



# FriendsNET

Newsletter of the Victorian Environment Friends Network

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See our web site at <http://friendsvic.org/>

## Convenor's Corner

The AGM earlier in the year was a particularly important event in the life of VEFN, as it introduced a new constitution, designed to better reflect the role of the organisation as a representative body and allow for a stronger funding basis through philanthropic sources.

The work of Friends Volunteers across the state is often poorly recognised in funding, management and political realms. We have heard from Friends groups that they want a body that can support their activities in obtaining more support from government and recognition in the public.

So the new constitution has a more formal membership structure than in the past, and the AGM agreed that a new membership fee was appropriate. This now requires that we ask Friends groups to formally join the new organisation, even those who already believe they are members! The new fee of \$20 has been set at the bottom range of what would provide a base funding to pay for such things as the FriendsNET newsletter and email list, the web site and similar administrative essentials. We felt that even non-incorporated groups could manage to find that amount. It will be vital for the successful function of the VEFN into the future that as many of you as possible join.

We have a very ambitious program of forums and workshops this year that will provide much useful information, skills and networking. The first is on the use of Social Media which sold out very quickly and will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> June. I hope many of you are able to take advantage of this and other opportunities, so keep your eye out for further information.

Finally I would like to express my personal gratitude to the new committee – both those who were on the committee building up to the new constitution and

those who joined at the AGM. The 2018 Committee are listed at the end of this edition. All Friends are busy people but these have decided that they will take on the extra to try to take VEFN to a new level, so I hope you will support their endeavours over the coming year. Of course I would hope that you will consider the possibility that you can help as well, if not as a “full” member of the committee then taking on some particular jobs such as organising a forum in your area, or doing some other administrative task for which you have expertise. Much can be done over the web in these connected days and the old phrase “many hands make light work” especially applies.

I look forward to meeting you at a VEFN event during the coming year.

**Paul Strickland, Convenor, VEFN**

## In this edition

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Suggestions for articles for FriendsNET are welcome. Please email to [friendsvic@hotmail.com](mailto:friendsvic@hotmail.com). If you want to include photos, please send as separate files in jpeg format, preferably in landscape.

## Friends of Tyers Park upgrades Wirilda Walking Track signage

### Reminder: Best Friend Awards nominations now open

There are now only a few weeks left to complete nominations for this year's **VEFN Best Friend Award**. The award acknowledges the outstanding contribution made to the environment by volunteer members of Friends groups.

If there is someone in your Friends group, who you believe shows personal dedication above and beyond the usual expectation, nominating them for this award is one way of showing how much your group values their efforts.

Nominations are assessed by an independent judging panel and will be presented at the award ceremony on 25<sup>th</sup> August. The awards ceremony will be held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne.

The criteria for the Best Friend Award and a nomination form can be downloaded [here](#). Nominations are due by **5 pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2018**.

### Poster Competition

In conjunction with the Best Friend Award, we will again run a poster competition. Friends groups are encouraged to submit their posters for a prize to be awarded at the Best Friend Award ceremony in August.

All nominations or poster entries should either be emailed to [friendsvic@hotmail.com](mailto:friendsvic@hotmail.com), or posted to VEFN, C/- VNPA, Level 3, 60 Leicester St, Carlton 3053

FoTP are most appreciative of the receipt of the \$1,500 grant provided by VEFN in association with Jim Stranger receiving the 2017 Best Friend Award. FoTP also acknowledges DELWP for making the funding available.

FoTP considered a number of projects that the money could be used for but settled on remarking the 14 km Wirilda Track with a uniform marker containing the wording WIRILDA WALKING TRACK. This gives the track a unique brand and stresses to users that it is a walking track, hopefully that will help discourage bike riders and horses etc. A variety of different markers have been used over the years. There are still a few of the original square white markers and a few diamond shaped yellow markers with the word WIRILDA on them. We will leave these in place as a historic feature but remove all other markers on trees.



An old and a new sign (top) and Joe van Beek on the Wirilda Walking track

Latrobe Valley Enterprises have produced 300 markers for us at a cost of just over \$1,500. Mark Connor (Parks Victoria) and I (Joe van Beek FoTP) commenced the

erection of the markers on our scheduled track maintenance day Wednesday 21 March. We put up some 50 markers over approximately 7km of the southern part of the track. Most were put up as reassurance markers/ track branding at approximately 250 metre intervals as this part of the track is readily followed without the need for directional markers, except for a few spots where markers were strategically placed to indicate the continuation of the track.

