



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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ABN 48 036 173 161

HOPE E-news Bulletin 2018 #02 --- February 2018

The following items have been gathered from various e: newsletters received by HOPE in recent times; and/or prepared specifically by HOPE members and supporters. If you have any news to contribute, please forward to office@hopeaustralia.org.au. Deadline for articles is 15th day of the month.

Editorial

Good morning folks,

Here's another good mix of articles for your reading pleasure.

Please take note of HOPE's upcoming Ordinary Meeting scheduled for 10 February and the first 3 dates of our community forum program (as per calendar below).

Due to an overwhelming response to our request for articles, I've had to schedule publication of some of these articles over the next 3 months.

Regards,

Frank Ondrus, Office Manager – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135

2018 National/International Events Calendar

February

- 2 [World Wetlands Day](#)
- 10 **HOPE Ordinary Meeting**
- 11 [International Day of Women & Girls in Science](#)
- 27 [Business Clean Up Day](#)

March

- 1 **HOPE Community Forum: "Important Honey Flora" by Glen Tuck, Southern Beekeepers Assn**
- 2 [Schools Clean Up Day](#)
- 3 [World Wildlife Day](#)
- 4 [Clean Up Australia Day](#)
- 11-17 [National Ground Water Awareness Week](#)
- 13-15 [Green Cities Conference](#)
- 21 [International Day of Forests](#)
- 21 [Harmony Day](#)
- 22 [World Water Day](#)
- 23 [World Meteorological Day](#)
- 24 [Earth Hour](#)

April

- 5 **HOPE Community Forum: "Conservation in Africa: by Bruce Lawrie, Topknot Advisory - Rural & Environmental**
 - 18 [World Heritage Day](#)
 - 18-20May [National Trust Heritage Festival](#)
 - 22 [Earth Day](#)
-

HOPE News --- February 2018

Good morning,

A planning meeting was held on Saturday 13 January to discuss and, where possible, 'lock in' our activities for the year. Dates for committee meetings; proposed topics for community forums; environmental observance dates to endorse, support, promote and/or participate in; as well seeking funding/partners for potential landcare and other projects.

Our next quarterly Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for Saturday 10 February. Please review the 2018 Planned and Proposed Activities report (page 3) and provide us with your feedback and/or further suggestions by Thursday 8 February so that your comments may be included in discussions. (A meeting reminder notice will be issued separately.)

The first 3 of our community forums for 2018 have been finalised and they are:

- Tue, 1st March - Important Honey Flora, by Glen Tuck, Southern Beekeeper's Assn
- Tue, 5th April - Conservation in Africa, by Bruce Lawrie, Topknot Advisory - Rural & Environmental
- Tue, 22nd May - How restoring soil balance can help restore our environment, by Earthlife

Our volunteer recruitment efforts are paying off, with 7 people offering their assistance with research and literature review, writing articles for our newsletter and assisting with the writing of submissions to government discussion papers. We welcome Jacinta, Amy, Arian, Vineet, Kelsey, Lynne and Ishani to our ever-growing pool of admin volunteers.

Regards,

Frank Ondrus, Office Manager – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135

Membership

In recent years our membership numbers have remained steady at around 650 full and associate members. The management committee is keen to increase our membership nationally and so invites you to help promote HOPE and its activities to your family, friends and work colleagues. Remember, membership to HOPE is FREE! More information on the types of membership may be found at <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/membership/>.

Volunteers needed

More active volunteers – both local and remote (i.e. online) – are required to help us maintain our level of activity. Volunteers are needed to help with projects, events and display activities, as well as general admin duties and media/publications work. We invite members and supporters to step up and volunteer some time and talents to help share the workload. Current vacancies include:

- Researchers – required to review and comment on a range of discussion papers, policy documents and reports provided by government departments, business and industry organisations and NGOs.
- Media Officers – required to write media releases, event notices, date claimers and design promotional flyers/posters for projects, campaigns, events and activities
- Publications Team members – required to write information articles for our newsletter; website summaries; and assist with the development of powerpoint presentations and information sheets
- Newsletter Editor – required to write and/or source articles and other items for compilation into monthly E: News Bulletin (formal Job Description available on request)

Please contact the office on 07 4639 2135 or email office@hopeaustralia.org.au to offer your assistance.

A fair portion of the above work would ideally be done by locals (i.e. in the Toowoomba area) because the HOPE office is in Toowoomba. However, quite a bit of the literature review, research, media and publications activity can be done via email. If you have a little bit of time to help us in any way, then contact the HOPE office on email office@hopeaustralia.org.au or phone (07) 4639 2135.

