

Nerrena / Tarwin Valley Landcare Group

General Meeting

to be held on the Friday 30 May at 7.00 pm

at Meeniyan Hotel, Meeniyan

WELCOME: Sue opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees.

ATTENDEES: Peter and Kate Walsh, Marijke Horvath, Sue and Eric Miles, Michelle and Jacob Tumino, Coral and Kevin Hughes, Michael and Jill Vella, Luke Birim and Mellissa Ellis, Alex and Herb Wildes, Phil Grayley and our guest, Lyn Skillern.

APOLOGIES: Kathy and Brad Westaway, Gunther and Maria Heil, Heather Smith

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING held at Blue Gum Farm Dumbalk on Saturday 24 November 2018 from 5.00pm

Moved Eric Seconded Herb, carried as tabled

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Birds Australia App update – Coral is corresponding with the Birddata man from Birdlife Australia. He will visit soon. **Coral will continue to liaise until something happens.**

Web Site – is up and running and contains lots of information about the group, revegetation, weeds etc.

Binocular purchase – One pair to be purchased to lend to anyone without binoculars during bird watching. **Sue to action**

Wettenhall grant – we reached the second round but were ultimately unsuccessful.

CORRESPONDENCE

Minutes of previous meetings distributed to all members.

Wettenhall Environmental trust

Email from South Gippsland Water offering \$500 for tree planting on Tarwin River

Thank you card from Friends of Cranbourne Botanical Gardens

REPORTS –

Financial – Coral give the financial report – see end of minutes

Moved Coral Seconded Kevin carried as tabled

Black Spur Creek Wetlands Project Update - Kate

Bird monitoring update –

- Friendly walk once a month
- Learn from each other
- Nice activity that is ongoing

Visit to Fossil grounds at Black Spur (Feb 19)

- Visited the archeology site
- Nice to meet archeologist and Bunurong People
- Flints from areas outside our area
- Evidence of cross over between Aboriginal people and settlers

- Paul has agreed to another visit to the site – Sue to organize
- Mel thanked Kate for organizing her visit and would like to see the report on the dig when it is finalized. This could be some time.

Friends of the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens SG discovery tour (May 19)

- The Saturday morning part of the tour was hosted by the NTVLG
- Sue, Coral, Jill, Luke took part. The participants loved the insights and appreciated the visit
- The wetlands were empty but are now full
- Positive feedback for the Welcome to Country by Uncle Shane
- The consulting group that employ Paul the Archeologist would like to use our photos for publicity on social media. The group agreed to share images.
- The Friends of CBG also visited Zac Chalmers at Valley Plains pottery and Tim Jelbart's dairy. Tim talked about Landcare and the headwaters of the Black Spur Creek and the top of the Black Spur.
- The speaker at the dinner talked about Sweet Pittosporum and the connection to black birds and the spread of the weed.-It changes the environment- not in a good way. It is native but not in Lowland Forest.-Male and Female and hermaphrodites. She stressed the ecosystem recovers and is retrievable after removal.
- Debbie McLees from Major Roads Projects presented
- The attendees were given a Strzelecki gum id sheet.

SPEAKER -LYN SKILLERN – LEONGATHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- Lyn spoke on the Mountain Forests of Gippsland
- Lyn was the first woman on the Tarwin River Improvement trust and served from 1983 -1988
- Showed pictures from the Gunn collection and the Leongatha Historical Society archive
- Had with her a piece of wattle and daub plaster wall that was cut from the Mechanics Institute walls when arches were installed. Was made with Tarwin River reeds.
- Land of the Lyrebird has much information about early settlers (<https://archive.org/details/landoflyrebirdst00melb/page/n8> here is a free digital copy if you need one)
- Phylis Riedyl wrote a geography text book that inspired Lyn when she first started teaching
- The Andrew Paget report had lots of good information
- The Historical society web page is www.leongathahistory.org.au
- Next week in the Star, Lyn will write about Koonwarra

Visit to Luke and Melissa's property

Farm Walk was held at Luke and Melissa's place on 22nd February.

- The willows are out
- Piles not yet burned
- Fence is not yet finished
- There has been a little regrowth on the stumps

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Landcare Grants applications

Jill will prepare a grant application for fencing and reveg at Smits in Thornbys Road and Westaways on Harvey Road Ruby. We will also add the sign we want for the rail trail.

These are all on the Tarwin River catchment so, we will be aiming to 'Make the Tarwin Terrific again'. **Jill to action**

- Kate had three requests
 1. Danny Drummond would like a little help to plant 2000 hicos on the rail trail in the Hogans Road area. Would like an informal planting day, as it is a small area.

We agreed to help the Rail trail committee plant trees around Hogan's Road as a Landcare Group. Moved Kate, Seconded Coral carried

2. 7th June there is a working bee in the centennial walk in Meeniyah. The progress association would like help with plant id. **Coral and Kevin agreed to help**
3. The Bird observers club would like 2-3 people to speak at Foster Community House on September 27th or October 25th. **Kate will organise**

NEXT MEETING

Will be the AGM in late June early July. At this time of year best indoors with a speaker. **Sue and Jill to organise**

2018-19.

opened with ~~46934.6~~

Income.

Subscriptions 17 \$535.00

WGCM A survey. \$500.00

\$9969.62

Expenses

Lendcare Victoria membership. 327.10

Hire of Cricket Rooms 100.00

Catering 165.20

Koonwarra Hall 33.00

Citizen Science Workshop 4000.00

4298.20.

Set up of Webpage 300 300.00

+ Domain name 35 335.00

Total \$4960.30

Closing Balance \$5009.32