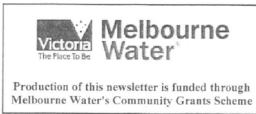


Newham & District Landcare Group



Working towards a
healthier environment



Address – PO Box 314, WOODEND 3442

Newsletter Editors: Paul & Marie Marmara

Vision & Mission

Newham & District Landcare Group has the following Vision and Mission.

Vision: To enhance biodiversity and natural ecosystems within the local environment.

Mission: To raise awareness of, protect and enhance the local environment.

This will be achieved by bringing the community together to address environmental problems, to appreciate the natural landscape, to assist in promoting sustainable agricultural production promoting the benefits of working and sharing together.

Autumn 2007



Another Funding Success!

This time it was for the modest sum of \$3750 - for works on three properties along Camels Hump Creek, a tributary of Five mile Creek. Gorse and blackberry will be removed and the banks stabilized by planting local native species. Where there are existing trees, the area will be enhanced by planting under-storey species – shrubs, grasses and wildflowers.



And yet another Funding Success

[although we have only heard from Fran Baileys office]

It seems we have finally got some money from the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants scheme – this one was hard to crack! We will receive \$1200 – to purchase equipment for loan to members. Items will be 15L back-pack spray units, Hamilton planters, weed wands, long handled ratchet mechanism loppers and some mattocks. Contact for borrowing items will be Roberts household in the first instance – 5427 0795.

NEWS ITEMS

Trailer-mounted Spray unit [600L]

Why not get together with a neighbour (or two) and make a concerted effort to get those weeds under control.

Removing weed infestations that provide cover is an important part of pest animal control too. The hire charge of \$50 per day is to cover future maintenance requirements and a Trailer Warden fee per use.

The Trailer Warden will ensure you know how to operate the unit and explain conditions of use. Contact Colleen Wood (Trailer Warden) on 5427 0336

Newham & District Landcare signs

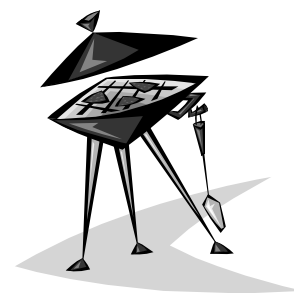
These signs raise public awareness of the group. If you would like to support the group in this way please contact Hilary Roberts on 5427 0795 [price \$15]

BBQ on the hill

53 adults and 17 children came to welcome seven new adult faces [plus five children]

A fantastic turn-up!! The food and company was great [as usual]. The horde of children entertained themselves with a game of cricket until the light failed. The next match will be at Hanging Rock on the 6th of May.

[.....there are still some unclaimed items that were left behind – ring Penny on 5427 0795 if you are missing anything]

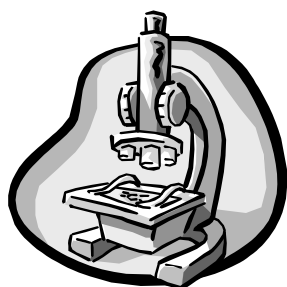


Newham Primary school planting feed-back

This planting has done extremely well despite the season. Planting extended from October to November 24th [33°C and very late to be planting!]. They were watered at the time of planting and again a month later by sprinkler, using a petrol driven pump and dam water [meaning they got a decent soak], and 16 cubic metres of mulch was spread in two sessions the following week.

Recurrent weeds clear of the plants were sprayed in mid-March. It is looking fantastic – drive into the carpark and see for yourself!

Water Watch in Newham



For some months Grades 5 and 6 students at Newham Primary School have been testing the creek near the school. Using the Landcare Water-watch kit they've been keeping an eye on the temperature, turbidity, salinity and pH of the water. They are also all becoming expert at using chemical tests to measure the level of phosphates and ammonia dissolved in the water. The data is collected each month and recorded to give a profile of the health of our water over each season.

For further information contact Jenny 5427 0408

Clean Up Australia

WHAT A LOAD OF RUBBISH!!!



The clean up Crew – Well nearly all

Thanks to all of the Newham participants in Clean Up Australia Day March 4 2007, Sue & Nick Massie, Roger & Virginia Ruglass, Jim Sansom & Jenny Waugh, Lorraine Rutherford, Ian and Kathryn, Neil McMaster, and Penny Roberts who stayed at the Hall to organise the volunteers and put on the jug!!

