

Newsletter August 2022



FRIENDS OF ANSTEY HILL



Formed 1988

ABN: 53 952 413 248

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Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/friendsofansteyhill>

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Ranger: Tim Howard Ph, 0437 700 988



ANSTEY IN BLOOM

With Spring nearly upon us it is good to see the wattles in bloom and the many plants and flowers that have raised their heads in recent times. It also means we are nearing the October AGM which also means fees become due for the New Anstey Year in October. In this Newsletter there is a reminder about the AGM on the first Wednesday in October. For the past 34 years most members of the committee have been walkers in the park or Wednesday workers. It would be great to have representation from the Parkrun community and the cycling community who are big users of the park. Included in this Newsletter is a list of our very reasonable fees, reports from key people and some pictures of work done in the park and some blooms to look out for.



President's Report

Extracts of the PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR COMMITTEE MEETING on 3rd August 2022

Since the last committee meeting, we reached 50 memberships. Given the number of family memberships this represents about 75 members of which about 30 are active either on the committee, in the Bushcare group or assisting on propagation/planting days. Of course, many of the members contribute in all the activities. It is important that we try to grow the membership (albeit

slowly) as this gives a greater pool of people that can assist on the committee and participate in our Bushcare activities. We need to continue our increased communication with existing members and the information we provide through our Facebook page as an attractor to new members.

Planting Day didn't go quite to plan due to the wet weather. We planted near the shed around the bee hotel which gave us the advantage of retreating to the shed when the showers came and it also kept the barbeque dry. All in all, 17 brave souls helped us on the day, always great to catch up with some of the members we see only once or twice a year.



The Wednesday Bushcare group continues to benefit from the increase in memberships with a strong turnout to the sessions. It has been great to get the Rangers with some DIT redeployees out helping us tackle the African daisies in the area down from gate 16. We look forward to further opportunities to work together on other areas in the park.

We continue to be in a sound financial position but it is with some regret that we learned that Re-Gen can no longer support us due to the loss of the volunteer that donated their time to our cause. Thankyou Mark for all the time you gave to Re-Gen and the ensuing income we received. We may need to consider encouraging others to volunteer at the Re-Gen Op Shop for the benefit of FOAH.

I have proposed some minor changes to the constitution to align our financial year with the calendar as opposed from AGM to AGM and to recognise members that have been with us for 30 or more years as Life Members. If the committee agrees then I propose to take this to the AGM for approval.

Steve Lukacs

BUSHCARE REPORT

This is a summary of activities undertaken from 2nd June 2022 to 3rd August 2022:

- The main focus during this period has been on planting activities and weed control at various locations in the park
 - Planting activities have been at the bee hotel near the Friends Shed, planting area up from Gate 1 and near the Lookout.
 - African daisy removal in the area down from Gate 16
 - Mainly olives, African daisy, onion weed and bridal creeper in the area from the Lookout to Torture Hill Track and then from Torture Hill Track towards Kaurua Way.



Future activities include:

- Continue in the area either side of Ridgetop south from Torture Hill Track
- Park bench maintenance
- Friends Valley, tree guard removal and general weed control
- Boneseed control in area up from Gate 5
- Remove old fencing, particularly those which include barb wire strands.

Statistics for the Bushcare Group activities for this period:

- 9 Wednesday mornings sessions plus Planting Day
- Total of 286 hours
- Average number of hours per activity is 28.5
- Average number of workers per morning is 11

Great to see that we are growing the turnout for the Wednesday sessions.

Steve Lukacs

Ranger's Report

AUGUST 2022

ON PARK

Visitors

Numbers have remained steady over the months of June and July with our traffic counters at gate 1 and 6. Over 1800 at gate 1 and over 1300 at gate 6 respectively for each month. Slightly down over the winter months but that is a reflection of the cold weather and wet conditions. The finer days over the weekends are still drawing a good number of park users and the weekly park run event is still having a good turnout.

The finer weather weekends I patrolled saw all car parks at capacity with overflow spreading along Perseverance rd. at gate 3. Parking capacity at gate 18 has also been witnessed with the potential for an expansion of parking in this space. I may install a counter here to gather some data to see if a proposed parking area upgrade is warranted. Your Thoughts on this??

