

Merri Creek Management Committee

1993 Projects

includes reports to
Parks and Waterways Program
Greening Australia Victoria



clockwise from top left: **Vegetation Management Burn at Davidson St Grasslands;**
Native grasses and wildflowers planted at Northcote Gorge;
Weed control works on the escarpment at Northcote Gorge;
Creek side and in stream vegetation at Summerhill Rd.

Contents

site	funding body
Summerhill Rd, Craigeburn	Parks & Waterways
Hatty Crt, Campbellfield	City of B'meadows
Moomba Park, Fawkner	Parks & Waterways, City of B'meadows
Emma St, Fawkner	City of B'meadows
Hare St, Fawkner	City of B'meadows
Davidson St (Central Creek), Reservoir	Parks & Waterways
Bartrop St, Reservoir	City of Preston
BT Connor Reserve	City of Preston
Bakers Rd, Coburg	City of Coburg
Robinson Reserve, Preston	City of Preston
Cash Reserve (Edgars Creek), Coburg	Parks & Waterways, Greening Aust. Vic., City of Coburg
Melbourne Caravan Park (Edgars Creek), Coburg	City of Coburg
Clara St, Brunswick	Parks & Waterways, City of Brunswick
Parkview Ave, Brunswick	City of Brunswick
Blyth St, Brunswick	City of Brunswick
Beavers Rd, Northcote	City of Northcote
Merri Park, Northcote	Parks & Waterways, City of Northcote
Merri Primary, Nth Fitzroy	City of Fitzroy
Groves, Northcote	City of Northcote
Rushall Reserve, Nth Fitzroy	Parks & Waterways, City of Fitzroy
Northcote Gorge, Northcote	Parks & Waterways, Greening Aust. Vic., City of Northcote
Hall Reserve, Clifton Hill	Parks & Waterways, City of Collingwood

Davidson St, Reservoir

This large wildflower reserve carries a surprisingly rich array of many grassland species. Central Creek runs through the reserve supporting a population of frogs both in the creek and in a swamp beside the creek. Central Creek flows into the Merri Creek just downstream of this reserve. A flora and fauna study of the area was commissioned and is now nearing completion. This extra information will enable us to make more informed decisions about management priorities. Situated within the metropolitan area, this grassland is one of very few remaining and has therefore huge potential as a community resource; for education, seed collection, and conservation. Works at this large wildflower reserve have been carried out with Parks and Waterways Program funding. The works carried out by the MCMC Revegetation /Regeneration team involved:

- Weed control of Canary Grass, Paspalum, Serrated Tussock Grass, Briar Rose, Gorse and Wild Garlic.
- Seed collection of several species including Themeda triandra, Dianella sp. nov. "nutfield", Lepidosperma curtisii, Stipa spp and Dichelachne crineta (see photo 5)
- Liason with Preston City Council Bylaws department and local residents over current management practices, their effect on the indigenous vegetation, fire risk and fuel reduction.
- Vegetation management burn to reduce fuel loading on the site and to open spaces between the grass tussocks to facilitate germination of forbes and the spray control of exotic species (see photos 1- 4)
- Rubbish removal
- Fencing proposed for parts of this site has been delayed because of ongoing delays in decisions about the boundary of the eventual reserve. It is proposed that the balance of 1992-3 funding for this site be carried over into 1993-4 to allow fencing and follow-up weed control to occur.



Photo 1. Davidson St, Reservoir. Vegetation management burn. M.C.M.C. Revegetation/Regeneration Team lights the fire! Photo taken 19/1/94



Photo 2. Davidson St, Reservoir. Vegetation management burn. Photo taken 19/1/94



Photo 3. Davidson St, Reservoir. Looking south towards city, 14 days after management burn, showing quick regeneration of grasses. Photo taken 2/2/94



Photo 4. Davidson St, Reservoir. Looking north towards Mahoneys Rd, 14 days after management burn. Note spaces between regenerating grass tussocks, thus facilitating follow up weed control. Photo taken 2/2/94



Photo 5 Davidson St, Reservoir. Seed Collection of Lepidosperma curtisii, of State Significance. Photo taken 7/2/94