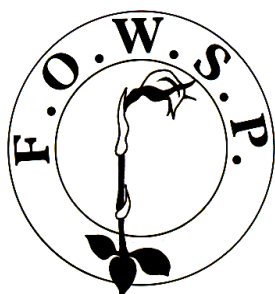


October 2025**Volume 43 Number 8**

Friends of Warrandyte State Park



Newsletter

Website: www.fowsp.org.auFriends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) Inc. PO Box 220 Warrandyte 3113
ABN 94170156655/Incorporation No. A0024890C

Editor's Corner

Hi

A bumper edition this month as my correspondents have returned from their trips to warmer climes. There are reports from Don p.9 and Linda (her trip and Frogland) on pp. 4-6.

Thanks also to Cathy for an update on the rope bridges on Jumping Creek Road, and to Louise for highlighting a danger to native wildlife from eating toxic *Phalaris* p. 8.

Take an early note of the AGM in November. We'd love to see you there.

This edition also includes a flyer and order form for a book published by the Warrandyte Community Association on Bev Hanson's work. Bev is also opening her garden in November, so go along and admire the planting and landscaping, for which she has become renowned.

John Young

Notice of AGM

The FOWSP AGM will be held at 5pm on Sunday, 16th November, 2025. The meeting will be held in the Nursery Folly and, as usual, bring your own food and drinks. The draft minutes from the 2024 AGM can be found on the FOWSP website.



An Olive-backed Oriole (*Oriolus sagittatus*). A spring and summer visitor to Victoria and NSW from further north. Its distinctive call of *orri-olly-oriole* can be heard regularly around Pound Bend.

Bev Hanson is opening her garden to raise money for the Mechanics Hall. The venue is 104 Webb St. on Sunday November 9th from 10am. — 4.30pm. Entry \$10. Tickets via www.trybooking.com/DFFYS (or pay at gate).

**Deadline for November's newsletter is
Friday **October 24th, 2025****

**contributions can be emailed to [John Young editor@fowsp.org.au](mailto:John.Young@fowsp.org.au)
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113**

Around The Traps



Our treasurer, Tony, press-ganged into admitting his birthday and, tentatively, cutting his cake.

Recipes of the Month

Simple lemon yoghurt cake

1 3/4 cups sugar
 2 eggs
 1/2 tsp salt
 3 tsp lemon juice
 2 lemons (zested)
 3/4 cup vegetable oil
 1 cup plain yoghurt
 2 cups self-raising flour

Preheat oven to 180°C

Mix rind, oil, eggs and sugar with a fork

Add remaining ingredients and combine well

Pour into greased tin and bake for 30 minutes

Cool and dust with icing sugar

Cathy



A bonsai *Banksia marginata* that really should have pride of place at the nursery. Normally, it lives in an undefined area near the fern collection. Here, it gets an airing on a sunny Thursday morning.



A male King Parrot (*Alisterus scapularis*), a regular around the nursery

Photo: Joy

Propagation from cuttings

The FOWSP nursery uses two ways of propagating new stock. The most obvious is from seed and the nursery has a large collection of seed stock, stored in a compactus in the Education Centre. Germinating seed is kept in the top igloo, waiting to be pricked out into tubes.

