



do you care about the pinnacle?



We invite new members

We welcome new volunteers and members. Our field activities include weekday and weekend weeding parties, monitoring rabbit warrens, an annual kangaroo survey, assessing erosion risk and implementing our grass restoration project. Very soon we will be undertaking broad acre planting activities as part of the ACT Government's Woodlands Strategy.

We invite you to join us for one of our guided walks at The Pinnacle every third Saturday of the month, and to take part in our Spring and Autumn walks and events program. It's a chance to enjoy this beautiful reserve with people in your local community. Keep an eye on our website for opportunities and details and more information about the Pinnacle Nature Reserve.

Autumn 2012 Walks Program

Pinnacle sightings, habitats and views

- 'Third Saturday' Walks, 17 March 2pm (meet at the Dungowan St entrance) & 21 April 9am (meet at the Springvale Dr entrance, an easy walk)

Autumn Birds and Woodland

Connections – bird movement and dispersal, 24 March 9am. Meet at the Dungowan St entrance (easy).

Down the Creek - 15 April 9am. Inspect and discuss erosion at The Pinnacle Nature Reserve with David Tongway. Meet at the Springvale Drive entrance (easy).

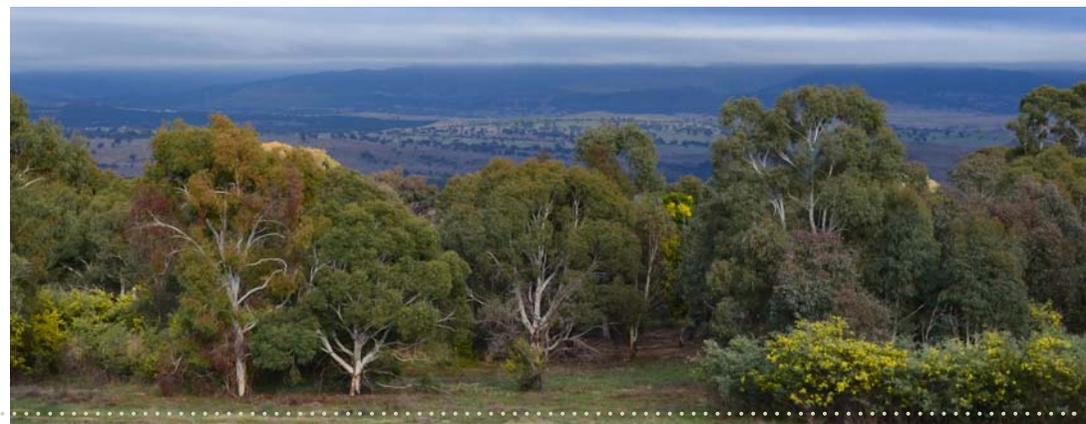
Down to the River, and Beyond - 6 May, 6 hours. Cross the Valley to the Uriarra Travelling Stock Route. Bookings essential. paxc@optusnet.com.au (difficult).

Grass Experiment Walk - 12 May 9am. Don will explain the experiment, and discuss some preliminary results. Meet at the Springvale Dr entrance (easy).

For more information on our events go to our website www.fotpin.org.au or contact fotpin@internode.on.net

The Friends of the Pinnacle - **fotpin** - is a dedicated group of local residents committed to protecting, conserving and caring for The Pinnacle Nature Reserve.

We are a well organised and resourceful group, determined to make an enduring improvement to your beautiful local nature reserve. Our website is www.fotpin.org.au



friends of the pinnacle
www.fotpin.org.au

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What we have achieved

Our group is comprised of some 54 members. We have an ambitious agenda to improve the reserve. This includes continuing to implement our draft *Community Weed Management Plan*, a document which guides our efforts to control weeds in the reserve and highly invasive weeds nearby.

We have at our core a dedicated team of weekday weeders, as well as weekend groups, that collectively put in 943 hours effort during 2010-11 slashing, spraying and hoeing weeds across the reserve (we are likely to greatly exceed this effort in 2011-12). We closely monitor our weeding efforts so that we can track the effectiveness of our controls and learn as we go.

We work closely with the ACT Government on a joint program to control rabbits. We conducted

rabbit warren mapping and activity assessments in March and November 2011 to inform the effectiveness of the ACT's control program. Supervised by ACT Government experts, we conducted the first kangaroo survey of the reserve and adjacent lands in early May. As time permits, we are undertaking erosion surveys of creeks, tracks and soils across the reserve and adjacent public lands with a view to undertaking works. We are also concerned about the impacts of fire and fuel load management at the reserve.

And there is still more to do. We will be conducting planting days, and developing a *Rehabilitation Plan* to guide natural regeneration and planting activities. Our website provides detailed up to date information on our projects and activities.

What are our plans?

Our major commitment in 2012 is implementing the *Native Grass Restoration Project*. Funded by the ACT and Federal Governments and the Canberra Labor Club, to a total of more than \$52,000, this project examines ways of battling exotic grasses and restoring native groundcover to grassy woodland ecosystems, such as at The Pinnacle Nature Reserve. Restoring the native groundlayer is a major challenge to enhancing woodlands in our reserve and elsewhere in south-eastern Australia. We will be very busy with this project in Spring and Autumn through to the end of 2013.

Last year the ACT Government announced a *Woodlands Restoration Plan*, and that funding would be delivered to priority woodland corridors in and around Canberra.

Fotpin has worked with the ACT Government to develop a restoration plan for the Belconnen Hills, which includes The Pinnacle. Implementing this plan will be a priority in 2012, with extensive tree and shrub plantings planned in the Bottom Pinnacle and North Kama. In early June we will conduct the second of our annual kangaroo surveys.

We have also approached the ACT Government suggesting nearby parcels of land known as the "Bottom Pinnacle" and "North Kama" be included in the nature reserve. We have also proposed that a focal point or park care facility for outdoor environmental education, fotpin activities and environmental restoration studies be established on the North Kama property.

