



Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group

Newsletter

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Visit our website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~brlg/>

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Brisbane Ranges Landcare Community Environment Grant

Chair: James Bufton

**Thursday, 26th September, 2013 @ 1930h
Balliang Hall**

Have you been thinking about protecting existing vegetation, undertaking new plantings, or providing good shelter for birds and native animals? Thanks to a generous grant of some \$50,000 from the Commonwealth Government's "Caring for Country" program, Brisbane Ranges Landcare members can access substantial funding to undertake activities such as these over the next 18 months.



A meeting to discuss the types of projects to be funded and to set up a process for allocation and administration of the Grant, is to be held at the Balliang Hall at 1930h on Thursday 26th September.

The picture shows fencing paid for by the Little River Project to protect remnant vegetation along the Little River near Staughton Vale. The new grant seeks to establish further areas of remnant or new vegetation as "biolinks" to this project. These will extend the habitat for birds and animals into nearby areas in the Little River valley.

Community Environment Grant:

More information

The grant is from the Commonwealth Department of Sustainability "Caring for Country" Program. The formal title is: "The Brisbane Ranges-Port Phillip Bay Biolink Project". It is based on a proposal developed with the advice of Moorabool Landcare Network Coordinator Max Coster, whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

The grant intends to build on the very successful Little River Project that has seen some 14 km. of river frontage fenced off and revegetated. The award specifies that activities to be funded by the new grant include:

- extending and widening the existing biolink with the objective of revegetation and improvement of an additional 12 ha of ground, with the goal of extending the biolink area for an additional 7 km
- BR Landcare to foster community involvement with other local groups (e.g. Friends of Brisbane Ranges) and individuals, including one or more community planting days, and communication to the local community from the BRLG website, newsletters, group activities and the like

The grant imposes strict reporting dates and a tight time line so we plan to hold a follow up meeting on October 17 and consider all proposals submitted by Oct 25.

Your executive will propose a motion at the next meeting to adopt a set of guidelines for managing the Grant.

It is important that members review the proposals to ensure that we get full benefit from the project: so please do come to the meeting! We can help you submit a simple application for funding.

August election of BRLG committee

Officebearers :

James Bufton (Chair)
Allan Bartholomew (Secretary)
Chris Winfield (Treasurer)

Committee

Chris Sharkey, Jacki Staude, Michelle Kerr, Andrew Prime, Mark Trengove, Neil Day (newsletter editor)

Our local Wildflower show

The biennial Brisbane Ranges Wildflower Show on Sunday 13 October is a one-day opportunity to see some of our locals on display. The ranges have over 600 indigenous plant species including more than 100 terrestrial orchids.

Pop down to the Anakie Hall between 9.30am and 4.30pm for a full day of activities including plant displays and sales.

You may be able to book a place online for a guided bus tour. See the website www.fobr.org.au/wildflowershow for more details.

Grasslands Society: Farm updates

Rebecca Kootstra reports that the VVP grasslands project, which supported grassland conservation on the properties of several members, has been extended for another year.

Also Rebecca suggests members who want to combine good conservation practice with practical farm management might find the following of interest. The Grasslands Society of Southern Australia and Meat & Livestock Australia are running two pasture/farm updates from 0930 to 1500h on 22nd October (Meredith Recreation Reserve) and 23rd October, (Winchelsea Recreation Reserve).

There will be a number of expert presenters at each day talking about issues including, fertiliser, ewe and lamb nutrition, livestock, perennial legumes and more.

The cost is \$10 for GSSA members and \$15 for non-members. To RSVP call 1300 137 550 or email - office@grasslands.org.au.