

## 2012-2013 Activities report at 2013 AGM

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As the group approaches its 10th year we can be proud of our group and its achievements since May 2004 - visible changes to the landscape, knowledge acquired and shared, the sense of community built and our strong association with the Primary School.

Emphasis has continued to be on activities that support our major strategic goal of improving biodiversity within the Campaspe-Maribyrnong Headwaters Biolink area or environmental education at Newham Primary School.

During 2012-2013 a data base of sites for inclusion in a larger scale project was initiated in anticipation of a Federal funding round opening [in the 2013-2014 financial year] that will allow for on-ground works in our area.

Membership has continued to sit at around 100 households.

### Highlights of the year

- **Hanging Rock Revegetation.**  
2 planting days were held at Hanging Rock Reserve. The first in Spring 2012 saw the 2011-2013 grant activities completed [planting of an additional 600 tubestock]. Another Communities for Nature grant of \$5310 for works at HRR was obtained by Nick Massie early in 2013. A contractor dealt with blackberry and other woody weeds before a group planting day in Autumn - 600 tubestock were planted on this day and the volunteers enjoyed a great BBQ lunch afterwards.
- **Roadside management group** continues to map roadside weeds for MRSC, to facilitate spraying, and also undertake hands-on sessions to deal with woody weeds in roadside remnant.
- **Newham Primary School Propagating group** has grown over 8000 plants to order for local Melbourne Water Stream Frontage Program recipients and projects managed by the Landcare group. Organized by Penny Roberts, with parents and grandparents from Newham Primary providing the manpower, this group has been raising funds for the school landscaping since 2010.
- **Supply of cheap indigenous native plants to members** - over 2000 tube-stock were distributed. These were grown by the propagating group and several members who had previously been volunteer growers for TreeProject.
- **Clean Up Australia Day** efforts, organised by Nick Massie, were again well supported by our members.

### Educational activities

- **Weeds for Food** with Doris Pozzi
- **Indigenous Land & Plant Use** with Beth Gott.
- **Newham Primary school** environmental education program was again given considerable support, in two forms - volunteer time and expertise and financial. Jenny Waugh has continued to conduct Waterwatch and other science based activities on a monthly basis, a donation of \$2000 was made by the group towards the costs of a whole school trip to the Melbourne museum and the year 5/6 camp at Narmbool [both covered in the Autumn newsletter].

### Social and Communication

- **Winter dinner** - 70s theme
- **End-of-year BBQ.** This very special Newham event was supported by over 100 attendees as usual. Great food, Wellie throw and Egg Toss fantastic fun as always
- **Newsletter** produced quarterly by David Bonsall

- **Updates** and reminders irregularly from Penny to keep members informed of events, ours and others of interest
- **Website** has been modified and updated by Helen Scott
- **Library** contents have been reviewed and the list updated by Helen Scott.

### **Committee**

Thanks to our 2012-2013 committee for its initiative and drive to accomplish goals and provide organization necessary to deliver a broad array of activities (Karl Kny, Nick Massie, Helen Scott, Fran Spain, Howard Stirling, Hilary Roberts, Penny Roberts).

Thanks to some of our special contributors - Sam Harrison and Eron Chapman at Newham Primary school, Grant Godden at PPWCMA, Adam Barber at Melbourne Water, Lachlan Milne at MRSC, and John Robinson at PPWCMA. Their cooperation and encouragement is important in enabling the delivery of much of our program.

Above all thanks to our members for their participation and support, feedback and friendship - keeping our group vibrant, interesting and one we can be justifiably proud of for its community and conservation values over an extended period of time.