



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

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##### 'Fabulous Fauna of Badger Creek'

The next meeting (with soup) of the Badger Creek Community will feature Kevin Mason recalling the history of this area and our very own environmental champion Karen Garth on wildlife. RSVP:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1448115211997069/>.

\* *Tues 6th August, 6-8pm Badger Creek Old School*

[How the Yarra and La Trobe rivers find the sea](#) ([link](#))

Most streams in Victoria flow north or south. The Yarra and La Trobe rivers do it differently and go west and east respectively. Come along and find out why. No booking required but Seminar attendance essential to go on field trip.

River View Room, The Grand Hotel, 110 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Contact: [csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au)

\* *Wednesday 7 August, 7.30pm*

[Field Trip: Explore the geological structures of the lower Yarra River](#)

Join Dr. Neville Rosengren for this extended field trip to explore the geological structures of the bedrock crossed by the lower Yarra River.

\* *Thursday 8 August, 10am - 3.30pm*

##### "The Possum That Roared"

The next Fauna and Toolangi presentation will be an update on the Leadbeater's Possum case by Steve Meacher. Gold coin donation. Please RSVP by Wed. August 7.

\* *Friday 9 August, 7.30pm Toolangi Community House*

[Community Solutions in a Changing Climate](#)

Dr Susie Burke, an environmental psychologist, and Associate Professor Lauren Rickards, expert in community climate change adaptation, will discuss these issues with practical responses that communities can use to become more resilient in a changing climate.

\* *Friday 9 August 7pm - 9:15pm Burringjara Cultural Centre*

*Our July mailbox contained stimulating information from two new groups – the local Yarra Ranges Community for Climate Change Action and the state-wide campaign of Extinction Rebellion Victoria. From our own experience, focus groups are urgently needed to reset our priorities for sustained and sustainable ACTIONS! Their contact details will be attached.*

#### **SPOTLIGHT WALK AT DONNELLY'S WEIR - THIS COMING SATURDAY!**

Our experienced facilitator and eco-guide, Karen Garth, will lead the exploration of this bushland park, within the Yarra Ranges National Park. This section is home to Greater Gliders, Powerful Owls and Yellow-bellied Gliders, so some spectacular sightings – and calls heard – are anticipated!

Walking will be along formed tracks, BYO torch. Bookings essential: Contact Karen 5962 5115 or [gbfacilitator@gmail.com](mailto:gbfacilitator@gmail.com) asap for full details and to organise car-sharing. Cost: HEWI members \$15, non-members \$20 (Adults & Children). \* *Saturday 3 August, 7 – 9 pm*

#### **INVITATION!**

Please note the attachment from the Wandoon Estate Aboriginal Corporation with its exciting invitation to celebrate the opening of their new Coranderrk Visitor Centre. RSVP: [wandoonestate@gmail.com](mailto:wandoonestate@gmail.com)

\* *Thursday 15 August - 12 noon – 2.30pm, 19 Barak Lane*

#### **LIVING with FIRE FORUM ADVANCE NOTICE 2**

As reported last month, the Healesville Community Bushfire Group is planning a very interesting evening to increase our awareness of bushfire-safe garden design that could minimise property damage from local fires.

We are fortunate to have the expertise of Owen Gooding, Team Leader Vegetation Management, CFA and Andrew Laidlaw, Principal Landscape Designer at Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens as presenters, with a Q&A session to follow.

Plants will be distributed across the front of the stage for the audience to examine and there will be displays in the foyer where a light meal will be served before the presentations.

\* *Wednesday 11th September, Memo, Healesville*

#### **HEWI'S 30 YEARS CELEBRATION EVENT – Sunday Oct 20 2019**

This inclusive event is for all members, families and friends and we welcome all suggestions for the format that you would prefer on the day. There will be tables for networking with visitors and old friends, an array of organic refreshments and the opportunity to recall some highlights as well as addressing our future direction.

