



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

#### Vale Auntie Dot Peters AM

A generous, warm-hearted friend who shared her knowledge, stories and skills with HEWI members. Memorial service Don Road Sporting Complex

> **Tuesday October 1st, 1.00pm**

#### Zoos Victoria: Fighting Extinction

Zoos Victoria is fighting for our most critically endangered animals on the brink of extinction. Reproductive biologist, Dr Marissa Parrott, will explain how. **Cost:** Free.

Bull & Bush Room, Grand Hotel, Warrandyte.

> **Wednesday 2 October 7.30pm to 9pm**

#### FNCV Biodiversity Symposium

Environmental restoration or green deserts & environmental traps. Contact: FNCV offices 9877 9860; [admin@fncv.org.au](mailto:admin@fncv.org.au); [www.fncv.org.au](http://www.fncv.org.au)

> **Saturday October 12 & 13: 8.30pm - 4.30pm. Fully catered. RSL, South Parade, Blackburn & excursion Westgate park**

#### Toolangi Spotlighting

Meet at Toolangi District Community House car park at 6pm. We will leave at 6.15pm sharp for spotlighting on a private property to start at 6.45pm.

What to bring: Torches, spotlights, warm clothes, drink/snack for later. \$2 donation.

RSVP: [faunatoolangi3777@gmail.com](mailto:faunatoolangi3777@gmail.com)

> **Wednesday October 16, 6pm**

#### Powerful Owl

Speaker Nick Bradsworth, Deakin University and Spotlight leader Clare Worsop. Registration essential: Jen Ellison, Yarra Ranges Council

> **Friday October 25, 7.30pm Mount Evelyn Public Hall, 44 Birmingham Rd, Mount Evelyn**

#### Haining Farm

Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare invite friends to join them for a walk on this property, led by Jaci Lees, Parks Vic, who will demonstrate the landscaping revegetation that will restore the floodplain as future habitat for endangered mammals and many other species.

> **Saturday October 26, 1.30pm-3.00pm details and bookings via [toolebewong@gmail.com](mailto:toolebewong@gmail.com)**

#### Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare AGM

All welcome to bring a plate to share [toolebewong@gmail.com](mailto:toolebewong@gmail.com)

> **Saturday October 26, 3.4pm**

#### Environment Victoria is 50!

All invited to join this celebration, and launch of 'People for the Planet' reply: [envict.org/50years](http://envict.org/50years)

> **October 30, AGM 5.30pm, Celebration from 6.30pm, 535 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne**

*October is always a popular month for community activities and unfortunately, we have at least two major clashes with our 30<sup>th</sup> celebration. But this is also a good sign of a vibrant community, with the formation of new groups caring for country most welcome!*

### OUR 30<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION DAY OCTOBER 20

There has been a wonderful response from you all and our supportive agencies - but there is still room for more to join us on this special anniversary! You are welcome to drop in at any time if you have other commitments on this Sunday. Our 30 years 'history' should revive some great memories to share.

Keynote speaker James Goldie, Climate Change Communication Research Hub, will discuss the programs that the Monash Hub is working on to reach the wider community - a problem that we all face. We are suggesting a brief forum after lunch to gain your thoughts for HEWI's future direction, and we will finish with the beautiful, meditative forest film.

All participants will receive an agenda well before the event, but please note that all times will be flexible as networking is always the most valuable asset for community meetings and this will be an enjoyable and relaxed experience, learning from each other. Our MC, Bruce Argyle will enjoy our lack of formality! Registration will be open by 10.15am to allow time for meeting and greeting old and new friends - and to enjoy our birthday cake! If you are able to join us, whether for all or part of this celebration, please email Maureen as above asap.

> **Sunday October 20, 10-15am - 2.30pm, Nan Francis Room, Memo**

*We gratefully acknowledge supporting grants from Yarra Ranges Council and Healesville Community Bank for this opportunity to celebrate our environmental activities.*

### FRIENDS OF CORANDERRK WORKING GROUP

President Dave Wandin, is seeking to organise a regular and on-going program for managing the vegetation project at Coranderrk. "We are looking for volunteers who want to actively help look after Coranderrk, to join us to maintain and improve the vegetation - the trees, shrubs, grasses along the Badger Creek and Yarra River and in the shelter belts across the property that we have planted out in the last two years. There will be many different ways to contribute. We want your help in all aspects of from thinking about what needs to be done, prioritising the different tasks and planning how to make it happen; from surveying the plants/ weeding to supporting the crew with tea, coffee and food. For people wanting to learn new skills or gain more knowledge, we will be providing training and! we will be teaching indigenous land management practices too, knowledge of plants and their uses. RSVP: [wandoonestate@gmail.com](mailto:wandoonestate@gmail.com)

> **Sunday Oct 13, Coranderrk Visitor Centre, Glen Eadie Ave**

### RIBBONS of GREEN

Following a request at our Fire Forum, Timothy Brown, Biodiversity Officer, Yarra Ranges has assured me that "Any contact to me directly or through the customer service we get back to within 2 days. Please pass on my mobile number 0457 300 594 - happy to help with private property bushland management as much as possible".

