



McCrae Homestead Coastal Group Inc.

A0035176R ABN 84 215 491 899

Caring for the local environment

Newsletter Summer 2022

Welcome to the 2022 Summer issue of the newsletter.

WORKING BEES

Commence on Sunday 6th February 2022 - 10.00am at the Rotunda

The Victorian Government has updated its 'State-wide settings' – it is under these guidelines that **working bees will continue.**

Please read the latest information on the back page of this newsletter.

We are looking forward to meeting up again & getting our hands dirty!

Don't forget to bring your PPE bag with you.

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VERY CLOSE CALL

Saw this on McCrae foreshore on 13th January 2022 – a hot day and lots of beach visitors.



You will remember that we responded to a recent complaint about a reduction in car parking on the McCrae foreshore, so we shouldn't be surprised to see that this is exactly why we need the rocks and bollards.

THE VAGARIES OF NATURE

Sadly, the grand old Banksia which we have been working desperately to save from inappropriate car parking and root impaction, succumbed in high easterly winds on Thursday 20th January 2022.



Perhaps a salutary lesson not to park amongst the trees on the McCrae foreshore!!

Office Bearers:

Secretary:	Margaret Wilson	5986 4159	Treasurer:	Jenny Warfe	5987 1583
PO Box 29, McCrae Vic 3938 email: mhcg@mccraecoastalgroup.org.au web: www.mccraecoastalgroup.org.au					

UPDATES

Melbourne Water Grant 2020/2021

Work on this project commenced in September 2021 with Dan and the Naturelinks Team able to work through lockdowns to ensure the effort was maintained.

MPS 20/21 Budget Allocation

Planting in Eyrie Creek and environs is coming along really well. Routine maintenance spraying has also paid off.

Port Phillip Bay Funs 2021

Mulching and planting in the area between the lighthouse and Lonsdale Street is showing good results.

Coastcare Community Grants 2021

Work has commenced on this project and we should be able to start to contribute some work here ourselves now that we are back!

Other Grants

PlaceMaker Grants 2022

Shire Community Grants have opened for 2022 and we will be making submissions for funds to replace the information panels at the Rotunda.

Coastcare 2022/Port Phillip Bay Fund 2022

We will be making submissions to both these funding programmes recently advertised.

If you have any ideas on projects which we could work on along the foreshore, please contact either Jenny Warfe or Margaret Wilson.

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ARTHURS SEAT/WONGA SAVED!!

The indigenous name for Arthurs Seat is 'Wonga'

You will remember we emailed you on 10th December 2021 with the great news that The Ross Trust was abandoning it's bid to build a destructive new quarry on Arthurs Seat. We have recently received the following from Save Arthurs Seat:

"This is amazing news for our environment and the native animals that call Arthurs Seat/Wonga home.

It's also amazing news for the community, especially local children, whose health was under threat from air pollution.

There is just one more task for us. As the Ross Trust acknowledged, there needs to be a rehabilitation plan for the existing quarry site. And we need to ensure the land is protected in perpetuity.

Jeff Floyd is the founding CEO and former Chair of Parks Victoria. His new report, 'A Vision for the Arthurs Seat Parklands', recommends the creation of a nature sanctuary to act as a safe haven for endangered wildlife, a showcase for conservation best practice, and a place to celebrate the spiritual meaning of this land for the Traditional Owners.

Political leaders are used to people bringing them problems, but we have an opportunity to put an expert solution right into their hands. It will mean even more if it comes from hundreds of people writing in, calling on them to act on it".

