

"The Wahlenbergias are a sure-fire way of attracting native bees. They are often found sleeping in the flowers when the weather turns cool."

— Brian Bainbridge, Ecological Restoration Planner, Merri Creek Management Committee.







Bronze Bluebell (Wahlenbergia luteola) in Beveridge.



"Having encountered the native grasses and wildflowers here in their natural settings, (at Galgi Ngarrk — Craigieburn Grassland) I noticed later, after my return, that I truly recognised them when I saw them in the replantings along the urban banks of the creek — I knew them now, in a way I never could have known them through book learning."

Swamp Billy-buttons

in Beveridge.

(Craspedia paludicola)

— Freya Mathews, Journey to the Source of the Merri, 2003.









"My favourite place in the middle of winter is early in the morning in the Merri Park Wetlands in Northcote when the fog is low and the frogs are calling. In the height of summer I love the Galada Valley in Campbellfield, its enormous blue sky and the sound of crickets."

River Red Gum,

Bababi Marning

(Cooper St Grassland)

— Angela Foley, Special Engagement Programs Coordinator, Merri Creek Management Committee.









"My involvement with restoring
Merri Creek goes hand-in-hand with
my own personal restoration. It is such
a joy to have made a small contribution
to improving the environment. My
favourite place on the Merri is Galada
Tamboore, a spectacular site where
I can feel the spirit of the place."

Galada Tamboore,

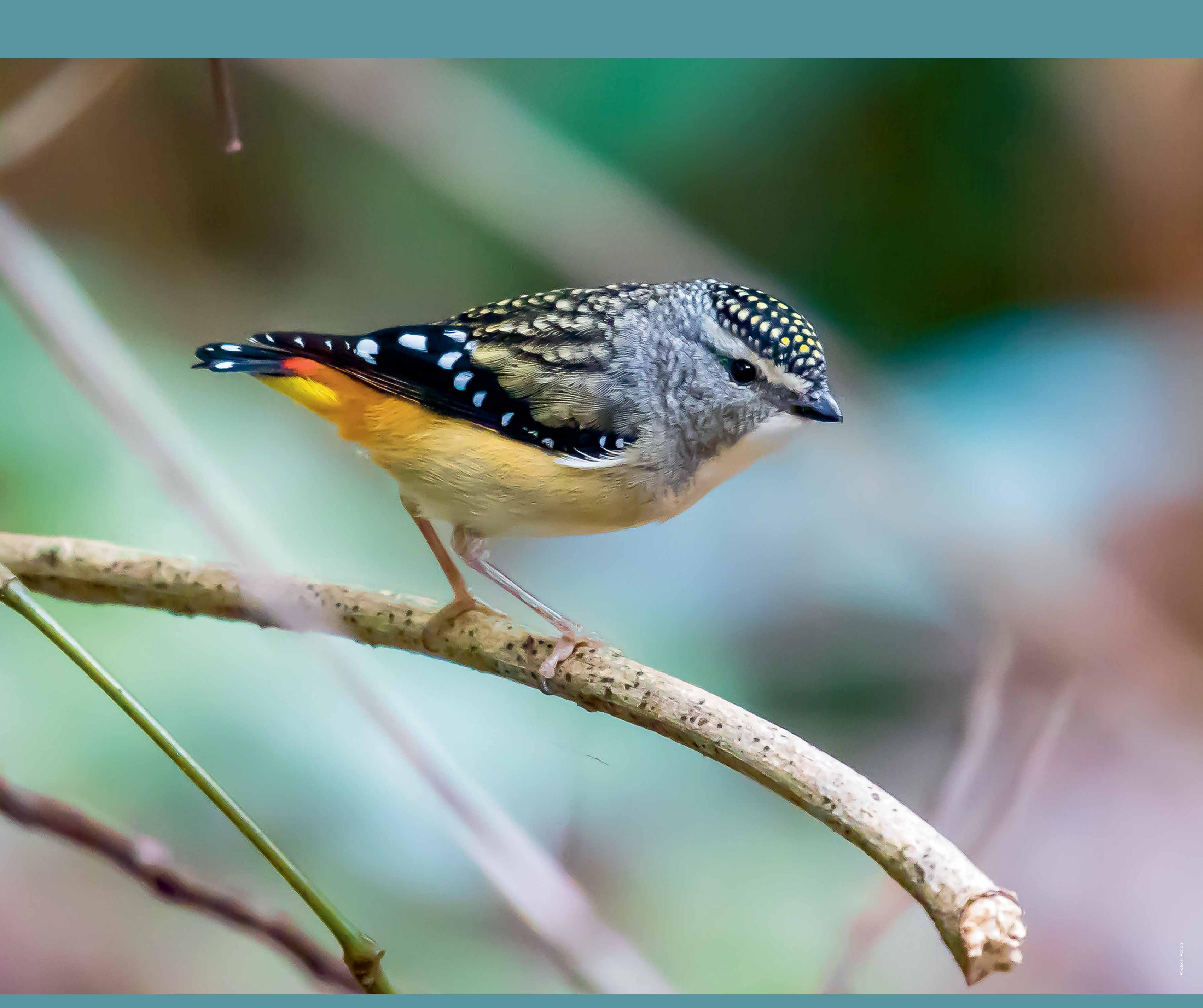
Campbellfield.

— Ray Radford, Secretary of Friends of Merri Creek since 1996.









"Bringing back the birds to the Merri has been a big achievement." Tiny, colourful Spotted
Pardalotes have
returned to the Merri
valley as the replanted
Eucalypts have grown
to provide food and
shelter for them.

