

## Bandicoot Tails

#### Newsletter of the Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park

No. 194 March—May 2024

Website: www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au Facebook: www.facebook.com/friendsofscottcreekcp

Welcome to your autumn edition of Bandicoot Tails.

During autumn our scheduled bushcare activities will return to the regular start time of 9.00am, meeting at the nearest gate for the location of the activity. An email will be sent to bushcarers advising the location in advance. To receive the emails, any new members can contact the leader on info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au.

Unless otherwise indicated, all articles and photos by Peter Watton. Please send any contributions for the winter edition to info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au by mid-May.

#### The President's words:

The older birds are missing. The common birds are not so common.

A full three years after the fire of January 2021 things are not the same. I am sorry if it seems I keep coming back to that event, but it has changed life in both the burnt and unburnt parts of Scott Creek Conservation Park.

| <u>Contents</u> (Ctrl + click on headings below to go straight to the page) | page |
|---|------|
| The President's words   | 1    |
| Park maintenance  | 2    |
| New members can now pay online  | 3    |
| Bushcare activities   | 4    |
| Restoration of Scott Creek  | 7    |
| Funding and Contractor report   | 9    |
| Bird Banding notes  | 11   |
| Photo Gallery   | 14   |
| Office bearers and other roles & positions                                  | 16   |
| Park map  | 16   |
| Calendar of activities  | 17   |

We can now look at a full set of Bird Banding data for three years before and after the fire. One of the aims of our banding project is to see how birds establish themselves in the park. That is, do they just flit by overhead and drop in for the occasional visit, or do they actually live here? With over 30 years of records, we can confidently state that many birds live permanently in the park. At the same time, it would appear that those who look around elsewhere seem to come back on a regular basis.

It is through keeping records of re-captures that we can postulate what might be happening. For those of you who like tables, I'm including one below. (If it is not your thing, please at least take the key message to heart.)

The first thing I notice is that total re-captures are down by 35% since the fire. Birds older than 5 years are down by more than 50%, and more than half of those were from unburnt or fringe areas (data not shown on this table). While some species seem to be recovering, (thornbills) others are very slow in coming back (honeyeaters).

It is a cycle that we are not familiar with at SCCP and along with other interconnected changes (insects, climate, vegetation) we must keep on watching and speaking up for the whole environment of Scott Creek Conservation Park.

FOSCCP Bird Banding Recaptures (Feb) 2018 – 2024 (Jan)

| Age when re-<br>captured | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | Pre-fire<br>total | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | Post-fire<br>total |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|------|--------------------|
| (years)                  |      |      |      | totai             |      |      |      | totai              |
| 1 – 2                    | 50   | 43   | 31   | 124               | 34   | 23   | 32   | 89                 |
| 3 – 4                    | 17   | 26   | 21   | 64                | 15   | 11   | 14   | 40                 |
| 5 – 7                    | 9    | 9    | 6    | 24                | 4    | 5    | 2    | 11                 |
| 8 – 11                   | 2    | 5    | 3    | 10                | 2    | 1    | 1    | 4                  |
| 12 - 17                  | 1    | 3    | 1    | 5                 | 3    | 0    | 0    | 3                  |
| Totals                   | 79   | 86   | 62   | 227               | 58   | 40   | 49   | 147                |

Jim Spiker

President Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park.



**Above:** Late November, Jim and Peter got together at the memorial seat for Don Reid at Twisted Chimney Track, to affix the new plaque. This memorial seat is a tribute to Don's many years of volunteering with the Friends group, and his contribution to the restoration and preservation of the park and its wildlife.

#### Park maintenance:



**Above left:** Vegetation has been pruned alongside tracks, some is yet to be mulched, but will be as soon as equipment is available.



**Above right:** Twelve months on and this car, which ran off the side of Dorset Vale Rd into the park, still hasn't been removed by its owner, it is now in more pieces and more difficult to clean up thanks to vandals.

#### New members can now pay online:

It's easy to become a new member of Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park. And membership is still only \$10!



