



STLG Newsletter

Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group AGM:
Sunday, Sept 1 Strathbogie Hall 10-12.00

Guest speakers David Hodgkins & Dani Beisher from
Goulburn Valley Waterwatch on -

"The impact of the 2013 Boho fire on Honeysuckle Creek"

RSVP Bert 5790 8606 or David 5790 5236

August 2013



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Lifetime Membership Award for Bill & Judy Wells at Sept 1 AGM

In the decade since Bill & Judy re-established Strathbogie Tableland Landcare, the group has grown and achieved much. Just look at the number and variety of projects we've undertaken in recent years. As recognition of their achievements, Bill and Judy will be presented with Lifetime Membership of the Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group at the AGM, on 1.9.13. (Judy and Bill with Brian Pimlott, center).

Please come along to show your support

New Grazing Production Website

The new "Evergraze" website <http://www.evergraze.com.au/> is now up and running. On this site, for the first time, the results and recommendations from EverGraze research are presented. These have been combined with other research, demonstration sites and farmer case studies to make available information to farmers in regionally relevant packages.





Help for Injured Wildlife

Tableland resident Amanda Stuttard is a wildlife carer and offers these tips

The first action regarding any injured or other wildlife concerns is to contact Wildlife Victoria 13000 94535 <http://www.wildlifevictoria.org.au>. The reason for calling through Wildlife Victoria is that if a local caregiver is unavailable they will be able to find someone else to help. Another option is that if you have wildlife in your care e.g. a baby bird, it can be taken to the local vet and they will call us to foster the animal until fit for release. Mange is a continual problem for our wombat population, there are medications and treatment options that everyone can put in place to help.

Mange Management Health information day 1/9/13 2-3pm Yea Primary School call Rick on 0411112639 to book your spot.

If you see or hit an animal with your car, please stop and check to see if it can be helped or needs assistance, or if you can't help, call someone who can.

If it's a kangaroo, or other marsupial that's injured, check to see if there is a joey in the pouch. Call for wildlife personnel to help remove the joey safely. Sometimes joeys are thrown clear of the mother, so look around!

Remember to take any animal off the road as it can

cause further accidents. If necessary, keep the animal in need of assistance in a quiet, dark, safe place, until help arrives - don't give it anything to eat or drink.

The other thing to remember is that Wildlife Shelters and Foster workers are Volunteers if you can help by checking a pouch or making a call you can help us save a life.

Amanda Stuttard

amanda.stuttard@yahoo.com.au

Pennington's Corner

On the last Sunday in July a handful of hardy FOBBers braved the winter chill to inspect this site for improvement planning as an application of the Seven Creeks Action Plan and extension of the FOBB working bee calendar. The site is in pretty good condition. Plans for strategic methods of camping traffic control and understory planting were deemed appropriate. DEPI and CMA consultation is being

**WILDLIFE
VICTORIA**
ON CALL TO HELP
13 000 94535

Next FOBB Working Bee

Northcote Secondary College students join STLG / FOBB for an extraordinary working bee on Friday, August 23 at Smith's Bridge 1000am. The main focus will be installation of the new bench seats along the track. All welcome.



Coles' Junior Landcare Project

At a Strathbogie School planning meeting for redesign of the school grounds, parents & children voted for more native & indigenous plants to be grown, vegie beds and fruit trees to be established & poultry to be incorporated.

To date, a native/indigenous garden bed has been established, more 'koala' trees (Euc. camphora) grown and planted; chickens were raised in an incubator, and a chook pen and yard constructed. The next step will be to extend the existing small vegie plot with 6 'wicking beds'. Wicking beds are an innovative water saving method of vegie growing and once the initial set up is complete, need no further inputs than any other form of bed requires eg compost /fertiliser etc. Wicking beds can be made to be self sustaining by the addition of a 'worm station' in each bed where green waste, poultry manure and bedding, paper shreddings & cardboard scraps etc can be recycled into worm castings.

