



# CRISP

## Nursery News

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Special 20th Anniversary Edition November 2013

# CRISP Management Team

Nursery Management	
	Annette O'Sullivan Stephanie Dean
Committee	
<b>President</b>	Pam Yarra
<b>Vice President</b>	Merrilyn Smith
<b>Treasurer</b>	Nerida Gray
<b>Secretary</b>	Mark Smith Carmel Koesasi Andy Parsons Vivien Holyoake
<b>Newsletter Editor/design:</b>	Linda Hibbs
<b>Website manager/design:</b>	Ken McInnes



## SALES AREA

Open:  
Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm  
Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm  
Saturday 10.00am - 1pm (March- Nov)

## VOLUNTEERS

Most of the work at CRISP is carried out by volunteers. These are people from within the community who give their time to help provide a large range of indigenous plants for the Maroondah Region. If you care about your local environment and would like to help out at the nursery, join the friendly team. No experience needed. Learn the difference between various native plants, learn to propagate and pot up the many seedlings.

### Where are we?

CRISP is located in GREENWOOD AVE, Ringwood (just next to Jubilee Park).  
If you can't find a volunteer amongst the plants, walk down further and find them in a small building on your left, just before Reverse Art.  
Come and browse the sales section or give some of your time to help the others.

### DISCLAIMER:

Crisp Nursery Inc does not hold itself responsible for statements made or opinions expressed in CRISP news. They may not necessarily reflect the opinions of the organisation, but are merely printed to share information with those who are interested in the conservation of our local flora and related environmental concerns.

### CRISP WEBSITE

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~crisp/index.html>

Cover Photograph:

Hairpin Banksia, *Banksia spinulosa*, photographed by Pam Yarra in her Heathmont garden.

# A Note from the Editor

Welcome to our last newsletter for the 20th Anniversary year. I hope you enjoy the special full colour edition.

Today I was listening to Professor Tim Entwisle, the current head of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Melbourne talking to Jon Faine about our seasons in Australia. I am sure many of you have already felt that our four seasons don't quite fit across Australia, and of course we joke about Melbourne having 'four seasons in one day'. But a more practical way to define seasons, according to Tim Entwisle, would be to follow the way the indigenous people of Australia define seasons, and this involves observance of various flowering plants, animals and birds that appear at different times of the year. Here is a short extract from his discussion on Q & A. (More of his views on this can be found at: <http://www.climatewatch.org.au/news/scientist-q-and-a-dr-tim-entwisle>).

*'The climate varies around Australia, for instance winter in Hobart is markedly different from winter in Darwin, and I'm not even sure if Darwin knows what spring is! The Indigenous communities around Australia have tens of thousands of years experience and none of them use a four-season system. They base their calendars on local changes in climate, for instance when winds start, and also on when animals arrive and plants flower; hence Indigenous Australians have defined often between 6 and 8 seasons for any one place, with seasons varying from region to region. For the rest of Australia, a season starts when we flip a calendar! ...'*

I always remember as a child announcing that 'summer had arrived' when I heard the call of the golden bronze cuckoo or the pallid cuckoo. Sadly, I don't hear them anymore round here.

Keep your eye out for any stressed wildlife over summer - often young ringtails can be found dehydrated on the very hot summer days. If you do find any injured wildlife - call Wildlife Victoria (1300 094535) and they will point you in the direction of the nearest open vet or the nearest wildlife carer.

From *Christmas Wombat* by Jackie French and Bruce Whatley

Don't forget to come along to the CRISP BBQ - held this year at CRISP in Greenwood Avenue on the 7th December (see advert in newsletter). All of you are welcome - and as this is the 20th year celebration- hopefully we will see lots of new and 'old' faces.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the newsletter this year. A special thank you to Stephanie for keeping the ideas rolling in and following up where necessary, Pam Yarra for her articles on Australian flowers, Merrilyn for her photos, and in this issue a thank you also to Nerida and to Paul and Annette for information and photos about the Mullum Mullum planting. And a big thank you again to Olwyn Smiley for her careful proofreading.

All the best for Christmas and New Year - I look forward to joining you all again next year.

