

## Healesville Environment Watch Inc Newsletter November 2017

Issue 215

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**HEALESVILLE** 

CHUM CREEK

YARRA GLEN

**BADGER CREEK** 

STEELS CREEK

TARRAWARRA

TOOLANGI

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

#### **News in Brief**

# Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare Group AGM INVITATION

1.30 pm Join us for a walk along the Yea River

2.30 – 3.30 pm Afternoon Tea 3.30 – 4.15 AGM in Theatrette

> Saturday October 28
Toolangi Forest Discovery Centre
Please R.S.V.P. asap:
toolebewonglandcare@gmail.com

### Yarra Ranges Landcare Network AGM

(these colleagues changed their date to avoid a clash with HEWI!)

6.30pm: Dinner provided by committee.

Guest Speaker: Bronwyn Koll, Coordinator of Yarra Valley fruit fly

regional action plan RSVP: by Friday 10th November to Anne, <u>landcare@yrl.org</u>

> 6:30pm, Friday 17th November Lilydale Community Room 435 Swansea Road (Lilydale Lake entrance)

#### "An Inconvenient Sequel"

Prizes to be won!

Al Gore has produced this fascinating and interesting documentary with current data about the deteriorating condition of our planet and what we can do about it – an update on "An Inconvenient Truth" which had a huge impact internationally. We showed this film in January 2007 in the old Healesville Memorial Hall followed by a community discussion led by Steve Meacher to a capacity audience in the supper room (now named after Nan Francis for her lifetime community contributions to the arts).

This is the first cooperative event being organized between three of our local environmental/energy groups: Healesville CoRE, HEWI and Yarra Glenergy. Booking details tba

## Yarra Valley Water – Yarra Valley Water's <u>Waste to Energy</u> Facility

A waste to energy facility saves food waste and processes it into biogas via anaerobic digestion with plans to divert 33,000 tonnes of waste per year from landfill and power two treatment plants.

Our local service industry was one of 10 finalists for the Premier's Sustainability Awards which encourage all Victorians to adopt sustainable practices.

A very early edition to advertise the many interesting and informative meetings occurring over the next few weeks. So much to choose from – but we hope that you will put the HEWI AGM at the top of your list!

#### **CELEBRATING OUR 28th AGM**

Thank you for the responses already received; we look forward to a full house for this rare opportunity to hear personally from our Representative MP.

The HEWI AGM will start at 7.00pm sharp and although we will provide individual project reports, they will be brief with the full copies available on our website later. However, we have found that this method of annual reporting highlights the quite amazing amount of community activities with which we are involved. With the highest quality standards of course.

There will be a light supper and networking to follow, before we are entertained and informed by our ex Councillor (Lyster Ward), now Eastern Metropolitan MP, Samantha Dunn.

"Challenging Environmental Issues" should give us all plenty to reflect upon and there will certainly be an opportunity for Q&A – maybe over another cuppa?

#### > Friday November 10, 6.45pm for 7.00pm

Youth Hub, Healesville Living and Learning Centre, 1 Badger Creek Road (parking behind buildings or if outside, only the car park gate is open).

RSVP to Maureen would be appreciated for catering purposes.

#### FRIENDS OF LEADBEATER'S POSSUM AGM

6:30pm for light refreshments and view of the exhibition marking 150 years since Leadbeater's Possum was described as a new species October1867! AGM starts at 7:00pm: Dinner at 7:30pm. RSVP NOW for catering purposes (Please indicate preference, Vegetarian/Non-vegetarian and other dietary requirements to info@leadbeaters.org.au or call/message 0447 330 863. Optional dinner, \$25: Prepared by Mark from Ecology Café at the TFDC. 8:00pm Guest Speaker, Eric Wilkinson will tell us about his recent research for his book on Leadbeater's Possum and share some of the interesting information he has uncovered to set the record straight on some historical aspects.

> Friday, 6.30pm, 27th October 2017 Toolangi Forest Discovery Centre, Main Road, Toolangi, VIC 3777

#### **SAVE ENERGY AND CUT YOUR BILLS!**

This is a HCoRE event – the new energy group in town

Learn how to save energy, reduce carbon emissions and most importantly, learn how to save money and beat energy price hikes!!

