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AABR NEWS

Australian Association of Bush Regenerators

working with natural processes

AABR Annual General Meeting *Save the Date*

Saturday 27th February 2021.

The meeting will be held online.

We will have an interesting speaker too!

(NOTE: The AGM had been delayed this year as might be expected.)

**Information and the Agenda will be forwarded to all members in
the near future.**



AABR would like to thank Ku-ring-gai Council for helping demonstrate techniques for the latest videos in our FABB series.

Photo: V Bear Little Gecko

See AABR's regenTV YouTube channel <http://www.youtube.com/c/regenTV>

Videos in production

- **Disposing of weed - thinking about habitat for fauna**
- **Get good at recognising natives and weeds at a very small stage**
- **The six main techniques used after fire**

President's Perspective

With the end of the year fast approaching, our sights are focused on 2021 when we hope that many of the events planned for 2020 - delayed due to both COVID and a change in AABR's priorities due to last season's horrendous bushfires - will be able to happen.

The first of these events is AABR's AGM – so please save the date of Sat 24th February 2021 and we will send formal notice in good time. It will be held via Zoom but please feel free to organise little 'pods' where groups of local people might like to get together in person to add a little social dimension to the meeting. The main business of the meeting, apart from election of office bearers, will be to consider a special resolution to adopt a redrafted constitution that better clarifies AABR's national structure and branches and also places us in a more secure position for gaining charitable and Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. This redraft has been worked on by the Committee and others over the last 6 months and we are happy that the draft has a good chance of both meeting legal requirements and representing AABR's long-standing aspirations for our future as an organisation.

The second major activity that we hope to be able to finally conduct - COVID allowing - is expanding AABR's accreditation system into Victoria. This will involve at least two visits of NSW and QLD assessors to (a) conduct in-person assessments of likely Victorian bush regenerators and (b) a workshop to induct Victorian assessors. At some stage during 2021 we will recommence the project of developing a 'reconstruction practitioner' accreditation system, with assistance from AABR Victoria.

Progress has been steady throughout the year with AABR's post-fire response linking skilled people to sites in need of post-fire regeneration assistance, and generally advocating for improved

national response to the need for assisted regeneration post fire. This has involved not only coordinating links to on-ground works and developing [online resources](#) apvmaincluding fantastic videos and fact sheets, but also liaising with multiple partner environmental NGOs and government agency programs. This work will continue into 2021 and presumably beyond.

Next year will also see AABR strengthen its ties and collaborations with other organisations including other restoration bodies involved in the SERA-facilitated National Standards for Ecological Restoration. This may lead to improved opportunities for AABR to spread its message about assisted regeneration and improved opportunities for arranging mentorships to ensure we continuously induct younger practitioners into the industry – but it also allows exchange of information from other organisations to AABR members. Not least of these other organisations with which AABR is linking is the Ecological Society of Australia (ESA) – our country's peak body for ecologists. We are currently negotiating potential for all AABR members to become Affiliate Members of ESA. This membership type, should it go ahead, will effectively allow each AABR member to gain access the journal *Ecological Management & Restoration (EMR)* and all other benefits of ESA (which are substantial) for a price equivalent to something like half the cost of a current full price journal subscription.

The AABR committee wishes all readers and their families a very happy Chrissie break, inevitably after a frantic period of preparing sites to be left on their own for a little while!

Tein McDonald

President, AABR

AABR and Glyphosate

The AABR glyphosate Working Group

As the debate continues about whether some councils ban the use of pesticides containing glyphosate, government agencies have been required to outline their stance on the use of this chemical. In Victoria the *Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)* provided a standard response for Councils to adopt, based on the findings of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). (<https://apvma.gov.au/node/13891>)

AABR is following the scientific advice provided by the APVMA and believe that glyphosate can be used safely, if the manufacturer's specifications are followed. However AABR does support further independent transparent review and research, to more fully assess both potential human and ecological health impacts of glyphosate.

Last August the Victorian branch of AABR decided to set up a working group to focus on glyphosate use in the conservation industry. The role of this working group will be to investigate how land managers are addressing concerns raised over the use of glyphosate. The group would like feedback from members on whether this recent news has changed your current land management practices or adoption of alternative methods used. The following objectives of the working group have been proposed.

Glyphosate Working Group objectives;

- To develop a survey that will gauge sentiment from land managers about the use of this chemical
- Review what glyphosate is commonly used for and the level of use in the conservation industry
- Determine what affect banning glyphosate would have on industry practices
- Review current trials using alternative chemicals and determine the effectiveness of different chemicals at targeting specific weeds
- Provide advice about alternatives methods to use and promote training of integrated weed management practices
- Review the latest scientific research conducted on the toxicology of glyphosate and provide updates to members
- Advise members of any changes to the current WH&S advice and PPE requirements.

As more councils question the use of glyphosate and some have implemented herbicide bans, AABR has a great opportunity to differentiate the herbicide requirements for bushland management from requirements for food production, especially large scale food production, and horticultural herbicide applications, which (unlike its use in conservation) do not decrease over time.

It is proposed that AABR create a document listing the arguments against banning glyphosate or all herbicide as some councils have done. The paper would aim to provide experience and evidence on the objectives identified by the working group.

Glyphosate: A Chemical to Understand

Newly released report from the Invasive Species Council

This report is a 'must read' for those involved in bush regeneration and land management.

The Invasive Species Council was formed in 2002 to do something about the invasion of weed and pest species. The Council commissioned Tim Low, well known environmental consultant and author, to write a report, [Glyphosate: A Chemical to Understand](#), which has just been released.

There has been considerable debate and some court cases about the chemical glyphosate, which is a component of a number of herbicides (notably Roundup®) which are used in bush regeneration and restoration. It is the main herbicide used on crops in Australia and the main herbicide used against weeds invading our native ecosystems.

There have been differing findings regarding glyphosate and cancer, with the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) determining in 2015 that glyphosate was a probable carcinogen, whereas The European Food Safety Authority announced that glyphosate 'is unlikely to pose a carcinogenic hazard to humans' (European Food Safety Authority 2015). As a result some countries (not Australia) have placed bans on glyphosate.

Aside from cancer concerns, glyphosate is controversial for its link to genetically modified crops. Many GM crops have been designed to survive glyphosate so that they can be sprayed on a large scale to kill associated weeds.

This report aims to look at the different findings and to think about what the outcomes would be if Australia bans glyphosate.

The background information in the report explains the difference between hazard assessment versus risk assessment. Of interest in Section 2 is the information about the various research papers which have been used in making decisions about the role of glyphosate in the causation of cancer. This is interesting reading for anyone who is interested in how any research is carried out and interpreted. The third section asks what it means for glyphosate to be a carcinogen. The IARC's category of known carcinogens includes alcohol, processed meat and solar radiation (sunshine). Low writes: "Cancer is such a feared disease that many people might suppose that any cancer risk is reason to ban a chemical. But today's world abounds in carcinogens."

Section four talks about the ramifications of banning the use of glyphosate. Ramifications range from what would alternative herbicides look like, as many possible replacements could be worse. An overall reduction in the use of herbicides would be

ideal, but there are factors to consider in this approach as well. Some conclusions are given in Section 5.

