

# Greenlink News

December 2021

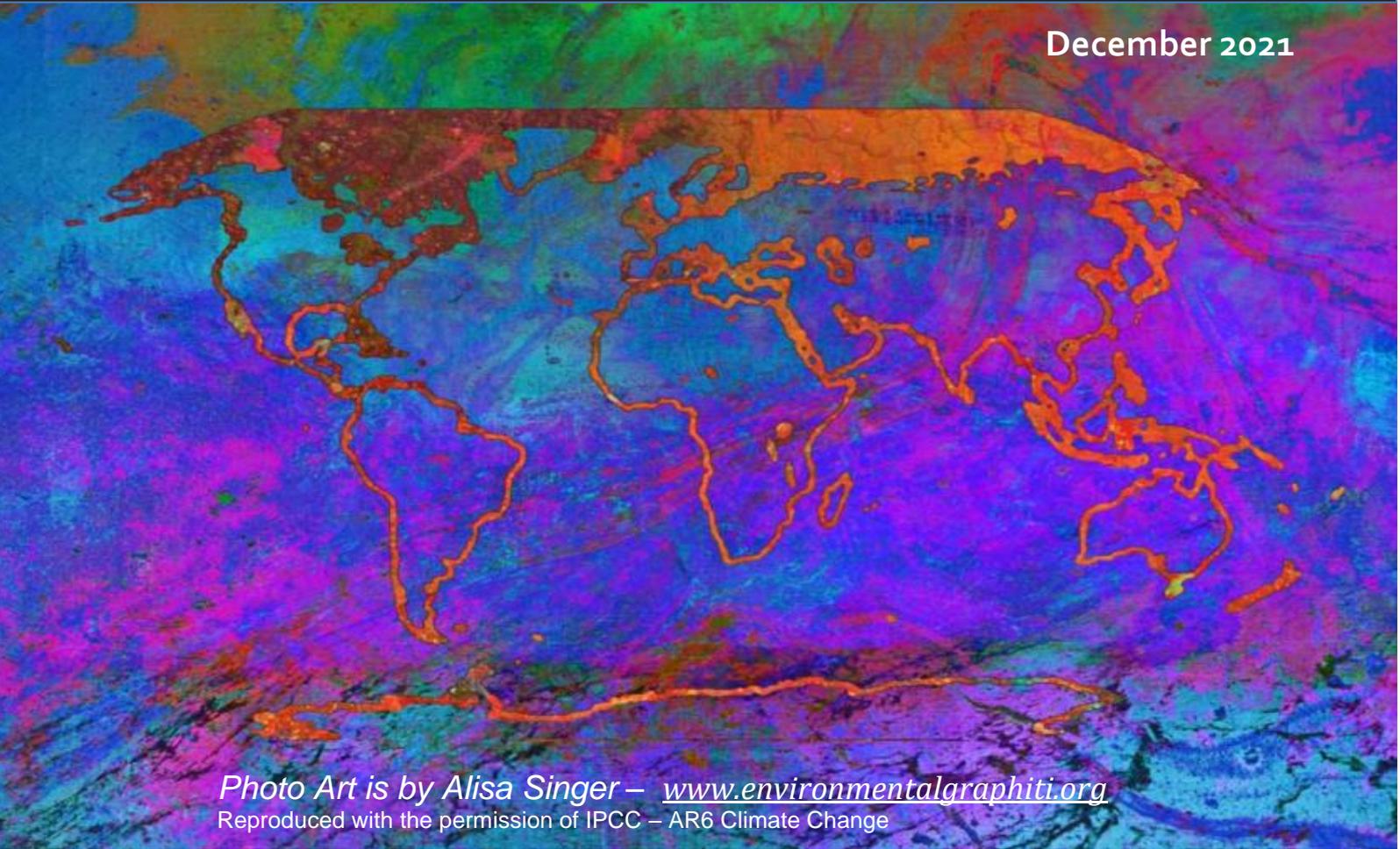


Photo Art is by Alisa Singer – [www.environmentalgraphiti.org](http://www.environmentalgraphiti.org)  
Reproduced with the permission of IPCC – AR6 Climate Change

## Your local indigenous nursery 100% run by volunteers



### Regular Open Days Saturday Sales Days

Tuesdays and Wednesdays  
9.00 am to 12:00 pm  
Saturdays 9:00am-1:00pm  
9<sup>th</sup> April, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 27<sup>th</sup> August,  
1<sup>st</sup> October and  
5<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### Contact or Visit Us

[greenlinkboxhill@gmail.com](mailto:greenlinkboxhill@gmail.com)  
41 Wimmera St  
Box Hill North 3129  
0479 121 653  
(Answered 9:00am -12:00pm  
Tues & Wed only)

### Stay in Touch and follow us on

[www.greenlinkboxhill.org](http://www.greenlinkboxhill.org)  
[www.facebook.com/  
greenlinknursery](https://www.facebook.com/greenlinknursery)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/  
greenlinkboxhill](https://www.flickr.com/photos/greenlinkboxhill)

# Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change - "Changing"

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change. IPCC has exclusive rights to **"Changing"**.



