



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

SPRING REFLECTIONS NEWSLETTER 2021

Spring... and the best season of the year in Gippsland. Then again, we are lucky because every season here is pretty good!

Sunshine, rain and new growth. Hopefully you have all your wonderful trees in the ground and can sit back and watch them grow. It is the season for weeds though so be on the lookout. Blackberry, thistle and ragwort are common South Gippsland weeds and I now see a creeping prevalence of Sweet Pittosporum popping up everywhere.



It's been up and down again with Covid. We did manage to fit in our AGM at the Nyora Men's Shed in August and the office bearers and committee remain the same with minimal change. I am pleased to be president again and look forward to leading LNLG into its 26th year. Hopefully the easing of restrictions will now allow for quiet, safe and Covid careful times.

The South Gippsland Landcare Network AGM was held via Zoom on October 20th with a very informative guest speaker Geoff Williams from the Australian Platypus Conservancy. For more information Google "Australian Platypus Conservancy." Accurate platypus monitoring is important, and information is available to assist. I am pleased to be on the board again for my 4th year. Jillian Staton remains as President and contact details for the SGLN are in this newsletter.

Our group is still busy. Our anniversary seats for Loch and Nyora are getting closer, we have expressed interest in a Veterans project and a Tradescantia Smut release control project and we are waiting on a response from Melbourne Water for a grant application for weeds and wasps at the Loch Reserve.

A slight delay in this newsletter because of the lovely news that our Secretary, Christine (and Lee), welcomed baby Jack and new junior Landcarer in early November.

We welcome any new members to our group, and we hope we can help with any questions. We look forward to meeting with you all.

We are financially very sound and would love some input into some possible projects in the area.

I would like to wish all our members and followers a wonderful Christmas and a safe and Happy holiday season and New Year.

Rosemary Knox

0409594312

## IN THIS EDITION

1. Feature plant – snowy daisy
2. Austin Cram’s Melbourne Water project
3. AGM documents:
  - i. Presidents report 2020-21
  - ii. Financial report
4. Membership details
5. Committee contacts
6. SGLN contacts

## Merry Christmas



from LNLG



## LOCAL FEATURE SPECIES: SNOWY DAISY

**A spring flowering species**, usually from August to December, the Snowy Daisy (*Olearia lirata*) is a small to medium shrub which you may be familiar with. It’s in the daisy family (Asteraceae), growing as a shrub to around 4 m tall and 3 m wide.

**The Snowy Daisy is very showy in flower** and no doubt you will notice the masses of white flowers before you realise what the species is. The white daisy flowerheads are presented in loose bunches of 1.5-2.5 cm across.

**Its leaves are lance shaped** and usually green and shiny above and grey and hairy underneath. The greyish-white branchlets and undersides of leaves gain their colour from dense star-shaped hairs.

**A good candidate for revegetation**, Snowy Daisy bushes are common and widespread and do well in moist well drained clay soil. The species tolerates light frost and snow and is happy in semi to full shade.

**Butterflies and other insects** are attracted to the Snowy Daisy. It is a valuable food source for caterpillars also. It is dominant in wet sclerophyll forest, the type of vegetation that once covered our region. The species is widespread and is considered to be endemic to NSW, Qld, Tas and Victoria.

**It’s a highly ‘plastic’ species** which means it can differ significantly depending on the local environment. According to VicFlora, plants growing in wet forest can obtain a height of up to 4 m and have leaves in excess of 10 cm long and 3 cm wide, whereas plants in dry exposed sites may grow 1 m high and have very short, narrow, and sometimes slightly toothed leaves.

See <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/> for more.



Snowy Daisy (*Olearia lirata*) via Wikimedia Commons  
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## LNLG MEMBER AUSTIN CRAM RECEIVES MELBOURNE WATER GRANT

In May this year, Melbourne Water contracted Platypus Environmental to remove the exotic willow trees along the section of Allsops Creek that runs through Austin's property at the bottom of Jeetho valley. Since then, he's been successful in securing grants through both Melbourne Water's Stream Frontage Grant Program and SGLN's Invertebrate Conservation Program (due to the two giant earthworm colonies on the property).

These grants include contributions towards fencing, water troughs and tube stock to rebuild habitat along the creek and improve water health. The next step is to install almost 1km of fencing along the creek and gullies to get it ready for planting out in Autumn 2022. Cassie Wright from SGLN and giant earthworm expert Dr Beverley Van Pragh will be appearing with Austin in a video from SGLN about giant earthworm conservation later this year.

