

Ponderings

Seasonal newsletter of the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek
Winter 2021 | Issue 71

advocate educate interpret participate rehabilitate revegetate



ponderings

Newsletter of the Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee
PO BOX 2170 Greenvale 3009 P 9333 2406 F 9333 2413 E info@mpccc.org

Co-ordinator's ramblings...

Dear fellow creek creatures, there's so much going on right now, it's hard to know where to start. This season's Ponderings is jam-packed with creek goings-on but there's still more that needs to be mentioned! Firstly, you will notice in this mail-out that we have included our new brochure 'The Tale of the Moonee Ponds Creek'. We're very proud of this effort, which has mostly been produced in-house by our talented staff. The brochure can be folded out to reveal a rather fetching poster illustrating the whole of the Moonee Ponds Creek catchment. Where do you see it in this picture?

We are also in the process of developing a short film about the creek with artists 'Studio 1'. (Check us out at next year's Tropfest!) Getting back down to earth - we (and you) have just completed another fantastic planting season. Our friends groups just multiplying! Once again, thank you for all your marvellous efforts - make sure you check out pages 2 and 3 of this issue to get the full story of what went on this season. Not ones to rest on our laurels, we have also included the Spring Planting Calendar in this edition. There are more new planting sites popping up including Delhi Reserve in Travancore and Vandenbergh Road in Essendon, as well as Strathnaver Grasslands in Strathmore. There are also plantings at all of our regular planting sites, so no-one need miss out on getting their hands dirty.

We've got a special day planned for Saturday 2nd August. This is our special Friends get together BBQ, which we are combining with a creek clean-up. We'll be cleaning up the creek from the dam to the dam, and we'll be celebrating the day with a picnic on the bank. We'll be having a special day planned for Saturday 2nd August. This is our special Friends get together BBQ, which we are combining with a creek clean-up. We'll be cleaning up the creek from the dam to the dam, and we'll be celebrating the day with a picnic on the bank.

WINTER EDITION

In this issue

- 2 More people, More plants, More fun - Autumn Planting Season Success
- 4 Waging War on Weeds - Join the fight!
- 6 Own your own piece of the creek for free - Andrew Gemmill tells us how.
- 7 Do you hear what I hear? Keeping an ear out for hoppers with the Frogwatch Program

Regular articles

- 5 Creek Memories Peter Flanagan and Joe Damico tell us about the Yurko Creek.
- 7 People Like Us - Melbourn Energy Foundation
- 8 Plant Star of the Season Elixia, Carpets of Flame
- 8 Winter Sightings Birds, bees, and more birds
- 9 Get social over the coming season

Check out the upcoming events for the winter season on page 12.

winter 2021 ponderings

Newsletter of the Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee

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- Waterwatch update
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co-ordinator's ramblings...

Dear Creek Dwellers, Have you noticed any spring Special thanks go to Phyllis mating activities around your Angel, but sending us some part of the creek lately? Here at wonderful photos of the creek in the depot, we've observed flood around the Passovale Magpies busy building their area Thanks Phyllis! Magpies busy building their area Thanks Phyllis! Magpies busy building their area Thanks Phyllis!

Upcoming Events

PO BOX 2170 Greenvale 3009 P 9333 2406 F 9333 2413 E info@mpccc.org | www.mpccc.org

Ponderings

Spring 2008 Issue 23

Seasonal Newsletter of the Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee Inc

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National Tree Day

Waterwatch is always a bit on festival days. Sam Harrison from Waterwatch helped adults and children alike to see some of the creatures that live in the creek. And it wasn't just water-bugs ... While Sam was traversing the creek collecting invertebrates, he came across a Swamp Wallaby and stepped on a fox! Quite an adventure! Children made their own creatures Creative juices were flowing as kids sheltered from the rain under the marquee kindly provided by Melbourne Water. 'Creeky Creatures' were created and seed pods boldly splashed were taken home as mementoes of the day. Thanks to Susie Mowbray for running these activities. And there was delicious food... Our thanks go to Tasha Omer from the Kaayo Oromo Women's Group for cooking the delicious enjera (flatbread filled pancakes), tasty rice and deliciously spiced African coffee that gave everyone some warmth! Our thanks to Trans Pacific Industries for funding these culinary delicacies. Thank you also to Hume Staff Dennis, Damien and Brian for providing the BBQ lunch. A final and important thank you ... Cactus National Hire have again been very supportive of National Tree Day and provided with a portable toilet free of charge.

On Sunday 27th July, Australia-wide, volunteers celebrated National Tree Day. The Temuk, along the Moonee Ponds Creek in Wertheim Road, has become our traditional local creek site for this festive occasion. A fantastic turnout despite the rain... 130 volunteers joined The Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek, Melbourne Water, Hume City Council, MPCCC, Waterwatch and local schools and clubs to plant, play create and eat! Over 2000 plants were planted into prepared muck beds and watered immediately by the steady rain! The rain did not put off our wonderful volunteers who continued to work with big bins and ranspits digging down their noses! The rain did not put off our wonderful volunteers who continued to work with big bins and ranspits digging down their noses! The rain did not put off our wonderful volunteers who continued to work with big bins and ranspits digging down their noses!

Volunteers also explored the land's rich history

The Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee gratefully acknowledge the financial support of these Councils.

20 YEARS OF Ponderings

Ponderings

Summer 2008 Issue 24

Seasonal Newsletter of the Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee Inc

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It's Party Time!

MPCCC want to say 'Thank You' to all our friends and supporters. So we are having a party! There will be music, good food and other fun things.