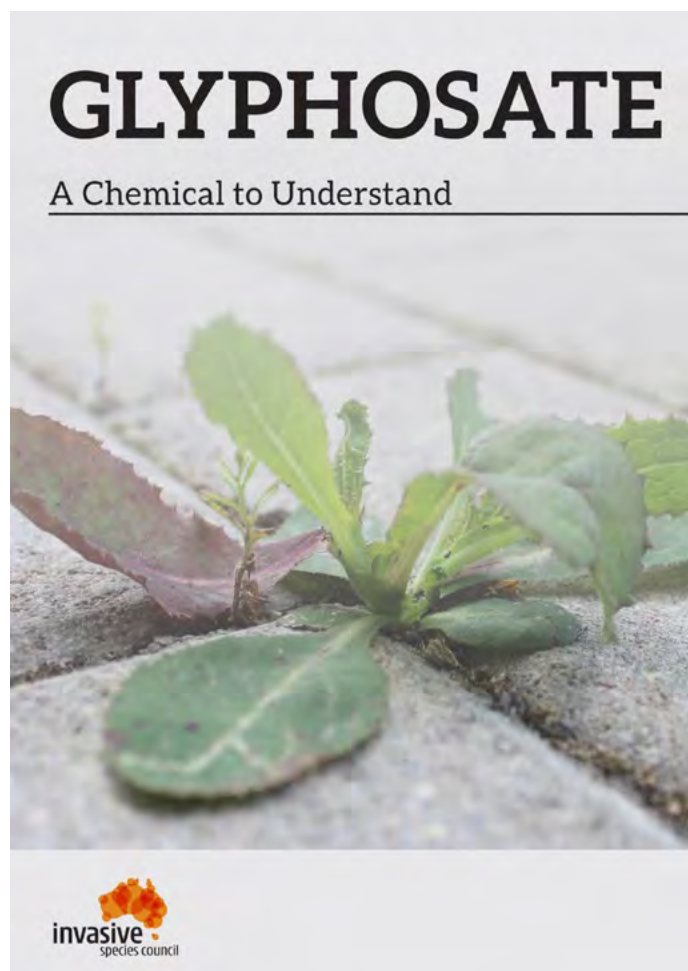
It should be noted that the report largely deals with use of glyphosate for weed control and does not discuss use in the wider agricultural and food production sector.

The views expressed in the report are those of its author, Tim Low, not those of the council.

Download your copy of the report at <https://invasives.org.au/publications/glyphosate-a-chemical-to-understand/>

An article in The Guardian discusses further the use of glyphosate in weed control.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/nov/22/war-of-the-weedkiller-why-environmentalists-are-concerned-about-moves-to-ban-roundup>.



The AABR Glyphosate Working Group (cont.)

The paper would also detail experience of

- those who have worked in areas where herbicide and/or glyphosate has been banned
- the decrease of herbicide use on bushland sites over time
- environmental, economic, WH&S and time comparisons and
- experience of alternative weed control technologies like steam, hand weeding and "organic" herbicides.

The paper would cover the effectiveness of integrated weed management strategies for organisations and sites where a long-term site management perspective has been used.

If you have experiences in any of the above or care to expand the list, please email Rob Scott robscott@naturelinks.com.au

Have you a story to tell about weed management practices, which can be shared with other regenerators and land managers. Lets put it in the AABR newsletter. Contact Louise newsletter@aabr.org.au

Scotch Broom Control at Barrington Tops National Park

Bushfire Recovery Project

Andrew Scott
Bushcare Officer, North Sydney Council

Barrington Tops NP Photo: Andrew Scott

Early this year, following the devastating summer bushfires, AABR appealed to members and supporters to contribute to the post-fire weeding effort in high priority areas for fauna habitat recovery. A database of experienced volunteers was created to match volunteers to projects in need.

With the support of North Sydney Council's General Manager, the Bushland Team settled on a project to help control a 1,000 ha infestation of scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius* sp. *scoparius*), 95% of which was impacted by fire in Barrington Tops National Park - home to threatened species and endangered montane wetlands, as well as a World Heritage listed area. We planned a reconnaissance trip in Autumn to assess the suitability of the project for our volunteers, but the COVID-19 pandemic intervened, and the Park was then closed for winter.

Our visit finally came to fruition on 10 to 12 November 2020. Four Bushland and two Tree Team members (qualified arborists) made the 5-hr drive from Sydney via Gloucester, passing by granite

peaks ascending from rolling pastures over babbling brooks along the Bucketts Way. Self-sufficiency was key; 4-wheel drives for access, BYO food and equipment. NPWS supplied the tools - electric chain saws, pole saws and brush cutters and a very comfy lodging at the Little Murray Hut compound with room to camp.

On arrival, we met the project coordinator, Boyd Carney - Bush Regeneration & Volunteer Officer Hunter Central Coast Branch and Peter Beard, Barrington Tops Park Ranger. Our orientation included a tour of the trial plots by the hut, quadrats of stem-cut scotch broom, sans-herbicide treatment. Boyd said that the literature indicated 'brown stem' - mature, single stemmed plants - responded well to this control method, mostly lacking the capacity to regenerate, while green stem, young multi-stemmed plants did not. Boyd advocated the 80:20 approach, whereby one controls the largest area of weed possible, sweeping up the remainder at a later date for the greatest impact. Boyd's aim was to stop the broom going to seed (which we saw little of) as the flowers are held on the plant for an extended period of time before the seedpods develop.

Boyd and Peter familiarised our team with fragrant pepperbush (*Tasmannia glaucifolia*) and broad-leaved pepperbush (*Tasmannia purpurascens*), two threatened mid-story species that were being swamped by a yellow sea of scotch broom - a stark contrast with a grey backdrop of snow gums (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) and black sallys (*Eucalyptus stellulata*). Stout trees ferns appeared at intervals, strange 'Cousin It' like beings and the ground was blanketed with tufts of hardy snow grass (*Poa* sp.). Boyd said that the scotch broom infestation had started as a single plant in the late 1800s, when the area was grazed, and he assumed the weed had spread when the cattle were removed. Brumbies, likely remnants of this time, roamed freely, slinking into the broom as we approached.

The work site was a bumpy 45-minute drive from the compound to the edge of Edward Swamp that feeds into picturesque Junction Pools. Boyd marked a photo and GPS point with a hardwood stake. From



North Sydney Council team: (R to L) Doug Foster, Gareth Debney, Boyd Carney (NPWS), Arthur Durrant, Tristram Thomas and Emma Hyland at Edward Swamp, Barrington Tops NP, 10 November 2020. Photo: Andrew Scott.

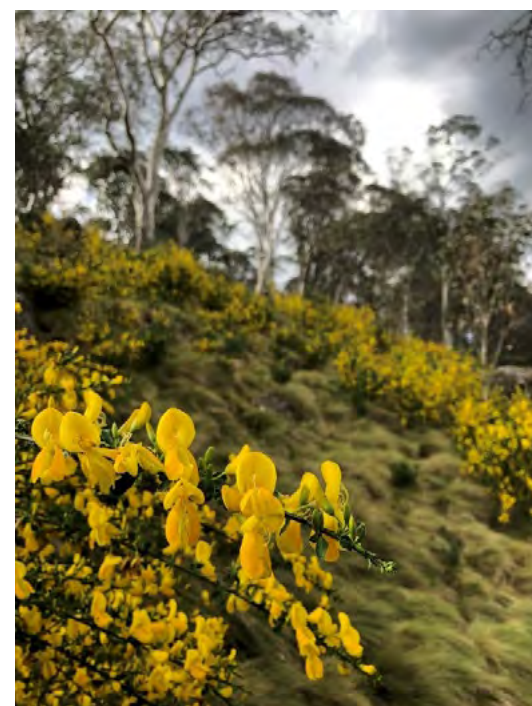
there we worked downhill to the Montane Swamp, a peat bog, resembling an open plain with shallow water courses lined with petite bog buttercup (*Ranunculus pimpinellifolius*) and other semi aquatics. The chain and pole saws made easy work of the broom, but it was quite difficult to navigate the felled limbs. We were exhausted by day's end, walking back and forth to the generator through a tangle of fallen broom limbs for fresh battery packs. We observed a profusion of regenerating broom seedlings from previous works. Boyd hoped to exhaust the seed bank with this approach. It was disheartening to see the blackberry smothering the creek leading to the swamp, but we were encouraged as we uncovered remnant pepper trees, novel small-fruit hakeas (*Hakea microcarpa*) and showy *Epacris rhombifolia*.

