

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.



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Network Bulletin #55— May 2017

Opportunities to be involved



Citizen Science comes to Wodonga: The Wodonga Urban Landcare Network is launching a citizen science project supporting Threatened Species locally, and we invite you to get involved! The nest box network around Wodonga provides vital homes for arboreal mammals, and we need resident's help to monitor the rate of use, the state of the boxes and any gaps in habitat. If you have boxes in your backyard, the park next door or want to get out to the bush parks in the hills, you can be a part of this important program. The first of our series of 'how to' field days are coming up in May – please see the listings in this Bulletin and book a spot, or contact Anne at wodongalandcare@gmail.com



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. Want to get involved? Please contact Claire on 0406943436



Weekday 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.



Our Native Garden Nursery - Our Native Garden is a community owned, not-for-profit, Registered Charity, volunteer run, indigenous plant nursery. It is located at the Wodonga Waste Transfer Station at 29 Kane Rd, Wodonga. Opening hours – Mondays to Thursdays and Saturdays 10am - 1pm. Phone Jill Dawson or Amanda Murie on 0418 579 331 or email www.ournativegarden.com.au



The Disappearing Farmer: Rose Wilson – from Thursday 6th April to Sunday 28th May at Maurice Chick Family & MacLeod-Miller Adamshurst Gallery, MAMA: This new series from portrait artist Rose Wilson pays homage to the working farmers of the Victorian farmers around her Trentham home. Wilson depicts a generation of agricultural families that are disappearing as small farms are swallowed up by larger farms, the urban fringe creeps outwards, and rural young people migrate to regional and metropolitan areas. In this series of oil paintings, Wilson captures the faces of farming couples, working farm dogs, and a way of life that is becoming increasingly rare. Wilson, who was born and raised in Albury, has been a finalist in a number of prestigious portrait prizes including the Archibald, Black

Swan, and Moran prizes. Visitors are invited to nominate their favourite portrait from The Disappearing Farmer, to assist the artist in making her entry into this year's Archibald Prize.



Jindera Wetlands Community Evening - Wed 3rd May from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm at Jindera Wetlands, Dight Street (access via recreation ground): The Friends of Jindera Wetlands Group invites you to a free community evening to celebrate the environmental works undertaken at the site and participate in a walk and talk with wildlife biologist guest speaker Ian Davidson. A light supper will be provided. Don't forget warm clothes, a torch and a chair. RSVP/more information: Stacey Bell, stacey.staunton-latimer1@det.nsw.edu.au or 0423 074 578. This event is supported by Murray Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government, Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group and Petaurus Education Group.



Reintroduction of Macquarie perch into the Ovens River - Fri 5th May from 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm at Tarrawingee Reserve, Ovens River J5 Streamside Reserve: Participate in the release of adult and sub-adult Macquarie Perch translocated from Dartmouth Dam and learn more about this threatened species. This event will also provide an opportunity to learn more about the role of the North East CMA in waterway management; and Wangaratta Sustainability Network – Restoring our Waterways Carp control program. This event is being organised by DELWP.



Field Day Chiltern Mt Pilot NP - Sat 6th May from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Meet at Chiltern PO. Our monthly field day working in the Park – call 0429017229 for info. This event is being organised by Friends of Chiltern Mt Pilot National Park.



Repair Café – Sat 6th May from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at the Sustainable Activity Centre - Gateway Village, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga: 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. Our jewellery repair service includes restoration of misshapen rings, removal of scratches on metal and tightening of claws and bezels on precious jewellery, plus restringing beads or repairing clasps on costume jewellery. Please note we cannot resize rings or solder jewellery.



The Gateway Village Farmers' Market, Wodonga – Sat 6th May from 8am and 12 noon on the Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga. 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.



