



YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NEWS

Vol: 002 AUTUMN March 2011

WELCOME DAN

By Trevor Colvin.

Dan Garlick joined YYLN in December and is making his mark.

We were all a little lost when Paul Martin left to follow a dream and many thought his replacement would have big shoes to fill.

While Dan has only been in the job a few weeks, those of us who work closely with him, reckon he has size fourteen boots. He has stepped into the role quickly and thoroughly.

Dan has a real grasp of what YYLN is and what it needs to be and although he is not yet full-time, he seems to be in attendance six days a week.

And with Samantha and Bronwyn now in the office more, due to increased duties, the office is buzzing with energy and excitement.

There were many candidates for Dan's job, but he was the 'standout' and his background and credentials are worthy of a separate feature article and this will appear in the Winter Newsletter, along with profiles on Samantha and Bronwyn and some of your board members. ■



Dan holding Maya with Luella, Harrison, Caeleb and Wil.

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LANDCARE AWARDS NOMINATIONS CLOSE ON THE 18TH

The Award nomination forms were posted to each of you and your group leaders have received them electronically and hopefully passed them on.

Please get busy and nominate yourself or anyone else you believe suitable for nomination in any of the categories.

The more nominations the better - the judges are all independent and from outside our area, so you can be sure impartiality will prevail.

It would be wonderful if we had half a dozen nominations for

each category, but it is entirely up to you to make that happen.

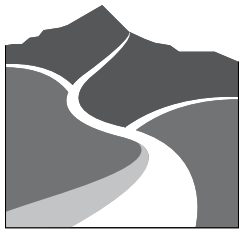
The awards are biennial and are very important. Networks across the state organise awards and the winners of each category then go into the state final and the winners of the state final go into the national awards. Along the way, many people are acknowledged and it gains Landcare great publicity and kudos at all levels.

Our award winners will be recognised at the YYLN Awards Dinner at the Club Hotel Yarram

on Friday April 29. We have kept the cost way down to \$20 a head for a two-course meal, so please make an effort and be there. Bookings need to be made and these can be made to the YYLN office or to Werner Lange on 5681 6336

Our special guest will be Federal Member Darren Chester. Darren has been doing a lot of work on behalf of Landcare and is a true champion of our cause.

Awards Nominations Close – Friday March 18
Awards Dinner – Friday April 29



FROM THE OFFICE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

YYLN BBQ on Sunday March 27

Come, catch up, have fun and meet our new Coordinator

This is a **free barbecue for all members** and gives us all an opportunity to meet other group members, catch up with our own colleagues, meet the staff

and meet the board. This year it will be held at the Binginwarri Hall from midday. The venue has a terrific footy ground and plenty of wide-open space for the kids .

We will make sure we have a few footballs and cricket gear available to make this a fun day with your family. We hope to have some local talent present, a variety of musical entertainment, which won't be head-banging stuff.

So please, support your group and support your network and make room in your calendar for this event. ■

* * FOR SALE * *

SET OF COMMERCIAL QUALITY SEED WEIGHING SCALES AND BLOWER VAC IN EXCELLENT CONDITION!

PLEASE CONTACT BRONWYN AT THE YYLN OFFICE FOR SPECIFICATIONS AND PRICES.

ALSO – SMALL (NON WORKING) FRIDGE - FOR FREE!



YARRAM YARRAM
LANDCARE NETWORK

Yarram Yarram Landcare Network (YYLN)

Mullungdung to the Coast Project

Funding available for revegetation and protection of remnant vegetation projects

Expressions of Interest meeting

Wednesday 16th March, 11am at Giffard West Hall

The Mullungdung to the Coast Project aims to protect and enhance biodiversity across the Giffard Plain. Funding is available to assist landholders in the project area to fence off and enhance remnant vegetation and undertake revegetation projects.

Come along to the meeting to find out more about the project and submit project ideas.

Lunch will be provided. If you cannot make the meeting, you can still participate - please contact Bronwyn Johnson before Tuesday, 15th March.

