

## **Red Hill Regenerators (ACT Red Hill Bush Regeneration Group)**

### **President's Annual Report (1.7.19-30.6.20), November 2020**

While bushfire smoke and COVID restrictions reduced our activities for some of the year, the last 12 months has seen strong support for our work activities with pleasing numbers taking part. A number of plantings were undertaken and achieved a surprising rate of survival given the searing temperatures and drought. Thanks go to many people for assisting with watering the plants, particularly Jacky Fogarty.

The Integrated Plan for Red Hill Nature Reserve and Surrounds was prepared for consideration by the ACT government. Red Hill Regenerators (**RHR**) was generally pleased with the draft Plan including recommendations for the transfer of some areas into the Nature Reserve that were previously subject to future building developments and improvements in the proposals for residential and other development. RHR continues to work to achieve the best outcomes for both the reserve and local residents.

A major, developing issue has been the proliferation of illegal bike tracks being built on the Reserve. This was partly as a result of the COVID 19 restrictions which has seen many more mountain bikes as well as much larger number of walkers in the reserve. The digging of bike tracks is probably also due to the removal of the bike jump site at the Federal Golf Club. While we understood the litigation risk that led the Club to close this site, we were sorry to see this happen and encouraged the Club to find other ways to mitigate the risks.

We greatly value the ACT Parks and Conservation Service in their efforts to stop illegal bike track digging and to educate the community.

#### **Highlights**

- Our activity sessions involved undertaking plantings and protecting these with plastic guards and Cootamundra Wattle cuttings, removing Verbascum and woody weeds plus watering our plantings.
- Our activities were affected by COVID 19 and heat/smoke issues. We only held 6 monthly Sunday work activities but attracted an average of 16 people, plus 3 weekday activities with an average of 8 participants. The total number of RHR member hours including individuals working singly or in small groups together with RHR meetings was 812.
- Dr Michael Mulvaney, our Conservation Officer and scientific expert on the ecology of Red Hill, led a nature walk in the Reserve last November.
- We were awarded The ACT Australian Community Media Landcare Community Group Award for our work on Red Hill. We are being considered for the National Landcare Awards which have been deferred to August next year due to COVID 19 restrictions in NSW.
- We hosted over 60 young students and their teachers from Canberra Girls Grammar School who helped with horehound removal and planted 60 tube stock.

Thank you, again, 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	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Number of Sunday Activities (mid-week included up to 2016)	11	11	10	6
Average number of participants	14.1	14.1	15.9	16
Number of Mid-week Activities			7	3
Average number of participants			4	8
Total number of volunteer hours*	906	1,011	829	789
Total hours including meetings, etc.	1,249	1,042	840	812

\* 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.

### Red Hill Regenerators Office Bearers

Office	Office Bearers 2019
President	Ross Kingsland
Vice President	Robyn Tulloh
Secretary	Sue Ross
Treasurer	Paul Ratcliffe
<b>Committee members</b>	Michael Mulvaney, Trish Munro, Sue Parr
<b>Other positions</b>	
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 .....

.....