Changing by Alisa Singer

"As we witness our planet transforming around us, we watch, listen, measure ... respond."

[www.environmentalgraphiti.org](http://www.environmentalgraphiti.org) – 2021 Alisa Singer. (Front cover of this newsletter is by Alisa Singer)

Environmental Graphiti® is a collection of digital paintings created to enhance public understanding of the facts about climate change. Each work in the series of over 75 digital paintings is based on a chart, graph, map, word or number relating to a key fact about how and why our world is changing and what we can do to address this urgent issue.

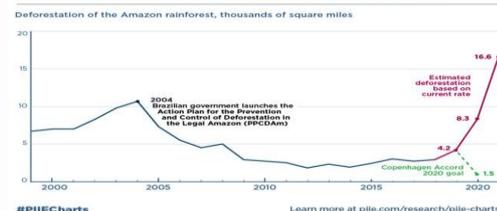
Below we feature one of the paintings in the 'Deforestation and Climate Change' series and highlighting, "Why is our climate changing?"

## The Art



## The Photograph

### Deforestation and the Amazon Rain Forest Amazon Deforestation Is Fast Nearing Tipping Point When Rainforest Cannot Sustain Itself



#PIIECharts  
Learn more at [pile.com/research/pile-charts](http://pile.com/research/pile-charts)

Note: The estimates for 2019 to 2021 were calculated by extrapolating the rate of increase in deforestation estimated between January and August 2019 by INPE. The numbers and scale of the chart have been corrected from an earlier published version to reflect the conversion from square kilometers to square miles. The conclusion regarding the tipping point in 2021 remains unchanged.

Source: Brazil's National Institute of Space Research (INPE) and author's calculations.

This PIE Chart was adapted from Monica de Bolle's Policy Brief 19-15, The Amazon is a Carbon Bomb: How Can Brazil and the World Work Together to Avoid Setting It Off.

Peterson Institute for International Economics' Amazon Deforestation is Fast Nearing Tipping Point When Rainforest Cannot Sustain Itself". <https://www.pie.com/research/pile-charts/amazon-deforestation-fast-nearing-tipping-point-when-rainforest-cannot-sustain-itself>

<https://eg-v2.squarespace.com/all-series?category=Why%20is%20our%20climate%20changing%3F>

## "What's Alarming

Cutting trees adds greenhouse gases to the atmosphere while at the same time removing the ability of the trees to absorb existing carbon emissions.

"As the world seeks to slow the pace of climate change, preserve wildlife, and support billions of people, trees inevitably hold a major part of the answer. Yet the mass destruction of trees—deforestation—continues, sacrificing the long-term benefits of standing trees for short-term gain.

A report released on November 18, 2021 "...by Brazil's National Institute of Space Research, or Inpe, showed that the world's largest rainforest had lost an astounding 5,100 square miles of tree cover from August 2020 to July 2021...Satellite data indicated that deforestation increased by about 22 percent from the previous year. It was also the first time on record that the country has reported a fourth consecutive year of rising deforestation rates. Since Mr. Bolsonaro became president in 2019, the country has lost a forest area bigger than Belgium..." Amazon Deforestation Soars to 15-Year High, New York Times, Manuela Andreoni, Nov 20, 2021

Forests still cover about 30 percent of the world's land area, but they are disappearing at an alarming rate. Between 1990 and 2016, the world lost 502,000 square miles (1.3 million square kilometers) of forest, according to the World Bank—an area larger than South Africa. Since humans started cutting down forests, 46 percent of trees have been felled, according to a 2015 study in the journal Nature. About 17 percent of the Amazonian rainforest has been destroyed over the past 50 years, and losses recently have been on the rise. As the world is focused on the pandemic, an area of the Amazon 20 times the size of Manhattan was razed, a 55% increase over the same period in 2019. \*

We need trees for a variety of reasons, not least of which is that they absorb not only the carbon dioxide that we exhale, but also the heat-trapping greenhouse gases that human activities emit. As those gases enter the atmosphere, global warming increases, a trend scientist now prefer to call climate change. Tropical tree cover alone can provide 23 percent of the climate mitigation needed over the next decade to meet goals set in the Paris Agreement in 2015, according to one estimate." National Geographic, Climate 101- Deforestation

\*New York Times" Spotlight on Virus, Razing of Amazon Only Worsens, Jun 7, 2020"

