



FRIENDS OF KELLY'S BUSH

Newsletter Winter 2024

Dear Friends

As we all know, a picture says a thousand words and we hope you'll agree that we have some wonderful pictures for you in this issue!

We've had a quiet but productive few months in the bush with some of our problem areas gradually improving with concerted efforts to free them of weeds.

One of these areas is the piece of bush accessed from Woolwich Road, bordering a vacant home at 2 Alfred Street (picture below). As reported in our last issue, this site had become severely degraded over many years with invasive plants and abandoned debris from the previous owners.

It had been on our radar for some time because weeds were continually invading the bush but since our Working Bee last September, the area has gradually been planted with native root stock to rehabilitate the site. The addition of *Lomandra longifolia* to be planted in the spring will help to gradually expand the native flora over the former lawn and restore the natural bushland vegetation.



Magnificent Acacia longifolia (Sydney Golden Wattle)

More Weed Species...

As in our previous newsletter, we are again highlighting 2 more invasive weeds that are always on our hit list:

Pittosporum undulatum Sweet Pittosporum (right), although grown in gardens, is lethal in the bush. Its foliage effectively shades out vegetation beneath the canopy and changes the soil nutrients.



Sweet Pittosporum

And our old friend ***Anredera cordifolia*** Madeira Vine (below) with its fleshy heart-shaped leaves and aerial tubers, is regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia.



Madiera Vine

I think it's true to say that we'll never be out of a job!



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Two Dates for Your Diary

AGM - Mon 26 Aug 2024

Our AGM this year will be on Monday 26 August, at the Woolwich Pier Hotel. It's always interesting to review our year in the bush and plan for the future over dinner and a glass or two of wine!

Working Bee - Sat 7 Sept 2024

Our next Working Bee will be on Saturday 7 September from 11am to 1pm. This is a great opportunity to meet a friendly bunch of people and enjoy doing some valuable work on a particular area in our lovely bush. No experience needed.

A light picnic lunch will be provided so please join us for a rewarding and enjoyable couple of hours. We will meet at the Alfred Street steps entrance near the Lookout car park.

Our existing 'Friends' will be sent an email reminder nearer the date but if you are not a Friend and would like to join us or need more information, please don't hesitate to email us at kellysbushfriends@gmail.com



Our little friend patiently waiting for us to finish weeding!

And finally – below is another picture of a whole patch of the lovely *Pterostylis concinna* Trim Greenhood Orchids that we're lucky enough to have in Kelly's Bush, which are in full bloom at the moment.

Become a Bushcarer....

Do you or any of your friends or neighbours have an interest in preserving our amazing local bush and benefiting from a rewarding and healthy hobby? For more information, please contact Hunters Hill Council's Bushland Co-ordinator, Jacqui at VollmerJ@huntershill.nsw.gov.au or come along any Monday around 10am and chat with us. We meet for a cuppa on the grassed area to the right of the path up from the Alfred St steps.

Donate or Become a 'Friend'

If you can't join us to work in the bush, why not donate or become a Friend? Email kellysbushfriends@gmail.com Annual membership still only \$20. Bank details: Laboratories Credit Union Ltd; BSB 802841; Acct 100005913; Friends of Kelly's Bush.



Stunning Trim Greenhood Orchids

*Until next time....
Maureen
Secretary FoKB*