

## THE FRIENDS OF BRAESIDE PARK

# NEWSLETTER



### Braeside Park

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### Friends of Braeside Park

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The Friends are changing the newsletter to email format only. This allows us to comply with Covid-19 guidelines and to maintain our low membership fees for the future.



*The opinions expressed in this newsletter are the authors' and do not necessarily reflect those of Parks Victoria or its staff.*

## From the President

### I'm Confused!

On 30 April 2021, Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio, Victorian Minister of Energy, Environment and Climate Change launched The *Open Space for Everyone* Strategy. There's a website

<https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/open-space-for-everyone>

with a well-produced online booklet entitled *Open Space for Everyone Open Space Strategy for Metropolitan Melbourne 2021*. In this, you can read a statement such as: *"A healthy environment is fundamental to a healthy society. And our diverse ecosystems and plants and animals – especially those that are threatened and endangered – also need high-quality, connected open space: landscapes, coastlines and waterway corridors."* (Page 21)

Minister, you took the words right out of my mouth.

Ms D'Ambrosio explains that: *One of the immediate priorities for the team will be to work with state and local open space land managers to develop a long-term investment opportunities framework."*

Putting aside the hyperbole, this sounds fantastic, especially when combined with the Minister's other announcement of a review into Victorian Wildlife Act 1975. This legislation hasn't been reviewed since it started nearly fifty years ago in which time Australia has become a world-leader in enabling vertebrate extinction endangerment. Everyone is invited to participate at

<https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/wildlife-act-review>

(Australia's unique animals need all the friends they can get.)

### So, why am I confused?

Well, in our corner of Melbourne things don't look so rosy. The long-promised, long-awaited Chain of Parks, which dates back to before that Wildlife Act is now part of the planned Suburban Rail Loop. Actually, the Victoria Government is taking 36 ha of it, the Delta site on Kingston Road, for a railway stabling yard. Not a lope. Not a station. But, a railway yard. If you want to know what a railway yard looks like, then remember the Jolimont Railway Yard - Federation Square was built over part of it.

This State Government broke that pledge of other Victorian Government's going back to the beginning of the 1970s. It broke its own \$25 million funding pledge in the 2018 State election to purchase the Delta and Henry Street sites for parkland.

Next, the State Government Planning Minister notified Kingston Council that AustralianSuper Residential Property is seeking rezoning and redevelopment of the Kingswood Golf Course in Dingley Village.

Still, the Mordialloc Freeway continues to gouge its way through the final stages of building a 9-kilometre freeway that Aspendale Gardens had to have!

Where amongst all these is *"high-quality, connected open space: landscapes, coastlines and waterway corridors"* Ms D'Ambrosio wrote about in her latest *"20-minute neighbourhood policy that reflects the international focus on 'hyperlocal living' and access to local open space as part of global Covid 19 responses"*?

## From the President (cont.)

Recently, I attended a consultative meeting to assess the social impact of the Train Stabling Yard. In favour of public transport, there has not been a sane analysis of Melbourne since 1970 which hasn't, but not in the Green Wedge or, at least, not smack bang in the middle of the once-promised Chain of Parks.

We *had to have* the Mordialloc Freeway because it was always promised. In fact, previous State Governments had actually sold all but 9 kilometres of the reserved freeway land by the 1990s. But, the Government can break their 30-year-old promise on the Chain of Parks!

**Judith Sise**

## The Friends of Braeside Park

Recently, I on-lined a neighbouring Council meeting to hear a Councillor challenging another for constantly *blabbing* on about Climate Change and the need for a local law to protect large canopy trees to reduce the Urban Heat effect. He triumphantly pointed to the past weekend's freezing, gusty, hailing, stormy weather as one of the coldest on record for April. The Councillor was either ignorant of the difference between weather and climate or simply denying Climate Change to score points and undermine the motion for developing a local law to save large trees as part of a policy to increase tree canopy to protect the vulnerable in the community.