The Working Group I contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report addresses the most up-to-date physical understanding of the climate system and climate change, bringing together the latest advances in climate science, and combining multiple lines of evidence from paleoclimate, observations, process understanding, and global and regional

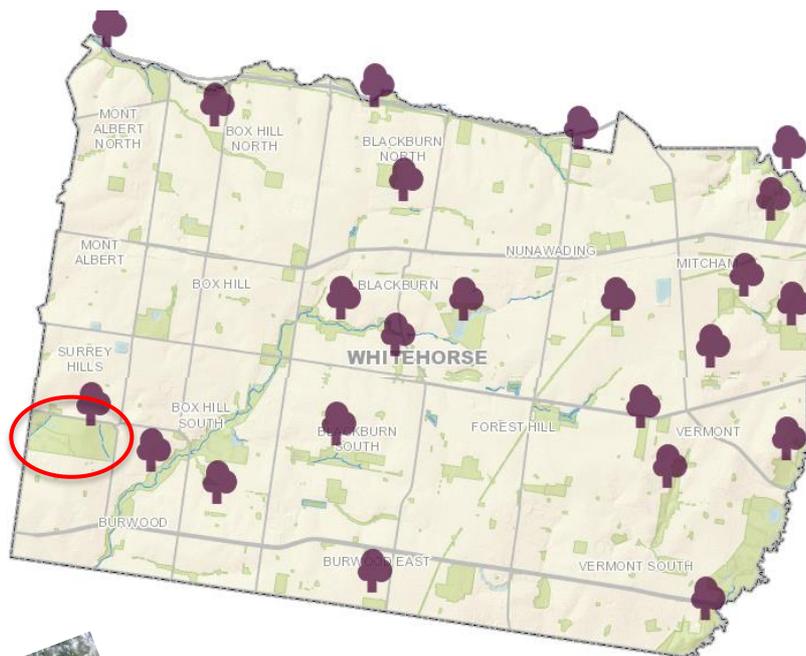
climate simulations. You can read the latest report "AR6 Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis" online via the IPCC website. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/>

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## Parkland of the Quarter

Did you know that there are more than 350 beautiful parks and 20 bushland reserves in the City of Whitehorse? Greenlink will feature a parkland in our Newsletter every quarter. This is a way for everyone to connect with the environment that surrounds us and highlight places that cater for nature lovers, walkers, cyclists, families, and people of all ages.

This quarter we look at **WATTLE PARK** which is located in Burwood and was first created by the Hawthorn Tramway Trust back in 1919. It has a golf course which was opened in 1937. Parts of the park are classed as a heritage place by Heritage Victoria including the Lone Pine. The area contains remnant bushland, and fauna such as possums, kookaburras, and gang-gang cockatoos. The Park has two playgrounds, with BBQs, table and seats and is ideal for picnics and social gatherings. It's a great place to walk, run or cycle through.



Wattle Park is part of Suburban Parks Program due to the significant natural and cultural heritage and provides an important connection to native bush within a suburban landscape. The program aims to increase community connectivity and decrease social isolation by providing local opportunities for Melbournians to connect to green open space and to exercise. The Victorian Government is investing \$4.3 million into a new playscape and upgraded walking/running track. The upgrades will make sure park users can continue to enjoy all that Wattle Park has to offer now and into the future. Read more about the improving of this heritage list park [https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/suburban-parks/wattle-park#toc\\_id\\_2\\_when](https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/suburban-parks/wattle-park#toc_id_2_when)

The Wattle Park User Guide highlights what this park has to offer including all paths and trails are multi-use. So, take a walk, jog or cycle beneath the shade of impressive gums, wattles and other indigenous and exotic tree species. [https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/wattle-park?utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=maps&utm\\_campaign=GMB-2020](https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/wattle-park?utm_source=google&utm_medium=maps&utm_campaign=GMB-2020)

Write to us if you have a park/reserve/bushland that you would like us to feature in our newsletter.

# President's report

Well, another quarter has just flown by living through what hopefully was our last Covid lockdown and now enjoying some well-earned freedoms as our lives start to get back to what is called "A Covid Normal". Life at the nursery has gone on all being with a minimal number of volunteers during the lockdown to keep things ticking over and taking care of click and collect sales which kept everyone



busy, both packing orders and planting out seedlings to keep up the stock levels, with the number of people placing on line orders far exceeded our expectations.

