

# 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

NOVEMBER 2022



Hello Landcarers! It's safe to say we're all sick of the rain – but hopefully sunshine is around the corner!

In this edition: our Christmas party, wildlife encounters, info about serrated tussock and more! It's our last newsletter for 2022 – you'll hear from us again in Feb 2023.

- Alicia (LLPG Facilitator)

## Upcoming LLPG Events

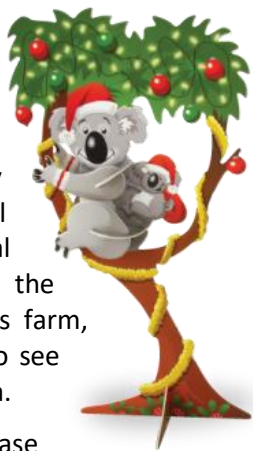
### **LLPG Christmas Party**

*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! We will hear from guest speaker and local landholder John Steele about the wetland he has constructed on his farm, 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 Monday 28 Nov. For RSVPs after Monday **call Alicia on 0475 593 149** to see if spots are available.



### Other Upcoming Events

These events are hosted by other local groups but may be of interest to members of our community.

### **Victorian Landcare Plan Consultative Workshop**

*Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 5-7 pm, online*

Landcare Victoria is leading the development of a Landcare plan for Victoria and is seeking consultation from members of Victorian Landcare groups. [Find the event on Eventbrite](#) or email Alicia for more information!

### **Native Grassland Seed Collection Workshop**

*Wednesday 14 December, 10am-3pm, Bannockburn*

This free event is hosted by the Geelong Landcare Network. Spend a few hours in the field with experts to learn about grassland plant ID and seed collection techniques. For more information you can [find the event on Eventbrite](#) or contact GLN ([geelonglandcarenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:geelonglandcarenetwork@gmail.com)).

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

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

## Got mushrooms?

We are pleased to share that next year we will have ecologist and mushroom expert Dr. Alison Pouliot visit our group to discuss the wonders of fungi and their role in our farming system.

We are seeking a site for a field walk when she visits in autumn 2023. If you've noticed a variety of mushrooms on your property in autumn before, we would love to chat.



This event is funded by Corangamite Shire's Environmental Grants Program.

## Corangamite Lakes Landcare Area 5 year Plan

Our 5-year plan is due for review. The draft plan can be [found on our website](#) (under 'resources') and your feedback is welcomed by **9 Feb 2023**. A hard copy of the plan will also be available for review at the Lismore office on the following Tuesdays: 29<sup>th</sup> Nov, 13<sup>th</sup> Dec, and 17<sup>th</sup> Jan.

## LLPG Tree Planting Program

We've submitted our 2023 tree order to OzTrees Nursery and are now ready to start accepting orders from members for next year. This year we are requesting that **all tree orders are confirmed in writing**. There is a simple [order form available on our website](#) or you can request a copy by contacting Alicia.

Alicia is in the process of mapping trees planted in 2022 so if you had trees this year, expect a call and a visit soon. If you hired the moulder, you will also receive an invoice soon. Our 2022 tree order was funded through the Victorian Landcare Grants Program, and the Stockyard Hill and Berrybank Wind Farms Community Grants Programs.

### **Start site preparation early!**

The best plantations start and finish with good weed control! For best results, start the spring prior to planting. If you've already selected a site for your 2023 trees, assess how you can get a start on weed control NOW before summer kicks in and get in touch if you have any questions.

## Funding opportunities

### **Corangamite Shire Environmental Grants Round 2**

Corangamite Shire has opened a second round of their environmental grants program, with applications closing on

17 December. A particular focus is sought for projects addressing climate change or that involve sustainable agriculture. Contact Alicia ASAP to discuss project ideas or contact the shire's program manager Roland Herbert directly on 5593 7140 or 0419 740 608.

### **Serrated Tussock Grants**

The Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party (VSTWP) offers grants that support community groups and organisations to build their capacity to achieve long-term voluntary management of serrated tussock. More information on the grants can be found on their website ([serratedtussock.com](http://serratedtussock.com)). Contact Alicia to discuss.

### **Have you seen serrated tussock locally?**

Serrated tussock is not common in our area but is prevalent to the east of us. This species can be devastating to pastures once established so vigilance is required to prevent spread. If you believe you have seen serrated tussock in the district or would like more information on how to identify or control it, [contact Alicia](#).

Serrated tussock can look like other native and invasive tussock grasses, so look closely and seek help if you are unsure. In warmer months, serrated tussock turns a lime green colour when most other native grasses yellow. Seeds mature in late spring and summer and heads are tinged purple. In late autumn/winter, plants are bleached by frosts and cooler weather to a golden yellow colour.



Mature plants have a droopy appearance and can grow up to 50cm high. Leaves are stiff, narrow, and rolled longitudinally. Tiny serrations can be felt when you run your fingers towards the base of the leaves.

### **Wildlife in our midst**

LLPG committee member Liz Thornton and her family found two baby galahs on the ground after their tree came down in a storm. They moved them away from the road, protected them at night and let them roam during the day. After two days a family of galahs started circling and squawking and the babies responded. When they landed and attended to the babies, Liz felt sure the family had been

reunited. We all hope they're still living happily somewhere close by.

We've also had some LLPG members from near Mingay report an abundance of blue tongued lizards this year, and a special experience with a grey fantail! While working in their shed, the member was surprised when the fantail flew in and perched on their shoulder, happily tweeting for about 30 seconds before flying off!



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

### **Greening Lismore Primary School**

Thanks to a Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant, LLPG and the students and teachers at Lismore Primary School planted garden beds in front of the school last month. We selected locally native grassland species and the kids enjoyed learning their names. Some of the favourites were billy buttons, chocolate lily, and pig face!

We also planted some fruit and vegetable seedlings for the school's community garden, and the students learned about what plants need to grow and the importance of fresh fruit and vegetables for a healthy diet.



### **LLPG Meetings**

LLPG meetings are normally held on the second Thursday of every month. The last meeting was postponed to Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

The next meeting will be our Christmas party on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec, and the next regular meeting will be on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb. If you'd like an issue raised at a meeting, contact Alicia or a committee member by the Tuesday prior.

**For any Landcare queries contact Alicia:**

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