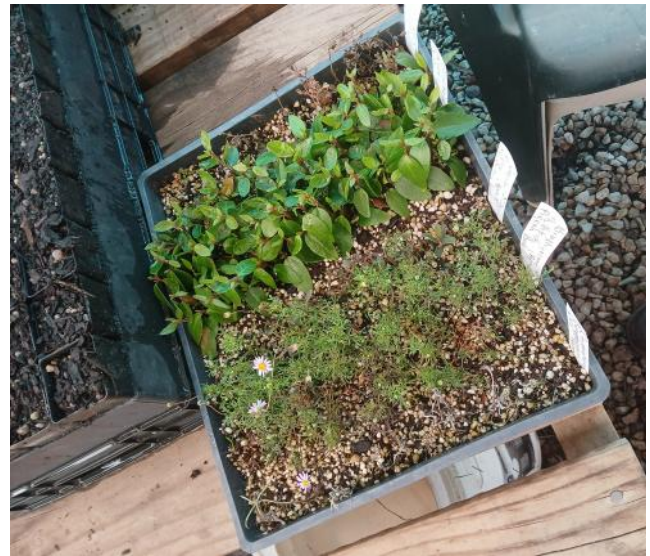
Another method uses cuttings. Theoretically, cuttings can be propagated from any woody stem. In practice, of course, some are a lot easier than others. At FOWSP, a dedicated duo, Alwynne and Louise, set a large number of cuttings every week. Although I said anything can potentially be used as a cutting, the most successful are *Correa*, *Brachyscome*, *Grevillea*, *Acacia*, *Persoonia*, *Davisia*, *Olearia* and *Pultanea*.

The method is summarised as:

- Select fresh growth and take a 5-6cm cutting
- Find a leaf node
- Cut at an angle just under the node
- Trim other leaves above the node but leave the top 2 to 4 leaves intact
- Dip in any rooting or hormone compound
- Pack in a loose mix (1), close together
- Keep moist and warm until roots appear (simple!!)



Above: Alwynne prepares cuttings taken from a *Casaurina*.



Above: close packed cuttings ready to go into the igloo



Above: an experiment with coconut fibre filled single cells to try and propagate *Casaurina*, notoriously difficult

(1) Currently FOWSP is using a 50/50 mix of perlite and coconut fibre.

Trip to northern NSW

Golden wings flashed briefly, then the glossy black bird and with bright gold on its head, nape and wings, disappeared and re-appeared, feeding high amongst the shrubs by our camp at Grassy Heads, NSW. A phone search quickly confirmed it was the male Regent Bowerbird. A new sighting for me. Though not a birdo, this was a highlight of our caravan camping along coastal northern NSW, August 2025. Sorry, no photo. I only stood in awe, with no camera in hand.



Ed—I couldn't let Linda's wonderful description go by without showing the male Regent Bowerbird (Sericulus chrysocephalus) in all its glory

Of animals I did photograph on this trip, two that I found interesting are shown to the right. Neither have yet been recorded in Victoria but are frequently seen on the NSW northern coastal areas (more commonly in Queensland).

Crockers Frother, and other Frothers (*Amerila* sp), often produce a froth of orange bubbles behind their eyes. This one must have felt calm as no frothing occurred when moved onto a leaf (see top right). The pale areas on the wings were fairly transparent. If the top of the abdomen is bright red-orange but the underneath is white with black dots (see centre right).



Above: *Comibaena marinae* is one of the emerald moths. Although most commonly seen along the eastern coast of Australia, it has not yet been noted in Victoria on iNaturalist. <https://www.inaturalist.org/>

Linda

Home in Briar Hill and FOWSP

As anticipated, arriving back home at the first of September meant the blooms of early spring were well underway.

In my own garden, it was impossible not to notice the yellow of golddust wattle (*Acacia acinacea*) on one side of the pathway, while *Hardenbergia violacea* graced the other side.



Walking in nearby Andrew Yandell Reserve, Greensborough, I paused frequently to admire the creamy topping the blooms of *Clematis microphylla* had given the bush (see below).



The shy bell-like flowers of indigenous tree violets (see right: *Hymenanthera dentata* in Flora of Warrandyte but now *Melicytus dentata*)

caught my attention in the sunshine. Their fragrance helps me remember they are members of the violet family *Violaceae*.

Of course, I was keen to get back to FOWSP and see how Frogland was faring in early September. The *Clematis microphylla* were not the only eye-catching blooms there.

The white blooms of *Epacris impressa* are pleasing to see each year, as these are proving difficult to establish within Frogland. These few plants have been transplanted from pots, where they have spent several years as a source of cuttings.



