

MORNINGTON'S 150TH COMMEMORATION PICNIC IN THE PARK, SUNDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2011

MEA took part in the celebrations to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the declaration of Mornington as a township in 1861. The picnic in the park was held in Mornington Park and involved dozens of stalls, displays, activities for adults and children and a competition for the best dressed person (in period costume). MEA provided the only environmental display with a marquee showing our work, explain environmental issues and linked to a major display of weeds from local garden and public lands. This contrasted with a display of alternative plants of local indigenous trees and shrubs. The Shire's Briars Nursery supplied give away plants and technical advice and we had continuous visitors all day. Two of our members won honorable mention in the dress up parade wearing homemade dresses and bonnets and even gloves.

Children especially enjoyed participating in old fashioned races – eggs and spoon, sack, hoops and other sports. Old fashioned damper and tea, homemade lemonade and other old fashioned food attracted thousands during the day. Pipe bands, brass bands, choir and children singing and folk dancing supplied music.

Co-ordinated through the Shire and Mornington and District Historical Society, the day did commemorate our township.

MEA enjoyed being part of this major celebration too.

