

How well do you know your patch – Batesford?

Read on and let your local Landcare Group take you on a brief tour.

Because you live in **Batesford** you already know it's **strategically well situated** between cities, country and coast, straddling the **Moorabool River** and **two shires**. Its **rural residential character** is a **gentler, more peaceful environment** than the noisier, harder concrete edges of suburbia. The **air is fresh**, there's space and the wonders of the **night sky** which can still be seen away from city lights. It has a **great pub, tennis courts**, and a **CFA** at Stonehaven, a **local hall** and hopefully soon it will have a playground. And all that the **city offers** is only **10 or 15 minutes away**. It's also blessed with wonderful **natural features**

Dog Rocks Flora and Fauna Sanctuary

Visit www.dogrockssanctuary.org for more information.

It's a precious remnant of wild urban woodland. It supports a super-rich concentration of birds, plants, insects, reptiles, and sadly, a dwindling number of koalas, kangaroos, echidnas and other small mammals. Reduced local habitat and the prevalence of local predators, foxes, cats, dogs, pollution, invasive weeds and the like are an increasing threat. But you will still find some of these beautiful native creatures in your gardens because of your proximity to the Sanctuary. Owned by the Belcher Family, the Sanctuary is covenanted with **Trust for Nature** about which you can read more at www.trustfornature.org.au. **Why not attend one of our open days? We'll drop an invite in your letterbox.**

Dog Rocks Reserve

These rocks look like a group of dinosaurs and they're ancient like them too. 15 million years ago this Devonian granite outcrop became an island surrounded by a warm sea. You can find all sorts of sea fossils in the limestone quarry east of the River. This



which the local **BFS Landcare Group** are helping to preserve for all to enjoy now and for future generations. Balancing the needs of human habitation and the natural world which ultimately sustains us, is becoming a real challenge.

Here's a reminder of what you've got on your doorstep. **Use the map (overleaf) as your guide and find out more.**



geologically and culturally significant feature, and the reserve around it, are owned and managed by **Trust for Nature**. The Rocks are especially valued as a visually interesting landmark viewed from a distance without interruption. **Next time you're out walking, head up to the Dog Rocks, enjoy great views from the very top and the fresh air. There's an entrance gate near the start of Tolloora Way.** Leave no litter please.