When finished, the project will result in a wonderful wildlife corridor that those coming

down through the valley on the rail trail or along Jeetho Road will be able to appreciate almost as much as Austin no doubt will.



## FROM SGLN: LANDSCAPE-SCALE CONSERVATION OF THREATENED INVERTEBRATES

As part of the 'Landscape-scale conservation of threatened invertebrates of the Western Strzeleckis' project, SGLN has recently created two videos highlighting three of the amazing threatened invertebrates that are found in our network area.

The first looks at giant Gippsland earthworms and can be watched here <https://vimeo.com/648445664>. We visit two local farms and learn about giant Gippsland earthworms and how to protect them.

The second introduces two species of burrowing crayfish – the Narracan burrowing

crayfish and the Strzelecki burrowing crayfish, watch it here <https://vimeo.com/648444379>. We meet a landholder who has restored crayfish habitat and see some beautiful footage of where they are found.

This project was funded with the support of the Victorian Government.



### Threatened Invertebrates of the Western Strzeleckis

Protecting Giant Gippsland Earthworms on Farms

## **LNLG AGM ON SUNDAY 15 AUGUST, NYORA MEN'S SHED**

Our 2021 Loch-Nyora Landcare Group AGM was held in-person in August and thank fully we managed to squeeze it in between Covid-19 lockdowns. The LNLG Committee thanks Nyora

Men's Shed for providing us with access to their meeting room at Nyora Recreation Reserve, Grundy Ave Nyora for our AGM. Below are our annual President's Report and Treasurer's Report for the year ending on 2021.

### **Loch-Nyora Landcare Group Annual President's Report 2021**

2021 Another year of Covid and uncertainly. A year of storms, damaging winds and lock-downs. A year of making tentative plans, modifications, cancellations and Zoom meetings.

Luckily we are in regional Victoria...the best part of Gippsland and in a community of support and connection. We have a membership of about 45 families and community groups and we cover the towns of Nyora and Loch and the surrounding rural properties with dairy, beef and lifestyle owners.

Our committee meets every second month, usually at the Loch Reserve and with an enthusiastic and growing committee. We are a huge supporter of the Loch Memorial Reserve and have assisted the Loch Kinder Bush program for their weekly program under the suspension bridge at the Reserve with weed control and re-planting. We have also applied for a grant from Melbourne Water to clear the area of blackberry, sweet pittosporum, wild tobacco and also wasps.

This year has been big for Loch Nyora. This year was the celebration of our 25th anniversary and luckily we were able to do this at the Jeetho hall with a lovely lunch, a guest speaker.....Dr Christine Connelly (our secretary) talking about Virtual fencing on Phillip Island and a reminisce of our first meeting back at Henrys Creek Sanctuary Loch in May 1996.

We plan to contribute an anniversary seat for both Loch and Nyora.

We communicate via regular emails and seasonal newsletters, we post photos and snippets on the local community Facebook pages and we always have a presence in the Loch Express which is a bi-monthly local publication. To celebrate our 25th anniversary we produced a 4 page brochure to highlight our history, what we do and our contact details.

We have had a long connection with Hilda Falls... a natural rock waterfall on Allsop Creek 2.5 km from Loch with access from the railway line or the proposed rail trail. We were invited by the South Gippsland Shire to visit the site to discuss viewing and signage details for the increased patronage. We look forward to its completion and being able to share this with others. We have already started planting at the Nyora end.

Our weed signs go on the highway town entrances each Spring for a few months to advise of weed season and the need to control blackberries, thistle and ragwort.

Again, we continue our relationship with Melaleuca Nursery at Inverloch which offers our members 10 free tube-stock each year included in the \$35 membership fee.

We competed our Wark seat and planting at Cape Horn. we planted screening plants at the

Loch SES/CFA scrap metal collection yard, we supported Kernot Church with newspaper recycling and the Loch Reserve with cans and glass and we re-visited our community plantings for a tidy-up and replant.

I would sincerely like to thank our wonderful committee..... Christine our Secretary, Gary our Treasurer, George our VP and the main body behind LNLG of Ron, Dallas, Steve, Daryl, Bruce, Pam, Heather and Allana

We have strong connections to our community but we need to engage our members and encourage their involvement more consistently. Covid has again made this difficult.

