



# FoCC Incorporated May 2019 News Update

## Issue Number 55

### News Update Features

1. June 19<sup>th</sup> Forum featuring Dave Mitchell, Landscape Ecologist with the Australian Koala Foundation
2. Heritage Mining walk May 26<sup>th</sup> 2019
3. First visitor infrastructure for Park Visitors built
4. Pick My Project preparation moves forward
5. Dementia friendly Forest Sensory Trail planning consultation.
6. There are Koalas in the Park and Corridor
7. Ants in the revegetation areas of the park.
8. Murnong plants available at Saltbush Kitchen
9. Wind and Sky Productions
10. Vale Neil McCracken
11. Looking after the Barwon and its longest tributary the Canadian Creek.
12. Monster Tree Planting 10 am July 21<sup>st</sup> at the corner of Katy Ryans Rd and Dozed Rd
13. 2019 Membership

### 1. June 19<sup>th</sup> Forum featuring Dave Mitchell Landscape ecologist of the Australian Koala Foundation

The 2019 FoCC Forum to be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Earth Ed Olympic Avenue Mt Clear.

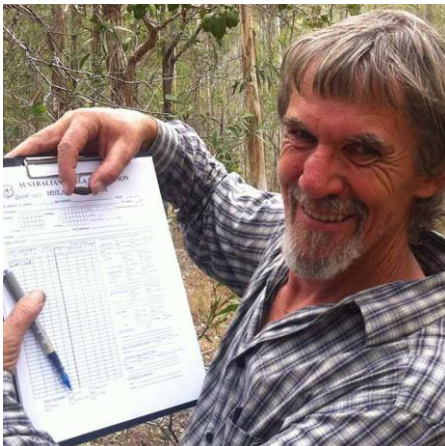
The Forum will feature **Mr Dave Mitchell**, Landscape Ecologist with the Australian Koala Foundation.

Dave was involved with the City of Ballarat a decade ago in the establishment of the award winning City of Ballarat's Koala Plan. Dave will be talking about the AKF's work and opportunities to re excite Ballarat's Koala Plan.

The FoCC recent Koala mapping will form part of the forum.

The last part of the Forum will focus on identifying Koala issues that would assist in keeping Koalas in the Corridor.

Also what future actions should the Friends advocate for in the protection of Koala Habitat?



Dave Mitchell.

### 2. Heritage Mining walk

The Heritage Mining Walk in Woowookarung Regional Park began at the Water Tanks on Wilson St Canadian on an overcast but rain free Sunday afternoon May 26th. The walk headed south past Pax Hill to the edge of the Rifle Range, into the centre of the park, viewing the extensive

mine workings, shafts, adits, water races, dams, sluicing sites and exquisite geology of the area along the way.

The return journey was via the newest and first purpose built park infrastructure, the "Lookout" car park. The walk length was 8km, taking about 3 hours



The walkers at the start just before dipping their boots onto the anti Phytophthora solution in the centre tin tray.



Keeping Phytophthora at bay



The walkers at the newly constructed "Lookout" car park

**3. First visitor infrastructure for Park Visitors built**

Parks Victoria staff and contractors have constructed the first specific visitor infrastructure in the Park. Contractors over the last couple of weeks have been busy creating the parking area at the lookout and installing bollards around the area. The section of Bakers Rd from the South gate to the lookout has been upgraded with culverts and drainage works and topped with basalt surfacing. During the works a large amount of illegally dumped building dirt was removed. The lookout car park is also the planned start point for the PMP trail.



The Lookout parking area 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019

**4. Pick My Project preparation moves forward**

The PMP nature trail is now having the trail Cultural Heritage assessment undertaken by accredited experts. Landscape Architects Thomson Hay is assisting with the design of the trail path.

**5. Dementia Friendly Forest Sensory Trail planning moves forward.**

The dementia friendly trail planning has now progressed with the Landscape Architects conducting walking consultation visits to the trail site.



Rob Loveband (left) and trail participants view the plans on site. 23 May 2019.

On Thursday May 23<sup>rd</sup> carers, people living with Dementia and community members participated in a review of the trail plans, on site with the planning team.

**6. There are Koalas in the Park and the Corridor**

If you see koalas please record time, place and hopefully an image. Send to [focinfo@gmail.com](mailto:focinfo@gmail.com)



A Koala next to Geelong Rd. April 30<sup>th</sup> 2019. Image: L Zibell

**7. Ants in the revegetation areas of the park.**

Last year the notion that ants were absent from the revegetation areas was raised and at first, evidence pointed to their absence.



Small ant nest east of Dozed Road. May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019.

Recently on a visit to an area east of Dozed Rd many small new ant nests were observed. It would appear ant colonisation of the revegetation areas is occurring. Another ant nest was observed below the "Lookout" in a regrowth area.

#### **8. Murnong plants available at Saltbush Kitchen**

For those who experienced Bruce Pascoe's story of indigenous food, in particular Murnong. Well for the first time Saltbush Kitchen is selling Murnong plants. It is great we have local food represented at Saltbush Kitchen and you can't get any more local than Murnong - The staple food for the Wadawurrung people for centuries and the food of our future. Murnong plants can be purchased in the store at Buninyong.

You won't see a shop front just a little bark path that leads you into a door, in Commercial Street, Buninyong, VIC 3357. (it's more like a lane way than a street). The laneway is off Warrenheip Street opposite the pub. Look for the Saltbush Kitchen lady.



Murnong flower

#### **9. Wind and Sky Productions**

A message from Wind and Sky productions a local film maker as follows:

Dear FoCC,

Jary and I have just launched a new project I hope you might be able to share with your networks.