You would think with a climate and extinction crisis in full swing and a global pandemic overshadowing all our lives, perhaps some of the lessons of listening to science and appreciating the need to protect our community and nature might be learned and applied. However, this councillor demonstrated the reason why Australia is currently leading the world on the extinction of mammals and is ranked fourth globally when it comes to the extinction of all species. Many people think burying their heads in the sand and the old Aussie attitude of "she'll be alright" is the best way of denying the increasing global temperatures (which increase erratic stormy weather, such as he quoted and the cyclones sweeping further south in WA). Others simply do not understand, nor want to in some cases, the science of climate. The reasons include greed, laziness and paralyses.

Witnessing the construction of the Mordialloc Freeway and surrounding urbanisation of Dingley Village and the ever-shrinking Green Wedge over the past twenty-five years, makes me shudder as to what future generations will think of us!

A recent inquiry to the Major Roads Project Victoria to find out what will be planted beside Braeside Park, especially near the underpass into the Park, provided a list of native and indigenous trees and flaxes. "Good Oh!" you say but these are not local species or even indigenous to the area. This is Red Gum country and where were the native grasses? Many will accept the couch turf grass and Coastal Manna Gums, Narrow Leaved Peppermint Gums, Blackwoods, Drooping Sheoak, Black-anther Lily, Smooth Flax Lily, Cushion Bush, and Spiny Saltbush. However, any hope that the destruction of the biodiversity caused by the Freeway will be mitigated by this native vegetation token is slight.

A recent visit to the Little Desert State Park brought home to me once again, the mess we have made of our country. Little Desert Park is an incredibly diverse rich biodiversity adapted to the hot, arid conditions. The wheat fields surrounding are monocultural wasteland which produces wheat for export to the Asian and Middle East regions. The farmers are under immense pressure to grow

## The Friends of Braeside Park (cont.)

bigger, more efficiently and produce more cash flow by clearing more mallee *scrub* (note the demographic term to describe a perfectly adapted flora) by working the land more intensively, tapping into the rapidly diminishing Wimmera River and ground water resources and hoping for more drought resistant species to be developed. The question is whether crops, not just wheat, lentils, pulses, rice and grazing animals should be grown in such marginal areas.

Sir David Attenborough, in his recent documentary, *Extinction*, has called us to action: let's rewild the world.

In the case of the Mallee and inland deserts of Australia, it could mean reducing the farmed areas and rethinking how the indigenous flora could support our needs and how to expand the bushland to protect our precious water and soil resources.

Here in Dingley Village, it could mean reducing the impact of urbanisation by using our street verges as oasis of biodiversity and looking at ways to use stormwater more effectively. It could mean addressing tree cover inequality in our suburb and simply planting trees and more greenery on our private land to ensure that everyone is resilient to the mental pressures of urban living and the hazards of heat waves. It could mean accessing programs such as Gardening for Wildlife and Nature Stewards. The former is already available through the Kingston Council. The latter is a relatively new Victorian program that invites and supports adults to learn, connect, and act for nature locally. It aims to grow Victoria's 'rewilding force' from across the community, to swell the number of environmental volunteers, and back the many local groups who give their time for nature. It builds participants' basic ecological knowledge and connections with nature and other like-minded people and groups, such as The Friends of Braeside Park. It provides tools and confidence to have a go and get involved in their own home, within the community, or online.

To find out more, to apply to join a 2021 program, or become a program presenter, partner or host, visit [outdoorsvictoria.org.au/naturestewards/](https://outdoorsvictoria.org.au/naturestewards/) or visit Facebook ([naturestewardsVIC](https://www.facebook.com/naturestewardsVIC)) and Instagram ([naturestewards](https://www.instagram.com/naturestewards)). You might want to encourage Kingston Council to host Nature Stewards training, too! **We can** take up Sir David Attenborough's challenge to re-wild!

**Judith Sise**

## Mordialloc Freeway

The Mordialloc Freeway is close to its projected completion date, and the full extent of the construction is highly visible - especially to Braeside Park's visitors as they walk along the Howard Road and Cypress Avenue trails. The bright red cement underpass from the business estate bleeds in past the Rangers' Office perilously sideswiped by the Freeway.

Gone are the scattering of mature River Red Gums that graced that edge of the Park and provided homes for generations of bats, insects, possums, lizards and birds.

