

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

News in Brief

Environment Seminar: Australian Native Fish presented by Tim Curmi

This talk will introduce you to Australian native fish with a focus on the endangered Macquarie perch, fish of the Yarra River and touch on Ovens River fish population protection. Tim Curmi is a freshwater ecologist and president of Native Fish Australia (Victoria) with extensive experience with Macquarie perch recovery projects and river ecology improvement projects.

> **7.30pm Wednesday 2 September**

Venue: Bull and Bush Room, Grand Hotel, Warrandyte

FIELD TRIP: Australian Native Fish with Tim Curmi

Tim will lead a walk along the Yarra River to a Macquarie perch monitoring site and discuss river habitat ideal for the population to increase and its survival. Fishnets, with fisheries and ethics permits, will be used to assist in this monitoring activity.

Bookings are essential Phone Lyn Meredith 9840 9326

> **7am- 9am Friday 4 September**

National Threatened Species Day

September 7 is the anniversary of the death of the last known Thylacine 80 years ago in a Hobart Zoo - Australia is home to more than 500,000 animal and plant species, many of which are found nowhere else in the world. Over the last 200 years, more than 100 animal and plant species have become extinct..... from the Environment and Heritage webpage, without any information on steps being undertaken to protect any endangered species.....

Water Is Gold

A new course offered by the Healesville Living and Learning Centre led by Karen Garth, ecotourism operator (and HEWI facilitator). Water is our most precious resource, yet few people know how it is collected and treated. Learn how, on this fascinating tour of the Winneke Water Treatment Plant at Sugarloaf Reservoir which supplies the northern, western and central suburbs of Melbourne. The dam was completed in 1981 within Christmas Hills.

Morning tea provided, BYO drink. Cost \$25.00 Bookings essential: HL&LC 5962 5982

> **Wednesday September 6 10.00am - 12noon**

News In Brief cont. on pg 2

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

Spring Greetings to you all - with the always exciting emergence of our colourful indigenous flora. This month we have one community engagement with two more already booked for November, so we look forward to your support for all these events. Please note that there has been a slight change of date for our AGM in November - but Samantha Dunn, MP will still be our Guest Speaker!

PROTECTING PLATYPUS IN HEALESVILLE FREE EVENT

This partnership event has been organised by our Facilitator, Karen Garth, with Council and Melbourne Water assisting through their Platypus and Waterwatch projects. The last Platypus that we saw as a group was in Wirrup Yaluk in 2013, so fingers crossed for a sighting in the Watts River this time.

Karen has designed a colourful poster which is also attached with this newsletter. We will meet inside the Senior Citizens Hall at 5.15pm and return there later for a finger food dinner provided by the Country Women's Association.

After dinner, there will be several presentations:

Healesville Primary School students, who have planted along the waterways and identified the waterbugs with HEWI members each year for the past 18 years, will launch an exciting film that they have created.

Zoos Victoria Keeper, Jess Thomas, will give us an insight into local platypus research, and Waterwatch Coordinator for Melbourne Water, Tiana Preston, will talk about waterways health and demonstrate two citizen science apps - platypusSPOT and Frog Census.

These presentations will be followed by a light supper.

Plastic Bag Free Healesville, Landcare and HEWI will have displays in the hall during the evening. **Registration essential - as below**

- 5.15 Meet at Senior Citizen's Hall
- 5.30 Survey of Watts River
- 6.15 Light dinner in Hall
- 7.15 Presentations
- 8.30 Supper

RSVP - Required by 8 September for Survey & Dinner (limited to 50 people) or **By September 13** for Presentations & Supper only

Call 131 722 or email Waterwatch at waterwatch@melbournewater.com.au

HEWI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As announced last month, we are most grateful to Samantha Dunn for accepting HEWI's invitation to address our community at this AGM. Another month on and we are even more grateful to Samantha as we had to change the date and she is still available!

The venue will be the Youth Hub at the Healesville Living and Learning Centre. We have recently used this venue for meetings, as it provides excellent facilities for our needs. All details will be provided in the next newsletter - please mark your diary now!

> **Friday November 10, 7.15pm - 9.30pm 1 Badger Creek Road**

ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERS BRAINSTORMING FORUM

A fantastic opportunity to learn new skills, connect with fellow volunteers and become re-inspired about how to look after our iconic environment.

This forum would be an ideal introduction to the variety of activities offered by different groups across our region. Contact Maureen for car-pooling.

> **Wednesday 6 September 10.00am - 2.00pm (Lunch provided)**

Tapscott Milbourne Centre 320 Cambridge Road, Montrose.

