



THE FRIENDS OF BRAESIDE PARK

NEWSLETTER

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

President's Report

Around 30 Friends of Braeside Park members and community members attended the Annual General Meeting on Sunday 6 August 2023. The Committee for 2022-23 was congratulated for a most productive year by the President, Judith Sise. The Treasurer, Vicky Paraskevas, presented the year's financial report to the meeting which was accepted. The Ranger in Charge of the Sandbelt Parks submitted a report which was tabled and read by those present. The 2023-24 Committee members were nominated and seconded and elected unanimously.

There was a lovely, bounteous afternoon tea provided by the Committee members for all to enjoy after listening to the Guest Speaker.

The Guest Speaker, Gio Fitzpatrick, is an urban ecologist and conservationist who brings a sense of curiosity to all of his significant work in sustainability and environmental preservation.

He spent almost all of his life in the inner-southeast of Melbourne, a coastal ring of suburbs (Elwood, St Kilda, Elsternwick, Brighton, Ripponlea, Cheltenham) that hug Port Phillip bay. While the area was once a *"vast series of swamps, bogs, small lakes and tidal wetlands teeming with wildlife, almost none of it remains today"*. Gio realised the potential of a canal built to drain the wetlands as a *" beautiful ribbon of open space, and it's helped the community to stay connected with the natural world"*.

He spoke about his experience developing a golf course in Glen Ira. *"The council were deciding on what to do with the abandoned golf course, and it turned out my photographs and footage taken by entering the golfing green to observe and record wildlife. became really important in the decision-making process. It's things like that which inspired the community to actually preserve this. It's a public park, but with a focus on encouraging wildlife back into the urban landscape"*.

Gio also related his re-vegetation plans to Braeside Park and suggested some plants that could encourage more small birds to visit the Park. He is willing to return and help with this. He was a most inspiring speaker and the Committee thanks Vicky Paraskevas, who arrange this speaker at short notice.

Judith Sise

President

AGM**ABN 72 959 503 118 INC NO A002420278****President's Annual Report****Judith Sise August 2023**

The Committee Meetings in 2022-23 were all to face-to-face and what a difference this made - noisier and longer, yes, but much more rewarding personally and efficiently.

Over the past 12 months The Friends of Braeside Park have begun to establish a relationship with Parks Victoria working with Adrian Howard, Braeside Park's Ranger Team Leader of the Sandbelt Parklands and Janelle Cadd, Ranger of the Sandbelt Parklands. However, Parks Victoria's regulations and resources make volunteering and rangers interesting.

Quarterly face-to-face meetings between the Rangers and Friends begun with limited success to replace the previous Ranger Park's Report delivered at The Friends' meeting on the second Thursday of the month. Parks Connect continues laboriously to confuse and to impede The Friends' efforts to follow Parks Victoria's volunteer registration. Janelle Cadd, Ranger, assisted volunteers by providing hard copies of the steps to register on-line and offered a drop in session as well and this helped a few. The problem of registration for new members and Friends' events remains. Luckily, Margaret Hunter, The Friends' Secretary, has continued to problem solve the systems' many foibles.

During 2022-2023 most of The Friends' Calendar activities were reinstated. Nocturnal Walks, ably managed by Margaret Hunter, were again popular. Between David MacLean, Rosemaree MacLean, David Boldiston, Frank Russo and myself, guides for the six walks on the first Friday in the month were available. Thanks to all these Committee Members for contributing to the enjoyment and education of the many community members who attended.

The 2022-23 challenge for The Friends was re-establishing the Nursery, the core of the Park. As Des Lucas, former Ranger Team Leader, noted The Friends' grew and planted 1.3 million indigenous plants to make the Park what it is today and the Friends' Nursery would need to propagating plants for the future if the Park was to remain the indigenous oasis it presently is. I am happy to say the Nursery has rebounded with a small dedicated team volunteering on the first Saturday and third Sunday of the month. Simon Flemming, a Committee Member and with me, a Nursery co-ordinator, made an enormous contribution to this success by sorting out the watering system and studying seed propagation.

The Nursery has attracted a number of volunteers, some of whom have become regulars with particular skills. Jane and Vicki have organised the igloos and hardening off shed and completed the 2023 stock take. Mina, Claudia, Denyse, Tyanna, Frank, Sophie, Wayne and Aiden turned up and washed pots, took cuttings, sowed and separated seeds, and completed general garden clear ups. It feels and looks like a Nursery thanks to all these and many others registered Parks Connect volunteers.

