



# *Bandicoot Tails*

Newsletter of the Friends of Scott Creek  
Conservation Park

No. 187

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Website: [www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](http://www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/friendsofscottcreekcp](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofscottcreekcp)

Welcome to your winter edition of *Bandicoot Tails*.

During winter, our scheduled bushcare activities continue to start at 9.00am, meeting at the Almanda car park. Please let the leader know if you will be late and want to meet at the work site, in case there is a late change of location.

Unless otherwise indicated, all articles and photos by Peter Watton. Please send any contributions for the spring edition to [info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au) by mid-August.

## **The President's words:**

There's a quote from my past that goes: "If you always do what you have always done, you will always get what you always got." I guess in the current political landscape this equates to a fair number of people who have done something different with their votes. We now have new governments at both State and National level.

What can we expect with these changes for the environment broadly and more locally, what will these changes mean for Scott Creek Conservation Park? Clearly at the most senior government levels we will be relating to new people and having to dig into the intricacies of policy positions. Already it seems that the Federal Government is signalling a change in Australia's position on Climate Change. We are yet to see any significant changes in the SA Government environment approach.

For most of the Friends of Scott Creek CP this may not change what we are doing in the Park. But should we be satisfied with business as usual (and always getting what we always got)? When FoSCCP began over 30 years ago, what the founders had in mind was straightforward, but let's also keep in mind that they were responding to a massive change as the 'Park' transitioned from farmland to conservation focus. 30 years work and the fire in January 2021 presents us with a fresh set of challenges.

I believe that consistent with these changes (and sadly what both the predicted and unpredictable consequences of climate change may bring) it is time for us to at least develop relevant guidelines for how we will work for the crucial conservation of Scott Creek CP. In other words, we can no longer only do what we have always done. I would like for us to put this on the agenda for our next face-to-face meeting and see what we can come up with.

Jim Spiker

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# Winter.

Jason Tyndall

The rains are starting to set in, and the earth is waking up with bursts of fungi, subtle orchid leaves, budding wattles, and colourful lichen. The sun is muted as its trajectory hangs in the north offering softer rays of warmth.

Winter sees many familiar flowers come into bloom such as wattles, correas, sundews, and native lilacs. Echidnas are on the move, frog chorus fills the air whilst creeks and waterfalls begin to flow. It's a beautiful time to be in the Park.

Here are some winter wonders to discover:

## **Robust Gnat Orchid** (*Cyrtostylis robusta*)

Throughout winter many orchids start to appear – the Robust Gnat Orchid is one the first. It grows in colonies with single dull green leaves with subtle veins. At its tallest it grows to around 15cm – but generally smaller. It can be seen along paths and at the base of gum trees (occasionally amongst colonies of mosquito orchids and greenhood leaves).



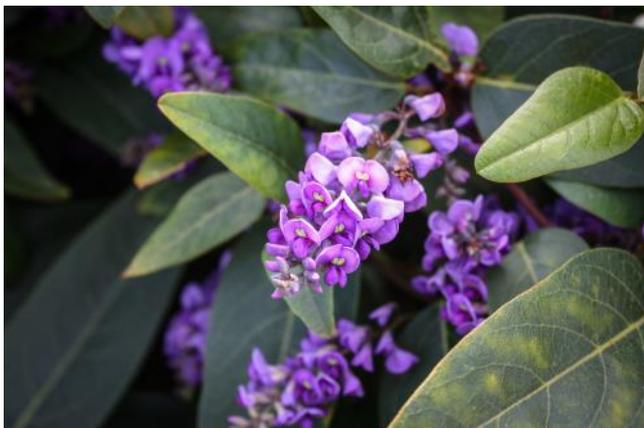
## **Climbing Sundew** (*Drosera macrantha*)

One of the more distinctive sundews as this one has a climbing habit and round cup-like appendages. Like all sundews they glisten with crystal-like drops known as muselage. The sticky substance traps insects and over time slowly absorbs them for nutrients. Their white flowers bloom on sunny days throughout winter and spring.



## **Native Lilac** (*Hardenbergia violacea*)

In the heart of winter the Native Lilac paints the bush with colour in otherwise dull landscape. Its purple pea flowers are a bushwalkers delight and also attract many pollinators. It can grow as a climber or small bush. The soft leaves, buds, and flowers offer a food source for caterpillars of the Common Grass-blue butterfly.



## **Mouse Spider** (*Missulena insignis*)

The striking male mouse spider is one of the many critters you may encounter in the Park after rain. As a young spiderling, mouse spiders float through the air on strands of silk until they eventually land. If they survive they can live up to 20 years. Females spend most of their time in burrows and are seldom seen. Next time you wander a path after rain – keep an eye out for these beautiful spiders!



A poem that explores the seasons of our hearts from *Where Birds Sing and Wildflowers Dance*, by Jason Tyndall.

### Winter will pass

Our hearts,  
like wildflowers,  
are such delicate  
little things.  
And just like the  
seasons change.  
So, do we.  
We weather storms,  
enduring the  
bone-chilling  
cold.  
We stare into the fog,  
and walk down  
unknown paths.

But we also feel  
the winds of  
change.  
When the sky clears  
we can bathe  
in the  
morning sunshine  
as it gently casts  
its light through  
the trees.  
Indeed, we are  
susceptible  
to the melancholic  
chorus of winter.

But light flickers  
along her frayed edges;  
glimpses of spring.  
A season  
of hope.  
Of magic.  
Of sunshine.  
When the winter comes,  
it is,  
but a season  
that needs to darken  
its skies  
before letting the light  
shine through.

Winter will pass,  
my dear friend.

**Below:** Mackereth Creek.



## Park Maintenance and more:

We have had a few interesting issues in the Park over autumn, mostly in conjunction with one weekend in April, when we had one of our regular scheduled bird banding outings, at the corner of Neville Road and Twisted Chimney Tracks.

