

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

### News in Brief

#### Open Garden Scheme

Bev and John Hanson have lived in Warrandyte for over 40 years. Bev is a renowned landscape designer and their garden reflects her creativity and her empathy with the surrounding bushland. Their property is surrounded on two sides by the Warrandyte State Park and visitors are welcome to stroll the tracks around the bushland areas as well as the garden. Half the property was burnt in April as part of a larger ecological/fuel reduction burn and is regenerating beautifully. Check it out!

> **Sat. Sep. 13 and Sun. Sep. 14**  
**104 Webb St, Warrandyte 10am - 4.30pm \$8.00**

[http://www.opengarden.org.au/regions/vic\\_calendar.html](http://www.opengarden.org.au/regions/vic_calendar.html)

#### Yarra River Keepers Upper Yarra Bike Ride.

See the natural beauty of the river and hear some of its fascinating stories from author Maya Ward and ecologist Dan Robertson. The ride begins in Yarra Junction at 11am, follows the rail trail to Warburton and returns by 2.30pm. (Approx 20km return trip). Free. Booking essential: Todd Holman [todd\\_holman@hotmail.com](mailto:todd_holman@hotmail.com) 0425 217 921

> **11am-2.30pm Sunday 21st September**

#### Wetland restoration:

Learn about factors affecting establishment and management of aquatic and wetland plants from Damien Cook, who will also be sharing his experiences with wetland projects, focusing on factors affecting restoration decisions.

> **Wednesday 2 October 7.30pm**  
**Grand Hotel Yarra St Warrandyte**

*Bookings are essential and you must attend this seminar to be eligible for the field trip below: please phone Lyn Meredith on 9840 9326.*

#### Yaruk Tamboore remnant wetland

Join Cam Beardsell, Ranger Parks Victoria, who will showcase the successes of works between 2011- 2013 that secured the establishment of new permanent wetland communities in the Yaruk Tamboore Wetland. (see above)

> **Wednesday 16 October 9.00 am - 12.00 pm**

\*\*\* Continued on page 2\*\*

*Welcome to Biodiversity Month and a broad range of activities over the next three months of Spring that will celebrate the sparkling waterways of the Yarra Valley and our own small contribution to their enhancement. Early orchids are everywhere and the natural environment is lively and humming!*

#### "What's Happening to our Yarra River?"

As the last Sunday in September is 'World Rivers Day' the main address at our combined annual meeting with Mt Toolebewong and District Landcare this month is a timely choice. We will also receive a local report from our Water Watchers of the Grace Burn Project- and of course the colourfully illustrated yearly report from our Chairman. Such a feast of interesting information from our dedicated volunteers!

The vast waterways map of our region and related posters will also be on display.

*But there is more.....a little surprise to celebrate the 25 years of continuous HEWI advocacy and community activities for the natural environment within our region.*

It will be our pleasure to welcome guest speaker Ian Penrose, Yarra Riverkeeper, who spearheads the promotion of excellent health for the whole length of the Yarra River system. HEWI and MT&DL are justly proud of our local waterways' protection and revegetation activities, so it will be interesting to learn more about the condition of the river into which all our tributaries flow.

The recent research that counters previous management regimes of our catchment forests will also provide interesting background for follow-up discussion.

Join us for a celebratory anniversary cake and then we will separate for the always brief AGMs.

> **Thursday September 25 7.15pm for 7.30pm**  
**Senior Citizens Hall, cnr Green and River Streets, Healesville**

#### NEW FACES for HEWI

Please consider offering to join our friendly team on the HEWI committee. There are no onerous tasks but fresh insights are always valuable. There will be a nomination form attached with this newsletter or they are available at our office at the Healesville Living and Learning Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

#### WALK, WATCH AND WONDER

We have had to close the bookings for this very popular event, so hope you didn't miss out! For those already booked through the Yarra Ranges Council website, please wear sturdy footwear and bring your hat, water, sunscreen and insect repellent as required.

This will be a most enriching day with several leaders, each one experienced in a slightly different aspect of the landscape along our route.

> **10.30am Maroondah Dam upper carpark, Pin Oak rotunda**

#### NEW HEWI WEBSITE

Congratulations to Adrian and thanks to Kate of Ozzinet Web Design for our bright new website replacing Adrian's earlier (stunning) version which was hacked, repaired and hacked again. On this new site, alert members may notice the weedy bank of the Grace Burn in our title photo, but we decided that this is how it is - a constant battle to restore and maintain indigenous vegetation and cast out those pesky weeds!

