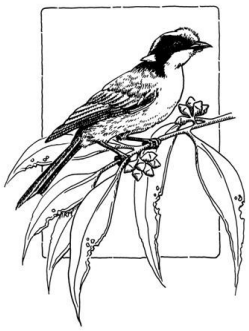

the He Ho Herald

Newsletter of the Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater Inc.

PO Box 131, Woori Yallock Vic 3139 Phone 5964 8341
www.helmetedhoneyeater.org.au

Image © Krystii Melainii Friends of He Ho: heho1@optusnet.com.au **Est. 1989**

Autumn 2008 Edition 77 Vol 20. No 1

Fauna Survey - *Sue and Bruce Tardif*

The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria (FNCV) and the Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater conducted a fauna survey for bats and small terrestrial mammals at Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve (YNCR) from 25/01/08 to 27/01/08.

Twenty seven people attended and thoroughly enjoyed the weekend. It was especially good to see eleven young people involved in the survey. The weather was warm and humid, good bat trapping weather.

Over the two nights forty four bats were trapped in Harp traps and an Agile Antechinus (*Antechinus agilis*) and a Bush Rat (*Rattus fuscipes*) were trapped in Elliott traps. There were five different species of bats recorded – Chocolate Wattled Bat (*Chalinolobus morio*), Large Forest Bat (*Vespadelus darlingtoni*), Little Forest Bat (*Vespadelus vulturnus*), Lesser Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus geoffroyi*) and an Eastern Broad-nosed Bat (*Scotorepens orion*). A White-striped Freetail Bat (*Tadarida australis*) was also heard to call during the night. All animals were identified, sexed, weighed, measured and released over the weekend. This information will be included in the Atlas of Victorian Wildlife database.

Numerous species of bird were identified during day and evening walks as well as three frog species, Common Brush Tail Possums, Common Ring Tail Possums, Sugar Gliders and Swamp Wallabies.

The information from these surveys increases our understanding of the species diversity and habitat within YNCR which assists with future management plans. If you would like to be contacted about our next survey – a bird survey – please email heho1@optusnet.com.au or phone 5964 8341 with your name and daytime contact details.

Thank you to the FNCV for an enjoyable and informative weekend.

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please note CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS for newsletter

NEW MEMBERS

The Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater would like to welcome to the group our new members:
R O'Brien- Croydon
E.J.& I. P. Ryan – Croydon, **J Pitcher**- Bayswater North,
J Airey – Warranwood, **Swinburne TAFE** -Lilydale

DONATIONS will support the painting of the Nursery trailer
Thank you also to for their kind donations
M & A Beutelschiess, R Walkley, J Airey

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Thank you to the Shire of Yarra Ranges for their assistance with postage.

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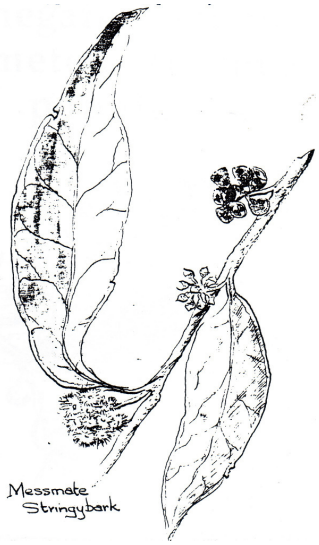


A View from the Swamp *editorial comment*

The new year has bought exciting news of the progress of the new arrivals at the Reserve and Tonnimbuk. There are several opportunities to join the Friends at the Reserve and Bunyip State Park. Please come along.

The National Trust of Australia (Vic) recently listed a Manna Gum *Eucalyptus viminalis* located within the Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve on its Significant Tree Register (Regional). Located on Woori Yallock Creek where we welcome school and community groups as they arrive for revegetation days, this tree has long been a great 'teaching tool' and object of awe. For more information, go to www.nattrust.com.au and search the register for file number: T12101