With restrictions now eased it was pleasing to be able to welcome all of our volunteers back to volunteering (all are double vaccinated) and customers again coming in into the Nursery and are now step by step catching up on the back log

of work to be done inside the nursery. We have also begun the task of weeding in the park where the weeds have had a wonderful time growing with the wet weather and being allowed to run free as work in the park was not allowed during the lockdown. Overall, a busy but rewarding time for everyone. During the next few weeks, you will see a few changes at the nursery. We have ordered an additional covered heat bed to assist us with being able to



propagate a larger number of plants from cuttings, new work benches, roll out shade cloth being installed above the rows of plants and solar panels installed on the shed roof. The installation of solar panels will assist us in reducing our carbon foot print by being able to generate what we trust will be most of our energy needs with a view that as battery technology and costs improve over the coming years that we could go off grid and

become carbon position for our energy requirements.

Despite what has been a difficult period of lockdowns overall sales continue to remain strong with increasing levels of customers coming into the nursery each week and a full book of forward orders for Autumn collection next year. All current indications are that we should be on target to at least match or potentially exceed last year's level of sales of plants. The challenge for us now is to ensure we are able to match the number of plants on the benches with demand and be out and about in the bushland parks collecting seed to ensure our seed bank remains at a good level.

In closing I wish everyone the best of happiness and joy for the upcoming festive season and a bright and prosperous 2022. If you have not been into the nursery for some time, call in and say hi and have a look at the changes, it would be good to catch up with you.

*By Robert Jones*

# Treasurer's report

This last quarter has seen very strong sales, up by 38% compared to the period in 2020-21. This together with reduced expenses has produced an overall strong performance with a trading surplus of 23% higher than for the same period last year. Based on forward orders, we can expect this trend to continue for the remainder of the financial year. We have met all of the financial reporting requirements of the ACNC and continue to remain alert for opportunities for funding through Government Grants to upgrade and invest in equipment and infrastructure for the benefit of our customers and volunteers. *By Trevor Eddy*

**Greenlink Box Hill Incorporated** was nominated and successfully entered the **20th Anniversary Whitehorse Excellence in Business Awards 2020/2021** for the Community Award Category. Due to the **COVID-19 pandemic** the **Whitehorse Business Group (WBG)** decided to **merge the 2020/2021 Whitehorse Excellence in Business Awards to commemorate the 20th Anniversary** of the Business Awards.



A judging process ran from Monday 23rd August, 2021 until Friday 1st October, 2021 during that time Greenlink was contacted by a judge for a detailed phone interview which ran for an hour. They wanted to know how Greenlink Managed throughout the COVID pandemic and what changes we needed to make to ensure our customers and volunteers were looked after. In addition to this they requested us to share a story of resilience with other nominees and how we overcame adversity during the lockdown as well as inviting us to share some inspiring words for other businesses and groups about how we achieved success during such a difficult time.

The scheduled Gala Dinner - Awards Presentation Night was due to be held on Friday 22nd October, 2021 at Vogue Ballroom in Burwood East, however due to the COVID lockdown this event was held by Zoom on the same night at 6.30pm. Winners were announced on the night and unfortunately **Greenlink** did not win. The winner of the Community Award was **Alkira**, a not-for-profit organisation, based in the Eastern Suburbs of Melbourne which has been providing services and support to people with an intellectual disability since 1954.



We would like to congratulate Alkira and all the winners in all the categories and thank all the sponsors. Congratulations to WBG for organising a wonderful virtual event and thank you for the champers. It was a great presentation night and great idea to dress up, play a bit of trivia about the **City of Whitehorse** and celebrate with all the amazing organisations who contribute so much to our community.



## Platypus Census



### [Citizen Science PlatypusSPOT App](http://platypusspot.org/)

Manningham's Yarra River and local creeks are home to the iconic Platypus which can be sighted during your morning or evening walk.

Become an ongoing contributor to the research and conservation of the platypus by reporting your sighting on the Cesar PlatypusSPOT citizen science smart phone app <http://platypusspot.org/>.

How to search for this Australian Icon video - <https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Environment/Sustainable-communities/Environmental-webinars>

# Spring is in the air

The start of September brings along an explosion of color in Bushy Creek Trail surrounding the nursery. You could be excused for dilly dallying on your walk through this picturesque parkland taking in the amazing bloom of the indigenous plants, which have been planted out by our hardworking volunteers from Greenlink.

**Left to Right:**

*Hardenbergia violacea* - Purple Coral Pea;  
*Kennedia prostrata* - Running Postman;  
*Brachyscome multifida* var. *multifida* - Cut-Leaf Daisy;  
*Goodia lotifolia* - Golden Tip;



**Left to Right:**

*Leucochrysum albicans* – Hoary Sunray;  
*Olearia lirata* - Snowy Daisy-Bush;  
*Indigofera australis* - Austral indigo;  
*Ptilotus spathulatus* - Pussy Tails;



**Left to Right:**

Garden beds to the east of the nursery where some of these plants can be found and finally *Pelargonium australe* - Austral Stork's Bill.