We were told that specialists had inspected the vegetation, over 3,000 trees, along the construction path and assessed them for their visual and ecological value and life expectancy. They were found wanting, so "Down with them!"

Of course, as with clearing any native vegetation, the contractor was required to replace or offset it to the same ecological value to Victoria's biodiversity. (*Is your home, Reader, that replaceable?*) Anyway, Major Project Roads Victoria acquired native vegetation offsets for the project. They will in fact be planted at Devilbend Reservoir in Tuerong - 32.5km away as the crow flies, 40km by car.

## Mordialloc Freeway (cont.)

*"The vegetation communities that secured offsets at Devilbend Reserve were for Grassy Woodland, Swampy Riparian Woodland and Lowland Forest. Seed was collected from native trees, shrubs and grasses from within the project area to be replanted within the project area, **where possible.**"*

(If we are to believe the Major Roads Project Victoria's website seeds were collected before the construction began.)

*"A Design and Construction (D&C) Contract was awarded to McConnell Dowell Constructors (Aust) Pty Ltd & Decmil Southern Pty Ltd on the 1st October 2019. Construction commenced on 28 October 2019."*

So, if I have this correct, from the 1 - 28 October 2020 seeds were collected. Ask any botanist or even community nursery group if it is possible to collect seeds from all the relevant vegetarian communities along the course of the Freeway in 27 days in October! Even home gardeners know that plants produce seeds at different periods throughout the year.

*"A decision issued on 27 August 2019 determined that the project (Mordialloc Freeway) was a 'controlled action' requiring assessment and approval. The first compliance report to be prepared for the Mordialloc Freeway and related to the period 1 October 2019 to 28 October 2020 or year one of the action. At the time of publishing this report the project is approximately 40% complete and construction is expected to be complete late 2021."*

Where did the seeds go? The answer was to community groups, if not The Friends of Braeside Park's nursery! The Mens' Shed got some eucalyptus trunks to turn into seating and some trunks were placed in the wetlands like graveyard monuments to provide resting places for waterbirds. I have not seen one resting on one of these yet! The other trees removed, were mulched!

As temperatures continue to rise in urban areas due to Climate Change caused in part by increasing hard surfaces (roads, carparks, shopping centres, cemented gardens, etc) and decreasing tree canopy, you would think that the most appropriate place to "offset" vegetation would be in the metropolitan environment itself.

The Friends of Braeside Park sat on the Major Roads Projects Victoria Mordialloc Freeway Community Reference Group since its conception. We argued strongly against the construction of the Freeway and were and are bitterly disappointed with the State Government's choice to place built environments over conserving the remnant natural ecosystems in a classified Green Wedge area. Covid 19 restrictions proved how vital those lost green spaces were and how unnecessary was another 9 kilometres of Freeway!

Our group's decision was to work within the system to try and get the best deal for the Park because no one else will.

Does this mean we were kept informed? Yes, if we asked the right question and persisted and read all the carefully crafted published reports and believed all the public servants' guarded replies.

Andrew McNee, Assistant Secretary of Assessments and Governance Branch Department of the Environment and Energy Approval signed off the agreements from 27 August 2019 to 31 December 2040 with a list of compliance statements of course. (1 October 2020 Mordialloc Freeway Project, Victoria Compliance Report 01 (28 October 2019 to 28 October 2020).

The Major Roads Projects Victoria gang will soon move on to set up some other major road project Reference Committee and possibly even believe that they are keeping the community informed but we, the residents, will be left with 9 kilometres of Freeway of traffic (Dingley Bypass to South Road to Nepean Hwy) and a diminished Park and surrounding Green Wedge.



## Mordialloc Freeway (cont.)

The Government and developers will then point out that with access to this freeway surely more residential development is warranted! And there goes the Green Wedge – football fields and club rooms, train stabling yards, concrete crushing facility, and who knows what else the State Government has agreed to grant building rights to construct.

