



# Mornington Peninsula Landcare Network News

July 2018 Edition



*Participants at the 'Soil Health – A view below the soil surface' field day hosted by the Mornington Peninsula Landcare Network and Agriculture Victoria through a 'Ripe for Change' grant.*

Greetings Landcare members & associates,  
Overcast and rainy days have not deterred landholders from getting involved in all sorts of initiatives on the peninsula, from field days to mapping workshops and tree planting events. Please bring along your friends and family to National Tree Day in Arthurs Seat on Sun 29<sup>th</sup> July (details on p. 11). We are sad to hear that in addition to Sarah Halligan, Doug Evans is also leaving the PPWCMA. I've enjoyed working with Doug since I started in 2012 and wish him and Sarah all the best for the future. I hope you enjoy this newsletter, with its focus on fungi! Greg is travelling around in India so I apologise for the abridged version! His contributions and editing and are so very much appreciated.

Warm Regards,  
Jacqui Salter, Landcare Facilitator for MPLN [Jacqueline.salter@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:Jacqueline.salter@mornpen.vic.gov.au)  
ph: 5950 1279. Please note I work Mon-Wed 9-3pm.

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## 1. Opportunities & News

### *Linking the Mornington Peninsula Landscape Project*



Red Hill South Biolink Plan and Dunns Creek Biolink Plan were completed in January 2018 covering 23 private properties with approximately 125 ha of planned conservation works. For more detail on these Plans, including maps and copies of the plans, visit [www.lmpl.org.au](http://www.lmpl.org.au)

#### **Red Hill South biolink**

Red Hill South Landcare hit the ground running in October 2017 even before the plan was finalised with a grant from the Victorian government (Biodiversity On-Ground action grant). This funded selected biolink works on 3 properties covering approximately 5.5 ha. Works included weed control and nest box installation. Events included a demonstration of installation of powerful owl nest boxes. Works will be complete in July 2018. Five Red Hill South biolink properties have also commenced Melbourne Water Stream Frontage Grants as a result of involvement in the biolink.

## Dunns Creek Biolink



*Biolink landholder David Gibb and LMPL Bushland Restoration Specialist Virginia Carter, June 2017.*

An application to Ross Trust has been made to undertake works planned in this biolink. Seven Dunns Creek Biolink properties have also commenced Melbourne Water Stream Frontage grants as a result of involvement in the biolink.

### What's coming up?

The next two biolinks to be planned are Manton Stony Creek and Merricks Coolart Catchment. Initial kick-off meetings have been held with both these Landcare groups, but we are waiting on funding to be confirmed before work can start in earnest.

For more information and updates on LMPL, please visit the [LMPL website](#).

- Michele Sabto, Project Coordinator, Linking the Mornington Peninsula Landscape  
[msabto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:msabto@optusnet.com.au)

### **Greens Bush to Arthurs Seat Biolink**

Unfortunately, juggling two action-packed part-time jobs and a family became too much and I have regretfully stepped down from coordinating the 'Greens Bush to Arthurs Seat Biolink'. I have enjoyed the role so much, thanks in no small part to working with such a passionate and committed group of landholders. I would like to thank everyone for their support, especially the steering committee of GB2AS (David Maddocks, Bernie Schedvin, Michelle Stacey and Greg Holland), the MP Shire for hosting me and DELWP & PPWCMA for funding the project. I shall be continuing in my role as Landcare Facilitator based at the MP Shire Mon – Wed 9am – 3pm.

Taking over the reins in the Project Coordinator role is the diligent and lovely Chantal Kelly, who comes with much experience including managing Landcare projects on the peninsula, including the 'Moonah Woodland Restoration' project for SW Mornington Peninsula Landcare Group and the 'Protecting Indigenous Fauna in High Quality Merricks North Bushland' project for Merricks Coolart Catchment Group. Her contact details are : [chantalkelly77@gmail.com](mailto:chantalkelly77@gmail.com) phone: 0410 764 732.