## And the 'carnage' continues

We all recall the winds that belted through our state on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June, well it happened again in the early hours of Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>. ☁️ This time the nursery was not spared, along with Wimmera St and the Bushy Creek Trail surrounding Greenlink. We all saw huge damage to trees being uprooted or snapped off (*Allocasuarina verticillate* and *Acacia melanoxylon*), big branches down and a tree came down over powerlines in Wimmera Street which saw the street closed for two days. This was very hard to witness after the amazing bloom of September.



# Aussie Backyard Bird Count

During October Birdlife Australia ran a **Birds of Boroondara webinar** which inspired us to participate in the Aussie Backyard Bird Count, or to create a wildlife friendly backyard. The AussieBirdCount was a great way to connect with the birds in your backyard no matter where your backyard happened to be – a suburban backyard, a local park, a patch of forest/National Park, down by the beach, or the main street of your suburb.

The data collected assisted Birdlife Australia in understanding more about the birds that live where people live.

Top 5 Birds spotted in Victoria in the 2020 Count		Grand Total Count	Species Total Spotted
Species Name	Count	1417066	331
Rainbow Lorikeet	108771		
Australian Magpie	95900		
Noisy Miner	80753		
Red Wattlebird	64549		
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	64322		

The webinar included watching a Live bird show which was for the kids (big and small!). In this live online bird show, presented by Reptile Encounters, I meet some feathered friends up close including Barking Owls, Barn Owls, Tawny Frogmouths, Lorikeets and Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos!

Here is some information that I found interesting and that you might or might not know about these feathered friends.



**Rainbow Lorikeets** are able to be training by tempting them with flowers of shrubs or trees and they harvest the nectar and pollen, but also eats fruits, seeds and some insects.

**Red-Tail Black Cockatoo** can live over 100 years These old bird needs large hollows and can only have one baby at a time. There was a black market for them, sold for \$15,000 each and sold overseas for \$30,000.



**Tawny frogmouth** – Left picture is a baby of only 15 days old. They like to sit in the fork of trees. Often confused with owls, but are actually more closely related to the Nightjars. Feed on insects and mice. They don't have talon, so they don't swope down to get food, feet are small, and they're said to walk like a gout-ridden man! They often get hit by cars as they are not a fast-moving bird. Take care when driving at night.



**Barking Owl** Part of the Hawk Owl family, have lopsided ears. Endangered in Victoria only 50 Pairs in Vic. Need large habitat feed on rabbits. As shown in the distribution map they're found in the east coast of Australia. If you couldn't see a dog and a barking owl you would get confused by the barking. Earlier in the webinar, I thought it was a dog barking in the background. Weigh about 700g.



**Eastern Barn Owl** Wide spread species in the world, found everywhere. Part of the Mask Owl family. Have a satellite dish face and lopsided ears with great hearing. When a Barn owl is on their tree can hear the mice on the ground. Perceive silent flight, when she flaps her wings doesn't make any sound wave. Eat 1/2 dozen mice per night. Becoming extinct. Human use pesticide like rat bait when the owl eats the mice this in turn also has impact on the owl.

How much do you know about Aussie birds? Here are a couple of fun quizzes to "Test your Aussie bird knowledge" and find out "What Aussie bird are you?"

Test your Aussie bird knowledge link:

<https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/quiz/aussie-bird-knowledge/>

What Aussie bird are you? Link:

<https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/quiz/what-aussie-bird-are-you/>

A recording of the webinar can be accessed directly here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjbNqze6Hxk>

Please note that the recording will only be accessible for a limited time.



Hi Emi,

Thank you for submitting the following count:

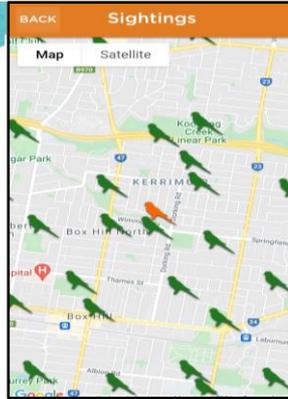
**Date:** Saturday 23 October 2021  
**Time:** 4:25 PM  
**Duration:** 13 minutes  
**Observers:** 1  
**Sightings:**  
 Australian Magpie x 3  
 Noisy Miner x 12  
 Rainbow Lorikeet x 2  
 Little Raven x 4  
 Magpie-lark x 1  
 Grev Butcherbird x 2



We hope you're enjoying being part of the Aussie Backyard Bird Count! Remember, you can count as many times as you want – but only until October 24.

Thanks for supporting Australia's largest and oldest native bird conservation charity!