*Judith Sise*

## 2021 Parks Victoria Melbourne Volunteer Recognition Event

The Parks Victoria Melbourne Volunteer Recognition Event was held on Friday 21 May at the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, in the middle of the current Metro Tunnel Works. The Friends Group has a membership of 1800, which is a reduced number from pre covid, the envy of many of the group on the walks as part of the event. These gardens are a significant part of the early vision for the development of Melbourne. The new Anzac Station will hopefully make access to these gardens easier when completed, with the option of a guided tour in a park vehicle also available.

You can also have a punt on the lake.

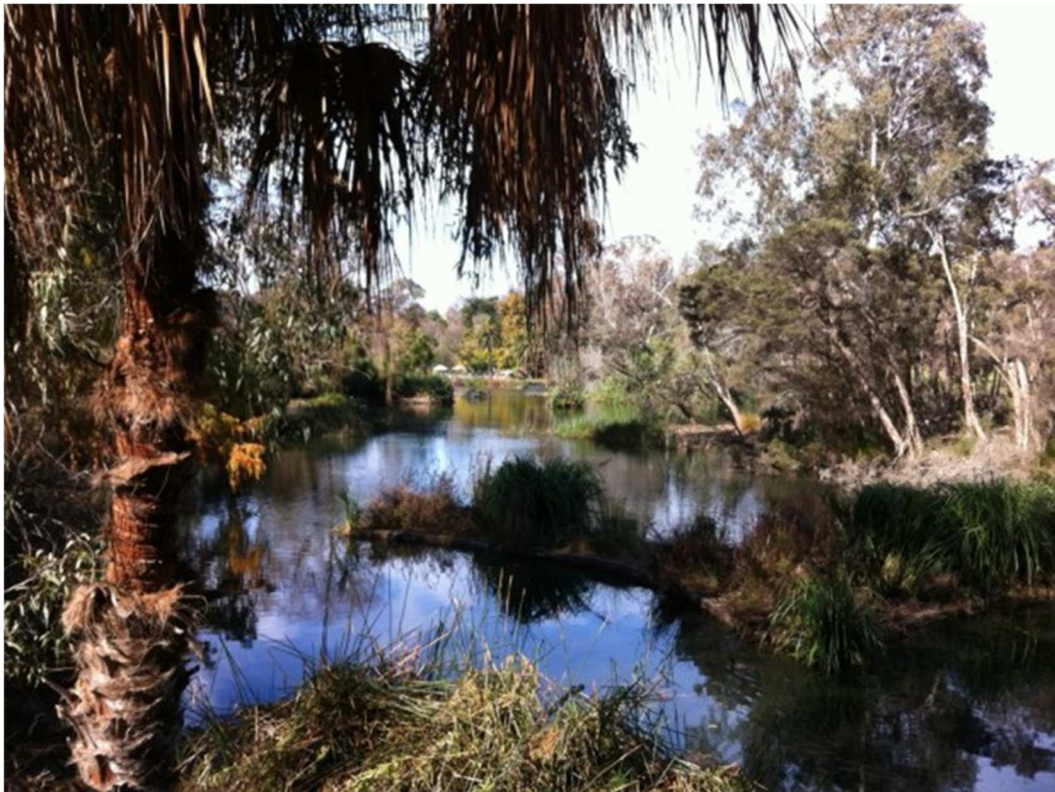


The Royal Botanic Gardens are 150 years old are a fantastic attraction in the middle of a busy city to enjoy many aspects of traditional and more modern aspects of gardens. The walks arranged by the Friends, after a delicious lunch and morning tea, included, with covid regulations in the fore, small groups with interests in aboriginal heritage, the new and old garden, Guilfoyles Volcano, the Long Island tour, a bird walk and Eucalyptus walk. The Friends group guides are to be thanked for their tours for the members of the Parks Victoria Friends' Groups who attended, who enjoyed the walk.

I attended the Bird Walk and the Long Island walk down to original course of the Yarra River, with a nature walk on a board walk. This included a walk to view a cut off billabong of the former course of the Yarra River, with indigenous plants and a very knowledgeable guide, with 15 years experience, the Friends President and a guide in training.