For more information and to RSVP please contact:

Bronwyn Johnson

Ph. 51 75 7895

M 0429 808 130

E bronwynj@wgma.vic.gov.au



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

From Dan's Desk



A big thank you to Sam for her efforts in the three months leading up to my employment and subsequently showing me the ropes around the office. Sam will continue as a Landcare Project Officer running several important projects (See Project Update section).

Congratulations to Bronwyn Johnston who has been appointed the Mullungdung to Coast Project Officer. This is an additional role for Bronwyn, who also continues as Seedbank Officer.

It has been a hectic first couple of months of the year in the YYLN offices. In addition, to learning the ropes, staff have been busily delivering several on-ground projects (see below for more detail).

The biennial **Landcare Awards** are on again this year. You should have received information and nomination forms recently. **Nominations close March 18th**, so please nominate those outstanding landcarers to ensure they get due recognition. **Awards Night at the Club Hotel on Friday 29th April**, \$20 a head for a two course meal – RSVP YYLN Office on 5182 5073 or Werner Lange on 56 816 336.

On the project funding front, we have had a number of successful applications:

- Norman Wettenhall Foundation:** are providing funding to employ a Project Officer to work with the JARR Committee to identify priorities for on-ground projects;
- Victorian Gorse Taskforce:** are providing funding to engage and educate landholders on the control of gorse and also control 30ha of gorse;
- Caring for Our Country: Mullungdung to Coast:** funding to assist landholders to protect and enhance biodiversity across the Giffard Plain; and
- Caring for our Country: Healthy Soils:** a healthy soils workshop will be held in early June – more detail to follow.

* * REMINDER * *

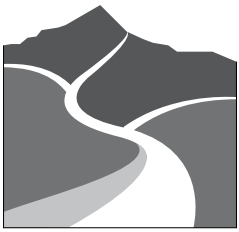
Spring isn't far away! Now is the time to plan your direct seeding projects. Please call Bronwyn at the YYLN office (Wednesday's) to plan your needs.

Have you borrowed any equipment from the YYLN?

Do you have a borrowed Bait Trailer, Tree Planter, Book or the like?

If so, it would be appreciated if it could be returned ASAP.

All equipment will be logged into a Loan Register Book and will then be available for loan to all members!



LOCAL LANDCARE LEGENDS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

The Brand and Garlick families started caring for the land before the advent of Landcare. *By Melissa Ainsworth*

Landcare celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, but two Merriman Creek families started blending farming and environmental issues before that, resulting in better farming results and a healthier environment.

The Merriman Creek Landcare sub group is proud to call two of their member families “their own” and recently awarded them with Life Memberships.

With the group evolving from the former Stradbroke Farm Trees Group some 25 years ago, we admire the pioneering efforts and achievements of both the Garlick and Brand families.

Peter is a well known local having served the community on a range of Boards and Committees. Peter has worked for some 17 years as a Councillor for the Wellington Shire Council and formally the Rosedale Shire. During this time he was a Shire President and also served a term as Mayor. Peter was also a Board Member of the former Regional Landcare Board, a precursor of the now Catchment Management

Authority. In this role he wrote the original Gippsland Landcare Plan which identified the objectives of the groups. In his capacity as a Shire Councillor he was instrumental in the development of a Roadside Conservation Plan. This Plan was a first for Gippsland and something other Shires quickly adopted having seen the value of its objectives. Thanks to Peter, those land holders with conservation covenanted properties, now enjoy a small rebate on their rates. During these busy years Peter still found time to devote to the Merriman Creek Landcare sub group, serving in both President and Secretarial roles.

Peter and wife Norma share a philosophy to mesh both agriculture and environment. Their first environmental project was conducted in 1982 with their neighbours Ed and Pat Brand. Together they created a shelterbelt between their respective properties. Way back then, the aim of the Farm Trees Group was to reintroduce trees to the landscape whilst

offering shelter to stock. Many of these former works are now seen as monocultures. Shelterbelts today generally use a variety of indigenous plants specific to that area. This change of practice demonstrates our evolving ecological knowledge of the natural environment.

