

Green thumbs needed to help rare wildflowers

Could you be a foster-carer to a new generation of the Merri's wildflowers? The Friends of Merri Creek's Secret Seven project (funded by Biodiversity On-ground Action – Community & Volunteer Action Grants) is seeking committed individuals with a green thumb to help increase the seed supply of some local rare plants. We need volunteers to tend plants that will produce seed for reintroduction into the Merri environs.

How does it work? Seven locally rare plant species will have 'Seed Production Area' (SPA) populations established from cuttings and seeds sourced from the last survivors on the Merri and nearby. Some of these SPAs will be in the ground near the Merri Creek, others will be maintained by nurseries, and some by the Joe's Garden team at CERES. These precious plants will be pampered and carefully tended to maximise production of seeds which can then be used to expand the population of these plants in secure reserves near the Merri. Some species are suitable for growing in containers. We believe volunteers (like you?) can make good foster-carers for these growing seed banks.

What's involved? You would need to commit to tending a collection of 50 plants of one species for 18 months. During this time you would need to water and protect the plants according to specific instructions. In season, you would need to regularly collect seed from the plants for supply to conservation projects managed on behalf of FoMC by Merri Creek Management Committee.

Training for foster carers is scheduled for Saturday, 26th May. This will be conducted by Naomie Sunner, Propagation Manager at Victorian Indigenous Nurseries Cooperative. Support will be available, including temporary babysitting of your plants, if needed.

Express your interest: Sounds like you?
Please get in touch with Merri Creek Management Committee by emailing admin@mcmc.org.au or calling 9380 8199 between 8am and 3pm.



Basalt Daisy (*Brachyscome paludicola*) – one of the "Secret Seven" seeds that we will propagate on this project.

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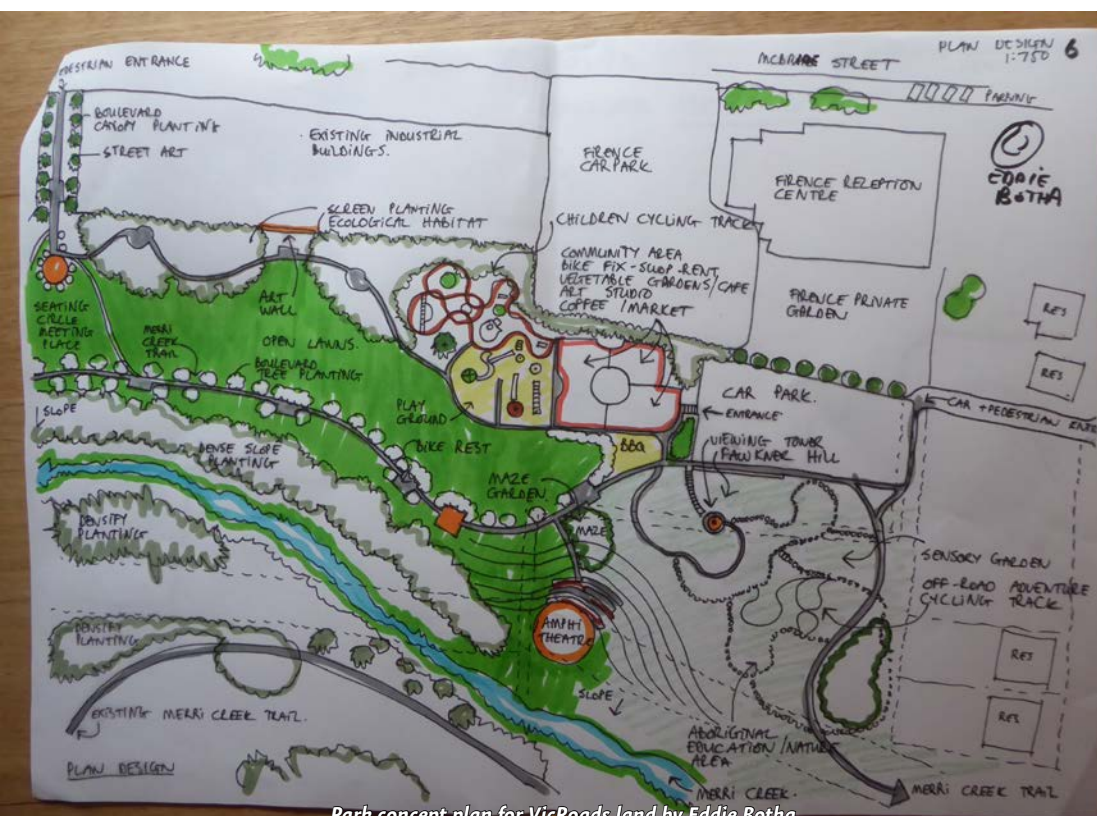
Merri Musings

