

Friends of Mount Majura (FoMM) August 2010 newsletter

- National Tree Day – Thank you
- Tree walk – Sunday 22 August
- Working bee – Sunday 19 September

Friends,

we need to fine tune our rain dance! Planting on National Tree Day on the 1st August was a very soggy event and posed a challenge for participants. Shortly after the official start at 1pm it was all pouring rain. I was amazed how many committed volunteers including a number of family parties braved the adverse conditions and managed to plant about 250 shrubs and trees.

I'd like to thank everyone for the contribution, particularly Peter O'Neill who dug an incredible amount of the planting holes, Dorothy Mackenzie for registering participants, our Parks Conservation and Lands rangers who gave support prior and during the event, Noel Birchall for looking into everything to ensure a smooth running, Andrew Blanckensee for arranging tea although it was watered down, the planting buddies and muffin providers – thank you. Many thanks also to the students, teachers and parents of the Hackett Blue Gum School who planted almost 100 trees and shrubs on National Tree School Day, Friday 30 July and to Liese Baker who supported the School planting. In the past two days Chris, Peter, Louisa and Liese planted the remainder of shrubs and ground cover plants – thank you. All in all we planted 475 trees, shrubs and ground cover plants this season which includes additions to the old sheep camp prior to National Tree Day. A great achievement thanks to the combined effort of our community.

Some planting at the paddock was done in a rush and there's a need for seedling after-care such as improving water retention dams around the seedlings and mulching. Please contact Liese at liese@ozemail.com.au if you can help.

We will be revisiting the planting site at our September working bee on Sunday, 19 September to look after the seedlings and control herbaceous weeds that compete with the young plants; see below further details or visit our website at <http://majura.org/2010/08/01/working-bee-19-09-2010/>

And a reminder: Don't miss out on the Tree Walk on Sunday 22 August guided by local ecologist Michael Doherty. The walk will culminate at a site with remnant snow gums on Mount Ainslie. A pocket guide to the Eucalypts of the ACT and a leaflet with a commented list of local tree species list will be available for a gold coin donation. Event details and an essay on eucalypts and wattles are available on our website at <http://majura.org/2010/07/07/expert-guided-walk-trees-of-mount-ainslie-22-08-2010/>

Take care

Waltraud

Email: admin@majura.org

Tree walk – Sunday 22 August

When: Sunday 22 August, 2 pm - 4pm

Where: Meet at Kellaway St / Phillip Ave nature park entrance

Enquires: Jeanette ph 62477684 or jlruyton@gmail.com

Working Bee – Sunday 19 September

When: Sunday 19 September, 9 am – 12 noon

Where: Hackett reservoir off Rivett and French Streets

Bring: sun protection, gloves if you have them and wear long sleeves and pants. We will provide the equipment and morning tea.