Friday 19 December from 5.00 pm All ages are welcome!

At MPCCC Compound, Parks Victoria Depot, Woodlands Historic Park, 1055 Somerton Road, Greenvale Melway 178 C6

This is how you get to us ... We are based in the Parks Victoria compound in Woodlands Historic Park. Don't use the main park entrance, but the one between the house with the green fence and Moonee Ponds Creek! We'll put up a sign at the entrance! We are looking forward to seeing you there on 19 December!

Please RSVP by Mon 15 December Email to info@mpccc.org or call 9333 2406 leave a message with number of people coming and any dietary requirements.

Clean Up Australia Day

Now is the time to register sites for Clean Up Australia 2009. So if you have an area you would like to help get cleaned up, call Steph on 9333 2406 or email to steph@mpccc.org. Clean Up Australia is always on the first Sunday in March - so in 2009 it will be on Sunday 1 March.

Clean Up for Businesses will be on Tuesday, 24 February, and Clean Up for Schools on Friday, 27 February. Be part of creating a creek. Committees - join us after Clean Up for a Multicultural lunch at Fenwick, more news issues. Did you know that since the Clean Up started in 1996, 400,000 tonnes of rubbish has been collected which is the equivalent of 4.7 million wheelie bins! We would love that they would stretch from Melbourne to Mackay - on the inland route!

The Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee gratefully acknowledge the financial support of these Councils.

Ponderings

SEASONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK

AUTUMN 2018 | ISSUE 58

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RESIDENTS PROTEST LAND SALE

BY KATE ODDIE
150 people gathered at short notice at a Public Meeting on Sunday 4 March at Outlook Drive, Glenroy to hear about the proposed sale for development by VicTrack of a large wedge of land (3.25ha) extending from the end of Outlook Drive down to the Moonee Ponds Creek. Notes of the proposed sale had only become publicly known two weeks beforehand. President of the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek, Kelvin Thomson, spoke saying that VicTrack had reneged on the agreement made in 2009 NOT to subdivide the land for development and that it would remain public open space. He highlighted State and local government strategies and policies that supported providing more open space to cater for the forecast increases in population, including Moreland. The Mayor of Moreland City Council, Cr John Kavanagh, along with fellow Councillors Helen Davidson, Dale Martin and Sue Bolton, explained the process, that the Council was being given the first right to purchase the land at the Value-Owner's valuation. However, this is likely to be an eight figure sum and a Resolution was passed urging VicTrack to transfer ownership (at no cost) of the open space to Moreland Council to manage as part of the Moonee Ponds Creek valley, one of Moreland's most significant open space and environmental assets. As Kelvin Thomson said, "Public land owners should stop trying to sell us something we already own."

To follow the progress on this important matter, see facebook.com/groups/friendsofmooneeponds/.

LEADER REPORTS 2009 "VICTORY"

Parkland stays

Sightings

- Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (AL)
- Musk Lorikeet (AL)
- Australian Wood Duck (AL)
- Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo (DH)
- Robblebone Frogs (DH)
- Tawny Frogmouth (AL)
- Rainbow Lorikeet (AL)
- Galah (MA)
- Australian White Bell (MA)

Produced by Anna Lanigan and Nina Franceschi Eason

Ponderings

SEASONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK

AUTUMN 2020 | ISSUE 66

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Sightings

- Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (AL)
- Musk Lorikeet (AL)
- Australian Wood Duck (AL)
- Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo (DH)
- Robblebone Frogs (DH)
- Tawny Frogmouth (AL)
- Rainbow Lorikeet (AL)
- Galah (MA)
- Australian White Bell (MA)

The New Normal

Things are gradually getting back to normal, but the occasional outbreak of COVID-19 still keeps us on our toes! Plantings and clean-ups have resumed, and the level of activity has increased for the group.

Great to see that meetings have resumed and, invigorated by our new committee, are generating much interest again.

Good also to see Melbourne Water being prepared to “Reimagine our Creek” and asking for community feedback on changes to the creek, starting with Brosnan Crescent.

In his issue and the next we commemorate 20 years of Ponderings and - if you think this issue looks a bit different - that’s because a new computer has forced me back to using Publisher instead of Illustrator! So this takes the look of Ponderings back about five years....

David Widdowson, Editor.

Thanks to Anna Lanigan, Kaye Oddie, Rachel Lopes, Lori Arthur & Nina Franceschi for their assistance with this issue.

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Guardian storage Essendon is located on Pascoe Vale Road, behind PETstock and Good Life Health Club.

Weekdays: 8:00am – 5:30pm
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Clean Up Australia Day

by Anna Lanigan

Crews did a great job creating Covid-Safe events for Clean Up Australia Day along the Moonee Ponds Creek.

Moonee Valley Sustainability cleaned up around Ormond Park. We had a great morning despite a serious mishap when one of our volunteers slipped and broke her ankle.



Meanwhile upstream in Boeing Reserve, 1st Strathmore Scouts attended an event organised by a regular CUAD volunteer cleaning up the creek from the Trestle Bridge downstream to the perimeter of the Essendon Baseball Club.

Always depressing to see the amount of rubbish that can accumulate and is a reminder of the need for regular vigilance along the Moonee Ponds Creek.



Brosnan Crescent Naturalisation Project



Summary of Presentation:

The Moonee Ponds Creek naturalisation project is part of Melbourne Water's 'Reimagine Your Creek' Program, which has been running for five years, with a number of successful projects being delivered including Dandenong Creek, Arnolds Creek, Melton and Blind Creek, Boronia. In comparison, Moonee Ponds Creek presents a complex set of issues as Melbourne Water balances achieving a positive community outcome with project budgets.

