



YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NEWS

Vol: 24 SUMMER 2016

FEATURES

Local Landcare Profile - Colleen & Ray Jenkins
AGM and Board election
Introducing the KIDS PAGE



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EVENTS UPDATE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Newsletter production and design is driven by volunteers on behalf of the Landcare Community. We look forward to your input.

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Deadlines

May 19 2017 is the deadline for the AUTUMN issue contributions.

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Cover photo

Yarram Early Learning Centre have joined the Landcare fold as a new subgroup and have already done two planting days at the Bicentennial Gardens.

Photo courtesy: Sally-Anne Henderson

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YARRAM URBAN LCG – MEETING & WORKING BEE

When: December 12 – 4.30pm
Where: Yarram Bicentennial Gardens

NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION

When: December 31 – 7pm ~
Where: Wonyip Hall – BYO drinks & BBQ or picnic tea

WOODSIDE LCG - MEETING

When: February 15 – 8pm
Where: Woodside Hall

MERRIMAN CREEK LCG - MEETING

When: February 27 – 7.30pm
Where: Harrison's property, Stradbroke

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

When: March 5 or thereabouts
Where: Where ever you like!
Register on their website.

WGCM GREEN CARPET EVENT

When: April 30 – TBC
Where: Heyfield Wetland Centre, Heyfield



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FROM THE OFFICE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Sally-Ann Henderson



Sally-Ann Says:

Hello and welcome to another edition of our YYLN newsletter.

It has certainly been a busy time over the last few months and it is a great opportunity to now bring you up to speed on all that has been going on.

We have a new YYLN Board in place after our October AGM and range of projects starting up or drawing to a close.

I hope you would have all received a blue Expression of Interest (EOI) form in the mail a few months back. This was part of a region wide call for projects across West Gippsland. It was the first time that we have done it collectively as a region.

It has resulted in YYLN receiving 22 project ideas. Coupled with the YYLN Expressions of Interest's that we undertook this time last year, we were able to send 13 project recommendations to the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA) for final vetting to receive either State or Federal Government funding. They were all the eligible projects that we received.

In this instance the funding bodies were looking for projects that undertook revegetation or remnant protection.

We also received a range of sustainable agriculture project Expressions of Interest, particularly for nutrient management.

For these we will need to pursue other ideas and sources of funding and so are currently working with Agriculture Victoria, GippsDairy and the WGCMA to see if we can implement nutrient management courses and run a whole farm planning workshop.

The other main theme of the EOIs that we received was pest plant and animal control (PPA). These projects were not eligible under the current grant funding that we received.

Government is unlikely to provide funding for control of weeds, rabbits and foxes because you are obligated by law to control them on your own property. PPA projects can sometimes be funded as part of wider activities such as remnant protection or revegetation. However, YYLN will continue to work with interested landholders and groups to see what can be achieved in future in the area of PPA.

IF YOU HAVE A LANDCARE TYPE PROJECT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO ACHIEVE, WE WOULD LOVE TO KNOW.

It is not too late to send in your EOI form. It can be ready for the next funding opportunity that comes along. *You have to be in it to win it!*

It was lovely to see the recognition and acknowledgment given to some of our longest serving members at a gathering at Parliament House. The event was to celebrate 30 years of Landcare in Victoria. Those that were able to make the trip to Melbourne were also treated to a lovely lunch and a tour of Parliament House. Thank you for your long term service and your example to us all.

Wishing you all a lovely holiday season with a Merry Christmas and healthy and happy new year.

Sally-Ann



SUE MACAULAY, NORMA & PETER GARLICK, EDDIE BRAND AND DAVID MACAULAY CELEBRATE 30 YEARS SINCE THE BIRTH OF LANDCARE.



LOCAL LANDCARE PROFILES

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Anne Hill and Melissa Ainsworth

Saltmarsh paradise at Mann's Beach



DRONE PHOTO OF THE JENKINS' SALTMARSH AT MANN'S BEACH.

A 100 acre property known as "Jerkastan" is home to Colleen & Ray Jenkins and countless birds and aquatic species at Mann's Beach.

Ray and Colleen purchased the property back in 1992. At that stage it was seen as "the ideal investment property for a keen fisher family, who regularly frequented the area and somewhere to leave the boat". The Jenkins also had a dream to develop it into an aquaculture business, whereby they would breed bream fingerlings. However, after a meeting with all of the associated regulatory bodies, the plan was abandoned. Ray & Colleen

then developed a new vision, to undertake an environmental restoration project that really has to be seen to be believed!

Approximately 31 acres of the property has been protected and enhanced to become one of the largest saltmarsh habitats on private land along that section of coastline in South Gippsland.

The former owner had built a bunt wall, which was closed off to stop saline water from entering, and thus damaging the then grazing pastures during high tides. Now being permanently open, the water is free to flow and enrich the saltmarsh.

Coastal saltmarsh is a threatened vegetation community due to agricultural



RAY AND COLLEEN JENKINS

and residential development, yet it is a highly significant

vegetation type due to its importance for bird life, in

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LOCAL LANDCARE PROFILES

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

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particular the Orange-bellied Parrot.

The Orange-bellied Parrot is listed as critically endangered under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. The OBP breeds in the eucalypt forests of Western Tasmania before travelling to the Victorian feeding grounds on the mainland in winter.

One project area is made up of an 18 acre saline wetland. It is fringed with saltbush and a 900m walking track, which includes 5 bridges allowing access to observe the small fish and birds dependant upon it.

As you can see from the aerial photos, holding ponds have been created to moderate the water flow, preventing erosion of the fragile soils. With the natural re-entry of saline water, mangroves are beginning to regenerate.

A fenced corridor, approximately 700 metres in length and 8 metres wide was built with the financial assistance of the WGCMA. It is located between the 66 acres of grazing paddocks and the saltmarsh area creating a re-vegetated buffer zone.

Funds were also provided for fencing between the grazing sites and coastal mangroves, which adjoin the Nooramunga Marine National Park.

When permission to collect seed from a nearby crown land area was refused, the decision was made to collect their own seed "on site". This seed was used to propagate 4500 plants for their re-vegetation projects.

In the year 2000 the house was extensively refurbished and Ray retired in 2012. Unfortunately ill health has limited future projects on the property, so Ray and Colleen will now enjoy the "fruits of their labour".

The importance of the efforts that the Jenkins' have delivered, is one that deserves immense applause.

Their piece of paradise is a crucial habitat for so many dependant plants and animals and is sure to assist the critically endangered Orange-bellied parrot as a safe feeding ground. With the property soon becoming a new monitoring site for the Orange-bellied Parrot, time will surely tell. ■



EARLY DAYS OF THE CREATED WETLAND AND ISLAND



THE SALT IS LEACHED AND THE PLANTS HAVE NOW ESTABLISHED



MUCH OF THE SALTMARSH IS SUBJECT TO SEAWATER INUNDATION.



THE SALTMARSH IS NOW STARTING TO LOOK ESTABLISHED AND THE TREES IN THE BUFFER ZONE ARE GROWING.



DUCK BOX BUILT BY YARRAM SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS



NATIONAL CONFERENCE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Werner Lange

I have had the opportunity to attend three Landcare conferences over the years and was most impressed with the recent Landcare Australia Conference held in Melbourne in September. 2016

Why was I impressed?

