



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

Newsletter – September 2020

Annual General Meeting – 21st October 2020

This year due to COVID-19 restrictions we will be holding our AGM by electronic means.

Members will receive copies of the documents that will be presented at the AGM along with information about a virtual attendance. Please take the time to read this information and to respond as requested. We do hope that next year everything will be back to normal and we can have our usual AGM in Alvie Hall complete with a speaker and time for a get together over refreshments.

President's Report

We hope everyone is keeping well, despite, no doubt, some lockdown fatigue. It is so encouraging to see the number of new cases come down. Spring is in full swing in the reserves and they offer some wonderful respite with their array of flowers and colours. I recently discovered this short video clip by Whitehorse Council that showcases many species currently in bloom:

<https://youtu.be/VyY8et7EDhE>

We are closely following developments regarding the land for sale adjacent to the Blue Cross Aged Care Facility on the corner of Anthony Drive and Waverley Road. We were delighted with the compulsory acquisition of a ~10m wide strip adjacent to the creek by council, although we feel a larger parcel of land would have provided a far better outcome and investment for future generations. Thank you to both Cr Rebecca Paterson and Cr Josh Fergus for advocating strongly on this matter.

Some more good news! Sally and Tony Walker have been recognised for their dedicated service to our group with a “Best Friends Award” from the Victorian Environmental Friends Network. The award ceremony will take place, virtually, on the 3rd October. It is definitely well-deserved! Since joining the Friends group in 2004, Sally and Tony have been integral to its smooth running and have driven many activities and revegetation projects, making a visible difference to Valley Conservation Reserve and Scotchmans Creek. As a Friends group, we are fortunate over the years to have had so many dedicated, long serving committee members.

Please take care

Kallista Sears

President, Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve

Latest Report for Scotchmans Creek

Rex and Rosemary Dusting completed their latest report on the health of the Scotchmans Creek corridor in late August. This report is available from our web site in the publications page (Scotchmans Creek – State of the River August 2020).

Planting Program for 2020

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions we have been unable to proceed with our Friends planting in Valley Reserve. The Monash bush crew have agreed to plant all the tubestock purchased with our Melbourne Grant funds. The two minor plantings at Crosby Drive Reserve and Regent Street Reserve have been completed and the areas are looking great. The bush crew are waiting for Covid-19 restrictions to be eased to allow them to plant in Fairway Reserve.

We are looking forward to putting in grant applications for more plants to be planted in 2021. We have been successful with our grant applications over many years and are grateful to Melbourne Water for their continued support.

Membership Renewals – due 30th August

Membership renewals became due on 30th August. The Application/Renewal form is on the back page of this newsletter and on our web site. 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. Bank transfer is our preferred method in these times.

We have to report our number of financial members each year when we make our returns to Consumer Affairs Victoria so it is important that we have a healthy number of members before our AGM. In addition, our numbers affect our ability to obtain grants from Melbourne Water for plants and from the City of Monash for our free hall hire.

Please renew your membership now – we will get over this Covid-19 epidemic and will be able to return to work parties and planting and meeting face to face as soon as possible.

Spring in Valley Reserve

After some rather cold weather, Spring seems to have arrived. Walking through Valley Conservation Reserve there are lots of flowers to see. The purple Austral Indigos are coming out as are the yellow Bulbine Lilies and the Grey Parrot-peas. Even the acacia family are still well represented with different species coming into flower each month.



Bulbine Lily



Grey Parrot-pea



Austral Indigo

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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 Australia account:

Account name: Friends of Scotchmans Creek 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



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