Linda  
lhibbs@ihug.com.au



**Special CRISP Christmas**  
for members, volunteers and friends

**Come celebrate our  
20th Anniversary year with a BBQ and some  
birthday cake!**

**At CRISP Nursery, 17 Greenwood Ave, Ringwood**  
(note the venue change)

**On Saturday 7 December  
from 12 pm**

**BBQ and soft drinks supplied -  
bring a salad or sweet to share**

**RSVP to the Nursery by 2nd December**  
[crisp@melbpc.org.au](mailto:crisp@melbpc.org.au)  
or 9879 3911



# Committee Corner

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This is the last newsletter for our celebratory year. Spring with its variable weather is to be celebrated too, a good time to plant some indigenous plants in the garden.

Our AGM was held on August 16th and many members enjoyed hearing Ken McInnes talking about the embryonic beginnings of CRISP. Committee member Andy Parsons also interviewed Brad Curtis about his and Ringwood/ Maroondah Council's role in supporting CRISP. Our thanks to Ken, Brad and Andy for such an interesting presentation.

The Newly Elected Committee for 2013-2015:

Pam Yarra, President  
 Marilyn Smith, Vice President  
 Nerida Gray, Treasurer  
 Mark Smith, Secretary  
 Vivien Holyoake  
 Carmel Koesasi  
 Andy Parsons

Thank-you to all the re elected committee members for their commitment and hard work. Also thank you to outgoing, long serving committee members Annette Culley and Andy Powell. Your contributions have been appreciated.

Thank you also to the CRISP staff for their hard work and dedication. Jan Temperly, who has been employed to work primarily in the sales area, has left us to pursue other interests. We thank Jan for her contribution in the past two years and wish her well in her new ventures.

Due to changes in our constitution, the next AGM will be held early in 2015, however a meeting will be held in the middle of 2014 in lieu of an official AGM that would have normally been held at this time.

Our hard working treasurer, Nerida, is really multi tasking. As well as being a busy mother to young William, she is using her creative talents, designing and making a mosaic to celebrate the 20th anniversary of CRISP.

Our newsletter editor, Linda, recently exhibited two beautiful pastel landscapes at Wyreena Gallery and they both sold at the start of the exhibition.

CRISP member, Ruth Jackson, a botanic artist (her artwork can be seen on the beautiful cards for sale at CRISP and the flower for the CRISP logo), recently had two exhibitions at Domain House, 'From Forest to the Foreshore', in the Melbourne Botanic Gardens. Her two water colours were entitled, 'Heath Star Moss' and 'Common Crestwort'. Congratulations to both these talented ladies.

As a way of identifying and publicising CRISP, there are now polo tops available for volunteers. The committee has subsidised the cost, so that volunteers only have to pay \$10. The design on the front was created by Jamie, the son of committee member Vivien Holyoake. Thank you to Jamie for his creativity.

Many memories have been shared over the past year, and it is hoped that both old and new members can attend the barbecue at the nursery on December 7th (See details in newsletter).

Thank you to the staff and all the volunteers for the hard work and commitment during the year. I hope the festive season and New Year is a happy one.

Pam Yarra  
 President



Sundew - Loughies Bushland

# Nursery Report

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Spring this year has been pretty slow to take off. There was a fleeting period of warm weather where many plants started to flower early but since then the cool, windy weather has slowed things down. We are sowing many trays for spring germination and waiting eagerly to see the shoots rise. Hopefully the weather will warm up a bit soon and we will be rewarded, when checking the poly house.

Work continues in the nursery as usual: lots of cuttings being prepared, seeds sown, pots weeded, plants sold, pots washed and stacked and of course all the activity stops for morning tea at 10.30. We have so many wonderful volunteers at the nursery and it is great when our members take on extra roles quietly, when the rubbish bins are emptied, the dishes are washed and tea towels taken home and returned clean, plant labels are cleaned and returned, secateurs are sharpened and many other jobs - Thank You - we do notice and appreciate.

In between all the usual good work going on at the nursery there have been other activities such as providing plants for displays at the Maroondah Federation Estate for the 'Maroondah 2040 - Image Maroondah Interactive Community Event' and for Warranwood Fair. These plants were also on display at the Maroondah Festival in November where we shared an information stand with Maroondah Bushlinks and Maroondah Bushland team.