(Not in order of importance)

- It was great to see representation from indigenous Landcarers for the first time.
- The choice of the moderator, **Costa Georgiadis**, invited participation of the attendees, putting questions and giving commentary to the various plenary sessions with more relevance and more forceful in a relaxed manner.
- The choice of presenters like retired **Major General the Honourable Michael Jeffrey** on the subject of SOILS and the need of placing attention on it and the result of neglect was of great interest to me and giving the subject a high profile for future attention and action by Government and Landcare.
- The presence of young participants "Intrepid Landcare" group was real NEWS and a indication that the young people are now publicly involved and engaged with modern social media help.
- The emphasis on co-operation and the value of the volunteer component of



NRM work was emphasised and a commitment made by the Government agencies to continue to support and recognise that aspect and the resulting community building effect to be continued.

- The discussions on altering the content of the future conferences to introduce "workshops" with interactive participation of attendees, rather than report type of presentations to be of more actual value was something I agree with.

Disappointing is the fact that most attendees are government employed or agency employed and it would be useful to make the attendance accessible to more "Landcarers" by subsidising the relatively high cost of attendance.

This is effectively done by our

Network with the support of the WGCMA but not throughout Victoria nor Australia.

The conferences are held in different cities of Australia and for someone to afford the cost attending from Northern Queensland in Perth, is remote indeed.

Importance of education in schools was one session introduced by Angus Hume, which I find essential and Landcare can help in this process. Our Network can make this a priority for attention.

The creation of "International Landcare" and the fact that groups are supported in Africa and China is impressive, but I think that caring for the land we live in is possibly priority number one for us.

[Comments by Paul Harrison – Merriman Creek Landcare group](#)

Well I was surprised to be offered the opportunity to be one of the representatives of our Landcare group and was not sure if I had got the short or the long straw... With everyone so busy, the need to set aside two full days plus travelling time and the need to arrange accommodation added to the complexity of the offer.

But I was certainly pleased the way it turned out and it's a pity more are not able to have the same opportunity.

The conference was organised with opening addresses and then presentations lasting 45 to 60 minutes, held concurrently in 4 adjoining halls. If you have been to Jeff's Shed there is one thing they have - it's space, so moving around you also got lots of walking practice.

Session topics were categorised under main topics of "Climate

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

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Impact and Responses”, “Community Engagement”, “Landscape Challenges and Responses” and “Collaboration and Innovation”. Sounds a bit dry, don’t you think, but not so! Individual presentations with titles such as, “Rivers of Carbon - Rivers of Life”, “Revegetation by Stealth”, “Integrating Cultural Connections”, “Online Community Engagement helps shape drought support”, “Collaborate or Die”, “Soil Erosion in urban farming”, and one of my favourites “Dung Beetles”: Cascading biochar’s benefits as a carbon sequestration methodology made for difficult choices about best use of my time and how many could be attended.

Our moderator over the 2 days was Costa Georgiadis, well known also as the lead presenter and host of ABC TV’s

“Gardening Australia”. I had the pleasure of a stand-up finger food lunch with him on the second day and as well as his irrepressible enthusiasm for all things gardening, his knowledge and variety of contacts seemingly across the whole country was amazing.

The item of most impact to me was a short presentation in the “Young Landcare Award Finalists” group. The property in question, a central Australia beef station covering 120 kilometres from one end to the other and it was about the impact of technology. Now rather than taking days to check bores, they are able to remotely control and monitor them saving the need to and risks associated with physically driving a 240km round trip to maintain them. How cattle are now assessed as they regularly

attended monitored drinking points using one way entry they are scanned, ID’d, weighed and could be visually captured and assessed for market suitability and drafted accordingly or returned to the scrub, and all with the advances that IT and satellite telemetry allow, what a world we live in and how can we use it for the benefit of one and all.

Comments by Helen Spittle – Wonyip Landcare group

I was lucky enough to be sponsored by the YYLN to attend the recent National Landcare Conference in Melbourne and was blown away by the energy and enthusiasm of those who attended.

As a recent recipient of a Community Volunteer Action Grant (Species Protection Initiative) for the Wonyipedia

project in Wonyip, Gippsland, I was pleased to be able to connect with a range of valuable contacts, including the staff of the Threatened Species Commissioner, Department of Environment and Energy.

Of all the presentations, I was most excited to hear from ‘Intrepid Landcare’ who have the means to bring new energy to the Landcare movement by engaging 18 – 35 year olds in weekend projects which combine hard work with fun.

Run by young people for young people, I think this group holds the key to drawing more youth into Landcare.

I will certainly be reaching out to Intrepid for help with our new project and encourage other Landcarers to do the same. ■

SUCH A SPECIAL BUNCH OF LANDCARERS FROM WEST GIPPY AT THE NATIONAL LANDCARE AWARDS 2016. NO GONGS, BUT LOTS AND LOTS OF LAUGHTER AND WINE.





AROUND THE TRAPS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By our Landcare Group contact officers



30 YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG



PETA HOSE ARRANGEMENT

Merriman Creek LCG

On September 10, past and present members of the Merriman Creek Landcare sub group met at the Stradbroke Hall to celebrate our **30th Anniversary**. Guests included past members who have since left the district as well as Joy & David McAninly, immediate past Chair of the Network, and Belinda Brennan from the WGCMA. We all enjoyed a lovely spit roast dinner with fun and laughter before a raffle, which included exquisite native floral arrangements, as seen in the photo on the left. These were assembled by Peta Hose, a floral artist from Sale. Members agreed that it was such a success that we wouldn't wait for our next milestone anniversary, so we aim to have

another social evening next August, perhaps with a quirky theme.

The **Riparian Action Plan** project is drawing to a close. Burning of the dead willow tree heap will have to wait until next autumn, as the site was too wet. The tree planting had to move to another location along Merriman Creek and we thank Sally-Ann, Melissa, Bill and Dallas Wyatt from a Landcare group outside the Network, who helped plant the trees. We will return to the original site next year to hopefully complete the revegetating. Final blackberry spraying and treatment of more willow trees along the creek will conclude before Christmas.

We are pleased to learn of our

success with applying for the new **RHDV1 K5 rabbit virus** strain at a release site near Seaspray. *Thank you Jane and Sally-Ann!*

Our recent **Christmas meeting** included a farm walk with two local Agronomists discussing Rat's tail grass control. Specimens will be sent to the Royal Botanic Gardens Herbarium for confirmation of identification. The group is keen to apply for a grant to conduct a trial looking at 4 different control methods. The meeting also included with a lovely Christmas barbecue and was enjoyed by the 12 members who attended. *Thank you Jacque & Paul for hosting us!*

Our next meeting is scheduled

for February 27 at 7.30pm at the Harrison's residence. All welcome!

Merry Christmas to everyone in our Landcare community! ■

Yarram Early Learning Centre

Our newest subgroup the Yarram Early Learning Centre was keen to be involved in the community and in Landcare. The children walked from one end of town to the other, from the Kindergarten (next to the swimming pool) to the gardens (next to the water tower). They had a picnic lunch and then got



AROUND THE TRAPS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

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stuck into planting and playing. The teachers deemed the day such a success that they did it the following week as well. Hopefully it is the start of a great love of the outdoors and of helping care for it. Thanks to Dee and Vic at Tarra Wholesale Nursery for the donation of plants, some of which we also planted at the kindergarten. **We welcome this new group wholeheartedly into our network.** ■

Wonyip LCG

At the start of the financial year 2015-2016 we were encouraged by a grant to restore and replace vegetation on existing projects and the newly harvested section of the Quoll Corridor on HVP Plantations (initiated in 2006).

Our membership has increased and we have now a group of 13 financial members.

With the introduction of Sub Groups in the Network our financial burden for Insurance was reduced and the facilitation of Grant applications enhanced. For the first time since 2006 the majority of the Group could benefit from project funding as the Landscape project of JARR had distinct borders which excluded most of the Wonyip properties which lie in the Dingo Creek/Agnes River Catchment.

