

Friends Of Organ Pipes workday report 27 Oct 2012 (Robert Irvine)

The regular hard workers turned up Claude, Terry, Karen, Robert I and Neil with the plan to clean-up in preparation for the 40th Anniversary day 11 November.

At the front gate I found the damage a stolen truck had done one night when it smashed through the tough steel gates constructed by Mike Cussack.



The stolen truck was then driven and destroyed the gate to the works area



Once inside took out the front of the seed shed



The truck was later found off the road down to the Visitors Centre and towed away. It's a mystery why someone would go to all that trouble to wreck things at the Organ Pipes National Park.

After our usual starting chat we walked down Joes track to the car park then to Red Gum Flat to inspect the last work days planting. The plants were looking very healthy so we inspected the brand new toilets (long drop dunny's) including a disabled toilet and rainwater tank, replacing the old ones.



Some of us had not seen Joes Track North so we decided to walk up it on the way back so we walked past the Bat boxes finding the usual past bee activity evidence.



Neil and I went to the Keilor Block to check out the Kevin Jones 50 year Bat box which so far has not had a bat in it. However as we say “no result is a result” so the question is why has it not had a bat in it? Part of the box strategy is smearing Bat droppings to rub inside it.

But to my surprise we found a Sugar Glider nest in it again. The last one I removed but the Glider is back and this time built a bigger nest.



Then walked up his excellent track from the pump shed to the Visitors Centre.

We had lunch and started to cleanup the VC. cleaning windows inside and out as well as wiping and sweeping everywhere we could.



This is a really good sign as it shows the gliders have pushed out to the extremity of the park Anyway I rubbed the bat droppings inside it in the hope we could get two species in the box.

See you all Sunday 11 November for 40th Anniversary of Organ Pipes National Park

Terry, Karen and Claude went home after lunch.