## **2021 Parks Victoria Melbourne Volunteer Recognition Event (cont.)**



In this area, fortunately saved for future and current generations to enjoy, the vegetation and the bird life is unique and rare. David and David, the bird experts – both passionate and interested in this topic – were engrossed in their topic much to the better knowledge of the group in the birds of the botanic gardens – past and present. Some very rare sightings were made and recorded from this walk. We were even offered access to the lower section of the gardens to escape climbing the hill again to the Shrine, with a walk along the Tan. Thank you to the assistance of the group with a much needed lift up the hill to the Visitor Centre for some group members and also their experienced knowledge on the gardens.

It is clear that the vision of the original settlers of Melbourne and the gardens is enshrined in these gardens, and will be safely preserved for the present and future generations. Walks are run regularly by the Friends who are to be thanked for their contribution to a successful day. Thanks also to the team at Parks Victoria, who organized this day, and Nick Jansen and Bernice Dowling for the opportunity to meet with like minded volunteers to enjoy this unique environment in Melbourne. I look forward to 2022 event.

There is a detailed history of the gardens in the Royal Historical Society of Victoria publication Melbourne's Pride and Glory 150 Years at the Royal Botanic Gardens Volume 67 Number 1 April 1996 for those readers interested. Further information is also available in the publication from the Royal Society of Victoria, The Yarra – A Natural Treasure by David and Cam Beardsell on the whole course of the Yarra River. The map of the oxbox swamp is on page 40 of this publication.

***Margaret Hunter***

## **The Phar Lap Story and its connection to Braeside Park**

Many readers of this newsletter will be aware of the achievement of the horse Phar Lap in winning among other races, the 1930 Melbourne Cup. You will also be aware of past articles in this newsletter recording the horse racing history of Braeside Park as a horse training facility with Harry Telford. The tree sculpture in the Cypress Drive of Harry Telford and Phar Lap recognizes this. The Racecourse Trail, follows the original route of the training track with an associated feature "The Racecourse Dam", better known to some as Phar Lap's Swimming Pool. Why? In the early years of racing motor transport was not available as it is today in abundance, so the horses were swum in water bodies on the training property. When you are visiting this area, examine the shape of this, after viewing the birdlife in this area. More stories of horse racing and Phar Lap in the next newsletter.

*Margaret Hunter*

## **NIGHT WALK PROGRAM UPDATE 2021 22 June 2021**

The June night walk was cancelled due to covid restrictions and it is hoped to run the July and later walks in the program later in the year. Number of available spots will be based on covid restrictions in Victoria at the time. Bookings are confirmed before the walk. This will be on the website and facebook page as well as by direct contact to email addresses and mobile phone in this article.

Night walks have been run on three occasions in Braeside Park since the beginning of the program in 2021. Our first walk, on 9 April had a good attendance, with mild weather and good sightings with a very appreciative group. Being in the school holidays, we ran an extra walk on 16 April which was again fully booked with many sightings of possums, doves, noisy miners, scorpions, group hearing bats, and enjoying the quiet Braeside Park environment at night.

A summary of sightings is available from the Friends, and we actively encourage participants to contribute to this newsletter by writing an article for us. Sightings are reported to DELWP by Parks Victoria, and recorded. We have room on our later walks and it is advised to book early to ensure you get one of our prized spots on these walks. We also run group walk on request by separate booking.

Please contact us on 0417 323 460 or [braesideparkfriends@gmail.com](mailto:braesideparkfriends@gmail.com) for further information on these group tours/monthly walks. We are also always looking for guides for these tours with training available and a park orientation.

