



## Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group

# Newsletter



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### Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group Meeting

#### Speaker: Robert Hall

Using **free** Google Mapping on your computer, tablet or phone to manage and plan your landholding

7.30pm, Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2017,

Balliang Hall, Balliang-Bacchus Marsh Road (opposite CFA)

- Spotted a flourishing patch of Serrated tussock, gone back to spray it an hour later and not been able to locate it?
- Need to estimate the area of a proposed plantation by measuring and calculating? (Not so difficult for a rectangular strip, but try it for an irregular shape, such as revegetating along a watercourse.)
- Need to estimate the area of a paddock to work out spray settings or amount of seed needed?

Our next speaker, **Robert Hall**, has extensive experience with computer mapping and can show you how to use an app on your mobile phone, as well as Google Maps, to do these and similar tasks accurately and easily. Best of all: it is free!! More about the talk overleaf.

## Our Speaker: Robert Hall



Robert Hall moved to the Brisbane Ranges area in 2013 purchasing a property on Staughton Vale Road with Nina and her daughter Evelyn.

Robert is on the Executive of the Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group and his expertise is greatly appreciated!

Robert works for the Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority (PPWCMA) running a project in the Maribyrnong catchment. The project aims to create a naturelink stretching from the Macedon Ranges to the CBD. He works closely with private landholders to design and implement pest plant and animal control and revegetation projects on their properties. Geo-spatial mapping plays a key part of this process and is used to mark up and measure areas for planting, measuring distances for fencelines, and marking locations of rabbit warrens or weed infestations.

It is these skills that he will be sharing with us at our next meeting.

Specifically, Robert will give us an overview on how to:

- Use free software (Google Earth Pro) to mark-up and measure points, areas and lines on aerial imagery of your property
- Access publicly available data to provide additional information overlays
- Print and save aerial images
- Use free software on your smartphone (MapIT) to record points in the field and then integrate these with your existing maps saved in Google Earth Pro

Bring your geo-spatial mapping questions to the meeting and get them answered!

### Meetings coming up:

Some suggestions for future speakers and meeting activities are under consideration. Please be free with your comments (favourable and otherwise) about the proposed topics and speakers. Please suggest any additional topics or activities to any members of the Executive (contact details at the head of this newsletter).

Marine Biology: was Balliang really underwater?

History of farming in Balliang (speaker or panel to reminisce?)

Managing paddocks for horses.

### Our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary is coming up soon: suggestions needed!

Your executive would like suggestions for activities to commemorate the anniversary of the Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group's 20 years of Landcare activity coming up at the end of the year.

Under consideration:

- anniversary dinner or lunch or party
- local community planting day
- display of photos and memorabilia
- tree giveaway.