The themes of the Chain of Ponds strategic vision are a key consideration in the development of a design as well as a number of project constraints including flooding and contaminated land.

Melbourne Water's modelling suggested that flooding is a constraint that can be managed within the waterway due to the deep creek channel as well as historical flood mitigation works upstream at Jacana.

Recent geotechnical investigations found low levels of contaminated soils in the area. This will have an impact on the project delivery with the design and management of soil being a key consideration for the project. The design options chosen need to find the balance between desirability, feasibility and viability. Melbourne Water identified a number of examples of where creek naturalisation has occurred without the removal of all concrete. In addition, Melbourne Water and the two Councils are working together to deliver outcomes for both the waterway and the adjacent areas.

Melbourne Water have planned a two week community engagement program starting 17th May. The first week would be mainly digital engagement then there would be one week of face to face community engagement activities. The aim in the first part would gather information about how people use the Creek and their views on what is desirable in the project. Plans are being developed to engage with the community again in mid-July with a second round of engagement that takes the community through the proposed design options. All users of the Creek will be targeted in both rounds of engagement including the local Primary Schools, walkers, sporting clubs, dog walkers and cyclists.

A start to the project will be made this summer and that there would be 5-6 months of construction. The planting of the area would take place over the following years. It was mentioned that it was important to consider the young and not to forget them in the design options, and that there would be discussions with Strathmore North Primary.

Message from the FoMPC President

At the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek April general meeting, members were treated to a most informative presentation by Melbourne Water regarding the Brosnan Crescent Naturalisation Project.

In particular, Fin Adamson (Project Manager), was able to outline the challenges of this site that they will need to consider during the design phase. It is fortunate that Fin has previously been heavily involved in a number of other creek naturalisation projects around Melbourne.

Jacqueline Novoselac (Communications and Engagement Advisor) outlined the planned community engagement program associated with this project.

It was particularly pleasing to note that both Fin and Jacqueline were genuine in seeking to engage with, and respond to, community input. They are committed to working through the challenges faced to achieve a good outcome. They answered a number of questions from attendees and showed that they were not only technical skilled but very engaging and personable as well. I thank them for their efforts.

I strongly encourage all interested community members to respond to Melbourne Water's community engagement by June 6th, as this important project moves into the next stage of its planning.

The Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek see ourselves as an important community stakeholder and it is reassuring that Melbourne Water clearly sees us as in this light too. - John Kavanagh, President. FOMPC



