cultivated and its fruit are regularly sold in local markets.

It is considered an environmental weed in South Eastern Australia (Victoria, Tasmania and New South Wales), but not declared or considered noxious by any Australian state government authorities.

Banana passionfruit is used as rootstock for grafting the passionfruit varieties more commonly grown for food, especially in climates too cool for productive passionfruit growing. Regrowth from beneath the graft is one means of its outbreak as a weed, so growers should be vigilant for sprouting low on the main stem or from around the base of the plant, and should pull up and discard the plant when (typically after 6-9 years) the grafted passionfruit is no longer productive.

Knobby Club Rush (Goodie): (*Ficinia nodosa*)



Knobby Club-sedge or Knotted Club-rush is native to all Australian States, New Zealand, South Africa and South America.

It is common and widespread from near-coastal and nutrient deficient, Mallee sands to heathlands. It is often found on the margins of saline or sub-saline lakes and watercourses in Western

Victoria and the Wimmera and the margins of coastal salt-marshes but also occurs in non-saline wet or moist situations.



The stems of the knobby club rush range from 15-100 cm high and 1-2 mm diameter. Its rhizomes are relatively stout and tough. Leaves reduced to orange-brown sheaths. Its flower heads are dense and globular or hemispherical in shape. They are 7-20 mm diameter with numerous spikelets, connected by a rigid and sharply pointed bract. Fruit is a smooth, glossy, dark brown to black nut of irregular shape and 1 mm diameter.