



2018-19 SNAPSHOT





Creating a web of green spaces across Melbourne's south-east



Living Links is an urban nature project working to create a web of high quality, interconnected nature corridors across Melbourne's south-eastern suburbs.

By improving the connections between the many parks, reserves, open spaces, coasts, beaches, pathways, rivers, creeks and wetlands, we aim to make this area a world-class urban ecosystem. This will improve habitat for wildlife, as well as making it easier for people to experience the many benefits of connecting with nature in this urban setting.

Living Links is a collaboration between 17 organisations (Councils, government agencies and community/interest groups) all working together towards our shared vision.



Key activities in 2018-19

Living Links partners once again collectively achieved some amazing outcomes for the region. Highlights included:

- Commencing the "Mapping the Gaps" project to review and update priority Living Links corridors with RMIT University students and Landscape Architects from OFFICE.
- Appointing our first Living Links Ambassador School (St. Louis de Montfort's in Aspendale), who are working to create habitat and monitor frogs at their school.
- Developing a series of 15 Connies swap-cards featuring iconic wildlife in Melbourne's south-east.
- Delivering Year 3 of the \$1 million 'Transforming the Dandenong Creek Corridor' project (funded through the Victorian Government), including:
 - environmental works (revegetation, weed control, fencing, nesting hollow installation)
 - the second 'Discover Dandenong Creek Festival'
 - other community events including planting days, educational events on birds, frogs, bats and nocturnal wildlife and a bush tucker walk.



Living Links 2018-19 Achievements



7808 hectares

of native vegetation
managed or established

146,000+ native plants

planted to improve habitat
and strengthen corridors



193+ kilometres

of riparian vegetation
enhanced along waterways

18 kilometres

of recreational trails
established or improved



29,500+ hours

of volunteer time spent
caring for the environment

Major project: Transforming the Dandenong Creek

- Environmental works completed at 27 of the 38 priority sites along 22 km of the Dandenong Creek (72.5 hectares weed control and 17 hectares revegetation).
- 18 nesting hollows installed for Powerful Owls.
- 2000+ people engaged in 34 community events,
- 800 attendees at the second 'Discover Dandenong Creek Festival'.

Looking forward

Next year will see ongoing delivery of environmental and community engagement works by Living Links partners, including the final year of the 'Transforming the Dandenong Creek corridor' project. This will include the third Discover Dandenong Creek Festival, a short film festival, an Indigenous-themed art installation and a wide variety of community events.

Other key priorities are completing the "Mapping the Gaps" project with RMIT/OFFICE to identify 'missing links' in the network of shared trails and green spaces across the region, then seeking major funding to continue our work to extend and enhance urban green spaces.



For more information on Living Links:

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