



Ashbourne Landcare Group

SUMMER 2022

President: Michael Peck
Vice President: Lisa Fowler

Secretary: Sarah Biggs
Treasurer: Michael Peck

Committee Meetings for 2022:

Next meeting: Friday 8 April @ 7:00pm
Woodend Neighbourhood House

ALG Noticeboard



Roadside revegetation, Landcare Victoria

President's Update



To date we are enjoying a green Summer, one of the most pleasant in recent years and whilst the pandemic continues to threaten there is hope for more united Landcare activity in the months before winter arrives.

We have had a very successful year to date in winning grant funding and are currently managing Biolink, rabbit and gorse control programs. These Programs require a significant commitment of time, skill and knowledge by a relatively small number of our members.

It would be wonderful to see more members participating in the Work Groups that seek and administer grant funded programs from which all members are eligible to benefit.

The management of our Weed Action Group (WAG) to has had to pass back to the Committee momentarily, until more members come forward to accept the responsibilities set out in the WAG terms of reference. Assisting our members in controlling weeds on their land is

a core activity for a Landcare Group. I urge members who would like to be involved in this work to contact me or a committee member.

Below you will see information on upcoming events. Events where once again we can meet and enjoy each other's company. Please join us, put the dates in your diaries now and send your RSVP's as soon as you can.

Michael Peck
President
mpeck2@telstra.com – Ph: 0428172993



Coming Events

Ashbourne Landcare Family Lunch

Sunday 13th March 12:30pm at the Tylden Hall

This will be a special occasion – the first time for many months we will be able to gather together, to enjoy each other's company, food and drinks.

A highlight will be our guest speaker Mark Lamble. Mark is a member of our Landcare Group and an Award winning Wildlife and Nature cinematographer.

He will show us the delights and frustrations of working with nature in many parts of Australia and overseas.

Linda Healy, also an ALG Member, will give a short introduction to the Macedon Ranges Koala Project which she has been running in recent years. Please RSVP by 28th February to Lisa Fowler lisa@mtmr.com.au and let her know how many from your family will be coming and what your "bring a plate" will be. We will be providing drinks and cold meat.



Native Garden Munch and Learn

The Native Garden Interest Group will be holding an event on Sunday 27 March, 3pm at Bingarra, 38 Dafter Road (off Boldistone Road), Woodend 3442

There will be a talk from Martin Roberts, wearing his Grow Local hat. This talk will be of interest to all our gardeners - not just the growing natives fans.

You can also explore Bingarra's emerging native garden - there has been some planting and progress since last time.

A delicious afternoon tea will be provided.

RSVP to dr.elaine.saunders@gmail.com by 20 March, 2022. RSVP is essential for catering purposes.

Strategic Planning Workshop

The Committee will hold a strategic planning workshop on 6 March. We will review and update the ALG strategic objectives and then prepare action plans for the future.

If you would like to make suggestions on the aims, objectives and activities of our landcare group please contact a committee member – see contact information below.



Bio-link Work Group

1. JOCKS GULLY RESTORATION PROJECT

2021 DELWP Community and Volunteer Action Grant - On ground Action and Stewardship.

The Biolink Work Group has met regularly to keep these two projects moving along. Most recently we were joined by the three participating landholders involved in the Jocks Gully Restoration Project - Mark Duggan, Mark Illif and Julian Myers (Ashbourne Rd and Daniels Rd.) Their properties connect, the gully line being the common thread for this project.

We discuss fencing of the biolink sites, planting preparation on sites, dates for planting community days involving Woodend Primary School, Melbourne Grammar camp and ALG members, confirming speakers for these events, advertising the project to the wider community, monitoring wildlife activity and planting success through the biolinks.

Alan Denehey co-ordinates the important fencing stage. Unfortunately, this has been delayed due to omicron restrictions placed on the contractors, the Landmate low risk prison crew from the Middleton/Loddon campus, Castlemaine. This crew has good fencing experience and regularly undertakes community projects under expert supervision. We look forward to the fencing segment of the project recommencing in hopefully a few weeks time.

