



The Creek

Volume 27 No 6, December 2023

Caring for our local environment

THE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY ON OUR DOORSTEP

Jonathan Ricciardello, Team Leader Destination Conservation & Operations at The Briars, was guest speaker at the BERG AGM on 21st October. Angela Kirsner summarises his talk

The Briars is one of the first properties settled by Europeans on the Mornington Peninsula. In the late 1970s the descendants of Alexander Balcombe donated eight hectares, including the historic house, jointly to the Shire and the National Trust, and with great foresight, the Shire bought the remaining 220 hectares.

Jono's talk focussed on the conservation programs within the property's 100 hectare wildlife sanctuary. In the 1980s a game-proof fence was erected around this patch of original, uncleared bushland, and this was upgraded to a full predator-proof fence in 2012 with the help of Rotary and other volunteers. All cats, foxes and finally, after a huge effort, rabbits were then removed.

About 100 indigenous plant species grow in the sanctuary and some 200 species of native fauna utilise it. A number of species have also been reintroduced, with more translocation programs planned.

Dwarf Galaxias in the wetlands

These colourful little indigenous fish are a threatened species, and recent surveys have failed to find them in Balcombe Creek or its tributaries. The most recent records within The Briars are from the 1990s (although three were found under the Highway bridge during Mal Legg's 2019 fauna survey for BERG).



Mosquito Fish are largely responsible for this. Introduced a century ago, they failed dismally to control mosquitoes but rapidly spread through our waterways, aggressively attacking fish and tadpoles.

But The Briars wetlands, which were constructed in the 1980s, have no Mosquito Fish, and became the destination for a population of Dwarf Galaxias displaced by construction of Peninsula Link. The wetlands now support a thriving population of them, and at the end of the Peninsula Link project, some were returned to their original home.

Bandicoots are returning

After years of talk of reintroducing Southern Brown Bandicoots to The Briars, it is now happening. Recent research by DELWP showed that Victoria's fragmented Bandicoot populations are very inbred, so work has started to bring together carefully selected animals from different areas. The Briars is one of the sites where it is happening.

The benefits are two-way. While the program is protecting and diversifying Victoria's Bandicoots, these 'ecosystem engineers' bring their skills to bear on the bushland. Their constant digging spreads beneficial soil fungi, increases nutrient turnover and boosts water penetration. *Continued next page*

BERG MT MARTHA HIGHLY COMMENDED

Eric Smalley reports

BERG Mt Martha was one of three friends groups to be highly commended at the annual Best Friends' Award ceremony hosted by the Victorian Environment Friends Network on 18th November. The outstanding group winner was Friends of Kororoit Creek.

Individuals and groups were recognized for their exceptional contributions to the community and environmental volunteering.

VEFN is a not-for-profit member-based organisation advocating and promoting environmental volunteering through friends' groups.

Many thanks to Peter McMahon for putting together our nomination.



At the ceremony: Despi O'Connor, Peter McMabon, Liz Barraclough, Eric Smalley

BERG Mt Martha welcomes new members Elizabeth Anderson & family, Lynne Tickell, Penny Heath, Julie van Anandel

Thank you!
Mt Martha Community Bank
Sponsors of The Creek 2023

Mount Martha
Community Bank® Branch





Southern Brown Bandicoot

This is but one example of how, in Jono's words, 'We are really starting to look at restoration of ecosystem processes and functions, how we can proactively encourage the environment to heal itself.' Management of Bracken is another example.

Slashing bracken for biodiversity

The sanctuary has large areas of bracken, and the team noticed that where it was slashed, lots of native grasses emerged. They then found that if they slashed the Bracken at the end of its cycle, when the ground was drying, they could remove it from the system. The immediate response is lots of grasses, both native and exotic. A second slash then disrupts the seed cycle of the exotic grasses, favouring the native grasses.

'We have had some good results', Jono said, 'and we'll keep trialling the approach to enhance biodiversity'.