I shall be supporting her as she settles into this role over the next few months, particularly in regards to the planting that is planned for July/August. We've now got more than 7000 indigenous plants installed this season, with thanks to many volunteers this month including Advance College, Dromana Secondary, Rosebud Secondary and Chisholm Tafe. We've got 'National Tree Day' coming up on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 65 Seamists Drive, Arthurs Seat. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there.

With thanks and best wishes,

Jacqui

- Jacqui Salter, former Project Coordinator, GB2AS



*Students and a teacher from 'Ucan2' English school with Jacqui Salter (left)*

### ***Peninsula Habitat Management Course***

There are still a couple of places available for the 8th SPIFFA PHMC, commencing on August 15th. Go to [this page to find out more....](#) It will involve 13 classroom sessions (to be held at the Briars visitor centre, Mt. Martha on consecutive Thursday evenings) & the remaining session, plus 6 all-day field trips will be held on weekends at locations which show-case the diversity of the Mornington Peninsula .

This course is practically identical (in all but cost) to the [Greening Australia HCMC](#), uses the same principal lecturers, Dr Randall Robinson and Darcy Duggan and, in addition will involve a familiar local team - Gidja Walker, Leon Costermans, Prof. Neil Hallam and Dr Ian Faithfull and other experts.

### ***National Landcare Survey wants to hear from YOU!***

The National Landcare Network and Landcare Victoria Incorporated are seeking feedback from Landcarers to help inform discussions on Landcare at the national level. The closing date for the survey has been extended until **19 July 2018**. Please complete the survey [here](#) which should take no more than five minutes.

## ***HAVE YOUR SAY: Shire moves to further protect the Green Wedge with the exhibition of the Draft Green Wedge Management Plan***

The period for community submissions closes 5pm Friday 3 August 2018.

### **A. Online**

View the Plan and fill in the online form at [mornpen.vic.gov.au/greenwedge](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au/greenwedge)

Draft here: <https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Have-your-say/Have-Your-Say-Green-Wedge-Management-Plan-2018>

### **B. In person**

The Plan is also available to view at the Shire's offices in Rosebud, Mornington, Hastings and Somerville.

### **C. In writing**

By email to [haveyoursay@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@mornpen.vic.gov.au) or alternatively by post:

Attention: Allan Cowley  
Re: Green Wedge Management Plan  
Mornington Peninsula Shire  
Private Bag 1000  
Rosebud, Victoria, 3939

### **D. Drop in information sessions**

Pop down and visit Shire officers at the follow drop in sessions to learn more and have your questions answered.

Tuesday 10 July 2018  
Mornington Library – Vancouver St, Mornington  
2pm – 4pm and 6pm – 7.30pm

Thursday 12 July 2018  
Hastings Community Hub – 1973 Frankston-Flinders Road, Hastings  
2pm – 4pm and 6pm – 7.30pm

Wednesday 18 July 2018  
Main Ridge Community Hall – Main Creek Road, Main Ridge  
2pm – 4pm and 6pm – 7.30pm

All previous submissions made during the initial consultation period will also be considered by Council in making a final decision on the Plan. Previous submitters are welcome to provide additional comments during this round also.

## ***Have your Say on the Shire's Draft Climate Change Community Engagement Strategy***

The Shire have recently developed a Draft Strategy that aims to help the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to be better prepared for the impacts of climate change.

This is a strategy for the community, designed with community input. Now is your opportunity to see if we have it right!

To review the draft strategy and have your say, visit [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Have-your-say](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Have-your-say) or provide your feedback at one of the following Drop in sessions:

- Mornington Library drop in Tue 24<sup>th</sup> July, 10 am – 12 noon  
Vancouver St, Mornington:
- Rye Civic Centre drop in: Wed 25<sup>th</sup> July, 4 pm – 6 pm  
12 Napier St, Rye
- Rosebud Library drop in: Sat 4<sup>th</sup> August, 10 – 12 noon  
McDowell St, Rosebud
- Hasting Community Hub drop in: Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> August, 1.30 – 3.30 pm  
1973 Frankston-Flinders Rd, Hastings

Hard copies of the draft Strategy and surveys are available at the Shire offices at Rosebud, Mornington, Hastings and Somerville. Comments will be received until Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018.

