



Ponderings

Seasonal newsletter of the
Moonee Ponds Creek Coordination Committee
Autumn 2016 | Issue 50

advocate educate interpret participate rehabilitate revegetate



OUR MOONEE PONDS CREEK DISPLAY DRAWS A CROWD

From paintings by young children to the memories of elderly residents, our Creek enjoyed a huge celebration at the Moonee Valley Festival. Many contributions and suggestions were made to assist Moonee Valley Council with the development of the new master plan for the creek. Further ideas are welcome, see page 5 for details.



Photos by Tony S & Anna L



MOONEE VALLEY NEWS

Moonee Valley has made a **Junior Ranger check list for the Moonee Ponds Creek as part of the Master Plan process.**

The Junior Ranger program is a fun way for kids to interact with local flora and fauna in parks across Moonee Valley.

Follow the link mvcc.vic.gov.au/juniorrangers

I look like this (tick when found)	This is me	You might find me	Something I do
	Cockatoo I am white with a yellow crest	In the trees	I show off my yellow crest when talking to my mates

Green Army NEWS

A new project will work strategically along the Moonee Ponds Creek, Strathmore, to protect and conserve threatened species and ecological communities. These include the Growling Grass Frog, Swift Parrot, Grey-headed Flying Fox and the critically endangered Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain and the Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain. The project will enhance habitat and linkages for migratory birds, control Weeds of National Significance and erosion, create buffer zones for storm water run-off, and assist water quality through filtration. Participants will work in partnership with surrounding land managers including Moreland City Council and Melbourne Water as well as contractors, school groups and 'Friends' groups.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

6 March 2016

Andre Braakhuis has registered the Gowanbrae Rotunda as a site for Clean Up Australia Day.

For more information:

www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au/Riverwalk

PLEASE SEND PONDERINGS ANY PHOTOS TO CELEBRATE YOUR EFFORTS IN THE NEXT EDITION

The next Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek meeting is scheduled for 5.00pm, Friday 8 April at 3 Munro St, Coburg. ALL WELCOME!

MORELAND NEWS

Works on the upgrade to the Kingsford Smith Ulm playground in Glenroy have commenced. This will include a range of new play equipment, a nature play area, extensive shade tree planting, a picnic area and seats. A shared trail link from Loongara Drive to the Moonee Ponds Creek shared trail will be constructed in coming months, encouraging more people to utilise the new space.

The current playground site as shown, has expansive views over the valley





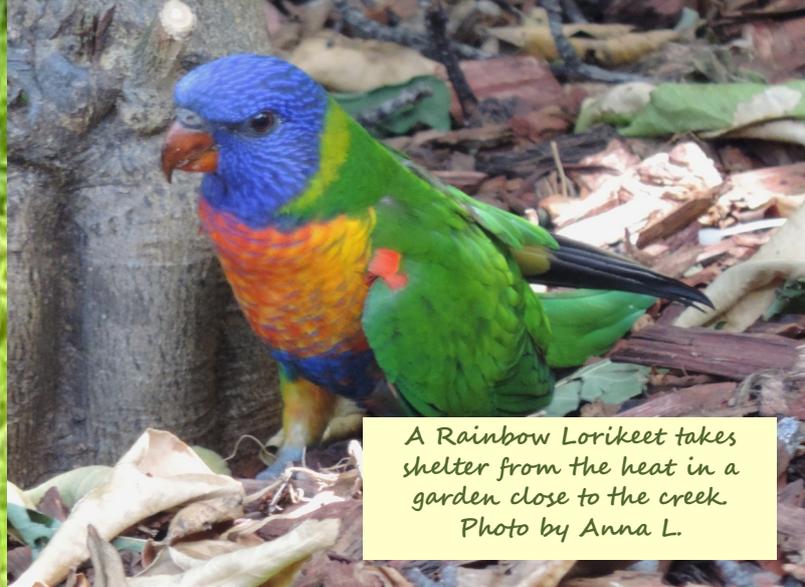
A Pacific Black Duck enjoys the rapids after rain in Strathmore. Photo by Anna L.



After six months in care, a grateful Long Neck Turtle is returned to the wild. Photo by Anna L.



This echidna was spotted by Fiona S as it strolled along Mascoma Street, Strathmore.



A Rainbow Lorikeet takes shelter from the heat in a garden close to the creek. Photo by Anna L.