Other plants of note are some early flowering *Indigophora australis*, mostly white flowering and rather delicate in appearance, which I believe came from a location near nursery assistant Lynda's home. Marie (see right) shows the height of

these *Indigophoras*, and (inset) is a close-up of the pale blooms. *Indigophoras* from another source in Frogland are deeper rose-pink and still in tight bud.

Cont'd p6

Home in Briar Hill and FOWSP (cont'd)

Several wattles were putting on a show, including *Acacia myrtifolia* and a large golden wattle *A. dealbata*. It would be lovely if these begin to self-seed within Frogland, as many other desirable plants have (see photos below).



Several bushes of our local bushy needlewood (*Hakea decurrens*) were covered in white blooms, which should be very attractive to small native bees and other insects on a warm day.



Lastly, just as I was packing up to leave Frogland, I noticed this interesting snout moth which had rusty-red wing markings contrasting nicely with my pale blue car. It is confirmed as [*Anemosa exanthes*](#) on iNaturalist, sometimes called a grass moth.

Linda

Rope Bridge Crossings

Readers of the FOWSP Newsletter may recall that, in July 2024, I reported on work, done by Manningham City Council, in monitoring rope bridges installed over Jumping Creek Road and Brysons Road. The rope bridges were installed in anticipation of road-widening works in the area. The idea was that animals, particularly the endangered Brush-tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa*), would use these bridges to avoid the forthcoming disruptions.

The results, so far, have been encouraging. In a report on Year 2 of the project (from June 2025) there have been over 280 sightings of the Phascogale. The majority of these are at the shorter rope bridge near the Jumping Creek park entrance. The report postulates that the shorter, more concealed, bridge at this location may encourage the Phascogale to cross, thus minimising the chance of being spotted by an owl. There is no way of proving this, and it may simply be that there are more Phascogales in this area.

The crossings have a seasonal variation, with higher observations in autumn and early winter, coinciding with the species' dispersal and breeding seasons.

What is also of note, is that there are Phascogale observations over four of the bridges. Technical issues with cameras have restricted observations on one of the crossings.

Observations of Ring-tailed Possums (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*) have remained fairly consistent over the 2 year observation period, at around 900 observations per year.

The cameras also failed to record any nocturnal predators. This has led the researchers to conclude that the rate of predation is not affected by the use of bridge crossings. This mirrors earlier research.

A monitoring programme has commenced on the rope bridge close to the "Warrandyte Bridge". However, due to the high cost of these programmes, it is believed that it will pause for a while after next year.



Above: multiple Ring-tail Possums cross the bridge. Below: Sam Gilbert's photo of a Phascogale seen watching the watchers.



Kangaroo deaths increasing

Wildlife Victoria recently issued a press release pointing to an alarming increase in kangaroo deaths from *Phalaris* poisoning. The increase, which they are labeling a crisis, is linked to environmental pressures such as prolonged drought and farming conditions. This, in turn, is placing a huge strain on their ability to respond.

Phalaris is a common pasture grass grown widely for grazing livestock. However, it can become toxic to kangaroos under certain seasonal conditions. Over the recent winter, this toxicity has had a catastrophic impact on Victoria's native wildlife, particularly Eastern Grey Kangaroos (*Macropus giganteus*). Below, recorded notifications.

Month	2024	2025
June	77	285
July	93	473

Signs of toxicity include tremors, loss of coordination and disorientated or subdued mentation, making the kangaroos' movements uncontrollable and jerky before, often, leading to death. Dependant joeys are then orphaned due to the death of the mother, either from the neurological syndrome or euthanasia.

Wildlife Victoria responds to notifications of poisoning by sedating the kangaroo with a dart gun, followed by humane euthanasia, as there is little chance of recovery. The cost of the darting alone is \$250 per case and Wildlife Victoria has already spent over \$100,000 this winter. In addition, there is the workload of volunteers responding to the surge in calls and then caring for orphans.