If you have any queries please contact the Shire's Planning Support team on 5950 1010 or email [stratplanprojects@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:stratplanprojects@mornpen.vic.gov.au).

<https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/About-Us/News-Media-Publications/News-Media/Shire-moves-to-further-protect-the-Green-Wedge>

## ***Win a ticket to the National Landcare Conference and Awards!***

### **Vote for your favourite Landcarer and win a ticket to the Conference and Awards**

The biennial National Landcare Awards celebrate the hard work and dedication of our amazing Landcare volunteers. This year, 65 finalists are being recognised across eight categories for their tireless contribution to sustainable farm practices, agriculture land management, coast care, community work, and indigenous land management. Each finalist is in the running for their nominated category and the coveted People's Choice Award.

To celebrate our finalists' achievements, we're giving one lucky person in each state and territory the chance to win a ticket to the 2018 National Landcare Conference and Awards in Brisbane from the 10 – 12 October 2018. All you have to do is vote for the finalist you believe best demonstrates innovation and champions the Landcare cause. [Click here](#) to learn how each finalist has made a significant difference to the Landcare movement through their projects.

## 2. State of the Environment

### *Fungi 4 Land. It's fine to put the plants back but what about the fungi?*

We know that healthy bushlands are resilient due to the myriad of interactions between our plants, animals, fungi and microbes. Australian fungi are different from those in other countries in the same way that our plants, animals and other species differ.

Despite this, Australia lacks a practical guide to integrating fungi for conservation and restoration focused management. The project to publish a practical guide will help address the following neglected restoration and management story.

#### **The roles of fungi within ecosystems and how to include them in management of healthy ecosystems, as:**

- plant partners
- providers of food and habitat for animals
- recyclers of nutrients
- why not are all fungal diseases bad
- interactions that drive soil structure and health
- how fungi are connected to other life

#### **Practical tools to help managers understand:**

- diseases & weedy fungi
- fire and fungi
- threatening processes
- fungi and soil
- logs and litter vs mulch

You can help with this very important project [by going to this page....](#)

### *Advisory List of Environmental Weeds*

ARI have just released an updated advisory list of environmental weeds in Victoria. This list is intended to provide general advice to conservation managers on the relative risks posed by different environmental weeds and the relative urgency of managing them across Victoria's natural ecosystems. The environmental weeds documented in this list are ranked to indicate priority for control or management in native vegetation, based largely on the 'stage' of the invasion process for each species, the impact of the species on native ecosystems, and the species' rate of spread.

The list consists of this explanatory document and the accompanying spreadsheet, an abridged version of which is supplied in Appendix one of this report. Detailed versions of the list with complete annotations are available online. This state-wide list replaces the five advisory lists of environmental weeds for different Victorian bioregions, published in the late 2000s (Adair et al. 2008a,b; 2009a,b,c).

This advisory list update was funded by the Weeds and Pests on Public Land program, Biodiversity Division within the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. The update has been a deliverable of the Weeds at the Early Stage of Invasion1 (WESI) project (WESI project team Kate Blood and Bec James).

You can learn more about the WESI project here: <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/invasive-plants-and-animals/early-invaders> . And about the weed risk rating here: <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/invasive-plants-and-animals/weed-risk-ratings> . I've saved all the WESI guides and the full advisory list to objective, see attached link.

### ***Marine ply nestboxes may be linked to duckling deaths***

- Jim Greenwood



*The arrows point to the remains of dead ducklings. The stinking mess is the result of several failed attempts to use this box. Amongst the debris are the recognizable remains of at least 8 embryonic ducklings.*

This box is made with marine ply. It was installed in winter 2015. Ringtails moved in summer 2015. Wood ducks tried breeding July 2016. Several clutches of eggs were laid. In September 2016, the ceiling and entrance was surfaced sprayed to prevent bees. A wood duck was sitting on top of box and flew off. Inside was very smelly due to rotten eggs. The eggs on top of the nest were cold. I doubted that they would hatch.

