



## Friends of the Maribyrnong Valley Incorporated

### Quarterly Newsletter

Incorporation No. A10136

ABN No.: 57 567 161 098

#### Spring 2018 Edition 39

Our year is ending, and this gives us a chance to say thank you to everyone for all their support and a large cheer for our band of volunteers who do all the on-ground work for 10 months every year.

Thank you to our regular volunteers for their continued commitment to the Maribyrnong Valley Parklands. The work they have undertaken this year on both **Tuesdays with Maribyrnong Council** and **Wednesdays with Brimbank and Moonee Valley Councils** is truly amazing. If you have not been for a walk or bike ride lately please do so to see the wonderful work, they have completed.

Our Melbourne Water sites in Avondale Heights have been tested this year with floods on the wetlands site for most of winter and our woodlands site needing lots of extra water to help start off this year's planting.

On the following pages you can find all the details of our great supporters for 2018.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from

**FW**

## **We have been successful with Pick my Project**

### **Environmental revegetation and weed control at Pipemakers Park, off Van Ness Avenue, Maribyrnong.**

**FMV** joining in a Partnership with **Conservation Volunteers Australia, Bush Kindergarten** and **Maribyrnong City Council** received enough votes to have this project funded through this grant. Work will be started in February and continue until November.

Currently FMV volunteers are at Pipemakers Park on a Tuesday morning. There is a limited amount of environmental work being completed at the Park due to lack of funds, and this project will address the priority projects and will be enough to maintain the ground to a satisfactory standard. Ongoing maintenance will be managed by the FMV in conjunction with Maribyrnong Council. Pipemakers Park, 7kms NW of Melbourne, is an 8-hectare conservation park with 2 wetlands, some native bush, and a history garden and open green spaces. Work will be in the History Garden, the Frog Hollow areas and the general park to create an improved urban native landscape for inner Melbourne residents. This project will engage local community volunteers to work with FMV, Conservation Volunteers Australia and the Bush Kindergarten to complete a range of conservation activities including weed removal, native plantings, rubbish removal, frog surveys, bird surveys, community gardens and create a full-time working nursery. Planting indigenous native plants will provide biodiversity and habitat for wildlife linking up corridors of native flora & fauna along the Maribyrnong River.

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Next year our advocacy work will be overload as we continue our efforts to protect the environmental assets in the Maribyrnong Valley.

- The Defence site in Maribyrnong before during and after the sale by the federal government.
- The loss of the few true grasslands in the west is becoming another major issue for next year and we hope the Rivers of the West and the Waterways of the West Ministerial Advisory Committee (WOW MAC) will help in this fight.
- The development of the flood plains at Footscray Park for Melbourne Victory to build 3 soccer grounds and buildings approved by the Sports Minister.
- The future expansion of the River Valley Estate Stage 9 in North Sunshine. This development is 26 hectares from the current development up to the Railway Trussell Bridge. The Rocky escarpment is in good condition and has sites of significance. 2 and a half hectares at the top are grasslands with Primelea. The land is currently zoned industrial
- Follow up required on the Pace development in North Sunshine also to make sure they keep to their promises they have made to FMV

The only thing we can be sure of is that as the year starts and goes on more important issues will be found and we will continue our fight to protect our important Maribyrnong Parklands and surroundings areas.

## **Sponsors and Supporters for 2018.**

Our volunteer work continues with support from a variety of government agencies, councils and business and we thank them for their continued support and to the new business thank you for joining our merry band of volunteers this year.

## **SUPPORT FOR OUR YEARLY FUNDRAISER.**

Please support these stores and businesses, as a way of thanking them for contributing towards FMV overall efforts during the year.

**Biondi for Hair Avondale Heights:** for providing a gift voucher for our fundraiser.

**Cucinamia Café Maidstone** for providing a gift voucher for our end of year fundraiser and catering for our Landcare event during the year.

**Dan Murphy's Essendon Fields** for providing a gift voucher towards our fundraiser

**Officeworks Watergardens:** for providing gifts we can use in our fundraiser this year

## **YEAR-ROUND SUPPORT**

**Bunnings Warehouse Taylors Lakes:** for their contribution to our fundraising events. This year they have included us in their community instore events. They also provide us with discounts on all our purchases and have donated gloves towards our events that have school children involved.

**EcoDynamics, Keilor:** We wish to say thank you for providing space to store our Compactus which allows us to store all our office "JUNK", maps, reports, and all the paperwork required by law for 7 years.

