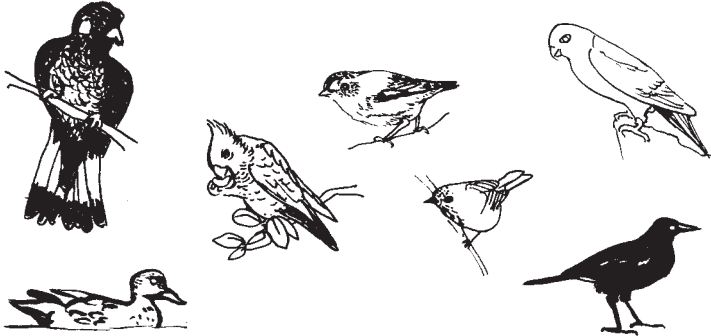


Bird Flu Protocols



If you see signs of H5N1 avian influenza (H5 bird flu) in the Parklands

DCMC recommend these actions:

We recommend that the community follow the current government advice and

Avoid all contact with any sick or dead birds – don't attempt to move or touch them, and keep your dogs away from the area.

Record what you see, including the location, species if known and any details about the animal. (From a safe distance, take photos if possible).

Report through Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888, if there are more than 5 sick or dead birds, 1 sick or dead sea bird, water bird or bird of prey or any other concerning observations and follow their advice.

If you see any sick or dead birds in the Darebin Parklands, in addition to the above please let us know at the DCMC office, or through info@dcmc.org.au or phone 03 9499 4454.

Useful links:



AGRICULTURE
VICTORIA



Olive Spoon Whittling
see page 9

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NEXT INFO NIGHT

Crafting Living Landscapes – Emmaline Bowman

Rethinking our traditional gardens through naturalistic planting, habitat creation, and ecological design.

Emmaline Bowman is an award-winning landscape architect and the Founder of STEM Landscape Architecture & Design, a practice recognised for its regenerative and environmentally intelligent approach.

Tuesday October 13, 7.00 pm

We acknowledge that we operate on the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people and that sovereignty was never ceded. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and future.

Explore Darebin Creek by bus with Friends



Bus trip to the Source of Darebin Creek

The Friends of Darebin Creek, in partnership with the Friends of Darebin Parklands, invite you to join us on a bus trip to trace the Darebin Creek to its source.



Saturday 24 October 2026

Times: 10 – 4pm

Cost: \$25 or \$20 concession

Seats are limited so please book asap.

[Buy ticket here.](#)

or paste this link into your browser:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-AU/ticketing/trip-to-the-source-of-darebin-creek-bus-trip>

Depart from Arch Gibson Reserve, Kingsbury Bowls carpark, off Dunne Street, Kingsbury

For any questions, Margaret de Kam
president@friendsofdarebin creek.org.au
0439375787

or Michael Langley
michaellangley@friendsofdarebin creek.org.au
0400769833

We will visit the source of Darebin Creek, see significant variations along its course, and look at environmental projects in the Whittlesea & Wollert areas of the creek.

Bring your own lunch, with the possibility of sharing.

If you are physically unable to travel in a bus, let us know, as other arrangements are possible.

You will visit a number of sites along the creek - from Kingsbury to Beveridge - while hearing from subject experts Dr Graeme Hamilton, Secretary FoDC and Tim Connell, Environment Team Leader Whittlesea Council.

You will get to see magnificent old river red gums, interesting stony rises, and current revegetation projects, and generally better understand the larger context of Darebin Creek.

We will lunch along the way - BYO - at a location with toilets and shelter.



Urban Creeks Syndrome

As a preparation for the tour, Graeme Hamilton will do an online presentation on 3rd October at 6.30 pm for 1 hour.

Margaret de Kam



STOP PRESS PETITION

Friends of Darebin Creek have been told they will need to pay fees to Darebin Council to store the equipment they use. The voluntary work they do is on the land managed by Darebin Council! FoDC funds are sourced through applying for grants, modest membership fees and collecting cans to recycle.



A petition is being organised, to go to Council in early November, with the all-important signatures on paper. It will be available to the Thursday Crew and elsewhere.

