



# FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

## Newsletter – December 2024

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

### ***President's Report***

#### **FSCVR Annual General Meeting:**

Our AGM was held in Alvie Hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October with a good attendance by our members and friends, including our colleagues from Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve.

At this meeting our members approved two resolutions:

1. A new set of Rules of Association was presented and approved. Due to changes with taxation requirements your committee has decided to apply for membership of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) which will give us charitable status. We needed to update our Rules to comply with this change.
2. The Committee agreed that our organisation needed to increase its annual fees and a resolution to effect that change was presented and approved.

The new office bearers for 2024 are:

- ❖ President: Sally Walker
- ❖ Vice President: Danielle Cini
- ❖ Secretary: May Lee
- ❖ Treasurer: Fred Bullock

The draft minutes of the AGM with all the appendices and a copy of our new Rules of Association can be found on the Publications page of our web site.

FSCVR is involved in a large number of activities along the Scotchmans Creek corridor and in Valley Conservation Reserve, nowadays. The list of key roles and responsibilities illustrates how active we are!

- ❖ Safety Officer: May Lee
- ❖ River Officer: Rex Dusting, Fred Bullock, May Lee
- ❖ Valley Conservation Reserve Coordinator: Tony Walker and Danielle Cini

- ❖ Waterwatch: Fred Bullock, May Lee, Kayla Sibly
- ❖ Schools/University/Scouts Liaison: Tony Walker, Kylie Burgin
- ❖ Melbourne Water Grants and Plantings: Sally Walker Marilyn Thompson and Rex Dusting
- ❖ Social Media: Danielle Cini
- ❖ Newsletter Editor: Kylie Burgin, Sally Walker
- ❖ Web Site: Sally Walker, Kayla Sibly
- ❖ Clean Up Australia: May Lee
- ❖ PALS Events: May Lee
- ❖ Kooyong Koot Project: Rex Dusting

We are also being helped by Kelvin Ferguson with public notices and noticeboards.

As you can see, there is plenty for everyone to do! If you'd like to help in any of these areas, please contact us at [info@scotchmancreekfriends.org.au](mailto:info@scotchmancreekfriends.org.au). We'd be delighted to see you!

## **Planning for 2025**

### **Planting Program for 2025:**

Using our three year grant funding from Melbourne Water we will return to Stanley Reserve East on National Tree Day (Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July) to plant 8,000 plants on the south side of the creek. Earlier in July we anticipate planting a further 3,000 plants on the north side of the creek with the assistance of students from Brentwood Secondary College and students from Holmesglen TAFE.

We will also aim to plant 800 plants in Valley Conservation Reserve at a Friends Planting event in June.

### **School Activities:**

Each year our school activities increase in popularity. Over the last few months we have worked with students from grade 2 up to Tertiary level, from local schools and universities. We have also helped local scout groups understand the local environment.

I am sure that we will be busy again in 2025.

### **Other activities:**

Our monthly work parties in Valley Conservation Reserve will start up again in February. We encourage you to join us in this friendly and very useful activity.

We will continue with our program of meetings with a speaker.

Look at our Dates to Remember section at the end of each newsletter, and on the noticeboards to see what events are coming up soon.

Thank you to all our members and supporters and all those who helped us in 2024, and best wishes for a happy festive season and for the new year.