**Joe van Beek for Friends of Tyers Park**

### **Victorian Malleefowl Recovery Group**

The Victorian Malleefowl Recovery Group (VMRG) is comprised of people with a common interest in malleefowl, many of whom assist with special projects - monitoring malleefowl mounds - in consultation with land managers, scientists, students and others. Malleefowl used to be found over a greater area of Victoria. In Birds Of The Long Forest 1889 - 2005 published by Friends Of Werribee Gorge and Long Forest Mallee Inc., there is a reference to malleefowl - that historical records indicate descriptions of active mounds in mallee scrub between Anakie and Melton.



"There are few birds in the world as interesting and industrious as the Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*). The Victorian Malleefowl Recovery Group is dedicated to the preservation of this magnificent and endangered bird."

My family has been members of the VMRG for a few years; I can tell it has been a while because our son was in primary school when we started our

monitoring in Wyperfeld NP, and now he is taller than me.



Photos: Alec Hawtin & Gil Hopkins

Like us, some members take young family members on monitoring trips and others have adults only. All have an area in Victoria where they monitor malleefowl mounds, generally once a year. We use mobile mappers and mobile phones - supplied by the VMRG - to locate the mounds and to record information on the state of the mound (active / inactive, height, length, whose poo is in it, ). We also collect malleefowl and fox scats in and around the mound. Photos are taken of the site, and other photos are taken by motion cameras.

Each year the VMRG holds a Reporting Back meeting and this year we met in Warracknabeal in April at the Neighbourhood House - an excellent venue.

Everyone's data is put together and compiled into a presentation which gives the latest data alongside data from years previous. Members ask questions and share anecdotes.

A visit to a local place of interest is often a part of the Reporting Back weekend. This year members visited local naturalist Mary Fielding's property in Birchip [https://gallery.mailchimp.com/813fe0d35d1f23ee42c92a82a/files/0c60ec5e-afc3-4bad-92f5-92db2c4d91f6/Birchip\\_Mary.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/813fe0d35d1f23ee42c92a82a/files/0c60ec5e-afc3-4bad-92f5-92db2c4d91f6/Birchip_Mary.pdf)

If you are interested in learning more about the VMRG, please have a look at the website: <http://malleefowlvictoria.org.au/>

**Bonnie Gelman, Victorian Malleefowl Recovery Group**

## VEFN – Yarra Riverkeeper Association Networking Forum success

The Networking Forum held at the Lilydale Community Centre on 17<sup>th</sup> March was a great success and 76 people attended. Lily D'Ambrosio, Minister for Energy, Environment & Climate Change and Minister for Suburban Development attended and spoke about the value of Friends groups and environmental volunteers more generally.



Minister D'Ambrosio speaks at the Networking Forum

Twelve speakers from Friends groups, agencies, local councils and philanthropic organisations spoke at the forum. VEFN and the Yarra Riverkeeper Association are grateful for their involvement and thanks them for their contribution to a successful day.

Kirsteen Thomson of Greenspace Scotland spoke about environmental volunteering in Scotland and Greenspace Scotland's experience in organising partnerships.



Kirsteen Thomson, Greenspace Scotland & David Moncrieff, Friends of Glenfern Valley Bushland

The Networking Forum was made possible through funding provided by the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning and was generously supported in many ways by Yarra Ranges Council. VEFN hopes to be able to hold more of these type of events in future.

Next, we feature extracts from four speakers which will give you flavour of the many topics covered during the day.

## **Friends of Merri Creek - Making the most of funding opportunities**

Friends of Merri Creek has 300-400 members. We are interested in the whole creek from the Dividing Range to the Yarra, as well as its tributaries. Activities include revegetation, litter clean-ups, bird surveys, water quality monitoring, tours, advocacy and campaigns. We provide six representatives to the Merri Creek Management Committee, which also has as members the six local government authorities in the catchment.

FoMC taps into three types of funding for projects: government grants, philanthropic grants, and crowdfunding. Government grant sources include Melbourne Water for waterway-related projects, Parks Victoria for work in PV parks and reserves, Federal and State threatened species programs, Port Phillip & Western Port CMA for land management, and local government community environment grants. We have received a few grants from philanthropic trusts, but this is limited because we don't have Deductible Gift Recipient status.

