



*Friends  
of Skeleton Creek  
& Altona Bay  
Wetlands Inc.*



**AGM 2016**

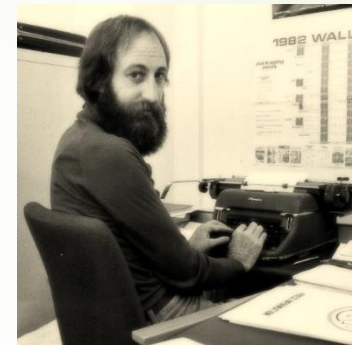
# The Committee



Denice Perryman  
**Secretary**



Angela Whiffin  
**President**



John Dawes  
**Publicity Officer  
& Vice President**



Ewen Cowie  
**Treasurer**

# November 2015

- **Maintenance Day**, Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Nov at Clarendon Court (towards Point Cook Rd), Seabrook
- A steep slope!  
We managed to remove dead branches, carpetweed and couch grass – and the not-so-lovely-to-handle box thorn.

Ranger Libby's  
on top of things



# December 2015

- No working bee this month to report
- Instead our monthly December meeting was a **sumptuous** festive spread provided by Denice at her place



This way to Denice's Place



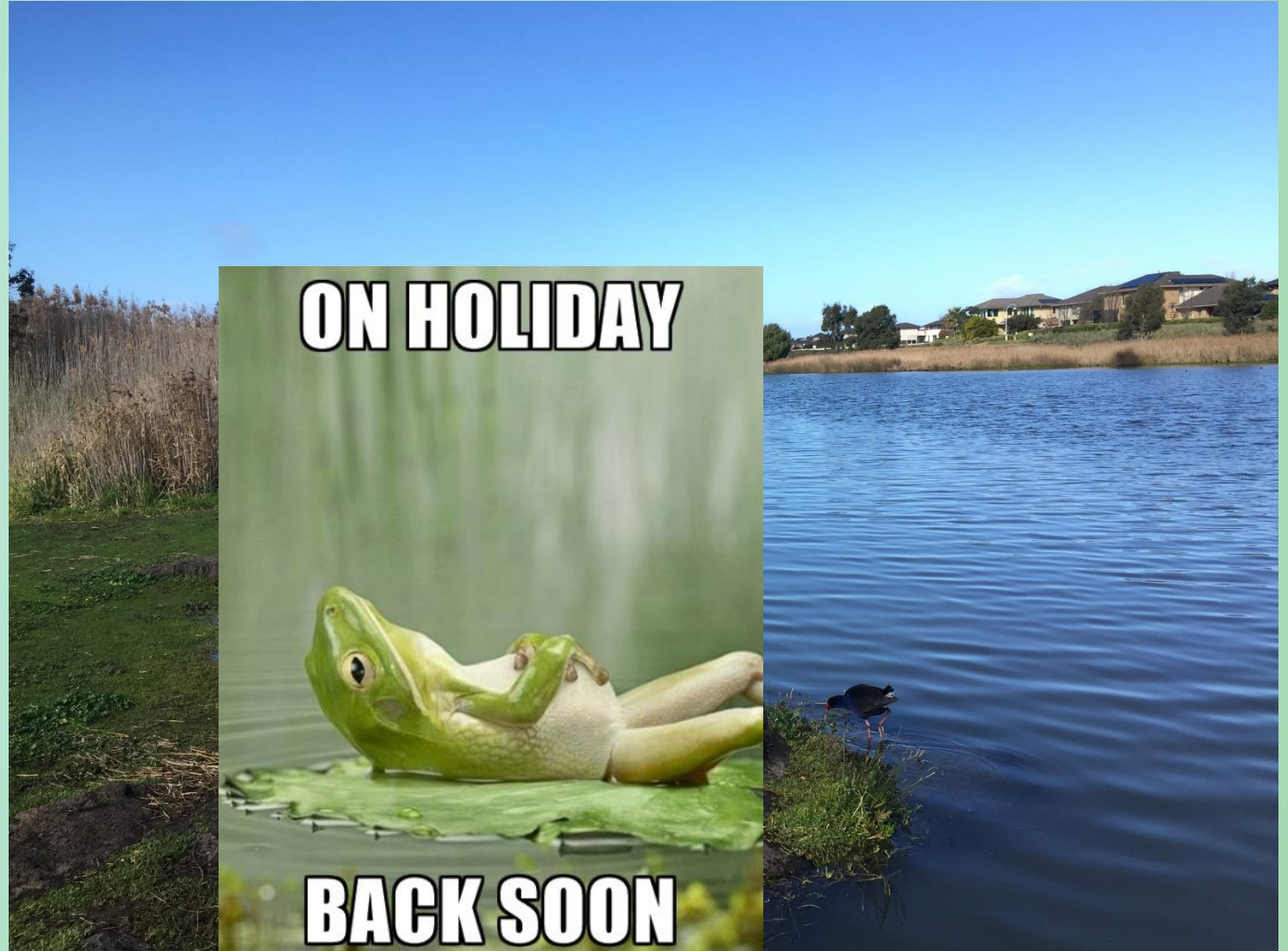
For starters



Denice brought out a cake at end of the night

# January 2016

- Nothing to report



# Our Year, Our Profile

## Friends Group and Landcare Group Health Survey 2016 (NatureWest)

<b>Group name</b>	Friends of Skeleton Creek & Altona Bay Wetlands Inc.		
<b>Municipalities</b>	Wyndham and Hobsons Bay		
<b>Main contact</b>	Denice Perryman	Phone: 0429 167 013	Email: <a href="mailto:deniceperryman1@gmail.com">deniceperryman1@gmail.com</a>
<b>Second contact</b>	Angela Whiffin	Phone: 0430 551 631	Email: <a href="mailto:angelawhiff@hotmail.com">angelawhiff@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Email address</b>	<a href="mailto:friendsofskeletoncrk@gmail.com">friendsofskeletoncrk@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Website URL</b>	<a href="http://www.friendsofskeletoncreek.org.au/">http://www.friendsofskeletoncreek.org.au/</a>		
<b>Facebook URL</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/friendsofskeletoncreek">https://www.facebook.com/friendsofskeletoncreek</a>		
<b>No. of Facebook Community Page "Member Likes"</b>	260 (@ 1/11/16)		
<b>Newsletter (PDF) – how often published?</b>	Monthly except January		
<b>Other advertising/promotional platforms</b>	Flyers to local schools, NABO local neighbourhood webpage, information sheet to NAB employee volunteer co-ord.		
<b>Committee meeting details</b>	First Wednesday of month except January, Old Laverton School House Starting time 7:30 pm		
<b>Year the group formed</b>	1991		
<b>Overall aims.</b>			
1. To conserve, protect and enhance Skeleton Creek and its catchment.			
2. To educate the community and school groups about the creek and the need to preserve it.			
3. To enhance the connection of our community with the environment.			