The 2023-24 Nursery challenge is to install new heat beds to increase the propagation of more indigenous seedlings. The Friends were unsuccessful in applying for a South East Water Grant for \$10,000 to fund the Nursery Heat Beds but will continue to look for funding. Nursery members have begun to relearn where and when to collect the seeds from the Heathland and the Park for next year's seedlings.

Rabbit warrens within the nursery pose a huge safety problem. But this year the Nursery propagated sufficient plants to provide for our National Tree Day community planting last Saturday 29 July 2023 and for planting around the new bridges and grasslands by the A Team on Wednesday. I feel that the founding members - Friends of Braeside Park who re-vegetated the Park and from all accounts, had a vibrant community group, would be proud that we continued to follow grow indigenous plants and to foster a sense of connectiveness with Braeside Park.

Frank and Helen Russo completed Clean Up Australia again! With David Boldiston, they do a tremendous job welcoming and organising the people to areas and removing bags of litter. Considering the large visitor numbers, the Park remained relatively litter free but certain areas cumulated windblown litter and ubiquitous litter dumpers.

Rosemaree MacLean has rejuvenated the 4th Friday in the month Bird Surveys, taking on the organisation and reporting. Her enthusiastic accounts of the bird sighting with accompanying photographs are a mainstay of the Friends' Newsletter.

David MacLean continues to produce The Friends of Braeside bi-monthly Newsletter filled with evocative photographs, informative articles and notices, all elegantly arranged. His technological expertise and deep knowledge of the Park makes him the perfect editor.

Vicky Paraskevas took on the role of Treasurer of the Friends in 2022-23 and has dealt successfully with this role while working full time and volunteering with other groups. Where does she get the time!

Frank Russo has set himself the 2023-4 task of moving the Friends' long term plan for developing the Phar Lap Track by 2026. A sub-committee has begun meeting, ably led by Frank.

Simon Flemming, a new 2022-23 Committee member, is introducing a Frog Night to The Friend's Calendar later this year. Simon has also taken on the co-ordinating the protecting turtle population in the Park.

David Boldiston is following up all leads to have the old cypress stumps chain sawed into sculptures.

Heather Markland, a new 2022-23 Committee member, co-ordinated The Friends' 2024 Calendar with assistance from Vicki Paraskevas, David MacLean and Frank Russo. It is a lovely reminder of how beautiful Braeside Park is thanks to all the volunteers.

Margaret Hunter, The Friends' extraordinary Secretary, has once again co-ordinated all the Committee activities, ensured all FOBP members and committee members are informed and supported through all our events, produced the Agendas and Minutes and purchased The Friends' distinctive polo shirts, jackets, hi-vis and beanies because we are nothing without merchandise. Every community group needs a "Margaret" Secretary!

The redevelopment of Kingswood Golf Course in Dingley Village, still pending release from yet another NEW Minister for Planning – Sonya Kilkenny, and the Suburban Rail Loop, still a source of community concern, lurk in the background of our neighbourhood and will impact on the Park through connectivity access for flora and fauna. The Friends of Braeside Park Committee will continue to work for the best outcome for our Park through seeking further information, submitting reports and advocacy to local and state governments and agencies. To rephrase, the price of maintaining Braeside Park, is constant surveillance.

2022-2023 has been a most productive and enjoyable year and I thank all who contributed to this success.

Judith Sise

President

GENERAL

Trees in the Park

There is certain identified cultural trees within the Park and these are on the AAV register.

There are many trees that have been damaged from machinery and or human action over the past 150 years of agriculture, and there are some very old trees that are around 800 years old which are in excellent condition - further to this there are many trees throughout the Park that show scars from being stuck by lightning and from wind events where branches have blown out.

The scars created in the trees provide an opportunity for insects, bats, snakes, lizards, birds and possums to enjoy a home - they all help to ensure that the biodiversity of the park has the opportunity to rebuild over time.

Since the Park was opened in the late 80's extensive revegetation has occurred which has provided the opportunity for many species to repopulate. A few examples of this is that Kookaburra's have only returned to the Park over the last 8 years - Kingfishers are observed regularly each year from August through to March and the observed number of birds has risen to some 246 different species.

It should also be noted that a number of threatened water birds are now using the Park as a home - from the Blue Billed Duck to the Freckled Duck etc.