Here is a link to our <u>Become a member</u> webpage. Just fill out the online form, use the PayPal option and submit.

As a member you will:

- help us in our conservation and restoration work in one of South Australia's most biodiverse parks.
- receive quarterly newsletter full of information about the work we do, calendar of events, the wonders of the park plus much much more.....

The work that you will be supporting is overseen by National Parks and Wildlife Service SA.

And did you know that Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park is one of 144 volunteer groups that are supported by Friends of Parks.

Or if you prefer, download the <u>membership form</u>, fill in your details and return via email to our Treasurer <u>treasurer@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au</u>. Payments can then be made by direct bank transfer.



# Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park



Home About Us v The Park v Gallery v Support the Park v Calendar Contact Us

Q

### Become a member

We warmly welcome new members and friends.

JOIN the Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park for only \$10 and you will:

- receive quarterly newsletter full of information about the work we do, calendar of
  events, the wonders of the park plus much much more......
- · be provided with information about volunteering with us and training
- help us in our conservation and restoration work in one of South Australia's most biodiverse parks.

All our work in the Park is overseen by and supported by National Parks and Wildlife Service SA.

To become a member please fill out this online form. Membership is still only \$10.

#### Your Privacy

We do not share any of your membership details with any third party – your information is only used by our <u>Office Bearers</u> to contact you and for processing your payments.

| First Name * | Family Name * |  |  |  |
|--------------|---------------|--|--|--|
| E.g. John    | E.g. Doe      |  |  |  |

#### **Bushcare activities:**

We had a fairly wet and mild first part of summer, but according to the Bureau of Meteorology, the long-range forecast is for a dry three months from February to April. It will be interesting to see whether this ends up being sufficient to slow down the rapid and on-going germination and growth of some of the priority fire-responsive weeds that we have been trying to keep on top of throughout the fire scar.

Over summer we have had several bushcare sessions working on some of these weeds that already had seed on them, including Boneseed, Montpellier Broom and English Broom. We also had our first session working on *Kunzea ericoides*, known as Kānuka in its homeland of New Zealand. This had a known population near gate 5 on Gurr Road South, and we think it was the first time it had flowered post-fire.

#### Almanda Bush Gardening:

See the overview of restoration work along Scott Creek by the Almanda Bush Gardening team, which follows the bushcare activities report. I encourage anyone with a bit of time to contact John and join their team, even if just for one morning to see how much they have achieved with a bit of consistent, regular effort.

#### Scheduled bushcare activities during summer:

5th December 2023—six volunteers worked west of the old Erica forest, finding many Montpellier and English Broom and Erica, along with a variety of other priority weeds.

10th December 2023—cancelled due to bad weather.

23rd December 2023—10 volunteers headed to gate 5 to treat Kunzea and Montpellier Broom between Viminaria Creek and Gurr Road, also finding a few *Acacia longifolia*, Boneseed, English Broom, Erica, African Daisy and Watsonia.

2nd January 2024—nine volunteers returned to gate 5 to continue work on Kunzea and Montpellier Broom, along with other weeds encountered, this time east of Bronzewing Track.

14th January 2024—12 volunteers headed across Blue Gum Flats to the western end of Cave Creek, where we found three significant patches of Montpellier Broom close to each other, lots of *Acacia longifolia* and some Boneseed, African Daisy and scrambling Blackberry up the hillside. There was more Broom and lots of large patches of Blackberry still to be dealt with.

27th January 2024—nine volunteers returned to Cave Creek, this time to the south side of the creek down from gate 12, finding many large Montpellier and English Broom and scattered Boneseed. Again there is a large amount of Broom further west below the track to the pylon, and scattered Blackberry.

6th February 2024—seven volunteers patrolled from Bushrat Track below gate 7 across upper Viminaria Creek to Gurr Road, finding only scattered Erica, English and Montpellier Broom, Boneseed, Blackberry and weedy Wattles, before getting to a large patch of English Broom at the old house site.

