

Red Hill Regenerators (ACT Red Hill Bush Regeneration Group)

President's Annual Report, December 2019

The time and energy of the committee was again focused on the proposed housing and other developments in areas adjacent to Red Hill Nature Reserve. Through the efforts of a number of people, especially Wayne Fletcher, the ACT Legislative Assembly resolved to prepare an Integrated Plan for Red Hill Nature Reserve and Surrounds and the Red Hill Bush Regeneration Group, "Red Hill Regenerators" (RHR), was invited to participate in its formulation.

Some of our members, Wayne Fletcher, Jacky Fogarty, Michael Mulvaney in particular, gave a great deal of their time and expertise in working to achieve this outcome.

The development of this plan by the ACT government has proven to be a strategic, transparent and collaborative process. This approach by the ACT government for determining future land use in the vicinity of Red Hill Nature Reserve seems to be a productive and efficient way of establishing and responding to community views and values. We applaud the ACT government for this.

Highlights

2018/19 financial year:

- We applied for and gained a \$30,000 grant from the ACT government in June 2019 to assist with an existing tracking program for Little Eagles, enabling the purchase and fitting of additional tracking devices in order to better understand their ecology and enable the best conservation decisions to be made. Little Eagles frequent Red Hill and RHR members are involved with their observation. Michael Mulvaney was the main person involved.
- The historic plantings of Callistemons, Darling Pea and Grevillia between the kiosk and summit of Red Hill were formally entered into the ACT Heritage Register on 15 November 2018.
- The 'Ties to Red Hill' book launch took place at the Red Hill Coffee N Beans cafe on 4 December 2018. It is a book of poems by Paul Williamson with text and illustrations by Michael Mulvaney and Michael Bedingfield.
- 200 trees were planted on World Environment Day, 2 June 2019, aided by a Commonwealth Government Volunteer \$1384 equipment grant.
- A ceremony was held on 27 October 2018 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the heritage plantings, attended by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Mick Gentleman.
- Our activity sessions involved undertaking plantings and protecting these with plastic guards and Cootamundra Wattle cuttings, removing Cootamundra Wattle especially on the northern slopes of Red Hill, removing Verbascum and woody weeds plus watering our plantings.
- Our 10 monthly Sunday work activities attracted between 11 and 46 people, providing a total of 407 hours plus 7 weekday activities. The total number of RHR

member hours including individuals working singly or in small groups together with RHR meetings was 840.

- Another butterfly walk was held this year, led by Dr Suzi Bond, an expert on ACT butterflies.
- Dr Michael Mulvaney, our Conservation Officer and scientific expert on the ecology of Red Hill, led a nature walk in the Reserve last November behind Garran and again this November, behind Red Hill. They attracted 20 and 12 people respectively and those who attended were entertained and informed about the significance of the Red Hill Nature Reserve and the details of its ecology.

This financial year:

- We were recently awarded The ACT Australian Community Media Landcare Community Group Award for our work on Red Hill. Michael Mulvaney accepted the award at a presentation ceremony. We are being considered for the National Landcare Awards being presented in November next year.
- We hosted over 60 young students and their teachers from Canberra Girls Grammar school who helped with horehound removal and planted 60 tubestock.

Thank you to individual members who work independently on the Reserve, including Colin Pilliner, Jacky Fogarty, Rob Walls, Michael Mulvaney, Sue Ross and Paul Ratcliffe plus Roy McDowall for his photography.

We also continue to be grateful for the work of our ranger partners from the ACT Parks and Conservation Service (PCS).

We currently have 74 financial members and 205 members and friends on our group email list.

Volunteer hours

Activity	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of Sunday Activities (mid-week included up to 2016)	8	11	11	10
Average number of participants	15.5	14.1	14.1	15.9
Number of Mid-week Activities				7
Average number of participants				4
Total number of volunteer hours*	967	906	1,011	829
Total hours including meetings, etc.		1,249	1,042	840

* These hours represent on-reserve work, education of members and the AGM for the financial year but not meetings, preparation of submissions, etc.

Many thanks to all members for your time and effort in helping us achieve a better nature reserve. Thanks particularly to committee members. The Committee's knowledge and commitment has ensured the Red Hill Regenerators continues to make a significant contribution to the long-term wellbeing of the Reserve. In particular, thanks to:

- Michael Mulvaney, the founder of RHR, for his deep ecological knowledge base and his continued, inspiring passion.
- Paul Ratcliffe for his work as Treasurer and for many other contributions including the RHR website and Twitter account.
- Sue Ross for her role as Secretary and supporting the group's work in so many ways.
- The Red Hill rangers, the Parks and Conservation Service, the Southern ACT Catchment Group and many in the ACT government who work with us to achieve our objectives.

Red Hill Regenerators Office Bearers. 2019

Office	Office Bearers 2019
President	Ross Kingsland
Vice President	Robyn Tulloh
Secretary	Sue Ross
Treasurer	Paul Ratcliffe
Ordinary committee members	Michael Mulvaney, Trish Munro, Sue Parr
Other positions	
Public Officer	Sue Ross
Conservation Officer	Michael Mulvaney
Parkcare Coordinators Rep	Sue Ross
Task Coordinator	Paul Ratcliffe
Web & Twitter Manager	Paul Ratcliffe
Equipment Officer - tools	Paul Ratcliffe
Equipment Officer - chemicals	Sue Ross
Notices Coordinators	Robyn Tulloh, Trish Munro

Date

Ross Kingsland
President, Red Hill Regenerators

Date

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