

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.



PO Box 44,
Wodonga VIC 3689
Phone: 0357 283 302, Mobile: 0428 565 195
facilitator@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au
www.wodongaurbanlandfcarenetwork.org.au



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Opportunities to be involved



Boomerang Bags: Boomerang Bags is a community driven initiative tackling plastic pollution at the grassroots level. Dedicated schools, community groups, businesses and volunteers get together to make re-useable 'Boomerang Bags' using recycled materials as a means to replace plastic bags. Through Boomerang Bags we start conversations, make friends, up-cycle materials and work towards shifting society's throw away mentality to a more sustainable revolution of re-use – one community, needle and thread at a time! This very active initiative is not the entire solution but a platform for communication, cooperation and positive change. We already need 500 bags for a great independent local grocery line who are eager to change their dependency on plastic bags - so that's a great start - lets get cracking with these ideas and actions. For more information please contact Claire on 0406943436



Food Swap, West Wodonga – from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at Birallee Park Neighbourhood House, inside at 39 Emerald Ave, Wodonga. Our food/Plant swap happens every day from 9am - 2pm inside Birallee Park Neighbourhood House at 39 Emerald Avenue, West Wodonga. Step inside to a warm, friendly, fun, environment! Any excess fresh produce is gratefully accepted and what is not swapped it is used in our emergency food program. Whilst you visit, take a look at our magnificent community gardens, have a coffee and smell the aromas wafting from our kitchen as we make over 150 daily meals ready for donation to many organisations in our community! Contact Amanda between 9am and 2pm, Monday -Friday on 60592590.



Swainsona Reserve Walk 'n Talk - Wed 1st Mar from 9:30 am - 11:30 am at Swainsona Reserve, Coyles Rd, West Wodonga, 9.30-11.30am: Walk the magnificent bush valleys and hills of the Swainsona Reserve with Parklands Albury Wodonga and the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network. Lead by Parklands Rangers, we will explore the unique and varied natural treasures of this very special reserve named for the endangered Smooth Darling Pea, Swainsona galegifolia. Meet for a 9.30 start at the main Felltimber Creek carpark, Coyles road, West Wodonga. Please wear a hat, long pants and covered shoes, dress for the weather and bring a drink. We will be walking in untracked areas, in steep country. This event is being organised by Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd and Wodonga Urban Landcare Network.



Rural City of Wangaratta – Clean Up Australia Day: Thu 2nd Mar from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm at Yarrunga Scout Hall, Vincent Road, Wangaratta: Come join the Rural City of Wangaratta's Clean Up Australia Day! There will be free pizza and prizes and it will be an excellent opportunity to find out more about our local flora & fauna. Please ensure you bring gloves, and while it officially starts at 6.00pm the hall will be open from 5.30pm. For catering purposes, please RSVP by Monday 27 February to Council on (03) 5722 0888 or send an email to council@wangaratta.vic.gov.au.



Large Hollow Bearing Tree Mapping Field Day - Fri 3rd Mar from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon at Ryans Lagoon, Wodonga: Learn about the importance of Hollow Bearing Trees in the land-

scape; who uses them and how we can support the ecosystems around them. Learn how to use handheld mapping software to record data for future monitoring and planning. Lead by Parklands rangers. Meet for a 10am start on the corner of Rapsey, Trabants and Ryan Rds, Bonegilla. Please wear a hat, long pants and covered shoes, dress for the weather and bring a drink. We will be walking in untracked areas.



Artisan Bread Course - Fri 3rd Mar from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm at Birallee Park Neighbourhood House, 39 Emerald Ave, West Wodonga: Discover the many ways of making your own Artisan bread in this one day workshop. There will be many different styles of bread made, ranging from rolls, cob loaves, and focaccia. All materials are included. YOU just need to bring along a 4 litre container in which to take your Starter dough home, and a calico bag to put your creative goodies into. Tutor: Amanda, cost : \$60 per person.

Please RSVP to save your spot! \$20 Deposit required. This event is being organised by Birallee Park Neighbourhood House Inc.



Repair Café – Saturday 4th March from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at Sustainable Activity Centre (The SAC) Former Tourist Information Centre, next to La Maison Cafe) Gateway Island, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga: Do you have a broken household item you'd like fixed but need a hand to do so? Then this is your opportunity. Our Repair Café is a free meeting place to bring along broken household items such as furniture, clothing, battery-operated appliances, books and bikes and learn how to fix them with the help of experienced, volunteer repairers. You can also bring along small, blunt garden tools like secateurs and we'll show you how to sharpen them. Maximum three items per person per session.