On the way to bird banding just on dawn, Jim came across skid marks on Dorset Vale Road at the northern edge of the Park. He checked over the side of the road and discovered a 4WD utility down the bottom of the embankment. Unable to get down there to check whether there was anyone still in the car, he headed back up the road, where he could get mobile phone signal, and called emergency services to ask whether it had previously been reported.

Anyway, to cut a long story short, the accident hadn't been reported, so they dispatched police, ambulance and CFS to the scene. In the meantime, I drove by and, on getting the update from Jim, headed down to check the vehicle for occupants. There was no sign of anyone there, or of any obvious injuries, but when they arrived, police and CFS checked the Park around Almanda Valley in case someone had left disorientated.

We didn't hear any more about it, but the vehicle had been removed within a week. This shows how easy it can be to lose control on the tight and twisty corners.

The next day, Sunday, we were back at gate 13 for the second day of bird banding. We discovered that someone had broken in through the gate, presumably so they could drive into the Park along Neville Road Track. I took photos of the damage and sent them to our Rangers by text.

An hour and a half later, while doing our rounds of the nets, we had two 4WD vehicles drive towards us from Twisted Chimney along the dead-end track. It seems the occupants had spent the night camping in the Park. Details and photos were forwarded to the Rangers and the matter is being handled by their compliance section, with fines and possibly a court appearance the likely outcome.

A little later on the same morning, a group of mountain bike riders rode past our volunteers on Neville Road Track. A reminder that bikes, horses, pets and unauthorised vehicles are not permitted in the Conservation Park.



Above: Skid marks on Dorset Vale Road revealed the scene of an accident.



Above: Down the bottom of the slope was a 4WD utility.



Above: Fortunately there didn't seem to be anyone seriously injured in the accident.



The project to install nest boxes to see whether we have any Western Pygmy Possums in the Park has been resurrected. FauNature was engaged by NPWS to install new nest boxes, after all the ones we had previously installed were destroyed by last year's fire. Once again 31 were placed along either side of Stringybark Track, as close to the previous locations as possible, bearing in mind some of the trees used before were too badly burnt to use. A further nine were installed in a grid on Helipad Hill.



The old Camelia bush at the Crossroads initially appeared to have died as a result of the fire. The good news for those who enjoyed its lovely red

flowers is that there have been signs of resprouting at its base. After seeking advice from a specialist nursery, all the dead branches were cut back to give new growth a chance to flourish. Cut branches were placed over the base to keep potential grazing animals away, though unfortunately these have been removed a couple of times.



The Camelia, before and after the dead branches were cut back and then laid over the base to protect new growth.



## Bushcare activities:

During autumn, the Almanda Bush Gardening continued working along Bryophyte Flat, removing invasive weeds and protecting habitat and food plants for the Southern Brown Bandicoot. Many of the tree guards are now being removed again. BandiBunch have continued their work between Scott Creek and Matthews Road, from Dorset Vale Road to Mackereth Cottage.

1st March 2022—Eight volunteers patrolled Helipad Hill and along Yacca Track to the northern fenceline, following up earlier contractor work on Boneseed and Montpellier Broom, but also finding many *Acacia longifolia* and just the one Sollya.



**Above:** *Acacia longifolia* hiding amongst the Varnish Wattle near the fenceline at the end of Yacca Track.



**Above:** Phil and Andrew working on a sizeable patch of Boneseed further west from the end of Yacca Track.

13th March 2022—Nine volunteers worked on the large number of Tree Lucerne and Montpellier Broom that had come up post-fire at the Crossroads, together with many South African Daisies.

**Right:** Betty with a posy of Montpellier Broom she had hand weeded.

**Below right:** The team getting together to treat Tree Lucerne, Montpellier and English Broom at the Crossroads.

**Below left:** Roaming across the hillside south of the Crossroads, removing Montpellier Broom.



26th March 2022—Nine volunteers roamed along the valley and across the hillsides either side of Mackereth Creek and Twisted Chimney Track, finding lots of Erica and Boneseed, while also treating some South African Daisy, Fleabane and Arum Lily.

5th April 2022—six volunteers patrolled Cave Creek, mostly on the southern hillside from gate 12. The area was in good condition with only scattered Boneseed, South African Daisy and Fleabane, plus some small Blackberry to be treated.



**Above:** The team getting instructions before we head off to look for Boneseed and Erica scattered throughout the valley and hillsides either side of Twisted Chimney Track along Mackereth Creek.



**Above:** Morning tea on the side of the hill above Cave Creek in April. This was one of the flatter parts of the Park we visited this day.

**Below left and right:** Some of the scattered Erica was a little tricky to knock out, like this one growing between two rocks on the steep hillside above Twisted Chimney Track.



10th April 2022—Nine volunteers patrolled the northern side of North Viminaria Creek, entering from gate 5, finding and treating many Montpellier Broom in several patches, many Erica, scattered Boneseed and a few South African Daisy, Fleabane and Stinkwort. There was more Erica and Montpellier Broom left for a return visit.

23rd April 2022—Seven volunteers returned to North Viminaria Creek, this time approaching from gate 6. In addition to many scattered Erica and several patches of Montpellier Broom, we found scattered Boneseed, a patch of *Acacia dealbata*, several *Acacia longifolia*, a small patch of *Watsonia marginata*, a few South African Daisy, Fleabane and Stinkwort, and a couple of small Blackberry. They say variety is the spice of life!

3rd May 2022—We had arranged to work with the contractor team from TFL Works on the large Erica and Sollya infestation in the north-western corner of the Panhandle, as part of our grant funding commitment. The NPWS Small Grants Program included a focus on increasing the group's knowledge and skills, so we thought working with the contractors would enable shared learning and capacity building. While we only had three volunteers able to attend due to holidays and health issues, we had a good morning, following up treatment of Sollya and Erica adjacent to the TFL Works team. We got to chat with them during morning tea, which we made sure we had at the same time. After morning tea our Senior Ranger Brent joined us, and checked in with the contractors. One very real concern in this area is the very large Sollya plants growing in the neighbour's property to the north (the mushroom houses), which are literally hanging over the fence. They also have large Erica and Boneseed and several weedy non-local native species in the yard, which continue to seed into the Park.