From the team at BirdLife Australia





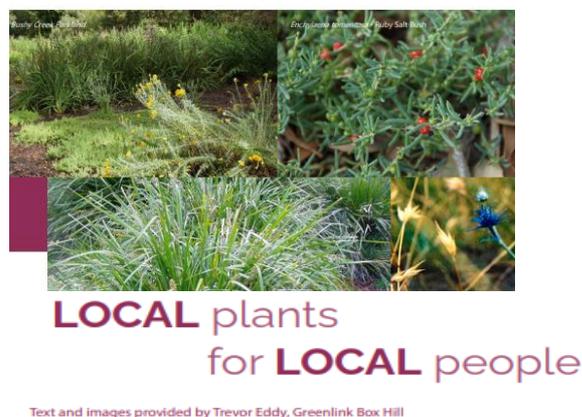


As you can see from the notice above, I took part in the 2021 count which was their **biggest Aussie Backyard Bird Count yet!** Trevor and I spotted 24 birds along the Bushy Creek Trail. These are a few photos we took of the birds we spotted including a nest with a baby Butcherbird and its parent.

Birdlife Australia is currently in the thick of vetting and analysing the data for 2021 which they should have final results ready at the start of December. Next year's count will run from 17–23 October 2022 — mark it in your diary.

We hope you joined in the count and learnt to identify a new species or two. And if you're already missing the excitement of counting birds you might like to get involved in our Birds in Backyards seasonal surveys. *By Emi Luppino*

## Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria (RHSV)



This edition of the Gardeners' Gazette which is the official publication of the RHSV has a feature article on Greenlink and the plants of Bushy Creek parkland. The Gazette contains upcoming events and shows, RHSV activities and news, horticultural articles and affiliate news. All financial members receive four magazines annually.

Greenlink is a member organization of the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria Inc. and we have a strong affiliation and excellent relationship with them. We are very grateful to RHSV and Secretary Jennifer who sources our Volunteer and Professional Indemnity Insurance on our behalf and we were thrilled that Greenlink was invited to submit an article for the Spring edition of Gardeners' Gazette.

To read the full article click on the link: -

[https://rhsv.zarzura.net/images/GG\\_RHSV\\_Spring\\_2021\\_Local\\_Plants\\_SM.pdf](https://rhsv.zarzura.net/images/GG_RHSV_Spring_2021_Local_Plants_SM.pdf)

A copy of the Gardeners' Gazette was sent to the nursery should anyone like to browse or read through it.

# Volunteers during lockdown

Given that the nursery was closed for just under three months from 7 August to 26 October for most of our volunteers and they had to find something else during lockdown.

Here is what some shared on the impact of the lockdown for them:

*"I've really loved my daily walks through parkland in my area that I hadn't visited before, and all the native flora I discovered along the way."* By Robert Ham

*Microseris walteri*



*Caladenia carnea*



*Thysanotus patersonii*



*"Finally, thanks to lockdown, I have got into all the garden jobs (most perhaps) I've avoided and now that Spring is here, it's lovely."* By Florence Gough

*"As our house backs onto Bushy Creek Trail it was interesting watching the daily increase in foot traffic from our upstairs' window "There is also a couple who walk at night with their flashlight shining on the trees. I call them the possum spotters."* Trevor Eddy



*"Can't overestimate how important and valuable Greenlink is, especially during Lockdown. Great people to work with, so much to experience and learn and such a vital service to the environment and the community".* By Chris Almond

*"What a great way to fill in the days with checking up on all the files and documents collected over the years. Complying all this information is really interesting to learn the history and all the challenges that were overcome to establish the Bushy and Koonung Creek indigenous plantings."* by Seed Mapping Team

*"Unable to get work permits to map plants. The council's COVID rules say that no one can work in the parks. Why don't we try to do some work via zoom, either Tuesday or Wednesday morning, just as if we are physically in Greenlink"* by Seed Mapping Team

*"During lockdown I have learnt to back my new car down the driveway. And for any of you who are sneering or dismissive of my new talent - just come and see my driveway!!"* by Helen Treeby



*"Working with the seed team has helped to keep me sane during our lockdowns. We have a great group of volunteers".* By Jeff Zehr

*"We have had the opportunity to road test the mapping software and actually see it working real time by taking the opportunity of our permitted walks through some of the seed collecting sites."* By Augustine Doronila

*"Volunteering at Greenlink has helped me to stay sane during lockdown."* By Bob Ross

*"Nothing really changed for me"* By KG

*"I went to Colonial Fresh Fruit Store in Forest Hill Shopping Centre and purchased Walnuts in shell 5kg Bag. I nearly walked away without them. Spent lockdown cracking them. Perhaps this will make us 'Nuts' or maybe turn us into a 'Nut Case'."* By Gary Burda



*"From managing our click and collect operations at the Nursery during lockdown I have a profound new relationship, appreciation and respect to the extent of the loyalty and depth and breadth of our customers."* By Robert Jones