Large Trees and for that matter all vegetation from fungi, to ground orchids, grass, creepers, vines, shrubs and small trees are so important to the improving habitat and biodiversity of the Park.

Finally the scar trees identified in the Park are protected and therefore to be left alone and is the main reason why they are not highlighted and interpreted in the Park. Damage to them is irreversible.

Des Lucas

Friends of Braeside Park Spring Walk

Twenty-eight community and members joined Frank and I to take a walk in the Heathland.

The Walk was moved forward to see if more than Wedding Bush (*Ricinocarpus pinifolius*) could be viewed. The Wedding Bush was beginning to show its open, white, fragrant, petalled male flowers. A small show of Heath Rice Flowers (*Pimelea phyllicoides*) were observed deep in the Heathlands. These were surrounded by the Undertakers Orchid's leaves (*Pyrorchis nigricans*).



Nodding Greenhoods (*Pterostylis nutans*), and Trim Greenhoods (*Pterostylis concinna*) were found along the tracks in many places. A Sun Orchid's leaf was seen (*Thelymitra macmillanii*). A large number of scented sundews (*Drosera whittakeri*) were found with small white flowers. Yellow Correas and white Heath Bells (*Epacris impressa*) grew together.

Bossiaea cinerea was beginning to flower beside the tracks. Many groups of Broom Spurge (*Amaerea xiphocida*) were also growing on and beside the track, Banksias Coast (*Banksia integrifolia*) seems to have replaced the indigenous Silver Banksia (*Banksia marginata*). The White Plumped Honey Eater and Fan tailed Cuckoo were heard calling and identified by two keen birders. The Borgan (*Kunzea ericoides*) was rampant and almost impenetrable. It is an attractive bush but has become a serious weed problem. Large trees such as the Narrow-leaf Peppermint (*Eucalyptus radius*) and the Coastal Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) were observed but a local who visited decades ago remarked that there seemed fewer large trees. This could be because the Borgan is so widespread that small seedlings are struggling to find room and light.

The weather was beautiful and another walk in a month's time might reveal more orchids and flowering plants.



Judith Sise

Bird Survey

July 2023

Bird Survey Group: 4 birdwatchers met at Robin carpark at 8am. Group returned to the carpark by 11am.

Weather Conditions: Overnight rain 8mm. Started survey with cold wind and cloud cover. Temperature was 12 C but felt like 10 C. Clouds cleared around 10am and temperature increased. Very pleasant by this time.

Bird Activity: Birds were very active in W4, H2 and H3, but few birds presented in H1 today. Three Golden Whistlers were spotted in H2. Large numbers of Little Ravens, Rainbow Lorikeets, Noisy Miners, Spotted Pardalotes and Superb Fairy Wrens and Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes. There were large numbers of Dusky Moorhens on the golf course boundary with H1.

Noteworthy:

Low numbers of Red Wattlebirds, Little Wattlebirds, Grey Fantails and Honeyeaters. No Cockatoos or birds of prey sighted.



Red-Rumped parrot
By Graham Gill

August 2023

Total observers: 5

Conditions were cool and dry with mostly clear skies. Birds were active in surveyed zones H1, H2, H3 and W4. Note: The bird survey group is unable to survey H4 due to dense foliage blocking access to pathway.

General Observations: Higher numbers of Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes, Little Ravens, Noisy Miners, Rainbow Lorikeets, Red Wattlebirds, Spotted Pardalotes and Superb Fairywrens. Also observed Little Wattlebirds, Grey Fantails, White-Plumed Honeyeaters, Golden Whistlers and a Tawny Frogmouth.

We spotted a Bronzewing Pigeon and some Blackbirds, not observed during colder months. There was a possible sighting high above the Heathland of a Whistling Kite, later sighted at a closer distance near Robin carpark.



Eastern Yellow Robin
By Rosemaree MacLean



Fan-tailed Cuckoo
By Rosemaree MacLean

Bird Survey (cont)

Highlights: Observed two Eastern Yellow Robins near the golf course, how pretty! Rainbow Lorikeets were engaged in territorial disputes over 'prime real estate' tree hollows. Noisy Miners were also very vocal and protecting their nesting sites. The highlight for the group was tracking a Fan-tailed Cuckoo by its song until it could be observed. We had a great time photographing this cuckoo happily singing away in the tree. What a distinctive bird call. Once you know it, you start hearing cuckoos everywhere in the Park!

A total of 31 species were observed in this survey which is significantly higher than for June (21) and July (22). We would expect sightings to increase as we continue to survey throughout Spring.