VicRoads land off McBryde St, Fawkner: As reported last year, VicRoads wants to sell 1.7 ha of open space beside Merri Creek in Fawkner, and did a land swap deal with Moreland Council in 2015 that would have allowed townhouse development with only a narrow open space corridor on the Creek frontage. Since the deal became public last year, there has been strong opposition from Fawkner residents and the wider Moreland and Merri



Community meeting about the VicRoads land.

Creek communities. Joe Perri, from Fawkner Residents Association, organised a well-attended walk-through of the site in October. He received many constructive responses to his call for ideas on how the site could be developed as parkland. Landscape architect Eddie Botha has incorporated many of these ideas into a concept plan for the site, which was presented to the Moreland Mayor, Cr John Kavanagh, at a meeting with Friends of Merri



Park concept plan for VicRoads land by Eddie Botha.

Sign on for events notices

If you would like to be notified about events along Merri Creek, sign up at: <http://www.mcmc.org.au/get-involved/subscribe>

You can sign up to receive email notices for all events, for events in a specific area, or for certain types of events. Please note that such notices are only sent to people who have requested them - so they do not automatically go to FoMC members.

Creek and Fawkner Residents Association. We are very pleased that Council has resolved to make an offer to the State Government to purchase the site for much-needed parkland, and we are working with Council to encourage the Government to accept the offer.

Conservation in the Northern Growth Corridor:

As part of the strategic planning for expansion of Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary northwards to Wallan, some Conservation Areas were delineated in the Merri catchment. The Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning is responsible for progressing their implementation. FoMC is a member of an Environmental Stakeholder Group for this process. At a recent meeting, the Department reported that a small Conservation Area (1.39 hectares) of Grassy Eucalypt Woodland off Donnybrook Road has been secured under a Land Management Co-operative Agreement. Similar agreements are almost finalised for a Conservation Area totalling 109.5 hectares adjoining the existing Mt Ridley Nature Conservation Reserve, which is managed by Parks Victoria. No progress has been made in acquiring land within the proposed 1,200 ha Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve in the Darebin Creek catchment. In contrast, the lion's share of the funds is going towards establishing and managing the Western Grasslands Reserve on the western edge of Melbourne, where 1,264.5 hectares (8.4%) have been purchased by the Department so far. This is intended to 'offset' a lot of the clearing of native vegetation for urban development in the Merri catchment.

Along the Merri, a Conservation Area (corridor) for

Growing Grass Frogs is to be established. The GGF Masterplan was published in March 2017, consisting of investment priorities for habitat creation, areas of strategic importance mapping, and GGF habitat and crossing design standards. Further information can be found at: <https://www.msa.vic.gov.au/regulatory-requirements/growing-grass-frog-masterplan>.

In response to a question about the importance of creating and encouraging habitat linkages through the landscape, across land tenures, the Department advised that local Councils play more of a key role in this, for example in establishing Local Conservation Areas.

