



Damper Creek Doings

Newsletter of the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve inc.

June 2023



From the President's Desk

On Sunday 28 May 2023, the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve Inc. Mt Waverley celebrated their 30th Anniversary since Incorporation. As well as a Community Planting Day a free bbq was laid on by Ashwood Mt Waverley Lions.

The day dawned with grey skies and rain, but after many discussions with the Bushcrew and Committee, we trusted the weather forecast and went ahead with the occasion. Wet weather gear was the dress code for the day.

A wonderful effort was made with 1,500 tube stock (funded by a 2023 Melbourne Water grant), successfully planted out along the creek's riparian strip by the many volunteers and children. More than forty volunteers worked under the guidance of the Bushcrew members Danny and Bill. The Friends also welcomed new members including college students and a film crew preparing for our upcoming video.

Following the planting which benefited from the recent rain and soft soil, the workers retired to the Park Road car park to indulge in the free BBQ and pleasant socializing.

Formalities included speeches to celebrate the occasion, presentations to those who had a significant influence on the Friends group and the cutting of a most indulgent cake. Helen presented commemorative plaques to be installed in the noticeboards. We were honoured by the presence of our local state and federal members, Matt Fregon and Carina Garland.



Thanks to everyone who made the day special!

Many people contributed to the success of the day. They include the team organizing the BBQ, Keith, Dean, Roger and Matt, the bushcrew team, Danny and Bill, the Friends committee, Chris Carra for the billy tea, representatives from Monash's Gardens for Wildlife, Naomi and Emily, the neighborhood watch members who assisted with delivering notices, Robert Bateman for driving Graham Lawrence and most of all, founding members, Kevin Ryland, Graham Lawrence, Doris Hunter (for Barry Hunter) and Loretta Palma (for Frank Palma). A special thanks to Helen Clements whose organizational skills made the day.

Last, but not least, thanks to all those who braved inclement weather to enhance the reserve with another 1500 plants.

The Committee thank the community for making this event such a memorable occasion.

Carina Garland Addresses Parliament

Carina delighted our group by addressing Parliament with her impressions of the event, the importance of the reserve to the environment and the community and the incredible work done to bring the reserve to its present state. Carina commended the Friends of Damper Creek as "guardians of the reserve" and thanked us for "keeping our community green and gorgeous".

The complete speech can be viewed by clicking on the following link. In the case of difficulty, the link is also on the Damper Creek website. It can be found on the history page.

https://www.facebook.com/CarinaGarlandLabor/posts/pfbid0yRkYH5mqQfCGxCeNcKiAvVoJ9YtrzuKR7UBcoU11NPaexitKffu8mQvStBSF7PMRI?notif_id=1685592310377087¬if_t=feedback_reaction_generic_tagged&ref=notif

Celebrations





Good luck Danny

Danny Raditis was farewelled with sincere thanks from the Friends for his many years of service with the Monash Council's Bushcrew. Danny has been instrumental in many significant changes in the reserve including the Park Road nature strips, the chain of ponds at the Bushcrew compound and the wildflower meadow. We all miss his help and cheerful co-operation. The Friends wish Danny well in his new career pathway.

Restoring the Waterways and Floodplains of the Murray.

Our guest speaker at our meeting on May 24th was Gillis Horner. His presentation covered the floodplain ecosystems (we now know about Lignum scrub), regrowth of River Redgums (keep the animals out) and the methods of maintaining swampy ecosystems in the face of recurring droughts (engineering reverse flow of the Murray). Gillis's presentation prompted vigorous questioning and was most entertaining. We thank Gillis for coming to our group and wish him well with his future career.



More photos of our 30th anniversary celebration



Presentations to Graham Lawrence, Kevin Ryland and Danny Raditsis
Thanks to Naomi MCC for her cheerful assistance





Volunteers at work





Upcoming Events

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Planting Day June 25th

Commencing 10-00am – 12.30pm - meet at the Main Pond 200 metres north of the Park Rd noticeboard entrance - Registration is essential

Bring Mug, snacks, water bottle, gloves, aerogard, all weather gear, solid shoes

Damper Creek Walkshop Sat June 17th

10:30am-12:30pm (meet at Park Rd car carpark).

Working bees 10am – 12.30pm Bill boils at 11am

July 30th,

August 27th

**August meeting Alvie Hall, August 23rd (AGM)
7.30pm**

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

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

The content of the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve newsletter reflects the opinions of the editor. Content is welcome and should be emailed to dougscott3@bigpond.com or to the secretary at secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com

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