

August 2024

## A new committee with challenges ahead.

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### REPORT OF AGM

held on 25 June 2024 at the Gleeson Centre



#### Election of Committee members and office holders

LEFT TO RIGHT Graeme Vernon – Secretary & DCMC representative, Jeanie Adams – Newsletter, Belinda Hill – Social Media, Ian McMaster (front – Vice-President), Peter Williams (back – Treasurer & Membership), Duncan Pitt – Park Care, Dane Perry Svendsen – Website.

Peter Wiltshire and Kim Davis are ex-officio committee members. The position of President remains open for the possibility of an additional person to join in that capacity.

#### Special resolution passed

“That the name of ‘Darebin Parklands Association Incorporated’ be changed to ‘Friends of Darebin Parklands Incorporated’ and the association’s model rules be amended accordingly.

#### Farewell to Maryanne Newton

Duncan Pitt moved a motion of thanks to Maryanne for her years of hard work, skills and commitment to the Darebin Parklands.



### Next General Meeting on August 27

#### Speaker: Davita Coronel – Flying Foxes in Melbourne

A PhD candidate at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Deakin University, Melbourne, Davita is also a presenter for the animal advocacy radio show Freedom of Species at 3CR Community Radio, Melbourne.

Her PhD project explores the contested place of flying foxes (bats) in Melbourne, who are both shunned as ‘pest’ animals and appreciated as critical pollinators, while being threatened with extinction.



She is keen to explore bat-carers’ insights in bat behaviour and individuality, how city planning approaches the bats and what climate change responses may look like for the non-human.

# The Role of our Creative Local Councils – a Brief History

## Darebin Parklands – from quarry to tip to urban bushland

In the early 1970s what we know today as the Darebin Parklands was weed infested paddocks and a former municipal tip and quarry.

A proposal from council and the board of works to fill the wetlands to address mosquitos and clear the Darebin Creek to improve stormwater management ignited a community campaign across Ivanhoe and Alphington led by the Rockbeare Conservation Group (predecessor to Friends of Darebin Parklands) to have the area rezoned as open space and to bring back the bushland as an urban refuge for flora, fauna and residents.

At the time only the 7 hectares east of the creek (Rockbeare Park) was publicly owned. Within 4 years the actions of this group drove the creation of the Darebin Parklands foot print as we know it today. The group was able inspire others to the area's potential and successfully drove re-zoning of the land as open public space and worked with City of Northcote to raise funds to acquire the flood plain, old tip and quarry.

Critically it was agreed by Banyule and Darebin's predecessor councils that the Darebin Parklands should be jointly developed and managed across council boundaries. They commissioned the newly formed



Centre for Environmental Studies at the University of Melbourne to develop a landscape master plan. The plan was informed by new ideas about urban living, landscape design and environmentalism. This was forward thinking at the time in both its aspiration and delivery.

In the early days much of the planning, weed clearing and planting was undertaken by community volunteers. From 1979 professional rangers increasingly oversaw the development and

management of the parklands. By the early 1980s the task has grown and the first fulltime ranger was hired in 1983. A second fulltime ranger was added in 1987.

Since then, the continued development of the parklands has been overseen by a joint management committee with representatives from Darebin and Banyule councils and community representation (first the Darebin Parklands Management Committee and now the Darebin Creek Management Committee).

The rangers are funded by Darebin and Banyule councils. Projects within the Parklands are funded through councils, Melbourne Water and other grants sourced by the Darebin Creek Management Committee.

### FDP Advocacy Working Group

**You are invited to join us for the next Park Care Day in the Ivanhoe wetlands on Sunday, 25 August 2024 (1 to 3 pm).**

**Come along and help the rangers to revegetate this area with indigenous native plants.**

**For further details click [here](#). Booking is not essential, but you will need to sign in on arrival.**

**VOLUNTEER @ DAREBIN PARKLANDS  
PLANT WITH US!**

**Park Care Day  
August 25th 1-3pm**

Come along and help us plant native shrubs for wildlife!  
All welcome!



Scan QR for more info

or email  
**kim@dcmc.org.au**



# Committee Report: Advocacy Action

**Upcoming Local Government elections and possible changes to the management of Darebin Parkland and Creek will be discussed at the general meeting on 27 Aug 2024 at 7.30. We will outline our advocacy plans. Bring your ideas and feedback and be ready to help with the campaign.**

The next six months is a critical time to advocate for the Parklands (See DCMC EO's report).