Sandra

What's on - Calendar of events

March		April		May	
Date	**Activity**	**Date**	**Activity**	**Date**	**Activity**
Sat 1st	Nursery	Tues 1st	Nursery	**Thurs 1st**	**Nursery**
Sun 2nd	**Reveg**	**Thurs 3rd**	**Nursery**	Tues 6th	Nursery
Tues 4th	**Nursery**	Sat 5th	Nursery	Thurs 8th	**Reveg**
Thurs 6th	Nursery	**Tues 8th**	**Nursery**	**Sun 10th**	Nursery
Sun 9th	**Reveg**	Thurs 10th	Nursery	Tues 13th	**Nursery**
Tues 11th	Nursery	**Sun 13th**	**Reveg**	**Thurs 15th**	Nursery
Thurs 13th	**Nursery**	Tues 15th	Nursery	Sat 17th	**Yellingbo He Ho Survey**
Tues 18th	Nursery	**Thurs 17th**	**Nursery**	Tues 20th	**Nursery**
Thurs 20th	**Nursery**	Sun 20th	Tonimbuk Tour	**Thurs 22nd**	Nursery
Tues 25th	Nursery	Tues 22nd	Nursery	Tues 27th	**Nursery**
Wed 26th	**Committee**	**Wed 23rd**	**Committee & Newsletter deadline**	Wed 28th	Committee
Thurs 27th	**Nursery**	Thurs 24th	Nursery	Thurs 28th	Nursery
Sun 30th	**Members' Day**				

Revegetation activities are held at differing locations around the Yellingbo Reserve and area. Activities may include tree planting, seed collecting or works around the nursery or reserve. Meet at the **Yellingbo Ranger's House, 1217 Macclesfield Road, Yellingbo** (Melways Map 305 Ref. G11) at 10am. BYO Lunch. Most equipment is supplied. **For further information call Richard Case on 9720 4062**.

Nursery activities days are held at the Rangers House (see above). They run between 10am and 12pm, followed by (BYO) lunch. Work mainly involves the potting up of young seedlings. **For further information contact our Nursery Manager, Michelle Faram on 5964 8341**

The President's report *by Robert Anderson*

Congratulations Sue

One part of the team of the Friends Coordinators, Sue Tardiff, was recognised by the Shire of Yarra Ranges at the Australia Day awards on January 26th. **Sue received a community award for her work with the Olinda Action Group and the Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater.** Bruce Tardiff, the other part of the Friends coordinators, would not only be happy but should be recognised as part of a very successful team.

Members' Day Sunday, March 30th

There are 3 good reasons for you to attend this meeting at the Ranger House from 12 noon onwards. BYO lunch with barbecue facilities and tea/coffee provided.

1. The meeting is a chance to remember the volunteer work of the late **Doris Bevan**. A memorial plaque will be unveiled, followed by a memorial planting.
2. **Karina Cartwright**, Healesville Sanctuary Helmeted Honeyeater keeper-in charge, will tell us how the breeding program is carried out.
3. This is a good chance to hear of the revegetation plans for 2008. It is expected that this year will be busier than ever.

Tonimbuk Meeting - Sunday 20 April

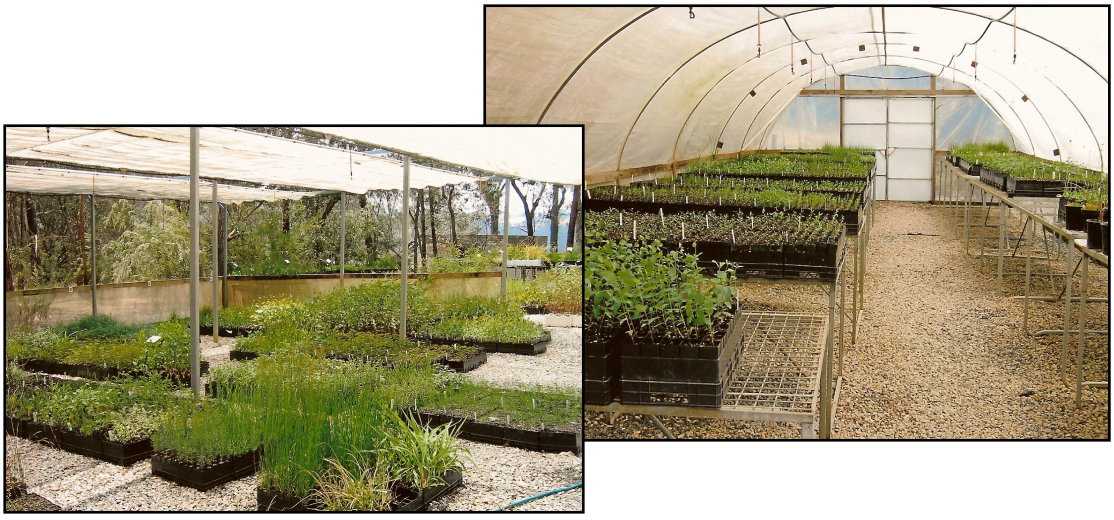
This is an opportunity for members to visit the release site at Tonimbuk. It is also a chance to see the special vegetation via the Button Grass Walk.
Meet at the Buttongrass Nature Trail at 10.30 am see Melways map page 14.
BYO lunch at Tonimbuk Hall. Barbecue facilities available.
Bruce Quin will lead us on a visit to the Helmeted Honeyeater sites in the afternoon.

