

# LPLN News



LODDON PLAINS LANDCARE NETWORK



Issue 6. May 2013

## What's on...

### 16 May

In Safe Hands Workshop,  
Conservation Volunteers Australia  
9.30am-12.30pm DSE Epsom.

### 16 May

North Central CMA - Future  
Farming Landscapes Field Day,  
Lake Boga.

### 6 June

North Central CMA - Profitability  
through Native Grasses.  
Loddon Vale.

### 6 June

LPLN Committee of Management  
meeting, Serpentine.

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updates at our website!  
[www.lpln.org](http://www.lpln.org)*

## LPLN Update

It has been a busy couple of months since the last edition of the LPLN News and there were plenty of interesting events running in our area, including the Future Farming Expo, Benefits of Bugs workshop and Farming for Sustainable Soils field days. I hope you got along to one of them.

Over the past few months the LPLN has been developing projects to implement as part of the GOANNA Project portfolio. We hope to hear back in the not too distant future, on whether or not we have been successful with a couple of small grant applications towards some of these projects.

Attached to the end of this newsletter is an expression of interest form for a remnants project that the LPLN will be developing with the assistance of member groups, as part of the GOANNA Project. More forms are available if required.

Keep a look out for upcoming small grants opportunities that will be released shortly. Start getting those project ideas out now. If you would like me to come along to a meeting to discuss project ideas, or require assistance in filling in a grant application for your group, I am available.

Remember if you have any photos, events or articles you wish to see on the LPLN blog or in the next newsletter, send them through. Contact details at the end of the newsletter.

Anthony Gallacher, Landcare Facilitator

## Grant Opportunities

A reminder about current grant opportunities available or coming up in the near future:

- Coming up - 2013 Communities for Nature Grants
- Coming up - Victorian Landcare Grants 2013/2014
- Coles Junior Landcare Grants – partner with a school! Round 3 close 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2013
- Loddon Shire Community Grants – close May 31<sup>st</sup> 2013

The Loddon Plains Landcare Network is available to act as a sponsor for groups if required. Your Landcare Facilitator is available to assist with any grant writing and can help with preparation of information prior to the release of specific grant rounds.

It is recommended making the most of the current opportunities as this year's government supported rounds wind up.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to East Loddon Landcare, Northern Plains CMN and Wedderburn CMN who were all successful in gaining a Communities for Nature grant from the 2012 Round.

Good luck with your projects. Keep an eye out for this years Communities for Nature Round.

## Trees for Mum are Trees for Everyone

The Loddon Plains Landcare Network in conjunction with the North Central CMA held a successful Trees for Mum event at the Boort P-12 College on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May. 140 students took part in the event, held with 7 classes across the day with the theme "Trees for Mum are Trees for Everyone".

Adding an educational twist to the event, students were involved in lessons on the importance of trees in the landscape, before taking home a show bag of goodies and a tree to plant with their mum on their property for Mother's day. The trees were sourced locally through Paul Haw.

The day was very well received by students and teachers at the school. Many thanks to Jodie Odgers at the North Central CMA for supporting the event and to Boort P-12 College for allowing the Network to host the event at the school. For more information on other Trees for Mum events visit: [www.treesformum.com](http://www.treesformum.com).



Photos by Andrew Whatley: Anthony Gallacher (top) and Jodie Odgers (bottom) with students at Boort P-12 College



Trees for Mum

## Peer Group Mentoring Program

The Loddon Plains Landcare Network will be trialling a new Peer Group Mentoring Program. The Network has received assistance from The Norman Wettenhall Foundation in exploring the merits of such a program and ways it could be adapted to the Loddon Plains context.

The Peer Group Mentoring Program is a successful model developed by Otway Agroforestry Network, which has enabled them to employ landholders and farmers as mentors. These mentors, talk to other farmers (mentees) about joining projects and planting out corridors or riparian zones within the network area, as well as other things like sustainable soils, with a focus on addressing issues that the mentee sees on their property.

Information on the program and expressions of interest for becoming a mentee will be circulated shortly.

## Chemical Users Course

The Loddon Plains Landcare Network in conjunction with the Inglewood Community Resource Centre and Brit TAFE ran a Farm Chemical Users Course for the community in late March.

