

Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group Newsletter March 2015

Blackberry Control on the Strathbogie Tableland

As most landholders are aware, it's been a pretty good season for Blackberries - in many places they're out of control. Many landholders do great work controlling Blackberries and other weeds, but there seem to be just as many who do not, including some Government Agencies.

The Landcare Group has approached the agriculture department, formerly DEPI, to run a



Blackberry compliance project on the Tableland to:

- Support landholders doing the right thing
- Encourage landholders with a Blackberry problem to address it
- Get action from public land managers re the Blackberries on the land they manage
- Inform everyone of the value, need and legal responsibility to control Blackberries

If successful, the compliance program will start next season and include subsidies for control work, information days and hands-on demonstrations.

Native fish talk and electro-fishing demonstration



On Tuesday evening, 2.3.15, fish ecologist Joanne Kearns gave a talk in the Soldiers' Room, Strathbogie Hall, about the native fish of the Seven Creeks catchment. This was followed the next day by a demonstration of how fish surveys are conducted. It's fantastic that these surveys are being conducted, especially given that there are several threatened fish species in the Sevens and assessing their status is important for making decisions about their conservation. Learn more about

electro-fishing surveys conducted in the Sevens
<https://strathbogierangesnatureview.wordpress.com/>



Smith's Bridge Picnic Area - Day Visitors Only

Camping at the Smith's Bridge Picnic Ground

On Australia Day Weekend visitors to the Tableland decided to set up camp at the Smith's Bridge Picnic Area, meaning that no one else could use the facilities there. They did this after they removed the 'No Camping' signs!

This picnic area is a public space, open to all, but it's a day visitor area only. We are currently trying to get better signage, through Parks Victoria (the responsible Land Manager), so that this doesn't happen again.

Friends of Bridge to Bridge

2015 is going to see a change of the working bee structure for Bridge to Bridge. The regular fourth Sunday of the month working bees were not well patronized in 2014, so we are hoping larger biannual working bees will attract more support. In between times Sean will continue to mow, clear tree falls and collect rubbish along the track and at the picnic ground. Any assistance is most welcome. ***The first of the Bridge to Bridge biannual working bees is Sunday March 29 at 0900hrs. We will meet at Smith's Bridge as usual. Work to be done includes:***

- Removal of the Landcare stock crossing above Smith's Bridge
- Removal of the hollow stump fishing enthusiasts have taken to using as a rubbish bin
- Track mowing and whipper snipping – particularly the Haley St entrance
- Blackberry spraying
- Repair of the fence near the circuit
- Fallen tree removal from beside the Spring Creek Bridge (chainsaw ticket holders only please)
- Finally, please sign on when you arrive to ensure insurance requirements are met

Our Landcare Group

The Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group relies on volunteers to organise the variety of activities you've read about in this newsletter- the roadside weed control, the talks, walks



and activities, subsidies for vermin control, the Bridge to Bridge Walk, half-price seedlings etc. We also liaise with the Shire and Government Agencies and advocate on behalf of the community. A lot happens behind the scenes and there's never any shortage of jobs.

Please support the group by participating in the things you're interested in and let us know if there are other topics you'd like covered. It's not all about money, but becoming a member of Landcare gives the group a firmer footing to keep working

with the local community. Membership also means you get the quarterly Victorian Landcare & Catchment Magazine - an good read.

Membership per family/property- \$30, includes gate sign and a variety of incentives & subsidies. Due- end of FY. See the form on the next page.

**Judith Durston took the Murray
Goulburn Birdlife Group to the
bridge-to-bridge walk last
weekend**

What a fantastic bird list. Judith was impressed with the increase in birds, as our plantings have matured. The group was suitably impressed too.