**Above:** The TFL Works team working on Erica and Sollya in the corner of the Panhandle.

**Below:** The huge Sollya plants growing over the fence in the neighbour's property at the top of the Panhandle. This is the primary source of the seed, which continues to spread into the Park.



**Above:** Phil working on a small patch of Montpellier Broom near the top of the Panhandle.

**Below:** One the Sollya treated, note the twisted base of the stem, which makes it difficult to find the base. While there is a lot of the main root showing, it was still cut and swabbed, as we have found many resprouting from broken roots.



8th May 2022—It was Mother's Day and a few of our members were away due to holidays and health issues, but five volunteers were joined by our Senior Ranger Brent to work on Tree Lucerne and Sugar Gum seedlings around the old house site along Stringybark Track near gates 9 and 10. Contract work had been undertaken here earlier in autumn, but there was plenty still to be done. Peter also followed-up a smaller patch of Tree Lucerne along Currawong Ridge Track before the main session started, and Glenn stayed on to spray some herbaceous weeds afterwards. There are many Sugar Gums remaining at the Stringybark Track site that still require treatment .

28th May 2022—With wet weather threatening, seven volunteers treated a variety of woody weeds around the old house site near gate 6, including English Broom, Tree Lucerne and weedy Wattles.



**Above:** Some of the Tree Lucerne removed from near Currawong Ridge Track.

**Below:** The tree popper being used to remove a Sugar Gum seedling.



**Above:** Brent using the tree popper to remove Tree Lucerne and Sugar Gum from near Stringybark Track.

**Below:** A pile of Sugar Gum seedlings that were removed from the old house site near gate 9.



The regular FoSCCP schedule of bushcare activities cover as much of the weed management within the Park as possible, with fund-raising used to supplement this with contractor engagement. Other areas are a little more isolated and out of the way, and beyond our funding capacity for contractors, so some of our volunteers try to get to these independent of the scheduled activities.

Peter and Glenn continued their work started in summer, spraying Blackberry in Derwentia Valley, managing to get all the way along Derwentia Creek to the SA Water fenceline, along Greenhood Creek and across the low area up Cherry Creek. There was still some more isolated patches to be treated higher up along Cascade Creek, but these will have to wait until next year.

Peter also drilling and filled some of the Weeping Willows along Scott Creek at Eulamphrus Reach. This was part of a trial using a different herbicide, with trees treated marked with pink flagging tape. There were two of the smaller multi-stemmed trees at the western end, plus the first of the really large trees, also multi-stemmed, on the southern side of the creek. This one is directly opposite another large tree on the other side of the creek, which should provide a direct comparison.

All of these trees' leaves had browned off in 11 days, which is very promising. Advantages of this different herbicide include lower toxicity to the person applying it, less herbicide needed to be applied to the tree, and able to be treated higher up the trunk of the trees, easier and more convenient than having to drill at the base.

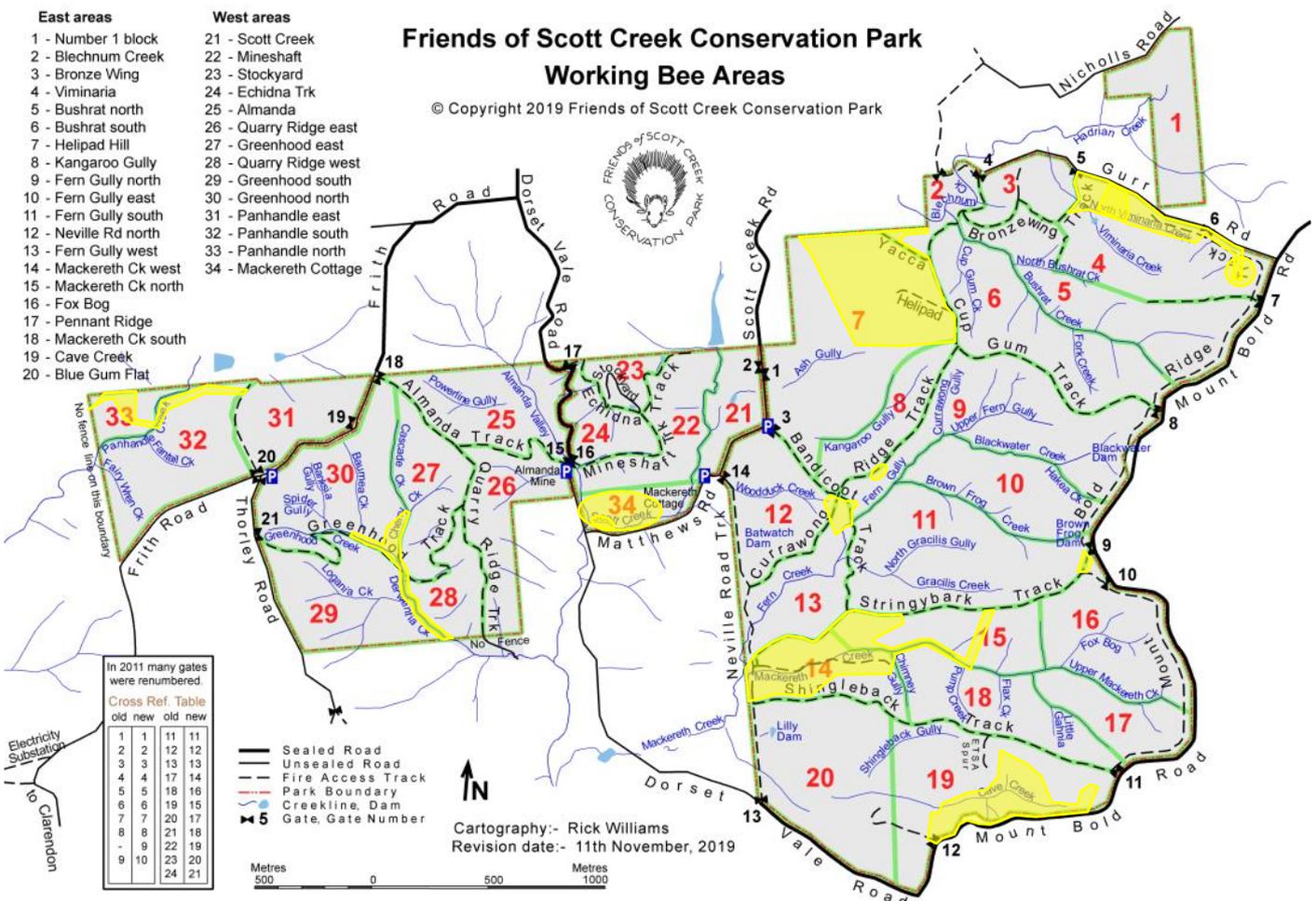
I will provide more information about the trial later in the year, when the Willows would usually put on new growth and at which time we will know whether they have succumbed.