10 representatives from 4 LPLN members groups received fully subsidized places at the training thanks to a Victorian Landcare Grant the Network received from the North Central CMA. The training will allow individuals to assist their Landcare groups in the safe use of chemicals for weed spraying application.

Photo: studying hard at the training, Royal Hotel Inglewood



## Farming for Sustainable Soils

The Salisbury West and Mt Korong Farming for Sustainable Soils group held a Field Day on increasing soil health at the end of March.

The event included:

- The field demonstration of the “ecoplough” by Geoff Burnside, Turf Engineering Wedderburn,
- A talk from Dr John Russell, La Trobe University, Bendigo on soils health, deep tillage and sustainable agriculture, and
- A talk from Russell Burnett on biochar’s influence on soils and plants and the current economics of its use.

The day ended with a BBQ with a chance for attendees to discuss the various topics.

Photos by Anthony Gallacher:  
The “ecoplough” (top), and field demonstration (bottom).



# 2013 Victorian Landcare Awards

Nominations for the 2013 Victorian Landcare Awards are open until 30 June 2013.

There are 12 Landcare Awards' categories in Victoria in 2013, which are:

1. Individual Landcarer Award
2. Landcare Facilitator or Coordinator Award
3. Innovation in Sustainable Farm Practices Award (plus 10 regional Innovation in Sustainable Farm Practices Awards – i.e. one Award for each CMA region)
4. Partnerships with Landcare Award
5. Junior Landcare Team Award
6. Westpac Agribusiness Innovative Young Landcare Leader Award
7. Indigenous Land Management Award
8. Coastcare Award
9. Qantas Landcare Innovative Community Group Award
10. Landcare Network Award (VIC category only)
11. Dr. Sidney Plowman Travel and Study Award (VIC category only)
12. VFF/FTLA Heather Mitchell Memorial Fellowship (VIC category only)

Winners of the nine national award categories will go forward as Victoria's nominees at the biennial National Landcare Awards, which will take place in 2014.

The Victorian Landcare Awards are a great opportunity for individual Landcarers, groups, networks, and schools to gain recognition for their hard work. For more information visit:  
<http://www.landcarevic.net.au/>



To be put on the e-list for the LPLN News, please subscribe your email via the LPLN Website: [www.lpln.org](http://www.lpln.org)

If you have meetings, events or other news that you would like to see in the next issue, contact Anthony Gallacher, Landcare Facilitator.

Email: [anthony.gallacher@gmail.com](mailto:anthony.gallacher@gmail.com) | Ph: (03) 5446 9249 | M: 0447 095 501

Partners and supporters of the Loddon Plains Landcare Network:



**NORTH CENTRAL**  
Catchment Management Authority  
*Connecting Rivers, Landscapes, People*





LODDON PLAINS LANDCARE NETWORK

## Remnants Project: Expression of Interest form

*Do you have a piece of land with a patch of vegetation that would benefit from protection? The Loddon Plains Landcare Network is seeking landholders interested in caring for native vegetation on their properties. Works could include fencing off a small patch for tree regrowth, linking significant tree patches with corridors, or fencing off a treed creek line. The Network is developing a remnants project, with a view to gaining financial assistance towards protection of quality remnant habitat in the Network area<sup>1</sup> (see map below).*

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone: ..... Email: .....

Are you a Landcare member? Yes/No Group: .....

Description of proposed works (please tick):

<i>Fencing remnant:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Tree planting:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Fencing creek/wetland:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Understory planting:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Fencing corridor linkage:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Plant corridor linkage:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Hectares: ..... Fencing (KM): ..... No. landholders: .....

Vegetation type (if known): .....

Other information (e.g. Brolga habitat) .....

*Please mark your property on the map below. If able, please include a rough map of proposed works on your property.*

I understand that:

- This form is an expression of interest only, with a view to the Network developing a suitable project around respondents
- This form does not guarantee financial assistance relating to the proposed work
- My details will be held by the Network for the purposes of informing this project only
- I am happy to be contacted with regards to a site visit for the proposed work

EOI continued...

