



HEALESVILLE \* CHUM CREEK \* YARRA GLEN \* BADGER CREEK \* STEELS CREEK \* TARRAWARRA \* TOOLANGI

*We wish to acknowledge The Wurundjeri People, the traditional custodians of our region, and all Aboriginal Elders, past and present.*

### News In Brief

#### Solar Electricity Production and Storage Event

with Glen Morris, HCoRE

Is my house suitable for solar?

Why do I need an inverter?

Should I buy a battery?

Case study on cost savings using solar energy

**\* Saturday 6th April 10.30am – 12.30pm**

**The Darron Honey Centre**

#### Rediscovery Day Leadbeater's Possum

This annual Picnic, normally held at Cambarville Reserve, may have to be held elsewhere due to the recent fire.

Contact [leadbeaterspossum@gmail.com](mailto:leadbeaterspossum@gmail.com) for the latest development

**\* Sunday, April 07**

#### Engage Victoria.

#### Regulating Victoria's natural environment

is now live and concerns timber harvesting regulations. Our individual responses are vitally important as DELWP is acting on advice from an Independent Review Panel. (see main article)

**\* Consultation closes 17 May 2019**

#### Environmental Justice Australia

Congratulations to Senior Lawyer, Danya Jacobs, recipient of the Mahla Pearlman Award for the Australian Young Environmental Lawyer of the Year for her contribution to environmental law. Danya is representing Friends of Leadbeater's Possum in the Federal Court for which she has assembled a peerless team of witnesses, solicitors and Counsel.

*Our volunteers enjoyed a delightful mix of activities in March with the promise of more ahead this month. It has also been an active month for enviros concerned with Items on the March Council agendas:*

*1. Approval for the new YREAC positions, including 3 HEWI members!*

*2. Approval of Amendment C148 – in which mapping for the ESO remains a doubtful provision, a vital issue that we will continue to pursue with Councillors and staff.*

#### Spotlighting at Badger Weir

The local community were invited to assist the final clean up of this long-closed section of the Yarra Ranges National Park last weekend and so we are practically certain that our spot lighting event will go ahead. However, bookings are essential. HEWI facilitator, Karen Garth, a professional eco-tourism guide, will also be keen to discover any changes to habitat trees, nesting sites and evidence of gliders. Jan Faulkner, an experienced spotlihter of mammals and birds, will be assisting. Walking shoes and carry water, with binoculars if you have them. We always have a First Aid Kit and there will be interesting artifacts on display. Book with Karen, HEWI Project Facilitator: 5962 5115 0418 999 936 or email: [gbfacilitator@gmail.com](mailto:gbfacilitator@gmail.com) Cost: \$10.00 per individual.

**\* Tuesday April 02, 6.30pm – 8.30pm Badger Weir, YRNP**

#### Autumn Invertebrate Identification

Our bi-annual Waterwatch ID activity will take place in Room 2, Healesville Living and Learning Centre, with our samples collected from the Grace Burn at Wallace Pde and within Queens Park. Members are welcome to join us for observation of this simple but interesting discovery of the variety of invertebrates within our local waterway. (Last week, our Waterwatchers assisted Healesville Primary School Year 4 students to discover and identify waterbugs from the creek along which they planted last year).

**\* Friday April 05, 10.00am – 12noon Room 2, HL&LC**

*At our March Waterwatch monitoring day we were joined by Pat and Stewart, members from our partner, Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare. If they are interested to train as monitors, an easier roster for this team could be developed. Thanks to Tess too, for assisting with our Queens Park Clean UP. We were pleasantly surprised at the small amount of litter collected within Queens Park, only to discover that the Girl Guides had 'cleaned up' the evening before!*

#### Community Bird Walk

Advance notice of another facilitated event led by Karen early next month - a very pleasant stroll along Wirrup Yaluk and the Grace Burn, the two waterways that flow through Queens Park to identify as many different bird species as possible, including the numbers of introduced species.

