



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

Newsletter – August 2022

President's Report

Planting Season Complete

Our 2022 planting season (the first 'normal' season since Covid struck in 2020) is now complete.

On Sunday 31st July, over 200 FSCVR members, supporters, Friends of Damper Creek and members of the public came to our National Tree Day planting along Fairway Reserve. It was a cool but clear morning, and everyone worked very hard to get over 8,000 plants into the ground along Fairway Reserve. Beginning at 10:00am, we had completed the planting by a little after 12 noon!

The scouts provided a barbeque of sausages and vegie burgers which proved very popular with everyone. Planting gives you an appetite (specially the young ones).

It was a great effort, and I want to thank everyone who came along to help. Particularly, I'd like to thank the Monash Bush Crew for their work in preparing the site, providing the planting tools, and generally ensuring we all knew what we were doing! I should also note that the plants were purchased using a grant from Melbourne Water.

The previous week, Brentwood school planted 1800 plants along the Crosby arm of Scotchmans Creek, and AGIG planted 800 plants in the same area.

Year by year, the bushland corridor along Scotchmans Creek is improving in quality as the bush is regenerated. It takes several plantings (and some patience) to restore a natural looking bush environment, but as one who remembers how degraded the creek corridor was 30 years ago, I think we can all feel proud of how far we have come.

The future will hold challenges as climate change and continuing urban development affect our local environment, so we need to keep working!

Signage in Valley Conservation Reserve

Members who have visited Valley Reserve recently will have noticed the new signage at the entrances featuring the new layout and colour scheme for City of Monash. An updated map of the reserve showing walking tracks has also been provided. We believe that the bollard signs along the walking tracks will be the next to be updated.

Cycle/Walking Track from Waverley Rd to Forster Rd

You may have noticed that a new cycle/walking track from Waverley Rd towards Forster Rd has been completed. The path now runs alongside the creek all the way from Waverley Rd to Forster Rd. This change is in connection with the planned development of a day-care facility for pre-school children on the site. The old path will soon be closed.

We are hopeful that bushland regeneration can be started along that stretch of the creek corridor in the near future.

With spring approaching, the Scotchmans Creek corridor and Valley Reserve should be looking at their best over the next few weeks as the flowers come out. The wattle trees are already putting on quite a show. It's a great time to reconnect with the beautiful local parks and reserves in our neighbourhood.

Tony Walker

President, Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve

Planting Program for 2022 - All complete:

Friends Planting – Sunday 12 June:

800 plants in Valley Conservation Reserve. The Friends Group is funding the purchase of these plants.

Friends Planting – Friday 17 June:

500 plants in the Mt Waverley Wetlands. Supplied by Melbourne Water.

Crosby Drive Plantings – 20, 21 July:

3,000 plants installed by Australian Gas Infrastructure Group and Brentwood Secondary College students – the bush crew also planted some of them. Funded by a Melbourne Water grant.

National Tree Day – 31 July:

8,000 plants in Fairway Reserve on the north side of the creek. Over 200 members of the public came along to plant our remaining plants funded by a Melbourne Water grant.

Guest Speaker for our August meeting on Wednesday 17th August

Peter Uhlherr has entertained us before with his excellent presentations on fungi and then on fungi and slime moulds. This time his presentation will be on orchids in Valley Conservation Reserve and the Monash area. Please come and join us for an informative evening.

More details in the attached flyer – but note the change of venue as Alvie Hall is closed for renovations.

Waterwatch Results & Reports – June – July 2022

Parameter	YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm		YSC012 Site 1B Crosby arm		YSC020 Site 2 Regent Street		YVA100 Site 3 Valley Creek	
	19/06/22	24/07/22	19/06/22	24/07/22	19/06/22	24/07/22	19/06/22	24/07/22
Date	19/06/22	24/07/22	19/06/22	24/07/22	19/06/22	24/07/22	19/06/22	24/07/22
Air temperature °C	10		10		10	13.5	10	13.5
Water temperature °C	11	12.5	10	12.5	10.5	10	10	11.5
pH	7.4 G	7.5 G	7.2 G	7.1 G	7.1 G	6.8 E	7.1 G	7.0 E
Oxygen concentration mg/l	9.1 E		7.1 G			9.3 E		9.0 E
Conductivity E.C.	460 F	320 F	360 F	160 G	400 F	210 G	330 F	180 G
Turbidity F.T.U.	10 E	35 D	10 E	14 E	17 G	24 P	19 F	23 P
Phosphorus, soluble ppm	0.000 E		0.068 P			0.036 F		0.023 G
Ammonium NH ₄ ppm	0.04 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.04 E	0.00 E	1.00 D	0.00 E
Stream Flow L/s	15.2	31.5	7.5	7.0	44.6	113.8	3.3	3.1
Habitat	23 F		26 F			28 F		30 G

E=Excellent ■ G=Good ■ F=Fair ■ P=Poor ■ D=Degraded ■ N/M= Not measured N/A= Not applicable

June

Comments:

- Valley Creek had 1 ppm ammonium (Degraded rating), which is unusually high for any of our sites and required dilution of the sample to be measurable with our test kit.

