



# Landcare Update



President: Mick Ryan Ph:4844 5012

Sec: Shirley Cornish Ph 4844 5101 Fax 4844 5364

A wonderful contingency of members was present for the busy-bee at "Daraglen" on Saturday 3rd Feb, 22 in all, to remove fencing to provide access to the Department to carry out heavy machinery work. The great comradery amongst Members makes light work of what could be a laborious task on many occasions.

We have 26 Members attending the Awards Night on 24th March at Braidwood. New Members Fayez & Ruth Nour have kindly offered to bring a 14 seater bus to transport a great percentage to Braidwood that evening and we will be sharing cars for the remainder. A collection will of course be taken up to compensate those using their own vehicles. Cost to be decided.

Have you submitted your Awards Nominations? Primarily, those people who have had work carried out on their property/s for the Group award. Thank you everyone for your support, especially new Grounds Operations Director, who probably wonders what he has 'fallen into'!!

Best Wishes, take care. Yours Truly, Sec. Shirl.

## NERRIGA LANDCARE GROUP, INC

ABN 89 582 597 504



President: Di Roberts  
 Secretary: Helen Rolland  
 Treasure: Di Roberts  
 Public Officer: Helen Allen

### Shoalhaven River Working Bee

On Saturday February 17, eight members of the Nerriga Landcare Group assisted in redecorating the Shoalhaven River bank, which is in the care of Di and Phil Roberts.

Spraying and weeding Blackberries, Vipers Bugloss, and African Love Grass. It looked very colourful daubed in pink on the white sand. We managed to cover some 500m by 30m. The work was made possible with a grant from the Bush Incentives Scheme run by the Catchment Management Authority.

We then spent the afternoon swimming, lunching and, relaxing on the riverbank. It was a good thing to see the river flowing a little better after the recent rain.

*Photo at right:  
 Weed Identification  
 Helen Allen, Alan Martin, Di Roberts and Frank Coleman*



### Weather Watch

**16th January to 15th February**

<i>Adrook, Oallen Ford Road, Windellama</i>	91 ml / 8 days
<i>Timberlight, Oallen Ford Road, Oallen</i>	137.8 ml / 11 days
<i>Amaroo, Roberts Road, Windellama</i>	130.5 ml / 9 days
<i>Gar-den, Oallen Ford Rd, Windellama</i>	121 ml / 10 days
<i>Johnno's Corner, Oallen Ford Rd</i>	48 ml / 6 days
<i>Hollow Log, Willow Glen Rd, Tarago</i>	65.5 ml / 6 days



*Assisting with Manpower  
 Helen Allen and Alan Martin and the Machine*



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**THE JACQUA SCHOOL BUS RUN 1953**

On a Monday early in February 1953, it would have been the second week of the school year as a complaint called 'being over excited' prevented me from going on the previous week, I caught the 'Jacqua School Bus' on Oallen Ford Rd., to give it today's terminology, at the gate to 'Benduck'.

The bus was a late model pug-nosed (today it is called a cab-over) cabbage green coloured Austin truck probably of 2 ton size. It was driven by Laurie English, from the Spa Road, a canvas cover enclosed the tray and the seats were bolted to the tray. One can only wonder what 'Work Cover' or 'OH&S' would think! Some times Laurie's brother Collin would do the run in his Ford Ute, we would all pile onto the sole bench seat. Alan, Mavis and Trevor McGaw from 'Benduck' boarded at the same time. The next stop was for the 'Sunning Hill' crew, Kerry and Greg Brice, this was at the junction of Jacqua Road, Sunning Hill Rd in those days.

Believe it or not, the next pupils didn't get on until the Spa Road, where Peter and Alice Hush boarded (the reason being that the only dwelling was 'Brooklyn' and there were no kids), then to 'Budjong' to pick up Jennifer Varcoe. Dawn Williams, the youngest member of 'Buburba' homestead was next and the last pupil was Lorraine Steele from 'Eloura'. Peter Croker from 'Lumeah' and Norma Bryant from 'Rosewood' also attended the school but had to find their own way to school because they lived too close to the school for a bus subsidy – when Norman Bryant took over the bus run in 1954 these two were picked up probably gratis as a friendly gesture, Norma being Norman's daughter. When Collin's ute was used two trips were made' as the front seat wasn't big enough for us all at once.