At the beginning of 2016 we were happy to receive a 25th Anniversary Grant of \$25,000 to continue our work on the Quoll Corridor into the Dingo/Agnes Catchment with connection to the JARR Catchment. This project was completed on time with the help of the Binginwarri Volunteers and the



JOHN KOSTA TEACHING ENTHUSIASTIC VOLUNTEERS FROM MELBOURNE THE ART OF POST DRIVING

newly invigorated Agnes River Group who are in the adjoining South Gippsland Network.... cooperation and community building is the new word for "Landcare" for us.

Further encouragement was received at the end of the year with the news that an application for the "Threatened Species" drive of the DELWP was successful.

The title "Wonyip LG-Wonyipedia threatened species ID guide and Habitat Restoration" must have been the trigger for that success.

We have already started to prepare action on the new threatened species project "Wonyipedia" with Helen Spittle the leader of the project.

We are in part of an area of South Gippsland that has a

statistic that over the last year 1,300 real estate properties have been bought by Melbourne residents and we have in our group three examples of that trend.

Welcome to new members Russell and Samantha Botton who purchased the property from Manfred and Julie von Hoff.

Landcare has existed in Victoria



SETTING UP THE PICNIC FOR THE WONYP MUSIC FESTIVAL HELD IN LATE SEPTEMBER



AROUND THE TRAPS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

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for 30 years and the future looks bright when we judge it by the recent National Landcare Conference where finally the young people have something to say.

We are grateful for the support we have received from the Yarram Yarram Landcare Network.

We have a future and we have defined this future in our Action Plan 2016 - 2020

But not all things in Wonyip are about the physical environment. We also tend to our emotional well-being by getting together for fun and entertainment. According to Cameron Stone,

new leader of the Wonyip group the music day held at the Wonyip Hall on 24 September "was a great success". He would like to publically thank all those that helped make the day such a success - musicians, helpers for set-up and pack up and all who attended. This event will definitely be staged again.

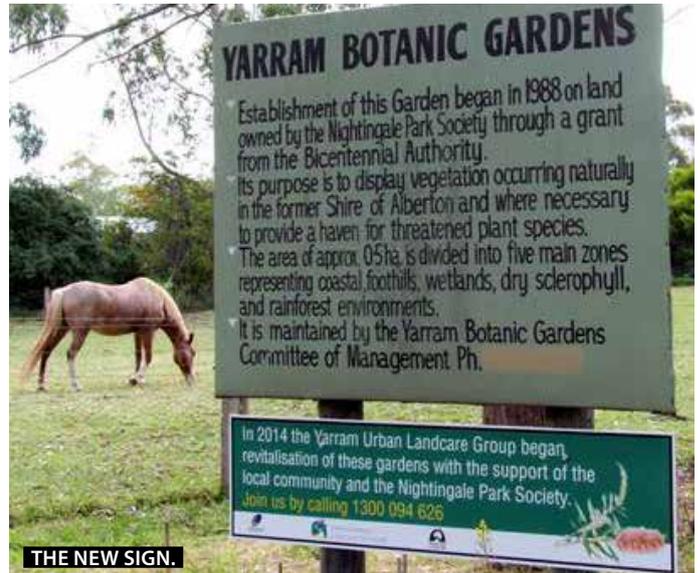
The Wonyip community, which essentially consists of the Landcare group, are celebrating the coming of the **New Year** at the Wonyip Excelsior Hall on New Years Eve. Some people might be interested in joining this unique musical evening organised by the "Goody Two Shoes" Band. ■

Yarram Urban LCG

*Activities we have undertaken over the winter and spring include many working B's at the **Bicentennial Gardens**.*

Our major focus of working bees this year has been to change the structure of the gardens to make maintenance easier.

This has included the development of a mowable area around the perimeter of the gardens, which allows us to use a tractor to mow right around the garden and into areas of the gardens. This has meant that rather than having to remove

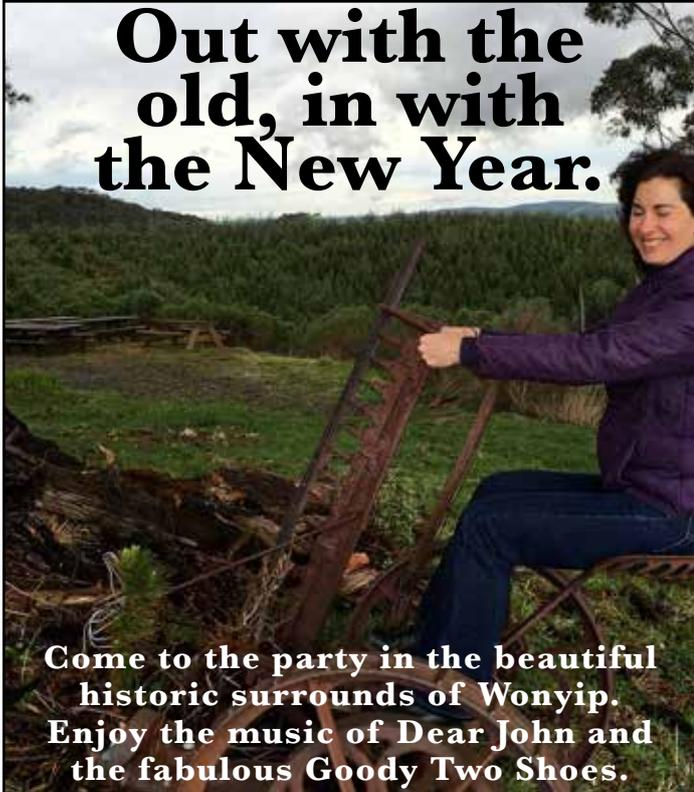


THE NEW SIGN.



ONE OF A SERIES OF MOWED PATHWAYS CREATED BY PAUL SAVAGE

Out with the old, in with the New Year.



Come to the party in the beautiful historic surrounds of Wonyip. Enjoy the music of Dear John and the fabulous Goody Two Shoes.

WONYIP HALL
Junction - Woorarra Rd
& Old Wonyip Rd
BYO - BBQ - Picnic
Tea & coffee free
\$15 Entry. 7 'til 2017



Proceeds to be shared for Hall maintenance & improvements.



AROUND THE TRAPS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

...continued from page 10...

weeds and prunings from the site, we have been able to mulch them on-site and save ourselves quite a bit of effort.

Our next steps will be developing a more intensive bed structure so that we can mow further areas as weeding the whole gardens is otherwise too labour intensive for our small band of volunteers. As part of this we are hoping to secure a source of mulch for the gardens.

We have developed a good relationship with the local kindergarten which have had several happy tree planting sessions and picnics at the gardens.

It's been great to welcome some community members to the gardens.

We assembled the Tarra Festival memorial wagon wheel, commemorative stone and seats, which had been donated to the Bicentennial Gardens last year. These now form a lovely feature at the entrance to the gardens.

Several members participated in the Yarram Courthouse Gallery 'On the Brink' endangered species art exhibition.

We also had a successful stall at the **Yarram Agricultural Show**, promoting our Landcare group, the Landcare sponsored exhibition at the Courthouse Gallery and also the Indian Mynah problem in our area and the availability of traps to rid the environment of these pests.

Our small but enthusiastic group continues to have a growing membership and we look forward to new adventures in 2017. ■



THE NEW ENTRANCE TO THE BICENTENNIAL GARDENS IS QUITE ENTRANCING



KINDER PLANTING IN BOTANICAL GARDENS



I'D GET MY HANDS OUT OF THE WAY IF I WERE YOU

Woodside LCG

Woodside members are all getting geared up for Christmas with a celebration at Toms Cap Winery on December 10.

We always have a very healthy attendance and this year will be no exception.