Managing introduced populations

Managing a fenced sanctuary brings particular challenges. Macropods such as kangaroos and wallabies breed, their numbers build, and the population outgrows the sanctuary's capacity to support them, particularly during drought. Fertility control is the answer for 'The Briars'

Kangaroos: a contraceptive implant that between the shoulders lasts about seven years. A similar program is in the pipeline for the sanctuary's healthy population of Swamp Wallabies.

A haven for the Mt Martha Bundy

A rough-barked mountain grey gum, the Mt Martha Bundy *Eucalyptus caroloniae* occurs naturally only in Norfolk-Hopetoun Reserve. This narrow strip of bushland sandwiched between housing blocks supports some 500 Bundy trees and saplings.

The Royal Botanic Gardens have Bundy seed stored at the National Herbarium and, in collaboration with them, The Briars has established a second population. Jono's team identified a gully line in the farmland with the same aspect and slopes as the nearby Norfolk-Hopetoun site – indeed, it's possible that the Bundy once grew here. Some 350 have been planted on the site, the foundation of an 'insurance population', grown from seed from many different trees to provide genetic diversity. They are being managed not as a plantation, but as a mixed, biodiverse site so they also bring habitat and biodiversity value.

Fire

Fire has been long absent from The Briars. Control burns were trialled in the early 2000s to reduce fuel load, but more recently, The Briars team has experimented with small, cool burns in the bushland in winter, with an ecological focus. The results have surprised and delighted them.

'Things we just don't see on the site,' said Jono, '*Helichrysum*, *Daviesia*, *Kennedia*, *Stylidium*, *Hovea*, *Thehymitra*.... We are now looking at how we can use cool burns as part of our ecological management, to stimulate the rich soil-stored seed bank.'



A patch of Nodding Greenhoods revealed by the slashing program

Research and monitoring

Jono's work includes a strong focus on research to measure, monitor and document the changes that come about with the various management packages and programs in place, and much of the work at The Briars is supported by research collaborations with universities. What happens, for example, when the bandicoots come back – is there a response in the vegetation, is the soil structure changing, bio-diversity increase-ing?

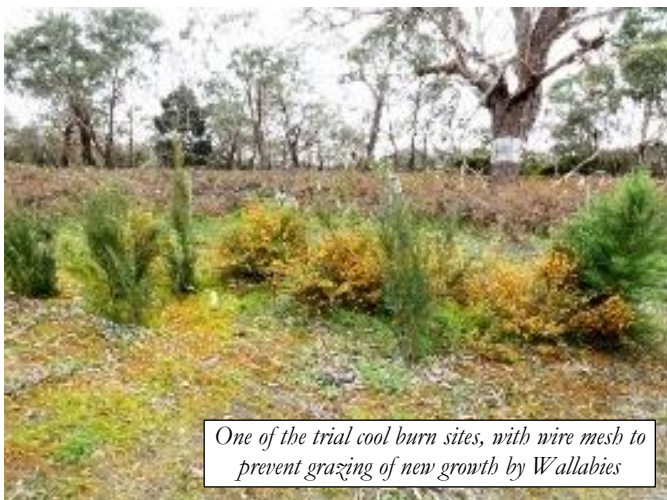
Sanctuary expansion

The sanctuary is expanding by another 40 hectares into adjoining pastureland, with funding from the State government. Over the past two years about 4000 canopy plants have been planted, with substantial community help and involvement, and another 8,500 shrubs and ground cover plants are on order for planting next year. A predator-proof fence is going up soon, and in time, there will be walking tracks

Climate change and revegetation

With the decline in large old trees across the Peninsula, nest boxes have been installed and the team proactively protects existing trees with hollows.

But what to plant for the future? Given that in a century our climate envelope may well be more like that of 100km or more to the north, Jono's team is exploring the idea of revegetating with seed or plant material from more northern sites; in particular, plants of the same species as our indigenous ones, but local variants that have developed in other climate envelopes.



One of the trial cool burn sites, with wire mesh to prevent grazing of new growth by Wallabies

FROM THE AGM

OUR NEW COMMITTEE

From Eric Smalley, BERG President

Thanks to all those who attended the BERG Mt Martha Annual General meeting on 21st October. We had a fantastic turnout.

