

7pm - Caught on Camera – results. See who came along – was it a bandicoot, a cat, family of deer, a thylacine?! 1/2hour *with VNPA*.

What can I do? After learning all about our magnificent forests and wildlife - are you inspired? Raring to help change the world? Let's talk about what we can each do to help protect these beautiful places and their wildlife. How do we communicate this to the rest of the world?

Let's put our heads together and see what we can conjure ...

Four parts – 1) overview of the politics and the problem, 2) hive off into small groups, 3) report back on your ideas, 4) devise a grand plan! ☺

MONDAY and other POSSUMBILITIES - keep an eye on the notice board

Morning Bird watching – As per Staurday/Sunday, check chalk board, depends on demand, *with Euan and Jenny*

10am - Organic farm tour #2 – for those who missed it on Friday, *with Jill Redwood*.

Mid/late morning* – drive to the Cottonwood range near Bendoc – walk beautiful Montane forests and see the devastation of a recently obliterated forest. *One of the Davids*.

Note to all!

Activity times and locations may change depending on weather, recent logging, any fires or road closures.

Share your cars! It's friendly and it saves petrol. Offer a *five-to-the-driver*.

Watch the chalk board outside the information tent and come along to our morning briefings for details and departure times.

The cow bell will announce meeting times – but don't wait to be called. Your punctuality really does make a huge difference to the camp organisers' stress levels. Tar ☺



FORESTS FOREVER CAMP - PROGRAM 2017

Long and short walks plus day time and evening talks and activities

* = Could be a change of activity and/or leaders at short notice.

FRIDAY afternoon

Please fill in your survey and drop off in the box with your ½ raffle ticket at the EEG info tent.

Caught on Camera – The VNPA popular *Caught on Camera* project uses motion-sensing cameras to monitor wildlife. Come to a short demonstration, then help set up cameras at various locations close to camp to spy on local wildlife. *1 hour with Jenny Roland, VNPA*

Organic Farm Tour – Half the Forests Forever camp is held on the back paddock of Jill Redwood's organic farm, which is basically an illustrated childrens' story come to life, or 3D pinterest; now's your chance for a sticky-beak. *1 hour with Earth Garden Magazine's go-to cover girl, Jill Redwood*.

Valley View walk – Let's stretch our car-cramped legs with a walk to the top of the nearest hill behind the camp to see the forest change as we ascend. Follow the red paint dots (and angle arrow on tree) from the bridge. Guide sheet at info tent (please replace as they are in short supply) *1 hour wander with info leaflet* –

FRIDAY - 7pm. Get to know your fellow tree-huggers under the Big Tarp!

Welcome – *with Jill Redwood (EEG) and Euan Moore (VNPA)* Brief overview of East Gippy forests and why they are so luscious and special.

Overview of the East Gippy Forest campaign – We've campaigned flat out for a couple of decades and we've tried every peaceful tactic under the sun. Watch Jill try and summarise that in, say, 15-20 mins with pics and cartoons. Degree of difficulty 9.5, *with Jill*.

RAFFLE DRAW! – did you fill in the survey? You could be in for a fab prize.

Challenges for conservation – the VNPA and what we are doing – When the VNPA started, Victoria had just 13 National Parks. Now we have 45 Terrestrial and 13 Marine National Parks. But despite all sorts of campaigns, activities and projects by all sorts of activists, protection of our environment faces continual and ongoing challenges. 15-20 mins *with Euan*.



SATURDAY

Early morning Bird watching – Get to know the birds of the forest on a short bird watching walk close to camp. Includes tips on bird identification and how to get the best out of your binoculars. Bring binoculars if you have them. *With Euan and Jenny – start time TBA.*

9am sharp! Meet at the info tent for a briefing on the day's activities. "The Circuit" has been replaced by a couple of smaller more intimate activities.