Funding promise for the creeks: As part of the Batman by-election campaign in March, the Federal Shadow Minister for Environment, Tony Burke, announced an ALP election promise of an urban waterways program, including \$1 million for Merri and Darebin Creeks. The announcement was made alongside Edgars Creek near Broadhurst Avenue, Reservoir. Shadow Minister Burke went for a stroll along the creek and was very impressed by the birdlife enjoying the revegetated parkland.



ALP candidate (now Member) for Batman, Ged Kearney, Federal Shadow Minister for Environment, Tony Burke and FoMC members, Monica Williamson and Ann McGregor, at the announcement of the ALP's \$1m election promise.

Join the Woody Weed Whackers:

The Woody Weed Whackers (or 'Impossible Mission' Force) need your help to remove the Gorse, Broom, and Briar Rose bushes from Bababi Marning (Cooper St Grasslands). You too can enjoy the immediate reward of seeing the grassland liberated from woody weeds, and you also get to see the big mob of kangaroos that always show up. Our next activities are on 29 April, 24 June and 23 September.



The Woody Weed Whackers at Bababi Marning in October 2017



SWOT-ing weed orchids: The \$23,242 Community Grant that FoMC received from Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority will enable our Special Weed Orchid Terminators (SWOT) to continue to control the recent explosion of the invasive South African Weed Orchid at Ngarri-djarrang Grassland in Reservoir. We learnt from the events that we held in August, September and October 2017 that we could be more effective by holding events just in October, as that's when the weeds are easier to see, but are yet to drop their seeds. So join the SWOT team and reserve these Saturdays: 13th, 20th, and 27th October.

The SWOT team at work in October 2017

Assistant Editor wanted

The current Merri Growler Editor, Ray Radford, could use some help chasing up articles and photographs, and writing or sourcing brief pieces for Merri Musings. If you're interested contact Ray on 0422 989 166 or email friendsofmerricreek@gmail.com

Articles also wanted: We're always after contributions from members too. Send in your Merri Creek photos, or write about your experiences, interesting sightings, or garden observations.

Birds along the Merri in Late Summer

We had calm and sunny weather on 18 February, when 44 people enjoyed a bird-spotting stroll at our seven regular circuits along the Merri and at Edwardes Lake. The strong wind a week later made conditions less pleasant for both observers and birds at our two survey locations. A total of 75 species was recorded across all surveys.

Native species Australian Magpie, Magpie-lark and Little Raven were recorded at all nine surveys, along with the non-native Common Myna. Also widespread were the Pacific Black Duck, Rock Dove, Spotted Dove, Crested Pigeon, Little Pied Cormorant, Rainbow Lorikeet, Red Wattlebird, Blackbird, and Common Starling, all recorded in seven or eight surveys.

Rainbow Lorikeet was by far the most numerous species with a tally of 226. At the opposite end of the scale, there were only single records of Hoary-headed Grebe, White-necked Heron, Straw-necked Ibis, Nankeen Kestrel, Brown Falcon, Striated Thornbill, Golden Whistler and Grey Currawong.

It can be tricky to distinguish between Collared Sparrowhawk and Brown Goshawk, but it was probably the latter at Galgi Ngarrk and in Kirkdale St Park, Brunswick East.

A flock of ten Zebra Finches was feeding on a seeding grass, possibly Wallaby Grass, at Galada Tamboore. This was the first time our long-term survey leaders had seen them there, although they have been seeing them at the Western Treatment Plant and Point Cook for at least five years, where they have become a lot more common recently. Eighteen Zebra Finches were counted at Galgi Ngarrk, where they were first recorded on the February 2016 survey.

The Edwardes Lake survey reached a bumper total of 39 species, tallying 318 individuals. Coburg Lake had more individuals (463), but fewer species (30).

Superb Fairy-wrens seem to have their cocked tail on a spring as they hop around on the ground and through shrubs. Brown birds could be females or males in eclipse (non-breeding) plumage. Recorded in five of our February surveys. Photo: Peter Mollison

Eastern Grey Kangaroos and Foxes were seen at the three northerly sites: Galada Tamboore, Bababi Marning and Galgi Ngarrk. A couple of Swamp Wallabies were spotted at Bababi Marning.

