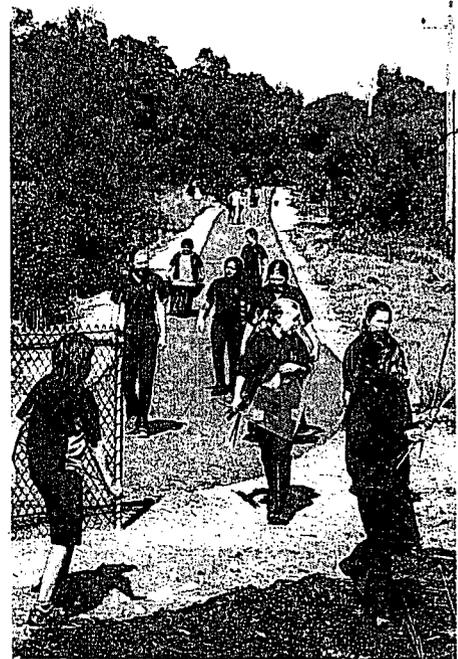
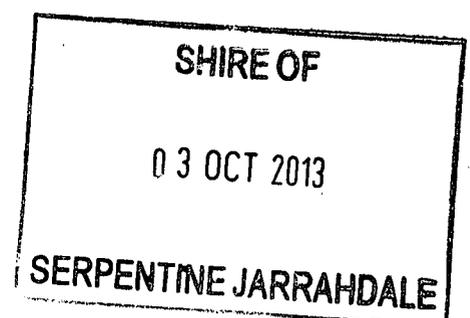


**LANDCARE SERPENTINE JARRAHDALE  
INCORPORATED  
2012 / 2013  
ANNUAL REPORT**



Landcare SJ Inc.  
Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Landcare Centre  
Cnr Cockram and Paterson Sts Mundijong  
Ph: 08 9526 0012  
Fax: 08 9526 0653  
Email: [info@landcaresj.com.au](mailto:info@landcaresj.com.au)



## ***Introduction***

Landcare SJ Inc. (Landcare SJ) is a non-profit community organisation, overseen by a volunteer Board consisting of representatives of the SJ Land Conservation District Committee (SJ LCDC), the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale, and members of the Landcare SJ Inc. Association.

Landcare SJ is the coordinating body for community-based Landcare, bushcare and catchment care in the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale and North Murray district. In partnership with organisations and individuals in the community, we develop and enact programs to achieve:

- a reversal in land degradation;
- the promotion of sustainable development practices;
- the conservation and restoration of habitat for native flora and fauna; and,
- the improvement of water quality in rivers, drains and wetlands.

We also provide opportunities, resources and support for landholders, community organisations and other natural resource managers within the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale and North Murray district, to improve understanding and skills to contribute to biodiversity, conservation and sustainable resource management.

Landcare SJ has a number of staff operating from the Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Landcare Centre (SJ CLC) in the old school building in Mundijong (The Meeting Place).

### **Vision:**

To provide the means for the community to care for the land today, in a way that will leave it better for tomorrow.

### **Mission:**

To provide leadership to access, initiate and integrate the resources to enable community groups to manage the land, water and remnant vegetation in a sustainable manner in partnership with government.

### **Values:**

People are at the heart of all community matters and, as such, they are critical to our success. Respecting people, improving the quality of living, appreciating and supporting cultural differences and being good stewards of the land, air, water and wildlife.



