



# Damper Creek Doings

Newsletter of the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation  
Reserve inc.

April 2025



## Happy Autumn

Autumn is a wonderful time to be walking in Damper Creek Conservation Reserve as the bird life is amazing. During April you will see the visiting Gang Gang Cockatoos and Musk Lorikeets. There has also been a sighting of a female or immature Golden Whistler near the Norman Court entrance.

The unseasonably warm weather has been enjoyed by the Long-neck Turtles who can be seen basking on the bank or on logs in the main pond.





Upon dusk in areas with no canopy cover (such as the Richard Rd entrance) there are many micro-bats circling overhead feeding on insects to build up weight before they go into winter torpor (hibernation).

Despite their small size (only between 3-60 grams) , microbats can eat more than half of their body weight in insects each night – for even small microbats, this could be over 1200 mosquitoes nightly!

For more interesting facts on Victoria's microbats visit Wildlife Victoria's website -

<https://www.wildlifevictoria.org.au/learn/fact-sheets/microbats>



Little Forest Bat.  
Photo: Lindy Lumsden





## Retaining water in the landscape.

Monash Council Bushcrew have been very busy doing upgrades and works using Water Sensitive Design Principles throughout the Reserve. This will help build resilience to extreme climate conditions.

The aim of the upgraded paths near the Alice Street and Sunhill Road entrances and the new formed mulched areas near the Norman Court and Swayfield Road entrances is to direct surface water flow into vegetated areas so to keep water in the landscape and to reduce erosion.







**Thank you to the Glen Waverley Happy Seniors Association who joined with the Friends again at the March Working Bee.**

### Before & After Photos







## "What should you do if you find injured wildlife?"

Join us at the May Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> May at Alvie Hall to hear from Michele Phillips, from the South Oakleigh Wildlife Shelter (SOWS), who will give advice on caring for injured wildlife and tell us about her wildlife organization.

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



Michele Phillips with two ducklings.

Picture: NATHAN DYER

## City Nature Challenge 2025

Next date: Saturday, 26 April 2025 | 02:30 PM to 04:00 PM

City Nature Challenge is an opportunity for the community to record wildlife and animal observations across their local council.

Participants record their observations across a four-day period, from **25 – 28 April 2025** by taking pictures of wild plants and animals using the app, [iNaturalist](https://www.inaturalist.org/).



Observations will automatically be pooled within Monash and across the country so that we can compete with participants from other councils and cities all over the world.

Observations from Australia's database of plants and animals is helping scientists with their research to improve outcomes for our environment.

# Upcoming Events



*Working Bees are held on the last Sunday each month  
unless otherwise notified*

## **Important – Due to the ANZAC Day Long Weekend the April Working Bee is now on Sunday 4 May**

10am to 12.30pm

Meet at Golf Avenue Mt Waverley

(We will be weeding along creek behind Alvie Hall)

Wear sturdy footwear, weather appropriate clothes and gardening gloves.

Billy tea provided

## **Wednesday 28 May – General Meeting & Guest Speaker**

Michele Phillips, from the South Oakleigh Wildlife Shelter

**"What should you do if you find injured wildlife?"**

7.30 pm at Alvie Hall

Supper provided.

## **Sunday 25 May – Community Planting Day & LIONS Club BBQ**

10am to 1 pm

Planting to Fern Gully Project Area (funded by Melbourne Water) and the  
Monash water retention bed

Meet at the Swayfield Road Park Entrance  
(Refer to attached invitation)

## **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

The content of this newsletter reflects the opinions of the editor for the Friends of Damper Creek  
Conservation Reserve.

Content is welcome and should be emailed to [dougscott3149@hotmail.com](mailto:dougscott3149@hotmail.com) or to the secretary at  
[secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com)



# The Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve Inc.

[www.friendsofdampercreek.org.au](http://www.friendsofdampercreek.org.au)

## Community Planting Day & Free Community BBQ

**Sunday 25 May 2025**

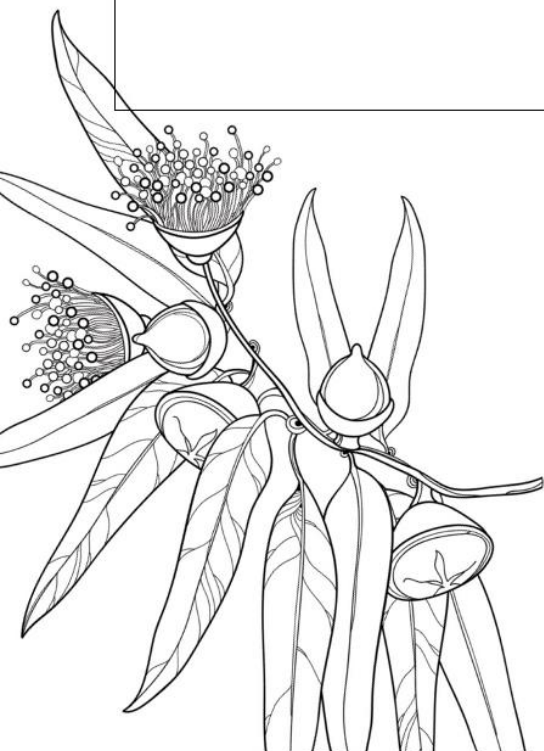
**10am to 1pm**

**Meet at the Swayfield Road entrance to Damper Creek Reserve, Mt Waverley**

Wear sturdy footwear and weather appropriate clothing and gardening gloves  
Tube stock funded by a Melbourne Water Project Grant to revegetate the "Fern Gully" and by  
Monash Council to plant the new stormwater retention swale.

Supported by the Monash City Council Bushcrew  
BBQ provided by Lions Club Ashwood-Mt Waverley  
BYO cups/mugs, plates, picnic rugs, chairs

No RSVP required



Thank you to Matt Fregon MP, State Member for  
Ashwood District, for assistance with the printing of  
this publication. If you require assistance with any  
State Government issues please contact Matt's office.

**Matt Fregon MP**

STATE MEMBER FOR ASHWOOD

P (03) 9561 0511  
E [matt.fregon@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:matt.fregon@parliament.vic.gov.au)  
A 240 High Street, Ashburton, 3147.