



# FoCC Incorporated June 2019 News Update

## Issue Number 56

### News Update Features

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### **1) Monster Tree Planting Sunday July 21st 2019**

The FoCC received a grant from DELWP in 2018 to plant 1000 trees on the south side of Katy Ryans Road. Weed removal was undertaken in February 2019. The trees have been propagated and raised by the City of Ballarat Tree Nursery at the North Ballarat Gardens site by wonderful volunteers and are now ready for planting

Two planting sessions will be held:

- 10am to 12 noon followed by a sausage sizzle and
- 1pm to 3pm followed by a sausage sizzle

### **Teams very welcome**

Teams of planters are encouraged to plant a sector of trees. Each sector will have about 100 trees in it. A merry group of 6 to 10 planters should be able to complete a sector in about 2 hours. If you are organising a team even better, just let us know and there will be a special sector set aside. Individuals can turn up and join a FoCC team or join another sector team of planters.

All equipment, training in accordance with Parks Victoria requirements, guidance, gloves, vests and refreshments are provided by the Friends. Feel free to bring your own gloves, tree planter, hammer or shovel. (Put your name on it, they all look alike).

Planters are asked to wear strong durable footwear, boots or similar and wear "July" appropriate gardening clothes.

The FoCC would love to know if you are coming so we are able to cater for you!

**How to join the FoCC Monster tree planting** as an individual or as a team?

Please email [focinfo@gmail.com](mailto:focinfo@gmail.com), phone or text Jeff 0408 509591 or Facebook:

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

Further details and parking instructions will be provided to participants upon registration.



### **2) Koala Forum**

The Koala Forum was held on June 19th at Earth Ed featuring Karen Pohlner from WALA wildlife sanctuary and Dave Mitchell, Landscape ecologist for the Australian Koala Foundation.



Karen Pohlner



Dave Mitchell



The koala forum audience

- Work with Parks Vic to support revegetation of Canadian Forest
- Work with Parks Vic to support wider revegetation projects to reduce fragmentation and provide habitat connectivity
- Work with Vic Roads to provide underpasses to allow free movement of Koalas

“To keep Koalas in Ballarat the Koala Plan needs to be re energized” was the message FoCC President Mr Bob Hartmann emphasized.

Eight Koalas was the tally of the Friends of Canadian Corridor’s Citizen Science count taken between August 2018 and now.

Mr Hartmann said “these very low numbers are indicative of the trouble Ballarats Koalas are in”

The City of Ballarat did the hard work in creating the Koala Plan in the 2000’s. At that time there was strong community support from the then Mayor down. Even tourists were brought into the act of planting Koala trees in Ballarat East’s gullies.

Mr Hartmann said the key components of the Koala Plan, Revegetation, Protection, Monitoring and Education need to be understood, then refocused and supported by the City of Ballarat and the community. For instance the Cities “Your guide to living with koalas” advice to home owners was recently withdrawn and not replaced. It should be updated.

The forum ended with the clear message that to Keep Koalas in Ballarats future, the community and the City of Ballarat must re energize the protection of Ballarats dwindling number of Koalas now.

“Do Ballarat’s Koalas have a future” was the focus of the Koala Forum held at Earth Ed Centre Olympic Avenue Mt Clear Wednesday June 19th by the Friends of Canadian Corridor.

Karen Pohlner from the WALA animal sanctuary with over 30 years of Koala experience in the Ballarat and district said “Over my time I have observed the large drop in Koala numbers”

She said “If we do not act now, Ballarat will become an area without Koalas”

Ms Pohlner identified three key factors causing Koala deaths being “being hit by vehicles, dog attacks and habitat loss”.

Dave Mitchell Landscape Ecologist with the Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) told the large audience that the only way to keep Koalas in Ballarat was to “Protect their habitat”.

Mr Mitchell said the AKF had worked with the City Of Ballarat in the 2000’s to create the award winning Koala Plan of Management and that the City should actively:

- Enforce the aims of Koala Plan of Management and resolve conflicts with other Overlays
- Enforce the Dog Regulations
- Educate the community
- Support an ongoing Koala monitoring program

#### Courier- Front Page



The Couriers Front page Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup> 2019

#### City of Ballarat Council meeting told there is only eight Koalas in the corridor

“Of Canadian Corridor koala sightings around Woowookarung since last August, in total, they believe they have seen eight individual koalas, a figure greeted by shock when mentioned at last week’s full council meeting.”You

mean 80?" asked one councillor "No, eight," replied Bob Hartmann of FoCC. He freely admits there are limitations to their "citizen science". But as an engaged and serious local community group, they may well have the best picture of the existential threat facing koalas in the area.