The Art of Cheese Making – Sat 6th May from 10.00AM till 12.00 and 1.00PM to 3.00PM at Bonegilla Migrant Experience, 82 Bonegilla Rd, Bonegilla: Come learn and get involved in the steps of cheese making from region's master Anna Pizzini. During this two hour demonstration Anna will take you through the process required to make your own Halloumi cheese and give you the knowledge to try it yourself at home. Enquiries: Bonegilla Migrant Experience (02) 6020 6912. Cost: \$45.



Creating Wildlife Friendly Gardens - Sat 6th May from 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Private garden, Thurgoona: With guest speakers: Lou Bull (Aquila Gardens) & Karen Retra ('Wild Pollinator Count' Co-ordinator). Discussing how through the incorporation of native plants into your garden you can support local wildlife as well as beauty. Topics covered will include: biodiversity in our gardens, creating bird habitats, importance of insects and how to encourage them, plant species selection for our local context. RSVP essential by Tue 2nd May to Melinda Ritchie by email: support@wtlandcare.org. Cost: FREE to WTLG & APSAW members & gold coin donation for non-members.



Border Bushwalking Club- Glen Creek Loop walk - Sun 7th May from 7:00 am - 5:00 pm:

This is a 16km medium grade walk, starting on private property and heading into state forest. It is mainly on very little used 4WD tracks, though there is a short section off track, and several creek crossings. It is mostly undulating, with some short climbs, and some great views. Glen Creek is 16 kms south of Yackandandah, so not too far away, an early night before Monday. Leader: Pauline Scott, phone: 02 60271834, participant numbers – flexible. Book by 04/05/17



Huon Creek Walk' n Talk - Monday 8th May from 9.30-11.30am, at Huon Creek Wodonga.

This is a unique opportunity to explore a fantastic bush block on the southern side of Federation Hill. Our walk will be on covenanted private land, led by Karen Tymms and Will Ford of Trust for Nature. Drive West along Huon Creek Rd and turn into the marked driveway on the right – look for the WULN banner. Limited parking on the driveway near the house – please carpool if possible. A short (10 min) steep walk will bring us to the bush on the top of the hill. Please BYO water bottle and dress for the weather. Morning tea supplied. RSVP appreciated to wodongalandcare@gmail.com



From bulrushes to boom town tour – Tues 9th May from 09.00AM - 12.00PM at various ven-

ues: Join Mayor Cr Anna Speedie on a tour of the city. Learn more about current projects and the future direction of Wodonga and have your questions answered. 9.15am - Assemble at ramp entrance to council offices; 9.30am - Bus departs; 10.30am - Morning tea; 11.30am to 11.45am - Bus returns to city offices. Enquiries: Wodonga Council on (02) 6022 9202, email: info@wodonga.vic.gov.au. Cost: Free tour. Gold coin donation for morning tea.



Gardening 'favourites' session with Seed Savers - Wed 10th May from 6:30 pm - 8:00

pm at the Sustainable Activity Centre (SAC), Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga (next to La Maison cafe and Hot House Theatre): At Seed Savers Albury-Wodonga in May we'll be sharing garden-related favourites e.g. gadgets, magazines, tools and more. Bring your item along to 'show and tell'. Alternatively, a photo, link or description are fine too. We'll also have plenty of time to chat all things gardening and the current season in your patch. Plus our usual arrangements: The bulk seed (our seed bank) will be available for members to add to and take from. We'll have a trade table for cuttings, seedlings, snacks or other things to share. Members and guests are welcome to attend. We ask for a \$4 donation from non-members to assist with our insurance costs. Find out more about our group: ssaw.org.au.