Go to <https://friendsofdarebin creek.org.au>
or contact Margaret de Kam
margaretdekam@friendsofdarebin creek.org.au

Tawny Frogmouths Project

Community study of Tawny Frogmouth families by Darebin Creek, September 2026 – January 2027

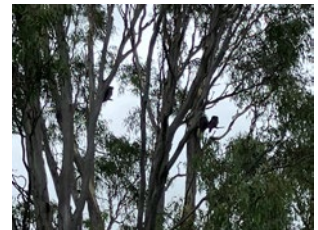


Neil Blake (pictured right) will be the guest speaker at our friendly end-of-year event on November 29th. His topic is the Tawny Frogmouth citizen science project which is now in its final stages of development.

Meanwhile Neil has prepared an informative "Tawny Spotters Guide" ready for when volunteers are allocated nests, very soon. This is not a casual bird-watching exercise, but requires commitment to visit sites at least once a week until January 2027.

Each volunteer will be allocated two neighbouring nests or territories to search on the same day; with a combined search time of up to one hour. Observations of the Tawnies nesting/roosting at each territory will be submitted via a digital app, downloaded to your phone.

Neil's email is neilbaykeeper@gmail.com as a point of contact for those who are keen to be involved.



This research project is in collaboration with [Melbourne University School of Agriculture, Food and Ecosystem Science](#) (Jacinta Humphrey – see March newsletter) Friends of Darebin Creek, DCMC, and [Port Phillip EcoCentre](#).

Blake Street Planting

– C H Sullivan Memorial Park, Reservoir –

A New Revegetation Project for Friends of Darebin Creek.

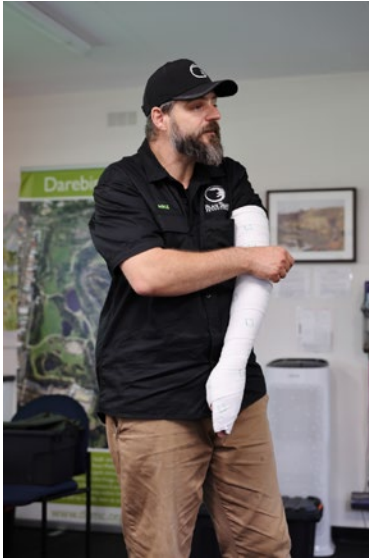
After the success of revegetation at Arch Gibson Reserve in a collaborative project with DCMC, Friends of Darebin Creek has begun a new project at Blake St, Reservoir. Our aim is to continue revegetation begun over 30 years ago when trees were planted, and build structure and complexity by adding shrub and ground storeys. We aim to minimise costs and maintenance effort by introducing a manageable number of plants each year and nurturing those until they are well established. Many of the plants have been grown by us from seed collected at Arch Gibson Reserve; supplemented by plants grown in the Darebin Parklands Nursery.

Our efforts on the Darebin side of the Creek extend the remnant Sullivan woodland and grassland and complement those of Darebin Natural Resources Team, DCMC, La Trobe University and Banyule Bush Crew elsewhere in this significant area of creeklands. We have received great support from Darebin Natural Resources Team, a Yarra Valley Water grant, and a wonderful donation of planting materials from Russell at GMHS in Epping.

Margaret de Kam



Snake Awareness



The Snake Awareness Presentation by [Black Snake Productions](#) was well attended on Sunday afternoon 13th September.

We express appreciation to Bendigo Bank Community Fund who agreed to finance the entire cost, thus making it affordable to all.

Thanks to Graeme Vernon for the photos.



Alphington Community Battery

Community Energy Program Launched

Over the past eight years, Village Power, formed by residents of Alphington, Fairfield and Ivanhoe, have developed a community energy model.

Energy is generated, stored and used locally. Rather than relying solely on large, distant power stations supplying individual households, community energy operates at the neighbourhood scale.

The Alphington Community Battery in Wingrove Street captures and stores surplus solar energy generated during the day and releases it in the evening, when demand is highest, to make greater use of renewable energy around the clock.

Village Power also provides participants with a tangible way to track progress, making the connection between everyday choices and community-wide outcomes visible. This is the second key part of the solution.

Village Power acknowledged funding from the Victorian Government's Neighbourhood Battery Initiative and the support of the Member for Northcote, Kat Theophanous MP. The City of Darebin support was instrumental in securing the site for the battery infrastructure.

Village Power's implementation partner, Acacia Energy plays a critical role in the battery operation. Technical expertise and support was provided by Jemena, the local electricity distribution network operator.

