

# 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

OCTOBER 2022



Hello Landcarers! Spring is off and running and so are the creeks with a string of wet weather impacting people throughout the state. Apologies for the later than usual newsletter this month, and just a heads up that next month's will also be delayed as I will be on leave 7-18 Nov.

- Alicia (LLPG Facilitator)

## Upcoming Events

Please RSVP by email to [alicia.lismorelpg@gmail.com](mailto:alicia.lismorelpg@gmail.com).

### **Wildflower Wander**

*Tues 1 Nov, 2 pm, Chatsworth Road*

Come for a casual wander through the Chatsworth Road grassland site to see the spring wildflowers. Meet at the corner of Chatsworth Road and Pircarra Lane, near the town of Derrinallum.

[RSVP to Alicia](#) in case there is a change of plans.

Grassland sundew (*Drosera hookeri*) on a recent visit to Chatsworth Road. Sundews are carnivorous plants that use the sticky protrusions on their modified leaves (left of photo above) to catch prey.



### **Save the Date: LLPG Christmas Party**

*Thursday 1 December, 6-8 pm, Lismore Golf Club*



Join us on Thursday 1 December for the annual LLPG Christmas Party at the Lismore Golf Club/Fairway Coffee! We will hear from guest speaker and local landholder John Steele about his constructed wetland, and recent travels with wife Bev to see the wildflowers in Western Australia.

LLPG will subsidize the meal, but please bring \$10 per person as a contribution and a small dessert to share.

[RSVP to Alicia](#) by 24 November (email preferred).

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

**Facilitator: Alicia Merriam | 0475 593 149 | [Alicia.LismoreLPG@gmail.com](mailto:Alicia.LismoreLPG@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.

## Wildlife in our midst

Wildlife in our midst isn't always easy to spot! Can you make out the duck hiding in the garden of LLPG committee president Fiona Cole? There are lots of animals out and about and becoming more active in spring (including the slithery variety) so it's a good reminder to keep your eyes peeled and your wits about you!



Have you had a wildlife sighting lately?! [Let us know](#) so we can encourage others to tune in to what's out and about!

## 2022 and 2023 Trees

The majority of our 2022 tree order is in the ground now, although many have experienced delays due to the wet weather. If you have trees left over that you don't think you will be able to plant, contact Alicia ASAP as we have had a lot of additional demand for trees.

Our tree order is funded through the Victorian Landcare Grants program administered by the CCMA, the Stockyard Hill Windfarm Community Investment Program, and the Berrybank Windfarm Grants program administered by Corangamite Shire.

If you want to plant trees next year, [contact Alicia](#) and she'll be in touch with more info shortly.

## Project Updates

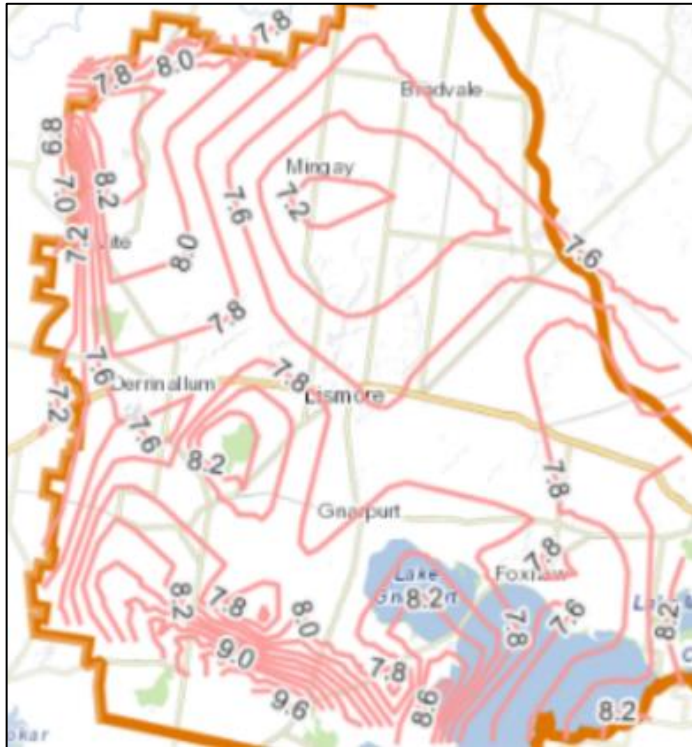
### **Farm water security now and in the future**

Our project in collaboration with the Cundare Duverney Landcare group and including participants from Cundare Duverney and Leslie Manor Landcare Groups is ending this month.

The project involved sampling of farm water bores at properties bordering the Corangamite lakes, extensive analysis of farm dam catchments and the completion of

farm water budgets and water security plans for project participants.

In the maps below, results of bore sampling from this project and a similar project being conducted across the wider LLPG area (and funded by the Future Drought Fund) have been used to estimate groundwater quality measures across the area. The first figure shows pH contours across the landscape, and the second shows electrical conductivity (a measure of the salinity of water).



Resources produced as part of this project include a fact sheet on interpreting water quality parameters for various farm water uses, detailed mapping that can improve farm water security awareness available for our area on the [CCMA's Natural Resource Management Planning Portal](#), and a guide to conducting your own farm water budget for water planning purposes. These resources can be found on the [LLPG website](#) shortly or by [contacting Alicia](#).

This project is a collaboration with Federation University's Centre for e-Research and Digital Innovation and was funded by the National Landcare Program Smart Farms Small Grants program from the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

### Spiny Riceflower Project

Our spiny riceflower (SRF) project is also finishing this month. The project saw LLPG volunteers and community members get together to learn about SRF, conduct weeding bees at a SRF site affected by Phalaris and African weed orchid invasion, and setting up a long-term monitoring site at the Chatsworth Road remnant grassland.

SRF is critically endangered and very sensitive to soil disturbance. As a small plant it is easily overlooked, especially outside of its winter flowering season, and is easily affected by competition from grasses which shade the ground and prevent seed germination and seedling establishment.



As a result of the learnings of the project we are currently advocating for a cool burn at Chatsworth Road, and will continue to spread awareness about this grassland species.

This project is funded by Trust for Nature's [Pimelea Conservation Trust](#).

### LLPG Meetings

LLPG meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month. The last meeting was on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

The next meeting will be delayed to Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November. If you'd like an issue raised at a meeting, contact Alicia or a committee member by midday the Tuesday prior.

**For any Landcare queries contact Alicia:**

**0475 593 149 | [alicia.lismorellpg@gmail.com](mailto:alicia.lismorellpg@gmail.com)**