



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

Environment Victoria Water Forum

Hear from a scientist, an irrigator and an environmental campaigner about whether the Murray-Darling Basin Plan is working for Victoria and what needs to be done to address the impacts of climate change on our rivers. [RSVP here >>](#) (OR [click here](#) to watch a live-stream of the event.) Thursday May 02, 6.15 8.00pm Melb. Bowls Club, Flagstaff Gardens

Wildlife in our Backyards

Presenter, Chris Cobern landcare coordinator for Upper Goulburn Landcare Network with photographs of wildlife taken using motion activated cameras - including Long-nosed Bandicoots and Sugar Gliders that live in our gardens, patches of bush on our properties, roadsides and local creek reserves. With some tips on what you can do to protect them and their habitat. Gold coin donation.

*** Friday May 10, 7.30pm, Toolangi District Community House**

European Wasps - Handy hint!

A HEWI member is achieving reduced infestations using cat food and flea drops!

Indian Myna Information Sessions

To register [click here](#)

Writers & Rhythm/Healesville Music Festival

Produced by our long-time supporters, Catherine and David Nolan, six artists will present original songs and music, interspersed with poetry readings for a delightful evening. \$15.00 @door, BYO drinks, supper provided.

*** Friday May 31, 7.00 for 7.30pm start, Healesville Uniting Church**

Warm welcome to new members, Cora, Sarah, Doris and Ellena

Welcome to some refreshing rain! – and another monthly preview of upcoming events and encouraging reports - though there is never enough room to cover all the meetings we try to cover. One of these was the last Healthy Waterways, Yarra Catchment so here are the links:

[Yarra Catchment Program](#); and one for your input: [Yarra Conversations page](#)

Community Bird Walk

HEWI facilitator, Karen Garth, will lead a pleasant stroll beside our revegetated habitat corridors along Wirrup Yaluk and Grace Burn, both of which flow through Queens Park. We hope to identify many different bird species & maybe some frogs in the recently replenished frog bog.

There will be reference materials available and some spare binoculars. All HEWI volunteers attending have Working with Children ID, now required by Council for such activities.

There have been thousands of new indigenous seedlings planted since the last one, so we are looking forward to finding new birds that may have moved in along these waterways. This is an ideal family activity; children are keen observers! But no pets please. Donation: \$5.00 pp. [includes refreshments]. Shoes recommended, binoculars if possible.

Booking and full details with Karen: 5962 5115 or email: gbfacilitator@gmail.com

*** Saturday May 4 9.30am – 11.30am, Queens Park**

Healesville Community Bushfire Group

This group meets regularly and HEWI has a permanent representative. However, everyone is welcome to attend these community discussion meetings and the next one will highlight a presentation by Owen Gooding, CFA, on 'fire resistant' gardens. New participants will be warmly welcomed by DELWP and Council staff.

*** Wednesday May 8 Darron Honey Centre 6:45 (supper) 7-9 pm**

Environment Day, June 5, Library Display

This year our month-long display in the library will feature local endangered species and we hope to display running comments on the progress of the three week Court Case to protect Leadbeater's Possum, Greater Glider and their essential forest habitats from further clear-fell logging practice. There will be a notebook available for your comments and hopefully your support for the June Hearings.

*** Monday May 27 – June 28**

Waterbugs With HPS Students

Our annual waterbug discovery sessions with the Year 4 students who planted along the Grace Burn last year as Year 3s. This is such a fun morning and all members are invited to attend and enjoy the excitement of these young children as they find another tiny invertebrate!

Friends of Leadbeater's Possum Inc. v VicForests

The preliminary Hearing last December established that the native forest logging industry can be held to account for its impact on federally listed species, when logging has not been conducted in accordance with the old RFA (Regional Forest Agreement) first signed in March 1998 then extended in 2018 to 2020.

The Friends group supported by Environment Justice Australia (EJA) will affirm that logging in certain areas of our magnificent forests significantly

MAY:

- 02 Meeting with Bushland staff
Agreed Works Plans for Revegetation on Public Land
- 04 **Community Bird Walk**
Queens Park
9.30-11.30am
- 09 **HEWI c'tee meeting**
HL&LC 7-9pm
- 16 Forest Protection Day Survey
Open Day, Powelltown
- 17 **Water Watch phys/chem**
Grace Burn monitoring
- 19 Meeting with Cr McAllister
- 27 **Library ENVIRONMENT display - endangered species mounting**
- 31 Indigenous Cultural Literacy for Community Groups

JUN:

- 03 The Possums' Case, Day 1
Federal Court, Melbourne
- 05 **ENVIRONMENT DAY**
Library display
- 10 HOLIDAY
- 13 **HEWI c'tee meeting**
- 14 **Water Watch phys/chem**
Grace Burn monitoring
- 19 Meeting with Cr McAllister
- 21 **Annual HEWI Revegetation**
Grace Burn, Queens Park
10am -1pm
- 30 Completion of Year1,YRC grant 2018 -22

School holidays 29 June – 14 July Year 2

impacts the Critically Endangered Leadbeater's Possum, *Gymnobelideus leadbeateri* and the Vulnerable listed Greater Glider, *Petauroides Volans*. This logging has not been and will not be in accordance with the Central Highlands RFA, and so is not exempt from the assessment and approval requirements of the federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation [EPBC] Act that applies to such actions.

Community support will be most welcome in the public gallery of the Federal Court, presided over by Justice Mortimer.

***Monday June 3, Federal Court, 305 William St, (Flagstaff Station).**

ANNUAL REVEGETATION of the GRACE BURN

Prior notice for this year's planting, for which we are joined by agency and corporate staff to assist our Healesville Primary School students. We would love to see more members join us for this enjoyable activity but please note that everyone requires Working with Children ID. Application Forms must be downloaded (we can help with this) and a free photo is taken at the Post Office.

*** Friday June 21 9.30am – 1.00pm**

REPORTS: Spotighting at Badger Weir, April 02

This popular activity was booked out and the participants enjoyed a fabulous evening in this section of our Yarra Ranges National Park which was reopened only that week. Facilitator Karen introduced us to her pelt and skull collection to demonstrate various features of our arboreal mammals and then she led the group along the aqueduct road, assisted by Jan with our second spotlight. The open landscape was a shock at first, with so many large trees and understorey lost completely and many misshapen tree canopies against the dusky skyline.

However, the 'headlight' eyeshine of Greater Gliders was soon picked up by the spotlights as Karen explained the likely behaviour of parents and young moving up in the canopy or gliding across from tree to tree. We were fortunate to see several pairs of eyes with one amazing view of a Greater Glider lying along a lateral branch, its long tail hanging down.

Autumn Invertebrate Identification

Overall variety and numbers were down, especially from the Wallace Pde section of the Grace Burn, probably due to lower than usual flows. However, there has been no change in the physical and chemical test results. Our WW team were grateful for the assistance of two new recruits, Pat and Stewart from MT&D landcare. Karen recently attended a new Waterwatch **data interpretation workshop** which may assist in identifying some of the causes of confusing water quality results next time.

Haining Farm Habitat Restoration from Greening Australia

This huge project on 59hectare at Launching Place involves Parks Victoria, DELWP, Greening Australia, Zoos Victoria, Melbourne Water and community groups!

The vision is to restore the farm to its original vegetation state and in doing so restore and create 42 hectares of habitat for the critically endangered Lowland Leadbeater's Possum and Helmeted Honeyeater. This restoration project site is already very impressive with almost all the initial seedlings planted. The design comprises 4 cells where water from the Don River can once again make its way through the property and into the swamp forest along the southern border at the confluence of the Don and Yarra Rivers. The water flow will be monitored from cell to cell to secure plant growth and survival. This data will also provide valuable insight into the hydrological needs of the swamp forest and benefit the management of other sites like Yellingbo where this threatened vegetation community exists. It is predicted that it will be 8 years before the site might be ready to begin Lowland LBP translocation, but the plantings are currently doing much better than expected.

Hope you will be able to join us for the event above and that you have also recorded our 30th birthday celebration date on Sunday October 27 in the Nan Francis room, Memo. Your committee would appreciate any ideas that you would like to incorporate for an exciting and inspiring networking opportunity.

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Years

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