For further information, contact:

Graeme Martin at info@villagepower.com.au

www.villagepower.com.au

Friends of Darebin Parklands were represented on 27 June by project leader Graeme Martin, Heather Russell, Jeanie Adams, and many others.



Thursday Crew Volunteer Profile:

Introducing – Sarah Holloway

Do you live locally?

Yes, close enough. I live closer to the Merri Creek but I'm lucky enough to work here in the Parklands, as well as volunteer.

I work with Westgarth Kinder as a Bush Kinder teacher. Doug Farger, of Westgarth Kinder, started Bush Kinder in Australia. Doug came to Ranger Pete and told him about his idea to bring Forest Kinder/Bush Kinder to Australia – for children to spend long periods playing and exploring in nature. Ranger Pete said yes, and now, 18 years on, Bush Kinder and all its benefits are well known. It's a huge deal! Something we should be proud of as people of Darebin Creek.

How did you become involved with the Thursday Crew?

When I started to work with Westgarth Kinder in the Parklands, I was completely blown away by the Parklands' beauty and biodiversity. It's like none other, and so close to the city. I got to know Ranger Pete and Ranger Kim more and grew in respect for all they do and have made. They mentioned that I could help too and that Thursday Crew has grown into a nice community. It sounded like my kind of people. I've been attending Thursday Crew for almost four years, and it's lovely!

What do you like most about volunteering for the Thursday Crew?

Oh don't make me choose! Pulling out weeds so our local Wurundjeri plants can thrive feels good and right, but I'd have to say the people. Kind, like-minded people all working together towards the same goal. It's good for the soul.

It's also a good group for the socially awkward, such as myself, because you can still hang out with people and do work where you see results; and that's it, enjoy the positive energy. You might even say being out there, surrounded by trees, birds and nice people can be healing. I remember a little while back, I had a death in the family, and I knew just going to Thursday Crew would help my healing. Everyone was weeding and happily chatting and I was just breathing in the air and playing with a worm in the mud. It sounds strange but it was just what I needed; it was beautiful. I just felt like everything was OK; in fact, even when things happen, there is still always beauty and kindness about.

Are you otherwise involved with the creek and Darebin Parklands?

Yes, Bush Kinder with Westgarth Kindergarten! I'm so lucky to work here. I'm very lucky to see the effects of being out in nature on the children. They seem happier and healthier, with less things to bother them. And they grow up to respect the habitat and the Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. It was once said that 'if we don't know something, we can't fall



in love, and if we don't love something, we won't fight for it'. A lot of our local flora and fauna have gone or are fighting to exist, and people don't even know it.

Thursday Crew once introduced me to an awesome short course, the [Habitat and Conservation Management Course](#). I highly recommend it. It introduced me to a whole new world of flora and fauna that has been here all this time and I never knew it. I grew up with stories of foxes and badgers, when here in Australia there were balls of spikes (echidnas), tiny tigers (tiger quolls), and huge flying possums (greater gliders and phascogales). I bet you have to look up what a phascogale is. I did, and they live right here!

Which weed do you dislike the most?

Ashma weed. It's more prevalent on the Merri Creek, but I've pulled it out here too. Oh, and how its seeds stick to you.

Weeds are like bullies. They came where they weren't really invited and took over. It feels good to be helping out the local native plants. It's almost a tiny weekly act of decolonisation.

Do you have a favourite area in Darebin Parklands?

The walk from Clifton Bridge to the fish ladder crossing (stone steps). The rangers and the community have done such an incredible job with all the new plantings, and now all the beautiful birds and bugs are showing up. It's truly a joy to experience every week.

Do you have other environmental interests?

Birds! I was introduced to 'bird language' through one of Andrew the Bird Guy's short courses (<https://andrewthebirdguy.com>). I'm hooked. You can never be bored as long as you have birds!



It was very exciting last week when volllie Sarah found a Buff-banded Rail nest (and chicks) in the project site on the Ivanhoe floodplain. This is the first time we've observed birds nesting in the new plantings. It was in the 2023 planting site.

It's incredibly inspiring to see habitat the community and DCMC has created over the years in this section of the park. You all should feel very proud.

While I couldn't get a photo of them last Thursday as they're so allusive, here's a photo I took a couple of years ago when they nested near the egg sculpture, of adult & two 3-week-old chicks. – Kim

DCMC New Staff

Jackson Cass

Project Officer Catchment and Engagement

Jackson is our new full-time Project Officer and will be facilitating restoration activities, planning events and implementing citizen science programs.