**Below:** Kunzea ericoides near gate 5 on Gurr Road, the first time we've worked on it since the fire, it was very multi-stemmed.









Above left: Montpellier Broom seeding in several spots.

Above right: Patch of large Montpellier Broom in Cave Ck.

11th February 2024—seven volunteers continued work from the old house site in upper Viminaria Creek, this time heading west parallel to Gurr Road, between the road and North Viminaria Creek. Again there were only sparse scattered priority weeds, including Blackberry, Erica, English and Montpellier Broom, weedy Wattles and Fleabane in the creekline itself.

24th February 2024—seven volunteers patrolled the area next to Thorley Road, treating many scattered Boneseed and a patch of Erica, along with a few other miscellaneous weeds.

#### Additional independent bushcare activities:

1st December 2023—Andrew and Mardi worked in the north-west corner of Number 1 block, treating Acacia longifolia, Boneseed, Montpellier Broom, Sollya and some Blackberry and Sweet Pittosporum.

22nd December 2023—Peter headed to gate 18 on Frith Road to spray Blackberry along the creeklines, opportunistically treating a wide variety of other priority weeds, including Boneseed, Olive, Erica, Rose, Cotoneaster, Gorse, Broadleaf Cotton-bush and African Daisy.

23rd December 2023—Following the regular bushcare activity, Peter returned to finish spraying the Blackberry at the top of Baumea Creek near Frith Road.

31st December 2023—Peter drilled and filled several more Weeping Willows along Eulamprus Reach.

14th January 2024—Peter and Glenn sprayed outlying Blackberry and a few Rose in lower Shingleback Gully following the regular bushcare activity.

19th January 2024—Andrew and Mardi worked on more Acacia longifolia, Sollya, Boneseed and Sweet Pittosporum in the north-west corner of Number 1 block.

6th February 2024—After the regular bushcare activity Peter sprayed a sizeable Blackberry patch in the

Below: English Broom has been worked on in several areas, including Bronzewing Hill, Cave Creek and upper Viminaria Ck.





top dam, then followed the creekline down to the lower, bigger dam, where there was little Blackberry, but more herbaceous weeds like Stinkweed, St John's Wort and Salvation Jane.

24th February 2024—Glenn and Peter sprayed Blackberry and a few other weeds along Cherry Creek and Derwentia Creek.

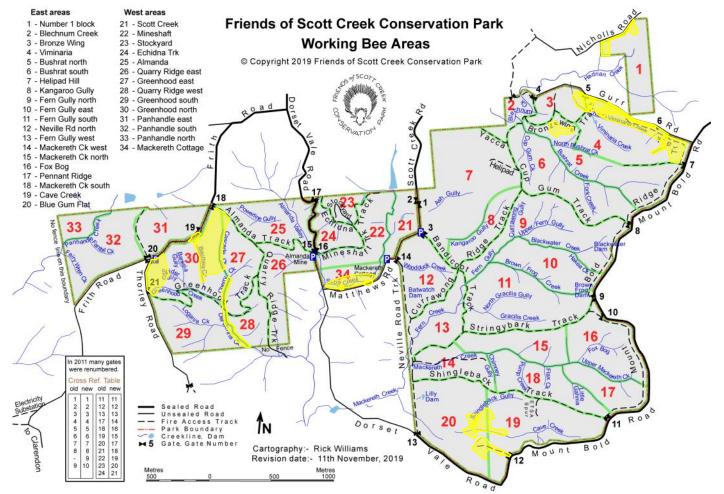
#### Peter Watton

**Right:** One by one we popped out of the dense vegetation alongside Gurr Road, before heading back in lower down. **Below left:** Large English Broom in upper Viminaria Creek. **Below right:** The patch of Erica removed from the northwest corner of Greenhood north in February.









#### An overview of restoration work along Scott Creek:

The post fire aspect along Scott Creek is strikingly altered. The willows, which formerly represented the dominant species, are mostly reduced to dead trunks, although their matted roots are still the principle glue holding together the creek's channel.

