



Warringal  
Conservation  
Society

HIGH SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Volume 49/one

Jan/Feb 2019

*Warringal Conservation Society is a local, not-for-profit, community organisation caring for the environment in Banyule.*

*Formed in 1970, the Society is an active and productive steward of Banyule's environmental heritage.*

#### **Join us!!**

Warringal Conservation Society is not just a local environment group: it is stimulating, fun and companionable and takes an active role in the wider community.

Single \$20  
Family \$25  
Pension/student/  
unemployed \$15  
Life \$200

Articles and photographs for the newsletter are welcome. We may edit for legal, space or other reasons. Opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Warringal Conservation Society.

Newsletter printed courtesy of Jenny Macklin MP.

## **FEBRUARY MEETING**

### **First Meeting of the year buffet style dinner 6.15pm**

The February meeting will be preceded by a buffet style dinner so that everyone can catch up after the holiday break. Dinner will be provided by the Committee from 6.15pm. A donation of \$10 kids, \$15 adults is invited to subsidise operating costs and the Warringal Prize. Fruit juice & soft drink provided, BYO beer & wine. Meeting follows at 7.30pm.

### **Speaker: Nick Bradsworth - Powerful Owls**

Nick Bradsworth is a current PhD student at Deakin University, Burwood. Nick will be presenting his exciting research on urban Powerful Owl movement. GPS tracking devices have provided a valuable resource in understanding many aspects of their behaviour, and more recently to understand: how do Powerful Owls move through the urban landscape? Nick will speak about this, and where he plans on taking his study in the future.

## **MARCH SPEAKER**

### **When Nature Calls: the work of Wildlife Victoria**

CEO Dr Megan Davidson will outline the rescue, education and advocacy work of Wildlife Victoria, celebrating its 30th year in 2019. Wildlife Victoria responds to reports of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife, providing assistance to over 50,000 animals a year.

**Meetings on first Thursday of the month  
from 7.30 pm at the Old Shire Offices,  
60 Beverley Road.**

**Enter from Buckingham Drive near the Banyule Theatre and  
Greening Australia. Melways map 32:D3. All Welcome**

## **AT A GLANCE**

### February

**Thurs 7th:** Dinner 6.15pm, General meeting at 7.30pm - Powerful Owls

**Sat 9th:** Banyule Flats Night Walk (see News and Events pg 2)

### March

**Thurs 7th:** General meeting at 7.30pm - Wildlife Victoria

## Message from the President and Treasurer

Very best wishes to you for 2019 – happy, healthy, and working towards a greener future. We hope you enjoy this newsletter which reflects what we have been up since October. Our committee already has a full agenda, with the North East Link looming large. Daniel Andrews may be determined to build it but we can still influence environmental outcomes by responding to the Environment Effects Statement, which is due to be released later this quarter. We thank Friends of Banyule for their support on this project.

*Daphne Hards*

## News & Events

### Bequest from the Estate of Beryl Jarman

Warringal Conservation Society is profoundly grateful to Beryl Jarman for leaving us a small but significant bequest in her will. We loved her as a friend, an active member since the 1980s, an avid supporter of all our activities, and she has helped us financially too. Bless you Beryl.

### Banyule Flats Twilight/Night Walk - Sat 9th February

See some of the nocturnal wildlife of Banyule Flats. WCS is running a night walk for members, family and friends. Meet at 8.00pm at Somerset Drive carpark, Viewbank. BYO light covered with red cellophane so as not to disturb the wildlife, and wear sturdy shoes. Returning approximately 10pm.

### Banyule's State of the Environment Report 2017-2018

This is an interesting report, including descriptions of many admirable Council activities in line with Council's 'Planet' directions and focus areas. Although the report includes multiple statistics (eg for trees planted, tree removal permits approved, re-veg plants and volunteer hours) except for the sections on water use, CO2 emissions and waste

management many of these are simply numbers for 2017, or for a two year 2017/2018 comparison. A much more useful approach to this publication would be comparison over a longer time period (eg 5 or 10 years) and comparison with quantifiable targets. The report is available on the BCC website <https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/Council/Environment-and-Sustainability>

### Significant trees at Banyule Flats Reserve

The Committee's nomination of several trees at Banyule Flats for inclusion in the Banyule Significant Trees and Vegetation Register has been successful. The consultant Arborist made the following comments:

*Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum) located adjacent to the southern gate in the Banyule Billabong fence. "Significant due to its size, age, form, remnant and habitat value. Estimated to be 300+ years old it has numerous hollows and is a great example of a large old remnant tree." Photo 1.