Your Committee is very concerned about the intentions of both Banyule City Council and Darebin City Council for the future of Darebin Parklands.

Strong participation by both FoDP and the community will be important in the review and in Local Government elections which will be held in October.

The committee is working on a position platform, which will be shared with members for feedback.

## **Priorities are to:**

- raise community awareness and understanding of the challenges facing the parklands and the creek;
- engage council candidates on their commitment to Ranger service and funding for the parklands and protection of our urban waterways;
- encourage the community to participate in Banyule Council's Darebin Parklands Ranger review;
- advocate to Banyule Council and councillors for transparency and community involvement in the review.

## What will you do?

### How can you help?

- Stay updated with information on the issues
- Share concerns & information with family & friends
- Participate in council 'community engagement'
- Contact your individual councillors
- Contact prospective councillors who nominate for the next elections to determine their position
- Display signage at home and/or distribute leaflets
- Attend meetings, events, and volunteering days
- Offer specific skills e.g. as writer, public speaker, artist, performer to create an event in the Parkland
- Donate to FDP or DCMC

**Tell the world that it matters to you!**

**Be a true friend of the Parkland.**



## Updating Social Media

### We are seeking information about Darebin Parklands Association Social Media

#### 1. Instagram:

Someone has the phone number that is required to make changes. The phone number ends in "45". Is this you?

#### 2. Facebook:

We've identified an informal group on FB call Friends of Darebin Parklands, inactive since 2018. Is this you?

**If your friends have not received this newsletter, their membership may have lapsed.**

**Ask them to join up again, please!**

**And if you know people who need a printed copy, let us know [jeanie.adams@bigpond.com](mailto:jeanie.adams@bigpond.com)**



**Use Darebin "Have Your Say" until September 1st to have your say about Darebin Parklands Ranger Funding**

You need to "follow" in order to answer the questions. Make this is an opportunity to let Darebin Council know how important the Rangers are to delivering outcomes for the community.

<https://yoursay.darebin.vic.gov.au/ourdarebin>

# DCMC Catchment and Engagement Report

## DCMC Nangak Tamboree Monitoring Day

Nangak Tamboree monitoring day on 8 August involved 25 La Trobe University students, Narrap Rangers, DCMC staff, Darebin and Banyule bushcrew members, Nangak Tamboree Wildlife Sanctuary staff, and Melbourne Water. Students took part in nestbox installations, wildlife monitoring with song meters and trail cameras, waterbug monitoring, frog monitoring, and a bird survey.

An interesting finding was stoneflies in the creek - these are very sensitive waterbugs usually found in mountain streams. After a couple of weeks of data recording, students will review trail camera footage and song meter fauna calls to find out what fauna is using the Nangak Tamboree area.



La Trobe students identify macro invertebrates from Darebin Creek



Banyule Bushcrew member Jared installs a trail camera with a La Trobe student

## DCMC and the Wurundjeri Narrap Unit win state Landcare Award

This award recognises the partnership that has grown between DCMC and the Narrap Unit, the Wurundjeri's natural resource management team, particularly our project at Nangak Tamboree, a 10ha Grassy Eucalypt Woodland site at the La Trobe University campus in Bundoora. With support from La Trobe University, Melbourne Water, The Ross Trust and many volunteers, we have collaborated with the Narrap Unit to reintroduce cultural land management practices to regenerate this important site. The project has also focused on increasing the representation of First Nations women.



## Greening Whittlesea planting

On a warm 11 August, the second Greening Whittlesea planting day for 2024 near the Greenhills Rd footbridge Bundoora, saw 27 energetic planters planting over 700 shrubs, grasses and groundcovers. The project has been a great collaboration with DCMC, City of Whittlesea and the community in creating habitat for small woodland birds and caring for Country.



Planting *Acacia verticillata* - great small bird habitat



One of the planters at Greening Whittlesea event

## Platypus spotters needed!

We have very exciting news! A platypus was seen along the Darebin Creek in June this year. This adds to sightings of a platypus in February 2017 and eDNA recorded in November 2021. We are looking for volunteers to monitor platypus along the Darebin Creek in September and year-round. If you don't mind sitting quietly along the Darebin Creek looking for platypus (sounds dreamy!), sign up for the Platy Project!

