

Working Bee Report – Saturday 14th December 2013

FOOP's seem to have a habit of not doing Christmas well or at least organising our final work day for the year. Terry sent out an email stating our work for the morning to be followed by a BBQ which seemed a good idea. I responded that I was going to clean up the Hedge wattle taking over at Watson's Road Rail reserve but no one else responded so Terry then organised to go see his granddaughter instead.

On the Saturday Robert Irvine and Claude were cleaning up as I arrived with Robert having ridden in from Sunbury on his push bike. After a bit of a chat I headed out to Watson's Road to continue removing the Hedge wattle that was rapidly spreading through the reserve.

Robert and Claude headed down to Costa's block to cut holes in the fence to allow better access for the kangaroos and also to poison some of the non indigenous trees that still grow along the fence line.

At the Diggers Rest reserve I cut and painted the Hedge wattle which were just about to shed their seed which took longer than I thought as many had multiple stems coming from previously cut stems.



Grassland with Hedge wattle popping up



Grassland cleared of the Hedge Wattle

I finished about 1pm and headed for home as the others were not having a BBQ.

All in all it was a disappointing end to the year

Later Robert rang to say he and Claude had cut a large section out of the fence but as they didn't have any implement to cut the stems of the trees they just painted them with herbicide and will wait to see what effect it has.

Hopefully next year we can have a more celebratory end of the year although with the massive changes to the organisation of Parks Victoria we may not have that much to celebrate.



*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year*