Our team really enjoyed this experience with the new plants, fresh mountain air and the clear night sky - we must have seen half a dozen falling stars. It was a great team building exercise, and I loved meeting the resident copper head snake basking in the morning sun atop the wombat burrow by the entrance to the compound.

Fragrant pepperbush (*Tasmannia glaucifolia*), Little Murray Campground.
Andrew Scott



Doug and Arthur taking a breather from cutting broom, Edward Swamp, Barrington Tops NP, Photo: Andrew Scott.



Scotch broom at Junction Pools, Barrington Tops NP
Photo: Andrew Scott



Arthur Durrant - NSC Tree Team cutting broom. Barrington NP November 2020
Photo: Doug Foster

A big thanks to Boyd Carney, Peter Beard and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service for being great hosts. We hope to venture up to Barrington Tops again next year - there sure is no shortage of work to do.

Boyd would like to encourage further volunteer support, preferably chainsaw accredited bush regenerators, if possible. The Scotch Broom Management Plan for Barrington Tops National Park has a further 4 years of funding, the main reason our team chose this project.

To put your name on the list to be informed of dates, in 2021

contact Louise membership@aabr.org.au

Or Boyd Boyd.Carney@environment.nsw.gov.au

Two Women

The story of Tindals Wildflower Reserve

Glenn Jameson

This story begins somewhere around the middle of the last century when on a bright spring day two women alighted from the train at Ringwood station east of Melbourne with the aim of walking and botanising their way to Warrandyte. Although there were some rewarding indigenous plant finds along the way, it was when they finally reached the corner of Tindals Road and Warrandyte-Heidelberg Road, they found a hill top of extraordinary wildflower complexity. Jean and Winifred bathed in the glorious richness of indigenous plant biodiversity.

Jean Galbraith was a gardener, writer and long time champion of Australian Native plants. When Jean's *Wildflowers of Victoria* appeared in 1950, it was the first accessible field guide published on Victorian flora, combining botanical knowledge with evocative descriptions. Her writing skills made her field guides accessible (Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership). Winifred Waddell shared these interests and skills and co-wrote the book *Wildflower Diary* with Jean and Elizabeth Cochrane in 1976. Jean and Winifred petitioned the local council with the assistance of local residents to buy the newly discovered site and set it up as a wildflower reserve. Dorothy Rush assisted with raising funds to fence the reserve.

I found the Tindals Road Wildflower Reserve in the early 1980s and spent many hours there identifying the wildflowers using my very worn-out copy of *A field guide to the wild flowers of south-east Australia* (1977) written by Jean Galbraith. However the reserve was in a sad state threatened by an over-run by weeds. Through the Friends of Warrandyte State Park we petitioned the local Doncaster Council, and Val Polley and I met with the Engineer John Prince about getting some weed work there. I pointed out a cactus that I knew had been dumped in the reserve several years ago. John responded wonderfully and decisively and soon had a botanical survey organised which was completed by the company Ecological Horticulture (later Ecology Australia). The report in particular noted the invasion of the reserve by

introduced weedy grasses, quaking grass (*Briza maxima*) and panic veldt grass (*Ehrharta erecta*) in particular, which were threatening the survival of its orchid populations.

But which way forward from here? Bushland management or ecological horticulture (where ecology meets horticulture) as it was becoming known, was in its infancy. The first course in Ecological Horticulture in Victoria was run in 1982 at Latrobe University. It was only in the previous decade that National Parks managers had accepted that fire was an intrinsic part of management. There was much to learn. To be a practitioner of ecological horticulture, an enormous amount of knowledge is required. For a start there are the 400 or so plants that consist of the local indigenous and introduced flora, their growth periods, flowering patterns, physiological dynamics, their response to weather and management actions. What long term strategy does one employ to remove the weeds? What tools, what techniques? What planning and coordination skills are required for this new profession? Enter Two Women

Systematic observers of the natural environment the Bradley sisters, Eileen Burton Bradley and Joan Burton Bradley, observed in NSW during the 1960s that attempts to control weeds by slashing and clearing resulted in rampant weed regrowth, and they formulated an alternative strategy. The sisters were keen gardeners and hand-weeded where they walked, doing less than an hour a day and being careful to replace the bush litter which—they believed—contained the seedbank for new growth. They waited for the bush to regenerate. They developed the three principles of the Bradley method of bush regeneration: work outward from less infested to more seriously infested areas; minimise disturbance, and replace topsoil and litter; allow regeneration to set the pace of the work. Selected hand-tools were the only implements permitted. The Bradleys also criticised the controlled-burning programme begun in 1971 by the State's Forestry Commission. (Australian Dictionary of Biography)

Glenn Jameson's work includes running an indigenous plant nursery during the 1980s, volunteer in local community groups, ranger in major Yarra River parks, worked as ranger in three states including Uluru Kata Juta and Working on Country with Martu in WA, Parks Victoria Research Branch, teaching at TAFE and local council, running ecological consultancy Literate Landscapes, writing for local community newspaper and presently teaching the Nature Stewards Manningham course.

Jane and Sharon are current AABR members and Jane is on the AABR national committee



Tindals Wildflower Reserve. The 'major' track meandering through the Reserve
Photo: Glenn Jameson



Tindals Wildflower Reserve in spring after a burn with milkmaids, scorpion daisy and yam daisy appearing.
Photo Glenn Jameson

It's one thing to have the basic principles of ecological horticulture, quite another to be able to look at a piece of bushland that is a complex matrix of the ecological functions of people, plants, soils, seeds, wind, weather, insects, fungi, birds, mammals and fire and devise a strategy to heal the land. To be able to work on country and peel back the degradation that has occurred through weed invasion, tree clearance and neglect. Enter Two Warrandyte Women.

Jane Pammer, a keen gardener had spent a year in Japan as a horticultural exchange student, before working in ecological horticulture with Save the Bush. Then during the recession of the 1990's, she lead a Green Corps Team through the L.E.A.P. employment programme at the then Doncaster and Templestowe Council. Jane successfully applied for the permanent position in bushland management working with the council in their Parks and Gardens Unit as Certified Gardener - Bush Regenerator. Jane was managing the day to day work in the Manningham managed reserves - Warrandyte Walk, Tindals Wildflower Reserve, Zerbes Reserve, Mullum Stage 1, 100 Acres and others. Jane began a systematic programme of weeding and observation keeping a diary of work completed in each site. Jane's tight control of ecological maintenance programmes, re-visiting each site on a ten week rotational schedule, quality control and conscientious thoroughness, brought back the bushlands from the brink of oblivion, rescuing our priceless natural heritage

Today, Tindals Road Wildflower Reserve is an absolute credit to Manningham Council. This year in particular it has produced an exceptional flowering display that has brought many people the simple and profound joy of bushland magic. This was something that could hardly be imagined in 1985. Manningham Council has been a civic leader in municipal environmental programmes over the past 25 years, with a range of integrated programmes to assist residents protect our natural heritage, as well as its own management of bushlands for which it has responsibility.

The ecological horticultural work along the Yarra River below the village called Warrandyte Walk, is the best example of environmental restoration of riparian (waterway) vegetation along the entire length of the Yarra River. It is by far more successful than anything agencies or other shires or councils have achieved. Manningham should be extremely proud of that achievement. It is also a tribute to Jane for her dedicated vision

and skills. In the most difficult of vegetative zones they have produced a world class result. Many walk past the native grasses and shrubs without actually appreciating the difficulties of the site and the vision and skill required to unearth and maintain its intrinsic qualities.