Bird Surveys - Sat 17 May Yellingbo He Ho & Sun 10 August Tonnimbuk He Ho survey

This is an opportunity to assist Bruce Quin search for Helmeted Honeyeaters either at Yellingbo or Tonimbuk.
Please phone the office 59 64 8341 or email heho1@optusnet.org.au to arrange to assist in a survey.
Hope you can help. Details will be provided when you contact us.

The committee is looking forward to an exciting year that will assist with advancing the improvement of the natural habitat.

Robert Anderson
President



The Nursery group has been working very hard. Here are some of the plants that have been grown for planting on the Reserve and for public sale. Read Michelle's report on page 11.

Coordinator's Column *by Sue and Bruce Tardif*

Students from the Woori Yallock Farm School, one of our long term partnership schools, were the last group to plant in the reserve in 2007 planting 150 plants around the Ranger's house in late November. There has not been much rain since but hopefully all the plants our schools and community groups planted in 2007 will survive. Green Corps were also busy late in the year with a team of eight working on a variety of tasks around the Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve (YNCR) and removing blackberries just below Yellingbo Primary School.

We hosted The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria's survey for bats and small terrestrial mammals in YNCR from 25/1 to 27/1/2008. Refer article in this edition for details.

We have an exciting year ahead of us in 2008. There are a number of projects in partnership with Melbourne Water and we are building new activities into the education program for school and community groups.

One very exciting project we are working on with Melbourne Water is the revegetation of a 3 hectare plot along Woori Yallock Creek. This area has some high well drained areas and some low areas along old ox bows in a Viminalis floodplain. We have developed a plant list for 15,000 plants based on current and historical records. These plants will be sourced from our own nursery and planted by a Melbourne Water works crew in autumn 2008. Melbourne Water is also working with us over the next two years to rehabilitate frog bogs in the swamp area beside Woori Yallock Creek. As well as providing key habitat for many species of frogs, this should prove to be an interesting example of rehabilitative work for our visitors.

We have used the time whilst the schools are on holidays to build on our educational resources for schools and community groups who are coming into YNCR this year. The current package has been expanded to include Waterwatch, educational activity and information sheets and a short movie of Helmeted Honeyeater nesting behaviour. This new package has also been tied in with the Shire of Yarra Ranges' Learning for Sustainability school program for schools within the Shire. Mapped walks around the Woori Yallock Creek area of YNCR and improvements to the Depot itself are next on our agenda.

We are very keen to get more community groups as well as corporate groups into YNCR to plant habitat for our endangered animals. If you know of any groups that may be interested please contact either Sue or Bruce on 5964 8341 or email heho1@optusnet.com.au

In recent years the Friends have been very successful with plant survival rates in fenced off 20m X 20m plots. Previously many plants protected by plastic tree guards were being lost to browsing animals like wallabies, deer and rabbits. To test whether mature plants could now survive browsing, we removed the fence from one fenced plot on 4/12/2007. This plot was planted approximately 3 years ago. Photo points have been established to monitor any changes. After 2 months there is no evidence of plants being damaged which is encouraging. We will continue to monitor and if this strategy proves successful we will remove more fences, and re-use the materials to extend our planting ability.
In April 2008 we will again work with Greening Australia on a school activity day with three schools which will include a revegetation, Waterwatch and an indigenous cultural program. We will also be working on a revegetation day for schools with Natural Resources Conservation League for Arbor week in June 2006. Just two examples of the strong partnerships we value.

We are really looking forward to this year. Fingers crossed for good autumn rains so that lots of plants can go into the ground. If you feel you can help us educate school students and community/ corporate

groups on the importance of conserving and enhancing habitat for our native flora and fauna, we'd love to hear from you.