And as Dolly Parton once said "STORMS MAKE TREES TAKE DEEPER ROOTS

Rosemary Knox, President

## Loch-Nyora Landcare Group Annual Treasurer's Report

### Landcare Victoria Inc Loch Nyora Branch

#### Treasurer's Report for Financial Year 2020/2021

##### Bank Account Balance

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>30/06/2020</b>		
Bank of Bendigo General Account 162534127		\$	8,215.17
			<b>\$ 8,215.17</b>

##### Account Transactions

##### Income

Subscriptions		\$	1,015.55	
Bank Interest		\$	2.34	
Tree planting		\$	1,000.00	
		\$	<b>2,017.89</b>	\$ <b>10,233.06</b>

##### Expenditure

Subs/Insurance		\$	472.00	
Meetings				
Tubestock		\$	282.00	
Donation	Loch Memorial Reserve	\$	100.00	
		\$	<b>854.00</b>	\$ <b>9,379.06</b>

<b>Closing Balance as at</b>	<b>30/06/2021</b>			<b>\$ 9,379.06</b>
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## JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If you're new to LNLG or are due to renew your LNLG membership, please fill in the form below and post or email to our Treasurer, Gary along with your payment.

### LNLG Member Form New/Renewal 2021/2022

I/we \_\_\_\_\_ (name/s) wish to start/renew my/our Landcare Subscription for 1 year @ \$35.00.

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we enclose my cheque/money order for \$35.00

I/we have electronically transferred \$35.00 to:

**Name: Landcare Victoria Inc. Loch Nyora Group**

**BSB: 633 000**

**Account: 1625 34127**

Please return this form to Gary Martin (Treasurer), 122 Jeetho West Road, Jeetho Vic 3945

If making payment online please email Gary at the below address to let him know your payment details

Contact: [garymartin@attar.com.au](mailto:garymartin@attar.com.au)

## FREE PLANT OFFER

As part of your yearly membership we have a relationship with Melaleuca Nursery to supply **10 free tube stock plants** to all financial members. Instructions to pick up your 10 free plants:

1. Ensure your membership payment is up to date.
2. Email our Treasurer Gary [garymartin@attar.com.au](mailto:garymartin@attar.com.au) who will provide you with a code to take to Melaleuca Nursery and redeem for your plants.

The offer expires **30 June 2022**.



### Equipment available for LNLG members' use

The following weed management equipment is available for use by Loch-Nyora Landcare members. Tree guards and stakes are also available. Phone Rosemary 0409 594 312 for collection or drop off.

- 3, 5 and 15 litre sprayers
- Hamilton tree planters
- Hoes
- Spray dye
- Granular weed dispenser

### Discounted weed control supplies

South Gippsland Landcare Network have negotiated a 10% discount on all weed control products (equipment, herbicides, surfactants

etc) from local businesses **Leongatha Rural Supplies** and **Brown Wigg in Meeniyan**. Just tell them you are an SGLN member (which you are by default through your LNLG membership), and don't forget to thank them for their support.

## LNLG supports recycling

Where to recycle your cans, newspapers and scrap metal:

- Aluminium cans and glass bottles to the Loch Memorial Reserve
- Newspapers (for Kernot Uniting Church) to the bus shelter on South Gippsland Hwy/Dilger Road corner.
- Scrap metal to the Loch CFA/SES yard Wonthaggi Road Loch.



## COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Rosemary Knox	President	<a href="mailto:rosemaryknox@hotmail.com">rosemaryknox@hotmail.com</a> 0409 594 312
George Sullivan	Vice President	
Christine Connelly	Secretary	<a href="mailto:lochnyoralandcare@gmail.com">lochnyoralandcare@gmail.com</a>
Gary Martin	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:garymartin@attar.com.au">garymartin@attar.com.au</a>
Ron Barnacle, Daryl Smith, Steve McTaggart, Dallas Handley, Pam and Bruce Freeman and Heather Noble	Committee members	

## SGLN CONTACTS

SGLN STAFF		
Andrea Clifford	Landcare Facilitator (Mon, Tue, Thu)	<a href="mailto:andrea@sgln.net.au">andrea@sgln.net.au</a>
Cassie Wright	Projects and Education (Mon, Tue, Thu)	<a href="mailto:cassie@sgln.net.au">cassie@sgln.net.au</a>
Susan Koci	Bunurong Project Officer (Thu, Fri)	<a href="mailto:pestanimals@sgln.net.au">pestanimals@sgln.net.au</a>
Vicky Pedlow	Administrative Assistant (Tue)	<a href="mailto:pestanimals@sgln.net.au">pestanimals@sgln.net.au</a>
SGLN BOARD		
Jillian Staton	SGLN President	<a href="mailto:jillian@board.sgln.net.au">jillian@board.sgln.net.au</a>

Bear in mind all SGLN staff work part-time and may not be able to get back to you immediately.