

Friends of Mt Majura (FoMM) March 2008 newsletter

- Planning the FoMM stall at Hackett's Birthday Party – Tuesday 11 March
- Good Mothers and Family Life among the Huntsman Spiders – Thursday 13 March
- Working Bee and Morning Tea – Sunday 16 March
- Tree hollow survey on Mount Majura – Tuesday 8 April
- Volunteers needed for upcoming events

Dear Friends

The talk and walk 'Along a Trail with Ants' with Ajay Narendra was a great. About 70 people squeezed Ajay with many questions. We saw the most stunning photographs at the talk and the 'real thing' on the mountain during the walk. A report is available at our website (http://majura.org/?page_id=49), many thanks to Dorothy. There will be a couple of events coming up in the week before Easter and it would be great if you could come along.

Planning the FoMM stall at Hackett's Birthday Party – Tuesday 11 March

When: Tuesday 11 March, 9.00 to 10.00 am

Where: at Lesley's place, 28 Selwyn St, Hackett

Bring: creative ideas for the stall.

Good Mothers and Family Life among the Huntsman Spiders – Thursday 13 March

When: Thursday 13 March 2008, 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm

Where: Blue Gum School Friends Lounge, Hackett shops

Dr. Linda Rayor, Cornell University, USA and Australian National University will present the second lecture of our Hilltop to Backfence series. She will talk about the basic biology and the fascinating social behaviour of Australian huntsman spiders. There will be live huntsman of a number of species shown. Bring your huntsman for identification or to donate for further studies. Don't miss this great opportunity to meet the expert and ask her all the questions you have about huntsman.

Working Bee and Morning Tea – Sunday 17 February

When: Sunday, 17 February, from 8.30 am onwards

Where: meet at the lower dam off Mackenzie Street park entrance

Bring & Wear: sun protection, sturdy boots and full body covering clothing.

Please don't forget to fill in and sign the activity sheet at the rangers' trailer.

We'll meet (again) at the lower dam and hopefully complete the removal of woody weeds in the area. Come for a cuppa, see the new island floating on the lower dam and hear about how it got there.

Tree hollow survey on Mount Majura – Tuesday 8 April

When: Tuesday 8 April, 12.00 - 5.00 pm

Where: tba

This is a rare opportunity: You can join Phillip Gibbons and students of the Fenner School of Environment and Society at the ANU for a survey of tree hollows on Mt Majura. Learn how to conduct a survey and find out about the importance of tree hollows for a range of native fauna including Sugar Gliders and Southern Boobook owls that live on Mt Majura. Phil will present the data recorded at Mt Majura at his Hilltop to Backfence lecture "A Hollow Existence" in September. He, together with David Lindenmayer published an extensive study on "Tree hollows and Wildlife Conservation in Australia" (CSRIO Publishing 2002). Please RSVP to me if you want to get involved.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed who could provide back-up at the Hilltop to Backfence lectures and the World Environment Day Walk, Talk and Tea event. Tasks involve helping with setting up the room at the lecture series, collect donations and look after activity sheets at events. Please check the lecture program at www.majura.org and let me know if you could help at any of the events.

Warm regards from Waltraud