



FoCC Incorporated Spikey News



Linking the community with Woookarung and the Canadian Corridor
June 2022 Issue Number 89

Spikey News features

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1. Thomson Hay Landscape Architects win 2022 Victorian Landscape Architecture Award for the Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail



This sensory trail in Canadian's Woookarung Regional Park is a world first, created with input from our dementia community. Now it's won a major award.



Parks Victoria's Siobhan Rogan, David Hay and Heidi Mikulic of Thomson Hay Landscape Architects. Image courtesy of Courier Saturday June 25th 2022.

Ballarat's Thomson Hay Landscape Architects have won the Victorian Landscape Architecture Award "Health and FoCC June 2022 Spikey News

Education Landscape" accolade for the engagement and design work undertaken with the Ballarat community to realise the wonderful Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail within Woookarung Regional Park.



Page 13 Ballarat Courier Saturday June 25th 2022

This is an extraordinary accomplishment for the way architects Thomson Hay Landscape Architects brought all the wishes and aspirations together from the community groups involved and teased their ideas into the unique architecture and infrastructure that is now the Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail.

It is also a triumph for Anne Tudor for her wonderful insightful idea and patience to bring it forward. It is also an acknowledgment of Parks Victoria's Area Ranger Ms Siobhan Rogan for seeing the possibilities of the trail idea and fitting it into the Woookarung Regional Park. Ms Rogan championed the trail's construction through Parks Victoria's planning and funding processes. In addition, Ms Rogan successfully managed the complex relationships, negotiations and learning required between the health, community and corporate groups and the trails architects Thomson Hay Landscape Architects with the final outcome being recognised with a Victorian Landscape Award.



To view all nominations:

https://aila.org.au/common/Uploaded%20files/VIC/2022_AILA_Victoria_Awards_eBook_LR.pdf

Woookarung Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail

Thomson Hay Landscape Architects

The Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail is a 1.2km walk in the Woookarung Regional Park in Ballarat. The Trail is a world-first, developed by Parks Victoria in partnership with the Bigger Hearts Dementia Alliance.

The Trail is designed to be an accessible, inclusive and immersive experience; giving people with dementia an opportunity to connect with nature. Since opening in July 2021, the trail has attracted 12,500 visitors, including a choir performance and monthly tai chi group for people with dementia.

The Trail is part of the Green Scripts project, helping people to reap the benefits of being in nature.



Images from the award nomination.

2. Invitation to the 13 moons collective Art Expo

The Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail has inspired many different approaches and the following invitation shows how the trail has inspired a local artist.

Dear Friends of the Canadian Corridor and Parks Vic members of the Ballarat area,

On behalf of the 13 Moons Collective, I'm excited to personally invite you to our upcoming group exhibition 'Honour a Woman'.

The 13 members of the collective will each display artworks that honour a woman, or women, in their own way. My artworks honour Anne Tudor and Edith Mayhew, by showcasing the native flora and insect species of the trail.

Where: Art Space Ballarat; 14 Lydiard St. North

Exhibition Opening: 11th June 2022, 2:30pm

Duration: 11th June - 10 July 2022.

Gallery Times: Wednesday - Sunday, 11am - 5pm

The 13 Moons Collective is a group of 13 artists who have a common interest in art and creativity.

Thank you for being a part of the creation of the Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail. I hope to see you there, and that you enjoy the many artworks on display, by a diverse range of artists.

Sincerest regards,

Georgina

*Georgina Gould-Hardwick
Artist*



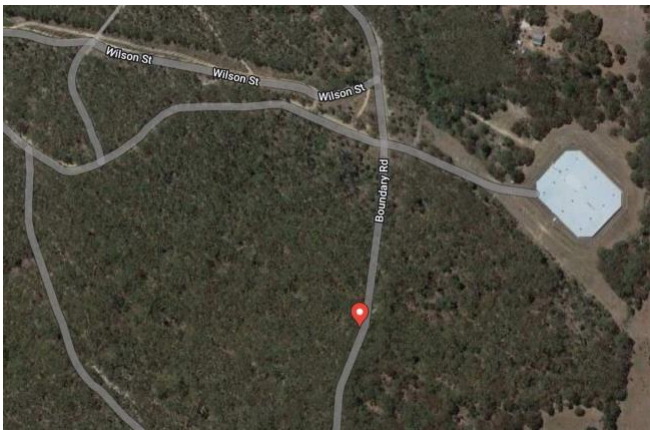
Janette Brown, Diana Coverdale, Fran Deutscher,
 Jenny Garley, Georgina Gould-Hardwick, Carmel Hempenstall,
 Christine Hickson, Heather Horrocks, Anne Langdon,
 Jem Olsen, Megan J Riedl, Kathy Taylor, Kelsie White