Sharon Mason was an intrinsic part of the bushland management journey with Jane. Sharon for most of this time has led a Bushland Maintenance Crew of skilled ecological gardeners to implement Jane's programming and to join in the discussion, development and refinement of Jane's programme of bushland rejuvenation. Together they implemented an incredibly successful operation.

Jean Galbraith put her money where her mind was and donated the land to establish the first wildflower sanctuary in Victoria in 1936, in Tyers, in the LaTrobe Valley - the first privately donated reserve in the State of Victoria. The Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists recorded an extensive list of flora in the reserve in 1967, but over time, many species were impacted by weed invasion and a loss of interest in maintaining the site. This changed in 1999 when an enthusiastic group of residents in the Tyers township formed to resurrect the reserve and highlight its botanical and historical significance. Winifred was responsible for securing the first wildflower sanctuary at Tallarook, Victoria, in 1949. Throughout her nearly seventy years of garden writing, Jean wrote about all aspects of garden-making but remained an indefatigable champion of Australian flora, ignoring fashions in plants, and like Winifred, Eileen, Joan, Jane and Sharon, kept working in the wild garden that she loved.



Jean Galbraith in 1926 in the garden. Source: La Trobe Journal- State Library Victoria

Biocontrol for *Tradescantia* – more smutty tales

The AABR Newsletter No.140 in 2019

(<https://www.aabr.org.au/learn/publications-presentations/aabr-newsletters/>) provided information on the program by CSIRO to test and release a leaf smut fungus for biological control of *Tradescantia fluminensis* (wandering trad, wandering jew). Progress has been made.

Trad is a herbaceous ground cover well known to bush regenerators! It is seen in the moist forests of temperate Australia where it can form dense mats of growth especially in damp areas such as along creeklines. It spreads via stem sections in water, disturbance along creeks, garden waste and is a significant environmental weed. Most current control is carried out by hand removal or use of herbicides which are not always effective. The biological control program by CSIRO uses a smut fungus *Kordyana brasiliensis*, which is its 'natural pathogen', and it is hoped this will slow the invasion.

The fungus (*Kordyana brasiliensis*) spreads via spores, and it needs trad leaves to survive. This pathogen enters the plant through the leaf's air holes (stomata) and uses the weed's energy for its own fungal growth. After two to three weeks, the leaves develop yellow spots, due to a lack of chlorophyll. Eventually the leaves die and the plant becomes less competitive, giving the natives an advantage, and the opportunity to grow. That trad leaf will produce fungal spores that move to another leaf. CSIRO is building on the work of Brazilian researchers, who first tested whether this leaf smut fungus could be used as a biological control agent in New Zealand.

Prior to release, a biological control agent undergoes lengthy testing to ensure the agent *only* attacks the target weed or animal pest and does not harm our native species. In the past some biological control agents have not been tested properly and this has led to problems – the invasion of the cane toad being one example.

Previous research performed by CSIRO has demonstrated that *K. brasiliensis* is highly host specific towards trad. All Australian populations of wandering trad tested were attacked by the fungus. Non-target plant species tested developed no symptoms or a limited number of small flecks on some leaves – an indication of resistance to infection by the fungus.

An application to release *K. brasiliensis* into Australia was submitted in November 2016 to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. Following a comprehensive risk assessment performed by the Department and consultation with states and territories as well as the general public, the fungus was deemed to pose very low (negligible) risk to non-target plants and was approved for release from quarantine on 14 December 2018 (<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/memos/ba2018-32>).

Current Research

Dandenong Ranges, Victoria

The first project which is supported by the Commonwealth Department of Industry, Innovation and Science and the Community Weeds Alliance of the Dandenongs, has focused on the Dandenong Ranges of Victoria to carry-out mass culture and release of the fungus, and engage with relevant land managers and community groups for trialling and monitoring of agent establishment, spread and initial impact in the field.

Mass-culturing of the biocontrol agent and release methods

An efficient system was developed to produce wandering trad plants infected with the biocontrol agent, the leaf-smut fungus (*Kordyana brasiliensis*), to have a continuous supply of material for release. Two methods were selected for large-scale releases: the 'bin-inversion' and 'planted-stem' methods.

For the 'bin-inversion' method, trad leaves infected with the fungus are stuck to the inside-bottom of a large plastic tub using Vaseline, with the underside of each leaf facing upwards towards the opening. The bin is then inverted over a dense patch of wandering trad for at least 24 hours to allow spores to be released onto healthy trad leaves below.

With the 'planted-stem' method, a single stem of wandering trad with several infected leaves is planted into moist soil in the centre of a patch of wandering trad, thereby allowing spores to be passively released over several weeks and transferred to nearby healthy leaves.

Releases of the biocontrol agent in the Dandenong Ranges

Since 2nd March 2019, seven workshops on the new biocontrol agent for wandering trad have been delivered to local community stakeholders across the region. Stakeholders comprised private landholders, weed control contractors, and members of community groups, Landcare groups and local and state government agencies. Attendees were trained in the release and monitoring techniques for the biocontrol agent and provided with stems. Also, infected stems were posted in September 2019 to a few stakeholders.

So far, 232 releases have been made by community members at 124 unique locations (using 1 to 8 infected stems for release at each location). Positive signs of infection by the biocontrol agent have been detected at 21% of the 84 locations visited post-release. At present, levels of infection are too low to enable us to determine the microclimate and other habitat features positively associated with successful establishment.

Long-term monitoring plots to measure impact of the biocontrol agent

The biocontrol agent was also released in May 2019 at each of 15 long-term monitoring plots established in moist forests of Victoria. Baseline data was collected prior to release and ongoing post-release monitoring is being conducted in association with local land managers and citizen scientists, including members of the Community Weeds Alliance of the Dandenongs. This will evaluate the direct effects of the leaf-smut fungus on wandering trad as well as the knock-on impacts on native vegetation regeneration. Monitoring undertaken between October and

December 2019 – approximately five months after the agent was first released – recorded infection of wandering trad by the biocontrol agent at 60% of the monitoring plots. It is too early to determine the indirect benefits of wandering trad biocontrol on associated native vegetation.



Infected stems ready for planting Photo: L Brodie

New South Wales

The NSW project is running from July 2020 to June 2023, and is supported by the New South Wales Government through the Environmental Trust. Activities are to maintain the culture of the agent, update guidelines and supply material of the agent via post or at workshops for community releases in NSW. Monitoring plots are being established and will be used to assess establishment, spread and impact of the agent at monitoring plots one, two and three years post-release.

The NSW Project aims to release the fungus throughout NSW in partnership with local community members, between July 2020 and June 2023.

Download the following document for further information about the fungal biocontrol program for wandering trad in NSW and to register your interest in receiving fungal material for release into the environment. [Wandering Trad Biocontrol_Release Information_NSW Enviro Trust_07.09.20](https://research.csiro.au/wandering-trad/)

For more information, and if you would like to participate in the future release program, please contact Dr Ben Gooden (Ben.Gooden@csiro.au; +61262183896). Ben is a field biologist in the team for the roll-out of the release program for the smut.

