



Heho Herald

Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater Newsletter

**Patron: Her Excellency Professor the Honourable
Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria**

Spring 2024 Edition 140 Volume 36 Number 3

President's Report

Virginia Wallace



Welcome to the Spring edition. While we've been busy over Winter, with our very successful *Wings of Hope Fundraising Campaign* and recently our inaugural *Great CEO Plantout*, for which we are very grateful and which will go to help us increase habitat for our amazing Helmeted Honeyeater, I am unfortunately the bearer of bad news in relation to our capacity to keep our Environmental Coordinator on staff. First some of the good things we have achieved and then I will let you know about a difficult decision we have had to make.

Over Winter we had a Marie Kondo-type clean out in the Rangers House. Committee Members Gretchen, Stephen, Richard and I tackled the build-up of items in our storage room and installed shelving for our merchandise so it's easier to access and prepare orders. Thanks to Stephen and Richard who undertook the handyman jobs, and Gretchen who assembled the shelving.

We have moved into the 21st Century in the Nursery with the installation of Wi-Fi. The Wi-Fi signal is strongest in the Nursery office but also works in the nursery vicinity; we hope this will be useful for our wonderful nursery volunteers who are the lifeblood of our operations. We are also replacing the old air conditioner in the nursery with a split system to improve warmth; this will hopefully be installed in October.

We finalised our Strategy for 2024-2029 and we are extremely grateful to skilled strategist Aaron Lamb who volunteered his time to facilitate our Strategy Workshops. Our 2024-2029 Strategy is available on our website. Our Strategic Objectives are very much focused on improving the status of the Helmeted Honeyeater in the wild and to grow relationships with the local community and other stakeholders. We welcome your feedback.

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We need your help!

Two new recruits were recently welcomed to our Committee (introduced in the previous edition), but

we really do need more people to step up and help the Committee over the next couple of years. Stephen Garth has been our loyal and dedicated Secretary for six years and indicated last year that he wanted to step down; thank you Stephen for everything you have done! Thankfully a friend of one of our new Committee members has answered the call and indicated she will take on the role of Secretary at our AGM. We are very grateful. Gretchen Szabat has been on the Committee for six years; Vice President and on the Merchandise Committee for most of this time; she is also needing to step down as her business expands. Our amazing Treasurer and qualified accountant David LaTerra is also stepping down. Over two years, he has transformed our finances and helped us make sensible decisions regarding them. And I too need to step down. When I put my hand up it was as Co-President, however due to health reasons my fellow Co-President resigned, and I have done my best in the role as a solo President. However, with school aged children, a job and other conservation commitments, I cannot continue. I also live an hour's drive away which makes it very difficult to be present when needed. Without the roles of President, Treasurer and if possible, Vice-President filled we cannot function. Please consider stepping up so we can continue to do excellent work and make a difference. We really need a person who is relatively local to step into the President role so that they can be present when needed. My email address is at the end of the newsletter, and I would love to hear from you! We will ensure you have a complete handover and plenty of support.

Our Environmental Coordinator role

And now for the very difficult decisions we have had to make. During the past 18 months we have been experiencing declining grant revenue, which we have

tried to rectify by applying for 20+ funding grants but not been successful. We have also tried to develop our own funding sources (our Wings of Hope Campaign, and our inaugural Great CEO Plantout) in anticipation of declining grant income. We are not alone in experiencing a lack of grant funding income- this is a sector wide issue- as funding is now going to cost of living issues such as food insecurity, homelessness, domestic violence and health. One charitable organisation is responsible for over \$120 million in grants across Australia, yet only \$1 million goes to environmental and conservation causes across the entire country. This is an example of the difficulty we face. The final blow was our lack of success with the State Government's DEECA *Faunal Emblems funding program* which provides \$1.52 million in 2024-25 to improve the long-term sustainability of both Leadbeater's Possum and Helmeted Honeyeaters in the wild. We are the only volunteer-led group committed to engaging with the community and increasing habitat for our beloved Faunal emblem, and we did not get one cent from this government funding program. This is despite us being featured on the DEECA website in numerous places, and the Government's plan to empower 5 million volunteers by 2037 to help the natural environment in Victoria. We were relying on receiving some funds from our grant application to keep our Environmental Coordinator employed, and harnessing