From this private project came a joint venture between the Farm Trees Group and the then, Rivers Improvement Trust. Revegetation and erosion works were undertaken along Merriman Creek. Some 20 odd years later, these works continue in the form of weed control and riparian protection (fencing) projects between the Catchment Management Authority and our humble Landcare group.

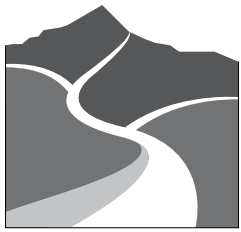
Over the years, Peter and Norma have continued to strategically connect their shelterbelts to form corridors across their farm. Today, a mosaic of both covenanted remnant and revegetation projects total an area of approximately 50 acres. Peter and Norma enjoy seeing the fruits of their labour in observing

koalas and particularly birds, with a nesting pair of Wedge-tailed Eagles calling their property home.

Now in retirement from public life, Peter enjoys making a range of nest boxes for owls, bats and birds. Together Norma and Peter are very active in the Sale Field Naturalists Club and the Merriman Creek Landcare sub group. ■

Peter Garlick on location at the shelter belt and inspecting one of his nesting boxes.





LOCAL LANDCARE LEGENDS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Sheep huddling for shade under a single tree led to a landcare revolution.

By Melissa Ainsworth

Eddy and Pat Brand began farming in Stradbroke on a property named "Fernhurst", purchased in 1906 by Ed's grandfather, Richard. The 800 acre property was then handed down to Ed's father Eric, who in turn divided it into four parcels and passed them down to Ed and his three siblings. Back then the property was mostly vegetated with Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) which were apparently showing signs of ill health, with many trees dying across the landscape.

As a youngster, Ed was very aware that on hot days stock would retreat to a lone tree within a paddock for shade. It was obvious to him that the sheep were stressed from the heat and there was not always enough shade for the whole flock.

In 1982 the Brands revegetated a 15 acre shelterbelt with 12 species of trees and shrubs. Ed can clearly recall the then Lands Department supplying trees and wire netting for such projects. Blue Gums (*Eucalyptus globulus*) were only twenty cents a tube!



Eddy Brand on his farm in 2011 - plenty of shade for sheep now!

As members of the Stradbroke Branch of the Victorian Farmers' Federation, Ed recalls in 1985 the move to formalise a Farm Trees Group in the area. This group was to evolve into the current Merriman Creek Landcare sub group some 25 years on.

The second project involved neighbours Peter and Norma Garlick. Over the next twenty odd years these on-going

projects have linked across the Brand farm to include Merriman Creek and total approximately 30 acres.

As Merriman Creek Landcare Group President, Ed attended Government House in 1991. He fondly recalls being introduced to Pink Champagne and meeting the Victorian Governor Dr. Davis McCaughey and Mrs McCaughey. Ed couldn't

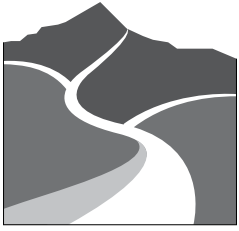
resist the opportunity to make conversation with Mrs McCaughey and commented about the irony of the Landcare movement revegetating the landscape whilst the Government was clear felling old growth forest around Genoa.

Several years later, Ed enjoyed another Landcare gathering at Phillip Island. Again he was given the opportunity to enjoy all the pomp and

ceremony with politicians and sponsors alike. Ed took the opportunity to enquire as to who owned a large parcel of nearby land. Ed was concerned as he had observed Gorse which was increasing in size and apparently left untreated. It was quietly pointed out to him that the land was (then) owned by the ANZ Bank who were present at the Ceremony as a major sponsor!