For the record, the bus run was carried out by Ray Croker prior to Laurie English and because it appeared likely that no-one would follow Norman in 1956, AND also because my sister Marilyn and myself HAD to get to school somehow, my father bought a Commer panel-van and continued the run until early 1958, because we were moving to the Tumut/Gundagai area, the Commer was traded-in on a new Volkswagen combi-van late in '56 and Dell Rogers of 'Forest Grove' carried the run on from there.

The present Library was the only building on the school grounds and was the class room I attended when I started and John Swaine was the solitary teacher.

The bus run was extended to Sandy Point, I think in 1954/5 but definitely by 1956 when my father was running the bus. Dianne Legge was the pupil.

I have heard complaints over the past nine years, I won't mention any names, of the sad condition of Oallen Ford Road, however, compared to it's condition during my six years at Windellama School – I can only remember the Shire doing work once – it is a veritable highway, even the unsealed bits! I would like a dollar for every hour my father and other residents spent using their own tractors and trucks and shovels, none of them had a tip truck either! Just to make it passable for the 'bus'. Most thought road work was like a 'rain dance' as usually it rained shortly after the crossings and pot holes had been fixed and it had to be re-done.

**Back to School**

By Rex Hockey



The new machinery shed at the Museum is now complete and various items of farming equipment are now under cover in the shed, including the wool press.

At the Museum we have a selection of Tom Bryant's books about the history of the area, as well as bookmarks and postcards with images of early Windellama—all reasonably priced.

The Yass & District Historical Society will hold their Beyond the limits of location seminar on 23-25 March 2007. Topics to be presented include local history, indigenous and ethnic research, ephemera; and there will be music provided by folk singers and musicians Chloe and Jason Roweth. For more information contact Cheryl Morgan on 6226 2708.

**Our next meeting will be at the Hall on Friday 2nd March and Friday 1st June at 2pm.**

New members are welcome. If you would like more information, please phone one of the following members:

Sandra Greville (Sec) 4844 5047

Cynthia Hudson (Treas) 4844 5005

Joanna Croker 4844 5125

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**starts 7.30 pm**

**2 course meal**

**cost \$25.00 pp**

**Show goes 2 1/2 hours**

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**Frances 4844 5157**

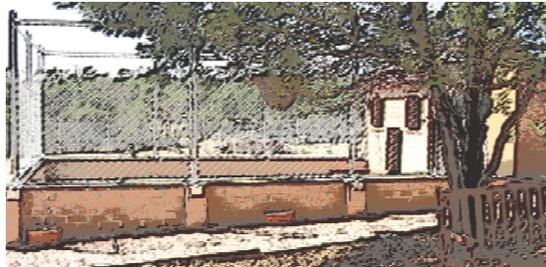
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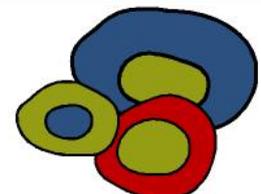
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**Sunday 15 April 2007 10am-5pm**

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- ★ Ecological products and displays
- ★ Horse and cart rides for the children
- ★ Qi Gong demonstrations

Free talks will be happening during the day with topics such as deliberate manifestation, Feng Shui, deep ecology and voice therapy. So if you feel like a good massage, want some insight into your future or a general 'toning of the soul', come and say gudday to the folks at Gudhara!

Gudhara Holistic Sanctuary Inc.  
48 411 632 ★ 831 Red Hills Road Marulan ★ [www.gudhara.org.au](http://www.gudhara.org.au) ★ [gregodonnell@dodo.com.au](mailto:gregodonnell@dodo.com.au)



## At Your Goulburn Library



### Internet Training

Having trouble finding your way around the Internet? Maybe we can help! Internet training sessions are free and will run for 1½ hours, library staff will demonstrate how to use the Internet to research a topic followed by a practical 'hands on' session on the Library computers.

Where: Goulburn Library

When: Tuesday 13th March. Today's theme - Family History.

When: Tuesday 27th March. Today's theme - Legal Information.

Time: 10.30 -12 noon

Cost: Free

Bookings: Bookings are essential. Book in the library or call 4823 4435.

### Book Chat

Love books and reading? Like to talk about what you are reading and get ideas for what to read next? Here's the group for you! Come along and join our drop-in book discussion group, run by library staff who love to talk about books. Join fellow readers and come ready to share what you have been reading.

