

HEALESVILLE * CHUMCREEK * YARRAGLEN * BADGERCREEK * STEELSCREEK * TARRAWARRA * TOOLANGI

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

Up Coming Events

MAY

1 Sat 10 - 12 HLLC Art Room
Family Waterbugs

13 Thurs. 7.30 pm, HLLC and
via Zoom, HEWI Monthly Meeting

16 Sun. HEWI Strategic Plan
Workshop, 10 – 4 pm, Senior
Citizens Hall, River St, Hville

29 Sat. Native Seed
Propagation Session, 10 – 12,
Badger Ck Primary School
Greenhouse

JUNE

1-30 Hville Library Display

18 Fri - Planting at Coronation Park
with Hville PS. WWCC required.

Members will receive in the mail information about our **Strategic Plan Workshop**. If you can't attend on the day, we ask you to read the documents and let us know your thoughts. Some of the goals stated in our constitution have been adopted by council and other agencies, and we need to redefine our purpose and stipulate achievable and relevant actions. Also included is a SWOT analysis – maybe you think we are doing everything just tight – or can you think of new things we can do to improve and protect our environment?

Council updates

Planning amendments for the old mill site at the entrance to Healesville are still being finalised by the applicants. Of particular concern is the intention for the service station to operate 24/7 and become a truck stop. HEWI will oppose this when the details are released for public comment.

Council has no current policy for memorials in public parks, and we have requested this in Queens Park for Maureen Bond and David Cox. Cr McAllister is taking this to the next councillors' forum for urgent action.

Native Seed Propagation

Through our Yarra Ranges Council Community Partnerships Grant we are offering this workshop for members and the community. Places are limited, so get in early. The flyer is at the end of the newsletter.

No Reason 4 Rubbish

This year we joined forces with the new Facebook group, No Reason 4 Rubbish, to Clean Up Queens Park on April 14th. Forty volunteers collected 6 full bags of litter, a stolen safe and a broken chair. Three quarters of the litter was recyclable, and council collected our bags early the next week for sorting. We thank Coles Healesville and Yarra Ranges Council for their support of the event. Healesville Guides conducted their Clean Up this year around the Healesville Station precinct. Well done all!

Family Waterbugs Workshop

We are offering a second Workshop on **Sat 1 May**, 10 - 12 at the Healesville Living & Learning Centre Art Room. Children 6-16 \$10 per child, adults free. BYO drink and snack, tea/coffee supplied for adults. Please book with Karen admin@hewi.org.au or 0418 999 936.



Member's photo comp entry -
Jan Smetak



Clean Up Day HEWI & No Reason 4
Rubbish members



Family Waterbugs Workshop
participant

Community Changemakers Program

Expressions of interest are now sought for a Free 10 session Yarra Ranges Community Changemakers Program starting May in Healesville for Yarra Valley volunteers — a partnership between Healesville Living and Learning Centre and Council. Applications close **16th April**.

The program will run on selected Wednesday nights and weekends from May to September 2021.

<https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Experience/Events/Yarra-Ranges-Community-Changemakers-Program-2021-Application>

Mental Health First Aid course

Registration deadline **19th April**

Yarra Ranges Shire is offering free training to environmental volunteers (that's us!) that could be very useful, for example in a bushfire situation. You'll learn how to provide initial support to adults aged 18+ who may be experiencing a mental health problem or mental health crisis, until appropriate professional help is received or the crisis resolves. Details at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/koha-cafe-eoi-mental-health-first-aid-training-registration-146697733871>

Ask a Permaculture expert

4 - 7 pm 2 May

Sydney Halbish Hall, 22 Old Dalry Rd, Don Valley

Permaculture Yarra Valley is celebrating Permaculture Week with a Q&A session.

RSVP here: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=744492&>

What's growing on?

The Gardens for Harvest Facebook page is a fount of information and help. Look it up at <https://www.facebook.com/gardensforharvest/>

Agile Antechinus and the Secret Life of a Bushland Reserve

Antechinus are small native marsupials that live in our local bushland and nest in tree hollows - most of us have probably never seen one. Derek Hilton, a local wildlife enthusiast, has spent many years studying the antechinus and knows all there is to know about them.

Join Derek as he shares his knowledge and incredible video footage of local antechinus. This presentation will cover:

- * Where they live
- * What they eat
- * Their social behaviour
- * Nesting and mating habits
- * Q and A time

Derek will also talk you through how to sit, listen and explore your local bushland reserves so you can learn about and enjoy nature throughout the year. Unleash your inner environmental expert!

This webinar is suitable for all ages and includes a 10 minute video of Derek on location in one of our bushland reserves. His footage of antechinus going about their day-to-day business is unrivalled. This one is not to be missed!

Event Details: **Saturday 15th May**, 10am to 11.30am

Webinar with Q&A session, Register: <https://mailchi.mp/f9466655a299/antechinus-webinar?e=3cc8d571ed>

More ways to unplastic your life

- Sundried clothes are better for the environment than using a clothes drier, but the pegs should not be plastic. Stainless steel lasts forever, and even good quality wooden or bamboo pegs are better than plastic.
- Bamboo towels and face washers are available. They won't produce microplastics when being used and washed.
- Some great for-purpose companies offer toilet paper subscriptions to order bulk toilet paper — you get months' worth of supply, all in plastic-free packaging delivered straight to your doorstep. You can specify the source to be 100% post-consumer recycled.
- Plastic-toys typically break easily and are usually not recyclable. Avoid buying plastic toys by looking for high-quality wooden ones (or other materials) that will stand the test of time.



"The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of this group."



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Facebook: HEWI www.facebook.com/hewinews

Graceburn Project: www.facebook.com/Grace-Burn-Project-327516467740122/

Healesville Environment Watch Inc

Native Seed Propagation

Sat 29 May, 10—12, Greenhouse, Badger Ck Primary School

Come along and learn how to sow native seeds and take them home to grow over Winter. In Spring, we'll meet again to tube them out and you will have a supply to take home to create a butterfly garden.

Tea/coffee supplied, BYO snack and gloves.

A guest speaker from the Yarra Ranges Gardens for Wildlife Scheme will give a talk over morning tea.

We thank the Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare Group for the donation of the seeds, and Yarra Ranges Council for support through HEWI's Community Partnerships grant.

Adults only, \$20 per person (includes both sessions).

RSVP to Karen admin@hewi.org.au, 5962 5115,

0418 999 936.



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