Our group cleaned up approximately 8 kilometres of Three Chain Road. We filled about 30 bags, and the tray on Jim's truck, with rubbish that included bike wheels, car parts, paper of all kinds and many cans and plastic bottles. The interesting discoveries were Sue Massie finding \$20 which went to CFA donation box, Roger and Virginia had a near encounter with a snake and Lorraine found an "interesting video".

This is the third year that Newham Landcare members have participated in Clean Up Day and we will continue to clean up the roadsides that surround our hamlet. Please try to spread the adage "take all rubbish home" so that this clean up exercise may become redundant.

Landcare members may wish to go to www.cleanup.org.au to look at ways to reduce household greenhouse emissions by 25% per year over the next three years.

Fran Spain, Site Co-ordinator, Newham Landcare

GROW TREES, Landcare CarbonSMART offers \$'s

CarbonSMART, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Landcare Australia offer Victorian landholders a lump sum payment for growing and maintaining vegetation on their land.

See if you qualify: Was your site essentially cleared on 31st December 1989, revegetated with species native to the area by human action after 1st January 1990, with vegetation able to reach at least 2 metres high with a crown covering of more than 20%, on a site of at least 0.2ha?

There is a process which is both rigorous and looks interesting if you apply. Some of the expenditure is carried by the landowner. Then you get payment for carbon early in 2008.

Be smart and join CarbonSMART.

For more info and application forms contact Penny Roberts 5427 0795, or Peter Eisen 5427 0574.



Your Current Committee for 2007

President:	Penny Roberts [5427 0795]	Fran Spain
Secretary:	Peter Eisen [54270574]	Chris Wiggett
Treasurer:	Hilary Roberts [5427 0795]	Nick Massie
	Jim Sansom [5427 0408]	1 Vacant position

Members are invited to contact the committee on the contact numbers above on any issue.

The Committee gives special thanks Alice Aird, a founding member of the committee, who has retired. She brought with her a special set of skills and we will miss her contribution.

The Committee requests that if any member is interested in filling the casual vacancy created by the retirement of Alice they contact any current committee member to indicate interest. The committee meets on the first Monday of the month [February to December] at 7.30 – 9 pm in Newham. Meetings start and finish on timeand we enjoy them!!

Special interest groups

If you have any queries, or wish to contribute, please contact the person listed below.

Roadsides: Sue Massie [5427 0065]

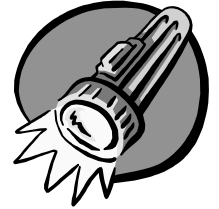
Seed bank/seed collection: Penny Roberts [5427 0795]

Newsletter items: Nick Massie [5427 0065]

Upcoming Events for 2007

April

Saturday 14th 7pm **Spotlight Walk** at Hanging Rock [be a Friend of Hanging Rock] Bring along a good torch with batteries
Free entry/exit included



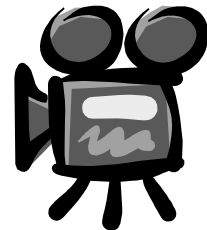
Friday 27th 7.30 pm **Speaker meeting** Newham Hall Biodiversity themes
David De Angelis [La Trobe University Bundoora Naturalists Society]
Dr. Jim Radford [Deakin University]
Information: Penny 5427 0795



Sunday 29th 10 – 4pm **Fungi Workshop** Newham Hall
Alison Pouliot
Bookings Lorri 5427 0696 / 0407 818 463 [\$25 fee]

May

Sunday 6th 9 – 1pm **Autumn Hands-on Day** Hanging Rock Reserve
Children's activities, BBQ lunch provided.
rsvp: Paul/Marie 5427 0258



Friday 18th 7.30pm **Film night** Newham Hall
An Inconvenient Truth'

Saturday 26th 10am **Members Planting Day** at 33/107 Doherty's Rd
[Andre/Wiggett boundary]
The area being planted is to fill a gap in the Campaspe-Maribyrnong
Headwaters corridor of native vegetation.
Lunch provided
rsvp/ information Frances 54235225 or Chris 5423 5279

June

Saturday 23rd **Winter Dinner** Newham Hall
Scottish theme, don't miss it!
Details to follow



Saturday 30th **Members Planting Day** at Doherty's Rd. [Andre/Wiggett]
rsvp/ information Frances 54235225 or Chris 5423 5279