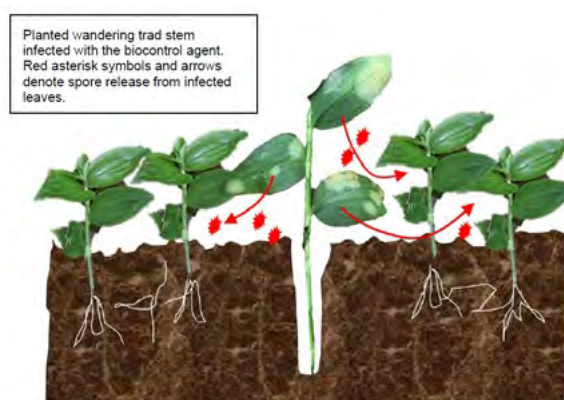
Information Sources: <https://research.csiro.au/wandering-trad/>

Community Participation

The Broughton Vale Bushcare group (part of Berry Landcare on the NSW South Coast) is participating in the NSW project.

The smut fungus was released on the Bushcare site in October 2020 and infected trad plants (supplied by the CSIRO) provided to 11 recipients for planting in at least 17 local Berry locations.

Four, long term (3-4 years) 2 x 5 metre monitoring plots were established at the Bushcare site, and these will be monitored by CSIRO team .



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Join the Australian Network for Plant Conservation before 2021 to receive 2 free editions of Australasian Plant Conservation! You will receive the 2020 autumn and winter editions with fantastic articles on orchids, seed biology, plant responses to fire and much more.

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Questions? Contact us at anpc@anpc.asn.au or 02 6250 9509



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Grassland recovery post-fire Scottsdale Reserve

David Meggitt and Tein McDonald, AABR

Inclement weather provided an opportunity to carry out new tasks to assist the grassland regeneration on this reserve.

A successful three-day bush regeneration camp was held on 3-5 November 2020 at Bush Heritage Australia's Scottsdale Reserve at Bredbo, south of Canberra. This site is one of a handful of focal sites in AABR's post-fire bush regeneration support program and the event marked the third AABR follow up camp since the January 2020 wildfires, supporting the work of local AABR regenerators.

The purpose of the work is to tip the battle in favour of the natives on a site that has been highly degraded by sheep grazing and some cropping, followed by Bush Heritage aerial spraying of weed grasses with a selective herbicide, which resulted in the commencement of native regeneration. The fire flushed further native and weed regeneration, qualifying the site for AABR attention. Over the months the natives have increased in number and cover and during the recent camp the volunteers witnessed many native grasses and forbs regenerating.

Fifteen people attended the camp. Two people carefully hand-weeded around the threatened species button wrinklewort (*Rutidosia leptorhynchoidea*), while the 13 others undertook very careful spot spraying in the rest of the 10 hectare site to release grassy ecosystem natives post-fire.

Native forbs were in showy flower including Swainson's pea (*Swainsona sericea*), yellow pimelea (*Pimelea curviflora* subsp. *fusiformis*), scaly buttons (*Leptorhynchus squamatus*), bulbine lily (*Bulbine bulbosa*), goodenias (*Goodenia* spp.) and the ubiquitous bluebells (*Wahlenbergia* spp.) plus many others. Weeds were numerous and included African lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*), wild oats (*Avena fatua*), with yellow catsear, orange hawkweed, vipers bugloss and St John's wort being among the key targets.

The first two days were brilliant weather, but the heavens opened on the third day, stopping any weeding at all. So we changed tack and sowed Scottsdale-produced grassland seed in parts of the site that didn't have as high 'nativeness'.

The Woollhara team made up for the lost time when they contributed an additional half day, which was highly appreciated.



Natives regenerating on a site once dominated by African lovegrass. *Rutidosia* Ridge, Scottsdale Reserve. November 2020 Photo: David Meggitt

Volunteers attending were: Tony Butteriss, Paul Jennings, Greg Robertson, Anne Terley, Helen Logie, David Meggitt, Graeme Little, Tein McDonald and five wonderful bush regenerators from Woollhara Council: Rudi Adlmayer, Adriana Lucas, Hugo Ferreira, Katherine Grant, Rachael Buzio.

The CEO of Bush Heritage Australia, Heather Campbell thanked the team for their energy, enthusiasm, knowledge, and can-do attitude, which resulted in a large area of grassy woodland being managed for a wide range of invasive weeds.

For more information on Scottsdale <https://www.bushheritage.org.au/places-we-protect/new-south-wales/scottsdale>

The Bush Heritage team at Scottsdale have worked tirelessly through late summer and autumn collecting native grassland seeds to facilitate restoration efforts.

As well as the harvest of the natural grasslands, seed harvested from Grassland Seed Production sites is used to restore areas where the fire intensity destroyed the native seed bank.

The Grassland Seed Production Sites have been set up at Scottsdale under funding from a Restoration and Rehabilitation grant from the NSW Environmental Trust. These are fenced half hectare plots sown with seed collected on the property. The seed is used to develop and enrich the diversity of the reserve's grassland flora which is more important now than ever before. (From the Bush Heritage blog) <https://www.bushheritage.org.au/blog/enriching-grasslands-after-fire>



Sowing seeds in the rain at Scottsdale Reserve November 2020

Left: Mixing Seed Photo: G Little.



Middle: Identifying sowing locations



Right: Sown patches Photos: T McDonald

Weed management after fire - Webinar series



SWIFFT State Wide Integrated Flora and Fauna Teams

Weed management after fire: supporting native species recovery

Wednesday 25 November 2020
Webinar 1: Overview weed management after fire

The principles of managing weeds after fire, the response for weeds since the January 2020 fires in Victoria, and some sage advice about what can be achieved and the consequences of not managing weeds immediately after fire using a great case study.

Wednesday 2 December 2020
Webinar 2: Prioritisation of weeds after fire

Different ways of working out where to start and which weeds to treat first after fire. There will be some great examples of mapping technology, prioritisation tools, including consideration of early invader weeds.

Wednesday 9 December 2020
Webinar 3: Collaborative projects weed management after fire

A fabulous range of case studies looking at different approaches to protect biodiversity. Practical examples of what can be achieved when we work together.

Wednesday 16 December 2020
Webinar 4: Weed identification and recording after fire

Learn about identification of environmental weeds, some of the latest technology and tools to assist with identification, and where to put records of what is spreading where.



This webinar series focuses on sharing practical knowledge so everyone can contribute to bushfire recovery.

Each free webinar will run from 10:30 am to 12:15 pm.

How to participate

Go to https://www.swiff.net.au/cb_pages/weed_management_after_fire_-_webinar_series.php

- Register via Eventbrite to join via Microsoft Teams (this will enable you to ask questions)
- After registration you can view live YouTube stream via SWIFFT (Webinar 1, Webinar 2, Webinar 3, Webinar 4)
- You can view the recorded event on the SWIFFT YouTube channel (link provided after the webinar)

SWIFFT - State Wide Integrated Flora and Fauna Teams covering all of Victoria

AABR Shares Expertise in the Hunter Region of NSW

Suzanne Pritchard

The AABR education team emerged from under the COVID covers and headed off to the Hunter in early November 2020 to support The City of Newcastle Landcare crew with a morning of on-site learning at Aries Way Reserve in western Newcastle, NSW.

It was a perfect site to explore the weed cohort that urban riparian zones are well known for, and our on-ground guru Deb Holloman was in her element providing practical demonstrations of weed control techniques, along with a wealth of sage advice and treatment experiences that accumulate within the consciousness of an experienced bush regenerator.



A *workshop training guide* was compiled for the day which students of bush regeneration may find useful as a brief introduction to the topic with information on Work Health and Safety, basic bush regeneration principles, tools and techniques and the common urban weeds.

Left: Learning about asparagus fern November 2020 Photo: S Pritchard



Newcastle Council's Landcare crew learning lots from Deb Holloman November 2020 Photo: S Pritchard

The document can be downloaded from <https://drive.google.com/file/d/15NMBRtBIPtcmSpw8gbnaVef1syDH3Ycm/view?usp=sharing>

Walks and Talks 2021

Supporting the bush regeneration sector through sharing knowledge from experienced practitioners has always been at the core of AABR. We are looking forward to resuming the walks and talks program in 2021, with a renewed sense of hope and inspired vision guided by the lessons learnt from this year.

