



FoCC Incorporated November 2017 News Update



News Update Features

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Parks Victoria Master Plan Open House

Parks Victoria held Woowookarung Regional Park Master Plan Open House at Earth Ed Olympic Avenue Mt Clear on October 22 and 29. The open house was well attended.

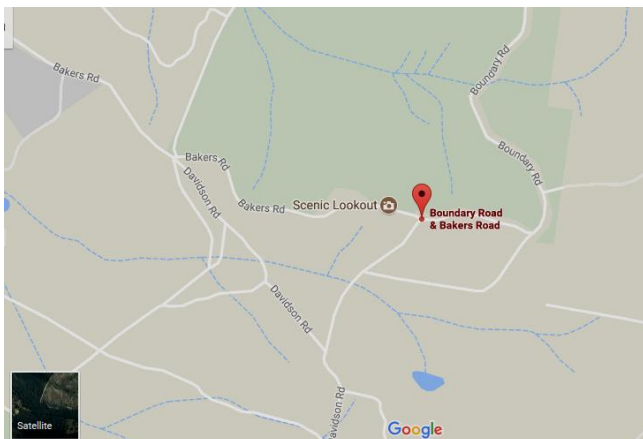


Attendees at the open house perusing the displays

FoCC fifth birthday and end of year picnic

The FoCC was formed on November 11th 2012 just five years ago and its fifth birthday will be celebrated at an evening picnic at the Lookout, corner of Boundary Rd and Bakers rd on the evening of December 8th.

A gazebo shelter and marquee will be provided. BYO picnic foods and beverages, chairs and enjoy the best viewing point of Ballarat. A big 5th birthday cake will be shared. More info Jeff 0408509591



Vandal damage to gate and fence

During the last week of October vandals drove a vehicle into the south gate just off Bakers Rd. The gate was heavily damaged but did not give way. The fence next to the gate was driven through and broken.

Parks Victoria have been given a vehicle description and identification.



The badly damaged gate



Parks gate sign



The broken fence with incident tape



The new heavier gate

Ballarat East Directions Paper and Community Workshop

The City of Ballarat has spent the past couple of years producing a Ballarat East Directions Paper. The paper is very comprehensive and covers a lot of issues, ideas and wishes for Ballarat East.

The Woookarung Regional Park forms the eastern boundary of Ballarat East and will in the future play a significant role in the amenity of the local community.

The community is invited to attend a community workshop to further discuss the Directions Paper.

5.30-7pm Thursday 7 December
Eureka Hall, 104 Stawell Street South, Ballarat Central

RSVP by Monday, 4 December 2017 by contacting the City of Ballarat's Strategic Planning on 5320 7420 or strategicplanning@ballarat.vic.gov.au

To read the directions paper:

<http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/pbs/city-strategy/strategic-projects-and-frameworks/current/imagine-ballarat-east.aspx>

“Unusual pea plant of the edge of Ballarat”

“One of the special plants of Woookarung Regional Park at Canadian is the penny-leaf flat pea. Not only is it rare, but it is also unusual because it sets very few seeds.

Bees were seeking nectar from the flowers last weekend, but pods and seeds are rarely encountered. It reproduces mostly by suckering. This was noticeable by the above ground stems taking root at intervals along their length and also by the extent of ground covered by the plant – in places up to 30 metres or more.

The penny-leaf flat pae is a trailing plant with round leaves, mostly between one and two dollar coin size.

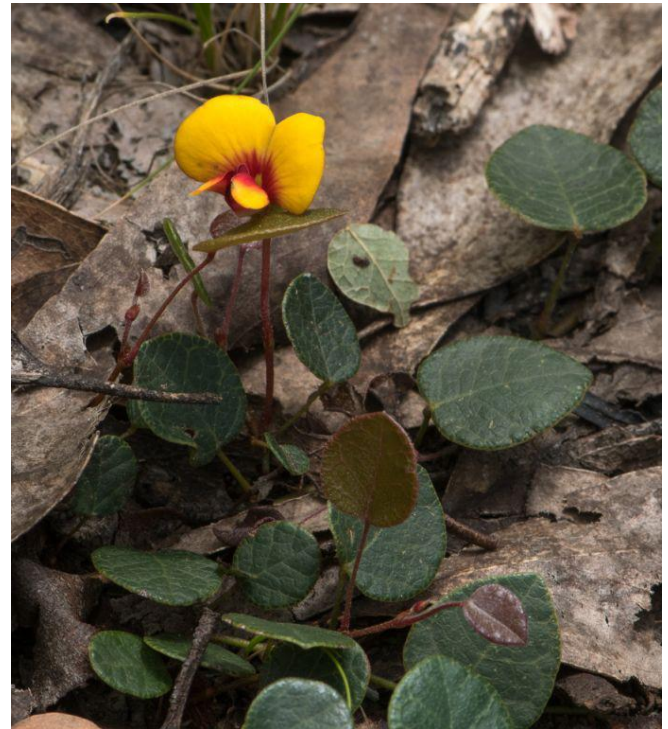
Despite its name , very few, if any, of the leaves reach the size of the old copper penny (approx. 20c size).

