



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 22 June 9.30 am

Dandenong Creek to the Lookout

Revegetated landfill site

Meet Highbury Rd. near corner of Donbirn Way, Vermont South

Melways 62 J10

All welcome

The rains have come, and orders are going out the gate! Thousands of our local plants going into our parks and gardens.

Administration

Systematic planning for the future has involved many discussions and informal interviews devising a structure which should take our organisation into the future; sharing the tasks involved in running such a volunteer organisation as our nursery. We continue to be amazed by what is required. It's never ending but so fulfilling. Attached is a chart created by Mark from our initial sketches. Many roles have now been identified; roles which can be slotted into the identified areas of responsibility.

The other matter which needs attention is the amendment to the permit which Whitehorse Council issued in 2000. We don't wish to be open every day of the week, but we do need to allow for some extended hours to accommodate our willing volunteers. Whitehorse Council officers have been most helpful, thus far, with advice and practical assistance.

We now have a new laptop onto which many of our records are being transferred from private computers. This is an ongoing project; one which has established our needs rather than our wants. Thanks to the executive, and especially Mark, Frank and Marilyn who have, and are continuing to share their expertise.



Nursery News.

Exciting improvements in the past few months.

The new shade over summer has been fantastic. No hand watering at 6 am on very hot days and very healthy plants thriving in filtered shade.

Brand new benches in the igloo to replace the old school table frames and discarded doors.

Shelving in the tool shed to hold our large shades over the winter (still more required).

Now that the rains have eventually come orders for our advisory committees working in bushland parks have been assembled at a great rate. Some species can't be supplied but will go on back orders for priority propagation in the coming season. We do appreciate the fact that the committees have obtained grants enabling them to finance such large orders. The environment will surely benefit.



Our involvement with two programs, Gardens for Wildlife and donations to neighbours affected by the Blackburn Railway works, the latter funded by the Blackburn and District Environment Protection Fund. Please consider donating to this very worthy fund which supports many local planting and educational projects.

Two very important visits to both Bungalook and Greenlink occurred recently. The Indigenous Flora and Fauna Association actively promotes knowledge and protection of our indigenous flora. Wanting to understand more about our community nurseries, a group of representatives spent a very pleasant morning visiting both nurseries. A group of trainee guides from Gardens for Wildlife also visited both nurseries, mingling with volunteers and sharing information.

The chatter continues while our volunteers are working away. Some have travelled to exotic places, Cuba, Iceland, Namibia, China and Japan to marvel at the cherry blossoms . . . Some are off to explore our country in maybe slightly warmer climes – Perth, New South Wales and the coast and inland central Australia.

Production for the past three months 2,778 plus 315 for Knox environment Society (seed provided)
Volunteer Hours 808.75

Happy planting everyone.
Margaret Witherspoon 23 May 2018



Our Biggest Morning Tea for cancer research was very successful. 18 people attended a happy social event, both volunteers and visitors from other Parkland Committees and Council. We raised the wonderful amount of \$550, helped by donations from a couple of people who were unable to attend.

Thanks to all who helped with lovely food and setting up and clearing up.

Marion Siseman

Volunteer Week

Congratulations to the following who have been involved with our parklands in the City of Whitehorse for more than 30 years; some into the 40's including Fred Smith, Megan Short, Margaret Witherspoon, John Loudon, Valda Arrowsmith, Anne Payne and David Inglis.

We acknowledge many others who have worked tirelessly for many years

Participants at the recent Council volunteer afternoon tea stood to applause John Armstrong, who among a multitude of achievements has been a committee member of Buckanbe Park Advisory Committee for 50 years.

Out and About

Frogs at Yarran Dheran



The Friends of Yarran Dheran are involved in a regular frog walk as part of the Melbourne Water Frog Census to help monitor the health of the local frog population and to promote community awareness. Everyone is welcome to participate in the frog walk and no special knowledge is required.