Plant Identification sessions have been initiated thanks to the work of Maroondah Bushlinks and a grant from Maroondah City Council. Dr Graeme Lorimer led some of Maroondah's bushcarers through Warranwood Reserve, teaching some of the skills and knowledge required for identifying our bushland plants and weed species.

Our latest initiative is to run a Bush Regeneration Group Out and About Fortnightly on a Monday (we need a better name for this group - please help us out!!). This group will gently hand weed around remnant vegetation in our local reserves and learn about the plant communities and wonderful bushland vegetation. If you would like to be involved please contact us at the nursery and you can be added to the special reminder list.

We have had seed cleaning evenings at the nursery and sent some seeds out to a local scout group for cleaning. Another community group, and some individual members, have taken seeds home for cleaning and sorting. This is a great help. Our next seed cleaning evening will be on November 27th in the tearoom at the nursery from 7pm - 9pm.

We are looking forward to celebrating all the year's achievements at the Christmas Party which will be held at the nursery this year on December 7th.

Annette & Stephanie



**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

# Beautiful banksias

by Pam Yarra

Banksias are amongst the most attractive of all the plants in the bush and continue to entice artists, photographers and researchers, as well as gardeners.

Banksias would have been seen by the early Dutch explorers in 1697 in the south western region of Australia, but there is nothing recorded to show they paid attention to them.

Joseph Banks and Swedish naturalist Daniel Solander, were the first Europeans to discover banksias when they landed at Botany Bay during their voyage on James Cook's 'Endeavour' in 1770. Banksias were common in the bush and the first plant they would have seen was most likely the Coast Banksia, *Banksia integrifolia*. Nearby they found the rugged Saw Banksia, *Banksia Serrata*, also in flower and bearing massive fruiting cones and the Heath Banksia, *Banksia ericifolia*.

In the early days of settlement, banksia timber was used for furniture. Today its beautiful timber can be used for smaller items, such as picture frames.

Indigenous Australians had many uses for banksias. Nectar was obtained for drinks by soaking the flowers in water. Cones made excellent brushes, as well as being transported while smouldering to start campfires. Timber was used for small tools. As the flowers opened not only from the base, but also on the side facing the sun (north), they were used as means to detect direction.

Over the centuries many banksias have been discovered. The most recent have been *Banksia croajingolensis* (2000) in Victoria and *Banksia rosserae* (2001) in western Australia, named in honour of botanic artist Celia Rosser. Celia Rosser has many published works, but perhaps her most notable work is three volumes depicting all species of banksia, life-sized and in the finest of detail. She was employed to paint all the banksias by Monash University and these volumes are still exhibited.

Banksias belong to the *Proteaceae* family (Proteus was a mythical god with the ability to change his form at will). They show a great range in growth habit, leaves, flowers and fruit. Look closely at a flower spike of a banksia. It contains hundreds or even thousands of individual flowers. On most Banksia, the tiny tubes mature from the base of the flower spike upward, opening to offer nectar and pollen to honey possums, birds and insects. Pollen provides protein, minerals and vitamins, while nectar provides energy and the occasional trapped insect.

Many of the most spectacular banksias occur naturally in Western Australia and one the most stunning of them, Crimson banksia, (*Banksia coccinea*), is grown commercially in Australia and other countries. Banksias are a major component of the multi-million dollar international cut flower trade.



*Banksia coccinea*, Scarlet Banksia, photographed by Pam Yarra at the Banksia Farm at Mount Barker in south west, western Australia.

The Silver banksia, (*Banksia marginata*) is found in south eastern Australia from the Eyre Peninsula in SA, through to Victoria and in eastern NSW and throughout Tasmania. It is also found on Kangaroo Island and the islands of Bass Strait. It can grow in sandy loam, clay loam, shale, peaty loam and rocky soil. It is very hardy, tolerating many climatic conditions, and its size varies depending on these conditions. It has attractive leaves and pale yellow

flowers, generally flowering in autumn and winter. It is the only banksia indigenous to the Maroondah area. The Hairpin Banksia, *Banksia spinulosa*, however, also grows well in Heathmont clay.

