

Aug-Sept 2015

Friends of Edithvale – Seaford Wetlands Inc.



Number 142

Inside this issue:

Mayor's Picnic	2
Golf Club Bird Cull	3
Kangaroo Walk	4
Coming up—Mark the date	5



Clamorous Reed-Warbler

Wetland Warbler

BIRD HIDE RESTORATION A WINGBEAT AWAY

Philippa Bailey
President

The FESWI Committee is happy to report that significant progress has been made towards the bird hide restoration and repair and work should commence in April 2016, at the end of the migratory bird season. We are on our way to raise the required funds for the repairs, and have recently received support from all levels of government.

FUND RAISING

Councillor David Eden has donated \$1,000 from City of Kingston ward funds and Melbourne Water has provided a grant of \$20,000 from its Liveability funding. This grant has enabled FESWI to apply for a matched amount of \$20,000 from the Federal government Stronger Communities Grant Programme, through Mark Dreyfus, the member for Isaacs.

have deductible gift recipient status, which is a requirement for most philanthropic organisations. We came up trumps with the GOULD LEAGUE! The Gould League board have confirmed that FESWI can apply for grants through their auspice. We are currently exploring potential funding.

Local member for Mordialloc, Tim Richardson, is an enthusiastic supporter of the bird hide restoration and has been encouraging of the FESWI endeavours.



Tania Ireton and Tim Richardson MP

BUILDING WORK

As mentioned in an earlier edition, local builders, Lowe Constructions will be managing the building repairs. FESWI had engaged a building surveyor who was advising on the requirements for the granting of a building permit but we have received recent confirmation from the City of Kingston planners that we do not need a planning permit for hide repairs, which is excellent news.

Continued Page 2



Councillor David Eden, Philippa and Margaret

We were looking for an organisation to act as an auspice for FESWI to apply for philanthropic grants, as we do not

FRIENDS OF EDITHVALE - SEAFORD WETLANDS INC.

Assoc No. A0017388A

ABN - 95 886 101 621

P O BOX 2031,
EDITHVALE VIC 3196

www.edithvale-seaford-wetlands.org

President Philippa Bailey
9786 1591

Vice President Robin Clarey
9786 2213

Secretary Margaret Hunter
9588 0867

Treasurer Sue Telfer
97724194

Committee

Rex Chugg

Matthew Mitchell

Kate Spillane

Seaford W/Bees Rex Chugg
9766 6056

Education Centre Roster
Kate Spillane 9773 0224

Bird Hide Co-ordinator
Not Applicable

Guided Tours Marg Hunter
9588 0867

Newsletter Robin Clarey
9786 2213

Warbler Collator
Cheryl Meier 97724484

Website
Matthew Mitchell

Membership Database
Chris Spencer 9786 1591

BIRD HIDE RESTORATION A WINGBEAT AWAY CONT.

REPAIR PROCESS

At the AGM in November (Sunday Nov 8), the FESWI committee is planning an information session titled "A walk through the bird hide repairs." by the building consultants. We would encourage all members and interested parties to attend this meeting and find out about the method planned to restore the hide.

DONATIONS AND SPONSORS

FESWI is en route to achieve the fund-raising goal of \$50,000, but we still have a way to go.

We plan to approach local businesses and potential sponsors to assist us. We would like to encourage members to donate as well. We will be designing an honour board for the hide to recognise donations over \$100. FESWI is opening an account with the Bendigo Bank in Aspendale Gardens for the bird hide funds.

Thank you to all the above supporters who have assisted us this far with the Bird Hide Restoration and Repair project, and in particular my "birder" colleague, Alison Kuitert.

MAYOR'S PICNIC

FESWI ran an information/activity stall at the Mayor's Picnic on 13th September at Cruden Farm. Three major activities were run for children and lots of wetland information was made available to all. The stall attracted lots of attention.

During the afternoon Mayor Cr Sandra Mayer presented a grant cheque to FESWI towards its planned Seaford Wetlands Community Day on Sunday March 6th 2016.



FESWI Stall



Mayor Cr Sandra Mayer (middle) and Philippa (left)

BIRDS

The migratory birds are arriving from Siberia and Japan and other places half way around the world. A Snipe was sighted at Seaford during the full moon at the end of August and also a Bittern. There were 150 swans counted at Edithvale south on the last survey, and there are many nest mounds.



HIDE MEMORIES

Do you have an interesting, funny or memorable experience at the Bird Hide (now to be restored) that you might like to share with us? Write to the editor at robin.clarey@hotmail.com or post to FESWI post box. Thankyou.



GOLF CLUB BIRD CULL

Many members of FESWI were fairly disgusted at the recent culling of Eurasian Coots and Maned Ducks at the Patterson River Golf Club, as reported in the *Mordialloc – Chelsea Leader* 26/8/15.

Apparently the birds were fouling up the greens at the golf course, but given its location and its own ponds it might have been expected that it would be attractive to birds.

The birds are a natural and significant part of the local area, and FESWI would suggest that Patterson River Golf Club accept the rights of the birds to live alongside golfers.



