

LPLN News



LODDON PLAINS LANDCARE NETWORK



Issue 18. September 2015

Green Army participants undertake enclosure fencing at Nardoo Hills

What's on...

4 September

Northern Plains CMN Grassland and 10th anniversary celebration, Terrick Terrick East. 10.30am – 3.30pm.

11 September

LPLN Planting Day on the Calivil Creek, Yarrowalla West Road Yarrowalla 10am - 2pm.

13 September

Wedderburn Landscape Restoration Tour. Departs Wedderburn Community Centre. 10am – 4.30pm.

19 & 20 September

Kooyoora Wildflower Show
Inglewood Eucy Museum.

2 - 4 October

Activities Weekend, Davies Homestead, Terrick Terrick National Park.

4 October

Mt Korong to Mt Kooyoora Walk, Mt Korong Picnic Ground, 9am – 5 pm.

9 October

Loddon Plains Landcare Network AGM
Boort Tennis Club. 5pm Lake Boort Tour, 6pm AGM and dinner.

Spring has arrived

Spring has arrived and hasn't it been a sight to see all those wattles in flower over the last month. As is tradition, Spring is action packed with events, activities and grant opportunities as well, so get involved if you can.

After a brief holiday in Japan, I came back into the swing of it with North Central Community Landcare Grants. It was pleasing to help several groups submit their project applications this year. Good luck with the outcome of those submissions.

Ground preparation works have progressed on the Calivil Creek in Yarrowalla. The tree lines are looking magnificent in preparation for planting next week. Volunteers are welcome to come help get trees in the ground on September 11th, working with East Loddon P-12 College and Loddon Vale Landcare.

The Green Army Project has been continuing with great results. The team have traversed the central region from Castlemaine up to Buckrabanyule on a wide variety of tasks. The real outcomes being achieved as a result are a testament to the participants under the guidance of Mark Woods, the Team Supervisor.

Threatened Species Protection Initiative grants are open from the state government, a great opportunity for community action to help protect threatened species. I can assist groups to fill in an application if you have any ideas for projects.

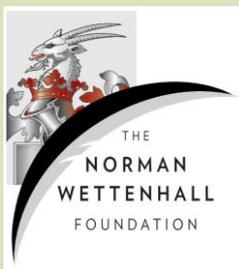
Anthony Gallacher, Landcare Facilitator

Further funding for the GOANNA Project

The Loddon Plains Landcare Network is delighted to once again receive a grant from our philanthropic partner The Norman Wettenhall Foundation, towards capacity building for the GOANNA Project

The grant will go towards worker wages and costs to allow continued coordination of the GOANNA Project activities, including the Calivil Creek Project and stage 1 of next project - the Mt Hope Creek Corridor Project. This will keep our worker Anthony Gallacher employed full time in his Landcare Facilitator and GOANNA Project roles.

Funding has also been secured to assist the Network in community education and resources. The Network hopes to develop suitable resources to build on current programs.



Bird monitoring project notches up 270 surveys

The Loddon Plains Community Bird Monitoring Project notched up its 270th survey earlier this year, as volunteers continue to gather valuable bird data in the Loddon landscape.

12 volunteers undertake the seasonal surveys at 45 sites, in different landscapes of the Networks area. A great deal of bird species have been recorded at the different sites. Data can be viewed on our website at:

<http://www.lpln.org/goanna-project/community-bird-monitoring-project/bird-monitoring-data/>

Calivil Creek Planting Day

The Loddon Plains Landcare Network in partnership with the Loddon Vale Landcare Group are undertaking a planting day on the Calivil Creek as part of the Calivil Creek – Trees for restoring biodiversity values project.

- Join Landcare members and local school students to plant native trees and shrubs
- Help the Network towards the goal of planting 3560 tubestock along the creek
- Contribute towards the GOANNA Project, the Networks landscape restoration project

Friday September 11th 2015

10am – 2.30pm

Calivil Creek, Yarrawalla West Road, Yarrawalla

Free event. Lunch provided.

Follow Field Day signs

RSVP with any dietary requirements by September 9th to Anthony Gallacher on 0447 095 501 or email facilitator@lpln.org

Supported by the Australian Government's 20 Million Trees Programme (part of the National Landcare Programme), the Loddon Plains Landcare Network and The Norman Wettenhall Foundation.

Mt Korong to Mt Kooyoora Walk

Mt Korong and Mt Kooyoora are two very distinctive and loved features in the Kooyoora Connections Project area. Join members of the Wedderburn CMN & the Mt Korong Eco Watch on a one day walk from Mt Korong to Mt Kooyoora, to reflect upon the beauty of this special landscape.

