



# FRIENDS OF ANSTEY HILL



ABN: 53 952 413 248

PO Box 653

ST. AGNES SA 5097

## **NEWSLETTER**

**AUGUST 2025**

**NO: 04/2025**

### **DIARY DATES**

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2025	Bushcare Session	Meet at the She 9.30am
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	Membership Fee Due	
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Annual General Meeting	TTG Heritage Museum – 7.30pm
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Propagation Day	Meet at the Shed 9.30am

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**FRIENDS OF ANSTEY HILL – BUSHCARE MORNING**

**SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**

**MEET AT: THE SHED – GATE 18 – 100 RANGE ROAD SOUTH, HOUGHTON**

**FROM 9.30AM - APPROX. 2 HOURS**



For the members who cannot attend the regular Wednesday Bushcare Sessions, we have organised this weekend event.

Please wear long pants and shirt with sturdy shoes and a hat for sun protection. We will provide gloves and tools. Refreshments will be supplied at the end of the session.

Look forward to seeing you there.

## ***WEDNESDAY BUSHCARE GROUP – HANDY MEMBERS***

Over the years many members have contributed to the skills pool for the Wednesday Bushcare Group. We currently have a variety of people with various skills which we are very thankful for. Here are a few examples of projects undertaken by our current group: -

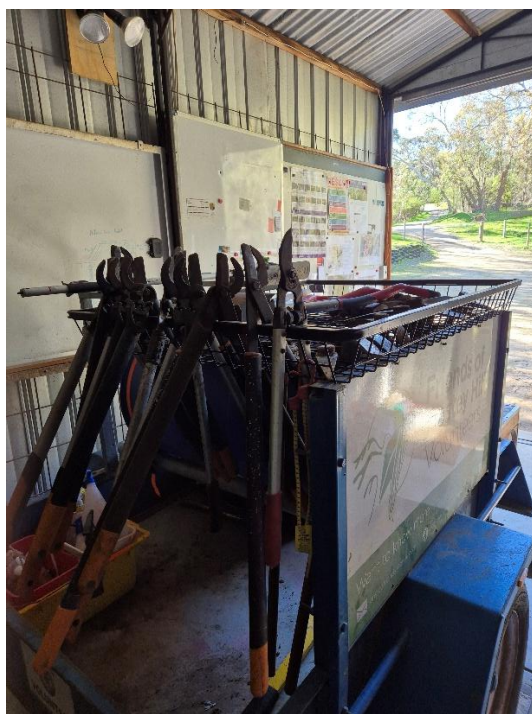
Rain gauge installed by **Barry Woodward** and **John Harmer** with the repurposing of a fence post. You will find it in the Bee Hive Garden across from the Shed.



**David Waterman** has installed shelving into the Shed (a **Marie Mudge** initiative) as well as building a water tank and tool carrier over the trailer.







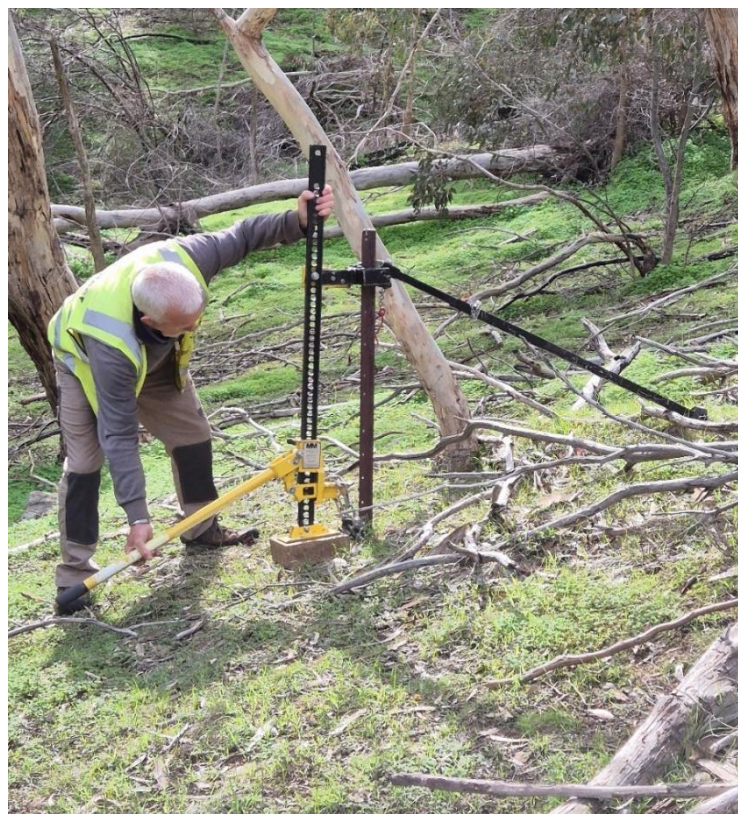
**Jay Russian** picked up iron sheeting from the side of the road to complete the portable toilet area and added the door!! Thanks to **Barry Woodward** for donating the portable toilet. The ladies are very pleased... Jay also made our wash stand for the sink which was donated by **Steve Lukacs** and Steve did the plumbing.