Habitat Assessments:

Site 1a, Scotchmans Creek upstream of Crosby Drive/Turner Court. Extensive overgrowth of ivy and other introduced species in some areas. The scoring was 23/40, rated as Fair.

Site 1b, Glen Waverley Drain. Southern bank and verge has improved weed control. The scoring was 26/40, rated as Fair.

July

Comments:

- Most of the physical/chemical indicators were Fair to Excellent at all the sites, except for turbidity resulting from overnight rain showers.
- The habitats at the downstream sites were rated Fair to Good. The verge vegetation is especially improved, but weeds remain on the creek banks.

Habitat Assessments:

Site 2, YSC020, Scotchmans Ck at Regent St. Dense, maturing vegetation on west bank (native vegetation) of very good quality. A lot of weeds along both banks, including ivy. Some non-native grasses. Some localised erosion on west bank. Considerable variation in stream width ranging from 0.5-3 m. Rated Fair.

Site 3, YVA100, Valley Ck at Regent St. South bank has extensive introduced weed cover. North bank and verge has good quality native vegetation. Good variety of in-stream riffles, pools and snags. No significant erosion, both banks are well vegetated. Rated Good.

For access to the full reports, the data collected and the habitat photos, view the waterwatch page on our web site.

Membership renewals – reminder – New Bank Account Details

Membership renewals become due on 31st August. The Application/Renewal form is on the back page of this newsletter. Please help to support our work by joining us or renewing your membership. Note that you can pay your subscription by bank transfer to our new bank account with the Westpac Bank – details on the renewal form. But please also notify the treasurer that you have made the transfer.

Opportunity - Promoting Monash Gardens for Wildlife

The Sustainable Monash Team have contacted us to see if we can help support the Monash Gardens for Wildlife Program. They are currently experiencing a high volume of interest in this program, with many residents and organisations requesting visits from their Garden Guides for advice and recommendations on planting.

If you are interested, please read on...

City of Monash is seeking expressions of interest for people to join our Gardens for Wildlife program as Garden Guides. If you have an interest in gardening, sustainability, and creating habitat for wildlife- joining the Gardens for Wildlife Program as a Guide will give you the opportunity to share your passion and knowledge, expand and learn new skills, and find a network of like-minded individuals.

Garden guides provide knowledge and constructive feedback to members of the community, helping to build wildlife gardens. Your experience and work supports indigenous flora and fauna and helps to reduce the impacts of invasive species and fragmented or disturbed habitats. Your primary role as a Guide will be to visit residential and school gardens to help increase habitat wildlife, biodiversity and awareness/knowledge. Upon joining the program as a Guide, you will have access to training, resources and the extensive knowledge and guidance of our current Garden Guides.

For more information on the program, feel free to visit our [website](#) or watch the following [video](#) from our Garden Guides. If this is of interest to you, we highly encourage you to contact us to find out more. Please email us via gardensforwildlife@monash.vic.gov.au.

FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

Membership Application / Renewal

Membership is renewable each year on 31 August

Name(s):

Address:

Phone: Email:

I'm happy to receive all notices by email: Yes No

Membership type: Individual (\$5.00) Family (\$10.00) Organisation/Corporate (\$20.00)

I enclose cash/cheque of \$ Tick if receipt required

OR

I have deposited \$ in the Association's Westpac Bank account:
Account name: Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve Inc.
Account number: 033065 573951

**** Please put your name in the banking details and also advise the treasurer ****

Date:.....

Please forward to: **The Treasurer,
Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve Inc.,
49 Bunker Crescent,
Glen Waverley Vic. 3150**

email treasurer@scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au

Ph. 9803 4589



Dates to Remember	Event	Notes
Wednesday 17 th August	Meeting with a speaker – Peter Uhlherr Orchids in Valley Conservation Reserve	Craft Room in Mount Waverley Community Centre 47 Miller Crescent Mount Waverley at 7.30 pm
Saturday 27 th August	Work Party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1:20 pm
Saturday 24 th September	Work Party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1:20 pm
Wednesday 19 th October	Annual General Meeting	Alvie Hall at 7:30 pm

FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC

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Responsibility for editorial content is solely that of the editor.



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