By the Community  
For The Community

**Landcare SJ Association Members**

David Lindsay	Linda Starcevich	Stephen White
Rosalind Lindsay	Keith Ellis	Julia White
Nancy Scade	Karen Miller	Jan Sharkey
Andrew Del Marco	Roger Harrington	George Mathews
Alan Elliott	Steven Jones	Johanne Garvey
Denyse Needham	Ruth Conway	Mark Angeloni
Jan Star	Carole Armstrong	Julie Sansom
Colleen Rankin	Bruce Moore	Russell Sansom
Shane Lewis	Carole McKee	Carlie Eldridge
Athol Wigg	Brian Owston	Alec McHoul
Jill Wigg	Chris Portlock	Steve Starling
Neil Kentish	Peter Pronyszyn	Merri Harris
Marrion Elliott	Kelly Pronyszyn	Glen Byleveld
Cathy Lyons	Frank Rankin	Sheila Twine
Rupert Richardson	Kathleen Ritchie	Eliza Jane Jacques
Heather Anderson	Casey Rose	Anna Nolan
Alex Anderson	Michelle Sansom	Julie Boaler
David Campbell	Christine Coulthard	Christine Randall
Lesley Campbell	Bill Richardson	Muriel White
Richard Lane	Midge Richardson	Bill Hansby
Moira Lane	Keith Lovegrove	Ted Love
Henry McKenna	Yvonne Lovegrove	Michael Ricketts
Toni McKenna	Nino Coniglio	Jane Brown
Ian Petty	Phil Clarke	Tony Brown
Kate Petty	The Bates' Family	Keith Ellis
Karen Hayes	George Clark-Nunn	Marie Snaith

**Board Members**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Category</b>
Prof. David Lindsay	Chairperson	Association member
Ms Colleen Rankin	Deputy Chair	Association member
Mr. Neil Kentish	Treasurer	SJ LCDC member
Mr. Alan Elliott		Association member
Cr Bruce Moore		SJ Shire Council member
Ms Nancy Scade		Association member
Ms Jan Star		SJ LCDC member
Mr. Mark Angeloni		SJ LCDC member
Chris Portlock		SJ Shire Officer



By the Community  
For The Community

### ***Landcare Centre Staff***

Ongoing staff stand at two part time officers, Francis Smit (0.8 FTE) and Kristy Gregory (0.6 FTE). During 2012/13 additional part time staff during that time included Johanne Garvey up until September 2012 and Emma Thomas from October 2012 until January 2013. Casual staff and contract labourers were also employed on some projects. Wage costs were partly funded by the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's contribution of \$61 800 in 2012/13. An additional \$60 000 for wages was funded through contract work and enterprise profits – particularly the Cockatube® project. Grant funding for projects rarely includes components for wages.



Kristy and Francis planting at the Darling Downs Birrega Wetland in September 2013

***Kristy Gregory*** continued into her eleventh year at the Landcare Centre in her role as Natural Resource Management Officer.

#### ***A few words from Kristy***

I am currently working at 3 days per week since returning from my second lot of maternity leave in 2011.

I have really enjoyed working on the Healthy Habitats Program this year. Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire Botanist Penny Hollick is co-coordinator of the project, which supports private landholders with remnant bushland on their properties. What I like most about Healthy Habitats is that it is run jointly with the SJ Shire, and its purpose is to *give* to the members –



By the Community  
For The Community

giving of time, advice, and in some cases funding, for the express purpose of maintaining healthy bushland in SJ.

Working with landholders and the community is what I enjoy most about my job, and the planting season is always a highlight of the year for me. It is often really hard physical work and very rewarding in terms of finishing a difficult job, and working with great people.

**Francis Smit** continued into his eighth year at the Centre in his role as Executive Officer and Project Officer for the Black Cockatoo Project.

*A few words from Francis*

I have worked for Landcare SJ longer than I have worked continuously for any other employer in my career. That says something. Every time I put a Cockatube® in a tree I think to myself "You're potentially saving a species from extinction today." That is extremely rewarding.

It's not the only rewarding aspect of the job though. The wonderful connection I make within the community and that I feel an integral and important part of it is unbelievably rewarding. The people I meet and work with in the job: colleagues, school children, politicians, environmentalists, business people, professionals, Shire staff, the Paterson Rd and general community and the members of this extraordinary organisation all contribute to my great satisfaction.

My key skill set of accounting can be monotonous and tedious. Planting and watching areas of revegetation grow, assisting in the removal of lantana infestation growing ten metres up into the tree canopy (and flashing back to when I was in Northern NSW on a commune with my machete), feeling deep spirituality working with the community at Bodhinyana Monastery, discovering a red tailed black cockatoo chick in the bottom of a Cockatube, presenting to like minded people at the world environment day symposium and jumping in a puddle to splash my colleagues during this magnificent wet spring – just some of the highlights of the year. It's all good.

