

News of Friends of Grasslands

Volume 2 Issue 3

15 May 1998

Coming And Proposed Events

Tuesday 26 May - FOG Workshop
This major FOG activity should be very informative. It will be worth taking a day off work for. (See full article p. 2.)

Saturday 25 July - Breakfast at Mulligan's Flat. To view a native grassland on a winter's morning with the dew (frost) still on the cobwebs. To quote a soon-to-be-well-known Grasslands poet and artist: "Grasslands are not only a place to be enjoyed on a warm spring day, but to be experienced in the heat of summer and the frost of winter, in rain and mud and in drought."

Meet at 7am at the Mulligan's Flat sign on the left side of Gundaroo Rd, heading out past Amaroo. Breakfast will be provided. (RSVP: Margaret Ning by 18 July)

Saturday 29 August - Slide/chat afternoon. Slide presentation and chat with some of our experts giving us a little more insight into some of their professional activities. Up to six short presentations by FOG members and friends on different aspects of grasslands; grassland plant communities, invertebrates commonly found in grasslands, grassland reptiles, etc. Venue and time to be advised.

September - Date to be advised.
Radio Hill, Cooma
Here some endangered Rutidosia are managing to hang on. We are also attempting to arrange discussions with a local landcare group to see how FOG may participate in developing a management plan for this site and provide some hands on experience.

Spring Book launch - a field guide to grassland plants of the Southern Tablelands. FOG members have put together

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over one hundred photos and descriptions.
Date to be advised.

Saturday 31 October - Northern cemeteries tour. An early spring visit to some of Rainer Rehwinkel's special patches. More details later

November - Activity to be announced.

Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 December - Southern Cemeteries Tour
Some of Australia's best preserved areas of native grassland occur in Monaro cemeteries. David Eddy of World Wide Fund for Nature will be our guide. This outing will cover two days but be planned as two one day programs for those only able to put in one day.

Those joining for two days could stay at Garuwanga (home of Margaret Ning and Geoff Robertson) with all the mod cons of the city in a beautiful woody grassland/cum forest setting.

Please contact Margaret Ning about any of these activities (Home phone 6241 4065 or work 6252 7374).

Breakfast at Mulligan's Flat with dew still on the cobwebs

'Living' cemeteries excite FOG

Workshop Update

The FOG conference this year, as you will have heard, will be a one day workshop - on Tuesday 26 May - entitled: Development and Native Grasslands - Resolving Conflicts" - a slight change since the last newsletter.

It will be held in the main seminar room at CSIRO Wildlife and Ecology - off the Barton Highway at Gungahlin - and start at 9 am. FOG members will be able to attend for free - as long as they registered by 15 May - thanks to CSIRO's and Environment Australia's help. All registrations after 15 May will cost forty dollars. Attendance will include lunch and a bound copy of the workshop proceedings when published later in the year. All members are encouraged to participate. Fees for non-members paying before the 15th of May are fifteen dollars. For a few dollars more non-members have the option of joining FOG.

If able to help with the setup and running of the workshop please contact Art Langston on (02) 6242 1632. We especially need helpers on the day and a few volunteers on Monday afternoon (25th) to help set up.

The workshop focuses on the conflict that occurs when development is proposed in native grasslands, conflict such as, in the past, at Gungahlin Town Centre, Poplars subdivision near Queanbeyan, the original proposal for the Australian Government Survey Organisation building near Symonston and the SEPP46 clearing controls in NSW. Symptomatic of these developments has been that people across the spectrum of values and view points have been disadvantaged. FOG as a group is one of these stakeholders. There are many others. Examples of future developments are: the Very Fast Train proposal, housing estates for the Jerrambomberra Valley and the further pasture development of rural lands. It is imperative that we work to minimise the potential for conflict in these developments and maximise the probability for outcomes that are acceptable to all parties. To this end there will be four major sessions. After the formal opening of the workshop

by Brendan Smyth, ACT Minister for the Environment, scientists will show us information and tools to better plan for the future - to negotiate outcomes for our grasslands. Speakers from CSIRO, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, and the Australian National University will show how their work can help us in our decision making process.