Your ideas and contributions to this relaxed, community forum are most welcome - please contact Maureen: [hewisec@bigpond.com](mailto:hewisec@bigpond.com)

**AUGUST**

- 03 **Spotlighting at Donnelly's Weir**  
7.00-9.00pm
- 06 **Fabulous Fauna Badger Creek Old School**  
6.00-8.00pm
- 07 **Yarra & Latrobe Rivers to the sea**  
Warrandyte  
7.00-9.00pm
- 08 **Field Trip**  
10.00am – 3.30pm
- 08 **HEWI meeting HL&LC**  
7.00-9.00pm
- 09 **The Possum that Roared Toolangi C'ty House**  
7.00-9.00pm
- 09 **Community Solutions in Changing Climate**  
Burrinja, Upwey  
7.00-9.15pm
- 10 **Ice Caps, Deserts Oceans & Space**  
YR Tech School  
12.00 - 4.00pm
- 11 **Yinga Choir**  
Memo 2pm
- 14 **Healesville Community Bushfire Group**  
Darron Honey Centre  
6.45pm -9.00pm
- 10-18 **National Science Week**
- 21 **Cr McAllister meeting**
- 23 **Water Watch phys/chem**  
Grace Burn  
9.30-11.00am

**SEPTEMBER:**

- 11 **LIVING with FIRE forum**  
12 **HEWI meeting**  
20 **WW phys/chem**

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*Our warm HEWI welcome to our latest member, Louise*

**REPORTS:****Water Watch Volunteer Appreciation Day**

*(One of the benefits of becoming a Water Watch volunteer!)*

Following a moving smoking ceremony by Wurundjeri elders, Uncle Tony and his son Thane, we walked along the bush tracks around the Bollin Bollin Billabongs in Bulleen to discuss the Melbourne Water project that uses environmental water flows to restore water in the billabongs to stimulated eel and fish populations.

After our catered lunch, there was a presentation on current research that will lead to future eDNA testing, a far more comprehensive method of water testing than our current instruments can provide.

We also heard from other volunteer Water Watch groups from Lancefield to Mornington and suburban areas such as Blackburn Lake and Scotchman's Creek. These groups have approached water quality and catchment monitoring in action-oriented ways and as a result have identified problems that councils have been able to rectify by upgrading sewer systems and litter traps.

*Thanks Evelyn!*

We have a copy of the detailed Manningham Waterways Health Report and will approach Yarra Ranges Council re a similar compilation across our region.

**Meeting with Tammi Rose, Yarra Ranges CEO**

This opportunity arose from our letter regarding the lack of environmental community engagement meetings as feeder sessions for members of the Yarra Ranges Environmental Advisory Committee (who do not represent specific groups). Following her reply, Cr McAllister invited Tammi to meet with your committee to further discuss our issues. We also took the opportunity to highlight attainments such as our research work on Pomaderris vacciniifolia, Round-leaf Pomaderris which was finally declared critically endangered under the EPBC Act, the official VICNAMES registration of Wirrup Yaluk and our staying power to achieve these. Members also presented on the local deer impact, our concerns re the new Yellingbo Conservation Area committee (DELWP) and the Great Forest National Park. We are most grateful for this open presentation on your behalf.

**Litter Trackers**

Our Grace Burn Facilitator, Karen Garth, attended this RMIT/Scotch College event in late July, where several bottles containing trackers and return messages were released into the Watts River. Through this, we hope to maintain contact with the Chum Creek campus of Scotch College and follow this project and the information it will provide.

**Yarra Ranges Environmental Advisory Committee**

It appears that we have a break-through at last! Here is the Link to Minutes and Agendas for our major community environmental advisory meetings with an invitation to record your issues for YREAC. Check it out and make your issues known!

<https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Community/Environment/Yarra-Ranges-Environment-Advisory-Committee-YREAC>

*With vital new groups forming, our volunteer commitments are increasing. If you have any spare time at all, please consider some assistance to the HEWI committee as we collate our 30 years of advocacy and activities - leave a text for Maureen.*

*Special thanks to Coral and Suzanne for the format and printing of this newsletter.*

**30**  
Years



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[www.hewi.org.au](http://www.hewi.org.au)

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