



FoCC Incorporated October 2019 News Update

Issue Number 60



News Update Features

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1. 2019 Annual meeting

The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Canadian Corridor Incorporated was held at 7pm Wednesday October 16th at Earth Ed, Olympic Avenue, Mt Clear.

President Bob Hartmann gave an overview of FoCC’s year of activity. Bobs report is attached at the end of this news update.

Office Bearers for 2020 are:

President	Bob Hartmann
Vice President	Tarn Kruger
Secretary	Jeff Rootes
Treasurer	Pater Darveniza
Committee members (5)	Carolyn Barrie
	Joel Ellis
	Jo Kelly
	Linda Zibell
	Rob Loveband

2. Dementia Sensory Trail

The Parks Victoria “Dementia-friendly Forest and Sensory Trail” community update is attached with this news update.

3. Wildflower Walk

The Field Naturalists Club of Ballarat (FNCB) and FoCC conducted a wild flower trail walk in the north part of the Park on Sunday Oct 20th

Over forty friends were guided to a fabulous range of wildflowers by local wildflower enthusiasts John Gregurke and Roger Thomas. During the following week over 100 visitors walked the trail.

The FNCB produced labels for the wildflowers and left the trail in place for the week after the initial walk. The FoCC thanks the City of Ballarat community funding of 2017 for providing support for the labels and safety equipment.



Bob briefing the walkers Oct 20th

4. Grasstrees flowering

Grasstrees are flowering prolifically in the fuel reduction burn area between Clayton St, Clay Rd and Boundary Road



5. Koala news

If you see koalas please record time, place and hopefully an image. Send to focinfo@gmail.com

This is the season to hear Koalas as they seek mates.



Spotted at Durham Lead Oct 18th Image by Jeanette

And a roving male Koala at Poverty Point



Image courtesy of Stephen 24th October

The next day the Koala was reported in Sovereign St by Chris.

A very noisy mating couple were heard in the gorge on Monday 21st. Best wishes to them, thanks Peter. Another noisy male was observed near the summit of Mt Buninyong on Monday 28th October. Thanks Penny

6. Indigenous Plants

Recently FoCC was speaking to a new property owner in the Canadian area and the question of what to plant in a bush garden was discussed. In next month's news update FoCC will try and identify good places to source indigenous stock from.

The City of Ballarat has a list of indigenous plants on its web site:

<https://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/city/parks-and-outdoors/indigenous-plants>

7. Bushfire Conference

**Adapting
to the NEW
CLIMATE
REALITY**
BALLARAT 2020-2030

FORUM #1: THE NEW BUSHFIRE REALITY

Sunday 10th November, 1.00pm–4.30pm
BALLAARAT MECHANICS INSTITUTE | 117 STURT STREET

What is the new bushfire reality in and around Ballarat?
How will you prepare for this bushfire season?

Key speakers from the CFA and Emergency Management organisations will explore the challenges we face to protect life and property from fiercer and more frequent bushfires.

In town, on the outskirts of Ballarat or in the bush, this forum is for you:

- Extended small group discussions to hear your concerns
- Q&A panel session to answer your questions
- Exploration of bushfire plans and practical solutions that families and our community can use to adapt to the new climate reality
- Community information stands.

Pre-registration for this free event is essential.
To register: [thenewbushfirereality.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-new-bushfire-reality-2020-2030)
<https://breeze.org.au/bush-fire/bush-fire-forum>

Graphic Design | © August 2020

8. Warrenheip declared “not a growth zone” Ballarat Courier Oct 23 2019

Christmas has come early for the Canadian Corridor’s biolink or wildlife corridor.

The biggest threat to the integrity and existence of the corridor has been averted by the City Of Ballarat.

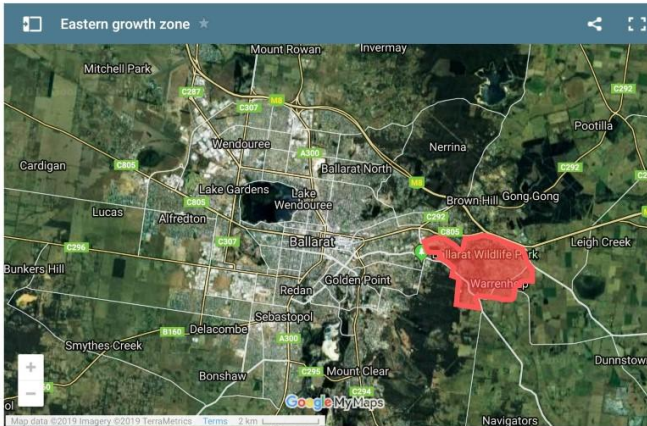
Quoting: Fragmented small parcels of land and being “difficult to aggregate and coordinate development’ and the areas environmental sensitivity”

FoCC has been reporting to Council over many years highlighting the Warrenheip issues and pointing out the need to identify clearly where the Biolink actually goes.