volunteers to improve habitat. We are now no longer able to employ an Environmental Coordinator two days a week. We would dearly have loved to keep Eliza Lamb in this role; however, it is just not sustainable. There will be no Ambassador Program in 2025, and no-one to help organise School and community plantings in the Yellingbo Nature Conservation Area from the end of 2024 onwards. When the Government announce who is successful, we will be letting local and other MPs know the catastrophic impact this has had on this role and our organisation. We have reserve funds and are a prudently run organisation but cannot utilise our reserve funds for ongoing everyday expenses such as salary as we would run through this funding very quickly.

We received a Landcare Grant for Beyond Yellingbo on behalf of Macclesfield Landcare Group, which will help keep the Beyond Yellingbo program going until other funding is sourced. This is great news as Beyond Yellingbo has been transformational in preserving habitat for our threatened species.

Finally, please save Saturday 16 November for our AGM at the Rangers House in Yellingbo. We will have a guest speaker at this event.

Grants applications recently submitted:

Xero- Beautiful Business Grant for nursery improvements

BUPA- planting events for habitat restoration

QBE Foundation- community conservation of Helmeted Honeyeaters

Smartgroup- planting events for habitat restoration

NAB- planting events in Burrungma Biik

Bupa Landcare- planting events and community engagement

Editor's apology

Apologies for an error in the 2024 Winter Heho Herald edition. A section of the President's Report was accidentally deleted during the final formatting the newsletter.



Here is the President's paragraph introducing Nicolas and Ruby in full:

We are excited to have two new members join the Committee. Nicholas Pattison and Ruby Stone answered our recent call. Both are committed environmentalists, with Nicholas completing a PhD in Ecology and Ruby an Environmental Science graduate and currently studying to be an Ornithologist. We are very grateful! We are still looking for others to join us and help bring in new ideas. We'd love someone with accounting/bookkeeping experience so we can continue renewal. Please contact me if you are interested.

Out in the Field

By Bruce Quin



@ Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve

2024/25 Helmeted Honeyeater Breeding Season

Windy weather has been a frequent feature of the first month of the 2024/2025 Helmeted Honeyeater breeding season. Such conditions hamper our nest searching and force the cancellation of supplementary feeding at times to keep Volunteers and DEECA staff safe. One nest containing at least one chick and three nests at the construction stage were known by the end of August (2024). Another female was suspected to be incubating eggs and numerous other females had been sighted carrying nest material.

2024 release of birds from captivity

Eighteen birds were released from Zoos Victoria's captive population as a group into Cockatoo Swamp in Yellingbo NCA on 19th April 2024 without any acclimatizing in on-site aviaries. The release group comprised 10 Helmeted Honeyeaters and the genetic rescue birds, six hybrids and two Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters. Three of these release birds have not been sighted since late May and two had disappeared by the end of April.

Of the 13 remaining release birds, three were recorded during August, while another 10 were seen during July but haven't been positively recorded since the onset of the breeding season.

Further searching is likely to find 2024 release birds because two sites where no supplementary food is provided have so far not been surveyed during the 2024/2025 breeding season and birds released from captivity into Cockatoo Swamp in the autumns of 2022 and 2023 occupied one of these 'unfed' sites during the breeding season after their release.

The next edition of HeHo Herald will update news on the 2024 release of Helmeted Honeyeaters and genetic rescue birds and the 2024/2025 Helmeted Honeyeater breeding season in Yellingbo NCA.



Release birds at a supplementary feed station soon after their release (19 April 2024). Most had left the release site by the onset of the 2024/25 breeding season.

Image: B Quin



Many thanks for your much-appreciated assistance! -Bruce

Translocation News

By Nick Bradsworth

@O'Shannassy Catchment Translocation Site, Yarra Ranges National Park



Despite the cool winter weather, breeding season has commenced! Females were first observed carrying nesting material and building as early as 5 July, with several additional females observed building and incubating since. I expect more females to begin nesting as soon as the weather warms into spring.