Group of 5 *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum) located in the Banyule Swamp (Photo 2). "Significant due to their habitat value. This row of dead trees provide significant perching value, they are apparent as living trees (prior to swamp creation)

## Who we are and how to contact us

### Warringal Conservation Society Inc

PO Box 64 Rosanna 3084

Email: [warringal3084@gmail.com](mailto:warringal3084@gmail.com)

Web: [www.warringal.org.au](http://www.warringal.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/WarringalConservationSociety](https://www.facebook.com/WarringalConservationSociety)

**President:** Daphne Hards

Telephone: 9497 4831

**Vice President:** James Deane

**Treasurer:** Daphne Hards

Telephone: 9497 4831

### Newsletter

Editors: James Deane & Gianna Romano

Telephone: 94585985

Email: [wcs.editor@gmail.com](mailto:wcs.editor@gmail.com)

Compilation & Mailing: Heather Smith, Don Stokes

**Planting Coordinator:** Heather Smith

**Committee:** Anthea Fleming, Celia Smith, Daphne Hards, Dianne Williamson, Doug McNaughton, James Deane, Heather Smith, Michelle Giovas.



in 1945 aerial photographs.”

*Eucalyptus X studleyensis* (Studley Park Gum) located adjacent to the northern gate in the Banyule Billabong fence. “Significant due to its landscape, botanical, remnant and habitat value as well as its form, size and age. This tree has outstanding form and is superior to most other ES04 listings. It is likely of state significance.” Photo 3.



**1.** 300+ year old remnant River Red Gum near the southern gate in the Banyule Billabong fence.



**2.** Row of dead River Red Gums in Banyule Swamp covered with birds.



**3.** Large Studley Park Gum near the northern gate in the Banyule Billabong fence.

The Register of individual trees, groups of trees and areas of vegetation in Banyule that have been assessed as having special significance can be viewed on the BCC website <https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/Council/Environment-and-Sustainability/Trees-and-Plants/Significant-Tree-Register>

*Dianne Williamson*

### Heidelberg Theatre Company Dates for 2019

The 2019 program of plays is now on the HTC website, but you can purchase Wednesday charity night tickets from us, cost \$20 each, where \$10 comes to the Society. Every little helps so please consider purchasing your tickets through us, from Doug McNaughton at a meeting or by request to our email address: [warringal3084@gmail.com](mailto:warringal3084@gmail.com) The dates are as follows.

- Lost in Yonkers by Neil Simon, Wednesday 20th February
- It's a Wonderful Life based on film by Frank Capra, Wednesday 8th May
- A View from the Bridge by Arthur Miller, Wednesday 10th July
- The Drawer Boy by Michael Healy, Wednesday 11th September
- Tartuffe by Moliere, Wednesday 20th November

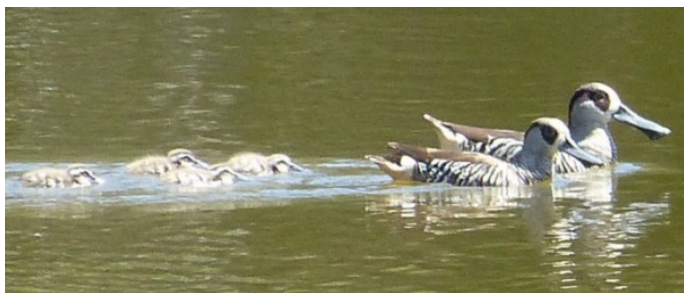


### Report - Breakfast with the Birds Oct 28th 2018

The annual birding followed by breakfast event organised by Birdlife Melbourne and Banyule City Council happened on Sunday Oct 28th. It was a poor show by many who booked: 102 signed up and 42 turned up, so 7 leaders were not needed. And it wasn't a bad day weatherwise, cool but dry and a light breeze. The winter had been very dry so no one expected an outstanding bird tally; but many species are faithful to this habitat and 70 species were recorded within Banyule Flats, 25 species in Warringal Parklands. The highlight of the day (and this spring) was a pair of Pink-eared Ducks who reared a clutch of 4 chicks. The first record of Pinkies breeding at Banyule Swamp. Chick survival was poor but all participants saw the parents and at least one chick.

