

# 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.

## A Tribute to Scotland

On a cold and clear Saturday evening, 23<sup>rd</sup> June, lights flooded from the Newham Mechanics Institute Hall and inside, under the watchful gaze of a magnificent painting by Fran, of the Monarch of the Glen, lads and lassies, in kilts long and short!!!, sporrans, feathers and lots of tartan, gathered for the NDLG Scottish themed Winter Dinner and Ceilidh (an informal social gathering with singing, dancing and story telling.)





The Hall was bedecked with antlers, holly and Scottish memorabilia and the tables dressed with white and red cloths, tartan, holly and candelabra completed the scene.

A nip of whisky on arrival warmed the gathering and at 7.30, the front doors of the Hall opened to the skirl of bag pipes and the presentation of the Haggis to the gathered throng began. Neil, accompanied by Jim, Richard and the Piper, carried the Haggis, which was then memorably addressed by Richard, to the accompaniment of some lashing of it with his trusty dirk. The Haggis party were all in authentic Scottish dress and looked truly grand. The dinner then began.

A communal table of delicious fare was shared by all and on completion of the meal, which included some tentative and not so tentative sampling of the Haggis; the hall was cleared to prepare for the Ceilidh.

To roisterous Scottish melodies, one provided by the Piper, many of the lads and lassies, under the expert guidance of Fran and Neil, lined up to dance Strip the Willow, the Gay Gordon and the Virginia reel. After a hesitant start, there was soon much laughter and encouragement as the dancers mastered the various steps with increasing confidence and discovered muscles they had forgotten they ever had! The watching crowd also enjoyed the fun. A great time was had by all and the dancing was completed with a stirring rendition of Auld Lang Syne.



So the evening had it all. A wonderful coming together to share food, and enjoy dancing, singing and no doubt much storytelling, in the company of friends.

The organisers, Jenny, Fran, Philip and Sue want to thank those who came to the evening for making it such a roaring success.

## NEWS ITEMS

### Small Equipment Available

A reminder that members have access to 15L back-pack spray units, Hamilton planters, weed wands, long handled ratchet mechanism loppers and some mattocks. Contact for borrowing items is the Roberts household in the first instance – **5427 0795**.

### 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

A limited number of signs are available for you to declare your concern for the environment to your neighbours.

Please contact Hilary Roberts on **5427 0795** [price \$15] to obtain your sign.



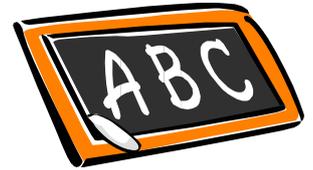


# Landcare and Newham Primary School

## Gift to Newham Primary School

The Newham & District Landcare group has given Newham Primary school copies of 'Scats and Tracks' and 'Field Guide to Australian Mammals', as well as 10 copies of 'Leaf Litter' by Rachel Tonkin and 30 magnifying glasses. 'Leaf Litter' is a fabulously illustrated book that explores the changes in and under leaf litter over a period of time. The author/illustrator lives in Castlemaine, so most of the plant and animal species pictured occur in our area too.

A reminder of the invitation in the last newsletter that if you interested in helping our primary school a sub group is proposed which could further our connection with the primary school, please ring **Jenny Waugh 5427 0408**.



## Bandages For A Wounded Landscape

A big thank-you to Stevan Krstic for his wonderful talk about the usefulness of our roadsides, the flora and fauna.

We had a number of existing and new members attending, and even some non members.

Stevan's talk was a very interesting way of informing the audience of the importance of maintaining native vegetation along our roadsides, as this all form part of the wildlife corridor from one wooded area to another.

This is what we are trying to achieve with our biolink between Mt Macedon, Hanging Rock, Mt Jim Jim and the Cobaw Range.

Stevan emphasised how important it was to create new and maintain the existing vegetation corridors along our roadsides and in our own properties, and create new stepping stones to link all of this together.

Many thanks to all for their interest and attendance.



## The Roadside Management Group

(Affectionately known as the "Weedies")

Hello all from us "weedies". Mapping is underway again and the offer to learn how to do this is still open.

If you would like to become part of the "weedies" group, please call

**Alice Aird - 54 270 156, or Sue Massie - 54 270 065.**

## Planting Days

Information sheets on organizing a planting day are available – contact **Penny or Hilary [5427 0795]**

## Plants Available - Spring has arrived.

**Treeproject tubestock**, grown by volunteers in the city, is now available at cost [30cents each].

Species this year are as follows:-

*Large trees* - messmate, candlebark, manna gum, snow gum, narrow-leaf peppermint.