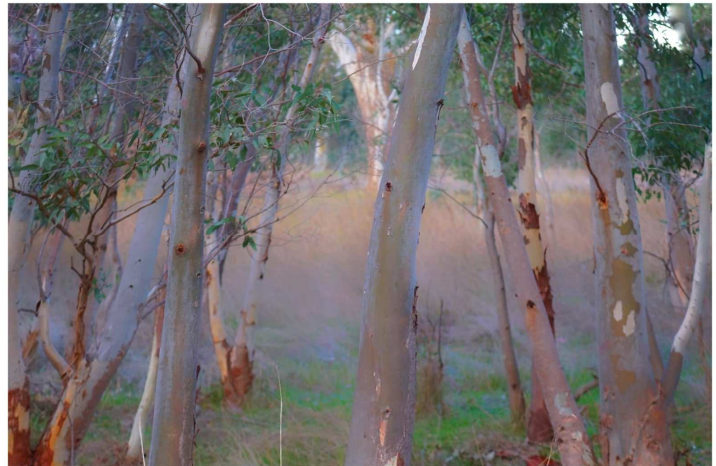
*Margaret Hunter*



## **MYSTERY WALK**

Around 30 were expected at 12:30 Sunday 27 June. By 12:45, 25 had arrived and parked their cars on the race track near the Cypress Drive entrance. The group, mostly comprised of mature aged adults, began the walk along the Phar Lap track with Des Lucas, Head Ranger. It was a gloriously sunny, cool afternoon - perfect for a stroll in Braeside Park.

Tightly clutching their 30 odd quiz questions, the group listened carefully to the narration on Phar Lap's time in the park and the horse's illustrious history! Facts about the Park's history, geography, flora and fauna rolled off Des's tongue as he strolled down the race course and across to the heathlands. Eucalyptus leaves crushed and smelt, trees scorched by the flashes of lightening and sightings of small guinea flowers, wild parsnip and Tawny Frogmouths playing "statues" in the tree branches excited the senses before arriving at afternoon tea served from the back of the Rangers' car. How many questions could the participants answer? Many! Finally, in the home run, the group's attention was drawn to the remnant track posts and positivity of cattle grazing in the Park. Membership forms and invitations to join the weekly "Get Fit in the Park" program was distributed to walkers who left wiser, fitter and hopefully ready to join The Friends Group. Thanks Des!



*Heather Markland*

*Judith Sise*

## **Park Connect Update/Activity Program 2021**

The Friends Activity program is included with the newsletter and updated on the Park notice boards, with booking arrangements included. We welcome community members and groups to our activities, and learn something new about Braeside Park on every walk/activity. Volunteers to support group activities are welcomed also.

*Margaret Hunter*

## **Annual General Meeting 2021**

The Friends of Braeside Park Annual General Meeting is planned for 8 August 2021. With the current restrictions, it is hoped to hold this as a face to face meeting at the Braeside Park Visitor Centre at 2.00 pm

If you are interested in joining the committee as a Friend please let us know on the contact details on this newsletter, with meetings open to members of the group on application to the Secretary. We welcome your support of the Friends' and look forward to continuing our activity program in 2021.

*Margaret Hunter*

## Braeside Park Bird Surveys

The May survey had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 lockdown but eight stalwart birders turned up in June, divided into two teams and set off on their allocated tasks. It was a cold, grey day with rain in the offing but most of the 5 Woodland and 5 Heathland sites were completed before the rain really got started. Both teams recorded numerous Rainbow Lorikeets, and smaller numbers of Mudlarks, Magpies, Red Wattlebirds and Eastern Rosellas. A single Brown Goshawk (probably the same bird) was also seen, over the general area of the Park, by both teams. Spotted Pardalotes were very common in the Heathland but only two were recorded in the Woodland. The opposite was true for Noisy Miners, which were very numerous in the Woodland (more open) sites but far fewer in the Heathland (more densely scrubby) area, clearly demonstrating the habitat preference of the latter species.

Only the Woodland team recorded Willie Wagtail, Galah and Sulphur-crested Cockatoo in their sites; the Heathland team had Grey Fantail, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Striated Pardalote and a gorgeous male Golden Whistler. That team also had both White-plumed and White-eared Honeyeaters and two pairs of Wood Ducks in trees, probably trying to find nest hollows for their next breeding season.



**Golden Whistler**

*Photo by Ken Haines not at Braeside Park*

The Bird Survey Group meets, on the 4th Friday of the month, at the Ranger's Office car park at 8.00am. The next Survey will be on the 23rd July. We are always happy to have new participants. Please contact Des Lucas (0418 173 228) to register your interest.

