

SUNDAY 10TH OCTOBER – FESTIVAL OPENING

11am - 4pm Art Display – “What Mullum Mullum means to me”

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

1pm Welcome to country by Ian Hunter, Wurundjeri Elder



MC “Den the Fish” Dennis Fisher from Radio Kool n Deadly ‘1503am’



1.15pm Festival Opening Whitehorse Mayor Councillor Bill Pemberton

Cr Bill Pemberton was elected to Council in 2008 and elected Mayor in 2009. Cr Pemberton grew up in Mont Albert and has lived in Blackburn for the past 13 years. He has run a successful sustainable consultancy for the past nine years. His interests include sustainability, science and cycling. Achievements include a BA Applied Science (Biotechnology).

Cr Pemberton is a member of local community groups including the Blackburn and Laburnum Residents Association, the Australian Greens and the Surfrider Foundation Australia. He is also a member of the CERES Eco House committee of management and a founding member of the St Kilda Eco Centre.

Cr Pemberton’s Councillor appointments include the International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (ICLEI), the MAV, the MAV Transition Community Working group and Metropolitan Housing Growth Reference Group, Whitehorse Scholarship Committee, Local Government Waste Management Forum, and the Whitehorse Reconciliation Policy and Action Plan Advisory Committee.

Art Competition winners announced by environmental artist Joanne van Gastel.

Joanne’s interest in art comes from a love of nature which started when she grew up on a bush block in Lilydale in the days that it was still covered with stringy bark eucalypts, wattles, heath, maidenhair ferns and tea tree. Joanne has painted “en plein air” in many parts of Australia. Joanne believes that the health of the environment is reflected in our health and expressed through our creativity.

1.30 – 4pm Musical performances, Story telling, Gumleaf playing and Boomerang throwing workshops.

Listen to beautiful musical performances by Uncle Herb Patten and KINJA and hear Ron Murray tell his cultural stories. Then learn how to play the gumleaf and how to throw a boomerang.

Herb Patten is Australia’s leading Aboriginal gumleaf player.

Herb spent his early years in a small town called Numeralla, in far-east Victoria. Part of the Ginnai-Kurnai tribes of the Gippsland area, Herb is also a descendent from the Yorta Yorta and Wiradjuri. Herb talks about the role that music has played throughout his life, and the art and skill of blowing a gumleaf.

Herb, who has a diploma in Arts and an MA, taught himself to play the leaf when he was about eight years of age after hearing his great-uncle blowing a leaf in the bush near where the family lived. Since then Herb has become a skilled and passionate exponent of this form of music; he has also researched and written about the history of gumleaf playing.

KINJA: Ron Murray, Wamba Wamba & Sarah James

Kinja means ‘my home’ in Wamba Wamba. The Kinja sound is an ethereal blend of Indigenous Australian and Celtic inspired moods.

When Ron plays his didgeridoo, he wears a wreath of cockatoo feathers in his hair. At his side, Sarah James’ hair flows wild and free as she plays fiddle and sings Celtic and Australian folk songs.

Sarah is a city girl of Scottish ancestry, Ron is a descendent of the Wamba Wamba people, from around Swan Hill. A commitment to social justice and equity for Indigenous people brought them together. Now married, their haunting partnership of violin and didgeridoo transcends cultural differences.



Ron Murray - Story telling and Boomerang throwing demonstration

Ron, has an MA in Education, he is a cultural educator, storyteller, musician, didgeridoo maker and wood sculptor. Ron also passes on his knowledge to Indigenous youth by teaching didgeridoo and boomerang making in Victoria’s youth justice centres, with a focus on cultural healing.

Ron is a culturally brilliant man whose warmth, compassion, knowledge and natural story-telling ability makes his presence and his performances a joy to experience.



All activities on Sunday are at Yarran Dheran Reserve, Ashburton Drive, Mitcham. Melways Ref: 49 B6

About Mullum Mullum Festival

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 13th Festival is held in spring and will be followed by another spring festival next year.

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 13th 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 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.



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SATURDAY 9TH OCTOBER – DAY ONE – STARGAZING



THE 13TH Mullum Mullum Festival

SUNDAY 10TH OCTOBER – DAY TWO – FESTIVAL OPENING



SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER – DAY THREE



SUNDAY 17TH OCTOBER – DAY FOUR

MAROONDAH, WHITEHORSE AND MANNINGHAM

SATURDAY 9TH OCTOBER

Astronomy for the People

The Astronomical Society (Vic), 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 together with Jupiter and its moons.

Mullum Mullum Reserve, Mullum Mullum Rd, Ringwood, Mel ref 49J5. If the weather is looking dubious on the day please call 9719 7661 to see if this session will go ahead.

