



# Damper Creek Doings

Newsletter of the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve inc.

March 2022



## From the President's Desk

Meetings at Alvie hall may seem like a distant memory, thanks to covid. There are even some of our newer members who have never experienced a meeting in the hall. I know many of us are itching to return to face-to-face meetings and this is entirely possible (with masks) but Zoom has presented an opportunity that would not be possible with a face-to-face meeting. This month the Friends of Damper Creek Reserve will, once more, be meeting on Zoom. Only Zoom would allow our guest speaker, Doctor Alan Lane, to be with us.

Alan will talk about the 30-year project of his bushcare group to convert the highly degraded and willow-infested headwaters of Popes Glen Creek, Blackheath into a thriving Upper Blue Mountains Wetland. It is heartening to know that there are other groups such as ours who have maintained a long relationship with a bushland area, to see it recover from degradation to become an exemplary case of environmental restoration.

We look forward to resuming our meetings in Alvie hall for the April meeting, it will be a special event.

# Making a Difference



The pond project at the bush crew compound was commenced early 2021 and by the end of June was ready for planting out. The tube stock always seems too puny to be up to the task of revegetating any area but within six months the gaps were filling and the area is looking settled.

The ponds are the most visible part of an extensive water control and harvesting system which collects water from the bush crew compound and the surrounding area. At the rear of the compound a swale directs water into the ponds, this is augmented by water collected within the compound and the result is a series of ponds which provide a haven for wildlife, recharge the groundwater and prevent a soggy patch from developing along the walking path.

Much work has also been completed within the compound including landscaping and revegetation. It's already looking great and will only get better.



## Preparation of the Wildflower Meadow



The February working bee was allocated to “Clean Up Australia Day”. There was a great turnout of 21 volunteers, mostly FODCR members and their families, but other members of the public joined as well.

There was far less rubbish than in previous years, About 2 cubic metres of rubbish was collected. This comprised discarded face masks, food wrappers, paper scraps, polystyrene bits, cans, drink bottles, takeaway food containers, plastic bags, and a nesting box from a broken tree .

Thanks to all including Helen Clements for coordinating the day and especially Di and Chris Carra who boiled the billy with Bush tea .

Meanwhile, Mel and Ray worked on spreading mulch in the wildflower meadow. In the following week Helen and John Clements completed the job and the area should be ready for planting for the April or May working bees.



## Dates to remember:

**Wednesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm**  
**Guest Speaker on Zoom**

**Dr Alan Lane will be presenting on the wetland restoration project at Popes Glen Creek, Blackheath**  
**Members will be sent Zoom link by email prior to the meeting**

**Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Working Bee**

**Meet at the Duck Pond, access from the Park Road entrance**  
**Starts at 10-00am**  
**Concludes 12-30pm**

**Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7-30 pm**  
**General Meeting at Alvie Hall**

**Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Working Bee 10-00am to 12-30pm**  
**Location TBA**

### **Report it!**

Have you seen something along Damper Creek that you think needs attention? Please contact Monash Council and leave a report. You can contact them the

following ways.:

[www.monash.vic.gov.au/contact/request-a-service](http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/contact/request-a-service)

Phone(03) 9518 3555 or download the App – Snap, Send, Solve

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Damper-Creek-133557736847306/>

The content of this newsletter reflects the opinions of the editor and the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve. Content is welcome and should be emailed to [dougscott3@bigpond.com](mailto:dougscott3@bigpond.com) or to the secretary at

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