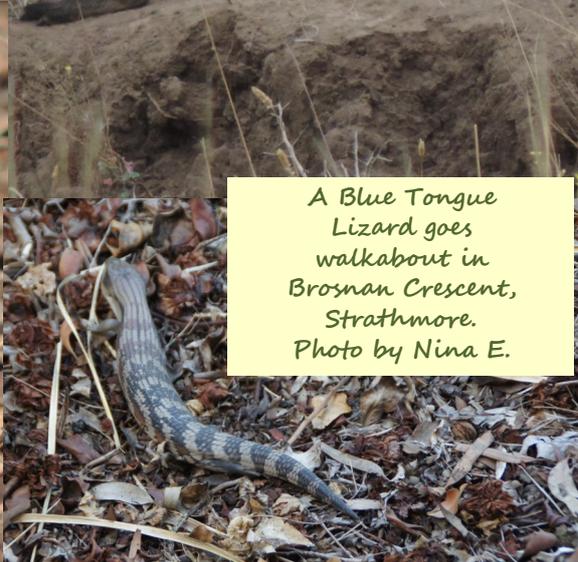
PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND US YOUR SIGHTINGS FOR FUTURE PONDERINGS. PHOTOS FROM ALL SECTIONS OF THE CREEK WELCOME.



A Swamp Wallaby spotted in Attwood. Photo by Anna L.



A female Superb Fairy Wren and Willie Wagtail found close to the Reynard Street bridge, Pascoe Vale Sth. Photo by Anna L.



A Blue Tongue Lizard goes walkabout in Brosnan Crescent, Strathmore. Photo by Nina E.

Jacana Retarding Basin Upgrade Project

Melbourne Water will commence the upgrade of the Jacana Retarding Basin in March and work will continue until August 2016.

IMPACTS ON LOCAL RESIDENTS and VISITORS

As with all major projects within residential areas, they anticipate some impacts including:

- ◆ increase in number of truck movements through the Gowanbrae Estate
- ◆ temporary closure and diversion of Moonee Ponds Creek Trail through Moonee Boulevard and Valley Crescent, Glenroy
- ◆ residents in the immediate vicinity of the work area will experience some noise and dust, and may experience vibration from the works.

To reduce these impacts we aim to:

- ◆ undertake works Monday to Friday 7.00am to 6.00pm only
- ◆ use water suppression carts where necessary to reduce dust and stop works if dust levels are deemed too high
- ◆ liaise with local community
- ◆ introduce controls to minimise impact on local fauna and flora.



For more information about this project call 1800 587 158 or email rbupgrades@melbournewater.com.au. For more information on retarding basins visit melbournewater.com.au/retardingbasins

DID YOU KNOW?

THAT THE SITE OF RED ROOSTER ON PASCOE VALE ROAD WAS ONCE OCCUPIED BY ONE OF STRATHMORE'S EARLIEST HOMES "WANNAEUE" ERECTED IN THE 1870S BY PROMINENT LOCAL RESIDENT AND CO-FOUNDER OF COBB & CO COACHES, JOHN MURRAY PECK (1830-1903).

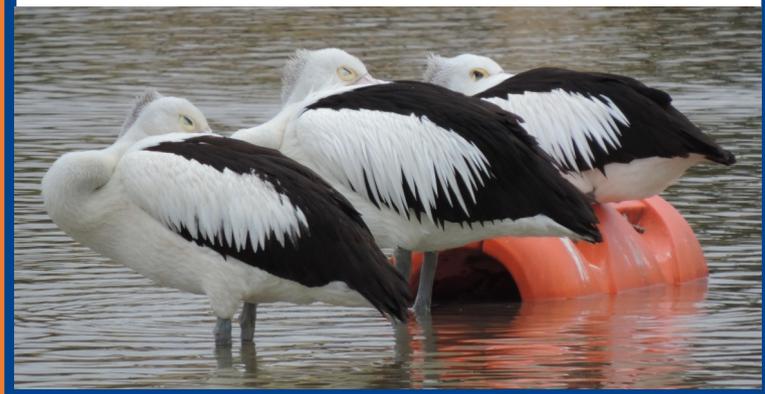
THE CANARY ISLAND DATE PALMS, PRIVET HEDGE, PEPPERCORN TREES AND A REMNANT OF FENCE ARE ALL THAT REMAIN AFTER THE HOUSE WAS DEMOLISHED IN THE 1980'S.



In this busy world, it's very good for your wellbeing to

HUME NEWS

stop and take in nature, like watching birds. Council is developing a bird field guide to help school children and residents to identify the birds commonly seen around Hume. It will include the many different birds living in our local wetlands, woodlands, paddocks, parks or backyards. Hundreds of beautiful photos were provided by keen bird photographers, and it was a difficult delight to choose which pictures to include in the bird field guide, which Council hopes will be available by May. What a wonderful resource for birdwatchers along the Moonee Ponds Creek.



MELBOURNE Water REPORT

Additional revegetation on Moonee Ponds Creek downstream of Five Mile Creek was planted a few months ago as part of a current capital revegetation project. A trial of removing the herbaceous weeds and replacing the jute matt and salt bush had been largely successful, until the high flows came about a month ago. As a result, a clean-up of tree guards will be undertaken.

