

Work Day Report – Saturday 28th March 2015

It was a cool overcast morning when I arrived at the Organ Pipes Friends shed ready for our day's activity.

Shortly after a new member Scott Worsley turned up followed soon after by Claude and Maelor.

Unfortunately Terry couldn't make it as his knee had taken a serious turn for the worse the day before and he could barely walk on it.

Scott filled us in on his reason for joining – he has enrolled in an online conservation management course in NSW and needs a practical place to hone his skills and this is the closest park to his home, which should meet his needs.

After our usual chat we set off for the Costa block to cut and paint the boxthorn with the tools and herbicide that Ian had left for us.

When we reached the gate at the edge of the block we found someone had driven straight over it from the other side breaking down the fence posts on both sides.



Demolished gate going into Costa block



Fence posts broken off

We continued on to the end of the escarpment area that had been planted out last year then set off down the hill to cut and paint the boxthorn.

It was slow progress on the steep crumbly soil but by noon Scott had made a great impression following a line of boxthorn down the hill, while Maelor, Claude and myself cleaned up the small and not so small boxthorn on the hillside.

The new loppers proved adept at cutting through the stems and probably encouraged us to tackle plants that would have been better removed with saws, but we were able to reduce the plants to short stumps before painting with herbicide.

By noon Claude had gone to meet family commitments and Scott and Maelor enjoyed lunch before we headed back to the shed. We stowed away the gear then headed off for the day which had been quite productive.



New member Scott Worsley