



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

Newsletter – August 2024

FSCVR acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we work in, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung People, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways.

President's Report

Planting almost completed for 2024

I mentioned in an earlier newsletter that we had received a grant from Yarra Valley Water:

Yarra Valley Water has provided \$2,500 to support our biodiversity work as part of their commitments to customers, community and environment.

We have now completed the planting of all the plants purchased under that grant:

- Our Friends planting in June
- Our “What’s Your Jam” session at the end of June
- Our work party on the 20th July

These plants were planted in Valley Conservation Reserve both near the education hub and to the south of the main east west loop track.

Melbourne Water provided us with two grants this year for funds to purchase plants to be planted in a new location, Stanley Reserve East;

Holmesglen students planted 1500 plants on the north side of the creek on 16th July
Brentwood Secondary College students planted another 1500 plants on the north side of the creek on 26th July
268 members of the public came along on Sunday 28th July to plant over 8 000 plants on the south side of the creek as part of National Tree Day.

This will be a 3 year concentrated effort to improve and re-vegetate this part of the Scotchmans Creek corridor downstream of the Freeway crossing. I encourage you to take a walk in this area to see what a difference our planting has made there.



Our local community getting together on National Tree Day 2024

We have one more small planting to take place in the Mount Waverley Wetlands near the south end of Lawrence Road in mid-August – 300 plants which Melbourne Water will supply as part of an offset for an issue with water quality earlier this year.

Thank you to Yarra Valley Water and Melbourne Water who provided the funding for these plants. We also thank the Monash Horticultural team who prepared the sites and helped the planters each day. Without their hard work we would not be able to arrange these planting events.



National Tree Day 2024

A Statement of Purpose for the Scotchmans Creek Corridor

We have recently prepared a Statement of Purpose for Valley Conservation Reserve and now we have turned our attention to the Scotchmans Creek Corridor.

While much of our monthly focus is on maintaining Valley Conservation Reserve we have a broader focus on the Scotchmans Creek corridor and the part it plays in the overall Gardiners Creek and Yarra River catchment.

Scotchmans Creek provides an essential corridor for local fauna and flora and links these important water systems together.

August Meeting - Photographing Birds in the Scotchmans Creek & Valley Reserve Catchment

Alfred Uhlherr, who is one of our members, will be giving us a presentation on bird photography at our August meeting on Wednesday 21st August.

Please come along and catch up with your fellow members and experience this interesting presentation.

Sally Walker

President, Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve

Guest Speaker for our August 21st meeting

Join us at Alvie Hall 7.30pm, Wednesday 21st August to hear guest speaker Alfred Uhlherr's informative presentation and wonderful photography of native birds in the Scotchmans Creek and Valley Conservation Reserve area.

Following the talk there will be refreshments. Please bring your own cup.

Planting Session

Our final planting session for the year is at Mt Waverley Wetlands South end of Lawrence Road Tuesday 13th August, 9.30am start. We hope to plant 300 plants. Please bring gardening gloves.

Waterwatch Results & Reports – June – July 2024

Parameter	YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm		YSC012 Site 1B Crosby arm		YSC020 Site 2 Regent Street		YVA100 Site 3 Valley Creek	
	23/06/24	21/07/24	23/06/24	21/07/24	23/06/24	21/07/24	23/06/24	21/07/24
Date	23/06/24	21/07/24	23/06/24	21/07/24	23/06/24	21/07/24	23/06/24	21/07/24
Air temperature °C	6	11	6	11	6	11	6	11.5
Water temperature °C	8	11.5	9	11	9.5	10		10
pH	7.1 G	7.6 G	6.9 E	7.2 G	6.9 E	7.2 G	7.1 G	7.2 G
Oxygen concentration mg/l	6.0 G		10.0 E			10.0 E		9.9 E
Conductivity E.C.	770 D	400 F	160 G	200 G	300 F	220 G	440 F	280 F
Turbidity F.T.U.	21 P	32 D	3 E	19 F	12 E	25 P	14 E	20 P
Phosphorus, soluble ppm								
Ammonium NH ₄ ppm	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E
Stream Flow L/s	16.1	13.7	25.7	26.8	35.7	46.4	2.1	4.4

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

June

Comments:

- The flow at site YSC012 (Glen Waverley Drain) was unexpectedly high and clear (Excellent turbidity result).
- Conductivity at site YSC010 was unusually high (Degraded).
- We were unable to test the phosphorus level because we have used all the test reagent.