Rosemaree MacLean

Group Leader

Bird Survey Group



Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
By Rosemaree MacLean

Bird Feature Spotlight

Common Name: Fan-tailed Cuckoo

Scientific name: *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

Description

Dark slate-grey on its head, back and wings, and pale orange-brown below; its undertail is boldly barred black and white. Its legs and feet are dull yellow and its bill is black. Young birds are duller and browner, with mottled markings, especially on their breast and underparts.

Movement

Birds from Tasmania migrate to the Australian mainland for the non-breeding season.

Distinctive feature

A yellow eye-ring which is tinged green in young birds.

Size

24 – 28 cm long

Weight

Its average weight is 58 grams.



Fan-tailed Cuckoo
By David MacLean

Bird Feature Spotlight (cont)

Call

A mournful, descending trill. Cuckoos are very noisy during the breeding season but are mainly silent the rest of the time.

Feeding

Mainly hairy caterpillars, though it eats a variety of insects and their larvae. It locates its food while sitting on an exposed perch and catches its prey either in flight or from the ground, before returning to its perch to eat.

Breeding

As with most other species of Australian cuckoos, the Fan-tailed Cuckoo is a brood parasite; laying its eggs in the nests of other species of birds. Host species include flycatchers, fairy-wrens, scrub-wrens and thornbills, particularly the Brown Thornbill, *Acanthiza pusilla*. A single egg is laid in the nest and one of the host's eggs removed. The young cuckoo generally hatches earlier than the host's eggs and proceeds to eject the other eggs or hatchlings. The seemingly unaware foster parents then rear the cuckoo chick.

Rosemaree MacLean

Birdlife Melbourne Photography Group visits Braeside

On Saturday 15 July, over 20 members of the Birdlife Melbourne Photography Group met at Red Gum carpark. A few who arrived early spotted a Peregrine Falcon and heard the Fan-tailed Cuckoo.

On the way to the ponds, there were plenty of Wood Ducks in the trees.

We headed around the back of the ponds first, along the fairly wet track. We spotted Musk Duck, Black Swans, both grebes, Australian Shoveller and loads of Coots.

A Swamp Harrier was spotted hunting in the distance near the freeway.

In the long grasses and rushes Cisticolas and Little Grass Birds were heard but not seen.

Around the front of the "nursery" pond the Red-rumped Parrots were in their usual dead tree and the Pink-eared Ducks were sheltering under the roosting trees.

The usually busy log in the water was virtually deserted.

Around at the platform, the Great Egret had moved further into the pond from his usual close position and White-faced Herons were seen. Sadly none of the Blue-billed Ducks were about.

On the way back to the vehicles, we detoured and showed people the 2 sets of Tawny Frogmouths. A Grey Butcherbird was about and a couple of Fan-tailed Cuckoos were heard. 3 of us stayed behind and got a very good view of a Fan-tailed Cuckoo quite close.

We then moved up to Ibis carpark for lunch. The group then headed off towards the Heathland and found a Great Egret fishing in the small pond.

Grey Fantails, Pied Currawong, both Pardalotes, Brown Thornbills, White-browed Scrubwren, Golden Whistler and White-plumed Honeyeaters were seen and heard.

Drizzle started to set in, so the group returned to the vehicles. 57 species were recorded for the day. Pretty good for a dull and poor light day.

The group is very ably led by Peter Bennett and John van Doorn.

Birdlife Melbourne Photography Group visits Braeside (cont)

If anyone is interested in this group which does monthly outings from 9am to approximately 3pm, the website is <http://www.birdlifemelbourne.org.au/photography-group/>
The group does a weekend trip once a year. This year's being the Wedderburn area. It was flooded out last year so this will be take 2.
Other places visited include the Western Treatment Plant, Eynesbury as well as more local places.

Kerry Gill

Nocturnal Animals Night walks

Eleven participants signed on for Friday June 2nd & twelve participants signed on for Friday July 7th with five FOBP guides for June & July.

We all met inside the visitor centre, got a safety briefing by the FOBP, and learned the history of Braeside Park as to what it was once there a long time ago.

We went on different walking trails around Braeside Park depending on the number of participants we had and FOBP guides we had also on the night.

Which Nocturnal animals we will see depends on the night, as on some night walks we see a lot and sometimes not many.

