



## Spring Newsletter

**31st October**

### **Food Handlers Course**

*Evening session—6—9.30pm*

*1 place still available—call Lanie 0408 103 066*

**14th November**

### **Landcare Executive Meeting**

*Minutes and agenda will be sent out to members*

**15th November**

### **Bugs and Brews**

*Merrigum—9am—2pm—limited places*

*More information later in this Newsletter*

*Book at <https://www.trybooking.com/YZZS>*

**16th November**

### **Loch Garry**

*School session during the day*

*Evening session open to everyone —6—8.30pm*

*Details in newsletter*

**30th November**

### **2nd Annual Picnic**

*Planning in progress*

**4th December**

### **Kanyapella Geomorphology Tour**

*Tour conducted by Neville Rosengren 10am—3pm*

*Contact Lanie to book your place 0408 103 066*

### **Still to come:**



**Edible Bush Garden & Companion Planting,  
Grafting, Bees, Weaving, On-Farm Composting and  
Bio-fertilisers,**

### **GMLN EXECUTIVE**

#### **President**

Graeme Liersch [Koyuga/Kanyapella](#)

#### **Vice President**

Dave Sutton [Naring](#)

#### **Treasurer**

John Laing [Dhurringile](#)

#### **Secretary**

Lanie Pearce [Nathalia](#)

#### **Committee members**

Collier McCracken [Arcadia](#)

Helen Jeffs [Shepp/Mooroopna](#)

Steve Jeffs [Shepp/Mooroopna](#)

Trish Moss [Congupna/Tallygaroopna](#)

Glen Thompson [Wyuna](#)

If your group does not have a representative on the executive and would like to be included, please contact anyone on the list above to discuss what it entails and what commitment is required. We meet monthly and welcome input from all our Landcare groups and associated membership groups.



Bad decisions usually make  
really good stories which you  
tell at the dinner table.

Like and Share us



Visit our Website

[www.gmln.com.au](http://www.gmln.com.au)





## Let's tell you what we've done.....

### Living the Good Life

#### Starry Night

#### @Koyuga

Koyuga-Kanyapella

Landcare Group organised a fantastic evening star-gazing.

With assistance from members of the Bendigo Astronomical Society, they studied the stars and socialised.

Thanks to the 4 members who attended and helped Landcare members with simple telescope problems, as well as viewing Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Mars & other interesting astronomical objects.

A great night out for everyone

Thanks to all who attended  
If there's enough interest,  
we'll do it again.



Our 1st aid course was well attended, and by all accounts quite entertaining. We now have 12 people qualified for their groups. Well done everyone!

We will be running another course in Jan/Feb next year for those who couldn't attend. Places will fill fast, so watch your emails for the date.

Part of the course is done on-line, so be prepared for this. It might sound a bit daunting, but is really quite easy.

We will send out instructions prior to the course for those who register.

It is important that we all have some knowledge of first aid and safety when running events.



Biodiversity Environment Aquatic Discovery

### KIDSFEST

John and Lanie attended the Kidsfest weekend at Kidstown again this year. We loved "showing-off" our creatures and nature based bits and bobs to everyone. The badge making was again popular with the water creatures theme.

Thanks to Parks Vic for sharing their space with us. It was a wonderful way to share resources and information again.

This is the 15th year we have attended KIDSFEST. I suppose that makes us sound very old, but some of the first attendees are now bringing their children along to share the experience.

There is some conversation around the timing of the event, so look for information in future newsletters and on our website.

[www.gmln.com.au](http://www.gmln.com.au)

Facebook and emails



This project was funded through the Victorian Landcare Program



## Thank You!

Goulburn Murray Landcare Network Inc would like to thank **Mark Banting** for his generous donation.

Mark has reached a significant milestone at Goulburn Murray Water and instead of having a dinner or other celebration, he has made a donation to Landcare. It is Mark's way of "giving" back to the community.

It is very much appreciated, and we are in the process of deciding which project it will aid.



## AND ALSO.....

### Living the Good Life

#### PRUNING WORKSHOP

#### UPDATE:

For those who attended the pruning workshop at Picola, we thought you might like a quick picture of how the “special” tree is going.

Currently it is loaded with flowers and it look good for a fantastic crop of peaches.

John Pettigrew—you are a legend!!!



### GONE FISHING DAY

Once again we were invited to attend the Gone Fishing Day at Victoria Park Lake—Shepparton.

It was sunny, but a very windy day by the lake and not many fish were caught. Everyone had lots of fun and it was great to see so many families enjoying time together. It is a wonderful initiative. We displayed our creatures and live “creepy-crawlies” which were a real hit with everyone.



Thanks to Jo Wood for organising the day. Once again our partners supported the event and assisted us when we were overwhelmed or just a little worn out. A GREAT DAY!



### Bush Kinder Jamboree @Rumbalara



Another fantastic event. The second annual *Bush Kinder Jamboree*. Kids from the local area converged on Rumbalara for a day of activities and fun. There was food, music, craft, dance and a chance to just “go bush” and enjoy.

