

Field Day Fun

Field days are your opportunity to catch up socially with your DBCA District officer and other volunteers in adjacent sections. They are the major opportunity for us to offer technical training, such as Track marking, maintaining water bars and campsite maintenance. The day is traditionally dedicated to performing strategic maintenance and/or improvement on a section of Track or Campsite.

New volunteers (registered in the previous 12 months) are expected to attend a Field Day before we can sign-off on the training component of your induction and fulfil our management obligation.

All volunteers are welcome and encouraged to attend the Field Day. There are usually a variety of tasks to suit a range of energy and capacity levels. If you're unable to make the Field Day in your own District, you will be welcomed at one of the alternatives.

Albany District – May 18

Nullaki Campsite had been in need of a makeover for some time, so on a clear south-coast morning a group of 11 maintenance volunteers walked in from Eden Road; joining five support volunteers who had – with the District Ranger – driven in the previous afternoon with tools, equipment and materials.

After introductions, morning tea and the safety discussion, vollies allocated themselves to the various tasks in and around the shelter. Meanwhile, new Volunteer Manager Helen moved around the group discussing maintenance and other concerns.

By mid-afternoon, a wonderful transformation had been achieved...



Trees surrounding and overhanging the shelter were pruned, to reduce fire risk.



Old shade cloth gutter guard was replaced with steel mesh material.



Interior and exterior tables were sanded and oiled.



The exterior of the shelter and toilet was brushed down and oiled.



The sleeping platform was sanded and varnished.

The tank exterior was cleaned.

New notices were also installed in the notice board.



Volunteer Manager, Helen Grimm, chats with Albany District Ranger Geoff Harnett; volunteers gather for morning tea and a briefing.





Marker posts within and surrounding the campsite area were rationalised and painted.



Ranger Geoff Harnett was available for discussion of section issues, and displayed a range of emergency first aid equipment (details available).

The field day was a resounding success, completed with a high level of safety, and was enjoyed by all participants.

Frankland District – May 19



Before...

Sunday dawned clear, crisp and still at Deep River Bridge adjacent Mt Clare, as 21 Frankland District volunteers met under a canopy of huge, magnificent karri and red tingle. After the requisite safety discussion, morning tea and introductions a large party of vollies set about cleaning down and oiling the 30-year old jarrah bridge, clearing the footings of leaves and debris and brushcutting the bridge approaches.

Another party walked into the Nuyts Wilderness to inspect regrowth in a recently burnt area, while a team of painters headed into Walpole to clean down and repaint the trailhead.

Work progressed through the day...





... until, at the end of the day, we had a beautifully finished structure.





Meanwhile, those roaming further afield made good progress...



... and the Trailhead resurrection team were very excited about their mornings' work!



Early afternoon saw the work draw safely to a close. Thanks must go to Frankland District Ranger, Julie Ewing, for giving up her Sunday; to our volunteers; and to the support volunteers who coordinated this and the Albany field day.

A happy (and weary!) group