### The platy-project

By recording where platypuses live, we can understand more about this incredible creature and help prevent further declines in their numbers.



That's where you can help. There are places within the platypus's range where sightings have never been recorded, or where these animals haven't been seen for a long time. These are our biggest gaps in knowledge.

You can help researchers fill these gaps by visiting priority areas, looking for platypuses, and uploading your findings to the University of NSW's platypus sighting database.

You'll also have an incredible time getting out into nature – and hopefully experience the magical moment of spotting a platypus!

Sign up here:

<https://www.acf.org.au/platy-project>

# Executive Officer Report

Members will remember that Banyule Council, in October last year, proposed to discontinue DCMC's funding without consultation. Due to the overwhelming opposition to this, Councillors voted for an alternative resolution, to continue funding to June 2025, and undertake a review of DCMC and our work before making any final decisions.



Banyule Council are currently developing the plans for this review. While we are always supportive of any review that may lead to improved outcomes for the environment and community, we do have some real concerns about the process for this review.

Firstly, we have been told it is a foregone conclusion that the management of the Darebin Parklands will be put out to a commercial tender process. What this tender process or what that would mean for the ongoing Parkland and Creek management is unknown. While DCMC may be able to put in a proposal, this represents significant shift beyond anything we have previously seen in how the Parklands are managed, and would seemingly restrict the role and the massive contribution the community and Friends groups have played for decades. The Darebin Creek Coordination may have the same fate.

Secondly, the community feedback planned to date is highly inadequate – the only opportunity for community feedback will be online via Shaping Banyule for a 2-week

period in November, with no other options provided, such as in-person meetings or feedback which are common for other council consultation processes. While they have indicated they will meet with DCMC, FODP and FODC separately, this very restricted consultation significantly limits opportunity for members of the community to engage in a meaningful way, and does

not appear to comply with Banyule's own Community Engagement Policy.

A draft report will go to Council early in the new year, with a final report and recommendations to Council by May/June 2025. Until then we will not know the fate of the Darebin Parklands or Creek Coordination, which is little notice before our current funding agreement finishes 30th June.

DCMC are aiming to engage with the Council to improve this process. However, we know that the high level of interest from the community (and the amazing support for DCMC) last October was enough to change the minds of the Councillors. Knowing how much the Parklands and the Darebin Creek mean to the community, it may be worth telling Councillors again what you think of this planned process.

**Annette Salkeld, EO**

*(Friends of Darebin Parkland Committee have written to Banyule Council on this issue – Ed)*

## Report from the Rangers

### An adult Black Swan!

The parklands had an uncommon visitor last Wednesday in the duck pond (the largest pond next to the amphitheater).

Every now and then Swans visit the parklands but they're not permanent residents. They are highly territorial and need large wetlands ideally.



### Rakali vs Turtle!

Some park visitors were watching the ducks when they noticed something unusual in the water.... a Rakali! But there's more, wait until you see the video they filmed (there is some swearing in it):

You HAVE to watch this video! [CLICK HERE to watch.](#)

I'm putting up a trail camera to see if we can see what it's getting up to. The visitors saw it in the main duck pond while today, I found a deceased turtle on a rock in Wetland 2 so it's moving around a bit. Let us know if you spot it too! Usually they're seen down in the creek.

They're a native rodent and their main food includes invertebrates like yabbies and mussels but are also known to eat fish, waterbird eggs and turtles!! (See the June newsletter).



**Ranger Kim**

## Thursday Crew

### To celebrate World Ranger Day on July 31, Ranger Kim wrote:

Today is a celebration of Rangers all across the world!

Pete recently celebrated 39 years of being a Ranger at the parklands! (next year we have to celebrate big for his 40th!).

Pete started his journey at the parklands in 1985 as a water ecologist and built the leachate system (disguised as the wetlands across the park) to filter and prevent leachate (remember the park was a tip site) from entering the Darebin Creek. From there the rest is history!

39 years of dedicating his life to protecting the park, the creek, habitats and wildlife, as well as supporting the community.

I have a few years of catching up to Pete! I came to the parklands 2.5 years ago, with my specialty being wildlife and ecology. I have an eclectic and diverse environmental background and am really happy my journey landed me as a Ranger here at the parklands. Only 36.5 years to go...!