Ann McGregor BirdWatch Coordinator



Second Merri Birdwatch survey for 2018

Bird surveys will be held from 8.45–10.30 am at nine sites along Merri Creek as listed below. Beginners welcome, BYO binoculars if possible, but no dogs please, as they reduce the number and variety of birds to be seen. The contact for all Birdwatch events is Ann McGregor 0429 386 102.

Free leaflets on Merri Birds (normally \$2) are available for all participants

Surveys at the following seven sites are on 6 May

Egan Reserve – Harding Street – Strettle Reserve – Normanby Avenue: Meet at the bluestone steps at the end of The Grove, East Coburg (Melway 30 A3).

Edwardes Lake: Meet at playground adjacent to Griffiths Street, Reservoir (Melway 18 E5).

CERES – Moreland Road: Meet at the seats on the Merri Path at the rear of CERES, East Brunswick (Melway 30 B7).

Merri Park and Phillips Reserve: Meet at the end of Victoria Street, East Brunswick, at the BBQ shelter (Melway 30 B8).

Hall Reserve – Yarra Bend Park: Meet at the Rotunda, Hall Reserve, Clifton Hill (Melway 2D D1).

Galada Tamboore: Meet at the end of Hatty Court, Campbellfield (Melway 7 K6).

Galgi Ngarrk (Craigieburn Grasslands): Meet at O'Herns Road gate off Hume Highway, Somerton (Melway 180 E6).

Note this survey may not be completed until around 12 noon. Please contact the group leader to register beforehand, and receive important information about Galgi Ngarrk and any last-minute changes: Bridget Gardner: 0417 519 251.

Surveys at the following two sites are on 13 May

Coburg Lake Reserve: Meet near the car park, Lake Grove, Coburg (Melway 17 H10).

Bababi Djinanang (Jukes Rd Grasslands), Fawkner: Meet on Merri Path at end of Jukes Road, Fawkner (Melway 18 A2).

Rushall Reserve – restoration opportunities

On 19 September 2017, Yarra City Council approved the proposal for construction of a new 2.5 m shared path in Rushall Reserve to connect Holden St with Rushall Station allowing cyclists to stay off roads. The FoMC Committee was divided on this issue and voted not to oppose the proposal. Here's some history about the site with some constructive suggestions.

Following the formation of the Merri Creek Coordinating Committee (MCCC) in 1976, public access at Rushall became a serious issue following the death of a resident crossing the creek via the railway bridge. The aerial footpath alongside the railway had fallen into disrepair and was closed. MCCC successfully advocated for the repair and reopening of this railway footpath.

When MCCC developed the Merri Path project in 1982, it was obvious that the Rushall precinct presented complex issues. A freeway overlay, private land right to the creek edge, a dangerous narrow floodway, a water pipeline and the beautiful rocky Fitzroy Gorge with indigenous plants surviving somehow, all surrounded by two busy roads and a railway line. Consequently, the Merri Path had a tortuous route from the west side in Brunswick to the east side in Westgarth and back to the west side at Rushall Station using existing bridges. This was only possible through negotiation to use a Melbourne Water property at the end of Bundara Street Fitzroy, for the Path to access the St Georges Road bridge.

In 1982, Melbourne Water would not allow the Path to cross on the old water pipe but this was enabled when the new water pipe was installed in the 1990s. Increased cycle traffic across the new bridge led to the current proposals. In 1982, Rushall Reserve was a place where Fitzroy Council dumped bluestone pitchers. There was no way a path or park could be created and no funding anyway. In recent decades the area has been cleaned up, some parts replanted, and the rest mown.

There is a great opportunity to environmentally restore the Rushall Reserve. A sensitive master plan is needed for this complex but important park. The beauty of Fitzroy Gorge needs protection but also appreciation by a nature-deprived inner city population.