Reimagining the Moonee Ponds Creek

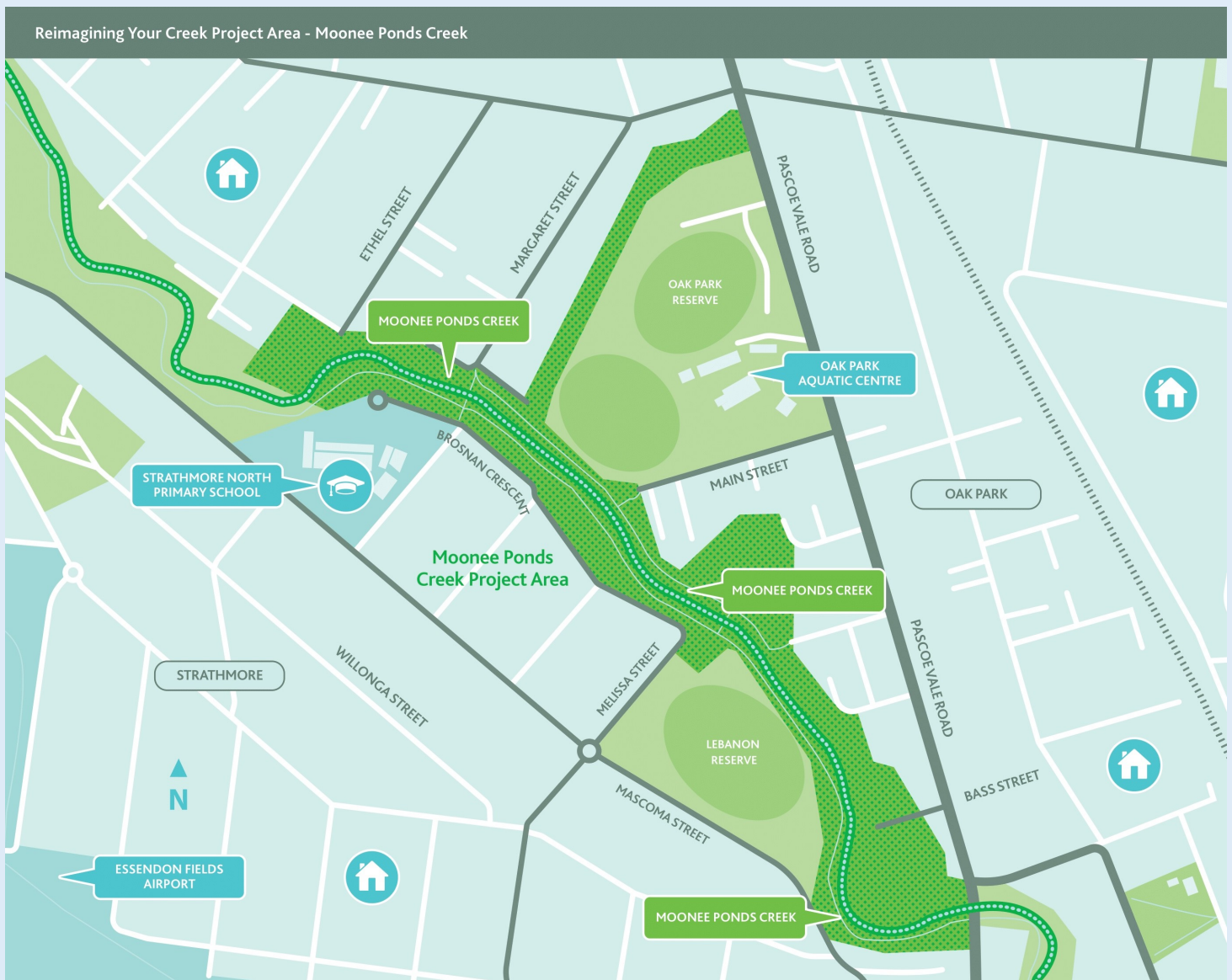


Melbourne Water is working with the Chain of Ponds Collaboration Group to reimagine a section of Moonee Ponds Creek to create a more appealing waterway, activate open space, enhance recreational opportunities along the creek and improve waterway health.

The project will cover a 700-metre section of the most northerly concrete section of the Moonee Ponds Creek, in Oak Park and Strathmore.

We want to hear from the community about what you love about this section of Moonee Ponds Creek and surrounds, how you currently use the area, and what would make you use the area more often.

Please click here to send your feedback by June 6th; it will be used to influence concept design options of what's possible within the dark green area below:





CHAIN OF PONDS

Transforming the Moonee Ponds Creek

Thank you to Jacqueline Novoselac from Melbourne Water and the Branding Working Group for our wonderful new logo — now available to all partners and supporters and our new website is coming soon! This will be an independent site and home to all the latest CoP news.

Our recent gathering in the headwaters of the Moonee Ponds Creek, at Woodlands Historic Homestead, was a great chance to reconnect in person and hear about the hidden treasures of the Upper Moonee Ponds Creek.



A new project group has formed in the upper MPC to support the preparation of a feasibility study and concept plan for a shared trail from Wright Street Park (and retarding basin) in Westmeadows to the Woodlands Historic Park picnic area at Somerton Road.

It is proposed to travel through the DELWP site and previous Mitchell Lasry Quarry and may need to be staged as the site is rehabilitated. Thompson Berrill Landscape Design have been working on feasibility and the project group had their first site walk together on 21 April (below).



The Naturalisation Project at Brosnan Crescent, Strathmore is progressing well. This project is a key priority for the Chain of Ponds Collaborative, involving the naturalisation of a 700 metre section of Moonee Ponds Creek between Herbert and Margaret Streets in Oak Park.

The results highlight a number of constraints and challenges that the design team is working through, community engagement is planned from the 17th of May with the opportunity to learn more about the project, constraints and opportunities.

Jacobs Engineering Group and Spiire Consulting have been engaged to design the project and the first site walk and workshop was held in March. It was a great discussion where the essence of the project was teased out by independent facilitator Bruce Turner.

Fin Adamson, Project Manager from Melbourne Water, presented on the project at our recent Collaboration Gathering at Woodlands Estate, April 21.

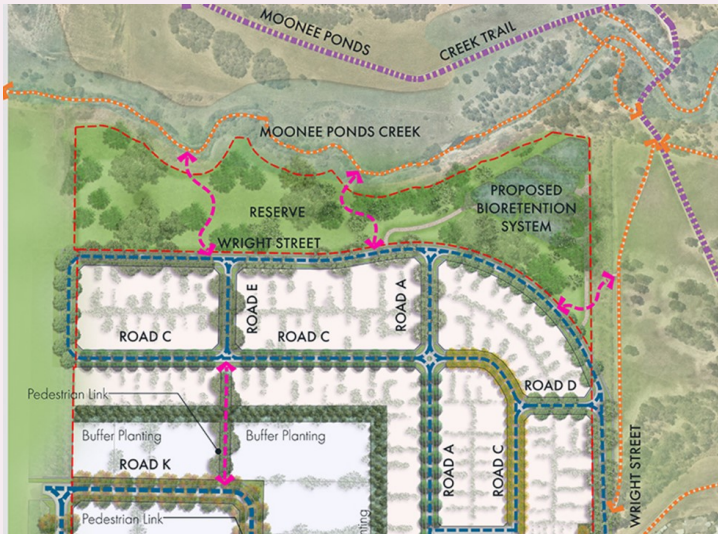


Dr Debbie Reynolds

A new project is underway— a collaboration between Chain of Ponds and Melbourne Airport, **Bandicoots on the Flight Path**. This living art project is being designed to highlight the significance of the area of the MPC close to the airport, allowing passengers on incoming flights to view the large-scale Eco Art piece from the air. The project involves planting native indigenous species in the shape of a bandicoot, creating the impression of a giant marsupial hopping along the grassland and over the creek.

by Rachel Lopes, Lead, Chain of Ponds Collaboration

Westmeadows Rezoning by Anna Lanigan



The FoMPC needs to seriously consider Hume Council’s proposed amendment to its planning scheme, which seeks to rezone a parcel of land in Westmeadows, bounded by Western Ave, Wright St and the Moonee Ponds Creek to Industrial and General Residential with a section being handed over to the Hume Council for “Moonee Ponds Creek open space”.

