



CRISP

Nursery Magazine

17 Greenwood Ave,
Ringwood VIC 3134
Tel. (03) 9879 3911
ABN: 83 189398124
info@crispnursery.org.au
www.crispnursery.org.au

Autumn 2022

Focus on Dandenong Creek

Eels of Dandenong Creek (short film award)

President's Report - Ken McInnes

Looking after our Wildlife - Nalini Scarfe

City Nature Challenge 2022

and more



White-faced Heron at Dandenong Creek: Nalini Scarfe



17 Greenwood Ave,
Ringwood VIC 3134
Tel. (03) 9879 3911
ABN: 83189398124
info@crispnursery.org.au
www.crispnursery.org.au

ABN 83 189 398 124

SALES AREA

Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm
Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm
Saturday 10.00am - 1pm
(March - Nov)

CRISP WEBSITE

www.crispnursery.org.au

Check out the full colour version
of CRISP News on-line

Management Team

Nursery Management
Annette O'Sullivan
Stephanie Dean

COMMITTEE

President Ken McInnes
Secretary Alan Bowes
Treasurer Lloyd Smiley
Member Judith Pinney
Anne McLean
Amanda Ewenson

Newsletter Editor/design: Linda Hibbs
Website manager/design: Ken McInnes

Volunteers

Most of the work at CRISP is carried out by volunteers. These are people from within the community who give their time to help provide a large range of indigenous plants for the Maroondah region. If you care about your local environment and would like to help out at the nursery, join the friendly team. No experience needed. Learn the difference between our local native plants, learn to propagate and pot up the many seedlings.

Cover photo credits

Front: White-faced Heron at Dandenong Creek,
Heathmont: Photo by Nalini Scarfe

A Note from the Editor

The focus on this issue is Dandenong Creek. A lot of changes have taken place along the creek over time, and some of these have been

recorded in previous issues of the magazine. It is a wonderful natural area that attracts much wildlife. My favourite section is at the end of Marlborough Rd, where there is not only the creek and the beautiful treed walking paths but also a few billabongs that attract water birds and numerous frogs. The First Friends of Dandenong Creek have done a wonderful job to maintain and promote the area and they are well worth joining if you live in the area and would like to

do something to help preserve our beautiful natural bushland areas. Find out more at: <https://www.ffdc.org.au>

OR

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstFriendsofDandenongCreek/>

At the AGM in March, local Wildlife Carer, Nalini Scarfe gave an interesting and informative talk about looking after our wildlife and the role we all play. See pages 4-5 for details about the presentation and what you can do to help keep our wildlife safe. Nalini is also a wonderful photographer and her photos can be seen on the front and back covers and the middle page spreads. She relies on donations and members raised more than \$300 on the day to help support the wonderful work that she does.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue: Anthony Bigelow, Nalini Scarfe, Alan Bowes, Anne McLean and Howard Elston. Thank you to Michelle Woodman for her careful proofreading, and also a big thank you to Stephanie for keeping everything rolling along and articles coming in.

Linda Hibbs



Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation who are the traditional custodians of the land upon which CRISP stands.

We would also like to pay respect to the Wurundjeri Elders, past and present, and extend this respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples today.

Report from the Nursery

Stephanie Dean & Annette O'Sullivan

We are just about at the fun time of the gardening year. A bit of autumn rain and all the planned planting projects can begin.

We have volunteers working hard at the nursery making sure we are propagating and caring for the plants that are required for plantings. Each year we see over 40,000 plants that have been propagated at the Nursery go out into the local environment. It is a tremendous effort from all involved and couldn't happen without the support of the Committee and all the volunteers that work both at the Nursery and behind the scenes.

The Sales Area reopened for Saturday Sales in March, and we have been busy with people getting organised for autumn plantings. We have been able to welcome quite a few new members who are just starting on their journey into learning about using local indigenous species in their gardens. We are well resourced to help with this. We currently are well stocked with suitable garden plants and our booklet, 'Wildlife Gardens Maroondah' is helpful for plant selection.

We are also able to direct people to the Maroondah City Council Bushland Liaison Support Officer if help is needed in assessing your site. A visit can be organised where you will get information on preparation of the area and selection of appropriate species. Autumn is the time when we start packing all the orders and sending our plants out into the environment. Our main orders are for Maroondah Council and each year it is pleasing to see the results of our propagation activities ending up in the local reserves.

In recent years there has been an increase of people making use of their local reserves and feeling more connected with their parks. This has resulted in many small Friends Groups (which may be only one or two people) making use of the Maroondah Council Bushland Liaison Support Officer to discuss ideas for revegetating these areas. All these small reserves throughout Maroondah can provide important habitat stepping stones for our wildlife, and people have reported an increase in native birdlife and butterflies as these projects develop.