My visits on cold and on hot windy days highlight the importance of adding vegetation to protect people by providing shade and shelter from the north. Along the Merri needs urgent woody weed control, mulching and replanting with indigenous species. Visitor experiences can be enhanced near the Creek bank to appreciate the wonderful rock gorge without undue erosion. Careful landscaping and seat installations would help visitors of all ages. The proposed cycle path beside the railway should be heavily screen-planted. This would also lessen the feeling of park users being overlooked by passengers high up on the railway embankment. The most serious issues are to minimise damage to vegetation and the gorge by the new works near Rushall station, stopping commuter cyclists from speeding on the Merri Shared Pathway, and public safety issues for pedestrians crossing the cycle path. *Further information can be found at:*

<https://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/news/2017/09/20/rushall-reserve-update>

<https://www.yoursayyarra.com.au/rushallreservedesign/faqs>

Bruce McGregor Life Member and one of the founders of FoMC

Artist's impression of the proposed path through Rushall Reserve North Fitzroy from Yarra City Council website.



A good place to be

Melbourne does not boast a network of canals like those of Amsterdam, Stockholm or Venice, nor a striking natural harbour or a towering mountain; but surely no other world city has such a wonderful enclosed bay, refreshed by such an abundance of waterways flowing from three directions.

Lakes and parklands and reserves, many containing indigenous vegetation, further adorn the scene; extensive systems of trains, trams, buses and shared footways facilitate mobility that's sociable and humanly and environmentally healthy; a pleasant Mediterranean climate adds to the liveability.

From the west, the major streams are the Werribee River and the Kororoit Creek; on the north side the Jacksons and Deep Creeks combine to form the meandering Maribyrnong River, while the Merri Creek and the Plenty River also descend from the Great Dividing Range; out of the sunrise come the mighty Yarra which furnishes much of the city's water, and the Dandenong Creek, renamed the Patterson River over its last 8 km. to the Bay, as it widens out into a water-recreational zone.

The Werribee is noted for the spectacular gorge it has carved out over millions of years, as is its tributary the Lerderderg; and for its Park with the mansion and outdoor artworks, and the Open Range Zoo. The Skeleton and Kororoit are accompanied by paths for much of their length, as is usual across Melbourne; the Maribyrnong's being gently graded and ending at the picturesque, historic Footscray wharves. Not trail-accessible, but a great geological and ecological feature, is the Organ Pipes National Park on Jacksons Creek.

Somewhat marred by a tollway over its last stretch but otherwise very scenic, and further graced by the Jacana Wetlands, there's the Moonee Ponds Creek, ending at Victoria Harbour in Docklands; then the Merri with its many tributaries and grasslands, and lakes in Broadmeadows, Coburg and Reservoir, and the Darebin, enhanced by magnificent parks in Bundoora and Alphington; and the mysterious, strong-flowing Plenty, which near its encounter with the Yarra enjoys the delightful countryside look of Viewbank.

The big river encompasses the "Shangri-La" of Warrandyte, Petty's Orchard, boathouses, billabongs, the focal spot and sacred site of Dights Falls; the Botanic Gardens, Southbank, vessels from cargo ships to cruise boats to racing eights, and fine bridges, including pedestrian ones such as the Pipe, Kane's, Walmer St, Morell, Sandridge, Seafarers. The Gardiners Creek, whose damming created the Blackburn Lake, contributes to its spread and flow and attraction, as does the Diamond Creek in the city's greenest corner; the Dandenong Creek dodges it, heading south through its own wide corridor with Jells and other parks.

Dozens of others, only room for a few here: the Stony beside the West Gate, the Malcolm with its ponds and ancient eucalypts, the Edgars' windings and waterfall, the thickly wooded Scotchmans, that classic mountain brook the Olinda; the grand Mullum Mullum, its confluence with the Yarra a venerated site, its Trail leading to the Dandenong's; the Elster which becomes the elegant quay-lined Elwood Canal, the Mordialloc where beaches, bikes and buses come together with rails of both kinds (steel and feathered); and the Kananook that follows the coast for some 7 km. before entering the Bay.