FoMC auspices grants for smaller member groups that are not incorporated, don't have an ABN and/or are not registered for GST.

Our special success factor in securing grants is our partnership with Merri Creek Management Committee. MCMC staff find out about grants programs, develop ideas for projects using their deep knowledge of sites and clear strategic directions, and prepare the grant applications in consultation with the Friends. They liaise with land managers for approvals, and as contractors do the technical and hard on-ground work for us volunteers. They have a strong commitment to successful completion of projects. Having knowledgeable and engaged paid staff to help us, makes our projects more effective and helps to avoid volunteer burnout.

Our crowdfunding project was sparked by a DELWP offer in 2016 of \$15,000 if a group could raise the same amount. With the help of some energetic young people we raised \$24,000, but it required a lot of work, we were lucky to have someone with a great network and music connections (to offer an exclusive gig as a reward), and we probably wouldn't do it again. Some other environmental groups participating in the matched grant program didn't meet their target.

To sum up: look for as many funding sources as possible, find someone (paid) to help, and make sure the funded projects are completed and the grants properly acquitted.

**Ann McGregor, Vice-President, Friends of Merri Creek Inc.**

## **How Yarra Ranges Council Supports Environmental Volunteers**

Yarra ranges Council is very proud to have probably the largest number of environmental volunteer groups of any of the nearby Councils. We believe this shows that we have a passionate & dedicated community and a stunning environmental landscape that people want to look after for future generations. Because of this high number of volunteers, Yarra Ranges Council is one of the only councils in Victoria to employ a full-time Environmental Volunteer Support Officer.

There are over 60 Friends Groups & 14 Landcare Groups in the Yarra Ranges. This equates to over 1000 volunteers. Groups range from one member to over 200. Council manages more than 600 reserves, and roughly 25-30 of these reserves have environmental volunteers working in them. The rest work on land owned by other agencies or private land. In total, our volunteers work over 50,000 hours annually. This saves Council over \$1,000,000 every year.

Yarra Ranges Council provides funding through Community Grants – ranging from \$1000 monthly small grants, to annual Community grants of up to \$10,000, and every four years the Partnership Grants offer up to \$40,000. In the last three years we have funded roughly 20 different projects to the tune of \$90 000 through our Grants for Community program alone. Over the past three years of Partnership Grants we've supported a couple of groups to a total of \$57,000. This doesn't include the many Small Grant projects with an environmental focus.

We support the groups that work on Council land by creating Agreed Work Plans. These plans occur on site with the groups to make sure works are complimentary between volunteers, contractors & council. We also provide gloves, secateurs, mattocks and other useful tools, as well as dabber bottles & weed/plant brochures to any group that requests them. The Bushland Team will liaise with local indigenous community nurseries to get the correct plants to the volunteers for the reserves. After group's working bees, the weed bags are collected by council's outdoor staff and safely disposed of. We also provide insurance to ensure all our volunteers are protected when they are working.

Yarra Ranges Council runs various training courses to assist the volunteers, such as first aid, weed ID, digital mapping, land management etc. In 2016/2017 we ran ten courses, training over 200 volunteers in various skills that will support their work in the reserves and bushlands. In the past we have worked in conjunction with Box Hill Institute to provide modules of accredited training in Conservation and Land Management.



Council helps groups buy organising work plans, providing tools and training among other forms of support. Photo: Yarra Ranges Council



Annual Environmental Volunteers Thank You Event. Photo: Yarra Ranges Council

As for policies and strategies, the community, including volunteers, is always invited to have input on strategies – we have the Environment Strategy, and the upcoming Weed and Tree Strategies. Yarra Ranges Council also has the Yarra Ranges Environment Advisory Committee (YREAC) which is made up of community members and volunteers. YREAC advises Council on environmental issues, policies and management plans.

Our advice for environmental volunteers is to utilize your local Council as they can play a strategic role across all Government Agencies. Also, find an umbrella group to help with auspicing and funding. You don't need to go it alone; there are lots of opportunities for support and assistance so volunteers can focus in protecting and enhancing the environment.

