

Up Coming Events

August

*National Tree Day at Everard Park – cancelled due to storm and flood damage at site

Fri **27 Aug**, 9.30 – noon.
Planting with YRCC & HPS, Coronation Park. WWCC required. Morning tea provided for adults.

Thurs **9 Sept**, 7.30 pm, HEWI monthly meeting. HLLC or via Zoom

Sun **12 Sept**, 2.30 pm, The Message of the Lyrebird. Fundraising film for Friends of Leadbeater's Possum

Sun **3 October**, 7.30 pm, Forest Defenders film, The Memo, Healesville. Free HEWI film

Sat **16 Oct**, 1.30 – 3.30 pm. Wildflower Walk at Juliet Ave Reserve, Badger Creek

Oct tbc Spring Invertebrates Survey, Grace Burn. HLLC

are “young at heart”. Make sure you take time out to smell the gum leaves, admire the Silver Wattle flowers and listen to local bird song.

Old Sawmill Site

The developers of the service station and associated businesses at 17-25 Maroondah Highway, Healesville, have applied to VCAT for a decision on their amendments. HEWI has submitted a Statement of Grounds (no cost) for consideration at the Compulsory Hearing on 12 October, but will not be appearing. *NB, this is not a hearing about the amendments sought by McDonalds for their proposed restaurant on another part of this site.*

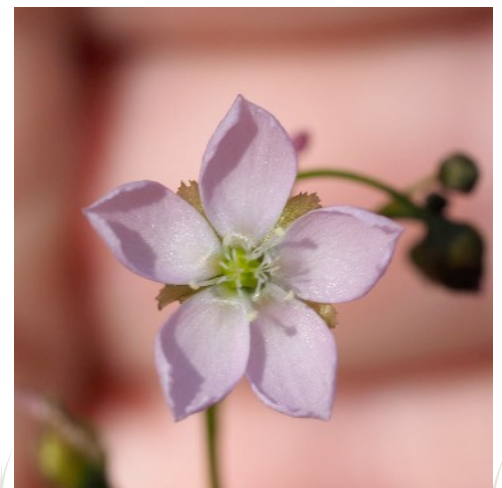
We hope our members are enjoying the recent mild weather and finding new local areas to explore during our latest lockdown. Thanks to all who gave feedback on the draft Strategic Plan – it will be finalised and distributed via email to members by the end of August. The committee will now update our Rules to incorporate our new Vision, Mission and the changes made in 2012 to Model Rules for incorporated associations. We expect to have this passed at our AGM in October rather than call a Special Meeting.

Memberships renewal

It is also our intention to change our membership year to coincide with the financial year, as trying to collect fees from members over the summer holidays and fire season has proven to take too much volunteer time to follow up. Members who are due to renew will receive an email, and we ask that **you pay no later than Sept 30th.**

Climate Change Action

We are taking action on Climate Change, and have supported the Australian Conservation Foundation's (ACF) appeal to influence the Federal Government with a donation of \$100. Despite the dire warnings in the latest IPCC report, other levels of government and communities are taking action, and you can read about some of the [Climate Action Strategy](#). ACF also has a list of actions we can take as individuals and a great section on how to avoid [climate anxiety](#). Whilst this is aimed at younger people, it's as relevant to those of us who



Tall Sundew *Drosera auriculata*.
photo by Karen Garth



Become a citizen scientist

Even in lockdown and restricted to 5 km, we can monitor frogs, platypus and birds via phone apps or websites. Frogs play an important role in the waterway ecosystem and are easily affected by changes to their environment. Get involved in Melbourne Water’s [community frog monitoring program](#), and collect data to help us manage frog populations and raise awareness of waterway health issues.

Waterwatch Victoria is proud to announce a partnership with Odonata to help save the platypus through their initiative, the Great Australian Platypus Search. This citizen science project is calling on Victorians to take part in a groundbreaking project that will map platypus populations across Australia, beginning in Victoria. [Sign up here](#)

There is a similar project for [platypuses](#) and BirdLife Australia asks you to monitor wherever you are [at any time](#). You can even join [BirdLife Yarra Valley](#) and participate in their monthly walks.

Badger Creek plantings in flood, June 2021, photo by Karen Garth

Yellowleg Bonnet *Mycena epipterygia*, photo by Karen Garth taken at Wirrawilla Rainforest Walk, Toolangi



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