Habitat Assessments:

Site YSC010 (1a), Scotchmans Creek upstream of Crosby Drive/Turner Court. Verge vegetation is gradually improving. The numerical scoring was 22/40, rated Fair.

Site YSC012 (1b), Glen Waverley Drain. Bank and verge vegetation continues to recover. The numerical scoring was 26/40, rated Fair.

July

Comments:

- The week's high rainfall has contributed to Excellent dissolved oxygen levels, but mild muddiness measured as Poor turbidity results.
- Phosphate levels could not be measured as we have no remaining test reagent.
- All other chemical measurements were rated Fair to Excellent.
- Habitat scores for Scotchmans Ck at Regent St have been downgraded (but still rated Fair), due to poor in-stream vegetation and poor verge vegetation on the east side opposite the mouth of Valley Ck.
- The habitat rating for Valley Ck remains Good.

Habitat Assessments:

Site YSC020 (site 2), Scotchmans Ck at Regent St. The west bank and verge have good native vegetation. In-stream vegetation is poor. The east bank and the narrow part of the verge have mixed native and weedy vegetation. The numeric score is 22/40, rated Fair.

Site YVA100 (site 3), Valley Ck at Regent St. The south bank is improved, with fewer weeds, and improved native vegetation. The north bank is well vegetated with native plants. The numeric score is 29/40, rated Good.

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



Holmesglen students planting along Scotchmans Creek

We have had some good wet days for our newly planted seedlings, which should assist in establishing root growth in time for the warmer summer months. Vital for the plants survival.

Spring in Valley Conservation Reserve

As the weather warms with the approach of spring, much of the wildlife produce young and some ring tail possums drop their babies. Sadly many do not survive. It is important that cat owners please be responsible in the confining of their cats to their properties and prevent them from straying into the Conservation Reserve and Scotchmans Creek areas. Cats are predators to native wildlife, they deter them from entering, feeding on and breeding amongst vegetation where cats roam. Owners can contact Monash council on Ph. 9518 3555 for information on curfews and hints on preventing strays. You may wish to construct a “catio” patio.

For injured or vulnerable wildlife, Wildlife Victoria can be contacted on ph. 8400 7300

As you walk along the Scotchmans Creek and Valley Conservation areas keep a look out for the fungi and flowers that are blooming along the paths. You may be surprised at the beauty you find and some fungi only last a day!

Membership renewals – reminder

Membership renewals become due on 31st August. The Application/Renewal form is on the last 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 to our bank account with the Westpac Bank – details on the renewal form. But please also notify the treasurer that you have made the transfer.



Fungi Photo Courtesy Tony Walker

FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

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 Westpac Bank account:
Account name: Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve Inc.
Account number: 033065 573951

**** 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.,**

email treasurer@scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au

Ph. 9803 4589



Dates to Remember	Event	Notes
Tuesday 13 th August	Friends Planting Wetland South End Lawrence Road	9.30 am
Wednesday 21 st August	Meeting with speaker Alfred Uhlherr	Alvie Hall at 7.30 pm
Saturday 31 st August	Work party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1.20 pm
Saturday 21 st September	Work party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1.20 pm
Wednesday 16 th October	Annual General Meeting	Alvie Hall at 7.30 pm

FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC

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Visit us at facebook.com/fscvr and please "like" us.

Thanks to the office of **Matt Fregon MP** for their help with printing this newsletter.

Responsibility for editorial content is solely that of the editor.



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