Prior to joining DCMC he was working with Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group (MCLG) as their Landcare Coordinator for five and a half years. He has also had a few voluntary roles including a stint as treasurer with Garibaldi Landcare and is currently President of Seedling Victoria, the largest native seedbank in Victoria

He said "I've had the opportunity to work on a lot of incredible projects during my time with MCLG, but I had predominately worked by myself. I was drawn to DCMC because I had heard a lot of positive things about the team and the work they do and I was looking for an opportunity to work with a larger team and a larger community."

What got him into environmental conservation?

"I had always been interested in environmental conservation, but when I was younger, I didn't know how I could contribute towards it. I previously studied audio engineering and sound production and worked in construction with my father before I decided to go back to university and study. I was driven to contribute to the betterment of our natural environment and that's still what drives me today. More than anything it is the incredible people that I get to work with that makes me excited to work in this field."

His favourite way to spend time outdoors is hiking, either solo or with friends. Outside of work He also loves reading, gardening, seeing live music and spending time in the home studio making music.



Claudia Campbell

Land Management & Engagement Officer

**Two days a week
Claudia is part of the
Ranger team.**

Prior to this job, Claudia worked in land management around

Melbourne with private business.

Olivia asked Claudia: What inspired you to join the DCMC and what are you looking forward to?

"Having the flexibility to work along the Darebin Creek catchment and the Darebin Parklands, getting to connect with the community and spend time in the area.

"I'm looking forward to getting to know a new area and the team that manage it. Spending time outside and making friends with the birds while you're hand weeding

Urban conservation so important because it means

"having a space where people can slow down and connect with landscape."

Is there a particular plant, animal or ecosystem you're especially passionate about?

"I love a Grassland ecosystem because of all the hidden beauties below the surface. You really have to slow down, get low and really take it in to find the gems

"If I have a favourite native species it is River Red Gum, when you see a really old tree gnarled tree its hard not to daydream about what the tree has seen."

And ...

"And I love cooking, I can rock up to (nearly) any kitchen and make a delicious meal out of whatever you have in the fridge or cupboard."

**More information about the
DCMC and details of events in
Darebin Creek Catch-up
To subscribe: info@dcmc.org.au**



Success for our sister group

Polluters Pay motion passed by Darebin Council

The Polluters Pay Darebin group is delighted to report that at its August meeting the Darebin City Council voted unanimously for a Polluter Pays motion.

This means Darebin will formally call on the Federal Government to make the big coal, oil and gas export corporations pay a levy to cover the rising costs of climate damage.



Report from the Rangers



June Park Care Day was a huge success

The Kookas were sitting close by with a watchful eye as volunteers planted 400 plants within an hour! They didn't stop there though, lots of people got together and started weeding fumitory around last year's plantings, even spotting a Blotched blue-tongue taking refuge from the birds in among those plantings - yes, in Winter!

Lots of new faces as well as regular faces, the sun was out and it was a great afternoon.

WELCOME BACK PETE!

He'll be back in Thurs Crew action this week! (Yes he was on September 17). I know you're all very excited to welcome him back.

and welcome Musk Lorikeets

We've observed Musk Lorikeets nesting for the first time ever in the parklands! They've laid 2 eggs in one of the chainsaw hollows which is very exciting as we've been trying to research where they usually nest and why we haven't observed it in the park before. We don't have that answer yet, but we'll find out a lot more by observing this pair!



Wildlife Poaching -

We've well and truly entered breeding season, and as a community, we need to stay vigilant in case any poachers return. This is a vulnerable time for wildlife.

If you see anyone other than Pete, myself or Claudia acting suspicious around nest boxes - please report it to us. Or if someone is in the act of tampering with the boxes - report to **Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000**



Thursday Crew worked near Parklands Ave in July. They were preparing and spreading the mulch for this month's Park Care Day. Here are the flowers planted on July and August Park Care Days.



