



September 2015

FSCVR happenings

Inside this issue:

<i>FSCVR happenings</i>	1
<i>More happenings</i>	2
<i>Gardens for Wildlife</i>	2
<i>Waterwatch Results</i>	3
<i>Waterwatch Reports</i>	3
<i>SPARC in Valley Reserve</i>	4
<i>For the diary - 2015</i>	4



New plants along Scotchmans Creek — National Tree Day 2015

“but we still managed to get about 6,000 plants into the ground on the day as the rain stayed away until later on...”

The scouts provided a welcome fuel stop with sausages from mid-morning.”

Spring is here

There have been many wattles blooming in the Valley Reserve over the last couple of months. Now the yellow Bulbine lilies are coming into flower, the orange, pea flowered Grey Parrot Pea and the pink Grass-leaved Trigger plants are adding their colour along the tracks.

Winter planting

Our major planting of the year, National Tree Day in Fairway Reserve, was a great success. The number of planters was down due to the weather but we still managed to get about 6,000 plants into the ground on the day as the rain stayed away until later on. The bush crew planted the remaining plants the following day. The scouts provided a welcome fuel stop with sausages from mid-morning.

We were also very happy to have the assistance of employees from Novotel and United

Energy/Multinet Gas to plant about 2000 plants on each day of two days beside Scotchmans Creek. The Novotel group planted on the south bank just upstream of Crosby Drive and the United Energy group planted near Regent Street. It is very pleasing to have these two local businesses helping us each year with our planting program.

We thank Melbourne Water for their continued support in providing grants to purchase these plants.

Our Friends planting in June in Valley Reserve went very quickly with all plants in the ground in under two hours. We planted beside the main path going west from the end of the car park. This is a great way for our group to use some of its funds and we propose repeating this planting next year.

More happenings

Educating students

In May, young students from the Holy Family primary school came to Valley Reserve for a walk through the reserve where we pointed out the plants, birds and the habitat.

In early August some of our Waterwatch group met a couple of groups of students from Monash University by Scotchmans Creek to explain what our group does and to talk about the creek and its issues.

In late August we assisted a group of senior students from Avila secondary college with Waterwatch activities in the Huntingdale Wetlands. We are happy to be able to interact with local schools and universities to explain what we do and help the students to understand more about our local creeks.

Joint meetings with the Friends of Damper Creek Reserve

On Wednesday 26th August we had a very informative evening with Andrew Kelly, the new Yarra Riverkeeper. His approach is different from that taken by his long term predecessor, Ian Penrose, but he is a dynamic individual and keen to lobby on behalf of the whole Yarra River. We expressed an interest in YRKA expanding its area of interest to the whole Yarra catchment which would include Scotchmans Creek.

Scar Tree

The conservation of the scar tree is now complete and it is standing upright. The area surrounding the tree is in process of being landscaped and some interpretive signs will be placed nearby.



Dianella tasmanica
Blue Flax Lily

Gardens for Wildlife

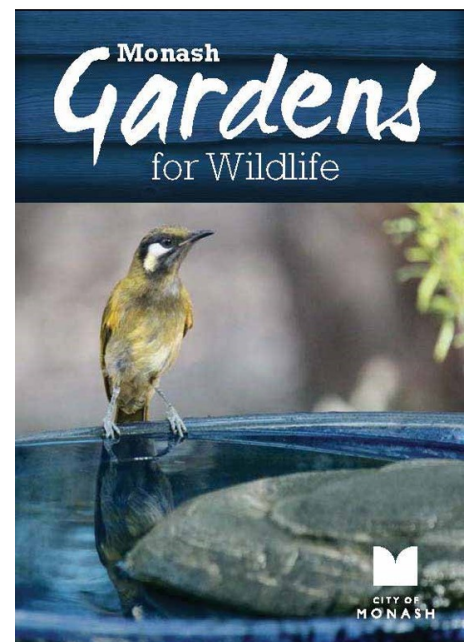
Monash Gardens for Wildlife

Monash Council's Sustainability Team have been working on a new resource booklet aimed at helping you to change your garden to increase the number of indigenous plants and to provide more habitat for the wildlife in Monash. It explains the importance of the natural environment and biodiversity and the benefits of establishing indigenous plants.

The council is also planning to develop a Gardens for Wildlife program. The program may include visits to your property to help residents determine what indigenous plants could be used to develop their indigenous garden.

We have a number of copies of this informative booklet, so come along and get your free copy at the AGM. It can also be obtained from the council.

"...a new resource booklet aimed at helping you to change your garden to increase the number of indigenous plants and to provide more habitat for the wildlife in Monash."