Well, mostly, because Landcare does not receive the universal support and sufficient funding that it should. That's a disappointing aspect of the job, but it won't dent my enthusiasm to work in this special environment with the loveliest humans and to know that my small contribution is making a difference.

Thanks to you all for your continuing support, your tolerance of my idiosyncrasies, and your generous assistance in completing the fantastic job we do together. I'm glad to be working with you all.



By the Community  
For The Community

## Chairman's Report

It seems customary for chairpersons to start their annual reports with caution or even pessimism; "This was a difficult year..." or "This was a challenging year..." or "We hope that things will be better next year...". For the first time in my chairmanship I am going to start with...

The past year, 2012-2013, has been a great year for Landcare-Serpentine Jarrahdale. There are a number of reasons for this.

The most spectacular of these is that we nominated for the National Banksia Awards for outstanding success in sustainability and care of the environment and, at the time of our AGM, find ourselves as one of five finalists, Australia-wide, in the category *Land and Biodiversity - Preserving Our Ecosystems*. This category "recognizes demonstrated leadership and innovation in protecting and enhancing land systems, soils forests and biodiversity." We will know in a few weeks whether we have gone all the way to win the category but just being finalists puts us on the map as a serious environmental group and even gives us the right to tell the world about it by proudly displaying this logo.



**Category Finalist**

Our submission was based on our success with the Cockatube® project that Alan Elliott so ably initiated and has directed over the last 8 years. That project accelerated in the last year in which we constructed and distributed or erected over 150 units and have an order book that is continuing to grow. Its growth is undoubtedly due to the increasing number of success stories about birds inhabiting the new hollows and, more importantly, raising chicks. We even had a tribute from Dr Denis Saunders of CSIRO who stated that the birds may even prefer our artificial hollows to the natural ones. Marrion Elliott used her computing skills to set up a web-site about Cockatubes that tells many of the developing stories from the whole project.

However, don't let the success with Cockatubes hide our many other achievements. Again with Alan's expertise we were able to make and sell \$8,000 worth of nest boxes for species other than cockatoos. As with the Cockatubes, these things involved a lot of experimentation, ingenuity and a fair sprinkling of both disappointment and elation and the Centre owes both Alan and Marrion an enormous debt for having the drive and expertise to see them through.

Our joint project with the Shire, Healthy Habitats, is also growing and thriving. There are now 21 members in the program under two categories; 'Level 1' for landholders with natural bushland that has remnant tree and understorey species and 'Level 2' open to those who might not own bushland, but are interested in learning more about it and how to manage it. Six of the landholders were funded through the Program in 2012-13 for fencing, dieback treatment and revegetation. We had a very excellent field day at the Buddhist monastery and were delighted to get a successful audit from the State Natural Resource Management Office. This, we hope, will give us the support we need to get the funding we need to continue the program.

