

City's best kept secret set to be revealed

SECRET KEEPERS: Making preparations for the Redwood Park Open Day are (from left) Ray Addison, Mike McGoldrick and Hugh Krenske.

PICTURE: DAVE NOONAN

HUGH Krenske believes the endangered dry rainforest Redwood Park is Toowoomba's best kept secret.

Many of the forest's secrets will be revealed tomorrow when the Friends of the Escarpment Parks group holds the first Redwood Park Open Day.

Situated on the range escarpment less than five kilometres from the city centre, Redwood Park is home to many rare plants and animals.

"Our primary goal is to make people aware that an endangered rainforest is right on their doorstep," Mr Krenske said.

"We're trying to educate people about it and we've got a series of walks on Saturday."

The first of three bushwalks starts at 7am when the Toowoomba Bird Observers take visitors on a tour of Redwood Park's best bird-watching spots.

At 9am, walkers will have the chance to tour the dry rainforest with Queensland Herbarium chief botanist Bill Macdonald, who will talk about the ecosystems and endangered plants present.

At 10.30am, retired CSIRO scientist and world-renowned entomologist Don Sands will take people on a butterfly walk, looking at the rare species of butterflies that call Redwood Park home.

To get to Redwood Park, turn left just after the 100kmh sign on the down section of the range on the Warrego Hwy.