



Friends of Pallisters Reserve Inc.

Pallisters Reserve is a 254ha wetland reserve at 457 Masons Road, Orford, owned by Trust for Nature, and managed by the Friends of Pallisters Reserve Inc.
Established January 1990

June
2019



Next meeting: Sunday, 23rd June, 2019

Open Day 10am start

NOTE: There will not be a committee meeting in July

HAPPENINGS:

We have been fortunate to be successful in obtaining a grant of \$2500 from the South West Community Foundation, Koroit and District Sub Fund to purchase a defibrillator.

The defibrillator along with our eperb (emergency beacon) is important for our group because of the remoteness of the reserve and the poor mobile reception

Defibrillation is a treatment for life-threatening cardiac dysrhythmias, specifically ventricular fibrillation (VF) and non-perfusing ventricular tachycardia (VT).

A **defibrillator** delivers a dose of electric current (often called a countershock) to the heart.

We have also received a Carbon Offset Grant from the Moyne shire. The grant valued at \$1600.00 will be used to extend the area planted with funds from last year's grant from the shire.

NEXT MEETING:

Our Open Day, starts at 10am. We'll need members who are coming to be early to set up for the event. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us.

A water sampling demonstration by Mike Herbert which was successful on last open day will also be part of our open day.

This will depend on whether there is water in the Main Swamp

RAINFALL & BORE READINGS:

125mm was recorded for the month of May. Bore readings are still falling. Bore readings every five years on the bores since we started reading in 2004 is as follows:

	Bore 1	Bore 2	Bore 3
June/2004	3.20m	4.50m	4.20m
June/2009	6.32m	DRY	5.03m
June/2014	5.60m	DRY	4.73m
June/2019	7.33m	DRY	5.33m

Bore 1 is now DRY at 7.33m

Moyne Shire Environment Awards

Congratulation to David and Sue Rowbottom for winning the Moyne Shire Long Term Sustainability Award.

David and Sue have been champions of the St Helens Racecourse Reserve for many years. St Helens Racecourse Reserve is three km east of Pallisters Reserve.

It is hoped that in the near future the two reserves will be joined by a bush corridor.

The Long-term Award was presented to David and Susan Rowbottom, merino farmers, for their ongoing commitment to protecting the St Helens Flora Reserve near Yambuk.

"David and Susan have been voluntary custodians of the reserve since 1975, preventing the last known breeding population of the Southern Brown Bandicoot in Moyne Shire becoming extinct," Moyne Shire Mayor, Councillor Wolfe said.

"They have also saved rare gliders and native flora from extinction through their work, including advocating government for protection of the reserve, maintaining firebreaks, treating weeds and implementing fox control measures."

"David and Susan are true environmental crusaders and this award is our way of thanking them for their commitment and contribution over five decades."



SUNDAY, July 28th

As a follow up to last years Brolga and Bandicoots Project a planting day has been planned for the above date, More details in next month's newsletter

Meetings are held every fourth Sunday except July and December at the at the reserve at 12.30pm.
Co-leaders: Julia Schlapp 0427 778 265 and Anthony Leddin 5568 4112 or 0408 333 046
Minute Sec.: Margaret Whitehead 5568 1443; Sec/Treasurer: Trevor Kennedy 5565 8692
Newsletter Editor: Peter Carrucan

Climate change is making bushfires far worse

Andrew Jeeves

As a volunteer member and training officer of the NSW Rural Fire Service for nine years, I've witnessed my fair share of fire seasons. A year ago in March, our brigade helped mop-up the devastating fire at Tathra where 69 homes were lost – but thankfully no lives. We were on-call 24-hours a day for a week.

Last year's fire behaviour was unlike anything I've experienced before.

For 44 days in August, my brigade helped fight the biggest-ever fire on the south coast – the longest officially declared, out-of-control fire in our history.

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And it's clear that the terrible fire conditions from last year are continuing into 2019.

Normally we're asked to be on-call on such short notice when the fire danger reaches "severe". The change was due to abnormally dry conditions in the southern forests. Fire seasons now start earlier and last longer. We normally have a seven-month period between fire seasons – from April to September. However, last year we had only three months.

Volunteer fire fighters are now asked to put their lives on the line almost any day of the year. This is unprecedented.

I could offer more evidence, statistics and stories but the key issue is clear: climate change is supercharging bushfires.

Our communities will have to be even more prepared for devastating, out-of-season fires like those at Tathra.

In order to cope, within a decade we'll have to double the amount of volunteer firefighters and their resources.

It's time for governments to put aside ideology and recognise the urgency of our situation. We elect politicians to lead, but they continue to drag their feet while more than 70 per cent of Australians want action on our climate crisis.

Our parliamentarians need to feel the heat like we do.

There are very few climate sceptics or climate delayers on the end of a fire hose.

Andrew Jeeves is a volunteer member and training officer of the NSW Rural Fire Service.

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