New booklet now available

Waterwatch Results - July–August 2015

Parameter	Site 1A Fiander arm YSC010		Site 1B Crosby arm YSC012		Site 2 Regent Street YSC020		Site 3 Valley Creek YVA100		Site 4 Wetland upper YSC099		Site 5 Wetland lower YSC100	
Date	19/7/15	23/8/15	19/7/15	23/8/15	19/7/15	23/8/15	19/7/15	23/8/15	19/7/15	23/8/15	19/7/15	23/8/15
Air temperature °C	4.0	13.0	4.0	13.0	4.0	13.0	5.0	11.0	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M
Water temperature °C	8.0	10.5	7.5	11.0	7.5	11.0	6.0	11.0	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M
pH	7.5 G	6.9 E	7.3 G	6.4 E	7.8 G	6.7 E	7.5 G	6.7 E	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M
Oxygen concentration mg/l	N/M	8.0 E	N/M	7.5 G	10.0 E	N/M	8.6 E	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M
Conductivity E.C.	530 P	590 P	290 F	370 F	390 F	150 G	430 F	490 F	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M
Turbidity F.T.U	17 G	13 E	8 E	7 E	17 G	10 E	15 G	88 D	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M
Phosphorus, soluble ppm	N/M	0.049 F	N/M	0.124 D	0.046 F	N/M	0.013 G	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M
Ammonium NH ₄ ppm	0.02 E	0.02 E	0.01 E	0.10 F	0.04 E	0.15 F	0.01 E	0.10 F	N/M	N/M	N/M	N/M
Stream flow L/s	13.4	6.5	7.4	4.7	18.4	12.3	3.1	0.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Habitat assessment/50	26 F	26 F	27 F	27 F	24 F	24 F	28 F	28 F	21 F	21 F	21 F	21 F

E=Excellent ■ G=Good ■ F=Fair ■ P=Poor ■ D=Degraded ■ N/M= Not measured N/A= Not applicable

Waterwatch Reports

July

Fatty pollution in the Glen Waverley Drain, noted in our June report, had been seen by a Melbourne Water team who undertook several days containment and cleaning up using booms, pumps and waste tankers. Other investigative authorities also attended. The remaining contamination on the underwater surfaces has become black and has shrunk or become partially dislodged.

The sand accumulated below the Turner Court – Crosby Drive footbridge, and at the entrance of the litter trap, has been scooped out.

The physical/chemical water quality indicators were all Fair to Excellent, with the exception of Poor phosphate level in the Fiander arm (site 1a).

All the habitat assessments were similar to those of 2014 with the exception of a poorer score for the in-stream vegetation in the Glen Waverley Drain (site 1b) because of the pollution reported above.

August

Results were Fair to Excellent except Poor conductivity result in Scotchmans Creek upstream (site 1a), and the water was cloudy.

There was a Degraded phosphate result in Glen Waverley Drain (site 1b), but very clear appearance.

Valley Creek was flowing at a trickle, with very cloudy appearance (turbidity rated Degraded), and high conductivity (rated Fair).



Damselfly larva and Mayfly nymph (L-R)

315 Lawrence Road
Mount Waverley
Victoria 3149

Phone: 03 9802 3481
Email: tedmason@bigpond.net.au
Incorporation No. A0037872K

We're on the Web!
scotchmanskreekfriends.org.au

"Greening Monash"

Monash World Environment Day Winner - 2008
Sustainable Cities Award Finalist - 2014



We have all been waiting in anticipation for the new playground to be complete and the fencing to be removed. Now we can all have a good look at the final result. The local children are already exploring the new equipment and having fun on the flying fox. There are now more barbecues and new seating. The grass has gone but there are interesting pathways and much use of natural timbers to divide up the area. Come along to the official opening on Saturday 26th September from 10 am to noon and see the renewed playground. The whole area has been landscaped with many beds with new plants. Once the plants get established the area will look very pleasing.

There will also be a SPARC stage 2. We have been speaking with Council and the designers of SPARC 1 to ensure that the projects proposed for stage 2 will also fit in with the conservation values of the Valley Reserve.

For the diary - 2015

*Printed by courtesy of
the City of Monash as
a community service.
Responsibility for edi-
torial content is solely
that of the editor.*



**Melbourne
Water**

*Production of this
newsletter is funded
through Melbourne
Water's River Health
Incentives Program*

Family Fun Day at Valley Reserve

Friday 2 October 2015 - 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Valley Reserve, Wills Ave., Mt. Waverley

Join your friends as part of the Seniors Festival on Friday 2 October from 10 am – 2 pm in Valley Reserve. Walk along the Scotchmans Creek corridor at 10:00 am or take a tour around Valley Reserve at 10:30 am.

A worm farming workshop, a worm farm to win and a free BBQ lunch will follow the walks.

Ring 9518 3555 to book – for the longer walk and for catering purposes.

For more information see the Monash Council PALS booklet. Go to:

<http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/Services/Older-Adults/Staying-Active>.

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 15 October 2015 - 7:30 pm

Alvie Hall, 314 High St. Rd., Mt. Waverley

As you will be aware, for many years now the Mount Waverley Wetlands have experienced problems. Over this period we have been in discussion with Melbourne Water about the best way of dealing with these problems. Our understanding is that Melbourne Water are now in a position to take the first phase of the work needed to enable the wetlands to function in a more efficient and satisfactory manner.

Come along to our AGM and hear Heather Graham talk about what will hopefully be the final solution to a very long running problem. Her talk will be followed by refreshments and then the Annual General Meeting. See the separate flyer for details and the Agenda for the AGM.