U3A RAMBLERS AT WERRIBEE RIVER

On March 27th the Ramblers travelled by train from Melbourne CBD to Werribee (30km). From the station we crossed the river to begin our 5 km walk north to the Diversion Weir & the market gardens area beyond.







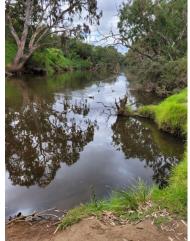






The Weribee river and bridge crossing

River red gums









Peaceful reflections

Basalt boulders

Rapids

SIGNIFICANT TREES AND THEIR STORIES









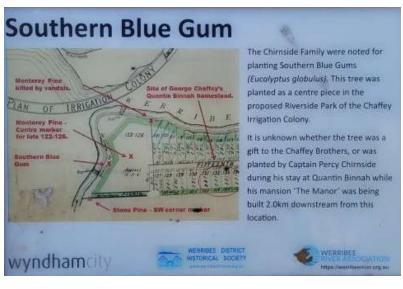


River Red Gum

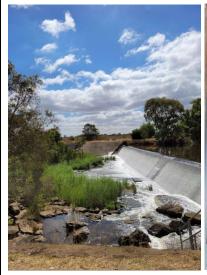


Southern Blue Gum





THE WEIR AND BEYOND





Now known as the Southern Bural Water Diversion Welr, it was built by the State Bluers & Water Supply Commission in 1909 for two functions, to supply water to the Werribee Township via the Water Tower at Tower Road/Princes Highway intersection, and to enable irrigation farming to be established initially in the Tower Road – Wattle Avenue area.

In 1910 construction of the Stock and Domestic Water Channel System, which specifically supplied water for the Werribee dairy industry was commenced. This system of channels and syphons branched off the main channel near Tarneit Road and was able to refresh the water flow in Skeleton Creek, Doherty's Creek and Layerton Creek with Werribee River water eventually reaching the bay at Altona.

in 1938 the weir profile was altered to increase capacity, thus allowing the Werribee South market garden area to be extended.

Water in this dam is maintained for distribution to the Werribee South market gardens by Southern Rural Water releasing water from Pykes Creek and Mirrimu Reservoirs and Exford Weir.











The river upstream of the weir – wide and still