



FoCC Incorporated June 2018 News Update



Issue Number 45

News Update Features

- June Special Event – Author of “Dark Emu” Bruce Pascoe. Full house great event.
- City of Ballarat Sponsorship
- Woowookarung Regional Park “Draft Strategic Directions Plan”
- Plan on display at the City of Ballarat Tourist Information Centre.
- Grasstree vandals active in the park.
- Gorse removal “ecoblade” completion of gorse removal.
- A unique solution to a mud hole
- More pine trees removed
- Tree planting opportunities - August
- Old Commonwealth Rifle Range for sale
- 2018 Membership

FoCC June 20th Event

From the “Miner” June 29th 2018 page 14

Agricultural past revealed by local Aboriginal author

Australia’s Aboriginal agricultural past was highlighted by Aboriginal author Bruce Pascoe at a public lecture at Federation University Australia’s Brewery Theatre this week.

“It was very interesting to hear how the early explorers documented in their journals Aboriginal bread making, indigenous grain harvesting, fish farming and myrnong gardens,” Jasmine Graham, Manager of the University’s Aboriginal Education Centre, said.

“These accounts have been ignored by contemporary historians. Just to the west of Ballarat, Aboriginal people were building stone houses and large meeting buildings while operating sophisticated fish traps, dams and water races.”

In the lecture, Mr Pascoe described recent analysis of stone grain grinding stones which have dated 35,000-year kangaroo grass flour embedded in the stone.

Aboriginal clay pottery also has been found across Australia, some of which was collected by Captain Cook in 1770.

“The real story of how Aboriginal people farmed, lived and worked with the abundant resources of the land is a story has been left out of the history books,” Mr Hartmann said.

“It is time to re-read the early accounts and re-learn many of the lessons that Aboriginal people had developed over 50,000 years of continuous society throughout Australia.

“This relearning includes indigenous seeds, plants, fruits, herbs and the use of fire to cool burn land to maintain biodiversity.”

The forum was presented by the partnership of FedUni’s Aboriginal Education Centre, the Friends of Canadian Corridor and the generous support of the City Of Ballarat through the Community Grants Program.

Author of over 20 books, Bruce is a Bunurong, Tasmanian and Yuin man based in Victoria. Bruce’s recent book Dark Emu (Magabala Books 2014) won the Book of the Year as well as the Indigenous Writer’s Prize in the 2016 NSW Premier’s Literary Awards.



Vicki, Jeff, Bridget, Bruce, Jasmine, Peter and Bob at the full house event.

Many thanks to Jasmine Graham from Fed Uni Aboriginal Centre, Brigid Corcoran from Saltbush Foods and FoCC members who all worked together to make the event successful.

City of Ballarat Sponsorship

FoCC has been awarded \$688 by the City of Ballarat 2018 Community Impact Grants Scheme. Part of the funding was to assist in bringing Mr Bruce Pascoe to the joint FoCC, Federation University Aboriginal Education Centre and the City of Ballarat “Dark Emu” forum.

The other portion of the funding will be used to produce a Woowookarung mine history tour and guide. The launch of the mining tour guide is scheduled to take place on August

26th followed by a walking mine tour in the Park. More details in the July newsletter



Grasstree vandals active in the park 1.

A 4WD vehicle crushed the grasstrees shown in the image below by driving around the north gate on Clayton St. Parks Victoria response has been to add further bollards to prevent it happening again



The damage to grasstrees caused by a 4WD vehicle.



Bollards placed to restrict access.

If friends observe anyone damaging the park, such as shown in the image, please call Parks Victoria on 131963

Grasstree vandals active in the park 2

Damage to twenty or more Grasstrees has been found in the centre of the park near Billy Cart Hill. Over the past days unknown people have constructed a trail loop, hacking into many grasstrees and clearing the trail. If anyone knows who may be doing this please call Parks Victoria 131963



Hacked grasstrees and cycle trail.

Woovookarung Regional Park “Draft Strategic Directions Plan”

The Woovookarung Regional Park “Draft Strategic Directions Plan” consultation period has been very successful with many comments and feedback items being received by the Parks Victoria staff. The on line consultation closed on June 29.