The 13 MOONS COLLECTIVE
 13 women artists exhibiting 13 artworks
Art Space Ballarat

June 11 - July 10 2022
 Gallery Hours 11am - 5pm
 Wednesday - Sunday

3. Koala sightings

Koalas have been quiet and often difficult to find since the end of the mating season in February. Whilst the map does not show a Koala image, it does show where a koala was observed high in a tree beside Boundary Rd on June 4th.



Koala observation map courtesy of Emma, June 4 2022. Not so lucky was this young male rescued by local wildlife rescuers after a vehicle strike on Yankee Flat Rd on June 2nd. Unfortunately he did not survive the trauma. He was the 19th Koala rescued in the Ballarat region as a result of a vehicle strike since Jan 2021.



Young injured male in care June 5th 2022. Image courtesy of Jessica

And another vehicle strike at Mt Helen on June 5th involving a Koala and a joey as described by wildlife rescuer Jessica:
"We had another Koala rescue in Mt Helen last night. Another car strike Geelong Road, Mt Helen. She was taken to Werribee Zoo today and it was found she had a broken pelvis and a pinky in pouch. They will operate on her and try to save her and her baby. We are hopeful."

Hopefully these two will recover. More news in due course. The two strikes demonstrate why lower speed limits on surrounding roads of Woookarung Regional Park could reduce vehicle strikes on Koalas and other wildlife. Road speed limit reductions was part of the City of Ballarat's Koala Plan in 2006.

Speed limits should be revisited and applied where appropriate.

The "Park works" article (page4) is about new signs in the Park. It may herald a start of further moves to reduce vehicle threats to wildlife, walkers, cyclists and horse riders in the Park and surrounds.

4. Bird of the Month X (June 2022)

Tawny Frogmouth (*Podargus strigoides*)
 Crossing over into the realm of nocturnal birds, we have one of the most charismatic and popular birds. A favourite among avid birders and laypersons, alike, the Tawny Frogmouth is Australia's most commonly-encountered nocturnal bird, and quite the internet sensation! Not to be confused with owls, Tawny Frogmouths belong to the Family Podargidae. While both are carnivorous nocturnal birds, Tawny Frogmouths and owls differ from each other in a number of ways, both aesthetically and ecologically, as summarised in the table below:

Feature	Species	
	Tawny Frogmouth	Owls
Face	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broad, frog-like bill Whisker-like bristles around bill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facial disk (if <i>Tyto</i> 'Barn' Owls) Eye mask (if <i>Ninox</i> 'Hawk-Owls' / Boobooks)
Feet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weak, poorly-developed feet Lacks curved talons Seizes prey using bill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noticeably larger, stronger feet Formidable curved talons Seizes prey using feet
Roosting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day roosts on a similarly-coloured branch (often an exposed perch to sun themselves at first light) Relies on cryptic camouflage to avoid detection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day roost hidden from view on a concealed perch amongst dense foliage, or in a hollow or manmade structure, e.g. garage or shed (commonplace for Australian (Southern) Boobook)

Nesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haphazardly-architected plate of sticks that they call a nest on a horizontal forked branch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most require the shelter of hollows of old eucalyptus trees for breeding success
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Adult Tawny Frogmouth: Image courtesy of Rob.

Tawny Frogmouths are resident (i.e. non-migratory, present year-round) inhabitants of open woodland and forests, wooded watercourses, gardens, golf courses, and streetscapes (particularly during night activity). Size varies widely (33-52cm), with males being larger. Breeding season is August to December, with two eggs laid per clutch. Both sexes share incubation duties of eggs.

Tawny Frogmouths diet on insects, frogs, and small mammals. Although, frequently recorded on citizen science databases, Tawny Frogmouths are in decline. The major factors driving their decline are not known. It is important to maintain search efforts and citizen sighting reports to monitor and infer population trends over time.