Murray River Farmers' Market – Saturday 4th March from 8am and 12noon at [the Hovell Tree Park](#) Wood Fired Oven on the banks of the Murray River: Food tastes so much better when eaten fresh and the flavours and aromas can be amazing. If you're after that fresh local produce, relaxing fun atmosphere, coffees and fresh baked goodies served straight from the oven, the Murray River Farmers Market is the place to be! Join us to roam the stalls, talk to the growers, sample the food and perhaps take home some of the many food selections on offer from gourmet chocolates, tasty sweet jams, fresh fruit and vegies, breads and cheeses, meat and honey, free range eggs, relishes and more.



Field Day Chiltern Mt Pilot NP - Sat 4th Mar from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Meet at Chiltern PO. Our monthly field day working in the Park – all welcome! Phone 0429017229 for info. This event is being organised by Friends of Chiltern Mt Pilot National Park.



Murray River Clean Up Paddle - Sat 4th Mar from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at TBA: Come out before the heat of day and join a canoe based clean-up effort on the Murray River. Lead by Parklands rangers, this will be our first event for Clean Up Australia Day 2017. We will float downstream cleaning up as we go. Bookings are essential to ensure we have enough canoes and equipment. Start and end locations will be confirmed on booking. Please plan to dress sun-smart and BYO drinks and lunch/snacks. Bookings: 0260 236 714 or info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au. This event is being organised by Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd.



North East Food & Wine Festival – Sat 4th Mar at Junction Place, Wodonga: Come along and enjoy a relaxing atmosphere and indulge in the regions fantastic food, wines, ciders and brews. See what the best of the region has to offer you. Browse the stalls and meet some of the region's top producers. With live entertainment and children's activities running all day, the festival promises to be a great day out for the whole family. The Festival is run by Wodonga TAFE in collaboration with an experienced team of industry professionals.



March Into Sustainability – Worm Farms at Home: Sat 4th Mar from 10:30 am - 11:30 am at Wangaratta Library, 21 Docker Street, Wangaratta: Throughout the month of March, the Wangaratta Library is hosting a series of sustainability focused learning sessions and workshops for the community to be involved in. As part of this 'March into Sustainability' month, the library is hosting a Worm Farms at Home session. Bookings are essential and can be made by calling (03) 5721 2366 or emailing library@wangeratta.vic.gov.au.



March into Sustainability – Worm Tea Fertiliser for Farmers: Sat 4th Mar from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm at Wangaratta Library, 21 Docker Street, Wangaratta: Throughout the month of March, the Wangaratta Library is hosting a series of sustainability focused learning sessions and workshops for the community to be involved in. As part of this 'March into Sustainability' month, the library is hosting a Worm Tea Fertiliser for Farmers session. Bookings are essential and can be made by calling (03) 5721 2366 or emailing library@wangeratta.vic.gov.au.



Clean Up Australia Day, Albury: Padman Park – Sun 5th March from 9.00am to 11.00am: Join us for the morning at Padman-Mates Park on Clean Up Australia day, where we will be removing rubbish and enjoying our beautiful park. Meet at the Day St carpark, bring: Hat, drink bottle and friends! Supplied: Gloves and equipment. This event is being organised by Parklands Albury Wodonga.



Clean Up Australia Day, Wodonga: Les Stone Park - Sun 5th March from 8.00am to 10.00am at Les Stone Park, Parkland Drive, Wodonga: This year Clean Up Australia Day is celebrating 26 years of volunteer action across the country, with the first official Clean Up Australia Day held on January 21, 1990. Wodonga Council will host a site at Les Stone Park, where you can register on the day, grab some gloves and join in. Or register beforehand at cleanupaustaliaday.org.au and find out where you will obtain your kit. Les Stone Park will be a buzz with a sausage sizzle to reward your efforts.