It is unlikely that there is a solution to this crisis unless significant rainfall increases the supply of native grasses in areas away from pasture. Populations of kangaroos are also being displaced from traditional grazing areas around Melbourne, due to housing development.

Donations can be made to Wildlife Victoria via their website
www.wildlifevictoria.org.au.

Thanks to Louise for passing this on.

Roadkill — are virtual fences the answer?

Tying in with the previous article, and the rope bridges along Jumping Creek Road, there is the broader problem of roadkill in the Nillumbik and Manningham districts.

The same problem, drought, has brought larger numbers of animals, particularly kangaroos, to Melbourne's fringes. Large numbers of insurance claims are being lodged for kangaroo-related collisions. One insurer alone, RACV Insurance, has received over 23,000 claims over the last 5 years, with 2024 the highest at 5883.

It is not just kangaroos. Echidnas, wombats and birds are also in the firing line.

In an attempt to reduce the toll, Manningham Council has installed Virtual Fencing along Jumping Creek Road — between Nelson Drive and the entrance to Jumping Creek Reserve.

Some types of virtual fence work by activating an electric shock through a collar worn by the animal as it approaches the fence. For wildlife, this is obviously not possible. For this application, posts are placed along the road and are activated by approaching headlights from dusk to dawn. The devices then emit a sound, paired with flashing blue and yellow lights, which alert the animals and form a virtual barrier.

The trial in Warrandyte is at the early stages. However, there has been a highly successful trial taking place along Forest Road in Anglesea. Surfcoast Wildlife Rescue had noted an average of 250 kangaroo and wallaby deaths annually before the trial. This has dropped by 81% over the 3 years of the trial, resulting in over 600 fewer deaths on this road alone. Significant reductions in bird strikes and collisions with other animals, such as echidna and possums, were also recorded.

Local Councils are to be applauded for this initiative. They have recently provided submissions to a Parliamentary Inquiry into wildlife strikes in Victoria and are waiting on feedback. Hopefully, some extra funding will flow, as this is an economic issue as well as an environmental one. For every dead animal, there is a bashed up car (average claim \$8984 — RACV data).

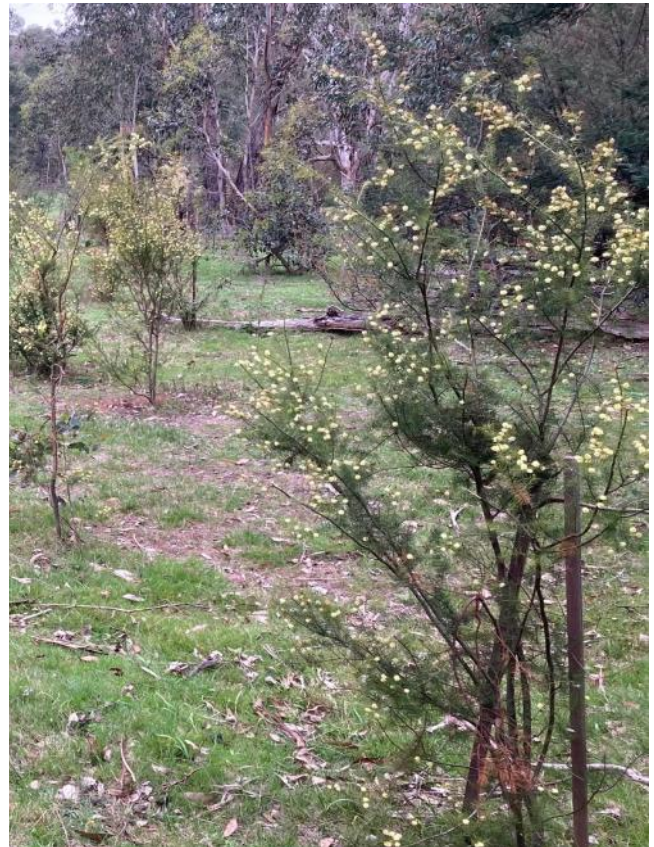
TAG report for September

September has seen us in full Spring mode, with lots of weeding, as well as searching for emerging orchids.

