



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

#### Local orchids are getting rarer

Richard Thomson will speak about Australian orchid recovery programs including propagation techniques and how to help orchid pollinators.

★ *May 6 Feb 2019 7.20pm , Grand Hotel, Warrandyte*

You must attend the corresponding seminar to be eligible to attend and keep your booking on the field trip. Enquiries: 9840 9789 or

[csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au)

#### Field Trip: Orchids from seeds to flowers

A nursery visit to learn about the intricacies of orchid propagation including the equipment required, potting and nurturing. We will also look at the process of introducing fungal spores to ensure successful germination of the precious orchid seed bank.

★ *Friday 8 Feb 10am-12noon QR Sat 9 Feb 9.30-11.30am*

#### 07 Black Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

##### Steels Creek Reflection Walk 9:30am

Starting at SCCC, a short morning walk along Steels Creek track, followed by refreshments at SCCC, a gentle walk for those who would like to be together on this day.

##### Yarra Glen Remembrance 5:30PM – 7:00PM

YRC will be hosting an event at **McKenzie Reserve** in Yarra Glen to commemorate the 10 year anniversary of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires

#### 09 Commemorative History

SCCC Market, 10:00am

#### Yarra Ranges Awards

Congratulations to all the [NO Plastic Bags](#) groups, especially our local Plastic Bag Free Healesville volunteers, for their Community Group of the Year Award.

Cr Len Cox, a major supporter of our Yarra Ranges natural environment, and Council policies that provide on-going protection, received an OAM.

*As many of us will be reflecting on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Black Saturday this month, this edition will focus on community attempts to convince all our governments to prioritise CLIMATE CHANGE and urgently produce RENEWABLE ENERGY policies. Our digital age allows and encourages individual participation so please consider clicking those Links!*

*However, our first item concerns our Alliance and support for Friends of Leadies and their imminent court case.*

*"Together, let's keep the chainsaws out of our magnificent forests for good".*

#### PROTECTION OF OUR FORESTS and ENDANGERED SPECIES

Late last year, Environmental Justice Australia had a huge breakthrough in a Supreme Court case to protect old-growth forests in East Gippsland when a key witness for the Environment Department admitted logging in old-growth forest should stop altogether. This month EJA lawyers and barristers will return to Victoria's Supreme Court to resume this hearing .

They will also begin a new case concerning our Central Highlands in the Federal Court to protect our forest habitat for the threatened species, Leadbeater's Possum and Greater Glider.

HEWI, on behalf of our members, have already donated \$1,000 (from last year's film proceeds), but more funding is desperately required to give access to expert witnesses and legal team

#### Chip in to protect the Leady & Greater Glider

★ *Friends of Leadbeater's Possum v Vic Forests, Federal Court*

★ *Monday February 25 - , William Street (opposite Flagstaff Gardens)*

#### CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS

1. Climate Change Communication Research Hub at Monash University – has requested our participation in their current project with Leader Local Newspapers - to deliver Australia's first ever dedicated climate column, *Changing Climates*, launching in March 2019. In these columns, a range of community voices will discuss what climate change means for them. "A trusted local perspective is vital in making climate change relevant for the broader community".

HEWI is responding as a group to their set of questions but we hope all readers will participate as individuals as well. I can forward their survey to you directly or

Email: [MCCCRH@monash.edu](mailto:MCCCRH@monash.edu). [check out our website](#). (MCCCRH).

#### 2. GREENPEACE

Many HEWI members will receive Greenpeace emails, but for others who may well be in agreement their premise that the next Federal election gives the community another opportunity to register our support for the complete replacement of **coal-fired power stations with renewable energy by 2030**. [replace coal](#)

#### ADD YOUR VOICE

**FEBRUARY**02 **WORLD WETLANDS DAY**

06/08 Orchid seminar/field trip  
7.20pm Warrandyte

07 **Black Saturday 10th Anniversary**

9:30am Steels Creek Reflection Walk

5:30pm-7pm Yarra Glen Remembrance

09 Commemorative History  
SCCC Market, 10am

9-11 **Sustainable Living Festival**  
FLBP & HEWI stall.