Welcome to new committee member: Amanda Ewenson

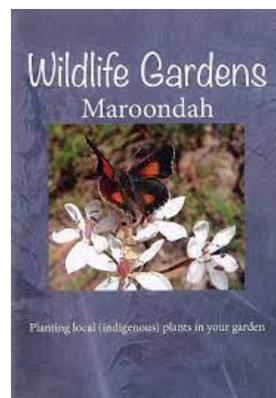
DISCLAIMER

CRISP Nursery Inc. does not hold itself responsible for statements made or opinions expressed in CRISP News. They may not necessarily reflect the opinions of the organisation but are merely printed to share information with those who are interested in the conservation of our local flora and related environmental concerns.

If you live near a reserve that could do with a bit of revegetation, the first thing to do is contact the Bushland Liaison Support Officer (see Maroondah City Council contact below) to discuss your ideas. An on-site meeting will be organised to work out the scope of the project and how you can be supported. Some things to consider are: How much you are prepared to put into the project - both initially and with long term maintenance? Will you be working on this alone or are there others likely to get involved?

It is important to discuss your project with council first to make sure that the plantings are appropriate otherwise it could make it difficult for mowing or for access issues and then the plantings will have to be removed. There are many areas in Maroondah that could do with some extra love and care from residents. It is this input into our open spaces that improves the liveability of our Municipality. If you have a bit of time and inspiration, don't hesitate to contact the Maroondah Council Bushland Liaison Support Officer, Maroondah City Council: maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au tel:1300 88 22 33 or (03) 9298 4598

Our focus has been on keeping the Nursery running during all the challenging times that COVID has presented us with. With infection rates still high and the challenges continuing, we have not yet resumed some of our past activities. Our Monday Mornings in the Reserves outings and Seed Cleaning Evenings remain on hold. We will let you know when we are able to resume these popular activities. Meanwhile keep planting and enjoying your local environment...





Looking After Our Wildlife

Presentation by Nalini Scarfe CRISP AGM

Compiled by Linda Hibbs



Ken McInnes presents Nalini with a framed print by Ruth Jackson
Photo Alan Bowes



RESCUING WILDLIFE

If you do happen to find an injured bird and you think you probably can't handle it, then call for assistance from a friend or neighbour. Approach from behind if possible and use a towel to cover the head. Don't grip birds around the middle because they do not have a diaphragm. Put them in a

box with the towel and preferably not in a wire cage. Treat for shock - so place in a warm, dark, quiet place. You can provide a bowl of water but do NOT feed it. Then take to a vet or ring Wildlife Victoria and they will refer you to a registered Wildlife Carer who can take it from there.

DO NOT handle raptors! Call Wildlife Victoria. Don't attempt to capture a kangaroo, as apart from them being able to give a damaging kick, they also suffer from stress myopathy (muscle wasting from lactic acid released during extreme stress that can also lead to death). Call a Wildlife expert.

Best to leave echidnas and never handle bats, especially the Flying Fox variety as they can carry the Lyssavirus. Use a pillow case to pick up a lizard and a towel for a turtle. When rescuing animals such as possums or gliders, use a soft towel.

Birds and animals have a preservation reflex and if they think you are looking, they will look as if they are fine, so it is important to observe them.

If you find any marsupial that has been hit by a car-check the pouch. And note that a wombat has a backward facing pouch - so look from the back.

General advice for looking in pouches.

Good to keep some plastic gloves in your car for such things. Move the animal off the road. Check the full depth of the pouch and both nipples. Never pull a young off by force as if they are tiny they are fused to the nipple. You will need to cut the teat with scissors. Attach a safety pin to the teat so that it doesn't swallow it. With a baby, move it around so that it comes out back first. Do not pull out by the legs.

TO FEED OR NOT TO FEED WILDLIFE

Wildlife has a balanced diet. If you feed them, you change the balance of their diet and thus impact on their health. Most food that is given to wildlife, often with good intentions, is bad for them. It leads to obesity and sickness and a dependency. It can also pass on disease.

Bread is bad as it expands in their stomach and also along with mince meat can lead to bone disease. Mince meat is really bad as it often sticks to the birds beak and then starts to rot and cause disintegration of parts of the beak.

So DO NOT feed mince meat to birds (or animals!)

Nalini Scarfe first became interested in looking after injured wildlife after the King Lake bushfires in 2009, and since then has gone from being a wildlife rescuer, to a foster carer, to now running a Wildlife Rehabilitation centre at her home in Heathmont. She works closely with Wildlife Victoria who often refer wildlife to her, especially birds (including raptors) which she now specialises in.

The main reasons wildlife needs rescuing:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Trauma | Flying into windows Attack by other animals Extreme Weather Entanglement in wire fences Poisoning |
| Disease | Especially the Bird and Feather disease which is becoming more prevalent in our bird population. |
| Orphaning | Loss of habitat Human interference Thrown out by other birds |
| Human Cruelty | Sadly cases are seen where someone has injured wildlife on purpose. |

Birdnapping is a big problem with people thinking they are doing the right thing by picking up a fledgling they see on the ground and taking it to a wildlife shelter, when in fact, in most cases, especially Tawny Frogmouths, mum and dad are usually nearby. and putting the baby up on a branch is so much better and the parents will continue to feed and look after the baby. This is the same also for magpies.

So the advice is, unless there is absolutely no alternative, put the baby up on a branch or up high and assume the parents will come and feed it. Tawny Frogmouths build very flimsy nests - so fledglings are often found on the ground.