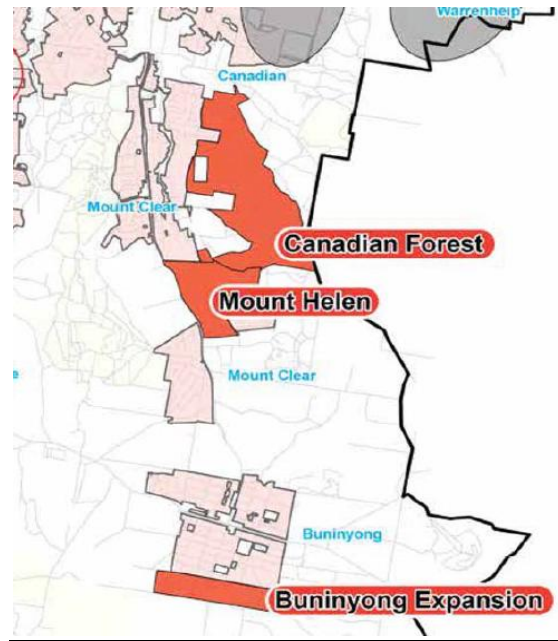
That task is still before Council but the Council should be applauded in taking the first step away from letting the developers loose on the Koala Habitat in the Warrenheip part of the Biolink.

The eastern option – beyond Eureka and including Warrenheip – was described as having fragmented small parcels of land and being "difficult to aggregate and coordinate development". The report also cited as having a "high cost to service" and the area's environmental sensitivity.

PROPOSED EASTERN GROWTH AREA (NOT RECOMMENDED BY COUNCIL OFFICERS)



The potential for the north-west growth area – which straddles Remembrance Drive on the way to Cardigan – suffered from remoteness and need for early funding infrastructure and education funding, the report says.



10. Membership

All 2019 members will be sent a reminder notice that their 2019 membership expires on December 31st. Thankyou to the couple of who have paid early!.

FoCC facebook

Rob at webmaster@focc.asn.au is now overseeing the FoCC Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/friendsofcanadiancorridor/

Currently we have just over 382 403 friends on facebook and growing. Feel free to add and pass on to other friends and press the like button.

2019 draft calendar

- New Bushfire Reality, Sunday Nov 10th 1.30 to 4.,
- Eucalypts of Slaty Creek, Wattle Pootilla Landcare Group. Sunday Nov 17th See flyer below.
- December 6th 6.30pm on Christmas drinks and nibbles at the lookout. BYO everything.

The FoCC update is published on behalf of the Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated, Registered No A0097535B. Circulation this issue is 526 540.

The update is generally published monthly. Friends wishing to add articles to the FoCC update may do so by emailing focinfo@gmail.com

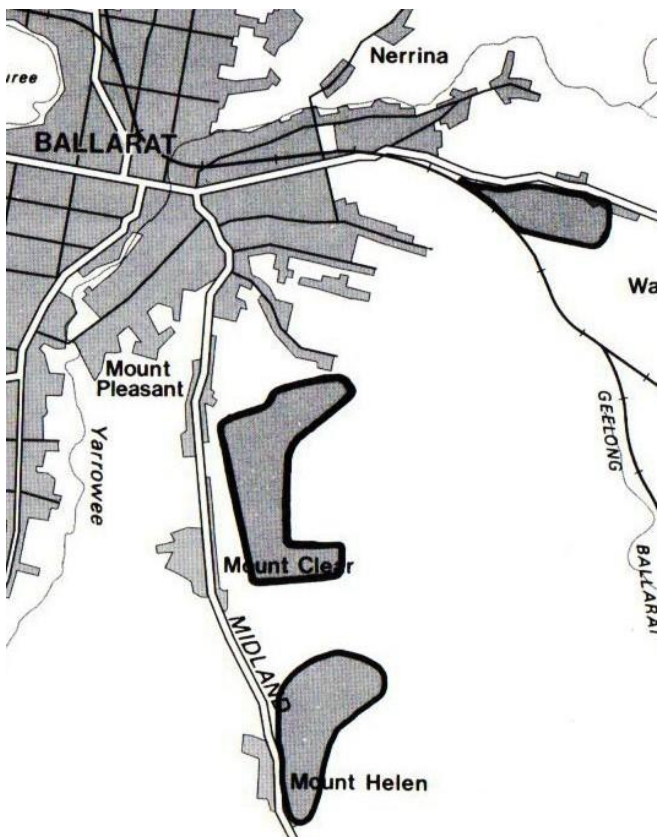
Feel free to circulate widely including doctor's waiting rooms, work offices, friends and neighbours.

