

Trail helps preserve Highfields bushland

The Charles and Motee Rogers Park Bushland Reserve Nature Trail has been officially opened by Crows Nest Shire Council Mayor Cr Geoff Patch.

The reserve, adjacent to the Highfields Cultural Centre, is on land donated to the council by Toowoomba musical legends Charles and Motee Rogers.

"I'm very happy about it," Cr Patch said.

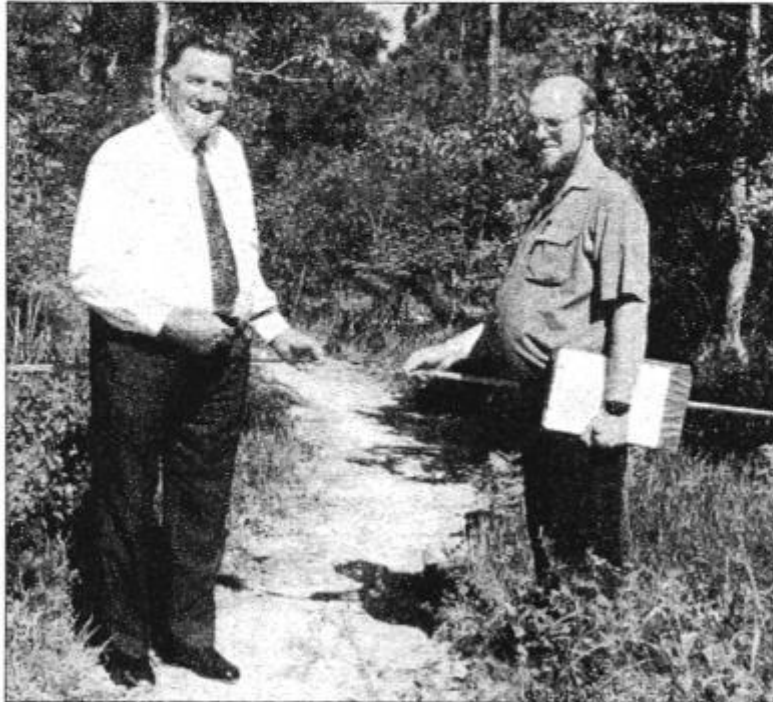
"It's something very close to my heart, the preservation of the Australian bush. I think it's a wonderful thing."

The reserve is one of the last remaining patches of bushland in the Highfields area and has been identified as an "endangered" ecosystem.

It protects a representative sample of forest that once covered the Highfields area and provides vital habitat for a range of important native plants and animals.

"The construction of the nature trail means that Highfields residents and visitors to the area alike can enjoy the beauty of this rare vegetation remnant, and also learn about bushland conservation and management issues," council's natural resource management officer Mr Bruce Boyes said.

The trail is an education and awareness project of the Crows Nest Shire Council natural resource management program which is sponsored by funding from the Commonwealth Government Natural Heritage Trust (NHT)



BUSH WALK: Crows Nest Shire Council Mayor Cr Geoff Patch (left) cuts the ribbon at the entrance to the Charles and Motee Rogers Park Bushland Reserve Nature Trail. With Cr Patch is council's natural resource management officer Bruce Boyes.

Picture: JENNY GERSEKOWSKI