Sue and Bruce

The Judith Eardley Save the Wildlife Centre

Judith Eardley Reserve
Central Victoria

The Judith Eardley Save Wildlife Association Inc (JESWA) was established "simply to raise funds to help save wildlife" and has a policy for buying significant reserves for wildlife. In 2005, the JESWA's generosity saw land purchased for Helmeted Honeyeater habitat. $325,000 was allocated to the purchase of The Judith Eardley Reserve in Yellingbo, a 50 acre reserve adjacent to the Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve. The Reserve is bounded by Woori Yallock Creek and contains important expanses of Sedge-rich *Eucalyptus camphora* Woodland. Land purchases such as these are crucial for the ongoing survival of the Helmeted Honeyeater and many other species that co-exist with it.

The JESWA's mission is to raise funds for saving wildlife but equally important is to provide a means whereby *anyone* and *everyone* can help. The Ju Save Wildlife Centre at 193 Maroondah Highway in Healesville is looking for people who can donate saleable goods, buy good quality items and/or volunteer their time or expertise knowing that the money raised will go to help Australia's unique wildlife. If you feel you can assist, Peter and the team would love to hear from you.

http://www.jesavewildlife.org/

The shop has a range of second hand books and other quality goods, both new and old.

Shop hours: 9am–5 pm weekdays, 10am–5pm weekends.
Phone: 5962 6399
Email: admin@jesavewildlife.org

Volunteers clean up Reserve next to Yellingbo PS

Green Corps volunteers worked hard during the December heat to clear out blackberries and other weeds from the Reserve near the Yellingbo PS. This has made it possible for the children to plant under the trees planted in the early days of reveg. Great effort to all involved.

Out in the Field *by Bruce Quin*

Wild Population Monitoring Report for 2007/2008 Breeding Season

Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve

The total population at Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve may be slightly lower than for this time last year (February 2007). Twelve breeding pairs have been confirmed for the 2007/2008 breeding season, one more than the final tally for the 2006/2007 breeding season. However, eight fewer fledglings have been produced during the 2007/2008 breeding season, with 18 confirmed in total. It has been at the two northern-most colonies in Cockatoo Swamp where colony sizes have increased, as explained below.

The re-introduction program at Yellingbo has seen major developments during the 2007/2008 breeding season. The arrival of two wild females from other colonies, their subsequent pairing with released males and successful breeding from these pairs and another comprised of two released birds was exactly what was needed. What a thrill for volunteers and staff working determinedly to re-establish a colony of Helmeted Honeyeaters at this area of Cockatoo Swamp. Three pairs have produced five fledglings during 2007/2008 breeding season (cf. one pair and no fledglings for 06/07) and while we have only confirmed two of the fledglings recently, it must be remembered that the released birds of these pairs had no or minimal breeding experience prior to the 2007/2008 breeding season. Overall, nine birds have been identified at the release area during mid-February 2008.

The colony 500 metres south of the release area has grown to two breeding pairs during the 2007/2008 breeding season and two fledglings have been produced to date; this compares to one breeding pair and three fledglings for 2006/2007 breeding season. One of the 2006/2007 fledglings has remained in the natal colony during the current breeding season.

The southern-most colony within Cockatoo Swamp was once the largest colony in Yellingbo, prior to vegetation dieback and drought times, but it has declined to probably its lowest size on record. Four pairs have bred during the 2007/2008 breeding season, two successfully, producing four fledglings (four pairs produced eight fledglings during 06/07). Several non-breeding birds have been recorded during 2007/2008 breeding season, including a dear old friend – a thirteen year old male!

We have reported before that a February 2006 release bird was located at the southern colony in Cockatoo Swamp on New Years Day 2007. The bird had departed Blue Site in October 2006 and found its way approx 2 kilometres upstream. In late December (2007), this bird and its wild mate were found feeding a Fantailed Cuckoo fledgling. It is wonderful that this release bird has adapted fully to the wild and bred, but it was very frustrating to learn the fledgling belonged to another species! Hopefully, next time this release bird and its mate will produce their own fledgling(s) instead!

The Macclesfield Creek colony has declined alarmingly, with only three breeding pairs and seven fledglings confirmed for the 2007/2008 breeding season so far. There has been a non-breeding adult in various territories during the season. The decline in bird numbers at Macclesfield Creek is likely to reflect ongoing dry conditions – too many dry years. Macclesfield Creek now dries up to isolated puddles every summer and this could be expected to adversely affect food availability for the birds.