I am pleased to announce the committee elected for 2023/24 year:

President Eric Smalley

Secretary Kathleen Smalley

Treasurer: Sue Milton

Field Officer: Liz Barraclough

General committee: Ian Horton, Angela Kirsner (Editor, *The Creek*), Peter McMahon, Terry Moar, Marion Orchison, Geoff Pritchard, Cheryl Wilkinson (Membership).

Our profound thanks to Julie Zammit, who stood down after seven years as Treasurer. We are most grateful to Sue Milton for agreeing to take on the job in the short term. Sue has a long association with BERG; she was our auditor before she retired, joined BERG and was soon persuaded to join the committee.

The Vice Presidency remains unfilled. Might this be you?

To those who have chosen to renominate, thank you yet again for your continuing commitment.

We look forward to another successful year for BERG.

NEW BLOOD ON THE COMMITTEE

We are delighted to welcome four new faces to the committee.

Cheryl Wilkinson has been BERG's Membership Secretary since late 2021. A teacher, public servant, progressive activist and keen painter, she and Colin moved to Mt Martha in 2017. Colin's career has been in chemistry, and he has joined the EstuaryWatch team. They both love travel in our natural environment.

Ian Horton is a bookseller by trade. After working in publishing, he and Meredith opened an independent bookshop in Kew and a decade later, took over Farrells Bookshop in Mornington, and moved to the Peninsula. Nearly thirty years on, their daughter runs Farrells and Ian and Meredith have retired in Mt Martha. BERG members for nearly twenty years, Ian felt it time to become more involved.

Terry Moar was a Project Manager in Information Technology in his professional life, and on various steering committees. As a volunteer, he was on the committee of Relay for Life (cancer fund-raising). A relatively new BERGer, he has become a Friday Group regular (and noted for the fine coffee he brings for morning tea!), and hopes his skills and experience can further help BERG in achieving its aims.

Geoff Pritchard and wife Gail in 2015 moved from Mt Eliza to Watson Rd overlooking the Balcombe Estuary, which they had already enjoyed for decades, kayaking and walking (he's also a keen sailor and skier). Geoff rapidly became a regular Friday grouper, and, he said, 'Joining the committee will enable me to share the responsibility of keeping this group strong. I still have much to learn about management of this sensitive area but being now retired, I have time.'

JOHN INCHLEY LIFE MEMBER

John Inchley, who was awarded Life Membership at the AGM, is one of BERG MM's long-standing treasures. He has been a member since 2003, when he came along to working bees and was seduced by the warm welcome and magnificent morning teas. By 2004 he was on the committee, Vice President in 2007, and when then-President Keith Wilson retired the following year, John stepped up. He was President for three years, and remained a much valued committee member till 2017.

For some years he coordinated pest control (rabbits, foxes). By 2006 he had established a BERG WaterWatch program with Melbourne Water and was coordinating the WaterWatch team. A few years later, he trialled and set up the new EstuaryWatch program for BERG.



John fishing for macroinvertebrates in the creek during WaterWatch testing.

A teacher by profession, he ran innumerable highly successful WaterWatch activities with school kids. He was a regular at working bees for years, has given talks promoting BERG, helped in writing grant submissions – the list goes on. BERG has been very fortunate to have his involvement!

'Like all BERG members,' he said, 'I have gained much out of my involvement – life-long friendships, learning so many skills, the enjoyment of teaching the kids, and seeing the longer-term improvements in the bushland are rewards in themselves. It is also an honour to be recognised as a Life Member.'



Clockwise from left: Ian Horton, Cheryl Wilkinson, Terry Moar, Geoff Pritchard

HAND-CRAFTED HOMES – NEST BOX MONITORING WITH BERG

By Anthony Fennell, Naturelinks Crew Leader, Mornington / Casual Project Leader

In our ongoing commitment to safeguarding local biodiversity, members of BERG Mt Martha joined staff from the Shire's bushland management team, Naturelinks, on 27th October, to monitor the nest boxes in the Balcombe Estuary Reserves. We gained fascinating insights into the lives of our arboreal friends and issues and innovations in their protection into the future.

