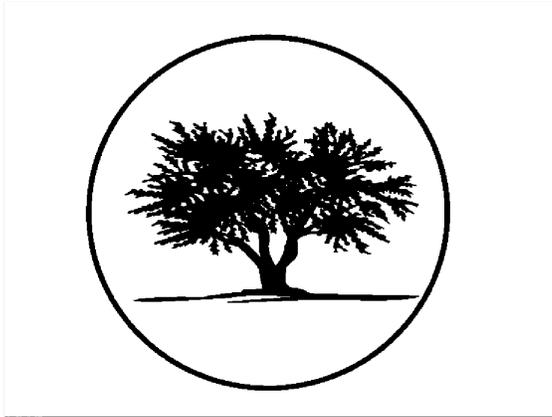


DAMPER CREEK DOINGS

July 2016



The Newsletter of

FRIENDS OF

DAMPER CREEK RESERVE INC.

Reg No. A0029531G

<http://www.friendsofdampercreek.org.au>

P.O. Box 2063 Mount Waverley

Editorial:

The sounds of Damper Creek:

Have you ever listened to Damper Creek? I don't just mean listening to the gurgling water. I mean listen to the full range of sounds. As well as the water, you have wind, insects, animals and birds. Underlying it all there is the sound of the city. Road noises, construction, music, sounds from the schools, voices and pets all contribute to the environment of sound that exists in Damper Creek.

You can minimise the human content by visiting the creek early in the morning. The birds seem to be broadcasting a wake-up call with different species responding to the increases in light level. But what if the early morning chorus is simply a matter of getting the message out before human noises begin to pollute the soundwaves?

If you're on the internet, check out the ABC programme "Catalyst" initially broadcast on July 12th. You can watch the whole programme on iView for the next two weeks, or go into the Science section of the ABC website and search for "Soundscape". You can watch the programme or read or download the transcript. This fascinating programme will give you an insight into the latest techniques for recording and analysing sound data for ecological studies. Among other things this programme reveals that wildlife has evolved to broadcast and receive in specific frequency bands.

Humanity is polluting this soundscape and altering the wildlife balance as a result. So we are not only polluting the air, water and soil, we are also altering the ecosystem by polluting it with sound. Are you feeling guilty yet?

It's my guess that if you sit down in Damper creek to listen, the bird calls will be the

most fascinating sounds you hear. We all know the Magpie and the Kookaburra. Species like these can be matched up by observing the bird that is making the noise. But what if you hear the sound but can't see the bird? Many species, particularly the small ones, are quite elusive. A bird book may help a little but a better way is to familiarise yourself with the sounds through a number of websites with audio files of bird songs. A good starting point is www.birdsinbackyards.net and search for the "Top 40 bird songs".

Have fun, if computers aren't your thing, connect with a friend who is, you will both have a great time. If you find the "top 40" a bit too easy, there are many other websites that come up when you search for "Australian bird calls".

Vale Ted Mason

A stalwart of the Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve, Ted passed away unexpectedly on July 5th. Before retirement Ted was an engineer with General Motors. He became involved in environmental matters when the willows in Regent Street were under threat. His enthusiasm for environmental matters saw him frequently photographed for the Leader. His computer expertise was applied to the FoSCVR newsletter as well as providing the database for 3MBS, a community classical radio station. A committed family man and community supporter, Ted will be greatly missed.

Amendment C125 to the Monash Planning Scheme

Want to request to be heard the quick and easy way? Click the link below to use the ONLINE FORM - www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/request-to-be-heard - **This must be done by 25 July 2016**

The Victorian government will now consider the Monash proposals. This will take place in two stages.

Stage one is the Directions Hearing. This will be held on July 27th at the Monash Civic Centre, commencing at 10:00am. This is an information session which will make the procedures of the public hearing clear.

Stage Two is the Panel Hearing. This commences in the week of September 5th and is expected to take two weeks. If you wish to make a verbal submission you will need to submit a "Request to be Heard" form by July 25th.

All written submissions previously made will be considered when Panels Victoria prepares its report. If you have made a submission, you will have this information in more detail. You can contact Planning Panels Victoria on 8392 6397 if you have any queries.

August AGM

As a number of positions will be vacant there is a need to find willing FODCR enthusiasts to fill the following positions.