Three weeks later, several clutches of dead ducklings and rotting eggs were on the ground and in the box. All of the rotten nest material was removed and fresh gum leaves were placed inside. The box was inspected in May 2018. There was a thick, stinking layer of compacted bedding and exploded rotten eggs. The box was taken down. It was estimated that the remains of 30 plus duck eggs are mixed with rotten stinking nest material and the remains of exploded eggs and dead ducklings.

Wood ducks will breed in suitable nest boxes from June to September. Often, when the ducklings have leapt from the box, another wood duck will start laying her eggs in the box. Wood ducks lay an egg a day and do not sit on the eggs until the last egg is laid. Several clutches of ducklings can be produced from the same box during the season.

This synchronizes the hatching of the clutch. They usually produce 10 to 15 eggs in each clutch. A successful duck nest has fragments of egg shell, is dry and has no smell. All ducklings have hatched and climbed out of the box.

What is happening in a marine ply nest box?

Many wood ducks have tried and failed to breed in the box. The nests have been abandoned, resulting in rotten eggs and dead ducklings. The ducks are driven out of the box. The reason may be due to the marine ply giving off a gas which produces a smell that drives the ducks away. It is also likely that the marine ply fumes are toxic. The stinking debris full of rotten eggs will also produce toxic fumes that will cause interrupted nesting behaviour. I have often seen female wood ducks sitting on top of marine ply boxes!

This is from my presentation “**Nest Box Science**”

- Marine Ply is insect and rot-proof due to resins and oils.
- They give off gas and repel animals.
- Occupancy is delayed and takes at least 6 to 12 months.
- Marine ply boxes are often never occupied.
- Even old marine ply boxes will give off gas when warmed by sunshine.
- An empty nest box is usually full of cobwebs, spiders, beetles, etc.
- An empty marine ply box usually has no invertebrate residents.”

There is no doubt that marine ply nest boxes repel, harm and kill wildlife.

### 3. Monthly Features

#### **Article of the Month: Conserving endangered orchids – the secret is in the soil!**



The secret to conserving an endangered orchid is in the soil

Full paper: <https://buff.ly/2sU6LJ7> (FREE Access for a limited time)

A study of orchids shows the secret to conservation isn't in the plants you can see, but the fungi you can't.

Some fascinating research from the Orchid Conservation Centre at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Victoria. In short just because you find plants together in a habitat, it doesn't follow that they get along, as new research into conserving the metallic sun orchid (*Thelymitra epipactoides*).

Image: *Thelymitra epipactoides* by Noushka Reiter  
- Facebook summary

**Indigenous plant of the Month: Fire weed *Senecio hispidulus***



**Species name:** *Senecio hispidulus*

**Family:** Asteraceae

**Origin:** Found in WA, SA, QLD, NSW, ACT, VIC, TAS. Naturalized New Zealand. Except for the north-west, common and widespread throughout much of the State, particularly following soil disturbance or fire.

**Status:** Common and widespread throughout much of Victoria, especially after soil disturbance or fire

**Growth Habit:** Erect annual or shortly-lived perennial herb with sparsely coarsely-hairy to almost hairless stems from 0.2m – 1.3m high.

**Reproduction:** Gorse produce prolific amounts of seed – estimated at 6 million per hectare, seeds which can lay dormant in the soil for years before germination.

**Dispersal:** Seeds are shot out to a distance of 5 m, so planting in hedges simply encourages gorse to spread along a wide front. Seeds also are dispersed by wind, water, birds, machinery, and footwear.

**Similar Plants:** The bright-yellow flowers and sharp spines mean that gorse is easily differentiated from other native species.