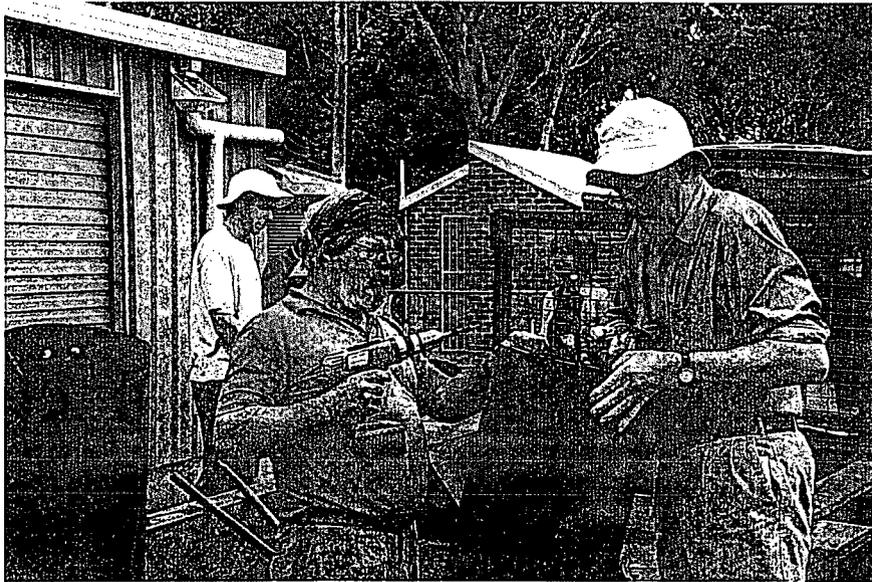


By the Community  
For The Community

Our 'core business' of weed control and re-vegetation has not been neglected and, at this time of year, our two staff members and an army of willing volunteers have aches and niggles in unaccustomed places, due to hard and productive work throughout the Shire, to prove it. But the results are what everyone loves to see; a more beautiful, healthier Shire of which we can be justifiably proud. Of course, the whole future of the Shire at this time is another matter in the face of threatened, forced amalgamations. Although a separate entity, we rely heavily on and work with the Shire of S-J and its staff and have excellent relationships with them, particularly in recent years. The President recently joined our Board and is a valued member. We hope that the debate on amalgamation and the final outcome of this debate take into account the importance of preserving the natural environment and those who take responsibility for it. If so, a genuine worry for us will evaporate.

Another big plus this year has been the success of the Serpentine-Jarrahdale LCDC's initiative in holding a bi-monthly series, *Love your Lifestyle*, in which invited experts cover important and interesting topics like stock health, wetlands, land strategies and zoning, gardening for biodiversity, health of native trees and many others. Attendances have been good and the concept represents yet another fundamental resource that benefits the wellbeing of the community and its environment.

So, it really has been a good year but I must emphasise that behind it all has been the motivation and dedication of our staff, Kristy and Francis. They do their job within the unfortunate constraints and uncertainties that beset all Natural Resource Management Officers and yet they do so cheerfully, creatively and conscientiously. We of the Board who deal with them regularly are acutely aware of how relatively uncomplicated they have made our task. More importantly, people who are associated with them at the 'coal-face' of the Centre are universally impressed with their patience and hard work. They deserve thanks from all of us for their key roles in making it such a great year.



David Lindsay with Alan Elliott at a Cockatube® construction day



By the Community  
For The Community

### **Community Support**

The core function of Landcare SJ is to involve and support the wider community in caring for natural assets, including on private land and in public reserves. This is reflected in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire, which outlines the Landcare Centre's role in community engagement and awareness raising for issues concerning the environment.

### **Actively Involving the General Community**

The Landcare Centre adopts an *open-door policy*. We provide printed information and personal advice, delivered on a one-to-one basis. The most popular information includes requests for weed/pest identification and control methods, fox and rabbit control, revegetation, pasture establishment, dieback management and funding opportunities/application support. Various publications that Landcare SJ has developed over the years have been invaluable in providing take-home information for community members. These publications include *Keeping It Local* (native species list), *Waterway Weeds* (new in 2012/13), *Critters of SJ*, *Preventing and managing native tree decline* and *Surface water management on the farm*.

In 2012/2013, advice was provided on average through:

- Drop ins to the Landcare Centre - 20 times per month;
- telephone / email enquiries - 60 times per month;
- site visits to private properties - 15 times per year.

Site visits that are carried out on private property are mostly related to on-ground projects such as the Healthy Habitats Program (refer page 24-25); and, through devolved funding grants such as the LCDC Rivers Wetlands and Habitats funding (refer page 25).

### **Verge Plants and Herbicide Program**

The Landcare SJ staff coordinates the provision of free verge plants and herbicide to SJ landholders on behalf of the Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire. More than 50 landholders received verge plants in the 2013 season. This equates to around 7km of verge throughout the Shire.

It is a popular program that has the added benefit of being ongoing from year to year. That is, over time landholders can add to the plants on their verge and new properties are registered for the program.