Among the lakes we admire the little jewels of Moonee Ponds, Newport and Emerald; new ones in East Keilor – saved from being used as a toxic-waste dump! – and Heatherton, and the giants, Cherry, Albert Park, Lillydale (yes, in Lillydale), Lysterfield. Wetlands are vital environmental assets, none bigger than the Edithvale-Seaford with its bird-watchers' hide; the beautiful shores separate the bushlands and grasslands from the rich and often bizarre-looking marine life.

Little wonder that these water features are valued and visited by people for recreation, communion with nature, diligent management; or for accommodation

and sustenance by their real owners, from pelicans to skinks to galaxias to macroinvertebrates. How much more incentive do we need to make us fight to save the planet from an atmosphere-warming, ocean-acidifying excess of carbon dioxide, and the destruction of ecosystems and wildlife habitat through mindless, endless growth?

Paul Prentice



The "Organ Pipes" at Organ Pipes National Park, Keilor. Photo ex Natalie (GoForFun.com.au).

Friends of Edgars Creek Focus



Welcome back... to the same Committee!

Friends of Edgars Creek held our Annual General Meeting on 4 March 2018. Those in the know will no doubt be able to empathise (ie: committee members of a volunteer organisation), our committee was returned unopposed; again!

I have continued in the President role for another year, I am now our longest serving President and maybe one day I'll get to enjoy the privilege of filling the Immediate Past President role (Stephen Northey is our only Immediate Past President). I will need to hang around for at least another term to get to the tenth year as President. I might also seek to amend our constitution and get myself a life membership at that point! Stephen Northey has chosen to continue as our Treasurer and Robert Urquhart has kept his hands on the Secretary reins (with support from Irene).

We have maintained a number of appointed positions as well, including Works Manager – Robert "Robstock" Burnett (a position he has formally held for the same duration as my Presidency), Web and Media Manager – Lisa Davis, Catering – Julie Brown and Waterwatch Coordination – Irene Baker. As a collective you guys are great! It is our combined efforts that enable the Friends of Edgars Creek machine to keep rolling on and planting, planting, planting and building on the amazing legacy we have already created and continue to build. Not to mention the great community we have around us!

Our 2018 calendar is full with planting events through until our usual Christmas in September, and two maintenance activities planned for October and November. Melbourne Water has supported our events again for 2018-19 and we also thank Moreland City Council (MCC) for their ongoing support as well. February and March were not kind in terms of rainfall, but thankfully we have mulched sites courtesy of MCC which has enabled our plants to get some roots down in tough terrain and hold on through another difficult dry spell. I can only hope that spring and winter rains come and close up the cracks that I keep losing my boots down....



One tree hill no longer! This lone drooping sheoak near the ephemeral water hole/sheoak hill gained a few neighbours this day. I think it was about 800 actually and more will come in 2018. Moreland City Council have mulched a large area on Sheoak Hill and come June and July, two plantings (one FOEC event in July, the other a privately supported event) will continue the transformation.

"See ya on the creek!"

David Pavone President, Friends of Edgars Creek



Befriend our Facebook page

Join over 3,000 others and 'like' our wonderful Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/FriendsofMerriCreek then click on 'Like' to get automatic updates to group activities and news.

And we're on Instagram too

Smartphone users with the Instagram app can share photos with #merricreek #merricreektrail hashtags at Instagram @friendsofmerricreek

Dick's Witticisms

More witty one-liners from FoMC Life Member, Dick Harcourt:

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

M A Y

Saturday 5: Friends of Merri Park Litter Clean-up

Merri Park Northcote, Sumner Ave near Traill St, 10.00am -12.00noon.
Melway 30 C9. Help the Friends of Merri Park to look after this wonderful site. Supported by the City of Darebin.
Contact: Irena 0415 722 653.