Special thanks to Janet Hand (Birdlife Melbourne) and Jim Mead (Banyule Council) for all your hard work.

*Daphne Hards*



*Pink-eared Ducks with ducklings on Banyule Swamp. (Photo: Anthea Fleming)*

### End of year field trip to Kurth Kiln Regional Park

Sunday 11 November saw us heading off to Kurth Kiln Regional Park near Gembrook. We had a perfect day for it and our hosts Ursula and Alfred Klink made us very welcome. The Friends of Kurth Kiln group officially started in June 1999, but Ursula and Alfred's interest goes back some 10 years further when they started to collect information on the historic place and its creator, Professor Kurth.

After enjoying a shared morning tea, Alfred gave us an interesting and entertaining talk about the history of Kurth Kiln. In 1941 Kurth responded to wartime petrol rationing by developing a continuous operation charcoal kiln to supply charcoal for wood-gas generator units especially adapted for motor vehicles. After the kiln was de-commissioned in 1946, the Forestry Commission Victoria started using the site as a base camp for its forest

management activities. In 1982, after FCV moved out, Kurth Kiln was developed as a picnic ground.

From around 1990 onwards the Friends Group, with Parks Victoria support, have provided guided tours of the kiln site; creating interactive displays and historic archives. The kiln, a 10m high red brick and steel structure has become a landmark at the centre of the 3,500ha Kurth Kiln Park. FoKK also restore and revegetate remnant bush areas, develop and promote the walking tracks along Tomahawk Creek and install signs with information on local flora and fauna. A Heritage Festival is held here every year.

Our group explored the historical precinct of the park, which includes the repaired Kiln, interesting displays of photos, equipment and some of the vehicles modified to use the charcoal gas producer systems. After lunch, a few members looked for birds, while others went for a walk along the Tomahawk Creek. This is a lovely place to visit and spend some hours, there are a range of walks through the park, some shared by horse riders. Before leaving Daphne thanked Ursula and Alfred for their hospitality and presented them with our books, 'Beautiful Banyule' and 'Birds in Heidelberg and Yarra Valley'.

On the way home we took a detour in to the base of the Melba ventilation stack at the eastern end of the Mullum Mullum tunnel. The massive structure dwarfed us and the bus, giving the group an idea of the size and presence we can expect with any such stacks on the North East Link tunnel section through the Banyule Flats.

*Heather Smith*



*Hearing about the history of Kurth Kiln from Alfred and Ursula Klink from Friends of Kurth Kiln*





*Kurth Kiln*

### October 2018 working bee

The final working bee for 2018 was with Friends of Wilson's Reserve (FoWR). It was a lovely morning, working alongside FoWR members. We started by pulling up hundreds of tiny Box Elder seedlings. Box Elder (*Acer negundo*) are an invasive weed tree which have been removed on the opposite side of the river. These seedlings came from a very old, mature Box Elder nearby that cannot be culled as it holds a Powerful Owl nest + family. It was good to catch up with FoWR President, Margaret and others of this dedicated group including Adriana the BCC representative. We also worked hard on clearing patches of Angled Onion (*Allium triquetrum*), Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and Sticky Weed (*Galium aparine*).



*Warringal Conservation Society members Lene and Don at Wilson Reserve*

### Interpretative signs: official launch

On Friday 9 November a small group gathered at the Banyule Flats swamp viewing area to officially launch [with a cuppa] the new interpretative signs developed by WCS in collaboration with Banyule Bushland staff Megan Lowe and Chris Callahan. Joining WCS members, Banyule Bushland Management and BCC Environment people were guests of honour, photographers Rodger Scott and Ian Wilson who had very kindly donated some of their wonderful bird photos for use on the sign. Other contributing photographers were WCS's own Anthea Fleming and Daphne Hards. If you haven't seen them yet – there is one at the swamp viewing area and one at the northern end of the Swamp.