Our group focus is revegetation, protection, community engagement and education. We work towards that each year with a clear understanding of what we want to do in that year.			

## Our Year, Our Profile - Group activities 2016

<b>Total area of land managed by your group</b> <b>(1 hectare is 100 m x 100 m = 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>)</b>		Point Cook 150 x 15 = <b>2250 m<sup>2</sup></b> Clarendon Court 50 x 15 = <b>750 m<sup>2</sup></b> Bromage Close 75 x 5 = <b>375 m<sup>2</sup></b> Merton St/Markham Way 600 x 20 = <b>12,000 m<sup>2</sup></b> <b>Total = 15,375 m<sup>2</sup> (approx. 1.5 hectare)</b>
<b>How many planting and mulching days in the last 12 months?</b>		12
<b>Total number of plants planted</b>		<b>4922</b>
<b>Number of grant related activities in the last 12 months</b>		15
<b>School Field Days (Seabrook Primary, Bayside College)</b>	300 students	Hobsons Bay Council provided staff
<b>National Tree Day</b>	45 volunteers	An alternative Sunday this year, as our Hobsons Bay Ranger was supporting other Friends groups on the official National Tree Day
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Plantings - 8</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Mulch spreading - 4</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>School activities - 2</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Conservation bike rides - 3</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Newport Lakes AGM talk - Angela and Denice; Wyndham Building Blocks Leadership Program - Angela and Denice</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Hobsons Bay 'Dog's Breakfast' information day - responsible dog ownership, incl migratory bird awareness - John Dawes and Kristine Konings</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Point Cook Open Spaces 'Suburbs to the Sea Movie and Muffins Night', littering theme with FoSC information display and table - Denice, John Dawes and Kristine Konings</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Altona Beach Patrol 3018, monthly clean-ups - John Dawes, Kristine Konings, Catherine Curtain, Nick Clark, Greg Orr</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Birds Australia - Catherine Curtain, Denice Perryman; Australian Plant Society, Wyndhan Branch - Angela and Denice</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Friends of Laverton Creek - Catherine Curtain, Nick Clark, John Hogg, Diana Hogg; Hobsons Bay Sustainable Environment Advisory Group - Catherine Curtain; Wyndham's Integrated Water Management Plan, etc</b>		