There's been many Rangers at Darebin Parklands over the past 5 decades and they've all played an important role in how the parklands has grown and evolved.

### Name Badges

Thank you to Jeanie and John for organising the name tags! I think it's safe to say everyone loves that they have their favourite bird photo on them!

If you haven't got one yet and would like one, please see John or myself when you're at Thursday Crew next and he'll get it sorted for you.



Barry has grown some Murnong (*Yam Daisy*) *microseris lanceolata* from seed, so these will be planted into the existing murnong patch which is doing very well. Thanks Barry! Fact sheet [HERE](#)

## Nestbox Life - July edition

### The latest stats are here!

Ringtail Possum numbers are the lowest they've been in a while. Could it be due to the Powerful Owl that's been heard?? Ringtail numbers usually fluctuate as they move around a lot and often build dreys to sleep in. But this is still quite a low number. This time last year, the numbers were in the 60s!

We were able to trial a new camera design by John who is the engineer behind the current camera we use. This camera is waterproof, has a red LED light option and operates slightly differently from the one we currently use. It was interesting to trial it.

PS I haven't forgotten about running volunteer nest box monitoring - I've had some issues with the cameras I bought so am trying to get them fixed so they work efficiently. I'm hoping I can get it up and running so we can do some monitoring during Spring.

### Ranger Kim



# Volunteer Profile:

## Introducing Sam

This is the second of a proposed series of brief profiles of Thursday Crew volunteers. Graeme Vernon (photographer) and Duncan Pitt (interviewer).

**Introducing Sam Keevers, a West Preston resident who has been part of our Thursday Crew for the last several years.**

Sam has recently changed careers: having been a professional jazz musician for many years he undertook studies relevant to land management and ranger work. He currently works for a company with council contracts that involves lots of time spent controlling weeds and planting natives right across the metropolitan area, yet he still finds time to join us on a Thursday morning to continue our work.

**How did you become involved with the Thursday Crew?**

After the Harvest of Hope program I was involved with at the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre finished up in 2022 (this involved growing fresh vegetables for the ASRC's foodbank) I wanted to stay involved with a community organisation doing land management and so I found the Thursday Crew.

**What do you like most about volunteering with the Thursday Crew?**

I love the people I spend time with every Thursday morning. I love seeing the immediate visible effects of removing weeds and spending time with Rangers Pete and Kim who are walking encyclopaedias of knowledge.

**Are you otherwise involved with Darebin Parklands?**

I do occasionally walk my dog Ripley in the parklands. I visited the parklands often during my recent university studies describing native plants in the park.

**Which weed do you dislike the most?**

There's so many to mention! I think blackberry is a particularly bad one: woody, covered in thorns, it chokes native vegetation, provides a haven for rabbits and it's spread by birds with those tasty berries. Thankfully there's not much of it in the Darebin Parklands.



**Do you have a favourite bird in Darebin Parklands?**

I think Tawny Frogmouths are amazing birds; I love the ducks around the ponds too.

**Do you have other environmental interests?**

For the last two years I've been going down to Tasmania into the Tarkine Wilderness to participate in the Bob Brown Foundation's Bioblitz. It's a weekend of taking walks through the bush with environmental scientists and flora and fauna experts logging (as in recording) all the species present in the area. It is a fantastic experience and I'm hoping to do it every year if I can.

**Any other comments or suggestions**

I love the Thursday Crew. I always feel uplifted as I walk out of the park every Thursday after a couple of hours of fresh air, weeding, planting and chatting with lovely people over a hot cup of tea. It represents everything I love about being part of a community of people who care for the area in which they live.

## Offer your talents for the Parklands!

The Friends of Darebin Parklands need you, especially in the light of necessary Campaign Communications ahead.

### NEEDED NOW ...

People keen to get involved in campaigning, letterboxing and lobbying ...

People interested in helping with social media ...

**LET US KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO!**

**0497172757**



# Talking with Margaret de Kam



It seems good for the Friends to get to know a bit more about DCMC and FoDP personnel who have been around for a while and play important roles in care of the Parkland.

I sat down at the lovely Gleeson Centre outside table with Margaret de Kam to explore a little of who she is, other than President of DCMC and past president (still member) of the Friends of Darebin Creek.