*Interpretative sign and photographers*

### Banyule Thematic Environmental History

This report, prepared by Context, was adopted by Banyule Council on 29 October 2018. The report identifies 12 key themes in Banyule's history: Aboriginal Country; Settling on the land; Transport and communication; Developing industries; Suburban development; Community and cultural life; Recreation and sport; Parks and gardens and the urban landscape; Defence; The artistic landscape; Public health; and Conserving the waterways and bushland. The WCS Committee submitted comments on an earlier draft of the report and most of our suggestions were incorporated. The report is available on the BCC website: <https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/heritagethemes> The completion of the Banyule Thematic Environmental History forms stage 1 of the BCC initiative to provide additional protection of places of historical significance in our area. Stage 1 - Heritage Themes provides a framework to better understand the historical context of heritage

places in Banyule and to assess their significance. Stage 2 - Heritage Study, to commence early in 2019, will identify places of heritage significance and provide planning recommendations for their statutory protection.

Stage 3 - Planning Scheme Amendment will apply the heritage overlay to places assessed as having heritage significance in the Heritage Study.

### **69-71 Banyule Rd, Rosanna VCAT case**

This proposal was for a 33 unit multi storey development, after community objections the developer is now proposing a 30 Unit development with very minor improvements. WCS has lodged a Statement of Grounds stating our concerns:

- Reduction of tree canopy and habitat, including some remnant native vegetation including several River Red Gums The intensity of proposed building will not provide space for replacement of these trees.
- Impact on the biodiversity and width of the wildlife corridor. Replacement planting will need decades before it can replace wildlife habitat
- Closeness to and visibility from the reserve, reducing public amenity
- Potential pollution of Banyule Creek, Banyule Wetlands and the Yarra River resulting from runoff into the creek during construction, and oil from driveways and pesticides and fertilisers from gardens post construction.

WCS members Gianna Romano and Michelle Giovas are parties to the case and will be attending the 3 day case which is being held on 6, 7 and 8th February at VCAT's King St offices. Warringal members are welcome to attend in support.

### **Towards Zero Waste Management Plan 2019-2023**

This Plan, adopted by Banyule Council on 19 November, was developed in consultation with a community reference group which met every 3-4 weeks from February to June 2018. WCS was one of 59 individuals and organisations to submit comment on a draft of the Plan. The vision stated in the Plan is that "Banyule is a community motivated to achieve zero waste to landfill by 2030."

The Plan's four strategic directions to achieve zero waste are:

- Avoid waste generation
- Build, support and strengthen a community culture that is striving to achieve zero waste
- Deliver environmentally responsible and cost-

effective recycling and waste services

- Advocate to other levels of government to avoid waste, reduce waste to landfill and increase recycling.

In adopting the Plan Council required that: a business case for the removal of food waste from the garbage stream be prepared early in 2019; that Council officers report quarterly to Council on the progress towards achieving the Towards Zero Waste Management Plan actions; and that the Banyule Environment Advisory Committee (BEAC) includes waste as a permanent Committee's agenda item.

### **Council's Commitment to Acting on Climate Change**

This very important Climate Change Action Package resulted in much discussion at the Council meeting 10 December. The report is included in the agenda papers for that meeting and will be placed on Council's Climate Change Action webpage together with data and information on Council's environmental targets and KPIs.

<https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/Council/Environment-and-Sustainability/Climate-Change-Action>

Council resolutions when adopting this report included action to:

- Establish a target to achieve carbon neutrality by 2028 without the purchase carbon offsets
- Consider an additional \$5 million budget over the next 3 years to include council property updates, fleet efficiency, 10 'green collar' internships, preparation of a business case on long-term abatement initiatives, and increasing environmental grants by \$50,000 for the next two years
- Receive annual implementation updates on the report
- Adopt the C40 Framework, currently used by other local government areas and major capital cities worldwide, to identify a long term pathway to best practice climate change response actions.

### **Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018**

Led by staff of Melbourne Water, WCS was one of 220 organisations involved in developing this Strategy for the Port Phillip and Westernport region. We welcomed this new, collaborative approach to planning. Our Committee members attended many community consultation workshops and working party meetings, and also made written submissions on draft targets, focussing on the Yarra River and our local tributaries. The result is a long-term vision



## News & Events cont.

supported by goals, 10-50 year targets and 10-year performance objectives. The document includes quantifiable metrics assessing the current status of the Catchment, allowing for ongoing measurement to assess whether targets are met. You can access a copy of the Strategy at <https://yoursay.melbournewater.com.au/healthy-waterways>

### Warrigal Conservation Society Greeting Cards

These lovely cards depict the centrepiece of our Banyule Flats area – the Banyule Swamp. Blank inside they can be used for any occasion, including as Christmas cards.