The news articles will be updated as soon as this editor learns some new IT tricks.

[www.hewi.org.au](http://www.hewi.org.au)

**September 07**

Threatened Species Day  
(death of last Thylacine 1936)

**September 12**

**WaterWatch**  
**Grace Burn**

**September 13 & 14**

Warrandyte garden and bushland

**September 21**

Upper Yarra bike ride  
11.00am - 2.30pm

**September 25**

**HEWI 25th AGM**  
**Senior Citizens Hall**  
**7.15pm for 7.30pm**

**September 28**

World Rivers Day

**October 02 & 16**

Wetlands

**October 10**

Friends of Leadbeater's possum  
10th anniversary AGM  
The Memo, Healesville

**October 11**

YRC Environment Forum  
Lilydale Lake  
10.30am - 12.30pm

**October 12**

Walk Watch & Wonder  
Maroondah Dam to Donnelly's Weir  
10.30am - 3.30pm

**October 24**

**WaterWatch**  
**Spring Invertebrate Count**  
**HL&LC 11am - 12noon**

**November 15**

**Waterways Reflections**  
**Queens Park roaming**

**YARRA RANGES COUNCIL'S DRAFT ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY**

The new strategy was considered by Council meeting on Tuesday 9th September.

"The draft strategy for 2015 - 2025 has been developed through a consultative process with contributions from the community, Yarra Ranges Environment Advisory Committee and its elected Councillors". *But have they included our concerns.....?*

There are hard copies available at the Community Links and as below:  
<http://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Lists/Minutes-Agendas>

This is a most important strategy for all members to consider as it will guide all decisions over the next 10 years. We must make sure that our comments and experience are taken into account.

**BUSHLAND MANAGEMENT TEAM**

Yarra Ranges staff who coordinate all our revegetation and maintenance along the waterways have recently provided signage that acknowledges all the volunteers who have assisted HEWI plantings for the past 15 years. The sign is on the Grace Burn facing out to the parkland. We are also grateful for some Tree Ferns that have been sourced for this waterway, in high hopes that the creeks will eventually be protected by lush vegetation as seen in historic photos of Healesville.

**WATERWAY REFLECTIONS**

*.....interwoven stories, creative installations and human sculptures as we follow the trail of the platypus habitat.....*

Save the date now for this original and imaginative performance being created by Jeminah Reidy for HEWI as our major contribution to the Healesville 150th celebrations. Jeminah is an internationally experienced arts facilitator and scenographer with strong connections to the region, and a wealth of experience in projects involving artistic collaboration and the environment. We are so fortunate to have this talented young person to design and coordinate this event which will focus on Wirrup Yaluk and the Grace Burn as they flow through Queens Park.

This unique environmental arts project will involve artists, historians, scientists and indigenous knowledge keepers in a shared learning journey, inspiring artists to create a site-specific group performance and exhibition. For inspiration from past projects and expressions of interest forms:  
[www.scenesontheyarra.com](http://www.scenesontheyarra.com)

> **Saturday November 15, The Meeting Place, Queens Park, 4.30-6.30pm**

**\*\*\*News In Brief cont..\*\*\***

**Wild Grasses of Victoria with Dr Graeme Lorimer**

identification ecology management  
Three days in December. Applications open now  
<http://www.biosphere.net.au/>, click the training tab.

**Environmental/climate change issues.**

'Web Links - A Place to Learn' is one of the most comprehensive data-bases of links related to Ballarat Renewable Energy And Zero Emissions. BREAZE is one of the older community-based climate action groups in Australia and their links page is one of the most diverse. <http://breaze.org.au/links-to-learning>

**Disinvestment Day Rally**

'The fossil fuel industry must keep 80% of its proven reserves in the ground to stop the globe warming more than 2 degrees'. 350.org is planning many activities ahead for the largest global Climate Change March with the Pacific Climate Warriors to highlight the direct impacts of Australian fossil fuels on our Pacific neighbours.

> **Saturday October 18**

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*Unfortunately clearfell logging continues to cut swathes from our mountain sides but support for the Great Forest National Park continues to grow and sustain all those dedicated to its formation. This month our focus is with our waterways that are completely dependent on maintaining closed catchments.*



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[www.hewi.org.au](http://www.hewi.org.au)

<http://roundleafpomaderris.org.au>