A new frog for us in 2017 – the Whistling Tree Frog (*Litoria verreauxii*)

Check the Yarran Dheran Advisory Committee website for further information

Blackburn Lake Sanctuary Advisory Committee Community Planting Days

Saturday July 21, 2018 9:30am to 11:30am

Major planting effort. Meet at the Visitor Centre, wear appropriate clothing, bring gloves if you have them. Tools and gloves provided.

Saturday August 4, 2018 9:30am to 11:30am

Weeding and mulching newly planted area

Saturday September 8, 2018 9.30am to 11.30am

Weeding and mulching newly planted area.

Please join us for morning tea after.

Children are welcome and must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Don't forget your hat and water bottle.



What's Happening in Wurundjeri Walk During 2018?

We will continue with indigenous infill planting as well as maintain existing beds that have been planted with infill tubestock over the past years.

17 June Planting
mulching and weeding

19 August Planting

16 September Clean up,

We will also assist Council to landscape and replant a storm water outlet that was reconstructed in 2016/17.

Help will continue to be offered to Orchard Grove Primary School with their sustainability project.

For more information check the Wurundjeri Walk Advisory Committee web site.

Bird Counts (or Bird Surveys) in Blackburn Creeklands

The Blackburn Creeklands is blessed with an amazing diversity of native birdlife – more than 90 species of residents and visitors have been identified. In 2012, a program of Bird Counts started. These biannual surveys are conducted on a Saturday morning in Autumn and Spring and are led by experts. The community is invited to join in – no special expertise is required to participate. The results for our bird counts are listed below the map.

Our next Bird Count will be during **October 2018**. We meet at the **Scout Hall** in Pakenham Street – near Laburnum Primary School. **There should be plenty of car parking available on the day.**



Australian Wood Duck

Bellbird Dell Advisory Committee has created a new website



Bellbird Dell is a 1.4 km linear park with an area of 17.5 hectares, named after the many bell birds, with some areas of remnant bush, walking trails, wetlands and ornamental lakes.

The park has two children's play grounds, many walking trails/tracks and boardwalks over the wetlands sectors. Open grassed areas with picnic tables provide places for quiet enjoyment.

Many varieties of birds and frogs can be seen and heard here, and in spring, there are wild flowers. Victoria's floral emblem the Pink Heath (*Epacris impressa*) can be seen growing 'wild' within the remnant areas.

For walkers the Dell offers short or long strolls, but dogs must be on a leash. Main pathways are shared with cyclists.

Entrances are easily accessed from numerous local streets by walkers, but for those travelling by car, there is limited parking at the George Road entrance. Disabled entry is best from George Road also as the track here is wide with a firm, even surface and gentle gradients.

Please note there are no toilets on site. Nearest toilets are at Terrara Park Pavilion.

How To Get There: Melway Reference 62J6. The Dell is located in Vermont, between Canterbury Road and Burwood Highway. Bus routes run along George and Terrara Roads.

Stop Press

Sale Day

Although a quieter Sale Day than in previous years customers and volunteers enjoyed a beautiful sunny day with time to talk to those wishing to talk about their gardens and perhaps plan for future plantings. The possibility of a Spring Sale Day was also enthusiastically proposed. It's obvious that those who work during the week would like the opportunity to browse and purchase on a weekend.

National Tree Day is Australia 's largest tree-planting and nature care event.

Tree Day is an opportunity for you to do something positive for your community and the environment by reconnecting with nature.

National Tree Day started in 1996 and since then more than 3.8 million people have planted 24 million trees and plants and it's still growing.

[Join us and make a difference!](#)

When is National Tree Day?

The dates for 2018 are:

Schools Tree Day Friday 27th July 2018

National Tree Day Sunday 29th July 2018

P.S If you can't make it on the official dates "every day can be Tree Day".

<https://treeday.planetark.org/>

More information will be publicised by Whitehorse Council. Meanwhile both Bungalook Nursery and Greenlink have been assembling 3,000 plants for planned activities in July.