'Wodonga's Best Remnants' Park Tour - Fri 12th May from 9.00am to 2.00pm. This is the first

in Parklands 20th Celebrations guided Park Tours exploring the hidden gems of our regional bush parks. Parklands have been managing these parks for 20 years and know them intimately. Parklands Rangers will introduce us to some of the very best intact bush remaining around Wodonga. This is a driving tour, starting from the Parklands depot at PAW 138 Lemke Rd, Gateway Island. We will carpool from there, with plenty of stops for commentary and a BYO picnic lunch. Please rsvp to info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au



Reintroduction of Macquarie perch into the Ovens River - Fri 12th May from 12:00 pm

- 2:00 pm at Gary & Pam Daws property, 199 Lower River East Road Gapsted: Participate in the release of adult and sub-adult Macquarie Perch translocated from Dartmouth Dam and learn more about this threatened species. This event will also provide an opportunity to learn more about the role of the North East CMA in waterway management; and Wangaratta Sustainability Network – Restoring our Waterways Carp control program. This event is being organised by DELWP.



Wodonga Volunteers Fair 2017 – Sat 13th May from 11.30AM - 01.30PM at The Cube,

Wodonga. Come along to Wodonga's thank you barbecue lunch and volunteer fair! Please come along and enjoy a barbecue lunch to thank you for the power of work you do for our community. There will be market stalls promoting volunteer opportunities, live music, prizes, face painting and more. All volunteers and potential volunteers welcome. Please register your interest at wod.city/volunteerfair2017 by Wednesday, May 3, 2017. Enquiries: (02)6022 9300.



Hovell Tree Park Albury Farmers Market – Sat 13th May from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at the

Wood Fired Oven at Hovell Tree Park: 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 tasty sweet jams, fresh fruit and vegies, breads and cheeses, beef, pork, lamb, honey, free range eggs, olive oil, relishes, native flowers and more.



Wangaratta Farmers Market – Saturday 13th May from 8:00 to 12:00 PM at 'Apex Park' Par-

fitt Rd, Wangaratta: Beautiful, regional, seasonal produce from the North East. Situated on the banks of the Ovens River in beautiful Apex Park under the shady gums. Market day is the 2nd Saturday of the month 'Rain, Hail or Shine!'.



Whistlestop Progressive High Tea - Sat 13th May from 1.30pm at Huon Reserve, Murray

Valley Highway, Bonegilla (20 minutes drive east of Wodonga): Back by popular demand, as part of the North East High Country Harvest Festival, the Bonegilla Rail Trail Advisory Group, Tallangatta Rail Trail Advisory Group and Parklands Albury Wodonga invite you to get on your bike for this fabulous progressive High Tea. 24km return cycle from Huon Reserve over the Sandy Creek Inlet bridge to Tallangatta and return. A sociable afternoon mingling with other High Tea participants at this Friends of the High Country Rail Trail event. There will be High Tea (1950's style tucker) and hot drinks at various "whistle stops" along the High Country Rail Trail between Huon and Tallangatta. Bring a bicycle, bicycle helmet and water bottle. We are doing this to celebrate the High Country Rail Trail, showcase the region and attract visitors during this quiet period for tourism. We are also fundraising for the High Country Rail Trail. Many community and business volunteers continue to contribute significant time in restoring traditional trestle bridges, fencing and establishing access so as to open this spectacular High Country Rail through to Corryong. Lots of people all contributing a little (time and donations) has enabled us to open 60km of rail trail....only 40km to go! Bookings essential: <http://www.highcountryharvest.com.au/listing/whistlestop-high-tea-huon/>



Community Gardening in Willow Park - Sun 14th May from 9:30 am - 11:00 am at Willow

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. Contact Jenni on 0410 074 900 for details. This event is being organised by Friends of Willow Park.