Flowers are single, so the visual impression of a flowering plant is of scattered flowers, rather than the dense heads of some of the other native yellow and orange pea flowers. The stems of each flower can be a few centimeters long.

The flowers of the penny-leaf flat pea are very similar to those of the more familiar and widespread common flat-pea. These flowers are the largest of the local peas (the egg and bacon flowers). The plants belong to the *Platylobium* group, with the penny-leaf flat-pea being *P. Rotundum*. The name flat-pea comes from the relatively large flat pods.

The plant is classified as vulnerable because of its limited distribution in Victoria. There are only three populations in Woookarung Regional Park on the eastern edge of Ballarat, making it a significant species there.

Written by Roger Thomas in Nature Notes and published in the Ballarat Courier, Nov 7 2017



Flowering on November 7th Image by C Hall.

Visiting echidna

Spotted visiting the Boak household back garden in Mt Clear recently.



Image by O Boak

Rubbish in the news again

Unfortunately rubbish dumpers have been active in the Wilson st area again according to the Ballarat Courier.

“Illegal rubbish dumpers face a crackdown with Ballarat Council vowing to work with other agencies to clean up the growing problem in the region.

The council will apply for state government funding to tackle illegal dumping in conjunction with Parks Victoria and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning who are also responsible for care of local bushland.

The move comes as weekend dumpsters tossed bags of household rubbish, including toys, clothing, shoes, and baby goods, along Wilson St in the Woowookarung Regional Park.

The unsightly mess was strewn along the roadside heading in to the former Canadian State Park, despite some items appearing in good enough condition to have been donated to a charity shop.”



Published in the Courier 22 November 2017

FoCC facebook

Michaela Settle is overseeing the FoCC Facebook page. See <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofcanadiancorridor/>
Feel free to add and comment.

Or email Michaela at michaelasettle@gmail.com with images comments etc.

FoCC Membership.

The Friends are offering membership to all Friends of the Canadian Corridor for 2018 as this years membership expires on Dec 31st 2017. Membership renewal reminders will be sent out soon.

This year the FoCC has undertaken many events and activities such as:

- Late summer evening Ballarat views from the Lookout

- An Autumn walk in the north of the Park and the old Cremorne Rifle Range
- June forum -**From Plantation to Woowookarung Regional Park – What’s next?** Attended by 60 friends.
- Participation in the renaming of the Park to Woowookarung Regional Park with Parks Victoria and the Victorian Government.
- Winter planting of 260 native trees in conjunction with the Field Naturalists Club of Ballarat.
- The winter Skyline walk from Federation University to the Pax Hill
- The Field Naturalists Club of Ballarat and FoCC wild flower trail walk in October
- Regular News Updates for the friends
- Regular bi monthly FoCC meetings with guest presenters
- Ongoing advocacy with state and local government, authorities and other community organisations.

Membership is good way to make sure the Friends are viable and strong to keep the Park and corridor in good order.

- Membership is offered to individuals who wish to become a formal Friend of the Canadian Corridor at only at \$20 per calendar year. Groups may be represented by one or more individual Friends.
- For those who simply wish to remain on the information sharing email and news update list as a friend need to take no action.

Draft 2018 calendar

- February 21st - General meeting
- Early March 2018 - Looking at the stars
- April 18th General meeting
- May 2018 – Autumn fungi walk in the Park
- June 20th FoCC Forum
- July – Walking mine tour of the Park
- July/August 2018 – Tree planting
- August 15th 2018 – General meeting
- October 17th 2018 – Annual Meeting
- October late Wildflower walk and pop up trail

The FoCC update is published on behalf of the Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated, Registered No A0097535B. The update is generally published monthly. Friends wishing to add articles to the FoCC update may do so by emailing focinfo@gmail.com

Feel free to circulate widely including doctors waiting rooms, work offices, friends and neighbours.

Any opinions expressed in the publication are those of the editor and do not officially represent Parks Victoria or the FoCC.

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