

Report on HFNC work on the Gringegalgona Settlers Memorial Reserve Update November 2011

In 2009 funds were obtained through a Bush Guardian project to control weeds in this reserve and to produce and erect an informative sign there. This triangular shaped reserve seems to have resulted when the roads were first put in and does not appear on DSE lists. Part has been stripped of topsoil (presumably by three former Wannon Shire, some 50 years ago). The remnants of a drain are seen crossing the reserve's NW corner, some 70 m from the corner on each boundary, draining the Coleraine-Harrow to the Dip Rd. This former drain is currently vegetated and clean from weeds, although it could become a conduit for Sparaxis. The reserve has been grazed at some stage before 1984. Cocksfoot infestation has entered from the NE paddock. Sparaxis and Cape Tulip along that edge of the reserve appear to have entered from the Coleraine Rd, along a former cultivated firebreak.

The flora is typical Dundas Tablelands flora, predominantly *E. camaldulensis* and various ground cover species. In 1984, local residents erected a stone monument in the reserve to settlers who served in World Wars I and II. They also erected a timber sign stating that the area was a flora reserve and grazing was prohibited.

Efforts to control Cocksfoot and Sparaxis were made here over 6 years by Rod Bird in the 1990s:

- Nov 1995 – spraying along the roadside (west boundary) and paddock side. Initial work was done with Glyphosate alone (no wetter) (15 L sprayed); this was effective but created quite a lot of bare ground.
- 2 Nov 1996 – used Glean (4 g/10 L with Glyphosate at 45 mL/10 L and 10 ml wetter) to spot-spray plants missed in 1995 and new germinant (15 L spray, 2 hours work).
- 8 Nov 1997 – mostly to check Cocksfoot on the margin near paddock but some Cape Tulip and Sparaxis there was also sprayed (7 L).
- 24 Oct 1998 – used Glyphosate (100 mL/10 L; 8 L spray) mainly along margin near paddock and along road. Quite a lot of Cape Tulip & Sparaxis along fence and road (some not in flower). Construction of a new fence along paddock created soil disturbance and weeds.
- 25 Sep 1999 – used Glyphosate CT (80 mL/10 l without wetter; 10 L spray) in areas as last year. A lot of Cape Tulip (perhaps 2000 plants seen) and very many small Sparaxis.
- 29 Oct 2000 – 5 L spot-spray of Glyphosate to Sparaxis along road and margin near paddock (quite a lot of Sparaxis still there); also 3 small spots of Sparaxis in centre of reserve.

A vast to the Gringegalgona Reserve on 21 Sep. 2009 showed *Sparaxis* found along the Coleraine Rd frontage – a massive infestation stretching ~ 75 m and also a few plants up to 10 m into the reserve. Clumps of Sparaxis also occur at intervals along the eastern (paddock) boundary, with some extensive patches. This border is also infested at intervals with Cocksfoot and some Phalaris – the Cocksfoot has established a few patches up to 40 m into the reserve but generally within 20 m. The NE triangular corner is dominated by this species. Cape Tulip is found in numbers further into the reserve. Some garden weeds are found under the Cherry Ballart trees.

Spraying was done from 1 pm to 4 pm on 21 Sep 2009 and 10.am to 2 pm on 29 Sep 2009. Light rain probably fell there at around 7 pm on the 21 September (as it did in Hamilton) but the early spraying along the roadside, at least, would have been effective:

- RB – 11 L Ally + Pulse + dye solution applied to roadside infestation of Sparaxis, and 10 L Glyphosate + Ally + Pulse +dye spray applied to Sparaxis clumps, Cape Tulip, Cocksfoot and Phalaris tussocks along the boundary with the farmland on the east (only the western half treated).
- RB – 20 L Glyphosate + Pulse + dye spray applied to Cocksfoot and some Sparaxis on east (paddock) side and along Dip Rd section. The last 50 m area of NE corner was not sprayed since the Cocksfoot infestation there was too extensive to handle at this time.

The remainder of the area needs to be treated when the weather permits, along with hundreds of Cape Tulip that require the wipe method. We need volunteers to treat the Cape Tulip and any Sparaxis found throughout the block. There are prime areas within the block that are essentially free of weeds, with some small infestations in a few other areas adjacent – this is a spectacular woodland-grassland.

A list of flora for this reserve was made by AC Beaglehole in October 1975, part of his Wannon Conservation Society Flora Survey, but no systematic survey has been made since. First sightings noted by R Bird post-1995 are presented below, along with Cliff Beaglehole's list (*) and a few extra species seen by ACB and RB on 8 Dec 1996 and on 29 Sep 2009 (Maroonhoods and Slaty Helmet Orchid). A total of 114 native species have been recorded to date, making this a significant flora reserve. Dozens of Golden Moth Orchid were evident on 29 Sep 2009 across the reserve, some Pink Fingers and various lilies in great abundance. The list is presented below.