Signed:

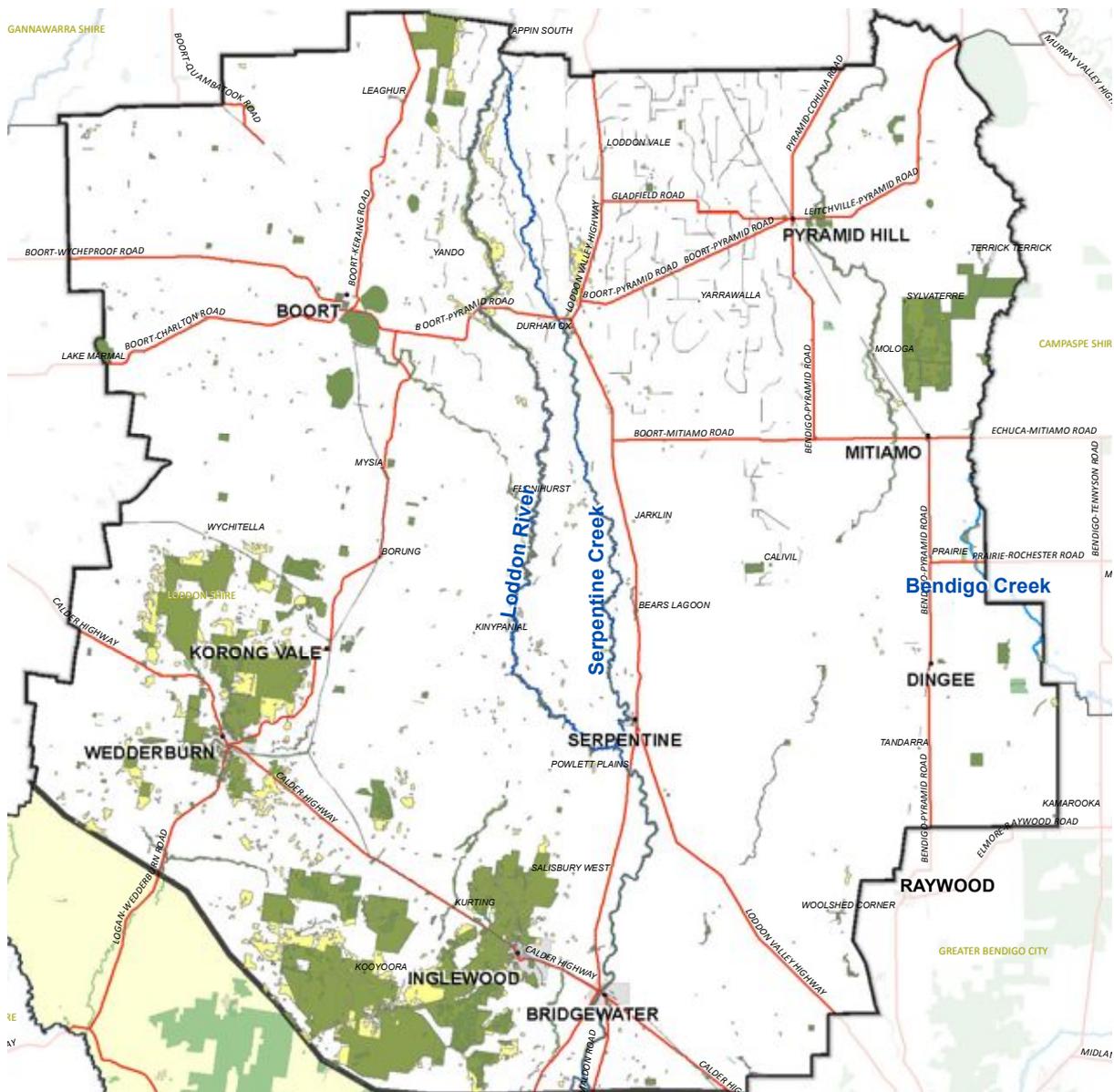
Date:

.....  
Please send "Expressions of Interest" to:

Anthony Gallacher.  
LPLN Landcare Facilitator  
55A Hodgson St,  
Eaglehawk, Vic, 3556

Or email: [anthony.gallacher@gmail.com](mailto:anthony.gallacher@gmail.com)

For more information or assistance phone Anthony on 03 5446 9249 or 0447 095 501



<sup>1</sup> Network area shown on map. Expressions of interest from properties adjacent to Network area are welcome.