With over a quarter of a century of revegetating their farm with shelter belts, the Brand family remain active Landcare members today. Ed is still passionate about our native forests and is disheartened with seeing our old growth forests being destroyed for the purpose of making wood chips and pulp. Ed is also part of the Gippsland Plains Drought Tolerant Pastures Demonstration and is currently preparing his third perennial pasture.

When asking Ed what he would like to see happen within Landcare over the next 25 years, Ed replied by saying, "more farmers planting shelterbelts and less champagne drinking"! ■



AROUND THE TRAPS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Binginwarri

A Community Fireguard Meeting organised by Kaye Proudley was recently held at the Stacey's Bridge Hall. The theme of the night was "How to prepare for the bushfire season ahead".

The night was well attended to hear two CFA speakers, John Henshaw and Gus Hughes speak. They focused on the need for personal fire preparation and community involvement in fire preparations. The evening was both engaging and entertaining and the speakers offered an opportunity to have a Fireguard Course conducted over a number of evenings where 3 – 6 neighbouring properties prepare a local fire plan that each individual's fire plan fits into.

At the end of the evening I felt grateful for my communities willingness to look after all of its members in the face of adversity. Our Landcare group will certainly endeavour to facilitate a Fireguard Course in the future. ■

Woodside

Members of the Woodside Landcare group have been busy over their summer break harvesting crops and tending to their livestock but they still found time to attend the first Landcare meeting for the year, held February 23 at the Woodside Hall.

Everyone is hoping for some better seasons to get their revegetation and pest animal programs back on track and are looking forward to working with the newly appointed Network Coordinator. ■

Albert River

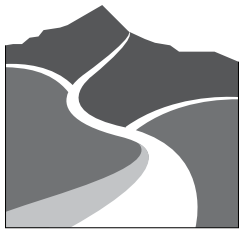
With the Christmas period being a busy one with harvesting hay, our group enjoyed a Post-Christmas meeting and barbecue.

Whilst a date is yet to be finalised it was decided that the next meeting would be held at the Hiawatha Falls. The plan is to include a BBQ lunch with a working bee, doing some general maintenance to a former project. We also hope to include an inspection of an area of remnant Manna gum vegetation present in one of the HVP plantations lead by Richard Appleton. ■

Carrajung & District

Members of the Carrajung & District Land Management Group have been involved in spraying of English Broom on roadsides. Some members have also been spraying blackberry infestations in the Jungadale Nature Reserve. ■





AROUND THE TRAPS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Merriman Creek

It is with sadness that we reflect on the recent passing of one of our members, Fred Wood. Fred and wife Margaret have been members of our group for many years and only recently Fred was one of our willing volunteers who installed the YYLN sign, situated on the South Gippsland Highway in Stradbroke. We offer our sincere condolences to Margaret and family.

The November meeting of our group included a Christmas Barbeque at Seaspray. Peter Garlick and Eddy Brand entertained the group giving a brief history on how the Stradbroke Farm Trees Group evolved into our current Landcare sub group - some 25 years ago. Our next meeting is scheduled for 2pm on the 20th of March at the Stradbroke Hall. Items to be discussed include how we plan to commemorate our 25th birthday.



The Christmas gathering at Seaspray



The late Fred Wood is on the left assisting Brian Nicholls and Justin Ainsworth in putting up a long-awaited Landcare sign.

Lastly, our group has been successful in applying for the "Weed for Trees" program delivered by the Wellington Shire. The program will see African Lovegrass sites across the Seaspray/Stradbroke area sprayed before our group revegetates these sites with endemic shrubs, trees and grasses. ■



Wonyip

Several Kilometres of Roadsides in the Wonyip area were sprayed for blackberries and weeds which had grown to multi meter heights this season.

The result is fantastic now that the roadsides have been slashed and the majority of roadside drains cleaned out.

HVP have started to harvest the pine plantation along Old Wonyip Road which will allow

major roadside planting to take place this coming Spring.

Some 1,000 plants have been promised by the "weeds for trees" project as a follow-up to the spraying of weeds.