A recently reviewed Corridors of Green application by Moreland City Council on the Moonee Ponds Creek to undertake revegetation at Oak Park has been accepted. This will compliment capital works Melbourne Water is commencing in the area and provide further amenity. It is hoped in future a wetland swale may be incorporated into the site.



STOP PRESS

Signs to remind commuters to have their say on the future of the creek have been spotted along it's length.

City of Moonee Valley would like you to send them your ideas by 24 March 2016 to be in the running for an Apple iPad mini!

For further details and how to enter visit
**MVCC.VIC.GOV.AU/
MPCREEK**

City of Moonee Valley

Our Moonee Ponds Creek

SHARE YOUR STORIES...

Share your stories, photos and ideas for Moonee Ponds Creek and its connected bike trails, pathways and parkland and help us to create a master plan to unlock the potential for this significant area.

Your chance to win an Apple iPad mini!

Join in by sharing your expression of the creek's past or future through photography, writing or painting to be in the running to win an Apple iPad mini!

Please send us your ideas by Thursday, 24 March.

For further details and how to enter visit
MVCC.VIC.GOV.AU/MPCREEK

JOIN THE CONVERSATION
USING #MPCREEK

In partnership with Melbourne Water

PLANTINGS

When	Where	Group/Contact Information
Sat 16 Apr 10.00am-12.00noon	Gowanbrae Site Maintenance Lanark Way Slopes Gowanbrae	Gowanbrae Residents Group Andre 0439 033 736
Sun 15 May 10.00am-12.00noon	Gavin Reserve Arndt Road, Pascoe Vale	Friends of Westbreen Creek and Moreland City Council 8311 4386
Sun 22 May 1.00-3.30pm	Ian Musgrove Reserve (Melway 5 J7) Koala Crescent, Westmeadows	Friends of Upper Moonee Ponds Creek and Enviro Champs. Urban Biodiversity Office City of Hume 9205 2466.
Sat 28 May 2.00-4.00pm	Braddy Reserve, Hope Street Brunswick	Brunswick South West Planters Audrey - 9387 3249
Sat 18 Jun 10.00am-12.00noon	Lawson Street Reserve, Moonee Ponds (Melway 29 A5), entry via laneway adjacent to 16 Lawson Street, Moonee Ponds	Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek and Moonee Valley City Council Kaye - 9329 0635
Sat 2 Jul 10.00am-12.00noon	Lawson Street Reserve, Moonee Ponds (Melway 29 A5), entry via laneway adjacent to 16 Lawson Street, Moonee Ponds	Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek and Moonee Valley City Council Kaye - 9329 0635
Sun 3 Jul 2.00-4.00pm	5 Mile Creek Reserve (Melway 28 J2) End of Government Road, Essendon	Friends of 5 Mile Creek. Conservation Officer Moonee Valley City Council 8325 1888
Sun 17 Jul 10.00am-12.30pm	Broadmeadows Deviation Road (Melway 6 B7)	Friends of Sacred Kingfisher. Urban Biodiversity Office City of Hume 9205 2466.
Sun 17 Jul 2.00-4.00pm	Herbert Street Reserve, Strathmore (Melway 16 H8)	Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek and Moreland City Council Kaye - 9329 0635
Sun 7 Aug 2.00-4.00pm	5 Mile Creek Reserve (Melway 28 J2) End of Government Road, Essendon	Friends of 5 Mile Creek. Conservation Officer Moonee Valley City Council 8325 1888
Sun 14 Aug 1.00-3.30pm	The Tarnuk, enter via Koala Crescent, Westmeadows (Melway 5 J6)	Friends of Upper Moonee Ponds Creek. Urban Biodiversity Office City of Hume 9205 2466.
Sun 28 Aug 10.00am-12.00noon	Gowanbrae Community Centre Marigold Crescent, Gowanbrae	Gowanbrae Residents Group Andre 0439 033 736

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

CREEK WATCH

Rapid change of water levels or discolouration of problems along the creek that need to be reported:

- ◇ High water flows coming out of drains during a period of no rain could indicate a leaking water main or underground burst pipe. To report this, contact **Yarra Valley Water** for the east side of the bank and **City West Water** for the west side of the bank.
- ◇ If the creek water is yellow or white or otherwise discoloured, this could indicate trade waste being dumped into the creek. This needs to be **urgently reported to the EPA.**

Creeky Links

mooneeponds creek.org.au
 facebook.com/groups/friendsofmooneeponds creek
 friendsofmerricreek.org.au/
 facebook.com/FriendsOfSteeleCreekInc
 facebook.com/groups/1541338476087146
 fmvonline.com
 bowerbird.org.au/projects/5249
 whp.altervista.org/
 werribeeriver.org.au

Contact us if you have any other links to share