Our work along the creek edges is aimed at establishing species to replace the stabilising willow roots before those roots rot away. The extreme water flows in winter will eventually cause significant erosion unless other species can hold the banks together.

To this end, nature has already been at work, as evidenced by the phenomenal growth of sedges in and near the water. We have helped this natural growth along by transplanting young sedges from areas of dense growth and placing them in similar, bare habitat.

The main species are *Carex appressa* (tall sedge) and *C. fascicularis* (tassel sedge), with a scattering of *Juncus pallidus* (pale rush) etc. Miniature *Isolepis* sp. is also present and *Cyperus* spp. reveals its distinctive umbrella-like form among the crowded sedges.

We experimented with *Cladium procerum* (leafy twig-rush) propagated by John from a clump downstream and this has afforded spectacular growth. One specimen which John pegged down in the midst of fast flowing water at the top of a mini waterfall has begun to thrive, demonstrating that *Cladium* can be a mainstay in this process of stabilisation. *Cladium* is unique among sedges in being amenable to propagation by the layering of shoots which appear along the stems.

John has cut and swabbed willow shoots from surviving trees. In places, the early removal of the lower shoots prevented water and nutrients from being translocated to the upper parts, effectively killing the trees. Peter has also been busy drilling and filling other willows along this stretch of Scott Creek.

A tree species which has shown very satisfying results is *Leptospermum lanigerum*, the silky teatree. This has the potential to replace the willows as a dominant species. Notwithstanding the help we received from a wet, mild summer, the growth of *Leptospermum* has exceeded expectations. These trees love having wet feet. Like willows, they form a dense mat of roots which can withstand the heaviest floods and hold the creek bed together. A



**Above:** Steve with a *Cladium procerum* (leafy twig-rush), one of a number of rushes and sedges helping hold the creek banks together against fast flowing water during winter.

silky tea-tree manna gum community is well established along Almanda Creek, and it may be assumed that this community once thrived along Scott Creek.

On islands where we cleared the periwinkle, blackberry, Yorkshire fog, phalaris, *Berula* (water parsnip), *Lotus*, mint, etc., etc., etc., the sedges have shown a propensity to quickly colonise. In the areas of thickest growth, the sedges crowd out the weeds.

Cycnogeton procerum (water-ribbons) is common in the permanent pools. Sigesbeckia orientalis (oriental Sigesbeckia), Lycopus australis (Australian gypsywort) and the tiny flowers of Lobelia anceps (angled Lobelia) are becoming more common. Native grasses sometimes replace the introduced grass species. Eastern water skinks are thriving, taking advantage of flood debris and our own piles of weeded plants for

shelter. Only time will reveal whether this happy balance can persist, but we have, at least, given the desirable species a nudge in the right direction.

A little removed from the wet 'bottom' environment, the growth of *Eucalyptus viminalis* (manna gum), *E. leucoxylon* (SA blue gum), *Acacia pycnantha* (golden wattle) and *A. provincialis* (swamp wattle) seedlings is little short of staggering. Further up the hillsides the young trees now form a closed canopy between the stillstanding burnt trunks, some of which are still recovering. Immediately after the fire, we placed guards around hundreds of these new seedlings, aware (from unfortunate experience) that kangaroos are apt to eat the tender young growth. It is obvious, from the masses of successful seedlings over a wide area, that this work probably wasn't necessary. I think the kangaroos were spoilt for choice.

A couple of rarer finds above the creek were three specimens of *Myoporum petiolatum* (sticky boobialla) and several *Goodia medicaginea* (western golden-tip), both of which occur elsewhere in the park, but only in small numbers.



**Above:** Steve with *Leptospermum lanigerum* (silky tea-tree).

Along the dry banks we brush-cut the bracken fern, to prevent it pushing out everything else, and planted *Arthropodium strictum* (chocolate lily), *Microseris lanceolata* (yam daisy) and *Podolepis jaceoides* (showy copper-wire daisy). Some of the planted specimens have persisted to flower in following years, and we hope that a couple of these species may be favoured as bandicoot tucker.