The second and third sessions will explore the values and experiences of a range of stakeholders in the grasslands. In part this will be a retrospective look at past developments and conflicts. We will, however, encourage speakers and participants to use these sessions to generate ideas for how we might do things better in the future. These two sessions will deal separately with low intensity land uses (mainly rural) and high intensity land uses (mainly urban and transport).

During the fourth session our governments will show us how they are managing the communities' resources and in what ways they can minimise conflict. Speakers will include representatives from ACT Parks and Conservation, Urban Planning, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, NSW Agriculture and NSW Land and Water Conservation.

Discussion during the day will, we hope, initiate new ideas and processes for planning our grasslands better in the future. Participants will be encouraged to contribute their ideas and ask questions of the speakers. We will collect these ideas throughout the day and intend to refine and revise them before closing the workshop. I hope to see you at this exciting event.

Art Langston, CSIRO Div. of Wildlife & Ecology, (02) 6242 1632,
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*Volunteers
needed*

*Please contact
Art Langston*

*Participants
encouraged to
contribute ideas
and ask
questions*

President's Report to AGM

Why Friends of Grasslands?

What inspires FOG members is a love of the Australian landscape (or a particular part of it), an appreciation of its diversity and the fauna and flora communities, and the realisation that there needs to be a commitment to conserve, regenerate and/or manage it. We in FOG focus on grasslands and grassland species.

Our objectives are:

- (i) to learn about grassland sites, their structure, plant and animal communities and location;
- (ii) to learn about grassland management, conservation and regeneration techniques;
- (iii) to learn specific skills such as plant ID, weeding, plant propagation;
- (iv) to apply these skills in a particular site or a number of sites;
- (v) to get others involved;
- (vi) to support others with similar aims and objectives, and
- (vii) to educate the wider public, change attitudes and lobby for our objectives.

How we achieve our objectives

There are many ways to achieve our objectives including (i) our program of activities (field trips, weeding, slide/discussion nights, plant ID sessions); (ii) plant propagation; (iii) joint activities; (iv) communications (newsletter, e-mail and mail, telephone tree); (v) networking (with other individuals and groups); (vi) public workshops; (vii) lobbying; (viii) building organisation and membership; and (ix) being responsive.

What we have been doing and plan to do

Program

The program tries to weave the various objectives together - See Margaret's report (p. 8) Does it meet your needs?

26 May Workshop

This will be a major FOG event. Art has been doing a wonderful job. It is on a Tuesday, so you may need to take a day off work - it will be worth it!

St Marks Native Grassland

St Marks' people (Tent of Meeting Group and Friends of St Marks) and FOG will jointly progress a management plan for the extremely valuable St Marks native grassland. St. Marks have recruited enthusiastic participants. They are looking to FOG for expert input.

St. Marks' fence

Correspondence with Gary Humphries concerning the erection of a fence was included in the most recent newsletter. The fence has now been completed.

Communications

Our channels of communications include a quarterly newsletter and e-mail network, mail and phone. Your views on the newsletter and communications are encouraged. Special thanks to Paul and Dierk for their efforts in this area.

Website

Paul Hodgkinson is designing the FOG web page. It includes back newsletters and the FOG brochure. What else should be there: program and information on our submissions?

Submissions

The ACT government has requested comments on six action plans for endangered species or communities. In December we presented submissions for the "eastern lined earless dragon", "striped legless lizard" and "lowland grassland communities". These submissions were favourably received with some (not all) recommendations being adopted in the final action plans. We are currently preparing submissions on "button wrinkle-wort", "small purple pea" and the "golden sun moth". In the last week the Federal Government has called for comments on proposed changes to federal environmental legislation. We are currently reviewing the discussion paper the Government has distributed. Again, Art has been the author and/or coordinator of this work. All members can help the committee by keeping your eyes peeled for requests for public comment. These are generally advertised in newspapers or on radio. The more eyes we have on the look out for these, the less likely we are to miss having our say.

