

WHAT'S ON...FEBRUARY 2010

The monthly bulletin of the Upper Barwon Landcare Network

Township Gorse mapping and control— Over the past few years the UBLN has worked extensively with landholders along the Barwon River and in the Pennyroyal Creek areas to control Gorse. To compliment this work we have received funding from the Victorian Gorse Taskforce to carry our mapping of gorse and implement a control program in all the townships in the UBLN area. Major focus will be in and around Birregurra as well as continuing work in Winchelsea. This project will also include properties in Deans Marsh, Barongarook, Barwon Downs and Forrest. Gorse is a highly invasive plant of roadsides, farming, riparian and bushland areas and is one of twenty Weeds Of National Significance (WONS). It is listed as 'Regionally Controlled' in the Corangamite CMA area, meaning that landholders are legally obligated to control it. Early in 2010 we will be contacting landholders in the townships to assist with developing control programs. If you would like further information please contact the UBLN office. This program will include a chemical subsidy for township properties.

Landcare projects for 2011— We are seeking Expressions of Interest for Landcare projects ideas in 2011 and beyond to assist us with funding applications. To be successful in our funding bids we need to be much more strategic and better planned than in the past. If you are thinking about re-vegetation, pest plant & animal control or sustainable farming projects please contact the UBLN office. We were able to assist some landholders with projects this year because we had their EOI on file.

***Glyceria maximus* or Sweet Reed-grass**— Funding has been received for mapping and control of *Glyceria* along the West Barwon River downstream of the West Barwon Dam to Boundary Road. We will be contacting landholders in this area early in 2010. This weed forms a dense choking mat in open sections of a waterway. Currently *Glyceria* appears to only be near Forrest but has the potential to spread to other sections of the river.

Rabbit and fox control programs— Landholders in the Murroon, Armytage, Bamba, Irrewarra and Warncoort areas have asked us to assist with rabbit control

programs early in 2010. If you are in one of these areas or a different area and would like to join with other landholders in a co-ordinated program please contact the UBLN office or John Sinclair on 0427 316 393. We are aiming to organize baiting in March when rabbits are more likely to take baits during the dry season. We are also able to help organize ripping and harbour destruction after baiting. Rabbit control is a precursor to successful fox control which we have also been asked to assist with later on.

East Otway Landcare Group— Gibb Wettenhall from the Norman Wettenhall Foundation will officially open the walking track and unveil the new interpretative signage at the Bamba Wetlands on Sunday 7th February at 5:30pm. The Wettenhall Foundation is supporting the UBLN and Otway Agroforestry in planning the 'Otways to Great Divide' linking project. Please bring a picnic tea to share (and Mozzie repellent). Prior to the opening a planning session will be held in the Bamba Hall at 3:30pm to organize activities for the East Otway group over next twelve months. All welcome to participate

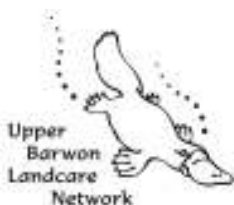
Murroon Landcare Group— Gavin Brien will be hosting the next meeting at 'Ard Mohr' on Friday 26th February starting at 12:30pm. Bring a sandwich lunch. Gavin will be talking about the property and its enterprises and taking people for a farm tour.

Wurdale Landcare Group—The Annual General Meeting of the group will be held in the Wurdale Hall on Wednesday 27th January at 7:30 pm. The following meeting will be on 24th February and Steve Murphy, author of 'Recreating the Country' and nurseryman from Shelford will be guest speaker.

Irrewarra Farmcare Group— Next meeting will be Wednesday 17th February 2010. Contact the UBLN office for details

Forrest Tiger Rail Trail— Contact Bob Brook on 5236 6322 for details.

Upper Barwon Landcare Network— The executive meets at various venues at 9:30am on the second Monday of each month. Contact the UBLN office for details



For more information please contact the Upper Barwon Landcare Network:

4/454 Murray St, Colac 3250

Ph. 5231 6394

neil@ubln.org.au

www.ubln.org.au