*"It has been interesting to get to know the neighbourhood more by walking the streets and to see how people are landscaping their front yards. Also enjoyed checking the flow in the stream in the Eastern Freeway Linear Reserve. Lockdown means waiting - for mail order seeds to arrive or for a 'drive and collect' email for a top up bag of native potting mix - because we couldn't just up and off to Bunning."* By Philip Russell

"Gardening during the day and knitting in the evening is pretty much my ideal sort of day, but one can have too much of a good thing! I'm looking forward to a bit more variety in our new normal. By Pam Prior

"Lockdown has given me the opportunity to write my second recipe book of our family favourite dishes." By Emi Luppino



"Lockdown has meant I have been spending more time in my garden especially my vegie patch, going for long walks and playing scrabble." By Mike D

## A word from our customers

As restrictions eased and lockdown was lifted our customers could not wait to get in contact or visit us.

"Visiting Greenlink is one of the few things I have missed during lockdown. Stay safe. I will wait until it is time when it reopens." By Heather 21/10/2021

"With the 15km limit now it is always a delight to visit Greenlink, Box Hill. Here are a few photos of what's happening in the indigenous gardens they have planted along Bushy Creek Trail. Highlights include a Magpie-Lark bathing in the mini wetland." Comments and Photos by a friend of Greenlink - Jonathan Tickner 12/10/2021



Our first open day on Cup Day saw an abundance of customers walk through our gates (after checking in of course) we found people were enjoying their visit and stayed for more than an hour or two wondering around and enjoying a chat. Some posted on Facebook their experience and included these photos. 02/11/2021

"Visited Greenlink, lovely helpful staff and an amazing feeling of tranquility for such a small nursery. And I scored some free tomato 🍅 seedlings, which made my day 😊" Photos (below) and comments by Lawrence 02/11/2021



"I just stopped by out of curiosity!"

"A volunteer (Jan) approached me to see if I needed help/info.

I asked if there were edible varieties? Jan gave me a very informative tour on edible natives.

As well as ideas on how to landscape with variety of native plants to promote habitat for wildlife, biodiversity and encourage pollinators like bees and butterflies visiting the garden.

All staff were super helpful and friendly." Comments by Sohila 02/11/2021



One customer came in with his young daughter in a unique tandem bike with tagalong trailer and said he loves coming to Greenlink and tells all his friends not to go to Bunnings and go to this hidden gem "Greenlink nursery" which has good quality plants, friendly volunteers eager to help, good customer service and on this Sale Day his daughter was so excited to be treated with free donated tomato seedlings, fresh parsley and fresh bread. 06/11/2021

We are in the third and final quarter of the Photo Competition and have received quite a few entries for **Category 1** and one entry for **Category 2**. Due to the amazing photos submitted and the beautiful colours, the judging panel found it difficult to decide a winner for Category 1 and have decided to select three photos as the worthy winners and they will receive a gift voucher for 20 free plants of their choice.

## Congratulations to our Category 1 winners:

**Ben Adler** for his magnificent photo of an **Eastern Spinebill** enjoying some **Eucalyptus** nectar in **Mt Waverley**.

**Jonathan Tickner** for his magnificent photo of a **Hoverfly** enjoying the **Bluebells** along **Bushy Creek Trail**.

**Linda Henderson** for her magnificent photo a tiny beautiful turquoise blue moth, think is a **Pollanisis veridipulverulenta**, sitting on a **Xerochrysum viscosum** - sticky everlasting



W



## Congratulation to our Category 2 winner: Barbara Miller

*"Starting a garden on busy Stephenson's Road, under the shelter of a magnificent Victorian gum tree to attract native birds and insects, using local flora – this is our daunting challenge!*

*To start with, we welcomed the wisdom of the Monash Council 'Gardens for Wildlife' to visit. They were naturally drawn to the foot of the presidential eucalypt, like 'listening to country'.*

*A picture began to emerge of hardy, drought tolerant grasses. These would catch the breezes and create a swaying, contemplative feel. Add logs, rocks, pathways suggestive of dry creek beds, and a habitat for insects and critters was possible.*

*Flowering ground cover plantings and native daisies to pop some colour would attract insects. We began to see a garden-scape in our imaginations that we wanted to create!*

*We foraged for mulch when we heard the sound of trees being trimmed, and the crunch of the mulcher. A mountain of dumped mulch sat idle during lockdown!*

*We've now spread it thickly to 'bank' precipitation in the soil below. It will slowly decompose and improve soil fertility.*

*Then we headed to Greenlink Nursery, Wimmera St, Box Hill. We asked lots of questions and finally selected 41 tube stock from their ample supplies. They're now planted! It's really happening (although the plants are a bit small to see in the photos!). Thank you so much Greenlink."*



Greenlink has had some amazing photos submitted over the year but whether you were a winner or someone that just missed out, we would like to thank everyone for taking the time to submitted a photo/s during 2021 and as we advised earlier in the competition all people who submitted a photo (winner or not) in all categories are placed in one pool and two names will be drawn out for a prize of \$100 movie voucher each. This will take place at the nursery's end of year break up held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2021 and the winner will be notified by email. Good Luck to all.

