

WINTER 2022

We're back tadpoles! In person, in the pub and everything! It feels good too, doesn't it?! We are halfway through our 2022 season and there's heaps for everyone to enjoy. Our recent mini-conference was well supported and a good reminder of how lucky I feel to be part of such an amazing amphibious community. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did and are also already looking forward to next year!

In the meantime, stay warm, soak up the sounds of the winter breeders and enjoy this jam-packed issue of Pobblebonk.

Thanks for your ongoing support.

For the frogs,
Lynette Plenderleith, Pobblebonk Editor



Alpine Tree Frog, Nick Clemann

FROGS ON IN VICTORIA

July

7th [2022 Frogs Victoria Mid-year Mini-Conference](#) Elgin Inn; **Frogs Victoria**

August

4th [Craig Cleeland, A Southern Toadlet Story](#) Elgin Inn; **Frogs Victoria**

5th [Creating frog habitat workshop](#) 1st Reservoir Scout Group Hall; **Merri Creek Management Committee**

September

1st [Frogs Vic Sept Event](#) Elgin Inn; **Frogs Victoria**

October

6th [Frogs Vic Oct Event](#) Elgin Inn; **Frogs Victoria**

November

3rd [Frogs Victoria End of Year Social Event](#) Elgin Inn; **Frogs Victoria**



Emerald Spotted Tree Frogs, David Ford

Got an upcoming event? Submit it to pobblebonk@frogsvic.org and we'll include it next time!

AROUND THE (PIT) TRAPS

[Victoria's Baw Baw Frog has more than 50% likelihood of extinction by 2041](#)

[Wanted: Photos of flies feeding on frogs \(for frog conservation\)](#)

[Australian museum frog Atlas published](#)

[Australian Society of Herpetologists releases Official List of Australian Species](#)

[FrogID team on watch for more frog mortalities this winter](#)

Got a news story? Email us at ed@frogsvic.org



FROGS VICTORIA AGM WRAP-UP

Frogs Victoria Annual General Meeting - The Elgin Inn, Hawthorn, 7:30 pm, 3rd March 2022

A massive thanks to everyone who turned out for the AGM!

If you want to read the minutes, check them out at www.frogsvic.org/agm

The entire committee was re-elected and we look forward to working together again. More details about the committee (and how you can join!) can be found at www.frogsvic.org/committee

2022 Elected Committee

President: Lynette Plenderleith

Vice President: Nick Clemann

Secretary: Colin McHenry

Treasurer: David De Angelis

(Extra)Ordinary Member: Matt Clancy

(Extra)Ordinary Member: Maggie Haines

Events Sub-committee: Steph Tomic, Teisha Sloane-Lay

FROGS PLIGHT IN FOCUS THIS YEAR AT GOULBURN BROKEN CMA

Janice Mentiplay-Smith, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority

2022 has been declared the Year of the Frog by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and has proved extremely successful in raising community awareness of the plight of local frogs.

Through newspaper articles, social media, radio interviews and frog hotel building workshops, the community awareness campaign showcases a 'Frog of the Month' that lives predominantly amongst the Grey Box Grassy Woodlands in the Goulburn Broken catchment in northern Victoria.

The purpose of the 'Year' is to provide the community with interesting information about the importance of frogs in the environment and raise the profile of preserving and enhancing frog habitat.

Partners in Year of the Frog include Moira Shire, Goulburn Valley Water, River Connect, as well as community and Goulburn Broken CMA staff who contribute to activities and events throughout the year.

One of the very popular 'froggy' events held as part of Year of the Frog is the frog hotel building community workshops, which never fail to engage by bringing home the message of the importance of providing frog habitat, even in the most unlikely back yard!

People also get the message that cats and backyard chooks will readily feast upon a frog dinner, so having habitat where frogs can hide is important.

The Year of the Frog has also served to highlight the different habits of different species, and how a variety of habitats are required for a diverse frog population to exist.

As part of the Year of the Frog campaign a series of posters, each featuring a photo of a local Grey Box Grassy Woodlands frog species has been developed, to use at community engagement events. Each poster has a QR code featuring the frog's call - a fantastic, interactive way to further involve people in the world of frogs and increase their understanding and appreciation of them.



