
Newsletter

July 2017

Next Working Bee

Emu Foot Grassland, Altona Meadows

Sunday 27 August, 1 pm - 3 pm

We will be planting and rejuvenating this protected remnant grassland area, located off Henry Drive, near western end of Spicer Boulevard, Altona Meadows (Melway Map 208 C2).

Meet and register at the sign-in table, entrance to Emu Foot Grassland.

Please wear comfortable outdoor work clothes and sturdy footwear (suitable for the weather conditions). Gloves and tools are provided.

Hobsons Bay Council Ranger in attendance. Come on down to help our conservation work, meet like-minded people, and get fit at the same time! As always, afternoon tea provided.

Further enquiries to Denice Perryman, FoSC Secretary, on 0429 167 013.

HBCC Conservation Crew

The Hobsons Bay Council conservation crew have been managing the Emu Foot site in recent weeks.

As the current HBCC 'Ranger Ramblings' e-newsletter explains:

"The site has been brushcut periodically, and more recently mowed with a catcher mower to reduce fuel load, organic matter and competition from exotic grasses.

FRIENDS OF SKELETON CREEK

Volunteers restoring our local creek



Soldiering on under a heavy sky at Bromage Close



Sunday 23 July - This was one of the few days we've experienced heavy rain during a FoSC working bee. Under a heavy sky, the rain came in bucket loads towards the end of our activity. Nevertheless, we soldiered on and were able to get the job done to put in the remaining indigenous grasses and plants, plant guards and stakes at the 140 m long Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing, site. Thanks to all the hardy 25 volunteers who came, including the 1st Hoppers Crossing 1st Scouts and 1st Laverton Scouts & Guides. Also thanks to the Wyndham Council Rangers, Darren and Sal, in working with us to get the job done. Too wet for our usual outdoor afternoon tea, so we gladly accepted long-time FoSC volunteer Sonya Findlow's invitation for an indoor one at her home close by :)

The aim is to gradually reduce the seed and biomass impacts of the annual grass weed wild oats (*Avena fatua*) (pictured opposite).



The oats contain chemical inhibitors and reduce the self-seeding and growth of the remnant wildflowers and grasses that occur within the site."

The site is named the Emu Foot Grassland after the beautiful plant growing there, commonly called "Emu Foot" (*Cullen tenax*) (pictured opposite).



Digging in for Frog Friends



In case, you missed it, another article about our volunteering efforts along Skeleton Creek and creating a suitable habitat for the endangered Growling Grass Frog:
<http://www.starweekly.com.au/news/digging-in-for-frog-friends/>

Friends of Skeleton Creek Facebook Page

Have you 'Liked' us yet?

It's regularly updated with news, events and photos. Go to:

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

Friends of Skeleton Creek meetings are held the first Wednesday in the month (except January), starting at 7:00 pm, Old Laverton School, Altona Meadows (corner Kiora St and Cameron Ave).

The next FoSC meeting will be on Wednesday 6 Sep.

All Welcome.

FoSC Newsletter Subscription Email Changes? Unsubscribe?

If you want to advise a change to your email address or unsubscribe from this newsletter, please email us with the necessary details to:

friendsofskeletoncrk@gmail.com

Friends of Skeleton Creek

Calendar of Activities 2017

This is our calendar of activities for both Hobsons Bay and Wyndham City councils.

** Note sometimes we may need to adjust our plans close to the time of each activity.*

Details of the activities are always advertised in this newsletter and on our [Facebook Community Page](#).

*Except where shown, all FoSC activities are held on a **Sunday from 1 pm to 3 pm***

27 August

Spicer Blvd/Henry Drive, Altona Meadows (Emu Foot Grasslands), planting/rejuvenation

24 September

Bushcare's Big Day Out
Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing
Mulch spreading

8 October

(in conjunction with Wyndham Seniors Week)
Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing

22 October

Merton St/Markham Way, Altona Meadows
Maintenance

26 November

Bromage Close, Hoppers Crossing
Maintenance



The Friends of Skeleton Creek & Altona Bay Wetlands Inc. gratefully acknowledge the support of Melbourne Water

Friends of Skeleton Creek Committee

Secretary	President	Vice President / Publicity Officer
Denice Perryman	Angela Whiffin	John Dawes
deniceperryman1@gmail.com	angelawhiff@hotmail.com	dawesj2@gmail.com
Tel 0429 167 013, 93158072	Tel 0430 551 631, 93692892	Tel 0408 663 376
Treasurer	Postal Address	Facebook Community Page
Ewen Cowie	12 Hopetoun Court	Administrator John Dawes
de.cowie@bigpond.net.au	Altona Meadows 3028	Friends of Skeleton Creek Email
Tel 93158603	CAV Incorporation No. A0029721P	friendsofskeletoncrk@gmail.com