The Group has gained the membership of Julie and Manfred Von Hoff, Neil and Linda Riley and Paul Cardin - Welcome to them.

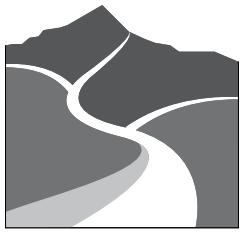
President John Kosta arranged

a "Weed Eradication Bee" with the Agnes River L.G to get rid of Spanish Heath which has infested large areas in the Woorara area.

All members have been busy looking after their own properties, in particular the Webb's and Spittle's with the help of John Kosta.

Six members attended an evening at the Foster Golf Club

arranged by Trevor Colvin and the South Gippsland Landcare Network in conjunction with YYLN to promote the "Freeway to the Prom for Quolls".....to gauge and encourage support for this future long term Landcare project which was started initially by the WLG with the "Highways for Quolls" Project supported by the World Wildlife Fund. ■



PARTNER ACTIVITY

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Coastcare working together with Landcare

By Bruce Atkin, facilitator for South Gippsland

Further funding for the Tarra River has just been announced.

Kayla Groombridge, who was YYLN 2009 Young Landcare Award winner, is now President of the Robertsons Beach & Tarraville Community Consultative Committee. Kayla worked with Parks Victoria and Coastcare to prepare an application for Coastcare Victoria Community Small Grants. She was delighted to learn recently that the application for \$3500 was successful. Later this year we can expect to see a further section of the river bank protected and planted with local native species.

The Woodside Landcare Group has also obtained Coastcare funding

of \$11,800 to link remnant vegetation on two freehold properties, 'Warrigal Creek' and 'Cavandale', to the Jack Smiths Lake State Game Reserve.

It is expected that another call for projects for funding will be announced in the 20011-12 financial year.

DSE's 17th annual Summer by the Sea program has just concluded.

Each January, Summer by the Sea provides a diverse range of fun opportunities for both holiday makers

and locals to explore, understand and conserve the natural wonders of the Victorian coastline. Locally we hosted a beach walk from Seaspray to the 90-Mile Beach Marine National Park, led by Parks Victoria Rangers, and several activities at Port Albert including seagrass safaris (low tide walks to see some of the amazing life among the seagrass) Also popular was a display of coastal wildlife held in the Port Albert hall and at the wonderful Port Welshpool Sea Days Festival.

Finally for anyone interested in coastal management, **don't miss**

the popular annual workshop for coastal volunteers. This is to be held at the Surf Lifesaving Club rooms at Sandy Point on April 9th and 10th., and is free of charge (accommodation at own expense). There will be expert presentations on coastal geology, wetlands and salt marshes, weeds, fox

control, migratory waders, seagrass and more...and two field trips! ■

For any information on the Coastcare program or grants, or how your group can be involved contact Bruce Atkin on 51839116 or email bruce.atkin@dse.vic.gov.au



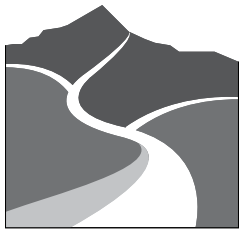
Parks Vic Ranger Alan Standerer introduces the crowd to Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park



Three happy participants go dipnetting at Port Albert



Presenter Andrew Wegener shows his animals to a visiting family



PROJECTS UPDATE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Unusual summer brings some Seedbank challenges

By Bronwyn Johnson, Seedbank Officer.

After some reasonable spring rain many of the plants put on an amazing display of colour which meant there was a lot of seed around.

The milder weather has given the seed plenty of time to mature which should improve the overall viability. However, the humidity makes drying the seed for storage more difficult. Many species like a couple of hot dry days at the end of the season to harden seed coats and pop their seed out of the pods.

Hopefully all the insects, birds and small mammals that rely on seed for food are making the most of a bumper crop.