John must be given all credit for tirelessly collecting seed and propagating hundreds of plants for our project.

Scott Creek has not stopped flowing this summer, testament to the unusual, almost sub-tropical conditions of the current season. The normally dry hillsides must also have benefitted from this milder weather, giving all the recovering species a welcome respite, although the rain and cooler temperatures have been a two-edged sword, as weeds also reap the benefit.

We have not spent much time along Almanda Creek, which, miraculously, dodged the fire. The work already done over a period of years along this latter creek has allowed the desirable species to get a foothold. Introduced plants don't give up, but we are quietly hopeful that our work will prevent the indigenous species, some of them rare or vulnerable, from disappearing from their local range.

Like all who spend time caring for the park, we can only point the way, leaving it for those who follow to build upon our efforts.

Stephen Davey



Above: The Almanda Bush Gardening team, Chris, Deborah, John & Steve.

#### **Funding and Contractor report:**

Funding update:

 Received approval of \$5,000 grant under the NPWS Friends of Parks Small Grants Program 2023-2024 for contractor work along Scott Creek behind Mackereth Cottage.

Below is a list of the main work that contractors have completed during summer:

- funded from the NPWS On-Park Volunteer Support Grant—Partnership Grants Program:
  - Yacca Hill west—Andrew Morgan Environmental undertook more work on Sollya and other priority weeds.
  - Blechnum Creek—TFL Works continued treatment of Montpellier Broom.
  - Bronzewing Hill south—TFL Works treated English Broom, Erica and Blackberry.
  - Cave Creek—Mint Green sprayed Blackberry at the western end of the gully.







- funded under the Green Adelaide Grassroots Grants:
  - Scott Creek—TFL Works continued work on Montpellier Broom, Boneseed and Dog Rose and sprayed Blackberry.
  - Panhandle—TFL Works continued work on Montpellier Broom, Sollya and Dog Rose.

This project is funded by Green Adelaide.



- funded by donations from the Carthew Family Charity Trust:
  - Scott Creek—TFL Works continued work on Montpellier Broom, Boneseed and Dog Rose and sprayed Blackberry.
  - Bronzewing Hill south—TFL Works treated English Broom, Erica and Blackberry.
  - Blackwater Creek and Brown Frog Gully—TFL Works treated Blackberry and Boneseed.
- funded by the Fire Management Unit at the Department for Environment and Water:
  - Bronzewing Hill south—TFL Works treated English Broom, Erica and Blackberry.

Where work appears to be duplicated above, it has been funded from multiple sources.

Peter Watton—Grants & Funding, Contractor Liaison & Reporting

**Below:** TFL Works treatment of English Broom at Bronzewing Hill south.





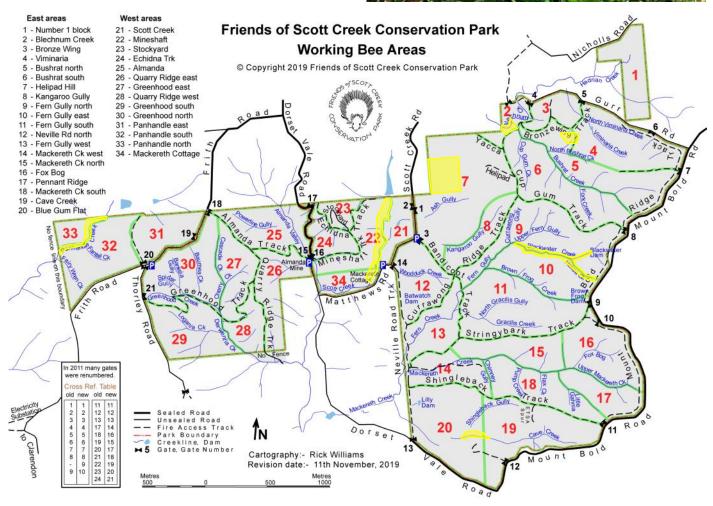






**Above:** Andrew Morgan covered a large part of Yacca Hill west treating Sollya and other priority weeds.

**Right:** TFL Works sprayed Blackberry (top) and Montpellier Broom (below) along Scott Creek.



#### **Bird Banding Notes December 2023 – February 2024:**

We should start with the highlights. We banded our second ever White-winged Chough – the first one was banded in June 2013. We noted that about 18 Choughs were doing their usual playground antics when we arrived that morning and hoped one might be distracted enough to get in a net.

