



Glenelg Hopkins



CMA



Bandicam

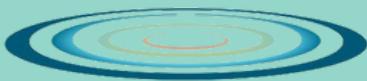
A livestream of the Eastern Barred Bandicoot from Gunditjmarra Country, Hamilton, Victoria



In this edition:

- Bandicam begins livestreaming from Hamilton
- VVP in bloom
- Join our advisory groups!
- Fish habitat workshop success
- Revegetation along waterways continues
- Nigretta wins business award
- Pine wildling project targets trees
- PPS Wimmera study tour
- RCS online - find out how it impacts your local area
- Current vacancies at the CMA

Glenelg Hopkins



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Flowering grasslands and plenty of native planting signals spring has arrived!

Its finally here – Bandicam!

This is the Glenelg Hopkins CMA's second livestream project, which has been made possible with the great partnership with DELWP and Southern Grampians Shire Council.

I hope people can jump online and see a bandicoot – from anywhere in the world.

Our newsletter this month has more details on Bandicam and how you can access the livestream.

There has been much activity in the catchment with a rush of tree plantings being undertaken to take advantage of the good rains. These include some significant tree plantings along the Grange Burn and Merri and Hopkins Rivers.

A big congratulations to Perennial Pasture Systems (PPS) for holding a very successful annual conference with over 150 attendees. Further information on the conference can be found in the newsletter.

Adam Bester CEO Glenelg Hopkins CMA

Bandicam begins livestreaming!

The world's only livestream of Eastern Barred Bandicoots hopping around in the wild has begun streaming from Hamilton in Victoria's southwest.

Bandicam streams 24hrs a day, 7 days a week, from the Hamilton Parklands Bandicoot Reserve, and aims to connect people with these curious creatures and their native co-inhabitants online and raise greater awareness around Victoria's unique nature and biodiversity.

The Bandicam project was undertaken by Glenelg Hopkins CMA in partnership with the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning and Southern Grampians Shire Council, and was funded through the Victorian Government.

The Eastern Barred Bandicoot created national history last year when it improved its threatened species status from being extinct in the wild to endangered, thanks to recovery activities over the last 30 years.

The successful recovery of the Eastern Barred Bandicoot in Australia has its roots in Hamilton, with the last remaining population in the wild on the Australian mainland recovered from the Hamilton town tip, where they were using old car bodies to escape predation from cats and foxes, in the 1980s.

Hamilton's Parklands Bandicoot Reserve, where Bandicam is located, was Victoria's first predator-free enclosure for the species population recovery with animals introduced back into safe haven in 1991.

"Bandicam comes on the back of the CMA's launch of Platycam, the world's only livestream of platypus in the wild in May, which streams the waters of the Grange Burn in Hamilton around the globe.

Bandicoots are nocturnal animals and so spotting them in the reserve when people are visiting Hamilton can be tricky. Bandicam is a great way for people to connect with nature and view this amazing animal, wherever they are," Mr Bester said.

"It is also a great way to promote the extensive and ongoing work of the Eastern Barred Bandicoot Recovery Team and the many partners who have been involved in the species recovery over a long period of time."



Glenelg Hopkins CMA CEO Adam Bester, DELWP Bandicoot Project Officer Jonathan Lee, and Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Bruach Colliton



CMA NEWS:

The VVP grasslands have begun flowering

Spring has sprung on the grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plains and some of the first species to flower in the Glenelg Hopkins grasslands have begun to show their colour.

They include the *Craspedia basaltica* (pictured above right) which is so new and rare it doesn't even have an official common name!

This is one of the rarest plant species on the VVP and was only formally described by botanists in 2021. This is a relatively small species of *Craspedia* only known from a few sites, all of which are on the VVP. Unlike the similar looking, and more prevalent *Craspedia variabilis*, *C. basaltica* has relatively narrow leaves with distinct red colouring at the base.

Also now in full bloom is the Swamp Daisy (*Allittia cardiocarpa*). This is an early flowering species living in slight depressions in the grassland that become seasonally inundated with water. This is also a common species of Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands.

Both of these species belong to the Daisy family (Asteraceae). Asteraceae is the largest plant family of Victoria's grasslands, contributing to 16% of all plant species. Most of the species in grasslands are not actually grasses.



Positions on CMA community advisory groups now open

Expressions of interest are currently being sought for two of Glenelg Hopkins CMAs advisory groups

- Community Advisory Group
- Glenelg River Environmental Water Advisory Group

These community advisory groups allow members of the community and the CMA to gather information and feedback on various aspects of our project work. Positions are remunerated. Information packs can be downloaded for each of the two groups from the webpage [HERE](#) including further details and the selection process for each.

Expressions of interest close at 5pm, Friday October 7th, 2022.

Support for the community advisory groups is partly funded under the \$21.75 million of the \$248 million investment in waterway and catchment health from 2021-2024, the Victorian Government's Our Catchments, Our Communities program.

Find out more here: www.ghcma.vic.gov.au/about-us/work-with-us/

Recreational fishers join forces to build fish habitat



Building fish habitat takes many hands, and thanks to the joined forces of recreational fisherpeople in Warrnambool recently, there is even more habitat built ready to place in the local waterways.

Members of the Warrnambool and Allansford Angling clubs provided some muscle and know how to build fish habitat as part of a larger fish habitat program across the South west. The local anglers built 23 fish hotels in 2 hours.