I've spent the summer attempting to co-ordinate the collection of seed in anticipation of some large project orders. This can be quite difficult when the exact location and extent of the re-vegetation works isn't known. It's really brought home the importance of planning a project in a timely manner.

You'd imagine being a

seed BANK that we have lots of seed in storage and that you can just pop in any old time and get what you want. We are more like a blood bank than a money bank. What we store is a living entity and doesn't always store for a long time. Eucs and Acacias can store for decades, but many of the daisy species and rainforest type plants from the hills are best used within months of collection. This means they have to be collected fresh every year for projects. Collecting them

'just in case' is not really a viable option.

If you're considering some reveg work yourself this year, it's probably too late already for mere consideration. Start planning for next year. Collecting the right seed takes a great deal of preparation and it really helps my efforts if the landholders can let me know their requirements well in advance.

If I know by about July what needs to be collected for the following winter/spring planting

season, then it greatly increases our chances of collecting enough quality seed for the job. All I really need to know is the size and location of the project, the Seedbank can sort the rest and then let you know when the seed is ready to go in the ground.

My fingers are crossed for a good Autumn Break for all of us. ■

Gippsland Plains Drought Tolerant Pastures Demonstration (GPDTPD)

By Samantha Monks – Yarram Landcare Project Officer

It is hard to believe that we are into the third and final year of our drought pastures project

funded by the Federal Government's "Caring for Our Country (CfOC)" program. Paddocks

have been selected and soil tested for Year 3 of the program, while project consultant, Lisa Warn (University of Melbourne's Mackinnon Project) has prepared individual paddock reports for the final round. Perennial pasture seed is being ordered from our sponsoring seed company, Stephen Pasture Seeds (SPS).

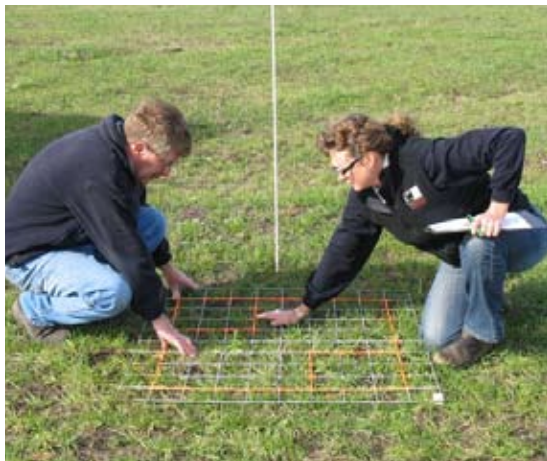
The summer rains have been particularly welcome and have boosted the initial establishment of 1st and 2nd Year pastures, some

of which struggled in the earlier, much drier stages of the project. The EverGraze monitoring system is being used to help improve grazing management practices and determine pasture establishment.

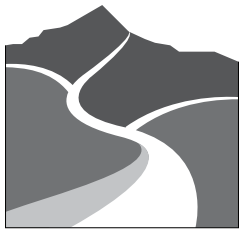
A Drought Pastures/ Healthy Soils Field Day will be held in early June. We will visit three project sites around Woodside, looking at different perennial pasture species, and the management of soil health with a focus on soil carbon and soil pH. A flyer will be distributed

once details are finalised.

With 16 farms involved in the project, we are aiming to have at least 480 hectares of established perennial pastures by 2012. This is a truly amazing achievement! Participating farmers have worked really hard, in often tough conditions to get these pastures established with strict project guidelines. Once again, I would like to congratulate all farmers on their efforts and enthusiasm for this unique Landcare project. ■



Charlse Meckiff (Pres. Woodside Landcare Group) & Lisa Warn (Mackinnon Project) measuring persistence of perennial pasture species at Darriman.



PROJECTS UPDATE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK



By Samantha Monks –
Yarram Landcare Project
Officer

Great news for our war on Gorse!

We have been successful with our application to the Victorian Gorse Taskforce (VGT) to deliver the second year of our Gorse control program.

