



Mimi - Brownhill Creek revegetation

What was your goal and what did you achieve?

I wanted to help promote and participate in the Brownhill Creek Revegetation site. So what happened was... when Europeans settled they planted non-native plants like willows which aren't good for the native wildlife, because they go dormant in winter and they don't have holes for possums and birds. So what the Brownhill Creek committee did was cut down all the non-native plants and now they're working with 400 school students, including me, to help re-vegetate the area, to get the younger generation involved. We planted 300 plants between 2018 and 2019. There is a mixture of plants, not just trees. I worked with the Brownhill Creek committee, my school and Ron Bellchambers helped me a lot.

At school, because we have an environment group, I told my friends to get involved with that, and from there we all go to Brownhill Creek and help out. We also did a kindy visit, so the kindy from Mitcham came with us and we went up to Brownhill Creek and we told them what we were doing there and how we're helping Nature, getting them engaged and sharing our knowledge. I was also meant to go to Mitcham Primary School but they didn't want me to.

What has been your biggest success?

Getting all of the involvement, from kindy kids, primary school kids, my friends, and I got involved in the Friends of Brownhill Creek group as well, just getting involved in every way I can. Meeting new people is really fun, and working with little kids I find really fun. Hearing everyone's story and why they want to be involved.

Next steps?

I'll stay with the Friends group now because it's a passion that I have, and we meet every last Saturday of each month to help weed and guard. They'll keep doing planting days to revegetate everything and more maintenance days.

Your advice to other students?

Get in early, make sure you're available on those days, because I missed out on a lot of the Friends' meet up days because I didn't realise they were on and kept forgetting about it. Be really organised when things are on.

This case study was transcribed from an interview. These are Mimi's words and opinions.