

**\$2.00 donation per person
per session is appreciated**

DAY 1
SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

DAY 2
SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER
OPENING CEREMONY

DAY 3
SATURDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

DAY 4
SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

THE 14TH
Mullum Mullum Festival



"The Mullum Mullum Festival respects Aboriginal culture and heritage. We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land we know as The Mullum Mullum Valley and we value the significance of their story as essential to the unique character of the local area."

MAROONDAH, WHITEHORSE AND MANNINGHAM

DAY 2 SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER – FESTIVAL OPENING

Today's Walks & Talks: 10.30am Nature Scavenger Hunt, 11.30am Water Scientist, 4pm The Platypus

11.30am – 3pm Indigenous BBQ, damper, tea and coffee
supplied by Healesville Indigenous Arts Enterprise Co-op

1pm Welcome: Yarra Yarra Elder Aunty Dot Peters
will welcome us all to the Festival



Master of Ceremonies:
"Den the Fish"
Dennis Fisher from Radio
Kool n Deadly '1503am'



1.10pm Festival Opening Luke Chamberlain, The Wilderness Society

Luke is the Victorian Forest Campaigner for The Wilderness Society. His role is to educate the public about the role that forests and ecosystems play in the international carbon cycle and to advocate for the protection of these critical natural systems. Luke works at all levels of government to help fight for the protection of Australia's magnificent native forests. Prior to The Wilderness Society, Luke worked for 13 years with IBM and PricewaterhouseCoopers as a management consultant, specializing in IT.

1.30 Mullum Mullum Short Story Competition winners announced by Hazel Edwards.

Hazel is an Ambassador for the 2012 National Year of Reading & Premier's Reading Challenge. Her works include 'There's a Hippopotamus on our Roof Eating Cake', now a film, water conservation themed 'Plato the Platypus Plumber (Part time)', and 'Gang O Kids', about orienteering sleuths in the bush. Inspired by her 2001 expedition to Antarctica, Hazel has written on the topic for all ages.



1.40pm Performances

Sebastian Jorgensen

Classical guitarist Sebastian Jorgensen will perform his unique interpretation of traditional and contemporary aboriginal music. This includes so called "lost songs" in the local Woiworung language, as well as material arising from his many years of collaboration with such iconic indigenous figures as David Gulpilil, Yothu Yindi, Warren H Williams, Robert Mait Mait, and

especially the internationally cross culturally acclaimed band he helped form, Waak Waak Jungi (crow fire).

Sebastian respectfully dedicates his performance to the traditional owners of this Mullum Mullum country, the Wurundjeri people. Sebastian will be joined by some very special guests for this performance.

The Mullum Mullum Cultural Dance Group

The group is a collection of Indigenous men, women and young people, who showcase their strong and powerful culture through language and dance ceremonies. The group was formed in early 2011 and has grown from 8 to 20 members. It was established initially through the formation of a young males' dance group in January this year. It was through the cultural pride and courage of the eight young Indigenous men that the dance group grew to encompass the whole community. The group now comprises dancers from 5yo through to elders.

The cultural dance group empowers members through cultural connections to language and traditional dance. Many members of the group have grown in their confidence and self esteem and have developed a stronger bond with each other.



Roughly 2:30pm Workshops

Basket weaving with Aunty Dot Peters



We are honoured to have with us again, well-known basket weaving teacher, Yarra Yarra Elder, Aunty Dot Peters. Aunty Dot has fond memories of sitting with her mother, sister and grandmother at Coranderrk, and learning to coil baskets in the traditional way.

This skill has stayed with her and it is the link she uses when teaching groups about Aboriginal culture and tradition. Aunty Dot was one of the Inductees for the 2011 Victorian Women's Honour Roll, which acknowledges and celebrates the achievements of Victorian women from different backgrounds.

Traditional Games with the Mullum Mullum Gathering Place

Come participate and learn traditional Indigenous games such as Buroinjin, Pulyugge, Koolchee and Gorri. These games are designed to teach participants some recreational games played by Indigenous peoples from around Australia.

Facepainting and Storytelling with John Baxter

John is a proud Latji Latji/Nukunu man, a member of the Stolen Generation fostered into a non-Indigenous family at a very young age, who could not reconnect with his own family until his late teens. John has a real gift of sharing cultural awareness and education with community. While painting faces John will share his story of growing up away from his family and reuniting with them as a teenager. He will discuss the struggle Indigenous people have faced and continue to face today.



