

Oct-Dec 2015

Friends of Edithvale – Seaford Wetlands Inc.

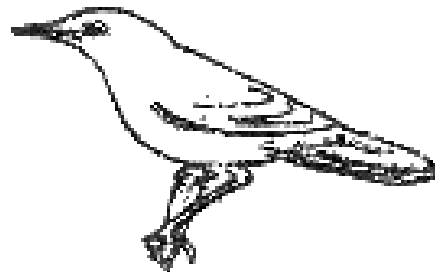


Number 143

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Wetland Warbler



Clamorous Reed-Warbler

27th AGM PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Philippa Bailey

FESWI COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS

The FESWI Committee has retained seven core members through the 2014 -15 year of operation. I would like to acknowledge another year of ongoing commitment and hard work from all the committee members and volunteers. It has been a particularly busy year for FESWI with events on every month. The committee has consisted of:

Margaret Hunter as secretary, and community group walk leader.

Robin Clarey as newsletter editor and event manager.

Matt Mitchell as FESWI website manager and committee representative.

Rex Chugg as tree planting coordinator and Seaford liaison.

Kate Spillane as ESW Education Centre open afternoons coordinator.

Sue Telfer as treasurer and local events assistant.

Philippa Bailey as president and acting treasurer

FESWI Events

November 2014: Duck in Open Day

We received a grant from the City of Kingston to run the open day at the Duck in site, restored to its former glory after all the break-ins of 2013. It was a wet day and we were competing with other events in the area. Those that attended enjoyed a range of activities and Cr Rosemary West launched the FESWI Self-guided walks brochure, which was developed from a City of Kingston grant in 2013. We were pleased to be visited by Mayor Geoff Gledhill and Cr Tamsin Bearsley. The Aspendale Gardens Cricket Club again collaborated with FESWI to provide refreshments.



Seaford Wetlands Fun Run FESWI had a presence at the Seaford Wetlands Fun Run and was happy to contribute to a well organised event. Consideration for the wetlands environment was obvious through all aspects of the run.

January 2015: Summer by the Sea walk at Edithvale Margaret and Philippa led two walks around Edithvale North and South



FRIENDS OF EDITHVALE - SEAFORD WETLANDS INC.

Assoc No. A0017388A

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9786 1591

Vice President Robin Clarey
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9588 0867

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Kate Spillane

Bonnie Molloy

Maria Matamala

Seaford W'Bees Rex Chugg
9766 6056

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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

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AGM PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONT

Continued from Page 1

Wetlands on a hot January day as part of the *Summer by the Sea Coast Care* program (DEWLP). 22 participants attended and were guided by the Edithvale Self-guided walks brochure. Ibis, herons, swamp hens and ducks were observed on the walk.

March 2015: Clean up Australia Day FESWI took on a site at Seaford wetlands next to the Austin Rd viewing platform for Clean Up Australia Day and were shocked to collect 10 large sacks of rubbish. We plan to make this a regular event, perhaps incorporating Edithvale also in 2016.

May & September 2015: Kangaroo walks Edithvale South Two walks were held inside the Edithvale south fence during autumn and spring. With access available to the inner ponds, participants enjoyed a feast of birds and kangaroos cavorting through the water.

August 2015: Bird information talk Tania Ireton presented an informative talk on wetland birds at the ESW Education Centre, which was well attended as word got out through the networks.

September 2015: Mayor's Picnic Frankston FESWI had a stall and significant presence at the *Mayor's Picnic 2015*, held at Cruden Farm. We received a grant from the City of Frankston towards a Wetlands Awareness Day, scheduled for March 2016, in collaboration with Seaford North Primary School.

Regular FESWI Activities

Tree planting in Seaford Rex has led his team of tree planters at Seaford Wetlands from March to November. New planting has occurred near the Eastern boundary. 20 volunteers have assisted over the months, including a scout group: thanks to the regulars – Dawn Neylan, Lorraine McCarthy, Greg Shapcott, Robin Clarey, Matt Lagruta, Colin Nash and Shannon Harrison and Rex Chugg. Rex and the

group are now removing stakes and guards from trees that FESWI planted two years ago.

