



# FoCC Incorporated August 2018 News Update

Issue Number 47



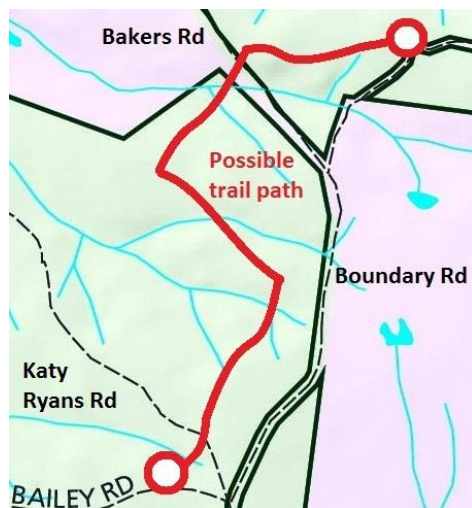
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### 1. Pick My Project Voting

## Your vote is needed to gain funds for the "New community nature experience trail in Woovookarung Regional Park"

The Friends of Canadian Corridor application for the "New community nature experience trail in Woovookarung Regional Park" has been shortlisted for \$78,005 in funding by the State Government's Pick My Project grant program.



The trail path shown above is indicative only. The actual trail path will be determined by Parks Victoria.

To get the funding for our project we must demonstrate strong public support by gaining the most votes from locals (anyone within 50km radius) in the Pick My Project voting.

The Project connects Ballarat and Mt Clear's best lookouts via a 2.5 km multi use nature trail through Ballarat's nearest forest. The trail will promote cycling, walking, running, and nature immersion while supporting the physical wellbeing and positive mental health outcomes for 30,000 plus residents who live adjacent to the recently established Woovookarung Regional Park.

Beginning at the 'Ballarat Lookout' the trail will follow the natural hills and valleys south through heathy forest, grasstrees and wildflowers in season as well as historic water races, mines, prospecting sites and geological wonders. The Trail is identified in the draft Woovookarung Regional Park management plan as the '10000 Step trail'.

### **Please register and VOTE for our project**

Go to the Pick My Project website and register to vote online – [www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au](http://www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au)

Please pass on to family, friends and colleagues by any means and encourage them to Vote.

### **Voting closes 5pm September 17<sup>th</sup> 2018**

PS. The pick my Project allows voters to choose three worthwhile projects and the FoCC also recommends:

- **Rediscovering Lake Burrumbeet**
- **Completing regeneration of the Mollonghip Community Hall**

### 2. Walk the PMP Trail

On Sunday morning September 9<sup>th</sup> at 10am, Friends are invited to join in a walk of the general area where the "New community nature experience trail in Woovookarung Regional Park" will hopefully be located.

Where: Starting and finishing at the Ballarat Lookout, cnr of Boundary and Bakers Rd Mt Clear.

Walk approximately 5km (includes the return trip)

Time - Sunday September 9 starting at 10am.

Walk is medium and requires reasonable fitness, warm/rainproof clothing and solid footwear.

### 3. **“Koalas - Where have they gone?” August General Meeting**

Koalas are the icon species of the Park.

In 2010 the City of Ballarat’s C137 Koala Plan of Management was added to the Ballarat Planning Scheme with aim of protecting and enhancing the Koala habitat in Ballarat East and the Canadian Valley.

To help us understand that plan, Sean OKeefe from Southern Cross Town Planning P/L and former COB Strategic Planning Manager in 2010 when the Koala Plan was introduced addressed the FoCC general meeting. Sean explained to the friends the background and difficulties involved in the establishment and passing of the Plan. The 2010 Koala plan was the result of many years of hard work by many dedicated people. Copies of the Koala Plan of Management documents are on [www.focc.asn.au](http://www.focc.asn.au)

The Koala plan was compromised by the inclusion of the “Black Saturday” bushfire provisions. These provisions now have primacy over vegetation retention. This means that vegetation protection on small house lots is almost impossible. Bushfire protections give owners an absolute right right to clear specified zones around houses and boundaries.

The only places where Koala vegetation overlays still have purpose is at the point of subdivision. As there are no houses present to defend, vegetation retention is possible.

Recently a subdivision in Canadian was approved in spite of these Koala Plan provisions and FoCCs objections.