DAY 1 SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

Saturday 10 Sept 1.30pm Bike Ride Mike Hassett

This ride will explore the Mullum Mullum Creek trail starting from Schwerkolt Cottage and returning to the starting point. The ride will be mainly on bike paths. There will be periodic stops to observe points of interest. *Bring a reliable bike and a water bottle. Meet at Schwerkolt Cottage carpark, (Melway 49 D7). Duration 1.5-2hrs.*

DAY 2 SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

10.30am - 5pm display of entries into the Mullum Mullum short story writing competition

Judged by The Doncaster Writers Circle

Children were asked to reflect on the preservation of the Mullum Mullum Valley by the construction of the tunnels, and to respond to the question: "What in your natural environment do you love and would like to save for people to enjoy in the future?"

The winning entries will be judged by The Doncaster Writers Circle, and the winners will be announced on the afternoon.



10.30am **Nature scavenger hunt** Julie Morris

Suitable for ages 5-12

Have you ever wanted to be an explorer? Do you have the courage and curiosity? Today we are going to use our observation skills and curiosity to discover the hidden secrets that lie along the Mullum Mullum Creek. Activity kits will be provided.

11.30am **Water scientist** Julie Morris

Suitable for ages 8-16

Learn about the water quality of the Mullum Mullum Creek by doing scientific tests on the water. No degree or lab coat required! Activity kits will be provided.

Julie is Melbourne Water's Healthy Waterways, Waterwatch and Community Learning Coordinator

4pm Presentation and short walk – **The Platypus**

Geoff Williams, Australian Platypus Conservancy

The platypus is commonly thought of as a shy creature, living only in areas well away from people. In fact, this remarkable animal is found in many of our local waterways. Geoff will give an illustrated talk about local platypus populations and then lead a short walk along Mullum Mullum Creek to look at platypus habitat.

Meet at Yarran Dheran Information Centre, Ashburton Drive, Mitcham. (Melway 49 B6) Wear walking shoes, tracks are slippery when wet.

DAY 3 SATURDAY 17TH



9am **Walk the whole Mullum Mullum Valley – Part 1, 8 km**

Ken McInnes

Local naturalist Ken McInnes will walk the upper reaches of the Mullum Mullum Creek from its source to the historic Schwerkolt Cottage in Mitcham. Wear sturdy footwear, appropriate clothes, a smile and a small day pack. *Approx 4 hrs. Meet at 9 am at the Schwerkolt Cottage car park, Deep Creek Road, Mitcham, (Melway 49 D7), from where a free bus will take people to the start of the walk.*

8.30am Walk and Talk – **What Birds like about the Valley** Peter Paul

Peter regularly walks the Mullum Mullum Valley between Quarry Road and Schwerkolt Cottage and is intimately acquainted with its fauna and flora. He also does a monthly bird survey for Birds Australia (now BirdLife Australia). In this walk Peter will again share his knowledge of what provides a favourable habitat for the various bird species. *Wear sturdy shoes and bring binoculars if you have them. Yarran Dheran Information Centre, Ashburton Drive, Mitcham. (Melway 49 B6) Duration. 1.5 hrs*

10.30 Presentation - **Conservation in the community**

Karen Alexander

Why should we bother to look after the planet when it's looked after itself for around 3 billion years? Our existence on Earth is not without impacts. It's not only for nature, but for us, that we want a healthy and wealthy natural environment. We give it intrinsic value; we need it for our health, our pleasure and our food. And we need to connect to it. Karen will talk about these issues and invite audience members to discuss the special connections they have with nature. Karen is a team leader at the Victoria Naturally Alliance. *Currawong Bush Park Conference Centre, Park entry at 277 Reynolds Road, Warrandyte (Melway 34 H7) Duration 1.5 hrs*

Cancellation: In case of bad weather call 0409 519 829 or 9719 7661 to see if the event/walk is going ahead.



12.30pm **You have noticed the trees, but have you noticed the indigenous ground storey?**

Jane Pammer

We will walk along a section of the Mullum Mullum Creek where bushland works, with a focus on ground storey, have been carried out for 17 years on the flat and 11 years on the slope.

Learn about some of problems associated with working with indigenous ground storey vegetation and how Manningham's bushland team has tried to overcome them. Jane is a Bushland Management Officer at Manningham City Council. *Bring your walking shoes. Park at Larnoo Drive intersection with Shafter Drive, Doncaster East (Melway 34 G6)*



2.30 Walk and talk – **Is the Weather Listening?**

Glen Jameson

In 1995 the Middle Yarra Timelines project attempted to define the seasonal changes in local phenological terms, believing that the traditional European division of the year into four seasons was not relevant to Australian conditions. The Project came up with a six season calendar with descriptions of the natural history of the seasons published to stimulate discussion and hopefully their adoption.

