

Charmaine Court Reserve

Dry Rainforest and Vine Thicket

This tiny reserve located in the middle of Charmaine Court, Kleinton is approx. 0.5 hectares and the perimeter is mowed so that access for viewing bird life, butterflies and plants is easily achievable.

There is a very short walking track through the centre of the reserve.



Being a bushland reserve the area is home to many of our native species of plants and wildlife including an array of butterflies and birds.



Brown honeyeater at the reserve

Exotic Weed Infestation

Over time several exotic weeds have grown throughout this forest, and are now threatening to overtake the native species.

We will be carrying out bush regeneration activities at the reserve 2nd Saturday of the month for 2 months, 11th July and 8th August, from 9am till 3pm.

You are welcome to join in the fun and help the environment.

We can supply tools & gloves (if required) as well as training in a team environment.

**For more information please contact
Michael McGoldrick (FEP)
4635 7371 or 0417 802 817**

Parkcare Groups

Parkcare groups are volunteers carrying out bush rehabilitation in our local bushland parks.



Would you like to get involved?

Nielsen Park (Colman Drv off Mackenzie St)
(1st Saturday each month from 9am - 12)
(Plus 3rd Sunday of the month from 2pm)
(Contact Rob Brodribb 0407 124 863)
(rwbrodribb@ozemail.com.au)

Jubilee Park (Coventry Court)
(Northern end of Mackenzie Street, Mt Lofty)
(1st Sunday of the month 8 - 9am)
(Contact Geoff Sharp 0427 038 055)

Redwood Park (Each Mon & Thu 8:30am)
(Plus 2nd & 4th Saturday each month)
(Warrego Highway below the saddle)

Access to the park is through the bottom car park on the down section of the Toowoomba range crossing, on the left just after the first 100km speed sign.



(Contact Hugh Krenske info@fep.org.au)
(or call Hugh 0418 748 282 or 07 4635 1758)

Duggan Park
(Each Thursday & 3rd Saturday from 8:30am)
(Leslie & Collier Streets, Rangeville)
(Contact Max Henderson 0427 866 091)

Hartmann Bushland Reserve
(Cnr Alderley St & Rowbotham St)
(Wednesday from 8am each week)
(Plus 3rd Saturday each month from 9am)
(Contact Greg Lukes 0428 288 077)
(glukes@bigpond.com)

Panorama Crescent Park
(1st & 3rd Saturday each month from 3pm)

Local residents are actively carrying out bush rehabilitation activities each month.

Pedestrian access is down the laneway between 4 & 8 Panorama Cr, Prince Henry Heights.
(Kathy Gouldson kathygouldson@bigpond.com)

Echo Valley South Park (Ramsay St)
(2nd, 4th & 5th Saturday each month from 9am)

This small group is active 2 or 3 Saturdays each month from 9am – 12 noon.

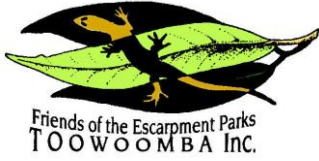
(Contact Greg Lukes 0428 288 077)
(glukes@bigpond.com)

Friends of the Escarpment Parks Toowoomba Inc.

Newsletter Editor **Greg Lukes**
newsletters@fep.org.au
0428 288 077



Would you like to support FEP? Individual and family membership is \$10 per year



The
**Escarpment
Park Friend**

Jul – Aug 2015

Hugh Krenske 4635 1758

info@fep.org.au

www.fep.org.au

FEP, Caring for Toowoomba's Bushlands

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Tree Planting Duggan Park

National Tree Day

Duggan Park

Sunday 26th July 2015

**9am to 1:30pm Tree Planting
and free barbecue**

**FEP, Toowoomba Regional Council and
Toowoomba Toyota are sponsoring the day
ALL are welcome**

Duggan Park is located at the corner of Leslie and Collier Streets, Rangeville.

Gloves, tools and equipment will be provided.

We are also looking for helpers to assist with co-ordination of the planting activities.

Please RSVP to info@fep.org.au.

FEP Membership Due

As of 1st July membership renewals are due. Individual and family memberships are now \$10 per year (and groups are \$20). A membership/donation form is enclosed. You can make a direct payment to Friends of the Escarpment Parks (TBA) Inc. Please include your initial and surname for reference so that we can identify your payment and send an email to the treasurer indicating that you have paid electronically. BSB 638 070 Ac No. 5459567

Pool Escape Ramp

Skamper Ramp is ideal for pools near bushland for pets and critters (including bandicoots) to escape. (Available on Ebay)

Bearded Dragon at Duggan Park



We found this big healthy looking bearded dragon down at Duggan Park. This one was found in the lower area when the Toowoomba Grammar School students and teachers came down to help remove a large amount of lantana from the bottom section of the park. You can check out the area for yourself. You will be amazed by the amount of work that has been carried out by the group.

The **National Tree Day event to be held in July** will be in the Millennium forest which is located at the southern end of the park on the upper level.

Millennium forest is the result of a tree planting project carried out by FEP in time for 2000. This reclaimed area was previously the Drayton quarry. John Swarbrick founded FEP and coordinated the project. John has retired from FEP and still writing books etc. John was the past president and is still a great inspiration for members of the group.

