



# Damper Creek Doings

Newsletter of the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve  
inc.  
May 2024



## Working Together



Our team relaxing after working in the Fern Gully April 30<sup>th</sup>



A special observation at the Carra residence. This is a Sugar Glider (*Petaurus breviceps*)

Sugar gliders can glide up to 50 metres between trees.

Sugar gliders are very social and live in groups.

Sugar gliders have a wide flat tail which they use to control their flight.

Sugar gliders are only native to a small area of South-Eastern Australia



## Recognition in Parliament

Matt Fregon, our local State Government representative thanked the local Friends Group in Parliament on 7th March.

*"We take pride in our local environment, parks, conservation reserves, native bushlands and natural waterways. These natural assets hold so much value to our local residents. I would like to take this opportunity to thank some of the many groups who work tirelessly, some of whom have done so for decades, to improve our district: the Friends of Damper Creek, the Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve, the Friends of Gardiners Creek Valley and more recently the KooyongKoot Alliance..."*

Available on our website - <https://www.friendsofdampercreek.org.au>)

## Damper Creek is the beneficiary of an unexpected grant from Yarra Valley Water

*Yarra Valley Water has provided \$2,500 to support our biodiversity work as part of their commitments to customers, community and environment. This unexpected donation is due to their guaranteed level of service agreement following a "Do Not drink advisory notice issued in Chadstone". After discussing with the Bush-crew it was identified that these funds will be used to for the infill planting program within the Reserve. Planting will occur in the garden beds on the west side of the creek behind Bengal Crescent and Susan Court at the June Working Bee.*

*Working bee **Sunday 30 June 2024** from 10am - 12.30pm. Tube stock planting funded by **Yarra Valley Water** and morning tea provided by the Safety Focused Performance Joint Venture group together with their volunteers. Billy boils for bush tea - morning tea/coffee at 11am. Meet at Bengal Crescent entry to the Reserve.*

## **Resident Sugar Gliders**

Special thanks to Raymond Gibson who spoke to us about possums and gliders and led us on a night walk in the reserve. We did not have to venture far into the Reserve before we sighted a sugar glider, brushtail possum and a Tawny Frogmouth. Damper Creek Reserve is an important refuge for nocturnal species. The remnant and replanted canopy trees provide important habitat for these species and a connecting habitat corridor. Sugar Gliders need tall trees that are a gliding distance of up to 25m apart to enable movement. The biggest risks to gliders is habitat loss, fragmentation and urban development.

To see footage of a resident colony of sugar gliders (near the end of Richard Rd) please checkout our facebook page

on <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofdampercreek>

## **Pollution in the creek**

There have been an increase of illegal discharges into Damper Creek via stormwater drains over the past months. The most recent pollution event came from a building site on Bengal Crescent. Monash Council tracked down the source and provided education regarding disposal of contaminants and onsite retention of polluted water.

If you notice a water pollution event - please report to both Monash Council on 9518 3555 and the EPA on 1300 372 842 or lodge an online report at

<https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/report-pollution/reporting-pollution>

## **Guest Speaker at General Meeting May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

*Lina Patel is a first generation migrant and local poet with a passion for the environment. Lina works as a facilitator and collaborative designer with people who value positive social outcomes and want to improve their community. She is one of 8 artists, that walked & talked following the route of the yet to be built Suburban Rail Loop from Cheltenham to Box Hill through natural places and parkland, looking for flows, loops and lines along the way. The [Flowing Loops](#) art project was conceived by Dan Koop and funded by the Suburban Rail Loop Authority.*



## AGM Change of Date

The AGM will now be held at Alvie Hall from 7.30pm on Wednesday **24 July 2024** (instead of August as previously advised). An agenda and relevant papers will be distributed closer to that date to all members.

### Why the change?

*Due to changes in government regulations, in order to preserve our status as a tax-free organisation, we need to make changes to our constitution and model rules. These changes must be voted on by the membership to be valid. A vote on these changes will be conducted in conjunction with the AGM. Your presence is requested to ensure a valid vote is obtained.*

The Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve Inc. advise that all committee positions will be declared vacant at the AGM.