Our group has been successful in gaining a grant for a member's property in Woodside Nth to rejuvenate **Reedy Creek**. We owe Sally-Ann a big thank you for all the paper shuffling to getting this project off the ground.

We do not meet again until February 2017 and we are sure that will come around quick enough. ■



WORDS OF WISDOM

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Warren the Wise



This may be Warren's Last Hurrah:

Welcome to (possibly) my last words herein – no reader's query to answer this time, but please keep the letters and questions pouring in... because I think I may have someone to introduce you to later. Apologies to those fans of mine (yes, I was swamped with fan mail!) but you won't go unsatisfied me thinks.

The reason I can't write presently is that I am suffering mange and I need to scratch so often it continuously interrupts my thoughts and pen-work.

I have gone to live under a human house for now (not as good as my old burrow!) in the hope they will hear me scratching and rubbing

on their stumps and get me some treatment to make my itchiness go away – I just hope I've picked the house of an animal lover or a Landcarer – I'm sure either of those types will know how to fix my condition up.

I've heard "Ivomectin" works when rubbed on your back but the pay is so pitifully poor for us writer's, I have no money and cannot go into shops to buy it. Here's hoping for some human help!

My cousin "Wally" would like to have a go at answering all those strange and inexplicable

things you want to know about, and I think he'll be good in this job – he's a bit of a sticky-beak and I have found that is always a marvellous way of learning and passing on information! ☺

Please meet Wally, and don't forget – write in, or if you have a photo of something you've seen around locally and don't know what it is, send that in to the editor and Wally will attempt to identify it and give you some information about it.

Thanks for the memories all you lovely Landcarers, ■



An example of how our knowledge base expands

AN EMAIL TO THE YYLN BOARD

Hi,

A guest at our B&B took these shots of seahorses right behind the Wildfish Restaurant on Saturday. It must be a good sign indicator of the health of the seagrass which makes all your hard work worthwhile.

Cheers

Trevor Colvin



ONE OF THE PICTURES SENT BY TREVOR

Hi Trevor,

Thanks for the pics! I have had it explained to me that the observed increase in numbers of seahorses around Port Albert coincided with the sewerage of the town, certainly a necessary step in the right direction. Now if we can do a bit more to mitigate the current algae outbreak that would surely benefit not only the sea horse and sea dragon population but all other species reliant on well balanced ecosystem.

All the best,

Michael Hobson

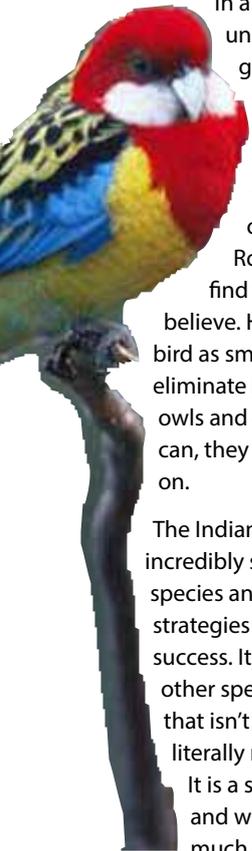


INDIAN MYNA

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Trevor Colvin

Is the Indian Myna really the threat it is made out to be?



In a word 'Yes'. If left unmanaged, your grandchildren may never see or hear a Boobook Owl, a Pygmy Glider, or an Eastern Rosella. You may find that hard to believe. How could a bird as small as the myna eliminate birds as big as owls and galahs? They can, they will. Please read on.

The Indian Myna is an incredibly successful species and adopts many strategies to ensure its success. It will outbreed other species and if that isn't enough, it will literally move them out.

It is a savage landlord and will dominate much of the nesting

real-estate, treating other birds as unwelcome squatters.

A breeding pair of Indian Mynas can breed three times each year and can produce up to six eggs each time. That means one pair can become twenty birds in one year. By comparison, a pair of Sooty Owls can total at best six in one year, Eastern Rosella; nine, Black Cockatoo; four and so it goes. The Indian Myna can outbreed them all. But breeding is only part of their success. Where they really shine is their incredible ability and determination to dominate nesting sites and destroy other breeding birds.

Many of our native birds and mammals breed in tree hollows

and so will Indian Mynas, but not content merely to breed in a hollow and live and let live, they will actively and aggressively bully other birds out of hollows, even if they don't use those nesting sites themselves and even if the other birds are bigger. Indian Mynas may kill the chicks of other birds or build a nest on top of them and smother them. They will build and defend up to three nesting sites even though they may only use one, denying other species breeding room.

Tree hollows can take more than a century to fully develop. We are losing them to development and now also to mynas. The hollows are critical in the breeding season but they are also where birds and animals sleep, putting much more than just breeding stress on other species.

The Indian Myna was introduced to control pests in Melbourne's market gardens in the 1850's and then Cairns and other northern areas to control pests in sugarcane. It failed at these tasks but has successfully bred up the eastern seaboard.

Canberra was Indian Myna free until 1969 when ten were introduced by a newcomer who liked their call. In 2005 before trapping commenced, it was the third most common bird in Canberra. As a result of very successful trapping it had been relegated to 20th most common bird (2012/3). We need to repeat this process in our region.

In October this year it was the eighth most sighted bird in the National Aussie Backyard Bird Count and given that it is not in

Tasmania and some states and territories, that is a frightening figure.

So, what is the official stance?

The responsible department is DELWP and at the time of writing we have been unable to establish much other than they don't recognise any science backing the claim that the myna is a threat.

So what needs to happen?

We need to have one hundred plus people trapping myna's to have any real success and we need your help to achieve that. YYLN will make traps (with instructions) available to you for a small refundable deposit.

There are only two recognised ways to humanely despatch the bird. The first is breaking their necks, which is quick and the other is gassing with carbon dioxide. If you would like to join the trapping program but don't want to kill them, we will be setting up a means whereby gassing will be made available. Other means of killing them, such as carbon monoxide poisoning or drowning, or freezing are considered cruel and our objective is to remove the birds, not to make their lives or their end miserable.

In order to be effective we need to mount a district wide campaign and monitor results carefully and that will take some time, but in the meantime you can make a start very quickly. ■

Contact Sally-Ann Henderson at YYLN on 5175 7897 or Trevor Colvin via trevorcolvin91@gmail.com

References:

The Field Guide to Birds of Australia - Pizzey & Knight
The Canberra Indian Myna Action Group
Clarence Valley Conservation in Action Landcare Group
Yarram Urban Landcare Group
Aussie Backyard Bird Count website





ON THE BRINK

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Jenny Davies

Wildlife in danger — Artists respond

A crowd of interested people attended the opening night of **"On the Brink, South Gippsland's Endangered Wildlife"**, the latest competition at the Yarram Courthouse Gallery. Run in partnership with the Yarram Yarram Landcare Network and sponsored by **Hedley Range Services** the artists competed for prizes worth \$1,000.

First prize was awarded to Ingrid Thomas of Mallacoota with her detailed drawing of "Bullants", second prize to Sally Armfield of Rosanna with her watercolour of "Rosemary Grevillea" in botanical style and third prize was awarded to local artist, Kim Baggaley for her work "Bearded Dragon" using a pyrographic drawing tool. Patrons were thrilled to see the variety on show and also to see secondary students participating.

The judges were Dawn and Chris Stubbs, highly regarded wildlife artists from The Australian Wildlife Gallery at Munro, and Malcolm May, well known local naturalist and historian. The gallery appreciated the time & work spent in judging the 41 works.

Immediate past Chairman of the Yarram Yarram Landcare Network, David McAninly, explained how challenging it is to achieve remnant protection of areas without government funding, but was excited about how it had met the challenge and were moving forward with some new projects in co-operation with landholders which will protect habitat of endangered plants and animals

despite funding set backs.