Feeding birds can also lead to aggression between species and within species as they fight to get food. It often also encourages the larger birds and then they chase away the smaller birds.

Feeding and hygiene.

- Feeders can rot and grow mould.
- Feeders can lead to attacks by predators
- Can affect breeding cycles and migratory patterns
- Spread disease

Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease

Nalini explained that this is becoming more frequent in our bird populations and can spread easily through putting feed out for birds. Birds who have the disease then feed from the seeds, other birds come along and pick up the disease - and so it continues to spread. It is found mostly in the parrot populations. It is passed on via faecal contamination and feather and skin particles. It is usually a fatal disease and a cruel one where over time the bird loses more and more feathers and so ends up unable to fly and also some parrot species end up with extended beak growth and so are unable to feed. It is becoming more common in White Cockatoos, Rainbow Lorikeets and other parrots. So Nalini's advice again is **DO NOT LEAVE SEEDS OUT FOR BIRDS!**

The best thing you can do for birds is to plant local bushy plants, flowering plants and native grasses that will encourage the birds to feed naturally in your garden. Also encourage Council to put up signs around bushland areas and lakes explaining why not to feed ducks and other birds. This is vital for the survival of our wildlife.



Rainbow Lorikeet and Sulphur Crested White Cockatoo suffering from Beak and Feather Disease:



Photos Linda Hibbs

President's Report

Ken McInnes



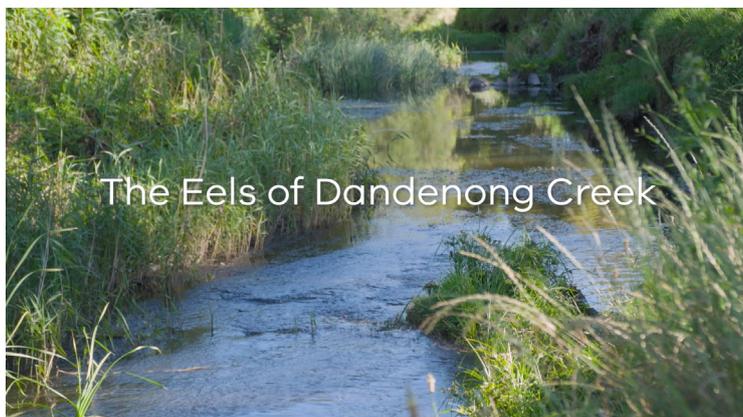
2021 was another challenging year with COVID restrictions impacting the way the nursery operated. The number of volunteers able to work at the nursery was restricted at different times throughout the year, and the Monday Mornings in the Reserves program was also significantly reduced. Times when the nursery could be open for customers was also restricted. Despite these impacts, there was still over three thousand hours contributed by volunteers throughout the year, and plant sales were in line with pre-COVID years. Overall, the nursery had a successful year and is in a sound financial position.

The re-designed sales area was operational during periods customers were permitted to visit the nursery. Feedback has been positive and customers/members have appreciated the layout that provides for social distancing. The CRISP Nursery Magazine continued to be produced at the usual high standards, thanks to the ongoing work by our Editor, Linda Hibbs, and a huge thanks to members for their valuable content contributions. There were two editions of the magazine issued during the year, plus there was a CRISP 2022 calendar produced. All members received a complimentary copy of the calendar.

A number of operational improvements were implemented during the year. These included: upgraded computer hardware, software and printer; more integrated and improved telephone and internet services through Aussie Broadband; documentation of CRISP's processes and procedures; new shade cloth around the perimeter of the nursery to provide better protection from wind, leaf litter and unwanted fauna. Looking forward, there are some exciting initiatives that we hope to explore. These include: ways to increase our engagement with members; work with Council on relevant initiatives; look at ways to recognise indigenous Australian plant names; and how to celebrate CRISP's 30th birthday.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to acknowledge and thank our managers, Stephanie Dean and Annette O'Sullivan for their ongoing hard work and dedication. I would also like to recognise the work of our Past-President, Ann Adams, who resigned from the role in April 2021. I would also like to acknowledge Ruth Jackson for her unique and outstanding botanical illustrations, plus Pam Catling for being awarded the winner of the 2021 Bill Wilkins Volunteer Award. And in conclusion, I would also like to thank Maroondah City Council, my fellow Committee members, our wonderful Volunteers, and Members for their ongoing support.





