



Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group

Newsletter

Chair: James Bufton
5284-1344

Treasurer: Chris Winfield
5369-4214

Secretary: Allan Bartholomew
5369-4197

Visit our new website for latest news: <http://brlg.org.au>



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Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group

Christmas Party

Friday, 19th December, 2014 @ 1900h (7.00 p.m.)
Balliang Hall
Balliang-Bacchus Marsh Road
(opposite CFA fire shed)

It's that time of the year again: Christmas! It's a great chance to catch up with neighbours and friends at the Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group Christmas Party. Great steaks, snags and other choices on the Barbeque, with bread, desserts and tea and coffee provided. Please bring your own drinks, salads or any extras you fancy.

Cost:

- Members and families free!!!!
- Non-members \$25 per head (you can join up for \$25 on the night AND HAVE THE PARTY FOR FREE!)

An RSVP to our Secretary (Bart on 5369-4197) will help with the catering, but even if you forget to RSVP, please come along on the night. It is a great community event for everyone living in Balliang and other friends of our Landcare group.

This newsletter was produced with the generous financial support of the Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority

Balliang Food and Fibre bristling!

This active group of young farmers has had three breakfast meetings since the last newsletter. Tim Jenz organized for the group to participate in the "Movember" moustache growing fundraiser they must have been using a lot of DAP as the group raised well over \$1000 as a result. The effort terminated in a "shave off" at an "end of Mo" party recently. Other activities include a social tennis event and an active Facebook page. Anyone interested in joining in the activities of this group should call Chris Sharkey on 0417 134 600.

The BRLG is offering a small prize for the best club song submitted, so that the well lubricated throats of the young farmers may be industriously employed at future events. The initial entry, from Balliang's own Bush Poet, follows:

Once some youngish farmers, from
out near Balliang
Sat 'neath the shade of a yellow gum
tree
And they sang as they watched and
waited till crop turned gold
Who'll come a cropping canola with
me?

Don't come a cropper,
You won't come a cropper
If you come a cropping canola with
me
And they sat and they ate their
breakfast until dinner time
You'll come a cropping canola with
me

Cropping canola cropping canola
You'll come a cropping canola with
me
And they sat and they ate their
breakfast until dinner time
You'll come a cropping canola with
me.

Hall working bee Sunday December 14

Our Hall is a great community asset and the Landcare group has undertaken to maintain the grounds on a continuing basis. The next working bee is planned for 1100-1200h on Sunday 14th December. An hour of lawn mowing, debris raking, sweeping and whipper snipping is followed by an optional snack lunch for those who want to relax after the gardening effort. This is a great chance to meet new neighbours and catch up with local folk. Visitors are especially welcome.

If the weather is inclement, please call our secretary, Bart on 5369-4197 to confirm arrangements.

Visit from Moorabool Landcarers

Brisbane Ranges LCG is hosting visitors from the Moorabool Landcare Network and Advisory Committee, as well as representatives from the Moorabool Council on Monday 1st December. The group will visit some of our work sites during the afternoon and the visit will terminate with a barbeque at the Hall. If you are interested to meet fellow landcarers, and to talk about how things are done on the other side of the Ranges, this is your chance! Please contact our Secretary Bart on 5369-4197 if you would like to be involved with this visit.

Little River Project wraps up

Andrew Prime, project coordinator, has recently completed the final report of the Little River Project. This was the largest revegetation effort ever undertaken by our Landcare group with superb support, both in terms of funding and expertise, from Melbourne Water, Vision for Werribee Plains, CMA and the Commonwealth Government.

Little River Project wraps up (contd)

Among the highlights of the program:

- eight landowners actively involved
- approximately 15,000 trees and grasses planted
- 15km of Little River frontage fenced off
- project expenditure \$283,000

More information on our website.

Congratulations to Andrew Prime, Allan Bartholomew, James Bufton, our former President John Anderson, other members of BRLG involved, as well as the eight participating landowners. We particularly thank Max Coster, Lloyd Stanway and Sam Bailey from the supporting agencies.

Brisbane Ranges Landcare Meetings for 2014.

Our group meets on the third Thursday of every even numbered month at 1930h in the Balliang Hall. We generally have an informative speaker who will address topics of interest to local landholders or residents. Issues covered include local wildlife, vegetation, farming or other types of land management. Everyone is warmly welcome to come to meetings.

Next year's meetings are scheduled for Thursdays:

- 19th February, 2015
- 16th April
- 18th June
- 20th August
- 15th October

The 2015 Christmas party is set for Friday 18th December 2015.

Meetings of the Executive, which arranges the group's activities, will be held at 2000h on 29th January 2015, then every third Thursday in odd number months for the rest of the year. (19/3, 21/5, 16/7, 17/9, 19/11)

Mulch for the Masses!!

Thanks to the efforts of two generous donors, BRLG can offer FREE mulch to anyone who needs it. Andrew Rolfe of

Central Recyclers in Broderick Road, Lara has a substantial amount of pine/hardwood chip mulch which is all cleaned and ready to go for revegetation sites. Our Chairman James Bufton has kindly offered to deliver mulch to the Hall (free of charge) whence local residents may take what they need by the trailer load!

Note that the mulching trees and shrubs, either at time of planting or subsequently vastly increases growth rates and optimizes the chance of survival through the hot Balliang Summer.

Contact our Secretary Bart on 5369-4197 if you would like some free great quality Mulch!

Thanks to Elissa Ashton-Smith from the Geelong Landcare Network, Max Coster from Moorabool LCN and Tracey McRae from the CCMA for letting us know about this.



(A word of warning: the CFA advises that large amounts of small combustible items close to dwellings can be a fire hazard. Heavy mulching with inflammable material is inadvisable in locations where it might ignite, be spread by high winds and cause fire damage during wildfires.)

Quotations for every occasion:

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go." - Oscar Wilde

"He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts ... for support rather than illumination." - Andrew Lang

"He has Van Gogh's ear for music." - Billy Wilder

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it." - Groucho Marx

(Quotations by courtesy of the master of withering repartee, Chris Winfield.)

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