

## **2012 ANNUAL REPORT KNOCKLOFTY RESERVE**

With a few years of good rains, the reserve's fauna population has increased, and you can see animal paths everywhere, and spot them jumping and running away when walking through the area.

Birds and butterflies are very evident and the frogs happy in the water. We even see a family of ducks living in one of the ponds.

The reserve is increasingly popular with dogs, walkers, runners, bikers and school excursions.

We hosted a very interesting workshop on grass- lands, and grass identification.

### **WEED CONTROL**

Our main focus the past year has been on the maintenance of cleared areas.

We had only one day spent clearing old-growth gorse at the end of Forest Rd.

Euryops continues to be a real problem on the eastern slopes towards Mt. Stuart, and we worked there trice

We had hoped to share the cost of contract clearing of the area near Bimbadeen Court, but the HCC decided against this, as they felt they could not maintain the area. The HCC sprayed a couple of areas of blackberries and fiddley little gorse seedlings. The contract clearing of a buffer zone on OPTUS land will start Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>. We have agreed to contribute \$5000 initially for this project.

### **AURORA WAYLEAVE**

Maintaining the wayleave was easier this year. We did seven days there.

Our contract runs out in June 2012

The work we have done is costed at \$9570 of the contracted \$10,000. We expect to earn the balance of the contact by June 2012.

### **MISCELLANEOUS JOBS**

In March Astrid gave a talk and picture show to West Hobart Neighbour Watch about the transformation of the reserve over the last 20 years.

In April Jean Grady (on secondment from the Botanical Gardens to HCC) took us through the Glover Track Interpretative Walk which she has developed.

In May Bruce and other FoKL members helped organised a display during the day of the 'Back to West Hobart' event.

Bruce spent many hours on the proposal for revegetation of the unused half of Forest Rd. car park. The first submission was rejected as too ambitious. Bruce then reduced the project by 60%. This was also rejected. So in spite of our efforts, the unused part of the car park will remain an eyesore.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Southern Water put in some new pipelines near the big water tank.

They are responsible for the revegetation of the disturbed area.

The Poets Rd. quarry project started with the 'hard' landscaping in November.

We will do the planting this coming winter.

## **FINANCES**

We have \$14,397.00 in trust at HCC, and another \$2,060.00 due from Aurora.

\$5000 of this is committed to the contract work on the OPTUS buffer zone

We also have \$390 'in hand'.

Among other things we spent \$400 on the frog booklet and Velcro stickers and lamination, and of course, goodies for our well-earned refreshments after activities.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

We put in 900 hours +

The hours worked are a little down on last year's numbers. The wayleave has needed less work, and the attendance on Sundays has fallen off.

It's still gratifying to see members coming out in all weathers, and it's thanks to them that you often hear appreciative comments from visitors, with regard to the condition of the reserve. It's really great to be part of a group who is willing to give time for the common good.

Astrid was absent several times due to family commitments, and it was reassuring to see how others took up the slack.

Robyn and Wally looked after our tools and represented us at the Tas. Landcare Conference at Stanley.

Greg put in many hours of individual roving weeding.

Without Bruce's support, the convenors job would not be possible.

## **THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL OUR FRIENDS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF KNOCKLOFTY RESERVE.**

Astrid D. Wright.

Convenor.