### 4. **Koala Working Party**

At the end of the meeting a decision was made to form a “Koala Working Party” to address the three FoCC questions.

- Are there any Koalas out there?
- Where are they?
- What can we do?

The FoCC Koala Working Party has undertaken to:

- Seek Koala sightings from friends and the general community. Reports can be made to [focinfo@gmail.com](mailto:focinfo@gmail.com)
- Create a map of Koala sightings
- Publicize the need to build a profile of Koalas in the corridor
- Find and review the work undertaken by various Koala researchers such as Pat Prevett, Hedley Thompson, Rolf Schagloff and others.

### 5. **Koala Sighting**

Recently Koalas have been spotted near Damascus College and Federation University, Mt Helen.

### 6. **DELWP Grant for Revegetation**

**Boost for Canadian Koala Population**

*“MORE than 1000 trees will be planted over five hectares, helping reconnect the Woowookarung Regional Park's koala and woodland bird corridor. Friends of Canadian Corridor have received a state government grant of more than \$11,000 under the Community and Volunteer Action Grants program for the regeneration of the park. Buninyong MP Geoff Howard said the funding would allow for a "permanent green belt" on Ballarat's eastern edge. "The Friends of Canadian Corridor members have given countless hours of their time volunteering and advocating to restore this native asset," he said. "I'm pleased to announce that they are receiving funding of over \$11,000 from the Community and Volunteer Action Grants program for an important project to revegetate sections of the park. "This will involve targeted gorse and broom suppression as well as extensive tree planting." 23 Aug 2018 • Ballarat Courier, Ballarat VIC (General News)*



Courier Caption Text: KOALA COUNTRY: Friends of Canadian Corridor's Jeff Rootes, Buninyong MP Geoff Howard, Bob Hartmann and Rob Loveband.

### 7. **DELWP grant purchases**

Already FoCC has began putting the DELWP revegetation funds to work.

Jeffs ute, a ton of stakes, on delivery night.



New hand tools, stakes and tree guards for use next year have been purchased. The DELWP grant provides for stakes to plant over 1000 trees which is a lot of stakes. In fact a ton of stakes. Many thanks to Dean from Ross St Building supplies for assistance in unloading the stakes from the delivery truck to Jeffs Ute.

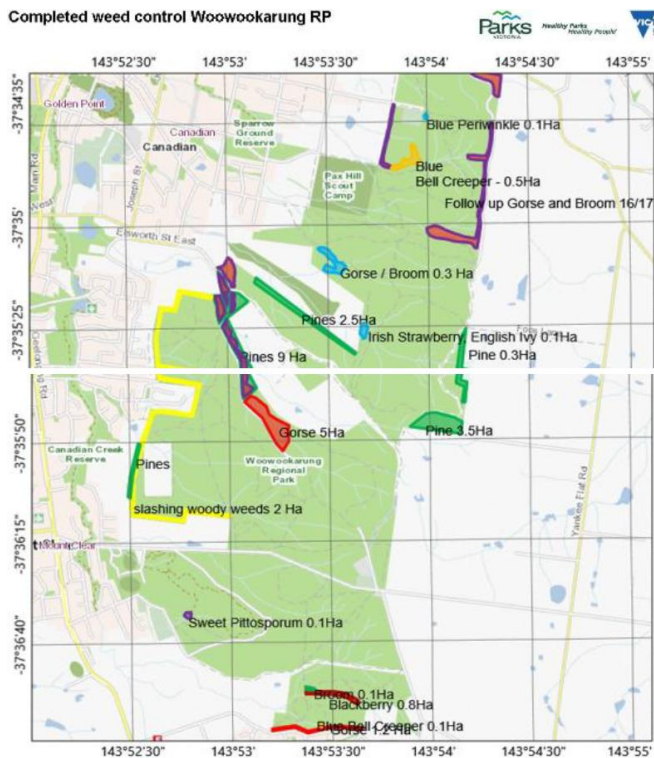


Dean, owner of Ross St Building Supplies, Ross St, Ballarat East and the helpful fork lift.

**8. Park works update**

The August general meeting featured an update on Park weed works with Parks Victoria Ranger Alex Schipperen.