All members are welcomed and encouraged to nominate for positions such as President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 2 other general committee roles. Your involvement in the administration towards the care, maintenance, replanting of Damper Creek bushland is important. Nomination forms are to be found on the website.

**Community Planting Day** - free BBQ/sausage sizzle - **Sunday 26 May 2024**  
from 10am - 1pm - all welcome - See invitation attached. No RSVP required.

*The BBQ is provided by the Lions Club Ashwood-Mount Waverley*

Meet at the Swayfield Road entrance to the Reserve. BBQ commences at 11.30am. A thankyou presentation to outgoing (and long serving) committee members John Wolf (Noticeboards) and Joan Wolf (subscription data) will be held at 12noon. **Project funded by Melbourne Water.**

**Please come along even if you do not feel up to working on planting. There are many tasks such as welcoming the public and supervising the work. Also join in the BBQ and socialise with members old and new and reinforce the message that we are a dynamic organisation.**



## Upcoming Events

Working Bees are held on the last Sunday each month unless otherwise notified

### Next Working bee: Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup>

10-00am to 1-00pm

Community Planting Day

Fern Gully planting.

Meet at Swayfield Road entrance

BBQ from 11-30am

### Next General Meeting

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Alvie Hall from 7-30pm-9pm.

Guest speaker Lina Patel, a local poet

“Connecting to your local environment”

### Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup> Working bee

Courtesy Yarra Valley Water

Meet at Bengal Crescent entrance

### Wednesday July 24AGM

7-30 pm at Alvie Hall

Note the date change, see further comments in body of newsletter.

### **Report it!**

Have you seen something along Damper Creek that you think needs attention?

Please contact Monash Council and leave a report. You can contact them the

following ways.: [www.monash.vic.gov.au/contact/request-a-service](http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/contact/request-a-service)

Phone(03) 9518 3555 or download the App – Snap, Send, Solve

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Damper-Creek-133557736847306/>

The content of this newsletter reflects the opinions of the editor for the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve. Content is welcome and should be emailed to [dougscott3149@hotmail.com](mailto:dougscott3149@hotmail.com) or to the secretary at [secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com)

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# The Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve Inc.

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

## Community Planting Day & Free Community BBQ

**Sunday 26 May 2024**

**10am to 1pm**

**Meet at the Swayfield Road entrance to Damper Creek Reserve, Mt Waverley**

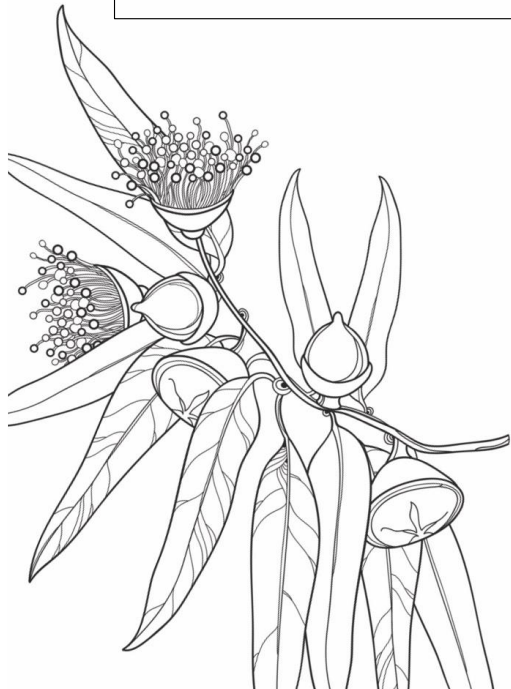
Wear sturdy footwear and weather appropriate clothing and gardening gloves  
Tube stock funded by a Melbourne Water Project Grant to revegetate the "Fern Gully"

Supported by the Monash City Council Bushcrew

BBQ provided by Lions Club Ashwood-Mt Waverley

BYO cups/mugs, plates, rugs, chairs

No RSVP required



Thank you to Matt Fregon MP, State Member for Ashwood District, for assistance with printing of this publication. If you require assistance with any State Government issues please contact Matt's office.

**Matt Fregon MP**  
STATE MEMBER FOR ASHWOOD

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