It's called 'Collections and Climate Change' and is an online documentary and digital gallery on the Culture Victoria portal which you can access via the link: <https://cv.vic.gov.au/stories/land-and-ecology/collections-and-climate-change/>

With our partners Museums Victoria, Parks Victoria and Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria we are doing a bit of a social media push.

As you will see if you scroll through it, the project showcases many examples of ways Victoria's collections illuminate our understanding of climate change across the different domains of human life and culture, biology, zoology and rocks, fossils and minerals.

The stories demonstrate very practically how climate change is here, now, but they are also positive because they show how scientists, researchers and volunteers are working to understand and prepare for climate change in our state.

We are using the hashtag #CollectionsAndClimateChange

I'd welcome your ideas of who else I could share the story with to get awareness out there. We have a media release online at <http://windsky.com.au/watching-the-world-change-through-victorias-museums-parks-and-gardens/> which you are welcome to share with media contacts.

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Wind & Sky Productions Pty Ltd

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post: PO Box 679W Ballarat West VIC 3350 Australia

#### **10. Vale Neil McCracken**

Long time Buninyong resident, trail enthusiast, local historian and one of the original ten attendees at the first FoCC meeting back in November 2012, has recently passed away. Neil was a very strong supporter of the Friends and the provision of trails in the forest. His knowledge, enthusiasm and assistance will be sorely missed.

#### **11. Looking after the Barwon and its longest tributary the Canadian Creek.**

Last summer sent a hard message: there's less water around. The trend might change, but it would be foolhardy not to prepare for a drier landscape.

It's going to be tougher for our creeks and rivers. Less rainfall and higher evaporation mean reduced flow. It's going to be tougher deciding how to share around the water. Farmers, rural town residents, lifestylers, the growing populations of Geelong and Ballarat, visitors too – they all want water and a healthy river. How do we make wise decisions about how we use the river's water. How do we balance human needs and the needs of the environment?

The Victorian Minister for Water and the Minister for Planning have set up a Ministerial Advisory Committee (the MAC) to recommend how government planning and decision making can be improved so the health of the

Barwon River and its tributaries is secure for generations to come.

The MAC has been out visiting sites along the Barwon, the Moorabool and the Leigh (Including Canadian Creek). Now the Committee wants to know what you think. Through June, you're invited to sit down with other residents and answer some tough questions. What situations need to be handled better? What's important about the Barwon and its tributaries that you want to hold onto? What needs to be put in place to look after the Barwon better?

Christine Forster, Chair of the MAC, says the MAC wants hard-nosed and constructive thinking to match the pressures the Barwon is facing:

'People who live alongside the Barwon, and along all the creeks that feed it – they are on the frontline of how we keep the Barwon healthy. The community has already taken action about water quality in the river. Some people know a lot about management of this waterway system. Now we want to know about problems right along the Barwon. And we don't just want the problems! We want people to think about what better management would look like. That will make our recommendations to the Ministers stronger.'

Meetings will be held at the following locations:

**Mount Clear**  
**June 11, 7-9pm**  
**Earth Ed Centre**  
**Olympic Avenue**

And at Meredith and Bannockburn

Light refreshments provided. Contact the local organiser Colin Cook m: 0417 770 765 e: at.large.scientist@gmail.com

### **12. Monster Tree Planting 10 am July 21<sup>st</sup> at the corner of Katy Ryans Rd and Dozed Rd**

A monster Koala tree planting will be held on Sunday July 21<sup>st</sup>. Last year FoCC received a grant of approximately \$12000 to remove 5 hectares of gorse and weeds and to plant 1000 Koala habitat trees.

On Sunday July 21 a monster tree planting will occur where FoCC will plant most of the 1000 trees in one day.

Many hands make light work, so FoCC is asking all the friends the mark this day on the Calendar and meet at Dozed Track and help put in around 20 trees each in a 2 hour work period. Last year 20 volunteers planted around 250 trees and this year a big effort will be required. Note Mt Clear College students will be planting some trees on another day and FoCC welcomes any other group who may wish to be involved in planting a portion of the trees. The FoCC wishes to acknowledge the grant, courtesy of DELWP, which has paid for the tree guards, weed control and other materials. Many thanks to the COB tree nursery. More information in due course.

### **13. FoCC Membership 2019**

Many thanks to the large number of friends who have renewed their 2019 membership. Receipts have been hand delivered or sent out by email.

**Note** Two wonderful friends have paid their membership but forgot to put their name on the bank slip. If you paid earlier this year and did not get receipt please contact Jeff 0408 509591 or Treasurer Peter – 0475 204161

Membership is good way to ensure the Friends are viable and strong to keep the Park and corridor in good order. Membership is offered to individuals to become a formal Friend of the Canadian Corridor for \$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 at webmaster@focc.asn.au is now overseeing the FoCC Facebook page.

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

Currently we have just over 266 friends on facebook and growing. Feel free to add and pass on to other friends and press the like button.

### **2019 draft calendar**

- June 19<sup>th</sup> 2019 - FoCC Koala Forum Featuring Dave Mitchell of the AKF
- July 21<sup>st</sup> 2019 – Monster tree planting
- August 21<sup>st</sup> 2019 – General meeting
- August 25<sup>th</sup> North to South walk
- October 16<sup>th</sup> 2019 – Annual Meeting
- October 22<sup>nd</sup> Wildflower walk and pop up trail
- December early Christmas at the lookout

The FoCC update is published on behalf of the Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated, Registered No A0097535B. Circulation this issue is 426.

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 55



## Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated

Registered number A0097535



### Membership Application 2019

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)	

Payment may be made by

1. Bank transfer to details: **BSB** 06 3502 **Account No** 10955630. Note: Note: Please add your name to the bank transfer and email [focinfo@gmail.com](mailto:focinfo@gmail.com) a copy of this application form or your name and the date of the transaction.
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**