In June & July we have seen Tawny Frogmouths, Common Ringtail & Brushtail possums, Foxes, White – Faced Herons, Purple Swamphens & Scorpions.

The birds we saw sleeping at night in the Gum & Cypress trees were a Magpie-lark,

Grey Butcher bird, red wattle bird, Sulphur-crested Cockatoos & the Noisy Miners we saw were sometimes within hand's reach to touch.

The night walk ended back at the visitor centre to sign off and we were thanked by all the participants that came on the night walk & they said they would come again with friends & families.

We left from the Visitor centre at 7pm sharp for 1 hour 30-minute walk & returned to the visitor centre at the conclusion of the night walk.



Tawny Frogmouth
By David MacLean

The FOBP can do night walks at Braeside Park for families, friends & other groups on other alternate Friday nights from April thru to September as long it is booked in advance so that our FOBP guides are available.

Bookings are essential for these night walks and numbers limited for safety reasons from April thru to September.

Gold coins and notes donations are most welcome to the FOBP.

David Boldiston

Great News about the Tawny Frogmouths!

The Tawny Frogmouth Group has surveyed and tracked the tawny frogmouth population in Braeside Park for a number of years now to try to get an idea of their local behaviour and environmental responses. We also are interested to involve the community to provide assistance to injured birds*. Here we report the breeding success rates for the 2022/23 season.

We were pleased to have found more nests throughout the park than we have in previous years. There were 20 family groups identified and 19 nesting areas found. Braeside Park has one of the highest density of tawny frogmouths ever reported to our knowledge. Perhaps some other areas under report frogmouths due to inaccessibility or just miss spotting the frogmouths because of their excellent camouflage. We could speculate that the high concentrations in Braeside Park are due to limited predatory species present in Braeside Park, or that human activities contribute to their protection in some way. In any case, it has been good for frogmouths in the park with lots of suitable large trees and open ground areas with lots of yummy invertebrates!

The progression of the chicks throughout this season have been carefully tracked and we found that of the 19 family groups with nests observed, 10 re-nested. The reason for re-nesting is normally due to loss of all the eggs/chicks but in one case, a late season second lot of chicks was observed! The second nests are most often in a different place from the first nest, although some re-nest in the original nest.

It is difficult to determine the true number of eggs that are actually laid since we are not able to see inside the nest but we can make a reasonable estimate based on the number of chicks that are observable later and also taking into account evidence of early demise of eggs or younglings. We estimate that there are an average of about two eggs per nest. Several hurdles of survival must be overcome throughout a chicks development to an adult bird. The first is during the egg



incubation period where a number of issues regarding egg viability such as infertility, developmental issues and predation must be overcome.

Great News about the Tawny Frogmouths! (cont)

Then after hatching we commonly find that a young chick that has fallen out of the nest but we are not sure of the reason for this, accidental or purposeful. Also, the weather plays a part in the loss of nestlings. Wind was the problem in the 2021/22 season, but this season there was one particular day when heavy rain and coldness resulted a number of nestlings getting drenched and subsequently suffering from hypothermia. When the chicks fledge, they are also vulnerable, and not surprisingly, a few fledglings were lost during this time as well. However, when all eggs or chicks were lost for a individual nest, many of the tawny frogmouth pairs re-nested (Half of all family groups) and most were then successful in raising the chicks to fledglings. The family groups usually only nest once per season if initially successful, but we did have a group successfully raise two lots of chicks as mentioned above! We can estimate that the actual success of any particular egg progressing to an adult bird is about 1 out of 3. Even with all the hardships during the course of development to an adult bird, the tawny frogmouths were still quite successful at Braeside Park. This year we had 19 fledglings that made it, and 80% of the tawny families successfully produced at least one fledgling!

Most of the new tawny frogmouths have moved on to start a new family outside the park. There are those few young individuals that do stay with the family group within the park but may leave just before the new season, or occasionally, they may decide to hang around for the new breeding season to see their cute new siblings show up. In early August we have already identified 16 family groups getting ready to nest for the 2023/24 season! From August and September you will be most likely to see the tawny frogmouths beginning to build their nests, so remember to keep your chin up!

Carl and Helen

**What to do when you find a tawny frogmouth with a problem: Call "Aware" or 'Wildlife Victoria Rescue' and explain the situation (03 8400 7300). They will give you the proper advice on what to do. This is most commonly noticed when the chicks are about 3 to 5 weeks old which generally happens in November to December.*

Cypress Drive Red Gum

The story of this Red Gum will require some explaining. So here goes.