We spent two days targeting unbanded 2023-24 fledglings for leg banding and DNA sampling. We caught three birds across these days, and still have two birds to target.

In terms of the 2024 release birds, we are still observing five individuals from the group of 12 each feed, so there has been no change since the last report.

Fingers are crossed for a productive breeding season at the O'Shannassy Catchment.



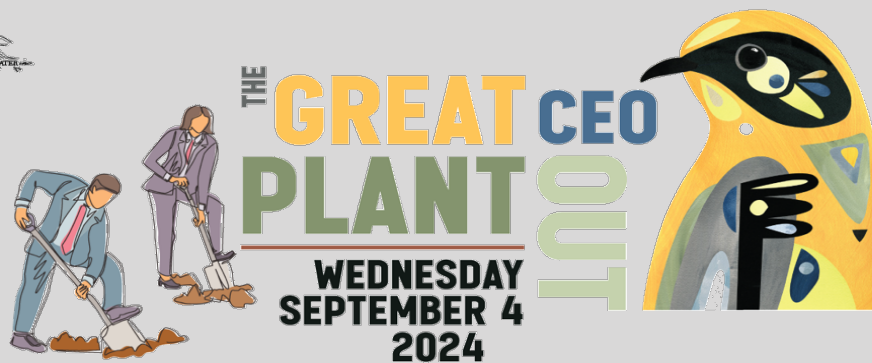
A 2023-24 HeHo fledgling is captured for leg banding and DNA sampling.

Image: N Bradsworth

Vale Marjorie Case

It was with much sadness that we learnt of the recent death of Marjorie Case. Marjorie was one of the Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater's longest serving Members, joining the group at its 2nd meeting held on 4 June 1989. Marjorie was a regular attendee of the quarterly Members Days for over 20 years, only stopping her attendance at these events (but not her ongoing support) when she could no longer drive out to Yellingbo or Healesville where these events were held. Marjorie was renowned for her beaming smile, welcoming and chatting with everyone at Members Days, saying hello to 'old' Friends whilst also making new people feel at ease and an important part of the occasion. It was clear when talking with Marjorie that she shared a deep love for animals and the natural world with her son Richard. She was immensely proud of Rich's dedicated involvement with the Friends, and the way that her daughter-in-law, Kaye, supported Rich's passions. Marjorie was a true champion of conservation, and a true friend to the Friends. No matter how they contribute, Members and friends are vitally important. Vale Marjorie Case.





Helmeted Honeyeater artwork by Pete Cromer used with his permission for which the Friends Group is immensely grateful.

People of Post
Grant Recipient
2024



Inaugural Great CEO Plantout

We had to move to our backup day of Thursday 5 September for the inaugural Great CEO Plantout due to the extreme winds that have been experienced at Yellingbo. Thankfully the day went ahead, with a team from Australia Post, budding environmentalists from Caulfield Grammar's Yarra Junction campus, CEO Ross Williamson from Healesville Sanctuary, Grant Flack from Balgownie Winery and Chris Brace from Melbourne Water.

Overall, we planted 1200 plants as infill habitat at Burrungma Biik, all helping to make a great difference to the critically endangered Helmeted Honeyeater! Some CEOs and their representatives were not able to come due to the change in date but supported us through fundraising. We're looking forward to holding this event next year and building our connections with the local and wider community! We'd like to thank Australia Post's People of Post grant program who helped kickstart this event, artist Pete Cromer who agreed for us to use his Helmeted Honeyeater artwork, and everyone who helped fundraise so we could buy the plants to make this happen!



Scan to contribute to the campaign

And thank you for the generous donations from ...

