



# LOST AND FOUND

## MAN LOST IN 2007 HAS BEEN FOUND

In 2007 a man named Dave Cutden went for a walk which turned into a tragedy. Dave was walking by the creek in Glen Fern Valley Bushlands when he slipped and fell in, helplessly two men watched as he was swept away and out of sight. There was uproar in the community to put barriers around the creek but it was too costly and a sudden dilemma swept through the authorities.



Now in 2011 Dave has thought to have been found. Yesterday there was a reporting of a wild looking man walking on Glenfern Road just a short distance from the Bushlands. The man has since been taken in to the police to be questioned and it has been confirmed that he is indeed Dave Cutden, the man who went missing almost 5 years ago. Our Newspaper reporter Mr Pete Dansey has been lucky enough to have an exclusive interview with Dave. This is an intriguing story and a must read.

### INTERVIEW

“So Dave, How did you survive all those years in the Glen Fern Valley Bushlands?” Pete asked. “I sheltered under a fallen mountain ash. I snapped branches off a Blackwood to make spears and knives. My bed was weeping grass and i had a blanket of Burgan”, he replied. “You know your plants!” said Pete, “So, how did you get out of the Creek?”

“As I was floating down the creek i banged into a fallen swamp gum and managed to climb out. I walked around for a few hours until I found the fallen mountain ash, I broke of the branches and used them to make a shelter. After what seemed like a few months of living in there, these animals started to come; I think they were red foxes, so i had to find a new place to sleep. I managed to find this great place in a flame tree which was my home for a few years until a terrible storm and lightning struck the tree and it fell just missing me. While diving out of the way of the tree I landed in a bull ant nest and i got up and started to run. I ran and ran until I could not run anymore. I was lost in the middle of the bushland and needed to find another resting place. I eventually found an abandoned fox den which I could snuggle up in and keep warm without the use of my Burgan blanket.”

“That’s quite a story Dave” said Pete, “What did you eat?”

“Well, in the fox den I found a lone cub which did most of my hunting from then on but before that my Blackwood weapons were just fine. I ate possums, wallabies and mainly European rabbits along with the odd bush rate or two!!”

“Was there any unforgettable moments?”

“Every moment was unforgettable, during the day I was surrounded by red and green kangaroo paw and purple fleabane, but during the night you could hear the chirping of grasshoppers and be surrounded by the very active possums. When i was first lost and had just managed to climb out of the creek, I panicked and was running, when i stopped and looked around it was hard not to see the beauty of the bushlands, i was surrounded by butterflies, amazing plants, possum drays and all types of birds’ nests. After that I learnt very quickly the way of the bushlands and that made it easier for me to survive.

“So how did you find your way out?”

To be honest with you Pete, I do not know, it seemed my time was up in the beautiful bushlands and it was time to go home...and the way out was right in front of me!