Parkland weeds and ants



Feature weed: Annual Veldt Grass

The weeds are a light, bright green with broad leaves
– the natives are a dark green with narrower leaves

Panic Veldt Grass (*ehrharta erecta*)

- Native to South Africa
- Perennial
- Grows in a wide range of habitats
- Droplet-like seed head
- Fairly easy to pull out



Target weeds



Mallow



**Annual
veldt grass**



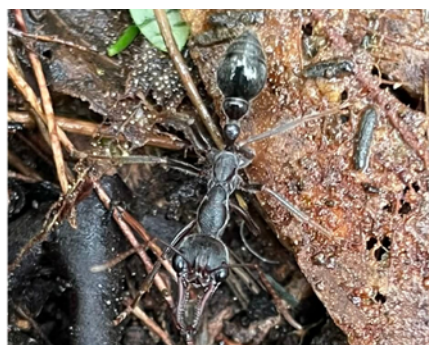
Sowthistle



**Ribwort
plantain**



**Beware these ants – they've bitten
Thursday Crew members when weeding.**



Inch ant/bullant

Myrmecia pyriformis,

- Nocturnal
- Forage individually
- Queens can live up to 15 years!
- Workers live 1-2 years
- Colonies on average survive for 7 years

Diet

- Workers eat sugary liquids; tree sap, nectar, sugar secretions from invertebrates
- Larvae & queen need protein (invertebrates) which the larvae break down once the queen hunts prey and brings it back to the nest



Alphington Open Studios & Olive Spoon Whittling

We will participate again in the Alphington Open Studios, with the Gleeson Centre booked for the weekend of 21 & 22 November 2026, after our successful venture last year.

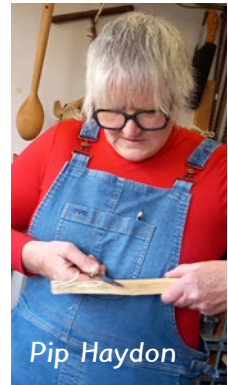
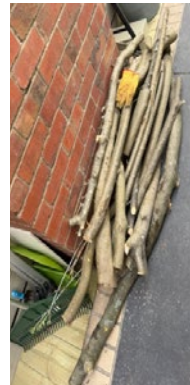
It will include a photo exhibition. And hopefully there will be products of the olive spoon project on display.

Artists whose work will celebrate the Darebin Parklands are Anne Silbereisen, Mary McArdle, Maggie Brown, Carolyn Lunt, Jeanie Adams, Lisa Hui, Graeme Vernon and Kim Davis.

[Alphington Open Studios](#)



Whittling together in the Darebin Parklands using green olive wood from the nearby trees



The Olive Trees in Darebin Parklands are a part of the place's fascinating heritage.

Planted before 1890 by John Sharp Adams when Ivy Cottage and the Rockleigh Homestead were built, a mixed farm was established including the mulberries, olive trees, an orchard and vineyard, as well as cows, pigs and carriage horses.

But after he died, the area became a quarry, and a tip, closed in 1975, after which Darebin Parklands became a reality by community action.

In the 1980s the bluestone stairway through the olive grove was constructed by a work-for-the-dole program.

In 2001 and 2002, successful Olive Festivals were held. Hundreds of people sang, danced, feasted and harvested olives, which were pressed into olive oil.

Now those old trees need to be pruned. But not wasted: there is more to an olive tree than olives and oil.

The timber is hard, strong and beautiful. But when it is green, it can be whittled and carved.

The olive trees have now been pruned by Rangers Pete, Kim and Claudia. They are being stored nearby, a supply of olive wood made ready to use by local woodcraftsman Steve Allen who has used his machine tools to cut slices & blanks.

Drawing on experience in the community, we will learn to whittle the timber together. Experienced spooncarver Pip Haydon will teach a workshop and give us advice. Others are welcome to help.

The workshop program will cover Sunday & Tuesday afternoons through October. You can come to one, or some, or all of them.

You can take wood home to create, then bring the creations to show as part of Alphington Open Studios (ring Jeanie 0497 172 757).

Community workshops

Sunday October 11, 2 till 4 pm outside Gleeson Centre, with Pip Haydon

Tuesday October 13, 4 till 6 pm Parklands Barbecue Area

Sunday October 18, 2 till 4 pm Parklands Barbecue Area

Tuesday October 20, 4 till 6 pm outside Gleeson Centre

Booking by [ZEFFY](#) or emailing jeanie.adams@bigpond.au or maggiebrown@aapt.net.au so we can send you information. Cost \$10 per session (bring kids free if supervised).

Bring your own tools (a sharp knife). To purchase spoon-carving knives go to the Vintage Tool Shop in Gadd Street, Northcote.