# February 2016

- **Mulch Spreading**, Sun 28th Feb, Markham Way/Merton St, Altona Meadows
- 33 helping hands turn up on a warm Sunday afternoon



Cleo (John & Kristine's dog) was barking happy with the turnout

- **FoSC Community Facebook page** launched **one year ago** this month – getting lots of “likes” and promoting our activities <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofskeletoncreek>
- **Educational/Interpretive Signage** for Hobsons Bay Council's side of Skeleton Creek - issue raised



# March 2016

- ▶ **Thursday, 31st Mar, 'Jute Matting Down Day'**, Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing  
*(site preparation for Sunday 3rd April)*
- ▶ *Excitement came when we saw a tiger snake!*



- ▶ Friends at **'Suburbs to Sea Movie and Muffin Night'**, hosted by Point Cook Open Spaces
- ▶ Parks Victoria Ranger Bernie McCarrick takes a FoSC group for a **tour of the Cheetham Wetlands**
- ▶ **FoSC Conservation Bike Ride** to Williamstown via Jawbone Wetlands, Paisley Challis bird hide, and DK Grant Reserve, Altona, shorebird signage



# April 2016

- ▶ **Mulching Day**, Sunday 3rd Apr, Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing



*The boulders came later*

*Having a cuppa on the hill, under a nice gumtree*

- ▶ **'A Field Day by the Creek' at Carinza Ave**  
Wednesday 20th April  
**Seabrook Primary School**  
150 students – planting, pollution and water bugs!

# April 2016 (cont.)

- **Mulching Day/Watering Day**, Sunday 17th Apr, Markham Way/Merton St, Altona Meadows
- Spreading a 'Small Mountain' down



Our local HBCC Wetlands Ward councillors Colleen Gates (and husband Brad) and Carl Marsich were regulars at our working bees, too.

- **Skeleton Creek Educational/Interpretative Signage**  
\$2000 HBCC Content Design Grant Approved (*towards Bob Winters' services*)

# May 2016

- ▶ **Planting Day**, Sunday 22nd May, Clarendon Court (towards Point Cook Rd), Seabrook
- ▶ 20 volunteers put in 350 plants – hard work rewarded by Denice's famous afternoon tea!



*Ranger Libby Rigby with a young conservation-smart and eager helper - her daughter Stevie.*



- ▶ **Bayside College Students – Series of Conservation Activities**  
3rd, 17th and 24th May – conservation bike ride, planting, weeding, watering, litter collection (no reading or arithmetic). Led by Denice and supported by Andrew Webster.

# June 2016

- **Midweek Planting**, Wednesday 14th Jun, Clarendon Court, Seabrook
- Back to the steep rocky ground!



*Volunteer Shane Fincke brought his wingless Rainbow Lorikeet 'Walker'. And looked interested in reading the mystery suspense book 'Skeleton Creek', donated by Andrew Webster to our group. Busy in background is Denice preparing lunch (not afternoon tea).*



- **Friends Celebrate World Environment Day in Hobsons Bay**

Sunday 5th June, Hobsons Bay City Council hosts an afternoon tea (held at Williamstown Football Club's Seaview function centre)

The Friends of Skeleton Creek one of 25 volunteer groups represented and recognised for our contribution to the local environment and making our local community a better place to live.



