

# WAIREWA CRC GRAPEVINE

## Upcoming Events: APRIL

**10 April: 9:30am**

### Mosaic Workshop

Wairewa Hall

**14 April:**

**12:30pm: CRC Meeting**

**6:00pm: Dr Rob Gordon**

### Community dinner and face to face conversation

Wairewa Hall

**28 April:**

**12:30pm: CRC Meeting**

Wairewa Hall

**29 April:**

**LIMP Consultation EGSC-**  
Community Conversation with Ben Marchbank - EGSC to update LIMPS across the district

Wairewa Hall

**30 April: (TBC) 4.00 pm**

Hospital Ck Bridge & Playground opening & 5:30pm nibbles & drinks to follow

**8 May:** Farmers Voice meal at Bruthen Pub (contact Matt for further details)

**Contribution Deadline 5 days before end of the month.**

**wairewacrc@gmail.com**

Wairewa CRC meetings are open to everyone and held at the hall every second Wednesday from 12.30pm.

Next meeting 14 April



## PREVIOUSLY ON THE GRAPEVINE:

### NEW PLAYGROUND INSTALLED!

**John Appleby - congratulations and well done!**

After years of chasing funding, John's efforts have finally paid off with a brand new playground installed at the hall—only took 60 years! This was made possible by FRRR funding aimed at farming communities suffering the prolonged effects of drought. The retaining walls and soft fall will be installed by DELWP crews during April. This is a brilliant new asset for the community. Thank you John for all your hard work.

**Stock Whip Workshops** have been hugely successful. **Brian Blakeman** skillfully guided 10 community members through the steps needed to create 4 strand whips using kits from Kent Saddlery. Below are some of the participants busy in the workshop (shed!) at Lemon Hill Farm. Well done all, a cracking good job! A huge thank you to GLCH & PHN for their support. Anyone interested in future 6 strand whip making workshops, let Elizabeth or Brian know.



**Mosaic Workshops** are held every Saturday at 9:30 at the hall. The workshops are an informal and a relaxing way to start your weekend. The finished mosaics will be applied to the surface of the concrete tank behind the outdoor shelter to brighten up this community area. Again, thanks to GLCH & PHN for providing this opportunity for our community to unwind and create something unique to our valley.

### Rebuilding After Fires: EGSC Building Recovery Group

**info session & BBQ dinner.** Held 11 March, community members who attended discussed rebuild planning and rebates with representatives from EGSC. It was a very informative evening, with some feedback indicating it was much more than just rebuilding, it was also about recovery strategies. Steve Pascoe, an experienced counsellor was present which no one was aware of. This could've been clearer in the advertising as many more in the community could have benefitted. Participants also felt it would have been better to hold this event last year. The delicious BBQ catering was provided by **Beef at the Farm Gate**, a local Wairewa business. Well done Jo Trevaskis!

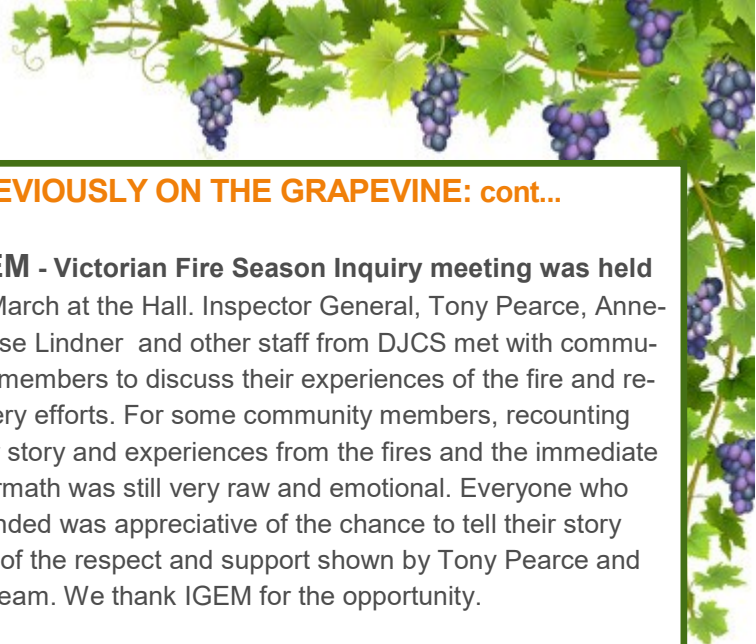
See over for more "previously on the Grapevine".....



### The Glossy Black Cockatoo Needs Your Help!!

Private Landholders have until 12 April to register their interest in obtaining *Casuarina littoralis* trees (Glossy Black Cockatoos only food source) to create habitat to replace the 70% lost in the fires. Contact Shirali Dave: [project.officer@fevl.org.au](mailto:project.officer@fevl.org.au) or Penny Gray 5154 2843 .

Do you have an awesome idea for a local Landcare project? Contact Penny Gray



## Wairewa Community Hall Updates

- RACV Solar commence work on the solar installation at the hall Wednesday 7 April. This will be a great asset for the community and provide an uninterrupted power supply to the hall.
- Funding of \$887 has been approved for a new BBQ at the hall.
- EGSC's Community Facilities program run by Paul Oakes will provide a BAL assessment on the hall during April.
- There is a new PA system at the hall for use during community or private functions.
- New baking trays, chopping boards, a colander and large frying pan have been purchased using GLCH funding.

## Update on O'Grady's

CRC will be working on the application for the 2nd round LER funding with a submission deadline of 14 April. Eric Sjerp of EthosNRM is working up a site plan.