Bunyip State Park - Tonimbuk

Nine breeding pairs and 13 fledglings have been confirmed for the 2007/2008 breeding season at Tonimbuk. Five pairs have produced 10 fledglings at Site 1, while four pairs at Site 2 have bred with two of the four producing three fledglings in total. Helmeted Honeyeaters have been seen only intermittently at private property north/north-east of the two release sites and no breeding has been recorded. Thirty-five birds, including 11 fledglings have been identified during February (2008) at Tonimbuk.

The growth of Site 2 has proven to be the highlight during 2007/2008 breeding season at Tonimbuk. At least 11 adults have been regularly recorded there and this includes four breeding pairs. Thus, there are three more breeding territories and two more breeding pairs at Tonimbuk Site 2 than for the 2006/2007 breeding season (one pair replaced another pair in the same territory after the loss of the first pair's male during 06/07 and this second pair remains intact during 07/08).

An historic event happened at Site 2 during December 2007 - the production of the first fledgling in the wild at that site. The pair intact from 2006/2007 produced the youngster north of their normal nesting area and a later nest attempt by a new breeding pair produced two fledglings during mid-January (2008). At long last - successful nests at Site 2!

Two of the new breeding females at Site 2 during the 2007/2008 breeding season were hatched at Site 1, one during the 2005/2006 breeding season and one during the 2006/2007 breeding season. The dispersal of females from the natal colony to another colony replicates the dispersal system of the Yellingbo birds. Both males of these Tonimbuk pairs were releasees, one released in May 2005 and one in March 2006. The younger pair produced two fledglings from an approximately 14.5 metres high nest in an *Acacia melanoxylon*.

The fourth pair was only found during late December (2007) and it comprises releasees from April 2007; the female from Healesville Sanctuary and the male is the Taronga Zoo fledgling. Only one nest has been recorded from this pair to date; a 9.5 metre high nest in a *Pomaderris aspera* that failed.

Site 1 breeding pairs have experienced mixed success during the 2007/2008 breeding season. Three of the first four nests succeeded in producing young – six in total, but two quickly disappeared. Subsequently, lots of nest failures have occurred due mainly to predation but also egg abandonment for unknown reasons. The nest camera work during 2007/2008 breeding season has so far identified the predators Laughing Kookaburra (one nest) and Tiger Snake (one nest). However, during late January/early February (2008), three successful nests occurred at Site 1.

Additional to many nest failures was the disappearance of an experienced breeding male and the need to remove the most successful breeding female from past seasons from the wild due to injury and illness after she partly built her first nest. Sadly she died at Healesville Sanctuary early December (2007) due to the effects of gout despite extremely dedicated and sustained efforts by Sanctuary Vets and other staff to bring her back to good health. Her absence from the breeding population at Site 1 during most of 2007/2008 may have left a 'hole' in the breeding success rate of the Tonimbuk birds this season. But this female and her mate helped to 'kick off' the Tonimbuk population - 11 fledglings between 2002/2003 to 2006/2007, of which six are still alive and three have bred successfully during 2007/2008.

Several females at Tonimbuk have been difficult to find during early-mid February 2008 and this might be because they are nesting again. Hopefully, there are some late nesting birds at Yellingbo too! The next Newsletter should have final figures for the 2007/2008 breeding season.

Before signing off, I would like to introduce Sharon Ryeland to you. Sharon is a Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater Committee member who had been helping me voluntarily with the bird work for two and a half years. Sharon is now employed by DSE Port Phillip Region for two days per week to help with the bird work. Increased administrative duties along with the knee problems are keeping me more office-based. We hope to maintain a four day a week monitoring regime across the Yellingbo and Tonimbuk populations in general. I also must acknowledge the great support with the bird work from volunteers at both Yellingbo and Tonimbuk.

Happy 2008! Bruce.

Tonimmbuk Tour Sunday 2oth April

Here is an opportunity to see first hand the beautiful area that Helmeted Honeyeaters live in.
The morning will start at 10.30 am with a Buttongrass walk. The Friends of Bunyip State Park look forward to you joining them on this day.
Bruce Quin will lead us on a visit to the Helmeted Honeyeater sites in the afternoon.

Melways map page 14.
BYO lunch at Tonimbuk Hall. Barbecue facilities available.