On the 18th of September we were at Nilja/Longridge Farm, continuing to acquit the grant from the Lions Club, digging out the vast area of *Agapanthus* and planting (in carefully constructed guards) *Banksia marginata*, *Caryx* and *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*.

The 25th of September saw us at St Andrew's, in Kerr's Gully, for our annual hunt for Spanish Heath (*Erica lusitanica*), Boneseed (*Osteospermum moniliferum*), Gorse (*Ulex*) and Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*). Damage from browsing deer was very evident.

More positively, the work by TAGgers and volunteers on National Tree Day plantings, on Endeavour Bank over the past five years, is looking great. After overcoming dry seasons and browsing animals, the acacias in particular are flowering well.



Don

Above: the wattles at Endeavour Bank



Above: Charlie and David admiring their work

TAGS (Thursday activity groups)

TAGS meet at the nursery at 9.00 am for a 9.15 am departure. Please remember to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather, and please bring your own filled water bottle.
Contact number: 0408 317 327

Difficulty ratings:

Easy: Even terrain, some light lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Few tripping hazards.

Moderate: Uneven terrain, light to heavy lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Tripping hazards present.

Difficult: Steep terrain, light to heavy lifting, working in over-grown areas and lots of bending. Many tripping hazards and slippery surfaces present.

Check the website for any changes at <http://fowsp.org.au/activities.php>

02/10/25	St.Andrews NCR	Kylie/ Justin	Sallow wattle, broom, gorse, boneseed, bulbine weeds	Difficult
09/10/25	Frogland/Endeavour Bank	Linda/ Josh	Ixia removal, planting, weeding	Easy
16/10/25	Craspedia Fence	Phil/Cam	Weeding, Thinning	Moderate
23/10/25	Chaim Court	Robyn	Woody weeding: pittos, blue- bell, ivy	Easy/mod
30/10/25	Morrisons—latrobiana fence	Phil	Weedy grasses, Disa and Ser- rated patrol	Easy/mod
6/11/25	Fourth Hill—Fiddler	Don	Briza, Sweet Vernal	Easy/mod

Notices

Habitat Gardening for Birds

Birds Australia have launched a six part video package designed to help gardeners design and plant to encourage birds.

The course is available through the Bird-Life Australia website and information can be found by accessing the following link.

<https://birdlife.org.au/habitat-gardening-for-birds-online/>

The course is free once you have established a MyBirdLife account.

Don't forget you can donate to FOWSP. Deductions can be included in your tax assessment.

<https://www.landcarevictoria.org.au/LVI/Donate/Make%20a%20donation.aspx>

Email the treasurer treasurer@fowsp.org.au to let him know about your donation.

Thank you.

Manningham Events

Two events that might be of interest to members over the next month or so.

There is a Spring Celebration at Ruffy Park on 18 October — all day (Kevin Heinze Grow, 39 Wetherby Road Doncaster) and a Manningham Cultural Walk on 2 November from 0930 to 1230. The latter is at Witton Reserve Canoe Launch, 59 Reserve Road Wonga Park and bookings are essential.

These events and others can be found on the Manningham Council website under *Environment and Sustainability*, although the website is not user friendly!

Market Trailer

If you are able to help out with transport of the Market Trailer please contact Artur (mylnet7@gmail.com)

FOWSP THURSDAY PROGRAM

We meet for propagation and other nursery activities every Thursday morning at 9.30 am at the Warrandyte State Park depot, Pound Bend Road, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10), unless otherwise stated below. Propagation takes place from 9.30 am to 12.30 midday.

No prior experience necessary -
There is always someone available to show you the ropes.

NURSERY OPENING HOURS

The nursery is open for plant sales every Thursday.