**Further reading:**

[http://fe.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Residents/Trees\\_Vegetation/Yarra\\_Ranges\\_Plant\\_Directory/Yarra\\_Ranges\\_Local\\_Plant\\_Directory/Lower\\_Storey/Herbs\\_and\\_Groundcovers\\_1m/Senecio\\_hispidulus](http://fe.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Residents/Trees_Vegetation/Yarra_Ranges_Plant_Directory/Yarra_Ranges_Local_Plant_Directory/Lower_Storey/Herbs_and_Groundcovers_1m/Senecio_hispidulus)

- Article by Jacqui Salter, Image from the above URL.

## 4. Newsletter Feedback

Do you have a story to tell? Is there a weed, plant, fungus, slime mould, or animal that you want to know about? Have you identified a new, rare, or interesting species? Or a good book? Please contact [greg@carranya.net](mailto:greg@carranya.net) for it to be featured in the newsletter.

## 5. Upcoming Events

Description	Time & Date	Location	RSVP date	Contact
<b>Dunns Creek Landcare restoration along Harrisons Rd</b>	Sat 14 July 8.30am – lunch. (come when it suits within this time period)	Meet in the Dromana Secondary College carpark.	Thurs 12 July	<a href="mailto:gibbddd@gmail.com">gibbddd@gmail.com</a> SMS: 0417 564 599 Phone: 59 872 396
<b>Southwest Mornington Peninsula Landcare Group tree planting</b>	Sat 21 July 9.30 am – 1 pm (come when suits “)	45 Seamists Drive, Arthurs Seat	N/A	<a href="https://treeplant21july.eventbrite.com.au">https://treeplant21july.eventbrite.com.au</a>
<b>Basic Wildlife Rescue and Transport Training</b>	Sat 28 July/ 22 Sep/ 1 Dec	Thornbury	N/A	<a href="http://wildliferescuers.org.au/training-registration-28-july/">http://wildliferescuers.org.au/training-registration-28-july/</a>
<b>Main Creek Catchment Landcare Group Tree planting</b>	Sat 28 July 9.30 am – 1 pm (come when suits)	160 Hyslops Rd Main Ridge	NA	<a href="https://maincreektreeplanting.eventbrite.com.au">https://maincreektreeplanting.eventbrite.com.au</a>
<b>National Tree Day planting</b>	Sun 29 July 9.30 am – 1 pm (come when suits)	65 Seamists Drive, Arthurs Seat	N/A	<a href="https://treeday.planetark.org/site/10018886">https://treeday.planetark.org/site/10018886</a>



**Join Mornington Peninsula Landcare Network,  
partnering with Mornington Toyota and Planet Ark  
for National Tree Day!**

**You will be contributing to Landcare's "Greens Bush to  
Arthurs Seat Biolink" by planting indigenous shrubs on  
one of the 21 private properties involved in this  
exciting project.**



