

The  
Triangle News  
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of the  
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& District  
Lions Club Inc.

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## MARYSVILLE

# triangle news



**We Serve**

NARBETHONG & GRANTON

BUXTON & TAGGERTY

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President Glenn McFadzean

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## Fishy Day at Marysville

On Friday 12th November the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) launched its annual Native Fish Awareness Week in Marysville. Each year activities are held all around the Murray-Darling Basin to celebrate native fish. Events include visits to river rehabilitation projects; educational activities with students; carp musters; river-story-sharing sessions, and meetings with researchers, local government, Catchment Management Authorities, aboriginal communities and fishing clubs. At this year's Basin-wide launch in Marysville, about 30 staff associated with the MDBA's Native Fish Strategy travelled from the length of the Basin; from Queensland, NSW, Canberra and South Australia, to participate in the launch. Jody Swirepik, Executive Director of Natural Resource Management at the MDBA launched the event and a Week of almost 40 activities. Marysville was chosen for the national launch because it provided an opportunity to celebrate and share the story of local fire recovery actions undertaken by the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) for the small, nationally threatened freshwater fish the Barred Galaxias (*Galaxias fuscus*) which only occurs in the cool streams of the upper Goulburn River catchment.

Uncle Roy Patterson delivered a Welcome to Country and ran some ochre painting sessions, using local ochre. Students from Alexandra Primary School, St Mary's Primary School Alexandra, Marysville Primary School and Alexandra Secondary College rotated around a suite of activities including a Freshwater

Catfish Game, Murray Cod Game, Blackwood-seed-Boat racing, and fishy art and craft activities using wire and ochre. The Marysville Kindergarten children also came along and did some beautiful artwork and performed a marvellous song about the Barred Galaxias, in partnership with the Triangle Arts Group.

Visitors inspected displays on native fish and the fire recovery actions for Barred Galaxias, and were invited to get involved in developing the design for a bridge over the predator barrier in Leary's Creek. The barrier in the creek is designed to protect the small native Barred Galaxias upstream in the creek from predation by the introduced trout downstream.

An 'interpretive bridge' (photo) is planned to sit above the barrier and link the Marysville Heart precinct with Gallipoli Park and provide information about the barrier and the fish it is protecting. A broad concept drawing has been developed to begin the conversation around what the final design would look like and some initial feedback has already been received.

If you would like to make comments or get involved please contact Fern Hames, Native Fish Strategy Co-ordinator at DSE Alexandra ([Fern.Hames@dse.vic.gov.au](mailto:Fern.Hames@dse.vic.gov.au) or tel 5772 0273). Copies of the concept drawing and feedback sheets are also available at the Marysville RAC building, Marysville Information Centre and DSE Marysville office.



Many people contributed to a great day in Marysville. Grateful thanks are extended to Jody Swirepik, the MDBA Native Fish Strategy team, Arthur Rylah Institute DSE staff and Parks Victoria staff (especially Sam Strong and Tara Sanders) for coming along and delivering activities, to Uncle Roy, to the Triangle Arts Group (especially Julia Peddie and Sharon Bourke) for art and song, to the Marysville Lions Club for marquee hire and morning tea, to the Australian Trout Foundation for lunch, to Nat Morandi and the Gallipoli Park Management Committee, to Carolyn Weeks for her wacky wiry fish creations, to participating school staff and students, and to all who came along and joined in.

Special thanks are also extended to the funding bodies who have supported our fire recovery actions, including the Federal Government's Caring for our Country fire recovery program and the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority (VBRRRA).