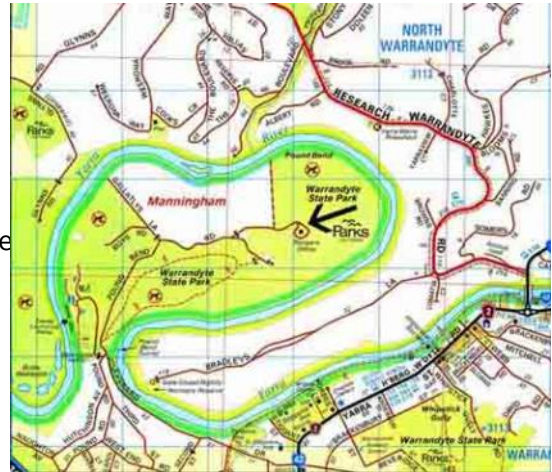
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and

the first Saturday of every month, 9am to 1pm (to coincide with the Warrandyte Market) April to November only.

Closed Christmas and New Years days.

Also closed to customers and volunteers on days of severe weather and on Total Fire Ban Days

Prices: Members \$2.50 Non-members \$3.00 (tube stock)



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Nillumbik Gardens For Wildlife

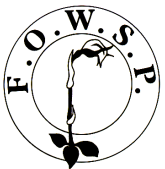
Gardens For Wildlife is a Nillumbik Council initiative designed to encourage and guide local residents to create wildlife-friendly gardens that support biodiversity and improve habitat connectivity.

Upon registering your interest (Google Nillumbik Gardens for Wildlife where you will see an on-line form), you will be visited by two trained, friendly and local 'Garden Guides' who will undertake an assessment, provide suggestions and a written report.

The programme is designed to provide guidance on habitat planting with indigenous plants. It is not a general gardening advice service, nor does it provide guidance on design or landscaping.

There is a newsletter with plenty of ideas for our own gardens, as well as a featured plant.

Each edition starts with the indigenous season we are currently in and runs through some of the things that might be happening.



FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who volunteered to run the trailer on
Saturday, 6 September, Christine Arndell, Chris Kay, Marie Krause, Pam von Drehnen, Lyn Moore, Jeff Cranston and Jan Falconer.

Trailer transport: Artur Muchow

The Warrandyte market is held on the first Saturday morning of the month from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm at Stiggants Reserve. Volunteers are rostered in pairs to (man/woman) the FOWSP information trailer for just one hour.

If you are interested in being on the market roster
please contact Jan Falconer on 0419 872 096 or email trailer@fowsp.org.au
First timers are always paired with someone more experienced.

Next market dates are:
Saturday, 4th October 2025
Saturday, 1st November 2025



FOWSP COMMITTEE 2025			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary	<u>Nursery Manager</u>	Josh Revell
			Nursery Phone	0408 317 327
			nursery@fowsp.org.au	
Tony Oliver		Treasurer and	<u>Park Office</u>	03 8427 2132
treasurer@fowsp.org.au		Membership		
John Young	0412327798	Newsletter editor	<u>Ranger contact</u>	
editor@fowsp.org.au			Phil Rance	
			philip.rance@parks.vic.gov.au	
Joy Hick	0418 573916		<u>Newsletter assist and Librarian</u>	
			Lyn Moore	
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		<u>Market Trailer</u>	
			Jan Falconer	0419 872 096
			trailer@fowsp.org.au	
Lyn Moore	0409 683 041	Wildlife rescue Victoria	<u>Manningham Council Rep</u>	
lynm333g@gmail.com		https://www.wildlifevictoria.org.au/contact-us	Cathy Willis	0427 660 651
Robyn Hull			<u>Webmaster</u>	
robynamelia@bigpond.com			Jason Patton	0402 121838
			webmaster@fowsp.org.au	
Jeff Cranston	0418 396 647	Staff Representative	<u>Facebook coordinator</u>	
legality@bigpond.com			Carolyn Noel	0409 901441
		Lynda Chambers		
		0466 274421 phenolo-		
		gist@gmail.com		

Next Committee Meeting	
Date:	Tuesday October 7, 2025
Venue:	Education Centre Pound Bend
Time:	17:00

Are your subs due??