Next time you wander through Woookarung Regional Park, other local forest patch, or indeed if you're having night stroll, make sure you keep a keen eye out for the charismatic master of camouflage that is the Tawny Frogmouth!

Author note: FoCC Committee member and co-admin of FoCC's Facebook and webpage, Joel Ellis is the resident bird nerd, amateur Powerful Owl researcher, and editor of FoCC's (co-funded) 'Indigenous [Species] of Southern Ballarat' trilogy of brochures

5. Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail opened one year ago

The Dementia trail opened one year ago on June 25th 2021 with great fanfare. Since its opening the trail has become a regular destination for many people. The number of visitors is way beyond any expectation of its supporters. As at June 26th 2022, 17442 visitors have visited the trail. The trail has welcomed visitors from afar as well as many locals of all ages and abilities using the trail. The recent upgrade of the eastern end trail through to the Lookout will make the trail even more accessible and popular.

6. Minister for Disability, Ageing & Carers visits Dementia Trail

Victoria Government, Minister for Disability, Ageing & Carers, Mr Anthony Carbines MP visited the Dementia trail on June 8th 2022.

Mr Carbines said "this space is a true testament to what grassroots community action can achieve"



Accompanying the visit were Parks Victoria's Siobhan Rogan, Minister Anthony Carbines MP, Michaela Settle MP, Anne Tudor, Rhonda and Graeme Reeder, companion dogs Melville and Barrat. Image June 8th 2022.

7. Park works News Signs on Bakers Rd.



New signs. May 22nd 2022

The City of Ballarat have installed two new 'Cyclist, Walker and Horse' warning signs on Bakers Rd in Woookarung Regional Park. Bakers Rd is regularly used by cyclists, walkers and horse riders and the new signs are a welcome step.

At present the speed limit is the default 100kph which is plainly unsupportable except for Recreation Road which is 80kph. Speed limits on Parks Victoria's Woowookarung Regional Park roads are 40 kph. Clay Rd, Clayton St (eastern part), Dozed Rd and Katy Ryans Rd are Parks Vic roads. All other roads are Council Roads

Cathie St Car Park

Parks Vic have constructed a Car Park at the intersection of Cathie St and York St. The car park provides safe parking and access to the Parks northern end.



Cathie St car park tree plantings. Image June 3 2022, courtesy of Blake.

8. "THE BUNNY" – By Laurie McMaster

The railway line was officially opened 11.30am Thursday, 12th September 1889, by the Minister for Public Works Department, The Honorable D.M. Davies.

In the year 1918, the Bunny line, Ballarat to Buninyong, had 9 stations available and operating

STATION	Miles	Kms
Ballarat	0	0
Ballarat East	½	0.8
Eureka	1 ¾	2.8
York	2 ¼	3.6
Levy	2 ½	4
(siding at Spencer Street)		
Canadian	5	8
Mt Clear	5 ½	8.8
Mt Helen	6 ½	10.5
Buninyong	8	12.9

During the busiest time, there were 13 passenger trains a day running; every other day there were 10 trains, incorporating a mix of goods and passenger carriages. The last passenger train to run on the "Bunny Line" was the 3rd November 1930.

Station heights above sea level

	Feet	Meters
Ballarat	1416	431.59
Mt Helen (Highest Station)	1626	495.60
Buninyong	1471	448.36

Contributed by Laurie Mc Master

9. Tree planting preparation

The FoCC will be planting 500 trees this year in the area around the Dozed Rd and Katy Ryans Rd intersection.

Planting preparation working bee 10am to midday July 24th 2022.

A planting area preparation clean up and previous plantings tree guard and stake pick up will be held on July 24th. Meet at Cnr of Dozed Rd and Katy Ryans Rd Mt Clear. Solid footwear and warm hard-wearing clothing required. It may be wet. The FoCC has gloves and tools as required. The working bee will be cleaning up rubbish in the tree planting area, collecting and recycling tree guards and stakes from the adjacent 2018 and 19 tree planting areas. Registration recommended: pls email focinfo@gmail.com or text /phone 0408509591

10. Tree planting

The FoCC will hold a planting of 500 trees in the Dozed Rd and Katy Ryans Rd intersection area on **Sunday August 7th 2022 beginning at 10 am.**

This will be the sixth mass tree planting by the FoCC beginning with 220 trees in 2017.

