

MCLG MAY / JUNE 2018



THE MOORABOOL CATCHMENT  
LANDCARE GROUP

CONTACT US

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Landcare Group

## NEXT MCLG MEMBERS MEETING:

**Wed 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2018**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Ballan Mechanics Institute, Ballan**  
**SEE FULL DETAILS PAGE 3**

President – ANDREW WELLS

e. [akwells01@gmail.com](mailto:akwells01@gmail.com)

p. 0407 858 913

Vice President – TBA

e. [TBA](#)

Secretary – JONATHON LEVITZKE

e. [levitzke@gmail.com](mailto:levitzke@gmail.com)

Treasurer - MARK CONLAN

e. [cantwells creek@bigpond.com](mailto:cantwells creek@bigpond.com)

MLAC Rep – JEREMY MADDOX

e. [jeremy.maddox@bigpond.com](mailto:jeremy.maddox@bigpond.com)

## LANDCARE COORDINATOR UPDATE

Welcome to the Mid-Winter edition of MCLG news. We've been busy with frog surveys and Mother's Day. Below is a list of activities to keep your mind off the cold weather & keep you motivated through the winter months!

### Events:

- **Wed 6<sup>th</sup> June** - Fungi of the Moorabool's Forests and Farms Seminar (as part of the General members meeting), Ballan Mechanics Institute.
- **Wed 15<sup>th</sup> August** - How to use Bowerbird (Citizen Science) seminar commences at 7pm at the Ballan Mechanics Institute, Supper Room.
- **Sun 9<sup>th</sup> September** - Bee Keeping & Nectar Workshop from 10am – 4pm at the Ballan Mechanics Institute. \$40 per person to attend.

### Active Projects:

- Barwon Water's 10,000 free plants - will be available ~ late May.
- Preparation work is beginning for the major revegetation program on the East Moorabool river as a part of the *20 million trees Round 3* grant.

### Funding Applications:

- Unsuccessful funding for cultural heritage workshop with Aboriginal Water grant - this will be re-applied for via Moorabool Shire grant.
- We are actively seeking funding for first aid training and ACUP permit.
- We are actively seeking funding of \$3,000 from the Moorabool Wind Farm to assist with costs for our community events such as AGM and Christmas party and investigating a wildlife and nectar garden project.
- We are actively seeking funding of \$20,000 for a *Woody Weed Rebate Program* focusing on blackberry and revegetation - Landcare grant.
- Waiting on outcome for \$50,000 grant application for Biodiversity on-ground works to continue with the threatened species surveys i.e. Growling grass frog, Tuans and Golden Sun moth surveys. This grant will also provide further funding for revegetation projects in 2019-2020.

For all project or grant queries please contact Jennifer on:

Mobile: **0497 770 075** or email: [moorabool.landcare@gmail.com](mailto:moorabool.landcare@gmail.com)



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2018 - 2019

All Landcare memberships are **NOW DUE**. Please pay your membership fee of **\$15 by June 30, 2018**. See page 4 for payment details.

In addition, for those interested, there will be a once off yearly fee of \$50 to borrow the Landcare spray unit for weed control work. Please fill in membership form – see page 4 and mail or email your renewal.

## UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

**WED 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2018**

**GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**BALLAN MECHANICS INSTITUTE**

**7 PM - 9 PM**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

**Alison Pouliot**

**Fungi of the Moorabool's  
Forests & Farms**



**SUN 3<sup>rd</sup> & WED 6<sup>th</sup>**

**June 2018**

**Fungus identification**

Moorabool region  
Ballan Mechanics Hall

Day workshop: Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018

Night seminar: Wed 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018



**July - August 2018**

Aerial Spraying of Serrated Tussock



**WED 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

**Ballarat Environment Network**

Bowerbird Information & Training

Citizen science workshop

Ballan Mechanics Institute



**SUN 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

Bee Keeping / Nectar workshop

Ballan Community Centre – \$40 pp

(Open to members only currently)



**September/ October 2018**

Revegetation Projects

Wetland plants available – frog project

Eucalypts available from Bat Project



**17 October 2018**

**AGM**

Aus Eco Solutions

Weed identification & control

Venue TBC



**SUN 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

**Christmas Party Lunch**

9 December 2018

ROOKEEPERS will host a show

Ballan Mechanics Institute

## ACTIVE GRANTS:

### **VICTORIAN GORSE TASKFORCE (VGT) GRANT**

The VGT gorse grant is now been fully spent. Around 50ha of Gorse was treated as part of this grant. Some of the significant treatments were along rivers on adjoining properties, contributing to large sections of problematic gorse being treated within the two target areas.



### **THE R.E. ROSS BAT BOX PROJECT**

Simon Cook will summarise the results of the 3-year Bat Survey: Wed 6<sup>th</sup> June (prior to Alison's talk). Please let Jennifer know if you are interested in a Bat Box for your property. Bat Boxes can be picked up from Jennifer's Office: 3/136 Inglis St, Ballan (above Joe McFall's Real Estate).

### **WINTER FAUNA CAMERA MONITORING**

Volunteers helped make more lure bait for winter surveys (see photo on page 1). Fauna cameras have now been placed around the Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group member properties again in hope to find Brushtail Phascogales. Keep an eye on our Facebook site for updates on findings from members as they periodically check their fauna cameras.