Nesting boxes for wildlife workshop – Sun 5th Mar from 10.30am to 3.00pm at Wooragee Hall, Wooragee: hands on workshop looking at nestingbox design, use, maintenance and monitoring. Presenter Jim Blackney. Come along and find out how you can use nesting boxes on your property and the important role they play in conserving native fauna. Plenty of time for your questions. RSVP by 1st March. Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/NestingBox2017>. For further information contact Alandi Durling M: 0428 211 008 or E: alandi.durling@gmail.com. Free lunch provided.



QEII Twilight Market – Thurs 9th March from 5pm to 8pm at QEII Square, Dean Street, Albury. Price: Free: Join us at the QEII Twilight Market - it's the place to shop, listen to live music and relax on the lawn to soak up the atmosphere. Attracting up to 80 stall holders, this market is the perfect place to pick-up gourmet foods or one-off pieces including arts and crafts. Buy something truly unique while supporting local traders and designers. The littlies are catered for at AlburyCity's Creative Kids space where they can paint their own masterpiece to take home. Markets are held on the second Thursday of every month during daylight savings (October to March) and operate from 5.00pm - 8.00pm.



Swainsona Restoration Field Day - Fri 10th Mar from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Swainsona Reserve, Coyles Rd Carpark, West Wodonga: Join Parklands rangers off the tracks in the Swainsona Reserve as we undertake a variety of restoration tasks. Our aim is to restore the integrity of the native vegetation, improve the habitat for threatened species and make this special reserve a showcase of community management. Please wear a hat, long pants and closed shoes/boots. BYO waterbottle. Gloves and equipment supplied. Register your interest on 0260 236 714 or info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au.



Murray River Farmers' Market – Saturday 11th March from 8am and 12noon on the Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga: Join us to roam the stalls, talk to the growers, sample the food and perhaps take home some of the many food selections on offer from gourmet chocolates, tasty sweet jams, fresh fruit and vegies, breads and cheeses, meat and honey, free range eggs, relishes and more.



Community Gardening in Willow Park - Sun 12th Mar from 9:30 am - 11:00 am at Willow Park, Car Park Pearce St Wodonga: Join us for a variety of gardening activities in Willow Park, including planting, mulching, weeding and chatting. Meet near the BBQ in Willow Park, BYO Water, gloves, sunscreen and hat, morning tea after gardening. This event is being organised by Friends Of Willow Park.



Swainsona Restoration Field Day - Fri 17th Mar 17 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Swainsona Reserve, Coyles Rd Carpark, West Wodonga: Join Parklands rangers off the tracks in the Swainsona Reserve as we undertake a variety of restoration tasks. Our aim is to restore the integrity of the native vegetation, improve the habitat for threatened species and make this special reserve a showcase of community management. Please wear a hat, long pants and closed shoes/boots. BYO waterbottle. Gloves and equipment supplied. Register your interest on 0260 236 714 or info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au.



Greater Glider Habitat Walk - Saturday 18th March: 9am-1pm. Explore the habitat of the very special Greater Glider – a state listed endangered species found around Baranduda. The greater glider is the largest gliding possum in Australia. The cumulative effects of clearing for agriculture, logging, fire and the impacts of climate change are a major threat to the large hollow-bearing trees on which they rely. We are very fortunate to have intact habitat at our back door! Please dress for the weather, including hat, long pants and closed boots. Bring your water bottle and a snack. Meet at the Howards Rd Fire Access gate, Baranduda. Lead by Parklands rangers.



Passata Making Workshop - Sat 18th Mar from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm at Yackandandah Community Garden, William Street, Yack. (Next to the Swimming Pool and opposite the Court House): We ran this in 2015 and had a blast. This time we are restricting numbers to 10 only. **FIRST IN, BEST DRESSED!** Contact us for details, cost and to book your place. If there's enough interest, we'll just have to run two workshops! Contact the community garden at yackandandahcg@gmail.com to enquire or book.



Yack Community Garden – Monthly Food Swap - Sat 18th Mar from 9:30 am - 10:30 am at Yackandandah Community Garden, William Street, Yack. (Next to the Swimming Pool and opposite the Court House): Our regular food swap, but not just limited to fruit, veg and plants, but chooks, eggs, books, seeds, cuttings, tools and anything else with a garden slant. This is followed by our monthly garden workshop. No charge to come to the food swap – just bring something to swap or make a small donation to help the Community Garden's great work. It's worth bringing your takeaway coffee (in recyclable cup, of course!) and shooting the breeze at the Community Garden. Lots of interesting chat and talk about gardening. Come and join us – you'll be more than welcome.