WANTED – PHOTOCOPY PAPER

HOPE has used up its current stock of photocopy paper and we are asking our members and supporters to donate a ream or two of A4 photocopy paper. Donations of paper can be left on the table in the carport at 22 Vacy St, Toowoomba.

Alternately, cash or cheque donations can be made online at <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/annual-pledgedonation/> or posted to HOPE Inc., PO Box 6118 - Clifford Gardens Toowoomba QLD 4350.

2018 Planned and Proposed Activities report

At our Planning Meeting held on Saturday 13 January 2018, the executive confirmed our Ordinary Meeting schedule for the year; suggested a list of topics for the proposed Community Forum program; discussed possible environmental observance dates to either endorse only and/or to support, promote and participate in; and possible educational and/or hands-on landcare projects to undertake by ourselves or in participation with others.

Administration:

1) We have applied for listing on the Federal Government's "Register of Environmental Organisations". This listing will provide us with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status so that we can start applying for Corporate Sponsorship to us help defray our operating expenses and to better market our projects, events and activities.

We will also be able to apply to a wider range of funding bodies for our 'backlog' and proposed projects.

2) Efforts continue to spread the HOPE philosophy nationally; and to increase our membership – especially in the southern states.

Ordinary Meeting program

- 10 February 2018 – Guest speaker is MaryLou Gittens from Condamine Catchment Management Assn (CCMA). Marylou will give an overview of CCMA and explain her role as Queensland Water and Land Carers (QWaLC) director for Condamine region
 - 9 June 2018
 - 8 September 2018
 - 10 November 2018
- All meetings are held at the HOPE Office, 22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba, commencing at 10am sharp!

Community Forum program

Tue, 1st March - Important Honey Flora, by Glen Tuck, Southern Beekeepers Assn

Tue, 5th April - Conservation in Africa, by Bruce Lawrie, Topknot Advisory: rural & environmental

Tue, 22nd May - How restoring soil balance can help restore our environment, by Colin Johnson, Earthlife

- All forums will be held at Toowoomba City Library in meeting room C, from 7pm to 9pm
(Entrance by gold coin donation – to cover cost of venue hire)

*** Other community forums will be added to program dependent on availability of guest speaker

--- Possible topics include:

- Animal Welfare – see RSPCA & Wildlife Carer groups
- Going Solar – On-Off Grid with Battery Storage – ACDC Energy
- Sustainable Development Goals – UNAA Qld & others
- Using drones to survey landscapes – Steve Cupitt

Environmental Observance dates

So far, members expressed interest in supporting events such as:

- Clean Up Australia Day events (late February-early March)
 - 5th June - World Environment Day
 - 15th Sept – World Cleanup Day
 - National Recycling Week (mid November)
- Other potential environmental observances to support may be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/about-us/media-centre/events>

Events to support:

- Nominate & register clean-up sites for Clean Up Australia Day (4th March)
 - Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) – usually held in late May
 - U3A Toowoomba's Seniors Expo (mid-August)
 - Several small information displays at Toowoomba's PCYC Sunday Market
- Other events will be added to program as they are endorsed

Some potential projects (requiring grant funding and/or corporate sponsorship):

- Nature Journaling workshops – promote to schools & community groups in Toowoomba region
- Earth Ethics conference in partnership with University of Southern Queensland (USQ) and others (as per 2017 Brisbane program)
- Landcare based projects such as Creating Wildlife Friendly Backyards; and using drones to survey landscapes

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

New Year's greetings!

As we begin the new year I would like to wish everyone a happy new year. I hope you all had a relaxing time over the Christmas, New Year break.

My family and I spent a relaxing time at Washpool National Park in Northern NSW. On one of our bush walks we stopped at a picnic table near a majestic waterfall in this area. A plaque on the table told the story of Jenny, a young girl who was picnicking with her family. When Jenny held up a sandwich to take a bite a local Kookaburra also decided to take a bite of Jenny's sandwich. The Kookaburra unfortunately missed the sandwich and took out Jenny's eye. Jenny is now blind in one eye. The plaque is there to remind people not to feed wild animals and I think we are all guilty of that.

I for one (when I was much younger) used to hang seed bells from a tree in my backyard. This attracted many birds to my yard. Unfortunately, it attracted feral birds, rats and mice as well as a few native birds.

After joining HOPE, I read an article in this newsletter about how to attract native birds and animals into my yard by creating an appealing habitat. There were links to other sources of information which was enlightening and very helpful.