SUNDAY 10TH OCTOBER

10am Walking With A Naturalist Cecily Falkingham, Naturalist/Environmental Educator.

A short walk from Antonio Park. We will be looking at Spring wildflowers, birds such as Olive-backed Oriole, Superb Fairy Wrens, and learning about the antics of cuckoos and many more. Come and explore this lovely area with a naturalist who has lived here most of her life.

Duration 2 hrs. Reasonable-sized car park with toilets off Deep Creek road. From Mitcham (Mel 49C8) to Yarran Dheran (Mel 49B6)

11am - 4pm Art Display "What Mullum Mullum means to me"

Display of entries into the Mullum Mullum Festival art competition. Schoolchildren were asked to depict aspects of the Mullum Mullum environment. Winners will be announced during the afternoon.

Also, environmental, climate change and sustainability displays and interactive environmental art display. At Yarran Dheran Information Centre (Mel 49 B6)



8pm Sunday 10th – Spotighting

Ray Gibson

Join us for an evening at Yarran Dheran Reserve in search of nocturnal wildlife. Keep an eye out for frogs, possums and owls. Early starters can join in a stagwatch (observation of a nest hollow at dusk.) You might even be lucky enough to get a glimpse of a Sugar Glider emerging at dusk.

Spotlights fitted with light-diffusing filters will be provided. Bring your binoculars. Details: Ray 0417 861 651 or 9874 4408.



A \$2 donation per walk is appreciated.

3.30pm Wurundjeri Connections Ian Hunter



Ian Hunter will talk of his ancestry that connects him to the traditional Wurundjeri people. He will explain the traditional social systems of the Wurundjeri and Kulin Nations, geography, tribes, kinship and spiritual beliefs going back to Bunjil's creation. The effects of European settlement on traditional culture will also be discussed. At Yarran Dheran (Mel 49 B6)

SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER

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 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. In this walk he'll again share his knowledge of what provides a favourable habitat for the various bird species. Wear sturdy shoes and bring binoculars. Yarran Dheran Information Centre, Ashburton Drive, Mitcham. Melway 49 B6 Dur. 1.5 hrs



9am Walk – Bryophytes and other plants within Mullum Mullum Park

Dr Matthew Dell, a Senior Botanist at Biosis Research.

Matt will be leading a walk through Mullum Mullum Park where he will point out mosses and related species (bryophytes), discuss their ecology and some of the differences within bryophytes compared with other plant groups. Participants will gain a new perspective of the forest floor and its contribution to plant species diversity in Valley Heathy Forest and other vegetation within the park. Walk will start from the Schwerkolt Cottage carpark (near the main walking trail along the Mullum Mullum Creek) Melway 49D7



11am Koala Walk Dr Kath Handasyde

Dr Kath Handasyde is a Senior Lecturer in The Department of Zoology at the University of Melbourne. Her research interests include the ecology, diseases and management of native Australian mammals. She has conducted research on koalas for over 30 years, and is a member of the State Government's management committee for this species. In this session, the basic ecology and key management issues for koalas in south eastern Australia, as well as habitat management and restoration, will be discussed. Mullum Mullum Reserve Reynolds Rd Donvale Melway 34H7

2pm Springtime walking in the Valley Heathy Forest Mike Cusack, Mullum Mullum Park Ranger

Springtime walking in the Valley Heathy Forest plant community is a delight. A walk through the Chaim Court bushland will highlight the significance of this small but precious remnant. Management issues associated with its protection will be discussed. This will include pest plant control, the implementation and monitoring of 'ecological' burns, fire protection, and managing conflicting uses. Public comment from the draft Strategic Directions Plan may add to the mix. Caution: good footwear required! Mullum Mullum Park Meet at 2 pm at the Chaim Court Entrance to the Park, Melway 49 D6

2pm Presentation – Composting and Worm Farming Wendy and Ross Mather

Come and learn the secrets of having a properly working compost heap and a happy worm farm. If you have tried composting and been unhappy with your composting results, we can tell you how

to improve your system, so that you will be able to produce wonderful compost from your household waste. Worms are delightful pets that happily eat through your food scraps and produce brilliant vermicast, suitable for use in any garden. Doorprize: Wormfarm! Conference Centre at Currawong Bush Park, Reynolds Road, Warrandyte. Melway 34 H7

4pm Presentation – Sustainable Food Gardening Wendy and Ross Mather

Years of drought have made us rethink some of our gardening systems and so we want to share with you some of these ideas. Wicking garden beds in bathtubs and planting in guilds. As well as growing your own foods, no dig garden beds, seed saving, watering systems and so much more. Share your garden with our wildlife. Plenty of time for questions. Doorprize: Compost bin! Conference Centre at Currawong Bush Park, Reynolds Road, Warrandyte. Melway 34 H7