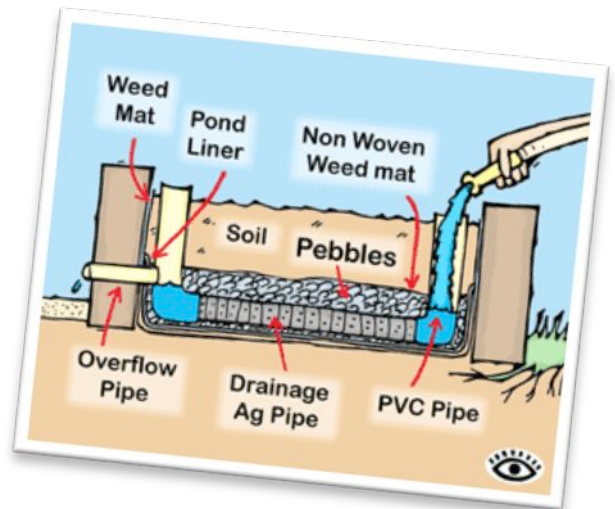
Project outcomes:

- We hope that we will be able to make positive impacts on our environment through the completion of this project.

- Water use - the wicking method will help us to greatly reduce the amount of water consumed, compared with that needed for a standard vegie garden.
- Recycling - as we currently recycle our food scraps through feeding our chickens, we can directly use their waste to help boost the health of our soil and therefore the produce grown.
- Biodiversity - with the inclusion of known plants that encourage insects and butterflies we hope to be able to bring more wildlife into the area such as birds.
- Most importantly increase student awareness and engagement in the world around them; to help them make connections between what they do and how they can make small but significant impacts on

their environment.

Funding being sought is \$1000. We wish you luck with your project.



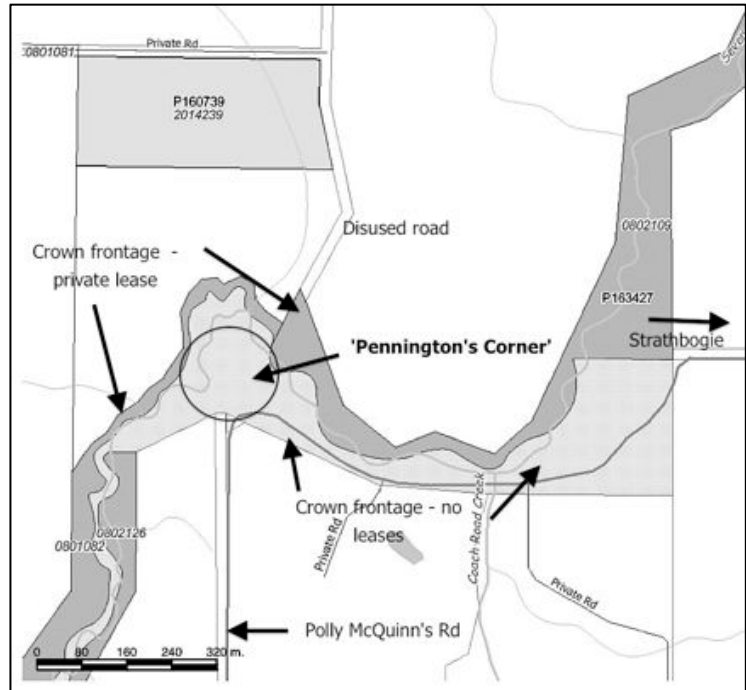
Wicking beds combined with worm stations make for self-sustaining vegie patches

Continued from Page 2, more on Pennington's Corner

The Friends of Bridge to Bridge Nature Reserve (FOBB) meets monthly to maintain and improve the Reserve and the track that goes from Spring Creek Bridge to Smith's Bridge, behind the Strathbogie Township. At a Landcare workshop in May we discussed how our group could be involved in improving the condition of the Seven Creeks between the Bridge to Bridge Reserve and Polly McQuinn's. At the meeting it was agreed that we begin by helping to look after the informal camping and day-visitor spot (at the sort-of hair-pin bend half-way between Strathbogie and Polly's), that we've dubbed 'Pennington's Corner' (after previous adjacent landholders).

