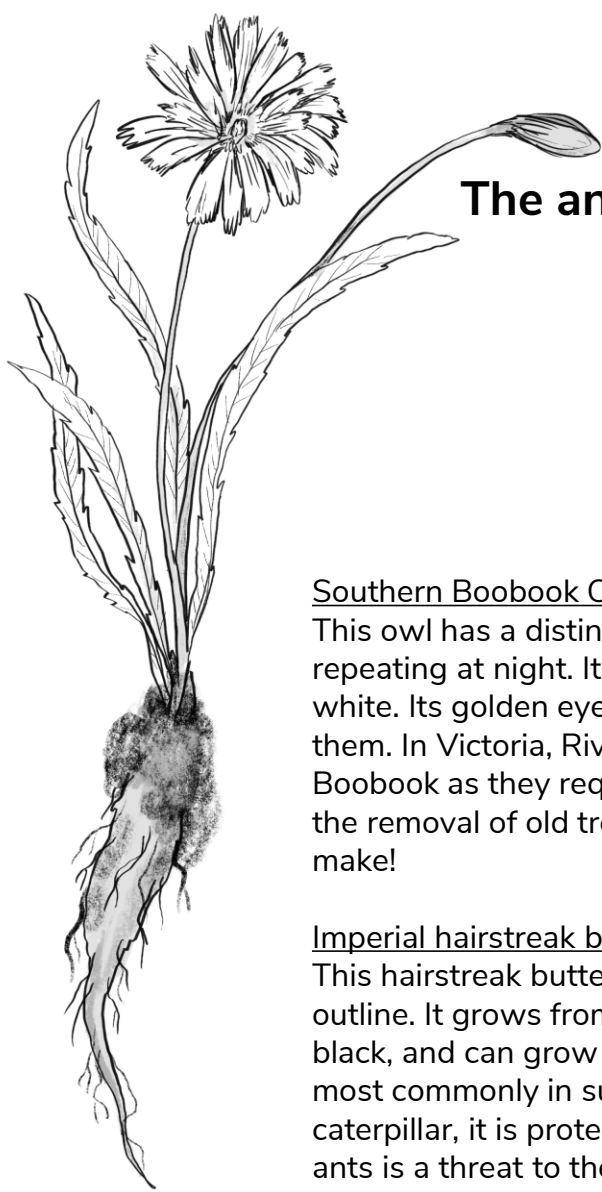




Anna Seed Art



The animals of Moreland's creeks

Woodlands Habitat

Who lives there?

Southern Boobook Owl

This owl has a distinctive 'boobook' call that it can be heard repeating at night. It is a small owl with a brown back and spots of white. Its golden eyes are large with black and white rings around them. In Victoria, River Red Gums are very important for the Boobook as they require hollows to nest in. They are threatened by the removal of old trees as even small hollows can take 100 years to make!

Imperial hairstreak butterfly

This hairstreak butterfly has silver metallic blue wings with a black outline. It grows from a hard-bodied green caterpillar, also lined with black, and can grow up to 35mm as a butterfly! It can be seen out most commonly in summer, especially around wattles. As a caterpillar, it is protected by small black ants. The lack of these host ants is a threat to the population of these butterflies.

River Red Gum

This tall tree is widespread across Australia, common along rivers and flood-plains. It has rough bark at the bottom of the tree with smooth, speckled white, yellow and grey bark in the middle and top. It has white flowers and is an important source of honey. Cut out sections of the tree, known as scars can sometimes be seen in these trees, formed by Indigenous Australians. Recent scar trees can be seen along the Merri Creek.

How to help

Promote the protection of old trees with hollows and ensure there are new trees coming up so that there are future hollows. Take part in local and regional tree planting events.

Information gathered from

Merri Creek Management Committee <http://bit.ly/boobookowl>
Agriculture Victoria <http://bit.ly/riverredgum>

For more information, visit the [Moreland Libraries Catalogue](#),
Try reading '[Creek Life: Flora and Fauna of the Merri Creek Valley](#)' by
[Brett Marshall and Brian Bainbridge](#)