

# Pakenham Walking Group Wanderslore and Warburton Trail walk

7 October 2014



Geoff Durham

The Pakenham Walking group visited Wanderslore (now Wanderslore Sanctuary) where Geoff Durham gave them a talk about its local significance and the associations with William Coleman, scene painter and stage manager for J.C. Williamson. When William Coleman's daughter Constance artist, poet, schoolteacher and conservationist retired, Wanderslore



Geoff's talk



Patrick O'Shaughnessy

became her home. Constance acquired the former Launching Place Station Master's Office, which became her studio. In it the group saw many of her paintings.



Following the talk Patrick O'Shaughnessy lead us through the delightful bush sanctuary, assembled by Constance from a number of small allotments of a 1920s subdivision. The bush area varies from drier vegetation on the upper slopes to dense, wet environments along the creek lines. The contrast of the environment on the 10 hectare was astounding.



Patrick told the group, that while much of the bush appears relatively undisturbed, there is considerable evidence of human activities over many years. For example, there is evidence of mining along the creeks, including small mullock heaps and shafts. After visiting Wanderslore Sanctuary the group walked along the Warburton Trail.



Lois, President of the Pakenham Bushwalking Group giving a donation to the Friends of Wanderslore