Sustaining habitats in shifting landscapes

Nest boxes, designed to mimic natural tree hollows, are seen by many as a valuable tool in efforts to preserve the habitats of indigenous arboreal species. They may be a lifeline for native fauna, compensating for the dwindling numbers of natural tree hollows resulting from tree clearing, climate change, and extreme weather events.

Nest boxes are not, however, without flaws and challenges, and their success requires ongoing research and experimentation.

Nestbox programs across the state

The Arthur Rylah Institute recently conducted a comprehensive study of nest box programs across Victoria. Eighty-one individuals and groups reported on 98 nest box programs covering almost a thousand boxes. Around 65% of them are checked at

least annually, and they are used by at least 33 mammal and bird species.

Innovations in nesting solutions

Recent research by LaTrobe University explored the use of chainsaw-carved hollows inside tree trunks, instead of traditional nest boxes. The study found these hollows offer microclimates free of extremes of hot and cold, potentially improving a key susceptibility of traditional boxes. Chainsaw hollows have been constructed in some Mornington Peninsula Shire reserves with promising results.

Is anyone home?

Wireless endoscope cameras are ingenious devices, originally designed for medical use, that enable us to monitor and view the hidden lives within nest boxes. Mounted on an extendable pole, they allow us to peer into nest boxes (and even some natural tree hollows), and catch glimpses of fur, feathers, and distinctive fauna markings. Wireless hi-resolution monitors, available to BERG members, provide detailed views of nesting material age, preferred flora species, and nuances of nesting construction, enriching our understanding of the lives these boxes support. Observations are fed into the Shire's monitoring database.

Home maintenance

Nest boxes typically last around ten years, depending on construction

quality and materials, maintenance, occupancy and environmental conditions. Regular monitoring and maintenance are vital.

Arboreal fauna: why do they matter?

Arboreal fauna contribute immensely to the function and resilience of ecosystems (of which we humans are a part). Krefft's Gliders (commonly mistaken until recently for Sugar Gliders) and Microbats play crucial roles in pollination, and arboreal frugivores (Possums, Parrots) are key dispersers of seeds and other plant propagules – in essence, contributing to the expansion of native bushland.

You don't have to travel far

Interestingly, the old campground by the Balcombe Estuary, with its profusely flowering, relatively non-invasive but not indigenous Spotted Gum, has proven equally popular with Gliders and Microbats on our recent monitoring rounds. This showcases the potential for coexistence between people, fauna, and well-managed non-native flora forming critical habitat.

The area's features provide quality feeding habitat for microbats, including mild sources of artificial light, building structures, open grounds, and a water body replete with hovering insects across which to hunt. It illustrates the species' adaptability to diverse environments.

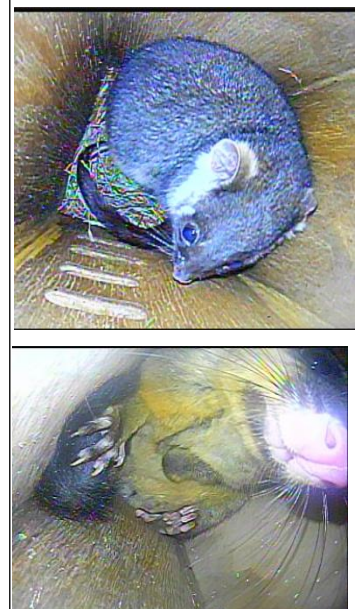


Our monitoring revealed:

...a family of **Krefft's Gliders** bundled up together in boxes, showing some breeding success (top left) as well as the unmistakable high pitch sounds of microbats coming from the specially designed bat boxes dotted around the picnic ground.

...subtle sounds of **Microbats** (bottom left), including the **Gould's Wattled Bat** (just 100mm long about 15g). Melbourne hosts around 16 species of these Nature links night-time navigators, each consuming their body weight in mosquitoes nightly (another great reason to get microbat boxes up around your house). Microbats often roost communally within and across multiple dead and decaying trees or in fissures in deep bark, often in the tens of individuals. Look out for broken branches on trees that form chimney-like spouts; these are a favourite of microbats, and you may observe them exiting at dusk.

