

Redwood Park Volunteers

The first batch of volunteers from Conservation Volunteers Australia have been actively working in Redwood Park for two weeks in October. Our helpers came from Switzerland, Germany, Belgium and Scotland with their leader, Stefan, from South Africa.



The volunteers were targeting the lantana which has taken over areas where the canopy has collapsed under the weight of madeira vine and cats claw creeper. They also targeted climbing asparagus and coral berry.



The CVA volunteers were treated to a large carpet python as it crossed the track on our way to the work area. It eyed us with suspicion before moving on without a care in the world.

The second and third group of volunteers have now also completed work in Redwood Park clearing the creek bed as well as the other weed hot spots.

Hugh Krenske (FEP)

Parkcare Groups

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

Would you like to get involved?



Duggan Park
(Leslie & Collier Streets, Rangeville)

(Schedule is to be advised)

(Contact Rod Spalding 0418 710 232)

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

This group is active each Monday & every second Saturday from 8:30am.

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 100km speed sign.



(Contact Hugh Krenske info@fep.org.au)

(or call Hugh 0418 748 282 or 07 4635 1758)

Hartmann Bushland Reserve
(Cnr Alderley St & Rowbotham St)
(Wednesday from 7:30am each week)
(NEW 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)

We would like to get more Prince Henry Heights residents active carrying out bush rehabilitation activities each month.

Pedestrian access is down the laneway between 4 & 8 Panorama Cr, Prince Henry Heights.

(Kathy Gouldson 4613 0195 or 0437 920 936)

Nielsen Park (Tarlington St off Ramsay 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)

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)

(Please check with coordinators)

Friends of the Escarpment Parks
Toowoomba Inc.

Newsletter Editor Greg Lukes

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0428 288 077



Would you like to support FEP? Membership is only \$5 per year (\$10/Family)



The
**Escarpment
Park Friend**

Jan – Feb 2014

Hugh Krenske 4635 1758

info@fep.org.au

www.fep.org.au

FEP, Caring for Toowoomba's Bushlands

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FEP on Facebook



We are pleased to announce that we now have a Facebook site. (Search FEP Toowoomba)
www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-the-Escarpment-Parks-Toowoomba/559932657393987

Facebook provides a great opportunity to share photos of events and create online discussions. If you like what you see please like us on facebook.

Environment Expo at USQ

**Celebrating Our Environment Expo
4 June 2014**

The *Expo* will include information displays from envNGOs (NGO non government organization), the university and government agencies, trade exhibits featuring environmentally friendly products and services, demonstrations, workshops, a speakers program and much more.

University of Southern Queensland (USQ) has offered its support in staging the **2014 Celebrating Our Environment Expo**. The event will be held on Wednesday 4 June 2014 at USQ, West Street, Toowoomba.

To register your interest to assist with a FEP information display at the *Expo*, please contact Hugh, 0418 748 282.

Hugh Krenske (FEP)

Redwood Park Open Day

Open Day 5th April 2014. This will be a significant event for the environment and heritage groups in the Toowoomba region.

FEP Savings Option

HERITAGE COMMUNITY SAVER PROGRAM

As part of its commitment to the community, Heritage Bank has a scheme to assist local community groups to raise money.

Friends of the Escarpment Parks has registered with this scheme making it possible for members looking for somewhere to invest, to open their own personal **Community Savers Account**. This will not only give the account holder a high rate of interest but Heritage will also anonymously transfer a further **1% interest to your** chosen community group. A community account can be opened: -

On line through www.heritage.com.au

Through the Heritage On-line internet banking or at your local branch.

Friends of the Escarpment Parks Community Group Identification Number is 1719 to be quoted when opening the account.

Interest rates as at December 2013 are:-

\$1 - \$249,999	1.95% p.a.
\$250,000 - \$749,999	2.30% p.a.
\$750,000 +	2.55% p.a.

(Calculated daily and paid monthly)

www.heritage.com.au/Interest-Rates/Accounts.aspx

The FEP Committee cordially invite you to consider helping yourself and helping the association by opening your own personal **Community Savers Account** with the Heritage Bank.