Knowing little about the history, I was curious about the Friends of Darebin Creek (FoDC) and discovered that despite the similarity in name, they are a very different group from FoDP and relate differently to the DCMC staff. And they have a different task from us, in that the Darebin Creek is 50 km long and varies enormously from one end to the other, so it is no surprise that the group is also very varied and focuses more on working to repair and revegetate than on advocating.

Before all this, Margaret practised as a psychiatric social worker for 25 years, working with children and young people and their parents referred to the mental health program of the hospital system.

Margaret has been involved in the FoDC and DCMC since 2015 and became president of DCMC in 2018, in that process learning to think like a president. Margaret was glad to put her professional skills to use in this role: social work, advocacy, understanding people and doing what gives meaning.

She has always believed that it is in our DNA to require access to natural places for good health. A walk in the park confirms theories about good mental and physical health.

Margaret has been working on a program idea called "Come Down to the Creek" for vulnerable people, especially those who are uncertain and fear bush and parkland spaces.

Margaret made the very practical suggestion that we two Friends groups take a road trip together one day soon, in convoy, to explore the source of the creek. If this trial run is a success, the tour could be offered to a wider public. We also discussed the sharing of news – FoDC news can be included in the FoDP newsletter and while they have no editor, we can send relevant information for their news feed. <https://friendsofdarebin creek.org.au>

Margaret de Kam declares that the glass is half-full, but I suspect hers is more than half-full. I discovered she is also an artist (example here), and we didn't have time to explore what else she does with her post-career time.

**Jeanie Adams**



## Fridge for Sale!

Recently a friend of the parklands bought and donated a new fridge for the Gleeson Room upgrade. But this fridge is too big and we need to sell it and buy a smaller fridge. So, please promote this opportunity to buy an almost new fridge with 3 year warranty. The fridge is currently in the store room at the Gleeson Room and can be viewed by arrangement. There is a copy of the receipt.



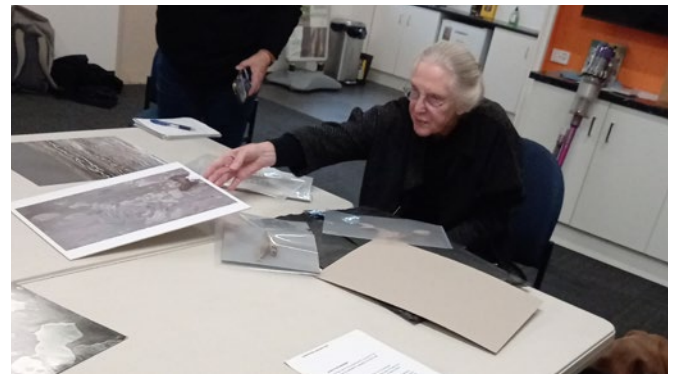
### Details

LG 375L TMF Flatdoor Platinum Finish

Our price \$900, or near offer.

All inquiries to Margaret de Kam,  
0439 375 787 [mdk0550@icloud.com](mailto:mdk0550@icloud.com)

## Gleeson Room renewal



At the invitation of Margaret de Kam, a few people met in the Gleeson Room to see and discuss Mary Featherston's classy proposal for changing displays of the Nature of the Darebin Parklands. Initially Mary will provide photo enlargements, together with natural specimens.

The idea is to make the room enticing for community and environmental groups, to increase much-needed revenue through room hire.

Peter Wiltshire is already working to make this exciting transformation a reality, installing wall panels to form a frieze. A benefactor has agreed to fund the project.





# Exploring Bush Kinder at Darebin Creek: A Connection with Nature and Community

Have you noticed groups of rosy-cheeked children playing along Darebin Creek? They are likely part of one of the many Bush Kinders emerging across Australia.

Did you know that the first Bush Kinder began and continues thriving at the Darebin Parklands? At Westgarth Kindergarten, the very first Bush Kinder was created with the invaluable support of Ranger Peter Wiltshire and the Darebin Creek Management Committee.

## Why is Being Outdoors Crucial for Children?

Being outdoors is good for children, yet modern children spend less than half the time exploring nature than their parents did when they were children. Researchers find that children who spend more time outdoors in nature are happier, healthier, stronger, smarter, kinder, and more social.

## What is a Bush Kinder?

A Bush Kinder is an Australian outdoor nature-based program led by educators with a degree or diploma in early childhood education. The teachers' professional knowledge about children is central to the program. They work within a highly regulated sector, follow a national curriculum, understand how children learn best, and are responsive to the latest research. The teachers are also responsive to the needs of the children, the community, and the Aboriginal Country they are on.