The next stage involves spot spraying all planting spots so that weeds will not compete with the 2,900 tubestock to be planted - grasses, shrubs and trees. This will happen during April with Ian Temby supervising, prior to planting in May, late autumn. The ground should still be warm and winter moisture will enable plants to settle in before spring and summer.

May will be our important community participation month!

This is where we look to the Ashbourne Landcare community to volunteer, to contribute and help out. It is a condition of our grant that local ALG members and the wider community are involved. If everyone can offer time on one of three planned community days, the project should be well on the way to being accomplished.

PLEASE ALL NOTE THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARIES

Community Planting day – Saturday 8 May

Venue: Mark Duggan, 44 Daniels Road, Ashbourne
Guest Speaker: Krista Patterson-Majoor, MRSC
Co-ordinator Strategic Planning & Environment
Traditional Owners' Smoking Ceremony - Welcome to Country, barbeque lunch, and planting

Planting morning – Wednesday 11 May

Venue: Julian Myers, 671 Ashbourne Road, Ashbourne

Grade 4 students Woodend Primary School

Guest speakers: Brendan Smith - Tylden Landcare and Parks Victoria and Ian Temby, Wildlife Consultant and ALG member

Planting day – Sunday 15 May

Venue: Mark Illif, 598 Ashbourne Road, Ashbourne

Melbourne Grammar Camp, Year 7 students

Guest speakers: Mr Ian Temby, Wildlife Consultant and ALG member

A large signboard to advertise Biolink project will be erected on private property on the biolink's site, Ashbourne Road, to alert the community to this important local project.

2. ASHBOURNE NATURAL CONNECTIONS

Victorian Landcare Grants, North Central CMA

Karl Just, Ecologist, has completed all 12 participating site surveys prior to Christmas 2021. Brief findings have been emailed to each participant. Full reports for each site due during first half of 2022.

We are planning a presentation and field day to be led by Karl, later in the year, Sunday 9th October.

Briefs for production of a video and Living Document are currently being finalised, to give to Mark Lambie, ALG member and award winning wildlife cinematographer. Mark has a passion for nature and the natural world, and we are indeed fortunate that Mark has offered to produce a video for ALG.

This will flow into text and images for preparation of the DL 6-sided brochure (as per the ALG member's brochure- style and form). This work all ties in with finalising the master planning project.

There is a lot happening and we would love any of you to offer your assistance and involvement in any way at all. If anyone has any questions or comments, please contact us.

Libby Peck, Convenor, Biolink Work Group

Group members: Alan Denehey, Ian Temby, Ralf Thesing, Linda Healy

SNOWGUM WORKING GROUP PROGRESS REPORT

ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL SNOWGUM HEALTH, MRSC Karl Just and Tim D'Ombra, ecologists, have logged the locations and measured the size and health status of all Snow Gums reported to them by the Snow Gum Working Group members.

- The high number found was surprising. There is good regeneration, with many young trees, as well as numbers of very large, old trees.
- Snow Gums appear to be resilient and recovering well after drought stress.
- Many of the trees carried seed, showing normal functioning.
- Hennebergs Road, Newham has the most extensive stand of lowland Snow Gums in Victoria.
- Snow Gum occurs across a wide range of geologies – it's not fussy. Isolated paddock trees should be fenced off to protect them from livestock impacts and to encourage natural regeneration.

A brochure and public talk are planned. Further records will be sought from landholders – notice to be sent out in the next month or so.

A final report of project is expected mid-June.
Ian Temby

Membership Fees

New members are always welcome – a way of belonging to a local community group, and together achieving more for our Landcare.

Go to www.ashbournelandcare.com and tap the **Join** butt

ASHBOURNE LANDCARE DETAILS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

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Account name Ashbourne Landcare Group Inc.
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Contacts

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