The Eels of Dandenong Creek

First Friends of Dandenong Creek's short film wins Premiers award

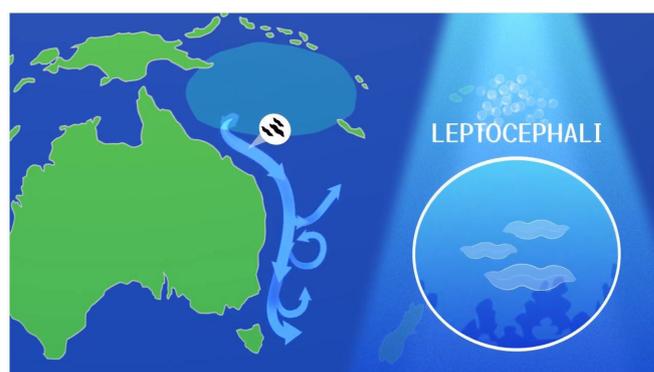
By Anthony Bigelow

Dandenong Creek in Melbourne's outer east, forms in the upper part of the Dandenong Ranges, where towering Mountain Ash and fern glades reign. As it trickles over rocks and logs, the water runs clear, as it's filtered through the vast sponge that is Doongalla Forest and rarely breaks its banks after heavy rain. Lyrebirds can be found throughout this patch and platypus have been seen in its tributaries within the last ten years. It's a glimpse in many ways of what the Dandenong Valley used to look like. However, within 3km's of this point, it emerges into our highly urbanised environment, and its journey through the South-Eastern suburbs and eventually into Port Phillip Bay, takes a very different shape.

Since colonisation, the creek has been dammed, straightened, piped, dug up, filled-in, concreted, and diverted along the majority of its 50km course from its source, which takes it through Wurundjeri and Bunurong Country. As our urban world has pushed up against its boundaries, we've tapped our stormwater into our creek and its tributaries, and for a long time through human eyes we've seen it as merely a place to dispose of 'things', whether that's rubbish or other more insidious items.

On any given day throughout the year, you might be forgiven for thinking that Dandenong Creek is nothing more than a dirty urban drain. It is typical of many of our urban waterways, still seen not as a harbinger of life by the majority, but as a resource only, and because of that view it has had a long history of pollution. Our particular local patch has two large industrial estates bordering the creek in Bayswater, both of which contribute significantly to the creeks overall health and its occasional dramatic decline.

In the days after Melbourne Cup Day in 2017, we witnessed a severe pollution event in our creek, following the dumping of a chemical into the stormwater system from one of the nearby industrial estates. If you came in contact with the water in the creek that week you immediately experienced a burning sensation on your skin, and the odour of chemicals was clearly present. Due to low rainfall preceding and during this event, the chemicals had time to cause a huge amount of damage along 5km of the creek, as the substance worked its way methodically through the water. By the end of that week, over ten truckloads of dead fish and eels had been collected by Melbourne Water, as a consequence of this action. Not only was it utterly heart breaking to witness, we simply had no idea that such an amazing animal lived in our creek - the short-finned eels.



Since this time, we've been yearning to tell the story of our eels, not just for our creek, but for all of the waterways across Melbourne and further afield, and to explain how pollution is affecting their lifecycle. It's been a fascinating journey for us to understand how all of our waterways across the east coast are essential to the eels. It was critical to explain their journey out to the Coral Sea to mate, and then return to live in our waterways for many years, and to then repeat that journey back to their spawning location. We wanted to

raise their profile, provide a range of insights on them, cover their importance to our indigenous nations, and above all to make it relatable and insightful. We needed to showcase this amazing species, and help start the process of educating the wider community and the consequences from our urbanisation.

Pollution comes in numerous forms, whether it's unintended consequences of using insecticides around our homes, or dumping of chemicals into the stormwater systems. All of these actions have a direct and negative impact on the health and the life within our waterways. Being a top predator, the short-finned eels are impacted heavily when that entire ecosystem is affected. This in turn changes the balance and dynamics of the web of life.

This led to First Friends of Dandenong Creek being the winners of the 2021 Premier's Sustainability Award for our short film **'The Eels of Dandenong Creek'**. The group won in the category 'Healthy Environment - Community Champion'. The short film has been viewed over 37,000 times on our social media platforms so far.

Short-finned eels for a long time have been a cryptic species, and if we can encourage a 'lightbulb' moment for the viewer, then we have changed one mind, made the connection to the bigger picture, and eventually that all adds up. The best outcome we were aiming for, was for people to think twice about their actions and to stop thinking of our urban waterways as 'dirty old drains', but instead to see them as places where

amazing life exists just under the surface of the water.

Changing attitudes is always an uphill battle, but we believe that education is a critical facilitator for behavioural change. The question we need to ask ourselves, is what can we do to support our eels across all of our waterways to ensure their continued survival, and how our urban landscape continues to impact upon them?

If you'd like to see our short film, simply Google The Eels of Dandenong Creek or go to:
<https://www.youtube.com/>
OR
<https://m.facebook.com/FirstFriendsofDandenongCreek/videos/the-eels-of-dandenong-creek/250969003308915/watch?v=umZINGATy0E>





Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo
Nalini Scarfe

Dandenong

Maroon

Photos by Nalini Scarfe
and Linda Hibbs

Kookaburra - Nalini Scarfe

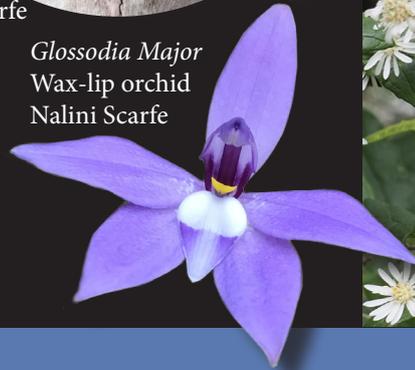


Galah
Nalini Scarfe

Olearia ramulosa (Twiggy Daisy)
Linda Hibbs



Glossodia Major
Wax-lip orchid
Nalini Scarfe

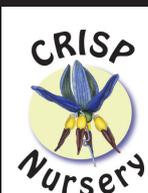


Linda Hibbs

White-faced Heron
Nalini Scarfe



Marlborough Rd end of Dandenong



© CRISP Nursery
17 Greenwood Ave
Ringwood
www.crispnursery.org.au
info@crispnursery.org.au

ng Creek

ondah

Nalini Scarfe
Linda Hibbs

(aisy-bush)



Gang-gang Cockatoo
Nalini Scarfe

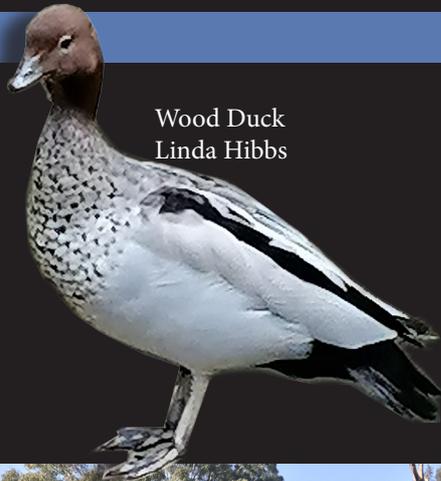


White-faced Heron Nalini Scarfe

Acacia ulicifolia (Juniper Wattle) Linda Hibbs



g Creek: Linda Hibbs



Wood Duck
Linda Hibbs



Kreff's glider (*Petaurus notatus*)
Nalini Scarfe



Re-Imagining Tarralla Creek Update



Howard Elston

News from the Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee (MEAC)

Despite delays due to COVID restrictions and wet weather, the project made significant progress. The bird hide, pedestrian shelters and new bridge are finished. Landscaping and re-vegetation are planned for later this year during cooler, wetter months. Much of the work now focuses on providing space and opportunities for the local community to form stronger connections with the creek through education, stewardship of the natural environment, and engagement with indigenous cultural opportunities.

When Stage 1 construction finishes in mid-2022, there will be an event involving all project partners to mark the formal opening of the site to the public.

Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) Planning Scheme Amendment

Council has been advised the Planning amendment has been approved and will be gazetted shortly. This amendment requires development applications of three dwellings or more and non-residential dwellings of more than 500 sqm within City of Maroondah to be accompanied by a report (typically via the Built Environment Sustainability Scorecard tool) that assesses the environmental performance of the proposal.

Maroondah has also joined with thirty other Victorian councils and CASBE (The Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment) to collaborate on a joint research project that aims to elevate ESD targets for new development.

Maroondah Vegetation Strategy 2020-2030 implementation highlights

Stringybark decline: Bushland is negotiating with a nursery near Yackandandah for supply of trees for next year's planting. These trees are from a warmer, drier climate similar to that predicted for Melbourne in 2050. These trees will be monitored for comparative success compared to more locally grown stock ('Climate Future Plots') and will include stringybarks which have been declining in Maroondah, as well as species which have suffered less in dieback.

Investigate monitoring of ongoing compliance with landscaping and tree replacement requirements: Statutory Planning has prepared a business case to undertake a six-month trial audit of compliance with permit conditions relating to tree replanting. The audit is expected to commence in early 2022.

Advocate for major investment into restoring natural and cultural waterway and riparian conditions along waterways such as Mullum Mullum Creek, to improve habitat corridor function, and passive recreational access and use: Bushland received grants of \$80,000 for weed control and re-vegetation. In 2021, over 3350 plants were planted along the Mullum Mullum Creek corridor.

Investigate and trial innovative and traditional bushland management techniques for increasing biodiversity and habitat conditions: In the next one to three months, trials will be conducted of the 'grooming' machine to reduce woody and other unwanted vegetation whilst promoting indigenous plant diversity. The first examples of direct seeded species have reached the flowering stage. This is a key landmark in successful use of the process in reducing decline of various species within Maroondah. The first seed farms have been distributed to public participants. These farms will produce seed of declining species for use in propagation or direct seeding in reserves.

Establish a reliable and cost-effective method for ongoing monitoring of tree and shrub cover, starting with testing the suitability of 'Tree Ledger', and set Maroondah-wide tree canopy and shrub cover targets that are aligned with the Living Melbourne strategy: Tree Ledger now includes an online analytics tool - Live Explorer and Analytics Finder (LE+AF) that draws on the Tree Ledger data. Funding to undertake the 2022 Tree Ledger analysis still needs to be secured.

Review the 2005 Habitat Corridor Strategy to confirm priority linkage routes and align with this strategy's focus on habitat for a suite of 'focal' species: Completing the consultancy project Maroondah Habitat Connectivity Plan in October 2021 represents a key milestone. The next stage is the preparation and implementation of Biolink action plans, starting with Mullum Mullum Creek.