**Jen Ellison, Environmental Volunteer Support Officer, Yarra Ranges Council**

The Environmental Volunteer Support Officer also deals with all the communication to the volunteers. We have an E-newsletter to update on any environmental issues, Council policies or Friends Groups news. We also print and send out promotional materials for our groups – newsletters, posters, mail outs – to encourage participation and new membership. We have received fantastic feedback to these mail outs - one recent one garnered 15 new volunteers. People care about the areas near where they live and want to contribute. We just need to tell them how they can.

Each year Yarra Ranges Council hosts an Environmental Volunteer Thank You Celebration. This is a chance to celebrate the volunteers' achievements from the past year and to network with Councilors, council staff and other volunteers. Each volunteer gets a small gift and events are always catered for.

## Engaging With Local Government

**Local Councils Value Friends Groups** because of their grassroots nature, their self organizing ability, their persistence and longevity and their local ownership of places and stewardship of their future.



**Friends Groups Can Engage with Councils by:**

**a) Letting them know you're there!**

Small groups can be invisible and miss opportunities. Being visible can provide opportunities for connections that offer mutual benefit. Local government will actively engage with groups they know exist.

**b) Build the relationship**

Identify key people in council – supportive councillors, responsible officers. Ask questions, communicate activities, invite councillors along to your events, to your AGM. Ask the mayor to speak or open an event or cut a ribbon.

**c) Get to know council priorities**

Have a say on the Council Plan and actions; policies and strategies. This is where Council priority effort and funding goes.

**d) Get involved in other aspects of council**

eg advisory committees, consultations, working groups, taskforces, development of masterplans for parks and reserves; planning scheme changes which affect

natural environments . Friends Groups

have a unique insight which is invaluable to all these.

**e) Access council grants, training, use of facilities, opportunities at events**

Community grants can be used to develop programmes or activities. Council facilities are offered at subsidized rates. Council events can be an opportunity to promote your group and its activities. Position yourself as “invested stakeholders.”

**f) Be proactive and positive**

The work of council has its own momentum. It's much more effective to work with Friends Groups who are positive, who come forward with a proposition for action, who are willing to share problems and solutions.



**Celebrate Successes**

Encourage your council to acknowledge your successes and those of other Friends Groups – at a public council meeting, in council publications, through awards. You deserve it!

**Amanda Stone, City of Yarra**

## Wettenhall Environment Trust

Wettenhall Environment Trust (formerly The Norman Wettenhall Foundation) is a perpetual charitable trust that funds projects concerned with maintaining and enhancing the Australian natural living environment.

We have three funding programs – Community-driven Landscape Restoration (not open for applications); Leadership Development Grants; and the Small Environment Grants Scheme (SEGS).



Our Small Environmental Grant Scheme is available for flora and fauna applications four times a year  
All details are available on our website [wettenhall.org.au](http://wettenhall.org.au)

The SEGS funds are for projects that mainly involve citizen science, community education, and training and that are focused on flora and fauna conservation, threatened mammal conservation, and landscape restoration community education in agricultural landscapes.



Bryony with Bandicoot

We look for groups who are partnering with others, training and upskilling volunteers, setting up long term monitoring, collecting robust data, and supplying that data to national databases. We also like to support people who are doing innovative or interesting things, sometimes piloting new ideas and trialing new ways of conservation.

To apply for our small grants groups don't need a particular tax status – we can fund anyone. But we tend not to fund individuals unless they have strong links to an environment or conservation group.

Our application procedure is extremely simple, and everything is done on-line. To find out details, see [wettenhall.org.au](http://wettenhall.org.au)

**Beth Mellick, Wettenhall Environment Trust**

### Victorian Landcare Grants Open

The Victorian Government has committed \$1.8 million for Victorian Landcare Grants in 2018-19. These will support Landcare and other environmental volunteer, **including Friends groups**, to undertake projects that protect and restore the land and environment.

**Applications are due by Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June** and information about the grants and how to apply can be found here

<https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/grants/victoria-n-landcare-grants-2018-19>.

**Funding is available for:**

- **Project Grants of up to \$20,000** are available for on-ground works, education and capacity building projects to protect and restore Victoria's land and environment.
- **Support Grants of \$500** are available for existing groups/networks.
- **Start-up Grants of \$500** are available for new groups/networks.