In partnership with Moira Shire and Shepparton's River Connect, Year of the Frog coordinator and GB CMA Project Officer Janice Mentiplay-Smith shows people how to build low-cost frog habitat (suitable for the Peron's Tree Frog, the species most familiar to people in the region).



The Year of the Frog is supported by Goulburn Broken CMA through funding from the Federal Government's National Landcare Program. For more information, contact Janice Mentiplay-Smith by phone on 0418 316 169 or email: janicem@gbcma.vic.gov.au

AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF TAXONOMY

Maggie Haines, Monash University

Are you tired of having to pay a journal to publish your species description? Or frustrated that the taxonomy paper you want to read isn't open access? Then the new Australian Journal of Taxonomy may be the journal for you!

The Australian Journal of Taxonomy (AJT) was launched on 12 May 2022 by Taxonomy Australia as a not-for-profit journal specialising in rapid publication of taxonomy papers. There are no publishing fees and no access fees. All publications can be found online at the Taxonomy Australia website (<https://www.taxonomyaustralia.org.au/ajt/home>) and the Biodiversity Heritage Library.

AJT is focused on publishing descriptions of new taxa and/or minor taxonomic revisions. Full revisions of large taxonomic groups are better suited to traditional journals, like Zootaxa. Each issue consists of a single paper which speeds up the publication process. As with other scientific journals, all submissions will be peer-reviewed and must be compliant with the relevant nomenclature codes (e.g. International Code of Zoological Nomenclature). The streamlined online submission form has sections for authors to paste relevant text and upload figures and tables. There is no set format. Rather authors are advised to adhere to best practice for their given taxonomic group and use consistent referencing. There is currently no subject editor for frogs. If that sounds like something you're interested in doing, please contact the AJT editorial committee.



*Growling Grass Frogs
Left, by David De Angelis
Right, by Nick Clemann*



GONE GROWLING

Christina Renowden, Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research

In the spring/summer season of 2021/2022 the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research (ARI) developed a citizen science program called [Gone Growling](#). Gone Growling builds on 20 years of research led by ecologists Geoff Heard and Peter Robertson, to further our understanding of Growling Grass Frogs (*Litoria raniformis*) in the northern urban growth corridors of Melbourne. This program is led by [Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research](#) in partnership with [Melbourne Water](#) and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's [Melbourne Strategic Assessment Program](#).

Getting involved is easy, fun, and importantly helps scientists gather information to protect this iconic species. Anyone can contribute, whether it's a single recording or dozens, as you listen in for Growlers around your local waterways.

You can [sign up](#) to the Gone Growling e-newsletter to keep up to date. And if you haven't already, download the [Melbourne Water Frog Census app](#) to get involved. For extra merit points, you can help by sharing your involvement with friends and family. And if they ask where you're going, remember to say you've 'Gone Growling'.

CAUGHT ON CAMERA

Wildlife ecologist Peter Homan has been surveying using camera traps (undertaken with the appropriate permits) and has recently been treated to captures of three different frog species.



A Growling Grass Frog from an off-set quarry in Epping during a survey for the City of Whittlesea in December 2020, taken by a Scoutguard model SG-990V



A Striped Marsh Frog during a survey of a conservation area near Morwell for Energy Australia in February 2022 taken by Faunatech Snaps



A Pobblebonk during a survey at the Growling Frog Golf Course in Yan Yean for the City of Whittlesea in February/March 2022 taken by Faunatech Snaps



By Madeleine Karutz, freelance illustrator and animator. www.madeleinekarutz.com or on Instagram @memeleine

SHOW US YOUR FROGS!

Have you got an idea for a talk? It doesn't have to be scientific, it doesn't have to be long, it just has to be about frogs!

We are looking for speakers for 2023 and would love to see you talk. Please email events@frogsvic.org



GOT MEMBERSHIP?

Frogs Vic membership fees:

- Pay for speakers' dinners, drinks and gift
- Pay Frogs Vic admin costs (including Zoom registration for online meetings)

Thanks to everyone that supports us financially. We could not continue to operate without you!

If you are not a member and would like to help support Frogs Vic, it's easy to sign up at www.frogsvic.org/membership Current pricing is \$40 Full Membership / \$20 Concession.

Have something you'd like to contribute to Pobblebonk? If you have an idea for a newsletter article, or a photo you'd like us to include, please email the editor: ed@frogsvic.org

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