Planning will begin with identifying and engaging the key stakeholders such as the local community, departments within Maroondah Council and Melbourne Water. Lessons learned in developing the first plan will be applied to subsequent biolink plans.

Recycling your pots

Anne McLean

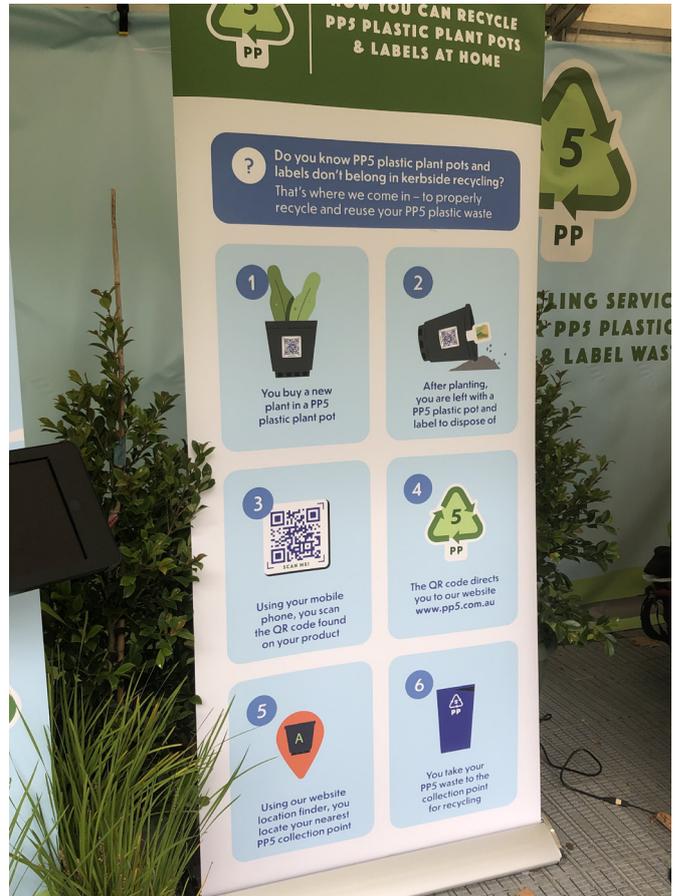
The Nursery is always happy to take back black tubes and 15cm black pots for re-use. But as we all know, we often accumulate pots in various shapes and sizes. These are not of use to the Nursery but if they have the PP5 recycling symbol on them, they can be recycled.

They may be despoised at various collection sites around Melbourne (listed below are the sites closest to the Nursery).

Be sure that your material for disposal has the PP5 recycling symbol, is cleared of all soil, and pots, trays, etc are stacked. Anything for recycling should also NOT be contained in a plastic bag.

- **Beasley's Nursery**
195 Heidelberg-Warrandyte Road
Warrandyte 3113
- **Bulleen Art and Garden**
6 Manningham Road, Bulleen 3105
- **Nillumbik Nursery**
235c Main Hurstbridge Road
Diamond Creek 3089
- **Pinewood Quality Nursery**
478 Blackburn Road
Glen Waverley 3150
- **Plant Multi**
423 Liverpool Road, Kilsyth South 3137
- **Plantmark**
771 Boronia Road, Wantirna 3152
- **Yarra View Garden Centre**
136 York Road, Mount Evelyn 3796

And finally, many of the centres listed who we called when compiling this information, suggested that they were also pleased for people to take pots left by others for recycling.



Knox Environment Society continues its campaign to **Save Lake Knox** from development. Their petition currently has over 22,700 signatures and you can sign up here. <https://www.change.org/p/save-lake-knox-from-being-bulldozed>

Note: The Maroondah group of Australian Plant Society now meets in the Ringwood East Senior Citizens Club on the 4th Friday night of the month at 8pm.
Contact: maroondah@apsvic.org.au



15th and 16th October 2022
Early Bird Registration Open until 30th June
<https://apsvic.org.au/fjc-rogers-seminar-2022>



April 29th -May 2nd
 Taking pictures of wild plants and animals
May 3rd -8th
 Identifying what was found

Started in 2016 as a competition between San Francisco and Los Angeles, the City Nature Challenge (CNC) has grown into an international event, motivating people around the world to find and document wildlife in their cities. Run by the Community Science teams at the California Academy of Sciences and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the CNC is an annual four-day global bioblitz at the end of April, where cities are in a collaboration-meets-friendly-competition to see not only what can be accomplished when we all work toward a common goal, but also which city can gather the most observations of nature, find the most species, and engage the most people in the event.

Taking Part is Easy



Find Wildlife
 It can be any plant, animal, or any other organism that you find in nature.



Take a Picture
 Take a picture of what you find. Be sure to note the location of the critter or plant.



Share!
 Share your observations through iNaturalist or your city's chosen platform.