**Date: Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July 9.30 am – 1 pm**

**Location: 65 Seamists Drive, Arthurs Seat**

**To register, go to: <http://treeday.planetark.org/site/10018886>**

**For more info, contact Jacqui Salter  
Jacqueline.salter@mornpen.vic.gov.au**

*Please wear weather appropriate clothing including closed-toe shoes*

## 6. Mornington Peninsula Landcare Network Grants Guide July 2018

Name of Grant	Date due	Amount	Details
Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants 2018	20 July 2018	\$5000	<a href="https://landcareaustralia.org.au/victorian-junior-landcare-biodiversity-grants/">https://landcareaustralia.org.au/victorian-junior-landcare-biodiversity-grants/</a>
Morn Pen Shire Community Grants	29 July 2018	\$5000	Click on this <a href="#">Link</a>
Morn Pen Shire Flexigrants	16 August 2018	\$5000	Click on this <a href="#">Link</a>
Norman Wettenhall Foundation	Open: 19 June, 18 Sept, 11 Dec	\$5,000 or \$5,000-\$25,000.	<a href="https://wettenhall.org.au/grants/small-environmental-grants/">https://wettenhall.org.au/grants/small-environmental-grants/</a>
Australian ethical community grants	TBA upon registration	TBA upon registration	<a href="https://www.australianethical.com.au/community-grants/">https://www.australianethical.com.au/community-grants/</a>
MP Shire Flexigrant	All year	Up to \$1000	<a href="http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/our_shire/community_grants">http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/our_shire/community_grants</a>
FNCV Environment Fund	TBA upon registration	Up to \$1000	<a href="http://www.fncv.org.au/environment-fund/">http://www.fncv.org.au/environment-fund/</a>
RACV	All year	Up to \$2000	<a href="https://www.racv.com.au/about-racv/our-business/community-involvement/community-support.html">https://www.racv.com.au/about-racv/our-business/community-involvement/community-support.html</a>
Ross Trust	All year	Up to \$20,000	<a href="http://www.rosstrust.org.au/grants/apply-for-a-grant/">http://www.rosstrust.org.au/grants/apply-for-a-grant/</a>
EPA Inspiring Environmental Solutions community funding program	All year	Around \$25,000 to \$100,000.	<a href="http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/programs/inspiring-environmental-solutions">http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/programs/inspiring-environmental-solutions</a>
John T Reid Charitable Trust	All year	Not specified	<a href="http://www.johntreidtrusts.com.au/whatwefund">http://www.johntreidtrusts.com.au/whatwefund</a>
Melbourne Water Stream Frontage Grant	All year	Variable	<a href="https://www.melbournewater.com.au/">https://www.melbournewater.com.au/</a>
Canon Oceana Environmental Grants	Ongoing	\$11,000	<a href="https://www.canon.com.au/about-canon/community/environmental-grants">https://www.canon.com.au/about-canon/community/environmental-grants</a>
Sidney Myer Foundation	Ongoing	Not specified	<a href="http://myerfoundation.org.au/grants/sustainability-environment/">http://myerfoundation.org.au/grants/sustainability-environment/</a>
Colonial Foundation	Ongoing	Not specified	<a href="http://www.colonialfoundation.org.au/4330926/colonial-foundation-trust-grant-program.htm">http://www.colonialfoundation.org.au/4330926/colonial-foundation-trust-grant-program.htm</a>
Greenfleet	Ongoing	Can be substantial	<a href="https://www.greenfleet.com.au/">https://www.greenfleet.com.au/</a>

## 7. Local Information

### *Shire Nursery*

Open Wed/Thurs/Fri 9.00am – 3.00pm and first Saturday each month 9.00am-1.00pm. The Shire Nursery specialises in indigenous and native plants. Ph: 5974-8417, email [nursery@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:nursery@mornpen.vic.gov.au)

### *Eco Living Display Centre*

Open: Fridays 1-4pm & first Saturday each month 9.00am-1.00pm. For activities and workshops visit [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au) or contact the Renewable Resources department on 5950-1259.

### *Home Harvest exchange*

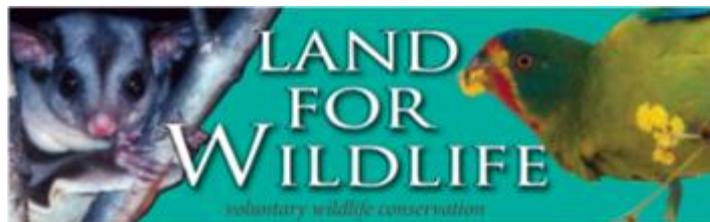
Too many lemons and not enough parsley? Why not take part in a Home Harvest Exchange? This community initiative allows people to bring their own excess produce and go home with someone else's for free! Bring home grown edibles, eggs, preserved produce, honey, seeds and seedlings. No minimum amount and no money changes hands.



