

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

The committee managed to hold our first meeting of the year at the Healesville L&L Centre on Thursday 11 Feb, and also offered the Zoom option, which was taken up by two members. We used our new community group Zoom account, and it was lovely not to be concerned about being cut off after 45 minutes. We thank Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare for applying for the grant for the account and Yarra Ranges Council for the funds.

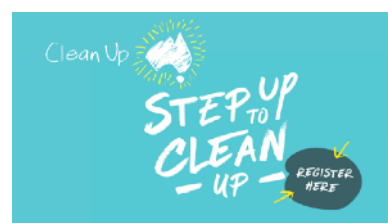
Over the holidays we moved out of the room we have hired as an office at the Healesville L&L Centre, and most of our equipment and files are now stored with Karen and Bronwyn.

Despite Covid-19 restrictions changing the day after our meeting, we decided upon a Calendar of Activities, and our first event will be a Frog Evening at 8 pm on Friday 26 Feb at Yarra Glen with local landcarers. Bookings are essential to [northernyarralandcare@gmail.com](mailto:northernyarralandcare@gmail.com) by 21 Feb as numbers are strictly limited. The complete flyer is at the end of the newsletter.

This year our monthly meetings with Cr McAllister will be held on the last Thursday of the month at 2.30 pm. The committee decides at the previous meeting what issues we wish to raise and this list is forwarded to Fiona ahead of time. If any member wishes to have a matter added, please let us know via [admin@hewi.org.au](mailto:admin@hewi.org.au).

Our next activity will be a Clean Up event at Queens Park on Sunday 14 March from 10 am until noon. This year we are joining forces with the new group "No Reason 4 Rubbish" <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1059923557781750>. We usually commence with a morning tea at 9.30 pm, then clean up in small groups from 10 am carrying two bags so we can sort recyclables as we go. BYO gloves and a cup for a drink. Morning Tea provided.

Here's a photo of our great volunteers at Everard Park, Healesville, last year. We collected six full bags of recyclables and five of rubbish, plus council staff put large items in the ute.





The [2021 Sustainable Living Festival](#) is on again throughout February, with many free and online events, and in March the documentary "Wild Things" will be screened on Thursday 25th March at 6.30 pm at the Memo, Healesville, as a fundraiser for the Central Highlands Forest Fighting Fund. There will also be a Q & A with special guests and representatives from each group. Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3W7jLChnZc&feature=youtu.be>.

### Essay Contest

The Healesville and Upper Yarra Greens invite contributions to their [essay contest](#). The theme is "The Four Pillars of the Greens". Entries will be accepted until 1 May.

Bob Rich is also inviting reviews of his republished book. Please contact him to receive a pdf copy. (You can see what it is about here: <https://bobrich18.wordpress.com/bobs-booklist#sleeper>, You can request one using the contact form at this blog, Bobbing Around, <https://bobrich18.wordpress.com>)

### Solar Event

Healesville CoRE invites the community to a [Switching to Solar](#) event on March 1, 7-9 pm, at the Darron Honey Centre, Healesville. Registrations are essential, and the programme for the year can be downloaded.

### Strategic Plan Workshop

An important date we wish members to set aside will be Sunday 16 May, from 10 – 3 pm approx., for a Strategic Plan workshop. We obtained a Yarra Ranges Council grant for this in December, and we need everyone's input to help us formulate our first Strategic Plan. It will be held at the Healesville Senior Citizens Hall, River St. We anticipate that this examination of our current position and aims will set achievable and transparent actions for us over the next 2- 5 years.

### Reduce use of plastics and save money



- Bulk up — bulk shopping is a great way to reduce packaging and plastics.
- Plastic-free tea: Did you know some tea bags are made with synthetic mesh and can release billions of micro plastic pieces in just one cup? Do a quick search for plastic-free tea bags and support those brands.
- What's the best thing since sliced bread? Bringing a reusable bread bag to your local bakery.
- Look for time-tested naturally derived laundry soaps used by generations past — they often have less plastic packaging and are made from more natural ingredients.
- Look online for some great toothpaste recipes which you can make at home — these are all natural ingredients and can work surprisingly well.

*Photo competition winner Nov 2020, Beth Bagley.*



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



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# Northern Yarra



## FROG NIGHT

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 8.00pm**

Join guest speaker, educator and naturalist, David De Angelis, for this Summer's twilight **walk and talk** to get to know the frogs of our Northern Yarra area.

**Murrup Brarn**

**Yarra Flats Billabongs**

**Melba Highway, Yarra Glen**

Meet at the old bridge near the entrance to the Recreation Reserve

**RSVP essential : 21<sup>st</sup> February**

Email : [northernyarralandcare@gmail.com](mailto:northernyarralandcare@gmail.com)



Photo credits: David De Angelis



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