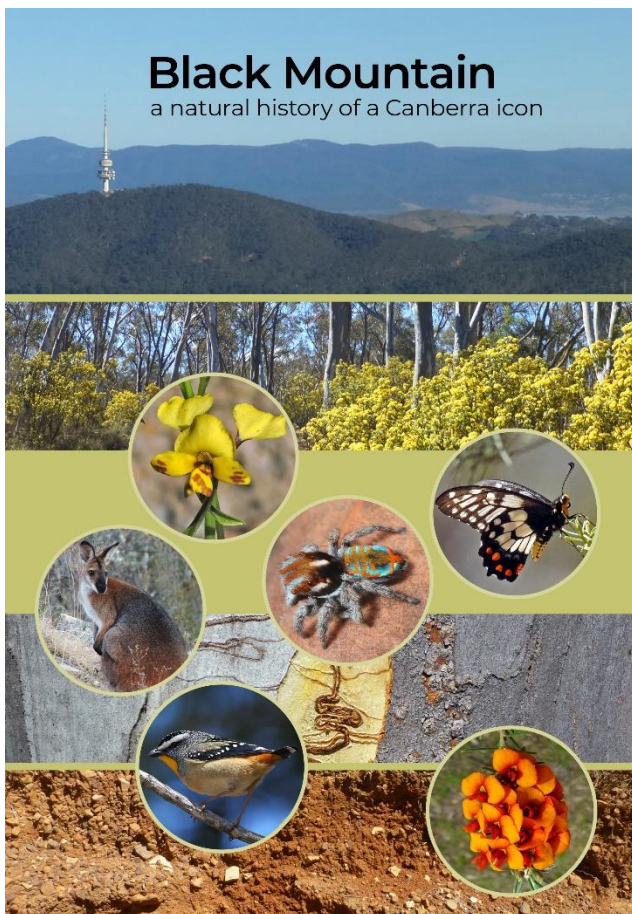


Friends of Black Mountain July 2020 to June 2021

The highlight was ***Black Mountain a natural history of a Canberra icon*** by Ian Fraser and Rosemary Purdie, to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Black Mountain; declared a conservation reserve on 23 July 1970.

The book was launched by Professor David Lindenmayer, ANU, after the welcome by Wally Bell, Ngunawal elder, and a speech by Ian Walker, ACT Conservator for Flora and Fauna, and Executive Group Manager for Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate. FoBM is grateful for the sponsorship from that Directorate, Molonglo Conservation Group, Riverview Projects (ACT) and many other generous donations. The book needed to be reprinted to meet demand.



FoBM recorded 3,055 voluntary hours this year, including policy consultation and activities such as:

Weeding by 35 people who each came to several of the 19 work parties and removed 15,000 predominantly woody weeds.



Seventeen (17) **guided rambles** led by 15 volunteers for 390 participants on themes of Spring Wildflowers, Ants, Butterflies, Summit, Wattle, Ngunawal and National Capital Cultures, Fire and Plants, and Orchids.



Kim Pullen gave the fascinating **Winter Talk** on *Invertebrates of Black Mountain* to an audience of 50 people.



Eleven (11) **Frogwatchers** and eight (8) **Bird Observers**, did multiple surveys during the year.

Nine volunteers did **Vegwatch**. It was a pleasure to see greater abundance and species this year than in the hot and dry 2019 survey, and the bush re-generating after 90% defoliation by the hail storm on 20 January 2020.



The joint ParkCare display for 3 days at Jamison Plaza was looked after by 28 volunteers. COVID-19 travel restrictions heightened people's interest in finding out more about activities at nearby nature reserves.



FoBM extends many **warm and heartfelt thanks** to more than 130 volunteers, 15 helpful community organisations, as well as other organisations, radio and print media, and support by Parks and Conservation Services, for all of their valuable roles in our very enjoyable year.

Linda Beveridge
For all Friends of Black Mountain