



South Gippsland Landcare Network

NETWORK NOTES

Feb 6 2017

Dear Landcare members and supporters,

Here is the latest news from the Landcare network.

The year is rocketing ahead with January seemingly a distant memory, kids back at school and ragwort flowering a levels not seen for years. Luckily we have a ragwort control project happening! We will be having a field day soon, so when I have a date and venue etc, I will let you know.

Cheers Jill

I am working Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and my contact details are

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Upcoming events			
Description	Time & Date	Location	Contact
The Victorian Government, in collaboration with community pest management groups for blackberry, gorse, serrated tussock and rabbits, is undertaking a Systems Mapping Study. <i>see flyer attached</i>	Stories will be accepted until 31 March 2017.		<p>The study uses photovoice to feature your stories and experiences. Images can help us to better understand each other's stories, offering a fresh look at the longstanding community issue.</p> <p>Create your image+story in response to the following questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What motivates your efforts to control blackberry, gorse, serrated tussock or rabbits?• What hinders your efforts to control blackberry, gorse, serrated tussock or rabbits and how do you overcome the hindrance?• What are your ideas for community action to control blackberry, gorse, serrated tussock or rabbits? <p>Stories may be a few words, up to 300 words.</p>

<p>Joel Salatin from Polyface farm field day at Tom's Paddock.</p>	<p>Friday 24th February, 1 – 5.30pm</p>	<p>Tom's Paddock Glenburn, and the Glenburn Hall</p>	<p>Joel Salatin of Polyface Farm in Virginia will be coming to Yea for a farm walk and talk at Tom's Paddock on Friday 24th February.</p> <p>Joel is an ambassador for sustainable agriculture and robust direct-to-consumer farm sales. He has been featured in the best-selling 'Omnivore's Dilemma' and a host of documentaries such as Food Inc, Fresh, Farmageddon and most recently, American Meat. He is also the author of 8 best-selling books, including the internationally-acclaimed 'Folks, This Ain't Normal'.</p> <p>You can find out more about Joel at http://www.polyfacefarms.com/.</p> <p>The cost of the farm walk will be \$45.00</p> <p>Stay tuned to Port Phillip and Westernport CMA Facebook page for more details as they are released.</p>
<p>HOPS INTO BASS. Book using this link</p>	<p>Saturday, 25 February 2017 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (AEDT)</p>	<p>2-4 Bass School Rd Bass, VIC 3991 Australia</p>	<p>Bass Coast Landcare Network is hosting a field day to showcase its Hops trial.</p> <p>Guest speakers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob Gray- Bass Coast Landcare Network project manager; • Chris Allenson- agricultural consultant and educator on soil health with over 35 years' experience; • Craig Johnson- Owner Loch Brewery and Distillery; • David Ziebell- Long term South Gippsland Resident with 20 years experience in the growing and harvesting of Hops. <p>If you're interested in anything related to the growing of Hops and the beer brewing process this is the event for you.</p> <p>This event will commence at the Bass Coast Landcare Network Office, will visit the Loch Brewery and Distillery by bus and finish up at the Hops trial site behind the Landcare office.</p> <p>Lunch and bus transport will be provided. The cost of the day is \$20 per person. Funded through the Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices Project</p>
<p>SUSTAINABLE FARM WORKSHOPS - HILL FARM:</p>	<p>Sun 5th March 2017, 9:30am to 3:30pm</p>	<p>The course will be held on a farm in the Mardan-Mirboo area of South Gippsland (near Leongatha</p>	<p>Hill Farms in South Gippsland require careful planning to work safely and effectively. Poor soils and erosion can be issues, and handling farm machinery on steep, slippery hillsides requires skill. Above all, keeping your soil in top condition and ensuring livestock have easy access to good quality water and shade are key topics covered at this field day.</p>

		and Mirboo North).	Major General Michael Jeffery, former Governor General of Australia, National Advocate for Soil Health and Chairman of “Soils for Life”, will be launching the Sustainable Farm Days programme as well as presenting on the vital role of soil and regenerative farming principles. Link to web site with details of programme and how to book here
SUSTAINABLE FARM WORKSHOPS – SMALL COMMERCIAL FARM	Sunday, 19th March 2017, 9:30am to 3:30pm	The course will be held on a farm in the Mardan-Mirboo area of South Gippsland (near Leongatha and Mirboo North).	Running a small commercial farm requires business savvy and farming skills. Evaluating the business case for a product, nutritious soils, a well-designed farm layout, adequate water supplies and how to market your produce are some of the basics being discussed. Graeme Sait, Founder and CEO of Nutri-Tech, an international soil nutrition expert will be presenting during the course. Link to web site with details of programme and how to book here
CANOE TOUR OF THE AGNES	Saturday April 1 st 2017	We anticipate starting and ending at the Agnes Falls. Watch this space!	Program to be determined, but will involve rowing down the stream. Singing the eponymous song is optional.
Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices. Evaluating the Soilkee soil renovator	Friday April 21 st , 10am and 2pm, TBC.	Ron and Carman Barnacle’s farm, Anderson Hill Road, Loch	Proposed Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of property including landowner philosophy of sustainable farm management- Ron Barnacle • Demonstration of the Soilkee renovator in action- Neils Olsen • Soil test comparison and Rapid Soil assessment activity in treated and untreated paddock- Chris Allenson • Lunch. • Presentation on Soilkee- Neils Olsen (PowerPoint in shed) • Presentation of findings from previous Soilkee trials. Booking will be essential; details to follow next month.
SUSTAINABLE FARM WORKSHOPS – LIFESTYLE FARM	Sunday, 30th April 2017, 9:30am to 3:30pm	The course will be held on a farm in the Mardan-Mirboo area of South Gippsland (near Leongatha	A lifestyle farm is generally not oriented towards commercial farming, however it can provide most of the meat, fruit and vegetables consumed by a family, plus a bit to share. The focus of this workshop is on home food production. In addition, the host farm is self-sufficient in water, runs on solar and demonstrates sustainable building practices.

		and Mirboo North).	Tino Carnevale, renowned expert from Gardening Australia will be presenting during the course. He is well known for his work in teaching people how to grow veggies and fruits in The Vegie Patch in the Hobart Botanic Garden. Link to web site with details of programme and how to book here
Green Carpet Gala: 30 Years of Landcare in Gippsland Celebration	30th April 2017 11pm to 2pm	Heyfield Wetlands	Local Produce Paddock to Plate Lunch MC: Gerard Callihan Categories: CHERISH: past people and projects CELEBRATE: current people and projects IMAGINE: future people and projects; there are no winners and losers, just a joyful celebration of excellent Landcare projects and people. More details next Network Notes or contact Kathleen Brack kathleenb@wgcma.vic.gov.au
High Country Harvest Landcare visits innovative food producers	May 9-11 th 2017	Various locations see flyer attached	RSVP March 31 st to Jenny O'Sullivan online \$325 per person, phone Jenny on 0419153377 or email osulliva@dcsi.net.au
HAVE I FORGOTTON ANYTHING? PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOUR GROUP IS DOING ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH THE SGLN LANDCARE COMMUNITY.			