... **Ringtail and Brush Possums** (top & bottom right).



THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS



Raise funds for BERG every time you shop at ANY Ritchies store! Simply pick up a free Ritchie's IGA reward card at the store or download the app, register in three easy steps & nominate BERG to benefit! Ritchies will reward a % of your spend to BERG.

BERG has received **\$1,426.60** to date through this Community Benefit Program

Look out for loyalty member specials all around the stores. The Ritchies Christmas promotion runs from until Tuesday 2nd Jan



MEMBERS SAVE MORE

Become a Ritchies Card Member today to receive our latest weekly specials anywhere anytime, along with helping raise funds for your chosen Club, School or Charity.

See over page for how to join and benefits

Sign up and receive **\$10 off your first shop** when you spend \$100 or more*

Download here

- Bells Gourmet Meats
- Bendigo Bank Mount Martha
- Boomerang Bags Mount Martha
- Bunnings Mornington
- Complete Colour
- Complete Step Podiatry & Footwear Specialists
- Dankert Real Estate
- Etch Sparkling
- Mornington Peninsula Gardening
- Mount Martha Chiropractic & Sports Injury Clinic
- Mount Martha Primary School
- Mount Martha Veterinary Clinic
- Mount Martha Village Clinic
- Mount Martha Yacht Club
- Proscape Landscaping
- Regeneration Projects
- Ritchies IGA
- Rotary Club of Mount Martha
- Sea Side Shacks
- Volpino
- Warlimont & Nutt Pty Ltd

FIELD NEWS

Field Officer Liz Barraclough reports
Willum Warrain Aboriginal Nursery

The Friday Group and a few extras had a fascinating visit in November to the Willum Warrain Aboriginal Nursery, an Aboriginal community-owned bush nursery that specialises in indigenous plants of the Mornington Peninsula.

We toured the nursery and of course none of us could resist buying a few plants! We helped to pot up seedlings, and then some of us stayed to share lunch with the staff and other volunteers. They have a sort of open house for volunteers on a Friday and provide and share a meal. They enjoyed our cake contributions!

Willum Warrain supplies plants to various Peninsula bushland teams and reserves, and anyone can drop in on weekdays throughout the school term and purchase plants.

Work on the ground

Two Friday mornings in October were devoted to hand-weeding heaps of Angled Onion plus a healthy clutch of other weeds by the boardwalk upstream from the Hopetoun Creek outlet drain. On other Fridays we weeded in the Old Campground and, at the other end of the reserves, above the boardwalk downstream from Uralla carpark – Watsonia, woody weeds, Briar Rose, Deadly Nightshade, Blackberry, Pittosporum and more.

In November we visited the wonderfully biodiverse **Mornington Railway Reserve**, guided by Friday grouper Jeanette Miller. We weeded here too, removing Watsonia bulbs

and cutting and painting Gorse and other woody weeds.

And on 27th October, we worked with Anthony Fennell (Naturelinks) as he monitored the nesting boxes in the reserves (see article page 4).



Friday groupers pricking out seedlings at Willum Warrain Aboriginal Nursery Photo Liz Barraclough

Field News continued

Heavy Sunday weeding!

The Sunday workers returned in November to the site where they'd removed heaps of rubbish from among the Melaleucas in October, below the easement behind Hilton Court. This time it was weeding, mostly with a mattock or dabber – stacks of tenacious Arum Lilies, plus Agapanthus, Spider Plant, and Pittosporum and other woody weeds. We made a substantial difference, but lots more is needed here!



Heavy Sunday weeding below Hilton Court:
Above: Terry Moar vanquishes some Arum Lilies
Right: Pia Spreen (Naturelinks) preparing to drill and fill a Pittosporum, helped by Will McClintock
Photos Liz Barraclough



Tackling fishing tracks

In early December the Friday group planted thickly along five of the bush-bashed fishing tracks off the boardwalk between La Trobe St and Ferrero Ovals that have destroyed riparian vegetation and opened the banks to erosion. They then dragged branches across the tracks to make access more difficult. Four signs have now been erected to direct fisher folk to the fishing platforms. More tracks remain to be tackled, but we've made a start.

