

Merri e-News JUNE 2014

Newsletter of Merri Creek Management Committee (MCMC) 2 Lee Street
Brunswick East Victoria 3057

Welcome to the first issue of **Merri-e News**, our quarterly e-newsletter.

New Biodiversity Projects

We have some important new projects starting this year. Our thanks to the funding organisations that support these projects.

Getting Edgy – Protecting Reservoir’s Native Grasslands:

We’re pleased to have received funding from the Port Phillip & Westernport CMA to address edge effects of weeds at the highly significant Ngarri-djarrang Grassland in Reservoir. [Read more](#)

Habitat Heroes in Fawkner

The Helen Macpherson Smith Trust has funded a three-year Habitat Heroes project. It will bring Wurundjeri Traditional Land Owners and the diverse local community together through hands-on activities and events to restore a gap in the habitat corridor along the Merri Creek in Fawkner. [Read more](#)

Three Friends of Merri Creek projects:

Congratulations to the Friends of Merri Creek on gaining three new grants. MCMC will help the Friends to deliver these projects.

Gorge-ous Views at Northcote Gorge

Funding from the *Melbourne Water River Health Incentive Program* will aid the restoration of native vegetation at a striking volcanic escarpment north of Heidelberg Rd Northcote. [Read more](#)

Sumner Loving - Reflection and Rejuvenation at Merri Park

A two year grant from the state government’s Communities for Nature program will engage the local community in weeding, planting and environmental education at Merri Park in Northcote. [Read more](#)

Restoration at Kalkallo

Critically endangered volcanic plains grassland in Kalkallo will be restored with funding from the Port Phillip & Westernport CMA. [Read more](#)

Completed Biodiversity Projects

Caring for our Country

We’ve recently completed two major projects, one a three project that focused on restoring five Native Grassland sites from Beveridge to Reservoir including Ngarri-djarrang ([Central Creek Grassland](#)) in Reservoir the other single year project that consolidated a core habitat zone spanning the Merri Creek in Craigieburn/Wollert including [Rushwood Drive Reserve](#), and improved the quality of Bababi Djinanang (Jukes Rd) Grassland in Fawkner.. Find out some of what we did [here](#). We thank Caring for Our Country and regret that this important source of Federal Government funding for biodiversity is no more. For a thought provoking article on changes and cuts to federal funding,

check out a recent article in *The Conversation*: [Another broken promise: budget switches Landcare for Green Army](#) and the view from Landcare Australia [Read](#)

Indigenous Gardens in Schools

School grounds have been strikingly transformed through MCMC's active program of assisting schools develop indigenous gardens. [Read more](#)

Tackling Industrial Stormwater

MCMC is working actively with the City of Whittlesea to tackle the problem of seriously polluted stormwater in industrial estates in Thomastown. [Read more](#)

Staff News

Our long-time Parkland Management Team Coordinator, [Ben North](#), has left MCMC to take up a position of Park Ranger at Maribyrnong City Council. We'll miss his enthusiasm, wit and 'can-do' attitude to work and we wish him all the best in his new career. [Dave Woods](#) has stepped up to take up much of Ben's work as Parkland Management Team Supervisor. We also welcome four new temporary Parkland Management Team members: [Peter Barrow](#), [Sarah Bates](#), [Tom Dell'Oro](#) and [Clayton Fenech](#). Tom and Clayton have worked with us before, so it's good to have them back.

Events

We had an amazing number and range of events in 2013-14. Our Parkland Management Department alone hosted 51 events. More details on what we planted and where our funding came from [here](#)

There's always lots happening on the Merri. You can always check out our [website](#) and its activities calendar in the months between receiving **Merri e-News**.

We can send you email invitations to our planting and weeding events by signing on to our email list. Just let us know by [email](#) if you prefer to be on the General list or the list for the area around your suburb.

You could also consider liking the [Friends of Merri Creek Facebook page](#). It will give you timely information on events and other Merri Creek matters.

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Acknowledging the Wurundjeri People as the Traditional Custodians in the land of the Merri Merri