The \$25,000 grant will enable us to provide landholders with Gorse control incentives across the localities of Yarram, Alberton, Port Albert, Tarraville, Woodside,

Darriman and Seaspray.

This latest funding means that YYLN has secured \$50,000 from the VGT to target Gorse in our area since 2009. Last year over 400 hectares of Gorse was treated in priority areas from Port Albert through to Seaspray.

Gorse- Furze (*Ulex europaeus*) is a Weed of National Significance (WoNS), that was first introduced to Australia

by settlers during the early 1800's for hedging and ornamental planting. Gorse is a dense spiny shrub that can grow 3 metres high.

It has yellow pea-type flowers and usually flowers in spring and autumn. Seed pods explode open at maturity and a mature bush can produce over 40,000 seeds. Gorse is a highly flammable plant, capable

of invading native bushland, pastures and plantations. It spreads along roadsides, waterways and railways.

Through our program, eligible participants can receive an incentive grant of 50% towards the costs of physical and/or chemical removal of Gorse. In order to receive this grant, land owners/managers must sign a YYLN landholder

agreement, to carry out subsequent spraying or removal of Gorse regrowth for a period of three years to avoid reinfestation.

Expressions of interest are currently being sought from the community. Please contact me if you have Gorse in your area, or would like assistance or advice in Gorse control. ■

CfOC / WGCMA Protecting the Corner Inlet Coastal Hotspot Program

YYLN Coastal Saltmarsh Protection Project

The final stage of on-ground works for Year 1 project sites will be complete by early spring 2011, with the planting of 7,000 locally indigenous tube stock currently being grown at the Tarra Wholesale Nursery in Alberton. These will be planted out in a newly fenced off saltmarsh area near Reeves Beach, where recently we were lucky enough to observe a Red-capped Plover (*Charadrius ruficapillus*) and her two tiny chicks! (Thanks to Susan Taylor (DSE) for assisting me with identification)



Red-capped Plover (*Charadrius ruficapillus*)

Year 2 sites have been assessed and selected in high priority areas between Manns Beach and McLoughlins Beach. Individual landholder management plans and works agreements are developed during the selection process. On-ground works include fencing off several hundred hectares of high quality Coastal Saltmarsh, protecting it from stock and providing a buffer zone from nutrients entering Corner Inlet and Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park. All sites are mapped and monitored with established photo-points.

YYLN Blackberry Suppression Program

YYLN in partnership with the WGCMA, have developed this project to specifically target and control Blackberry in the Jack and Albert River Catchments. Year 2 on-ground works are well underway in the Binginwarri area, with large infestations of Blackberry being specifically targeted along the riparian areas of Golden and Billy Creeks. Nearly 40 landholders have been targeted this year, with on-ground treatment occurring across 3,500 Ha.

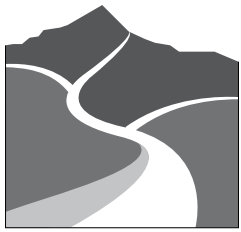
Individual landholder management plans and site visits were coordinated by Project Officer, Brian Graham from the WGCMA. A special thankyou to Brian, for all his hard work and effort in keeping this project going when Paul Martin left us. ■

For further information on any of these projects please contact:

Samantha Monks YYLN Project Officer

Ph. 51 757895, Mob. 0419371497

or Email samantham@wgcm.vic.gov.au



PROJECT UPDATE

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

The Jack and Albert River Restoration (JARR) Project

The good news is that, although action on the Biodiversity Blueprint had to be put on the back-burner until a new Project Officer was employed, many other components of the project have been completed.

The best news of all is that the Norman Wettenhall Foundation has agreed to fund us further.