The other notable was the Striated Pardalote; it's been over two years since we banded one and more than six years at Mackereth Cottage. They are often seen and heard – I sometimes wonder if half their body length is voice-box.

On the 'lowlight' end of the spectrum, regular customers were present in low numbers. We have run foul of the weather twice – once cancelled for a thunderstorm, so zero at Pennant Ridge and once for a fire ban at the Panhandle.

While Thornbills are evident, the Superb Fairy-wren captures are well down. There just does not seem to be enough nectar around for honeyeaters. On the upside, we have seen Scarlet Robins at just about every site we have visited recently.

Finally, we had a great turn up of banders at Mackereth Cottage – 11 people on Sunday. We have four banders progressing towards an 'A' Class Authority.

Please check the program at the end of this newsletter for dates and times of future banding sessions. Visitors are welcome to 'come and see' banding without having to commit to an early start. If you would like to receive an email notice, get in touch with me at <a href="mailto:president@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au">president@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au</a>.

Jim Spiker Bird Banding Coordinator

| Bird                    | 16/17 Dec<br>Fox Bog | 6 Jan<br>Pennant<br>Ridge | 20/21 Jan<br>Twisted<br>Chimney | 3 Feb<br>The<br>Panhandle | 17/18 Feb<br>Mackereth<br>Cottage | Total |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Brown Thornbill         |                      |                           | 2                               | 1                         | 1                                 | 4     |
| Striated Thornbill      | 2                    |                           | 7                               |                           | 2/1                               | 11/1  |
| Golden Whistler         | 2                    |                           | 4                               |                           |                                   | 6     |
| New Holland Honeyeater  |                      |                           | 1                               |                           |                                   | 1     |
| European Goldfinch      |                      |                           | 1                               |                           |                                   | 1     |
| Grey Fantail            |                      |                           | 1                               |                           | 3                                 | 4     |
| Crescent Honeyeater     |                      |                           | 1                               | 2                         |                                   | 3     |
| Yellow-faced Honeyeater | 2                    |                           |                                 |                           |                                   | 2     |
| Red-browed Finch        |                      |                           | 3                               | 2                         |                                   | 5     |
| Scarlet Robin           |                      |                           | 1                               | 1                         | 2                                 | 4     |
| Silvereye               |                      |                           | 5                               |                           |                                   | 5     |
| White-browed Scrubwren  |                      |                           | 5                               |                           |                                   | 5     |
| Grey Shrike-thrush      |                      |                           |                                 |                           | 1                                 | 1     |
| Superb Fairy-wren       | 2                    |                           |                                 | 2/1                       | 2                                 | 6/1   |
| White-winged Chough     |                      |                           |                                 | 1                         |                                   | 1     |
| Striated Pardalote      |                      |                           |                                 |                           | 1                                 | 1     |
| Common Blackbird        | 1                    |                           |                                 |                           |                                   | 1     |
| TOTAL                   | 9                    | 0                         | 31                              | 9/1                       | 12/1                              | 61/2  |



Above left: Golden (Western) Whistler.





**Below left:** Scarlet Robin (young male).

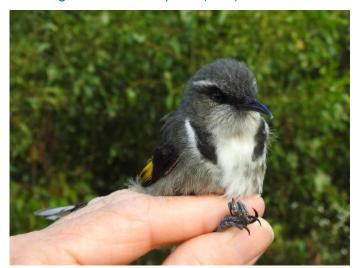


Above right: Grey Fantail.

Below right: Scarlet Robin (female).