4pm Walk – Nature in the Neighbourhood John Harris

Go on a walk with local naturalist and school teacher, John Harris, in search of local plants and animals along the Mullum Mullum Linear Park in Donvale. Keep an eye out for Koalas, birds, reptiles and invertebrates as you walk along the creek and nearby slopes. Bring binoculars if you have them, as well as a hat, water and sunscreen. Meet in the Tindals Road carpark, Donvale (opposite Raymond Elliot Court). Melway 34 J10

8pm Bats - Presentation and walk Dr. Lindy Lumsden

Bats are a fascinating group of our native wildlife, but are often little known or understood by the general public. Lindy will give a talk on the numerous bat species found around Greater Melbourne, and cover aspects of their amazing life history. Meet George; an Eastern Freetail Bat who has been coming to talks with Lindy for 20 years! Afterwards, participants may have an opportunity to inspect harp traps and eavesdrop on echolocating bats, although this will largely depend on the weather. Bring along a torch. Currawong Bush Park Conference Centre, Reynolds Rd, Warrandyte. Melway 34 H7

SUNDAY 17TH OCTOBER

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, Tikalara, historic Pontville Homestead and the Yarra River. 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 – Water Watch and Macroinvertebrates Trish Grant

Ever wondered about the water quality in the Mullum Mullum Creek or what could be living in it? Come and investigate the water bugs that are so important for the life of the creek and find out what they can tell us about water quality. A great activity for both children and adults with an interest in nature and their local creek. Ken McInnes's walkers will meet with others attending this activity when they break here for morning tea. Meet at Mullum Mullum Creek, Huggins Rd, Donvale. Melway 49 B5

10am Presentation - Climate Change in the Eastern Suburbs - Projected impacts on the environment and biodiversity Steve Meacher

Steve is the project officer for the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action, a grouping of the councils of Boroondara, Knox, Monash, Maroondah, Yarra Ranges and Whitehorse. He has spent a lot of time recently investigating the likely impacts of climate change on the environments and biodiversity of Melbourne's eastern suburbs. In this presentation and discussion Steve will summarise the state of the current knowledge, investigate possible responses and solutions and attempt to answer some of your questions on what we can expect in the region over the coming twenty to sixty years. Yarran Dheran Information Centre, Ashburton Drive, Mitcham. Melway 49 B6 Duration 1.5 hrs

12noon Wildflower wander Cathy Willis, Environmental Officer at Manningham City Council.



Join Cathy on a late season wildflower wander through the Hillcrest section of Mullum Mullum Park. The Valley Heathy Forest in

particular abounds with heaths, peas, lilies and a diverse range of ground storey vegetation. Despite the encroaching urban pressures there are beautiful intact remnant pockets bursting with health and vigour to enjoy. The walk is approx 2.5 -3kms Duration 1.5 hrs.

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



2pm Presentation and short walk – Reptiles Peter Robertson

Peter is an acknowledged authority on the reptiles of Victoria, having worked as a professional ecologist for government, private industry and community groups for over 20 years.

The reptile fauna of the Mullum Mullum area will be examined in a short presentation discussing the identification, habitat and ecology of each species likely to be present, with some information on their conservation and potential habitat maintenance/management. This will be followed by a walk in the hope of finding some local reptiles to admire and discuss further. Currawong Bush Park Conference Centre, Reynolds Rd, Warrandyte. Melway 34 H7



4pm Walk – Insects of the area Ian Endersby

Join local naturalist Ian Endersby as we discover what insects might be in Currawong Bush Park and how they go about their lives. As well as lots of other aspects of natural history, Ian has spent many years watching insects at work and writing about their habits. We will see how insects are an important component of the environment and what we should do to ensure their habitats are not damaged. Meet in the Currawong Bush Park carpark. (The closest one to the conference centre), Reynolds Rd, Warrandyte. Melway 34 H7



7pm Presentation and short walk – Frogs of the Mullum Mullum Robin Drury

Frogs are seen to be an indicator of wetland health. Explore their life cycle and issues relating to their conservation. Get to know some of the local frogs of the Mullum Mullum Valley with Melbourne Water Frog Census volunteer, Robin Drury, and learn how to identify them by sight and sound. Afterwards, take a short walk to adjacent wetlands to see if they are calling. Bring your walking shoes Currawong Bush Park Conference Centre, Reynolds Rd, Warrandyte. Melway 34 H7.