Please check the message on the email you receive with the newsletter link by scrolling down beyond the link . If subs are due soon a message such as below will be seen in the email.:

'Please note that, according to our records, your Membership is due to expire on . Please click on the link below to renew your Membership.

http://fowsp.org.au/membership.php?member_id=&membership_renewal=Yes
Of course, if this matter has been attended to recently, please disregard.'

FOWSP Membership Renewal Form

Name

Address

.....

Telephone no.

Email

Membership (family) \$30
Concession \$15

Newsletter by email (tick box)

Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or renew on the website www.fowsp.org.au with the option of direct deposit payment.

Invitation

To the launch of 'Bev Hanson - Very Warrandyte'

Join us to celebrate the launch of the book
'Bev Hanson - Very Warrandyte'

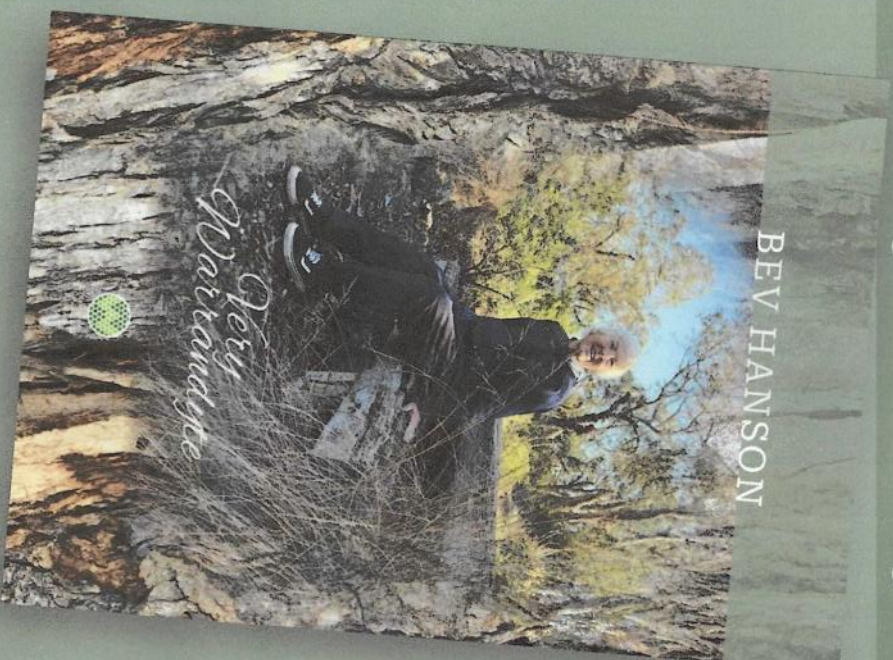
We are delighted to have Melissa King join us to launch the book.
A story of inspiration, passion, and the native gardens of local landscape designer environmental advocate, Bev Hanson.