Enrol with Jen Ellison: j.ellison@yarraranges.vic.gov.au

BUSHFIRE MEETINGS

HEWI members have been meeting with DELWP staff over the last 12months on some of the many issues relating to planned burning programs across the Yarra District. This will be an ongoing commitment and we are pleased that staff responsible for diverse aspects of this controversial process have become

September 06

Environmental Volunteers' Forum
320 Cambridge Road Montrose
10am - 2pm

September 06

Frogs of Manningham - Biology,
Ecology and Citizen Science
Grand Hotel, Warrandyte
7.20pm - 9pm

September 07

Field trip: 6.30pm - 8pm
Bookings essential: 03 9840 9326 or
csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au

September 07

Threatened species day

September 08

Close of VCAN survey

September 09

YRC Emergency Management
Box Hill Institute
Jarlo Drive, Lilydale

September 14

HEWI meeting
HL&LC 7.00 - 9.00pm

September 15

HEWI Platypus Event
Senior Citizen's Hall
5.15pm - 9.00pm

September 18

Healesville Safer Together Bushfire
W'shop
Nan Francis Room
Memorial Hall, Healesville

September 22

Last day of School/HL&LC Term 3

September 22

Waterwatch Monitoring
Phys/Chem testing
Grace Burn
9.30am - 11am

October 06

Waterwatch
Phys/Chem testing
Grace Burn
9.30am - 11am

November 10

HEWI AGM
Youth Hub
Healesville Living & Learning Centre

November 11

HEWI stall
Music festival
Healesville Racecourse

involved in these discussions and by sharing the relevant research papers. There are also two community processes this month which we hope other members might wish to attend. If you are booked into one of these, Maureen would appreciate any report you may wish to make. HEWI has a nominated representative for the Healesville meeting, but we hope other members might also apply to attend this local session which we regard as a partnership process between the community and DELWP.

YARRA RANGES COUNCIL

Community Based Emergency Management Forum & Networking Event 2017
Designed to celebrate and support community members to make a valuable contribution to safer communities in Yarra Ranges and beyond. The Forum will be an annual regional event. FREE - including food, fabulous speakers and workshops.
Bookings: Jess Adams, Community Development Officer j.adams@yarraranges.vic.gov.au.

> **Saturday 9 September 10.00am - 4.00pm**
Box Hill Institute Lakeside Campus - Jarlo Drive Lilydale

DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER and PLANNING (DELWP)**Healesville Safer Together Bushfire Workshop**

Following an initial meeting and a survey feedback, DELWP are now seeking people who would like to take part in an information session to ascertain how we can move forward with our bushfire management plan by selecting a working group from a diverse cross section of the Healesville and surrounds community.

> **Monday September 18 7.00pm-9.00pm Nan Francis Room, Memorial Hall,** Please **RSVP** to joy.harte@delwp.vic.gov.au by September 11

VICTORIAN CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK (VCAN)

HEWI is a member of VCAN, although we do not have a regular representative at their meetings. They are now considering a Victorian Summit for groups working on climate change in their many and various ways with a view to building a strong, and growing Victorian grassroots base for climate change action. If you would be interested, visit their website at www.vcan.net.au and then consider responding to their short survey which closes on September 8. This will determine whether there is enough community support for another summit (previous ones have been most successful and inspirational). [Click here to take the ten question survey](#).and/or contact Carolyn: ci@the.inter.net.au

REPORTS: National Tree Day

The community response was simply amazing, 41 participants including families with young children and several locals from the Grace Burn Project. 600 seedlings were planted bagged and staked - THANKS EVERYONE! Photos on fb and our website.

Emma and Saskia



Tony and Anya

**News In Brief cont...****Yellingbo Conservation Area**

Haining Farm Concepts Survey - Project Manager, Victoria Purdue has advised (24/08) that the Working Group has finalised its recommendation for the redevelopment of this site and a response is currently being prepared by the project sponsors. It is intended that the final recommendation and a copy of the community engagement report will be uploaded to the Engage Victoria website within the next two weeks.

The Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET)

The Victorian Renewable Energy Target, introduced into Parliament last week, will finally become law, with the biggest renewable energy auction Australia's ever seen - 40% wind and solar by 2025. Starting with a plan to build 650 megawatts of clean energy.

The HEWI committee is delighted to welcome home our finance officer, Bronwyn, from her overseas holiday with family. We will now have a quorum! Karen would also appreciate assistance during the Platypus event, so please call if you are available that evening. Karen 5962 5115 or Maureen 5962 1224.



ABN: 67 253 515 594 Reg. No. A0018935T

www.hewi.org.au

<http://roundleafpomaderris.org.au>