Peter Watton

**Right:** The base of the large Weeping Willow along Scott Creek after drilling and filling as part of a trial with a new herbicide.

**Below left:** The Weeping Willow on the day that it was drilled and filled.

**Below right:** The same Weeping Willow 11 days after treatment, showing its leaves had already browned off.



## Funding and Contractor report:

...and now for the bad news...early in March we were advised that we were losing our special support ranger, Kat Hill. I have continually expressed how grateful we are for Kat's efforts with the funding and contractor management. She has inspected many areas of the park with me as we prioritised weed control, prepared work orders, mapping, liaison and field visits with contractors, then reports and invoices after the work has been done, all the information maintained in a detailed spreadsheet.

While we are most grateful that a budget was provided for Kat's time with us (just a day and a bit a week), losing it at this critical stage of the recovery process was really disappointing. In addition to the work associated with the new funding and ongoing contractor liaison, the reporting and acquittal of existing grants is just starting. We are assured there will still be support, but this places extra burden on both our volunteers and senior ranger, who has enough on his plate already.

*Thanks again for your efforts Kat!*

During autumn, activity on the contractor front really seemed to pick up again after the quieter summer period. This coincided with finalising weed control work being carried out under a number of the funding sources, plus the new work mentioned in the last Bandicoot Tails, where treatment of Berry Heath (*Erica baccans*) and Tree Lucerne (*Chamaecytisus palmensis*) was funded under a two year *Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, Scott Creek Conservation Park and Mt Bold Reservoir partnership project*, which is a weed control program aimed at improving conservation outcomes after the 2021 Cherry Gardens Bushfire.

Below is a list of the main work that contractors and DEW staff have completed during summer:

- Number 1 Block—Mint Green treated priority weeds like Blackberry, English Broom and Montpellier Broom from the top, Nicholls Road end of the block, and treated Montpellier Broom seedlings in the southern creekline.
- Gate 1—in February Mint Green completed several day's work treating Erica seedlings around the previous large infestation of mature plants dealt with last year, plus miscellaneous other weeds.
- Blackwater Creek and Dam—in February Mint Green treated various woody weeds, including Erica.
- Number 1 Block—Mint Green treated Tree Lucerne, funded under the previously mentioned partnership with the *Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board*.
- Fox Bog and Mackereth Creek—Mint Green patrolled to treat Blackberry, Broom, Arum Lily and African Feather Grass.
- Bushrat Creek—Mint Green completed their final visit to treat Blackberry and Montpellier Broom in upper Bushrat Creek under current funding.
- Brown Frog Gully—Mint Green followed up previous spraying of Blackberry.
- Gracilis Creek—Mint Green followed up previous spraying of Blackberry.
- Fern Gully—Mint Green completed their final spray run under current funding for Blackberry along Fern Gully and Fern Creek, from Brown Frog Gully to Gracilis Creek.



Above: Kat with Wild Leek (*Allium ampeloprasum*).

- Old gate 10—Mint Green completed their final patrol for Montpellier Broom, weedy Wattles and Blackberry under current funding.
- Scott Creek—Mint Green sprayed Blackberry on the northern hill above Bryophyte Flat.
- Scott Creek—Mint Green treated Blackberry and Willows on the south side of the creek near the Mackereth Cottage corner, using cut and swab and drill and fill techniques. This work was funded by the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board as part of the Bandicoot Superhighway project.
- Blechnum Creek—TFL Works completed their fourth and final run through Blechnum Creek under current funding, treating the newly germinating Montpellier Broom seedlings and Blackberry regrowth.
- Panhandle—TFL Works completed treatment of Olives, funded by the Green Adelaide Grassroots Grants Program.
- Scott Creek—TFL Works completed three runs along Scott Creek from the northern boundary of the Park to the Mackereth Cottage car park, treating Blackberry, Broom and Pussy Willow regrowth.
- Upper Almanda Valley—TFL Works completed treatment of Erica across the hillside and under Powerline Gully.
- Panhandle—TFL Works started treatment of Erica and Sollya in the north-western corner, with some funding leftover from the above Green Adelaide Grassroots Grants Program, with more work to be done funded by a NPWS On-Park Volunteer Support Grant under the Small Grants Program.
- Almanda Swamp—South Australian Indigenous Flora sprayed Blackberry and other woody weeds throughout the area, out to Dorset Vale Road.



**Above:** Mint Green staff patrolled many of the creeklines recovering from the fire, spraying Blackberry and treating a variety of other weeds. Work in the southern areas, like this photo from Mackereth Creek, were funded by the Nature Foundation Wildlife Recovery Grants Program.



**Above left:** Olive drilled and filled in the Panhandle, funded by a Green Adelaide Grassroots Grant.



**Above right:** The dense stand of Olive treated as part of the project funded by the Green Adelaide Grassroots Grant.



SUZANNE ELLIOTT  
CHARITABLE TRUST



**Above left:** The TFL Works team treating Erica and Sollya in the corner of the Panhandle, funded by a NPWS On-Park Volunteer Support Grant under the Small Grants Program.



**Above right:** The TFL Works team completing their fourth run through Blechnum Creek, treating Montpellier Broom and Blackberry post-fire. This work was funded by the Department for Environment and Water.