**John Duncan** has been busy dismantling the old farm fencing in the park. He has made a device that works very well removing the star pickets that are deep in the ground. He is also responsible for us changing from Corfu plant guards to Wire guards. (**Derek Chamberlain** has used his contacts for the donated wire.) John has prepared the wire for the group to put together before installing them on plants that the kangaroos love to graze on. Also, John has made more hooks for in the Shed and annex for storing material off the ground. John's recent innovation is the water dispenser to be used at planting sites without having to lift the heavy containers.











## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

A lot of the activity over this period has been centred around preparing for Planting Day. A huge thankyou to John Duncan who singlehandedly dug all the holes whilst looking after the plantings from last year, nursing them through a very dry summer. Planting Day was on Sunday 22nd June with 41 in attendance which I think sets a new record for us. A great day with Rob doing a great job on the BBQ to round off the day. As for the excess plants the Wednesday group distributed these at the bee hotel near the shed and at the Lookout.

On the subject of plantings, we have 2 kindy planting on Thursday 14th August with Banksia Park at 9:30am followed by Kathleen Mellor at 11am. The holes have been dug and filled with good quality garden soil so all that remains is to guide the little ones in planting the seedling and showing them how we put on the tree guards.

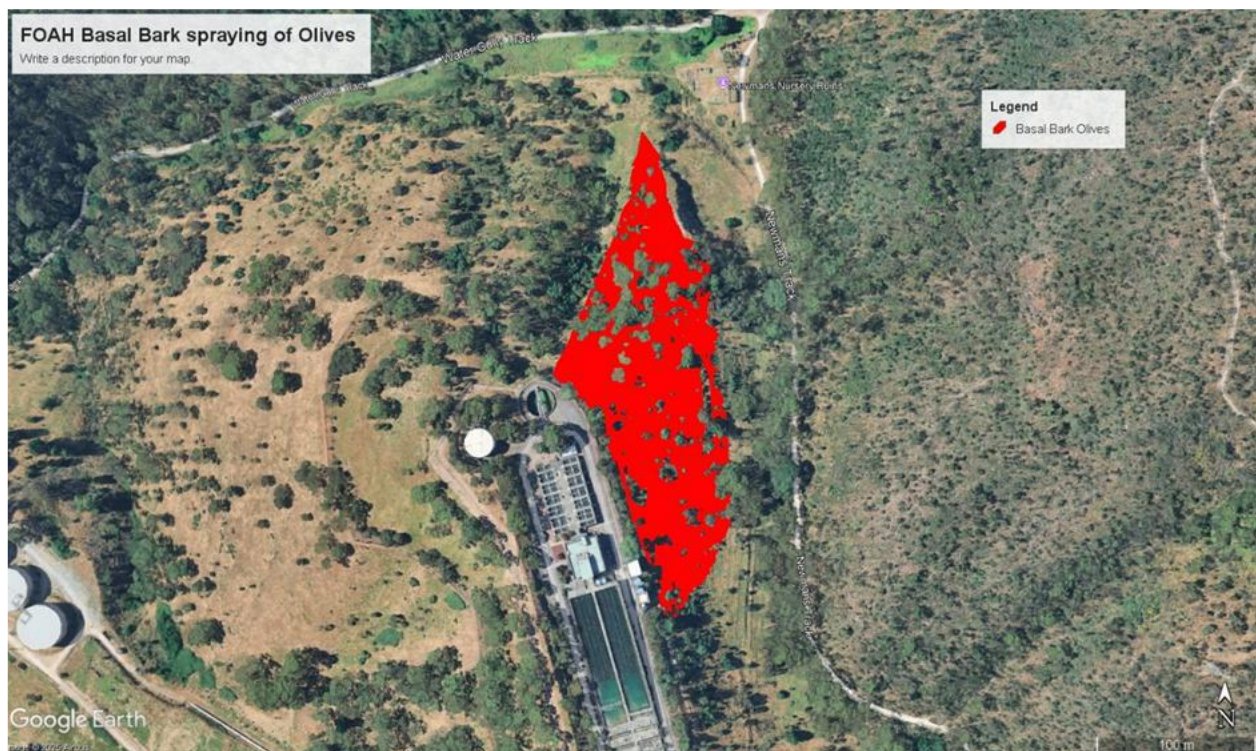
We had a visit from the department at the Wednesday session on the 16th July to talk to us about Rosterfy. Rosterfy is DEW's new volunteer Management System and is accessed online through the web or an app (although the app still appears to be a bit flaky). Amanda and Sam explained the system and helped some of us register on the system with mixed success. The concept is the volunteers register on the system, essentially completing an online version of the Volunteer Registration Form. Once registered, volunteers can see upcoming shifts (e.g. Wednesday Bushcare Sessions), register for a session and log in and log out of those activities on the day. The system then accumulates volunteer hours. All good in theory but there are still some unanswered questions particularly as it related to less tech savvy volunteers and how much needs to be done by the designated leaders (currently Diann and me). Bottom line for me is that the system needs to provide some benefit without alienating volunteers and not creating too much extra administration work. Still work in progress!