Even with the best of intentions we often make mistakes. Sometimes these mistakes are harmless and other times they can have disastrous results, as with Jenny. Luckily HOPE's newsletter and resources are a wealth of information which can help us to live harmoniously with our environment. HOPE provides information, workshops and newsletters to keep us well informed, HOPE has affiliations with other likeminded groups.

So, if you want to keep up with the latest news about the environment and stay informed on how to care for our fragile planet, why not join HOPE today? Do yourself a favour and subscribe to the Newsletter, attend a few meetings and find out what HOPE has planned for the future.

Barry Miller

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Feature Articles

Earth Carers Program getting residents to win the war on waste

- *an initiative of Western Metropolitan Regional Council*

Western Earth Carers make good waste practices normal in Perth's western suburbs providing waste and recycling education to residents.

Western Earth Carers as co-ordinated by the Western Metropolitan Regional Council Waste Education team provide a range of educational programs and resources to the local community, schools and volunteer network which serves to protect and restore the environment. These efforts centre on producing tangible solutions to substantially reduce waste generation.

The range of programs and services include;

- Earth Carers Course
 - A bi-annual intensive education course taught over 5 sessions and free to participate. The course provides participants with tours of waste facilities and community gardens, worm farming and gardening, green cleaning, zero-waste living, minimising food waste, waste management in Perth and safe ways to recycle or dispose of hazardous waste like batteries, fluorescent light globes and household chemicals.
- Plastic Free July
 - A campaign encouraging individuals and organisations to 'choose to refuse' single use plastics for the month of July. The campaign has more than 1million participants across 159 countries.
- Compost and worm farming workshops
 - These local and hands on workshops complement our more intensive Earth Carers Course. Held for half a day they are a great opportunity to teach people how to compost and dispose of their food scraps in an environmentally friendly manner.
- Battery Recycling scheme
- Hazardous Waste drop off services
- Low waste and sustainable event support including water bottle refill stations and mug library and wash up stations available to hire for free at community events.

The Earth Carers Course is a great example of how one program has contributed to the awareness of environmental issues. The course has seen a large number of participants go on to continue working in waste minimisation, developing successful programs locally and internationally and becoming leaders in the field in their own right.



The Course is teaching important life skills which will reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse. Participants get a better understanding of where their waste and recycling goes and the labour-intensive process needed to dispose or upcycle it. It presents an often very confronting picture of the wasteful habits that we currently face. During the Earth Carers Course participants develop a great range of skills so that they can become an active part of the solution. Learning skills such as composting, green cleaning, safe ways to dispose of hazardous waste, refusing single use plastics and minimising food waste are important in

addressing the problem. After completion of the course, participants become Earth Carer volunteers, sharing their waste reduction knowledge to other members of the community through community events, workshops and activities. WMRC's waste educators provide our Earth Carer volunteers with support to engage in local community events as well as provide mentoring and guidance to develop programs which will substantially benefit the environment as a way of giving back to the community.

These programs and services are provided by the Western Metropolitan Regional Council and supported by Town of Cottesloe, Town of Mosman Park, Town of Claremont, City of Subiaco and Shire of Peppermint Grove. To get involved in one of the many programs visit www.earthcarers.org.au.

Media contact: Amy Mickelberg, Waste Educator WMRC, Mobile: 0431 699 515, amy.mickelberg@wmrc.wa.gov.au

National News

2017 National Private Land Conservation Conference, 18-20 Oct 2017 – Hobart, TAS

By Jude Garlick, Secretary – The Bimblebox Alliance

The 2017 Private Land Conservation Conference was hosted by the Tasmanian Land Conservancy (TLC) on behalf of the Australian Land Conservation Alliance (ALCA). The theme was *Valuing Nature*, which made the conference a must-attend event for those of us constantly trying to raise the value of nature in political debate and place conservation firmly on the political agenda.

The task of delegates was to examine how the wellbeing of an environment is attributed. Business is now firmly wedded to conservation, and one of TLC's sponsors was the National Australia Bank, so first we had to get to grips with concepts such as 'natural capital' and 'ecosystem services'. But just as the environment cannot be separated from economics, neither can it be studied in isolation from community or cultural connections.

Underlying many topics were recurring ideas – partnerships and collaboration, sharing information and reaching out to wider audiences; basing conservation strategies on Indigenous practice or on-farm biodiversity; and connectivity, whether across island archipelagos or continents.