Murray River Farmers' Market – Saturday 18th March from 8am and 12noon at the Hovell Tree Park Wood Fired Oven on the banks of the Murray River: Food tastes so much better when eaten fresh and the flavours and aromas can be amazing. If you're after that fresh local produce, relaxing fun atmosphere, coffees and fresh baked goodies served straight from the oven, the Murray River Farmers Market is the place to be! Join us to roam the stalls, talk to the growers, sample the food and perhaps take home some of the many food selections on offer from gourmet chocolates, tasty sweet jams, fresh fruit and vegies, breads and cheeses, meat and honey, free range eggs, relishes and more.



March into Sustainability – Wicking Beds & Pots: Sat 18th Mar from 10:30 am - 11:30 am at Wangaratta Library, 21 Docker Street, Wangaratta: Throughout the month of March, the Wangaratta Library is hosting a series of sustainability focused learning sessions and workshops for the community to be involved in. As part of this 'March into Sustainability' month, the library is hosting a Wicking Beds & Pots session. Bookings are essential and can be made by calling (03) 5721 2366 or emailing library@wangaratta.vic.gov.au.



Bush Regeneration @ Baranduda – Mon 20th March: 9am-1.30pm. Join our experienced leaders Glen Johnson (DELWP) and Kim Radnell (Conservation Volunteers) for a hands-on morning learning Bush Regeneration techniques. Glen and Kim have between them years of experience in restoring our local bush reserves and will show you some great examples of works done, along with the easiest and most effective ways to make a real difference. All equipment and light lunch provided. Meet at Jamison Dr near the Bus shelter . Please rsvp to wodongalandcare@gmail.com for catering purposes.



Harmony Day Walk - Tuesday 21st March: Celebrate Harmony Day with members of our Bhutanese community as we walk the riverside circuit between Gateway Village and the Bhutanese Community Farm. Learn about the community market garden and how volunteers are harvesting the benefits of community gardening. Meet at the Sustainable Activity Centre, Gateway Village. Lead by Parklands rangers.



March into Sustainability – Winter Proofing your Garden: Wed 22nd Mar from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm at Wangaratta Library, 21 Docker Street, Wangaratta: Throughout the month of March, the Wangaratta Library is hosting a series of sustainability focused learning sessions and workshops for the community to be involved in. As part of this 'March into Sustainability' month, the library is hosting a Winter Proofing your Garden session. Bookings are essential and can be made by calling (03) 5721 2366 or emailing library@wangaratta.vic.gov.au.



Gateway Lakes Criterium Trail Run - Thursday 23rd March: 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Gateway Lakes, west of Lincoln Causeway, Gateway Island. The first of the Riverside Estate Summer Run Series, this is a 10 x 500m (5km total) criterium style race on a mixed surface of gravel and grass – fast and exciting. Thank you to Twilight Series Sponsor: <http://riversideestate.com.au/index.html> Register at Riverinatrails.org.au



Murray River Farmers' Market – Saturday 25th March from 8am and 12noon on the Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga: Join us to roam the stalls, talk to the growers, sample the food and perhaps take home some of the many food selections on offer from gourmet chocolates, tasty sweet jams, fresh fruit and vegies, breads and cheeses, meat and honey, free range eggs, relishes and more.



Start Something Workshop - Sat 25th Mar from 8:30 am - 5:20 pm at The Atura Hotel, 648 Dean Street, Albury: Do you or someone you know have a bright idea that would help the community and the natural world, but keep thinking, 'How do I start? What do I do next?' The Start Something Workshop may be what you have been looking for. Free to attend, the workshop focuses on three skills areas; shaping your idea, finding finance and telling your story. Maybe you have a great idea, or maybe you have the drive to help someone else get their idea off the ground. Your local community group might be looking for new ways to secure funding and build partnerships. To register please visit our web page and go to the Riverina- Murray event. <http://register.environment.nsw.gov.au/start-something> For more information please contact Rhianna Dean on 02 9995 5443 or Rhianna.Dean@environment.nsw.gov.au



March into Sustainability – Backyard Bees: Sat 25th Mar from 10:30 am - 11:30 am Wangaratta Library, 21 Docker Street, Wangaratta: Throughout the month of March, the Wangaratta Library is hosting a series of sustainability focused learning sessions and workshops for

the community to be involved in. As part of this 'March into Sustainability' month, the library is hosting a Backyard Bees session. Bookings are essential and can be made by calling (03) 5721 2366 or emailing library@wangaratta.vic.gov.au.