Spotlighting Night Walk - Mon 15th May from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Gateway Island Bush

Park. Join Parklands Rangers for a night adventure spotlighting for nocturnal native wildlife in the bush park. Parklands have been working with the community restoring the native plants to the area in recent years to support native species including the threatened Greater Glider. Meeting Place: At the Sustainable Activity Centre, Gateway Village. Please wear warm clothes and closed shoes and bring a personal torch. Parklands will bring the spotlight. This event is being organised by Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd. Places are limited. Please book through our [Eventbrite page](#)



Nest boxes for Threatened Species Field Day - Mon 15th May from 9:30 am - 11:30 am

at Stringybark Reserve, Baranduda Community Centre, Sage Crt, Baranduda: In partnership with the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network, Parklands is leading a series of Threatened Species Nestbox Field days for community members. To be held in the beautiful Stringybark reserve, Baranduda, this will be a hands-on experience where people will learn to check the condition of nest boxes, use a pole camera to check boxes for occupants, and use a citizen science platform to record data. No previous experience required. Morning tea included. We will start and finish at the carpark of the Baranduda Community Centre. Places are limited! Bookings essential. Please reserve your place through our [Eventbrite page](#)



WREN Walk' n Talk – Wednesday 17th May from 9.30-11.30am: Baranduda Link WREN Reserve, Boyes Road, east of Fredericks Road, Baranduda (look for our banner). The Wodonga Retained Environment Network is a series of bush parks and corridors retained to link the ecosystems of Albury-Wodonga's hills and waterways for the benefit of our human and native wildlife communities. This visionary landscape scale retention of bush ecosystems originated in the days of the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation, and has been continued by Albury and Wodonga Councils and community organisations including Parklands Albury Wodonga. We will walk the special reserve with members of the Wodonga Council Environmental Lands team. Please BYO water bottle and dress for the weather. Morning tea supplied. RSVP appreciated to wodongalandcare@gmail.com



Spotlighting Night Walk - Wed 17th May from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Gordon Craig Park, TAFE Felltimber Creek Carpark, Moorfield Park Drive, Wodonga: Join Parklands Rangers for a night adventure spotlighting for nocturnal native wildlife in Gordon Craig Park. Parklands have been working with the Friends of Felltimber Creek restoring the native plants to the area in recent years to support native species including the threatened Greater Glider. Please wear warm clothes and closed shoes and bring a personal torch. Parklands will bring the spotlight. This event is being organised by Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd. Places are limited. Please book through our [Eventbrite page](#)



Regional Parklands Tour - Fri 19th May from 9.00 till 4.00. This is the second in Parklands 20th Celebrations guided Park Tours exploring the hidden gems of our regional bush parks. Parklands have been managing these parks for 20 years and know them intimately. Parklands Rangers will introduce us to the regional parklands and explain the history and significance of each and the current management aims. This is a driving tour, starting from the Parklands depot at PAW 138 Lemke Rd, Gateway Island. We will carpool from there, with plenty of stops for commentary and a BYO picnic lunch. Please bring your own food and drink supplies for the day. Please rsvp to info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au



Yack Community Garden Monthly Food Swap - Sat 20th May 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. This event is being organised by Yackandandah Community Centre.



Your Winter Garden - Sat 20th May from 10:30 am - 11:30 am at Yackandandah Community Garden, William Street, Yack: Vicki Honey will help you put your bed to winter and how to care for those tender plants that might need some extra TLC to see them through a cold winter. \$10 per person. This event is being organised by Yackandandah Community Centre



The Gateway Village Farmers' Market, Wodonga - Sat 20th May from 8am and 12 noon on the Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga. Located on the Lincoln Causeway, every second Saturday: 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.



Fungi ID, Survey & Photographic workshop - Sat 20th May and Sun 21st May from

10:30 am on Saturday to 4.3pm on Sunday, at Corowa Civic Centre, Edward St, Corowa: This two-day workshop introduces participants to the diversity and ecology of the Kingdom Fungi, specific to fungi found in the various habitat types around Corowa and surrounding areas. The first day begins with an overview of the major fungal groups and taxonomic methods used to identify fungi in the field. It will include an interactive and illustrated seminar and also touch on the natural and cultural history of fungi. Fungal specimens from the local area will be displayed, discussed and examined during the workshop. Following the indoor session there will be a foray through various local habitat types to search for species of interest and assist participants to recognise the various diagnostic characteristics used to identify fungi in the field. The second day addresses environmental photography with a particular focus on fungi. Participants' environmental photography projects will be discussed and issues and challenges identified. We will look at basic camera operation and principles of environmental photography and how to photograph fungi to most effectively convey the most important diagnostic features. This is a very interactive and hands-on day with both theoretical and practical sessions. Suitable for participants with all types of cameras and abilities. Lunch, morning tea and notes included. This is a FREE event, but places are strictly limited and bookings are essential. RSVP: 02 6033 1137 or corowalandcare@bigpond.com