# A Rock N' Roll Story Like No Other

On Wednesday November 17th, saw the completion of a long-awaited project to acknowledge the local Wurundjeri people on whose land Greenlink nursery sits.

A while back, a large rock was purchased along with a commemorative plaque recognizing the traditional landowners and depicting one of our very beautiful native plants. The rock was unceremoniously dumped on one side of the nursery entrance path and the intention was for the volunteers to move the rock around 3m into a small hole dug at the end of one of the plant rows.



With a lack of manpower, not a lot was possible during Covid restrictions except for a lot of discussion on how to move the rock and how much it might weigh. From time to time, some volunteers would quietly approach the rock and try to lift it just a little. The rock prevailed, nothing happened. As for the weight, Graham came up with the idea of using Archimedes principle of the volume displacement of a small piece of the rock to estimate the weight of the whole rock. I'm not sure if he got into a bath with the rock and shouted "eureka" but somehow, he came up with an estimate of 240Kg.

Eventually the stars aligned and the opportunity presented itself on this particular Wednesday to attempt to move the rock. We had a little brain power, brawn in the form of new volunteer Philip, more volunteers on hand to help (mostly with background chatter) and most importantly a large crowbar supplied by Philip. A suitable hole was dug by Philip and Neil, and Philip got to work with his crowbar. The rock was slowly edged off the ground and a piece of wood inserted under it to hold it in place. Surely that was enough for the day! We all retired for tea and coffee and banter about what to do next. Philip was not to be denied. He returned to the rock and levered it further from the ground. Eventually it was high enough to try to roll it over. Risking hernias, bad backs and broken toes, it was all hands to the rock and the rock finally yielded. One small roll but many more to go.



But unexpected help was at hand. A young strong looking customer named Jacob asked if we needed any help. Not sure if he knew what he was offering but he was quickly enlisted and given a front row position. Slowly but surely the rock was rolled towards its resting hole. Now the hard work.... we needed to lift it vertically and rotate it into the hole. The crowbar, rope, muscle power and wooden chocks could only do so much. Brainpower to the rescue, Emi suggested using a car jack. This raised the rock even further towards vertical until the jack started slipping and it could do no more. This was the moment of truth; we would have risk all and push it up the rest of the way.

Success! With a little more muscle power, the rock was rotated and nudged gently and somewhat luckily into its hole. Quickly soil was pack around the rock and it was securely in place. Time for photos and back slapping all round.

Bronte has created a small garden around the rock. The plaque still needs to be attached to rock...glue, screws, who knows...the Greenlink brains trust will quickly get this done.

All jokes aside, this installation is an important Acknowledgement of Country and way to pay respect to the Wurundjeri people, traditional owners of the land upon which Greenlink Indigenous nursery sits. Well done everyone. *by Chris Almond*



**Little bit of Trivia - Do you know how fast a wombat can run?**

If you're anything like me, it's probably hard to imagine those small, solid, tubs-on-legs we know as wombats barrelling along at a run.

They are truly a sight to behold. And they really get along.

Believe it or not, they've been clocked doing 40 kmh. Yep, 40.

That's as fast as an African elephant, and only slightly slower than Usain Bolt



**Important Dates:** Greenlink will be closing over the Christmas period. The last day of operation will be Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2021 and we will reopen on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022.



If you have any news, stories, photos, etc. that you would like to share with Greenlink for publication in our newsletter, please write to us by emailing [greenlinkboxhill@gmail.com](mailto:greenlinkboxhill@gmail.com)

Greenlink will welcome the return of any empty and unwanted plant tubes. Please return them to the nursery when you next visit or simply throw them over the gate/leave them at the gate if the nursery is closed.

**At Greenlink Box Hill, we value:**

- Every customer who deals with us and provide exceptional service
- A happy, safe and enthusiastic workplace
- The high quality of our plants
- The contribution that everyone makes to our success
- Honesty and ethics in all of our dealings with customers and each other

**Greenlink Box Hill Inc. Reg No. A0018547D**

**President:** Robert Jones **Vice President:** Emi Luppino

**Secretary:** Chris Almond **Treasurer:** Trevor Eddy

**Committee Members:** Karin Godfrey, Jenny McCausland

**Newsletter editor:** Emi Luppino

**Acknowledgment** – Greenlink acknowledge the Wurendjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional owners of the land that the nursery conducts business on and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.