A bonus for the viewer is a group of paintings showing Gippsland bush orchids & other native flowers observed and painted from the 1920's and on loan from Malcolm May.

We invite you to come and see our wildlife through the artists' eyes - *you will be amazed!*

Gallery is open every day except Wednesday from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Entry is free. ■



FIRST PRIZE



SECOND PRIZE



THIRD PRIZE



HONORABLE MENTIONS



OPENING NIGHT AT THE YARRAM COURTHOUSE GALLERY



YYLN AGM

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Helga Binder

The YYLN Annual General Meeting was held on October 7 in the gorgeous new club building at the Yarram Football Ground.

There was an excellent attendance by Landcare members and all of the active groups in the Network were represented.

Guest speaker Ed McNabb, retired Wildlife Ecologist kept everyone entertained with his stories and soundtracks of owls.

For the first time ever, Board positions up for review due to retiring members and the creation of one more position were hotly contested. It was great to see such interest in the Board and its future.

The election was ably and smoothly conducted by Belinda Brennan and Dan Garlick of the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority and we thank them for their time and support of all things YYLN.

After completing his six years as Chair, David McAninly stepped down from this position to become a general member. In his place Werner Lange was elected as the new Chair.

It was very sad to see Kaye Proudley and David MacAulay leave the Board due to health and work commitments respectively.

Their contribution to our Landcare network, Kaye with her expertise in flora and David with his wisdom, will be missed. We thank them both for their continued efforts in the name of Landcare.



A GREAT CROWD FOR OUR AGM.

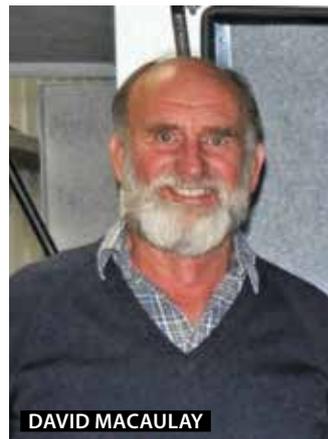


NEW BOARD L TO R: CHAIR, WERNER LANGE; VICE-CHAIR, HELGA BINDER; RETIRING CHAIR, DAVID MCANINLY; TREASURER, JOHN MCCLUMPHA; GENERAL MEMBER, ANNE HILL; SECRETARY, MELISSA AINSWORTH; NEW GENERAL MEMBERS MICHAEL HOBSON AND ANDREW MISSEN (MISSING CATHY TREMBATH).

We have, however, fresh new faces on the Board and hope that with these new faces come new ideas and directions. See their profiles on the next page.

Food and drink were catered for by the Football and Cricket clubs and many commented on the excellent dinner cooked and served by female club members.

Finally, a big thank-you to the volunteers who assisted in organising the night. ■



DAVID MACAULAY



TURID LANGE WITH KAYE PROUDLEY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

For those who did not attend the AGM here is an excerpt from the Annual Report that gives an overview of the Networks achievements for the 2015/2016 year.

The Yarram Yarram Landcare Network has the following as the key themes where it strives for excellence:

- Landcare Groups & Membership
- Sustainable Agriculture/ Production
- Environmental Stewardship
- Education, Communication & Promotion
- Partnerships & Collaboration
- Funding
- Governance

In 2015/16, the Yarram Yarram Landcare Network undertook 22 projects.

- 31100 plants in the ground;
- 42.5 ha of land revegetated;
- 8.82 km of fencing erected;
- 5355.82 ha of weeds controlled
- 72.7 ha of remnant vegetation protected;
- 87 km Waterways and Riparian zone treated
- 20 partnership with community groups and agencies
- 26 information sessions/field days/events;Workshops

YYLN have also been active in other areas and in 2015/16 has delivered the following activities and events and noteworthy news.

- A review of the constitution, with the new constitution

approved by the membership in June;

- Full seedbank review and inventory tested for viability;
- Newsletter – production of 4 newsletters delivered electronically (photocopied for non-email members);
- Website – New YYLN website www.yarramlandcare.org;
- Wonyip, Hedley, Bingenwarri, Merriman Creek and CIBAG subgroups actively seeking out and delivering projects.
- YYLN's Saltmarsh Protection project was awarded the Coastcare Award and
- YYLN Chair David McAninly was award the Victorian Individual Landcarer Award at the Victorian State Landcare awards held at Government House in August.
- AGM – 50 people being introduced to the wonderful world of native bees and their habits;
- Alberton Primary joining as a sub-group and Yarram Early Learning Centre undertaking activities and joining in June;
- YYLN Riparian Restoration Project on Merriman Creek being chosen as a project to do a study to determine the return on investment of social capital;
- Hosted political discussions with local, state and federal members of parliament to encourage better understanding of Landcare and the issues faced by volunteers and the network.
- Helga Binder retiring and Kevin Heggen taking on the role of chair of the JARR committee;
- Working with the Courthouse Gallery to bring a threatened species exhibition to Yarram in Oct 2016;
- Continuation of the drought

tolerant pastures work with a further 3 years of monitoring to be funded through Healthy Soils.

- Samantha Monks departed in March, having taken an early redundancy package from the WGCMA.
- Phase 2 of the JARR Biodiversity Blueprint was compiled after a gathering at Bingenwarri Hall with several projects already underway.
- Extensive bird monitoring and mammal monitoring programs being carried out in JARR and surrounds.

This year the average age of our volunteers has been greatly reduced with both Alberton Primary and the Yarram Early Learning Centre joining the network and contributing with tree planting activities. Coupled with works by the scouts, cubs and Yarram Secondary students we have over 150 kids from 3 to 17yrs old working to improve the local environment. Who said Landcare was dying out?

Again in 2015-16 I compliment the subgroups for their pursuit of projects and delivery of on-ground works. It is great to see the teamwork and comradery that has developed in some groups as they achieve their goals. A particular thanks to the tireless contact officers, and spokespeople who champion these projects and coordinate and cajole the members and work very hard to things delivered.

Sadly we have again had to cut staffing this year as the network transitions from large scale network contractor delivered projects, to smaller discreet projects delivered with works undertaken by

individuals and subgroups. We are still getting some fantastic outcomes for the environment and our community but they are not coming with the security of funding or the landscape scale change seen with projects such as Mullungdung to the Coast and JARR Communities for Nature. For example the average funding level for new grant programs announced by the Victorian Government this year was \$25K compared with Communities for Nature JARR which was a \$600,000 grant program back in 2012. We are working hard to engage other sources of funding and to persuade governments that large scale projects have a place in natural resource management. We wish Samantha Monks all the best and thank her for many years of diligent project delivery for YYLN.

The constitutional review undertaken this year by a working party of board, staff and other YYLN members has led to us adopting an up to date constitution that better reflects the operations of the network and complies with current legislation.

And finally YYLN was delighted to be awarded the 2015 Victorian Landcare Awards' Coastcare Award for the Saltmarsh Protection work that we have undertaken over many years. To top it off David McAninly was named the Victorian Individual Landcarer for 2015 at the same awards. We now go on to represent Victoria at the National Awards. ■



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK



Cathy Trembath
Retired University Lecturer

Before migrating to Australia in 2004, I lived in the US, most of my life in the city of Chicago, but I lived in Arizona and the desert for 12 years until coming here.

Over the years, “my migrations” have taken me more and more away from cities until now living at Madalya on 85 acres of protected bush! My professional work has always been with community organisations, focusing on community development and issues of diversity/tolerance.

After arriving at Madalya, I worked as lecturer at Monash and Federation University, in Churchill for ten years. I lectured in the Bachelor of Social and Community Welfare and the Masters of Human Services Management. Recently retired I have decided to get back involved in Landcare while still working with my husband, Leon, on our garlic growing “hobby”.