**Who can apply?** the 2018/19 Victorian Landcare Grants are open to all Victorian Landcare and environmental volunteer groups and networks that advance the Landcare ethic and care for the environment. These include, but are not limited to Coastcare groups, Conservation Management Networks, "Friends of" groups, and Landcare groups/networks.

**Guidelines:** before applying carefully read the Guidelines for 2018/19 Victorian Landcare Grants that are on your CMA's website - see links below.

**Application Forms:** the grant's application form is online (via SmartyGrants). To apply, go to your CMA's

website (link below) to access the grant's Guidelines and complete the application form for your region.

Corangamite [www.ccma.vic.gov.au/What-we-do/Community/Landcare](http://www.ccma.vic.gov.au/What-we-do/Community/Landcare)

East Gippsland [www.egcma.com.au/what-we-do](http://www.egcma.com.au/what-we-do)

Glenelg Hopkins [www.ghcma.vic.gov.au/get-involved/landcare-and-grants/](http://www.ghcma.vic.gov.au/get-involved/landcare-and-grants/)

Goulburn Broken [www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/current-issues/victorian-landcare-grants-open](http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/current-issues/victorian-landcare-grants-open)

Mallee [www.malleecma.vic.gov.au/grants-incentives](http://www.malleecma.vic.gov.au/grants-incentives)

North Central [www.nccma.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.nccma.vic.gov.au/grants)

North East [www.necma.vic.gov.au/Solutions/Grants-Incentives/VLG](http://www.necma.vic.gov.au/Solutions/Grants-Incentives/VLG)

Port Phillip & Western Port  
[www.ppwcmca.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.ppwcmca.vic.gov.au/grants)

West Gippsland [www.wgcma.vic.gov.au/getting-involved/landcare/victorian-landcare-grants](http://www.wgcma.vic.gov.au/getting-involved/landcare/victorian-landcare-grants)

Wimmera [www.wcma.vic.gov.au/get-involved/Landcare](http://www.wcma.vic.gov.au/get-involved/Landcare)

### **Victoria continues the battle on Serrated Tussock**

#### **May 2018**

The Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party (VSTWP) has strengthened its community extension programs in strategic locations across Victoria over the past 12 months, supporting 320 landowners in the Gisborne South, Bullengarook, Ballan and Inverleigh North regions. Three extension officers were contracted to implement the targeted extension projects, which aimed to increase awareness of serrated tussock and provide landowners with the knowledge and resources to manage infestations. A fourth extension officer is likely to be contracted in 2018, to increase the resources of the VSTWP.



Serrated Tussock south of Gisbourne, treated with selective herbicide Fluproprone

Serrated tussock is an introduced invasive plant from South America that has the potential to rapidly decrease the biodiversity of native grasslands and seriously reduce the agricultural capacity of properties. Chairman of the VSTWP John Burgess said “over the past 12 months our extension officers have assessed over 13,500 hectares of land and observed a total of around 977 hectares infested with serrated tussock, 820 hectares of which were voluntarily treated by landowners at the time, with the expert management guidance and advice provided by the extension officers” said Mr Burgess.

All landowners in the four target areas were offered a free property visit, an information package detailing serrated tussock identification and management options, technical advice on serrated tussock control and a property map noting any serrated tussock infestations located. Chairman John Burgess noted that “each of the extension projects were launched with an information session or field day, with all landowners in the target area invited to discuss the project and learn about the biology, identification and services available to landowners affected by serrated tussock”.

VSTWP Extension Officer, Tim Johnston said “Many landowners new to a region do not know how to identify and manage serrated tussock, and the VSTWP extension program aims to increase awareness and provide technical advice on a property by property basis”. “The serrated tussock message is about integrated weed management and sustainable land management. Prevention and early detection of new infestations and replacement of existing infestations with desired species is critical in managing this invasive plant.” said Mr Johnston.



Serrated Tussock in seed. Note the small purple seeds

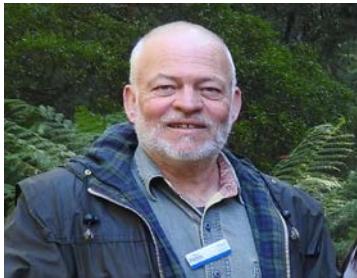
The VSTWP have also recently upgraded their website ([www.serratedtussock.com](http://www.serratedtussock.com)) to include a series of video clips that assist landowners with the identification of serrated tussock and provide video case studies of successful serrated tussock management in Victoria. The website also has a variety of research on best practice management and copies of the iconic quarterly newsletter the Tussock Times.