Events

A large orienteering event was held by Orienteering SA on the 3rd of July staged at gate 18. They had up to 60+ participants on foot and on bikes. Multiple marques and toilets were set up at the staging area at gate 18 and various control points set up throughout the park. It was my weekend off but Ranger Taylor checked in on the event and had these comments.

“Quite a lot of traffic/parking along Range Rodd South, may have caused congestion at times and prevented regular park users accessing gate 18”

“Some participants scrambling across hill faces following the most direct compass bearing route instead of sticking to the designated trails”

Whilst these issues seem minor, I will correspond with the event organisers to come up with some mitigating actions should they wish to host another event.

Tracks and Trails

Some concerns have been raised by some members of the public about the trail leading down from the lookout onto Ridgetop track or yellowtail loop. Walkers are experiencing some run ins with bike riders coming down this little trail and having near misses. Taylor and myself had a look at this and propose a small diversion towards the bottom, following the contours to try and mitigate this and prevent a direct line straight down the hill.

Fire management have reviewed my fire track audit assessments. They and are now awaiting their track upgrade budget allocations to determine how much of this can be spent on my proposals for potential maintenance and upgrades throughout the park. Fingers crossed we see some of this happening soon.

I've had a call from Pamela Smith (Secretary, Friends of Parks) and she asked about the status of the Trails group for Anstey hill. I've tried contacting them multiple times but have been unsuccessful in my endeavours to find out. Can anyone shed any light on this for me as to how I can touch base with this group? The same applies to the Friends of Angove. Any help here would be appreciated.

Compliance

I received a call from our duty officer on the 23rd July with reports of motorbikes in the park in from gate 17. The call was from a neighbour who witnessed the bikes in the area. I headed out but was unsuccessful in catching up with the offenders but observed the wheel tracks that were left. As the fence along Range rd. South is in pretty poor condition, I will plan for fencing works to happen along here to try and prevent the ease of access. There has also been continued fire wood theft inside gate 10. Surveillance has been put in place to obtain any evidence that can lead to expiation.

For those of you who witnessed the 'Rouge and stubborn Alpacas' on the 13th July... I now have contact details of the owners and a location of where they belong. If they are seen in the park again, can you please let me know so I can contact the owners and get them removed... 😊

Works

Ranger staff and DIT crews assisted the group on the 13th July down from gate 16 tackling the African daisy. It was productive morning and were happy to assist and meet members out in the field. There is still much to do in this space and I will program in some days in the coming months for staff and DIT teams to continue to assist.

I'm awaiting the return of some equipment to finish off the works along the road edge in from gate 1 up to the picnic ground. A large tractor is required to place some rocks strategically to tidy up the parking issues. The tractor is currently on loan to the team in Pt Lincoln and should return soon.

The internal fence removal works have been going ahead with staff working on enclosure removal around the Kloppers and Coulls track revegetation areas.

There has been some reshuffling of our DIT teams and I'm waiting for that to settle before they are tasked with further fence line removal tasks.

OFF PARK

Planting

NPWS Staff have been busy with multiple days of tree planting across our Barossa cluster of parks. With 200 trees going in at Sandy Creek, 500 trees at Cobbler Creek, 500 trees at Para Wirra and another 500 at Para Woodlands. Dirty knees and sore backs have been the result but hopefully we will see the benefit of this across the landscape in years to come.

DIT

As I mentioned earlier, our DIT teams have been having a little restructure with team members and vehicles being shuffled around to different projects and new members joining our team. Whilst this provides a good variety of opportunities for them it does cause some disruption in planning works and training for NPWS staff. Hopefully this will settle down soon and we can plan for larger works and tasks in the future.

In closing, keep up the great work you are doing for the biodiversity of Anstey Hill.

Tim Howard

AGM

The AGM will be held at the Tea Tree Gully Heritage Museum at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5th October. The President and our Ranger will provide an overview of the year's activities and possible future additions. A guest speaker will also provide us with some ecological insights. Following the AGM there will be supper provided for all attendees.

Please consider volunteering for the committee. We meet usually on the first Wednesday night of November, February, April, June and August plus the AGM in October. Key events during the year include Propagation Day in December and Planting Days. We would love for someone to volunteer to do the Newsletter.