Fed. Square/Birrarung Marr

14 **HEWI meeting**

HL&LC Rm 1, 7-9pm

22 **Waterwatch monitoring**

10-11am Grace burn

25 **FLBP v Vic Forests**

Federal Court - ongoing

**MARCH**08 **Community Clean Up Day**

08 **Waterwatch monitoring**  
Grace Burn Queens Park  
9-11am

17 **Rotary Dogs Day Out with a HEWI activity!**

Coronation Park  
11am-3pm

24 **ECOSS Autumn Festival****APRIL**

02 **Spotlight Walk Badger Creek**  
6:30-8:30PM

Bookings: [gbfacilitator@gmail.com](mailto:gbfacilitator@gmail.com)

05 **Autumn Invertebrate ID**  
HL&LC 10:30am-12noon

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**Sustainable Living Festival**

Be inspired and find out how to take action on the big issues of sustainability with over 100 events to challenge your thinking and inspire your actions. <http://www.slf.org.au/>

All events are free & non-ticketed unless specified. Get there early to get a seat

*\*Feb 9-11, Federation Square and Birrarung Marr*

*HEWI & Leadbeater's Possum have shared a stall for many years - come and find us!*

3. **HEALESVILLE CORE**

This year is a really exciting time as Healesville CoRE (Healesville Community Renewable Energy Inc) gears up for the first ever solar and battery offer to the residents and businesses of the town. Our dynamic group of community volunteers is working in conjunction with Mondo Power to launch the offer at two community information sessions and a Business Breakfast, 7.00am Tuesday 26 February.

Healesville CoRE President, Jeff Barlow, said, "This is a very significant opportunity to increase the number of solar rooftop installations in Healesville and across 3777, for residences and for businesses, with all the hard work in selecting quality equipment and reliable and quality installations already completed. Information will be available on how everyone can take part in this important initiative at a reasonable price, with many financial options and government grants available.

Bookings: [contact@healesvillecore.org.au](mailto:contact@healesvillecore.org.au) by February 20 for these meetings at the MEMO.

*\*Monday February 25, 1.30-2.45pm OR 7.30 - 8.45pm Community Sessions*

**HEWI ACTIVITIES AHEAD**

With Waterwatch monitoring requiring volunteer energy every month, our first community activities begin in March. Your committee would appreciate more support for our events - please consider helping out!

**Community Clean Up Day**

This activity provides an opportunity to observe Waterwatch techniques of water sampling as well as taking part in our three-year analysis of Queens Park litter. Bags and gloves are provided and a pleasant walk along our waterways guaranteed.

*\*Friday, March 08, 9am - 11am from Queens Park shelter behind the Pool*

**Invertebrate Discovery with Year 4 HPS students**

It is always a joy to greet those students who planted along the Grace Burn last year and now return to search and find the tiny animals that their vegetation has protected.

The Waterwatch team would appreciate more volunteers to assist with this activity - no training required but Working with Children cards essential.

*\*Friday March 22, 9.00 - 11.30am, Queens Park shelter near the Pool*

**SPOTLIGHTING at BADGER WEIR**

We are most excited to be offering this event once again after the long closure of this section of the Yarra Ranges National Park. HEWI is also most fortunate that our facilitator, Karen Garth, is a professional eco-tourism guide. She will be ably supported by an experienced volunteer spotlifter, Jan Faulkner.

Cost: \$10.00 per individual. Bookings are essential: call Karen on 5962 5115 or email: [gbfacilitator@gmail.com](mailto:gbfacilitator@gmail.com) for conditions and full details.

*\*Tuesday April 02, 6.30pm - 8.30pm*

*Thanks to all contributors for the above, and to Coral for her design and layout. All comments gratefully received!*



Years