For further information, please contact Ivan Carter, Community Engagement Officer, Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party on 0422605953. For more information on serrated tussock please visit [www.serratedtussock.com](http://www.serratedtussock.com).

### Articles for FriendsNET

Suggestions for articles for FriendsNET are welcome. Please email to [friendvic@hotmail.com](mailto:friendvic@hotmail.com). If you want to include photos, please send separately as high resolution jpeg images, preferably in landscape format if possible.

## VEFN 2018 Committee



**Paul Strickland, Convenor**

Paul has many years of experience in media, community development and State Government and University bureaucracy. He is now a "lifestyle" farmer producing essential oils in from European and native plants, with extensive re-vegetation on the property. He is active in Friends of Mt Worth State Park, Mt Worth and District Landcare, Darnum CFA, Baw Baw Sustainability Network and Vision Australia Warragul Radio, and is in his second year as VEFN Convenor. He hopes that VEFN can build its strength and influence as a representative of Friends groups, and increase the recognition and funding of Friends groups.



**Laura Mumaw, Deputy Convenor**

Laura Mumaw has served on the VEFN Committee since late 2013. She is currently a member of the Knox Environment Society and on the coordinating group of Gardens for Wildlife Victoria. Laura is inspired by the work of Friends groups, and motivated to help them better support our communities to value and foster biodiversity. Laura has worked for many years in zoos and aquariums and has been active in environmental groups here and abroad. She is currently a researcher at RMIT, exploring how to build urban community capacity in nature stewardship and the related social and ecological benefits.



**Margaret Hunter, Secretary**

I live in the south eastern suburbs of Melbourne and have been involved in environmental groups for many years. I have an Arts Degree from La Trobe University and recreation qualification and have been an active member of the Friends of Braeside Park and Friends of Edithvale-Seaford Wetlands for over ten years. My early interests in environmental areas included Point Nepean, the Yarra parks, and Bundoora Park then in the early stages of development. I now work at Braeside Park, Edithvale, Seaford and surrounding areas and in bird counts and frog watch with a particular interest in children's activities and education. I also have an active involvement in sports officiating and events.

I am a member of the Community Reference Groups for the Mordialloc Freeway and the Edithvale-Bonbeach Level Crossing Removal, and on several council committees..

My passionate interest is in the education and training development of environmental areas, and making the community aware of these and their value to the community into the future. I want to continue to contribute to these areas and contribute to this by expanding my involvement with VEFN , taking on the role of secretary in February 2018.



**Roger Parker, Treasurer**

Roger is a member of the Friends of Mt Worth State park and has been on VEFN committee since late 2016. Roger is a retired geotechnical and environmental engineer having worked for 40 years as a consultant engineer. He has had experience on many professional committees and a number of private industry, government and school boards.

## VEFN 2018 Committee (continued)



**Merrin Butler, Committee Member**

Over the past 15 years, Merrin has been involved with a number of environment volunteer groups in West Gippsland, where she lives. She is president of the Friends of Mt Worth State Park, secretary of West Gippsland Seedbank and an active member of Mt Worth & District Landcare. She has been successful in obtaining grants to improve access for visitors to Mt Worth State Park and in involving local schools in science and nature programs within the park. Before her retirement, Merrin worked in Human Resources for two large Australian corporates..



**Andrew Kelly, Committee Member**

Andrew Kelly is the Yarra Riverkeeper and is the spokesperson of the Yarra Riverkeeper Association, a group of citizen-advocates who represent the community voice of the Yarra catchment from its source in East Gippsland to Port Phillip Bay. Andrew speaks for the river and advocates for better management of the river. He is active on a number of government committees, representing the Yarra and its catchment. The association also has a variety of on-ground activities, including litter pickups, that make for a better river and catchment. Andrew supports the work of volunteer groups throughout the Yarra catchment. These groups, perhaps the strongest concentration of environmental volunteer groups in the state of Victoria, have achieved so much in improving the river and its tributaries and defending iconic and threatened species such as the helmeted honeyeater and Leadbeater possum.

Bonnie Gelman, Judy Ingram & Andrew Lucas are also Committee Members. Bios and photos available soon.