Naturelinks at work

Meanwhile Naturelinks continues under our current grants, hand-weeding, spot spraying and slashing weeds. They've worked around the bird hide, along Victoria Crescent, near Uralla bridge, in swamp scrub below Latrobe Drive, in the Bunyip, and more.

So many weed species! Kikuyu grass, English Ivy, Bridal Creeper, Blackberry patches, Tobacco Plant, Winter Cherry, Pittosporum, Hawthorn, Gladiolus, Tradescantia, Forget-me-nots, Asparagus species, Rambling Dock, Arum Lily, *Senecio*

angulatus, loads of weedy grasses. And the odd Mahogany Gum seedling, a problem because they hybridise with indigenous eucalypts.

Along the way, they liberated some gorgeous Sun Orchids and ferns.

Successful regeneration

With lots of work over time by Naturelinks and BERG volunteers, the area between kinder and tennis courts, below Watson Road, rehabilitated after some destructive bike-jump construction during lockdowns, is looking fantastic. Great habitat value and full of skink species. A complete transformation!

Seniors Festival walks & talks

Among the activities the Shire ran for Mornington Peninsula Seniors Festival were two guided walks of the Balcombe Reserves. Eric and Kathy Smalley and I took a group of twelve on 13th October, as our Friday Group, diligently weeding and planting in the Old Campground,

provided a great demonstration of what we do. Then a group of five, on 27th October, was lucky enough to coincide with our annual nesting box survey in the Old Campground.

Setting priorities

Eric Smalley and I met with Hannah Brown, of the Shire's Natural Systems team, and Dan Suffern and Pia Spreen, of Naturelinks, for our annual planning meeting on 26th October to discuss future on-ground activities, working bees and sites.

ANOTHER GRANT SUCCESS

BERG MM has been awarded a Biolinks Support Grant of \$9,473.00 to cover weed control and revegetation in parts of the Maude Street reserve. This was slightly less than we requested – we were told there were many high-quality applications – but we are fortunately able to make up the small gap with BERG funds.

Tackling bush-bashed fishing tracks.
Below: the problem. Right: thick planting by the Friday Group. Far right: the result.
Photos: Angela Kirsner, Liz Barraclough, Eric Smalley



Field News continued

Weedbuster

Each year we join with the Sunshine Reserve Group to run a ‘weeds info’ stall in Mt Martha Village outside the IGA. At this year’s, on Saturday morning 4th November, the stall attracted lots of interest, not only in the comprehensive array of local weeds, but also in the BERG and Sunshine groups themselves and the work we do. Very gratifying!



CELEBRATION!

It was great to revive a tradition (suspended by COVID – the BERG Mt Martha end-of-year Celebration, held on 25th November. More excellent BERG food and company, and forty plus BERGers were there, many arriving with delicious platefuls.

Thanks to Di Lewis and Barb Thraves for organizing it, and to Barb and Martin Thraves hosting it in their home.

And if you didn’t get there this year, maybe next!



Di Lewis puts final touches to the laden table
Photo Angela Kirsner

OCTOPUSES EDIT THEIR GENES TO COPE WITH THE COLD

This article by Angela Kirsner summarises a fascinating report by Freda Kreier published in ScienceNews, June 2023.



A California two-spot octopus is one type of cephalopod – along with California market squid – that is known to edit mRNA in its nervous system in response to cold water. Photo: Tom Kleindinst

The ocean can be a cold place to call home. Mammals like seals stay warm by enveloping themselves in a layer of thick fur and blubber. Cephalopods — the group of (mostly) ultrasmart molluscs that include squid and octopuses — don’t have that luxury.

Instead, some octopuses and squid cope by altering their bodies on the molecular level. Faced with plunging environmental temperatures, they adjust by editing their genes on the fly. They do this by editing vast swathes of their RNA, which provides instructions to their DNA.

The ‘astounding high levels’ of molecular editing — most of which occurs in the nervous system — could help octopuses’ brains function when temperatures plunge, says Joshua Rosenthal, a molecular neurobiologist at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass.