**Above left and right:** Before (14 December 2021) and after (27 May 2022) photos of Tree Lucerne, the greyish plants in the bottom left corner of the left photo were the focus of funding from the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board.



**Above left and right:** Before (14 December 2021) and after (27 May 2022) photos of Sugar Gum regrowth, treated near gate 9, at an old house site at the junction of Stringybark Track and Mount Bold Ridge Track.



**Above left:** Mint Green was funded to cut and swab Blackberry and drill and fill Willows along Scott Creek as part of the Bandicoot Superhighway Project.

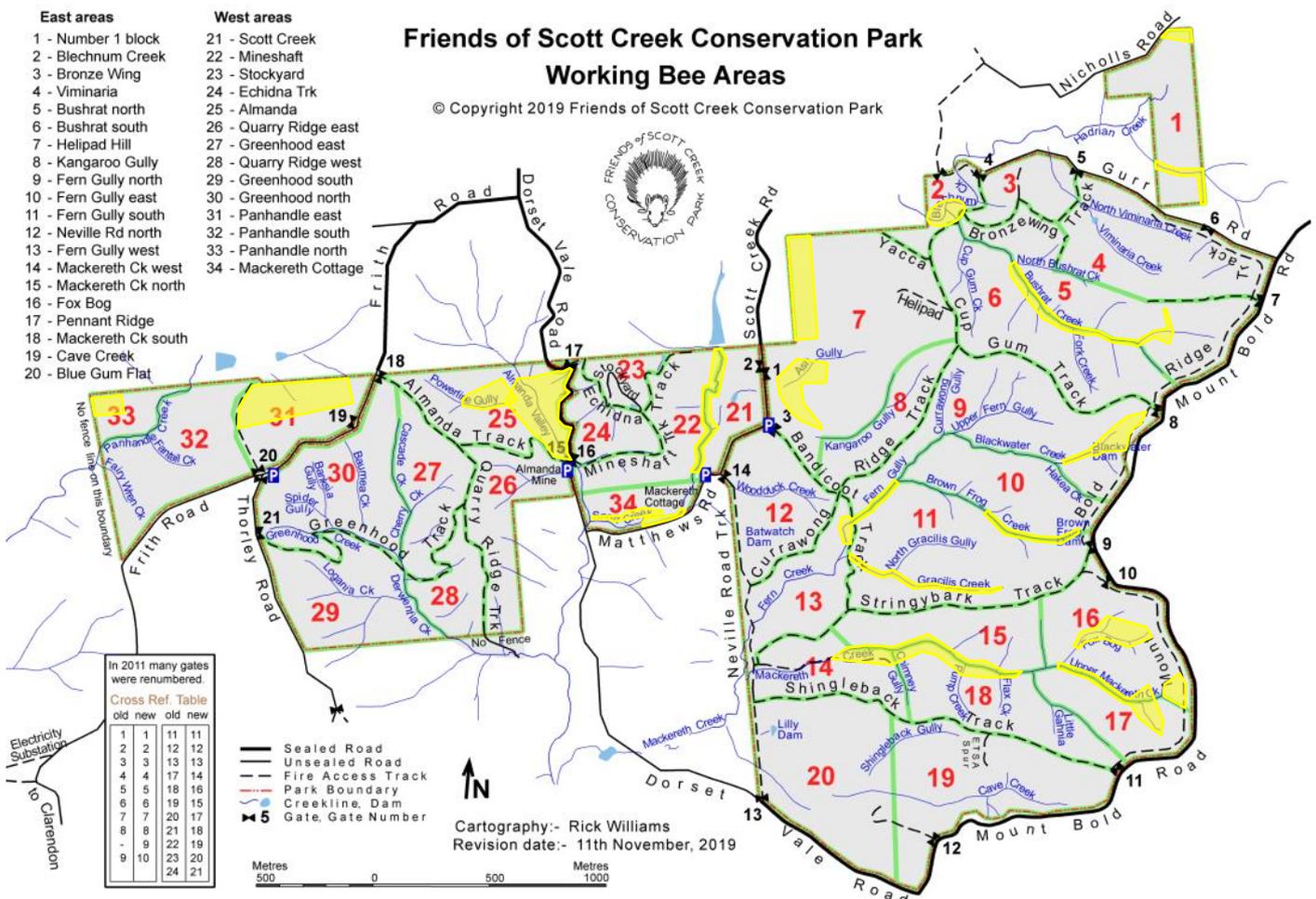


**Right:** Sollya regrowth was treated by NPWS Ranger staff on Helipad Hill west, in from gate 1.

- Gate 1 Helipad Hill west—NPWS Rangers enjoyed a team bonding day out patrolled the hillside for Sollya regrowth, finding a good amount but with more ground still to be covered.

Peter Watton

Bushcare—Grants & Funding, Contractor Liaison & Reporting



## Bird Banding Notes: March—May 2022

If you look back on the banding report for last quarter, you will see that this quarter has resulted in even less birds banded and/or recaptured. We were only able to conduct banding on six mornings and as the table indicates, we had no birds on our last effort. One of our scheduled events was cancelled as I was in isolation following a Covid-19 positive test result. Don and I did a make-up outing for this on Wednesday 23 March.



Above: A pair of Brown Thornbills netted in our March in Derwentia Valley. The Park appears to remain good habitat for this species.

This is the first quarter for a long time that we have not processed any honeyeaters. This due partly to seasonal lack of flowering plants, but there are still few insects around and very little evidence of lerps. So food for these species is much lacking and they are going where survival dictates. We are also not seeing as marked a difference between the burnt and unburnt areas in bird captures.

The only recapture of note was a Striated Thornbill at 6+ years old, which makes it a fire survivor. Generally, there were also less species observed - average 18 each day. The most encouraging day was at Mineshaft Track site, with 24 birds. This is the best since the January 2021 fire and the undergrowth is starting to fill in with improved cover/habitat for the smaller birds. The Brown Thornbills keep popping up across many sites, affirming that SCCP is a good environment for them.

