

Fox Gully Restoration Update

October 2008

Replanting progressive total – **1,060** grasses, herbs, shrubs and trees

Fox Gully is one of two key wildlife corridors through residential areas on the southern slope of Mt Gravatt. Mt Gravatt Reserve is a sixty-six hectare island in suburbia 10 minutes from the CBD and home to Koalas, Bearded Dragons, King Parrots, Pale Headed Rosellas, a myriad of beautiful butterflies and over two hundred different species of native plants.

Restoration of this valuable resource has become a real community project. Our latest planting day on Sunday 5th October was a great success with 25 neighbours and friends planting 640 grasses, shrubs and trees to restore Zone 7.

Two generations of the Fulton Family (#47) planted advanced trees, *Jagera pseudorhus* – Foambark and *Flindersia australis* – Crow's Ash, in memory of Lyn's Scots mother.



Ray and Lyn with grandchild Jordan and Jacob

Friends Ingrid and Noah share our community project



Some who were not able to take part in the planting contributed other skills. Roger and Margaret (#50) provided home-made pumpkin scones and jam for morning tea (Margaret) while Roger constructed an amazing seat from recycled hardwood that will last for years. One of our international students, Kanthi (#44) provided delicious Sri Lankan dishes for lunch. Len (#48) and Sandra (#44) provided 8,000 litres of tank water to sustain our planting for the first week while we waited for the rain.



Jason (#52) helping with seat installation

Transformation complete ... time to sit and soak up the peace in this special place.



Continued over ...

With the rain we can now expect this new planting to be as successful as our 2007 planting in Zone 3. In November 2007 we planted 420 grasses, shrubs and trees.

That planting included a number of *Acacia falcata* – Sickle Leaved Wattle which have now flowered and produced seeds for the King Parrots.

What was bare, rocky ground in November is, six months later, now covered in lush growth.



November 2007



April 2008

While the Fox Gully project covers only a small part of the Reserve's total 66ha, the effects reach hundreds of metres into the surrounding forest as major sources of weed infection are removed - in particular, mature Umbrella Trees *Schefflera actinophylla* whose seeds are dispersed by birds and Golden Rain trees *Koelreuteria elegans* whose seeds are dispersed by wind, each year infected the bush with hundreds of seedlings. If you would like to know more about the flora and fauna indigenous to the mountain contact Michael Fox for a CD of *Flora of Mt Gravatt Reserve* – 0408 769 405 or email michael.f@superself.com.au.



Umbrella Tree



Golden Rain Tree



Flora of Mt Gravatt Reserve

Next step - November 14 – ANZ Fox Gully Bushcare Team

Our newest sponsor – ANZ Volunteers – www.anz.com are undertaking the next stage of the project - clearing Purple Succulent, Guinea Grass and Fishbone Fern from Zone 8. Removal of these weeds will allow property owners to restore areas further down the gully without re-infection from upstream.

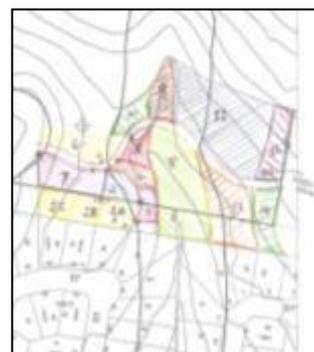
Fox Gully Bushcare

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Fox Gully Bushcare Map