*Does the
program meet
your needs ?*

*Contact with
other groups is
important*

National recovery team

FOG (through Art) is represented on both the regional and national recovery teams for the "eastern lined earless dragon". We have also been accepted to have a representative on the recovery team for "native grasslands" - detail still to be resolved. We would also like to have someone on the recovery team for the "striped legless lizard".

Contact with other groups

Contact and working with other groups to achieve mutual ends is important. FOG has a useful niche role as a ginger group and an educator on grasslands issues.

FOG's relationship to ACT Parks and Conservation Service

Following attendance at the Volunteer Parkcare Coordinator's Meeting on 25 February, a useful contact has been developed with Kay Collins at ACT Parks and Conservation Service. It appears that FOG members (and helpers) come under the ACT Government's personal accident insurance policy. We have to put in a statement of our activities and point out how what we do benefits the Territory. We may even be covered for activities in NSW but there are still issues to be resolved. We will need to put in quarterly reports on the number of activities and person hours attending these. We should adopt a policy of signing in and out of activities.

Plant propagation

Recently a FOG meeting decided that we should encourage members to collect seed and plant material, to grow and plant out grassland plants. Before jumping in, however, we need to identify the proposed sites for the plants (and to ensure local provenance seed is used). We have also been in contact with Iain Dawson and Sue Walker (Australian National Botanic Gardens) on their research into collecting and germinating seven local native grasses.

Organisation

We have put much effort into setting up a suitable infrastructure, with regular committee meetings. However, many areas could still improve, eg membership ~ many members have not renewed yet. This we will soon need to address.

Incorporation

At this AGM we will vote on incorporation - to allay worries about individual members' liability, impose discipline and facilitate grants to FOG. We slightly modified the objectives developed by previous committees and propose to adopt, with minor variations, the model rules of the relevant ordinance.

Being responsive

For FOG to achieve its objectives and grow, each of us may need to be a little more responsive to requests without necessarily taking on a major commitment. For example, many farmers and Landcare workers just want someone to look at a site. While few of us are experts we need to be sufficiently confident to respond to such requests.

Being involved

The task ahead of us is large but we can each do a little and feel confident that what we contribute is worthwhile. The rewards can also be great. I have found it a great privilege and learning experience to be on the FOG committee - there is a lot of knowledge, energy and talent there. Do you want to share it?

Geoff Robertson

Committee report

Apart from the new program and the May Conference, on 13 April the committee:

- decided to publish six newsletters a year. With four, the gap between newsletters is too long and makes publicising the program difficult. In future, expect them in February, April, June, August, October and December. Dierk, Margaret and Paul comprise the editorial group. Contributions always welcome. Please contact any one of them (see back page).
- completed and has since submitted incorporation forms;
- appointed Art Langston as public officer;
- agreed to write to the ACT Parks and Conservation Service regarding insurance of members and, as requested, providing more information on FOG activities, explaining how these benefited the ACT;

*FOG Members
are encouraged
to grow
grassland
plants*

- agreed to introduce signing in and out procedures at FOG activities to provide a record of attendance - important if someone needs to make an insurance claim - and to ensure that attendees are advised on suitable dress and safety precautions.
- decided to begin cutting non-financial members from distribution lists. If you have not renewed, please do so.

Committee meetings, held on the second Friday of the month (June's meeting will be on Friday 12th), are open to all members. For venues, please contact a committee member.

