

The Glenfern

The Official Newsletter of Friends of Glenfern Valley Bushlands Inc.

Edition No. 46 Autumn 2023

AN AWARD WINNING EFFORT

The year is off to an exciting start, with the bushlands looking great after a very wet and mild end to 2022, boosting the vegetation growth right through the summer months. And in January the Friends Group was awarded an Australia Day Award by Yarra Ranges Council!

In recognition for the years of community service and conservation work, the Friends of Glenfern Valley Bushlands was presented a Community Group of the Year award, shared with the Philanthropic Collective, at the Australia Day Ceremony at the Yarra Ranges Council Civic Centre in Lilydale. Our group stood alongside an impressive selection of local individuals and groups receiving acclaim for their outstanding achievements and commitment to the community, the environment and local commerce.

The ceremony was attended by a number of our founding members, current and past leaders, who all shared in the

glory of the event. This award is wonderful recognition for the important work undertaken in rehabilitating the bushlands and the contributions to the community the Friends Group has made over the years. It marks a moment for us to reflect on the achievements in hand and signifies the appreciation from the broader community for our work.

To all of you who have contributed through the past 21 years, we thank and congratulate you all for your part in making the friends group such a success. Your efforts are appreciated and our achievements will be evident in the reserve and the community for years to come. With more exciting events and projects in the pipeline for 2023, we look forward to extending the list of achievements and welcoming new members to partake.

Jackson Ellis
(President)



friends of Glenfern Valley Bushlands Inc.

P.O. Box 1283, Upwey, Victoria 3158 • glenfernvalleybushlands@hotmail.com • www.glenfernvalleybushlands.org.au



@glenfernvalleybushlands



@FriendsOfGlenfernValleyBushlands

CONSERVATION CONTRACTORS HELPING WITH THE HEAVY LIFTING

The Friends of Glenfern Valley Bushlands have the support of our wonderful contractors and stakeholders to thank for tackling many of the technical and labour-intensive conservation challenges we face in the reserve. For many years we have been the recipient of grants from Melbourne Water to provide resources for managing the invasive species along Ferny Creek, and resources from Yarra Ranges Council who fund conservation contractor works in the upper portions and the routine upkeep of the tracks and mown areas. These relationships are vital to keep our reserve functional and maintain ecological value.

Forest to Foreshore have been working closely with the Friends Group, Yarra Ranges Council and Melbourne Water to make significant improvement to the bushlands ecology and habitat. Their passionate and expert team are equipped to tackle the ugliest of weed infestations and are always willing to provide advice when the Friends Group come across a new conservation problem.

Roger and his crew provide detailed feedback to our committee leaders for planning of further works, and helping us managing the valuable relationships with our stakeholders. Here are some Before and After images of some of their recent work. If you see them in the reserve say *hi* and *thanks* for the excellent work they do.



Cape Ivy control – before (above) and after (below)



FERNY CREEK CROSSING COMPLETE – GVB DEPOT

14TH MARCH 2023



Stepping stones in place

Yarra Ranges Shire have completed the Ferny Creek crossing at the Depot end of Glenfern Valley Bushlands. The stepping stones are much more manageable now, but should not be crossed if the stones are covered in water.

The smaller stones were necessary to stabilise the access road for the CFA. However, they will weather over the next few months and will blend in eventually.

Nice work by everyone involved. It now looks great, and makes a big difference to the depot end of the Reserve. We plan to have a planting day soon, and with the help of a group of students from local high school, we should be able to cover the bare areas in the bank. Thanks for your contribution!



Completed crossing – depot side



Completed stepping stones



friends of Glenfern Valley Bushlands Inc.

The Glenfern

WORKING BEE SCHEDULE WINTER 2023

Conservation Conversation • Wed 3rd May, 9.00 am

Restoration Morning • Sun 21st May, 9:30 am

Conservation Conversation • Wed 7th June, 9.00 am

Restoration Morning • Sun 18th June, 9:30 am

Conservation Conversation • Wed 5th July, 9.00 am

Restoration Morning • Sun 16th July, 9:30 am

Conservation Conversation • Wed 2nd August, 9.00 am

Restoration Morning • Sun 20th August, 9:30 am

Conservation Conversation • Wed 6th Sept, 9.00 am

Restoration Morning • Sun 17th Sept, 9:30 am

**Sunday Working Bee 9:30 am–2:30 pm,
Wednesdays 9.00 am–11.00 am.**

Meet at the central car park, Glenfern Road,
Upwey. Bring a water bottle, strong shoes, and
gloves. Tools and morning tea provided.

Come and join us to help restore the bushlands
while learning more about local flora and fauna.
See our Facebook page for more info about
working bees and tree planting days.

**PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE AS
SCHEDULING DEPENDS ON WEATHER
AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS.**

By being a financial member of Friends
of Glenfern Valley Bushlands, you enable
the group to gain valuable Funding Grants
to finance works in the reserve.

If you would like to become a financial
member, please download the membership
form from our website at:
www.glenfernvalleybushlands.org.au

MEMBERSHIP IS ONLY:

\$5 Concession, \$10 Individual, \$15 Family or
\$50 for a business sponsor.

Three year memberships are now also available.

Friends of Glenfern Valley Bushlands Inc.
P.O. Box 1283, Upwey Vic. 3158
glenfernvalleybushlands@hotmail.com
www.glenfernvalleybushlands.org.au

At the new creek crossing, adult and young Gang-gang Cockatoos recently have been enjoying a drink from Ferny Creek after a day devouring the local berries of the Hawthorn Bush, lerps and seed from the reserve's Eucalyptus tree species. They can be seen in the trees roosting, preening or searching for another feed.

I think of everyone's effort over the years with the investment made when you witness the forest, creek and wildlife come together.



Female (above) and male (below) Gang-gang Cockatoo



CORPORATE SPONSORS

Cacti Conserve

For all your eco-friendly packaging needs.
50% of profits donated to local conservation projects
<https://cacticonserve.com.au>

Uniprint Pty Ltd

9/21 Howleys Road, Notting Hill
Printer of this newsletter
Phone 9882 4905 www.junctionprintgroup.com.au

Forest to Foreshore, Kallista

Bushland Management and Ecological Restoration

**And thanks to Melbourne Water and
Shire of Yarra Ranges for their services**

We continue to welcome a high number of visitors
to the reserve, please remember to take your
rubbish home and have your dogs on leads to keep
all our animals happy. Thank you.



friends of Glenfern Valley Bushlands Inc.