Sunday 6 : Merri Bird Survey 2 for 2018

7 sites along the Merri, 8.45-10.30am. See details on page 4.

Sunday 6: Litter Clean Up – Coburg North

Merlynston Creek confluence, 10am-12noon. Melway 17 H9. Phone Paul 9489 5062.

Sunday 6 : MECCARG* Weed and Eat

Meet at the Murnong Patch, Connolly Ave Coburg, south of Murray Rd bridge, 1-3pm. Melway 18 A11. Celebration of 'Play Outside Day,' 'Volunteers Week' and 'International Respect for Chickens Month.' Games suitable for kids, parents and owners of chickens or rabbits, focusing on harvesting edible weeds. Contact: Melissa 0417 255 873.

Sunday 6 : Streamteam Water Quality Testing

Upstream of St Georges Rd bridge, enter from Miller St, Nth Fitzroy, 2-3.30pm. Melway 30 C10. Phone: 9354 9885.

Sunday 13: Mother's Day Planting & BBQ at Merri Park

Help plant a variety of indigenous understorey and groundcover species at Merri Park Northcote, Sumner Ave near Traill St, 10.00am -12.00noon. Free lunch provided. Melway 30 C9. Funded by Melbourne Water.

Sunday 13: Merri Bird Survey 2 for 2018 (continued)

Bababi Djinanang & Coburg Lake, 8.45-10.30am. See details on page 4.

Sunday 20: Friends of Edgars Creek Silurian Cliff Site Planting

Shrub and grassland extension at the Silurian Cliff extension on the west bank escarpment. Meet at the site – access from the corner of Spectrum Way & Snapshot Drive, or cross at the Kodak bridge, North Coburg, 1-3pm. Melway 18 B7. Funded by a Melbourne Water Community Grant. Phone David on 0428 130 268.

Sunday 27: Aitken Creek Planting & BBQ

Help reintroduce pollinator-attracting wildflowers to Aitken Creek's grasslands. Enter at corner of Hothlyn Drive and Kirkbride Way, Craigieburn. 10am-1pm. Free BBQ provided. Melway 387 B11. Funded by a Melbourne Water Community Grant.

J U N E

Saturday 2: Friends of Merri Park Litter Clean-up

Same details as for Saturday 5 May.

Saturday 2 : MECCARG* Mabo Day Murnong Propagation

Meet at the Murnong Patch, Connolly Ave Coburg, south of Murray Rd bridge, 1-3pm. Melway 18 A11. Celebrate Mabo Day with Murnong and bush food propagation for fostering out in preparation for the 2018 Murnong Gathering. Contact: Melissa 0417 255 873.

Sunday 3 : Moreland City Council World Environment Day Planting & Litter Clean-up

Adjacent to the newly constructed Merri/Edgars Wetland. Enter via Nola St Coburg Nth 10am-12.30pm. Melway 17 K10. A combined event, celebrating World Environment Day, with other local Friends groups. Organised by Moreland City Council. Contact Council's Natural Resource Management Officer on 0403 603 540.

Sunday 3 : Streamteam Water Quality Testing

Same details as for Sunday 6 May.

Sunday 17 : Lynch Rd Planting & BBQ

Help restore the Creekline Tussock Grassland vegetation community, below the beautiful basalt cliffs of Fawcner. Follow the flags east from the corner of McBryde St and Lynch Rd, Fawcner and meet along the Merri shared trail. 10am-1pm. Free BBQ provided. Melway 18 A4. Funded by a Melbourne Water Community Grant.

Sunday 17 : Friends of Edgars Creek Planting:

Shrub and grassland extension linking the M9 easement and the Gooseneck meander. Stream bank restoration works at the Caravan Park site. Meet at the Ronald St footbridge area, North Coburg, or cross at the Kodak bridge, 1-3pm. Melway 18 A9. Funded by Melbourne Water Community Grant. Phone David on 0428 130 268.