If you would like to share your project with a Walk & Talk or have a training session please get in touch education@aabr.org.au, we will be compiling the 2021 program over summer.

Scaling Up Ecosystem Restoration Webinar



The beauty of webinars is that they can be recorded easily so that the talks of the speakers can be watched by many more people at a later time. This webinar is well worth watching to gain knowledge of how we can scale up ecosystem restoration,

On the 28th September 2020 the webinar was hosted by the North East Bioregional Network (Tas) with support from Highways and Byways and Landcare Tasmania.

This webinar is now available for you to watch - go to https://www.landcarea.org.au/report_scaling_up_ecosystem_webinar

The webinar had 9 incredible Australian and international speakers. Over 160 people gathered online for a powerful and informative discussion on ecosystem restoration.

The event celebrated and showcased the importance of scaling up restoration as we enter the United Nations declared Decade of Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030).

Some of the key topics that were raised include:

- The need for strong advocacy to raise awareness of restoration practices as a requisite for reversing biodiversity decline
- The need to share information and increase community literacy of Australia's long-term history of environmental change, as a means of developing a better understanding of our landscape today

- The need to decolonise land management and embrace indigenous practices
- Assisting governing bodies in recognising ecosystems as vital 'infrastructure'
- Creation of greater funding avenues and meaningful employment opportunities
- Recognition of a continuum of restorative activities and the acknowledgment of the value of all actions aimed at improving ecological health
- While protective and remedial activities are important in contributing to the wellbeing of our planet, a rapid scaling up of ecological restoration is essential for the next decade, and well beyond, to reverse our current trajectory
- The critical role of local communities – large scale restoration needs the wisdom, ingenuity and tenacity over time of local leaders, who can operate in a nuanced and tailor-made way
- Ecosystem restoration can have significant benefits for human health
- The need to be brave and experiment with new restoration ideas and techniques

The Speakers included

- MC - Christine Milne A.O
- Todd Dudley, North East Bioregional Network, Tasmania
- Peter Stronach, Landcare Tasmania
- Keith Bradby, Gondwana Link WA
- Dr. Anita Wild, Ecologist with Lake Pedder Restoration report
- James Aronson, EcoHealth Network and a senior scientist with Missouri Botanical Garden's Center for Conservation and Sustainable Development.
- Dr. Tein McDonald, Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia (SERA) and Australian Association for Bush Regenerators (AABR)
- Gary Howling, Great Eastern Ranges
- Paddy Woodworth, Author of Our Once and Future Planet
- Mark Bachman, Nature Glenelg Trust.

Contact: Todd Dudley, telopea_tas@yahoo.com.au (03) 6376 1049



Current Status of Pesticide Training In NSW

In NSW training in pesticide use is required under the *Pesticides Regulation 2017*. If you use pesticides as part of your work, you must

- complete initial accreditation training
- maintain your competency in the use of pesticides by
 - renewing your training every 5 years by completing a short refresher course or
 - participating in a quality assurance (QA) or stewardship program that has been approved by the EPA.

Until 21 April 2021 there is a temporary exemption to several mandatory pesticides training requirements in NSW.

As some initial training and refresher courses are unavailable due to COVID-19 social distancing rules, the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has issued a pesticide training temporary exemption. This allows some pesticide users until 21 April 2021 to complete their training or five-yearly refresher course.

How the renewed COVID-19 pesticide training exemption works:

- Pesticide users who have completed initial accreditation training, but were due to complete their short five-yearly refresher course on or after 1 March 2020, now have until 21 April 2021 to complete a refresher course.

- Unqualified people may, until 21 April 2021, use pesticides in agricultural or forestry operations but only under the direct supervision of a person who is qualified to use the pesticide and only if using hand-held and hand-powered equipment.

Everyone must continue to only use registered pesticides as per the instructions on the approved label or Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority permit and take all measures to avoid harming other people or damaging the environment.

There is no change to pesticide training requirements for EPA-licensed ground applicators, aerial applicators, remotely piloted aircraft applicators, ground applicators, urban pest management technicians and fumigators, but holders of pest management technicians and fumigator trainee permits now have until 21 April 2021 to enrol in those specialised courses.

This remains a developing situation and the response taken by the EPA to COVID-19 may change over time.

More information is available by contacting the Environment Line on 131 555 or info@epa.nsw.gov.au or by visiting <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/pesticides/compulsory-training-pesticides>.

What to do in isolation!

Hopefully isolation is over - but there are many things to do at home!

Searching for Privet

Rob and Nancy Pallin, Ben Ricketts Environmental Preserve

Lucky for us we were at Jamberoo when required to isolate ourselves. Being in that vulnerable age group we were able to have food delivered by Woolworths and were spoiled with rhubarb and pear turnovers then slices of lemon cheese-cake being given to us.

To keep us occupied Rob has searched and found more large-leaf privet seedlings. He then mapped their distribution. Last year we had killed one on Jamberoo Mountain Road near Nobles. It was not big enough to provide all these seedlings so together we searched tree by tree for the parent tree.



The larger star on the map indicates where we found this big one in the photo.

Are there more? Where are they?



Ben Ricketts is located in the Illawarra near Jamberoo south of Sydney and began its life as a retreat from the city for lovers of the bush in the 1940s. Friends and neighbours of Ben Ricketts grouped together in 2004 to form a company to conserve the area under a Conservation Agreement. To find out more about what is happening there, go to www.benricketts.org.au

Catch up on Webinars



Big Scrub Landcare
The Voice of the Rainforest

Big Scrub Rainforest Day

The annual **Big Scrub Rainforest Day** was held online in September 2020, and the Panel discussions are now on the Big Scrub Landcare webpage for viewing at <https://www.bigscrubrainforest.org/panel-discussions/>.

The day consisted of two online panel discussions facilitated by well-known ABC journalists Kerry O'Brien and Mick O'Regan, and an Analysis by Nan Nicholson.

PANEL 1 focuses on

- What were the impacts of the major bushfire event of 2019/2020 on our rainforests and their threatened species in Nightcap National Park and nearby areas?
- What lessons can we learn?

PANEL 2 focuses on how to minimise the impacts of future bushfires on our rainforests and threatened species:

- What strategies and on-ground actions should be pursued to reduce the impacts of future bushfires on our rainforests?
- How should bushfire management be improved?

In the Analysis Feature, Nan Nicholson (Botanist) shares her firsthand experiences and observations of the 2019/2020 bushfires. This feature provides insight into the uniqueness of Nightcap National Park, the impact of the bushfires and what we are learning (and yet to learn) through ongoing post fire assessments.

Watch Videos

Well known botanist from the NSW south coast, Jackie Miles gives her insights about the post fire vegetation response in July 2020 in the area around Quaama/Dry River, 10km south of Cobargo, which was hit hard on New Years Eve 2019-20.

- Native tree response to fire
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=6cBxtmfz3g>
- Native groundcover and understory response to fire
https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=t2_Z5FXvd7Q&t=31s
- Weeds' response to fire
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtbObfkJ43c>

The videos can also be found at <https://www.aabr.org.au/do/post-fire-bush-regeneration-map-and-resources/> towards the end under 'videos'.