Bridge to Bridge Walk, Strathbogie
Date and Effort

Sun Mar 15, 2015 12:45 PM

Protocol: Traveling

Party Size: 17

Duration: 2 hour(s), 45 minute(s)

Distance: 1.0 kilometer(s)

Observers: Birdlife Murray Goulburn

Comments:

Weather fine, clear, wind
abating, 23 degrees C. Includes
full length of creek side path
between town bridges = 1km

Species

29 species total

- 2 Pacific Black Duck
- 1 White-faced Heron
- 1 Wedge-tailed Eagle
- 1 Laughing Kookaburra
- 1 Sacred Kingfisher
- 2 Rainbow Bee-eater

What's On

Local Bird Brochure Launch

Old Flour Mill Gallery

March 27, 6-9 pm

Presented by Euroa Arboretum

Contact Ron Litjens 0419559368

Climate Change & Superannuation

Old Flour Mill Gallery

April 11, 3 pm, \$15/Concession

Presented by Strathbogie Voices

Contact <http://strathbogievoices.com.au/>

Contacts

President: Bert Lobert

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bertram.lobert@activ8.net.au

- 1 Brown Falcon
- 6 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
- 3 Australian King-Parrot
- 5 Crimson Rosella
- 5 White-throated Treecreeper
- 6 Yellow-faced Honeyeater
- 6 White-eared Honeyeater
- 5 White-naped Honeyeater
- 2 Spotted Pardalote
- 1 Striated Pardalote
- 3 White-browed Scrubwren
- 2 Brown Thornbill
- 1 Striated Thornbill
- 4 Australian Magpie
- 3 Grey Shrike-Thrush
- 4 Rufous Whistler
- 2 Grey Fantail
- 2 Eastern Yellow Robin
- 3 Welcome Swallow
- Silvereye
- 5 Most birds observed in two large
- 0 feeding parties, the larger of which
- (30+) was in a patch of introduced
- asparagus.
- 2 Common Blackbird
- 2 European Greenfinch
- 1 Red-browed Finch
- 2

Land, Water & Biodiversity Research
Forum

Park Lake reception Centre, Shepparton

May 21, all day

Presented by Goulburn Broken CMA

Contact 5822 7700

Water Management & Environmental
Flows

30 May

Presented by Strathbogie Voices

Contact <http://strathbogievoices.com.au/>

Secretary: Sean Mathews

PH: 0400019607

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STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND LANDCARE GROUP (Inc.)

ABN 50203159001

2014-15 MEMBERSHIP **\$30.00** (All are claimable business expenses)

(Includes gate sign for new members)

DONATION \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

NAME/S

ADDRESS

LOCAL

.....
.....

POSTAL

.....
.....

PHONE

HOME **MOBILE**

FAX **EMAIL**

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME **PHONE**

METHODS OF PAYMENT

By EFT to:

Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group

BSB 803 078 Account No. 28232 S6

Using your name as reference.

OR

Cheque payable to:

"STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND LANDCARE GROUP INC."

C/O Treasurer Julian Trescowthick

PO Box 33

Strathbogie Vic 3666

If you are a new member, please return the form with your contact details. If you have any suggestions or comments, please write them on the back of this sheet.



Save the date!

The Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, with our partners is hosting a workshop to present the methods and findings on land, water and biodiversity research and monitoring in the catchment.

A range of presentations will be available on the day, from water to land and from biodiversity to climate change.

The research forum will bring together a broad range of researchers who have been involved with research and monitoring projects in the Goulburn Broken catchment over the past 18 months.

The primary audience for the conference will be researchers, the community, natural resource managers from various agencies that are responsible for the management of the area and the catchment community.

Attendance is free with meals included during the day. This event will be held at the Park Lake Shepparton on the **21st May 2015**. **Please block the day out in your calendar.**

To register early go to: <http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/goulburnbrokenma/catchment-research-and-monitoring-forum/>

Numbers are limited so please register early.

Presentation topics include:

- Maintaining the resilience of the catchment – Implementing the Regional Catchment Strategy
- Toward Eradication of cabomba from the Broken River
- Greater Murray Biodiversity Monitoring Program: Reptiles and Bird responses to changes in management
- Does riparian condition and management influence breeding success in woodland birds in the Longwood-Violet Town Plains?
- Wetlands response to fire and environmental water
- Long-term monitoring of Macquarie perch within the Mid-Goulburn River and tributaries and identifying knowledge gaps and interventions for management