

# Redwood Park 2025

Eduarda van Klinken

With the wet weather, weed growth has been enormous. Most of the team's time is taken with removing Madeira, Privet, Cats Claw and Climbing Asparagus. This year, for the first time in many years, we saw huge meadows of Madeira seedlings, presumably from a flowering/seeding event – this phenomenon was recorded by John Swarbrick in 1998.

A loyal team of 13 regulars attend when they can, splitting up into smaller groups to work in their areas of interest. Over 1000 hours of work has been logged in the past 12 months. Work is restricted to the southern end of the park, with some more distant areas sadly having to be left to their own devices. Once every three months a small team makes an excursion to the near-threatened Bailey's Cypress grove in the centre of the park, ensuring the weeds in the area are removed to encourage further natural propagation.

Hugh Krenske, after many years of expertly guiding the team at Redwood Park, has stepped down from his official duties with FEP, mentoring Eduarda van Klinken in the role. It is a rare morning when Hugh and Kay are not present for weeding sessions and their joint expertise and continuing hard work continues to be highly valued.

This year the Madeira Weeding Challenges have taken place on the first weekend of each season. This has been a wonderful way of targeting problematic areas as well as being a forum to educate the volunteers about the growing problems with weeds in our parks. As yet, there have not been any Madeira Challenge weeders who have transitioned into our twice-weekly group, although this remains the hope.

We have had several visits from school groups, varying from an hour or two to most of the day. The most effective use of their time has been in a flat area beside Gatton Creek, upstream from the Picnic Area, where Coral Berry is rampant – an easy weed to identify and remove without tools.

The Redwood Park weeders continue to enjoy each other's company, both while weeding as well as over a protracted cup of tea at the conclusion of our efforts. This is surely one of the wonderful outcomes of the team.