Bird	19 Mar Derwentia Valley	23 Mar Panhandle	2/3 Apr Twisted Chimney	30 Apr Mineshaft Track	15 May The Plantation	Total
Brown Thornbill	3	2	1	2		8
Buff-rumped Thornbill		2		2		4
Golden Whistler			1	2		3
Grey Fantail	2					2
Red-browed Finch				5		5
Scarlet Robin	1					1
Silvereye			7	2		9
Spotted Pardalote				1		1
Striated Thornbill		8	2	9		19
Superb Fairy-wren			11	1		12
TOTAL	6	12	22	24	0	64

In the coming winter quarter, please check our schedule at the end of this newsletter. For all except one of the scheduled outings we will only band on one day per weekend. We will however, keep on eye on the weather forecasts and, if the planned day is not suitable, I may send out a Friday email to advise a late change.

Jim Spiker  
Bird Banding Coordinator



**Above left:** The banding team set up on Greenhood Track in Derwentia Valley.

**Below left:** Golden Whistler from Mineshaft Track.



**Above right:** Grey Fantail at the Derwentia Valley site.

**Below right:** A spectacular Spotted Pardalote netted along Mineshaft Track.



**Below left:** Red-browed Finch, one of five netted along Mineshaft Track.



**Below right:** Jim and Betty processing the Golden Whistler along Mineshaft Track.



**Photo Gallery:**



**Above left:** Parson's Band (*Eriochilus collinus*).  
**Below left:** Southern Grass-dart (*Ocybadistes walkeri hypochlorus*) on Oriental Sigesbeckia.



**Above right:** Variable Midge-orchid (*Corunastylis* sp. Adelaide Hills).  
**Below right:** Native bee on Slender Knotweed.



**Below left:** Brown Tree Frog (*Litoria ewingii*) found in Derwentia Creek.



**Below right:** Wolf Spider walking on water in Derwentia Creek.



## Photo Gallery:

It took me a while to set up our new remote wildlife cameras in the Park, but here are some images that they have captured already. Thanks to NPWS Ecologist Anthony Abley for arranging the purchase of these for us.



**Above left:** Laughing Kookaburras were regular visitors at Mackereth Creek.



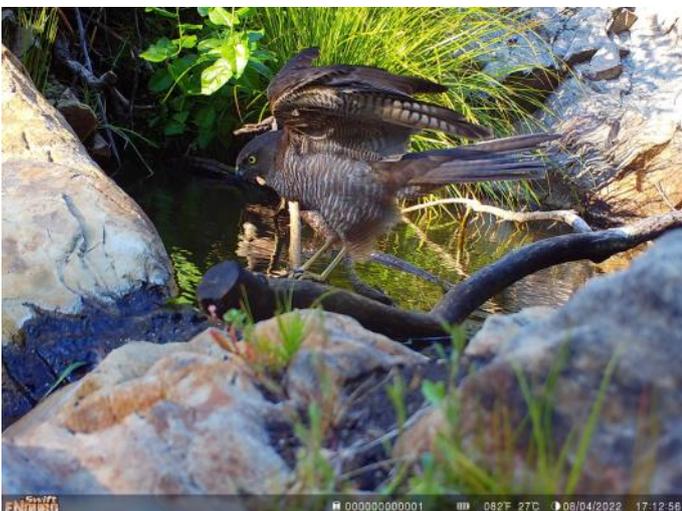
**Above right:** An injured Fox (front left leg) was in Derwentia Creek.



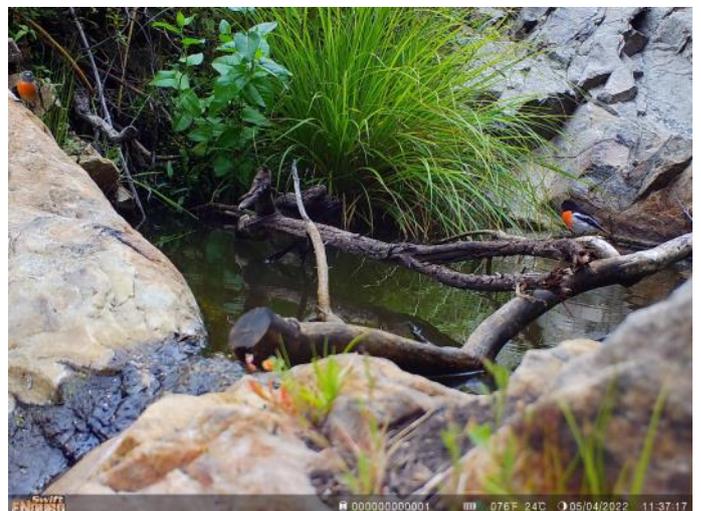
**Above left:** A Black Rat was not at all camera shy in Mackereth Creek, featuring on numerous occasions..



**Above right:** It was a lovely surprise to have a Southern Boobook seeking a drink in Mackereth Creek.



**Above left:** Another surprise visitor to Mackereth Creek, a Collared Sparrowhawk popped by a couple of times.



**Above right:** A pair of Scarlet Robins are always welcome, these ones in Mackereth Creek.

## Photo Gallery:

For a change of scenery we had a visit to the Hart Road Wetlands at Aldinga Beach on a fine sunny Sunday morning in March. We spent a couple of hours wandering around the trails looking at the birdlife, and came up with a very respectable 34 species, and then headed to a cafe for a cuppa.



Above left: Little Pied Cormorant.



Above right: White-faced Heron.



Above left: Eurasian Coot.



Above right: Willie Wagtail.



Above left: Crested Pigeon.



Above right: Peaceful Dove.

## Photo Gallery:

Then on the last Sunday in May, we had one of our regular visits to Laratinga Wetlands in Mount Barker. On a fine but chilly morning, with a mist hanging over the water, we spotted 39 species of bird.