Check out the website for the activities that are available at the park.
http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/1park_display.cfm

Photo from Parks Victoria website

Kurth Kiln 2008 Heritage Festival

Friends of Kurth Kiln are celebrating their **Heritage festival** on Sunday 6th April at Kurth Kiln Regional Park. They hope many of the Friends will come along and share the day with them.

…The story of Kurth Kiln began with Australia's declaration of war in September 1939. When petrol rationing was introduced in October 1940, charcoal was seen as the most practical alternative… However, charcoal was never a great success. It was dirty to use, produced 40 per cent less power and conversion units for cars cost 100 pounds – 18 times the weekly wage in 1941. Added to this, units had an alarming tendency to catch fire. The plant at Kurth Kiln closed at the end of the war but the tall kiln with its iron chimney remain. It is a rare example of a relatively intact charcoal burning kiln and the only one of it's type in Australia … http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/1park_display.cfm?park=238

Kurth Kiln Regional Park is 65 km east of Melbourne. Access is via Launching Place Road or Beenak Road, Gembrook. Kurth Kiln Picnic Ground and Camping Area is seven km north of Gembrook.

Visit their website for more information about their activities.
http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fofkk/

Photo FoKK website

Richard's Reveg Rambles *by Richard Case & Jeff Dickinson*

Four months to report on, each one a story of seed.

By the 11th of November, things were starting to dry out and it looked like planting was coming to a close. So the Reveg Day saw us catching up on some much needed seed cleaning prior to Summer.

The 9th of December started off on a high note. While cleaning the tin roofs with a brush I was making a heck of a racket and noticed that the Kookaburras were particularly vocal. A bird flew out from behind the Ranger's Shed and landed lengthways on a horizontal Blackwood branch 8m away. It looked at me, I froze and looked back. About the size and shape of a Blackbird but with a larger tail and a large, wide head. Mottled black, grey and brown with a light tan collar. The plumage appeared bulky and soft. After a few minutes, the Owlet-Nightjar flew off on long wings with a loping, relaxed style into the Messmate forest near the house, somewhere near the Frogmouth nest tree.

After finishing the roof, we went down to Parslows Bridge where we collected Bidgee-Widgee and Silver Wattle. The small birds were very active around the Creek, White-naped and New-Holland Honeyeaters being very obvious. Further downstream we were lucky to see a small group of three Azure Kingfishers, perched in bushes low above the water. Rufous Fantails called unseen from deeper cover.

After lunch we worked through the area upstream of the house. We collected Golden Tip from near one of the old aviary sites and more near the south of the Reserve. A windfall near the track yielded Manna Gum. Every cloud….

Near the Up and Downs we had a very fruitful time. First we found Prickly Moses. While collecting this we saw some Button Everlasting on the other side of the track. Travelling along, we came to our lone specimen of Satin Everlasting. Struggling through the drought it was looking a little better this year. Climbing up a little to look at a termite nest, I was amazed to see patch after patch of Satin Everlasting, it wasn't alone after all! I couldn't believe that they were there the whole time, just out of sight of the track. Further on, we collected Mountain Swamp Gum, then Dusty and Snowy Daisy-bush.

January's Reveg Day saw for the first time since Adam was a boy (well an exaggeration but I don't remember the last time anyway) a day without our esteemed leader Richard Case who quite rightly and deservedly took time out with family to explore one of the southern islands of Australia, that being Tasmania not French Island. And hopefully he managed to get some twitching in. We will hear about it I'm sure, especially if something rare was spotted that we haven't seen. So it was left up to Marita and myself to deputise. Not expecting anyone else to turn up, we were pleased to have new volunteer Carol along who I believe is also volunteering at our nursery.

The day was spent as we do during the warmer months collecting seed. The weather for this time of year was unusually pleasant, not too hot, a bit of sun and a bit of cloud and there seemed to be plenty of plants still in seed after the heavy rains of December. We spent the morning session working along the Woori Yallock Creek searching particularly for Satin Everlasting which has flowered prolifically this year. Also in big numbers was Prickly Current-bush of which you can also eat the small red fruit whilst you pick. Moving to the western side of the creek we picked up more current-bush and a bit of Hazel Pomaderris among other things.