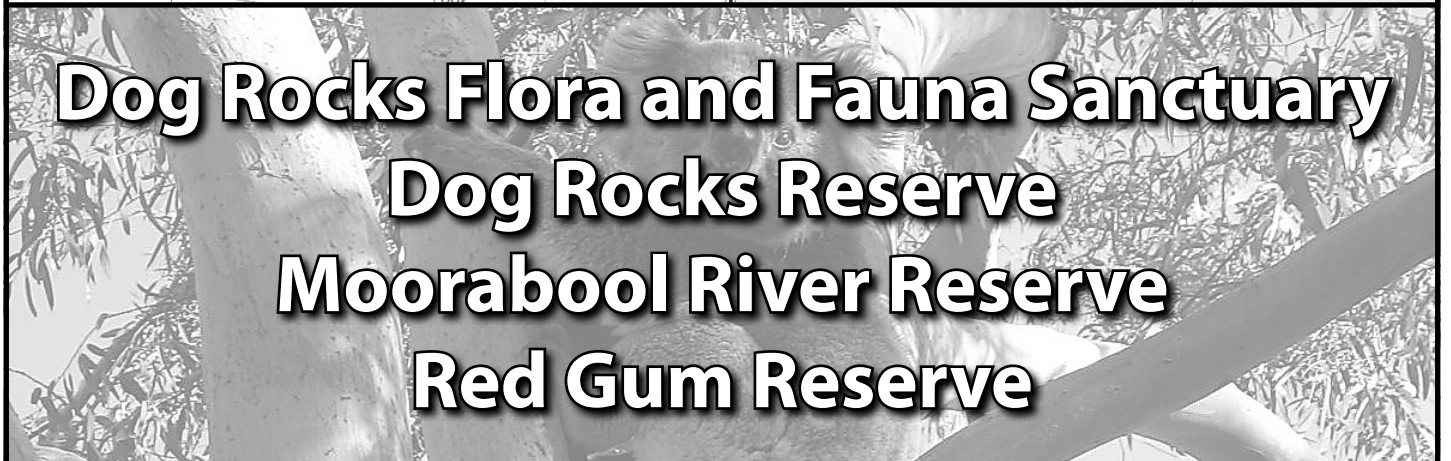
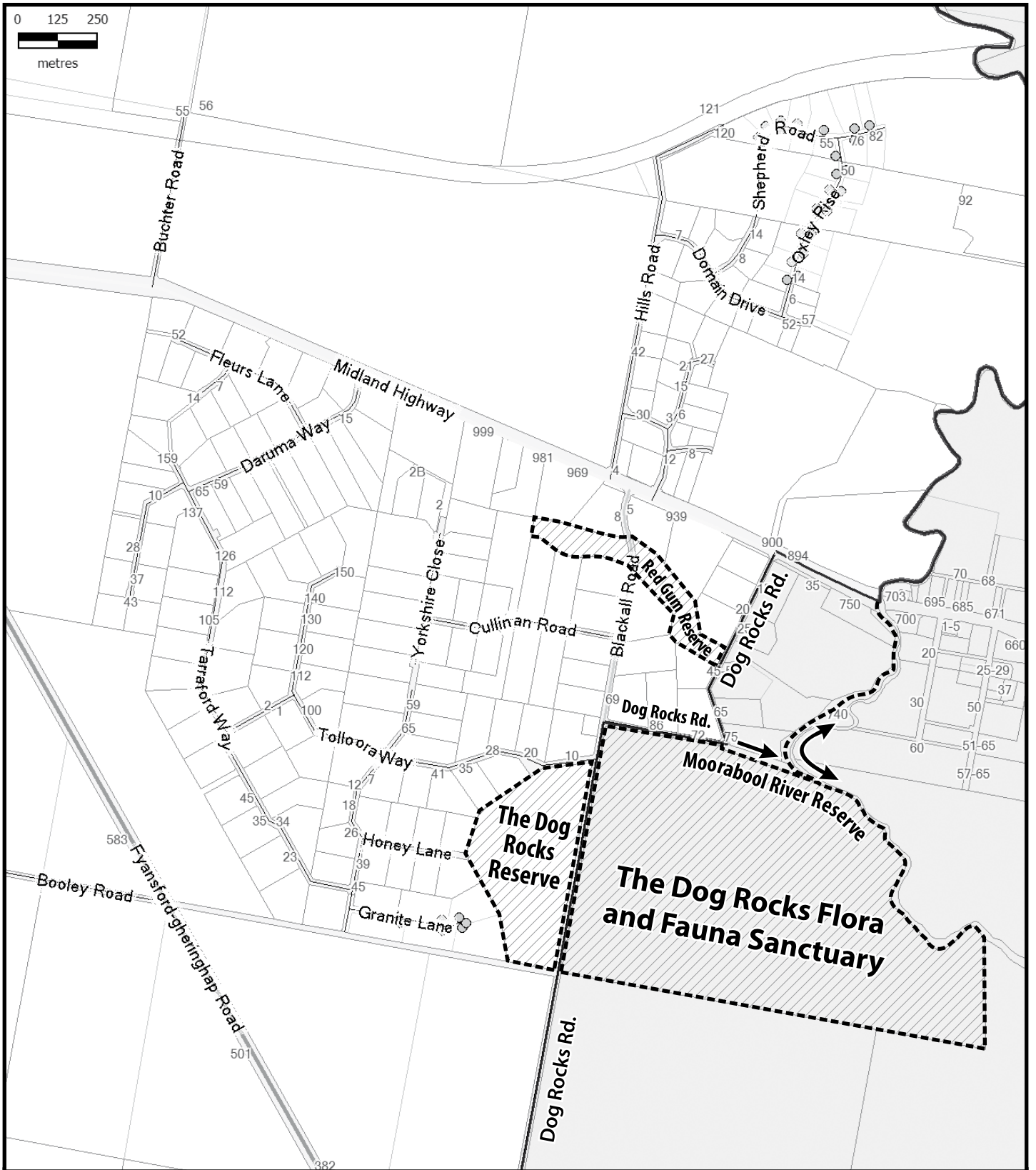
Moorabool River Reserve

This public path lies between picturesque farm land and the Dog Rocks Flora and Fauna Sanctuary west of the River. Descending first to the river beside the Sanctuary entrance, the path then forks north and south. There are future plans to significantly extend this nature reserve and its paths along the river in both directions. You can walk your dogs there but they must be on a leash, with no exceptions. Observe the signs and beware of snakes in the summer. **Try this walk. It's good for body and soul.**

Red Gum Reserve

This pretty public walking track runs between Blackall Road and Dog Rocks Road following Primrose Creek (which only runs after heavy rain). It's particularly special because of the beautiful, ancient River Red Gums. We hope to extend this path further west. In the summer watch for snakes, but you'll be doing this in your own gardens anyway! **It's a quick mind tonic walk!**

We hope you'll come and explore some of these beautiful places if you haven't already. For more information please contact the **Batesford-Fyansford-Stonehaven Landcare Group**. Helen Percy 5276 1497 or Felicity Spear 5276 1453.



Dog Rocks Flora and Fauna Sanctuary
Dog Rocks Reserve
Moorabool River Reserve
Red Gum Reserve