Music in the Gardens - Fem Belling: Sun 21st May from 1.00pm to 3.00pm at Albury Botanic Gardens, Wodonga Place, Albury:

A series of free outdoor concerts in the spectacular Albury Botanic Gardens. On the third Sunday of March, April, May, September, October and November, the gardens are transformed into an outdoor amphitheatre where residents can enjoy some of Australia's best musicians while relaxing on the beautifully landscaped lawns. **Price:** Free.



Nest boxes for Threatened Species Field Day - Mon 22nd May from 9:30 - 11:30 am at

Felltimber Creek, Cnr Lambourne Drive and Felltimber Creek Rd, West Wodonga: In partnership with the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network, Parklands is leading a series of field days for community members on nest boxes for threatened species. To be held on the beautiful Felltimber Creek, this will be a hands-on experience where people will learn to check the condition of nest boxes, use a pole camera to check boxes for occupants, and use a citizen science platform to record data. No previous experience required. Morning tea included. We will start and finish on the corner of Lambourne Drive and Felltimber Creek Road. Please dress for the weather and bring your water bottle. **Places are limited!** Bookings essential. Please reserve your place through our [Eventbrite page](#).



Quarterly gathering of the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network - Wed 24th May from

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm at the SAC, Gateway Village, Lincoln Causeway Wodonga: The Wodonga Urban Landcare Network's Quarterly Gathering is a combined 'show and tell', community dinner and meeting of all the member groups of the Network. All are welcome. Please rsvp to Secretary Glenys Litchfield at secretary@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au. Enquiries wodongalandcare@gmail.com. We look forward to your company!



2017 North East Environment Forum (Wangaratta) - Connecting People with Nature

- Thurs 25th May from 09:30 to 04:30, at Wangaratta Regional Study Centre (CSU/Go TAFE) 218

Tone Road, Wangaratta: You are invited to attend the 2017 North East Environment Forum. This year's forum themes will centre around Connecting People with Nature and the annual John Paul Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Deakin University's Honorary Associate Professor Mardie Townsend. Topics covered at the forum will include: Enhancing the Volunteer Experience, Marketing Natural Resource Management, Citizen Science. North East Catchment Management Authority together with Trust for Nature, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Parks Victoria and Charles Sturt University's Institute for Land, Water and Society have partnered to deliver the 2017 North East Environment Forum. COST: Free (lunch and refreshments provided). RSVP: events@necma.vic.gov.au by 8 May 2017, or 1300 216 513 (please provide any dietary requirements).



Border Bushwalking Club- Mt Beauty Moncrieff Fire Trail - Sat 27th May from 7:00 am - 5:00 pm: This walk starts from Mountain Creek and takes us through the forest at the base of Mt Bogong, bringing us almost into Mt Beauty township. It's mainly up in the morning and down in the afternoon, some views and a hidden waterfall, about 12 km in total. Leader: Eileen Clark, phone: 0412042195, 12 places available, book in by 24th May 2017.



Hovell Tree Park Albury Farmers Market – Sat 27th May from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at the Wood Fired Oven at Hovell Tree Park : 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 tasty sweet jams, fresh fruit and veggies, breads and cheeses, beef, pork, lamb, honey, free range eggs, olive oil, relishes, native flowers and more.