Throughout the school term, the children learn through play in this unique place. They have up to 7.5 hours of uninterrupted quality play in the bush, using nature-provided materials as their learning resources. Bush Kinders go beyond outdoor play; they are carefully crafted learning environments where children connect with the land in ways that are impossible within traditional classroom walls.

## No tools, No toys, and No art supplies

Using only what nature provides, the children are encouraged to explore their surroundings, engage in unstructured play, and learn through direct interaction with the environment. The children experience the changing weather: they feel the rain, respond to the wind, get wet and feel the sun on their skin. Children are supported in their choices to use resources from nature in their play; therefore, water, twigs, leaves, flowers, sand and dirt become the favoured play materials.

## Learning Through Nature

Children are curious, imaginative and creative. Nature provides an ideal learning environment for them. Often, children will ask questions. How deep is that puddle? Where did that fungus come from? Why is there an empty turtle shell on that rock? How does a fish ladder work? Is that a Wurundjeri plant? Why is that noisy miner stealing our tissues?

These questions often lead to deeper exploration and learning, where children theorize, investigate, and seek expert advice. At the Darebin Parklands, these experts could be the rangers or even local community members like Mary Featherston or Arnold Zable.

## A Holistic Learning Environment

At Bush Kinder, children learn not only about the land and nature but also about themselves, each other, and the community around them. Teachers observe each child's developmental progress, advancing skills, and particular interests, using this knowledge to support their learning. They also encourage children to take risks and face challenges, essential elements of well-rounded development.

Through storytelling, shared knowledge, and songs, children build a deep respect for the natural environment and the community, creating a sense of belonging that extends beyond the confines of a classroom. Bush Kinder is not just about learning; it's about growing and connecting in a holistic way, shaping a generation that values nature, community, and the world around them.

*by Doug Fargher – Founder of Bush Kinder and the Director/teacher at Westgarth Kindergarten*



*Esstelle Adams had her own bush experiences in the Parkland*

# News around the Parklands

## New staff member Talia!

We welcome Talia Sawers, DCMC's new Catchment and Engagement Project Officer, who has joined the efforts to help care for the Darebin Creek Valley. Her role will include working with the community in environmental activities, volunteer group support, Traditional Custodian engagement, managing ecological restoration projects, grant management, and assisting with the schools education program...a bit of everything really!

Talia has many years' experience working with local government organisations in environmental volunteer support, community engagement and natural resource management, both here in Greater Melbourne and in Sydney and Hobart. She has a love of biodiversity and sharing the joy of our natural wonders with the community.

Talia's position is funded by the Australian Government's Urban Rivers and Catchment Program.



Talia doesn't have too many photos – she tends to be behind the camera more often than in front.

## Sunday 28th July Park Care Day was cancelled due to the weather.

A big thanks to Duncan and Belinda who let people know who showed up that it had been cancelled - a few people did turn up!

The Rangers were trying to figure out how they could get all the equipment and plants across but in the end just couldn't do it and didn't want to risk people crossing the bridge if it got inundated with water.

**Planned plantings are postponed until the August 25th Park Care Day.**

## AGM Guest Speaker

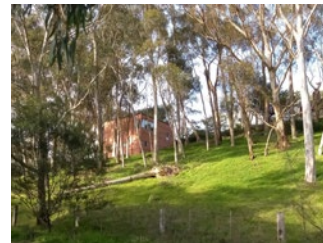
Carolyn Lunt shared a lively account of some of her actions, and her latest statement through her artworks, 'Merri Creek: The Art of Detritus'. Carolyn creates thought-provoking artworks by cleverly amalgamating all sorts of detritus she finds in her stretch of the Merri Creek.



[www.carolynlunt.com](http://www.carolynlunt.com)

## Napier Waller Reserve

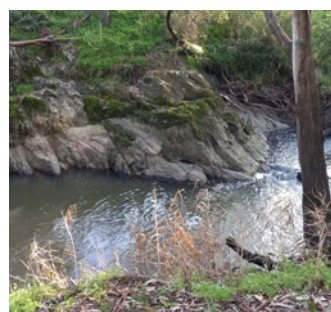
Members may not be aware of the Napier Waller Reserve, south of the Parkland on the Darebin Creek. Thursday Crew have recently been working there to try to control the dreaded fumitory.