An informative sign with images of many wildflowers present at this site has been prepared and installed at the reserve by Reto Zollinger, as part of the Bush Guardian project funded in 2009.

Native vascular plants of the Gringegalgona Settlers Memorial Reserve

1975(*, ACB), 1996 (#, PRB), 1998 (Ω, PRB),

1999 (Δ, PRB), 2000 (€), 2009 (¥, PRB)

Acacia aculeatissima *, # (north end)
Acacia mearnsii *, #
Acacia melanoxylon *, #
Acacia myrtifolia (ACB/PRB 8/12/96) in roadside gravel on the NW corner
Acacia paradoxa *, # (north end)
Acacia spinescens (ACB/PRB 8/12/96) in roadside gravel on the NW corner
Acacia verticillata *, #
Acaena echinata *, #
Acaena novae-zelandiae *, # (v. common)
Allocasuarina verticillata *, (ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Aphelia gracilis *
Aphelia pumilio *
Arthropodium strictum *, # (v. common)
Asperula conferta *
Astroloma humifusum *, # (v. common)
Austrodanthonia caespitosa *
Austrodanthonia racemosa *
Austrodanthonia spp. *.
Austrostipa pubinodis *, # (v. common)
Banksia marginata (one tree planted by Peter Francis) #
Bossiae prostrata *, #
Bulbine bulbosa *, #
Burchardia umbellata *, # (v. common, thousands)
Caesia calliantha *, # (v. common)
Caladenia carnea # (v. common)
Caladenia dilatata (tentaculata)(ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Carex breviculmis *
Centipeda cunninghamiana *
Centrolepis aristata *
Centrolepis polygina *
Centrolepis strigosa *
Chrysocephalum apiculatum *, #
Chaemaescilla corymbosa *, #
Convolvulus erubescens *
Corybas incurvus ¥
Crassula decumbens *
Crassula pedicellosa *
Cyperus tenellus *
Daucus glochidiatus *
Deyeuxia quadriseta *
Dianella revoluta *, #
Dianella tasmanica (ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Dichondra repens *
Dilwynnia hispida *, #
Diuris chryseopsis *, #
Drosera auriculata *
Dosera glanduligera *
Drosera peltata *, #
Drosera whittakeri *, #
Elymus scaber (ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Eucalyptus camaldulensis *, #
Eucalyptus ovata *
Exocarpos cupressiformis *, #
Geranium solanderi *
Glycine latrobeana €
Glossodia major Δ (7plants 100m from SW corner, 20 m from fence)

Gompholobium ecostatum (ACB/PRB 8/12/96) in roadside gravel on the NW corner
Gonocarpus tetragynus *, (ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Goodenia geniculata *, #
Goodenia humilus *
Hakea rugosa (2 planted by Peter Francis)
Haloragis heterophylla *
Helichrysum scorpiodes *
Hyalosperma demissum *
Hydrocotyle callicarpa *
Hydrocotyle laxiflora *, # (v. common)
Hypericum gramineum *, (ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Hypoxis glabella *, #
Juncus amabilis *
Juncus holoschoenus *
Juncus pallidus *
Juncus subsecundus *
Kennedia prostrata * #
Largenifera huegelii *
Leptorhynchos squamatus *, #
Leptospermum myrsinoides #
Lobelia pratioides *
Lomandra filiformis *, #
Lomandra glauca *
Lomandra micrantha *
Lomandra multiflora *
Luzula spp. *
Lythrum hyssopifolia *
Microleana stipoides #
Microtis sp. *, #
Opercularia ovata *
Oxalis perennans *
Pelargonium rodneyanum *, #
Pimelia humilis *, # (v. common)
Poa labillardieri *
Poa spp. *
Pterostylis pedunculata €
Ranunculus robertsonii *
Rutidosis multiflora *
Schoenus apogon *
Scirpus fluitans *
Senecio glomeratus *
Senecio quadridentatus *, #
Senecio squarrosus *
Stylidium gramminifolium *, # (v. common)
Themeda triandra *, # (v. common)
Thelymitra aristata Ω
Thelymitra holmesii Ω (near NW corner)
Thelymitra pauciflora *, Ω
Thysanotus patersonii *, #
Thelymitra rubra (ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Tricoryne elatior *, (ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Triglochin centrocarpa *
Veronica calycina *
Veronica gracilis (ACB/PRB 8/12/96)
Viola hederacea *
Wahlenbergia multicaulis #
Wahlenbergia spp. #
Wurmbia dioica *