**Above left:** Striated Pardalote.



**Above right:** Mist over the top lake.



**Above left:** Little Grassbird.



**Above right:** Blue-billed Duck.



**Above left:** Superb Fairy-wren.



**Above right:** Australasian Grebe.

## Calendar of Environmental Events coming up:

### Sunday 5th June is World Environment Day

World Environment Day on 5 June is the biggest international day for the environment. Led by UNEP and held annually since 1974, the event has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach, with millions of people from across the world engaging to protect the planet.

Sweden is hosting World Environment Day 2022 and will also host Stockholm+50 from 2 to 3 June. Stockholm+50 marks the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972. This put sustainable development on the global agenda and led to the establishment of World Environment Day.

“Only One Earth” was the slogan for the Stockholm Conference. World Environment Day 2022 is re-energizing the slogan to emphasize that planet Earth is still the only liveable planet we have and to push for transformative actions to reset the balance between people and the natural world to create a better future for all.

Over 150 countries are participating, and the UN will engage governments, businesses, civil society, schools, celebrities, cities and communities to raise awareness and celebrate environmental action.



Sweden aims to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045, is a frontrunner in greening its economy, and is rapidly adopting low-carbon and renewable infrastructure and technology.

#### THE BIG PICTURE

- We are using the equivalent of 1.6 Earths to maintain our current way of life, and ecosystems cannot keep up with our demands.
- The gap between what we need to spend to adapt and what we are actually spending is widening. Estimated costs of adaptation continue to rise and could reach US\$280-500 billion per year by 2050 for developing countries alone.
- Individuals and civil society must play a key role in raising awareness and urging governments and the private sector to make large-scale changes.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

- To limit global warming to 1.5°C by the end of the century, we must halve annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
- There is a 50 per cent chance that global warming will exceed 1.5°C in the next two decades.
- Methane, the primary component of natural gas, is responsible for more than 25 per cent of the warming we are experiencing today.
- The climate crisis causes extreme weather events that kill or displace thousands and result in economic losses measured in the trillions.
- Investments in renewable energy can deliver high economic multipliers, have high potential to crowd-in private investment and are an important step on the road to economy-wide decarbonization.
- Even under the most optimistic scenario where net-zero is reached by 2050, global warming will continue in the short to medium term, potentially levelling off at 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

#### NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY LOSS

- Ecosystem degradation affects the well-being of an estimated 3.2 billion people, or 40 per cent of the world's population.

- Restoring 15 per cent of converted lands while stopping further conversion of natural ecosystems can prevent 60 per cent of expected species extinctions.
- Every year, we lose ecosystem services worth more than 10 per cent of our global economic output
- Around one-third of the world's farmland is degraded, about 87 per cent of inland wetlands worldwide have disappeared since 1700 and one-third of commercial fish species are overexploited.
- Food systems are responsible for 80% of biodiversity loss, and 80% of all agricultural land is for livestock and its feed, while providing only 20% of calories.

#### POLLUTION

- Air pollution causes about 7 million premature deaths every year, one in nine of all deaths. Nine out of 10 people breathe unclean air, making it the most significant environmental health risk of our time.
- Only 57 per cent of countries have a legal definition for air pollution. In 2019, 92 per cent of people experienced air pollution in excess of safe World Health Organization guidelines.
- The most recent SDG monitoring cycle revealed that over 3 billion people are at risk because they don't know enough about the health of surface and groundwater resources.

#### WASTE

- Under a business-as-usual scenario, annual plastic waste entering aquatic ecosystems could nearly triple from 9-14 million tons in 2016 to 23-37 million tons by 2040.
- The total global economic cost of marine plastic pollution on tourism, fisheries and aquaculture is estimated to have been US\$6-19 billion in 2018.
- From 1950 to 2017, an estimated 9.2 billion tons of plastic was produced, 7 billion tons of which has become waste.

<https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/>

#### **Friday 29th July is Schools Tree Day**

The last Friday in July is dedicated to Schools Tree Day. Each year, more than 3000 students participate nationwide in environmental activities that educate individuals about the world around them. Activities range from planting bush tucker gardens, building habitat for native wildlife, nature play and more.



#### **Sunday 31st July is National Tree Day**

Established in 1996, National Tree Day has grown into Australia's largest community tree planting and nature care event. The program is a call to action for all Australians to get their hands dirty and give back to their community.

Each year, around 300,000 people volunteer their time to engage in environmental activities that educate Australians about the world around them. While every day can be Tree Day, we dedicate celebration of Schools Tree Day and National Tree Day to the last Friday and last Sunday in July.

It's a day to venture outdoors, get to know your community and, most importantly, have fun!

Our Impact since 1996



<https://treeday.planetark.org/>

## **Sunday 31st July is World Ranger Day**

World Ranger Day is celebrated worldwide on July 31st to commemorate Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty and to celebrate the work Rangers do to protect the planet's natural treasures and cultural heritage.



Let's pause for a moment to reflect on the courage and sacrifice that Rangers make: by honouring Fallen Rangers and standing with Rangers who bravely undertake their role on the frontline. World Ranger Day is an International Ranger Federation initiative promoted together with its official charity arm, The Thin Green Foundation.

<https://www.internationalrangers.org/events/>

## **Monday 1st to Sunday 7th August is Landcare Week**

Landcare is a community-based approach to managing and protecting our natural resources – creating more productive and sustainable farms, conserving our environment and building more cohesive and resilient communities.

The Landcare movement is about people with passion working together to make a difference. Usually Landcare groups form when passionate locals share concerns about an environmental problem or want to improve the way they are managing their properties then get together and do something about it. On-ground change is driven from the ground up – landcarers may be from the coast or the country, students or retirees, farmers or families. Groups can form to work on both private and public land, on the coast, in a catchment, in schools, on farms and in national parks.

The Landcare community encompasses all groups who espouse the Landcare ethos of caring for their local environment, irrespective of title or emphasis. It includes all 'Care' groups: Land, Coast, Bush, 'Friends of' and farmers' production groups.

<https://landcaresa.asn.au/>

### VISION

All Australians actively caring for the land and water that sustains us.

