

Kananook Creek Association Inc.

Newsletter

Spring 2016

Established 1970 Association No. A0007735M ABN 15 952 521 93

Kananook Creek Association - Proud winners of NAB Volunteers Award for 2005

Postal Address:

PO Box 123,
Frankston. Vic. 3199

Hon. President

Paul Davies

E:padavies.kca@gmail.com

IF KANANOOK CREEK IS IMPORTANT TO YOU

Then please help us achieve our aims: to clean, restore and preserve the Kananook Creek and its environment.

It will cost you only an annual membership fee of \$15 but will help KCA meet the costs of advocating for and protecting this natural wonder.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send your letters, addressed to:

The Editor, Kananook Creek Association Newsletter,
by post to the above postal address, or email to:
kananookcreek@gmail.com

Whether you are a member of KCA or have not yet joined, we welcome your letters to the editor. If you have an opinion that you would like to share, a concern about any aspect of the Creek or its environs, a question or a complaint, we would like to hear it. It may be that by making it known through this Newsletter something unfortunate can be rectified or something worthwhile achieved.

View from Coates Walk



This newsletter is your opportunity to communicate your viewpoint to a wide audience. One membership covers your entire household.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

www.kananookcreekassociation.org

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There have been a lot of positive changes around the creek over recent months. There are more in the future. As a summary of changes in this calendar year we've seen:

- Reconstructed footbridges at Beach Street, Fiocchi Avenue and Allawah Avenue in Frankston by Frankston City Council;
- Reconstruction of the concrete retaining wall between Beach and Wells Streets;
- Restoration of the walking track between Armstrongs Road and Station Street in Seaford;
- Clearance of a massive stand of succulents by the creek bank in Armstrongs Road;
- More indigenous plantings at Seaford Park;

In ensuing months we can expect to see:

- Informational signage around Seaford Park;
- A new footbridge at Beckwith Grove with improved access for users.

Lots of physical things are happening and hopefully that will continue; but the KCA needs more volunteer support. We are a voluntary organization so without volunteers we cease to exist. Some of the points above feature elsewhere in this newsletter. Please read them, but beyond that become actively involved. One working bee for 2 or 3 hours per month isn't a huge commitment.

BECKWITH GROVE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

The KCA is delighted to advise that on Monday 8th August 2016 the Councillors of Frankston City Council unanimously approved the reconstruction of the Beckwith Grove pedestrian bridge on a "like for like" basis. The CEO, Dennis Hovenden, indicated that the bridge would be built as a priority this financial year. From his comments the KCA is optimistic that this rebuild will be completed before the peak summer usage period.

It is fair to say that local residents were the main movers and shakers in helping secure the reconstruction of the bridge. They organized a petition with some 383 signatures in favour of rebuilding the bridge. This is a great outcome for the Seaford community and demonstrates what can be achieved with a positive approach to solving problems. We now have a new bridge with a predicted life span of 50 years to be built in the very near future.

YOUR 2016-17 KCA COMMITTEE 2

PAUL DAVIES – President, has been on the committee for the last 6 years and is in his 3rd year as president. Paul lives by the creek and has seen how much the creek has changed and improved over 40 years. His role is to ensure that this continues.

ANDREW ROBINSON- Treasurer and Vice Pres.

He's been a committee member for over 10 years and loves nothing better than attending monthly working bees to remove a few weeds, plant some new vegetation and experience the camaraderie of these days.

TREVOR NOCK – Secretary. Trevor was appointed Treasurer before he'd even become a Member of KCA when he arrived at his first Annual General Meeting shortly after moving to Frankston 16 years ago. Eleven years later he became President and is now serving as Secretary. He's often seen walking his terrier Max along the creek track through Seaford, so, if you see him, do say "Hi" to Trevor! Your other committee members are: **Hilary Poad, Paul Kelly Gill Gibson and Marjorie Johnson OAM.**

We all have a common interest in wanting to help local residents enjoy what the creek reserve has to offer and ensure that it continues as a treasured community asset.



INTRODUCING OUR NEW KANANOOK CREEK RANGER – GARETH STORY

Good news, Kananook Creek now has a new full time Natural Reserve Ranger, Gareth Story. Gareth was previously ranger for the Seaford Foreshore for several years before moving to the Kananook Creek reserve. This means Gareth has an excellent appreciation of the area and understands the general habitat of the creek and the fragile nature of the dune area that the creek runs through. There is a lot of basic maintenance work, before we even get on to enhancement projects, such as seating or signage. That's why Gareth and the Natural Reserves team at Frankston City Council need the support of the Kananook Creek Association and a healthy team of volunteers.

