



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

Newsletter – October 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

This year seems to have flown past with our many activities and extensive planting season.

With the effects of climate change, the flowers seem to be out earlier than usual.

The Trigger plants are out in force with their stalks of pale pink flowers. There are many out on show in Valley Conservation Reserve. Now that the weather is trying to warm up a bit, I encourage you to take a walk in the Reserve to see all the wonderful flowers on display.

Annual General Meeting

Soon it will be time for our Annual General Meeting which will be held on Wednesday 16th October in Alvie Hall.

By the time you have received this newsletter, if you are a financial member of FSCVR, you will have received the notices for the AGM.

You will be aware that at the AGM the Committee will put forward a Special Resolution to accept a new set of Rules of Association. Please consider the new Rules document and the attached Notes to the Special Resolution.

The new set of Rules of Association changes our financial year from 30 August to 30 June. Your Committee has also decided to change our annual Membership subscription from \$5 per person to \$10 per person.

Item 8 of the Agenda will put forward a resolution to accept this change to our membership subscriptions. Please consider the attached Notes to this Resolution.

If you have any queries about these proposed changes, please contact myself or any members of the Committee.



Trigger plant (Stylidium armeria)

Please come along to our AGM to hear what we have been doing this year and to vote on our resolutions.

Please note that only financial members of the Association will be able to vote on these resolutions.

Springtime with Monash Council

Your Committee will be assisting Council with three events in the coming weeks taking advantage of the Spring flowers in Valley Conservation Reserve: a walk with Monash Libraries on 28th September, a walk in association with World Mental Health Day on 10th October and a Connecting with Country event on 13th October.

Sally Walker

President, Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve Inc.

Annual General Meeting and Presentation on Wednesday 16th October

Join us at Alvie Hall 7.30pm, Wednesday 16th October for the Annual General Meeting. We will start with a presentation by one of our committee members Kayla, who will be giving an interesting talk of her university project about fire management within Australia.

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

Full Details in the attached flyer.

Guest Speaker for our August 21st meeting

At our August meeting we heard guest speaker and FSCVR member Alfred Uhlherr's presentation of native birds in the Scotchmans Creek and Valley Conservation Reserve area. There was an abundance of photos and the presentation was very informative.

Waterwatch Results & Reports – August – September 2024

Parameter	YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm		YSC012 Site 1B Crosby arm		YSC020 Site 2 Regent Street		YVA100 Site 3 Valley Creek	
	25/08/24	22/09/24	25/08/24	22/09/24	25/08/24	22/09/24	25/08/24	22/09/24
Air temperature °C	14.5	12	14.5	12	14.5	13	14.5	13
Water temperature °C	13	12	13	12	15.5	13	15.5	13
pH	7.3 G	7.6 G	7.1 E	7.1 G	6.8 E	7.1 G	6.9 E	7.1 G
Oxygen concentration mg/l	8.4 E	11.0 E	9.8 E	11.4 E				
Conductivity E.C.	610 P	340 F	130 G	140 G	180 G	220 G	220 G	270 F
Turbidity F.T.U.	18 F	19 F	4 E	9 E	2 E	23 P	24 P	30 D
Phosphorus, soluble ppm	0.036 F	0.049 F	0.013 G	0.020 G				
Ammonium NH ₄ ppm	0.02 E	0.00 E	0.07 G	0.00 E	0.03 E	0.07 G	0.00 E	0.00 E
Stream Flow L/s	5.6	28.4	8.5	41.4	34.3	31.5	4.2	4.8

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

Macro Invertebrates Results

	YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm 22-09-2024	YSC012 1B Crosby arm 22-09-2024	Site
	Number found	Number found	
Sensitive			
Damselfly larvae	0	0	
Dragonfly larvae	0	0	
Freshwater mussel	4	0	
Freshwater Shrimps/prawns	0	0	
Water Mites	0	0	
Tolerant			
Beetle larvae	0	0	
True Bugs (Backswimmers, Water Scorpions, Water Boatmen, Lesser Water Spiders, Water Striders/Treaders)	0	0	
Leeches	0	0	
Snails (freshwater)	0	50	
Flatworms	0	1	
Very Tolerant			
Fly Larvae	0	0	
Freshwater segmented worms	10	1	
Blood worms	0	5	
Total Number Found	14	57	
Total Bug Score	6	8	
Stream Condition	Poor	Poor	

Freshwater Snails



Unidentified egg sacks

August

Comments:

- Flow in the YSC010 (Fiander Arm) was turbid (rated Fair) and there was an oily slick on the water surface. Despite this, the oxygen level was Excellent.
- The conductivity reading at Site YSC010 was Poor and that of Sites YSC012 (Glen Waverley drain), YSC020 (Regent Street) and YVA100 (Valley Creek) were Good.
- The turbidity readings at Sites YSC012 and YSC020 were Excellent (low results), but Poor for Site YVA100.
- The ammonium test results were obtained using new reagent (all sites were Good to Excellent). When samples from Sites 1b and 2 were tested with just expired (07/24) reagent, they gave readings of zero for both samples.
- It was noted that the amount of gravel/silt in the litter trap was significant. There was quite a bit of in-stream rubbish at both Sites YSC010 and YSC012.

September

Comments:

- The water in YSC010 (Fiander arm) was slightly turbid, compared to the water in YSC012 (Crosby arm) which was clear. Both sites have Excellent oxygen level.
- The ammonium test results were Excellent for sites YSC010, YSC012 and YVA100; it was Good for site YSC020.
- We recommenced our aquatic invertebrate sampling : the bug score was Poor. There was very low variability of species observed.

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

Storm water drains connect to our local creeks which are habitat to wildlife. By thinking about how your behaviour contributes to what ends up in them, you are helping the environment that we all live in.

Spring in Valley Conservation Reserve

Whilst out enjoying Valley Conservation Reserve and along the Scotchmans Creek corridor not only are you getting some of that much needed vitamin D from the sun, which we miss during the colder days, but also mental health benefits which come from being out in the natural environment – good for the immune system, cardio and well being.

You may notice there are many flowers blooming, some of the first to bloom were the acacias. As well as for plant reproduction, flowers provide food for native wildlife, so as tempting as it may be, please refrain from picking the flowers. You may like to consider planting some indigenous plants in your own garden, indigenous plants are well adapted to the area and therefore tolerant.

City of Monash have good information on planning an indigenous garden and which plants are suited to your local area in their “Monash Gardens for Wildlife” program.

When joining their program you receive a free seedlings voucher and can attend workshops. You may wish to pick up one of their free booklets at our AGM.

By creating an indigenous garden you are creating habitat for native wildlife and connecting the wildlife corridor for this wildlife to travel along.

You can contact Monash council for further information on the walks in Valley

Conservation Reserve and Monash Gardens for Wildlife on Ph. 9518 3555. For injured or vulnerable wildlife, Wildlife Victoria can be contacted on ph. 8400 7300



Trigger plant flowers swiftly tap pollen onto visiting insects

Membership renewals – reminder

Membership renewals became due on 31st August. The Application/Renewal form is available from 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 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.



NOMINATION FORM

I nominate.....

for the position of

Name..... Signed.....

Seconded by..... Signed.....

Consent of nominee..... Date.....



Please send/email completed form to the secretary or bring it to the AGM.

Dates to Remember	Event	Notes
Wednesday 16 th October	Annual General Meeting Preceded by a presentation by committee member Kayla	Alvie Hall at 7.30 pm
Saturday 26 th October	Work party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1.20 pm
Saturday 30 th November	Work party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1.20 pm

FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC

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Visit us at [facebook.com/fscvr](https://www.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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