Meetings were held in January with Beth Mellick of the Foundation to secure funding for a Project Officer to implement further development of the JARR initiatives and we have just found out that \$30,000 has been granted. A big thank you to the Foundation for believing in us. ■

PLANNING FOR STAGE 2

Stage 2 planning is well underway for 2011. It includes revisiting those landholders who have already marked their projects on the biodiversity blueprints, securing funding for on-ground work and prioritising projects. Stage 2 will also include continued water quality monitoring by volunteers on the Albert River; delivery by private contractors and landholders of continued weed eradication and blackberry control; further Bird and Plant Identification days, workshops and possible flora/fauna surveys to determine what exists in our environment with a view to monitoring how our on-ground works affect numbers. ■

FLORA/FAUNA BROCHURES

Two brochures have been developed by volunteers as an aid to identification of indigenous plant and bird species in the JARR catchment area.

They are a handy size and, together with recording our findings on the Spatial Vision Database, will be an inspiration and a valuable resource for the JARR Project.

A workshop on the database and launch of the brochures will be held sometime in April - a notice will be sent out soon - and we have a large format map of the JARR Project area for each Landcare Group printed courtesy of HVP. These will also be distributed at the launch. ■



Nicholas Day (second from the right) sharing his knowledge with some of the guests



Hostess, Kaye Proudley with Jenny and Rob Davies



There must be a bird there somewhere!

BIRD IDENTIFICATION DAY

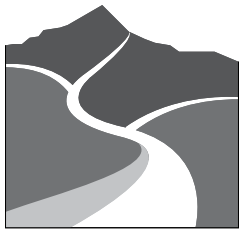
Local Landcarers enthusiastically attended a Bird Identification day held on the 4th of December 2010, hosted by Kaye and Roy Proudley on their property in Binginwarri. The group was honoured to have renowned bird illustrator and Ornithologist, Nicholas Day, to lead them in how to watch for and identify indigenous species in our area.

It was a hot morning and the birds were hiding but a BBQ lunch made up for these drawbacks. The afternoon saw an amble through the Alberton State Forest and a cooling of temperature. The birds came out and the visitors went home happy. ■

MEETINGS

The JARR Project Committee meets quarterly. It includes representatives from our partners and each of the Landcare Groups in the JARR catchment area. If your group isn't represented please contact us for inclusion. Our next meeting will happen late this month or early next (date to be advised). ■





CONTACTS

YARRAM YARRAM LANDCARE NETWORK

Yarram Yarram Landcare Network

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Bronwyn Johnson

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Individual Active Groups

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Won Wron Devon North Landcare Group

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You may find the following links useful:

<http://yyln.org.au>

This link is the official YYLN website.

<http://westgippsland.landcarevic.net.au/vri/group-start-up-kit>

This link takes you to a Landcare Group start-up kit that supplies a wide range of information for new and existing groups. It includes things like information on Insurance, Committees of Management, Meetings, OH&S, Partnerships, Planning and more. This is a must read for all groups.

<http://westgippsland.landcarevic.net.au/yyln> or www.yyln.org.au

Here you will find an overview of Yarram Yarram Landcare Network Projects. It includes links to YYLN member groups with maps showing where they are in our local community.

<http://www.landcarevic.net.au/>

This page gives an overview of what is happening in Landcare around Victoria highlighting both news and events. It also includes the 2008-2009 Landcare Report Card displaying the achievements in Victoria over that financial year and a comprehensive list of 'How-tos' for creating a group website using this gateway.

<http://www.landcareonline.com/>

This page is the official online link to all activities relating to Landcare Australia. It has Quick links to a range of Landcare information including Grants and Funding, carbon sequestration and case studies.

<http://www.juniorlandcare.com/>

This is the gateway for Junior Landcarers

Caring for our Country

<http://www.nrm.gov.au/>

Department of the Environment Water Resources

<http://www.environment.gov.au/>

Landcare Australia is funded by this department through the Caring for our Country initiative.

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry

<http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare>

Provides administrative funding for Landcare Australia's activities.

Department of Sustainability and Environment

<http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/dse/index.htm>

Landcare Australia's Victorian operations are supported by this department and the Coast Action/Coastcare Program supports thousands of community volunteer groups. It employs a regionally based facilitator for our area.