Dorothy Kowalski John Fisher Virginia Wallace Peta Kowalski Gill Hunt Rebecca Gray Linda Mrkic Cath Mukhtar Ross Williamson Karen Beckmann Sally Sherwen Tamara Richardson Kat W Kate Bygrave Zoe Browning Kayla Anchen Russell Gibb Pat McCafferty Garvin Lee Grant Flack Jannett Nagy Athena Kephala Fiona Ralph Grant Brace Leanne McGaw Nicole Rooks



The inaugural CEO Plantout 2024 made possible with the team from Australia Post and dedicated environmental leaders.

Image: V Wallace

Coordinator's Column

By Eliza Lamb



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Cultural anthropologist Margaret Mead highlighted that environmental protection often depended on small groups of dedicated people leading the charge in conservation efforts. This cannot be truer for the tireless efforts of our FoHH community since its inception in 1989. So it is indeed with a heavy heart that I write my final column as the Environmental Coordinator at FoHH. Due to the ongoing funding difficulties our organisation has been experiencing, the Committee of Management has decided to finish up the community education and habitat restoration programs and the Environmental Coordinator role that runs them.

This is devastating news for our supporters and for all the schools, community groups and volunteers that participate in our programs and donate their time to protect and conserve the YNCA. These historical programs have engaged countless individuals of all ages and backgrounds in conservation, contributing to the enhancement of habitat within the YNCA and helped increase its extent through the rehabilitation of former pasture and degraded sites such as Burrungma Biik.

*Where would conservation for threatened species be without the support and actions of the Victorian community?
How can we support and foster the ecological knowledge and capacity of the next generation without community
facing programs such as these?*

These are serious questions that need to be addressed.

As I finish up my time in this role, I have been reflecting on the many joyous experiences I have been privileged to be a part of since I started in early 2022. The connections made and time shared in nature with others, will stay with me forever. I will miss welcoming new groups and schools to the magic that is the YNCA, and those that return year on year to undertake education and volunteer events with us. I want to thank the Berwick Lodge and Macclesfield Primary school communities for their enthusiasm, dedication and long-term involvement in our wonderful Ambassador program, and thank all the other wonderful schools that have participated in the program over the years. I want to acknowledge and thank community groups such as the 5th Brunswick Scouts who return every year to volunteer their time to plant habitat and thank all the groups and schools that contributed financially to support our program delivery despite having limited funding to do so. Your support is forever valued and appreciated and assisted in keeping the programs going as long as we could.

I am hopeful that this is not the end of FoHH's education programs, and that all the FoHH program officer roles will be reinstated in the future. The programs of Beyond Yellingbo, FoHH Citizen Science and the Environmental Coordinator are vital to the engagement of community in the recovery effort for the Helmeted Honeyeater and Lowland Leadbeater's Possum.

My heartfelt thanks to the FoHH team, members and volunteers for supporting me during my time in the role. There is such a wealth of knowledge and experience in our FoHH community, and I will miss working alongside you all.



Collingwood College students assisting in a planting session at Burrungma Biik in August.

HERE Technology staff returned for a session of weeding and planting in August. This fantastic group of humans have been volunteering their time with FoHH for the third year in a row.



Images: E Lamb



This year's Ambassador students from Berwick Lodge planted habitat in the picnic area at the Education Centre in August.

Students at CIRE Monbulk supported FoHH to weed, mulch and plant habitat in the YNCA in July. These hardworking and dedicated students also removed a yabby trap from the Woori Yallock Creek to protect wildlife such as platypus, present in the waterway.

Seeds and Weeds

By Richard Case



In Autumn we've been weeding and finishing off our seed collection, usually with the valley fog of the morning.

Our May day geared up from drizzle to persistent rain. We were working on weeds around Beer's Bridge area. The first to go was a medium-sized Holly. Next was a lot of Red-hot Poker we've been working on for some time. As we paused, an alarm call went up and a Wedge-tailed Eagle glided overhead. A patch of Bamboo had been on the waiting list for a while. It has been sprayed at least three times but always recovers. So, we dug it out with mattocks. It was very tough and there may be regrowth from the root fragments so we will follow it up. Nearby, I accidentally trampled a fungus which Monte identified as Anemone Stinkhorn, a very curious thing. Later, while pulling out Tree Tobacco, we came across a small patch of Arum Lily, washed down by the floods. We removed this and stopped to listen to the sound of raindrops hitting the creek. We had collected twelve sacks of weeds for the day, they scarcely fitted in the car!