Improved knowledge of fertilizers, mulching, watering and pruning techniques have contributed to better results in cultivation. The low or no watering required once established, makes banksias desirable garden plants in a drier world climate.

As well as their visible beauty, banksias attract birds, possums and insects to the garden, making them an excellent habitat plant.



Hairpin Banksia, *Banksia spinulosa*, , photographed in Pam's garden.



<http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Silver-Banksia.html>



*Banksia rosserae*, Illustration by Celia Rosser

July 3, 2006

FOR the first time, scientists and plant lovers have witnessed the flowering of a rare banksia species found in remote Western Australia.

It was discovered by a bushwalker in 2000, but its bright yellow flowers — which resemble tennis balls — had not been seen before last month.

Botanists believe the banksia finally flowered after storms spawned by cyclone Glenda dumped the equivalent of a year's rain on its drought-ridden home in one day at the end of March....

<http://www.celiarosserglassery.com.au/>



## ABOUT

Celia Elizabeth Rosser is a world renowned botanical artist, best known for her three-volume series *The Banksias* which took over 25 years to complete . The stunning Celia Rosser gallery features the epic Banksia project along with the work of other noted artists in changing exhibitions.

# Plant Identification

by Stephanie Dean

On Saturday October 16th at 9am, an enthusiastic group of bushcarers gathered at Warranwood Reserve to undertake some training in the identification of local eucalypts and other shrub species. We were fortunate to have received funding for this training from Maroondah City Council Community Grants Program. The training was provided by Dr Graeme Lorimer – a local botanist and ecologist.

Maroondah Bushlinks proposed this training back in March and helped with the grant application process. This opportunity was offered to Bushcare volunteers via the 'Friends Group' conveners working in Maroondah bushland reserves.

The objective of the sessions was to improve participants' identification skills so that they can:

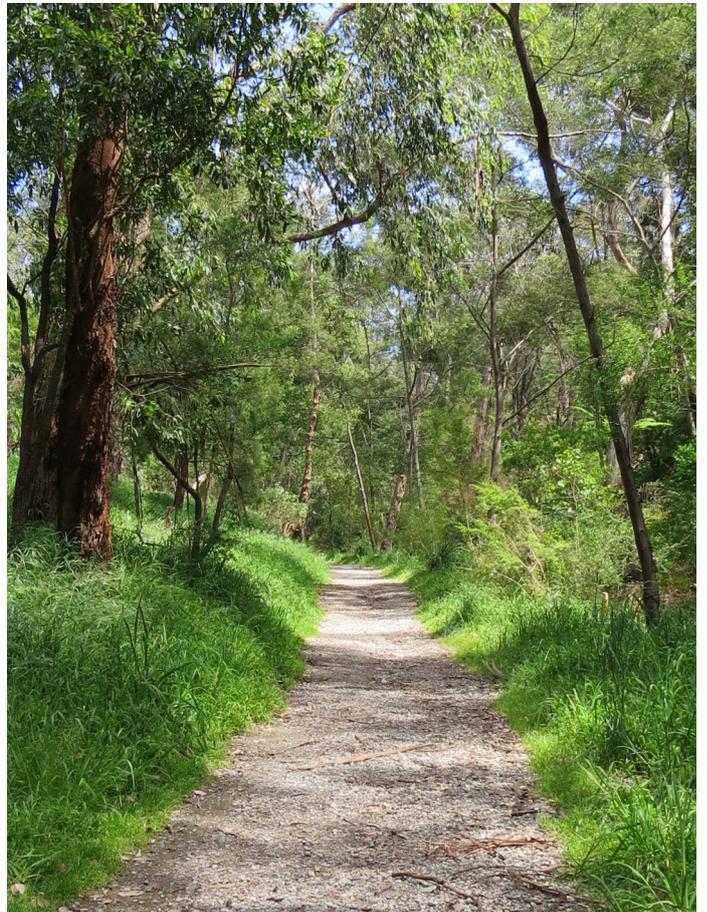
- build their botanical skills in a collegiate environment
- bring together members of different groups with a common interest
- become more confident in plant identification and share this knowledge within their 'Friends' group
- better detect rare indigenous plant species and hence improve plant conservation
- confidently identify serious weeds, leading to improved weed control, without the risk of inadvertently destroying desirable plants with which they are easily confused
- increase their understanding of local flora and be able to ascertain plants that are suitable for particular growing conditions, which will help when planning revegetation projects.