Join AlburyCity in Switching off for Earth Hour - Sat 25th Mar from 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm: Will you be Switching Off? It will be lights out across AlburyCity on Saturday 25 March as we switch off to celebrate Earth Hour. In 2017, WWF is celebrating 10 years of Earth Hour and 10 years of progress on changing climate change. What started as an Aussie grassroots movement has grown into the world's biggest movement for climate change. During Earth Hour people throughout Australia and around the world will turn off their lights for one hour to represent their concern and commitment to address climate change. Earth hour is a positive message of hope and action, encouraging us to Go Beyond the Hour and to make a change towards living a more sustainable lifestyle. Please join us in showing your support for Earth Hour by Switching off your lights. To find out more about how you can be involved in Earth Hour and to see what others are doing go to <https://earthhour.org.au/events/>.



March into Sustainability – Sustainability for Busy People: Wed 29th Mar from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Wangaratta Library, 21 Docker Street, Wangaratta: Throughout the month of March, the Wangaratta Library is hosting a series of sustainability focused learning sessions and workshops for the community to be involved in. As part of this 'March into Sustainability' month, the library is hosting a Sustainability for Busy People session. Bookings are essential and can be made by calling (03) 5721 2366 or emailing library@wangaratta.vic.gov.au.



Hilly Hustle Trail Run - Thursday 30th March: 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Baranduda. Race 2 of the Riverside Estate Summer Series is a 5km dash among the rolling hills of Baranduda. Thank you to Twilight Series Sponsor: <http://riversideestate.com.au/> Register with riverinatrails.org.au



Swainsona Restoration Field Day - Fri 31st Mar from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Swainsona Reserve, Coyles Rd Carpark, West Wodonga: Join Parklands rangers off the tracks in the Swainsona Reserve as we undertake a variety of restoration tasks. Our aim is to restore the integrity of the native vegetation, improve the habitat for threatened species and make this special reserve a showcase of community management. Please wear a hat, long pants and closed shoes/boots. BYO waterbottle. Gloves and equipment supplied. Register your interest on 0260 236 714 or info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au



Castle Creek Walk 'n Talk - Tuesday 4th April: 9.30-11.30am

Parklands rangers will lead this Walk 'n Talk into the beautiful bush reserve on Castle Creek Rd. Learn about the restoration work that has been done over the years to restore and improve this important habitat for threatened species. Please dress for the weather including hat, long pants and covered shoes. Meet on Castle Creek Rd opposite the Hay shed - look out for WULN signs. Morning tea provided, so leave time for a cuppa and chat after the walk.



Sourdough Bread Baking Basics Workshop - 8th & 9th April: Boonderoo Farm, Rose River Vic. Boonderoo Organic Farm Micro Bakery will be holding a 2-day Sourdough Bread Baking seminar to all those interested in the hands-on experience of the baking process – beginning with the Milling process, to the Sourdough Starter, & through to the finished wood-fired brick oven baked loaf. Topics discussed will include the history, science & health benefits of the sourdough process, as well as sources of various stone milled organic flours & oven building techniques. This seminar will appeal to anyone with an interest in this ancient Bread baking method, either as a consumer, home-baker, or as an aspiring Artisan Micro Bakery operator. Instructors will be Thomas & Gabi Moritz (Boonderoo Farm Bakery). Cost: \$270 per person or \$500 per couple. All meals provided. Accommodation available in hut, as well as camping sites. Max 12 participants. For Bookings/Information call or e-mail Gabi & Thomas Moritz on 03 5729 8441 boonderoofarm@yahoo.



Save the Date! Regent Honeyeater Community Events Wed 12th April & Sun 16th

April: Releases will take place in Chiltern-Mt. Pilot National park. Each community event will provide a unique opportunity to witness the world's largest Regent release to date. As per previous releases those attending will be coordinated by our team and positioned at an appropriate viewing distance so as not to unduly spook birds awaiting release from their holding tents. DELWP will call for registrations of interest in attending these events later and we'll provide more details in a subsequent update.