Reform of Commonwealth Environment Legislation

Senator Robert Hill, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment, on 25 February 1998 issued a Consultation Paper, which outlines proposed reforms to Commonwealth environmental law. The reforms are claimed to deliver better environmental outcomes in a manner that promotes certainty for all stakeholders, reduces inter-governmental duplication and minimises delay. The Minister said he was keen to ensure that the views of the community were considered before finalising the reforms to Commonwealth environmental law. Comments in writing on the proposals were invited by 23 March. For copies, ring 1800 803 772, fax (02) 6274 1970 or look up <<http://www.environment.gov.au/net/legrev.html>>

Once again, it is a @#*%&^ insult that we only got one month to respond to something like this. The Government has been working on it since 1996.

Bungendore Grassland Conference - 27 March

Various FOG members attended the second Grassy Ecosystems Forum in Bungendore - organised by Environment ACT and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. Its topic: the partnership between private landholders and government agencies in the conservation management of natural temperate grasslands on the southern tablelands.

Charlie Litchfield, Upper Snowy Catchment Landcare Coordinator, explained the forums objectives, as:

- to seek common ground for primary production and conservation,
- to promote conservation values through grazing management techniques, and
- to examine the role of financial incentives.

Rainer Rehwinkel (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service) presented his colourful slides, which demonstrated the diversity of natural grasslands in the southern tablelands. He also helped focus the discussion by defining some basic terms, such as the distinction between a native pasture and a native grassland.

Jim Crosthwaite (an economist from Melbourne University) provided a case study of a small property holder in Victoria who wanted to increase the return from his farm, including making more intensive use of a remnant native grassland, which had high conservation value.

The case study raised a plethora of issues and showed the many motives at stake; with conservation often being low on the list. An interesting question is whether landholders really are guided by farm economies, because many often make incorrect assessments of return on investment. But one lesson that Jim drew was that small financial incentives to promote conservation may be important when farm management decisions are being made. (The February issue of this newsletter provided further information on Jim's work).

Peter Simpson (NSW Agriculture) focused his talk on how pastoralists may make best use of native grasses. He pointed out that high investments in fertilisers and introduced species in the past had many undesired effects and took no account of landscape issues.

Peter explained the features of key native grass species and how pastoralists may make the best use of them and encourage their further spread. Peter recently obtained some press coverage for his views on management of Serrated Tussock.

*New
developments
in Government
conservation
thinking*

He is also the co-author with Col Langford of a booklet, *Managing High Rainfall Native Pastures on a Whole Farm Basis*, published by NSW Agriculture. This is a simple but excellent booklet, providing some good photographs and descriptions of key grasses, and explaining management issues involved. You are encouraged to try to get your hands on a copy.

Carl Binning (CSIRO Wildlife and Ecology), co-author of the report *Motivating People: Using Management Agreements to Conserve Remnant Vegetation* (published by Bushcare), concentrated on new developments in government conservation thinking at the national level, and the possible use of government incentives to encourage conservation. He presented a host of issues for consideration. He pointed out, however, that funds for incentives are very limited. They needed to be used to change attitudes and behaviour, and, if governments put up funds, they should have some control over how monies are spent. He argued for conservation on a regional basis and not just at the individual farm level. Carl also stressed the need to break down traditional institutional barriers (eg each conservation agency doing its own thing).

Sarah Sharp (Wildlife Research and Monitoring, Environment ACT) talked on adaptive management for conservation of natural temperate grasslands. She challenged the view that grasslands need to be fenced off to be conserved. Her main theme, however, was that we need to learn by doing and monitoring closely the impact of different management regimes.

The forum discussion was valuable and wide ranging, encompassing broader issues such as government support of agriculture, the viability of family farming, the increasing entry of big corporations into agriculture, and globalisation. Nevertheless, Charlie Litchfield was able to identify much common ground between private land holders and conservationists.

The after lunch visit to a grazing property in the region provided a valuable case study of farm management where conservation of native grassland plays an important role. The lightly grazed farm represents a spectacular example of a grassland.

Much information about land management practices and conservation was exchanged. The forum was successful. Pleasing were the number of agriculturalists who have become converts to conservation. Though they may not represent the majority in the agricultural industry, they do provide a very valuable link between private land holders and conservationists.