Dr Lorimer also provided tips about the priorities to place on different weed species and the best approaches to their control.

The feedback from this first session has been overwhelmingly positive and the participants are looking forward to part two, which will run in November and cover identification of grass and wetland species.

We would be keen to hear from any other CRISP members who would like to participate in plant ID training if we were to offer these sessions again in the future.

Warranwood Reserve



'Loved it but not enough time as too much to learn.'

'Superb presenter.'



'Graeme made each workshop very interesting. The sessions were long enough, but in future should this ID course be run again two sessions should be allocated to grasses. Thanks to CRISP and their members for organising and notifying bushland members.'



**Top left:** Kim identifies a plant species, Annette in background  
**Middle:** Graeme Lorimer explaining plant ID to the group.  
**Middle right:** Identifying species.  
**Below left:** Graeme Lorimer talking to the group.  
**Below right:** Ruth, Kim, Stephanie and Pam identifying a local eucalyptus species.

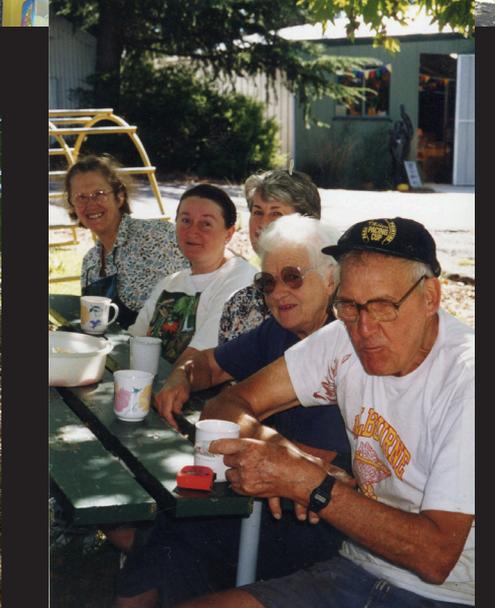


Photos by  
Merrilyn Smith



# Looking back...





# Mosaic madness

by Nerida Gray

As a part of the CRISP Nursery 20th Birthday celebrations, the committee approached me and asked whether I would help design and create a commemorative mosaic to mark the occasion. With the assistance of Marilyn Smith and the 'all clear' from the committee a design was decided upon, encompassing our new logo; Ruth Jackson's gorgeous drawing of a dianella flower.

It took me a little while to get started. William, my six month old, may have had something to do with that. It seems he did not get the memo that Mummy needed to make a mosaic for CRISP!!!

The plan was for me to do the tricky bits and then the CRISP volunteers to contribute to the mosaic by adding the finishing touches to the background using recycled materials.

At this year's Christmas BBQ celebration the mosaic, grouted and weather proofed will be 'unveiled' for all to see.

Nerida Gray  
Mummy, Crisp Treasurer and Mosaic maker ☺



**Maroondah Environment  
Yahoo network**

MaroondahEnvironmentNetwork  
@yahoogroups.com

# The answer lies in the soil

by Pam Yarra

As I have written before, a dry, shady garden with clay soil on a sloping suburban block presents many challenges. Add to this the extreme unpredictable weather patterns and the challenge for gardeners increases greatly.

We all know that the type of soil, drainage, sun and shade impact on what grows in our gardens and so influences or limits the plants grown. We were fortunate to buy our block (in 1978) with remnant bush including cherry ballarts, eucalypts, acacias, cassinias coprosmas, lomandras, gahnias and lepidosperma and this influenced us to have a 'bush type garden'. Much has changed over the past 34 years and as the garden 'evolved', the one constant has been retention of the native flora.

The flora is mainly indigenous where the remnant bush has survived. Other Australian natives, including many indigenous plants have been added. A conscious effort has been made to create a habitat garden, although proving increasingly difficult with encroaching development and nearby clearing of vegetation.