*Medium trees* – blackwood, silver wattle, black wattle, drooping she-oak

*Shrubs* – woolly tea-tree, prickly tea-tree, river bottlebrush, Prickly Moses, Indigofera

*Ground layer* – common tussock grass, common wallaby grass

**Contact: Penny 5427 0795**







## Membership 2007/08

**Membership fees were due on July 1<sup>st</sup>.** A membership form for 2007 – 2008 is enclosed if we have not yet received payment from you – please complete and send with payment to **PO Box 314, Woodend, 3442.**

This nominal fee covers incorporation and insurance costs as well as your Landcare magazines and newsletters. It confirms your ongoing support for our activities, regardless of the level of your participation, and the size of our membership base affects our credibility when applying for project funding.

Membership fees of \$20.00 per household for 2007/08 are due on 1 July 2007.

Could you please complete the attached renewal form for 2007/08 and send it along with \$20.00 to:

**Newham & District Landcare Group  
PO Box 314  
Woodend Vic., 3442**

This year we are also asking whether you would like to be on the mailing list for Friends Hanging Rock events. Just tick the box if interested. There is no cost involved

If you have any queries, please give a call on **5427 0795 or 0407 343256.**

**Hilary Roberts, Treasurer and Memberships**



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## Attention all Farmers

Those members who are farmers [or those who are interested] may find "News & Views" North Central Victoria's Farming Newsletter published by the Department of Primary Industry of value. There is a diversity of information in these magazines from "Code of Practice for the Welfare of Cattle" to plants for saline affected areas, the challenge of keeping soils healthy, superannuation info and work safe issues to name a few. We receive this publication on a regular basis and it is in the Library for you to borrow. If you call **Sally** on **54 270 059** it will be delivered to you.

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## Your Current Committee

President: Penny Roberts [5427 0795]  
Treasurer: Hilary Roberts [5427 0795]

Secretary: Donald Lang

### Committee Members

Arthur Clarke, Chris Wiggett, John Luckock, Fran Spain, Nick Massie & Jim Sansom

Please note that if any member wishes a copy of the Precedents Report, Treasurers Report or other items tabled at the AGM then they should contact the Secretary.

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

The committee meets on the first Monday of the month [February to December] at 7.30 – 9 pm in Newham. All members are welcome to attend the Committee meetings to become more involved or raise specific matters. Please advise a committee member if you wish to attend. Meetings start and finish on time ....and we enjoy them!!

## Special interest groups

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

Roadsides: Alice Aird [5427 0453] Sue Massie [5427 0065]

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

Newsletter items: Nick Massie [5427 0065]



## ENVIORFUND 8 Andre/Wiggett

**THANK-YOU**....to all the wonderful Landcare members, family and friends that have come to our planting days. We have really appreciated your help.

*Frances, Chris and families.*



## GROW TREES, Landcare CarbonSMART offers \$'s

A reminder about CarbonSMART, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Landcare Australia featured in the last Newsletter that offers Victorian landholders a lump sum payment for growing and maintaining vegetation on their land.

A number of members have qualified for this grant and we encourage others to apply.

For more info and application forms contact **Penny Roberts 54270795, or Peter Eisen 54270574.**

## Website up and running—Fran Spain



All members are invited to look at the new NDLG website. It has been up and running for a while but we were refining the information that was to be posted on this site.

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~newhamlc/index.htm>

We must give a big thanks to Matthew Nixon for doing the technical bits to get the website on line. Thanks also to Nick Massie and Fran Spain for getting information in a format that was appropriate and thanks to Penny for gathering together relevant documents. We also must give credit for the great picture of Hanging Rock on the site to Kathy Mexted.

There is information on joining Landcare, advantages of joining, current groups and projects, trees that are recommended for our area and a calendar of events.

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## Upcoming Events for 2007

**October 20<sup>th</sup> 10am Saturday**

**Plant maintenance FoHR**

Hanging Rock Reserve—Meet at Cafe Ph. 5427 0258

**October 27<sup>th</sup> 10am Saturday**

**Official Spring Planting & lunch**

33 Dohertys Rd rsvp to Frances Andre 5423 5225

**November 18<sup>th</sup> 10am Sunday**

**Wildflower Walk with Marie Marmara FoHR**

Hanging Rock Reserve—Meet at Cafe Ph. 5427 0258

**December 8th 6pm Saturday**

**End-of Year gathering**

Newham Hall BBQ, children's activities, egg & gumboot toss events.

**December Date to be confirmed**

**Seed Collection—FoHR**

Hanging Rock Reserve—Meet at Cafe Ph. 5427 0258