In June we went collecting Hakea seed. As we approached our first stop, two Kangaroos stood shadow-like on the track, the bush silent in the fog. We collected Yellow Hakea from the revegetation cells on Maccy Ck floodplain, their "wild" ancestors having mostly died out during the Millennium Drought. We got a good haul and left many more for next year. On the way out we looked around some of the local roads but didn't see more Hakea. We did see a Wombat in the middle of a paddock in the fog. After lunch we collected Furze Hakea from the Nursery Garden; their ancestors had also come from Maccy Ck Bushland. Moving on to a roadside we collected Dagger Hakea and more Furze Hakea. Thornbills fussed around the trees and a Yellow Robin watched with interest. A small flock of Little Corellas approached from the lands below the hill.

July saw us weeding over on Cockatoo Ck. We started by delicately removing a tiny Gorse from where it was growing around a Common Heath and a Dogwood. The next was the opposite extreme, a large Spanish Heath which was not at all easy. We continued through the morning, removing six sacks of Gorse and Spanish Heath. Thornbills and Scrubwrens looked on and we had stunning views of a White-eared Honeyeater. In the afternoon, we went to tackle a new Forget-me-not patch. There were thousands of little ones at the two-leaf stage and a few bigger ones. We removed two sacks, and our thanks go to whoever had been pulling them out before us and also the blackberries nearby.

Seeds & Weeds Dates

Sunday 13th October

Sunday 10th November

Sunday 8th December

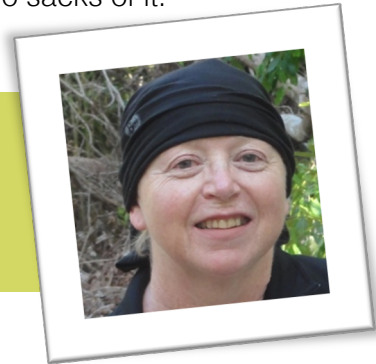
**We meet at the Nursery at 9.15am,
1217 Macclesfield Rd**

Events are automatically cancelled by weather events including wind gusts of 50 kph, thunderstorm, severe, extreme, catastrophic, and total fire ban days. Please check Yarra Glen forecast and Bureau of Meteorology warnings at 5pm the day before.

August gave us a lovely sunny day after early fog. At the JESWA Beveridge Rd block, we continued our work on the top corner of the block, our third year here. We started by pulling Spanish Heath but the main weeds we chase here are Stinking Iris and Ragwort. We managed to find two sacks of each, the Iris from the drier areas and the Ragwort from the damper valley of the little creeklet. A Golden Whistler entertained us from nearby, seeming like the embodiment of the forthcoming Spring. After lunch we went for a weed walk along the Western Boundary Track. A Spotted Pardalote was nearby, and a Striated Pardalote called from further away. Our main object here was Agapanthus which had escaped from a garden, it was fairly easy work to dig out and we soon removed two sacks of it.

Citizen Science Matters

By Sue Tardif



"The Western four-season calendar, which divides the year into roughly four equal sequential phases (Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring) is not a particular informative way of engaging with the weather and climate in Australia." CSIRO website

As I write, it's mid-August, winter in the Gregorian calendar, however there's been a definite change in the air for a few weeks now. In the Middle Yarra Timelines Calendar of the Wurundjeri there are six seasons. This region takes in Yellingbo Nature Conservation Area (YNCA) and surrounds, where we're moving from deep winter (early Jun-late Jul) into early spring (late Jul-late Sept). Some of YNCA's dominant acacias, the Silver Wattle, Blackwood and Narrow-leaf Wattle are beginning to bloom. Orchids are dotting the ground again after most took refuge underground in the cooler months. We're seeing Mayfly Orchids, Tall and Nodding Greenhoods in flower, whilst the tell-tale leaves of Bird-orchids, Caladenias and Sun-orchids promise flowers in the months ahead when we'll be able to confirm the species.