ESW Education Centre opening Kate has managed a group of volunteers who open the centre on the second and fourth Sunday afternoons each month. This small but dedicated group are much appreciated by the community as there is always a good turn out at the centre. Thank you to Rosemary Cian, Robin Clarey, Sandy Collingwood, Helen Corcoran, Maureen Hayes, Margaret Hunter, Irma Kluger, Clare McPhee, Maria Matamala, Bonnie Molloy, Dorothy Meadows, Inez van Polanen, Jacqui Sheppard, Faye Spinelli, Mary Van Der Weerden and Kate Spillane.



New members, Bonnie and Maria, who will join the committee and have started duty at ESW Edu. Centre.

Edithvale wetland walks Over the year several different groups have visited Edithvale Wetlands and been shown around the Education Centre. Margaret has been a stalwart in organising and attending these visits, assisted occasionally by Sue and Robin.

Interesting birds sighted FESWI members have noted sightings of the Australasian Bittern, Egrets catching eels, Freckled Ducks, and Glossy Ibis at Edithvale and Seaford through the year.

Bird Hide As reported in the recent newsletter, we have the funds now available to proceed with the bird hide restoration and plan to start the work in April, when the Ramsar restrictions regarding noise and disturbance to the birds are lifted. This work will be the key focus for the FESWI Committee in 2016.

Networks FESWI representatives have continued to attend the ESW Community Liaison Committee, the ETP Committee, the Port Phillip Conservation Committee, and the Frankston Environmental Friends Network.

The FESWI committee thanks all our members for their continuing support.

Philippa Bailey President FESWI 2015



New members, Linda and Robert, who are looking to restart working bees at Edithvale.

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.

Come along – let your voice be heard!

Train Timetable

Frankston Station 4:04pm

Kananook Station 4:06pm

Seaford Station 4:09pm

Carrum Station 4:13pm

Bonbeach Station 4:15pm

Chelsea Station 4:17pm

Edithvale Station 4:19pm

Aspendale Station 4:21pm

Mordialloc Station 4:24pm

Parkdale Station 4:27pm

Mentone Station 4:29pm



FESWI will be marching under its own banner. We will be going by train (see timetable below). It leaves Frankston at 4:04pm – get into the 2nd carriage from the front—and we will collect each other at subsequent stations. Others may elect to meet in the city.

The march begins at the State Library of Victoria at 5.30pm. It then will then weave its way along Swanston Street to the clocks at Flinders Street Station, where communities have gathered in Melbourne for generations.

Flinders Street Station ARR 5:06pm

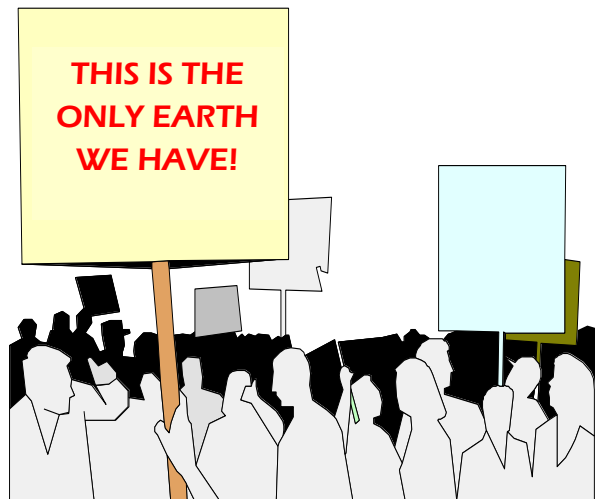
Flinders Street Station DEP 5:09pm

Southern Cross Station 5:12pm

Flagstaff Station 5:15pm

Melbourne Central Station 5:17pm

Parliament Station 5:18pm



WORKING BEES

The monthly Sunday Working Bees have ceased for the year. Over the past year a group of 6 – 9 regulars have turned up each Sunday to plant approximately 500 plants. The strike rate is good – over 80% - and the most recently planted ones seem to be also growing quite well. Hopefully there will be more rain in coming weeks to help establish them before summer sets in.

Working bees are on the first Sunday of the month (10:00am – 12noon) and will resume on 6th March 2016.



Shannon and Matthew at work

Meet in the south eastern corner



The Green Army works at Seaford Wetlands

RESTORING THE HIDE

Brian Lowe of Lowe Constructions spoke to the AGM to explain how the bird hide is to be restored.

