

Healesville Environment Watch Inc. Newsletter May 2021

Issue 250 P.O. Box 444 Healesville Vic 3777 Email: admin@hewi.org.au. Website: www.hewi.org.au

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

27 *Thurs.* Craig Reucassel: Sustainability & You. Online event.

7 pm 20-30 Reconnect Festival: Sustainability Series. Various events/locations.

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

JUNE

1-30 H'ville Library Display

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

Many thanks to our 18 members who came to our **Strategic Plan** workshop on Sunday 16 May - we had a wonderful "think tank"



assembled and packed a lot into one day. The results and contributions sent in via emails by members who couldn't attend will be placed into a draft document within a few weeks. The committee will review this before sending out to all members

for consideration.





Native Seed Propagation Workshop

Our next event is at Badger Creek Primary School on Saturday 29 May, from 10 am until noon. Lisa Loulier, from Yarra Ranges Gardens 4 Wildlife, will chat to us about this scheme over morning tea. BYO cup, gloves and a snack. Tea/coffee supplied. Adults only, \$20 per person. This includes the May workshop, and one in Spring when we will bring our seedlings back to tube out and take home. We thank Yarra Ranges Council and Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare for their support of this event.

Library Display

In June we will create an environmental display in the Healesville Library to celebrate World Environment Day, and Karen will take part in a family story time activity on Thursday 10 June. Bring the children or grandkids to listen to a reading of "Bush Babies" and take part in a few activities. If any member can supply native flowers and foliage, and help choose photos etc, their help would be much appreciated. Set up will be Monday 31 May, and take down Wednesday 30 June.

HPS Planting Day

On Friday 18 June we will have our planting day at Coronation Park with Healesville Primary School, Cummins Filtration, Melbourne Water and Yarra Ranges Council. Volunteers for this event must have a current Working With Children Card. This is free to obtain as a volunteer and HEWI will pay for the photo required. Please contact Karen if you would like to be involved. We are also discussing with council and the Lion's Club a planting event here for National Tree Day in 2022 to celebrate 20 years since this revegetation project commenced.

Forest Update

We have supported EJA and Friends of Leadbeater's Possum in their court case to halt timber harvesting in Victorian forests to protect the habitat of this possum, the Greater Glider and other key species. Unfortunately VicForest's appeal was won on a single ground - that logging has a wide exemption from federal environment law even when conducted in habitat critical to the survival of wildlife facing extinction, and in breach of state law. Importantly, the Full Court dismissed all of VicForests' other 21 grounds of appeal. Key findings that stand in the original judgment include that:

- logging is permanently destroying habitat critical to the survival of the Leadbeater's Possum and Greater Glider
- logging is a cause of the decline of important populations necessary for their long-term survival
- current reserves are inadequate to protect the species from their high risk of extinction

Friends of Leadbeater's Possum will apply to keep injunctions in place for 66 forest areas subject of the case and home to the critically endangered Leadbeater's Possum and vulnerable Greater Glider. As Steve from Friends of Leadbeaters' Possum said, "this battle is not yet over.", and the team is actively looking to appeal to the High Court.

Compost

If you're keen to start composting, or want to learn how to compost better, check out this handy composting factsheet: <u>here</u>

This is a great opportunity to take advantage of the Composting Rebate for Yarra Ranges residents <u>here</u>. And don't forget to catch up on our recent Composting webinars which you can watch anytime on the <u>YRC</u> <u>website here</u>.

Craig Reucassel: Sustainability & You

Thursday 27th May 7 pm

Writer and comedian Craig Reucassel will deliver a call-to-arms on how to build a sustainable community. What can you do to reduce your environmental impact? What role can one person play in saving the planet? Craig will show you the way. Includes time for a Q&A. Booking essential <u>here</u>

Solar Savers

Solar Savers is a council-run program helping homeowners and landlords to install solar with quality systems and a reputable supplier. If you are interested in saving on your electricity bills, have a sunny roof and want to reduce emissions, you can register interest at <u>solarsavers.org.au</u> or sign up for one of their upcoming webinars <u>here</u>

Reconnect Festival: Sustainability Series

20th - 28th May

Join the Eastern Regional Libraries for a range of fun & fascinating workshops all around sustainability. From worm farms, to vegan-cheese making, to medicinal weeds and so much more! There's something for everyone. Full list of workshops & events: <u>here</u>

Council Community Waste Survey - help shape the new waste plan by 6 June here



PPWCMA work crew at the Healesville RSL *K Garth*

Melbourne

Water



Cortinarius archeri Mt Riddell K Garth

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



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