



FRIENDS OF KELLY'S BUSH Newsletter Summer 2020

Dear Friends

What an unusual year it has been and I'm sure we're all looking forward to moving on from the many challenges it has thrown up.

In spite of the disruption in the early part of this year, the Kelly's bushcare group has managed a few wins particularly with the huge number of Cobbler's Pegs and Ehrharta grass that have sprung up. We have achieved a good level of weed clearance plus some native planting.

To help us gain perspective and gladden our hearts with the beauty of nature, we've got a flowery newsletter for you this time! We're celebrating the superb blooms bursting forth at the moment, encouraged by all the recent bouts of rain and sunshine.

We haven't been able to hold any Working Bees this year but hopefully will be back on course in 2021 as there is plenty of Morning Glory and Trad to tackle. These vigorous weeds have unfortunately had a very good year!

A couple of months ago, we were delighted to welcome our new Casual Bushcare Volunteer Co-ordinator, Beth Wills, who has replaced Esteban. She brings bags of knowledge and enthusiasm and is planning a career in bush regeneration. She has just heard that she has passed her Bachelor of Applied Science - well done Beth!



Native Fuschia (Epacris longiflora)



*One of the many varieties of Acacia blossoming in the Bush at the moment
Parramatta Green Wattle (Acacia parramattensis)*

Save the Date!

As you may know, we have a very important anniversary coming up next year - **the 50th Anniversary of the World's first Green Ban** which was put in place at Kelly's Bush in June 1971.

This amazing 'first' was the result of a dogged campaign by local women who were determined to save the bush for their children and protect it from development. With the help of the Unions, they finally prevailed and, to celebrate this momentous occasion, we will be having an event at Weil Park on **Sunday 29 August 2021** from 10am to 2pm.

We will be unveiling a new memorial picnic table and are delighted that our main speaker for the event will be Meredith Burgmann, famous for her comprehensive book on the Green Bans.

There will also be a community market and native plant stalls plus an opportunity to

enjoy a Devonshire Tea as an 'homage' to Jack Munday's 'morning tea with the matrons'!

We expect that the walking path through the Bush will be upgraded in time for a guided walk on the day.

Many of the lovely images shown here are taken from a book on the *Flora of Kelly's Bush* compiled by our very own Liz Hinton, using photographs taken in the bush in 1997 by Peta Hinton. This commemorative booklet, will be available on the day and will contain a full species list of plants unique to Kelly's Bush (with fabulous images) and a potted history of the saving of Kelly's Bush for the nation. We hope it will be a very special keepsake to coincide with the anniversary.

This will be a great day to visit the Bush so save the date and make sure you are there to join in the celebration!



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Fern leaved Banksia (Banksia oblongifolia)

We were pleased to read that the recent Hunter's Hill Biodiversity Strategy undertaken by postgraduate students at Macquarie University expressed a vision for the municipality:

".....to be not only a garden suburb but a "bush suburb", harnessing the advantage of being a small LGA with a tight-knit community to become an example of urban biodiversity management."

This is an encouraging outcome and ties in with the Remnant Land initiative that Mayor Ross Williams is also undertaking. The Mayor joined us recently for morning tea to explain the steps he was taking, with others, to identify areas that could be used as wildlife corridors to link pockets of bushland.

So watch this space!

WHY NOT JOIN US?

Do you or any of your friends or neighbours have an interest in preserving our amazing local bush? In caring for Kelly's Bush, you will also benefit from a rewarding and healthy hobby!

If you'd like to 'try before you buy' please come along any Monday at 8.00am at the Weil Park entrance to Kelly's Bush. You'll be made very welcome. We usually enjoy a nice cup of tea and a chat around 10am so, if you prefer, come along then and see what we're up to!

If you would like more information, please contact kellysbushfriends@gmail.com

Until next time.....

*Maureen Flowers
Secretary*



Very best wishes for the festive season and the coming year from your bushcarers:

*Jill, John, Jim, Kate, Liz,
Leonie, Lee, Maureen O,
Maureen F, Peter and Rosemary*

FRIENDS OF KELLY'S BUSH Membership renewals now due!

As you can imagine with everything going on at the beginning of the year, it wasn't appropriate to remind our *Friends* that their membership renewals were due, so this year we'd like to request that you pay your renewal promptly, using the details below. This will help us replenish our very small reserves! Our aims are:

- *to preserve and promote regeneration of native bushland*
- *to eradicate and prevent the spread of exotic growth*
- *to resist any attempts to alienate any portion of Kelly's Bush*
- *to co-operate with other organizations having similar objectives*
- *to do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the retention of the bushland environment of Kelly's Bush*

To become a 'Friend' simply email kellysbushfriends@gmail.com

Annual subscriptions:
\$20 family \$10 single

Payment by bank transfer to:
Friends of Kelly's Bush
BSB: 802 841, Account No: 100005913,
Bank: Laboratories Credit Union Ltd

Donations very welcome and carefully used!



Our native Commelina with its pretty blue flowers

Kelly's Bush is a symbol of our lost land. Take away Kelly's Bush and you take away one more assurance that, in man, is left a possibility for the future. The unborn Australian will ask for his birthright and be handed a piece of concrete.

Kylie Tennant 1970