The walk will commence at the Mt Korong picnic ground following a traditional Smoking Ceremony and finish up on a small Crown land reserve, adjacent to Mt Kooyoora.

Mini buses will be available at the end of the walk to shuttle participants back to their vehicles at the Mt Korong Picnic ground. Toilets will be located at the lunch stop and at the end of walk.

The walk is 18 km & 5hrs walking time in total – a moderate level of fitness is required by participants.

Sunday October 4th 2015

9am – 5pm

Mt Korong Picnic Ground

Free event. BBQ lunch provided.

Places limited. More info and RSVP to North Central CMA by 5pm 29th September on (03) 5448 7124 or info@nccma.vic.gov.au

This project is supported by Wedderburn Conservation Management Network, Mt Korong Eco-watch, Trust for Nature and the North Central Catchment Management Authority, through funding from the Australian Government.

Threatened Species Protection Initiative

The Minister for the Environment, Climate Change and Water, Lisa Neville, has launched the Threatened Species Protection Initiative, to support immediate action on threatened species and habitat protection.

The Threatened Species Protection Initiative will support threatened species' survival through on-ground activities such as habitat creation and restoration and site protection. The Initiative secures \$2 million in Community Volunteer Action Grants, which will support local groups to undertake grassroots threatened species projects such as revegetating areas, building fences, species monitoring and establishing suitable habitats.

The Initiative takes an innovative, partnership approach to threatened species protection that recognises and harnesses the effectiveness of grassroots action in making change happen quickly.

Funding is available through two grant schemes:

1. Community Volunteer Action Grants (\$2 million) Grants between \$2,000 and \$20,000 – close 22 September 2015
2. Strategic Action and Critical Partnerships Grants (\$3 million)

No funding cap – close 8 September 2015

More information on the Initiative, including grant guidelines and how to apply, is available here:

<http://delwp.vic.gov.au/environment-and-wildlife/conserving-threatened-species-and-communities/threatened-species-protection-initiative>

Nest box camera arrives

The new nest box monitoring camera, funded through a Loddon Shire Community Grant has arrived. The camera will enable the Network to effectively monitor nest boxes across the region. A new monitoring regime will be rolled out in 2016. If you are interested in participating please get in touch!



Nest box monitoring camera

Landcare Trailer

The Loddon Plains Landcare Network has purchased a new trailer for Landcare in the Loddon region.

The trailer will assist the Network and member groups to effectively and safely transport goods required for projects or events.

Network member groups can access the trailer for their own events or project activities by getting in touch with the Network's Landcare Facilitator. See back of newsletter.



Donate today!

Deductible gift recipient (DGR) status allows you to donate to the Network. The Network and our public fund, the Loddon Plains Landcare Network Charity Fund are on the Register of Environmental Organisations. Donations to the public fund over \$2 are now eligible for a tax deduction under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

If you would like to make a contribution to the public fund to support the Network's GOANNA Project, visit the donation page on our website at

www.lpln.org/donate/

Contributions will go towards GOANNA Project activities such as revegetation, remnant protection and bird monitoring data collection.

Friends of Kooyoora Keeping Busy

The Friends of Kooyoora have been very busy in recent months with all sorts of activities. We've fenced off orchids at Melville Caves, planted Yellow-lip Spider Orchids in to Kooyoora State Park, toured the eucalyptus harvesting sites around the area, held our AGM and had a day out looking at birds, and all that in just the past three months!

But by far the biggest activity is our upcoming 9th annual Wildflower Show to be held on September 19th and 20th at the Inglewood Eucy Museum. For just \$5 entry you will be able to peruse the native wildflower display, get lost in the talents of the amazing photo comp entrants, enjoy the static and digital displays from associated groups or hop on board one or both of the bus trips each day. This year there will be a free family friendly evening event based around catching and identifying moths.

The Blue Eucy Heritage Festival will be held at the site on Sunday with even more displays to look at and free kid's activities. Doors open each morning at 9.30am. Bookings for the bus trips and for the evening activity are highly recommended and entries for the photo comp close on Sept 14th. For full details visit www.kooyoorafriends.org.au and go to our downloads page.

Article & photos by Wendy Murphy



Jim, Wendy & Rhiannon plant a Yellow lip Spider Orchid under the watchful eye of Geoff Neville – photo Karly Learmonth DELWP



Des explains to the group the harvesting method used on the private blue eucy plantation of Bosisto's

10th Annual Activities Weekend

The Friends of Terrick Terrick National Park invite you to attend their annual weekend.