Duggan Park

J.E. Duggan Park is easily accessed at the corner of Leslie and Collier Streets Rangeville. At just eight hectares (20 acres) it is one of Toowoomba's smaller bushland parks positioned on the edge of the escarpment with views to Table Top and beyond.



FEP members Eunice & Ray Addison enjoying the view of Table Top from Duggan Park

The park offers short, easy, accessible bushwalks in the upper section as well as some more strenuous walks down the escarpment areas. There are a number of picnic tables and vantage points to take in the escarpment vista.

All areas of the park offer a diverse array of plant and bird life. At night, many species including possums, gliders and bandicoots are active.

Duggan Park was named after the former Queensland Opposition leader John (Jack), Edmund, Duggan who represented the local area for over 30 years.

We found this fantastic bush art in the park along the side tracks between the main picnic area and the Table Top look out.

The bushland park must have inspired some creative instincts.



In 1999, FEP initiated and worked with Toowoomba City Council to plant a very successful Millennium Forest in a disused quarry area which forms an extension to Duggan Park. The forest trees are now well established and include Bunya Pines, Hoop Pines, Red Ash, Eucalyptus and Pittosporum species. It is home to many species of birds and a colony of wallabies.

FEP has again been actively working in the park over the past year, and has successfully cleared a massive growth of Lantana and other environmental weeds from the Millennium Forest. We are now planning a major understorey planting to be undertaken on National Tree Day.

There will be a commitment for care and maintenance over the coming year or two to ensure that the understorey plantings become well established and that the lantana does not return.



Bushwalking track at Duggan Park

FEP is carrying out parkcare activities in Duggan Park Thursday each week and 3rd Saturday each month from 8:30am. The group meet at the main gate near the corner Leslie and Collier Sts, Rangeville. Activities are available to suit all abilities.

To assist in the bush sturdy foot wear (covered shoes or work boots) are required and we strongly recommend appropriate sun and abrasion protection in the form of broad brim hat, sun or tinted safety glasses, long sleeved shirts, long trousers and gloves. Please also bring drinking water and something for morning tea. Full training and tools will be provided.

Contact Max Henderson 0427 866 091

Bush Treats

Wombat Berry *Eustrephus latifolius*

Wombat Berry is an evergreen vine native to Malaysia, the Pacific Islands and eastern Australia. It occurs in sclerophyll forest (type of vegetation that has hard leaves), woodland, heath, gallery forest (a narrow strip of forest along the banks of a watercourse through open country) and on the margins of rainforest.

The leaves are variable in shape, elliptic to linear, 3-10 cm long and 3-35 mm wide. All leaf veins are equally distinct. Flowers are pink to mauve or white. The globose capsule (a container the shape of a sphere or ball) is 1cm diam., yellow-orange, with numerous black seeds set in a white aril (fleshy and usually brightly coloured cover that partially or entirely envelopes the seeds of some plants).

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eustrephus



Wombat berry fruit

Photo: Robert Whyte (SOWN)

Wombat berry is a wiry vine which trails over low branches or across the ground. The berries ripen from green to orange, splitting to display shiny black seeds. **The burst berries contain a tiny amount of crisp white pulp (aril), which was eaten by Indigenous people.** The roots swell into small earthen tubers, 1-3cm long, which taste sweet and juicy.

Tim Low

Wild Food Plants of Australia

sportsmancreek.org/index.php/2010/02/wombat-berry-eustrephus-latifolius/

During winter, once split, the fresh crisp white pulp has a sweet coconut flavour and the orange case is a bit tart. The many black seeds are edible but ideally are discarded back into the bush to produce more plants for next year.

Wombat berry is found in most bushland parks.

Compiled by Greg Lukes (FEP)

Weed Watch

Moth Vine (false choko) *Araujia hortorum* or *Araujia sericifera* Family Apocynaceae

Moth vine which is native to Peru is a perennial climber with sparse, twining, scrambling, woody stems. This local pest has a milky latex that comes from cut or damaged stems, leaves and roots.



Moth Vine (false choko)

Black Diamond Images & Visoflora

Leaves are opposite, dull green on the upper surface and grey to white on the lower surface, sparsely hairy, triangular to pear shaped, tip pointed, base as-if-cut-off to slightly heart shaped.

Flowers either white or pale pink, borne singly or arranged in loose clusters.

Fleshy pear-shaped fruits (false choko) contain many seeds. Each seed has a bunch of fine, silky hairs at one end.

www.iewf.org/weedid/Araujia_hortorum.htm

Seeds spread on the wind and in water.

Native Look-alikes

The flowers and choko-like fruits are distinctive but there are some native climbers with similar leaves. Milk vines (*Marsdenia rostrata* and *M. flavescens*) also have milky sap and opposite leaves. However, the upper surface is shiny and the underside pale green in *M. rostrata* and yellowish in *M. flavescens*. Flowers are smaller, and yellow, and seed pods long and narrow. **Common silkpod** (*Parsonsia straminea*) has similar leaves which are dull green above and paler green below, yellow flowers and long cigar-shaped pods. The small native vine *Tylophora barbata* has clear sap, opposite pale green leaves and the rarely produced flowers are small and dark purple.

www.esc.nsw.gov.au/weeds/Sheets/vines/V%20Moth%20plant.htm