

Up Coming Events

October

- * Wed **20 Oct**, 7 pm, YRC Biochar Facility webinar
- * Until **Oct 28**, free online viewing of "Forest Defenders"
- * Thurs **28 Oct**, 7.30 pm, online discussion about "Forest Defenders"

November

- * Thurs **11 Nov**, 7.30 pm, HEWI AGM via Zoom

December

- * Fri **10 Dec**, Picnic Dinner

Forest Defenders Documentary

We were unable to hold a public viewing of the Bob Brown Foundation's "Forest Defenders" about their Tarkine/tarkanya campaign, but have organised a [link](#) for you to watch in your own time. Please watch the film, and then join us for a Q&A on Thurs 28 Oct from 7.30 – 8.30 pm. NB one small section of bad language towards the end of the film. Please contact us by email for any assistance if you have any problems following the directions.

AGM

Our AGM will take place on Thursday 11 November via Zoom, and we will have a guest speaker from the Bob Brown Foundation to talk about their aims and current campaigns. Members will be emailed documentation soon, and all current committee members have indicated that they are willing to

continue. The cut off date for nominations to be received by the Secretary is 5 pm Monday 8 November. If only one nomination per executive position is received by this time, that person will be declared elected. If more than one nomination is received for an executive position, or more than five for Ordinary Members, elections will be held at the AGM. Remaining vacancies will be disclosed at the meeting. We currently have only two Ordinary Members, and would welcome a few more! Please contact Karen at admin@hewi.org.au if you would like information about becoming a committee member.

HEWI Rules Update

The committee has decided to form a working party next year of interested members to update our Rules. The 2012 Model Rules for incorporated associations does not cover all of our requirements, and a round table discussion in person will be the best way to consider our options.



White *Glossodia major*. Photo by Karen Garth

December Picnic Dinner

We hope that covid restrictions will allow our fully vaccinated members to gather in a local reserve for an end of year BYO picnic dinner. A short spotlight walk will take place at dusk if possible.

17-25 Maroondah Highway, Healesville VCAT Ref P11067/2021

Council refused the latest amendments sought by developers for this site, and it will be determined at VCAT. HEWI objects to the amendments and will send a Statement of Grounds to VCAT for consideration.

Lighter Footprints has organized a discussion with Victoria's Energy and Environment Minister on October 20th at 7.30 pm to hear about Victoria's climate plans. Minister Lily D'Ambrosio will be joined in conversation by energy policy expert Simon Holmes a Court, and the evening will be facilitated by climate strategist Victoria McKenzie-McHarg. There will be plenty of opportunity for audience questions. [RSVP](#) to receive the Zoom link.



Prasophyllum cluster.
Photo by Karen Garth

New regulations on fruit tree netting

We do want to stop birds from taking or damaging our fruit and vegies, but without hurting them. From 1 September, [regulations](#) require mesh size to be 5 mm x 5 mm or less.

Biochar Facility

Yarra Ranges Council has awarded the tender to build a [Biochar](#) Facility at Lysterfield Waste Transfer Station, to be operating by Oct 2022. By creating biochar, we are effectively capturing carbon and locking it into the soil. This helps draw down carbon from the atmosphere and mitigates the negative effects of climate change. Join the council [webinar](#) on Wed 20 Oct at 7 pm to learn more.

A few more hints to reduce plastic consumption:

- Invest in some good quality gardening tools which will stand the test of time – avoid cheap plastic ones that will break easily or degrade if left outside.
- When buying anything at the supermarket, it is not obligatory to buy plastic wrapping as well. Sometimes, unbelievably, loose fruit or vegies cost more than the packaged variety. If so, complain, or buy from an independent greengrocer.
- Bottled water can cost more per litre than petrol, and depending upon where it is produced, may be harming an overseas environment and will not be the high quality of our Melbourne Water mains supply. Use a refillable stainless steel bottle that will last a lifetime – this could be a great Christmas present!



Pink Caladenia catenata
Photo by Karen Garth

Council's list of free webinars

Yarra Ranges has produced a bunch of environmental webinars on various topics about lyrebirds, platypus, living plastic free and more! If you are looking for something to watch and learn about, check out the [Yarra Ranges website](#) to see the listed environmental webinars.

(Photos of Karen's were taken in September - "The Prasophyllum brevilabre cluster of 4 plants was eaten a few days later, probably by a Sambar Deer.

We usually see one white Caladenia catenata, and this year there was also a pink one!")



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