Sunday 24: 3rd Woody Weed Whacking at Bababi Marning

Help to rid these native grasslands of Broom, Gorse and Briar Rose bushes. Light refreshments provided. Meet at gate opposite 111 Metrolink Circuit Campbellfield, 10am-12.30pm. Melway 180 J12. Phone Ray 0422 989 166.

J U L Y

Sunday 1 : NAIDOC Week Celebrations

To be confirmed - check our website calendar for details.

Sunday 1 : Litter Clean Up – – Craigieburn

Aitken Creek Craigieburn, off Hexham Court, 10am-12noon. Melway 387 C12. Phone Paul 9489 5062.

Sunday 1 : Streamteam Water Quality Testing

Same details as for Sunday 6 May.

Saturday 7 : Friends of Malcolm Creek River Red Gums Planting

Serenity Way, Craigieburn, 10am to 1.00pm, Melway 386 F2. Help plant more wildflowers, shrubs and groundcovers, to add to the 2000-plus seedlings already there. Free lunch provided. Registration required (see FoMC website calendar).

Saturday 7: Friends of Merri Park Litter Clean-up

Same details as for Saturday 5 May.

Sunday 8: Two Food and Fibre Landscapes

Learn about the human uses for native plants in the Clara St restoration site and discover its neighbour, the Merri Corner Community Garden, during their Open Garden session, 10am-1pm. A free lunch will be provided. Meet at the east end of Donald St, East Brunswick. Melway 30 B5. Funded by Melbourne Water.

Sunday 15: Friends of Edgars Creek Planting:

Meet at the escarpment – access by foot from the old Kodak bridge, Spectrum Way, North Coburg. 1-3pm. Melway 18 A8. Sheoak woodland extension and enhancement. Funded by Satterley Property group. Phone David on 0428 130 268.

Sunday 22: Wildflower Walk & Weed

Meet at the Murnong Patch, Connolly Ave Coburg, south of Murray Rd bridge, 1-3pm. Melway 18 A11. Contact: Melissa 0417 255 873 or www.facebook.com/meccarg.

Sunday 22: Friends of Merri Park Hand Weeding

Same details as for the Friends of Merri Park event on Saturday 5 May.

Sunday 29: Yarra City Council National Tree Day Planting & BBQ

Kevin Bartlett Reserve, Yarra Blvd, Burnley 10am-1pm. Melway 59 B1.

Sunday 29: Friends of Edgars Creek National Tree Day Planting

Meet at the Gooseneck escarpment area - access from the old Kodak bridge, Spectrum Way, North Coburg, 10.00am-12.30pm. Melway 18 A8. Funded by the Moreland City Council. Contact Council's Natural Resource Management Officer on 0403 603 540.

A U G U S T

Saturday 4: Friends of Merri Park Litter Clean-up

Same details as for Saturday 5 May.

Saturday 4 : MECCARG* Adopt a wildflower:

Commemorating National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day. Murnong Patch, Connolly Ave Coburg, south of Murray Rd bridge, 1-3pm. Melway 18 A11. Contact: Melissa 0417 255 873.

Sunday 5: Friends of Malcolm Creek Planting

Elsternwick Way, Craigieburn, 10am-1pm. Register on FoMC website.

Sunday 5 : Litter Clean Up – Coburg

Bell St, 10am-12noon. Melway 30 A1. Phone Paul 9489 5062.

Sunday 5 : Streamteam Water Quality Testing

Same details as for Sunday 6 May.

*Check the FoMC website - for any new events or changes to the above details.
If no contact details given above, phone Ray or Monica at MCMC on 9380 8199.*

**MECCARG = Merri & Edgars Creek Confluence Area Restoration Group*

Editor: Ray Radford • **Assistant Editor:** Paul Prentice • **Layout & Design:** Dean Lombard

Members' contributions are most welcome; please send to friendsofmerriecreek@gmail.com by Friday 15 June 2018

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