



FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC.

Newsletter – August 2026

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

Planting Completed for 2026!

FSCVR has completed another highly successful planting season in 2026 working with our friends and colleagues at City of Monash and Melbourne Water and our members, friends and the whole Monash community. A special mention to Daimler Trucks, Brentwood Secondary College, Huntingtower School and Mount Waverley Secondary College who all planted with us during 2026

We have planted another 11 000 plants along the Scotchmans Creek corridor, and about 1500 plants in Valley Conservation Reserve. This brings our total over the last 25 years, to almost 270 000 plants (all indigenous) planted along the creek and in Valley Conservation Reserve. All FSCVR members can be proud that we now have a well established bushland corridor stretching from Holmesglen TAFE at Waverley Road, all the way to Stanley Avenue just East of the Huntingdale wetlands. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we are planning with City of Monash, to close the last remaining gap (between Stanley Avenue and the Huntingdale wetlands) over the next 2 National Tree Day plantings. This year's National Tree Day on 26 July attracted over 200 volunteers who planted 8 000 plants along the Stanley Reserve in less than 3 hours! A special thanks to the scouts, who provided us with a barbecue on the day.



National Tree Day – for 12 months City of Monash prepared the site and on NTD 100s of eager planters arrived to plant understory plants

Tertiary, Schools and Scouts

An important part of our work, is our engagement with local schools. As I mentioned above, three local schools have helped us with planting this year, and we, along with Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve, have been assisting Mount Waverley Secondary College with their students' Duke of Edinburgh Award program. We have also been working with Huntingtower on their Community Outreach program. Both schools have helped with weeding as well as planting, and we have run habitat assessment tutorials with them.

Brentwood Secondary College's 'Green Team' planted 1500 plants along Stanley Reserve on 30 July – the sixth such planting they have done with us.



We have helped Holmesglen TAFE with their creek sampling program for several years now, although bad weather caused this year's session to be postponed. We also work with Monash University, introducing their Environmental Science students to the local environment.

Our very last planting for this year, will be on August 11 with West Waverley Joey scouts who will be planting round their scout hut.

Nature Stewards

Earlier this year, FSCVR was invited to present to the Nature Stewards course held in June. Nature Stewards is a multi-week course run by the Victorian National Parks Association (VNPA). Its aims are to connect curious people with their local and wider habitats, gain knowledge, learn practical skills and meet like-minded others in the local community and to discover all sorts of ways to help nature at home and through local volunteering.

We gave a 35 minute presentation to about 20 course attendees on our local environment, what we do as an organisation and how we work with Melbourne Water and City of Monash on bushland conservation and regeneration. We then took them to Valley Conservation Reserve where



Cheryl Krone from the Monash "bush crew" talked about the reserve and led them in a small planting session. After that we took them down to Stanley Reserve to walk through our last 2 years National Tree Day plantings and Cheryl talked about how we plan and prepare for new plantings.

They all seemed very impressed with what we had achieved, and I believe we helped inspire them to join their local Friends Groups and get involved!

Spring is Coming...

...and the weeds in Valley Conservation Reserve keep growing!

If you enjoy spending time in Valley Conservation Reserve, think of seeing if you can help us in our work, from time to time. Work parties are on the last Saturday of each month and we meet at the amenities block at 1:20pm. **Note September work party is on the second last Saturday (19 September) to avoid clashing with Grand Final!**

If any of your friends or neighbours might be interested, please encourage them to come along. Everyone is welcome, and every bit of help is valuable.

Tony Walker

President, Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve.

