



COOLEMAN RIDGE PARK CARE GROUP

Newsletter
November 2025

Previous Meeting

Sunday 19 October 2025

Near One Tree Hill

A sunny and thankfully not windy afternoon for six volunteers (Helen Govey, Rob Lundie, Hamish McGlynn, Rohan Thomas, Natasha Newman and Paul Sheils) who walked up from Chauvel Circle to an area opposite One Tree Hill. There we located a large tree with ivy growing up it and spreading out around it on the ground like a large green ball gown. It didn't take long to pull it off the tree and begin piling it in an open, sunny area. However, dealing with the ground cover was another matter. The thick, tangled, multi-rooted ivy took a lot of pulling, hacking and snipping to dislodge. And we barely got through half of it. Come back blackberry, all is forgiven!



Helen pulls ivy from the tree

Photo: Rob Lundie

Next Meeting

Sunday 16 November 2025

Darrell Place

Time: 8.30 am – 11.00 am.

NOTE NEW TIME.

Meet: Darrell Place

Bring: hat, gloves, digger, water to drink.

Task: weeding

Another task involved locating a large shelter built of branches and twigs which appears to have been there for quite some time. While such structures are not encouraged on the Ridge, we did not dismantle it. Instead, we picked up and took away 13 bottles and 22 cans and some other rubbish littered around it. Another task involved chipping out Paterson's Curse and cutting and dabbing some woody weeds.

Rob Lundie

New Newsletter Boxes

Within a week of the Group AGM deciding where to locate two Newsletter boxes, than they were installed! Thanks to Rob Horsfield for his very prompt work. Much appreciated. Now there is a Newsletter box attached to the bridge marking the Kambah end start to the track up Mt Arawang. The other one is attached to the fencer on the main fire trail at Darrell Place.

Rob Lundie

New Benches

Thanks to Parks, we now have two new benches upon which to sit, rest, contemplate and take in the views from Cooleman Ridge. One is located near Cooleman Trig and looks over Canberra. The other can be found near the octagonal reservoir just over the ridge from Darrell Place. From there you can look over the valley towards the Brindabellas. You can also ponder what the view will be like if Canberra's urban boundary is extended: houses. We hope to have another seat installed at the Mt Arawang Trig.



New bench at Cooleman Trig Photo: Tash Newman



New bench above Darrell Place Photo: Rob Lundie

Rob Lundie

Water Supply for Cattle

I came across a fellow on his excavator one October morning digging a trench. He said it was to put a mains pressure water pipe from the top of Freebody Place, over the hill and down the Wombat Trail to the Bicentennial National Trail where, next year, they are going to install one of those cattle watering tanks. All so we can run a few head of the cattle there occasionally to keep the grass down, not to mention fertilise the African Love Grass and the Pattersons curse.,...



Water pipe trench coming down the Wombat Trail
Photo: Rob Lundie

Brian Black

Film Making on the Ridge

On one of my walks down from the Cooleman Trig, I came across a group of young people kneeling in the grass. When I asked what they were doing, they said they were looking for a small black piece of camera equipment. I offered to help so scabbled around for about 15 minutes but to no avail. Several days later, I encountered them again and asked what they were doing. They were making a Western! I was a little surprised but later thought that the large boulders on the Ridge would make perfect hiding places for outlaws. And no, they hadn't found their camera piece.

Rob Lundie