

**WHITES HILL RESERVE VOLUNTEER
NEWSLETTER – June 2026**



May Working Bee



What a great turnout. 27 volunteers fronted up including regulars and first-timers plus four from our Junior Bushcare group accompanied by their parents.



Assembling at Jones Road we noticed some early blooms on the Shirleyana bush down by the bridge at Philips Creek.

Our group split into two. Some began pulling out Guinea grass and/or Corky Passion vine in

the creek bed, while the Junior Bush carers tackled cleaning & refilling our two wildlife watering stations.



Before tucking into some weeding, the Juniors bush carers took their parents down to inspect their plantings from last month and were thrilled to see that most of them were thriving.

By the time morning tea rolled around, we had cleared a large swath of Guinea grass and checked on the state of the young

Shirleyana's we planted upstream.

We also found interesting insect eggs on a leaf, unusual fungi, a stash of neatly nibbled Corky berries and a tree covered in Processionary caterpillars.

A great morning was had by all!



Junior Naturalist & Bushcare program – Session 4

We held our fourth Junior Bushcare event on Sunday 31st May and had an excellent turnout.



I'm not sure if it was the lovely weather, the nine o'clock start or our sparkling repartee but 12 junior bush carers and their parents came along to join us in the creek bed near Jones rd. our biggest group to date.

We did lots; check on our plantings, plant a few more, service our water stations, install a third one and pull out a few weeds.



As we have recently planted a couple of Davidsons Plum trees near the creek we thought it would be a good opportunity to try one of the fruits. They are extremely sour, but we were able to take the taste away with another one of Phyllis's yummy morning teas.

This is the new water station that the kids installed down in the creek bed. It will be useful for the animals if we get another prolonged dry spell.

Peters Walk – Sunday May 24th

We were joined on this walk by friends from the Australian Conservation Foundation – this is the same group that co-sponsored our Eucalypt walk some years ago.



We saw lizards, a currawong, a pair of lorikeets nesting in a hollowed out termite nest, a wallaby grooming near the pouch area and numerous koalas including a young dispersing joey (bigger than a football and near another koala, possibly mum).



It turned out to be a lovely walk, so much so that we extended by 90 minutes and even got in a morning tea as well!



Pats Walk – Sunday June 14th

What a special morning for our 18 walkers.

We were blessed with beautiful blue skies as we took our usual relaxed stroll through the reserve.

We were treated to rainbow lorikeets fussing about their tree hollow and 12 koalas. It seems that we regularly see more each walk and we have been recording the numbers for many years. It's a very unscientific survey process but it does reveal a trend.

It was a rare treat to see a mum with tiny joey on her back move from one tree to another.

We also spotted a grove of special pink nodding orchids ([Geodorum densiflorum](#)) which will be lovely when in flower.



It was so hard to choose that I had to put both photos in



These lorikeets have the best hollow around, it even has a porch cover 😊



Sobering statistics from Sharyn at Save the Koalas and Wallabies of Whites Hill

Sharyn is tireless in her work creating awareness about the threats to our local fauna. I have included her recent post about local road casualties.

Thanks to **Brisbane City Council** for recent actions to help make 2 of our worst koala black spots a little safer for our endangered koalas.

●Pine Mountain Rd has had the vegetation near the roadside cleared, helping to improve visibility

●Boundary Rd has had new koala climb-outs installed in one of the steep embankments where koalas can be trapped, just south of the Whites Hill entrance.

🚗It was disappointing that while taking these photos, cars flew past and the Boundary Rd koala signs flashed red continually.

🐼No matter what tree you look at along these roads, there are koala scratches and scat - terrifyingly close to the road.

⚠️ **Last year we lost 146 koalas in our area**, so please help raise awareness about the need to slow down on these roads and our area as we enter the high-risk 2nd half of the year.

♥️ **Boundary Rd was responsible for 7 koala deaths, 6 wallaby deaths and another 5 koala injuries and 58 occasions where volunteers attended to check &/or protect them just in 2025!**

♥️ **Pine Mountain Rd & Wyncroft St caused 8 koala deaths and another 2 injured, as well as 21 events where volunteers protected them. We also know of 1 wallaby death.**

👉Slow down, leave a gap, scan roadsides ahead

👉Keep dogs indoors/a confined area at night & on a lead in public

👉Keep/plant a tree for koalas to eat (eucalypts) or safety (any tree)

👉Save rescue numbers - now, before you need them - and if a koala needs help, stop-call-wait (don't message/text)

WHATS ON

Working Bee – 0800am Sunday June 21st

We are meeting by the **Jones Rd entrance to the Reserve.**

We will be working around the creek, watering, weeding and topping up the animal drinking stations.

We welcome new and existing volunteers, no previous experience necessary, just turn up and enjoy a couple of hours being kind to the reserve.
Morning tea provided!!

Please wear appropriate sunproof clothing, closed in shoes, gloves and bring water.



-
- Sun 21/6 8 - 10 Bushcare working bee - Meet Jones Rd
 - Sun 28/6 8 - 9:30 Peters walk - meet Jones Rd entrance.
 - Mon 6/7 Junior Bushcare - session 5
 - Sun 12/7 8 - 10 Pat's walk – meet outside children's playground
 - Sun 19/7 8 - 10 Bushcare working bee - TBA
 - Sun 26/7 Peter's walk – Reconciliation Walk at Holland Park
 - Sun 26/7 7.30 am [Reconciliation Walk](#) from Glindemann Park to Mott Park, Holland Park – [Part of Peaks to Points Festival](#)
 - Thurs 27 Aug 4pm **General Meeting at Whites Hill College**

Cheers John.

Website: <https://whiteshill.org.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/whiteshillreserve>

Email: info@whiteshill.org.au