Fees

Fees become payable on the 1st of October. Below is a copy of the Membership form. If you have changed address, phone number or are a new member please send a copy of this form with your details to anstey.friends@gmail.com



FRIENDS OF ANSTEY HILL

2022/23 Membership Form

And Donation Advice

(for year ending 30th September 2023)

PO Box 653, St Agnes SA 5097

(ABN 53 952 413 248)

Please Note:

- If this is an electronic version of our membership form it can be completed on-line, saved to your computer and emailed to us. (anstey.friends@gmail.com)
- Please complete and return this form whether a new membership or a renewal, as this allows us to ensure contact details are up to date.

Please indicate membership category by selecting appropriate box:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single \$14 | <input type="checkbox"/> Single Concession \$12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Concession \$14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group \$22 (ie Community Association/Club, Business, Government body, etc) | |

(standard definitions for concession/family apply)

I would also like to include a donation of \$..... towards future and on-going projects.

Name(s)

Address

Telephone: (hm) (mob)

Email

Notes:

- If a 'family membership' please feel free to add additional names and email addresses so all family members can stay informed of FOAH activities and receive the club newsletter.
- Normally all correspondence will be by email, but if you wish to receive a hard copy of our Newsletter (normally 4 times per year) please let us know.

Payment Methods:

- ☐ direct debit ☐ pay by mail (see below)

Payment by direct debit can be made to our bank account:

Friends of Anstey Hill, BSB 105 155, Account No. 578 101 140

Please include the reference "m'ship fees, your surname and initials"

or Mail this form together with your cheque/money order/cash (no coins please) to above address.

Volunteer Safety Reminder: If you intend to help us undertake activities in the Park you are required to complete a Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) Volunteer Activity Registration Form, which can be accessed via our website. The completed form should be submitted to us either via email (anstey.friends@gmail.com) or post (see address above).

Further information on the Friends of Anstey Hill can be found on our website

www.communitywebs.org/FriendsofAnsteyHill/

Propagation Day 2021



The Crew about to before the hard work



Long term supporter Frances Bedford



Mary Lane planting the seeds



Filling and compacting the tubes

Pictures from the Planting Days



At the carport alongside the shed



Near the Lookout



Near the Bee Hotel



By the path to the Lookout



Inspecting the work up from Gate 1



Brunch sheltering from the rain after the planting was done.

Photos From Wednesday Works

Near gate 16



Before



After



Early morning briefing on a warm day



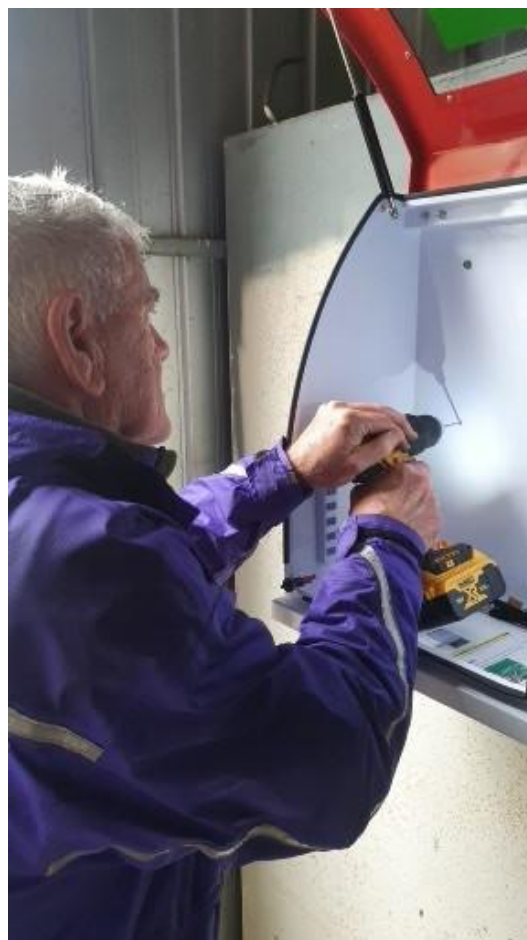
Working with a beautiful view in the distance



Visitors keeping an eye on their patch as we work



Installing a solar light in the shed



Installing a box for the defibrillator



Early morning briefing on a cold day

Spring Blooms you might see in Anstey