- President - vacated by John Clements
- Secretary - vacated by Helen Clements
- Vice President - vacated by Kevin Ryland
- Treasurer - vacated by Ian Nicholls - term ends

As has usually been the case, it is expected that there will be at least one nomination for each position at the time of the AGM. This does not preclude fresh nominations from being presented at the AGM.

Guest speaker program

Wednesday 27 July 2016 - FoDCR meeting commencing at 7.30pm at Alvie Hall

Bruce Lindsay- lawyer - Environmental Justice Australia - speaking on final draft submission to Ministerial Advisory Committee re the Yarra River Protection Act and Trust - your feedback after the presentation would be greatly appreciated.

Wednesday 24 August 2016 – FoDCR meeting commencing 7.30pm at Alvie Hall

Dr Tiffani Howell - "Dogs as Human Companions" Dr Howell is a Research Officer at La Trobe University. Her main research interests are dog behaviour and cognitive processes, the dog-owner relationship, and animal welfare. She has been part of a study reviewing socialisation and training practices for racing greyhounds. She is also studying the possibility of training dogs to act as diabetes alert dogs for owners with diabetes.

June Working Bee

Thanks to the Bushcrew members for organising the tube stock and supervision of a very successful Community Planting day held in conjunction with the FODCR monthly working bee for June. Over 40 enthusiastic adults and children participated and worked very hard. Mulching and preparing the ground along the wetlands riparian strip at the May working bee made a huge difference to the success of planting out the tube stock. The planted area looks great and hopefully the plants will do well.

Monash Environmental Sustainability Strategy

You may be interested to know that the recently approved Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016-2026 is now available electronically at:

<http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/Services/Environment/Environmental-Sustainability-Strategy-2016-2026>

Sustainable Gardening Australia Events

Habitat Gardening - Footscray - Saturday 13 August, 10:30am to 12:30pm

Native Plant Propagation - Port Melbourne - Saturday 10 Sept, 1pm to 2:30pm

For more information about these Master Classes and to make a booking to attend you will need to log onto www.sgaonline.org.au and select "Training" and "Master Classes" or ring 8850 3050

Working Bee & sausage sizzle - National Tree Planting Day - Sunday 31st July 2016 - change of location from Damper Creek to Fairway Reserve, Mt Waverley

The working bee for the Friends of Damper Creek reserve scheduled for Sunday 31 July will be transferred from DC to assist FSC and VReserve at Fairway reserve for their National Tree planting Day - Melways 70E5 (see details below)

Working bee routines in Damper Creek Reserve: 10AM - 12.30pm. Billy boils at 11am. BYO cups/mugs Please wear all weather gear and solid shoes. Some equipment supplied by the bushcrew.

Dates to Remember	Event	Notes
Wednesday 27 July	General meeting & guest speaker Bruce Lindsay Environmental Justice Australia (see details above)	From 7.30pm
Sunday July 31st	National Tree Day - DC working bee relocated The working bee for the Friends of Damper Creek reserve will be transferred from DC to assist FSC and V Reserve at Fairway reserve for their National Tree planting Day All welcome. Free lunchtime BBQ.	Meet at Fairway Reserve from 10 - 1pm. Melways 70E5 - Register Scout Halls Carpark Enquires Sally Walker 9807 5576
Wednesday 24 August	Guest speaker Dr Tiffani Howell - Dogs as Human Companions (see details above) address followed by supper & the Annual General Meeting	From 7.30pm
Sunday August 28th	Working Bee	10 am - 12.30 pm Meeting place TBA

Addresses and Telephone Numbers

President	John Clements	0401 813 502
Secretary	Helen Clements	0401 813 502
Treasurer	Ian Nicholls	0447 774 144
Editor	Doug Scott	0417 300 866
Please email material for the newsletter to the Editor	Dougscott3@bigpond.com	

Printed by courtesy of the office of Michael Gidley MLA for Mt Waverley as a community service. Responsibility for Editorial content is solely that of the Editor. The Friends of Damper Creek Reserve Inc. is supported by the City of Monash and Melbourne Water.

Friends of Damper Creek Reserve Inc. is a member of 'Landcare' and 'Land for Wildlife' Volunteer Nature Conservation.

Damper Creek Bushland Reserve: part of the Yarra Catchment.

Please address all mail to: The Secretary, PO Box 2063, Mount Waverley 3149
email: secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com