Well priced at \$3.50 each (envelope enclosed) or three for \$10, they are available for purchase at meetings or request via email: [warrigal3084@gmail.com](mailto:warrigal3084@gmail.com).



## Recreational Duck Shooting in Victoria, 2019.

Every October for over 36 years, expert independent researchers from the Centre for Ecosystem Science at the University of New South Wales have surveyed wetlands and waterbirds across Eastern Australia. Up to 2,000 wetlands and rivers, and up to 50 different waterbird species (many unique to Australia including threatened species), have been observed. These surveys provide one of the country's most important long-term data sets on the health and biodiversity of our river and wetland environments.

Sadly, the data shows a continued long term decline in total waterbird abundance and breeding. The 34th survey (2016) showed waterbird numbers were at their lowest levels ever recorded. The 35th survey (2017) backed the continuing trend.

Had we protected our native waterbird species from hunting in recent years, juveniles could have bred and assisted in bird number recovery. Instead, hunting seasons have been allowed, and high numbers of immature birds have been found in shooters' bags inspected by authorities. The 36th survey in October 2018 has shown a further decline in numbers of native waterbirds.

Drought conditions are most terrible in QLD and NSW. Many of the birds in those States will have moved to seek refuge on Victoria's waterways. But there, unfortunately, despite the continuing decline

in waterbird numbers, the Victorian Government is allowing another duck shooting season to go ahead.

It will be modified from twelve to nine weeks commencing on Saturday 16th March and closing on Sunday 19th May. Hunters will be restricted to four game ducks per day on the opening weekend, with a five game duck per day bag limit for the remainder of the nine week season. Again the Blue-winged Shoveler is prohibited from being hunted.

WCS is deeply concerned about the significant continued long term decline of our native waterbirds, the hotter and drier environmental pressures they face, the proven cruelty inflicted on them by hunters which is unacceptable in a modern society, the inability of authorities to monitor duck shooting, and the potential social and economic impacts on rural communities that the loss of our beautiful unique waterbirds may cause. We are also concerned that more millions of taxpayer dollars have been promised to maintain a minority activity that most voters oppose.

We have expressed our concerns many times to our politicians. Our most recent letter, in which we urge the Government to at least call a moratorium on recreational duck shooting in Victoria for 2019, is attached to this Newsletter.

*Celia Smith*

## North East Link update

Michelle Giovas attended the last Community Liaison Group – North Meeting, 7th December 2018. NELA responded to questions with the following answers:

- location of air quality monitoring stations to be provided.
- NELA will work with EPA to ensure compliance with current and future legislation where possible.
- The Environmental Effects (EES) Statement Panel hearing is likely to begin around July 2019 and go for about five weeks. DELWP runs the process with panel members selected from Planning Panels Victoria. NELA is the project proponent,
- The EES will assess the reference design. Any modifications made by tenderers must still comply with the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs) If any ‘problems’ are identified with the reference design during the assessment, recommendations could be made by the panel, but the reference design won’t need to be amended because it’s effectively only a brief for tenderers.
- The EES is reviewed by the Technical Reference Group and specialists as it is being drafted. It is reviewed by the Minister before it is exhibited.
- The final design must comply with EPRs. It must be consistent with the study area and the

impact assessments completed or it could require a supplementary EES. Such drastic changes would cause major delays and be unappealing when choosing prospective tenderers. The eventual design won’t require sign off from the community

- NELA is still working on the Cultural Heritage Management Plan. Banyule Council is one of many stakeholders providing input where applicable

If the project is to proceed, CLG community members are urging that the tunnel be extended further north to past Grimshaw Street. This has many environmental and social benefits. Costs to do this are being worked on by the Community. NELA Engineers presented on tunnelling techniques, Cut and Cover through the Army Barracks, Tunnel Boring Machine under Banyule Flats and Mined through Bulleen. Sheer size and scale of works is huge, divisive and damaging. 12 hectares is required as a “support site.” Bulleen industrial area and land alongside the Yarra has been set aside for this.

Flood walls of 1 to 3m will be built along the Yarra to prevent Flooding of the tunnel entrances and interchanges.