Given that the free verge plants program has been operating since 2003, the total length of verge planted with natives is significantly more than what is planted in an individual year.

The program is promoted as a partnership between the SJ Shire and Roadside Care Volunteers (RCV).



By the Community  
For The Community

**Fox and Rabbit Baiting Program**

Landcare SJ coordinates a bi-annual fox and rabbit baiting program by applying for external funding to subsidise the cost of baits during optimum baiting times in spring and autumn.

The autumn 2012 season used up the remaining funds held by the Coolup LCDC through a State NRM grant. Eleven SJ and North Murray landholders baited during that season using subsidised baits. A modified program was run in autumn 2013, thanks to a donation from the SJ LCDC. Regular baiters were notified, and 11 properties again applied for assistance under the program.

As part of the Coolup LCDC State NRM grant, a feral animal control workshop was conducted in February 2013 at the Keysbrook Community Hall (refer page 14).

Feral animal control is one of the most frequent enquiries we get at the Landcare Centre, and it is an important service we provide to be able to facilitate landholders in actively carrying out management on their properties. It also provides a point of contact for landholders who have had no prior contact with the Landcare Centre, and provides an opening for future involvement. During 2012/13, Landcare SJ also provide a trap hire service to 20 SJ residents for fox and cat control, as well as relocating possums from roof spaces.

Further funding has been applied for through the State NRM Program and we hope to be successful so that a spring season can be run in 2013.

**Educational material**

Cotton bush was a major topic of community interest this year, with larger than normal infestations resulting in over 30 enquiries about intentions for its control. The role of Landcare SJ in such biosecurity issues remains grounded in community education. Our answer to concerns was invariably that landholders need to look after their own patch and develop good relationships with their neighbours so that they do the same. In an attempt to get the word out about just that, Landcare SJ staff produced a cotton bush fact sheet and distributed it to 1500 landholders in the worst affected areas of SJ. The response was immediate – a further 50 phone calls and drop-ins. These were largely congratulatory from people who were already doing the right things in terms of cotton bush weed control.

**Landcare Centre Newsletter**

There are 300 recipients of the SJ Landcare Centre monthly newsletter, the majority of them local property owners. The newsletter has been produced for seven years and focuses on the Landcare Centre projects and activities. It remains the single most effective method of distributing information to the wider community, including the promotion of Landcare SJ's environmental events and information sessions. It is a particularly effective means of involving someone new in the Landcare network.



By the Community  
For The Community

### ***Supporting Activities of Existing Groups***

Landcare SJ relies heavily on volunteers in achieving on-ground outcomes at various revegetation and project sites in Serpentine Jarrahdale and North Murray. Without the hard work and dedication of the community groups detailed below, we would not be able to work towards our vision of more sustainable land management practices. In addition, the existence of this strong network of focused and willing workers has allowed us to be very successful in applying for and receiving funds for our annual planting calendar, which underpins the main function of the groups. Highlights of cooperative community group activities in 2012/13 include:

#### **Byford Enviro-Link**

- Revegetation and maintenance of Linton Reserve, Byford Bakery Reserve and the Beenyup Brook near Old Brickworks Rd;
- Planting in strategic areas of the new Byford developments;
- In-kind contribution for the project "Enhancing sustainable recreation at the Beenyup Brook, Byford" funded by the DEC's Environmental Community Grants;
- Several new participants at the weekly on-ground environmental working bees.

#### **Byford Progress Association**

- Rainforest reserve weed control and rubbish removal;
- Hand pulling of cotton bush from Soldiers Rd Reserve from Byford to Mundijong;
- Removal of rubbish from inside the fence of Brickwood Reserve adjacent to Soldiers Rd and Turner Rd;
- Removal of love grass from around built entry statement on SW Highway;
- Assistance to the Byford Enviro-Link with weed control and rubbish removal of the Shire entry statement planting on Thomas Road near SW Highway lights.

#### **Byford on the Scarp Residents' Group**

- First time planting with this group - revegetation at Percy's Place (Percy Nairn Reserve) on the Cardup Bk.