Welcome
Bush Regen Students

Wishing you well in
your studies

SEARCH FOR A MENTOR TO SUPPORT YOUR STUDIES
ON OUR WEBSITE (USE THE ADVANCED SEARCH TO
FINE TUNE YOUR LOCATION)
[HTTPS://WWW.AABR.ORG.AU/DO/BUSINESS-DIRECTORY/WPBDM-CATEGORY/AABR-ACCREDITED-BUSH-REGENERATORS/](https://www.aabr.org.au/do/business-directory/wpbdm-category/aabr-accredited-bush-regenerators/)

VISIT REGENTV FOR SOME GREAT VIDEOS
[HTTPS://WWW.AABR.ORG.AU/REGENTV/](https://www.aabr.org.au/regentv/)

Vale Darcy Duggan

AABR is saddened by the recent death of Darcy Duggan, who played a major role in restoration of native vegetation in Melbourne. Below is part of his story taken from his eulogy and describes the diverse and major activities he undertook.

Darcy Bruce William Duggan was born on the 2nd March 1955 to Elva and Vernon Duggan who owned and ran a dairy farm in Warragal, and was the eldest of four children.

To the dismay of his parents, Darcy had no heart to be a farmer and didn't enjoy helping milk the cows, but did it anyway. They would be regularly late to school after the morning milking and their dad would race them to school; possibly where Darcy's lead foot and tardiness came from.

Darcy went to Latrobe University in the mid 70s, studying science –flunked out, worked and travelled for a year and returned to successfully complete botany and zoology. While studying at University, Darcy volunteered in the Museum Vertebrate Palaeontology department and discovered a new species of short faced possum on a fossil dig in Hamilton, which was named after him 'Darceus Duggineye'.

During his time at University he met a number of other passionate individuals who have continued working together in the field in one way or another throughout their lives. Michelle Arundel remembers meeting Darcy in the mid 70s with a group of many others; some being Geoff Carr, Jeff Yugovic, and many of Australia's best botanists who were together under the guidance of Rod Foster or Fozzy as was his nickname, like from the muppets. He was the Godfather of the environmental work they were doing.

Together in a tin shed they set up Latrobe Reserves that is now called Wildlife Reserves and is the pride of Latrobe Uni. This core group continued working together with a particular focus of indigenous flora. They had ties with the National Trust, Greening Australia, and Landcare and because of Darcy and the others passion, the ideals they fostered were brought to a greater national awareness.

Darcy had started Trees Galore, a project at a Brunswick High School that morphed into VINC, the Victorian Indigenous Nursery Co-op, alongside Rodger Jones; and continues out of Yarra Bend park.. They were the first to use the word 'indigenous' for flora and at that time it was rare to find any nursery selling them. Through Greening Australia, Darcy and many others have been major players in changing attitudes around Australia and what's planted in gardens, both on a council and suburban level.

In 87-88, Darcy, Randal, Geoff Carr, Gidja Walker and others started Indigenous Flora and Fauna Association (IFFA).

During this time Darcy was working as the Park Planner at Yarra Bend; doing his best to use his knowledge to help restore the park and educate others on using ecological practices with indigenous plants and animals. With such a huge task ahead of them, they built an army of helpers as they couldn't do it themselves. Peter explained Darcy would do a full days work at Yarra Bend, catch public transport from Kew to Belgrave, then tell you the next day he had been working on other projects up until 2am that night, and then keep going.

Randall explained to me that there was a turning point in the 90s, rather than asking the experts all the time, it was about teaching people the fundamentals. Rather than telling them what to do, it's about teaching them how to do it and helping skill others. It started as 'plant trees and pull weeds', then it turned into the questions of – 'why would you do that?'

While teaching students at TAFE Darcy was involved in many other groups; facilitating the course 'Save the Bush' under the National Trust, and holding workshops for Landcare. He was part of the Save the Dandenong League, Indigenous Species, Southern Rangers Environmental Alliance (who worked with puffing billy), Stop Pitt, CWAD - Community Weed Alliance Dandenongs and Southern Dandenong Land Care group.

In 2019 Darcy joined AABR and that year delivered a presentation on behalf of AABR at a FNCV biodiversity symposium. He was also part of the AABR group that reviewed the national competencies, for the Conservation and Land Management Course. He developed a hand weeding training workshop as part of AABR educational activities; while this never took place due to COVID, the material he drafted will most certainly be used.



There is a trend that happened when he spoke, he could give you the head knowledge, yet he pierced your heart with his passion. Hundreds upon hundreds of individuals have built careers and/or volunteered collectively thousands of hours for bush regeneration from Darcy's knowledge, drive and inspiration.

Darcy Duggan, a unpretentious man with a dry and quirky sense of humour, far too distracted to be allowed to drive. He was stubborn and the red tape of bureaucrats really annoyed him. This man was also diplomatic, rational, empathetic and relentless at proactively building a better world, one action and conversation at a time.

Darcy had a great understanding of natural regeneration processes which he built into his restoration work, demonstrating to many visitors (including bush regenerators from NSW) methods for assisting regeneration. He was a strong advocate of assisted regeneration and AABR will feel the loss of his long experience and guidance.

The story of bushland management in Victoria

Glenn Jameson (see author of article page 6) is working on a project to record the story of how the ecological horticulture movement developed in and around Melbourne and beyond.

In 1982 a course was run at Latrobe University on Ecological Horticulture. At the time there were no bush crews, no environmental officers in councils, no contractors to undertake restoration of bushlands, and few ecological consultants. There were dreams and hope for the future for our natural cultural heritage.

Today, how many councils and shires have environmental officers? How many reserves are being worked on, what turnover of \$\$\$ to the economy? How many people are involved in the industry?? What are the outcomes for the natural environment? What has society and individuals gained and learnt from the work being done? What shape is the natural heritage of Melbourne and beyond in now?

Glenn wants to discover and tell the story of how things developed and where things are at today, through research, looking at long-term projects and interviews with the organisations and individuals involved.

Do you know part of this story? Glenn would like to hear from you : jameson1@iinet.com.au

Welcome to new AABR Members

Tracy Adams
Carolina Aliste
Raquel Anderson
Zak Arnot
Renata Atkiin
Ayla Austin
Geoffrey Baldwin
Christopher Ballard
Georgina Barron
Louisa Bartels
Jacky Bayliss
Joel Beldham
Barbara Bloch
Luk Bonnor
Tara Boreham
Claire Bradford
Sarah Branton
Susan Brophy
Brian Brougham
Elise Budden
Christopher Buffard
Jessica Calvert
Richard Camilleri
Julie Campbell
Elizabeth Cansdale
Sebastian Castagna
Maria (Bibiana) Castro
Caitlin Cavanagh
Kylie Chen
Marcus Cleary
Nathan Colk
Deb Collins
Robert Curran
Rob Currie
Belinda Curry
Jarrod Daly
Katie Danielsen
Danylo Danylo
Bronwyn Davies
Bryce Dedal

Abel Dickinson
Craig Dodson
Matt Doherty
Roman Donato
Jennifer Donohoe
Jessica Douglas
Joy Drew
Andre du Toit
Joseph Duck
Sheree Elphick
Elle Farrow
Neal Fenner
Edward Feuerstein
Glen Fewster
Maria Carla Figueredo
Lisa Fischer
Anne Fitzsimmons
Karen Ford
Bradley Franks
Tammy Fraser
Genevieve French
Peta Furyk
Amanda Gallen
Jennifer Gibson
Jemma Goss
Christopher Gray
Julie Green
Jennifer Guerrero
David Halfpenny
Sandra Hand
Nason Hansford
Kieran Harvey
Sarah Harvey
Steve Hicks
David Hilder
Derek Hillsdon
Alison Hislop
Lachlan Hough
David Hughes
Ian Ioannidis