## WaterWatch

Results of June's tests. 14/6/2021

	Bent Bridge	Cherry Bridge	Dingley Drain	Wetlands
Temperature				
Air	15	14	15	15
Water	11	11	14	13
pH	8	8.2	8	7.7
E.C.	260	230	700	440
Turbidity	10	40	20	15
Ammonium	0	0.03	0	0
Phosphorus	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.10
Oxygen	4	6	6	6

While completing the tests at the Wetlands, I got to chat with ladies walking in pairs. One lady thought I was an artist setting up to paint as I had laid out all the tests on the table! One pair was asking for information about the reddish azolla covering the wetland ponds. They were unsure if it was algae and had noticed because they walk three times a week in Braeside Park it had gotten red. These two ladies asked about the She-oak which had gone reddish brown and questioned if it dying. I explained that at certain times of the year and particularly in winter many she-oaks go reddish brown and look as if they are dying. They aren't necessarily dying but quite the opposite. The tree is actually flowering. She-oaks have separate 'male' and 'female' trees (known to botanists as dioecious), and the reddish-brown colour is seen on male trees when they flower. The male flowers appear on the ends of the 'needles' in autumn and winter. Small, woody, cone-like fruit forms when female flowers are pollinated. Another curious thing about she-oaks is that their needles, which you would think are leaves, are actually stems or branchlets. To reduce water loss, the leaves are reduced to tiny scales, which can be seen if you look closely at a she-oak needle. The other two loved the Park and thought they live by the Bay, they wanted to see "trees". I suggested to all that they might like to join the Friends' Group. One pair said they were probably too old! I replied on the contrary you are in the prime age. They looked to be in their 60-70s. *Maybe an idea is to have a couple of Friends at the wetlands on weekends for a couple of hours pointing out birds and plants and maybe macroinvertebrates on a recruitment drive.*

**Judith Sise**



ABN: 72 959 503 118 INC NO: A00242027B

# 2021

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

**Where:** Braeside Park Visitor Centre  
**When:** Sunday the 8th August 2021  
**Times:** Registration at 2:00pm, AGM Meeting at 2:10pm

**Guest speaker Alex Moodie will talk at 3:00pm on Creating  
Native Wildflower Meadows for Biodiversity.**

**Enquiries/Further information contact  
Margaret Hunter, Secretary on 0417 323 460**

[www.braesideparkfriends.org.au](http://www.braesideparkfriends.org.au)






## Creating Native Wildflower Meadows for Biodiversity

Native Wildflower Meadows are a great way to add a landscape feature to your garden. Whilst adding habitats attractive to pollinators and increasing local biodiversity, native wildflowers are pretty too!

**Alex Moodie**, Conservation Programs Coordinator with the City of Greater Dandenong, will cover some of the essentials you need to know to make your project successful such as:

- Why create a grassy wildflower meadow in your garden?
- How to establish a grassy wildflower meadow, plant choices, nurseries etc?
- How to maintain the meadow once its planted?

**So, come along to the Annual General Meeting of The Friends of Braeside Park on Sunday 8 August 2021 at 2pm in the Visitors' Centre and learn more about native wildflowers, biodiversity and your garden.**





Friends of Braeside Park - ABN 72 959 503 118 INC NO A00242027B  
Membership Renewal/Application Form:



*Many of our members did not renew their membership for the 2020-2021 year.*

Renew now and this will cover you for the 2021-2022 year.

### Membership Types

Corporate	\$20
Family	\$15
Ordinary Member	\$10
Student Member	\$5
Organisation Member	\$15
Concession/Pensioner	\$5

DONATION: \$.....

### Personal Details:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Payments can be made into our bank account – **PREFERED METHOD**

CBA BSB: **063-144**

Account no: **1008 3808** Include family name in description

Account name: Friends of Braeside Park

Email to: [braesideparkfriends@gmail.com](mailto:braesideparkfriends@gmail.com)

## Friends of Braeside Park Inc.

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**FOBP Committee**

Frank Russo, Judith Sise, Helen Russo, Rosemaree MacLean,  
David MacLean, Margaret Hunter, David Boldiston

Join us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/327955807288240/#>

### Newsletter Contributions

Thank you to Judith Sise, Margaret Hunter, Pat Bingham, Heather Markland, Rosemaree and David MacLean for contributions to this edition.

