



Yarra Yarra News



Newsletter Edition: Spring 2017

Hello Everyone and welcome to the Spring edition

It continues to be busy through July, August & September, as you will see from our extended edition newsletter. If you have any queries regarding this newsletter please feel free to contact Jude Sutherland on Mobile 0429 647 506 or landcarecoordinator@yarrayarracatchment.org.au

New Committee for 2017/18

Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group Committee
AGM: Tuesday 11th October, Wubin, 12.00pm

- Peter Syme - Chair
- Jude Sutherland – Vice Chair
- Stacey Hudson - Treasurer and Finance
- Lizzie King - Secretary
- Paulina Wittwer - Social secretary
- Carris Waite - Social Media Guru!
- Rowan Smith - Drone flying extraordinaire

Carris has just opened an Instagram account for Yarra Yarra, check it out - @yarrayarracmg

Upcoming Workshops/Events and Dates for your Diary:

Yarra Yarra Posters of the local Flora and Fauna –

We are looking for volunteers to get involved with this great project. If you enjoy photography or have an artistic streak, or just love the local birds and flowers, we would love to have you on the team to help put together two posters showcasing the amazing diversity we have in our region. The posters will be printed and available to buy through the local tourist offices.

Recent Events for 2017

Bus Tour – Bonfire, Burgers & Beer – 26th July

YTCMG &
Perenjori
Farming
Forward with



the support from the NACC's regional landcare facilitator and Great Northern Rural Supplies (Principle: Tony Rosser) organised a bus tour with over 20 people attending. We jumped on the bus from Perenjori and headed south east to Brian Baxters place to see what he's been up to with his algae farm and the opportunity for widespread fertiliser use. Charles and Shayne Wass introduced us to selling their own lamb to a local market.

Stock Nutrition and Management Bob Nickels spoke about tips for the current dry season and how to drought proof your farm for future seasons. We visited Les & Jane Spencer's place to check out what they have been doing with their dolomite and lime mix to increase their magnesium levels.



We finished off the day with a burger & a couple of beers around the fire at Brad Spencer's shed. Thanks to everyone who attended that day.



National Tree Day – 28th July

YTCMG partnered with Perenjori Playgroup and the Perenjori Early Childhood Centre (PECC) and held a Teddy Bear's picnic/tree planting extravaganza! The weather was ideal for the trees, but not so much for being out there planting them – but we had a lot of fun and can't wait to do this again next year. Please let us know if you have a site you would like to be planted in 2018.



Lotterywest Grant – 8th August



We have been very fortunate to successfully secure a grant of \$7,691.00 through lotterywest. The grant will enable us to obtain office equipment, banners, drone, camera and equipment for field use. This is fantastic news for Yarra Yarra and will enable us to continue the great

work that has been started. Thank you to Lotterywest for all your support. We may be able to organise a drone flying training day if you are interested please let me know.

77th Perenjori Agricultural Show - 12th August

YYCMG were at the PJ show, where among the highlights was a film clip capturing local Morawa malleefowl attending to their nest. (Thanks to Rachel of MCC for the editing) Very special footage!. A very wet day was had but the spirits of the Perenjori folk couldn't be dampened, maybe this was the beginning not the end of the season, the first decent rain all year!!



Bunjil Rocks Bioblitz – 23rd/24th September

60 enthusiastic, environmentally-minded volunteers attended the inaugural Midwest bioblitz held at Bunjil Rocks and Latham, on the 23rd & 24th September. The bioblitz was a great success. A bioblitz involves the rapid collection of ecological data at a designated site, which provides a snapshot of the species in that particular area at that time. This was achieved with the help from a range of experts in fauna, flora, fungi and more. There was also a night stalk, an early morning bird walk, campfires and fabulous food. We can't wait for the next one. Huge thanks to everybody who helped out and made it such a fun event to be part of. If you would like to receive a copy of the final species list, contact Jessica.stingemore@nacc.com.au



The event was organised by the Moore Catchment Council, Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group, Northern Agricultural Catchments Council and Gunduwa Regional Conservation Association.

Landcare Conference – 29th – 31st August

Lizzie and I both attended the State NRM & Coastcare Conference in Perth. Great sessions and very informative throughout the 3 days. Watch this space for new ideas throughout the year!!

Bee Hotels



The Perenjori Primary School took charge of the theme of creating bee hotels and expanded it into a term-long project. Lizzie joined the school to help construct the hotels and the children are now waiting patiently for the native bees to move in...

Assessing restoration success using reptiles and small mammals

In partnership with ECU, YYCMG are involved in a project to measure whether some older revegetated sites in low lying, saline areas have created enough habitat for the fauna to move back to these sites. The project was set up with pitfall and funnel traps over 8 sites on broombush, saltbush and mixed



biodiversity sites, plus the control sites. Over the last 2 weeks daily monitoring has taken place, and the ECU team will return next

October to carry out a further two weeks of monitoring before the research is finalised and hopefully published. We envisage that the findings will guide better revegetation practices locally and beyond, and how to successfully achieve multiple benefits for production on marginal land, as well as improved habitat and biodiversity outcomes.. This project has been funded by the Gunduwa Regional Conservation Association. Thanks to all the volunteers who came along and helped with the set up of the traps, and the monitoring. Special thanks to Boyd Carter for putting in some of the traps with the post-hole digger. For more photos please see our facebook page.