

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

### News in Brief

#### Badger Creek Community Harvest Project

Fun, eco-friendly workshops for a day out with the whole family.

Bookings essential: 5962 5982, or: <http://eepurl.com/dBSMbT>

or [communityprograms@healesvillelearningcentre.org](mailto:communityprograms@healesvillelearningcentre.org)

> **Saturday 8 September 9:00am-4:00 pm**

**Badger Creek Primary School**

#### Stand Against Extinction Rally

Lawns of Parliament House, Melbourne assemble at 9.30am for 30 minutes for a photograph

> **Monday September 10 8.30 am to 10 am**

(Check [Places You Love Alliance](#), and [350.org](#) for other actions)

#### Darebin Climate Emergency Conference

Over 30 speakers and experts – FREE event

“Heart-warming to see a local council (Darebin) putting on this important event.”

> **11th & 12th September 2018, 8.30am - 5pm.**

Northcote Town Hall 189 High Street, Northcote.

Bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/darebin-councils-climate-emergency-conference-tickets-47804763334>

#### Retrofitting our Suburbs

Sustainability event from Yarra Ranges Council. Key note speaker: David Holmgren, co-ordinator of the permaculture concept, author of *RetroSuburbia: the downshifter's guide to a resilient future*. One of Australia's most engaging and visionary environmental thinkers, David will present his empowering vision for the future of Australian suburbs. Information: Lisa Loulier or Julian Guess on 1300 368 333.

> **7:00pm Friday 14 September, Box Hill Institute Lilydale Lakeside**

#### Healesville Freeway Reserve

Since 2017 Vic Roads has been transferring this swathe of land to DELWP which now invites the community to 'help us celebrate the new status of as public open space by giving the area a new name – closing September 16. [Healesville Freeway Reserve](#) is now live on Engage Victoria.

#### From the Victorian Government website:

“National Threatened Species Day on 7 September aims to encourage the community to prevent further extinctions of Australia's fauna and flora, and to restore healthy numbers of endangered species and ecological communities in the wild. September is also Biodiversity Month, a time when many Australians celebrate our unique and valuable biodiversity with activities to protect and conserve the environment.”

#### HEWI response:

*This community group actively encourages the Victorian Government to “restore healthy numbers of endangered species and ecological communities” in response to continuous advocacy since before and after the death of the last Thylacine in captivity, 07/09/1936 based on detailed scientific research and on-ground studies.*

#### THREATENED SPECIES ACTIONS

##### 1. Forests (Wood Pulp Agreement) Repeal Bill 2018

Samantha Dunn, MLC, Member for Eastern Metropolitan Region, recently launched a key forest initiative (August 22) - her private members' bill to repeal the destructive Wood Pulp Agreement Act, 1996. Her speech provided detailed and comprehensive statements of forest activities and issues and the need to transition responsibly. Parliament will respond on September 5. If you would like to read Samantha's presentation from Hansard, we can send you the Link.

One week later, August 28, our Mountain Views Mail included an article re a group of sawmillers, the G6, urging the State Government to transition to plantation timber immediately and not wait until 2040 as planned!

##### 2. Leadbeater's Possum assessment extended *Australian parliament*

In response to our submission, the Threatened Species Scientific Committee has advised that they have been granted an extension to the assessment timeframe for Leadbeater's Possum. The Committee's advice will now be due to the Minister by 30 March **2019**.

##### 3. Threatened Species Parliament promotion *Melbourne*

Friends of the Earth, Wilderness Society, Goongerah Environment, Wildlife of the Central Highlands

Join us at Parliament Gardens Reserve (Spring Street) to call on the state government to protect forests from logging and get behind the push for a new suite of strong national nature laws. This fun, theatrical, creative and colourful event will highlight the need for all Victorian MPs to act for threatened species.

We'll create the first ever Threatened Species Parliament with 88 Victorians each representing a member of the Victorian Parliament who is allocated a threatened animal, plant or forest community. Sign up here to register to take your place in the parliament or come along and be in the 'public gallery':

[http://www.geco.org.au/join\\_the\\_threatened\\_species\\_parliament](http://www.geco.org.au/join_the_threatened_species_parliament)

> **Sunday 9 September, from 11am - 12.30pm**

##### 4. Faunal Extinction Crisis *Victorian National Parks Association*

“The Australian Senate has referred Australia's fauna extinction crisis to the Environment and Communications References Committee for inquiry and report and is calling for YOUR opinion and feedback. The Inquiry is huge news for our threatened species and shows that those in power are starting to take the extinction crisis seriously. It is important the committee hears your voice by **10 September 2018**. Now is a great time to [make your submission!](#)” (HEWI can provide the VNPA list of helpful issues).