What Did We Learn About Parkcare and Regeneration?

28 March was FOG's Parkcare and Regeneration Day in which we visited five ACT parkcare sites. The goals, culture, strategies and methods of each group were very different. Twenty four people participated during the day.

Things were a little brisk at 9 am at Evatt. The dew on the red and yellow remnant patches of Redleg and Kangaroo grass on the slopes of this North Belconnen Landcare site was wonderful. Mary Ormay was our host (Mary wrote an article for our February newsletter). She pointed out the urban and traffic encroachments on the site - some caused by maintenance workers. Mary also showed us areas along Ginninderra Creek where extensive weeding and planting had been undertaken. The group's first objective had been to remove Hawthorn - a seemingly impossible task; impressive were the before and after photos.

Since then there has been a regime of planting native trees and understorey shrubs suitable for the cold frost hollow conditions (Black Sallies in the wetter areas and Snow Gums in the drier areas). Casuarinas are being used to replace willows when and if they are taken out. Poa tussocks are also being put in along the river and Kangaroo Grass is planned to be grown on the higher slopes. To remove Phalaris, the strategy is to cover it (with jute/felt) or slash it to diminish its seeding. The overall objective is to restore a wildlife corridor.

Mary admits that, apart from a few remnants, it is not possible to restore the original grassland. The Landcare group largely relies on local residents. It puts out a regu-

*Parkcare and
Regeneration
Day —*

*Five ACT sites
visited*

lar newsletter and has gained wide recognition and awards. The major recent problem has been lack of water, but many innovative ways have been found to keep new plantings watered.

The second site was the Blue Devil Grassland at Umbagog, Latham that comprises some 50 hectares of good quality grassland. Janette Hannan was our guide. The site has been intensively and extensively surveyed and a herbarium (a collection of plant specimens, photographs and descriptions) has been carefully put together. There were many useful ideas on ways to document plants.

The herbarium has proved useful for establishing what plants are on the site. This has also been a site for Sarah Sharp's research and burning experiments. Encroachment is from tree seedlings and a high proportion of *Vulpia* and *Phalaris*.

The group has clearly had a positive impact along parts of Ginninderra Creek in removing weeds and growing more suitable natives, but there are many management issues outside its control.

The group has lobbied to have the area gazetted as part of the Canberra Nature Park but has been unsuccessful (reason unknown) in its first attempt. The Umbagog group was the first to be established along Ginninderra Creek.

The third of the Ginninderra Creek sites was Ginninderra Wetlands - a veritable sight and sound show: chain saws roared at us through a huge pile of cut down willows. Maurice Griffin-Warwicke, our host, believes in tackling the worst spot first.

The work of this group in reclaiming the creek has shown dividends. Ginninderra Wetlands does not have many native plants left, although a few have been discovered.

The group's work is likely to restore and enlarge the home of six native frog species and one turtle, and restore water quality. This group uses labour from a variety of sources in addition to its committed members. The group has also managed to stop rubbish dumping in the area and to raise river quality and water flow issues. It has also stimulated the nearby soccer club to re-

store wetlands further along the creek - an example of recreating a wetland.

One FOG member commented that, for her, the sight of the willows on the ground was the best moment of the day - it symbolised a new step in conservation and rehabilitation.

Our group lunched at St Marks, Barton. Here we were joined by those involved in evaluating National Heritage Trust applications for conservation grants in the ACT - some 20 people, including some of Canberra's key conservationists (both professional and volunteers).

Georgina Hall, of St Marks, expressed her hopes that the Tent of Meeting Group would foster the development of a grassland conservation group on the site of St Marks. Georgina explained that the plans to extend St Marks and to build a Centre for Christianity and Australian Culture had already taken steps to conserve and feature the grassland; St Marks and the ACT Government had already arranged a land swap so that the grassland would not be disturbed.

Sarah Sharp also explained the importance of this grassland - one of the most biodiverse and centrally located in Canberra.