Weed Watch

Cat's claw creeper *Macfadyena unguis-cati*



Image 1



Image 2



Image 4



Image 5



Image 6



Image 7 Seed pod



Image 8 Seeds

Image 1

Image 2

www.lrm.nt.gov.au/weeds2/find/cats-claw-creeper#.UpltvDW1q0

Image 3, 4, 5 & 7 Photos: Sheldon Navie

[keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/eafrinet/weeds/key/weeds/Media/Html/Macfadyena_unguis-cati_\(Cats_Claw_Creeper\).htm](http://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/eafrinet/weeds/key/weeds/Media/Html/Macfadyena_unguis-cati_(Cats_Claw_Creeper).htm)

Image 6

Cotyledon stage, hypogeal germination. Copyright CSIRO
keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Macfadyena_unguis-cati.htm

Image 8 Seeds

<http://www.discoverlife.org/20/q?search=Macfadyena+unguis-cati>

Cat's claw creeper is a Weed of National Significance (WoNS). Native to tropical America, cat's claw creeper is an aggressive climber that has the ability to completely smother native vegetation; it can even grow up over trees. Cat's claw creeper has already had a serious weed impact along coastal and hinterland streams in Queensland and northern NSW.

The vine has a vigorous root and tuber system, which adds to the difficulties in controlling the weed. **The leaves have a three clawed tendril that readily catch onto bark, clothing, etc.** The seeds can be spread by water and wind.

www.lrm.nt.gov.au/weeds2/find/cats-claw-creeper#.UpmKDdlW1q0



Image 3

Cat's claw creeper in flower



Cat's Claw City Redwood Park 2006
Photo TRC

In Redwood Park cat's claw creeper comes into flower November/December allowing a short window of opportunity for FEP volunteers to readily identify and target the plants with yellow flowers to cut and spray the hairy stems (up to 150mm diameter) that are strangling the trees.

Hugh Krenske (FEP)

Species Watch

Great Barred Frog

Mixophyes fasciolatus

Strangely my family considered it *unusual* to squelch around in the dark with a torch strapped to your head and *normal* to recline inside with TV background noise. A mysterious **WARK WARK WARKing** wafting from outside gets me over my inhibitions so I ventured out for some real life. I wonder what the rain has stirred up. I love the rain but nothing compared to this little beauty.



Great barred frog enjoying Toowoomba's November rain

This one and the rest of the WARKing gang hang out on the eastern side of town, venturing out to some of the streetlights. There were lots of frogs calling but none visible then just when I was heading back this one was sitting upright on the road with red eyeshine. I thought it was a toad at first but *I was entranced to see this beautiful frog out foraging and cruising some swirling frog hotspots*. These frogs are reported to lay eggs in leaf litter along the banks of creeks and rivers to be washed into the water so the little flashes after storms sound ideal for them to be out and about.

The pale upper lip and lack of 70s ABBA blue upper eyes distinguish it from the other three barred frogs in SEQ.

I returned home confident in my sanity after **WARKing through the park and reminiscing...**

Geoff Sharp (FEP)

The Great Barred Frog inhabits rainforest, wet eucalypt forest, and Antarctic Beech forests. Almost always found near running water. The Great Barred Frog is found near east coast from central Queensland to central New South Wales. The species appears to be stable.

The Great Barred Frog is dark brown above with white underside. It has parallel black bars along the legs, and the thighs are yellow blotched with black. It has a dark line from the snout, through the eye, curving down behind the tympanum (ear hole). The feet are fully webbed, and hands are not webbed. The eyes are set high on the head.

Sizes ranges up to 8cm (over 3").

Relatives in same Genus are

Southern Barred Frog (*M. balbus*)

Giant Barred Frog (*M. iteratus*)



Fleay's Barred Frog (M. fleayi)
(Note the blue section on the eyes)

The conservation status of the Fleays Barred Frog in the 2004 IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals is "**endangered**".

OzAnimals.com
Australian Wildlife

www.ozanimals.com/Frog/Great-Barred-Frog/Mixophyes/fasciolatus.html

For video, frog call and photos

lyrebird-gallery.smugmug.com/Frogs/Mixophyes-fasciolatus/24124521_G8HsQQ/1960233773_rJbnxh9#!i=1960233773&k=rJbnxh9

More info, photos of all life stages



Great barred frog metamorphing with tail

frogs.org.au/frogs/species/Mixophyes/fasciolatus/