I bring skills in Community Development and organisational management, both which were the focus of my teaching and my previous professional work before coming to Australia in 2004.

Landcare means community involvement and environmental concerns, both of which I am passionate about as issues that we all need to address.

I started participating in Landcare from the time of my first visit to Australia in 2001, three years before I moved here. I remember the interest and excitement of participants learning to work together to collect seed that was needed for various projects. That working together was what impressed me the most.

I was on the YYLN Board for 5 years from 2005 – 2010, but stepped down when I working full time at the Uni meant that some of my volunteer activities needed to stop.

During my involvement in YYLN, I assisted in setting up what was then the YYLN Board structure, the Yarram Seedbank, the Employment Steering Committee and the Victorian Landcare Council.

I was previously involved in the JARR project and have worked on reveg projects in our local area. The beautiful tall and vibrant Eucalypts growing along the Jack River on the boundary of our property are amazing to see, especially because I can say that I collected the seeds, grew the seeds, pricked the seedlings out into tubes, and then planted the tress only to watch them grow into beautiful habitat for a wide range of birds and animals –

that’s what Landcare is about!

I believe that Landcare must continue to involve the community, through projects, education and maybe in some new and creative ways as well. Youth need to be energized and we need to find ways to involve more families and young parents who we know are just so busy that Landcare often doesn’t fall into their radar.

The strength and the challenge of Landcare is to both involve and motivate the community! ■



Andrew Missen
Farmer, Woodside

Andrew was raised on a farm at Merriman Creek but spent 20 years in the power industry before committing himself back to the land. In his words, “You can take the boy out of the country but you can’t take the country out of the boy.”

For the last 20 years Andrew has been farming sheep and cattle on his land in Woodside.

He respects the land; he

understands what farming on the plains south-east of Yarram means; he believes that caring for the land is an ongoing job and he is prepared to commit a little extra time to make sure it happens.

“Landcare has made an incredible difference to our area,” says Andrew. “There haven’t been many that didn’t do a Landcare project over the years. You can see it in the transformation of the land around us. Once there was just a flat pasture landscape but now there are shelter-belts, fenced off remnant vegetation and a decent amount of new trees planted. Landcare projects over the last 30 years have included revegetation, wildlife corridors, seed stock projects, direct seeding, rabbit control and control of weeds including boxthorn and gorse.”

Andrew believes that the continued control of invasive plants and animals is extremely important. He also has concerns that the kangaroo populations are on the increase in the area as they eat the crops meant for livestock.

His reason for joining the Landcare Board has been principally to bring a stronger and better understanding of his area to the larger network and to represent the different perspective and issues found in that area – an area very different from the hilly country to the west of the region.

Andrew brings a range of practical skills to the Board of the network including an efficient professional farmer’s perspective and common sense.

He is a welcome addition to the team. ■

Continued on page 18...



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

...continued from page 17...



Michael Hobson
Fisherman, Master Mariner,
Owner of Port Albert Wharf
and Wildfish restaurant

I began my career as a professional fisherman in my early 20's predominantly in the Commonwealth Southern Shark

Fishery and became an executive member of the Southern Shark and Gillnet Fisherman's Association and the Southern Shark Industry Council. At this time I saw a need for better engagement between primary industries and practical environmental management and became a Director of Wetland Care Australia.

Introduction of an Individually Transferable Quota management system forced me and many other small scale professional fishermen out of the fishery.

I then bought a share and operated a charter fishing

business based in Port Albert, during this time I also worked as a safety trainer at the Barry Beach Escape Craft Training Center and at the West Sale Helicopter Underwater Escape Training Facility, training mainly offshore oil and gas industry personnel.

I returned to study and upgraded my marine qualifications and left Australia to work as an engineer, mate and captain of yachts in the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, Mediterranean and Caribbean seas working for Jim Clark, Billy Connolly and Sir Richard Branson.

In 2007 I returned to Australia and created Port Albert Wharf and Wildfish restaurant and also met Makira the mother of our two wonderful boys; Arlin aged 4 and Cian 18 months.

My vision for Landcare in our region is to assist the group

continuing to deliver the on ground work so vital for landscape restoration. Using connections with other partner groups and industries in primary production and tourism to attract funding and build the necessary relationships that will ensure the work of Landcare continues well into the future.

Community Group Memberships:

- Port Albert CFA
- Vice President Port Albert Progress Association
- Committee member Tarra Territory Tourism
- Committee member Yarram Early Learning Centre Inc.

Professional Affiliations:

- Member Seafood Industry Victoria ■

Are you interested in participating in a Whole Farm Planning workshop?

Whole farm planning is an opportunity to take a step back and look at your farm as a whole. It also allows you to think about what assets are present and what you would like it to look like in the future, from both an environmental and production point of view.

We hope to run a workshop in 2017.

Register your interest with Sally-Ann at the office on 51757897 or email Sally-AnnH@wgcm.vic.gov.au and we will let you know when and where the workshop will take place.



PROJECT UPDATES

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Sally-Ann Henderson

Connecting Calrossie, Won Wron and Devon North

We have just completed a great project in the Devon North - Won Wron area creating new connections through corridors of vegetation as well as protecting remnant bush, particularly in the area burnt by the October 2015 bushfire.

Previous JARR focused projects had excluded this region of the catchment. YYLN designed a project to give landholders in the area a chance to access the support provided to others, though projects such as "Mullungdung to the Coast" or "Communities for Nature".

We were able to achieve:

- 4.3 kilometres of fencing to protect 34 hectares of remnant vegetation
- 6.1 hectares of weed control and
- 3430 trees planted within 7.7 hectares of land

Because of the unavailability of the South Gippsland direct seeding machine, we were not able to complete the seeding trial part of the project.

The plan had been to try using 3 techniques to measure the success of direct seeding on heavy country. The network's



NEWLY COMPLETED CORRIDOR INCORPORATING REMNANT Paddock TREES.



YARRAM SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS HARD AT WORK ON A NEW CORRIDOR



AN EXPERIMENTAL WAY OF FENCING GROUPS OF PLANTS TO TRY TO PROTECT THEM FROM WALLABIES.



ENTHUSIASTIC YARRAM SECONDARY SCHOOL PLANTERS INSTALLING HEAVY DUTY GUARDS TO FEND OFF WALLABY BROWSING

Continued on page 20...



PROJECT UPDATES

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

...continued from page 19...

Burford seeder, South Gippsland Seedbank's Ripper Seeder and direct ploughing and manual seed scatter. This trial will be done next autumn to give a better chance of success, rather than risk the seed coming up only to be burnt off with summer's lack of rain.

One of the project highlights was the work put in by the Year 9 students of Yarram Secondary School, who planted and guarded 800 trees on a Friday morning. The following week the students planted out almost 3000 trees to create a new corridor and revegetated around a wetland, thankful that they did not have to also guard those plants. It was a sterling effort and the landholders were much appreciative of such a cheerful and willing workforce.