At 2:30 pm the group, a little depleted, re-assembled at the western end of Cooleman Ridge. While the earlier sessions had been kept to a fairly strict timetable, this one was more leisurely. Our hosts were FOG members, Pauline Lynga, Tina Nevins and Naarilla Hirsch. Pauline has developed a new technique for herbarium documentation: photocopying fresh specimens. The clear picture this gives of species has been invaluable in identifying the 160 natives and 100 exotics so far.

The group is also selecting a ten by ten metre plot within which one metre is intensively surveyed each fortnight to identify every specimen along a one metre strip. Another method of documentation is the use of photo points - photos are taken from the same point over a number of years to see what changes have been recorded.

Finally, the group is doing a tree survey, recording in a database many details of

Land swap will ensure St Marks Grassland remains undisturbed

*We
need
more
graphics !*

each tree that is more than 50 cms in circumference.

Much of the research, in the group's eyes, is an end in itself (knowledge) and has greatly increased the knowledge of its members. Much of the work has been delegated so that each member has custodianship of part of the Ridge. This allows members to do things (such as weeding) in their own way and at their own pace - an interesting and workable concept. We were on Pauline's patch.

One issue, among the many discussed, was grazing. The group had fought hard against cattle grazing and had been successful - but what do you do about the build up of biomass? A simple solution being trialed is hand-removal of the biomass (simulating cow grazing) and weeding. This seems simple, but appears to be having results. In the areas where the method has been tried native grasses and forbs are coming back.

What was learnt?

All our eyes were opened to new issues, new experiences, new knowledge and new possibilities. Each person had their own questions and came away with insights that may be helpful elsewhere. Information sharing and making contacts were the winners. We also realised that land care can often be frustrating and requires much commitment. Each of our hosts were among Canberra's most committed citizens. Much enthusiasm was engendered for land care and to visit other sites.

Activities Co-ordinator's Report to AGM October 1997 - April 1998

St Marks - October 1997

Walking around this excellent, and centrally located, example of a remnant native grassland we enjoyed the spring flowering, guided by Sarah and Dave (thanks to both). Unfortunately an errant contractor mowed the site a few weeks later, ruining the display, and possibly jeopardising flowering and seed setting. This led to action - the fencing of the area. Hopefully, St. Mark's site will be a centre of activity over autumn and winter. Next spring we will host a spring fair.

African Love Grass Eradication -

29 November 1997

A small group of us sprayed ALG on a property near Bredbo which has two endangered plant species - a site of national significance.

The 1997 campaign was the second in twelve months. Apart from some steady work, David Eddy showed us around the site - a wonderful example of a dry, biodiverse Monaro grassland. Particularly pleasing were the effects of the previous year's poisoning - there was almost no regrowth. However, we but scratched the surface of the lovegrass problem on the Monaro.

Goulburn area Travelling Stock Reserves - 6 Dec 1997

Rainer Rehwinkel and Sarah Sharp showed us around Collector and Gundary reserves.

The Collector site is a travelling stock reserve and is an example of a grassy woodland; somewhat flat and enclosing an occasional wetland.

Gundary is a open grassland and somewhat steep as it covers several hillsides. It contains an extensive population of endangered button wrinklewort (*Rutidosia leptorhynchoides*) and is under a new management committee. There were two concerns about Gundary. Firstly, at the opening of the reserve, a number of trees had been planted to provide shade and an aesthetically pleasing entrance. To us grassland devotees it illustrated that the concept of a treeless grassland is still to win acceptance. We understand that the new management understands the inappropriateness of earlier 'enhancements'. Secondly, a number of patches of African Love Grass and Serrated Tussock showed weed management to be an issue.

Yarramundi foreshore - 5 February 1998

Field Naturalists and FOG joined forces to visit Sarah Sharp's experimental burning sites at Yarramundi foreshore. She described two sites and their history since the burn. Later that evening she presented slides and put the project into a broader theoretical context. As she has not collated and analysed all the findings she was unable to draw any firm conclusions. Some of the tentative hypotheses were very interesting, however, and, as always, Sarah was

*Any
suggestions
??????????*

a source of much information.