The best products will be displayed and sold in our exhibition as part of Alphington Open Studios, where sales will support the Parklands.

ZEFFY



<https://www.zeffy.com/en-AU/ticketing/whittling-olive-wood-spoons>



Fungi talk & photos



On Sunday afternoon 26 July in the Gleeson Centre, Ema from MYCommunity gave a talk on Fungi.

It was very informative about the evolution, biology and ecology of fungi, the biological kingdom that includes molds and yeasts, and there is further information on the website <https://myco.org.au>.

She also recommended reading Where the Slime Mould Creeps: The Fascinating World of Myxomycetes by Sarah Lloyd.

The talk did not have specific relevance to the welfare of the Parklands but she suggested reading Fungi for Land: A Practical Guide for Land Managers by Roz Hart and Sapphire McMullan-Fisher.

It is important to create an environment amenable to fungi, and keep invaders out. Avoid monocultures, including in the make-up of mulches. Diversity means resilience.

Graeme Vernon had taken on the task of photographing fungi for us and provided this resource.

Fungi of our patch

Darwin Parklands - 2026

Thirteen finds from our recent surveys, arranged by how they are related rather than where we found them. Most belong to the Agaricales, the order of familiar gilled mushrooms. The last two sit well outside it. Photographer: G. Vernon

Colour key

- Suborder Agaricineae
- Suborder Pluteineae
- Family Mycenaceae
- Outside the Agaricales

Gilled mushrooms & allies

Order Agaricales



Field & button mushrooms

Genus *Agaricus*



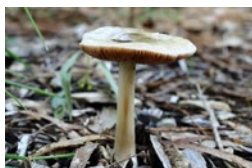
Chip cherries

Leratiomyces cereus



Stubble rosegill

Volvopluteus gloiocephalus



Porecap fungi

Genus *Favolaschia*



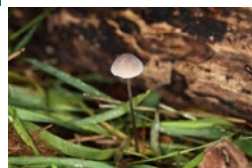
Ruby bonnet

Cruentomycena viscidocruenta



Mycena austrofilipes

Family Mycenaceae



Bracket fungi

Family Polyporaceae



Sunburst lichens & firedots

Family Teloschistaceae - a lichen



Please take care not to spread the **INVASIVE** Porecap fungi, commonly known as Orange Pore Fungi

Do not eat wild fungi. This handout is for identification and appreciation only. It is not a foraging guide, and nothing in it should be treated as advice that any species is safe to eat. Several fungi in this region are highly toxic, and some closely resemble edible species. Photographs and written descriptions are not a reliable basis for deciding whether a fungus is safe. Please look, photograph and record, but do not consume. Keep children and pets away from fungi in the field, and wash your hands after handling specimens.

If you or someone else may have eaten a wild fungus, call the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 immediately, or 000 if the person is unwell. If possible, keep a sample or photo of the fungus for identification.

Eucalypt Book Review

ACE – Guide to Eucalypts Melbourne

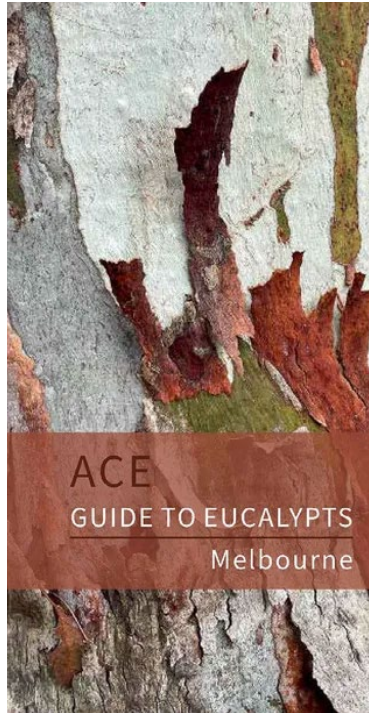
Back in the 1960s Leon Costermans was one of the early naturalists to publish a popular illustrated field guide to 'Trees of Victoria', covering mostly eucalypts with a few acacias and some other plants thrown in for completeness.

These early illustrated guides contained black and white drawings of the leaves, buds, flowers and fruits with the occasional photo of the different bark types.

Fast forward some sixty years, and we have now very detailed lavishly illustrated books on eucalypts, generally focussed on professionals and student botanists. Few of these volumes deal with very localised areas and even fewer focus on providing guidance for beginner enthusiasts.