— Ann McGregor, Vice-President, Friends of Merri Creek.









Map
water follows time
fence follows line
sunlight ebbs
& the wind sounds
crackle & spark
in skirts of grass

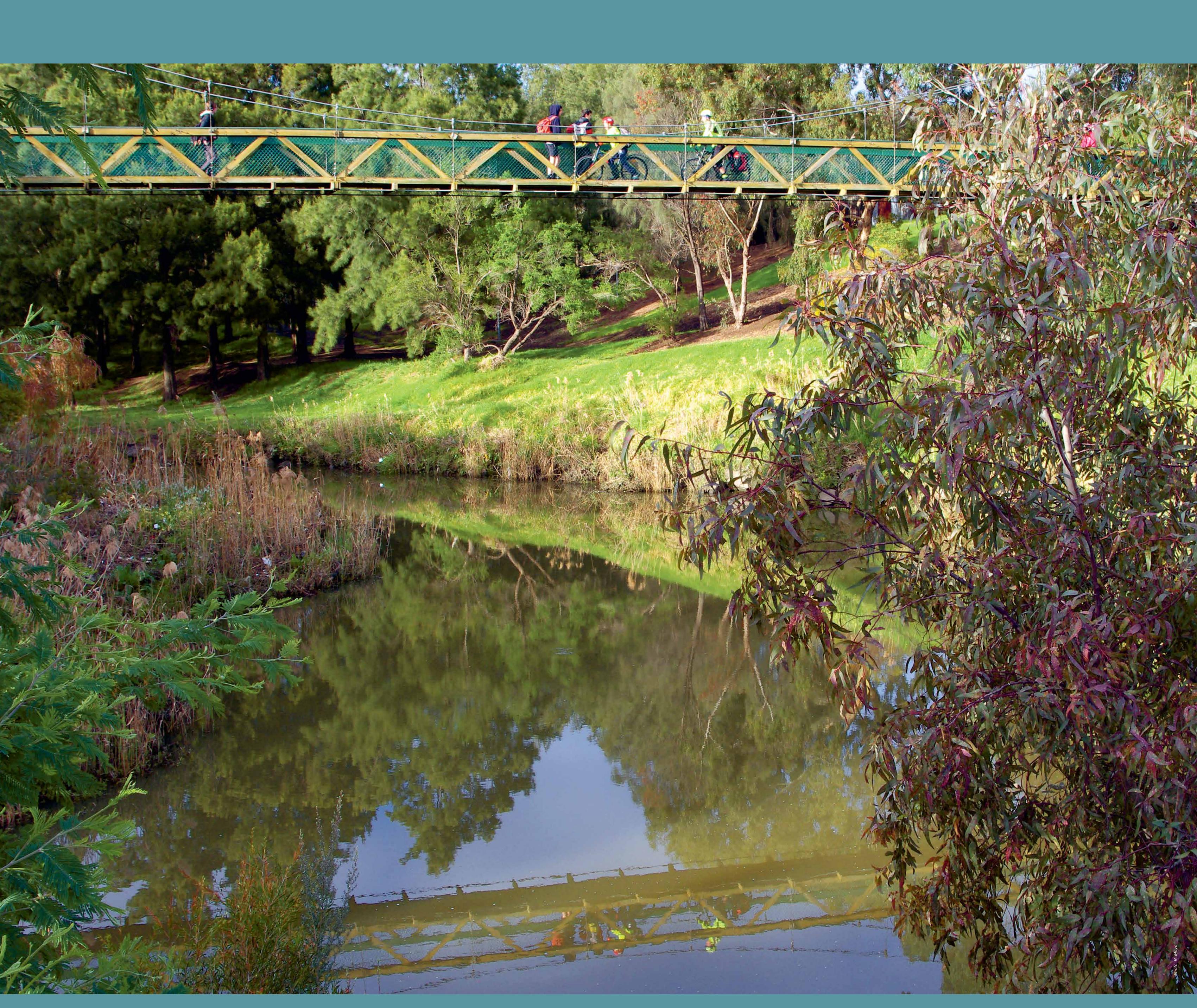
— Tony Birch







Merri Creek in Thornbury



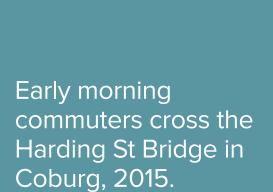
"I like walking to school across the green bridge. On a cold day there is ice on it. Sometimes — if I'm up for adventure — I walk across the stepping stones."

— Tali, 11 years old.











Friends of Edgars Creek

gather together for their

annual Christmas party

and planting, 2014.

"I am very fortunate to live only a couple of streets away from the Merri Creek, close to Strettle Wetland. If not for the creek, the trees, shrubs, birds and walking paths I would not be able to tolerate city living. I can get a great dose of nature within minutes, away from all the concrete and cars."

— Lisa Lawrence, Thornbury resident.









"Whenever I go to the creek I just think how lucky I am to live near a place like this."

— Zoe Phillips, Brunswick resident.

Damien Nicholson and the Djirri Djirri Dance Group perform at the Merri Magical Morning, a family-oriented event organised by Merri Creek Management Committee in Merri Park, Northcote in February, 2015.
Funding came from the State Government's Communities for Nature

grants program.









"Three years ago I walked the whole creek. It took 7 days. Now, wherever I am on the creek I can imagine its length from Heathcote Junction all the way down to the Yarra."

— Rebecca Mayo, artist, weeder and walker.