Firstly, the hide is to be jacked up (as a house can be to replace the stumps). At the bottom of the dozen or so supporting struts are the footings (metal plates), which are resting on a concrete base. These are rusted and need to be replaced. To get over the problem of a too low ceiling in the lower area of the hide, extra lengths of metal will be bolted onto the bottom of all the struts to raise the entire hide by about 30 cm.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Alison Kuitert

At the FESWI AGM many of you met the builder who is co-ordinating the repair of the Hide.... a bit more homework and it is going to be a reality, but getting to this point didn't just happen overnight.

Back in April 2012 a committee was looking at possibilities of repairing the hide; we tried to hold regular meetings, but that was almost impossible, so we resorted to email contact, which was good because everything was recorded. When the emails were flying around thick and fast it came down to Bill, Philippa and Alison doing the leg work of meetings, phone calls and red tape work email inboxes would have been overflowing for other members of the sub committee.

Bill was amazing with his knowledge of architecture and permit procedures and with a change in Melbourne Water staff we were given \$3000 for plans/reports and encouraged to look at the option of replacing the rusted feet (a process suggested to us by our silent partner).

We ran into brick walls all the time and the frustration of things just taking forever to get done. Everyone involved in this were working, going on holidays, getting sick etc. and sometimes a simple answer to an email took weeks. There were

many times we almost gave up. I overheard a conversation about Brian Lowe and his involvement in

Rotary projects so gave him a call. He met us at the Hide, but said it was way too big for Rotary... that looked like our biggest brick wall until we asked if Lowe Constructions would do it as a paid job. YES! and, to boot, they would oversee the project. I think Philippa and I nearly cried.

We are grateful to the people who have helped us along the way and answered our dumbest questions. It has been a big learning curve for the *Ladies* who know nothing about architecture or the permits required, Bill was so helpful in this regard, but even his patience wore thin. The Planning Department at Kingston Council answered many of our questions and even their Building Surveyor who was involved at the time took on the Hide when he moved to another Council.

Our funding was almost a miracle, we heard about *Stronger Communities Grant*, but needed matching funds.... Melbourne Water (who initially was adamant they wouldn't be able to provide money) came good with \$20,000 - So with more than \$40,000 in the bank we are ready to proceed with the repair work to the Hide - we just need our Building permit and we can begin in April 2016.

FINAL REMINDER (to private and corporate members)

Did you remember to renew your membership?

There is still time fill in the following form and return to

FESWI PO Box 2031 EDITHVALE VIC 3196

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Email: _____

Annual Subscription

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 | Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00 | Corporate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 | Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ | Donation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 | Concession | | |

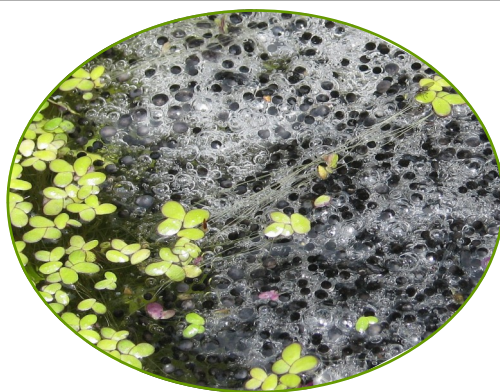
Money can be transferred via internet to Commonwealth Bank BSB/Details 06 31 18 Acc No. 1005 9942

VISITING WALKERS

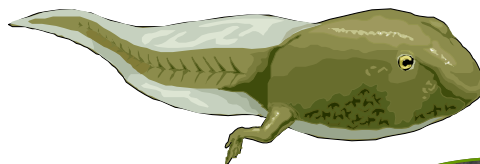
Margaret has run two Edithvale Wetland walks in the past month or so. The first was on October 6th when a small walking group from Bentleigh enjoyed the fresh air and birds. The second, on AGM day (8th November), was a large group from the Warringal Conservation Society who, following the walk, enjoyed the views and facilities of the ESW Education Centre.



Walkers enjoy lunch at the Education Centre



The frogs are still calling and spawning.



Tadpoles are swimming in massive numbers



More frogs are calling.

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
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**Melbourne
Water**

Production of this newsletter funded through

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



**Friends of
Edithvale – Seaford
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Boing!