

Working Bee 23rd February 2013

Terry Lane

It was going to be a warm sunny day for our first working bee for the year. The plan being to cross the creek and finish weeding Aloe Vera from the water's edge up to Millbrook ruin.

I arrived early and started loading bags into my car, soon Maelor and Neil came along. Ranger Len Quale came by on his way to Woodlands. They have been trying to rid the area of foxes to allow a number of bandicoots being held at Melbourne Zoo to be released, however it is believed that one still remains and is proving to be quite elusive and until caught the release will not happen.

Josie Hayden drove up with Michael Howard and we set off down to the Pumpshed ford only to find the creek had risen considerably since I saw it on Wednesday and



of course none of us had gum boots.



Neil, Maelor, Michael and Josie

Unable to cross we decided to do some weeding and clearing up on Main Flat



Michael and Maelor



Neil and I removed tall tree frames from the Black Wattles that we found shooting up after rain some years back



As you can see these super tree frames have been very successful in deterring wallabies and kangaroos and these acacias are vital for the continuation of the glider program.



Maelor removes some (not so successful) smaller frames.

Michael had spotted some prickly pear up the



slope

and as what usually happens after you

get rid of one small clump you spot another



You really need to get on top of Pear, Aloes and Agave before it gets too large to remove from the site because leaving them on rocks or covering with plastic is simply a band aid measure and they will eventually respread. Josie joined us and we wound our way up the slope going from pear to pear and putting them in the



bag.

We finished up around noon, a very productive day doing jobs that we never seem to get around to, but next month we must cross the creek, so remind me to remind you about bringing gum boots.