Although it's felt cold this year (particularly if you're up with the birds on our Bird & Frog surveys, or out on one of our Twilight surveys!), spring isn't coming the Wurundjeri seasons tell us, it's well and truly here! Joining us as we walk the paths on our citizen science surveys have been the seemingly gregarious insectivorous birds, some collecting nesting material (another sign of early spring in the Wurundjeri calendar) and feeding on the insects we disturb. Amongst others, we're accompanied by the sounds and constant motion of Superb Fairy-wrens, White-browed Scrubwrens, White-throated Treecreepers, Brown and Striated Thornbills, a variety of honeyeaters and the not so gregarious Bassian Thrush. How mesmerising is their ability to stand perfectly still and blend into the leaf mulch?!

It's always a special moment watching them 😊

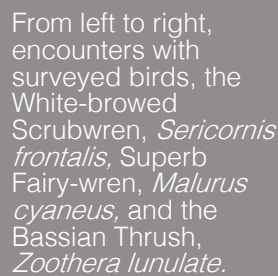
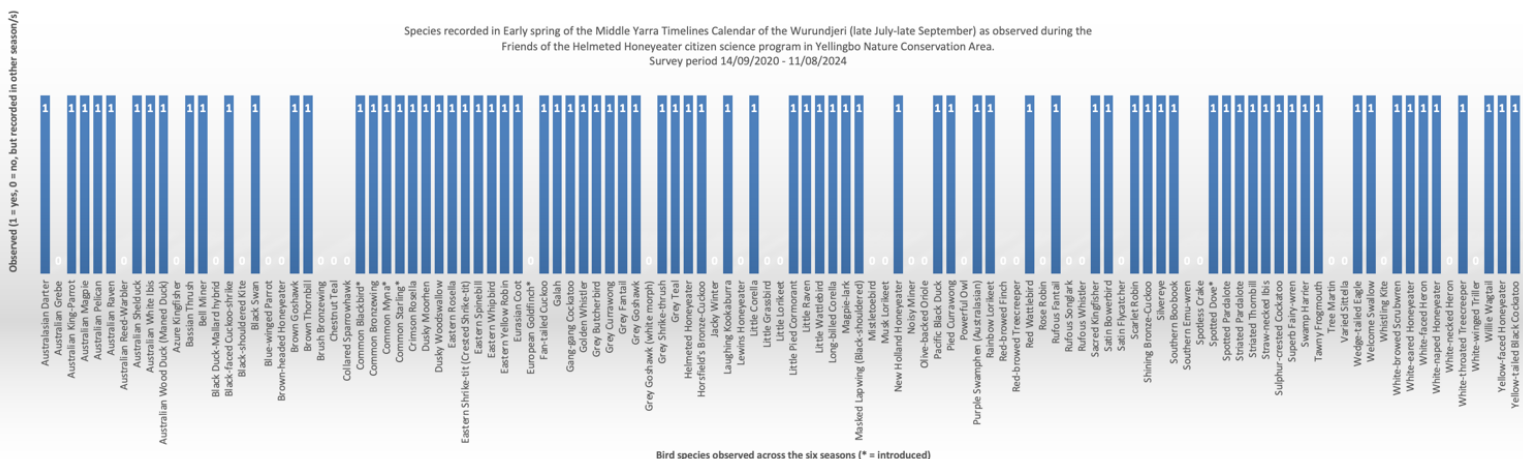


Image: B Tardif



In May, we brought together members of the Youth Reference Group, Bird & Flora survey teams and a lovely mix of people across FoHHs activities for a Walk & Talk Update at Haining Farm with Parks Victoria ranger, Mel Tuliranta. Pre-2021, when it opened to the public, I was part of the working group transitioning Haining Farm from dairy farm to conservation area & public park. The good news is that plans are progressing for a Leadbeater's Possum translocation into Haining Farm in 2025 (all things

going well), with Helmeted Honeyeaters to join them further into the future. The day highlighted the solid relationship we share with Parks Victoria, not just at YNCA but also in our wider landscape. I greatly appreciate the ongoing support and backing of Simon Dent (Liwik Barring Landscape Conservation Area Project Officer & YNCA Ranger) and Jack Dinkgreve (Area Chief Ranger Gembrook) in delivering the citizen science program within YNCA. It wouldn't be possible without their support. Thank you!