Since then we have witnessed the wild variability of the climatic extremes and change. How does all this variability fit into the Middle Yarra Six Seasons? Are there other seasonal divisions operating out there? It makes you wonder at times whether the weather is listening to the Timelines Project! *Currawong Bush Park, north carpark near the Environment Centre, Warrandyte (Melway 34 H6)*
Duration 1.5 hrs

3pm **Youth & Sustainability**

Tom Dowsley, Manningham City Council

Discuss the benefits of engaging young people in our journey to a sustainable society, and try some of the activities that have inspired young individuals to become environmentally responsible citizens.

Tom has been working to engage young people in environmental action and sustainability initiatives in the local area for the past five years. As the Founding Director of the youth-led non-profit organisation Switch on Sustainability, Tom has led the development of an intensive sustainability education program for secondary school students involving over 1000 participants to date. *Currawong Bush Park Conference Centre, Park entry at 277 Reynolds Road, Warrandyte (Melway 34 H7)*
Duration 1.5 hrs

4.30 **Wildlife of the Hillcrest Section of Mullum Mullum Park**

Scott Baker

Hillcrest is considered to be one of the most pristine areas of natural vegetation remaining in the Mullum Mullum Creek Valley and is a local stronghold for many significant plant and animal species. This walk will traverse a variety of habitats searching for wildflowers, nesting birds and other creatures that still reside in this special remnant. Naturalist Scott has conducted local fauna surveys for the last 25 years and contributed substantial data to state and local government reports



on the Hillcrest area in an effort to have it recognised and preserved.

Experience some of the natural values of the Mullum Mullum that have lured naturalists to this particular area for over 100 years.

Binoculars could be useful. Meet at the end of Huggins Road, Donvale (Melway 49 B5)
Duration 1.5 hrs

5pm Presentation **Climate change and Biodiversity**

Steve Meacher

Since 2009 Steve, an environmental educator and climate activist, has been Project Officer for the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action; a grouping of the councils of Boroondara, Knox, Monash, Maroondah, Yarra Ranges and Whitehorse, investigating how the management of bushland and biodiversity by councils will have to change to adapt to global warming. After a brief overview of the project Steve will talk about a case study on the effects of climate change on key plant species and significant Ecological Vegetation Classes in the local region. *Currawong Bush Park Conference Centre, entry at 277 Reynolds Road, Warrandyte (Melway 34 H7)* Duration 1.5 hrs



7pm Presentation and short walk – **Indigenous Flora for Frogs**

David De Angelis

Local naturalist David De Angelis will talk about creating frog habitats using indigenous plants and provide a brief overview of the biology and conservation of frogs living in and around the Mullum Mullum Valley. This will be followed by a short walk to look at existing wetland habitat and identify the calls of some common local frog species. *Bring a torch and warm clothing. Currawong Bush Park Conference Centre, Park entry at 277 Reynolds Road, Warrandyte (Melway 34 H7)*
Duration 1.5 hrs

6.30-9.30pm **Astronomy for the People**

The Astronomical Society Of Victoria, with their telescopes, will help you see the spectacular constellation Scorpio containing star clusters, a super-giant red star and the Jewel Box star cluster.

Bring a small torch. Mullum Mullum Reserve, Mullum Mullum Rd, Ringwood, (Melway 49 J5)

DAY 4 SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

9am Walk the whole Mullum Mullum Valley – Part 2, 12 km Ken McInnes

Local naturalist Ken McInnes will continue this walk from Schwerkolt Cottage to Currawong Bush Park, historic Pontville Homestead and the Yarra River. The walk will end at Tikalara. *Wear sturdy footwear, appropriate clothes, a smile and a small day pack. Approx 6 hrs. Meet at 9 am in Websters Road, Templestowe (Melway 34 D2), from where a free bus will take people to the start of the walk.*



10am Walk and talk – Antonio Park Wildflowers Les Smith

Les, who has been a member of the Antonio Park Advisory committee for many years, will show you the many plant species of one of the most bio-diverse of local reserves.

He will also talk about the earlier history of the area and of the regeneration work that has been carried out by the Committee in association with the City of Whitehorse. *Meet Antonio Park car park, Deep Creek Road, Mitcham. (Melway 49 C9)*



12pm Walk and talk – Identifying past Indigenous connections to land Gary Presland

Gary Presland will lead a walk along the Mullum Mullum Creek, during which he will give a historical and archeological perspective of the connections between local Aboriginal people and the physical environment. He will relate the use of the local area and surrounding region by the Wurundjeri people in the period before European settlement to elements of the local natural history.

Meet at the Yarran Dheran Information Centre, Ashburton Drive, Mitcham. (Melway 49 B6). Tracks are slippery when wet. Wear appropriate shoes.