Brian Jardine
Anna Jarrett
Suzanne Jepson
Bernadette Jones
Marija Jordanova
Sam Kebby
Karene Kiddle
Shantal Kiefner
Ben Kilgus
Michelle King
Michael Kriesch
Anna Kruk
Marie Lawson
Nina Ledden
Damien Lee
Anne Leitch
Sarah Lemsing
Peta Lilley
Andrew Little
Michele Lockwood
Kylie Lockyer
Ruth Lowry
Raifa Lum
Rhiannon Lydiard
Kate Mannell
Tobias Manson
Joshua Marr
Jordan Martin
Karen McCready
Leah McDonald
Tracy McDonald
Ben McDowall
Keira Mcgrath
Margaret McHarg
Morgan McKellar
Amy McKnight
Tym McLaughlin
Dianne Melville
Janet Menzies
Madeline Menzies
Alex Moodie
Lewellyn Moulin

Raymond Myles
Amanda Neale
Rhys Newey
Kerry Nicholson
Leigh-Anne Norris
Nicholas Norton
Kathleen Nube
Robyn Nutley
Susanne Olsen
Rob Orrock
Anna Patterson
Jamie Patterson
Melanie Perrine
Leicia Petersen
Levi Petrusma
Pictor Pires
Alaine Pollard
Tyson Powell
Kelly Price
Hannah Prinn
Catherine Pritchard
Tori Quine
Saba Rasool
Shaun Read
David Roberts
Olivia Robinson
Jennifer Rome
Graham Ross
Henri Rutherford
Blake Sanders
Phillipa Schultz
Heloisa Schwanke
Geordie Scott-Walker
Belinda Searl
Tamara Seeck
Bela Shah
Niki Shepherd
Kanako Shibata
Kane Spruce
Graeme Starkey
Kirsty Stewart
Maggie Stokeld

Eric Strautins
Brooklyn Sulaeman
Isabelle Suparto
Miki Takahashi
Lauren Tarrant
Vonita Taylor
Laura Theuma
Sarah Thomas
Natalie Thompson
Marianne Thomson
Tom Tilley
Dinah Too
Careena Turrell
Brooke Vandijk
Josh Waalkens
John Wackett
Rebecca Waddell
Cheryl Walker
Robynne Warne
tzu-hsiang wei
Edward Whittingham
Jake Wick
Elizabeth Wilcox
Matthew Wilkins
Leanne Wilkinson
Michelle Wilkinson-Beards
Paula Williams
Laurence Wohlsen
Meika Wood
Stacy Wright
Tayla Wright

Agencies

Wyndham City Council

Organisations

Dreamtime Explorers
Australia Pty Ltd
Bellarine Catchment
Network

Congratulations on Accreditation

Daniel Cleaver
Samuel Davies

Bianca Golding
Rowan McCabe

William Moran
Sandra Shergill



Vale David Jenkinson

Many remember bush regenerator David Jenkinson (1934 - 2020), who died in October. During the 1980s through to 1990, David and his wife Beryl worked as passionate bush regenerators in National Trust teams across Sydney. Their many sites included: Bradley's Bushland Reserve, Mosman (working with Joan Bradley); Parriwi Park, Mosman; Cumberland State Forest, Pennant Hills; Dee Why Lagoon; as well as various reserves in Lane Cove, Balmoral, and Middle Head.

After working as bush regenerators in Sydney for 10 years, David and Beryl moved to Byabarra, near Wauchope, and bought a 100 acre property with many threatened species of flora and fauna. The property was given Wildlife Refuge status by NPWS and later a Voluntary Conservation Agreement covered 70 acres of quality dry subtropical rainforest and dry sclerophyll forest. The property was named 'Booyong' after their favourite rainforest tree, the black booyong. The couple continued bush regeneration on the property for the following 23 years and also at The Ruins, Lake Innes with NPWS.

David and Beryl were awarded AABR Pioneer Bush Regenerator status in 2016. David was an indefatigable worker with passionate views about bush regeneration and conservation politics. He remained very political and caring for the environment right until the end. We thank David for his untiring contributions to active conservation of the Australian bush.

What's happening

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in events being postponed.
The new dates for some events are below. Put them in your diary.

**Saturday 27th
February 2021**

AABR Annual General Meeting

The meeting will be held online.

Information, the Agenda and details of a speaker will be forwarded to all members in the near future.

**Tuesday 4th May
and Wednesday 5th
May 2021**

**Nature Conservation Council's
2021 Bushfire Conference**

**Cool, Warm, Hot: the burning
questions**

Where: NSW Teachers Federation
Conference Centre
37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills
Sydney, NSW.

Information; visit the [website](#)

contact (02) 9516 0359 or email
NCCBushfireConference@nature.org.au

**Monday 10th to
Thursday 13th May
2021**

**Society for Ecological
Restoration Australasia (SERA)
Conference**

**Restoration Through Traditional
Knowledge**

Where: Darwin.

Information; visit <https://sera2021.org>

- Deadline for submission of abstracts by Friday, 11th December 2020
- Registration closes Friday, 30th April 2021 (Early bird closes: Friday, 26th March 2021)

**Wednesday 4th to
Friday 6th August
2021**

National Landcare Conference

In the lead up to the conference there will be monthly webinars to showcase and promote the organisations and individuals who have submitted an abstract.

Conference Location: International
Convention Centre, Darling Harbour in
Sydney, NSW.

Information; visit the website

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/national-landcare-conference-2020>

Sunday 10th to Wednesday 13th October 2021

**22nd Australasian Weeds Conference
A weed Odyssey: Innovation for the Future**

(The Weed Management Society of South Australia (WMSSA), on behalf of The Council of Australasian Weed Societies (CAWS), will be hosting the 22nd Australasian Weeds Conference (22AWC) at Adelaide Oval.

Note that abstract submissions have re-opened.

More information at <http://wmssa.org.au/22awc-program/>



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Committee members

Scott Meier, Matthew Pearson, Agata Mitchell, Rob Scott, Deb Holloman, Victoria Bakker, Spencer Shaw, Peter Dixon, Sybilla Brown, Jane Pammer, Kylie Robertson

Victorian Committee

Enquiries please contact Rob at
rob.scott@naturelinks.com.au or
phone 0412 865 027

Australian Association of Bush Regenerators

The Australian Association of Bush Regenerators Inc (AABR)

was incorporated in NSW in 1986, and has several hundred members from all over Australia. AABR is pronounced 'arbor'.

Our aim is to promote the study and practice of ecological restoration, and encourage effective management of natural areas.

All interested people and organisations are welcome to join. AABR members include bush regeneration professionals, volunteers, natural area managers, landowners, policy makers, contractors, consultants, nursery people, local, state and commonwealth government officers—and lots of people who just love the bush and want to see it conserved.

AABR also offers accreditation for experienced practitioners.

AABR News is usually published in January, April, July, and November.

**AABR C/O Total Environment Centre
P.O. Box K61 Haymarket NSW 1240
0407 002 921**

**www.aabr.org.au
enquiries@aabr.org.au**

ABN: 89 059 120 802 ARBN: 059 120 802

Membership fees

Individuals \$30 (unwaged \$15)

Organisations (*does not confer membership to individuals in the organisation*)

- business (< 5 staff) \$120
- business (5-20 staff) \$300
- business (> 20 staff) \$480

Government \$60

Not for profit \$30 (or \$0 with newsletter exchange)

Benefits of Membership:

- discount admission to all AABR events
- four newsletters per year
- increased job opportunities
- discount subscription to the journal Ecological Management & Restoration
- opportunities to network with others involved in natural area restoration
- helping AABR to be a strong and effective force to promote natural area restoration, and support the industry.

Newsletter contributions and comments are welcome

Contact Louise Brodie newsletter@aabr.org.au 0407 068 688

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of AABR