#### **Bodhinyana Buddhist Monastery**

- Healthy Habitats member;
- Provide assistance with funding applications;
- Site visit re: cockatoo nesting sites;
- 3000 seedlings planted by over 100 volunteers from the local Buddhist community.

#### **Coffey Rd Reserve Group**

- Site visit to Coffey Rd (Tallagandra) Reserve with local residents;
- New community group formed "Coffey Rd Reserve Group";
- Draft plan drawn up with the group for revegetation of the reserve; to address erosion issues; and maintain the reserve for recreational activities;



By the Community  
For The Community

- Spraying and slashing carried out by the group;
- Ripping carried out by Landcare SJ;
- Planting and mulching with the group members.

#### **Darling Downs Residents' Association Inc.**

- Maintenance of the Birrega wetland, weed control and further revegetation;
- DEC Environmental Community Grant for interpretation and sustainable recreation in the 70 Acres Reserve, including installation of two cockatubes.

#### **Jarrahdale Community Association**

- Ongoing revegetation at Turtle Creek and Forest Green Reserve.

#### **Jarrahdale Heritage Society**

- Assistance with an application for funding to the State NRM Program for funding of weed control and revegetation along the Gooralong Brook (Heritage Park) in Jarrahdale.

#### **Keysbrook Environment Group**

- Revegetation at Myara Brook Reserve.

#### **Korribinjal Brook Reserve Group**

- Replacement of removed olive trees along the brook with marris;
- Sedges planted along the banks of the brook.

#### **North Dandalup Primary School**

- Seventh year of revegetation at Beau Sovereign Drive project site;
- Second year of planting on the track joining the school to the North Dandalup River.

#### **Roadside Care Volunteers**

- Verge plant distribution.

#### **Serpentine Bushland Group**

- Planting day at Paul Robinson Reserve with the Serpentine Primary School;
- Protection of orchids throughout the reserve.



By the Community  
For The Community



Mulching seedlings with the new Coffey Rd Reserve Group



Planting at Turtle Creek with Jarrahdale Community Association members



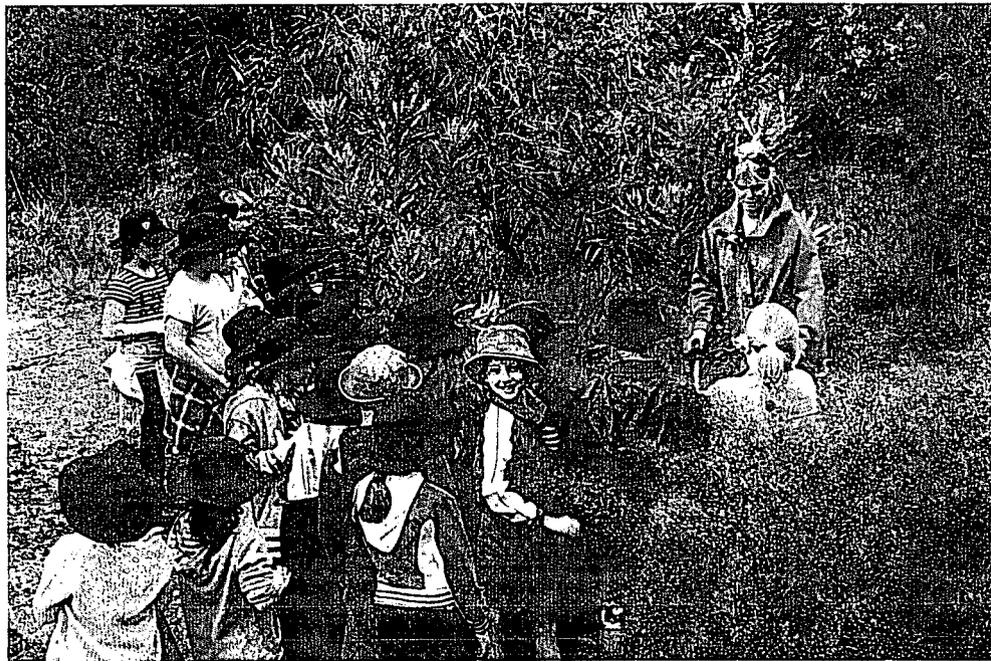
By the Community  
For The Community



Planting at Beenyup Bk with the Byford Enviro-Link



Planting at Beau Sovereign Dve with the North Dandalup Primary School



Planting demonstration at Paul Robinson Reserve for the Serpentine Primary School kids