**Below right:** Crescent Honeyeater (male).





Above left: Red-browed Finch.

**Below left:** Superb Fairy-wren (male in eclipse plumage).



**Below left:** Brown Thornbill.



**Above right:** White-winged Chough.

**Below right:** Striated Pardalote.



Below right: Silvereye.



#### **Photo Gallery:**





**Above left and right:** An Australian Owlet-nightjar spotted in Derwentia Valley in February, it then flew to its hollow in a nearby dead eucalypt, emphasising the importance of leaving dead trees standing whenever possible.



**Above left:** Messmate Stringybark (*Eucalyptus obliqua*), this is the first time I had noticed one flowering since the fire, within the core fire scar.



**Above right:** Beaked Hakea (*Hakea rostrata*), once again, the first I had noticed of this resprouting species to have produced seed since the fire.



**Above left:** Common Wasp-mimic Bee (*Hyleoides concinna*) on Box Mistletoe (*Amyema miquelii*) flower.



**Above right:** Larvae of the Mistletoe Moth (Comocrus behri) on Box Mistletoe (*Amyema miquelii*).

#### **Photo Gallery:**



**Above left:** Downy Mintbush (Prostanthera behriana) in Cave Creek, flowering in January.



**Above right:** Leopard Hyacinth-orchid (*Dipodium pardalinum*) near North Viminaria Creek, has a vulnerable conservation status in SA.



**Above left:** Sand Wasp (*Bembix* sp.) hovering around our bushcarers near North Viminaria Creek.



**Above right:** Pintail Beetle (Hoshihananomia leucosticta) on Sweet Bursaria (*Bursaria spinosa*) flowers.



**Above left:** A group of staff from Green Adelaide and NPWS checked on Mount Lofty Speedwell (*Veronica derwentiana* ssp. *homalodonta*) planted in Derwentia Creek in 2022-23, critically endangered conservation status in Australia.



**Above right:** Rock Logania (*Logania saxatilis*) has regenerated near the surviving parent plant down from gate 12 at Cave Creek, rare conservation status in SA.

#### Office bearers:

Any queries on Friends activities, please contact the relevant person below, general queries to: info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au

<u>President</u>: Jim Spiker email: <u>president@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au</u>

<u>Vice President</u>: Peter Watton email: <u>info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au</u>

<u>Treasurer</u>: Andrew Biven email: <u>treasurer@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au</u>

<u>Correspondence Secretary</u>: Andrew McLaughlan email: <u>secretary@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au</u>

Administration Assistant: Jenny Dawes email: info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au

Minute Secretary: Anna Dutkiewicz email: webmaster@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au

Membership Officer: Lorraine Billett email via: info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au

#### Other roles and positions:

Bird Banding Coordinator: Jim Spiker (contact details above)

<u>Bushcare Coordinator</u>: Jenny Dawes (contact details above)

Assistant Bushcare Coordinator: Glenn Giles

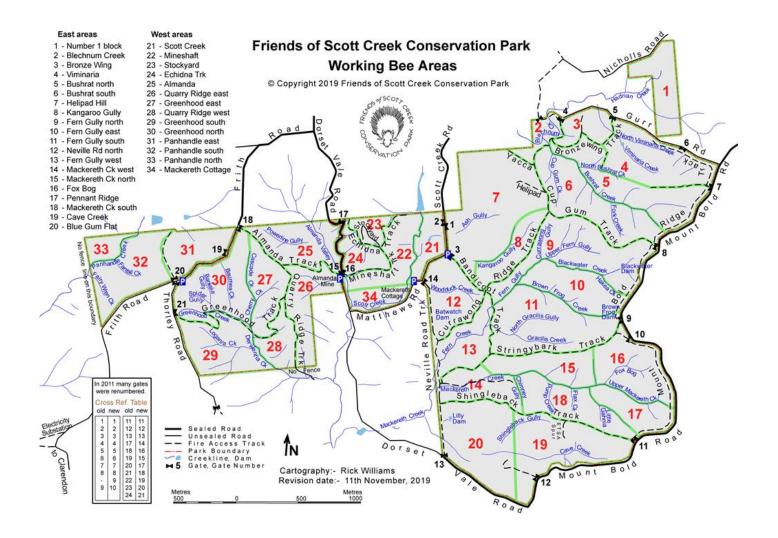
<u>Bushcare — Grants & Funding, Contractor Liaison & Reporting</u>: Peter Watton (contact details above)