Volunteer monitoring opportunities galore:

The 2017 Regent Honeyeater project will once again provide an opportunity for volunteers to have a unique hands on role in a threatened species monitoring program. The main activity is radio tracking and associated visual confirmations of re-released (and any wild) Regents, however there are also opportunities to help with radio communications, data collation and office based roles. There's even 'carting equipment around' roles! Monitoring will be undertaken over an extended three to more likely six month period (mid April onwards). In the first couple of weeks post release we'll probably be running a daily monitoring program (8.30am starts) but will scale back progressively over the weeks. At least one weekend day/week will be included. Great opportunities exist for those that can undertake monitoring on a regular basis eg each Monday or for several days at a time. If you are interested in getting involved with this great project contact Dean Ingwersen Threatened Bird Program Manager, BirdLife Australia

dean.ingwersen@birdlife.org.au | birdlife.org.au

Learning Opportunities



Whole Farm Planning – Winter/Spring 2017: Expressions of interest sought. Suitable for small farms, lifestyle blocks and primary producers. A great course for those looking to refresh or start their knowledge on soil, pasture management, shelterbelts, water budgeting, biosecurity, degraded land and other central themes in land management or farming. The Farm Plan 21 course is delivered by Agriculture Victoria and includes:

- an aerial photo to aid development of a whole farm plan as part of the course
- a wide range of speakers from Agriculture Victoria and external partners
- held over 5 group sessions with topics tailored to the group. There is some flexibility around when in the week the course is run to suit those who work off farm. Weekends are not an option though.

Some landholders may have previously developed a farm plan and would now like to revise and update their plan. Other landholders may be interested in developing specific plans such as water budgets. To provide a farm planning course for landholders in Kiewa Catchment we are seeking your expression of interest up until the end of March 2017. Please email kiewalandcare@gmail.com for an Expression of Interest form for you to complete. For course information contact Kylie Macreadie at Agriculture Victoria on (02) 60437 900 or email kylie.macreadie@ecodev.vic.gov.au



Women's Environmental Leadership Australia (WELA): apply now, deadline extended:

The Women's Environmental Leadership Australia (WELA) program will bring together 20 women environmentalists of different ages and diverse backgrounds; they will be working on a variety of environmental issues and campaigns around the country, some with environment groups, some independently, in both paid and unpaid roles. WELA 2017 is a leadership program designed by women for women. It aims to address the ways in which women's crucial leadership in the environment movement is undervalued and often not reflected in formal leadership positions. It will examine critically ideas about leadership and support women taking even more environmental leadership in Australia. The program includes: three residential retreats in Victoria (May, July and October), mentoring sessions with experienced women environmental leaders, small group projects on key issues facing women environmentalists, and access to an ongoing supportive network of powerful women! The retreats will be facilitated by Holly Hammond (Plan to Win) along with special guests with expertise in campaigning, political life, manage-

ment, and many other aspects of leadership. For further details contact: welaprogram@gmail.com. WELA Program information and application form: welaprogram.org.au. To speak to someone from the WELA 2017 team, write to welaprogram@gmail.com with your phone number and a good time to call. One of us will ring you back. Alternatively ring Sue (0410 310 457) or Margaret (0419 877 325).



Our Community Webinar program: The feedback on our recent webinars on grant application writing, planned giving, and meetings and minutes has been terrific. Now, by popular demand, and to help more people around Australia – particularly those in regional and remote areas – we're offering a new program of webinars on a range of topics. We're keeping the cost low at just \$88 – and as a bonus, that price includes a book relevant to the topic of each webinar. Alternatively, if you're on a tighter budget, you can register for the webinar only (no book) at just \$55. These prices include GST. All webinars start at noon AEST (or AEDST). We're taking registrations now for:

Crowdfunding webinar - 23 March 2017

Questions your board needs to ask about finances - 27 April 2017

Being an effective chair - 25 May 2017

Reviewing your board - 15 June 2017

Register here <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/training/calendar.form>



National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leaders Program - *Come walk in the footsteps of remarkable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders. Honour their story to support your leadership aspirations.* The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leaders Program (NATSILP) develops and prepares Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people to engage in powerful and different conversations. The program aims to support Indigenous leaders across Australia to:

1. Grow as an individual
2. Develop their leadership capabilities, including governance and decision making
3. Co-create robust conversations for powerful shifts across the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander landscape
4. Broaden their perspectives and act together for the greater good.

