



# Yarra Yarra News



## Newsletter Edition: Summer 2017

Hello Everyone and welcome to the Summer edition

Well another harvest is over and hopefully next year is a little more exciting than this one. 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](mailto:landcarecoordinator@yarrayarracatchment.org.au)

## Committee for 2017/18

### Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group Committee

- 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

Follow us on Instagram and facebook!!

## 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.

### Integrated Pest Management Workshop

#### (1080 Permit Assessments and Application)

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018

We are holding a day at the Carnamah Landcare building on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018. If you would like to renew your 1080 permit or apply for a new one then please let me know.

If you're not sure when your permit expires, please provide your name, address and phone number and I may be able to find out for you. This will need to be sent in by the end of January for the information to be available on the workshop day. A small subsidy will be available through Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group, more details will be sent out in January 2018.

## Recent Events for 2017

### Regeneration of the Wheatbelt – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017



There was plenty of interest, and a great turnout for our recent field day. We visited Stuart McAlpine's farm at Buntine, Stuart is a wheatbelt farmer who is committed to soil health, reinvigorating our small rural communities and transforming the wheatbelt into the foodbelt. Stuart comments on how he sees the future, "pick out a niche on your farm and work within that. Whether it be good water, good soil, people, animals and create a community, business opportunity and develop an environment in which people and places will thrive and grow'.

The paddock below has been planted with a diverse fodder system in 2017. The lines show where the fences will be erected to allow rotational grazing.



### **Nuffield Scholars:**

We were very pleased to invite 2 young farmers in our region who were successful in receiving a Nuffield Scholarship, supported by GRDC. The Nuffield Australia Farming Scholarships is a unique program that awards primary producers with a life-changing scholarship to travel overseas and study an agricultural topic of choice. Scholars are selected annually on merit as people who are committed and passionate about farming or fishing, are at the leading edge of technology uptake and potential future leaders in the industry. Boyd and Dylan joined us for a chat at the Wubin Pub on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October and shared a little about what they are hoping to learn and achieve and ultimately share with the farming community, over the next 12 months.

**Boyd Carter** from Wubin spoke about his interest in the “robotic revolution” and how this is going to fit into today’s farming, how we can prepare for it and what to expect.

**Dylan Hirsch** from Latham will focus on “financial risk management system in variable climates, including multi-peril crop insurance (MPCI).

We will follow their journey over the next year and invite them back to retell their story, what they have learnt and the next chapter in their farming lives.

### **NACC Biodiversity Community Grants**

**Kalannie Herbarium** - Successful Grant Application!!

In 1993 the Kalannie-Goodlands landcare group & the WA Wildflower Society began collecting specimens for the Kalannie Regional Herbarium. 600 specimens have been collected and stored at the Kalannie Landcare Office, these specimens need to be re-labelled and mounted onto card and display folders which will be then be re-located to the Kalannie Community Resource Centre where they will be on display for the wider community as a local regional herbarium. Yarra Yarra applied for a grant and was successful to relocate the Kalannie Herbarium from the Landcare Building to the Kalannie CRC.

### **NACC Sustainability Agricultural Grant**

**Soil Audit** - Successful Grant Application!!

This involves a district soil audit to gauge the health of the soil. Several farmers will participate in complete soil biological testing with full interpretation of the soil health. Tests for microbial activity of the soil have been proven, but they are not used as standard practice. You cannot monitor what you can’t measure – so by establishing “benchmark” data for a number of farmers, we can see how different management practices are influencing soil health. We want to increase understanding of what information is available to them for making informed soil health decisions. Trigger interest in the different farming methods available, encourage different thinking, education and awareness. A workshop will be held in June 2018, more details will be available next year.

These project are supported by the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council NACC, thanks very much for your support.



### **State NRM Grant – Successful Grants for 2018/19**

1. Fighting Ferals to save our native species
2. Creating corridors and protecting fenceline flora Stage 3

More information will be provided early next year.

### **Cat Traps available – at the Perenjori Office**

If you would like to borrow a trap, please contact Jude. They are large enough for trapping foxes too.

This workshop was organised by Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group, this project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government’s State NRM Program



natural resource  
management program