Last summer unwanted leaf hoppers invaded the garden attacking many plants, including indigenous ones. The passion vine hoppers mature to lacy wing moths and white woolly hoppers mature to grey/green moths. Was this because the plants were weakened in the first instance or did they become weak due to bug attack? Whatever the reason, it was hard work saving the plants.

All of this has made me review the soil and what can be done to improve water retention should we have another dry spring, summer and autumn. In the past gypsum has certainly improved the soil, but many areas, when turned over, resemble dustbowls.

Not being able to produce enough home compost, I investigated commercially produced compost. This was an interesting exercise, as many products do not list ingredients, where the product is made or whether suitable for Australian native

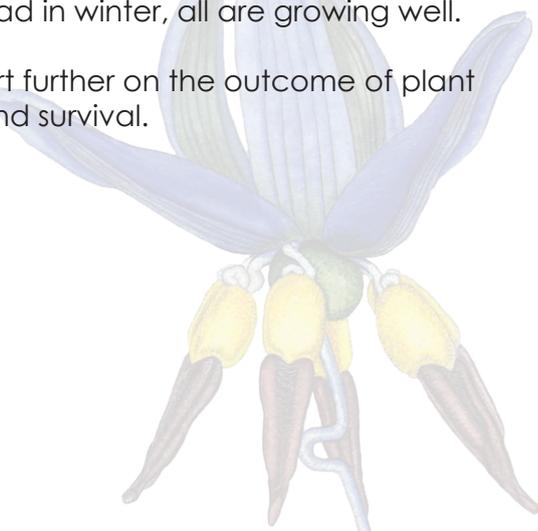
plants. And most retailers have little or no knowledge about what is suitable for native plants.

So, many enquiries later, I spoke with the manufacturers of Zoo Grow who advised me that it was suitable for native plants. This is made from a wide range of Melbourne Zoo's organic materials such as garden clippings, animal bedding, straw, shredded paper and selected animal manures from exotic animals such as elephants, giraffes and pygmy hippos. The packaging also includes information about the composting process.

From past soil testing in various areas of the garden, I knew that the soil was slightly acidic (ideal for natives here) so it seemed important to test the pH of Zoo Grow compost as well as the wetting agent, Saturaid. The compost tested neutral and the wetting agent tested acidic. These two products were then mixed together with slow release native fertilizer and added to the soil of each hole when putting in new plants. Each plant was then watered with super wetting agent and conditioner.

As this is not controlled research, it will be difficult to measure the outcomes of the soil treatment. However, since planting commenced in April, all plants are growing well with healthy new growth. It is early days and the testing time to evaluate will be spring and summer if conditions are again dry. I have also added the compost mixture to some established plants that have struggled in sloped areas, especially indigenous *Lomandra filliformis*, and with the rain we had in winter, all are growing well.

I will report further on the outcome of plant growth and survival.



# The 2013 AGM



## Overview

- 1991 *Friends of Mullum Mullum Valley*
- 1992 **CCRISPP**
- 1992 *Loughies Bushland*
- 1993 *Community Fun Day*
- 1994 *Loughies Bushland extension*
- 1995 *Mullum Mullum Festival*
- 1995 Independent **CCRISPP**

Photos Linda Hibbs



Due to changes in our constitution, the next AGM will be held early in 2015, however a meeting will be held in the middle of 2014 in lieu of an official AGM that would have normally been held at this time. Pam Yarra, President

# Interview with Brad Curtis

by Linda Hibbs

The 2013 AGM started with an impressive powerpoint presentation by Ken McInnes regarding the history of Mullum Mullum in relation to the beginnings of CRISP. Ken explained that the Mullum Mullum Creek area was one of the rare creeks with bush surrounding it that had links to the Yarra. The dedication of a group of people to help preserve the bushland along the Mullum Mullum Creek led to the formation of CRISP in order to supply the plants that were needed to rejuvenate the bushland.

## Andy interviews Brad Curtis

It was a fascinating interview conducted by Andy Parsons, where Brad talked freely about his love of the natural environment and his early interest in preservation.

