

# FoSBR NEWSLETTER

## Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc.

Newsletter 20 — January 2016

### *The AGM*

Thank you to all those who were able to attend our AGM and barbecue on Sunday, 20th September, which was successful and very enjoyable on a beautiful day. Thank you particularly to Deborah Maeder for the lovely garden setting for our barbecue, and for welcoming us to her home.

We were particularly delighted to welcome Ald. Anna Reynolds, who conducted our elections, Ald Suzi Cooper, Ald Helen Burnett and Linda Bain, Environmental Scientist at the Hobart City Council.

The Annual Report was tabled (printed below) and elections were held for the incoming Committee. Deborah thanked all who made the FoSBR achievements possible. It was a very successful AGM.

### *Annual Report*

As defined in our constitution, 'The Sandy Bay Rivulet and its environs includes the catchment, stream bed, banks, riparian zone, flood areas, reserves, land, bridges, tunnels, drains and roads adjacent to the Sandy Bay Rivulet from the source on Mount Wellington to its mouth at the Derwent River, as well as all its tributaries'. Being a Friend of such an extensive system and area can be a bit daunting. So what do you do when faced with a mammoth undertaking? Start small, start local and try to build interest and concern.

The interest and concern for the rivulet should not be only be from those that live along its banks but from all within the Hobart municipality. The health and integrity of the rivulet affects us all, now and for the generations that follow. We need state government policies to value our water ways and protect riparian zones. We need local government to prioritise the rivulet's health and to actively protect it from the demands of developers or self interest that may wish to encroach into its zone. We need landowners on its boundaries to respect the privilege of being a custodian of a small section of the greater picture and to care for their section as they would for one of their children.



Photo upstream from Fitzroy Gardens showing the cleared walking track and the FoSBR plantings of native shrubs and trees

And we need children to visit, and play in its waters and on its edges, to see the fishes, the platypus, the native marsupials, the birds and creatures that visit its environs. Because it is for the children of the City of Hobart that we wish to leave a healthy rivulet as a place of diversity, awe and wonder for all to enjoy.

### So what have we achieved?

Most of us are not getting any younger and the clambering on the steeper sections is proving more challenging. Through a NRM South: Naturally Inspired Bite-sized Grant and a member donation, we have been able to remove a massive invasion of blackberries and weeds and plant in excess of 50 native plants and shrubs on a steep area across the rivulet, behind 18 Pillinger Street, as viewed from the upper track of Fitzroy Gardens. We invite you to have a walk up this way and see the difference.

As well as maintaining the Fitzroy Garden site, FoSBR has concentrated much maintenance, care and further planting at the Parliament Street site adjacent to the fish ladder. The FoSBR wish to thank the Hobart City Council for their collaboration and assistance in clearing and plant donations.

I wish, as President, to extend my thanks to a number of important people:

- To all members who have joined us in supporting and advocating for the work of FoSBR in many varied ways.
- To the Executive Group of FoSBR. for keeping up the momentum and supporting me as president
- To Lynda Bain, Environmental Scientist of Hobart City Council for meeting with us regularly and being a wonderful advocate for us and a conduit of connection with HCC
- To Julia Greenhill, our Secretary and Public Officer, whom I hold in great regard. As I have said in past reports, it is Julia who continues to hold us together with her organisational skills and tireless efforts recording all that we do, pulling submissions together and sourcing plants and materials for working bees. Yet again a very big 'Thank You' without your care we wouldn't be celebrating this year's achievements.

Deborah Maeder  
President

## *Linear Park Development.*

A meeting was held with Rob Mather and Linda Bain from the Hobart City Council to discuss progress and seek views on the proposed linear park. This was part of the Council's review of plans for the main rivulets in the City.

The FoSBR Committee also invited representatives of the Waterworks Valley Landcare Group to participate so that we could make common input to the Council.

It was a good meeting and very productive. Options were discussed and those present agreed that the priority for the first stage of the Linear Path development should be the stage from Fitzroy Gardens to Lynton Avenue.

One major point made in our representations was that the linear park following the rivulet should give priority recognition of the park as a pathway and wildlife corridor.

We hope that the Council will look kindly on our submission and move to start work before too much longer.

## *Our Recent Activities and Special Thanks*

Our group cares about the environment of the Sandy Bay rivulet as it runs through our community from kunanyi, Mt Wellington, to the Derwent River at Marievilla Esplanade.

At our working bees our volunteers have been busy on the banks of the Rivulet as it runs through Parliament Street Reserve and another area near Fitzroy Gardens. We have been planting native shrubs and grasses on the banks and reeds on the edges of the Rivulet near the fish ladder and the gabion wall, in the area near the big slide.

We want to particularly thank the Hobart City Council for the help clearing the Rivulet edge and providing us with reeds.

**The Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc also very gratefully acknowledge a grant from Natural Resource Management South (NRM South), which enabled us to employ a contractor to plant the reeds, and which has helped financially in the production of this Newsletter.**

## *Working Bees & Meetings*

Our regular working bees are held every third 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 planned dates are: 21st February, 20th March, 17th April, 15th May, 19th June, 17th July, 21st August, 18th September, 16th October, 20th November, and 18th December 2016.

If you and/or your family 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.

General meetings with speakers and field excursions are held when appropriate during the year, often at short notice. They are advertised where possible and open to everyone. Please let the Secretary know if you would like to be on the mailing list for any such events



Spotted Galaxia



Photo looking downstream from Parliament St. showing the fish ladder, gabion wall and the newly planted reeds

## *Office Bearers:*

President	Deb Maeder
Secretary	Julia Greenhill
Treasurer	Beth Harnett
Committee	Kate Bowler Trish Clements Patsy Jones Penny Parrish
CHCA reps	Beth Harnett James Bowler Julia Greenhill

Public Officer	Julia Greenhill 62 341516 or <a href="mailto:juliafg@bigpond.com">juliafg@bigpond.com</a>
Web site	<a href="http://www.fosbr.org.au">www.fosbr.org.au</a>
Web Manager	David Edwards

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## **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 .....  
.....

Email address: .....

Telephone number : .....