Bungendore area reserves - 1 March 1998
Rainer Rehwinkel showed us around Turallo and Sweeneys Reserve. Turallo is a small but open, flat grassland site but with somewhat of a woodland character. Despite this being the end of a long and dry summer, as evidenced by the almost dry dam, there was a lot to see. A number of forbs and grasses were in flower.

Kim Pullen, assisted by next generation entomologists, also brought a number of interesting beetles and other invertebrates to our attention.

Sweenys Reserve was bigger, more undulating and more of a grassy woodland. While prettier, it showed signs of a little too much grazing - nevertheless, another interesting and informative site.

Margaret Ning

A stimulating AGM - 7 March 1998

The Annual General Meeting was attended by 21 enthusiastic grassland conservationists.

The President's report (included elsewhere in the newsletter) summarised the many issues that FOG is engaged in, our aspirations and achievements. Discussion and exchange of information ranged fairly freely over issues. Art provided a copy of the May Workshop flier and explained planning progress. Margaret provided a comprehensive report on the FOG program.

A resolution was passed to allow FOG to incorporate. During the debate on this issue, it was pointed out that at the previous AGM, it had been decided to use the name Friends of Grassy Ecosystems, whereas the group which had examined incorporation recommended we stay with Friends of Grasslands.

While there was some support for the previous resolution, the majority view was that Friends of Grasslands was the better known term and should be retained, but that in the organisation's letterhead and other official documents there should be a reference to "supporting native grassy eco-systems."

Leon Horsnell, who had brought along a display of grassland plants, showed what could be done to show off grassland plants using large pots.

Michael Bedingsfield brought a collection of his drawings and the plants on which he based these drawings. These showed two good ways of getting to know grassland plants. We hope to see more from both these gentlemen.

The meeting was over in two hours and then we all treated ourselves to some wonderful food, wine and discussion. Dierk and Rosemary excelled themselves in their hospitality.

In The Mail

Green paradigms and the Law

A collection of essays (edited by Nicole Rogers) in which academic legal theorists analyse the dominant paradigm at the heart of our legal systems and consider avenues for incorporating alternative green paradigms into this legal framework. This book also contains contributions from green activists. Copies available from the Co-op bookshop, Southern Cross University.

EarthLink

A directory of ecofriendly products and services. Includes listings for environment groups in each State and Territory, and listings for government, sources of plants and seeds. Copies available from the FOG secretary.

ACEL News

Australian Centre for Environmental Law Newsletter. Includes information on seminars, presentations and courses in environmental law. Available from the FOG secretary.

Naarilla Hirsch

*Committee
thanks
Rosemary and
Dierk for their
hospitality*

The Environmental Weeds Homepage

Those interested in weeds or rehabilitation look up Patrick Pigott's Environmental Weeds

Homepage: <<http://weeds.merriweb.com.au>>.

He is a research scientist with Conservation and Land Management, Herbarium, Perth, WA.

This web site provides community groups, students and others with links to Internet resources on environmental weeds as well as access to information about Pigott's research. He welcomes suggestions and would be happy to host pages on specific weeds, etc.

Art Langston

Ginninderra Wetlands Restoration Group

The Ginninderra Wetlands are located along Ginninderra Creek near the Barton Highway. The aim of the group is to protect the population of native frogs and mussels in the area by removing noxious weeds (especially Hawthorn and Willow), to reintroduce native grass species (Poas and Danthonias), and to make the area more attractive. The Group draws much support from the Scouting Movement. It has to develop strategies to cope with too few hands and with government policy which effectively prohibits use of power cutting machines. In addition, vandals recently destroyed 63 newly planted snow gums.

For further information contact Maurice Griffin-Warricke (6241 6334).

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<http://www.geocities.com/Rainforest/Vines/7769/index.html>