Thanks to everyone involved, we had a great time and will be there next year.

Check out the excitement on the faces of everyone!



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### **Annual General Meeting**

Thankyou to everyone who attended our AGM.

We are immensely grateful to John Laing for his time and commitment as President over the past 13 years. A monumental effort as a volunteer!! He has stepped back but is taking on the Treasurers position—Thanks!

As usual, we had a very relaxed evening—this time at Fryers Street Food Store.

A huge thanks to Dale Grey who once again sent us a very personalized weather outlook—with some very special music and ukulele accompaniment. Great fun!

Also thanks to Tony Kubeil and Steve Wilson who, very generously gave up their time to give us a GBCMA update.

If you couldn't attend the AGM, and would like to have your group represented as part of the executive committee, please contact one of the executive members and have a chat about availability and time commitment.

Graham Liersch

Our new President.



# The Network

SPRING 2018



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## Become a Junior Ranger...

Have you ever wanted to discover the secrets of Victoria's national parks and reserves? Junior Rangers and parents can find out all about what's going on, direct from a park ranger! 6-12 year olds can take part in fun, ranger guided activities during school holidays. Junior Ranger will be running through the Summer school holidays in the Shepparton Regional Park between Shepparton and Mooroopna. Head over to the junior ranger website at [www.juniorranger.com.au](http://www.juniorranger.com.au) and join our mailing list to be alerted to events we are running.



Healthy Parks  
Healthy People



**National  
WATER  
WEEK**

21-27  
OCTOBER  
2018

This year as a major part of Water Week, we spent time with Cobram Primary School and Cobram Anglican Grammar at Thompsons Beach, Cobram.

The day was organized by Kristy Elrington, GV Water. The students rotated through 6 separate activities and concluded with a series of "water" themed relays. It was a beautiful day along the river and it reminded the students of how lucky they were to live in such close proximity to the wonderful Murray River.

Thanks to Bethan - Moira shire; Alice - GV Water; Carolena, Lanie and Jo — GM Landcare for assisting on the day.

Lanie and Kristy then went to St. Joesph's - Nagambie for some more fun activities and to present Water Week awards to the students.

*Yes, it really is a mini-toilet in the foreground. One of the more interesting activities.*



We were happy to be able to donate our old computers, modem and laser printer to the Ethnic Council for office and training use.

So often things are thrown away when they are upgraded or no longer needed, so it was with great pleasure that we could find a home for our old items. A huge thanks to Carolena for clearing the computers and having them set-up as usable equipment.

Everyone is a winner!!!

## Floodplain Ecology Course 2018

**Morning Glory Resort**

**Moama—NSW**

**8th—12th October 2018**

**What a fantastic week we had at 2018 FEC!**



The faces say it all—this is day one. We were blown away by our presenters and the enthusiastic way they shared their knowledge and expertise so generously!

**The course is running again next year from the 7th—11th October—2019**

GMLN funds two Landcare members to attend each year. Their input and local knowledge is valued by the attendees. It is important we have some local perspective available.

**Places are filling** for the 2019 course, Please contact Lanie—0408 103 066

email [gmln@iinet.net.au](mailto:gmln@iinet.net.au)





# The Network

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## 2018 Soils Spring newsletter



Having a healthy productive soil is proving to be beneficial in these dry conditions. Being able to utilise every drop of rain is essential for the productivity of our region.

Good soil structure and ground cover aids water infiltration, be it rain or irrigation and can prolong growing conditions. With our current conditions this is such a bonus.

We ran a practical day on *On-farm Bugs & Brews* with David Hardwick & Gerry Gillespie. This was very popular and gave attendees the skills to brew their own biofertilisers and compost inoculants on their farms. Gerry Gillespie is passionate about reusing resources and this workshop was a great example of how farmers can access the nutrient resources they have on farm and benefit their farm ecosystems. Due to this workshop booking out so quickly we are running it again, on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November at Merrigum.

We also had regenerative farmer Colin Seis for 2 workshops on Pasture Management. Col explained by understanding how a grassland functions we can manage our pastures to work as an ecosystem. Species diversity and year round ground cover are the key. Having perennial plants growing with annuals drives the ecosystems. Plants photosynthesis and create sugars that feed the soil biology that in turn process nutrients in the soil into plant available form. They have a good working relationship. 😊 Grasses build soils; when they are grazed the roots are shed, broken down by microbes and form carbon rich soils. Col says: 'Focus on the grasses you want to grow (ie. not the weeds) and manage the grazing to promote these.'

Planning for 2019 workshops is underway and includes developing pasture management demonstration sites, weeds as soil condition indicators, understanding soil biology and more on improving soil health.

Keep yourself & your land hydrated

Jo



GARDENING HAS JUST  
SORT OF GROWN ON ME.  
I FIND IT  
THERAPEUTIC. AND I  
LIKE SMELLY THINGS.



## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

### Goulburn Murray Landcare

Office: 0358 213 530  
Jo: 0447 321 140  
Lanie: 0408 103 066  
Carolena: 0408 618 204  
Email: gmln@iinet.net.au

### City of Greater Shepparton

Shepparton 0358 329 700

### Moir Shire

Cobram 1300 369 996

### Campaspe Shire

Echuca 1300 666 535

### WaterWatch

Jacinta Burke 0358 320 400

### GV Waste Resource & Recovery Group

Brad Montgomery 0427 286 442

### Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources

Tatura 0358 355 222  
Echuca 0354 821 922

### Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority

Shepparton 0358 201 100

### Goulburn Broken Seedbank

0358 262 513

### Goulburn Murray Water

Tatura 0358 335 500  
Cobram 0358 710 100  
Shepparton 0358 329 900

### Goulburn Valley Water

Shepparton 0358 320 400  
Cobram 0358 722 526  
Tatura 0358 242 345

### EPA Litter Report Line

1800 352 555

### Parks Vic:

Nathalia 0358 669 900  
Shepparton 0358 320 222  
Yarrawonga 0357 433 104

### Landcare Victoria Inc (LVI)

Susi or Kelly 0392 075 527  
Email: info@lvi.org.au

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## On-farm bugs & brews with David Hardwick



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BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

**Understand and learn how to make inoculants, bio-stimulants and biofertilisers on-farm using practical fermentation based techniques.**

David Hardwick (*Agroecologist, & partner at Soil Land Food*) will present this practical hands-on one day workshop.

Around the world there has been an increase in the number of farmers making and using fermentation based products such as EM and biofertilisers.

In this practical, hands-on workshop we will look at all these technologies as well as showing you how to make them yourself for low cost.



The day will include:

- On-farm biotechnologies
- Fermentation based products—LAB/EM & Compost Inoculants
- Bio-fertilisers, Bioles & Liquid Hydrolysates & how to use them
- Discuss No turn, inoculated composting
- Commercial products



### Workshop details:

**Thurs 15th Nov, @ Merrigum Hall**

**Morrissey St, Merrigum. (corner Waverly Ave)**

**9am for a 9.30 start—2pm**

**Morning tea & lunch are provided.**

**Cost \$10 per person.**

**Bookings are essential. Spaces limited.**

**Book at <https://www.trybooking.com/YZZS>**

**Or go to [www.gmln.com/events](http://www.gmln.com/events)**

**For more details email Jo on [gmln2@bigpond.com](mailto:gmln2@bigpond.com) or 0412151652**



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**GOLBURN  
BROKEN**  
CATHOLIC  
PARISHES  
UNITED



**VICTORIA**  
State  
Government

Environment,  
Land, Water  
and Planning

These workshops are possible with the support of the Goulburn Broken CMA & DELWP funding opportunities.



# The Network

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LOVIN'  
THE LOWER  
GOULBURN

## ROCKIN' LOCH GARRY

**Friday 16th  
November  
2018**

**6pm–8.30pm**

BYO picnic dinner,  
chairs, picnic  
blanket, and drinks

### What is planned for the evening:

- Live music
- Kids games
- History of Loch Garry
- Mini Bug Blitz – for adults and kids!
- Bird watching
- Ideas for Loch Garry in the future
- Relaxing time with family & friends

All welcome – feel free to circulate this invitation

For further information please contact Lanie Pearce  
at [gmln@iinet.net.au](mailto:gmln@iinet.net.au) or 0408 103 066



# The Network

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## Membership:

We are offering the opportunity for you to become a member of the Goulburn Murray Landcare Network. *If you are already a financial member of a Landcare group, or a similar group, you are already covered.* This is the opportunity to be a paid member, and attend most of our events for free. (sometimes there will be a cost, but reduced for members)

We will have to start charging non-members a fee to attend some of our events to cover them for insurance and our costs. This is a great opportunity to become part of Landcare and keep up to date with everything we are doing and to let us know what you would like to happen. We need your input so we can develop programs for our area. Give Andrea a call if you have any questions or want any more information about this proposal. **JOIN US TODAY!**



## Goulburn Murray Landcare Network Membership Form 2018/2019

Name .....

Address.....

.....

Phone No.....

Email address.....

### Membership Type (Please tick)

☐ Individual \$10   ☐ Family \$15

**This will entitle you to membership until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2019.**

Membership to Goulburn Murray Landcare includes subscription to our email list, keeping you up to date with our seasonal newsletter and upcoming events and activities in our area. It will also give you discounted or free entry to our events throughout the year.

Cheque payable to Goulburn Murray Landcare Network or

Direct Deposit:    Account name: Goulburn Murray Landcare Network

BSB: 633 000    Account No: 133815845

(Use MEM followed by your name as a reference)

Please send to Goulburn Murray Landcare Network, 82 Wyndham Street, Shepparton, VIC 3630