

CORANGAMITE LAKES LANDCARE NEWSLETTER

INCORPORATING THE LISMORE LAND PROTECTION GROUP, WEERING-EURACK LANDCARE GROUP, LESLIE MANOR LANDCARE GROUP, CUNDARE DUVERNEY LANDCARE GROUP, WEERITE LANDCARE GROUP & MT ELEPHANT COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

APRIL 2022



Hello and happy Easter from LLPG! I hope everyone has had a good holiday. The sun is setting a little earlier and seeding is about to really kick off for the croppers in our region.

However, it's also time for site prep for 2022 tree plantings. If you have any questions or need to borrow the ripper-moulder, now is the time to get in touch with Alicia!

2022-23 LLPG Membership

It's membership renewal time! Keep an eye on your email inbox or mailbox for your renewal form, and contact Alicia if you haven't received one by mid-May. Remember, You must be a paid up member to receive trees!

We are always happy to welcome new members too, so get in touch if you would like to receive a form or have questions about membership.

Victorian Landcare Survey

Landcare Victoria Inc. is conducting a survey on the future of Landcare in Victoria. Have your say!

www.surveymonkey.com/r/landcareplan

Gardens for Wildlife Booklet

LLPG is collaborating with Corangamite Shire and Heytesbury District Landcare Network to produce a booklet about garden design for native flora and fauna. If you want to have your say about which locally native plants and animals are featured in the booklet, contact Alicia for a link to the online voting platform.



Matted Flax Lily (Dianella amoena) is an endangered species native to the Victorian Volcanic Plains.

Alternatively, you can drop into the office (19 High St. Lismore) on 26th April (9am-5pm) to vote in person.

2022 Titanga Night Stalk

On April 2nd local families gathered for the annual Night Stalk at Titanga Homestead held by the Lismore Land Protection Group. The weather held and we had a great turn out, with many locals keen to get together in person.

The evening started off with activities for all ages. The adults got to choose between a bird watching walk led by LLPG committee president Fiona, and a trees and forestry walk led by LLPG member Andrew.



One of the kids shows off their handiwork

Meanwhile, the kids got a bit creative (and a bit muddy!) with Tania Moloney of The Nature Bus. Tania brought branches and vines, and the kids foraged extra sticks and bark to create nests for their favourite birds. The kids then got their hands dirty and rolled up some mud to create eggs for their nests!

Next it was time to wash the mud off and enjoy a BBQ prepared by volunteers – snags, burgers and coleslaw, and of course sauce! LLPG president Fiona also presented former facilitator Shari McConachy with a plaque to commemorate her 9 years of service to LLPG.

As night fell, it was time to get out the torches for the main event: the Night Stalk Spotlight Walk! As usual, the kids made plenty of noise and scared away most of the wildlife, but we did see some long-necked turtles (*Chelodina longicollis*) peeking their heads out of the dam. Unfortunately, we also saw a turtle nest dug up by a fox – complete with a nearby scat as evidence. Talk about adding insult to injury!



Attendees try to spot turtles at the dam

After the walk, we returned to the campfire for a cuppa and, for the kids, a marshmallow or two (or more like 5 in the case of one sweet tooth!).

Thank you to everyone who made this year's event so wonderful, including all the attendees, our hosts at Titanga, our walk leaders (Fiona and Andrew), Tania and her Nature Bus, and former facilitator Shari McConachy who laid the groundwork for the event.

A very big thank you is also extended to Corangamite Shire, who provided funding for the Night Stalk through their Environmental Fund.

Lismore Land Protection Group, PO Box 28, Lismore, Victoria, 3324

Facilitator: Alicia Merriam | 0475 593 149 | Alicia.LismoreLLPG@gmail.com (Tues and Thurs)

THE CORANGAMITE LAKES LANDCARE AREA IS ON WADAWURRUNG AND EASTERN MAAR COUNTRY. WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS PAST AND PRESENT.

Let's Connect!

Social Media

Did you know that LLPG is on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter? Search for **@LLPGLandcare** on all three platforms and follow for events, environmental and agricultural news, and interesting info about our natural environment.

Email Correspondence

Please provide your email address to receive this newsletter by email – featuring colour photos and clickable links to extra content or further info! We can also reduce paper use by completing next year's membership renewal by email. Email alicia.lismorellpg@gmail.com to sign up.

Wildlife in our midst

Have you had an exciting wildlife sighting lately?! Let us know so we can encourage others to tune in to what's out and about!

- Previous LLPG facilitator Shari saw a Growling Grass Frog (*Litoria raniformis*) in Mundy Gully. One of our committee members saw one in their garden too!
- A Lismore resident reported 3 crimson rosellas (*Platycercus elegans*, Yukuty), 2 brolgas (*Antigone rubicunda*, Burranga) and a flock of thornbills (*Acanthiza*)
- LLPG facilitator Alicia spotted two wedge-tailed eagles (*Aquila audax*, Bunjil) on her commute to work. Sure beats traffic!



Shari's GGF tries to hide with its head in the sand!

Funding Opportunities

Members are strongly encouraged to get in touch to discuss environmental project interest and goals for their properties. This will help Alicia connect members with relevant funding opportunities as they come up. Call or email Alicia for a chat!

Corangamite Shire Grants Program

The Shire's 2022 grants program is currently open and LLPG is working on a number of applications for this grant round. If you have ideas for Landcare-related projects, get in touch to see how it might fit in with LLPG's pending applications, or seek support to submit your own application.

GRDC Grower and Adviser Study Tour Grants

Growers and advisers can apply for GRDC support for study tours to facilitate peer to peer learning and uptake of research and development outputs. Applications are open, closing **Friday 13 May 2022**. More information can be found on the GRDC website, contact Alicia for the link.

Other Upcoming Events

Earth Day | Friday 22nd May

The theme for Earth Day in 2022 is "Investing in our Planet".

Composting Awareness Week

Sunday 1st May – Saturday 7th May

Compost is a valuable organic resource, and this week aims to promote its use and increase knowledge.

World Migratory Bird Day | Saturday 14th May

World Migratory Bird Day aims to promote conservation of migratory birds and the 2022 theme is a focus on light pollution. **#WMBD2022**

Some reminders

2022 Tree plantings

We are nearing our allocation for trees so if you would like trees but have not yet confirmed your order with Shari or Alicia, you **must get in contact with Alicia ASAP**.

It's also time to get stuck in to site preparation for this year's trees! If you haven't started yet, please ensure you arrange fencing and hire the ripper-moulder if needed and keep on top of weed control in autumn and winter. Contact Alicia with questions or to hire the moulder.

To receive trees, you must be a **paid-up member** of LLPG or one of our affiliated Landcare groups for 2022/23. LLPG membership fees are due 30th May 2022. Moulder hire will be invoiced separately.

Our tree order will be partly funded through the Victorian Landcare Grants program and the Stockyard Hill Windfarm Community Investment Program.



Some of our trees growing along nicely at Oztrees during a recent visit

LLPG Meetings

The last LLPG meeting was held on Thursday 14th April. The committee did some planning for the membership renewal process and discussed applications for the 2022 round of Corangamite Shire grants.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12th May 2022.

For any Landcare queries contact Alicia:

0475 593 149 | alicia.lismorellpg@gmail.com