

# Friends of Black Mountain

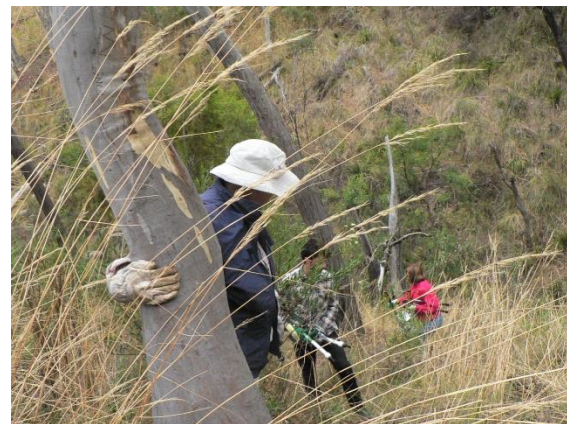
## Weeding Party 2 February 2013

Our Wonderful Weeders removed Bluebell creeper and other weeds in the comparative cool of the South side of Black Mountain, with support from Molonglo Catchment Group. The Bluebell creeper or Sollya (*Billardiera heterophylla*, previously called *Sollya heterophylla*) is native to Western Australia, but has become an environmental weed in many areas of south-eastern Australia, and is identified by the ACT Parks and Conservation Service as one of the priorities for weed management. We also had the opportunity to deal with other weeds nearby, including Cootamundra Wattle (*Acacia baileyana*).

We were grateful for the rains earlier in the week and the night before which made it easy to pull young plants with minimum disturbance to the soil. We also "cut and dabbed" large bushes of Sollya near the Botanic Garden track, and beside the Black Mountain Drive. All adding up to approximately 16 cubic metres of the Sollya removed.

Other delightful aspects included a basket-weaver Weeder who selected some branches, roots and twigs from the removed bushes to make an item for an exhibition of baskets made from Australian native plants at the Australian Botanical Gardens in a month or two; so we will be looking forward to seeing that.

The wonderful weeders also enjoyed the morning tea, including the delicious cake and biscuits made by "Uncle George"; and are looking forward to our next Weeding Working Parties on the first Saturdays of coming months.



Weeding and towing a large Sollya bush out of the valley

Photos Jean Geue

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Biodiversity Monitoring Working Party on Black Mountain

There are a small number of places still available if you have not yet registered and wish to come and join us on this interesting project to learn more about, and record information about, Black Mountain. This is as part of the Molonglo Catchment Group (MCG) Biodiversity Monitoring Project. The project is being led by Sarah Sharp author of "*Field Manual for Baseline Condition Assessment and Monitoring*" and Rachel Marks, Project Officer at MCG.

People who are interested but not yet registered, are invited to register before 22 February 2013 for the first session of the Biodiversity Monitoring Working Party on Tuesday 26 February 2013. Details are:

**When:** Tuesday 26 February, 9.30 for 9.45am to 2.30pm. Morning tea will be provided.

**Where:** Telstra Executive Briefing Centre, Telstra Tower (see directions below)

**What:** First session of Biodiversity Monitoring, comprising:

1. Workshop session, based on the *Field Manual*;
2. Establish the Black Mountain North East monitoring plot, which will be adjacent to and based on the 'footprint' of the existing community fire monitoring plots (near Frith Road);
3. If there is time, conduct baseline assessment and monitoring.

**Bring:**

1. Your enthusiasm, hammer, pencil, clipboard, notebook. And camera if you wish.
2. Your well-read copy of the *Field Manual* by Sarah Sharp, (if you don't have one, a copy will be sent to you upon registration)
3. Your copy of "*Trees and shrubs of Black Mountain, Mt Ainslie, and Mt Majura*" by Laurence Adams <http://www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/Adams-Black-Mtn-key/index.html>.
4. Please wear standard field clothing (including hat, gloves, stout shoes, sunscreen) and supplies (including drinks, lunch, and/or snacks).

**Contact:** Please provide name and phone number by email to [friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com) or phone Linda 02 6262 5551



*Grevillea alpina* Photo ANBG



a plant of *Joycea pallida* in the wild



individual flower of *Joycea pallida*

## Friends of Black Mountain General Meeting

**When:** Thursday 28 February, 4.30pm to 6.00pm.

**Guest Speaker:** Dr Rosemary Purdie, who is well known for her interest in Australian botany and is a regular walker on Black Mountain, will talk about *Woe to Weeds on Black Mountain*.

**Meet:** Executive Briefing Centre, Telstra Tower

**RSVP:** Please provide name and phone number by email to [friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com) or phone Carol 02 6251 0239 or Linda 02 6262 5551



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## **Weeding Working Party Saturday 2 March, 8.30am to 1130am**

Including morning tea.

**Task:** Serrated tussock grass is identified by the ACT Parks and Conservation Service as one of the priorities for weed management, and is readily identifiable in March.

([www.molonglocatchment.com.au/Weeds/Documents/Factsheets/SerratedTussock.pdf](http://www.molonglocatchment.com.au/Weeds/Documents/Factsheets/SerratedTussock.pdf))

So we will focus on that as well as dealing with some more of the Creeping bluebell, Sollya (*Billardiera heterophylla*).

**Meet:** Car park and picnic area midway up the Black Mountain Drive.

**Contact:** Please provide name and phone number by email to [friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com) or Linda 02 6262 5551



Serrated tussock

Photo MCG

## **Weeding Working Party 6 April, 9.00 am to 12.00am**

Including morning tea

**Task:** focus area will be advised

**Meet:** will be advised.

**Contact:** Please provide name and phone number by email to [friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com) or Linda 02 6262 5551

## **Weeding Working Party 4 May, 9.00 am to 12.00am**

Including morning tea

**Task:** focus area will be advised

**Meet:** will be advised.

**Contact:** Please provide name and phone number by email to [friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com) or Linda 02 6262 5551

## **Black Mountain Heritage Festival Walk, 28 April 2013, 9.30am to 12.00 noon**

Let's see Black Mountain's rich heritage; its natural, cultural, education and scientific values, during a guided ramble on Black Mountain. See how the natural environment and landscape differ in various parts of this nature reserve which is an icon in the "Bush Capital". Includes a pause for morning tea.

**Meet:** Car park and picnic area midway up the Black Mountain Drive, see the balloons.

**Bring:** your family and friends, and your morning tea. Please wear hat, sunblock, stout shoes.

**Contact:** Please provide name and phone number by email to [friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com) or phone Linda 02 6262 5551

## **ACT Centenary BioBlitz, 25-27 October.**

Biodiversity monitoring activities and information sessions on Black Mountain. An opportunity to participate in one or several Biodiversity monitoring and recording activities during this Centenary Event.

Supported by Atlas of Living Australia, ACT Government, Inspiring Australia and Molonglo Catchment Group

Further details coming.

**Meet:** CSIRO Discovery Centre, Black Mountain

**Contact:** Rachel at Molonglo Catchment Group for more information or to register for the event

email – [projects@molonglocatchment.org.au](mailto:projects@molonglocatchment.org.au)

Phone – 6299 2119 / 0422 881 685