# June 2016 (cont.)

- ▶ **Planting Day**, Sunday 26th Jun, Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing
- ▶ 622 grasses, plants and trees go in (+ guards and stakes)
- ▶ Our largest activity to date. Some of us came early to spread the tubes
- ▶ Dera Sacha Sauda Indian 'Green Army' group gave us great support



- ▶ **Altona Lions Fund Microbat Boxes**  
Club presents us with a \$300 cheque (thanks to Catherine Curtain for her support)

- ▶ **FoSC Interpretive Signage Subcommittee Meet**  
Signage subcommittee: Denice Perryman, Angela Whiffin, John Dawes, Greg Orr, and Bob Winters (*pictured*). \$20,000 set aside in the next 206/2017 HBCC budget for our Skeleton Creek signage design and construction. Thanks to our local Wetlands Councillors for their support.



# July 2016

- ▶ **Planting Day**, Sunday 24th Jul, (our alternative National Tree Day), Markham Way/Creek Waters Close, Altona Meadows
- ▶ Bumper crowd of 45 volunteers, boosted by Dera Sacha Sauda 'Green Army'



- ▶ **FoSC Conservation Bike Ride**  
Sunday 17th July, Denice led ride to Point Cook Coastal Park via Sanctuary Lakes.

- ▶ **Walk & Talk with 'Nature's Rubik' Writer**  
Denice and John D take a long walk along the creek with Tom Parkinson (*pictured*), writer and TV/film producer, who's writing for Sanctuary Lakes Resort website – and about us!



# August 2016

- ▶ **Planting Day**, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August, Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing
- ▶ 35 volunteers (*not counting the small children we welcomed*) put in 600 native grasses, shrubs, and a few trees (along with stakes and guards).

A regular 'Boomerang' FoSC volunteer, Brenda's getting her back into it.



- ▶ **HBCC Interpretive Signage Grant**  
The promised \$20,000 HBCC grant comes through (*in addition to the \$2000 design content grant already received*).
- ▶ **New Logo for Friends of Skeleton Creek!**  
Current logo does not suit our needs in promoting our group - also required for our new interpretive signage. Denice and John D meet with Hayden Goodall of Sardine Graphic Design Studio.



# September 2016

- **Angela and Denice Recognised - 25 Years of Community Service**

- On 13th Sep two of the original founders of Friends of Skeleton Creek - Angela Whiffin and Denice Perryman were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from Hobsons Bay City Council's Mayor Councillor Peter Hemphill.

- *Truly well done, Angela and Denice! Legends!*

- **Mulching Day, Sunday 25th September, Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing**



*Bruce Boddington of Point Cook Open Spaces volunteered to do litter collection. It was amazing how much he collected along the creek!*

**Data Mapping Skeleton Creek ArcGIS – Survey123 App**  
Wayne Dunn working with Colleen Miller at NatureWest. A work in progress. We are the 'testers'. To be rolled out to the other conservation groups in the western catchment.

# September 2016 (cont.)

## ➤ Microbat Boxes Up!

- Three installers at two sites in Altona Meadows, Saturday 10th Sep - John Dawes, Greg Orr and Matt Nielsen (abseiler).
- Cost of making the bat boxes donated by the Altona Lions Club.



*At a bat box installation site were regular FoSC volunteers (former USA and now Altona residents) Angela & Matt Nielsen and son Ryker, with Denice Perryman and Greg Orr.*



*Greg Orr came up with the idea and worked with Ian Miller in the making of the bat boxes, along with the colour and stencilling.*



*John had his long legs and arms to climb the long ladder and install the boxes.*

# October 2016

- **Maintenance Day, Sunday 23rd Oct, Markham Way/Merton St, Altona Meadows**
- It was a mainly weeding activity (made easier by the sodden ground).
- Ended day with fab BBQ put on by our hard-working HBCC Ranger Libby Rigby. Thanks to Cr Colleen Gates and Brad for coming to help again, too.



## ➤ **New Friends of Skeleton Creek Logo Coming!**

- Our October meeting finalised our choice of logo, among four draft options from Hayden Goodall of Sardine graphic design studio.
- Which one did we settle on?
- This one? ➔
- Find out next page ... **drum roll**




# October 2016

## ➤ The New Friends of Skeleton Creek Logo!



*Reversed Version (for when the logo appears on a dark background)*





For all your efforts in the past year  
- a big **thank you** to all volunteers & council staff  
at Wyndham and Hobsons Bay  
(you know who you are)

[With a special mention to Denice Perryman for putting on all the afternoon teas]  
from:



# The End

(clapping not obligatory)