Plan on display at the City of Ballarat Tourist Information Centre

The city of Ballarat’s Tourist information centre hosted a stand for the Parks plan as shown below. Tourist Centre staff report quiet a bit of interest in the Park particularly with requests for walking maps.



What it looks like after Eco Blade treatment.



Friends inspecting the working parts of the Eco Blade on the demonstration day in the Park on Wednesday June 13th. Comment was that it was a brutal machine but very effective in removing and killing gorse. To see the effectiveness of the Eco Blade travel out along Katy Ryans Rd and view the result.

Gorse removal “Ecoblade”

An Eco Blade operated by contractors Gorsebusters has completed a 5 hectare gorse removal for Parks Victoria program on the north side of Katy Ryans Rd.

A unique solution to a mud hole

Recently Parks Victoria Rangers had a problem with a large blown over tree resting dangerously at 45 degree angle next to Recreation Rd. It was also quite close to a 4WD bog hole. Quick thinking saw the tree made safe and used to stop further damage to the mudhole. A rather large excavator was used to move the tree into position.



The Eco Blade in operation in 2 meter high gorse.

More pine trees removed



Parks Victoria have organised for volunteers to remove more pines from the Park. The pines are a legacy of the previous pine plantations that covered nearly half of the Park between 1960 and 2000. The pines below were removed near the corner of Dozed Track and Katy Ryans Rd.

Since the declaration of the Park in 2016 thousands of pine trees have been removed by volunteers in many different areas of the Park. In the future pine trees will hopefully will be rarity in our Park..



Tree planting opportunities – August

The FoCC is planning to plant trees in the “top block” ex plantation area adjacent to Lal Lal Drain. A date has been set for Sunday August 12th. Final permission, species details and the actual planting plans have yet to be completed. More details in the FoCC July News Update.

Old Commonwealth Rifle Range for sale

The old commonwealth rifle range has been put up for sale again. It was sold by the Commonwealth Government in 2002 to a local businessman for around \$110000 (Ballarat Courier). Over the years there have been many attempts to have it rezoned and approved for housing. The most recent attempt in 2016 was to have the land rezoned as residential under the City of Ballarat C194 new local planning amendment. The application for rezoning was rejected on multiple grounds including, bushfire concerns, lead contamination, access, drainage and vegetation overlays including the Koala Plan and services.



FoCC Membership.

In June the FoCC membership hit an all time high of 44. As part of our insurance obligations the FoCC must keep a membership contact list including address, email and phone details. The secretary has been contacting some members to update their details. Many thanks to those who have responded.

Membership enquiries Treasurer Peter – **0475 204161**

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.

FoCC facebook

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

Currently we have just over 210 friends on Facebook and growing. Feel free to add and pass on to other friends and press like.

Or email Rob at webmaster@focc.asn.au with images comments etc.

2018 calendar

- August 12th 2018 – Tree planting
- August 15th 2018 – General meeting
- August 26th Walking mine tour of the Park
- October 17th 2018 – FoCC Annual Meeting
- October 21st Wildflower walk and pop up trail

The FoCC update is published on behalf of the Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated, Registered No A0097535B. Circulation this issue is 305.

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.

Web - www.focc.asn.au **Facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofcanadiancorridor/>

Unsubscribe by emailing the editor focinfo@gmail.com

Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated

Registered number A0097535



Membership Application

Individual membership of the FoCC runs from January 1st to December 31st each year at a cost of \$20 per year Community groups may be represented by individual members.

First Name:	
Last Name:	
Name of Group represented: (if applicable)	
Address first line:	
Address second line:	
Town/City:	
State:	Post Code:
Home Phone:	
Mobile phone:	
Email address:	
I agree to the rules of association and abide by the FoCC committee of Management decisions	
Applicants signature:	
Date:	
Applications may be sent by email to focinfo@gmail.com or by mail to the Treasurer (address below)	

Payment may be made by

1. Bank transfer to details: **BSB** 06 3502 **Account No** 10955630. Please add your name to the bank transfer.
2. Payment to the Treasurer at a FoCC meeting
3. Cheques to made out to "FoCC Incorporated" and addressed to:

FoCC Treasurer
PO Box 83,
Mt Clear Vic,
3350.

Date Received:
Amount \$
Receipt No