Bush Gardening Almanda Creek: John Wamsley email: john@johnwamsley.com

Editor Bandicoot Tails & Facebook: Peter Watton (contact details above)

Website Coordinator: Anna Dutkiewicz email: webmaster@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au

Social & Events Coordinators: Jenny Dawes (contact details above), Sue Braddock-Smith



#### **Autumn Program of Activities March–May 2024**

The Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park welcome visitors to all of our activities, which include regular bushcare, bird banding and bush gardening.

For enquiries and information: E info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au W www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au

**Bushcare activities:** During autumn we will meet at **9.00am** at the **nearest gate for the activity location**.

An **email** will be sent to bushcarers advising the location in advance.

Any **new members** interested in joining us, contact the above email address to receive the email.

Be prepared for walking through sometimes rugged bushland, including areas recovering from fire, and bring a small backpack to carry your morning tea.

Bird Banding activities: Contact the Bird Banding Coordinator (see next page) to receive emails about activities.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Local activities will be **cancelled** if a **fire ban** or **severe weather warning** is announced for the **Mount Lofty Ranges**. Bird banding will also be cancelled in conditions that may adversely affect the birds.

See links to BOM & CFS websites below.

**BOM website:** <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/meteye/dorset-vale">http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/meteye/dorset-vale</a> **CFS website:** <a href="https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/bans">https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/bans</a> and ratings

| Month/Day        | Date   | Activity                     | Location  |  |  |  |
|------------------|--------|------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| MARCH 2024       |        |                              |   |  |  |  |
| Tuesday          | 5      | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| Sunday           | 10     | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| Saturday, Sunday | 16, 17 | Bird Banding                 | DV Derwentia Valley, Thorley Rd G20, 7:30am (CDST)  |  |  |  |
| Saturday         | 23     | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| Tuesday          | 26     | Social Lunch<br>All Welcome  | Sheoak Café—Belair at noon (cnr Sheoak and James Road parking on three sides)                                     |  |  |  |
| Friday           | 29     | Easter Public<br>Walk        | 9:30am start—more details and meeting point to come   |  |  |  |
| APRIL 2024       |        |                              |   |  |  |  |
| Tuesday          | 2      | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| Saturday, Sunday | 6, 7   | Bird Banding                 | KG Kangaroo Gully, G3, 7:00am (CST—daylight saving ends overnight)  |  |  |  |
| Sunday           | 14     | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| Tuesday          | 16     | General Meeting All Welcome! | Venue and time to be advised  |  |  |  |
| Saturday, Sunday | 20, 21 | Bird Banding                 | Banding at Gluepot Reserve  |  |  |  |
| Wednesday        | 24     | Social Lunch<br>All Welcome  | Essence—Stirling at noon (down lane between Gardiners Real Estate and Stirling Florist in Stirling's main street) |  |  |  |
| Saturday         | 27     | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| MAY 2024         |        |                              |   |  |  |  |
| Saturday, Sunday | 4, 5   | Bird Banding                 | GR Gurr Road, Gate 4, 7:00am  |  |  |  |
| Tuesday          | 7      | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| Sunday           | 12     | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| Saturday, Sunday | 18, 19 | Bird Banding                 | MT Mineshaft Track, Gate 15, 7:30am   |  |  |  |
| Saturday         | 25     | Bushcare                     | Post-fire weed regeneration will determine location   |  |  |  |
| Thursday         | 30     | Social Lunch<br>All Welcome  | Joan's Pantry—Hawthorndene at noon (Watahuna Ave opposite the oval)   |  |  |  |