Coot at Edithvale

The situation attracted significant media interest. Newspaper article and Philippa (President) was asked to discuss the situation with Red Symons on ABC 774, and was contacted by 3AW regarding a potential interview on the Drive program. Both radio organisations were sympathetic to the birds.

FESWI has sent a letter expressing its concern and disappointment in the actions of the Golf Club.

FLAME ROBINS AT SEAFORD

Philippa Bailey



www.flamerobin.org

During the first week of August I went looking for Flame Robins at Seaford Wetlands. A friend had seen some near the entrance to the centre track. Having grown up in England with Red-breasted Robins, I was thrilled at the chance to see an Australian red robin.

I set out for the advised location along the Seaford track, late in the afternoon, hoping the robins would be returning to their roosts in the area. With camera and zoom lens to the ready, I wandered up and down, peering into bushes and looking for any sudden movement, which might indicate a bird was around.

I had given up hope and was turning to return home disappointed – when suddenly they appeared! A dozen or more Flame Robins alighting on the fence rail, darting back and forth. What a sight to behold!

DID YOU REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

There is still time. Fill in the following form and return to

FESWI P O BOX 2031 EDITHVALE VIC 3196

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Email: _____

Annual Subscription

\$15.00 Individual

\$20.00 Family

\$10.00

\$30.00

\$

Concession

Corporate

Donation

KANGAROO WALK



About 20 people turned up to brave the muddy ground and take part in the Kangaroo Walk at Edithvale on 20th September. It was fascinating to look at the water and birds from a different angle; and the kangaroos were very obliging showing themselves on a number of different occasions and bounding spectacularly through the water.

BIRD TALK

About 30 people came along to hear another excellent talk by Tania Ireton, President Bay-side Birdlife on 23rd August. The topic was wetland birds, which was apt given the wetlands were filling up and the birds were back. Thanks Tania.



SCHOOL VISIT



FESWI, represented by Margaret (leader) and Sue and Robin, hosted a walk/talk visit by senior Flinders College students on 13th August at Edithvale

POINTS OF INTEREST

The Eel Race

The Eel Race Drain (bordering the north boundary of Seaford Wetlands) has received a promotion from Melbourne Water and has been officially re-named Eel Race Creek.

Fun Run Presence

FESWI will have a presence at The Seaford Wetlands Fun Run organised by Rotary Peninsula 2.0, Seaford Little Athletics Club and Seaford North Primary School with a stall and activities to promote the wetlands

SWANS AND NEST MOUNDS



COMING UP— MARK THE DATE— BE THERE!

YOUR INVITATION TO FESWI'S AGM



The President, Philippa Bailey, and the Committee

Have pleasure in inviting you

to the

27th Annual General Meeting

Sunday 8th November

2.00 p.m.

Edithvale Seaford Wetlands Education Centre

(Edithvale Road, Edithvale—200 meters east of bird hide)

Find out about the Bird Hide restoration plans

Catch up with friends Take pride in our achievements Thank volunteers

Hold elections Have a cup of tea and a chat

COME ALONG



CLIMATE RALLY IN MELBOURNE

As the world gears up for the UN climate talks in Paris in November, Melbourne is gearing up for the biggest climate rally it has ever seen. It will be at 5:30pm on Friday 27 November in Melbourne's CBD. It is intended to send a powerful message to the Coalition Government to take the issue seriously.

FESWI will be marching under its own banner. We will be meeting at Seaford Railway station (and collect others at subsequent stations) to travel as a group. Others may elect to meet in the city. More information in the next newsletter and on our website (closer to event).

Come along – let your voice be heard!



Corporate Members

Following is a list of our corporate members. Please give them your support.

Aspendale Primary School

Aspendale Gardens Primary School

Frank and Isobel Baguley's Nursery

Bird Life Australia

Bonbeach Primary School

Chelsea Heights Community Centre

Longbeach RSL

Edithvale Primary School

Frankston Primary School

Gales Marine Centre

Instant Garden Nurseries at Gardenworld Keysborough

Good Shepherd Aged Services – Mary Ville Hostel

Audrey Harding

Hasuval Engineering Service Pty Ltd

Tania Ireton

McDonald's Family Restaurant, Chelsea Heights

Melbourne Water, Waterways & Drainage

Mordialloc College

Mordialloc Primary School

April Nutter

Parkdale Secondary School

Peninsula Pedallers Inc

Presbyterian Ladies College

Ray White, Chelsea

Rotary Club of Aspendale

Seaford North Primary School

Seaford Park Primary School

Seaford Primary School

Soroptimist International of Brighton

St Anne's Primary School

St Joseph's School

St Louis de Montfort's

Treeplanters Nursery

Veitch & Co Pty Ltd

Membership Renewal

This is the last call for subscription renewals.

We need to update our database so that our membership lists are accurate. Thankyou.



**Melbourne
Water**

Production of this newsletter funded through

**PRINTED BY THE OFFICE OF
MARK DREYFUS, MHR FOR ISAACS**



**Friends of
Edithvale – Seaford
Wetlands Inc.**

If undeliverable please return to:
PO Box 2031
EDITHVALE 3196

Last reminder to renew your membership. See page 3