A few of us took up the invitation from the Friends of Cobbler Creek to visit for a chat and a cuppa on their garden day. Shanelle (President of FoCC), hosted us and shared the group's stories and challenges working in the park. Of keen interest, to me especially, was their connection with Kaurna people in relation to the park. There is an existing trail called Mai Tapa Interpretive Trail which had fallen into disrepair and was in need of an update. They were fortunate enough to make a connection with a local Kaurna group that is sponsored by the Pooraka Farm Community Centre called the

Warringga Committee. They are working with them to try and establish a connecting place with a yarning circle at the trailhead area to the existing but outdated Mai Tapa interpretative trail and to update the interpretive signage along the trail as well. Shanelle pointed out the time and energy involved, talking to the right people, getting a project brief and navigating the grants process. Great lesson for us as we attempt to get some more Kurna knowledge into Anstey Hill. Hopefully we can return the favour and host FoCC at one of our Wednesday sessions.

Our next weekend event will be Bushcare Sunday on the 21st September, always a great opportunity to catch up with members that can't make the regular Wednesday sessions. Hopefully the weather is kind.

Early in the year we canvassed the membership for projects that FOAH could fund in the park. We finally settled on an olive eradication project and, with the help of Ranger Taylor we settled on area essentially between the SA Water Treatment Plant and the ruins (see map below). This is relatively steep terrain and not an area we volunteers would generally tackle. We have and will continue to supplement this work along the creek line and further up towards the pipeline. The further advantage of this project is that it is adjacent to an existing project also dealing with the eradication olives to restore habit in an area that is conducive for the cryptic sun moth. Observations of cryptic sun moths in the field suggest that they prefer low open grassy areas with little tree canopy and the elimination of olives will create a preferable environment.

