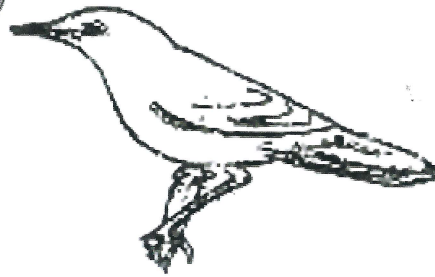


Jul_Aug 2018

Friends of Edithvale – Seaford Wetlands Inc.



Number 159



Wetland Warbler

Clamorous Reed-Warbler

ON THE EES AT EDITHVALE RAILWAY STATION

Dorothy Meadows OAM

Linda Meadows

When in the early 1980's we founded this organisation, we did so because we recognised the special value of this wetland and how fortunate it was that it still existed.

We expected to occasionally have to protect it from developers but had no idea how often we would need to fight attacks from so many sources, or how often we would need to fight, and fight hard.

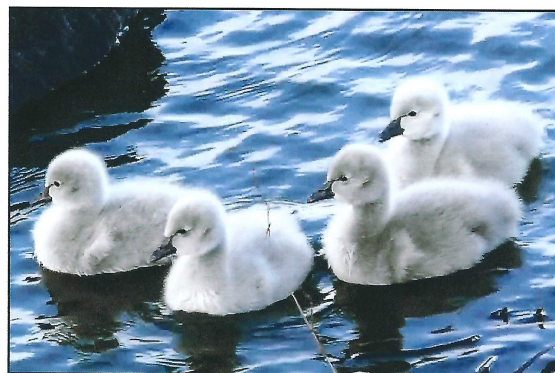
Luckily for us there have always been Friends who had special knowledge and the gift for public speaking who would use their time and energy to maintain the security of this special place.

At present the danger has been coming from a different direction (trench option at Edithvale Road railway crossing) and we are especially fortunate that Sue Telfer, Scott Seymour and Sean Dooley were able to head our shield. Whatever the outcome we will know that leading our front line.

For many reasons some of us are unable to join in this protection of our special place, but we all stand with you and hope the outcome will be that these wetlands and the birds that continue to fly long distances to be with us will be able to continue to delight us with their way of life.

Thankyou to everybody who has been helping with this particular threat.

Ed's Note: Dorothy Meadows OAM was a founding member and secretary of the Friends group formed (by 17 people) on 28th March 1988.



The first cygnets at Edithvale

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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

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9773 0224 (AH)

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9786 2213

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Rex Chugg
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Bird Hide Roster

Robin Clarey
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Guided Tours Marg Hunter
9587 0786

Newsletter Robin Clarey
9786 2213

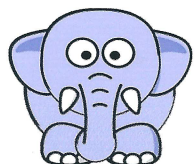
Warbler Collator Cheryl Meier
97724484

Website

Matthew Mitchell

Membership Database

Inez van Polanen Petel
9774 2664



Did you remember to renew your subscription?

WE DO NOT WANT TO LOSE YOU!

See page 5

AROUND THE TRAPS

Melbourne Water

Hydrology at Seaford: Since water has been let into the Downs Estate from the Wadsley Drain there has been some concern that the water wasn't going to flow on to the wetlands themselves

The t-valve installed on the pump operates to allow water either to come into Centre Swamp Drain or Downs Estate. It is not feasible to allow water to simultaneously come in as the pump is small. The feasibility of upgrading the pump is low as the available water can't be guaranteed from Wadsley Drain in the dry season.

The only real option in bringing water into the wetland is through the South Eastern Outfall. This option is being looked into but it will require a substantial amount of investment.

Urban Cooling Project: Much of the planting has been completed in the area (south east of the Education Centre) of the project. Early next month girls from Melbourne Girls College will come out to do some more.

Camera: The camera at Edithvale Education Centre is being installed over the coming months – it will feed live images onto *Melbourne Water's* website.

Mosquito Monitoring: Is going to start in September. GHD to do it monthly.

Foxes: Soft jaw trapping will also start in September (for Edithvale and Seaford).

