



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

Newsletter – June 2018

President's Report

In my last report, I announced that we were taking steps to follow up with Monash council, to discuss and agree how the proposed designation of Valley Reserve as a Conservation Reserve needed to be reflected in future planning for the management of the reserve.

We have met with council officers, and we agreed that future planning for reserves such as Valley Reserve needed to be prefaced with a high level statement of the reserve's main focus and purposes and the long term 'vision' for the reserve. The management plan for the reserve needed to reflect, and be consistent with that long term vision.

We expect to be involved, on your behalf, in the creation of such a high level statement for Valley Reserve, and we hope that it will become a template for all Monash Conservation focussed reserves.

We have also been discussing with council, the vision for an education garden near the education hub. We have agreed on an area (broadly the area of the old playground immediately North of the education hub). Council have begun work on a conceptual design for the area, to contain plantings of the main shrubs, ground covers and creeper/climbers to be found in the reserve, with explanatory material about the plants.

This is an exciting project, which will need careful planning – we hope to make a start in the 2018-19 financial year, and start planting into the area in Winter 2019. We will be contacting the local schools who visit the reserve, with a view to involving the pupils in helping establish the garden.

After a dry Autumn, we have at last had some real rain, and the plants are looking happier already. Let's hope the rain continues through the winter.

Tony Walker

Planting Program for 2018

We started our program with a Friends planting in Valley Reserve on Sunday 17th June. Eight Friends turned up in wet weather gear despite the rain to start our planting. We put about 500 plants in and will plant the remaining 300-400 plants at our next work party. Please come along and give us a hand on the 30th June.



Here we all are, rather muddy, about to go home for a change of clothes.

In July we will have the assistance of staff from Novotel to help us plant next to the Glen Waverley Drain downstream of Crosby Drive. This planting will use Melbourne Water grant funds to purchase 2000 tubestock plants.

Later in July students from Holmesglen Tafe will help us plant 2000 tubestock plants next to Regent Street. This planting will also use Melbourne Water grant funds.

Finally our big planting on National Tree Day, Sunday 29th July, will see us and the community plant 8 000 plants in Fairway Reserve. Please put that date in your diary now and bring the family along for a wonderful morning with a great sausage sizzle for the workers!

This is a great way to introduce children to getting their hands dirty putting a small plant into the ground. Once they get tired of planting they can always make long snakes of the empty tubes which also helps with collecting up the tubes.

Guest Speaker for our May meeting on Wednesday 16th May –

Floods and Droughts

Dasarath Jayasuriya who is employed at the Bureau of Meteorology gave us a very informative presentation He explained how climate change and variability affect the availability of water which in turn, impacts ecological sustainability. He showed us many graphs showing the current trends in the rise of temperature and the increasing number of record breaking extreme weather events. Food for thought for us all.

Guest Speaker for our August meeting – Floods and Drains

Hear how the City of Monash is updating its storm water drains to cope with flooding. For details see the attached flyer.

Membership renewals – early reminder

Membership renewals become due on 30th August. The Application/Renewal form is on the back page of this newsletter. Please help to support our work by joining us or renewing your membership. Note that you can pay your subscription by bank transfer – details on the renewal form.

Waterwatch Results & Reports – April – May 2018

Parameter	YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm		YSC012 Site 1B Crosby arm		YSC020 Site 2 Regent Street		YVA100 Site 3 Valley Creek	
	22/04/18	20/05/18	22/04/18	20/05/18	22/04/18	20/05/18	22/04/18	20/05/18
Date	22/04/18	20/05/18	22/04/18	20/05/18	22/04/18	20/05/18	22/04/18	20/05/18
Air temperature °C	15	13	15	13	16	13	16	13
Water temperature °C	14	14	14	14	15	14	14.5	13
pH	6.8 E	7.1 G	6.5 E	6.9 E	6.6 E	6.6 E	6.8 E	6.7 E
Oxygen concentration mg/l	7.1 G		8.3 E			8.1 E		7.6 G
Conductivity E.C.	410 F	210 G	110 G	170 G	240 G	220 G	270 F	170 G
Turbidity F.T.U.	15 G	14 E	6 E	6 E	17 G	22 P	32 D	35 D
Phosphorus, soluble ppm	0.088 P		0.072 P			0.046 F		0.029 F
Ammonium NH ₄ ppm	0.06 G	0.12 F	0.02 E	0.05 G	0.03 E	0.04 E	0.00 E	0.03 E
Stream Flow L/s	3.9	27.2	8.8	28.0	9.3	163.0	0.2	2.9
Habitat assessment/50	24 F	24 F	24 F	24 F	24 F	24 F	28 F	28 F

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

April

- The invertebrates samples from both upstream sites contained some caddisfly larvae, which are rated Very Sensitive, obtained as a result of a change of our sampling method to include kick sampling of the stones in the shallow parts of the creeks. The overall site ratings were Good at the Fiander arm, Poor at the Crosby arm.
- The physical and chemical results were typical of these sites, with oxygen improved after the low levels measured in the dry summer months.

May

- Wintry conditions are coming. The flows were higher than recently, and waterbug counts down.
- Upstream, the water was clear, but ammonium in the Fiander Arm (site 1a, Scotchmans Ck) was only Fair.
- Downstream, the water was muddy enough to prevent visibility deeper than about 10 cm, otherwise (apart from the usual Fair phosphorus levels) the downstream chemical quality was good.
- We appear again to over-estimate stream flows. Downstream in Scotchmans Ck, we estimated 163 Litre/Sec, but the adjacent gauge in the Waverley Rd retarding basin reported 60 Litre/Sec for the hour when we estimated it.
- The waterbug samples were dominated by the more tolerant creatures, resulting in Poor classifications for both downstream sites.

Note: starting in May the macro invertebrates results table has a revised format to more clearly show the SIGNAL method of waterbug sampling for stream health assessment. A column has been added to show the Bug Score assigned by the method – the Total Bug Score for each site is the total for each type of waterbug actually found, indicating variety and sensitivity. The Total Number Found is now shown, instead of the abundance category. The overall rating has 4 values, depending on the total number found (whether above or below 200) and on the variety (total bug score above or below 35).

For access to the full reports, the data collected and the habitat photos, view the waterwatch page on our web site.

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Membership Application / Renewal

Membership is renewable each year on 31 August

Name(s):

Address:

Phone: Email:

I'm happy to receive all notices by email: Yes No

Membership type: Individual (\$5.00) Family (\$10.00) Organisation/Corporate (\$20.00)

I enclose cash/cheque of \$ Tick if receipt required

OR

I have deposited \$ in the Association's bank account number 313 140 12025467
**** Please put your name in the banking details and also advise the treasurer ****

Date:.....

Please forward to: *The Treasurer,
Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve Inc.,
49 Bunker Crescent,
Glen Waverley Vic. 3150*

email treasurer@scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au Ph. 9803 4589



Dates to Remember	Event	Notes
Saturday 30 th June	Planting in Valley Reserve	Amenities block at 1:20 pm
Saturday 28 th July	Work Party in Valley Reserve	Amenities block at 1:20 pm
Sunday 29 th July	National Tree Day – Planting in Fairway Reserve	Register by the Scout Halls from 10 am
Wednesday 15 th August	Presentation on "Floods and Drains"	Alvie Hall at 7:30 pm
Saturday 25 th August	Work Party in Valley Reserve	Amenities block at 1:20 pm

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