

HFS Orchard Workshops and AGM - October 2022

October is spring, tree blossom ... and great HFS workshops!

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HFS Volunteer Workshops and AGM at Pettys Orchard Heritage Block

Sunday 2 October - 9am to noon
(Workshop and AGM)

Wednesday 5 October - 9am to noon

Wednesday 19 October - 9am to noon

1 Homestead Road, Templestowe - Melway 22 A11

Meet at the big white marquee



HFS Heritage Block at Petty's Orchard from the air (May 2014)

The dates for the next HFS Volunteer Workshops at the Petty's Orchard Heritage Fruit block are:

- the month's first Sunday, **2 October: combined Workshop and HFS 2022 AGM**
- the month's first Wednesday, **5 October**
- the month's third Wednesday, **19 October**

You're cordially invited to help us with:

- Grafting and planting of new trees
- Tree pruning
- In the HFS Nursery:
 - Checking on status of trees and the irrigation system
 - Work on expanding the "bath" areas
 - ... and a range of other on-going improvements
- Mowing, weeding, whipper-snipping, hole-filling and removing blackberry plants
- Painting labels on trees (*weather permitting*)

As always, we'll have time for some social time over cuppas and home-baked wonders. Please **bring your own keep-cup** to avoid generating unnecessary rubbish. We hope to see you soon!

HFS AGM ON SUNDAY 2 OCTOBER

As part of our orchard workshop at Petty's on Sunday October 2, we will our HFS Annual General Meeting at 11am. This is a great opportunity to meet the committee, to hear about HFS's activities over the last year, to learn about the Society's future goals and directions, to elect a new committee, and to ask questions ... all amongst

the orchard's incipient apple blossom! As usual, we'll provide a morning tea and a brief tour around the orchard to show off what's new. Please plan to come, and feel free to bring significant other(s) and friends as well.

If you can't come in person, you can still join the AGM at that time by using one of the methods shown below. If you do this, **please mute your microphone unless you wish to speak.**

To join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

URL: <https://monash.zoom.us/j/86203300655?pwd=cGhhL0s0NFgXM2hGekZOjGhQjN2VkZz09>

To join from a dial-in phone:

Dial: +61 3 990 59666 [+61 3 9905 ZOOM] or +61 2 8015 2088

Meeting ID: 862 0330 0655

Passcode: 970062

Last year's AGM Minutes and Treasurer's Report can be read [here](#) (accessible by HFS members only).

OUR WEBSITE HAS HAD A FACELIFT!

Our website has recently been given a complete makeover to make it more user-friendly and easier to navigate. There's also quite a bit of new content, including additional links to related sites. For example, you'll find a link to a drone video fly-over of Petty's Orchard [here](#) (see "Videos" section): the picture above is a snapshot from that video, at 03:46 from the start. There's an all-new [Photo Gallery](#) too, replete with four seasons of HFS action!

Our [website](#) is an important source of information, not just about HFS but also about heritage fruits, their propagation and characteristics, and many other related topics. But it also reflects how we work and what we do. As such, it is constantly changing and improving, and it belongs to all of the Society's members. If you have any suggestions or contributions to improve our website, please let us know [here](#).

KEEPING DOCTORS AWAY

Are organic fruits and vegetables really beneficial? [A recent study on bacteria in organic apples](#) shows that they contain a more diverse and balanced bacterial community than non-organic ones. This could make them healthier and tastier than conventional apples, and better for the environment as well. Other findings from this study include:

- Organic apples were found to contain more of specific groups of bacteria which are beneficial to human health and contributing to fruit flavour.
- About 90 percent of the approximately 100 million bacteria in each apple are in its seeds (*which also contain trace amounts of cyanide, so it's usually advised not to eat them - Ed.*).
- Since cooking kills most of these bacteria, raw fruit and vegetables are particularly important sources of gut microbes.

And in case you didn't know: all apples and other fruits grown at Petty's Orchard, including those from the HFS Heritage Block, are certified organic produce.

COVID-19 NOTICE

Most long-standing COVID-19 restrictions have now been lifted, but nonetheless:

- If you are feeling unwell - even with only mild symptoms - please protect yourself and others by **doing the right thing** and staying at home and getting tested
- All volunteers should endeavour to **maintain social distancing** at all times
- Please feel free to wear a **mask** at any time

Memberships

We are a membership-based group. It is only through the support of our members that we can continue doing the work we do. Please consider becoming a member.

Click below to go to our web site. Payments are via PayPal.

[Memberships](#)

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