He grew up in Ferntree Gully and the family home backed onto a swamp. He recalled playing in that area, building cubbies, catching tadpoles and generally having a fantastic time. This all came to an abrupt halt, however, when Brad was in Grade 6 and the bulldozers moved in, turning the swamp into a carpark. As a child he was devastated at this action and it struck a chord that has stayed with him for life.

Brad was a member of the Knox Environment Society and Friends of Sherbrooke Forest after buying a house in Upwey. He studied Horticulture and then got a job at Ringwood Council initially looking after Ringwood Lake.

In 1991, Brad was employed at the council indoor plant nursery, but his passion was indigenous plants. After a push from Eve Buchanan, he started to grow indigenous plants for the nursery. He explained how the timing couldn't have been better because at this time Councillor Sylvia Philips and Ken McInnes were both pushing for an indigenous plant nursery.

There was little plan to start with. Brad focused on education and got schools into parks and gardens at the same time as pushing for CRISP to be established



and also to stay on council land. There were enticements to Maroondah residents (then Ringwood Council) where those who brought in their rate notice would receive a free native plant.

Brad felt his personal touch came from his volunteer background and looking at other people's programs that worked such as Darren Wallace (Knox Environment), Fred Rodgers and the Dexters and Harpers

It never gets easier, according to Brad. He now works with Booroondara Council and Friends Groups and finds he always has to be creative. What he likes, however, is the fact that he is able to work with individuals in their own backyard in relation to bio-diversity and he believes that this will then naturally extend to people wanting to preserve their parks and gardens.

Brad not only devotes his time to projects close to home but he also told the audience about how he volunteers to assist sustainability on an island between Bali and Lombok called Nusa Penida. He mentioned a rare bird, the Java sparrow, that is now just beginning to increase after some of them bred in captivity were released on the island. He also volunteers six weeks each year at Lord Howe Island to help reduce the weeds.

Brad is passionate about the environment and his dedication to educating others about the environment is something we can all learn from.



# Bushland Regeneration

by Stephanie Dean

With the support of the Maroondah City Council Bushland Team we have begun a new project. On Monday 14th October we went out into a local bushland reserve with a view to encouraging natural regeneration of indigenous species in one of the sites of Biological Significance. We are very fortunate in Maroondah to have quite a number of reserves that have some great remnant indigenous vegetation. The 'Maroondah Sites of Biological Significance' identifies approximately 82 sites within the municipality, both on private and public land that contain good quality indigenous flora and fauna.

The regeneration techniques used on these outings will involve mainly gentle hand weeding around the remnant vegetation. This will encourage the existing indigenous species to spread and provide favourable conditions for the germination of native seed that may be stored in the soil. Our first outing was to Heathmont Reserve where there is a fenced off area between the road and the oval along Cuthbert Street containing remnant vegetation, and is the major site for the species *Allocasurina littoralis* in the municipality.

Panic veldtgrass, (*Ehrharta erecta*), is one of the main invasive species overtaking this reserve. The dominance of this species may be a reflection on the changed fertility in the soil caused by nutrients added to the turf on the oval leaching down into the bushland area. There was one small patch (30cm x 30cm) that I was weeding where at first glance it would seem to be entirely weedy grass. However, on closer inspection I was able to find a small *Allocassurina littoralis* seedling, *Xanthorrhoea minor* and *Lomandra filiformis* that were all being swamped. I gently cleared around these plants giving them a chance to establish and seed in the future.

This is generally very slow and painstaking work and requires being able to recognise both the weed species and the indigenous species in their seedling forms, that are likely to be found in an area. The first rule of this kind of restoration work is 'if in doubt, don't pull it out'.

When we are out with these groups we will generally be targeting specific weed species. In spring it is important to target the species that are going to seed and remove them before the weed seed matures and adds to the seed load in the soil. Another often cited maxim is 'one year of seeding = 7 years of weeding'.

These outings are a great opportunity for CRISP volunteers to learn about and appreciate our local bushland reserves and work to help preserve these great community assets. We will be having these outings on Monday mornings on a fortnightly basis. If you would like to be on the reminder list for these outings please let us know at the nursery. Future outings will involve some seed collecting for the nursery's propagation activities and some planting where natural regeneration is unlikely to occur.

