

NEWSLETTER

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At the last Working Bee one of our members Peter Lang pointed out a nearby Australian Admiral butterfly. This striking butterfly with its richly coloured chestnut and cream markings was a delight to see. It breeds in the Arboretum where the larvae live on stinging nettles. After they emerge as adult butterflies they fly up the hills face where they "hilltop" congregating around the tops of hills. This probably explains why we were able to enjoy the sight of this beautiful butterfly near the top of Quartz hill.

The late spring rains and sunshine have really freshened up the Waite Conservation Reserve and there is still time to see some of the flowers at their colourful best. A good way to do this is to come along on the final two working bees (November 20th and Dec 3rd meeting 9-00 am at Garrett's gate). On these dates Stephen and Grant who are coordinating the Working Bees will also have a propagation session for those interested in growing local plants from our own seed. As always there will be olives and other assorted weeds to remove.

As a group the Friends of the Waite Conservation Reserve has had a successful year and this is in no small part due to the good work of the committee. I would like to thank Secretary Joe Haslam, Treasurer Lynda Yates and the committee members Peter Bird, Peter Barnes, Peter Lang, Stephen Waite and Grant Joseph for the time and expertise that they share with us. As always Jennifer Gardner's help and support is greatly appreciated.

In addition to our usual activities next year we are also funding a revegetation plan which will provide a "roadmap" to help coordinate the propagation and revegetation efforts of the Friends and other groups in the Reserve.

I'd like to thank all of our members for their contributions and help during the year and take the opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas season. You are most cordially invited to the Christmas drinks celebration on the 5th of December as per the invitation overleaf. In addition you may also be interested in the guided butterfly walk in the Arboretum which will start half an hour earlier. Yours Sincerely,

Chris Kaczan, President.



Newly emerged Tailed Emperor
Polyura pyrrhus sempronius
Raised from larva collected on a
Queensland Lacebark tree in the
Waite Arboretum. On release it
flew towards the Waite Reserve
to hilltop and seek a mate.