Ecodynamics Nursery grows over two million indigenous plants per annum to support the landscaping industry in Victoria and South Australia. In November 2018, the Ecodynamics Nursery was launched as a social enterprise, with a vision to mitigate the impacts of climate change through urban greening. A commitment has been made by the Ecodynamics Nursery to donate a portion of the profits from to community initiatives that support our vision of creating greener futures. With the help of our industry partners and community groups, we will do this by:

- being an employer of choice by providing employment opportunities for disadvantaged people
- acknowledging, highlighting, and addressing environmental issues, such as the urban island heat effect
- partnering with organisations that share our passion for the environment to mitigate the impacts of climate change

The first project we will be supporting is The Living Pavilion. The Living Pavilion is a collaboration between the Clean Air and Urban Landscapes Hub, Thrive Research Hub, The Living Stage, The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) VIC and The University of Melbourne's New Student Precinct.

**Fenchurch Studios:** Curtis's ongoing support and patience, over the past 5 years, with friend's groups making changes all the way on the graphics he undertakes to do for our groups is very much appreciated.

**The Connies:** Roberto from this great group has supported us again and attended events not only for us but at other events throughout the year we have been part of.

**Maribyrnong River Cruises, Footscray:** This year they have provide us with a portable marquee we can use for next year's community days to keep us dry and protected from the sun. Thank you to Warwick for his contribution to the Website and Facebook page, assisting with technical problems and printing materials for the group. Peter's endless enthusiasm for the Maribyrnong River and surroundings suburbs is invaluable. The Blackbird's public cruises bring the Maribyrnong River and Parklands to a wider audience.

**Maribyrnong City Council:** for providing us with rooms for our monthly meetings.

We take this opportunity to thank all Government agencies and councils for their on-going support in the form of grants for our on-ground works, as well as supporting our practical and technical requirements. They also support our community awareness programs and our working with school children programs.

## ON GROUND SUPPORT

**Western Plains Flora, Wildwood:** for providing all our plants on time for our many varied projects.

**Melbourne Water's River Health Incentives Program:** **Zoe Samson**, Waterways and Land Officer, Regional Services (West Region – Maribyrnong), Waterways & Land, Service Delivery Group has supported all our grants and joined us on site for our events. She has also supported our other activities throughout the year. We wish her well in her new position and will miss her support.

**Lily Street Wetlands and Woodlands sites Avondale Heights: Melbourne Water**

**Basaltica: Simon Purves** for his on-ground work, that makes our work and life easier. Also, for all the technical support that he provides for all our grant applications.

**NAB Volunteers:** Their continued contribution and support providing volunteers 4 times a year has assisted FMV in achieving our goals in the Lily Street Wetlands and the Woodlands site in Avondale Heights.

**Parks Victoria Brimbank Park:** We wish to say thank you to **Rodolfo Maia** for all the assistance he has provided, helping to navigate through the mountain of paperwork and conditions required for working on Parks land. We wish him well and say goodbye as he moves to his new role at Burnley. Thanks, to all the staff for their help throughout the year.

**Brimbank Council: Martha Ragg Conservation/ Environment Community Liaison Officer** and all her staff for supporting our grant application and their commitment working with us in making this project so successful. We continued to volunteer with the council on world Environmental day and during the year at Sydenham Park.

**Southern Ecosystems Management: Brendan Barbetti** for preparing the site at Caroline Chisholm Reserve Keilor for school and community events this year.

**Students and teachers from Keilor Primary School:** The school was involved again this year in 2 planting days at Caroline Chisholm Reserve and a **Wurundjeri Cultural Activity education session** at their school.

**Roberto D'Andrea from the "Connies"** worked with us again this year on our Wednesday on site school day.

**Maribyrnong Council: Martin Forster, Park Ranger** has supported our volunteering with the council every Tuesday. This year our sites have been at Pipemakers Park, Burndap Reserve and the Braybrook Escapement on National Tree Day.

**Habitat Land management:** This is a new partnership on our Burndap Reserve site and they worked all year on weed control for our grant sites.

**Staff from Ben and Jerry's Hoyts Highpoint:** Volunteered with us on a Sunday morning planting along the river at Burndap Reserve as part of our Melbourne Water grant.

**Students and teachers from Werribee Secondary College:** The bus arrived from Werribee, and the eager students and teachers jumped straight into the very large job of mulching, weeding and rubbish removal along the Maribyrnong River at Burndap Reserve. We look forward to them working with us again next year.

**State Trustees, Footscray:** Joined us through the **Corporate Landcare Program** on a wet and cold Tuesday in October to hand weed and mulch. No watering required on this day. We look forward to them helping us with our planting at the Burndap Reserve site next year.

### **DATES FOR February 2019 EVENTS AND WORKING BEES.**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Wed 6th February 2019</b>	<b>FMV monthly meeting starting at 7.30pm This meeting will schedule the calendar of events for 2019 for all our sites and special events.</b>	<b>Activity Centre 54 Raleigh Road, Maribyrnong</b>