Recommended Reading for further information on Bushland restoration:

Buchanan R A – Restoring Natural Area in Australia 2009

Bradley, J – Bringing Back the Bush 2002

National Trust (NSW) – Bush Regenerators Handbook 2010

Olly and Lauren  
weeding in  
Heathmont Reserve





A well earned break with coffee and cake provided: The regeneration group at the Heathmont Reserve bushland area.

### Odd Spot...

This morning Heathmont Bushcare group was weeding along the railway area in Heathmont Road, at the end of The Greenway. At the conclusion of the morning, all in the group were having morning tea when an unmarked police car with two policeman stopped in Heathmont Road to check on us. The police had received a call about a man or men being seen in the bush along the railway line. Great that our local cops are so efficient following up calls about suspicious men in the bush!! It's not easy being green.

Pam Yarra

**NOTE:** As Christmas day and New Years Day fall on Wednesdays this year, we will be closed on those days. Otherwise volunteer sessions will continue over summer as normal.

### Do we have your current email?

Many emails bounce and some members have not given us an email address. If you haven't received emails this year about Plant Sales Days, updates from the nursery, reminders about special activities including seed cleaning evenings, planting days and Monday Mornings in the Reserves, let us know as soon as possible. Email: [crisp@melbpc.org.au](mailto:crisp@melbpc.org.au)



**Don't forget to return your plant tubes and pots**  
Bring back on Wednesday or Friday or leave outside the CRISP potting shed/office.

# Mullum Mullum planting



Paul, Peter and Kim

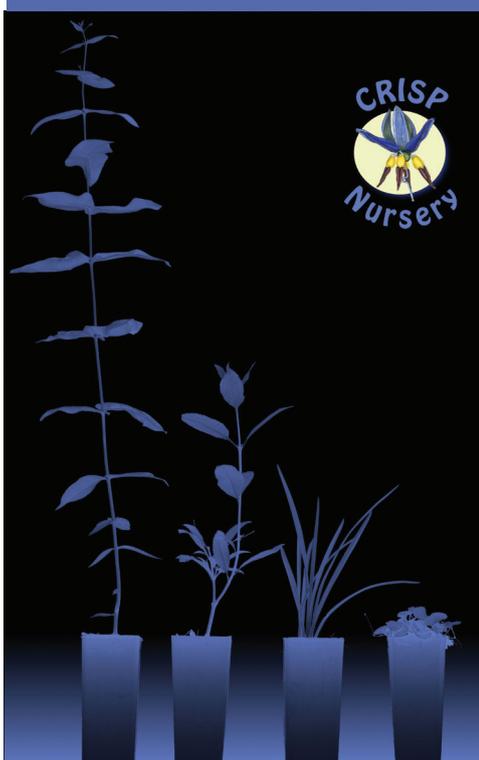
Photos and report  
by Paul Chenery and  
Annette O’Sullivan

On the 28th August, ten enthusiastic volunteers planted 550 tubestock as a follow up to a planting that was done last year along the Mullum Mullum Creek near Oban road.

Thanks to everyone for all your hard work planting and cleaning up. The site is looking really good.

An interesting assortment of rubbish was collected along with this platypus which has now been happily relocated to the nursery.

Lloyd, Matt and Sarah



## Cards

These beautifully illustrated cards featuring local indigenous plants by Ruth Jackson are available at the nursery for \$4.00 each. These are great to use as end of year ‘thank you’ cards or for season greetings.



## CRISP T-Shirts

CRISP Polo T-Shirts. The CRISP committee have been working on a Polo/T-shirt for supporters of the nursery – a copy of the design (see left the front design), by Vivien Holyoake’s son, Jamie, and a size chart are available at the nursery. The initial print run took place early November and the cost was \$10. If you would like to see a design of the T-Shirt and the sizing please contact us and we will forward the details. If there is enough interest we will print another run early next year.

# Maroondah Festival



Above: CRISP and Council representatives at Maroondah Festival

## Federation Estate

This photo was taken at the Maroondah Federation Estate at the 'Maroondah 2040 – Image Maroondah Interactive Community Event'. Craig Mauger set up a stand promoting Maroondah's Bushland using plants from the nursery.