### PURPOSE

- Empowering individuals and communities
- Sustainable management of natural and productive landscapes
- Building resilient ecosystems and communities

### ABOUT LANDCARE AUSTRALIA

Landcare Australia is a national not-for-profit organisation established more than 30 years ago that supports the landcare community with funding, capacity-building, on-ground projects, information, networking and promotion of landcare achievements.

Together with the landcare community, our efforts improve biodiversity, build resilience in Australia's food and farming systems, and create stronger communities. As a leader in the environmental sector, Landcare Australia has strong expertise in designing, managing and completing challenging and complex major ecological restoration projects involving large scale revegetation and carbon abatement.

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/>

## **Monday 15th to Sunday 21st August is Keep Australia Beautiful Week**

Keep Australia Beautiful Week is in August each year to raise awareness about the simple things we can all do in our daily lives to reduce our impact on the environment and encourage action.



### DO THE RIGHT THING

We've relaunched the iconic campaign that aims to remind all Australians of the simple ways we can all prevent litter.

By encouraging and supporting each other to do the right thing, we can make sure Australia stays beautiful for years to come.

<https://kab.org.au/>



## Summer Program of Activities June–August 2022

The Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park welcome visitors to any of our activities, but it is best to contact us beforehand to confirm details. This is particularly important with regard to COVID-19 restrictions, which makes it essential that anyone considering a visit to an activity contact us beforehand to ensure this will still be possible at the time. Thank you.

For enquiries or information see contact details at the end of this program or on our website

[www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](http://www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au).

**NOTE:** Activities in the park and social events in the Adelaide Hills will be cancelled if a fire ban or severe weather warning/thunderstorms are announced for the Mount Lofty Ranges. Bird banding will also be cancelled in conditions that may adversely affect the birds. See links to BOM & CFS websites below.

**Bushcare activities: meet at 9.00am, Almanda Mine Car Park, Dorset Vale Rd**

This enables everyone to sign in and be brought up-to-date with last minute changes. BYO morning tea and a small back pack to carry it, in case we are working further from the cars.

*Contact our Admin. Assistant for details about regular mid-week bush gardening activities at Almanda Creek.*

Month/Day	Date	Activity	Location
<b>JUNE 2022</b>			
Sunday	5	Bird Banding	<b>AB:</b> Almanda Battery, Almanda Carpark, 7:30 am
Tuesday	7	Bushcare	To be advised
Sunday	12	Bushcare	To be advised
Tuesday	14	<b>General Mtg All welcome!</b>	On-line by Zoom, 7.30pm—link to be sent by email
Saturday, Sunday	18, 19	Bird Banding	<b>MC:</b> Mackereth Cottage, 7.30am
Tuesday	21	<b>Social Lunch All Welcome</b>	Joan's Pantry—Hawthorndene at noon (Watahuna Ave opposite the oval)
Saturday	25	Bushcare	To be advised
<b>JULY 2022</b>			
Saturday	2	Bird Banding	<b>KG:</b> Kangaroo Gully, via gate 3, 7.30am
Tuesday	5	Bushcare	To be advised
Sunday	10	Bushcare	To be advised
Sunday	17	Bird Banding	<b>GR:</b> Gurr Road gate 4, 7.30am
Saturday	23	Bushcare	To be advised
Wednesday	27	<b>Social Lunch All Welcome</b>	Sheoak Café—Belair at noon (cnr Sheoak and James Roads, parking on three sides)
<b>AUGUST 2022</b>			
Tuesday	2	Bushcare	To be advised
Saturday	6	Bird Banding	<b>PR:</b> Pennant Ridge, via gate 11, 7.30am
Tuesday	9	<b>General Mtg All welcome!</b>	Time and format to be advised
Sunday	14	Bushcare	To be advised
Sunday	21	Bird Banding	<b>XR:</b> Crossroads, via gate 3, 7.00am
Thursday	25	<b>Social Lunch All Welcome</b>	Joan's Pantry—Hawthorndene at noon (Watahuna Ave opposite the oval)
Saturday	27	Bushcare	To be advised

**BOM website:** <http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/meteye/dorset-vale>

**CFS website:** [https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/bans\\_and\\_ratings](https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/bans_and_ratings)

## Office bearers:

Any queries on Friends activities, please contact the relevant person below, general queries to [info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**President:** Jim Spiker (M) 0430 247 705, Email: [president@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:president@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Vice President:** Peter Watton (M) 0427 010 949, Email: [info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Treasurer:** Andrew Biven, (M) 0404 878 344, Email: [treasurer@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:treasurer@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Correspondence Secretary:** Diana Wright Email: [secretary@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:secretary@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Administration Assistant:** Jenny Dawes (H) 8388 2297 (M) 0427 841 425, Email: [info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Minute Secretary:** Vacant—please let us know if you would be able to help with this role

**Membership Officer:** Lorraine Billett (H) 8278 6623 (M) 0427 093 839, Email: [lorry66@tpg.com.au](mailto:lorry66@tpg.com.au)

## Other roles and positions:

**Bird Banding Coordinator:** Jim Spiker (contact details above)

**Bushcare Coordinator:** Jenny Dawes (contact details above)

**Assistant Bushcare Coordinator:** Glenn Giles (M) 0413 615 514, Email: [gilesgd81@gmail.com](mailto:gilesgd81@gmail.com)

**Bushcare — Grants & Funding, Contractor Liaison & Reporting:** Peter Watton (contact details above)

**Bush Gardening Almanda Creek:** John Wamsley (M) 0407 716 074, Email: [john@johnwamsley.com](mailto:john@johnwamsley.com)

**Editor Bandicoot Tails & Facebook:** Peter Watton (contact details above)

**Website Coordinator:** Rick Williams (M) 0424 308 011, Email: [webmaster@friendsofscottcreek.org.au](mailto:webmaster@friendsofscottcreek.org.au)

**Social & Events Coordinators:** Jenny Dawes (contact details above), Sue Braddock-Smith (M) 0447 028 458, Email: [almanda11@bigpond.com](mailto:almanda11@bigpond.com)