The boundary of the land with the Moonee Ponds Creek is critical as this section of the Creek is in its natural form and beautiful, so a



good sized buffer should be set aside between the Creek and the residential zone and residences. The measurement of the narrowest distance from the GRZ1 boundary to the Creek is approximately 80m. It needs to be ascertained what height and density of buildings are allowed on the GRZ1 land, so that there is no negative impact from height/bulk/scale/ on the visual amenity of this special section of the Creek corridor.



In 2015, the FoMPC spearheaded by Carolyn Layton, joined with other community members to object to an earlier subdivision (Amendment C202) that went right to the Creek— Hume Council withdrew the amendment in light of the opposition.



Jacana Wetlands Plantings by Anna

John Lee reports that plantings beside the west side of the North Jacana Wetlands are coming along nicely; the image above shows the area in 2018, the one below in 2021.

These plantings will enhance the habitat corridor along the Moonee Ponds Creek especially for smaller birds: Thornbills, Robins, Finches and Fairywrens - among others—that already have been spotted in the Jacana Wetlands.





Under the Bridges by Kaye & Anna

Artist Tom Civil and his painters have started their Moonee Valley Council sponsored project painting murals highlighting natural aspects of the Moonee Ponds Creek on four large City Link pylons at Debnays Park, Flemington.

Funded by a MVCC Covid Relief grant, the murals are intended to elicit feelings related to Creek stories of the past and the future.

Tom had presented his designs at the March FoMPC meeting, so it's quite exciting to see his sketches come to life on the pylons. Asked about potential vandalism, Tom said that the completed pylons will be coated with a washable protective layer.

Hopefully this is just a start, with the City Link pylons becoming the Moonee Ponds Creek version on the Art Silo Trails in country Victoria.

Images by Kaye Oddie

Mountain Bike Tracks

In a report to the Moonee Valley Council, it was noted that there was a significant spike in unplanned community-created BMX and Mountain Bike tracks throughout numerous reserves in Moonee Valley in 2020. The unplanned tracks have created problems in terms of risk to users and damage to conservation and cultural heritage sites.

Conversely, they provided an opportunity for people to engage in physical activity and social interaction in the outdoors, close to home, particularly when many other sport & recreation opportunities were not available due to Covid lockdowns.

Moonee Ponds Creek / Brunswick Rd exit ramp (officially known as Wykrook-nguluk Darrang)

- Up to 20 young people used the site each day.
- They would like to keep the site and be involved in the building of jumps and spoke about the satisfaction they get from building their own jumps.
- They indicated they were keen to be involved in conversations about where another site could be located if this one is removed.
- They were receptive to working with the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek and interested in understanding how to reduce risks and reduce impact on the environment. - See also FoMPC News, page 15.



Implementation of the Westbreen Creek Conservation and Development Plan continues with shared and informal path works at KW Joyce Reserve nearing completion.

Construction of the **Gavin Park Wetland** will commence in the next month.



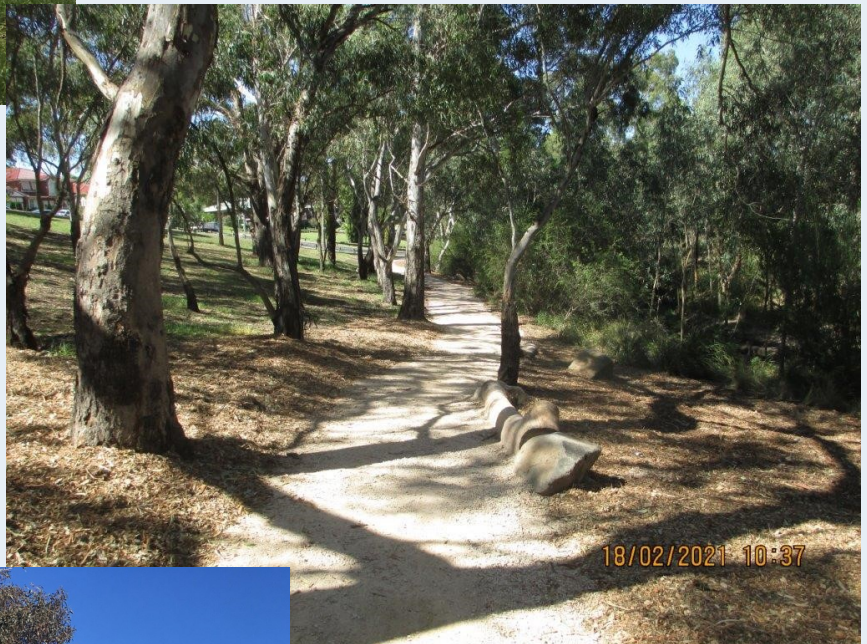
This year's planting season is going to be huge with over 25,000 plants on order for various sites across Moreland.

Community plantings will be dependent on COVID restrictions, but it is hoped we can get our hands dirty again this year.

A site is being prepared at KW Joyce Reserve ready for **National Tree Day** Sunday 1st August 2021, 10am-12:30pm.

There will be community plantings and opportunity on the day to learn more about local critters with tactile presentations by **Reptile Encounters**.

A free BBQ will also be on offer, cooked by Pascoe Vale Rotary.



Moreland Council is working with Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek to deliver a federal government grant at Djirri Djirri Reserve. The grant will deliver a new informal seating area, interpretive signage and new revegetation which highlights traditional plant uses such as food, fibre and medicinal plants. A community planting will be held on the site on July 18th from 10am to noon.