In the autumn 2024 Heho Herald I mentioned that the citizen science Flora survey team recorded the first known observations of Small Tongue-orchids, *Cryptostylis leptochila*, in YNCA. This species is uncommon in Victoria and known from few sites in our area. In June we returned to protect them from potential browsers such as deer (which eat the tender flower spikes of a number of orchid species we see in YNCA). In doing so, we discovered a second patch of Red Beaks, *Pyrorchis nigricans*, an orchid species we first discovered elsewhere in YNCA in September 2023. These are both small patches (5 & 8 individuals). This orchid is rare away from the coast, and not listed as known within the Yarra Ranges Council area. These orchids require fire to flower, which is a possible reason why they haven't been observed in YNCA before. Our Flora survey team has now protected these patches and have scheduled a September survey with the Youth Reference Group to see if we can find, and protect, any others. The current data from our Frog surveys is showing that two of the eleven species of frog historically recorded at YNCA have not been seen or heard since at least September 2020, the Growling Grass Frog (listed as Vulnerable in Victoria) and Southern Toadlet (listed as Endangered in Victoria). The Twilight events that Amy and I co-lead are scheduled around the peak times for frog calls. We remain hopeful that they might still be finding refuge somewhere within YNCA.

There's always a lot happening in our citizen science programs. In an upcoming issue, I'll fill you in on the long-term comprehensive surveys for reptiles in YNCA being undertaken by Prof. David Chapple's Monash Uni research team in collaboration with FoHH. Suffice to say the two threatened species, Swamp Skink, *Lissolepis coventryi* and Glossy Grass Skink, *Pseudemoia rawlinsoni*, that were historically present, are currently proving elusive! Who would have thought flora surveys, bridges and reptiles have something in common though! More on this another time.

Citizen Science Events

If you can spare a few hours, we'd love to see you at one of our citizen science events.

Our events routinely book out early.

Upcoming dates and registration details here:

www.helmetedhoneyeater.org.au/get-involved/come-to-an-event-2/

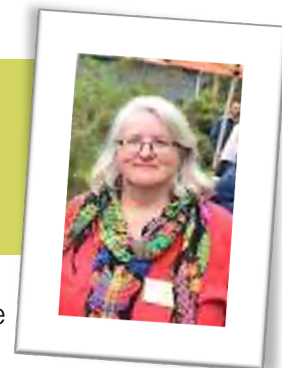
If you can't make it to one of our events, you might like to take part in Biodiversity Blitz 2024. It's a great way to get people of any age, and any level of knowledge, involved in contributing to what's known about the natural world! To take part, head here for details:

<https://inaturalist.ala.org.au/projects/biodiversity-blitz-2024-melbourne>

Wherever you are over the coming months, we hope you can take the time to pause and allow the joy of the natural world to wash over you for a moment or two.

Nursery News

By Marita Hanigan



Those really biting cold few days in June and July truly halted plant growth both inside and outside the polyhouses. I recorded a few days of below zero temps, one in particular of minus 4 which had ice coating bins, gates, benches and other exposed items in the nursery. Fortunately, the BOM warnings gave us time to put up the frost covers and there was no significant plant damage or loss of stock. So now that we are starting to get those slightly warmer days that herald Spring soon arriving, our little plants start to put on new growth. One indicator we look forward to seeing now that it won't be long for the warmer weather, is the flowering of both the *Acacias* and *Epacris* which both seemed to burst the bubble of the cold with their gorgeous colours. *Epacris* at the nursery has been going strong, flowering for a few weeks now, but the *Acacias* have just in the last week or so taken up the mantle too around the nursery.