2pm Birds in a changing landscape Murray Bouchier

As an amateur naturalist living on Melbourne's fringe for over half a century, Murray Bouchier has documented changes around him, particularly the disappearance of various species of birds and animals, and the arrival of others.

Murray has been a member of the Bird Observers Club of Australia for 55 years, is a foundation member of Victorian Ornithological Research Group, and is also a member of the Friends of The 100 Acres and Friends of French Island National Park groups.

The 100 Acres Meet at the Domeney Reserve lower carpark, Knees Road, Park Orchards, (Melway 35 E9)

2pm Presentation – Diggers Club Keith Edwards

Keith, Diggers Club Ambassador, has 25 years experience in horticulture and is a qualified landscape architect. Diggers club have Australia's largest range of heirloom vegetables, cottage flowers and fruit plants that can be delivered direct to your door. Keith will talk about the need to grow your own or support Farmers Markets; what's wrong with the vegetables we are buying from the supermarkets; the difference between Hybrids and Heirlooms; and how and why the market gardeners grow their produce. Genetically Modified "Seeds of the future", what could possibly be wrong with them?

'Hot off the press' copies of "The Heirloom Tomato Book" will be for sale at \$24.95

Doorprize: Self watering vegetable pot donated by The Diggers Club
Conference Centre at Currawong Bush Park, Reynolds Road, Warrandyte, (Melway 34 H7)

4pm Presentation – Green carbon - our forests and climate change Peter Campbell



Surrey Hills resident, Peter, has been a Forest protection campaigner for 25 years.

Forests store and remove carbon. Native forests, like those of the Mullum Mullum Valley, have an abundance

of plant and animal species and are wonderful to visit. They also store large amounts of "green carbon" in wood, vegetation, detritus and their soils. We have a great opportunity to protect our native forests to preserve their natural qualities and the carbon they store.

Conference Centre at Currawong Bush Park, Reynolds Road, Warrandyte. (Melway 34 H7)

6:30pm Sunday 18th – Spotlighting

Ray Gibson

Join local naturalist Ray for an evening of spotlighting at Yarran Dheran Reserve in search of nocturnal wildlife including sugar gliders, possums, frogs and owls. Early arrivals can join in a stagwatch (observing nest hollows) in the hope of seeing animals emerge to forage as the sun goes down. *Spotlights fitted with light-diffusing filters will be provided. Bring binoculars and a small torch, if you have them. Meet at the Yarran Dheran Information Centre, Ashburton Drive, Mitcham. (Melway 49 B6)*

Festival Patrons Les Smith & Howard Tankey

Celebrating the ecological and cultural values of Mullum Mullum Creek Valley.

The catchment of the Mullum Mullum Creek in the municipalities of Maroondah, Whitehorse and Manningham is home to more than 60,000 people, but it also encompasses some of the largest and best preserved areas of remnant bush in urban Melbourne. This bush contains more than 300 species of indigenous flowering plants and more than 120 species of indigenous birds, as well as many mammals and reptiles, and countless insects.

The Festival was inaugurated in 1995 by concerned individuals in the local community who opposed the Eastern Freeway extension through the valley and who wanted to play an active role in promoting the natural values of the local area.

During the Festival you will have the opportunity to learn about the biodiversity of the Mullum Mullum Valley, as well as the cultural heritage of the area. As usual, the walks organised for this Festival cover a wide range of aspects of the valley; there is always something new to see. The 14th Festival is held in spring and will be followed by an autumn festival in 2013.

The Mullum Mullum Valley supports valuable habitat for a range of indigenous flora and fauna and forms an important connection, linking the foothill forests of Maroondah to the Yarra river in Templestowe. The continued preservation and enhancement of this corridor is vital for the survival of the plants and animals that depend on it, and for ensuring that future generations retain an environment to enjoy.

We hope that you will come away from the 14th Mullum Mullum Festival with greater understanding and knowledge of this beautiful native bushland and the flora and fauna within.

Get Involved

The Mullum Mullum Creek Valley needs your assistance! Learn what you can do to help us preserve this beautiful piece of native Australian bushland. If you would like to contribute to the next Mullum Mullum Festival, please join our committee – we would love to hear from you!

Contact Monique Decortis on 03 9719 7661 or decortis@bigpond.net.au or David De Angelis on 0409 519 829 for more information.

Mullum Mullum Festival Inc. A0037017H

P.O. Box 173, Mitcham, 3132 | Phone: 03 9719 7661 | www.vicnet.net.au/~mulfest

The Mullum Mullum Festival Committee would like to thank Manningham, Whitehorse and Maroondah City Councils, as well as the Mullum Trust and the Yarran Dheran Advisory Committee for their support of this festival.