The Courier Sat June 15<sup>th</sup>

### ABC local radio features Koalas

FoCC's Koala advocacy was the focus of the local ABC morning program on Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup> with presenter Gavan McGrath. The interview can be heard at: <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/ballarat/programs/mornings/koalas-in-canadian/11221588>

### 3) Koala working party

To keep the momentum going, a Koala working party meeting will be held next Wednesday July 3 at 7pm at Earth Ed Mt Clear for interested friends.

The purpose of the meeting is to create a plan of action to bring forward all the issues that impact on the future of Koalas in our corridor.

There are three topics that came from the forum.

- Monitoring Koalas using AKFs transects mapping program coupled with the 2008 data and identifying funding to undertake this work.
- Developing a FoCC response to koala road deaths. Eg signage speed limits.
- Developing a dog management response.
- Other

All of these items have recommendations written into the City of Ballarat Koala Plan of Management. The Koala Plan of Management 5 guides are hidden on the City of Ballarat website under the property/planning/planning-guide tag.

<http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/property/planning/planning-guides>

Everyone welcome!

### 4) Dementia Friendly Forest Sensory Trail planning moves further forward.

The sensory trail work has entered a new phase. On June 6 and 7<sup>th</sup> workshops were held at Earth Ed centre at Mt Clear College with agencies, carers and people living with Dementia to complete the trails final planning. Dementia Australia film crew was present to capture some of the wishes, hopes and views about the trail.

And on Thursday June 27<sup>th</sup> Parks Victoria hosted a planning evening for agencies and groups involved in the trail. Attendees included schools, City of Ballarat, Department of Human Services, people living with dementia, carers and community groups. Outcomes included timelines for planting and installing features within the trail plan.

FoCC members may wish to become involved in Dementia Friendly training. Already schools and many local

businesses have gained Dementia Friendly recognition and in the near future FoCC will make the opportunity available



Ballarat Courier June 14<sup>th</sup>

And the Sunday Age joined the story a couple of days later.



Sunday Age June 16<sup>th</sup>

### 5) There are Koalas in the Park and the Corridor

Koalas are being spotted in very interesting places. One Koala was visiting the Ramada Inn in Sebastopol; another Koala was spotted in Gong Gong Rd in a pandana tree, whilst another report has a Koala at Durham Lead. The numbers are nothing like they were ten and twenty years ago however it is heartening to see new sightings spread across our region. If you see a koala, please record time, tree type, place and hopefully an image. Send to [focinfo@gmail.com](mailto:focinfo@gmail.com) or FoCC facebook.



Works at the lookout involved the construction of the picnic tables. This is the first visitor friendly infrastructure in the Park.



Table installation 5 June 2019



The completed task 7 June 2019

Ramada gardens 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019 image courtesy of Karen

**Sailors Gully** Earlier in the year Parks Victoria ranger's consulted with local residents on the North side of Sailors Gully. The focus was about restoring degraded land along the northern boundary whilst maintaining access to properties plus keeping a firebreak along the boundary.



Gong Gong Rd Koala Jan 10<sup>th</sup> image courtesy of Stephanie

**6) Park Works - The Lookout**

a protective fence was erected recently together with information signage. The changes will not impact residents, park visitors or emergency services.



The fencing under construction with muddy seed bed



Spotted nearby was a neighbour's very clever approach to protecting a tree. 19 June 2019. Well done!

### **7) Rubbish dumping on Council controlled land.**

The City of Ballarat controls Boundary Rd, Wilson St, Bakers Rd thru to Davison Rd, Recreation Rd and Olympic Av. FoCC web site and survey map for more info on these roads.

<http://www.focc.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/surveyors-map-sm.png>



Mattress Boundary Rd 11 June 2019



Boundary Rd 11 June 2019

The rubbish shown above has been in place since the start of June and was still there today Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup>. Parks Victoria has a great working arrangement whereby rubbish is removed quickly and effectively by Glen of Skips on Wheels.

Unfortunately the City does not have the same efficient approach. The images below are along Boundary Road and despite earlier notification to the City, the rubbish is still there. The FoCC will be writing to the Council again reminding them of the rubbish dumping.