A brief history - The seedling gum tree germinated around the year 1500.

Can one imagine what the landscape of the area looked like at that time?

There was no European influence on the local environment at all. This means the site was a pristine environment with a complete balance of plants and animals. This of course provided the young seedling with the best opportunity to grow and survive. Over the years it became the home of insects, bats, lizards, goanna, snakes, frogs, birds, possums, koala's and provided shelter for emu's, dingo's, kangaroo's, wallabies, wombats.

Aboriginal tribes camped, hunted and gathered food around the tree and the surrounding bushland.

In 1835 Melbourne was founded by John Batman and John Pascoe Fawkner, this puts the gum trees age at 335 years old. During this time there has been little disturbance that has affected the health of the tree.

Progressively as Melbourne's population grew the forests and bushland were cleared for agricultural purposes with the Braeside Park area being used for farming, market gardening, grazing and horse training purposes.

Cypress Drive Red Gum (cont)

In 1928 the MMBW commenced the purchase of land for the building of the Braeside Sewerage Treatment Plant however the work to build the plant did not commence until after the depression of the late 1920's mid 1930's. It was not until the construction of the Sewerage treatment plant in 1939 that actual major affects started to occur to the site that affected the now 439-year-old tree.

The first of these major works involved a drainage line being placed down the side of the Cypress drive to the treatment plant – The work cut the roots of the tree on its west side thus affecting the canopy of the tree which died back and reduced the canopy. Grazing of farm animals continued in the area and included sheep and cattle.

In 1978 the treatment plant was decommissioned and the site was continued to be grazed.

Planning for the park commenced in the early 1980's with construction commencing in 1986 on the Telford picnic area access road and car parks. It was this work that saw a swale drainage system constructed along the eastern side of the gum tree resulting in further damage to the root system and resulting in further die back of the canopy and although the tree had recovery somewhat from the damage of the late 1930's.

The Park opened in 1987 with grazing continuing south of the Telford Picnic Area and around the gum tree.

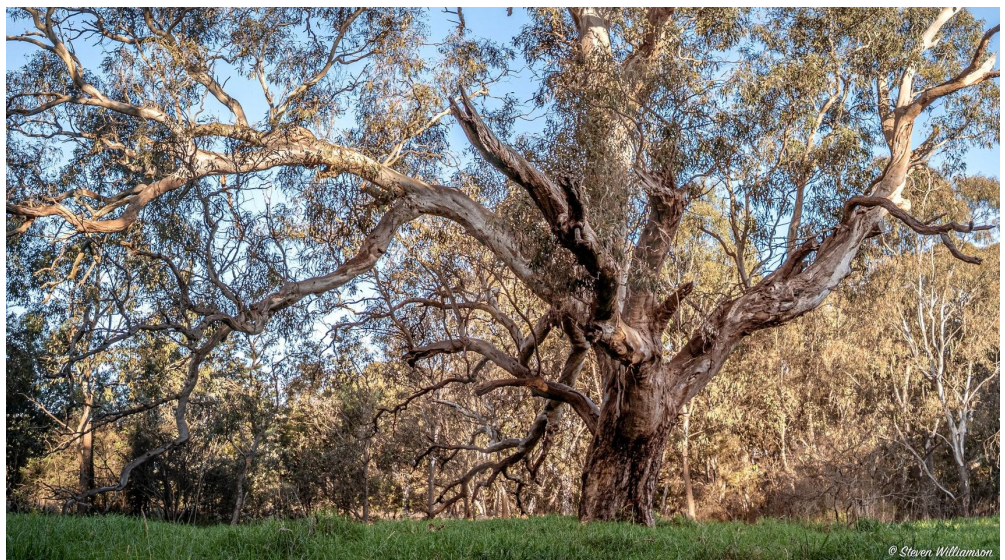
Park staff in 1996 assessed the tree which appeared to be on its last legs as there was very little remaining canopy – a poor amount of leaves and a decision was made to try and save the tree and prolong its life.

This required a fence to be moved some 20 metres away from the cypress drive to remove the red gum from the grazing paddock so there would be no cattle grazing underneath the canopy of the tree. Cows love to congregate underneath trees and can heavily compact the soil in the location.