Above: The Napier Waller workshop (L) and house (R).

Chris, Addison and Rumi are off to their secret spot on a Sunday afternoon.

Below Darebin Creek (L) and Fumitory (R)



## Events calendar 2024

August 25, 1-3 pm ..... Park Care Day  
August 27, 7.30 pm ..... General meeting,  
Guest: Davita Coronel – Flying Foxes  
September ? ..... Junior Rangers,  
Snake Awareness event  
Sept 20-23 ..... Great Southern BioBlitz  
October 8 ..... Committee meeting  
October 25 ..... Local council elections  
November 26 ..... End of year BBQ



## Great Southern BioBlitz 2024

Become a citizen scientist and participate in the biggest bioblitz across the southern hemisphere!

So, how do I get involved?  
Register as a GSB participant.

<https://www.greatsouthernbioblitz.org/about-1>

<https://www.inaturalist.org>

To contribute to the event, all you need to do is download the iNaturalist application to your handheld device or make an account on your computer and make an observation(s) between 20 - 23 September 2024.

After this date, you will have 14 days to upload and identify your observations (until 7th October). Don't worry if you can't identify the organism. Just make sure you get some good clear photos or sounds.

## Join the Friends of Darebin Parklands



### Membership options (choose one)

Individual annual	\$20	[ ]
Individual 3 year	\$55	[ ]
Family/couple/household annual	\$25	[ ]
Family/couple/household 3 Year	\$70	[ ]
Concession Annual	\$15	[ ]
Concession 3 year	\$40	[ ]
Organisation annual	\$70	[ ]
Organisation 3 Year	\$200	[ ]

Join the FDP through our website at [www.fdp.org.au/become-a-member/](http://www.fdp.org.au/become-a-member/)  
Fill in a membership form and pay online.  
Give memberships to your friends and family.

## Alphington Community Centre

This neighbourhood house is a neighbour to the Parklands. You can be involved in their activities, and be part of a big online community, getting a regular newsletter from the ACC.

Email them: [info@alphington.org.au](mailto:info@alphington.org.au)



## Birrarung Yarra Riverfest

You may have seen the Yarra Riverfest coming up soon. It's hosted by the Yarra Riverkeeper Association starting 1 September for 3 weeks.

Celebrate the life force of our Yarra, Birrarung river at the 2024 Birrarung Riverfest. Book now for one of 30+ events being hosted over three incredible weeks. Whether you enjoy riverside walks, cleanups or paddling adventures, there's something for everyone at Riverfest.

Act now for a healthy, protected and loved Yarra, Birrarung. Burndap Birrarung burndap umarkoo: What's good for the Yarra is good for all!

<https://riverfest.com.au/>

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## Common Myna Control

### Part 5 of Peter Wiltshire's Powerpoints Presentation



## Nestbox Project "Penthouse for Parrots"



## Penthouse for Parrots



## Penthouse for Parrots



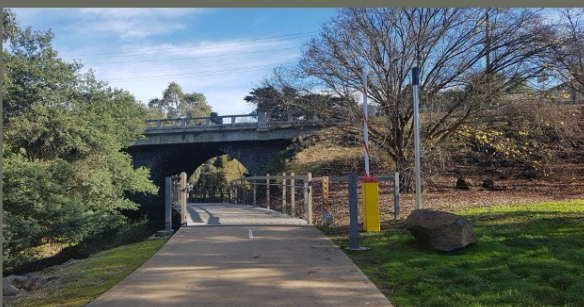
## Bushkinders



## Spiritual Healing Trail



## Darebin Creek Shared Trail



## Junior Rangers Club



## Environmental Education



## Community Bonfire Night



## Movies in the Park



## Parkcare Days



## Thursday Crew

EVERY THURSDAY FROM 9AM TO 11AM A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS WORK ALONGSIDE RANGERS PROTECTING & ENHANCING SITES OF REMINANT REVEGETATION SITES. THIS GROUP IS KNOWN AS THE THURSDAY CREW AND THEY ARE ONE OF THE PARKS MOST VALUABLE ITEMS.



## Astronomy Nights



## Thank You



**In the next issue we will begin the nearly 200 slides of fauna that inhabit the parklands**

### Life at Darebin Parklands