Completed weed control Woowookarung RP



Alex explained that a large amount of weed control has already been undertaken in the Park and more works were planned for next year.

**9. Tree planting – August 12<sup>th</sup> 2018**

Nineteen friends planted 200 trees in the Koala corridor on Sunday morning, August 12<sup>th</sup>. Conditions were just right for tree planting, a mild day for the planters and quite wet soil for the trees. Thanks to Leigh Catchment Group for providing their equipment trailer and to the enthusiasm and efforts of the volunteers.



Bob explaining where the trees are to be planted!

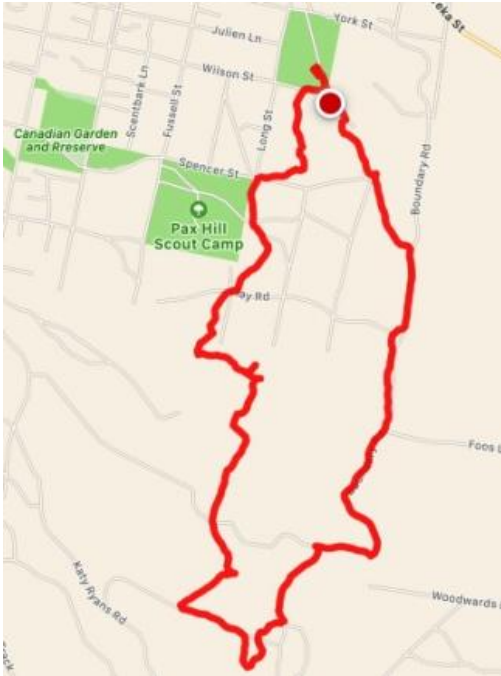


Pierre and Bob surveying the scene above, Rob Bladier at work below



10. **Heritage Mining Brochure launch and Walk August 26<sup>th</sup>**

The Heritage Mining walk in the Park began with the launch of the City of Ballarat funded "Heritage Mining Brochure" at the Water Tanks on Wilson St Canadian. The walk headed south past Pax Hill into the centre of the park and the edge of the Rifle Range, viewing the extensive mine workings, shafts, adits, water races, dams, sluicing sites and exquisite geology of the area along the way. The thirty walkers took roughly three hours to complete the 8.8kms.



The Heritage Mining trail. Many thanks to the City of Ballarat for providing the funding to produce the print the "Heritage Mining Brochure" and to all those who made the walk a great walk.

For a copy of the "Heritage Mining Brochure" see the FoCC website at [www.focc.asn.au](http://www.focc.asn.au)



Bob launching the COB funded "Mining Walk Brochure".



Jeff explaining the capped mine shaft just south of the water tanks.

11. **FoCC Sausage Sizzle at Mt Clear College Science Week**

FoCC friends provided a sausage sizzle for parents and year 7 students at Mt Clear College on a cool Thursday evening of August 17<sup>th</sup>.



Image: Bob and Michaela waiting to serve snags at Earth Ed

12. **Dementia Trail**

Further planning work has been undertaken on the Dementia Trail by Parks Victoria, Bigger Hearts Dementia Alliance, Dementia Australia and local schools. Last week a film unit from Dementia Australia interviewed local people involved in the project to record their views about the hopes and wishes for the project. The film unit will come back next year to record how the project has evolved, particularly the on ground component.

13. **Ballarat East Local Area Plan**

FoCC has been working with the City of Ballarat, Strategic Planning Office for the past two years. In an email of Aug 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 to the FoCC, Kimberly Purvis, Strategic Planner has advised us that:

*"The draft Ballarat East Local Area Plan is set to be released towards the end of September – mid October. Community*

consultation will run for 6 weeks and we are looking forward to hearing the community's feedback".

Many friends will be interested to see how the plan has developed over the past two years and the directions and actions that it may contain!

**14. Vandals strike South Gate again**

4WD vandals came off second best after hitting a steel post clean out of the ground. After the hit the offending vehicle left behind an expensive electric winch motor and drive shaft. Sherlock Holmes thinks the vehicle hit the post with a front mounted electric winch.



Image: The south gate post above and winch drive shaft below.

**15. Treasures found**

Hidden in a gully just off Greenhills Road in the south part of the Park is an unmistakable but very dilapidated FJ Holden. Perhaps a little bit beyond restoration.