The area between the Gum and the newly created fence for the grazing paddock was planted with indigenous plants grown at the Friends nursery and consisted of mainly upper storey plants. After the planting was completed natural recruitment occurred from the red gum and several hundred seedlings germinated. Since that time there has been ongoing natural selection of those plants as they grow and some die out. The health of the tree has improved slowly over the years from 1996 and the tree is in reasonable health today – who knows how many years it will live for.

At this point in time it's some 523 years old.

Des Lucas



Residents

A Moment in the life of a Wood Duck Duckling

🏠 From the cozy heights of our treehouse, Mum thought it was time for a "high-flying" adventure and gently pushed us to the ground! 😊

👉 Not to be outdone, Dad declared he'd treat us



like a gourmet meal. Talk about over-the-top parenting goals! 🍷

👉👈 Now, Mum and Dad engage in epic squabbles. World War Duck is officially on! 🌍🌟

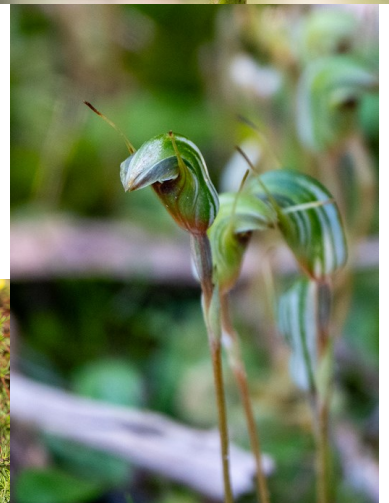
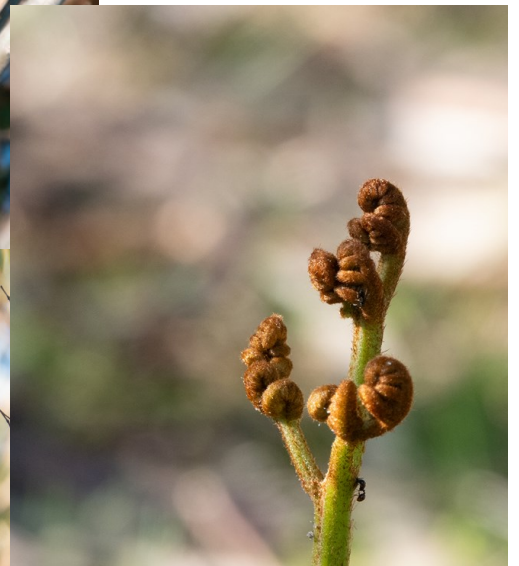
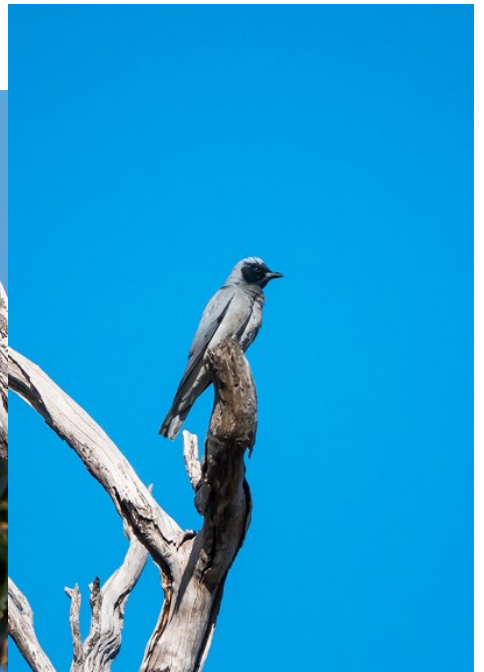
🛡️ Luckily, Super-Mum is here to the rescue, guarding us as we waddle on our grand expedition to...who knows where? 🚶🚶



📢 And that's just the warm-up of our action-packed life within the first two minutes of our landing. How's everyone else's day going?

Gaetano Zammit
FOBP Facebook Group

Spring



David MacLean



FOBP Committee

Rear - David Boldiston, Frank Russo, Simon Flemming, David MacLean
Front - Margaret Hunter, Heather Markland, Vicky Paraskevas, Judith Sise, Rosemaree MacLean

Friends of Braeside Park Inc.

President:	Judith Sise
Vice President:	Frank Russo
Secretary:	Margaret Hunter
Assistant Secretary:	Rosemaree MacLean
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Join us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/327955807288240/#>

Newsletter Contributions

Thank you to all you wonderful people who have contributed to this newsletter. Your effort is appreciated.

Your articles are treated with respect and not changed in content or grammar unless required by law.

