



Welcome to kugarr mabul place of the echidna



The echidna is a unique mammal that has adapted to life in the rainforest. It is a shy animal that lives in small family groups. It is a very important part of the rainforest ecosystem.

Imagine a time, long ago... open forest covers the mountain and rainforest plants grow in the shelter of damp gullies. Wildlife is abundant here, thriving on the treats from nature's pantry. Traditional Custodians find food for the body and the spirit in these wild places. They have lived with the land for thousands of years - sustained, nurtured, respectful of Mother Earth. Their connection to country runs deep.

In the shelter of a mountain

In 1862, Brisbane's penal colony closed and the region opened to free settlement. Soon settlers arrived here in search of a new life, in the shelter of a mountain. The tough, durable timber of the grey gum was ideal for railway sleepers. In 1874, 200 acres of the mountain and surrounds were set aside as a railway timber reserve. But the growing community had other ideas...



Mt Gravatt Conservation Reserve
Dandenong Trail
Distance: 2.8km (one way)
Time: 1 to 1.5 hours
Grade: Moderate - some steps
Kippax Way Trail
Distance: 0.8km (one way)
Time: 15 to 20 minutes
Grade: Moderate - steep sections

A place to protect
The mountain (bushland) protected the settlers. Over it was their last line of protection - and their backs paid off. In 1912, the state government decided to reserve half of the timber reserve, placing the new recreational reserve in the hands of that public. Annual walking races were held over the next 25 years, but this couldn't hold back the march of war. In 1915 a new parcel of bushland was acquired by land after this impressive and significant part of the Brisbane Basin. Over the next few years, bushland and walking have brought the community together. They walked the weeds, created walking tracks from high down to the summit, and built a public shelter complete with a spit-roast tank.



In 1912, the group of bushland was set aside for the use of the public. This was the beginning of the Mt Gravatt Conservation Reserve.



Save a space for me...

This mountain area might be the only other suburban development. It's a place for the view of the city, the WA Jolly back in 1912. To protect the natural beauty of the city, we acquired heritage points across Brisbane, including the mountain and Mt Cootth. But as the urban sprawl consumed wild places, the landscape more than a place with spectacular views of the surrounding city.



My hind feet point backwards, not great for walking, but very useful for pushing dirt out when I'm burrowing

snuggled in secret hollows or high up in a tree shhh, behind that fallen branch ...what can you see?

Look for tracks and scats along the trail – evidence of the forest night life, when wild creatures emerge to hunt and feed under cover of darkness



Red marsh frog *Limnodynastes*

Look out across the city from this place of sanctuary
step back from your world for a while
stroll along mountain trails
discover another way to be
...at Mt Gravatt Outlook Reserve



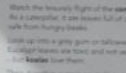
Listen - **pale-headed rosella** will call to you as they feed in the shade of a flowering eucalypt



High in the canopy **spotted pardalines** search for insects and eggs to eat, watching their archer-like necks move about in the light



Listen for the croak **skit skit skit** of the **eastern dwarf tree frog**, the smallest tree frog in the Brisbane region



And as someone checks their phone? No, that's the **striped marsh frog** with its loud but not so loud call. Look - it **black-faced monarch** with its orange and black



Watch the beautiful flight of the **common crew butterfly**. As a caterpillar, it ate leaves full of chemicals, so now it's safe from hungry birds.



Look up into a grey gum or tall eucalypt tree. **Laughing kites** are fast and very manoeuvrable - it's **hard** to see them!



Then, if you're super observant and you're keen, and their **long** metabolism means they need less energy to survive. In winter they sleep for up to 18 hours a day.



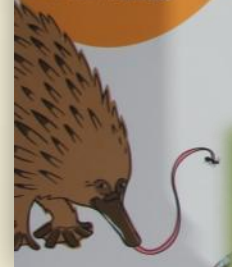
Stretch your legs, breathe deeply, reconnect with nature...

You are part of the puzzle... This is where you fit in. It's a place to explore, to learn and to wonder.

You are part of the answer... This is a sanctuary - for them and for you. It's a place to connect, to care for and to understand.

Find yourself at Mt Gravatt Mountain with people who share your passion for wild places, wildlife and wellbeing. Details are on the notice board - we'd love you to join us.

Look for tracks and scats along the trail – evidence of the forest night life, when wild creatures emerge to hunt and feed under cover of darkness



Save a space for me...

This mountain area might be like every other suburban development, if not for the vision of Mayor of Brisbane W.A Jolly back in 1925.

To protect 'the natural beauty of the city', he acquired vantage points across Brisbane, including this mountain and Mt Coot-tha.

But as the urban sprawl consumed wild places, this became more than a place with spectacular views of an ever-expanding city...

Today, this is a sanctuary where wildlife make their home, and we come to be revitalised and to reconnect with nature.