



# FoCC Incorporated December 2017 News Update

## Issue Number 26

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### FoCC fifth birthday and end of year picnic

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



President Bob cutting the 5<sup>th</sup> birthday cake with Jeff and Maggie looking on. Image by R Loveband.



And a round of applause. Image by R Loveband.

For the record the Friends of Canadian Corridor was formed on November 11<sup>th</sup> 2012 at the then Italian Club in Mt Clear. The name Friends of Canadian Corridor was adopted and the notion of a “Multi Use Park” began its journey forward. Five years later many of the wishes of that first meeting have been achieved or are on the way to achievement.

### Park Management Plan

The much anticipated Woookarung Regional Park Management Plan is close to being finalised. Throughout this year many conversations and discussions have been undertaken by Parks Staff, friends and Site Office personell who are contracted to produce the plan.

Many thanks to all the friends who attended the forum and open house sessions and provided responses this year.

A draft edition for final consultation is due early in the year. When it is available FoCC will ensure friends are well informed and prepared for the final consultation.

### Ballarat East Directions Paper and Community Workshop

Around twenty friends attended the The City of Ballarat Ballarat East Directions Paper and Community Workshop at Eureka Hall on Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> . The workshop was very well run and the city should be congratulated on the work and effort so far.

The feedback from the more than eighty attendees covered a large range of issues wishes and oppourtunities. The value of the forest (Park) was highlighted with the leafy backdrop to Ballarat East, the recreational value and the importance of the wildlife links within the forest itself rated highly.

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

To read the directions paper:

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

Submissions to the City of Ballarat on the directions paper are due by Monday February 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Bunanyung Landscape Alliance (BLA)

The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance is steadily being set up the alliance with a proper structure, goals and a vision.

The Alliance covers the Woody Yallock, Leigh and Moorabool rivers catchment areas. Members are drawn from the many landcare networks and groups plus environment and interest groups such as the Ballarat Environment Network and FoCC. The name Bunanyung is comes from the early Wadawurrung spelling of Mt

Buninyong. The area covered by the Alliance is mostly within view of Mt Buninyong

For the FoCC, our main interest in working with the BLA is in developing longterm plans and actions to identify, maintain and improve the wildlife or bio link corridor between the Wombat Forest and Enfield Forest via Creswick and the Woowookarung Regional Park (Canadian Forest).

The creation of the Woowookarung Regional Park was a significant step forward in preserving the wildlife or bio link corridor.

The FoCC representative on the interim BLA is Jeff Rootes

### Wildflowers in the Park



Wildflowers in the park. Image by J Petheran

### Parks Victoria Woowookarung Health Partners

Parks Victoria held a “**Community Health Activation Forum**” at Federation University on Thursday 23rd November.

Parks Victoria wants to establish a relevant and innovative future for Woowookarung Regional Park by re-imagining its role in contributing to a happy, active and healthy Ballarat community.

The forum sought to build effective partnerships with health professionals, researchers and local organisations to activate community health and connections in the park, while conserving its natural and cultural values.

The forum was very successful with many health professionals and organisations considering how to work with Parks Victoria to utilise the Parks superb natural features and the facilities that will come after the Parks Management Plan has been finalised.

### Mt Clear College seeks host families



Mount Clear College is looking for Ballarat families to open their homes to international students for both short and long term accommodation.

Having an international student reside with your family can be an exciting and enriching experience - learning about customs, languages, cultures and cuisines is enjoyable and rewarding for both host families and international students, and often leads to lifelong friendships. We are seeking homestays for students from Italy, Germany, China, Japan, and other countries.

Families are required to provide meals, welfare, learning support, and a private room for accommodation in a caring home environment. Payment is made to host families of \$240 per week to cover expenses, and a current Working With Children Check is required.

To register your interest or find out more, contact our International Student Coordinators:

Andrew Lang: lang.andrew.jl@edumail.vic.gov.au or Jenny Bromley: Bromley.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au 0408 652 304



### Interesting sign

This sign was spotted at Merbein on the Murray River recently. An interesting way of expressing community ownership and observation.



### DELWP Grampians Region -Community Conversations

Attached is a copy of "DELWP Grampians Region - Community Conversations" in PDF format.

### 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](mailto: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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> - General meeting
- Early March 2018 - Looking at the stars at the lookout.
- April 18<sup>th</sup> General meeting
- May 2018 – Autumn fungi walk in the Park
- June 20<sup>th</sup> FoCC Forum
- July/August 2018 – Tree planting
- August 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 – General meeting
- August 26<sup>th</sup> Walking mine tour of the Park
- October 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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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