Create your own iNaturalist account

- > Visit [iNaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org)
- > Download the app from the [AppStore](#) or [Google Play](#)
- > Sign In
- > Start sharing your observations
- > Get feedback from actual scientists, experts, and other naturalists



To get started, download the free iNaturalist app (from Google Play or App Store) on to your smartphone and create your profile using a mobile number or email address. Then head out to your local creek, reserve, or even your own backyard and keep an eye out for wild plants and animals. Using the app, you can record an image or two of each different plant or animal you can find (your phone's GPS will record the date and location), identify them to the level you are confident with, then share your observations on the iNaturalist online platform.

To help you download the app and get started using it, Maroondah produced a basic guide for each of Apple and Android devices. Alternatively, once back home on your computer, you can log into the iNaturalist website and record the locations (by dropping a pin on a map) and upload your photos of the observations. This enables you to use photos taken with digital cameras, and also to be more selective with the photos you upload.

Identifying your observations

As part of uploading an observation, you are encouraged to identify each one to the extent of your knowledge. Once uploaded, the online iNaturalist community will be able to see them, and often will apply their knowledge to refine, or confirm, your identifications.

For example, if you only know what you have observed as a 'butterfly', you can identify it as "Butterflies and Moths - Lepidoptera", and once it has been uploaded someone who knows their butterflies may update your observation with its full species name. You will receive a notification of any updates made to your observations.



This year, Maroondah is teaming up with 20 other councils to represent Greater Melbourne on the global stage. By joining in and making observations of plants, animals and fungi over the four days you can help boost Maroondah's statistics in the Challenge and contribute to broader scientific data that will help improve biodiversity conservation.

You are invited to register for one or more of the Nature Discovery Activities being held within Maroondah during the four days, where you can learn about many different species from expert guides. Make sure to register for the activities, as spots are limited.

Friday 29 April, 2022

6.30pm to 8.30pm

Focusing on frogs and reptiles

Location: Scott Street Reserve/Dandenong Creek, Heathmont.

Facilitator: **David De Angelis**

Professional ecologist - Frogs, reptiles, other fauna, general plants.

Saturday 30 April, 2022

10am to 12noon

Focusing on plants

Location: BJ Hubbard Reserve, Ringwood North.

Facilitator: **Julia Franco**

Professional botanist/local resident – plants, fungi, general fauna

Saturday 30 April, 2022

2pm to 4pm

Focusing on plants and animals

Location: Bungalook Conservation Reserve, Kilsyth South.

Facilitator: **Dr Graeme Lorimer**

(Professional ecologist – Plants, general fungi and animals).

Saturday 30 April, 2022

7pm to 9pm

Focusing on moths

Location: Warriem Reserve, Croydon North.

Facilitator: **Peter Marriott** (Entomological Society of Victoria - Moths and other nocturnal invertebrates)

Sunday 1 May, 2022

9am to 10.30am

Focusing on birds

Location: Wombolano Reserve, Ringwood East.

Facilitator: **Mark and Merrilyn Smith** (Friends of Wombolano Reserve - birds)

Sunday 1 May, 2022

12.30pm to 2.30pm

Focusing on insects

Location: Eastfield Park/Tarralla Creek, Croydon.

Facilitator: **Luis Mata** (Entomological Society of Victoria, Professional ecologist - Invertebrates, general plants and fauna).

Sunday 1 May, 2022

3pm to 5pm

Focusing on water bugs

Location: Barneong Reserve/Brushy Creek, Croydon.

Facilitator: **Eddie Tsyrlin** (The Waterbug Company - Aquatic invertebrates and aquatic plants)

Monday 2 May, 2022

10am to 12 noon

Focusing on fungi

Location: Peter Vergers Reserve/Mullum Mullum Creek, Ringwood.

Facilitator: **Sapphire McMullan-Fisher** (FunFungi Ecology - Fungi)

Why participate in the City Nature Challenge?

There is nature all around us, even in our cities! Knowing what species are in our city and where they are helps us study and protect them, but the ONLY way to do that is by all of us – scientists, land managers, and the community – working together to find and document the nature in our area. By participating in the City Nature Challenge, not only do you learn more about your local nature, but you can also make your city a better place – for you and other species!



Join in the 2022 City Nature Challenge!

29 April to 2 May

Join a global project and find, photograph and record the native flora and fauna that lives and grows in your neighbourhood!

Help us collect biodiversity data and see how we compare with other cities from around the world!



LOCAL ENVIRONMENT/FRIENDS GROUPS

Many local residents are working to improve the habitat and connectivity of our reserves. If you are interested in getting involved, either join with one of the existing groups or start your own in your local reserve. If you are interested in starting work in your local reserve, contact the Bushland Team at Maroondah City Council (9294 5677) to discuss how your effort and enthusiasm can be best directed.