Alan Pears, who is a leading energy efficiency expert, media commentator and Senior Fellow at RMIT, will give you all the information required.

Light supper, gold coin donation

Booking essential: <a href="mailto:contact@healesvillecore.org.au">contact@healesvillecore.org.au</a> or get your ticket directly: <a href="http://healesvillecore.org.au/events/alan-pears-am-energy-saving/">http://healesvillecore.org.au/events/alan-pears-am-energy-saving/</a>

> Thursday 2 November, 6.45pm for 7.00-9.00pm
Darren Honey Centre, Uniting Church, opposite Coles carpark

#### **GREAT FOREST NATIONAL PARK INFORMATION STALL**

We were invited to host a community stall at this year's Music Festival and decided to use this opportunity to demonstrate our support for a new National Park in our region. Lou, Bronwyn and Karen have accepted the challenge of

A community group acting to protect and conserve important elements of our local environment

#### **Up Coming Events Community Environment News**

October 27

Friends of Leadbeater's Possum **AGM** Forest Discovery Centre Toolangi 6.30pm

October

Mount Toolebewong & District Landcare Walk and AGM Yea River and FDC Toolangi 1.30pm

November 02 "Saving Energy Use" Darron Honey Centre Healesville 6.45pm

November 10 **HEWI AGM** with Samantha Dunn, MP Youth Hub, Healesville Living & **Learning Centre** 6.45pm

November 11 **HEWI stall GFNP** Racecourse, Musci Festival 10am-2pm

November 23 "An Inconvenient Sequel" Memo, Healesville 7.30pm

Warm welcome to new member Gabriel





an early start immediately after our AGM evening and we are preparing an eye-catching display to generate community interest in our vision for this exciting prospect.

We will also have gift vouchers for HEWI memberships available – a thoughtful gift for your friends and family members concerned about environment issues.

This promises to be a very pleasant day in possibly one of the best locations for a stall with relaxing music and the adjacent riparian vegetation along the Watts River.

If anyone could help us out by volunteering some time at the stall, please call Maureen

Saturday November 11, 9.30am - 2.00pm Healesville Racecourse, Healesville-Yarra Glen Road

#### THE IMPACT OF PLASTICS ON OUR ENVIRONMENT

From the Boomerang Alliance, one of the many associations with which HEWI is aligned:

On October 17, the Premier Daniel Andrews announced that Victoria will ban single-use lightweight plastic bags and Environment Minster Lily D'Ambrosio released a <u>discussion paper</u> called "Reducing the impacts of plastics on the Victorian environment", including about the bag ban. Public comment period is 3 months, so make sure you read it and have your say! Banning plastic bags is an easy and obvious step in the right direction to reduce plastic pollution. Apart from preventing millions of bags from being littered and becoming a risk to our marine wildlife due to entanglement and ingestion - the bag ban is a great opportunity to educate all Australians about the global plastic pollution crisis and its wide-ranging effects on the planet and all of us. Be sure to be part of the discussion and express why this is important to you!

Now it's time to win this national campaign once for all. Add your name to help build on this success. (This applies to the only non-compliant state, NSW)

Boomerang Alliance

http://www.boomerangalliance.org.au/

Our local Plastic Bag Free Healesville group can look forward to bigger sales for their Platypus bags and even greater demand for their beautiful boomerang bags. Volunteers spend hours sewing these useful creations for those of us who forget to bring our own - but we need to remember to return these loans back to the racks for others to borrow - a wonderful community service!

#### **HEWI'S WATERWATCH TEAM**

Last Friday was the Spring Invertebrate count and the results were very positive from both the Wallace Parade and Queens Park sampling sites along the Grace Burn. Our Waterwatch volunteers are tested annually by Melbourne Water to ensure the high standard of their identification skills. The team were delighted to be joined by new member Gabriel - more recruits are always welcome!

The monthly physical and chemical monitoring was also carried out and this data will be transferred immediately to the Melbourne Water site for public http://www.vic.waterwatch. access: org.au/water\_data\_portal.php

Searching for those active waterbugs

We are also applying for a new

Council grant to continue and extend out Grace Burn Project which we believe has been a highly successful community project. These grants are for four years from July 2018 and understandably involve a huge amount of preparation and planning

a very intense month ahead for your

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