

VEGETATION

The bushland area consists of low, flat grasses and bracken-dominated open woodland, with a diverse shrub and ground layer rich in herbs, grasses and orchids.

Four indigenous wattle species, manna gums and banksia provide valuable habitat and shade for wildlife.

Several weed species that colonised the reserve are now subject to a systematic physical and chemical removal program.

WILDLIFE

The reserve is home to a wide diversity of fauna species. In total, 55 bird species and six species of frog utilise habitats found within the reserve. Bird species include swamp harriers, brown quails and chestnut teals, as well as international migratory wader species such as Latham's Snipe. Of particular importance to the reserve is the significant population of Endangered Growling Grass Frogs, which are dependent on a matrix of aquatic and terrestrial habitat found within the reserve for breeding, foraging, shelter and dispersal.

WETLANDS

The ephemeral wetlands lie in a series of shallow east-west depressions. The 'ephemeral' classification means the wetlands fill with water in winter and drain in summer. However, the duration and magnitude of the wetting/drying cycles have been altered due to an influx of freshwater from the adjacent storm water drain. This transition has altered the structural composition of the wetlands flora and the suite of fauna that utilise the area.

MANAGEMENT

Through dedicated, strategic management actions, Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management, in conjunction with the Friends of Point Richards, have retained and increased the ecological attributes of this once active aviation site.

*Growling Grass Frog
Photo: Mary Boothroyd*



HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Friends of Pt Richards were established in 2001 by a group of like-minded local residents keen to rid the reserve of weed infestations and restore its natural integrity for everyone to enjoy. The Friends meet each Tuesday at 10 am for approximately two hours (weather-dependent). If you would like to be actively involved in the conservation of Point Richards Flora & Fauna Reserve, call Bellarine Bayside on 5254 4000 or email contactus@bellarinebayside.com.au.

TAKE CARE

Take only photos and leave only footprints - please take all rubbish home, including food scraps, and respect our reserve by not removing any flora and fauna.

THANK YOU FOR VISITING OUR
WONDERFUL RESERVE.

www.bellarinebayside.com.au



POINT RICHARDS Flora & Fauna Reserve

SELF-GUIDED WALKS

Point Richards Flora & Fauna Reserve is dedicated to the conservation of indigenous plants and wildlife.

Originally allocated for the conservation of Southern Brown Bandicoots, this 62-hectare reserve is one of the largest areas of native bushland and ephemeral wetlands on the Bellarine Peninsula.



Easy pedestrian access to the network of trails that transect the reserve is available off Point Richards Road. The walks are designed to showcase the reserve's unique natural and ecological features as you meander along.

Friends of
Pt Richards
Flora and Fauna Reserve



**Bellarine
Bayside**
Coastal Management

POINT RICHARDS FLORA & FAUNA RESERVE TRAIL MAPS



FAST FACTS

- The Ecological Vegetation Class of the reserve is: EVC 161 – Damp sands, herb-rich woodland.
- Adult Growling Grass Frogs can grow from 55 up to 100 mm.
- Southern Brown Bandicoots have been recorded in the reserve in the past and monitoring is underway to reveal their present-day status.
- Lieutenant Charles Richards explored the area in 1837.



FIND YOUR WAY

markers are located on the top of directional sign posts. Use these markers to locate yourself within the reserve.