Sally Walker

President, Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve

## Waterwatch Results & Reports – October – November 2024

Parameter	YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm		YSC012 Site 1B Crosby arm		YSC020 Site 2 Regent Street		YVA100 Site 3 Valley Creek	
	20/10/24	24/11/24	20/10/24	24/11/24	20/10/24	24/11/24	20/10/24	24/11/24
Date	20/10/24	24/11/24	20/10/24	24/11/24	20/10/24	24/11/24	20/10/24	24/11/24
Air temperature °C	15.5	19	15.5	19	15.5	19	15.5	19
Water temperature °C	15	20	15	20	15	19.5	14.5	19
pH	7.6 G	6.8 E	7.4 G	6.8 E	7.0 E	6.7 E	7.1 G	6.8 E
Oxygen concentration mg/l		8.4 E		8.4 E	8.4 E		7.5 G	
Conductivity E.C.	620 P	60 E	300 F	60 E	380 F	80 E	510 P	260 F
Turbidity F.T.U.	29 P	33 D	11 E	34 D	28 P	42 D	32 D	83 D
Phosphorus, soluble ppm		0.059 P		0.114 D	0.049 F		0.059 P	
Ammonium NH <sub>4</sub> ppm	0.00 E	0.30 P	0.00 E	0.07 G	0.07 G	0.30 P	0.00 E	0.07 G
Stream Flow L/s	25.2	~130	39.2	~130	49.6	267*	15.5	~30 **
Habitat	23 F	23 F	26 F	26 F	28 F	28 F	30 G	30 G

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

### October

#### Comments:

At the downstream sites (ME\_YSC020, ME\_YVA100)

- Scotchmans Ck (YSC020) rated poor to excellent except for fair phosphate level, and was flowing normally.
- Valley Ck (YVA100) rated degraded to excellent except for poor phosphate level, and was flowing slowly.
- Caddisfly larvae was observed at both downstream sites for the first time in 12 months.
- There were noticeable creek bank undercutting in the Regent St arm.

At the upstream sites (ME\_YSC010, ME\_YSC012)

- Scotchmans Ck (YSC010) was muddy, conductivity was high, and had lots of litter.
- Glen Waverley Drain (YSC012) was clear and was flowing normally.

### November

#### Comments:

- There was no aquatic macroinvertebrates sampling due to rapid flow of the creek.
- During sampling of aquatic macroinvertebrates during the week for a school group at Regent St, it was observed that the in-stream vegetation was making a recovery and there were some patches of living vegetation.
- The chemistry testing was performed under cover.
- The pH level was Excellent for all sites.
- The oxygen level and Conductivity were Excellent for Sites 1a and 1b.
- The conductivity level at sites YSC010, YSC012 and YSC020 were Excellent but for Site YVA100 it was only Fair.
- The turbidity level for all sites were Degraded, as expected due to fast flow.
- The phosphorus level for site YSC010 was Poor and for site YSC012 it was Degraded.

- The ammonium test results were Excellent for sites YSC012 (Crosby arm) and YVA100 (Valley Ck); but Poor for sites YSC010 (Fiander arm) and YSC020 (Regent St).

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



Valley Creek in full flood. Just after 9 am on 24<sup>th</sup> November, our waterwatch day. Note that the water has left its bank to flow through the undergrowth to Scotchmans Creek.



Debris deposited on the access path East of Blackburn Road after the downpour on the 27<sup>th</sup> November when about 26 mm rain fell.

### ***Summer in Valley Conservation Reserve***

Spring is the best time for flowers in Valley Conservation Reserve, but there are flowers in Summer as well.



## **Clean Up Australia Day – Sunday 2nd March**

Bring your friends along to help us clean up our little part of Australia – the Scotchmans Creek corridor, the Mount Waverley wetlands and Valley Conservation Reserve.

We meet at the Regent Street playground from 9.30 and finish about mid-day.

Please bring your own gloves, if possible, and sunscreen and water. Stout shoes are best as well.

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Saturday 22nd February 2025	Work Party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1.20 pm
Sunday 2nd March	Clean Up Australia Day	Regent Street {Playground 9.30 am}
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Meeting with a speaker	Alvie Hall 7.30 pm

### **FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC**

55 Waimarie Drive  
Mount Waverley  
Victoria 3149

Mobile: 0477 006 774  
Email: [info@scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au](mailto:info@scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au)

Incorporation No. A0037872K  
Website: [scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au](http://scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au)  
Visit us at [facebook.com/fscvr](https://facebook.com/fscvr) and please “like” us.

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