



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

Newsletter – October 2021

President's Report

We hope you are enjoying the gradual easing of restrictions as vaccination rates increase. It's been wonderful to meet with one other family outdoors. With the warmer weather and lockdowns, Valley Conservation Reserve and Scotchmans Creek have been well loved and bustling with activity. It is also a lovely time of year in the bushland reserves with beautiful displays of flowers.

Behind the scenes we have been working on a new brochure for the Friends group. Please check it out. Into the future we hope to develop further materials towards an information pack for neighbours and the community.

We will have our 2021 AGM on October 20th via zoom and hope you can make it along. I shall be stepping down as President of the Friends Group, having served the 2 year term in the role but will remain active on the committee. It has been a pleasure being President, working and interacting with members and representing this fantastic group.

Are you interested in joining the committee or perhaps helping in some other manner? If so, we'd love to hear from you. If you'd like more information, please get in touch with any of the committee members.

As always, please also let us know if you have any suggestions for future activities, speaker topics or thoughts regarding issues in our reserves. We value your input. We are optimistic that next year will see a return of many of our regular activities and work parties.

Take care
Kallista
President,
Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve

Annual General Meeting – on Wednesday 20th October, 2021

This year we will hold our AGM by zoom. There will be no speaker but using zoom will give us the opportunity to present our usual reports to our members. Details of how to connect to the session will be sent to members a few days before the event. Please let our secretary know if you are unable to attend and wish to be counted as an apology.

Habitat Trees

A lovely reminder of how important tree hollows are for many of our native birds and mammals.

This rainbow lorikeet was nesting in a large dead eucalypt in Valley Conservation Reserve. Thankfully the lower portion was retained as a habitat tree.



Bike Damage



There has been damage to revegetated and remnant areas along Scotchmans Creek including our National Tree Day plantings, caused by mountain bikers creating extensive tracks, obstacles and jumps. This activity destroys vegetation, creates erosion channels, compacts the soil and is a danger to members of the public using these areas. This is a widespread issue in all of Monash's reserves. We have reported this issue to Monash Council and we are pleased they have committed to revegetating the damaged areas. We have also urged them to identify more appropriate areas where this type of activity can occur, especially given the challenges of the current lockdowns.



If you see any activity like this, please report it to the council using the council reporting service www.monash.vic.gov.au/contact/request-a-service or *snap, send and solve* app.

Spring in Valley Conservation Reserve

Our weather has been very variable over the last few weeks but Valley Conservation Reserve is full of flowers and still provides us with a wonderful place to walk and get outside and away from being stuck indoors.

The Bulbine Lillies are in flower; the Dusty Daisy-bushes are flowering early this year and giving a great show with their creamy white flowers. Look for the flowers pictured below as you walk through the reserve.

	
<p>Bulbine Lily (<i>Bulbine bulbosa</i>)</p>	<p>Dusty Daisy-bush (<i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>)</p>

	
<p>Hop Bitter-pea (<i>Daviesia latifolia</i>)</p>	<p>Purple Coral Pea (<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>)</p>

An Integrated Site Plan for Valley Conservation Reserve

We are working with Council on an Integrated Site Plan for Valley Reserve consistent with its new designation as a conservation reserve.

The ISP will focus on the conservation and restoration of the natural bushland setting to ensure that Valley Reserve continues to provide an unspoiled bushland environment in the middle of Mount Waverley.

We have been in communication with Council and their consultants in developing this plan and we will keep you informed as the plan develops.

Guest Speaker for our ~~August~~ November meeting on Wednesday 17th ~~August~~ November

We have invited Dr Andrew Sharpe to give us a presentation - *My ~~Brilliant~~ Wet Career in Water: Urban streams, interesting water bugs and environmental flows.*

Our August meeting did not take place and so we are now hoping that if enough people get vaccinated in the next few weeks that we will be able to have a face to face meeting in November.

Waterwatch Results & Reports 2021

Due to Covid restrictions we have held no waterwatch sessions since the one on August 1st

Dates to Remember	Event	Notes
Wednesday 20 th October	Annual General Meeting	Zoom at 7:30 pm
Wednesday 17 th November	Presentation by Andrew Sharpe	Alvie Hall at 7:30 pm

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