- Lori Arthur

Kensington Embankment Re-vegetation Project by Kaye

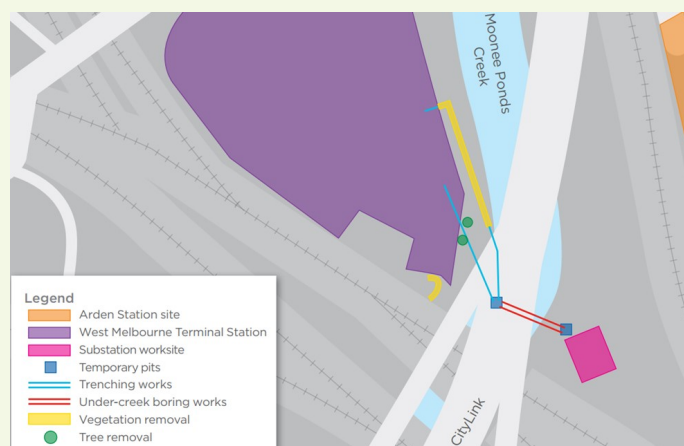
On Sunday 23rd May, this revegetation project was **finally** completed! Born of a 2019 Melbourne Water grant to the FoMPC to infill plants along the western embankment of the Creek in Kensington, initial plantings in 2019 were hit by subsequent dry summer/winter seasons with plant losses, then coronavirus restrictions in 2020 prevented replacement planting bees.



Luck saw a successful community event held on the morning of Sunday May 23, with 27 volunteers replanting 200 plants just before the latest Covid lockdown. Luck continues with good rains helping the new plants establish and so increasing the biodiversity and habitat of this special section of open space along the Creek.

Cable Route Works

Construction of the North Melbourne electrical substation, which will provide power to the Metro Tunnel’s twin nine-kilometre rail tunnels and new underground stations, is continuing adjacent to Moonee Ponds Creek, west of the Arden Station site. Construction of the cable route between the new substation and the existing West Melbourne Terminal Station will involve boring beneath Moonee Ponds Creek and works on the western bank to install underground conduits for the two high-voltage power supplies.





20 Years of Ponderings

FoMPC, MPCCC and Ponderings Timeline

1989 – Kelvin Thomson creates the Moonee Ponds Creek Association; the original name of the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek.

1992 – The Moonee Ponds Creek Concept Plan is released.

1996 – Creation of the role of “Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordinator”, with the job of implementing the Concept Plan; first was Gavan O’Neill. Moreland, Moonee Valley, Hume and Melbourne councils each pay a quarter of the Co-ordinator’s salary.

1998 - Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee (MPCCC) established, bringing together representatives from each of the four councils that front the MPC, Melbourne Water and the FoMPC. Kelvin Thomson was its President until 2007.

2001 – November - First issue of Ponderings is released as “Moonee Ponds Creek News”, a 4-page printed A4 newsletter giving information about MPCCC, its plans and activities. Gavan O’Neill had pushed for its creation and Melanie Taube, MPC Creek Coordinator, is its first editor.

2001 - The Moonee Ponds Creek Association changes its name to the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek, to avoid confusion with MPCCC.

2002 – MPCCC incorporates and moves from the Hume City Council to the depot at the Woodlands Historic Park. Melanie Taube and Elissa Simmons are on the staff and they facilitate the start of many Friends Groups along the creek.

2002– November - Second edition released under the name “Ponderings” for the first time. 8 page printed newsletter featuring history of the creek, plantings, clean ups, news of Jacana Wetlands, Frog watch, Artworks and sightings.

2003 – Autumn – Ponderings becomes seasonal with the third issue released, 8 pages, and will appear four times a year for most of the next 18 years.

2008 – Spring - Stella Blay becomes paid editor of Ponderings.

2009 – Tony Smith becomes president of MPCCC.

2010 - MPCCC ceases to be operational, after a change in structure saw the councils take on the organisation of projects in-house. FoMPC takes over the production of Ponderings.

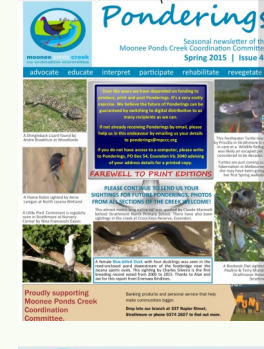
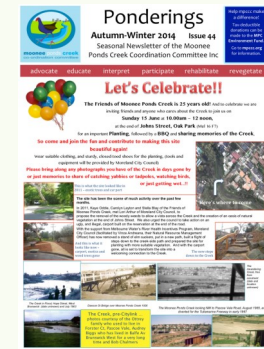
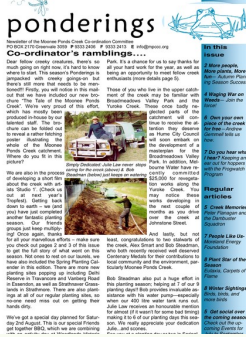
2013 – Last printed Ponderings, as there is no money left for printing and post.

2015 – Autumn - Anna Lanigan and Nina Franceschi take over as unpaid volunteer editors. Ponderings continues under the name of the MPCCC.

2017 – Autumn – Ponderings appears as the Newsletter of FoMPC for the first time.

2018 – Winter – Anna Lanigan is editor, Ray Hehr graphic designer.

2020 – Autumn - David Widdowson becomes editor.



