



Bungalook News

Newsletter of the

Whitehorse Community Indigenous Plant Project Inc.

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Come and join us on our next Friday Walk

Friday 30 December 2016

9.30 am

Heatherdale Retarding Basin

where the Green Army cleared mountains of weeds prior to revegetation with stock from both Bungalook and Greenlink, and then to nearby remnant bushland

Meet at the carpark east of Purches St. Heatherdale (Mitcham)

Melway 49 C11/12

All welcome

Warmer days ahead

Summer is rapidly approaching which means consolidating old stock, sowing seed, bedding down cuttings and dividing and repotting many of our rushes and other wetland plants. Tubing up tiny seedlings and rooted cuttings will take many weeks if stock is to be built up to what it was earlier this year. One great success this year has been the propagation of *Spyridium parvifolium* (Dusty Miller). We are slowly building up numbers of this extremely important species within the biodiversity of our local habitat, in the hope that back orders can be supplied at long last.

Growing some of the more difficult species will hopefully be successful with the installation of a new heat mat which was installed at the end of October. Through gentle warmth, even on very cold days, and a fine spray at regular intervals, we hope to increase our production in the coming months.

Unfortunately, we still have problems with one of the irrigation areas. Hopefully we can find a solution to a rather nasty underground leak before completing this project in the coming months.



After missing out on a couple of our Friday walks earlier in the year, we finally managed to meet with the Friends of Damper Creek at the end of September. What has been preserved and created along this valley is amazing. With well over \$1,000,000 spent on rock work alone; what was once a weed infested valley, now has a creek with clean water trickling over ferns and mosses. Take a walk and see for yourself

(Entrance Melway 61 F9, Stephenson's Rd. Mt. Waverley).

On Wednesday 2 October, the executive and representatives from Advisory Committees met to discuss AGM agenda items, executive positions required for the coming year and the need to establish an operational group to coordinate all nursery activities. To this end, a month by month diary of nursery procedures has been a work in progress for quite some time. As well, many of our volunteers are becoming more and more familiar with nursery and recording procedures, which have been formulated over many years of trial and error. A more formal operational plan was also recommended – what do we hope to achieve in the coming months/years? With these thoughts in mind we want to establish an ongoing successful operation where our goals and aspirations can be fulfilled.

And so

Production for the past three months 6,478 plus 471 for Knox Environment Society (seed supplied).

Hours 801.50

This year has been a very busy one. Other than public holidays, the nursery will be open as always on Wednesday and Friday mornings through December and January.

To those going away, be safe. Welcome back to our many travellers from overseas and those who have been exploring this wonderful country in which we live. The wildflowers in W.A. have been amazing, although the Chocolate Lilies and Milkmaids in our own local parks have also been spectacular this past Spring.

Margaret Witherspoon
Secretary/ Nursery Coordinator
WCIPP Inc. (Bungalook Nursery)

23 November 2016

Nunawading Parkland Development Update

In June 2015 a group of Bungalook volunteers enjoyed a walk around this relatively unknown but vitally important open space within our municipality.

The following article is reprinted with thanks to David Berry, president of the Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society Inc.

Nunawading Parklands (Melway 48 F6) is an 11-hectare open space in Nunawading bounded by the Eastern Freeway, Springvale Rd. and Junction Rd.

Recently, a number of objectives have been achieved in the development of this land as a major district park for passive recreation, planting and associated environmental educational activities.

Actions have included:

- A commitment by the state government and the Blackburn and Heatherdale Level Crossing Authorities to plant over 20,000 indigenous plants (including 1,300 Eucalypts and Acacias) in nine large mulched beds in the section of the Nunawading Parklands owned by the state government. This is a component of an offset planting program to help account for the massive loss of trees and vegetation due to the Blackburn and Heatherdale level crossing removal works. This positive outcome was achieved via a vigorous lobbying campaign by the Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society Inc. to locate the offset planting program in Whitehorse and not at a far distant site within Victoria.
- Meetings of the principal landholders (Whitehorse Council, the Department of Environment, Water, Land & Planning (DELWP) and Melbourne Water) have been held to resolve land ownership and management issues and initiate a concept plan to develop the land as a major district park.

- Whitehorse Council will organize community-planting activities in 2017 on the council-owned section of the parklands, as part of the National Tree Day celebrations. These activities will be organized for the planting beds along Junction Road near the intersection with Springvale Road.
- A number of successful weeding and clean-up activities were held in the park in July and August 2016. These activities were organized by the local Friends of Nunawading Parklands group under the direction of Brian Duvoisin, R.E. Gray Reserve Advisory Committee chairman.

We, at Bungalook, look forward to being involved with providing plants for this huge project.

Out and About



ParksWide School Holiday Program - January 2017

Who's hiding at Blackburn Lake?

Blackburn Lake Sanctuary

Friday 20th January, 10am - 12noon

Come along to Blackburn Lake Sanctuary to discover who is hiding in our bush. Explore the different ways that animals can hide from view.

Weaving at Yarran Dheran

Yarran Dheran Nature Reserve

Monday 23rd January, 10am -1pm

Come along and have a go at weaving using plant material and other natural materials. Discover how weaving can be great for wellbeing.

Australian Animals at Blackburn Lake

Blackburn Lake Sanctuary

Friday 25th January, 10am - 12noon

Discover some of the amazing Australian Animals that you may find at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. Learn about some of their special features and how they are well adapted to the Australian Environment

For more information contact Lisa Moloney on 92626211 or parkswideeducation@whitehorse.vic.gov.au.

Bookings can be made via [Eventbrite](#).

If it is declared a Total Fire Ban day the event will be cancelled. Please check www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-and-ratings/ the evening before.

Are you contemplating installing a small wetland or pond in your garden?

We have a plentiful supply of suitable plants. Now is the time to establish some of the plants (pictured), which die back during the winter months, but with care, flourish in the summer.

Alisma plantago aquatica
Water Plantain



Dichondra repens Kidney-weed
Dense spreading to form mat



Ranunculus inundates
River Buttercup



Lythrum salicaria Purple loosestrife
Erect annual. Dies back after summer.

We also have a variety of rushes and sedges to add to a water feature. Do come and browse.

Green Tip: Agapanthus

Do you have agapanthus in your garden? Cut off and dispose of spent flowers to prevent them from spreading into our native bushland. **Each flower head can hold dozens of seeds which are spread by wind, water and soil.**

Such weedy garden species are considered invasive as they dominate and push out local native vegetation from nearby bushland and reserves. For more information about agapanthus and the safe management of it go to: <http://www.growmeinstead.com.au/plant/agapanthus-vic.aspx>