Book Chat will meet in the Goulburn Library on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Where: Goulburn Library

When: Tuesday 6th March. Today's theme - TBA

When: Tuesday 20th March. Today's theme - TBA

Time: 10.30 -11.30am

Cost: Free

Bookings: No booking required just turn up on the day or phone 4823 4435 for more details.

### Seniors Week

Goulburn Library will host a display of photographs by members of the Wollondilly Gardens Camera Group.

Where: Goulburn Library

When: 10th-18th March

Bookings: Not required

Cost: Free

### STRL Photo Competition

Our Photo competition is on again and this year's theme is "Pubs with a past". So find your camera and get ready to snap from 10th March 2007.

**The STRL Photographic Competition** is held every two years. The aim is to foster historical interest in the people, the landscapes, and the uniquely identifiable features of our Southern Tablelands region. With History in Focus: Pubs With A Past, STRL hopes to acquire past and present images of pubs, inns, hotels, also their contents, activities and even their patrons!

All images acquired from this competition will enhance the existing regional photographic collection. Within the Regional History Room of Goulburn Branch Library, these images will be preserved and made available for the needs of current and future researchers. Digitisation and indexing projects are underway that will enable the collection to be more widely accessible via digital technologies such as the internet.

This competition is specifically focused toward pubs, inns and hotels within the local government areas administered by Goulburn Mulwaree, Upper Lachlan and Yass Valley councils.

The launch is to coincide with National Trust Heritage Festival 3-18 March 2007, also Goulburn's Festival of Heritage & Roses and Seniors Week 10-18 March. Competition closes Monday 20th August 2007.

*Goulburn Library presents*

### Songs, poems & yarns of the Australian Bush

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**LIVE LIFE** NSW Seniors Week  
11-18 MARCH 2007  
[nswseniorsweek.com.au](http://nswseniorsweek.com.au)

When : Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 6pm-8pm

Where: Goulburn Library, Civic Centre Burke Street Goulburn

A bush supper will be served. All ages are welcome to attend.

This is a FREE event to celebrate Seniors Week.

For bookings please contact the library on 4823 4435.





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By Paul Alessi

[palessi@tpgi.com.au](mailto:palessi@tpgi.com.au)

## Spotted Marsh Frogs

Now that we've had a bit of rain the frogs can all be happy again but last month they were in hiding. Our kids love to swim in one of the dams and discovered that by tipping buckets of water on the dam wall they could make frogs rise out of the large cracks in the mud.

These frogs were easily identified as *Limnodynastes tasmaniensis* (commonly known as Spotted Marsh Frogs) According to internet sources these frogs are often associated with water and before you say "so what" bear in mind many frog species inhabit trees.

Spotted Marsh Frogs are pale salmon to fawny pink in colour and the spots olive green, sometimes with a stripe down their back. They are also one of our most common frogs. They are usually between 30 and 48mm in length and have a large area of distribution with the extremities roughly being Townsville to Hobart to Adelaide.

The males hide in floating vegetation calling to their females and the calls can vary from place to place from a kuk-kuk-kuk to a click or plop sound.



## Tree Scribblers Caught ?

The Scribbly Gum Moth trap was taken down last week and sent off to the CSIRO, watch this column as we will be exposing who is making the scribbles on our gum trees.



## Dragonfly Trivia

There seem to be plenty of dragonflies about at the moment, one escorted me down the road the other day flying alongside the tractor and seemed to be interested in what I was doing which in turn got me curious about Dragonflies.

They are fascinating creatures, some can travel up to 100 kmh, hover or even fly backwards. They can spot a mosquito at a range of 6 metres and then fly along holding all six legs to form a basket in which they scoop up their prey, this is then eaten while they are still flying.

They also mate in the air which I guess most of you will have seen at one time or another. The females drop their eggs into water, within weeks nymphs hatch from these eggs and live in the water from 1 to 5 years, they emerge from the nymph to become a Dragonfly but this last stage of their life is fairly short.

In ancient times there were species of Dragonfly with wing spans of up to 2 1/2 feet (76cm). One large species of Dragonfly *Petalura gigantea* still survives in NSW, much of it's habitat has been lost or altered and it once inhabited swamps in Sydney and Cronulla. It can still be found in isolated parts of eastern NSW including the Wingecarribee Swamp near Moss Vale and has a wingspan up to 140mm (over 5 inches)

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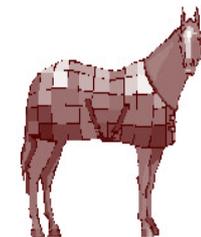
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