

HOWIE THE YOWIE
(and The Mystery of The Mullilligup Monster)

Written by

Craig James Sewell (c) 1992

Not so long ago and not so far away there lived a Yowie named Howie.

One day Howie was lying on the bank of the Mullilligup Billabong, as he often did, under the shade of a large gum tree. The sun shone bright, and the cool breezes blew, and it seemed today would be another peaceful day at the Billabong. Howie had decided to take a nap and had just closed his eyes when Horace the Wombat came running up as fast as his short legs could carry him, shouting so loud that Howie nearly jumped out of his skin.

"What are you shouting about?" asked Howie.

"There is a horrible monster in the bush", said Horace breathlessly.

Howie looked at his hairy little friend, and shook his head, "There are no such things as monsters Horace", but Horace shook his head, "I heard it, Howie, I was cleaning out my burrow, when I heard it's terrible moaning", he cried.

"Okay", sighed Howie "Why don't you show me this terrible monster", and so the friends set off through the bush in search of Horace's Monster.

They walked for a short time when suddenly a voice came from a branch above them.

"Who's there?" the voice asked

"It's Howie and Horace", replied Howie, "Who's that".

Slowly a head peered out of the leaves, it was Dougan the Goanna, another of Howie's friends.

"What are you doing in that tree Dougan?" asked Howie

"There's" a horrible monster out there and it's after me!" moaned Dougan.

"Oh! no! not you too," said Howie, as he shook his head, "Is everyone going crazy around here".

Dougan scampered down the tree, "But there is a Monster, it's over there," he said, as he jumped up and down pointing deep into the bush.

"Okay," said Howie, "Let's go find your Monster", and with Horace and Dougan behind him Howie set off once again.

They went deeper and deeper into the bush and not long after they heard someone coming towards them.

"It's the Monster!" cried Horace, "Let's get out of here".

But all of a sudden a small wallaby came hopping quickly towards Howie, Horace and Dougan, and he was waving his paws and shouting wildly.

"Look, it's Wally-B", said Dougan.

Out of breath Wally hopped up to his three friends. Howie looked at Wally then raised his hand, "Let me guess", he said, "You just saw a horrible Monster, it made a terrible moaning sound and it was chasing you, right?"

Wally nodded his head, "I did see a horrible Monster, and it did make a terrible moaning sound, but it's still chasing me" he shouted, when through the trees came the horrible Monster, it was long and brown and looked a lot like a log.

Howie, Horace, Dougan and Wally watched as the strange creature ran around in circles and finally stopped, when it bumped into a tree.

As the others hid behind him, Howie walked up to the log Monster and looked inside, and to his surprise the log called out his name.

"How, does it know your name?" asked Horace.

"This is how", said Howie as he picked up the end of the log. He gave it one shake, then another and then another and out of the log rolled a chubby little Echidna.

"Joey!" they exclaimed at the sight of their spiky little friend.

"What were you doing in that log?", asked Howie.

"I crawled in looking for ants and got stuck!" Joey replied.

"Ants" said Howie as he turned and looked at Horace, Dougan and Wally.

Howie smiled as they lowered their heads shamefully.

"Come on let's go", said Howie.

"Where?" asked Wally.

"Back to the Billabong", replied Howie. "It's getting late and all this walking has made me hungry".

"Me too" said Joey,

"What are we having?" he asked

Howie stopped and looked at Horace, who looked at Wally, who looked at Dougan and together they shouted as loud as they could 'ANTS'.