There were some great stories: of a scientist and a photographer on an island inhabited only by Shy Albatross; of human and animal recovery, together, after a firestorm; and, on the return to Aboriginal ownership of Truwana (Cape Barren Island), the environmental remediation work of on-country rangers.

One afternoon there was a big debate on the subject "Nature Should Be On The Balance Sheet", with speakers for and against. The Affirmatives were adamant that we should put a monetary value on, for example, the importance of bees to pollination, and the very exercise of doing that would prioritise and increase the value of the 'service'. The Negatives argued simply, that nature's spiritual essence is priceless.

Marla Edwards, Director of Development at The Nature Conservancy Australia, for the Negatives, played a video in which young people were asked to describe what it was about their mothers they most appreciated. They struggled and stumbled, but it was obvious their mothers were highly valued.

Then they were asked if they would sell their mothers, and for how much. Their shock, and that of some of the delegates, was palpable.

We laughed, but the point was made. The winning team was decided by 'clapometer'. Usually in such light-hearted instances, the adjudicator is diplomatic and awards a draw. Not this time: The Negatives were clear winners by sheer volume of noise. A room full of ecologists and environmentalists, scientists and writers were always likely to identify with nature's incalculable worth. Emotions aside, however, unless we can measure all the costs of society's development, what hope do we have of making those who reap most benefit pay the true cost?

For greater detail of the content of the Conference, and an account of a field trip beforehand, please see my blog at <http://heyjudeblog.com/blog/2017/11/13/dwri8mhpqnn8jpi5b9auiwtdjisc0f>

Helpful Hints

Tips for reducing waste:

#1 Get to know the **REDcycle program**. That's where you can drop off soft plastics at many Coles and Woolworths Supermarkets for recycling. Of course, recycling plastics isn't as good as not using them, but it's better than landfill. Mostly 'hand **scrunchable**' plastics can be recycled through REDcycle, like rice and pasta bags, chip and biscuit packets, bread bags. For more info visit www.redcycle.net.au.

#2 When it comes to single use plastics and the environment: **not using them is best**, reusing/repurposing them is next best, and recycling is better than sending them to landfill.

#3 Using **paper bags at the bulk foods store**? Did you know that you can take them back and use again? We suggest this because even the production of paper bags uses valuable resources of this planet.

Queensland News



Angligreen -

<https://anglicanchurchsq.org.au/what-we-do/angligreen/>

Background and History

In August 2006 a group of people from across the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane, with a concern for the environment, felt strongly the need for a diocesan group to encourage Christians to care for creation. They encouraged and inspired each other as they shared what they were involved in and what was taking place in their parishes. Angligreen was officially established as the environment group for the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane at Synod in June 2007. A motion was presented to welcome Angligreen and to recognise the support it could provide to parishes in fulfilling the fifth mark of mission, *'to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth'*. Synod was also asked to:

- Encourage parishes to complete an environmental audit to assess their contribution to environmental sustainability;
- To support the environment group's research and dissemination of information on how the church can best respond to the current water crisis (2007), climate change and the ongoing theological, environmental, social and moral issues associated with the conservation of our environment; and
- To support this diocese's membership of the Australian Anglican Environmental Network (AAEN).

Resources have been produced to help individuals and parishes to assess their contribution to environmental sustainability and to adopt strategies to increase water and energy efficiency.

- Level 1 Environmental Audit, Greening your Parish
- Greening your Parish Level 2 Environmental Audit

The national Anglican Church adopted The Protection of the Environment Canon 2007 and Brisbane diocese adopted it in 2009.

The Angligreen Committee is commissioned each year by the Archbishop in the Cathedral.

Angligreen produces a monthly newsletter which has a wide distribution through the diocese and beyond.

Angligreen has representation on the Diocesan Social Responsibilities Committee (SRC), Queensland Churches Environmental Network (QCEN) a Commission of Queensland Churches Together and liaises with Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC Qld).

Angligreen Anglican Church Southern Queensland Environment Group ("Angligreen")

Angligreen has its own Constitution and bylaws and operates under the Social Responsibilities Committee (SRC) of the Anglican Church Southern Queensland. The object of Angligreen is to support the Anglican Church Southern Queensland, its parishes and agencies in fulfilling the fifth mark of mission of the diocese, "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth".

Angligreen's Vision & Mission Statements

Vision

Our vision is that all members of the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane value and respect the whole of God's creation as a principal part of their Christian spirituality.

Mission

Our mission is to support prayerfully the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane in its commitment to safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain and renew the life of the earth by providing leadership, fellowship, education, outreach, advocacy and practical action, seeking the support of the traditional custodians of this land.