Kingston Council

On National Tree Day on Edithvale common, 15 residents planted 350 plants. The Green Army prepared the site.

The Biodiversity Strategy - broken into 2 parts – is now open for public consultation.

Frankston Council

Currently Mapping all remnant vegetation (last done in 2006). *Ecolink* is doing the mapping. FCC is looking at sites with biodiversity values. Downs Estate management plan to be done soon. Maintenance agreement between MW and FCC is at the point where it can be discussed between both legal teams.



Invitation



The second part of the Bird Hide Renovations is completed; spring has sprung; some chicks have already hatched at Edithvale; the migratory birds will be returning; and we are looking to recruit new members, and hoping for more of our current members to undertake active roles.

What better reasons for a party/celebration.

Mark Dreyfus, QC MP Shadow Attorney-General, Shadow Minister for National Security, Federal Member for Isaacs, facilitated our grant application for the grant money to fix the fascia boards, spouting and other problems, and of course he is coming.



Date – Saturday 22nd September 2018

Time - 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Where: Bird Hide, Edithvale Road, Edithvale

We would love to see you there! The more the merrier!



To help with catering it would be helpful to let us know if you are coming.

Phone or SMS Robin on - 0405 466 651; email—robin.clarey@hotmail.com; phone 9786 2213 or

Margaret, phone or SMS— 0417 323 460; email- edithvaleseafordwetlandsfriend@gmail.com

OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE OUR LIFE BLOOD

Our regular volunteers continue to participate in the working bees at Seaford. In August we welcomed two new volunteers – Dan and Fiona. Approximately 240 under-storey plants were planted in Seaford south in July and August. You *Working Bee* volunteers turn up month after month doing such a great job! The buffer zone

along Austin Road (borders the southern boundary of the Seaford Wetlands) is looking really good.

Our other excellent band of volunteers are those who help keep the bird hide and Education Centre open to the public on the weekends

What a great bunch!

Some of whom are pictured below



Julie-Anne & Helen



Maureen, Rosalie & Janet



Emma & Andy



Dan, Fiona, Dawn, Jacqui, Rex & Greg



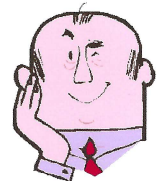
Pennie, Craig & Margot



Allan (regular visitor and hon. volunteer)

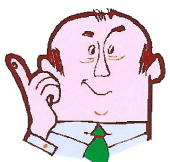


Why not Make the Transition from Member to Active Volunteer?



We have a great band of volunteers but we could always use more.

- A few more volunteers for the Hide and Education Centre rosters wouldn't go astray.
- If this is not your cup of tea – how about some planting at Seaford once a month?
- Or if this doesn't float your boat – what about helping to keep the Bird Hide and the Duck In garden tidy?
- Or if this is not up your alley – would you consider helping out with the occasional school tour.
- Or if this is not your thing – why not become an 'associate committee member' (not a full committee member) **or the biggie** see Page 6!



Have a think about it. Volunteering is linked to better physical, mental and emotional health. You can gain confidence; make a difference; meet people; be part of a community; learn new skills; take on a challenge; have fun *and* help the environment!

Summary of Birdlife Australia Monthly Bird Surveys July 2017- July 2018

Sean Dooley

Edithvale

113 species recorded

3 new for surveys: White-eared Honeyeater (June), White-throated and Western Gerygones (both in April)

Threatened species recorded: (number of months) (highest number recorded)

Magpie Goose (2) (2)

Blue-billed Duck (8) (9)

Australasian Shoveler (7) (25 in April)

Freckled Duck (2) (75 in April)

Lewin's Rail (1) (1 in March)

Curlew Sandpiper (1) (9 in March)

Latham's Snipe (8) (60 in January)

Australasian Bittern (4) (2)

Great Egret (7) (2)

Intermediate Egret (1) (1 in December)

Highlights

Black Swan numbers peaking in June with 210 (only 5 nests so far this season)