The next CLG meeting is being held Friday 15th Feb, if there are any questions you want raised with NELA, please let us know.

*Michelle Giovas*

## Tunnel construction – TBM launch site





## North East Link update cont.



Artist impression. Subject to change

*Land set aside for TBM launch site at Manningham Rd*

## Committee Report - November 2018

### Committee Business

Dianne and Michelle attended a Yarra Strategic Plan round table hosted by Environment Justice Australia and Yarra Riverkeepers at the Old Shire Hall, Oct 13th. There was good discussion, networking and a walk round the parklands.

We commented On Banyule's Draft Towards Zero Waste Management Plan 2019-2023.

We commented on Heidelberg's Activity Centre and Medical Precinct Public Realm Strategy.

Members of the committee attended Swinburne's Centre for Urban Transitions: Forum around transport, energy and housing infrastructure, Oct 18<sup>th</sup>.

Melbourne Water have released their Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018-2028. The Committee has contributed many hours of discussion to this project.

BCC accepted the Banyule Thematic Environmental History report on Oct 29<sup>th</sup> 2018.

Daphne attended AGM of SSOSCC. Latrobe University's \$5billion "city of the future" announced.

Several members attended the Banyule Homestead street party Oct 28<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the planning rejection by VCAT.

### North East Link

Attended Sustainable Cities (Friends of the Earth) meetings with Rachel Lynskey. Combined forces. More impact.

Banyule City Council presented their NEL Progress Report Oct 29. Still stating their opposition to Option A, seeking funds for salaries, advocating for Watsonia.

WCS Facebook: we are planning stepwise posts re threats from NEL, e.g. noise, lights, air pollution, water contamination, loss of green spaces.

Infrastructure Australia have declared NEL is a High Priority Project nationally.

### Projects

The committee is very proud to see our interpretive sign project at Banyule Flats come to fruition. Our thanks to Banyule Council for an Environmental Sustainability Grant and their support. One sign is beside the Main Yarra Trail north of the wetland and the second is at the Swamp lookout.

### Guest Speaker

Tanya Loos, field naturalist and ecologist, spoke on The Ecology, Evolution and Conservation of Rakali (Water Rat).

*Daphne Hards*

## Committee Report - December 2018

### Business

Confirmed topics for next year's member meetings include: Powerful owls, Wildlife Victoria, Artificial light impacts on fauna, impact of drought on native flora, recording the sounds of the wild.

The committee have been liaising with Banyule City Council on a vision for Banyule flats – a vision for how we would like it to be in 10, 20, 50 years time. The Committee will be meeting with BCC staff in the New Year so see how our ideas can be incorporated into Council Plans.

- endorsing prior suggestions of having a more natural flow of creek/stormwater through the wetland rather than bypassing, with possible overflow reaching Banyule Billabong
- good riparian planting along and around waterways and ephemeral depressions
- more natural creek and drain lines
- open grassy woodlands instead of mown grass with trees
- softening of the straight Billabong fence
- protective under-planting around the listed Studley Park Gum at the southern Billabong gate and the River Red Gum at the southern Billabong gate.

We would welcome further ideas from members?

### Events

Our end of year excursion to Kurth Kiln and regional park at Gembrook was very interesting. We learnt about the history of the kiln, the work of the Friends group, and was spotted new birds and beautiful wildflowers.

### North East Link

The Committee, working with FOB and our members distributed many leaflets through letter boxes and a stall at Heidelberg shopping strip re the NEL and public transport as State Government Policy election issue. We wrote to 42 candidates stating our views, ran a campaign on our facebook site, and attended pre-election meetings. Unfortunately the election result means that NEL is now high-priority project for the Andrews Government.

Committee members met with BCC environment team last week to discuss ideas for requests to NELA for environmental offsets or compensation. Consistent with the Vision for Banyule Flats, ideas included widening the riparian zones along waterways to compensate for tree loss, a permanent solution to watering Banyule Billabong, stormwater

management to improve water quality in creeks and ultimately the Yarra, new walk/cycle paths on the eastern side of the Yarra with a footbridge near the Plenty River confluence, translocation of matted flax-lily within Banyule. The response was very positive and BCC will adopt all of our ideas for their submission to NELA. Will be making a separate submission to follow up our earlier letter to Duncan Elliott

### Preview of our next meeting

No General meeting in January.