**SEPTEMBER 05**  
Seminar: Fish and crayfish  
of Manningham's creeks  
Grand Hotel, 7.30-9.00pm  
Warrandyte  
(Field Trip: 08/09)

**SEPTEMBER 07**  
QA/QC testing, 1.30-3.30pm  
Yarran Dheran

**SEPTEMBER 07**  
**Threatened Species Day**

**SEPTEMBER 08**  
Badger Creek Community Harvest  
Badger Creek Primary School  
9.00am – 4.00pm

**SEPTEMBER 09**  
Threatened Species Parliament  
Parliament Gardens Reserve  
11.00am -12.30pm

**SEPTEMBER 10**  
Stand Against Extinction Rally  
Parliament Gardens Reserve  
8.30am- 10.00am

**SEPTEMBER 11&12**  
Climate Emergency Conference  
Northcote Town Hall  
8.30am – 5.00pm

**SEPTEMBER 13**  
**HEWI meeting**  
**HL&LC Rm 1, 7-9pm**

**SEPTEMBER 14**  
**Waterwatch monitoring**  
**Grace Burn 9-11am**

**SEPTEMBER 16**  
Landcare for Singles  
Coronation Park  
10.00am – 2.30pm

**SEPTEMBER 17**  
Retrofitting our Suburbs  
Box Hill Institute  
Lilydale

**SEPTEMBER 19**  
Meeting with Cr McAllister  
HCL 2.30pm

### THE YELLINGBO CONSERVATION AREA DRAFT 10-YEAR PLAN

The Yellingbo Conservation Area Coordinating Committee (YCACCC) is working with agency partners, key stakeholders and the community to formulate an action plan for the area currently referred to as the [Yellingbo Conservation Area](#). A copy of the draft YCA Plan can be viewed on the [YCACCC website](#). The [Engage Victoria](#) survey seeks responses to the various themes in the Plan. Detailed submissions can also be emailed to YCA. [Plan@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:Plan@delwp.vic.gov.au)

This is a vital issue for HEWI members to engage in as conservationists. The Yarra Ranges Conservation Alliance, of which we are a member, is seeking more information about guidelines for allowing mountain bike and horse riding in public reserves; fire regimes; the use of the Coranderrk Bushland Nature Conservation Reserve; and restoration vs conservation zoned areas. Demonstrated community support will be essential to protect the YCA, as opponents are still advocating for concessions.

### HEWI ACTIVITIES AHEAD:

**October 06:** Wildflower survey with Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare

**October 17:** 'Healesville Safer Together' presentation at the Memo by CSIRO bushfire expert Justin Leonard, an essential and timely event for all.

**October 18:** Our facilitator will be leading the Girl Guides along waterways in Queens Park to "Spot the Platypus" and assess the extent of protective vegetation, a study to assist the attainment of their nature badge

**October 19:** Our spring invertebrate count will be an Open Day for Seniors

**October 31:** Our 29th AGM - for which members will receive advance reports with their invitation and agenda.

**October/November:** TBA - Wildflowers in the Healesville Carbon-offsets site.

**November/December:** Orchid walk in the Juliet Ave Bushland Reserve, Healesville.

### HEWI REPORTS:

#### Proceeds from the presentation of the Orange-bellied Parrot film in June

From your ticket purchases and many donations, we had great pleasure in sharing the proceeds with David Neilson, \$200.00; Orange-bellied Parrot via Birdlife Australia, \$400.00; and Leadbeater's Possum via Environmental Justice Australia, \$500.00 (which EJA were also able to double due to sponsorship). So huge thanks for your support!

Once again, we thank David for this opportunity and look forward to another stunning film from him in the future.

### Warburton Mountain Bike Trail

Members met with Council's recreation team led by the New Zealand consultant, Jayson Kelly and Ecologist Lincoln Kerr, for a reasonable exchange of views, with a large number of background information and maps received since. Council's ambitious project to reach International standards will be a costly and lengthy exercise, with Mountain Bikers already looking for higher risk and more hazardous trails – hardly compatible with a one metre wide track?

There was no time to cover the Yarra Valley Trail which is even more important to this region though possibly less ecologically fraught for Stage 1 at least. We will continue to follow all developments with both Council and Parks Vic.

*This has been an advocacy edition due to the many developments that threaten our unique landscape for tourism and unsupported claims of economic benefit. Responding to surveys is essential if our conservation voice is to be respected and supported by all tiers of government. Demonstrate community concern for biodiversity protection!*



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