Brown Quail 1 in October

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper 410 in March

Long-toed Stint 2 in March

Pectoral Sandpiper 3 in March

Wood Sandpiper 1 over four months in summer/autumn

Blue-winged Parrot 1 in March

47 Spotted Pardalotes in July 2017 (along with 6



Spotted Pardalote

Seaford

113 species recorded

3 Brown-headed Honeyeaters in April the first record at site during surveys

Threatened Species recorded: (number of months seen) (highest number recorded)

Blue-billed Duck (2) {12 in September}

Australasian Shoveler (1) (9 in September)

Curlew Sandpiper (3) {12 in February}

Latham's Snipe (5) 117 in January, most recorded since the early 1980s)

Great Egret (3) (1)

White-bellied Sea-Eagle (1 sub-adult bird in July 2017, only the third site record)



Heron

Highlights

Stubble Quail 2 in October

Brown Quail 6 in June

Double-banded Plover 1 in January, an early arrival

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper numbers peaked in January with a record count of 2400

Long-toed Stint single birds in January and February but a second bird seen outside survey day in January. (These birds probably then moved to Edithvale)

Pectoral Sandpiper 3 in January

Marsh Sandpiper 1 in February

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo 2 in September

White-fronted Chat 1 in July 2017

Weebill I in July 2017 only the second record

Flame Robin maximum number of 10 in July 2017.

Numbers have not bounced back as expected now that Downs is more suitable habitat.

Noisy Miner numbers peaking in April at 69, highest yet recorded.

DID YOU REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

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Renewing membership

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Or pay to BSB 06 3118 ,Account Number 1005 9942 - write name & subscription and fill out on-line form if new member or renewing membership. www.edithvale-seaford-wetlands.org

Schools continue to engage with FESWI which is pleasing. On July 24th Woodleigh School returned to Seaford to plant 110 under-story plants in the area they mulched on their last visit in May. Great job!

Many thanks to Seaford Ranger, Matt Green, who facilitates these visits so well for us.

In early August, Cornish College and Toorak College visited the bird hide for information to help them with study assignments.

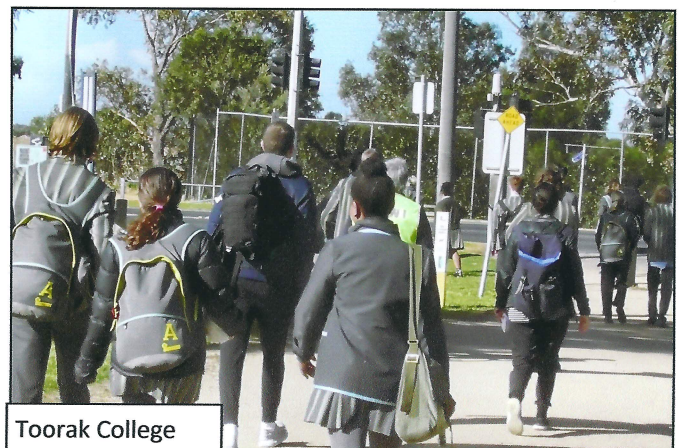
Margaret and Robin usually host these educational visits and Rex, the planting visits. FESWI is looking to expand our school education program in the future, if you would like to help in this field please get in touch.



Woodleigh School



Cornish College



Toorak College

Longbeach RSL

Tania Ireton

Viridans Pty Ltd

Corporate Members

Patterson River Golf Club

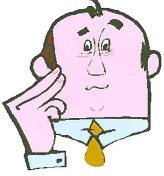
Edithvale Family And Children's

Centre

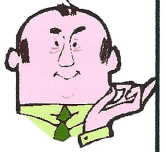
Peninsula Pedallers,

Sonya Kilkenny

IS THIS YOU?



The Friends of the Edithvale Seaford Wetlands Inc. is offering a very exciting unique leadership opportunity! Are you wanting to develop your leadership skills? If you are a good communicator, are confident, positive and have the ability to delegate, we need you! The role of President is becoming available and the Friends Group is looking for someone to commit to the role for 12 months. You will be very well supported by long standing members who are looking for someone with fresh eyes! If the person is you please contact either Kate, Outgoing President, on 0416 297 468 or Robin, Vice President, on ... 0405 466 651.



**Melbourne
Water**

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