

2022 NOVEMBER

WARRNAMBOOL GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE NEWSLETTER



SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Important Announcement
- Feature Garden
James Swan Reserve
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New Holland Honeyeater

Do you have an article or idea you would like to share with the Warrnambool G4W group? Send your submissions to Justin Harzmeyer jharzmeyer@warrnambool.vic.gov.au



Warrnambool Gardens for Wildlife becomes an ongoing program



Article by Lillian Maher, Warrnambool City Council Natural Environment team.

Following a highly successful pilot program, we are excited to announce that Warrnambool Gardens for Wildlife will now become an ongoing program. This is a positive step towards improving habitat and creating wildlife havens on private land within our local Warrnambool municipality.

During the pilot program, the Warrnambool Gardens for Wildlife Committee met monthly to design the program, develop resources including the logo, undertake a risk assessment, develop guidelines and recruit Garden Advisors. **10 gardens were visited during the pilot** period by 6 active volunteer Garden Advisors, with positive feedback received all round.

Thank you to all of the volunteers including committee members and Garden Advisors as well as Warrnambool City Council staff for contributing to the success of the pilot program and ultimately seeing the program established on an ongoing basis. Planning is currently underway for the implementation of the ongoing Warrnambool Gardens for Wildlife program.

The first phase will include **further recruitment of volunteers** including Garden Advisors and administrative assistants to support the expansion of the program. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, or know someone who may be interested, **please contact Justin Harzmeyer jharzmeyer@warrnambool.vic.gov.au**

We will also run a **refresher session** for current Garden Advisors which will also be an opportunity to meet the new volunteers and share stories, experiences and knowledge. **Keep an eye on your emails for the details** once confirmed.

After the recruitment and training of new volunteers, the program will then be advertised and open for Warrnambool City Council residents to register their gardens for advice, so keep an eye out!



Featured Garden : *James Swan Reserve*

Article by Abbie Lee, Warrnambool City Council Sustainability Trainee.

Back in 1883, before becoming known as the James Swan Reserve, the area was used as the Warrnambool Sale Yards. Quickly outgrowing the space, an extension of the yards occurred in 1904 with the area occupied until 1970 when the saleyards were moved to the current site on Caramut Road.

In the 1970s after the sale yards were moved, a Tourist Information Centre was built in the area. In the following years, the Warrnambool & District Group of the Society of Growing Australian Plants began the development of what is now known as the Swan Reserve Waterwise Garden. The garden was built to enhance the area surrounding the Tourist Information Centre. Later, Warrnambool's tourist services were moved to Flagstaff Hill with the old tourist building now a kindergarten. The yellow limestone wall is now all that remains of the old sale yards.



Image from APS Warrnambool and District

The Swan Reserve is named after the past Mayor Cr. James Swan who was the Mayor from 1927-28

Find out more!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/swanreserve/>
<http://www.apswarrnambool.org.au/fosr/>
<https://wbgardens.com.au/the-gardens/swan-reserve>

Information in this article was found on the above links.

Featured Wildlife: *New Holland Honeyeater*

Article by Abbie Lee, Warrnambool City Council Sustainability Trainee.

The new Holland Honey eater is about (18cm) and is one of the most commonly found honeyeaters in Warrnambool and on the Southern Coasts of Australia. The New Holland Honeyeater is mostly black and white, with a large yellow stripe on its wings and tail. They also have a small white patch on their face as well as white eyes.

The New Holland Honeyeater is found in forests, woodland and gardens, anywhere to be near their favourite foods which are Grevillias and Banksias.

Gardening tips to attract Honeyeaters

- Planting dense vegetation, with plants at different heights to create a multi layered habitat, which they use to nest in and hide from predators
- Planting native Banksias, Grevilleas, Correas, Melaleuca, and Hakeas.



Photo kindly provided by Kevin Sparrow

Thank you Volunteers!

Volunteer Connect would like to send
a big shout out of *appreciation*, to our
wonderful and *hard working*
City Council Volunteers.



What a GREAT YEAR of support from 320 Volunteers across sites -

The Archie Graham Centre, Meals on Wheels, Flagstaff Hill, Visitor Economy,
Children's Services, Youth Engagement, AquaZone, Gardens 4 Wildlife,
Lighthouse Theatre, Library, Social Support, Art Gallery (WAG),
West W'bool Neighbourhood House, and Travel Smart.

Enjoy your Festive Season Volunteers!
Please join us for more Volunteering in 2023.