### **GROWLING GRASS FROG SURVEY PROJECT**

We surveyed for Growling grass frogs and test for Chytrid fungus during March over 24 properties. Due to the dry weather, we did not find the number of frogs that we would have hoped to find (frogs were only found on 10 properties). In total we swabbed 51 frogs. Results from testing frogs for chytrid fungus revealed that most sites were negative when tested, however two sites did test positive for Chytrid fungus which means that it does exist within our Landcare area and we need to be mindful of hygiene. We hope to again survey for frogs in spring at sites where no frogs were found in March and again test for Chytrid fungus.

### **SERRATED TUSSOCK AERIAL SPRAYING (WINTER) (EOI):**

If you have a Serrated Tussock problem and are thinking of aerial spraying, please contact Jennifer to register an Expression of Interest to spray during mid-late Winter 2018.

Chemical will be 100% paid for by the Landcare group, but the helicopter spraying will need to be paid by landholder. With the cost of chemical removed from the total \$ (for spraying and chemical), this works out to be 50/50 cost to the landholder. Spraying costs will only cover treatment on properties owned by the landholders who provide consent to participate.

You will need to provide a map of the area to be treated and a size of weed area with your name, property address & contact details on map.

**If interested contact Jennifer by 1<sup>st</sup> July: 0497 770 075 or email [moorabool.landcare@gmail.com](mailto:moorabool.landcare@gmail.com)**

## BEE KEEPING / NECTAR WORKSHOP (SEPTEMBER)

A workshop will be held on Sunday 9th September with Angela & Millie Enbom-Goad (Enbom Honeys) for those interested in bee-keeping and providing nectar rich flowering plants for bees. The morning session will focus on basic beekeeping, changes in legislation and native plants for bees. In the afternoon, we hope to break the participants into beginner and experienced beekeepers to better cater for the differing skill and knowledge levels. To book, the workshop costs \$40 per person and is only open to Landcare members presently. This workshop and seminar is sponsored by Ballan and District Community Bank (Bendigo Bank).

If you are interested in this workshop – contact Jennifer for more details: 0497 770 0750.

## FREE MEMBERS LANDCARE GATE SIGNS

Any members who are interested in obtaining a free gate sign for their property to display that they are a MCLG Landcare member, please contact Jennifer or drop into her office to pick one up. Signs will also be available from the next general members Landcare meeting on Wed 6<sup>th</sup> June.



## FREE TREES FOR 2018

For those landholders who put in an expression of interest for Barwon water plants - the plants will start to become available from **late May 2018**. Jennifer will be in contact as soon as the plant order arrives.

**REMINDER: For landholders requiring planting assistance for large numbers of orders (i.e. over 1,000 plants, the Victorian Mobile Landcare Group (VMLG) is offering free volunteer assistance.** This is offered as a voluntary service; however, we do ask for some recompense for VMLG such as BBQ lunch. For further details contact David McKinnon, on 0411 410 568 or email (preferred) at [david.mckinnon@itaus.net](mailto:david.mckinnon@itaus.net)

## FUNGI OF THE MOORABOOL'S FORESTS & FARMS

Alison Pouliot who is well known for her work in fungi identification, researching the role of fungi in the ecosystem and as a food source. This seminar will discuss fungi identification, toxicity, diversity and its role in sustainable agriculture.

This seminar is proudly sponsored by  
Ballan and District Community Bank Branch.

Alison is a well-known popular and charismatic speaker on fungi and biodiversity conservation. This is an event not to be missed!



**When:** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June: 7pm – 9pm  
(General members Landcare meeting)

**Where:** Ballan Mechanics Hall:  
Inglis st, Ballan (next to IGA)

**Cost:** Free  
(Members and non-members are welcome)

**Information:** <https://alisonpouliot.com/seminar-fungi-moorabool-forests-farms/>



If you are interested in the seminar – Please RSVP or contact Jennifer Johnson for more details pH: 0497 770 075 or [moorabool.landcare@gmail.com](mailto:moorabool.landcare@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

There are so many benefits to becoming a member!

- Free trees, guards and stakes for revegetation projects
- Urban community programs i.e. Nectar project
- Fauna surveys on private properties
- Land management advice
- River and streamside programs
- Subsidised weed control programs
- Training and educational programs
- And much much more!

New members, please fill in this form and mail your details to:

**Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group,  
PO Box 239 Ballan, Vic 3342**

Post or email this application form back to: [moorabool.landcare@gmail.com](mailto:moorabool.landcare@gmail.com)

New members and for annual renewals: please pay by lodging a \$15.00 electronic bank deposit

Bendigo Bank account (noting your name in subject box) **BSB: 633-000 Acc. 1455 70859**

Or enclose a cheque with your application to: Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group.

We also have a chemical spray unit on a trailer that can be hired from the group. The cost is \$50.00 - which is a one-off payment to cover the reasonable use of the trailer throughout the financial year. To make a booking, please contact Jennifer email: [moorabool.landcare@gmail.com](mailto:moorabool.landcare@gmail.com) or call: **0497 770 075**.

\$15.00 Membership Cost

\$50.00 Hire of Chemical Spray trailer (*Optional*)

Name: .....

Mailing Address: .....

.....

Property Address: .....

.....

Email: .....

Phone: .....

Newsletter preference: Posted:

Emailed:

*All details are confidential & used only for purposes of running the Landcare group*

*For further information please contact Jennifer Johnson (Landcare coordinator) on: **0497 770 075***

*Members with an ACUP will be able to access subsidised chemical "Stinger" for weed control for free!*