Creek Walking

Images by Maurice Austin



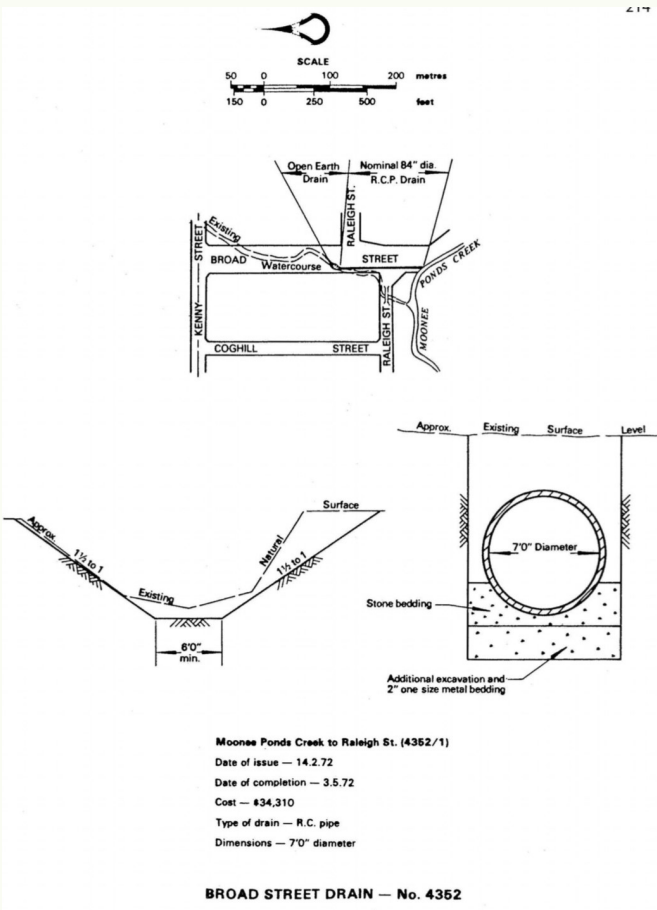
Down the Drain - Lost Tributaries of the MPC

Part 11—Attwood Creek/ Broad Street Drain by David Widdowson



Attwood, a suburb 18 kilometres north-west of central Melbourne, features a creek that is partially above ground, and partially underground as the Broad Street Drain, especially in the upper and lower sections. The creek begins at Mickleham Road and arcs around to join the Moonee Ponds Creek near the Raleigh Street playground in Westmeadows.

Aerial photos from Melbourne 1945 show two branches of the creek, quite well defined as it makes its way towards the MPC. Where the creek was underground a linear park remains, but the creek still flows freely in the open countryside section.



The MMBW book from 1981 (left) shows that only the lower section near Broad Street was done by 1973. The rest was undergrounded in the late 1990s when the land was subdivided for housing.



The Google Street View from Chisholm Avenue shows part of the openly flowing section before it is undergrounded.

Next: Shankland & Otway Cres (Yuroke Creek)



Musk Lorikeet by Nina Franceschi



Yellow Spoonbill by Dennis Hocking



Collared Sparrow-hawk by Anna Lanigan



Female Flame Robin by Dennis Hocking

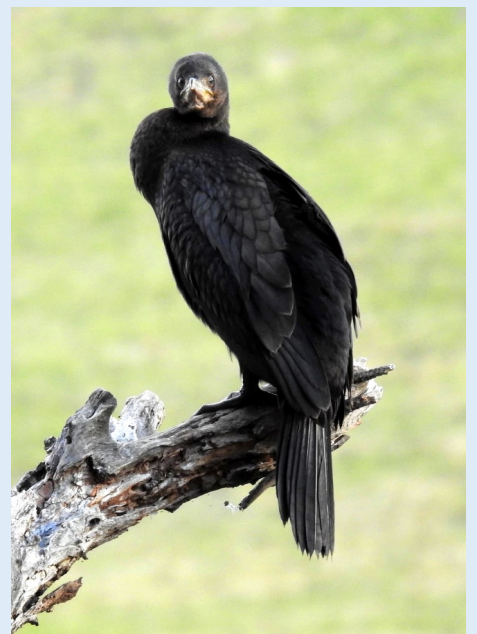
Sightings



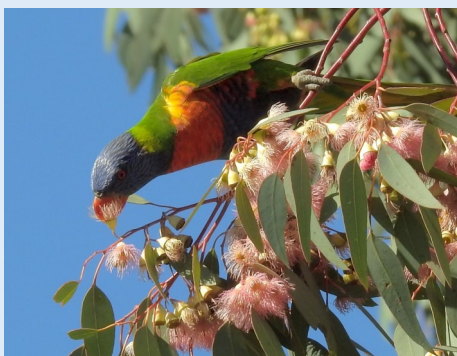
Sulphur Crested Cockatoos by Anna Lanigan



Australasian Darter by Dennis Hocking



Little Black Cormorant by Nina Franceschi



Rainbow Lorikeet by Anna Lanigan



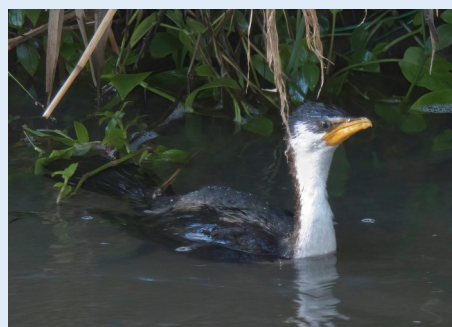
Australasian Grebe by Maurice Austin



Nankeen Night Heron by Dennis Hocking



Common Bronzewing by Nina Franceschi



Little Pied Cormorant by Maurice Austin



Willie Wagtail by Maurice Austin



FoMPC News

March Meeting — Project Updates

Kaye went through a slide presentation of a number of current projects,

- Vanberg-Hopetoun Bridge Connection
- Brosnan Crescent Naturalisation
- Kensington Embankment Infill Vegetation (Melbourne Water grant) Project
- Metro Tunnel – HV underground cable route along Creek (Kensington)
- Communities Environment Program (CEP grant) – Outlook Drive/Djirri Djirri Infill Vegetation project being undertaken in collaboration with Moreland Council.