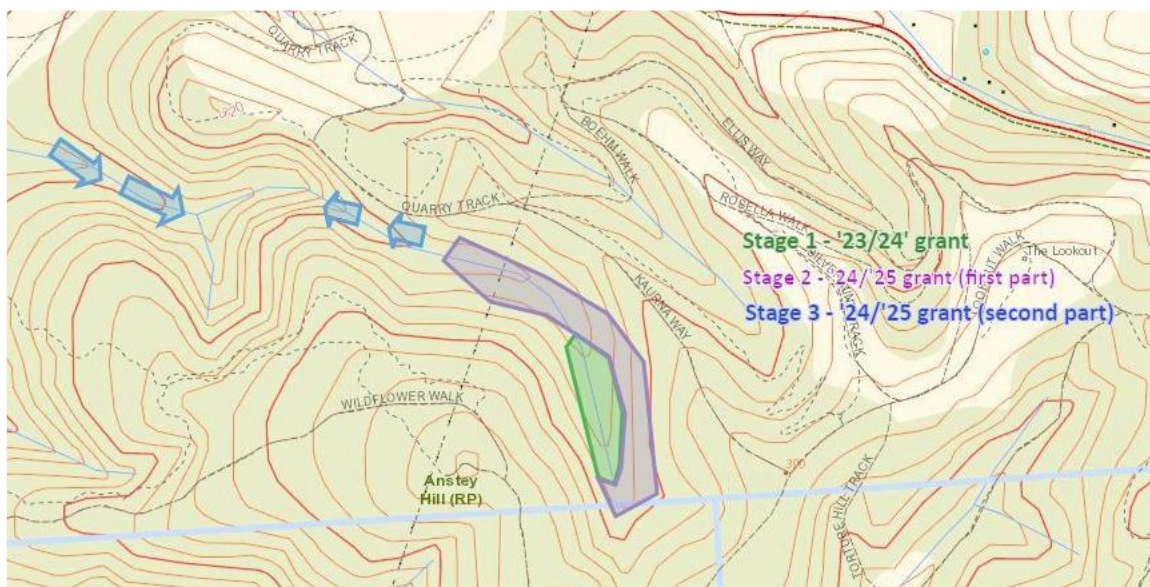


The cryptic sun moth (*Synemon theresa*) is a highly threatened day-flying moth, with the species stronghold now predominantly in the Adelaide hills face area. They are relatively small with an average wingspan of 30 to 35mm (males) and 32 to 36mm (females). The upper sides of the 2 front wings are predominantly brown with lighter brown spotted markings and a small central white spot. In the female, the spotted areas on the 2 front wings are lighter brown to pale grey. The upper sides of the back wings are dull orange with a row of brown spots near the outer edges, however it is common that back wings are not visible when animals are resting on the ground or on a plant.





The other area of grant activity is called Woody Weed Control to Protect Chestnut-Rumped Heathwren Habitat at Anstey Hill. This is a \$15,000 grant to undertake stages 2 and 3 as a follow up to the work completed in stage 1 last year. As part of the grant FOAH is supplementing the work undertaken by the contractor in the area with a number of Wednesday sessions already completed there with more to follow.



Finally, the membership numbers are currently sitting at 63 which is a new high. Thanks to Diann and Kevin for keeping on top of the memberships and thanks to all the committee for supporting the Friends with your time and effort.

**Steve Lukacs**

6th August 2025



# **BUSHCARE REPORT**

**Period: 1st June 2025 to 31st July 2025**

The rains have arrived so we can finally leave the watering to nature. Of course, the flipside is that now the weeds have returned.

This is a summary of activities undertaken over this period:

- Preparation of site for Planting Day
- Planting Day with 41 volunteers attending, a fantastic turnout.
- Preparation of site for Kindy plantings to be held on 14th August
- Gate 5, clearing any fresh growth of boneseed, check on olives (emu walk)
- Creek line going up from the ruins, Rhamnus, african daisy, olive
- Western side of Ridgetop (past Kaurna), agave, olive, bridal creeper

Future activities include:

- Return to western side of Ridgetop (past Kaurna), agave, olive, bridal creeper
- Eastern side of Ridgetop (past Kaurna), olive, Rhamnus, bridal creeper
- Return to Gate 5, clearing any fresh growth of boneseed, check on olives (emu walk)
- Return to creek line going up from the ruins, Rhamnus, african daisy, olive
- Arum lilies coming up from gate 6 following the creek line
- Kaurna Way near the roundabout tree, support grant activities
- Gun Emplacement and Kloppers but would seek guidance from ranger on the priority areas and plants (Erica, olive, dog rose, blackberry, boneseed)
- Return to Angove's Conservation Park (note new ranger Matt Shattock) – bulbous weeds
- 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 376 hours plus 88 hours from Adopt a Patch (464 hours in total)
- Average number of hours per morning session is 32
- Average number of workers per morning session is 12

The weather has certainly been a factor in the turnouts for the Wednesday sessions with some fantastic mornings interspersed with days when staying in bed seems to be best option. We still manage to get a reasonable number attending regardless, so many thanks to all.