Lunch was spent at the house and was marked by the aerial passage of a Swamp Harrier somewhat away from its usual haunts on the floodplains. Given that Lake Yellingbo is so far down this year, searching out the nearby farm dams for prey might have seemed like a better bet.

After lunch we moved across to the Cockatoo Creek employing a car shuttle between two points as our usual 4wd chariot was not available. Hoping to find elusive Heath Wattle with seed, the one we knew of that had loads of green pods in December had shed everything bar five seeds. We always seem to be late on that one. Oh well, maybe next year. The only other notable collection along this section was Silver Banksia. It always flowers prolifically but never seems to set seed that well. We think it might be something to do with a key pollinator not being present anymore. Anyway enough had set to get a very precious haul.

The 10th of February started with a bit of Wombat spotting. A bright and sunny morning, I was surprised to see a Wombat trundling round the back lawn of the house, where we have held so many meetings. I first saw the Wombat scratching itself against the picnic table (it had a bad case of mange). It moved on to the BBQ area where it started chomping down the fresh grass before moving down past the sheds.

Moving off, we collected seed from the Woori Yallock Creek loop track. Only Blackwood and Swamp Daisy-bush this time.
After lunch, we went to Cockatoo Creek east bank where we collected from a large patch of Burgan as the track goes up the hill. Continuing on, we were lucky to find a large Mountain Swamp Gum windfall, some of which was ripe.
At the waterhole, we came across a mixed flock of Welcome Swallows, Tree Martins and Dusky Wood-swallows hawking after flying insects from the dead trees. A very pretty sight.
On the way back we collected Native Hemp Bush from the edge of the track.
Back at the Nursery, a mob of Brown-Headed Honeyeater were passing through, scolding the resident Kookaburras as Summer drew to a close.

Nursery News by Michelle Faram

With 2007 done and dusted, in what seemed record time, with Christmas holidays a distant memory, another new year just beginning and a big bunny on the horizon, our thoughts have once again turned to preparing plants for what is expected to be a very busy Autumn planting season.
Plans are in progress for major revegetation works on the Woori Yallock creek, with one project requesting 15,000 plants, there is also further revegetation work planned on the Cockatoo creek floodplain and if the weather is kind lots of planting to be undertaken by different schools. Many plants have been ordered by The Shire of Yarra Ranges as part of carbon offset programs in our area and once again Melbourne Water have ordered plants as part of the on going Stream Frontage grant program. The nursery is expecting to send out approximately 50,000 plants this coming year.
Some HEHO members have been busy collecting seed and other material for propagation, with December – February being a very busy time, with the seed of lots of different plant species ripening over this period. Lots of members are also attending the nursery days on Tuesdays and Thursdays; it is amazing what is achieved in such a short time. Without both of these groups and others who work behind the scenes little could be achieved within the time frame and thoughts of producing anywhere near 50,000 plants would be merely a dream, but the quality of the stock that is produced for sale is testament to everybody's hard work.

Please note
Saturday Morning Nursery Hours are 1st Saturday of month from April until December.
Tuesday and Thursday hours are 9.00 – 3.30pm

Give someone the gift to save a species by giving them a Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater gift membership.

Gift membership opens a door to the wonders of the Helmeted Honeyeater because now it includes a copy of our beautiful book ***Yellingbo*** **a special place.** Cost $40.00. *(postage & handling incl.)*
Simply fill out the following form and make payment by cheque or money order to:
The Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater PO Box 131, Woori Yallock. Vic. 3139

FRIENDS OF THE HELMETED HONEYEATER GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Please tick the appropriate box ❑ $40 **Groups/Families/Individuals** ❑ $35 **Concession:** **Student/Pensioner/Unemployed** **Giver** ……	**Recipient** …….. **Address** …… …… …… **Phone** …… **Email** ……

Helmeted Honeyeater badge for sale

Cost $5.00

Name: ……

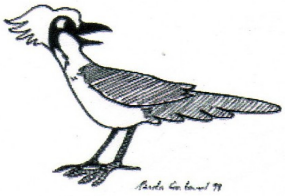
Address: ……..

……P/code.....

Sub Total : **$.** ……
Postage & Handling 10%: **$** .....
TOTAL – enclosed $ ……
Send to: Friends of Helmeted Honeyeater
PO box 131
Woori Yallock 3139

If undelivered please return to:
Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater,
PO Box 131,
Woori Yallock
Vic. 3139

POSTAGE PAID AUSTRALIA



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