We certainly look forward to the collaboration between the community and YYLN and the work done by the Secondary School is very productive. The

students were able to finish their tree planting days with a visit to a corridor that was planted by last year's year 9 students and no doubt next year's students will pay a visit to the work undertaken this year. A perpetual legacy of their childhood efforts, springing up across the landscape. ■

Wellington Community Grant

Port Albert Yacht Club members were busy adding the final touches to the new garden bed on the Port Albert foreshore. As part of the YYLN Wellington Community grant last year they removed boxthorn and replanted the area with native plants. This was done with the assistance of the Alberton Primary School Landcare Sub-group. This spring an additional 80 plants were added to fill up gaps and give an greater richness to the species diversity of the planting. ■

New Projects



WONYIP LANDCARE SUBGROUP DISCUSSING THE NEW PROJECT



OUT ON THE TRACK INSPECTING THE WORK TO BE DONE



MEMBERS OF PORT ALBERT YACHT CLUB FILLING IN THE GAPS WITH ADDITIONAL PLANTS

Wonyipedia - Education, Identification and Protection of threatened species in the Strzelecki Ranges

The **Wonyip** sub group don't rest on their laurels! Fresh from delivering the successful "25th Anniversary Quoll project" they are onto their next challenge. Wonyipedia is planned to be an

identification guide for those living in the upper sections of our network to assist them to identify the plants and animals that are threatened in the region. Along with this guide is an on-ground works program to clear weeds and rubbish and through the rainforest to create a walking trail along a 3 kilometre stretch of disused road. ■

Continued on page 21...



PROJECT UPDATES

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

...continued from page 20...

Protecting and Enhancing Strzelecki Warm Temperate Rainforest

This project will restore and enhance a patch of Warm Temperate Rainforest. It's part of a project that the **Binginwarri** sub group were able to apply for, to plant trees and do weed control in a threatened EVC. (EVC stands for Ecological Vegetation Class and it basically just means the type of ecosystem an area fits into.). Bird surveys have already begun in the area. ■

Victorian Gorse Taskforce

The Corner Inlet Blackberry Action group have been able to secure a small grant to continue their work on ridding the Corner Inlet catchment of weeds.

This time round they were granted \$2000 to part subsidise the control of Gorse, as part of a follow-up investigation of the success of our previous efforts.■

Community Volunteer Action Grants

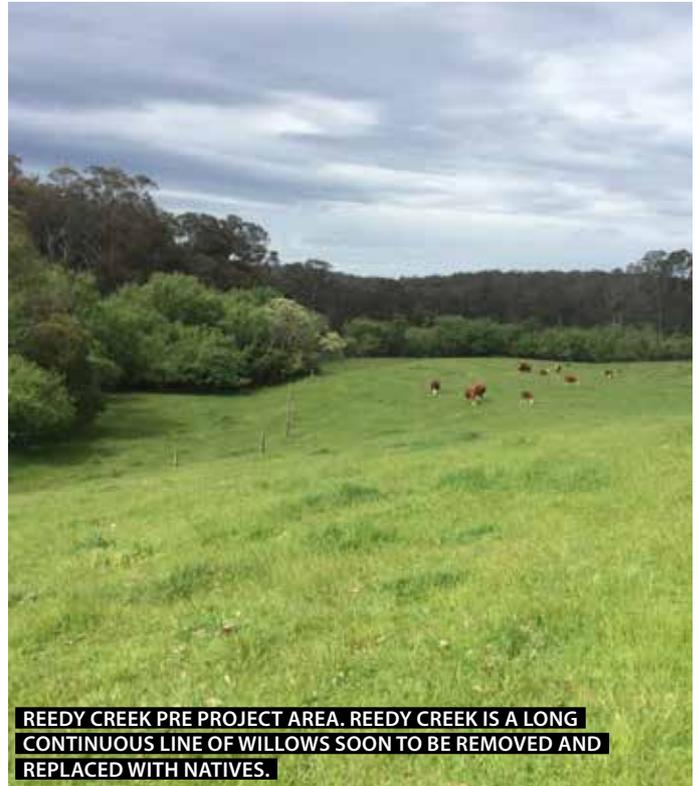
We were delighted that all three of the Network's "Community Volunteer Action Grants" applications were successful in receiving funding. The grants are provided by the Victorian Government to allow communities to work on threatened species protection. ■

Enhancing Reedy Creek for Critically Endangered Martin's toadlet and the endangered tree goanna

Woodside Landcare group have a new project to remove willows on Reedy Creek and to fence and revegetate the area. The project will also monitor frogs, birds and other creatures to get a baseline of what is on site, so that in future years we can go back and measure if our efforts have had an impact over time. ■

Riparian Restoration of Reedy Creek

The CMA has again chosen YYLN to deliver a river restoration project in conjunction with a Landcare project. This year it was the **Merriman Creek** sub group, because they had successfully delivered the "Communities for Nature" project along Merriman Creek. Next year we will again be in a partnership with the WGCMA because of the funding YYLN secured for a project on Reedy Creek. The CMA will provide most of the money to allow willows to be removed, in much greater numbers than we would have been able to afford. It is an excellent example of money leveraging other money and shows that good things come to those who try to help themselves, rather than waiting for others to do the work. ■



REEDY CREEK PRE PROJECT AREA. REEDY CREEK IS A LONG CONTINUOUS LINE OF WILLOWS SOON TO BE REMOVED AND REPLACED WITH NATIVES.



REEDY CREEK PRE PROJECT NEWLY COMPLETED CORRIDOR INCORPORATING REMNANT PADDOCK TREES.



PROJECT UPDATES

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Dallas Wyatt - Bird Monitoring Program coordinator and participating landholder

Hedley/Nine Mile Creek Restoration Project- Bird Monitoring Program

Bird surveys to establish a baseline of bird data at two participating properties as part of the Hedley/Nine Mile Creek Restoration Project have been completed.

The objective of the Bird Monitoring Program (BMP) was to record and document the bird populations present at sites where conservation works had been completed in 2012/13. This was achieved by recording the species present (species richness) and the total number of birds present (bird abundance) at these sites using systematic survey methods approved by BirdLife Australia for surveying woodland bird species.

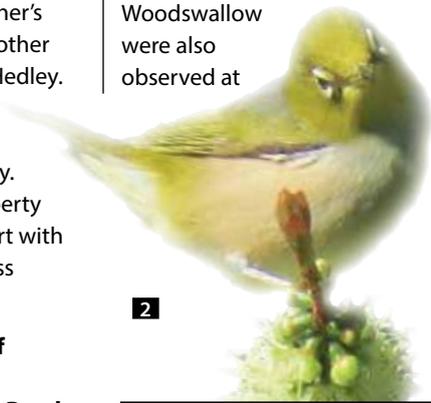
The two properties are located in the Nine Mile Creek catchment - one at Becher's Rd, Welshpool and the other along Telegraph Rd in Hedley. (A full report will be available on the YYLN website in January. The Becher's Road property is the focus of this report with only the species richness considered.)

Graphical Summary of Baseline Bird Surveys completed at Becher's Road Welshpool - January 2012 to October 2014

Survey Method - 20 Minute 2 ha Area Search

Site A is a benchmark site. It has the most diverse bird population of all the sites with 24 bird species per survey over

28 surveys. It is the Welshpool H16 Bushland Reserve, which is four hectares of riparian forest along the Nine Mile Creek. It is protected from grazing and is buffered by other patches of grazed bushland. Site A is the best intact example of what the vegetation might have been like along the creek. The vegetation is structurally complex with tall trees, good canopy cover and a diverse understory of plants. This is excellent habitat for many forest dependent species such as White-throated Treecreeper, Varied Sittella, Golden Whistler, Striated Thornbill, Eastern Yellow Robin, Scarlet Robin, Brown Gerygone and a number of honeyeaters. Also, summer visitors such as Rufous Fantail, Satin Flycatcher, Rufous Whistler and Dusky Woodswallow were also observed at



2

this site.

