



Damper Creek Doings

Newsletter of the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve inc.

October 2022



From the President's Desk

Spring is here and our bushland reserve is showing its best face. Plants which, during winter, were hardly noticeable are springing into bloom. A contemplative walk through Damper Creek Reserve will be rewarding as you spot flowers and observe the progress plants have made since being planted only a few months ago. Be on the lookout for these two pea flowered plants, On the left is the grey parrot pea, *Dillwynia cinerescens*. You will find a good example near the Park road notice board. On the right is the austral indigo, *Indigofera australis*. See how many examples you can find in the reserve.



September Working Bee



Working or just enjoying?
Working bees are not all hard work!



Photos courtesy of
Helen Clements

On a brilliant September day 10 intrepid FODCCR's set forth to tackle weeds which crop up this time of year. With improving weather, sunscreen and hats are becoming increasingly necessary. This is vital work, tubestock planted over the last two seasons needs to be cleared of weeds to thrive. Just as important as planting and weeding is the get-together for the morning cuppa. Chris Carra gets the fire going for a proper bush tea and we all get together to discuss items of importance. The morning cuppa is also an opportunity to make important announcements.

Not all the work involves bending over to weed. We also have a role for a meet and greet person to engage passers-by and promote the reserve and our group's involvement in its creation and maintenance.



Citizen Science for you!

1/ Aussie Bird Count Oct 17th and 23rd

BirdLife Australia brings you the **Aussie Bird Count**, one of Australia's biggest citizen science events!

Celebrate National Bird Week by taking part in the Aussie Bird Count — you will be joining thousands of people from across the country who will be heading out into their backyards, local parks or favourite outdoor spaces to take part.

To get involved all you need is 20 minutes, your favourite outdoor space (this can be your yard, local park, beach, or anywhere you can see birds), and some keen eyesight. And it doesn't matter if you're a novice or an expert — we will be there to help you out. Simply record the birds you know and look up those you don't on our 'Aussie Bird Count' app or our website. You'll instantly see live statistics and information on how many people are taking part near you and the number of birds and species counted in your neighbourhood and the whole of Australia!

Not only will you get to know your feathered neighbours, but you'll be contributing to a vital pool of information from across the nation that will help us see how Australian birds are faring. To find out more follow the link below.

<https://birdlife.org.au/get-involved/whats-on/bird-week>

2/ Great Southern BioBlitz

Oct 28th to 31st

The Great Southern BioBlitz is an opportunity for all Southern Hemisphere countries to record organisms during Spring and showcase our beautiful biodiversity to the world. The event is run by a grassroots network of keen citizen scientists from across the globe.

The Great Southern BioBlitz for 2022 will run from October 28th - 31st. Participants in the event will then have a further 14 days to upload and identify all of their observations made during this period to the iNaturalist platform.

To find out more follow the link below:

www.greatsouthernbioblitz.org

An Environmentally safe Weedkiller?

With concerns over the safety of chemical weedkillers, here is one that uses natural ingredients: Vinegar has proven itself an effective weed killer. Like most commercial herbicides, it's nonselective, not caring whether it kills weeds or your petunias. Unlike commercial weed killers, vinegar is eco-friendly and won't harm people, pets or the environment. Vinegar's only real drawback in certain cases is that it has no residual action, so new weeds soon arrive. Permanent removal is occasionally desirable for stubborn weeds in gravel drives and paths as well as cracks and crevices in walkways and sidewalks. Add common table salt to vinegar to destroy weeds for good in these trouble spots. Just make sure to never pour the salt mixture on soil, as the solution will make sure that nothing grows in that spot again. Complete instructions can be found by following the link below.

<https://homeguides.sfgate.com/use-vinegar-salt-weed-killer-49329.html>



Green, Cool and Healthy – Water Presentation

7.30pm, Wednesday 19 October 2022

Mt Waverley Community Centre – 47 Miller Cres, Mt Waverley

In recent years we have gained a much deeper appreciation of our waterways and the surrounding diverse greenery, and how integral they are to our own wellbeing. However, the pressures on these natural assets are increasing with ongoing development in catchments and a changing climate. The health of waterway ecosystems and downstream bays is significantly impacted by excess stormwater runoff from hard urban surfaces and the wide-ranging pollutants transported. This presentation will outline how Water Sensitive Urban Design can be used to mitigate these impacts.

Presentation by Emily Payne, Water Sensitive Urban Design Officer at Monash Council.

For the Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve – all welcome

Further information – Sally Walker, sally.walker55@bigpond.com

Tips for Growing Healthy Trees

6.30pm, Wednesday 9 November 2022

Function Room, Monash Civic Centre

293 Springvale Rd, Glen Waverley

Learn how to keep your trees in tip-top shape with Dr Greg Moore, eminent expert on tree health and ABC Melbourne regular, as he discusses how to keep your trees healthy.

Find out how to look after the trees in your garden and how to select tree species to plant that are suited to your place, plus more.

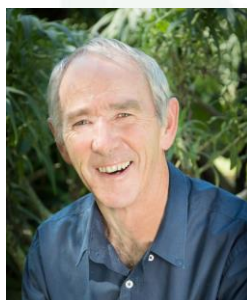
Bookings:

In person attendance

<https://www.trybooking.com/CDKMV>

Online attendance

<https://www.trybooking.com/CDKNH>





Dates to remember:

October Working Bee October 23rd

When: 10-00 am to 12-30pm
Morning tea at 11-00am

Where: Duck pond (along the path from Park Road entrance,
Park in Park Road car park)

What: Maintenance of recently planted areas

Bring: gloves, mug for morning tea, weeder, warm clothing,
wet weather gear may be needed.

November Meeting

When :7:30 November 23rd

Where? Monash Youth Centre Miller Crescent

Annual BBQ

Sunday November 27th

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 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 or to the secretary at secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com

PO Box 2063 Mount Waverley 3149