Chain of Ponds

Kaye updated the meeting on the appointment of the new CoP Coordinator/Lead Rachel Lopes and on the work of the Working Groups. Two reports have been released. One, the Trails, Transport and Connectivity Principles and Design Guidelines, is now linked with a MVCC/Working for Victoria assessment project for the Creek.

The second report on Litter undertaken in conjunction with Melbourne Water and associated with a RMIT research 'Litter Trackers' project will be progressed in light of recent Federal and State announcements addressing polystyrene and plastic litter.

A feasibility study for the 'Missing Link,' a shared path connection between Westmeadows and Woodlands Historic Park has just been commissioned.

There was some discussion about the litter that accumulates in the Creek where the Western Ring Road crosses, including timing of the regular Melbourne Water clean-ups in this area, operation of Gross Pollutant Traps and increasing awareness of stopping litter 'at source'.

April Meeting — Bike Jumps and Tracks

The BMX and MTB report has been completed by MVCC Officers and was considered by Moonee Valley Council on Tuesday 13 May 2021. Nina and Kaye reported on the decision by Council to remove high risk jumps but at same time "to leave low-risk jumps until other options are developed." Kaye reported that FoMPC had last year put in a submission to Moonee Valley Council, regarding the on-going impact of jumps, destroying the re-vegetation work that had been done at Wykrooknguluk Darrang Reserve. Nina added that the officer report itself on the consultation of Moonee Valley Council with Youth Representatives was overall good but said they were very disappointed with the half-response recommendation for this Reserve. It was considered naïve that jumps would not be recreated in the Reserve whilst Council worked through the long process establishing jumps facilities at more appropriate sites in the municipality. The meeting agreed that Kaye and John would liaise to write a letter to MCC.

Strathnaver Reserve

Nina reported that the very large advertising signs are back around Strathnaver Reserve oval – which is currently used by the Split Soccer Club. She gave some background to this ongoing issue. The MAV (Municipal Association of Victoria) are reviewing guidelines for advertising around sports grounds. John offered to follow up this issue with the MAV. Nina also reported that there was a project called the Chris Lane Project in the pipeline at Boeing Reserve and she was attempting to find details of what exactly was being planned.

Sports Clubs

Nina raised the issue of the potential removal of some trees at Ormond Park. She also expressed concerns for future public access to the sports grounds at Cross Keys should one club have sole use of the facility. John suggested that a letter re: open space remaining open be sent to the Council.

Closure of shared path at Docklands

Kaye highlighted this issue and sought the agreement of the meeting to write to Development Victoria and Melbourne City Council to get the path reinstated so as to allow through public access along the Creek corridor. The Meeting agreed for Kaye to follow up the issue by writing to the relevant agencies.



Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek Inc

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Committee; Vince Aitkin, Treasurer; John Kavanagh, President; Alison Cook, Secretary; Frank Kinnersley, Vice-president.

Join the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek for \$20 per year

Help preserve and improve the Moonee Ponds Creek's natural environment. For information and to join, go to mooneepondscreek.org.au and complete the membership form or write to PO Box 54, Essendon VIC 3040.

CALENDAR

When	Event and Location:	Contact/ Link
Sunday, 6th June 5pm	Have Your Say on the proposed restoration of the Creek at Brosnan Cres Strathmore - click here	Melbourne Water 1800 952 911 mooneeponds.creek@melbournewater.com.au
Monday, 15th June 5pm	Submission deadline for proposed rezoning of land at Wright St and from Rural to Industrial/ Residential.	Andrea Taylor, Senior Strategic Planner, Hume Council 9502 2375 contactus@hume.vic.gov.au
Monday, 21th June 6.30pm	FoMPC meeting Sam Merrifield Library, 762 Mt. Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds.	mooneepondscreek.org.au
Sunday 18th July, 10am to noon	FoMPC/ Moreland Community Planting, Djirri Djirri Reserve, Outlook Drive, Glenroy	mooneepondscreek.org.au
Sun 1st August 10 am-12.00pm	National Tree Day — KW JOYCE RESERVE Pascoe Vale	Moreland City Council Natural Resources Manager 8311 4386
Monday, 16th August 6.30pm	FoMPC meeting Sam Merrifield Library, 762 Mt. Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds.	mooneepondscreek.org.au
Sunday, 29th August at 11am	COMMUNITY CLEAN UP - Cole Reserve Playground on Cumberland Rd, opposite Warwick Rd, Pascoe Vale.	<u>Rachel Antovik, PV Sparklers</u>
Monday, 18th October 6.30pm	FoMPC AGM Sam Merrifield Library, 762 Mt. Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds.	mooneepondscreek.org.au
Monday, 20th December 6.30pm	FoMPC meeting Sam Merrifield Library, 762 Mt. Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds.	mooneepondscreek.org.au

Last minute cancellations and changes will be posted to the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek Facebook page: facebook.com/groups/friendsofmooneepondscreek/

Contributions to Ponderings are welcome.

Please send your images and stories to fompc.ponderings@gmail.com