**16. BEN Annual Meeting**

The Ballarat Environment Network is holding its annual meeting on Sunday September 9<sup>th</sup> at the Lucas Community Hub 10.30 to 4pm. BEN is a great community group who look after 51 reserves across Western Victoria.

Agenda Morning

- Overview of Diversity - Peter Gell, Fed Uni
- Ballarat Planning connect – Lisa Kendal, COB
- Victorian valuing nature – Michelle Butler DELWP
- Biodiveristy and footprint living – Steve Burns - Ballarat Permaculture Guild

Afternoon BEN's 25<sup>th</sup> AGM

- Re Visioning and planning update

**17. Koala Friendly Pathway**

In Ballarat East along Warrenheip Gully there is a sign identifying that the City of Ballarat, the Australian Koala Foundation and local residents worked together to create a Koala friendly trail.

In response Kurtis Noyce sent the image below:



**Plant koalas here**

AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY-SPONSORED PROJECT

A team of volunteers from around the world joined Australian Koala Foundation workers and the City of Ballarat to plant more than 3000 trees in Ballarat and Framlingham Forest, western Victoria. The 35 tree species included manna gums, one of the koala's main food species in this area. At Warrenheip Gully in East Ballarat, which adjoins the territory of a koala colony, the revegetation team consisted of, from back, Ingrid Wilming, Kristine Zimmermann, Rolf Schlagloth, Bill Fritz, Dave Mitchell, Kurtis Noyce, Kathleen Tolley, Mary Andrews, Bianca Barczaitis and Nicole Hunt.

Kurtis explained

*“It was part of the LINC project where I was trying to get micro-Landcare groups up and running-hence the Adopt a Stream Side sign. There is an Adopt a Roadside that I organised for Sth Ballarat Urban Group as you head up the hill towards Mt Helen.”*

Andrew Grant provided the following explanation of his role in the pathway..

*“My business participated in the Koala Friendly Pathway. The customers/tourists on the Ballarat Discovery Tour planted trees for the koalas, as part of the tour and I gave them interpretation of the koala and its habitat. The Australian Koala Foundation provided them with literature about the koala and No Tree No Me stickers and a Certificate for planting trees, which I filled in with their names. They all thought it was great to plant trees for the koala.”*



Image: Visitor tree planters courtesy Andrew Grant

### 18. Rubbish dumpers still at it



Heritage mining walk participants observing a weekend rubbish dumping at the Ballarat Lookout. Every Wednesday Parks Victoria provides a contractor to remove rubbish from the Park.

If rubbish is found call Parks Victoria on **13 1963**

Information given is passed onto local rangers for action.

### 19. FoCC Annual Meeting

October 17<sup>th</sup> 2018 – FoCC Annual Meeting

### 20. FoCC Membership.

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.

[www.facebook.com/friendsofcanadiancorridor/](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofcanadiancorridor/)

Currently we have just over 220 friends on Facebook and growing. Feel free to add and pass on to other friends and press the like button.

Or email Rob at [webmaster@focc.asn.au](mailto:webmaster@focc.asn.au) with images comments etc.

### 2018 calendar

- October 17<sup>th</sup> 2018 – FoCC Annual Meeting
- October 21<sup>st</sup> 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](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.

**Web -** [www.focc.asn.au](http://www.focc.asn.au) **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofcanadiancorridor/>

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Issue Number 47



## Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated

Registered number A0097535



### Membership Application

Individual membership of the FoCC runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 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 <a href="mailto:focinfo@gmail.com">focinfo@gmail.com</a> or by mail to the Treasurer (address below) |            |

|   |
|---|
| <p>Payment may be made by</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bank transfer to details: <b>BSB</b> 06 3502 <b>Account No</b> 10955630. Please add your name to the bank transfer.</li> <li>2. Payment to the Treasurer at a FoCC meeting</li> <li>3. Cheques to made out to "FoCC Incorporated" and addressed to: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">FoCC Treasurer<br/>PO Box 83,<br/>Mt Clear Vic,<br/>3350.</p> </li> </ol> |
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| <p><b>Date Received:</b></p> <p><b>Amount \$</b></p> <p><b>Receipt No</b></p> |
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