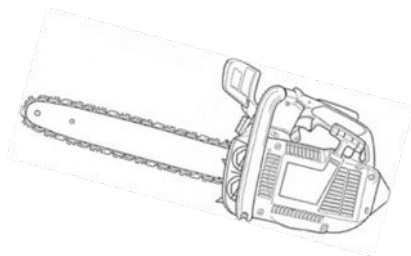
We certainly don't want to attract more visitors to the spot, as there are no visitor facilities, and the spot receives no active management. But we may be able to make some improvements and encourage visitors to also help look after the area better.

For more information contact Sean on 0400 019 607 or Bert on 5790 8606.



Location of Pennington's Corner on Crown Land between Polly McQuinn's Rd and Seven Creeks.

Chainsaw Operator Training - one day



Full-cost \$150, subsidised \$70; Landcare members given preference in the first course.

Nationally accredited course/'ticket' (Includes both *Operate and Maintain Chainsaws AHCARB205A* & *Trim*

& cross-cut felled trees FPICOT2221B).

Training delivered by qualified, experienced TAFE trainers. All equipment supplied (chainsaw, chaps, safety eq), but BYO chainsaw if you can.

Sturdy boots essential. Course covers: use, maintenance, safety, operation.

When: Sat. 5th October. Max numbers 10, 9am to 4 pm..

Where: Strathbogie Recreation Ground Clubrooms.

BYO lunch & snacks; tea, coffee, biscuits, milk provided. Payment required prior to course.

Contact Bert 5790 8606, bertram.lobert@activ8.net.au



New bench seat for Bridge to Bridge Reserve

Five new bench seats have been built for us by the Violet Town Men's Shed and will soon be installed along the walking track. Money for this project (along with several other activities) was received from the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority. [



FOBBERS in Action

There has been plenty of activity along the track over the past year. A number of tree falls have kept the chainsaws busy. General maintenance never stops. Track work has seen some of the track, previously subject to recurrent flooding, either relocated or bridged by a boardwalk. The outcomes have been very positive with the boardwalk proving hardy enough to survive its first two floods during the past two months!

FOBB Objectives for 2013-2014

Objectives

1. Improve catchment health, the riparian environment and water quality
2. Provide an attractive recreational resource emphasising natural values
3. Safeguard the populations of aquatic and terrestrial indigenous flora and fauna
4. Maintain a FOBB inventory of skills and equipment
5. Engage and skill the local community

Actions

1. Actively promote and support catchment and waterway protection
 - Support STLG in fencing off stock access
 - Support STLG efforts to reduce water siphoning during designated periods of low flow
 - Support Waterwatch water quality sampling, testing and documentation
 - Provide and install signage that outlines responsible use of the reserve
 - Maintain access for sustainable recreational use
2. Control Blackberry and other weeds
 - Map weed infestations
 - Hand remove, spray, cut and paint or use other appropriate techniques
 - Plant indigenous species as replacements; weed and maintain
3. Regularly monitor the status of indicator species
4. Support Landcare in providing informative and educational resources through signage, meetings, forums, workshops, working bees and various media

New – Euroa Arboretum Wetlands

Most of us know that the Euroa Arboretum and Indigenous Nursery supply the region with quality native plants, but now they have a new string to their bow. Thanks to the planning and efforts of Coordinator, Cathy Olive, 'The Arb' now has a fantastic, newly constructed chain-of-ponds wetland. Contrary to popular belief, wetlands don't have to be deep and contain lots of water all year 'round. In fact the most diverse and productive wetlands are shallow and dry out seasonally and this is just what Cathy's tried to create. Next time you're in Euroa, have a look for yourself. Drive to The Arb, park in the bays just inside the front gate and walk around the lake to the far side, where you'll find the best constructed chain-of-ponds in the district. Though it's early days, constructed last December and planted in Autumn 2013, the results are already impressive. You can also see pictures of the construction process and some more recent pics here:

<http://strathbogierangesnatureview.wordpress.com/> .



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