Riverina Endurance Huon Hill Trail Run – Sun 28th May: The 2017 Riverina Trail Running series has been planned to take place as a three run series, with dates being slightly modified to better suit both local and national running calendars. The original course designs set by Albury Wodonga Military Area's Rodney Allen, will remain as per their original course. Past competitors have described the courses to be among the best in the country for their distance. It has been said that the runs are the perfect way to experience the absolute gift which is some of our hidden local bush reserves. We are so lucky and we don't always know it. Race registrations from 9:00 am to 9:30 am. Race start 10:00am. Allow 10 minutes to drive up dirt road to race start at Huon Hill Lookout. Start location is Huon Hill summit picnic area near the Rotunda and toilets, Huon Hill Parklands, Kenneth Watson Drive, Wodonga. Head north up Whytes Rd at the Junction of the Murray Valley Highway and Whytes Road, Killara. Follow the signs up to Huon Hill Parklands. Bring water and energy food as there will be minimal trail marshalls. The trail run will be run in a similar format to the 2016 Huon Hill Trail run. Registrations: \$35 Trail Run - only for registrations before the day, \$50 on the day (\$15 late fee for cash-only on the day registrations)

Learning Opportunities



Young Farmer Farm Business Boot Camps 2017 (Benalla) - Wed 3rd May, Tues 23rd May and Wed 24th May: Agriculture Victoria, with Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and Australian Wool Innovation (AWI), is pleased to present the Young Farmer Farm Business Boot Camps, an exciting three day program for young farmers or producers new to farming. The workshops will be delivered by technical experts from Meridian Agriculture, including Warren Blyth, Paul Blackshaw, James Whale, Mike Stephens and Ben Reeve. Participants will need to [register for all three sessions on Eventbrite](#). The total cost of the program is \$100 per business, including meals and course materials.



Blackberry Control Forum - Tue 16th May from 08:30 – 15:00 Hrs at The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources Rutherglen Centre, 124 Chiltern Valley Rd. Rutherglen: Join the Mitta to Murray Blackberry Action Group, together with the Victorian Blackberry Taskforce, for a one day workshop to learn about current community-driven sustainable action on blackberry management in North East Victoria. The event will include a keynote address from DEDJTR Scientists on biological-control options for Blackberry, as well as first-hand experience from local land managers. The day will serve as a key opportunity to become informed on current approaches and upcoming opportunities to get involved. For further information: olivia.kemp@necma.vic.gov.au, (02) 6043 7642 or Doris Razeng, 0499 977 471.



Women's Environmental Leadership Australia (WELA) (the leadership program for women environmentalists): apply now, deadline extended: Are you a woman and an active environmentalist living in Australia? Are you looking to take your next step in leadership? Then WELA 2017 is for you! 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 environ-

mental 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, management, 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:

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>



Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program - Applications are open for our 2017/18 leadership program: Since 1998, our program has developed leaders across Northeast Victoria and the Border region. Applications for the 2017/18 program are now open. If you know someone who'd benefit from our program, please put them in touch with us. Let those upcoming leaders in your network know that by undertaking the AVCLP, they can expect personal growth and professional development, leadership skills development, increased knowledge of regional business, industry and community networks, a greater understanding of our region's social, economic and environmental resources, and membership of an increasing network of program graduates. Applications are due by Tuesday, 13 June 2017. For successful applicants, the program will begin with its opening retreat on Friday 21 and Saturday 22 July 2017. Here are links to our program information pack and to this year's application form: [information pack](#) [application form](#)

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network

WULN supports, inspires and brings together a network of active steward groups and volunteers that work effectively and cooperatively with all stakeholders to enhance and protect the environment within the boundaries of the municipality of Wodonga.

