



Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group

Newsletter

Chair: James Bufton
5284-1344

Treasurer: Chris Winfield
5369-4214

Secretary: Allan Bartholomew
5369-4197

Visit our website for latest news: <http://brlg.org.au>

Number 63

December 2018

Please join our Christmas Celebration with the Balliang Hall Committee and CFA



Friday December 21 at 6:30pm

*** BBQ provided *** Please bring a salad or dessert *** BYO drinks ***

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For feedback, comments and letters to the editor: newsletter.brlg@gmail.com

BRLG – Possible Projects for 2019

The BRLG plans to start a once a month Sunday morning activity. We will either visit someone's property to help them with a weed control, erosion management or revegetation task, or visit a property where someone has something of interest they would like to share with others – maybe an interesting aspect of their property or something they have developed that they think others would be interested in learning about.

Here's a list of the suggestions we have received to date. We are keen to receive more so talk with us or send through an email with your suggestions.

Where	What	Timing
Triangle	Plant shrubs around the oldest redgum in Greater Geelong to protect it from soil compaction (from vehicles)	Winter
Roadside where Staughton Vale Road crosses Little River	Remove or drill and fill smaller birch trees and replace with native vegetation. Mature trees to be left in place.	Woody weed removal anytime Replanting in winter
Balliang East hall	Remove cacti Replant perimeter vegetation with less flammable varieties	Weed removal anytime Replanting in winter

We are keen to add to the list above so we can develop the 2019 BRLG Activity Calendar!

- Do you need help with a Landcare activity on your property?
- Is there a problem on public land that you think the BRLG could help with?
- Is there something on your property that you would like to share with other Landcare members?
- Have you implemented or trialled something that you think others might be interested to know about?
- Do you know of someone that is doing something of interest on their land?

Please send through your suggestions or requests. We need your input!

BRLG Calendar 2020 – we need your input!

Over the course of 2019, one of our members will be selecting local images and text to create a local calendar for the year of 2020.

Do you have any great local images that you would like to send through for inclusion in a local calendar? Ones that capture the seasonal variations or particular aspects of our local landscape.

Please send them through to the calendar editor, Nina Bird, at fly2nina@gmail.com

Weed of the Month – Carpet weed / Blanket weed (Galenia pubescens)

Particularly prevalent around Bacchus Marsh, galenia is a groundcover weed that seeds prolifically and out competes all other grasses and groundcovers (hence the common name, blanket weed). Despite being a groundcover, it is considered a *woody weed*.

A greyish-green shrubby groundcover, it forms a dense mat. Older plants have a tough woody stem, relatively thick for its size with a deep growing tap root. Leaves are oval or spoon-shaped, hairy and green in colour. Bees love it, but it threatens the honey industry as it taints the taste!



The blanket in-situ



The woody tap root



Close-up

Petals can be white, green-ish white or pinkish in colour. Small inconspicuous flowers occur mostly in summer.



Failure to manage

Galenia will out compete all other grasses and groundcovers.

Control options

Method	How	Timing
Manual	Chip out using a mattock or hoe making sure you get the tap root.	Best to do after rain when the soil is wet to aid removal of the tap root
Herbicide	A selective herbicide registered for use on Galenia. Trials undertaken by Jon Kay Agricultural Services in Melton determined that Grazon Extra was the most effective herbicide for control of galenia. Note that Roundup (glyphosate) is not effective on established plants. It will burn off the leaves but the plant will re-grow from the tap root.	Most effective when applied during the spring and summer growth period.

New BRLG Exec Committee

At last month's AGM, the following members were elected onto the Exec Committee:

James Bufton (President), Bart Bartholomew (Secretary), Chris Winfield (Treasurer), Jacki Staude, Daniel Dragt, Leena Renkauskas, Mark Gsalter, Tony Wilson and Robert Hall (newsletter).

Thanks to all for their new or continued support.

Important Dates for Next Year

Write these dates in your 2019 calendar!

BRLG Meetings	Exec Committee
Thursday February 21 st	Thursday January 17 th
Thursday April 18 th	Thursday March 21 st
Thursday June 20 th	Thursday May 16 th
Thursday August 15 th	Thursday July 18 th
Thursday October 17 th	Thursday Sept 19 th
Xmas break TBA	Thursday Nov 21 st
<i>Working bee dates to be advised</i>	

Wine of the Month



Wine of the Month is awarded to St Hallett's winery's Shiraz Grenache 2017.

Will make a great Christmas gift...for yourself and others!

Landcare Resources

I want to know about...	Here is a good place to start...
Aboriginal cultural heritage location mapping	https://www.vic.gov.au/aboriginalvictoria/heritage/heritage-tools-and-publications/heritage-tools.html then select "online map tool"
Biodiversity mapping and recording	http://maps.biodiversity.vic.gov.au/viewer/?viewer=NatureKit http://natureshare.org.au/ http://avh.chah.org.au/
Boxthorn	http://weeds.ala.org.au/WoNS/africanboxthorn/docs/African_boxthorn-national_best_practice_manual.pdf
Chilean needle grass	https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/invasive/weeds/publications/guidelines/wons/pubs/n-neesiana.pdf
Feral goat control	https://www.pestsmart.org.au/pest-animal-species/feral-goat/
Fox control	https://www.pestsmart.org.au/pest-animal-species/european-fox/
Gorse	https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/invasive/weeds/publications/guidelines/wons/pubs/u-europaeus.pdf
Landcare networks	Moorabool Landcare Network Geelong Landcare Network
Melbourne Water Stream Frontage Grants	https://www.melbournewater.com.au/community-and-education/apply-funding/stream-frontage-management-program
Rabbit management	http://www.mln.org.au/images/PDFS/rabbitactionguide.pdf https://www.pestsmart.org.au/pest-animal-species/european-rabbit/
Serrated tussock	https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/invasive/weeds/publications/guidelines/wons/pubs/n-trichotoma.pdf
Weeds - identification and control	http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds/weeds/a-z-of-weeds
Weed status in Victoria	http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds/weeds/invasive-plant-classifications http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds/protecting-victoria-from-pest-animals-and-weeds/legislation-policy-and-permits/declared-noxious-weeds-and-pest-animals-in-victoria

Last  Laugh

