

Hello members

It's been a while between newsletters! Hope this finds you well and enjoying winter, the whale season and recent rain on the island.

Firstly a reminder: Please pick up your membership plants from David Rooks farm, at 457 Ventnor Rd, Ventnor on Thursday, Friday or Saturdays. It's the orange driveway located on the crest of the hill. We recently changed our membership plant allocation so both new and existing members receive 20 plants. Contact David Rooks on 0418 115 935 or email David on david@eventsupport.com.au to arrange a suitable time for pick up.



2024 Calendar of Events

Our group has a full calendar of activities for 2024 that we hope you can participate in. There are opportunities to get involved with planting trees on various farms and at the Carnival site.

Recent Events

June

Saturday 22 – Kate Darling tree planting.
300 Watts Rd Ventnor – session 1

This was a fantastic first planting for the year – a wonderful turn-out with new and existing enthusiasts – beautiful sunshine, delicious food and great team efforts – thank you all



July

Saturday 6 – Richie Davie - tree planting
800 plants. 663 Back Beach Rd Ventnor.

This coincided with the annual Whale Festival which we were able to partner up with, and what a success! 25 people from the festival turned up as well as 20 of our member volunteers for a wonderful team effort. Destination Phillip Island's "Love Millow!" initiative, a pilot project exploring how regenerative tourism can make a positive impact to the island, is encouraging visitors to give back to nature. The enthusiasm of the group, including many younger volunteers (the next generation!) can be seen in the photos of smiling faces.



More information about "Love Millowl" may be found at :-

Love Phillip Island (Millowl) - Give Back This Summer! visitphillipisland.com.au or contact Sue Doyle on 0405 757 251.



Upcoming Events

All Plantings start at 9.30am (morning tea), while work starts at 10.00am and finishes about 12-30pm, with lunch provided. Please wear suitable footwear for wet conditions and bring gardening gloves, if preferred.

~~Tuesday 16 July, Carnival site - tree planting, Session 1.~~ **postponed until July 31**

Saturday 27 July, Carnival site - tree planting, Cnr Rhyll/Ventnor Rds and Phillip Island Tourist Rd. Session 2. All welcome

Wednesday 31st July, Carnival site - tree planting, Cnr Rhyll/Ventnor Rds and Phillip Island Tourist Rd. Session 1. All welcome

August

Saturday 3 Kate Darling tree planting. 300 Watts Rd, Ventnor - session 2.

Saturday 10 Helen Henderson. Tree planting. 117 Rhyll-Newhaven Rd, Rhyll - Session 1

Saturday 24 Helen Henderson. Tree planting. 117 Rhyll-Newhaven Rd, Rhyll - Session 2

Native Flora of Millowl

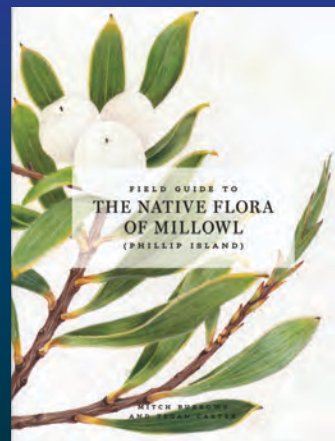
Back in March we celebrated the launch of a unique new local publication 'Field Guide to the Native Flora of Millowl - (Phillip Island)' Author Mitch Burrows and Illustrator Tegan Carter.

This was a very popular event well

supported by the community and attendees filled the library at Berninnet, the local cultural centre in Cowes. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, came along and enjoyed the celebrations. Special thanks to David Rooks who with his expertise ran a professional and highly enjoyable evening. 'Well done on an amazing event! It was so much bigger and better and well organised than anticipated.' (audience feedback)

Special Deal for PILG Members

PILG have partnered with the authors of the Field Guide to the Native Flora of Millowl to provide a discount on the purchase price of the book when renewing your membership on our website. Please take advantage of this offer - it's a great resource about our amazing island home, including short stories from local residents



Copies of the Field Guide are available at ~
Turn the Page Bookshop
40A Thompson Ave
Cowes Vic 3922
(03) 5952 1444
info@turnthepagebookshop.com.au
<https://turnthepagebookshop.com.au/>

Action on Biodiversity (presentation)

As part of the Festival of Big Ideas, the Latrobe Valley Authority organised a co-presentation from two leaders and change-makers on putting biodiversity conservation and restoration back into the hands of the community. Gio Fitzpatrick, an award-winning naturalist and environmental activist and Jim Phillipson who is a multi-generational Gippslander and environmental philanthropist spoke about how we can collaborate to re-vision our bio-diverse future in Gippsland. If you missed the session, you can watch it here

<https://youtu.be/ecN23qiOWNQ>



Phillip Island Recreation Reserve - Carnival site – Master Plan

The Phillip Island Landcare Group will be partnering up with the Bass Coast Shire Council on this major project spanning over the next 3 years with the assistance from a grant we secured from SP Ausnet. Thank you SP Ausnet.

We will be assisting in the revegetation of the site (which is a very large area) with a couple of planting days in July this year. Then over the next few years committing to exclusion fencing and more revegetation works (planting days) – This is going to be a major community site with wonderful facilities for the broader community and PILG are going to be at the forefront of initial works in getting this project off the ground - how exciting to be hands on in the creation of this community asset.

Bendigo Landcare Forum

Sue Doyle and Carolyn attended the Victorian Landcare forum held in Bendigo in March. Apart from a fabulous opportunity to meet other landcare volunteers and professionals from across the state, there were insightful presentations including from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal, on how landcare is an effective and powerful platform for building community and placemaking as well as DJAARA (Traditional Owner organisation in the Loddon Mallee) on partnerships between First Nations groups and private landowners to heal country and support culture. We came away inspired by the importance of partnerships and learning from others with shared passions and tackling similar challenges.

One person whom we met (has the best name) Beth Ripper introduced herself as she is well aware of the sea spurge issue we have here on the island – she has information from CSIRO about removing this invasive weed and is open to anyone interested in contacting her for more information – bethripper@optusnet.com.au

Weed of the month



Gorse – this nasty piece of invasive weed is raising its pretty yellow flowers all over the Island – all help appreciated to curb the spread of this prickly pest. We have just messaged Fulton Hogan to advise them that we are monitoring their tardiness in their spraying of the gorse – We will update once we hear back – however, we may head up a task force soon to at least chop off the flowers prior to them setting seed.

I hope you are all staying warm during this very brisk winter, and we'll keep you posted on any new happenings as they arise – otherwise – see you soon at one or more of our planting days and

Keep planting !!

Cheers Carolyn and Sue