February meeting will be preceded by an informal fund-raising dinner commencing at 6.15pm.

All food and soft drinks will be provided by the Committee. Donation invited: adults \$15 and kids \$10. BYO wine and beer.

### Speakers

December is traditionally our 'Member's night' and we enjoyed thoroughly entertaining and stimulating presentations on members trips and activities during the year:

Heather Smith spoke on New Haven Sanctuary, also known as New Haven Station 360 km NW of Alice Springs at the junction of three distinct bioregions: the Great Sandy Desert, MacDonnell Ranges and Burt Plain in the Northern Territory. We saw amazing landscape images and creative tapestry

Daphne Hards shared photos and tales from her Barmah horse and carriage trekking adventures via mighty Clydesdales

Doug McNaughton shared amazing tales and photos of local birds and restoration work on Farina Station, an abandoned rail head township in South Australia. It is now renowned for its bakery and the rescue of this historical town.

Dianne Williamson shared photos of the remarkable Friedensreich Hundertwasser - Architecture and environment. The photos showcased Hundertwasser opposition of "a straight line" and his incorporation of nature into his works, trees planted in walls, grass roofs etc. He was certainly imaginative and ahead of his time.

*Michelle Giovas*



## Nature Notes

### November 2018

Irene Kearsey: Grey Kangaroo near the corner of Hodgson and Brown Streets, Heidelberg

Doug McNaughton: A pair of Grey Butcher birds with three young. They quickly fledged and left the nest.

William Deane: 120 Little Corellas near Somerset Drive playing fields

Helen Boak: A flock of Galahs

James Deane: Seen along the Main Yarra Trail in Ivanhoe – a dog chasing a Swamp Wallaby

Anthea Fleming: Pink-eared ducks with four chicks.

### December 2018

Helen Boak: Rainbow Lorikeets

Dianne Williamson: Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes in backyard

Jane Crone: Silver-eyes and Wattlebirds

Anthea Fleming: lizards (garden skinks, water skinks, blue tongues), wattlebirds nesting and very aggressive

Daphne Hards: Little Raven, Magpies, Silver eyes,

Celia Smith: Tawny Frogmouth near Possum Hollow

Don Stokes: Little Ravens eating bread dipping it in water to soften it.

James Deane: Platypus under Banksia Street bridge

Gianna, William, Robert and James - Boobook Owl near Cattle Yards.

## WCS Annual Subscriptions

### WCS subscriptions due July 2019

WCS membership subscriptions for 2019/2020 are due in July. These are used for the costs of running the Society that include hall hire, insurance, and postage. Subscriptions can be paid to the Treasurer Daphne Hards at a meeting or planting, or a cheque can be sent by mail using the form below. Subscriptions can also be paid electronically directly into the

Society's bank account using the following information:

Account Name: Warringal Conservation Society

BSB: 633108 Account No: 143918613

Be sure to identify yourself as the depositor. To be certain, you can email [warringal3084@gmail.com](mailto:warringal3084@gmail.com) that your deposit has been made.

### Warringal Conservation Society Annual Subscription

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

**Mobile:**

**Special area of interest:**

**Annual subscription type:**

☐ **Single \$20**

☐ **Family \$25**

☐ **Concession (seniors, students etc) \$15**

☐ **Life subscription \$200**

**Membership application/renewal (for July 2019-June 2020)**

**Donations always welcome**

**Please send this form and subscription (cheque or money order) to:**

**Warringal Conservation Society PO Box 64 Rosanna 3084 VIC**

## Nature Notes

### January 2019

Anthea Fleming: Pink eared ducks with four chicks. Imperial Blue butterflies and pupal cases



Gianna, William, Robert and James: Boobook Owls making trilling sounds, Barn Owl in tree hollow and regurgitated pellets containing rat bones (below left), kangaroos on Viewbank Hill (below right)



**Would you like to receive your newsletter by email rather than a paper copy in the regular mail**

Save paper and see the photos in colour. Contact us at [warringal3084@gmail.com](mailto:warringal3084@gmail.com)

If not delivered return to: PO Box 64, Rosanna 3084



**WARRINGAL  
CONSERVATION  
SOCIETY**

Registered by Australia Post  
Publication No: 100005201

PRINT  
POS

POST  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA