



FRIENDS OF KELLY'S BUSH Newsletter Winter 2021

Dear Friends

How are you enjoying the cold? We're all finding it a bit chilly in the mornings and are now starting at 8.30am to give us a little more time under the duvet!

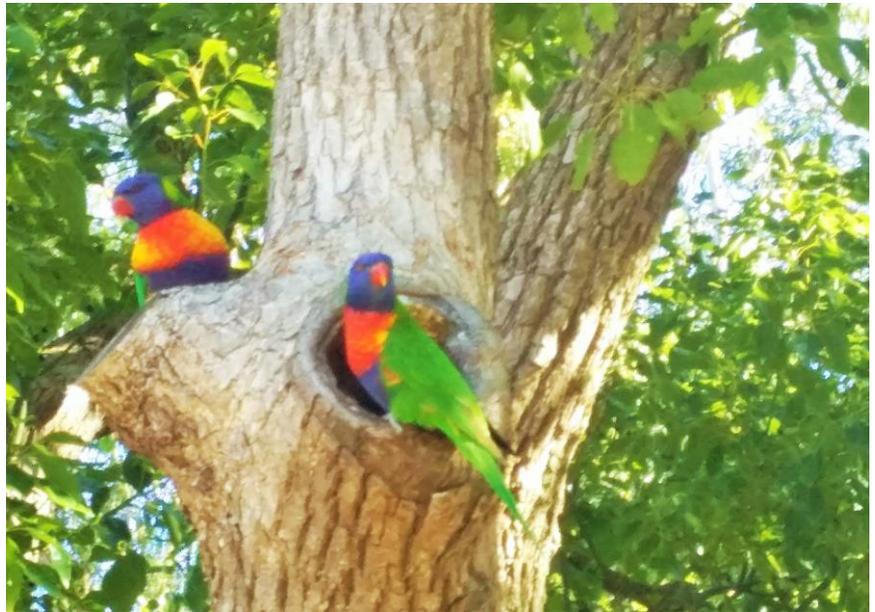
We welcomed our new Bushcare Co-ordinator, Susan Johnston, in March. She soon settled in and we really appreciate her hands-on attitude! We've needed those extra hands lately as, with the plentiful rain earlier this year, we've been busy keeping up with all the usual suspects, including Erharta grass, Morning Glory, Privet, Cobblers' Pegs and Trad. However, as shown below, compensation has come in the form of the brilliant blue clumps of *lobelia gracillis* flowering at the moment!



We were pleased that a team of corporate volunteers from NBN Co turned their green thumbs to our demonstration garden at the old demolished house site, helping to prepare it for the 50th anniversary celebrations in August. They enjoyed it so much they offered to come back and did another great job of clearing the Morning Glory that was creeping into the bush from a neighbouring property.

WORKING BEE – Sat 3rd July

Now we have fully returned to the bush, we're arranging a long overdue working bee on Saturday 3rd July 11-1pm. We'll be building on the work of the corporate team, weeding, planting and clearing the path and sandstone walls of the old garden and getting everything looking good for the event in August. We'll work for a couple of hours and then relax over a picnic lunch as our thank you! Please join us - RSVP at kellybushfriends@gmail.com



Stunning Lorikeets bringing some welcome colour to the winter bush

50TH Anniversary Celebration Sunday 29 August 10am-12pm

We hope you've already saved the date to come and celebrate the world's first Green Ban – **which happened right here 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. After the success at Kelly's Bush, over 100 heritage buildings stand in Sydney today because of Green Bans that the unions imposed on any building the National Trust valued.

To mark this historic year, we're having a celebration at Weil Park on Sunday 29 August from 10am to 12pm.

The program will include two excellent speakers. Meredith Burgmann, author of Green Bans, Red Union, The Saving of a City who spoke at Jack Munday's State Memorial, and then we'll hear from local celebrity Tim Ross, comedian, author and TV presenter whose 'Summer Night Walks' video shared his connection to the history and stories of Kelly's Bush www.youtube.com/watch?v=8c7-fBVG_AM&t=90s

We're delighted that the last of our band of Battlers, Dr Joan Croll, will be on hand to unveil a memorial table at the Weil Park entrance for use by our local community and the many visitors who walk through Kelly's Bush.

There will be two free guided walks through on the day at 11.00 and 11.30, as well as community stalls and native plants for sale, plus a sausage sizzle and an opportunity to enjoy a Devonshire Tea, as a tribute to Jack Munday's fond recollections of 'morning tea with the matrons'.



You may recognize the lovely illustrations that Hunters Hill Council are using for the banners and invitations for the Kelly's Bush anniversary (and in the Town Hall foyer). They are the ones we commissioned for the new 'Plant Communities' sign now erected on the walking track!



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To ensure our local school students are able to join in, many of our schools are participating in an art competition, with a Kelly's Bush theme and their entries will be displayed on corflutes around the park. Two of our prominent local artists will be the judges, with prizes awarded on the day.

The students will also be planting memorial trees on behalf of their schools.

There will be a specially prepared commemorative booklet for sale on the day, which will have many lovely images, like the one opposite, of the common flora of Kelly's Bush. Proceeds will go to FoKB and it is printed with the kind assistance of Hunters Hill Council. We hope it will be a special keepsake of the 50th anniversary.

The proposed program is:

- 10.00 Welcome to Country
- 10.05 Introduction by MC and address by Mayor Ross Williams
- 10.15 Presentation of art prizes
- 10.20 Speakers Meredith Burgmann & Tim Ross
- 10.40 Unveiling of the memorial bench
- 10.45 Tree planting
- 11.00 & 11.30 guided walks



Milkmaids

The morning will get off to a great start with a performance by the excellent Ecopella singers and there will be a coffee cart and sausage sizzle on hand to make sure you get your coffee fix and breakfast!

The event is free but you will need to register to attend (and for the walks) at <https://kellysbush.eventbrite.com.au>. We look forward to seeing all our 'Friends' there on this significant anniversary!

Become a Bushcarer?

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 can also take advantage of benefiting from a rewarding and healthy hobby!

If you'd like to 'try before you buy' please come along any Monday at 8.30am 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 Susan Johnston on JohnstonS@huntershill.nsw.gov.au

Become a 'Friend'?

Thank you to all our current 'friends' who support our work with their annual membership fees.

If you can't join us to work in the bush, why not become a supporter? Our aims are:

- *to preserve and promote regeneration of native bush-land*
- *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 bush-land environment of the Kelly's Bush*

Annual subscription (Jan-Dec)
\$20.00

Payment by bank transfer to:
BSB: 802 841, Account No: 100005913,
Bank: Laboratories Credit Union Ltd

To become a friend, simply email
kellysbushfriends@gmail.com

Until next time....

*Maureen
Secretary
Friends of Kelly's Bush*