Participants will walk in the footsteps of remarkable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders. They will learn from their stories and each other, to support their leadership aspirations. Participants will:

- be exposed to expert Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander practitioners who have been challenging assumptions and shifting approaches in this space for decades
- engage in robust conversations that will honour their existing skills and knowledge, as well as provoke their thoughts and assumptions
- engage with mentors/coaches/critical friends for at least a six-month period. The mentors will be part of the facilitation team that will support participants through this exciting leadership program.

There are four NATSILP programs being delivered in 2017 in two different models. For more information, call Scott Goringe on 0427 022 139 or Naomi Browne on 02 6281 0680 at the ARLF. Or, [apply here](#)

Resources & Inspiration



Tools From The Farm Table - Pick up some valuable online tools from the Farm Table. This information portal was established by Orange-based Airlie Trescowthick who also serves on our industry advisory group. **More?** <http://www.thefarmtable.com.au>.



New Online Ag-Community - The Rural Business Collective is an online rural community aiming for business excellence. There are some free and paid-for tools as well as mentoring, bootcamps and tours. [More here](#)



Imminent Release of new Rabbit virus strain: There have been community conversations around the RHDV1 – K5, (Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus) program over the past 2 years and the release date is now set for the 6th March 2017. Agriculture Victoria is coordinating the program in Victoria. An Information guide is available via <http://www.pestsmart.org.au/boosting-rabbit-biocontrol-rhdv-k5-national-release/> along with guidance videos.



Brolga report launched in Rutherglen - Rutherglen Landcare Group with support from North East CMA engaged Brolga specialist Inka Veltheim to produce a report on Rutherglen's Brolgas. The report was launched on 1 February 2017 and is available to download [here](#)



Keeping Records: How long should Landcare and Friends groups keep participant records for insurance purposes? According to the FTLA, seven years is the standard for all records. Electronic (ie scanned) copies of event attendance sheets are OK, but groups should store originals of any signed contracts.



Mountains to Murray Local Produce Guide: Discover the amazing diversity of locally-grown food, with the North East CMA's new Mountains to Murray Local Produce Guide website. The website lists over 100 local farmers and producers from North East Victoria and the Albury region, including where you can buy their produce. www.localproduceguide.com.au



Green Army – Victoria: Are you aged between 17 and 24, an Australian citizen or permanent resident and would like to be a part of a team that will **make a real difference** to the environment in your local community? Would you like to be **paid an allowance** while gaining skills, training and experience that can help you enter the workforce, improve your career opportunities or further your education and training? The Green Army is an Australian Government initiative open to young people including Indigenous Australians, school leavers, gap year students, graduates and job seekers who are looking for employment to develop skills, undertake training and gain experience in the delivery of conservation. The Green Army provides all the tools, PPE and training required for each Project. Local transport to the project site is also provided to Green Army participants. [Learn more](#) about the Green Army, or [download a Green Army fact sheet](#). To stay up to date with all of our current Projects across Australia make sure you [visit our Facebook Page](#).



Threatened Species Recovery Hub – Enhancing monitoring for threatened species. A new set of guidelines for monitoring threatened species is being developed, following [a workshop](#) which brought together 28 managers and scientists from government conservation agencies, NGOs, and the National Environment Science Program TSR Hub. If you are a professional involved in a monitoring program, you are invited to participate in [a survey](#).



Wheel Cactus threat – Know your cactii!! Wheel Cactus (*Opuntia robusta*) spreads very easily and is extremely difficult to kill. It invades pastures, roadsides and bushland, becoming so dense that land becomes almost completely inaccessible. There is no biological control agent that will successfully control Wheel Cactus. The Tarrangower Cactus Control Group is currently mapping Wheel Cactus infestations in Victoria and is asking community members to email a photograph and location details (to the nearest locality) of any Wheel Cactus plants to mschlachter@outlook.com.au Further information is available on their website <http://www.cactuswarriors.org/>

Funding Opportunities



The Myer Innovation Fellowships aim to support breakthrough solutions to Australia's most pressing social and environmental challenges and bring new talent to the social sector. Fellows are offered the unique opportunity to take nine to twelve months away from their current role to pursue a big idea that has the potential to achieve positive outcomes in the areas of: Education, Poverty and Disadvantage, Sustainability and the Environment. The Myer Innovation Fellowships provide recipients with time and support needed to develop their ground-breaking idea into a sustainable plan for action. Fellows will each receive \$100,000 for their nine to twelve month commitment to the program and an additional \$30,000 will be available to each Fellow for approved expenses such as work space, rent, travel and contracting of external expertise. <http://myerfoundation.org.au/grants/other-programs/mif/>