The trees are supplied by the wonderful people at the City of Ballarat Community Nursery. The trees are propagated using locally sourced seed.

Details:

Meet at Cnr of Dozed Rd and Katy Ryans Rd Mt Clear. Solid footwear and warm hard-wearing clothing required. It may be wet. The FoCC will supply gloves and tools.

Registration recommended: pls email focinfo@gmail.com Or text /phone 0408509591

11. Great Dividing Trail Association Walk (GDTA)

The GDTA Woowookarung Regional Park and Union Jack Education Reserve walk was held on Sunday June 23rd. Walkers visited some of the many features in each Park



GDTA walkers at the site of the Locomotive mine in Union Jack Reserve on June 23 2022. Image courtesy of Mike.

It is interesting how Woowookarung Regional Park and Union Jack Education Reserve have become ever more popular for groups to organise visits to.

12. Bird Forum date change

The FoCC is hosting a "Birds" Forum on **Wednesday 17th August 2022** featuring the guest speaker.

Mr Sean Dooley

National Public Affairs Manager for BirdLife Australia,
author of The Big Twitch, and former holder of
the Australian Big Year twitching record.

Tickets available late July.

13. Rubbish dumpers, thieves and vandals

The FoCC encourages Park friends to report track vandals, rubbish dumpers, wood thieves and other suspicious activity to Parks Victoria on 13 1963 or email: woovookarung@parks.vic.gov.au

In emergency situations please call 000
If an offender is spotted, please note vehicle registration details as vehicle identification is most helpful, plus location and details.

14. Useful information

- **Parks Victoria Woovookarung email address:**
woovookarung@parks.vic.gov.au
- **City of Ballarat wildlife information:**

<https://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/me/pets-and-animals/wildlife>

- **DELWP wildlife issues reporting information**

Report wildlife crime to Crime Stoppers Victoria on **1800 333 000**.

Report any wildlife at immediate risk of deliberate harm or neglect to **136 186**. Other matters relating to wildlife and wildlife management should use the **136 186** too.
The Help for Injured Wildlife tool will help you locate and contact the closest relevant wildlife carers and rescue and rehabilitation organisations to help the injured wildlife.
The main point to reiterate is for any matters related to wildlife crime, to call Crime Stoppers.

15. Membership

Membership runs from 1st January to 31st December each year, Membership fee is \$20 per year.
Membership forms are available online or email focinfo@gmail.com
New members from July 1 2022 will be credited to the 2023 year.

16. FoCC facebook and webpage

Joel at is now overseeing the FoCC Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/friendsofcanadiancorridor/

Rob is overseeing the webpage webmaster@focc.asn.au

The FoCC has ~~931~~ 936 friends following us on facebook and growing. Welcome to all new friends. Feel free to pass on to other friends and press the like button.

17. 2022 Proposed Calendar

The calendar was prepared by the FoCC committee. After many cancellations over the past two years it is hoped, Covid permitting, the activities will proceed.

July 24 th	Working bee: Planting area preparation. 10 am.
August 7 th	500 Tree planting – Cnr of Dozed Rd and Katy Ryans Rd
August 17 th	Birds Forum with "Birdman" Sean Dooley at the Eureka Centre
August 27 th	Tree identification slow walk.
October 17 th to 23 rd	Great Australian Backyard Bird count
October 23 rd to 30 th	7th Annual Wildflower walk
November 16 th	FoCC Annual meeting
December 2 nd	Drinks at the Lookout

The FoCC Spikey News is published on behalf of the Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated, Registered No A0097535B.

The purpose of "Spikey News" is to link the community to Woovookarung Regional Park and the Canadian Corridor.

The FoCC is a registered Landcare Group with Landcare Victoria Inc and a member of the Leigh Catchment Group. Circulation this issue is to ~~959~~ 963 subscribers. Welcome to all new friends.

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.
We are proud to walk this land with the Wadawurrung people and all other First Nations people.

Any opinions expressed in the publications are those of the editors and do not officially represent Parks Victoria or the FoCC. **Web** - www.focc.asn.au **Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofcanadiancorridor/>
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