<p><b>Mornington</b> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of the month; 2pm - 3pm Dig It, Mornington Community Garden, Mitchell St, Mornington. (Melways Reference: 145 D3)</p>	<p><b>Rosebud</b> Last Saturday of the month; 2-3pm Rosebud Community Garden, Lawson Park, Leon Av, Rosebud. (Melways Reference: 170 F2)</p>	<p><b>Mount Martha</b> First Saturday each month 3-4pm The Briars, 450 Nepean Hwy, Mt Martha.</p>
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### *Land for Wildlife*

If you wish to create or protect wildlife habitats on your property, then the Land for Wildlife scheme can offer advice and assistance no matter whether you manage a farm, a bush block, a council park or school ground.



Landholder participation is free and membership doesn't alter the legal status of your property in any way. A Land for Wildlife sign is provided free of charge to acknowledge the efforts being made for wildlife conservation

**More info, contact:** Peter Johnson Statewide Coordinator and Newsletter Editor Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Box 3100, Bendigo Delivery Centre Bendigo, 3554 Victoria, Australia Tel: (03) 5430 4358 Fax: (03) 5448 4982 [peter.johnson@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:peter.johnson@delwp.vic.gov.au)  
<https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/protecting-wildlife/land-for-wildlife>

### *Advice on Removing Native Vegetation*

For assistance and advice in relation to the removal of native vegetation, please contact [nativevegetation.support@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:nativevegetation.support@delwp.vic.gov.au)

## 8. Contacts

- **Jacqui Salter**, Landcare Facilitator, MPLN [Jacqueline.salter@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:Jacqueline.salter@mornpen.vic.gov.au) ph: 0408 213 079
- **Greg Holland**: Newsletter Editor [greg@carranya.net](mailto:greg@carranya.net)  
**David Maddocks**, President of MPLN [david.maddocks@bigpond.com](mailto:david.maddocks@bigpond.com) ph: 0429 990 518
- **Michele Sabto**, Project Coordinator for 'Linking the Mornington Peninsula Landscape' project [linkingmplandscape@yahoo.com.au](mailto:linkingmplandscape@yahoo.com.au)
- **Chantal Kelly**, project coordinator for Greens Bush to Arthurs Seat Biolink Project: [chantalkelly77@gmail.com](mailto:chantalkelly77@gmail.com)
- **Sarah Saxton**, MP Shire Agribusiness & Food Industry Officer, [sarah.saxton@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:sarah.saxton@mornpen.vic.gov.au)
- **Paul Hodgson**, Melbourne Water River Health Officer, [paul.hodgson@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:paul.hodgson@melbournewater.com.au) ph: 9679 7054
- **Briars Nursery**, Nepean Hwy Mt. Martha, Tel. 5974 8417 Email [nursery@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:nursery@mornpen.vic.gov.au)
- **Wildlife Help on the Mornington Peninsula (WHOMP)** All hours 0417 380 687 0417 395 883
- **Animalia Shelter**, 0435 822 699 All hours [www.animaliawildlife.org.au](http://www.animaliawildlife.org.au)
- **Crystal Ocean Wildlife Shelter (Rye)** - [crystal\\_ocean2003@yahoo.com.au](mailto:crystal_ocean2003@yahoo.com.au) 0407 787 770

## 9. Image at the end



Image: Gidja Walker

Q: What is it?

A: Birds Nest Fungi!

This fungi photo was taken by Gidja Walker in Fingal. The Nidulariaceae are a family of fungi in the order Agaricales. Commonly known as the bird's nest fungi, their fruiting bodies resemble tiny egg-filled birds' nests. As they feed on decomposing organic matter, they are often seen growing on decaying wood and in soils enriched with wood chips or bark mulch. They have a widespread distribution in most ecological regions.

The nests are "splash-cups". When a raindrop hits one at the right angle, the walls are shaped such that the eggs are expelled to about 1 m away from the cup in some species. Some species have a sticky trailing thread, a *funicular cord*, attached to the peridiole. If that thread encounters a twig on its flight, the peridiole will swing around and wrap itself around the twig. The spores are thought to be ingested by herbivores and grow in their droppings to continue the life cycle.

More info: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nidulariaceae>