## Community News

### Community Catch Ups

March 19 2021 was the first Community Catch Up since our regular Community Breakfasts were halted by COVID in March 2020. 9 people were in attendance and enjoyed the chance to have a chat in a relaxed atmosphere. Friday night Catch Ups will usually be held at the hall on the third Friday of the month at 5:30pm. Feel free to suggest other days, times, events, venues: [wairewacrc@gmail.com](mailto:wairewacrc@gmail.com)

### Red and Ros Geddes' New Home

is progressing towards completion and is very exciting to see! We wish them all the best and hope they have moved in by the end of the month because...party!!

## PREVIOUSLY ON THE GRAPEVINE: cont...

**IGEM - Victorian Fire Season Inquiry meeting was held** 17 March at the Hall. Inspector General, Tony Pearce, Anne-Louise Lindner and other staff from DJCS met with community members to discuss their experiences of the fire and recovery efforts. For some community members, recounting their story and experiences from the fires and the immediate aftermath was still very raw and emotional. Everyone who attended was appreciative of the chance to tell their story and of the respect and support shown by Tony Pearce and his team. We thank IGEN for the opportunity.



**Dr Rob Gordon WEBINAR and Afternoon tea/Debrief.** 14 community members attended. Unfortunately, the audio feed was so bad most people found it impossible to hear with overhead thunderstorms not helping! The round table chat and afternoon tea held afterwards allowed community members to talk and raise issues in a safe space. Thanks to Cathy Turnbull, Michael Carlisle, Fiona Jennings and Louise McCarthy for attending to offer support to community members. Thanks to Red Cross.



Red Cross acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, their ancestors and Elders, past and present.

**Dung Beetle Field Day 26/3/21** at the Trevaskis property. Handy little critters that aerate, moisturise and fertilise soil, reduce fly and gut worm populations. Active all year except in spring but Wairewa can potentially become the site for an introduction of spring active Moroccan dung beetles.

**AgVic Field Day 30/3/21** held at Appleby's property. Participants heard about grass types, pasture cover, scald management with a focus on fire recovery. AgVic and Landcare offer resources and information and have supplied a number of pasture identification books and resources for monitoring and improving your pastures. Keren Walker of AgVic is keen to hear from community members with ideas for information days. Rural Farm Finance also keen to advise farmers on agribusiness and post bushfire/drought recovery assistance.

## Community Training/Opportunities

**Register your interest for Farm First Aid Training and Psychological First Aid.**  
Email: [wairewacrc@gmail.com](mailto:wairewacrc@gmail.com)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: Share your ideas!!

There are major lines of funding possible and below are lists of new ideas. If you see something missing or have a better idea—speak up:

### Community Facilities Grants:



### Hall upgrades: (funding already sourced elsewhere for a BBQ shelter, toilet upgrade, sprinkler system, water tank at the hall)

- Resurface tennis court & convert lights to LED
- Renovate kitchen; new floor, benchtops, taps, dishwasher
- Basketball backboard & half court at back of playground
- Shadesails over playground
- Small outdoor storage shed
- Pizza oven
- Renovate shelving in small meeting room to create lockable storage space for Model Bridge and AV gear.
- Tables on wheels
- Disability access at front door with ramp and lowered handles.



Wairewa & District Landcare & FEVL may be able to source funding for:

- Bill Creek Falls walk – labour sources to create it.
- Creek lines – waterways management – to get rid of dead black wattle, blackberry, replanting.
- Erosion control on Hospital Ck and Bills Ck. Chain of ponds redeveloping as original landscape feature. Rock chutes or other mitigation? Erosion may become a problem upstream from new Hosp Ck bridge.
- Blackhead worm - Program to introduce worms to local pastures?
- Find labour sources to do private land biodiversity projects, as everyone too busy.
- Harvest dinner?
- Spring active dung beetles - local pasture introductions.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES...cont:

### Community Events:

Some ideas already floated are:

- community eco-tour day-trip on the lake with Skipper Pete, with a picnic lunch
- participating in the East Gippsland Winter Festival of Light in June/July perhaps light O'Grady's bridge with a hologram train?
- a community BBQ or pig-on-a-spit in the bush at the Pioneer Memorial, with a bonfire and a musician (playing not burning!!)
- A series of concerts or a musician/s playing during Friday Catch Ups.
- Classic Film nights

Got any suggestions??

### Anne & Stan Barker - Native garden plant offer for Wairewa residents affected by fire

If you are looking to refurbish or replant your garden post bushfire, Anne and Stan Grant of Toorloo Arm have, in conjunction with Australian Plant Society and Lakes Entrance Garden Club, potted up a large range of species to plant in your garden. Native plants are low water, bird friendly and easy to maintain. Contact Anne on 0448 565 313.

### Still have downed timber on your land?

#### Lucas Mill—Book via Sarsfield Hub

There is huge demand for the Lucas Mill by private landholders needing help to mill downed timber to size.

An additional Lucas Mill may be purchased as there are currently 50 people on a waiting list to access the existing Lucas Mill.

Logs need to be at least 450mm in diameter.

Please contact Neil Smith, BRV to be added to the waiting list if you would like to utilise this service. Give a rough estimate of number and size of logs for an assessment by the mill operators.

Neil.A.Smith@brv.vic.gov.au or 0408 934 978

### Fencing Wire/Roadside Trees/Slashing

Contact Peter Balmer, Place Manager, EGSC

for information: PeterB@egipps.vic.gov.au or

Mobile: 0409 701 309

### Lemon Hill Gallery

Open 2-5pm Sunday afternoons at Lemon Hill Farm.

Drop in for a cuppa and lemon slice and enjoy the exhibitions. Bring your friends and an appreciation for creativity.