Free: but bookings are essential
<https://www.trybooking.com/DFKGH>

Sunday
26th October
2:30pm

**Warrandyte
Neighbourhood House**
Community Hall
168-178 Yarra Street,
Warrandyte, 3113

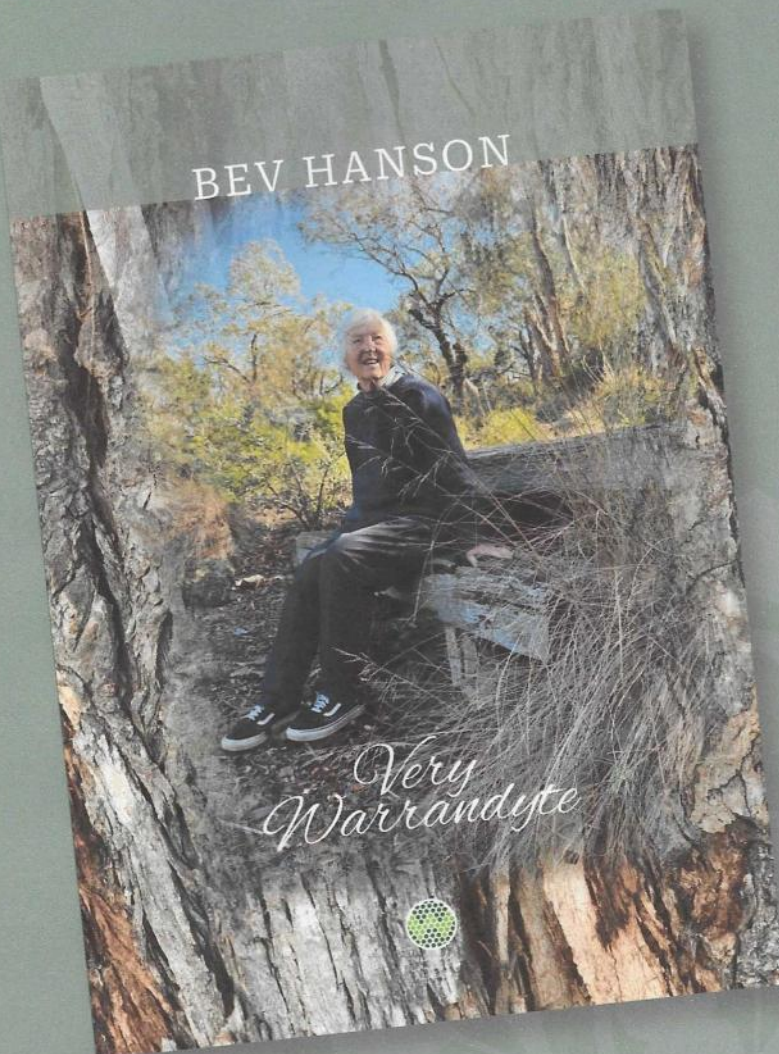


Warrandyte
Community
Association

'Bev Hanson - Very Warrandyte' A Warrandyte Community Association Publication

The WCA gratefully acknowledges the support given by the Bendigo Bank towards this project

Community Bank
Warrandyte
Bendigo Bank



BEV HANSON

A true force of nature

A forerunner of naturalistic
Australian garden design.
An indefatigable champion
for preserving the wild beauty
of upriver Warrandyte.
A cherished community identity
for almost 60 years.

'She is landscaping royally'
Sam Cox



72 pages of a
life of passion and
purpose - caring for
Warrandyte and the
natural environment.

\$24 plus
postage

The Warrandyte Community Association is proud to publish this book.

Bev Hanson, a foundation member of the Association, is one of our living Warrandyte treasures, and the publication of her story is long overdue.

We feel that Bev's unstinting and often unsung contribution to the preservation and enhancement of our town's beautiful natural environment needs to be recorded, as does her work throughout greater Melbourne.

Hopefully, this illustrated volume will inspire future generations to follow in Bev's footsteps: to promote naturalistic native garden landscaping and to care for and nurture the very special place that is Warrandyte, both for those who live here, and for the inspiration and enjoyment of the wider Melbourne community.



Warrandyte Community Association

'VERY WARRANDYTE' ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____

Email: _____

I would like to order: ☐ copies of 'Very Warrandyte' ☐ \$12.65 postage

Total: _____

Publication Date:
Late October

*The WCA gratefully
acknowledges the support
given by the Bendigo Bank
towards this project*

Warrandyte Community Association Bank Details for direct deposit: BSB: 633 000 Acc No: 122 929 698
Please include reference: **Hanson Book and your name.**

- 1: Post the form to us once you have made your Bank EFT to: WCA, PO Box 75, Warrandyte, VIC 3113 **OR**
- 2: Email the form once you have made your Bank EFT to us at: info@warrandyte.org.au
- 3: Copies delivered free within 3113 postcode. Add postage of \$12.65 for other postcodes.

Community Bank
Warrandyte
Bendigo Bank