This program is for larger properties who can support broader habitat restoration, through revegetation or fencing good remnants from stock.

## OCTOBER

- 1 11am meeting re Waterways poster
- 1 Elder Aunty Dot Peters AM memorial  
Don Road Sporting Complex, 249-263 Don Rd, Healesville  
1.00pm
- 1 Casey Grant approvals  
Tony Smith's office  
4.00pm
- 2 Fighting extinction  
Warrandyte  
7.30pm
- 4 WaterWatch Grace Burn phys/chem sampling  
9.30am – 10.30am
- 10 HEWI meeting  
HL&LC 7.00 – 9.00pm
- 12-13 Biodiversity Symposium  
Blackburn
- 13 Friends of Coranderrk launch  
Coranderrk Visitor Centre
- 16 Toolangi Spotlighting  
6.15pm
- 18 Spring Invertebrate Monitoring  
HL&LC room 1  
10.30am – 12noon
- 20 HEWI 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Nan Francis Room  
The Memo, Healesville  
10.15 am – 2.30pm
- 26 Haining Farm  
1.30- 3.00pm  
MT&D Landcare AGM
- 30 ENV. VIC 50<sup>th</sup>  
6.30pm

## NOVEMBER:

- 14 HEWI Annual General meeting
- 15 WW/phys/chem

Our warm HEWI welcome to Beth and Ken

## Yarra Valley Community for Climate Action

The Yarra Valley Community for Climate Action has been established to connect a network of people, groups and organisations from across the Yarra Valley region, concerned about the impact of climate change, who are wanting to make a positive contribution toward building awareness and taking action locally.

[Sign up to this group](#) | [Visit Facebook page](#)

## REPORTS

## "Landscaping for Bushfire"

[View on Facebook](#)

## YARRA RANGES COUNCIL meeting September 10, 2019

Many of you will be aware that there was a majority vote at this meeting to "Seek a report from the Director Environment & Engineering to Councillors that includes a comprehensive evaluation of the current Adapting to a Changing Climate and Energy Future plan; and outlines a range of actions Council could take, as an organisation and in partnership with the community, that would be consistent with global efforts to limit warming to below 1.5 degrees and adapt to the likely impacts of climate change. Council acknowledges that this report will proceed as planned and be incorporated into a Climate Emergency Framework".

The HEWI committee acknowledged this Motion and looks forward to participating in that "partnership with the community" as foreshadowed above.

## Vale Dave Blair

At our September meeting, HEWI members reflected on the many ways that Dave had assisted our group - with the Weedbuster's trailer at many community markets; planting days with Sera and the boys; end of year family picnics in Queens Park; guest speaker on our Mountain Ash forests and later on, his research for Forest Phoenix; his many forest walks and inspirational confidence for healthy regeneration after bushfire. Our displays feature many of his beautiful photos and his Tiger Orchid, *Diuris sulphurea*, remains on all our certificates. Sera Blair, Sarah Rees and Steve Meacher have set up a memorial fund: "Join us in celebrating Dave's quest to understand and protect the forests of the Central Highlands. Your donation will support conservation projects including the Great Forest National Park".

<https://chuffed.org/project/dr-david-blair-memorial-fund>

## FRIENDS OF LEADBEATER'S POSSUM V VICFORESTS

This Federal Court case has finally come to a close, with the filing of written Submissions in Reply on 13th September. Having prepared the best possible case and assembled a brilliant legal team to present it, all we can do now is wait for Her Honour's decision. A judgement in the Fauna and Flora Research Collective "Old Growth" case (Supreme Court hearing completed in February) is still awaited. A third case against VicForests, brought by DELWP, was struck out by a Magistrate last year, as the charge laid did not meet the requirements of the Act. As a result the Minister ordered an independent review of logging regulations, resulting in 14 recommendations. The 3rd of these included that DELWP should conduct a survey of stakeholder perceptions and expectations. The results are now available and show that, "Protection of forests and biodiversity was paramount". The review also called for improvements to the Code of Practice. DELWP's first attempt to review the Code raised serious concerns and HEWI was pleased to co-sign a letter with other environment groups calling for the process to be abandoned. Minister D'Ambrosio has now acknowledged our legitimate concerns and has advised that the current consultation has been withdrawn.

We are disappointed to learn that the Scientific Advisory Committee has concluded that the Mountain Ash Forest Community is not eligible for listing under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act. HEWI has previously supported this listing. However, the SAC agreed that this community could be vulnerable to the effects of climate change and expressed concern at increased fire frequencies. It also agreed that there has been a decrease in old growth forest from an estimated 30 to 60% in pre-European times to less than 1.1% present today.

*If you have any photos or anecdotes to share, please bring them to our 30yrs celebration!*

30  
Years

Years

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

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