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

9. Previous attempts for suburbs in the Corridor were:



Weston Bates "Life after Gold" book contained this 1980's future growth plan with new suburbs in outline black

The Ballarat 2040 initial documents in 2014 had new suburbs at Mt Clear, Mt Helen and Buninyong



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The Eucalypts of Slaty Creek
Guided walk and BBQ
Creswick Regional Park



Sunday 17 November 2019
from 9.45am



Euc ID Walk with Roger Thomas: Join eminent Ballarat naturalist Roger Thomas on a gentle walk in Creswick Forest as he introduces you to some of the local Eucalypts growing in the valleys, slopes and ridgetops around Slaty Creek. There is surprising diversity over this short walk and by the end you'll know what makes a tree a Eucalypt, how to tell the different species apart and their names. **Limited numbers - Bookings essential** - choose either 10.00am or 11.30am <https://www.trybooking.com/BDCUF> or call Stephanie 0437 071 317

Nature Play for children: While adults and teens are on the Euc ID walk, WFPLG committee member Stephanie R, a fully qualified teacher, will run nature play activities for younger bushlovers. Wear old clothes, hat or beanie and sturdy, fully enclosed shoes or gumboots

Wildflower Bingo Walk: choose either 10.00am or 11.30am. No booking required. Play our annual Wildflower Bingo game as you explore the spring wildflowers around the picnic ground under the guidance of WFPLG President and wildflower-lover Kate.

BBQ: Stay for a chat and a scrumptious BBQ served from 12.30pm. Delicious sausages, burgers and vegetarian options and simple salads will be provided but please bring your own chair and drinks.

Venue: Slaty Creek Picnic Ground 1

From Creswick-Melbourne Road turn onto Slaty Creek Road and follow the ParksVic signs to Slaty Creek. Picnic Ground 1 is near the corner with Petticoat Road.

Places on the Euc ID walk are limited so bookings are essential

Book at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BDCUF> or phone Stephanie 0437 071 317

Dementia-friendly Forest and Sensory Trail

Community update

October 2019

Australia's first dementia-friendly forest and sensory trail is being developed at Woovookarung Regional Park, in partnership with Bigger Hearts Dementia Alliance and supported by the Department of Health and Human Services, and Dementia Australia.

Planting day at Woovookarung Regional Park

On 19 September, the first planting for the Dementia-friendly Forest and Sensory Trail project were completed, embodying the collaborative, positive, dedicated and inspiring people involved. Whether the job was digging the hole, planting the plant, hammering the stakes, slipping the weed mat over, watering or supervising to make sure everyone was doing a good job – there was a role for everyone in the planting process!



We planted five species of local native plants – each with sensory features. The *Cassinia* has leaves that are sticky and covered by a hair-like substance; the *Lomandra* has bright yellow flowers; the Scent-bark Eucalyptus has rough, fibrous bark; the Grey Everlasting has large dense clusters of small yellow flowers; and the Hop Wattle has smooth bark and flowers on sticky stalks.

“People need to stop sitting around home and get outside and do this.”

We watched young kids and older adults safely use a minipick and a mallet, we heard easy conversations and enthusiasm, we saw people with walkers carrying watering cans, and people of all ages helping each other out. It was a true team effort.



Who was there?

We had 40 people from different parts of the community:

- People living with and alongside dementia
- Carers or past carers of people living with dementia
- Bigger Hearts Dementia Alliance members
- People from Ballarat Health Services Planned Activity Groups (Eyes House and Elizabeth Brown Day Centre), residential and retirement facilities
- Planned Activity Group staff from Ballarat Health Services
- Mount Pleasant Primary School students, their principal and a parent helper
- Park neighbours and community members
- Friends of Canadian Corridor
- Parks Victoria staff

Media coverage

The media was at the day in full force – [ABC Radio](#), WINTV Western Victoria, WINTV Bendigo and [the Courier](#) all captured wonderful stories from the day, as did Parks Victoria on their [website](#) and through a [Facebook post](#). You can find the news items by clicking on the links above.



Several journalists commented on how affected they were by the stories they heard and what they saw.

How did this day affect people's health and wellbeing?

When people were asked to describe their experience, it was overwhelmingly positive. When asked to show how they felt getting out of bed and then how they felt after planting, there was a dramatic shift in positive mood:



Getting out of bed

After planting



“It will be good down the track when it’s all completed, to get more people with dementia, like myself, out here.”

People describing the day



Memorable moments

When asked what their memorable moments on the day were, people recalled:

- speaking to new people, mixing the generations
- creating new partnerships, group work
- seeing the children help and ask appropriate questions, working with Mt Pleasant children, joy on their little faces
- missing my fingers whilst hammering!
- relaxing and enjoying the fresh air
- astonishment by the number of people here, brilliant
- Jon on the hammer, Vin on the pick, planting a tree with Kerry!

Overall sentiments

Multiple people emphasised they would like to have more days like this, highlighting the amazing community involvement of a diverse range of groups and ages.

“Having people like PV staff here [to organise and facilitate a day like this] is fantastic.”

Overall it was reported to be a positive experience, beneficial for everyone and people would like to do more in the future!

Thank you and what’s next

Thanks to each of the people involved on the day – your contribution is valued and you have made a difference in the lives of others and the park.

The materials, plants and tools were purchased by Bigger Hearts Dementia Alliance through a grant from Dementia Australia. It would not have been as successful without these organisations.

There will be opportunity to contribute in the future. If you missed out this time, or would like to be included in the future, please email wuwookarung@parks.vic.gov.au to express your interest.



Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated

Registered number A0097535



Membership Application 2020

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. Note: Please add your name to the bank transfer and email 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:
\$
Receipt No