Our *Epacris impressa* (Common Heath) stock plants in the nursery putting on a late Winter floral show. Sorry, these are not for sale! We have them to get cuttings from for the next generation of this plant, Victoria's Flower Emblem.

Image: M Hanigan

The very chilly winter has made for difficult conditions for humans also, 2 pairs of gloves it seems isn't enough to deal with those mornings. But those little handwarmer sachets really help and thanks must go to Chris for picking up a batch for us all. It made a huge difference to those of us in the outdoors. And a colossal thanks goes to the team of vols that remade the wall of the covered work area making it more weatherproof and quite significantly warmer inside. It may not look much in the picture, but what you see replaced is a well-worn café curtain made bearable with gaffer tape and bits of corflute. Regular volunteers can testify to its inadequacy. We were all very happy to see its demise and the new wall go up.

Orders are continuing to get processed and go out the door – we wave them goodbye and send them off with our best wishes for the best plant life ever. Yep, every one of them goes out the door with this heartfelt and earnest farewell! Stock in the outdoors areas now is getting a bit thinner on the benches but the polyhouses are all full which is just the way we want it at this time of the year. And now the weather is ever so slightly warmer they will gradually be moved outdoors to harden off before

being released on the plant purchasing community and on their way to new lives. More orders are due to go out in the coming weeks and months probably up until the end of October. So, boxes of plants ready for hardening off head to the yard making room for newly pricked out or potted up seedlings or cuttings – all thanks to the volunteers and staff who care for them so tenderly. A wonderful cycle I'm very proud and happy to be involved with.



From left to right- The covered work area with its brand-new upgraded side wall. *Acacia leprosa* (Cinnamon Wattle) in flower in the nursery garden. Precious cuttings secure in a more robust Flyscreen cage.

Images: A.Whitelaw and M Hanigan

WANTED!



Old flyscreen frames

We'd like your old flyscreen frames to extend a project that increases the protection of our seedlings and cuttings. Being outdoors and in the reserve, we get visited often by both Rats but also Antechinus that have taken a particular liking to our seedlings and sometimes the whole seeds. So, to see off our furry villains in a non-lethal manner, we constructed a makeshift cage that was partly replaced by a more permanent structure using flyscreen frames as reported in the last HeHo Herald.

It has been so successful that we are now extending the project and need more flyscreen frames. All sizes, colours and in all conditions most welcome as we only need the aluminium frames themselves not the actual flyscreen.

Please drop them into the nursery anytime we are there, or if you need to organise other arrangements call Anna or Marita on 0438 038 702.

Friends of the Helmeted Honeyeater Annual General Meeting



AGM will be held at Rangers House, Yellingbo

Saturday 16 November at 2pm

with Bruce Quinn as guest speaker and afternoon tea to follow.

Please come to also say thanks to Stephen Garth and Gretchen Szabat who have been on the Committee of Management for six years.

Heho Supporters

Donations are very important to us and help support the variety of conservation activities FoHH undertakes for our special bird.

Our thanks go to the generosity of..

Steven Castan Kathie Thomas Noel Gross Phil Nolan Melanie Ashford Georgia Hasthorpe
Vikki Mead Jack Boyle Ian and Elizabeth Hagley Sander Groeneveld Mark Bennett
Jonathan McConchie Virginia Wallace Natasha Sinclair Ruslan Balagansky Chris Putnam
Jesse Cheal Kailash Mishra Daniel Brimelow Ross Caldow Ali Aien Blake Harrison Karen
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If you shop at IGA, you can nominate FoHH on your **Community Benefits Card** and 0.5% of your shopping docket will be directed to us.



Are you considering leaving a gift to the Friends in your will? Use the QR code to find all the relevant information you'll need on FoHH website.



You can donate your refunds from **Container Deposit Scheme** to FoHH by selecting us as the registered donor using charity ID - C2000009578 or the barcode above.



FoHH would like to acknowledge the ongoing support from Yarra Ranges Shire for printing and distribution of the Heho Herald.

Contacts

Image: M Serong

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Committee members

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FoHH respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri People as the Traditional Custodians of the lands known as Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and wildlife and pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.