\$50K Business Help in Victoria - Victoria's Stronger Regional Communities invests in community-led initiatives and to drive change in regional and rural towns with grants of up to \$50,000. Eligible applicants include businesses and for-profit organisations, local councils and not-for-profit community organisations. Ongoing. **More?** [SRC application guidelines](#)



Felton Bequest For Rural Projects - The Alfred Felton Bequest invites applications for its small grants. This funding supports projects located in rural and regional areas of Victoria. Grants are worth up to \$20,000 each for one year. Deadline April. [More here](#).



Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) - This program provides funding for infrastructure projects and community investment that will create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities into the future. Both streams will open on 18 January 2017. The Infrastructure Projects Stream will close at 5pm local time on 28 February 2017 and the Community Investments Stream will close at 5pm local time on 31 March 2017. Delivered by: **AusIndustry**. For more information, go to: [Tell me about the assistance](#).



The Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and Entrepreneurship Programme provides funding for businesses, not-for-profits and research organisations to support outreach programmes that target girls and women to encourage their interest in entrepreneurship, develop their innovation and entrepreneurial skills and build their professional networks. Find further information on eligibility requirements in the [Programme Guidelines](#) - PDF; <https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/women-in-stem-and-entrepreneurship>



The R E Ross Trust Grants – Vic: The grants work around 4 impact areas. For Landcare groups the most relevant area is impact area D; the protection and preservation of Australian Flora and Fauna. Organisations must first submit an expression of interest for consideration by the Trustees and may then be invited to submit a full application. Applications are considered all year round. For more information go to: <http://www.rosstrust.org.au/grants/apply-for-a-grant/>



Norman Wettenhall Small Environmental Grant Scheme: The Small Environmental Grant Scheme provides support for groups or individuals undertaking biodiversity conservation projects in Australia. Projects can be about one or more of the following: monitoring, recording and sharing data, delivering community education, providing community capacity building (training), research and science, or landscape restoration and education (Victoria only). Have a look at: [can you apply](#).

Opportunities to have your say



Opportunities to join further consultation on the draft Wodonga hilltops strategy -

Wodonga Council will soon hold a series of workshops focusing on each hill precinct as well as a community drop-in session where residents can find out more about the strategy and planning for the hills, consider the revised documents and offer further feedback. Registrations are now open for the workshops. Go to <http://www.makewodongayours.com.au/Consultations/Wodonga-Hills-Strategy>



Nominations are now open for the 2017 Ricci Marks Award:

Ricci Marks was a proud Wotjobaluk man who, in his short life, made an outstanding contribution to his community. The Ricci Marks Award originated in 1997 as the Aboriginal Young Achievers Award. The award recognises individual achievements and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in training, education, arts, sport, culture and community leadership. Aboriginal organisations, individuals, community groups, schools, employers and others are invited to nominate young achievers for this award. Nominees must be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and must have lived in Victoria since at least 1 January 2015. Nominees need to be aged between 16 and 25 years on 6 March 2017. In 2017 two young people will each receive a \$5,000 bursary, and a third young person will be recognised with the Ricci Marks Rising Star Award valued at \$1,500. Nomination forms and further information [here](#).

Have some time to give? Volunteer with us!

Landcare is not just about getting outdoors and doing the hands on physical work. If you have **Computer skills** there are always jobs like designing flyers for activities and updating our events listings; **Organizing skills** there are always projects on the go, small or large, which need people to help keep them going; **Hospitality skills** you could help to feed volunteers at planting events and other activities; **Practical or teaching skills** you could help run planting activities with schools and community groups; **Publicity skills** you could help us to spread the word about Urban Landcare; **People skills** you could take on a networking role with our member groups to help everyone keep in contact.

If you

- are looking for a way to contribute but can't do physical work,
- want to keep your mind in shape and your skills in use,
- want to learn new skills,
- or simply see a way in which you can help...

We have a place for you! AND We are registered with Centrelink

Contact Anne at wodongalandcare@gmail.com