9.30am - Brown Mt - Drive to the old growth forests of Brown Mountain, but there's enough in this one place to learn so much – both natural and campaign history. Notorious forest campaigner *Jill Redwood* will lead you into beautiful old growth forest. Fairly easy walking down into the forests with some tougher going over logs and through thickets to reach a 'glade' of giants. Bring your lunch and a drink. *20 mins drive each way.* Returns to camp mid-afternoon.

From Brown Mountain there is also the possibility of going for a good long hike back into Goongerah down Postman's spur. 2-3 hours. *Leader TBA.*

10am The Three Gems * – Visit Tea-tree Flat on the Delegate River, where a mossy wetland that is almost-no-more holds a pollen profile that tells a history beyond the last ice age. At the "rainforest" boardwalk, learn how eucalypt forest, mixed forest and rainforest jostle for space in the landscape. Walk and talk at the Woolly Butt Track or with the Mountain Plum Pines at Goonmirk Rocks. Full-day activity with a fair bit of driving and easy walking. Bring lunch, a drink, a watch, a metaphysics primer and Charles Darwin. *With legendary botanists David Cameron and/or David Cheal*

10:30am – Cottonwood logging aftermath – and montane forests* - Drive through forests to a recently clearfelled and burnt area of old growth forests for a jaw-dropping experience. It doesn't need much explanation. But 10 minutes away is a really beautiful area of montane forest to walk through (planned for logging). *With legendary botanists David Cameron and/or David Cheal.*

SATURDAY night – in comfort and warmth at the local hall – 1.2km away.

6pm on - Soup and dessert - BYO bowl - Hearty vegan soups and bread rolls and deliciously decadent dessert: \$5 for soup, \$5 for dessert. **Don't forget your bowl!** Sweet chai tea or normal tea. \$2. **BYO mug.**

7.00pm - Forest Wildlife talk and pictures – *with local biologist Rena Garbarov.* Then a short chat on the legal wins that EEG has become famous for – *with Jill.*

8-8:30pm - The 2 Davids' picture show* - The renowned natural science communicators will take you into the inner world of forests, carried by human curiosity. The burning myth could also challenge our beliefs. It's sure to be informative, thought provoking, enchanting and amusing. Bring camp chair, grab a hot drink and settle in for the evening! *With night-owl David Cameron/David Cheal.*

9pm - Spotighting - Explore the forest by night. A short walk around the campground to see who is watching us from the trees. Bring a torch and quiet kids. *Approx. 1hr with Euan and Jenny.*

SUNDAY

Morning Bird watching – See above, check chalk board. *With Euan and Jenny*

Morning Easter Egg Hunt – the local marsupials delivered Easter Eggs overnight. They hide some. Come and search.

9am sharp! Meet at the info tent for a briefing on the day's activities.

9:30 - am - Mt Ellery* – 40 min drive and 1 hour walk to the magical giant boulders – through alpine ash forests. OR/AND **Rooty Break Trail Goonmirk Rocks** walk. 45 minute drive, 3 hour walk. *Leaders TBA.*

10am - Martins Creek rainforest* – David and/or David will lead you on a quiet expedition down into some beautiful forest and rainforest – the perfect place to be and pretty well their natural habitat. Recently logged forest en route is worth a quick look-see. Experience both undisturbed rainforest and areas that were burned in the 2014 bushfires. How are plant and animal recovery going? It's an easy whole day activity, including some unhurried off-track walking and enough time to notice the details. About 20 mins driving each way. Bring the usual gear and a picnic, *with David Cameron/Cheal.*

10.30am - The Darejo Tree – Come along to hug the buttresses of the Darejo Tree, one of the great, great grandmothers of the Errinundra plateau! It has a huge base with enormous fluted buttresses that have anchored it to its home on the steep hillside for the last 600-800 years or more. *35 minute drive, 2-3 hour return walk. Leader TBA.*

SUNDAY night – head up to the hall for more food and chats.

6pm - More hearty soup and dessert – BYO bowl. Hearty vegan soups and bread rolls and deliciously decadent dessert: \$5 for soup, \$5 for dessert. **Don't forget your bowl!** Spiced chai tea and normal tea - \$2. **BYO mug as well.**