**Steve Lukacs**

**Bushcare Coordinator**

6th August 2025



## RANGER'S REPORT:

The Ranger provided a verbal report covering the following areas,

- Sun Moth Project – part of the area near SA Water Treatment Plant which will compliment the area that FOAH are funding for olive removal
- Trial of moving 12 plants from Ellis Way Planting area (Last Years Planting) to more appropriate area is underway.
- Mountain Bike event complaint has been answered.
- Next year's planting area to proceed as planned but with the emphasis on more Grass Plants recommended. Species list to be reviewed.
- Friends of Parks and Nature Grant applications will be advised shortly.
- Bitumen removal from the area near gate 1 is on hold.
- Arrium lilies in Water Gully Creek line should be tackled again in September after the success of last year's efforts.
- Bridel Creeper needs to be sprayed 2 years in a row for the treatment to be effective. Start in one area and revisit in 12 months.
- Request that the Defibrillator be left in the Shed/in its box, when not in use on Wednesdays so that rangers in the park know its location in an emergency.



Olives Trees to be removed by Contractor below the SA Water Treatment Plant.



## **BIRDS SA EVENT 25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025 – LYNTON HUXLEY – GROUP LEADER**

**25 May 2025 – Anstey Hill Recreation Park**

Given the dire severe weather forecast, it was great to have 14 people attend this excursion, including two members from the Friends of Anstey Hill (Don and Margaret Bursill) and the Park Ranger Aisha Adams. Fortunately, we had near perfect conditions and the strong wind didn't arrive until after we had departed for home.

It is a large park with a variety of important remnant Adelaide foothills vegetation surrounding heritage abandoned silver mines and the Newman's Nursery ruins. Aisha kindly guided us to avoid the steepest trails for which we were most appreciative!

When we gathered for our lunch and the bird call, we could all sense the weather was about to change, so we didn't hang around. Our bird list of 30 species included Common Bronzewing (2), Nankeen Kestrel, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo (4), Little Corella (2), Rainbow Lorikeet (40), Musk Lorikeet (2), White-throated Treecreeper, Superb Fairywren (10), Crescent Honeyeater (10), Striated Pardalote (30), New Holland Honeyeater (20), Little Raven (6), Striated Thornbill (10), Yellow-rumped Thornbill (10), White-winged Chough (12), Adelaide Rosella (2), Grey Currawong (20), Australian Magpie (20) and Red-browed Finch (20). Other species included Weebill (10), Grey Fantail (5), White-browed Scrubwren (2), Grey Shrikethrush and Black-faced Cuckoo shrike.



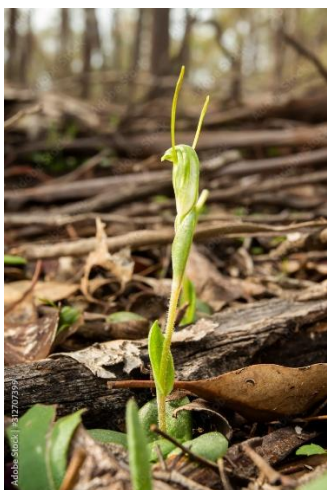
Common Bronzewing Pidgeon



## WINTER in the Park

Winter in the Park usually sees the rain soak the soil; the creeks start to flow; and fog cover the hills. There are frogs to spot, muddy paths to explore, and hundreds of adventures to fulfil.