We resolve to fulfil our mission by

Bringing prayers and actions concerning environmental care, sustainability and ecojustice to the forefront of our worship, study and reflection.

Publicising events, developments, publications and sources of information on the environment across the Diocese.

Providing opportunities throughout the Diocese for enjoyable experiences of nature and the outdoors as well as environmental education for all ages about issues related to sustainability

Encouraging members of the Diocese to become better informed, speak out and act on environmental matters, both within diocesan decision-making forums and in the wider community.

Encouraging parishes and other Diocesan agencies to commit to the seven R's of environmental care...

- REVERENCE for all of Creation.
- REFUSE to use resources unnecessarily
- REDUCE consumption and waste.
- REUSE resources where appropriate.
- RECYCLE materials where possible.
- REPAIR rather than throwing away.
- RESTORE habitat and ecosystems.

Supporting parishes and other diocesan agencies in carrying out an environmental audit to assess the impact of their present activities and any proposed activities on the environment.

Assisting parishes and other diocesan agencies in reducing their environmental footprint.

Useful links and Contacts

- Facebook: [Anligreen](#)
- Email: AnligreenACSQ@gmail.com
- Brisbane Diocesan Social Responsibility Committee (SRC): <http://www.doingjustice.org.au/contact@doingjustice.org.au>
- Interfaith Climate Change Statement to World Leaders” (2016) <http://www.interfaithstatement2016.org/statement>



About Kialla Pure Foods - <http://kiallafoods.com.au/>

The history of the company

Since its humble beginnings in 1988, Kialla Pure Foods has grown to become one of Australia's leading processors of organic cereal grains.

Located near Toowoomba, Queensland, the mill is in the heart of the Darling Downs, where the rich alluvial soils provide the best grain farming conditions in Australia.

How was it created?

The majority family-owned company began as a way for a local organic grain farmer to mill his own flour, at a time when organic flour products were rare. Our certification number "41" indicates we were one of the early suppliers of fully organically certified products.

How we source organic grain and why traceability is so important

We have a dedicated grain buyer who travels throughout our grain growing regions to liaise with farmers. By working with them to decide what gets planted he ensures Kialla has the best selection of grains to meet the needs of our clients.

As a fully certified organic company who deals directly with the farmers we can trace our grains to their source using a unique batch number.

This is why, in 2015, we launched the Plate2Farm tracker, which is the first consumer-to-farmer tracking system in Australia to use the audited traceability built into the organic certification system.

We created our Plate2farm tracker to give consumers a genuine insight into where their food has come from, because we believe that when people know more about the sources of their food they can make informed choices.

We're committed to this kind of transparency in the food chain because it builds bridges between farmers and the people who buy their products. It helps the consumer to not only trust the labelling, and know that the information is accurate, they can also learn more about how their food is produced.

Our values

At Kialla we're 100% committed to using organic methods for building integrity in the food chain, and to ensuring reliability, consistency and quality in our products.

We believe that by supporting organic farming we create environmental sustainability and fair returns to farmers. And that paying the real cost for producing healthy food shouldn't make it unaffordable for the majority of people.

This is why we strive to supply a quality product that doesn't cost the earth, in the fullest sense of that phrase. And we're proud to support happy, healthy families Australia-wide, and around the world.

THE FRIENDS OF THE ESCARPMENT PARKS (TOOWOOMBA) INC.

<http://www.fep.org.au/>

“CARING FOR TOOWOOMBA'S BUSHLANDS” (2017)

Friends of the Escarpment Parks (FEP) is the most active, on ground, environmental group in Toowoomba. Our main role is bushland rehabilitation, which primarily involves removing lantana, broadleaf privet and other exotic weeds from public bushland reserves across the city. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with bush regeneration projects. We also carry out planting programs including coordinating National Tree Day events, etc.

We have been rehabilitating bushland parks and other bush reserves in and around Toowoomba since the last century (1993). The first six years were spent on a range of smaller projects scattered around the eastern escarpment parks including, Prince Henry Drive, Tobruk Drive Park, Picnic Point Park, Eagles Nest Camp in Redwood Park, etc. We also planted Toowoomba's Millennium Forest on an old quarry site in Duggan Park in 1999 which has now well and truly established itself as bushland. Since then we have carried out bush regeneration work in Duggan Park, Nielsen Park, Hartmann Reserve, Echo Valley South Park (ongoing) and several other parks and areas of public land around Toowoomba and Highfields. We are clearing weeds from Hartmann's Reserve, located on Alderley Street, Toowoomba which is part of Queensland's National Parks as well as working in TRC bushland parks including Redwood, Duggan, Nielsen, Echo Valley South, Panorama Crescent, Jubilee, Hancock St parks in Toowoomba plus Rogers Reserve at Highfields and Charmaine Ct. at Kleinton during the week or on weekends. These relaxing bushland parks are open to the public. Bushcare groups are volunteers carrying out bush rehabilitation activities in our local bushland parks.

