



Newsletter Autumn 2012



DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP
Covering Lancefield-Romsey Districts



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Its Weed Wacking Time!

We are getting ready to whack weeds in the Lancefield and Romsey areas thanks to a \$500 grant from the Bendigo Bank to purchase a 100 litre 12-volt spray unit.

The unit came in right on budget thanks to a generous discount from Rodwells in Kilmore.

It will be used by the group for preparatory spraying for new plantings and maintenance spraying of existing plantings.

Pictured is John Anderson getting the new pump ready for use.



So look out weeds!

Thanks to:



www.deepcreeklandcare.org.au



Sheehan's Reserve works underway

At Sheehan's Reserve, Romsey, the Group has commenced a project to clean up and commence restoration of the site with a fantastic partnership project between the Deep Creek Landcare Group, Parks Vic and Melbourne Water.

The Parks Vic "Healthy Parks, Healthy People" grant of \$1,000 has now been matched by a grant of \$3,095 from Melbourne Water's "Healthy Waterways" program.

A working bee was held to coincide with 'Clean up Australia day' and was quite a success. Many thanks to everyone who came out on the day.



Melbourne Water's support has enabled the purchase of both a brush-cutter and a much needed augur drill to assist with the revegetation planting.

Gisborne Power Products gave the Group a good deal and have kindly provided the many extra bits needed to go with the gear.

Lancefield Anniversary Garden

The Group has started work on its "Celebrating Landcare Indigenous Garden" at Lancefield Park, the recreation centre of the town.



Funding of \$3,731 for the project has been provided by the State Government as part of the Victorian Landcare Grants delivered by the Port Phillip and Westernport CMA Community Grants Program.

The boulder has gone in and the red gum sleepers have been completed. A working bee is organised for the 29th of April at 10am to start on planting. All are welcome and a BBQ lunch will be provided.

Landcare in Victoria

Landcare Victoria would like to remind everyone to stay on the lookout for Myrtle rust. If you think you have found myrtle rust, then please contact DPI on 1800 084 881. Remember, to avoid spreading the disease, do not touch, move or collect samples of the suspect infected material.



The DSE would like you to remember to 'Keep cats and wildlife apart'. Cats reduce wildlife populations by predation, diseases and competition. When combined with habitat loss and failing natural processes Australia's wildlife is struggling to survive.



Be a responsible pet owner: Keep your cat in at night, put bells on your cat's collar and know the requirement of your council.

Plants of the Season!

A wonderful native plant to use in cooking is *Mentha australis* or River Mint. It is said to have a fresh spearmint aroma and flavour and can be used the same as you would use any mint.

It is a hardy plant that grows well in a container and in both sun or partial sun areas. A tea from the herb is said to ease headaches and minor digestive disorders.

You can find River mint at any native nursery, and chances are there is already some growing nearby.

Trying to attract some native fauna? Then the *Banksia marginata* the Silver Banksia might be just what you need.

The shrub needs a fair bit of room as it can grow up to 6m in height, but attracts a range of lorikeets, honeyeaters and other birds as well as Sugar gliders and possums and butterflies.

It will tolerate full sun or partial shade, is resistant to fire and is just generally a hardy plant species.

You will likely find the Silver Banksia for sale at any Native plant nursery.



Call for submissions

This is the 3rd edition of the Deep Creek Landcare Newsletter, and I feel that most of the bumps have been worked out. This newsletter is all about keeping our members informed and connected to the group as I know not all of you wish to attend meetings nor have the time.

This newsletter wouldn't happen without the support of so many of our members. So if you have an idea for an article and would like to share it with the Landcare community please email me, the editor at deepcreeklandcare@gmail.com with your article.

Some ideas you might like to write about could be native plants in your garden, controlling weeds, other projects you are interested in. You are only limited by your own imagination.

- Jayne Bell, Editor