WaterWatch Results & Reports - June - July 2026

Parameter	YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm		YSC012 Site 1B Crosby arm		YSC020 Site 2 Regent Street		YVA100 Site 3 Valley Creek	
Date	21/06/26	19/07/26	21/06/26	19/07/26	21/06/26	19/07/26	21/06/26	19/07/26
Air temperature °C	12	9	12	9	13	9	13	9
Water temperature °C	13	10.5	13	10.5	13.5	9	13	9
pH	6.9 E	7.6 G	6.6 E	7.3 G	6.5 E	7.1 G	6.5 E	7.1 G
Oxygen concentration mg/l	9.2 E		8.3 E			8.4 E		7.8 G
Conductivity E.C.	368 F	518 P	189 G	342 F	139 G	552 P	216 G	567 P
Turbidity F.T.U.	23 P	11 E	15 G	15 G	19 F	18 F	26 P	23 P
Phosphorus, soluble ppm	N/M		N/M			0.049 F		0.000 E
Ammonium NH ₄ ppm	0.01 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.00 E	0.04 E	0.00 E	0.00 E
Stream Flow L/s	9.5	10.4	3.9	34.6	127.2	23.1	1.8	0.15

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

June

Comments:

- The phosphorus reagent has not been replenished – hence no phosphorus testings.
- Habitat scoring for Scotchmans Ck at Crosby Drive/Turner Court arm rated Fair.
- Habitat scoring for the Glen Waverley Drain rated Good.
- City of Monash contacted us on behalf of Melbourne Water, of the presence of 2 trail cameras which were placed near the litter trap. Owner unknown.

July

Comments:

- Higher than usual conductivity readings recorded for Sites 2 and 3.
- Habitat scoring for both downstream sites rated Fair.

For access to the full reports, the data collected and the habitat photos, view the waterwatch page on our web site. Contact Fred or May if you wish to join in - Email: info@scotchmanskreekfriends.org.au

Gross Pollutant Trap Update

Work has been progressing on the Gross Pollutant Trap at Valley Conservation Reserve. A sieve component was recently delivered and installed.



Photo courtesy City of Monash



Work party Session

We have work parties planned for Saturday 29th August and Saturday 19th September at Valley Conservation Reserve, meet at the amenities block at 1:20pm. Bring gardening gloves. A trowel is also handy. Join us for a cup of tea/coffee afterward. As other times and locations are decided we will keep you informed.

If you enjoy using the Valley Conservation Reserve and Scotchmans Creek areas and are not a FSCVR member, please consider becoming one. If you are unable to get to our work parties or plantings your membership is still greatly appreciated – the more members we have, the more grants we are entitled to, to purchase plants etc. so Please join up!



Hakea in flower at Valley Conservation Reserve

Guest Speaker for our meeting on Wednesday 19th August 7:30pm

Come join us at our next meeting with guest speaker Dr Chris Lee, lecturer at Monash university School of Biological Sciences who will be giving a presentation from past experience as a consulting botanist. Meeting will be at Alvie Hall. See attached flyer and our website for more information.

Around Valley Conservation Reserve and Scotchmans Creek areas

There has been sightings of the Rakali. Local resident and wildlife photographer Ian Moodie contacted us to inform us and has supplied video footage for us to share.

See our facebook page and website for some more information.



Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve AGM Wed 26 August 7.30pm

FoDCCR will be having their AGM Wednesday 26th August at Alvie Hall. Monash Council Sustainability Manager Clare Brace will be guest speaker, giving a presentation on the Monash Climate Resilience Strategy.

Please contact the Monash Council on 9518 3555 if you would like to find out about building a cat run, dog off leash parks, notify them of overfull bins or for any other issue.

Dates to Remember	Event	Notes
Wednesday 19 th August	Meeting with Speaker Dr. Chris Lee	Alvie Hall 7.30 pm
Saturday 29 th August	Work Party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1.20 pm
Saturday 19 th September	Work Party in Valley Conservation Reserve	Amenities block at 1.20 pm

FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMANS CREEK AND VALLEY RESERVE INC

55 Waimarie Drive
Mount Waverley
Victoria 3149

Email: info@scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au

Incorporation No. A0037872K

Website: scotchmanscreekfriends.org.au

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

Thanks to the office of **Dr Carina Garland MP** for their help with printing.

Responsibility for editorial content is solely that of the editor.



Production of this newsletter is funded through Melbourne Water's River Health Incentives Program