DNA holds the instructions to make proteins, one of the key building blocks of the body. But it relies on messenger RNA — or mRNA — to shuttle those instructions out of the cell nucleus and to the proteins responsible for building other proteins.

Usually, mRNA faithfully copies its instructions. But sometimes, mRNA is edited, which can change how those proteins behave or even what proteins are made.

Octopuses and squid take this to extremes in a storm of editing which, as recent research has shown, can be triggered by temperature. The researchers either heated or cooled the tank temperature of octopuses and looked to see what proteins were produced in their brains. While heat set off very little editing, octopuses that experienced cool temperatures altered over 20,000 mRNA sites, which changed around a third of the instructions for making proteins.

This fury of editing started in the space of only a few hours, probably changing the behaviour of the octopus.

Octopuses have long captured the public imagination through their intelligence and camouflage, says Matthew Birk, a cephalopod biologist at Saint Francis University in Loretto, Penn. ‘We’re now learning that they are strange not just on the outside, but down to the molecular level.’

Kreier’s article may be found [here](#).


CONGRATULATIONS HANSI!

Hansi Wagner, the moving force behind the Crew at Daagean Citizen Science Project at Devilbend Reservoir Natural Features Reserve, was awarded the Dame Phyllis Frost Award – the top award – at this year’s Keep Australia Beautiful Ceremony in November. Hansi was nominated by Landcare for his tireless volunteer work, which includes work on the Daagean Turtle project, Murnong Grassland Project and Schools Ambassador program.

Congratulations also to Mornington Peninsula Intrepid Landcare committee member and Daagean volunteer Lily Setnik, who took out the Young Legends award.



Lily and Hansi with their awards

Come along to our Bushland Activities	Join us at WaterWatch & EstuaryWatch	Other Local Groups
<p>❖ 2nd Sunday of the month: between 9.30am & noon. Details emailed a few days ahead, or call Liz Barraclough 0408 388 430.</p> <p>❖ Coast Group: fortnightly on Wednesdays, between 9.30am & noon. Call Suzanne Ryan 0418 387 604. Details emailed a few days ahead.</p> <p>❖ Friday Group: weekly between 9.30am & noon. Call Liz Barraclough 0408 388 430. Details emailed a few days ahead.</p>	<p>First Sunday of each month:</p> <p>❖ WaterWatch testing: meet 9.15am at Uralla Rd bridge. Enquiries to Franc Amendola 0433 626 007 or Sue Milton 0407 350 175.</p> <p>❖ EstuaryWatch testing: meet 9.00am at the Rotunda. Enquiries to Bruce Ferres 0435 389 804.</p>	<p>❖ BirdLife Mornington Peninsula bird-watching 2nd Wednesday and 3rd Sunday. Enquiries to Max Burrows mornington@birdlife.org.au or 0429 947 893, or visit www.birdlife.org.au/locations/birdlif-e-mornington-peninsula.</p> <p>❖ Sunshine Reserve working bee 9.30am, last Sunday of month. Call Pia Spreen 0437 299 847.</p>
<p>BERG MT MARTHA PATRON: TERRY DENTON</p> <p>COMMITTEE: • PRESIDENT ERIC SMALLEY • VICE PRESIDENT (POSITION VACANT) • SECRETARY KATHY SMALLEY</p> <p>• TREASURER SUE MILTON • FIELD OFFICER LIZ BARRACLOUGH • NEWSLETTER ANGELA KIRSNER • MEMBERSHIP CHERYL WILKINSON</p> <p>• MARION ORCHISON • IAN HORTON • TERRY MOAR • GEOFF PRITCHARD</p>		
<p>Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group Mt Martha Inc. No. A0034645Y ABN 50 224 628 623</p> <p>Mail: PO Box 433 Mt Martha 3934 Email: info@berg.org.au Mob: 0427 433 585 Web: www.berg.org.au</p>		

THE CREEK

Print Post Approved pp100003761
 If undelivered, please return to:
 BERG Mt Martha, PO Box 433
 Mount Martha 3934

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**