Take the opportunity now, write to support the establishment of a nature sanctuary which would link up the parklands on Arthurs Seat:

- CEO Ross Trust
- Premier Daniel Andrews
- Opposition Leader Matthew Guy
- Lily D'Ambrosio (Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change)
- Cindy McLeish (Shadow Minister for Environment and Climate Change)
- Chris Brayne (Member for Nepean)

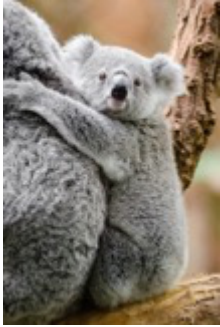
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RAINFALL IN MCCRAE

Year	Annual
2012	959.00 mm
2013	854.50 mm
2014	652.55 mm
2015	631.50 mm
2016	773.50 mm
2017	673.00 mm
2018	591.00 mm Lowest since 2006
2019	621.50 mm
2020	689.00 mm
2021	682.50mm

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MORNINGTON PENINSULA KOLALA CONSERVATION

Information extracted from the
MPKC leaflet:

Our small population of koalas on the Mornington Peninsula is in trouble. Koalas rely solely on leaf from gum trees for food and we only have 18% of native vegetation left on the peninsula.

Habitat loss is due to land clearing and urban development. Patches of native vegetation are now not connected well enough for our wildlife to move safely across the landscape and a recent study found 69% of Koala habitat is on private property.

What can you do?

- *Preserve and plant native trees – especially Manna Gums, Swap Gum, Messmate Stringybark;
- *Control invasive weeds such as Ivy, Karamu and Pittosporum;
- *Watch out for Koalas when you are driving – especially at night and keep dogs on leads;
- *Be part of the tree planting programme which is endeavouring to create corridors of native vegetation to increase Koala habitat.

For more information go to www.mpkkoalas.org.au

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Yellow Tailed Black
Cockatoo.

Fabulous native
bird lives in the
McCrae area but
only seen in my
garden recently.
Fantastic!

WORKING BEES

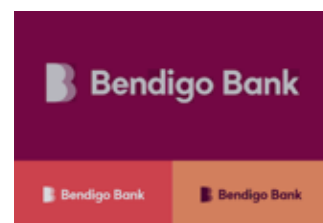


Working Bees First and second Sunday of the month except January - 10.00am at the Rotunda.
Just turn up!

Volunteers do need to be a member of the group and registered with the Shire, but this can be done on the day. You will be provided with gloves, safety glasses, sun hat, safety vest and tools. COVID-19 safe conditions apply to working bees in 2022.

FUNDING SUPPORT

Thank you to our supporters for providing funds or in-kind support to enable MHCG to continue the vital work we do on the McCrae foreshore:



Our website is maintained by:

Mornington Peninsula Websites
www.morningtonpeninsulawebsites.com.au

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COVID19 Guidelines for working bees:

January 2022

The Victorian Government has updated its 'State-wide settings' – it is under these guidelines that **working bees will continue**.

We ask volunteers to decide whether they wish to attend their local working bee based on individual needs and circumstances. If you are feeling uncomfortable or uneasy about attending a working bee, please do not feel obliged to participate.

We will do our best to continue to keep you up-dated about works the Shire's Bushland Management Team are undertaking, and to assist your groups on-ground objectives where we can.

As a reminder, please note that the following are still required for all staff and volunteers attending working bees:

- Vaccination certificate (Double Vaccination) - evidence must be shown to your supervisor via QR code check-in or sign-on sheet
- Medical Certificate - only required if you have a medical exemption for current vaccination requirements (a signed and dated document must be shown to your supervisor)
- Face mask - although not required outdoors, please bring one along as they are currently still recommended in situations where social distancing may not be possible (e.g. signing in, looking at a phone/map, weeding/planting in close proximity, standing in a group setting)
- BYO hat, sunscreen, food (still no sharing of food), water bottle, hand sanitiser etc.

Additional notes:

- If you are feeling unwell, showing [signs/symptoms](#) of COVID-19, or have been a close contact - we ask that you please don't attend
- Working bees are a space for us all to relax, have fun and enjoy being together. Please try and refrain from engaging in conversations that make others uncomfortable
- Given the ever changing situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, information about planned working bees may change quickly and with short notice – we will keep you updates via email, and thank you for your continuing patience

Following these simple steps means together we can continue to enjoy and make a positive impact to the Peninsula's unique biodiversity values.

We understand that you may have chosen not to be vaccinated, and ask that you understand that means we cannot work together.

We all hope that 2022 brings an end to this invidious pandemic and that we will once more, be able to mix and mingle and work together again.

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