### **8) Animal Tracks**

In a visit to the creek on the north side of Katy Ryans Rd a well used wallaby or kangaroo track across the creek was spotted.

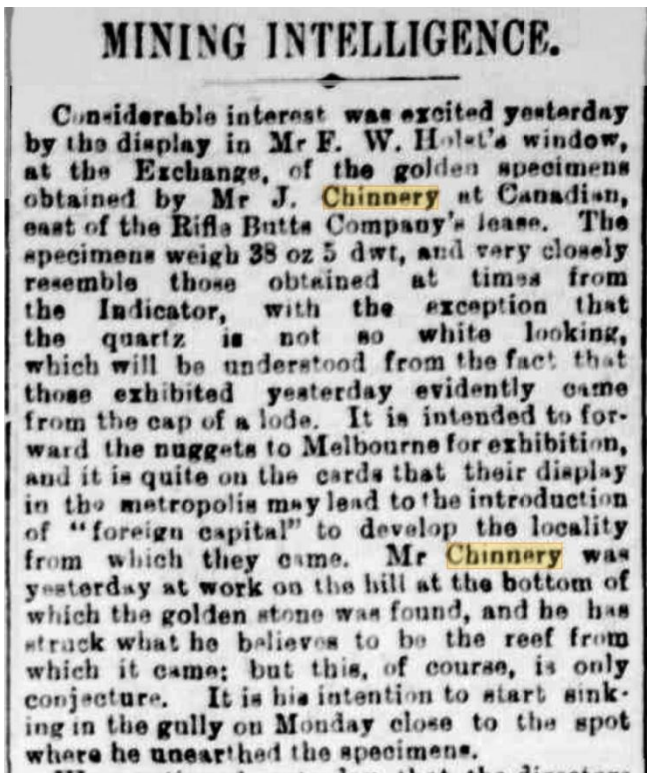


Animal tracks

### **9) Chinnery Mine**

Chinnery Mine is the only named mine in the Park. It is located between Clayton St and Clay Rd.

Recent sleuthing by Colin Hancock has discovered new details about the mine and its founder. According to the Ballarat Star newspaper a nugget weighing 38oz and 5 dwts (1077grams approximately) was found in Chinnery Mine.



Ballarat Star, Saturday 8 October 1898

- The Chair and Secretary have been to meet the NRCL Board and established a mutual desire to make our mark in this region for landscape scale change.
- Our call for applications for the Corangamite CMA Connected Landscapes Project resulted in many project applications. These are still being assessed by CCMA.
- We have been working with CeRDI to establish our mapping portal and our initial mapping for the Alliance region
- We presented a poster at Biodiversity across Borders and have participated in several regional forums
- We have been in discussion with several potential partners including Fed Uni, Ballarat Foundation, Buninyong Community Bank, and
- We have been planning our very first Community Forum in our official capacity!

More info: Email: [bunanyunglandscapealliance@gmail.com](mailto:bunanyunglandscapealliance@gmail.com) or the BLA secretary Jeff 0408509591

### FoCC Facebook

Rob at [webmaster@focc.asn.au](mailto:webmaster@focc.asn.au) oversees the FoCC Facebook page.

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

Currently we have just over 311 friends on facebook and growing. Feel free to add and pass on to other friends and press the like button.

### 2019 draft calendar

- July Koala Working Party Earth Ed Mt Clear
- July 17<sup>th</sup> Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Forum
- July 21st 2019 – Monster tree planting
- August 21<sup>st</sup> 2019 – General meeting Guest speaker Colleen Fillipa, from 15 trees and an AI Gore Ambassador of the Climate Reality Project, talking about climate change, our park and the corridor
- August 25<sup>th</sup> North to South walk
- October 16<sup>th</sup> 2019 – Annual Meeting – Guest topic Dementia Sensory Trail.
- 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 457.

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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## 10) Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Forum

is holding a forum on July 17<sup>th</sup> as per the RSVP invite below



What has the Alliance been up to?

- The new Board has met several times and the incorporation, establishment of bank accounts and other governance matters have been addressed so we are ready to begin!

# 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: <b>BSB</b> 06 3502 <b>Account No</b> 10955630. Note: Note: Please add your name to the bank transfer and email <a href="mailto:focinfo@gmail.com">focinfo@gmail.com</a> 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.

<b>Date Received:</b>
<b>Amount \$</b>
<b>Receipt No</b>