Site C is the Nine Mile Creek restoration site. This site was fenced and revegetated with 4000 plants in September 2013. There were some remnant gums and other vegetation along the southern end of this waterway. An average of 15 species per survey over 25 surveys was recorded. The most frequent species being Superb Fairywren, Australian Magpie, Brown Thornbill, Welcome Swallow, Common Starling, Dusky Moorhen, and White-browed Scrubwren. This site has preferred habitat for wetland species such as Buff-banded Rail, Dusky Moorhen, Eurasian Coot, Australian Wood Duck, Pacific Black Duck, Grey Teal and Chestnut Teal. Also Latham's Snipe, a once common migratory wader from Eastern Siberia that is now declining, has been observed along the creek with 11 individuals recorded in September 2013. Tree Martins are regular seasonal visitors to Nine Mile Creek arriving in August to breed. They nest in small



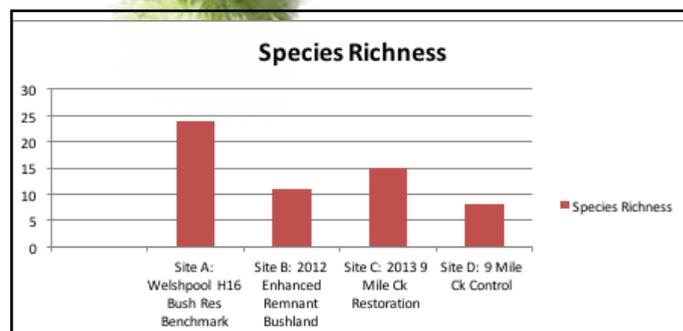
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hollows on the remaining Mountain Grey Gums, before departing in February for northern climes.

Site B is the enhanced remnant bushland. This bushland site had its fencing extended to exclude cattle and was enhanced with understory plants in October 2012. An average of 11 species per survey over 28 surveys was recorded. The most frequently recorded birds at this site being Eastern Rosella, Noisy Miner, Grey Butcherbird, Starling, Australian Magpie, Galah and Magpie-lark.

Site D is a grazed reach of the Nine Mile Creek. Over 10 surveys, an average of 8 species were recorded with Superb Fairywren, Starlings and White-browed Scrubwren the most frequently recorded.

The baseline data indicates the Sites B, C and D have lower bird diversity compared to the benchmark Site A. It will be interesting to see what shift there is in the bird populations at Sites B and C compared to Sites A (benchmark) and D (control) when these sites are monitored in the future. ■



BIRDS ON THIS PAGE:

1. *Rufous Fantail*
2. *Silvereye*



PARTNER ACTIVITY

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

By Bruce Atkin

Coastcare's "Summer by the Sea" 2017 activities program

Each year Coastcare Victoria and Parks Victoria provide a program of enjoyable and educational activities right along the Victorian coast. Visitors and locals can take part and learn more about the coastal and marine environments while having fun at the same time. All activities are free; some require bookings. Check out the full range on the DELWP or Parks Victoria websites.

Activities in our local area include:

Port Welshpool: Seadays Festival

January 7th & 8th - 10.00 – 4.00pm. Includes marine and coastal wildlife displays, dip netting in seagrass meadows, marine debris display and much more. On Saturday 7th, former WGCMA Waterwatch officer, Tammy Logan will present her 'Tammy Talks Trash' talk on how we can all reduce our consumption of unnecessary packaging. No need to book.

McLoughlins Beach: Beachcombing

January 20th - 10 – 11.30 am. Well-known marine educator and author of 'Down Under at the Prom', Marg O'Toole will lead a beachcombing walk at McLoughlins Beach to check out



SEAGRASS SAFARI AT SEA DAYS FESTIVAL 2016

life in the inlet and what washed up with the last tide on the Ninety Mile Beach. Bookings essential at: summerbythesea.vic.gov.au.

Port Albert: Secrets from the Sea – Touch Table and Coast kids activities

January 20th - 1.00 – 2.30pm. Learn some amazing facts about life in our inlets and join in some fun activities. The Coastcare education trailer will be on the foreshore near the "Wildfish" restaurant.

Port Welshpool: Secrets from the Sea - Touch Table and Coast kids activities

January 22nd -

11.00 – 2.00pm. Learn some amazing facts about life in our inlets and join in some fun activities. The Coastcare education trailer will be on the foreshore near the Ferry Terminal.

There are many other activities available at Walkerville,

Waratah Bay, Yanakie, along the Bass Coast and in East Gippsland. ■

For enquiries contact your Coastcare Facilitator; Bruce Atkin on 51839116

Photo below: Jonathon Stevenson and Bruce Atkin with prize winners of the Sea Days poster competition 2016.





KIDS PAGE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Animals, birds, reptiles and insects you may find in the bush.

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| Ant | Antechinus |
| Bandicoot | Bird |
| Bunyip | Butterfly |
| Echidna | Frog |
| Goanna | Kangaroo |
| Koala | Kookaburra |
| Lizard | Mosquito |
| Owl | Possum |
| Quoll | Rosella |
| Scorpion | Snake |
| Wallaby | Wombat |

Puzzle by Anne Hill

P	R	Q	A	N	T	E	C	H	I	N	U	S	E	S
E	M	A	P	B	A	N	D	I	C	O	O	T	C	B
U	O	K	O	K	A	B	U	R	R	A	V	H	W	
L	S	N	W	M	S	T	P	O	S	S	U	M	L	Y
C	Q	D	L	F	A	P	S	N	Y	E	A	K	D	L
F	U	L	Z	R	K	R	N	O	X	W	V	U	N	Q
R	I	P	K	O	A	L	A	Z	W	O	M	B	A	T
S	T	W	R	G	N	C	K	Q	P	J	K	O	H	G
B	O	A	O	X	G	A	E	U	S	L	A	N	T	O
U	Z	L	S	Y	A	B	R	O	M	P	N	L	D	A
N	B	L	E	A	R	I	N	L	P	N	G	E	A	N
Y	C	A	L	K	O	R	E	L	I	Z	A	R	D	N
I	D	B	L	Y	O	D	X	Z	R	P	R	N	M	A
P	O	Y	A	B	S	C	O	R	P	I	O	N	B	T
F	G	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	O	X	T	S

Print this page for your kids or go to the following sites on the internet to help your kids learn about caring for the land.

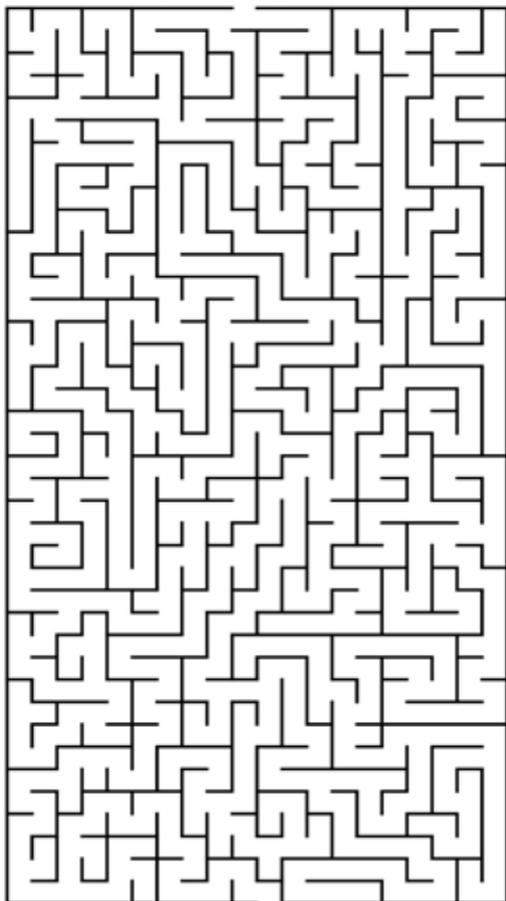
Web sites for eco-kids

- <http://www.kidsplanet.org>
- <http://www.treasures.com>

online games that teach kids about earth, ecology & conservation

- <http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/10-environmental-games-teach-kids-earth-ecology-conservation/>

Help Warren to the magic medicine



Baby birds colouring in picture