We have a list from a previous bird survey, so the comparison will be most interesting as there have been thousands of indigenous plants,

**March 31 – April 6**  
**Leadbeater's**  
**Possum Awareness Week**

**APRIL**

02 10-4 HeHo/LLBP Habitat  
 Restoration Forum  
 Brolga Room H. S.

02 **Spotlight Walk**  
 Badger Weir  
 6.30-8.30 pm

05 **Autumn Invertebrate ID**  
 Room 2, HL&LC  
 10am – 12noon

06 **Solar production and  
 storage**  
 Darron Honey Centre  
 10.30am -12.30pm

6-22 **School holidays**

07 **LBP Discovery Day**  
 Cambarville?

11 **HEWI meeting**

25 **ANZAC DAY**

**MAY:**

04 **Community Bird Walk**  
 Queens Park  
 9.30-11.30am

16 **HEWI meeting**  
 HL&LC  
 7.00pm -9.00pm

17 **WW phys/chem**  
 Grace Burn  
 9.00am -11.00am

**JUNE:**

5 **ENVIRONMENT DAY**  
 HEWI Library display

10 **HOLIDAY**

14 **WW phys/chem**

21 **Annual Community  
 Revegetation 10am -1pm**

School holidays 29 June – 14  
 July YRC grant 2018 -22 Year 2

via our revegetation project, planted in the intervening years. This is an ideal family activity, but no pets please! A small charge, \$5.00 each, to cover refreshment. Shoes recommended, binoculars if possible. Booking and details with Karen: 5962 5115 or email: [gbfacilitator@gmail.com](mailto:gbfacilitator@gmail.com)

**\*Saturday, May 04, 9.30am – 11.30am Queens Park**

**Biological Control of *Tradescantia fluminensis*, Wandering Trad**

Surely everyone has had problems with this rampant weed! In the Dandenongs it is still a massive problem in spite of all the groups working to eradicate it from reserves and private land. Bill Incoll, Community Weed Alliance of the Dandenongs, has advocated persistently for many years that a biological control was essential for elimination of this out-of-control weed.

*So Congratulations Bill!* Finally, CSIRO has launched the approval for the upcoming release of a biocontrol agent, *Kordyana brasiliensis*, a smut fungus, providing effective control of Wandering Trad. in Emerald recently.

"it's a good story and most interesting". <https://blog.csiro.au/smut-to-the-rescue/>

**Yarra Strategic Plan**

One year since it was first proposed, a draft will be released for comment later this year to give effect to the Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision. This ambitious project aims to provide a single river corridor plan to enable collaborative management of the river with Traditional Owners and ensure the Yarra is managed as one living and integrated entity. Unfortunately, we were unable to provide a volunteer to attend the recent Healthy Waterways Strategy workshop, but HEWI will certainly be involved with submissions at the next stage and your committee would appreciate members' feedback on this vital strategy.

**Independent Review Of Timber Harvesting Regulation**

DELWP Response: The recommendations from the panel went beyond DELWP's role in timber harvesting regulation to encompass all regulation undertaken by DELWP. The panel made 14 recommendations, which we have accepted in full. You can find the review and response on the DELWP website. DELWP has already commenced a program of reform to strengthen its regulatory approach. This includes the establishment of the Office of the Conservation Regulator (OCR) within the Forest, Fire and Regions Group.

**Plants, People and Place**

Karen and Aline met with our Yarra Ranges Council Grant liaison officer, Lisa Loulier recently and our 6 months report of this project was well received. As well as all our community engagement activities, Karen is still working with the Grace Burn property owners who receive multiple grants from Melbourne Water to fully restore their creek corridor by weed removal and new indigenous plantings. Karen also supervises Healesville High School students planting at the Retirement Village and RSL., which provides a practical component towards their Year 9 certificate.

**YR Environmental Volunteers celebration**

This event always offers the opportunity to network with environment staff and volunteers from across the shire. This year we met the new CEO, Environment & Engineering Director, Coordinators and Bushland staff, so there were plenty of lobbying opportunities!

*Your committee would value input for our 30years celebration event in October. Please submit your ideas/suggestions/inspired thoughts for the recognition of all HEWI members and volunteers over this long period.*

**30**  
 Years



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