We thank the many contributors to our Facebook page for their excellent photos and stories.

If you have an item to share in future editions or have any feedback in relation to the newsletter, please contact the editor at [braesideparkfriends@gmail.com](mailto:braesideparkfriends@gmail.com)

### Editor's Note

This newsletter is still being distributed to all current, past and non financial members for the remainder of the pandemic period. After the next AGM, only financial members will continue to receive the newsletter.

If you like this newsletter, and if you would like to support Friends of Braeside Park in their efforts to improve the park for the community and future generations, you can help by becoming a financial member.

If you have something to say or some beautiful picture or story to share, please send it to me for evaluation and possible inclusion in the next newsletter. We welcome input from all our friends.

For a family, membership (\$15) is cheaper than a meal at a fast food store, and for an individual (\$10) it is the same as coffee and a small burger.

***So, please join us.***

***David MacLean***

# Night Walks for 2021



Friends of  
Braeside Park

**The Friends of Braeside Park invite  
you to attend a night walk to view  
nocturnal animals of the park**

**On Friday Nights at 7pm**

**from April thru to September**

**on the ~~9<sup>th</sup> April, 7<sup>th</sup> May~~, 4<sup>th</sup> June,  
2<sup>nd</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> August & 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

**Meet at Visitors Centre**

**Braeside Park, Lower Dandenong Rd, Braeside**

**Cost: Gold Coin Donation per person**

**Numbers Limited - Bookings Essential**

**Via email: [braesideparkfriends@gmail.com](mailto:braesideparkfriends@gmail.com)  
or contact Margaret Hunter on 0417323460**

[www.braesideparkfriends.org.au](http://www.braesideparkfriends.org.au) for more info



## The Friends of Braeside Park Activity Calendar for 2021

Activity	Time/Day	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Committee Meeting	7pm - 9pm 2nd Thursday at the Visitor's Centre	20 (Wed)	16	11	8	13	10	8	12	9	14	11	9
Community Projects Weekday - "The A Team"	9am - 12pm Wednesday's at the Park Office	*	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9
Nursery open for plant sales	10am - 12pm 3rd Sunday	*	21	21	18	16	20	18	15	19	17	21	19
Plant Propagation Community Nursery	10am - 12pm 1st Saturday & 3rd Sunday	*	6 21	6 21	3 18	1 16	5 20	3 18	7 15	4 19	2 17	6 21	4 19
Community Waterwatch Program	9:30am - 12pm 2nd Saturday Visitors Centre	*	13	13	10	8	12	10	14	11	9	13	11
Bird Observations	8am - 11am 4th Friday Park Office	22	26	26	23	28	25	23	27	24	22	26	24
Nightwalks	From Visitor's Centre 7pm	Nightwalks offered from April through to September. Gold Coin Donation per head Bookings Essential 0417323460											
Community Projects Weekends	9am - 12pm, follow the signs	*	*	*	*	*	World Environment Day Tree Planting Sunday 6th	National Tree Planting Day Saturday 25th	*	*	*	*	*
Special Activities are held throughout the year at various times		*	*	Clean Up Australia Day Sunday 7th Meet at Visitor Centre 10am 12pm	*	Significant TreeWalk led by Rangers 9:30am on 4th or 11th TBC	*	Mystery Walk Saturday 10th 12:30pm - 3:30pm with afternoon tea	AGM Sunday 8th 1pm - 3pm with afternoon tea	Breakfast with birds Sunday 19th Red Gum Picnic Area 7am - 9:30am	Spring Walk & Nursery Open Day Sunday 17th, 1pm-3:30pm	*	End of Year BBQ Wednesday 8th

Website [www.braesideparkfriends.org.au](http://www.braesideparkfriends.org.au)

Email [braesideparkfriends@gmail.com](mailto:braesideparkfriends@gmail.com)

Community Nursery is Open on the Third Sunday of the Month 10:00am to 12:00 noon – Seedlings are \$2.00 each.

