



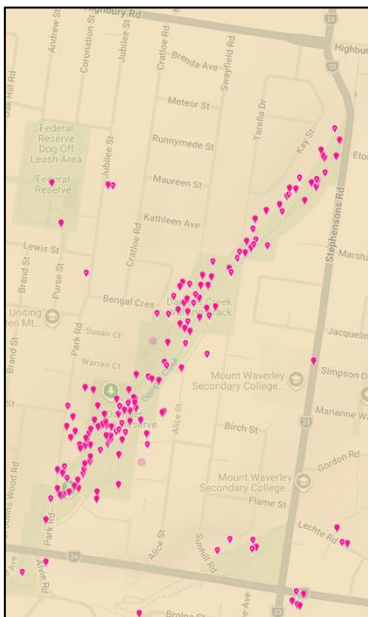
Damper Creek Doings

Newsletter of the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve inc.

July 2026



Winter Rain has produced a wonderful display of **Fungi** in Damper Creek Reserve this year. There are hundreds of observations of fungi recorded on iNaturalist for Damper Creek (see map below). At the June meeting we were fortunate to learn more about the different types of fungi and their important role in the environment. Hamish Beshara shared his beautiful photos and a fabulous presentation on this 'The Fifth Kingdom'. Scientists have recorded roughly **3,000 species** of fungi in Victoria. However, it is estimated that up to **250,000 species** may exist in Australia. This means the vast majority remain unnamed and undiscovered. The species in the photo below, found in the Reserve, has "gills" which produce thousands of spores that are dispersed by the wind.





Sunhill Road & Alice Street Planting Working Bee.

The June Planting Working Bee was another great success with 28 volunteers attending. It was lovely to meet lots of new people and see the children having fun. About 1,800 lower and mid storey plants were planted. Many thanks to Tracey and Frankie for doing the letterbox drop to let the neighbourhood know about the event.





Committee News

Yarra Valley Water Community Grant

The Friends have successfully applied for a \$5000 grant from Yarra Valley Water to purchase plants for continue our infill and mid-story planting in 2027.

Mid Year Meeting with Monash Bushcrew

The committee have a “walk through” meeting at the end of August with the Monash Bushcrew. This is an opportunity to discuss priorities for the year ahead, plan next years planting and to discuss any issues. If you have any items, you would like us to raise, please contact our secretary - secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at the end of August. Please consider joining our committee to help plan our working bees, apply for grants, support community environment education, work with other Friends Groups, and meet with the Monash and Sustainability teams to advocate for the Reserve. Contact our secretary if you would like more information on nominating for the committee or on other ways to contribute.

secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com

Ritchies IGA Community Benefit Program

Over the past year the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve has received about \$450.00 through the Ritchies Community Benefit scheme. You can find out more on how to get a Ritchies Card or how to nominate the Friends group as your preferred beneficiary.

<https://www.ritchies.com.au/ritchies-loyalty/community>

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

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





What should I do if I suspect a wild bird may be infected with H5 bird flu?

- **AVOID** contact with sick or dead wildlife and their environment. Observe from a distance, and do not allow pets to touch or eat sick or dead wildlife.
- **RECORD** what you see, the location the animal was found, and take photos or video if this is possible without approaching the bird.
- **REPORT** any unusual illness or death in wild birds and other wildlife immediately via the **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888**.

Details that will assist the response include:

- location (address and/or GPS coordinates if possible),
- date and time of the sighting (and when signs of disease were first noticed),
- the estimated number of sick or dead animals and other animals at the site,
- notes of any clinical signs that sick animals are showing, and
- contact details of any observers.

City of Monash / Friends of Scotchmans Creek
and Valley Reserve

Join our planting

NATIONAL TREE DAY 2026

EVENT: To revegetate indigenous species
along the Scotchmans Creek corridor

WHEN: Sunday, 26 July 2026
10:00am to 1:00pm

WHERE: Stanley Reserve East on the
south side of the creek.

Access will be from **Therese Avenue no 37A**

SITE CONTACT: FSCVR Contact - Sally Walker 0477 006 774
Monash Council Contact - Vanessa Bluett 0467 487 504

EXTRA INFORMATION:

All tools are provided, just bring gardening gloves and wear sturdy footwear and your gardening clothes.
Please bring your own bottle of water to help to save the environment



FIND OUT MORE

W: nationaltreeday.org.au
FB: /NationalTreeDay
IG: @nationaltreeday
#nationaltreeday #connectwithnature



The Scouts will provide a Sausage Sizzle (Gold coin donation)

Upcoming Events



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

Next Working Bee – Sunday 19th July

Weeding

10am to 12.30pm

Meeting point – Main Duck Pond

Billy morning tea at 11am

BYO mugs

(Note change of working bee due to clash with FSCVR Event below)

Friends of Scotchmans Creek Valley Reserve (FSCVR)

Planet Ark National Tree Planting

Sun 26th July (See details on page 3)

Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 26th August

And Guestspeaker:

Monash Council Climate Resilience Strategy

Clare Brace (Manager Sustainable Monash)

Meet at Alvie Hall at 7.30pm (supper to follow)

(AGM agenda will be emailed to members at end of July)

Save the Dates

Monthly Mid-Week Nature Walk & Water Watch Testing

Thursday 13th August

Meet at Alvie Hall at 10am (until 12noon)

August Working Bee – Sunday 30th August

Weeding

10am to 12.30pm

Meeting point – TBD

The content of this newsletter reflects the opinions of the editor for the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve news. Content is always welcome and should be emailed to secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com