Roderick Fensham and Vicky Shukuroglou have produced an exquisite 56 page pocket-size 'Guide to Eucalypts Melbourne' detailing 32 indigenous and 4 of the introduced species.

The guide provides an overview of the Melbourne region, very clear details on identifying the different eucalypts



based on their characteristics, with 36 pages of high-resolution photography of bark, leaves, buds, and fruit — laid out so one can make an identification in the field.

To the great credit to the authors, every one of these pages is a work of art, reflecting their knowledge, enthusiasm and love of our local eucalypts.

My favourite species are the four sub-alpine ones – alpine ash, mountain ash, shining gum and snow gum – but there are so many others to choose from.

Additionally, together with Karl Just, Vicky has developed a short course to Eucalypt Identification & Ecology. It consists of interactive classroom sessions and four days of guided field experience across Melbourne's diverse landscapes — suitable for all levels of knowledge.

Vicky is also available for guided walks in our local Darebin Creek environment (*being organised for 2027*).

Harry Schaap (*Friends of Darebin Parklands c'ttee*)

Editor: Harry, most of the eucalypts in the parklands are introduced from outside Melbourne. Do you have another identification guide to recommend for members?

Harry: I generally look at Trees of Victoria and Adjacent Areas, 6th Edition by Leon Costermans. It is not as 'photogenic' as the ACE publication, but it covers a lot more eucalypts in excellent detail.

ACE – Guide to Eucalypts Melbourne, Roderick Fensham and Vicky Shukuroglou, \$30 plus \$7.50 postage and handling, see www.eucalyptsmelbourne.au

Eucalypt Identification & Ecology - Interactive classroom sessions and guided field experience - suitable for all levels of knowledge, four Saturdays, October & November 2026, \$900, full pdf available at www.eucalyptsmelbourne.au



Vicky is involved with another sister organisation, having founded biodiversity-focussed Nillumbio, not so far from us in Nillumbik.



For knowledge of this book, thanks to the newsletter of our big-sister organisation, Warringal Conservation Society <https://warringal.org.au>

It is also worth visiting their web site to share their wonderful experience in the Banyule Flats – A Guided walk with the same Vicky Shukuroglou.

<https://warringal.org.au/news/fantastic-guided-walk-through-banyule-flats-with-vicky-shukuroglou/>

Your Parkland

Events calendar 2026

Tuesday October 6, 7 pm Committee mtg

Sunday October 11, 2 pm Olive Spoons
whittling #1 with Pip Haydon

Tuesday October 13, 4 pm Olive Spoons #2

Tuesday, October 13, 7 pm Crafting Living
Landscapes with Emmaline Bowman

Sunday October 18, 2 pm Olive Spoons #3

Tuesday October 20, 4 pm Olive Spoons #4

Saturday October 24, Bus trip to the Source

Weekend November 21 & 22, 11 am – 5 pm
Alphington Open Studios with
Parkland Artists in the Gleeson Centre

Sunday afternoon November 29th
End-of-year event with Neil Blake
guest speaker about Tawnies.



Member Survey Summary report

18 responses is not a big number but not bad, as surveys go. Some people think the format made a difference, and a form that demands answers would eliminate the large number of blanks, but would they mean anything?

The responses indicate that for many, membership is a way of showing their support for the Parklands cause whilst being inactive themselves.

I was encouraged at the proportion who read the newsletter. And most preferred that and email for information. But few actually attended events – why? (Many events are publicised through social media).

Not many people made practical suggestions. But the few included:

- Monthly or quarterly bird walk through the park.
- Possibly something related to 7 Koori seasons (art/performance).
- Children's and youth activities focussed on school holidays.

We need a different survey (or interviews) for non-members, especially young ones.

Jeanie

Join the Friends of Darebin Parklands

www.fdp.org.au/become-a-member/

Membership options

Type	1 year	3 years	Includes
Individual	\$25	\$60	One membership (15 yrs+)
Family	\$30	\$75	One or two memberships (15 yrs+) plus children.
Organisation	\$50	\$120	Name & email for one member representative required. Show membership certificate on request.

Please let us know a second individual email address within a family membership if not already known by FDP (optional).

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Please share your thoughts and stories.

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Social Media

Don't forget to tell Jayne and Amy what you think, and share photos, as they manage our Social Media accounts.