Most rehabilitation work primarily involves removing exotic (introduced) weeds which then allows the native trees, shrubs and vines to germinate and/or recover. We also do some work in the area of reintroducing the local native species into the bush. Most of the native grasses which are part of the native flora have usually been lost under lantana and privet. Once the weeds are removed these native plant species can now re-establish themselves again which could take a number of years.

This work in bushland parks is carried out systematically ensuring that suitable refuge habitats are retained for native birds and animals until the previously cleared areas have recovered sufficient native vegetation. Generally smaller weedy plants are pulled or dug up while the larger woody weeds are cut or sawn off close to the ground and the stumps killed with small quantities of diluted Roundup herbicide. An innovative Root Blade has also been developed by a member of FEP and has proven to be an effective tool to assist with the removal of lantana and other weeds in appropriate areas. Any seeds are removed and the cut material is usually spread on the surface to provide ground cover which helps to retain moisture in the soil while larger branches, logs, etc. provide shelter and habitat for reptiles, bandicoots and other ground animals.

The Friends of the Escarpment Parks are engaged in a prolonged program to regenerate the small accessible areas of public bushland. This involves initial weed control and several years follow up work to eliminate regrowth, followed by regular light weeding to control reinfestation. We also have a number of other programs running including protecting the habitat of the endangered black breasted button quail in Redwood Park by controlling aggressive vine weeds and re-establishing the endangered Richmond birdwing butterfly in Toowoomba by re-establishing its food plants. Both are long term projects that may take many years.

Friends of the Escarpment Parks is a non-profit community group interested in the management, maintenance, and development and public use of Toowoomba's bushland escarpment parks. The group works closely with the Parks and Recreation Branch of the Toowoomba Regional Council, assisting with many aspects of the management of these areas as well as promoting public awareness and use of the unique asset to the community which these parks represent.

Our Objectives

- To foster public awareness and recreational use of Toowoomba's bushland parks;
- To assist Toowoomba Regional Council with the development, management and maintenance of the parks;
- To identify and develop projects which enhance Toowoomba's bushland areas;
- To promote public use of these unique areas;
- To encourage and oversee volunteer workers in the management and maintenance of the parks; and
- To identify and pursue funding opportunities for suitable projects within the bushland parks.

FEP is a very active group of volunteers who like to make an impact in the management as well as the restoration of the bushland reserves around Toowoomba. The Friends develop and run various projects including weed removal workshops (working bees) each Monday morning from 8:30am till about noon at Redwood Park and support local Parkcare Groups consisting of residents who help to restore their local bushland areas.

Participating in these projects is not only very informative environmentally, but also provides an enjoyable social activity which is most rewarding for those that assist. If you, your family or group would like to join us in the parks please ring Hugh Krenske on 0418 748 282 for advice on where and when we are currently working.

Interesting Websites



Climate Action Network Australia

Climate Action Network Australia (CANA) have a vision of “A fair and sustainable Australia free of climate pollution, where people and nature are protected from dangerous climate change.” (www.cana.net.au). They aim to achieve this by supporting their members and their allies to take actions and creating a diverse network with distributed leadership, linking people and

organisations that are working towards CANA's vision.

Members include the Australian Youth Climate Coalition, GetUp, and Seed amongst the more than 70, many of which are household names, listed on the website.

For more information visit: <http://www.cana.net.au/>



Australian Academy of Science

The “Australian Academy of Science” is a grand sounding name, but what might they offer the supporters of HOPE? Well, their website is a treasure-trove of information about all manner of things scientific. Be it delving into Australia's role in looking into Life on Mars, how scientists come in all shapes and sizes, or the history of science, there is certainly plenty to discover here. They also promote a

few scientific events and have links to the Australian Academy of Science's You Tube videos.

The organisation is not-for-profit and aims to champion, celebrate and support excellence in Australian science. It also promotes international scientific engagement, builds public awareness and understanding of science and provides independent, authoritative and influential scientific advice.

The website is found at www.science.org.au .