This project will continue to improve the health and productivity of habitats that support fish stocks and fisheries under the Australian Government's Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program. This project has directly involved recreational fishing groups and fishing clubs to help establish fish habitat. This project is supported by funding from the Australian Government and Victorian Government



LEFT: Members of the Warrnambool and Allansford angling clubs put in a big morning, completing 23 fish hotels (ABOVE) which will be placed in the Hopkins and Marri rivers this year.

CMA NEWS:

Revegetating the rivers of Warrnambool

September has seen the bulk of revegetation sites across the Merri and Hopkins Rivers completed as part of the Rivers of Warrnambool Flagship project with a total of 9 sites and almost 9000 plants planted.

Year 11 students from Warrnambool's Emmanuel College have assisted with the plantings on two sites on the Merri River with a total of 4 sessions and 116 eager students involved.



Landholder projects set to make 2023 even greener

A large number of private landholder projects have been approved in the Warrnambool region in the recent months.

These projects, for implementation during 2023, involve a combination of stock exclusion fencing, weed control, willow work, off stream water system installs and revegetation along the Hopkins and Merri rivers and Brucknell and Deep creeks.

These projects add to another 2 projects underway on Brucknell Creek



Grange Burn urban plantings continue through wet weather

Within the urban section of Grange Burn, revegetation has been completed for 2022 with 6000 native seedlings planted on the banks from Kennedy Oval to Portland Road.

Year 10 students from Monivae College have played a large part in assisting with the planting via 4 sessions and 72 student participants facilitated by project staff.

Upcoming activities include the creation of a wallaby exclusion plot behind Kennedy Oval and planning for works during 2023 in collaboration with Southern Grampians Shire Council.



Nigretta of Hamilton win sustainable business award

Congratulations to Nigretta of Hamilton for winning the Glenelg Hopkins CMA Sustainable Business Award at the Southern Grampians Shire Council Business Awards recently.

Nigretta's sustainably sourced wooden cutting and serving boards are shaped, crafted and sanded by a combination of skilled support employees and employees with a disability or disadvantage, working side by side.



Pines under pressure as wildlings are removed

Glenelg Hopkins CMA is currently working with DELWP to control pine invasion in South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo Stringybark feeding habitat.

The project aims to bring Pine invasion down to a manageable level across 1166ha of Stringybark habitat, ensuring the health of Stringybark fruit production and future recruitment.

DELWP is focusing its works on 916ha of public land, including Roseneath State Forest, Drajurk State Forest, Nangeela State Forest and Wilkin Flora Reserve. Alongside this, the CMA is engaging with private landholders in the same areas to coordinate Pine removal across 250ha of private land.

Over the past month, the CMA has been undertaking surveys across 515ha of privately owned SeRtBC habitat, mapping the locations of 2287 Pine trees, saplings and seedlings.

Over coming months contractors will be engaged to undertake control works, with the project scheduled for completion in March 2023.

This project is supported through funding from the Australian Government



Examples of pines being removed as part of this project, including saplings (top), immature trees (centre) and mature pine trees (bottom)



Local conference and study tours for PPS members

Perennial Pasture Systems (PPS) study tour in mid September was supported by the Glenelg Hopkins CMA's Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator.

With 24 members attending over two days, the the tour visited leading Wimmera farms and institutions to learn about current best practice farming techniques and technology, as well as latest advances in plant breeding and cropping technology.

The tour followed the PPS annual conference in Ararat in August, which was also supported by the Glenelg Hopkins CMA RALF and attracted over 150 attendees over 2 days .



Have you seen the Regional Catchment Strategy online?

After the best part of two years of development, we are very pleased to confirm that the Glenelg Hopkins Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) 2021-2027 has been formally gazetted by the Victorian Government and is now ready for implementation.

Through the process of consultation with community and stakeholders, the RCS development process has resulted in a suite of short and long term outcomes that reflect regional priorities and interests.

The RCS will provide an overarching plan for integrated catchment management and provide direction for a broad range of regional partners and the community on how to manage water, biodiversity and land in the region.

The strategy's projects and deliverables will be undertaken by Glenelg Hopkins CMA and a wide range of partners, including state and local government organisations, private businesses, public groups, communities and individuals.

The completed strategy is now available as an online document which you can find at www.glenelghopkins.rcs.vic.gov.au





Glenelg Hopkins
CMA

Come work with us

Current vacancies:

- 2 x business traineeships
- Waterways Officer (4 month role)
- Works Crew Member
- Advisory group members

Find out more: www.ghcma.vic.gov.au

LANDCARE NEWS

Costa and Junior Landcare launch *What's in your backyard?*

Junior Landcare together with Landcare legend Costa Georgiadis are inviting Aussie children, schools and youth groups to snap photos of the flora and fauna in their backyard – and share with Costa why their photo is special to them.

“Your backyard might be a garden. If you live in an apartment, your garden could be plants on your balcony. You may live near a park or bushland area, or a river or wetland. You may live on the coast close to the sea, or on a farm – these could all be your backyard,” said Costa.

Children can enter as many photos as they like, selecting a theme that best suits their photo: biodiversity, food production, waste management and recycling or First Nations perspectives.

**To enter or for more info, simply go to www.juniorlandcare.org.au/WIYBY
Competition closes 31 October.**



Junior Landcare

Costa and Junior Landcare are asking kids...

What's in your backyard?

SHARE YOUR PHOTO

Find out more: juniorlandcare.org.au