The Maroondah City Council website provides further detail about many of the reserves and walks in Maroondah <http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Explore/Parks-and-playgrounds/>

Bungalook Conservation Reserve

Working bees held 2nd Saturday of the month from 9.30 am

Contact: Graeme 0403 229 862 or graeme@meg.org.au

Cheong Environment Group

Contact: Ruth 0400 915 057 or ruth.mcauld@gmail.com

Croydon Conservation Society

<http://www.croydonconservation.org.au/>
Contact: Liz 9879 2247 or president@croydonconservation.org.au

Dorset Trail Bushcare

Contact: Rachel 0439 385 222 or DorsetTrailBushcare@gmail.com

First Friends of Dandenong Creek

<https://www.ffdc.org.au/>
Facebook: First Friends of Dandenong Creek
Contact: Charlie 0417 125 677 or email ffdc1999@gmail.com

Friends of Candlebark Walk Reserve

Working bees held every second month
Contact: Marlene 9723 0656 or email: marnrobt@gmail.com

Friends of Cheong Park

Contact: cheongcroydon@gmail.com

Friends of Eastfield Park

Contact: Michelle 0416 043 736 or mchllstone@gmail.com

Friends of FJC Rogers Reserve

Working day 1st Wednesday of the month from 12.00 to about 2pm. Bring your lunch and chair.
Contact: Don 97362309 or idontlikesrambledeggs@gmail.com

Friends of Herman Pump Reserve

2-3 Working bees a year

Contact: Ann 0402 628 054 or email annandcraig@hotmail.com

Friends of Melview Reserve

Contact: (Elspeth) elspeth.defanti@gmail.com

Friends of Wombolano

Working bees held 3rd Sunday of the month
Contact: Andy 0414 999 491 or
Merrilyn 0410 073 514

Heathmont Bushcare

<https://heathmontbushcare.com/>
Working bees held 1st Sunday of the month
Contact: heathmontbushcare@gmail.com

Hillside Environmental Group

Contact: (Heather) hmmorcomb@yahoo.com.au

Maroondah Bushlinks

Contact: Margaret 9876 3094 or email: marbushoz@hotmail.com

Mullum Mullum Bushcare Group

Facebook: Mullum Mullum Creek Bushcare Group
Contact: Bill 0418 366 780 or email bhc94445@bigpond.com OR tristramlarkins@optusnet.com

Ringwood Field Naturalists Club

<http://www.rfnc.org.au/>
Contact: info@rfnc.org.au

Warranwood Reserve

<http://warranwoodreserve.org/>
Contact: Margaret 9876 3094 or email: warranwoodres@hotmail.com

Warrien Reserve

<http://warrien.org/>
Contact: David 9725 3163 or email: friends@warrien.org

Botanical illustrations (Cards and prints) by Ruth Jackson

'The Natural History of Maroondah Series'

Illustrations available to purchase from the nursery
Cards \$4, Archival quality A4 prints \$30
Over 50 species/illustrations available exclusively through CRISP nursery. All sales go towards directly supporting CRISP nursery.



CRISP SALES DAYS

The sales area is open Saturday mornings from 10.00 -1.00pm (March to November) and Wednesday and Friday from 9.30-12.30 year round (excluding public holidays)

Tubestock: \$1.50 for members and \$2.00 non-members
140mm pots: \$4.00 for members and \$5.50 non-members
All sales are cash only unless by prior arrangement

Don't forget to return your tubes and pots to the nursery so they can be used again.

Note: All CRISP memberships are due for renewal at the end of June (if you join between March and June 2022, your membership will remain current until end of June 2023). Many thanks to those who have already renewed, your ongoing support of the nursery is greatly appreciated.

Direct deposit to renew membership

Can't get to the nursery to pay cash?
Don't have a cheque book? We are making it easier for you to renew by direct deposit.

BSB 033 044 Account No: 149422

Ensure you put your name in the details section so we can update your membership



Sending an email to the nursery when you make the deposit will ensure that your membership information is updated correctly.



(Please Circle) SINGLE -\$10 per annum FAMILY- \$15 per annum GROUP -\$20 per annum

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact: Tel: _____ Email: _____

PLEASE TICK ✓

NEWSLETTER OPTIONS:

I wish to continue receiving the newsletter by snail mail

OR

I wish to read the newsletter on the website

Please forward payment to:

The Treasurer
CRISP Nursery Inc.
PO Box 706
Heathmont, VIC 3135





CRISP Nursery Magazine

Autumn 2022

Indigenous
Plant Nursery
17 Greenwood Ave
Ringwood VIC 3134

Tel. (03) 9879 3911
ABN: 83189398124
info@crispnursery.org.au
crispnursery.org.au



CRISP Nursery Magazine

Autumn 2022

WILDLIFE
VICTORIA
ON CALL TO HELP
03 8400 7300

Gang-gang Cockatoo -Dandenong Creek
Photo: Nalini Scarfe

Contents

Autumn 2022

Focus on Dandenong Creek

- 2 Note from the Editor
- 3 Report from the Nursery
- 4-5 Looking After our Wildlife
- 5 President's Report
- 6-7 The Eels of Dandenong Creek (Film Award)
- 8-9 Dandenong Creek - photographic record
- 10 Re-imaging Tarralla Creek Update
- 11 Recycling your Pots
- 12-13 City Nature Challenge
- 14 Local Environment/Friends Groups
- 15 Membership

- Linda Hibbs
- Stephanie Dean and Annette O'Sullivan
- Nalini Scarfe
- Ken McInnes
- Anthony Bigelow
- Nalini Scarfe/Linda Hibbs
- Howard Elston
- Anne McLean
- Doug Evans/Maroondah Council