- **Mini bus tours of the Park**
Nature tours leave from Davies Homestead to various parts of the Park on Friday afternoon, Saturday morning and Sunday morning
- **Wildflower walks**
Wildflower walks leave from Davies Homestead
- **Wildflower display every day**
Specimens of local plants on display in the machinery shed, Davies Homestead site
- **Early morning bushland bird walk**
Departs from Davies Homestead site at 7.15am Saturday 3rd October for birding in the forest

Terrick Terrick National Park

- **Evening presentations**
- **Screening of AFL Grand Final**
- **Working bees**
On Saturday morning and Sunday morning, help Parks rangers eradicate Wheel Cactus, sand picnic tables and record animals that live under tiles. Bring gloves.
- **Free camping sites available**
Camp alongside Davies Homestead, Mitiamo-Kow Swamp Road, from 2pm Friday 2nd October to 1pm Sunday 4th October 2015. BYO tent, food and utensils

Enquiries:

(03) 5480 9254 or echuca@birdlife.org.au

Silverleaf Nightshade Trial Sites Needed

Expression of Interest to Landholders

NSW Primary Industries and Murrumbidgee Landcare have a National project funded by Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and the Australian Wool Industry (AWI) targeting the perennial summer weed Silverleaf Nightshade.

This program needs the support of landholders to establish free 'dual action' herbicide trial sites on their farms to test its effectiveness under a range of conditions. The trials are suitable for small isolated patches of Silverleaf Nightshade to dense infestations and would involve allowing a private contractor access to the nominated areas twice yearly to apply herbicide applications and conduct stem counts.

Interested Landholders should contact Anthony Gallacher from Loddon Plains Landcare Network on 0447 095 501 to register your interest.

Karen Herbert & Phil Bowden from Murrumbidgee Landcare will present an information Workshop in your local area to explain the trial in more detail, in context with the latest research and best control practices adopted to best manage this weed.

We need your support to test the 'dual action' control method on as many farms sites as possible!

**For additional information about this project please contact:
KAREN HERBERT Murrumbidgee Landcare on 0438 297 319**

Photo: Silverleaf Nightshade

20 Million Trees Grant Round Two

closes 16 September 2015

The second round of the Australian Governments 20 Million Trees Programme is open. Funding of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 is available to plant trees and associated native understorey species.

Projects must involve revegetation activities that establish native trees and associated native understorey species. Priority will be given to projects that support nationally listed threatened species and threatened ecological communities.

Projects may occur on public and private land; in urban, peri urban and regional areas across Australia.

Applicants can submit up to three separate Applications in Round Two. Each Application will be for a single 20 Million Trees Project.

Guidelines and other key information is available online at <http://www.nrm.gov.au/national/20-million-trees/competitive-grants-round-two>.

Applications for Round 2 can be submitted using the online form. Applications must be submitted by the closing time of 2.00pm AEST (Canberra time) 16 September 2015.



Loddon Plains Landcare
Network

*“Securing healthy
landscapes on the
Loddon Plains”*

Boxthorn control efforts underway by Loddon Vale Landcare

The Loddon Vale Landcare group are ramping up efforts to contain African Boxthorn in their local area. Boxthorn is a declared noxious weeds, listed as a Regionally Controlled Weed for North Central Victoria and a Weed of National Significance federally.

Landcare members who joined the coordinated effort have accessed chemical through the project to target infestations for eradication. The project is progressing, with spraying underway as the Boxthorn responds to the warmer weather and a drop of rain. The group also aim to undertake an education role through a flyer to be distributed to neighbours.

The effort is funded through a Victorian Landcare Grant from the North Central Catchment Management Authority.

Wychitella District Landcare continue Wheel Cactus control at Buckrabanyule

Working bees tackling Wheel cactus have continued at Buckrabanyule, with volunteers picking up stem injection units again in July and August as part of the Wychitella groups efforts, supported by the Landcare Network's equipment. The stem injection equipment, purchased previously through a Loddon Shire Community Grant, is being put to good use with 6 working bees run to date in 2015 and 2 weeks' worth of use by the Green Army team on some of Mt Buckrabanyules trickier slopes.

The project is funded through a Communities for Nature grant from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Plannina and is supported by the Loddon Plains Landcare Network.



Left: Wheel Cactus dying off after being injected with Glyphosate at Mount Buckrabanyule

Right: Target species for the Loddon Vale Landcare Group – African Boxthorn



Subscribe your email via the LPLN website at www.lpln.org to receive notification of the latest news. For contributions for the next issue, send to Anthony Gallacher:

Email: facilitator@lpln.org | Phone: (03) 5446 9249 | Mobile: 0447 095 501

Funding partners and supporters of the Loddon Plains Landcare Network:

