

# "BUSHLANDS BANTER"

No 1 - December, 2016



Dear Bushlanders,

Welcome to the first of what we plan to be news of activities in our Bushlands Community.

## Vale Cate Freeman

Cate Freeman passed away peacefully on November 23<sup>rd</sup> at her other home in Toronto, in the company of her dear friend Carole and beloved brother Bill, after a wonderful year of celebrating life. Her illness prevented her from returning to her home in the Bushlands last summer, but gave her the chance to see her beloved dog Tux play in the Canadian snow.



Cate came to the Bushlands in 2000 after spending three years looking for a community and environment that accorded to her values and ethos. Until 2014 she alternated six months in Australia in our warmer months with six months in her other home in Canada in the warmer months there. In the Bushlands, Cate discovered "a little community within the broader Chewton community", and considered herself "very, very lucky to live here".

We will remember: her support for so many organisations and groups within and outside the Bushland community, her key role in establishing the CBA, her wandering of the landscape along with her ever faithful companion Tux, her observation of matters needing attention, her role as Fireguard Co-ordinator, her role at the forefront of weed eradication activities, her readiness to host social activities and her key role in the evolution of our history book, *A Dream Realised*.

Cate's influence and presence in the Bushlands will be sorely missed. Her story will be related on our website in the near future.

## Fireguard

Should you wish to be included in the Bushlands Fireguard Notification Phone Tree please ensure that you notify Glen Harrison (0419 337 804).

If you have any fire-safety related concerns please contact Antoinette Birkenbeil (0414 802 738) with any comment, concern or suggestion. In the big picture all residents should be aware, informed and responsible.

The CFA are holding two information Street Meetings (see the December *Chewton Chat*):

- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 10 am near the Cemetery in Sparks Rd. This is aimed at residents of the Chewton Bushlands. Antoinette will attend ... please keep her company;
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 6.30 pm at the Monster Meeting site in Golden Point Road, aimed at all Chewton residents including bushland folk who missed the first one.

## Bushlands Christmas Party

Where: Jill and Fran's, 68 Commissioners Gully Road (first drive north of Rankine Road on the west side) @ the Big Green Shed

When: Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> from 5.30 onwards

Bring: yourself and friends, food to share and beverages of your choice.

## **The Chewton Bushlands New Facebook Page**

We are walking into the 21<sup>st</sup> century! Designed to help build community, share photos or upcoming events, discuss ideas and keep in touch, it has been set up as a private group, which means a few things:

- You need to have a Facebook profile. If you don't have one, it is very easy to create one. Even create a fake one if you like!
- You can be added to the group by somebody who is already a member or you can send a request to 'join' the group
- To find the page, simply type 'Chewton Bushlands Association' into the search bar at the top of your Facebook page. The 'Chewton Bushlands Association (closed group)' will show up in the drop down menu
- All posts on this page are only visible to group members. They are not public.

This will be a fantastic way to communicate, promote your events, discuss local issues, stay informed and even engage in some robust discussion. A good sense of humour is encouraged! If you have any questions or difficulties getting involved, please feel free to contact Tim on 0407 331 084 or go to [tim@teepeemedia.com.au](mailto:tim@teepeemedia.com.au).

## **A Dream Realised**

Our book on the history of the Bushlands has sold out, but is now available as a PDF and can be downloaded from our website :

<http://chewtonbushlandsassociation.org.au/the-history/a-dream-realised/>

Bushland stories additional to those in the book are available at:

<http://chewtonbushlandsassociation.org.au/category/residents/our-lot/>

## **Flora and Fauna Publication**

Hannah and Karen successfully applied for funding of \$3000 from the Shire to produce a record of flora and fauna of the Bushlands – more on this in our next Bushlands Banter.

## **Environment**

It has been a wonderful wildflower season BUT Steve has found an orchid, native to South Africa, and regarded here as a weed: *Disa bracteata*. It looks a bit like an onion orchid (*Microtis* spp.) and it may be finished by now but watch out for it in future years and pull it out, as Steve has done. Go to <http://www.viridans.com/INTRO/waitingweed.htm> for more information and pics.

## **Annual General Meeting (AGM) & your Committee for 2016/2017**

As an Incorporated Association we have an elected Committee to manage the Chewton Bushlands Association in between AGM's. The first committee meeting is on 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 6pm at Antoinette's in Dishpan Gully Road and all are welcome.

Twenty people attended the AGM held at the Chewton Town Hall on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November and following the necessary procedures and election of Office Bearers and Committee, a delicious buffet dinner was enjoyed by all present. Thanks to Coffee Bean for the wonderful food.

The Committee was elected as follows:

President: Mark Carter (0419 034 567)

Vice – President: Ken Savage (0411 090 378)

Secretary: Margot Ryan (0407 533 339)

Treasurer: Karen Baker (0439 714 665)

Committee members: Charles Affleck (0414 802 649), Antoinette Birkenbeil, (0414 802 738), Kate Elliot (0438 567 573), Fran Joyce (0439 351 146), Hannah Nicholas (0410 618 610), Tim Purdie (0407 331 084).

Welcome to Kate Elliot – totally brand new to the organisation!

Here they are after the paperwork done:



Front: Fran, Kate, Karen, Hannah, Tim, Margot

Back: Antoinette, Ken, Mark (Charles elsewhere at the time)

### **Chewton Bushlands Association Membership**

It is our hope that many more residents and lot owners will join the Association representing and benefiting the community. So... if there's any help we can provide then let us know.

For membership and enrolment details go on the website.

<http://chewtonbushlandsassociation.org.au/the-association/how-to-become-a-member/>  
or just ring Ken: 0411090378.

### **Down the Track**

The Committee welcomes your involvement. We have in our sights;

- More film nights – which were very successful in 2016
- Music events – not too short of talent in the Bushlands
- Winter social gathering ... a curry night perhaps

Any more ideas?

May you have a great, happy and exciting Festive Season.

**The Committee**