FUTURE PROOFING KCA

No organization can survive without new blood and new involvement. We need new members and new office bearers to replace those who move on or retire so that we can continue our work for the creek and its environs. A great way to learn more about what we are doing is to come along to working bees which are held on the 1st Sunday of each month from 9 - 12 branching out from Fiocchi Ave.

Working bees are :

- A great way to meet new friends.
- Fun
- Satisfying. There is always a great sense of achievement after EVERY working bee.
- A unique source of community information. It's amazing the things you learn that you may otherwise never know.

Duties range from light duties to moderately hard; you only do what you can/want to do. We work for just 2 hours and then share morning tea/brunch afterwards. We look forward to you joining us so that you can see what you have been missing. Be sure to fill in the membership form on page 4 if you're not already a member of the KCA.

Andrew Robinson, Treasurer and VP, KCA



Coates Walk Hand Rail

Our thanks to Frankston City Council for installing this welcome aid on a steep Creek descent.

78-83 Nepean Highway, Seaford

We would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on KCA's recent application to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) saga, objecting to Frankston City Council's decision to allow a development at 78-83 Nepean Highway in Seaford, with a frontage of 100 metres and containing 157 apartments, to proceed.

Taking this action was not an easy decision to make: the committee estimated it would cost KCA \$5,000; we knew it would consume an enormous amount of our volunteer time (between 200 and 250 hours); and that it would be what the members of KCA and local residents would have wanted us to do. Nevertheless we went ahead with our Application which was heard over three days, one day for a Mediation Conference, at which we were allowed to present our Statement of Claim and two days for hearing the arguments for and against the proposed development.

The Tribunal handed down its 41 page decision on 4 July, effectively giving the green light to the proposal. However a number of arguments put by KCA during the application process did bear fruit: amended plans were submitted which reduced the number of apartments 157 to 140, still a large number but the result was to allow for the removal of part of an upper level on the creek elevation of the building and to enable larger balconies to be provided than originally designed. KCA had also been in correspondence with Melbourne Water on flooding issues, with the outcome that MW (who couldn't seem to make up their minds whether to allow the development to proceed as it stood or to object) ended up requiring some fairly stringent caveats to be included in the titles to the dwellings. The VCAT Members also required best practice to be followed in the management of Acid Sulphate Soil which, if disturbed during construction, could release sulphuric acid into the waterway.

So, although we didn't achieve what we had hoped for, we made a stand and acquitted ourselves (a quartet of retirees!) reasonably WELL. The whole proposal was a complex one and because of that the Members have given the developer three years from the date of their Order to start construction and five years in which to finish it. We also understand that Frankston Council has since removed from its draft Planning Scheme higher density developments in Seaford between the Nepean Highway and Kananook Creek.

Trevor Nock, Secretary, KCA



KANANOOK CREEK ASSOCIATION INC

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Year: 1 January – 31st December

Membership contributions help us to:

- continue our work on the reserves.
- lobby for a cleaner creek.
- distribute newsletters to keep members and local residents informed.

If you would like to join us or your subscription has lapsed, please complete the form below and send it with your subscription. Annual membership is only \$15.00 per household.

KCA Membership- 1 Jan 2016– 31st Dec 2016

Kananook Creek Association Membership 2016: \$15.00 per household.

Payments to: Kananook Creek Association

Westpac Banking Corporation Account details: 033-179 313381

Please include your full name as the reference.

Please send membership application to:

KCA Treasurer, 410 Nepean Highway, Frankston 3199.

I / We would like to join <input type="checkbox"/>	Name(s)	
I / We would like to renew membership <input type="checkbox"/>		
I / We would like to participate in activities <input type="checkbox"/>	Address	
I / We enclose _____ (\$15.00 per household) or I / We have paid via BSB – see above		No. of persons _____
Phone		Date
E-mail		<i>Thank you!</i>

PRIVACY: The KCA respects your privacy. We do not share personal information or e-mail addresses with any other persons or organizations. If you provide your e-mail address to the KCA, you can expect to receive an e-mailed newsletter approximately 3-4 times per year and correspondence concerning issues considered to be of importance to our members. If at any time, you wish to be removed from the e-mailing list, you need only to send an e-mail requesting removal.