Connecting people – Connecting Landscapes

Resources & Inspiration



Eco Treasure Hunt – Geocaching and Green Spaces: this challenge is a fun way to get out and about with the whole family, to discover beautiful bushland, community Landcare projects and the best of Wodonga's green spaces. Just like a treasure hunt, use the free geocaching app to search for a hidden 'cache' at 4 secret locations. You can participate in this self-guided event at any time. Have fun! For more information click [here](#)



ART+CLIMATE=CHANGE 2017 program launched: Running from **19th April – 14th May** across venues in Melbourne and regional Victoria, ART+CLIMATE=CHANGE 2017 provides a platform for the discussion of the challenges, opportunities, impacts, and solutions associated with climate change. [View the program here](#)



Climate Ready NRM Planning Portal now online: In a Victorian first, all ten Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) have undertaken regional climate change adaptation planning which is now available through a one stop online portal. The Climate Ready Natural Resource Management Planning in Victoria portal provides a platform to access climate change adaptation planning for natural resource management across Victoria and was funded by the Australian Government. To explore this portal, click on the link: www.nrmclimate.vic.gov.au.

Funding Opportunities



Biodiversity On-ground action - Community and volunteer grants open: Community & Volunteer Action Grants funding aims to support practical community efforts to deliver conservation projects on public and private land. Grants between \$5,000 and up to \$50,000 will be provided to successful applicants to support communities in efforts to conserve their local biodiversity and threatened species. Closes 10 May 2017. Before applying online please carefully read the Guidelines for Community & Volunteer Action Grants: https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0026/51668/Guidelines-for-Community-and-Volunteer-Action-Grants-2017.pdf The program will support a wide range of projects and activities that help to protect, improve and expand habitats for our native plants and animals. Support will also be available for activities that address threats to local biodiversity values and help communities better understand and manage local native species and natural environments. Contact the Grants Information Line on 1300 366 356 between 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.



Leadership in Agricultural Industries Fund - Opens Wed 5th Apr and Closes 12 noon Wed 17th May: The Leadership in Agricultural Industries Fund is administered by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources to support Australian agricultural industry. The Fund's objective is to support national agricultural industry organisations to develop leadership capability within agricultural industry representative bodies. It aims to build farm leaders' skills so they can better represent their agricultural industry.

The Fund guidelines are now available for your information, with applications to open on Wednesday, 5 April 2017 and closing at 12 noon on Wednesday, 17 May 2017. The application will be available through the Australian Government's grant information system [GrantConnect](#). You can access the application form through the Australian Government's grant information system [GrantConnect](#). You will need to register before you are able to access the grant guidelines and the application form. Applicants should read the Fund's guidelines before completing the online application.



Australian Ethical Investments Community Grants Program: Every year Australian Ethical Investments donates 10% of its pre-tax profits to organisations making a positive difference in the world. Grants are available for \$5000, \$10,000 & \$20,000. Eligible organisations include those

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?** [SRCP application guidelines](#)



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: 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.](#)



The 2017 Men's Shed Funding Round is now open: \$879,000 is now available for communities across Victoria, who can apply for funding to build a new shed or refurbish an existing shed through the Men's Shed Program. Men's sheds enhance the health and wellbeing of both individuals and communities as a whole by reducing social isolation and promoting social inclusion. Funding is available to incorporated not-for-profit organisations and local councils. The 2017 grant guidelines and application can be downloaded here:

[Men's Shed Grant Guidelines March 2017 \(PDF 787KB\)](#)

To make an application, contact the department's Local Connections Team in your area to discuss your project. It is strongly recommended that you also seek advice from the Victorian Men's Shed Association. Details are on page 11 of the guidelines. An information session will be held on 11 April 2017. See page 12 of the guidelines for details. Final applications must be submitted to the departments Local Connections Team in your area by 5pm Friday 16 June 2017.



This beautiful glider was found by Parklands Rangers this month during scheduled Nest Box monitoring in Wodonga.

If you would like to get involved with our nest box program please join one of our Threatened Species Field Days this month—see our event listings for details.

wodongalandcare@gmail.com

working for charitable, benevolent and conservation purposes as part of a contribution to a positive and sustainable society. For further information: <http://www.australianethical.com.au/communitygrants>

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,

Opportunities to have your say