This newsletter is produced bi-monthly for all financial, honorary and Life members of the Friends group *who have provided* an email address.

Memberships are due on 1st July each year.

If you have an item to share in future editions or have any feedback in relation to this newsletter, please contact the editor at

macleandavid@gmail.com
or braesideparkfriends@gmail.com

Friends of Braeside Park

ABN 72 959 503 118 INC NO A00242027B

Membership Application/Renewal Form:

** Indicates required field*

Name *

Address *

Phone Number *

Email *

Tick appropriate box(es): *

New Member

Renewing Membership

Donation

Annual Subscription: *

\$10

\$15

\$5

\$20

\$15

\$5

Ordinary Member

Family Membership

Student Member

Corporate Membership

Organisation Member

Pensioner / Concession

Payment can be made directly into our Bendigo Bank account:

BSB: 633 000

Account: 155348246

And email completed form to: *

membership.fobp@outlook.com.au

Or mail to:

The Treasurer
Friends of Braeside Park
P.O. Box 196,
Dingley Village, Vic 3172

Further information on the Friends' activities is available on our website and Facebook page.

<http://www.braesideparkfriends.org.au>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/327955807288240>

Secretary contact number 0417 323 460



Friends of Braeside Park

Invite you to Breakfast with the Birds, an early morning guided walk in Wetlands & breakfast at Braeside Park's Nursery afterwards

When: Sunday 1st of October at 6:45am for 7am departure
Where to Meet: FoBP Nursery Car Park, Enter from Lower Dandenong Road and turn right at Cypress Drive.

Cost: Free but Donations are always accepted

What to Bring: Camera, binoculars, sturdy footwear etc.

Time Activity Concludes: 9-9:30am approximately

Please RSVP for catering purposes your attendance by calling Margaret Hunter on 0417 323 460 by Friday 29th September 2023.

Registration for this event is mandatory and must be done on Park Connect. <https://www.parkconnect.vic.gov.au/>





Friends of Braeside Park

Invite you to Night with the Frogs, an information session on frogs then a guided walk at Braeside to listen and identify our native frogs.

When: Saturday 18th November at 7:30pm for 8pm start

Where to Meet: Braeside Park Visitors Centre, Enter from Lower Dandenong Road and turn left at Cypress Drive.

Cost: Free but Donations are always accepted

What to Bring: Sense of adventure, sturdy footwear and appropriate clothing.

Time Activity Concludes: 10pm approximately

Please RSVP for catering purposes your attendance by calling


Margaret Hunter on 0417 323 460 by Friday 17th of November 2023.

Registration for this event can also be done on Park Connect.

<https://www.parkconnect.vic.gov.au/>



The Friends of Braeside Park Updated Activity Calendar for 2023

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	*	9	9	13	11	8	13	10	14	12	9	14	
Community Projects Weekly - "The A Team"	9am - 12pm Wednesday's at the Park Office	*	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	
Nursery open for plant sales	10am - 12pm 3rd Sunday	*	19	19	16	21	18	16	20	17	15	19	17	
Plant Propagation Community Nursery	10am - 12pm 1st Saturday & 3rd Sunday	*	4 19	4 19	1 16	6 21	3 18	1 16	5 20	2 17	7 22	4 19	2 17	
Community Waterwatch Program	9:30am - 12pm 2nd Saturday Visitors Centre	*	11	11	8	13	10	8	12	9	14	11	9	
Bird Observations	8am - 11am 4th Friday Red Gum Car Park	27	24	24	28	26	23	28	25	22	27	24	22	
Nightwalks	From Visitor's Centre 7pm	Nightwalks offered from April through to September. Gold Coin Donation per head Bookings Essential 0417323400												
Community Projects Weekends	9am - 12pm, follow the signs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Special Friends Group Activities are held throughout the year at various times. You must register on Park Connect for these Activities.		*	*	Clean Up Australia Day Sunday 5th Meet at Visitor Centre 10am - 12pm	*	*	*	National Tree Planting Day Saturday 25th 10am - 12pm	*	AGU Sunday 8th 2pm - 4pm with afternoon tea	Healthand Walk Sunday 30th July, 2pm - 4pm with afternoon tea	Breakfast with birds Sunday 29th Front Area 7am - 9:30am	Frog Discovery Night 8pm - 10pm @ Visitors Centre	End of Year Breakfast Thursday 14th @ Visitors Centre 7pm

Website www.braesideparkfriends.org.au

Email 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.