

F O S B R NEWSLETTER

Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc.

Newsletter 18 — May 2013

SPECIAL WORKING BEE — FRIDAY 17TH MAY

Our regular working bees will be complemented on Friday, May 17th with the offer of a day of help from the Conservation Volunteers Community Action Program and NRM South. Their help will be very greatly appreciated. If you are free to help on May 17th, please come to Fitzroy Gardens at any time during the day and you will be made very welcome. Your help is needed.

REGULAR WORKING BEES

Our regular working bees are held every second Sunday of each month, from 9.30 – 11.30 am. We meet at the picnic table in Fitzroy Gardens nearest to the corner of Pillinger St and Fitzroy Crescent. If the weather is bad or it is a public holiday weekend please give our Secretary a call to check whether the meeting will go ahead.

Future dates are: 12th May, 14th July, 11th August, etc.

If anyone can spare an occasional hour or two, please turn up and we will make you very welcome, and there are always different grades of work to do to suit different abilities. Indeed just come for a chat and to make your views on the future of the rivulet known. We have a comprehensive volunteer insurance which covers our community based activities.

OTHER MEETINGS AND FIELD DAYS

We are planning more of the very popular field days. However arrangements depend on availability of specialist presenters, weather, stream flow, tides, fish and bird life activity and other complex factors. Hence notice of events will have to be short. Members of the public are welcome but please let the the Secretary have an email address so you can be contacted.

OFFICE BEARERS:

President	Deb Maeder
Secretary	Julia Greenhill
Treasurer	Beth Harnett
Committee	James Bowler Patsy Jones Penny Parrish Robert Rands
CHCA reps	Beth Harnett Jim Bowler Julia Greenhill

Public Officer Julia Greenhill
62 341516 or juliafg@bigpond.com

Web site www.fosbr.org.au

Web Manager David Edwards



Professor Davies AM sampling fish in the rivulet

Message from the President

The FOSBR committee have identified three targeted areas on which to focus our immediate actions and support and new developments have occurred in each of these sites.

Quavle Street: Our group continues to work with HCC to replace and monitor the reed planting within the drill holes in the waterway. These plants provide important protection and sites for spawning for the Gallxids fish.

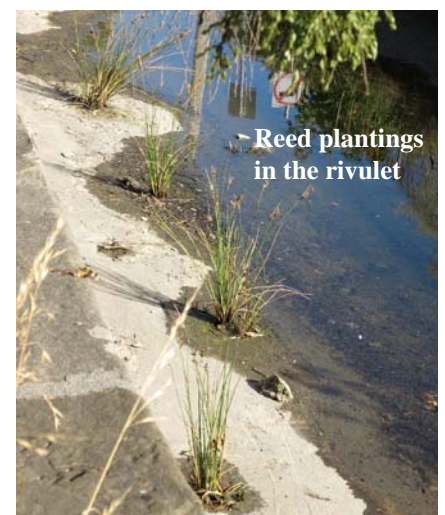
Parliament Street Park: FOSBR have been actively planting and maintaining new plantings along the banks of

the rivulet between the street and the slide. Many of these plants are now starting to thrive and with the winter rains we hope will establish themselves. This is also the site of the new 'fish ladder' at Digney/ Parliament Streets cross over recently installed by HCC. A fish ladder allows small fish, such as the Galaxiids, a way of moving upstream to spawn in a healthy rivulet. The fish ladder is easily observable from the footpath so you are encouraged to take the time to see this new development. Planting will soon commence

to soften the impact of the new work.

Fitzroy Gardens (upper reaches) The site here is really starting to make progress after an extended programme of planting and weeding. The blackberries and invasive species have been controlled and plantings are beginning to be sustained. The HCC have greatly assisted with the removal of larger dead branches and trees encroaching on the flow of water

*Regards
Deb Maeder*



Reed plantings in the rivulet

GREAT NEWS — Fish ladder construction — Work in rivulet at Parliament St

Congratulations to the Hobart City Council for their persistence with the development of a new fish ladder at Parliament Street.

With urbanisation and roadway developments the natural flows and gradients of the rivulet have been altered. In particular, for the Sandy Bay Rivulet there are several points where culverts under roads cause problems for fish migrations within the rivulet. One such point

has been under Parliament Street at Parliament Street Park.

A fish ladder, is as it suggests, a way of assisting fish to move upstream via a series of steps at intervals that are specific to the size of the fish and the dynamics of the water flow. Constructing a ladder suitable for such small fish as the galaxiids has been a challenge and involved much planning, consultation and an earlier unsuccessful trial!

along the rivulet including the more difficult site at Regent Street.

HCC will soon be planting around this ladder to help it 'settle' into the rivulet and Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet working bees will also assist with planting projects below the new work. The Friends are already helping to maintain the trees, shrubs and reeds planted along the rivulet bank at the Parliament St reserve.



The photos here illustrate how the rivulet flow out of the culvert has been shaped to pass through the stepped 'pools' gently connecting, what was previously a major drop over an abrupt concrete lip, with the more natural progress of the rivulet.

It is hoped that monitoring the effectiveness of this ladder will provide positive and informative information to develop further fish ladders at other junctions



Get involved - become a "Friend"

The Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc has the basic objectives of conserving, restoring, improving and celebrating the cultural, social and environmental values of the Sandy Bay Rivulet and its environs by:

- (a) Gathering and assessing information about the flora, fauna and water quality of the rivulet
- (b) Collaborating with local government, land owners and the community in the interests of the rivulet
- (c) Promoting public awareness of the values of the rivulet
- (d) Obtaining funds and support to promote the above

We are a small and active group that welcomes your input at any level.

If you have an interest in supporting the betterment of this valuable waterway please contact one of the office bearers or better still, return the membership application below.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To the Secretary,
Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc,
79 Queen St, Sandy Bay, 7005.

I wish to **apply/renew** my membership of the Friends of the Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc. I enclose \$10.00 **cheque/money order/cash**. My contact details are:

Name:

Address

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Email address:

Telephone number :

Date :

NRM SOUTH NATURALLY INSPIRED GRANT

We were delighted to receive this grant for \$5,000 last year, for a project titled "Riparian Zone Rehabilitation and a Fish Information Leaflet". We have been working hard on this project, which was divided into two parts.

(1) Riparian Zone Rehabilitation

The first part involved clearing and planting with local native vegetation species along part of a very overgrown and weed infested area on the banks of the Sandy Bay Rivulet between Fitzroy Gardens and Lynton Avenue. This continues work we had previously started in this area, with some plants now becoming well established. The clearing has been achieved, and we thank the Hobart City Council and the Adopt a Waterway program for helping with the difficult removal of a large dead willow tree in the area. Now that conditions have started improving for planting, this work will begin. Our regular working bees will be complemented on Friday, May 17th with the offer of a day of help from the Conservation Volunteers and NRM South, and their help will be very welcome. If you are free to help on May 17th, please come to Fitzroy Gardens at any time during the day and you will be made very welcome.

(2) Fish Information Leaflet

We are preparing a leaflet providing information to the community on the five species of native fish found in the Sandy Bay Rivulet. This will include information and colour photographs of all the fish species found in the Rivulet and will be similar in style to our previously issued leaflet "Living with Sandy Bay Rivulet". The leaflet will be distributed by our members to the local community, and other interested organisations before the end of May. If you want to ensure you receive a copy of this leaflet, or of the earlier leaflet, please contact our Secretary on the contact numbers listed above.