1. Take your gum boots and stroll along Water Gully Track where you will walk through puddles, hear frogs, and spot a sleeping Koala in their favourite trees – Rough-barked Manna Gums.
2. From Gate 8 stroll down the Geological Hike and spot the different types of fungi, moss and lichen.
3. In late winter, walk along Quarry Views Hike and take time to smell the **Golden Wattle** as it begins to bloom and keep an eye out for the caterpillar of the **Wattle Blue Butterfly** as they eat new leaves and wattle buds.
4. For a historical morning visit Ellis Cottage (built in 1854), Rump's Bakehouse (built in 1867), and the National Trust Museum then head further into the Park for a short walk to Little Quarry Loop and listen out for the 'chring chring' call of the Grey Currawong – a large black bird with a white tail and yellow eyes.
5. Take a camera or sketch pad along to the Park with you and capture, sketch, or write something about the wintry landscape.
6. With almost 40 species of native orchids there "are quite a few that emerge in winter, pick a section of the Yellowtail Loop and see how many orchids you can spot. They include **Dwarf Greenhoods**, **Winter Gnat Orchids** and **Mosquito Orchids**.
7. In late winter explore Bursaria Hike and spot the array of colourful fungi and yellow sprays of wattles as their buds begin to bloom.
8. Following winter rains discover pools of water in low lying areas in the gully along the Wednesday Loop, some years small waterfalls appear as the water flows into the old quarry area.
9. Choose your own adventure by using the 25km network of sustainable, shared use trails.
10. Around the picnic area at Little Quarry Loop take notice of the geology in the rock layers. You'll see evidence of exposed folding and faulting that would normally be below the soil surface.



Dwarf Greenhood Orchid



Golden Wattle

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

Our Financial Year runs from the 1st October to the 30th September so membership renewals for 2025/2026 are due by the 1st of October. It is our membership base that allows us to achieve so much in the park, your ongoing support is appreciated.

**Life Members and New Members that have joined since 1st July 2025 are automatically covered for 2025/2026 year.**

Please let us know if any of your details have changed via email to: [Anstey.friends@gmail.com](mailto:Anstey.friends@gmail.com)

<b>Memberships:</b>	<b>Single \$14.00</b>	<b>Single Concession \$12.00</b>
	<b>Family \$16.00</b>	<b>Family Concession \$14.00</b>
	<b>Group \$22.00 (ie Community Association/Club,Business,Govt Body,etc)</b>	

Direct Debit: FOAH, BSB 105 1055, Account No. 578 101 140  
Post: PO Box 653, St Agnes SA 5097

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday, 8th October 2025 at the Tea Tree Gully Heritage Museum from 7.30PM. The AGM will be followed by supper and a guest speaker.  
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME.

Why not consider joining the committee, we need all the help we can get!

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### **FRIENDS OF ANSTEY HILL COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM:**

Nomination for 2025-2026 AGM. (Must be a Financial Member)

I ....., of..... Would like to nominate for the  
position of: - ..... (please specify) on the Committee of Friends of Anstey Hill

Signed: ..... Please send nomination to Diann Lozoraitis, Secretary, at the  
following email: [Anstey.friends@gmail.com](mailto:Anstey.friends@gmail.com)

**NOMINATIONS RECEIVED UP TO AND INCLUDING THE 8th September 2025**

### **POSITIONS**

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Committee Member
Newsletter Editor
Facebook Administrator
Website Administrator
Bushcare Co-ordinator



## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members who have joined since our last newsletter. Hope to see you at one of the events during the year.

Laurence Stimson  
Andrea Browne

Peter Anglberger



# Drakes.

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### **DRAKES COMMUNITY DOLLARS**

The Drakes Community Dollars program is giving back to local communities. Helping not-for-profit community groups like Friends of Anstey Hill to access thousands of dollars by swiping a key Community Dollars tag or using the App – “myDrakes” every time you shop at Drakes! For every \$2 spent at a participating Drakes store in SA, 1c will be accredited to our organisations fund.

We have received “Gift cards” from Drakes which we have used on supplies for our event BBQ’s. Please download the free app on to your phone for the next time you shop at a Drakes Supermarket. Support your local store which supports Friends of Anstey Hill.

### **YOUR 2024-2025 COMMITTEE:**

**President:**

Steve Lukacs

**Secretary:**

Diann Lozoraitis

**Treasurer:**

Kevin Laurance

**Committee Members:**

Marie Mudge

Rob Carthew

Jenny Carthew

Reg Smith

Christine Thomas

Roberta Swift

**Newsletter:** Diann Lozoraitis

**Facebook:** Christine Thomas

**Bushcare:** Steve Lukacs

**Ranger:** Taylor Heath and Alisha Adams

### **LIFE & HONORARY MEMBERS**

Rodney Attwood

Don Bursill

Margaret Bursill

Merv Fenwick

Jill Fenwick

Rommy Freebairn

Victor Gostin

Olga Gostin

Mary Lane

Roger Collier

David Sheppard

Frances Bedford





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**Drakes Community Dollars**



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