By the Community  
For The Community

### *Field days, workshops and promotion*

The provision of information sessions for landholders is another important service that the Landcare Centre coordinates, and we are committed to finding ongoing funding to continue this community service. It gives us a very effective means of giving information and support to the community, because, in addition to providing information via emails, post and to drop-in customers, we can also direct people to relevant workshops. Grant funds often allow us to engage the services of consultants to deliver specific expertise at information sessions. Landcare Centre staff are always present at these events to provide display and resource material, as a general introduction to the day, and as ongoing contacts for local information to participants of the workshop.

#### Events

- Healthy Habitats Field Day in June 2013. This was run through the Healthy Habitats Program in partnership with the SJ Shire. The venue was at Jhana Grove, which is connected to the Bodhinyana Buddhist Monastery in Serpentine. There were 25 participants on the day. Topics covered include an overview of bushland communities in SJ, bushland weeds, tree health and bushland management techniques.
- Cockatoo nest box project and construction workshop at the Cockburn Wetlands Centre for the City of Cockburn.
- SJ LCDC Love your Landscape with Landcare SJ. These are regular information sessions at the Landcare Centre on various environmental topics. See full SJ LCDC report on page 22-23.
- Feral Animal Control Workshop in April 2013. Fifteen local landholders participated in this event at the Keysbrook Community Hall. Topics covered included baiting and other methods of control and benefits of camera trapping. There was a lot of interest in using box traps for feral animals.

Contact with participants extended beyond the duration of the events, with requests for receiving the monthly e-newsletter, as well as specific follow-up information and advice.

#### Presentations

- Presentation by Francis Smit to the City of Armadale Bushcare Environmental Working group about Landcare SJ's Black Cockatoo Project. April 10.
- Presentation by Kristy Gregory to the Armadale Wildflower Society about Landcare SJ's publication about local species "Keeping it Local". October 2012.
- Presentation to Kelmscott Gardening Club by Kristy Gregory and Nancy Scade about using natives in gardens. February 2013.
- Presentation by Francis Smit at the World Environment Day Conference "Hollows to Cockatubes – bringing back a balance and creating and providing Black Cockatoo nesting habitats".



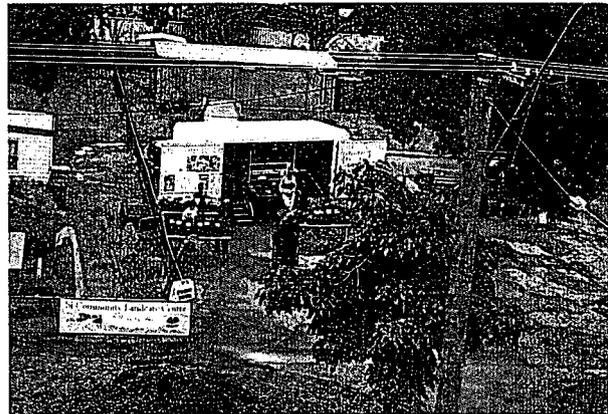
By the Community  
For The Community

**Displays**

- World Environment Day conference held by the SJ Shire at Millbrook Winery in Jarrahdale.
- Mundijong Community Fair – the Landcare Centre was open on a Saturday during the fair. The Australian Native Nurseries Group had a trailer in the front carpark.



Feral animal control workshop participants



SJ Landcare Centre was open to the public at the Mundijong Fair, with the Australian Native Nurseries Group trailer out the front



Healthy Habitats field day

**Projects 2012-13****Reducing threats in the nationally significant Brickwood Reserve, Byford (\$10,000)****Funding Body:** Western Australian Government State NRM Program**Completion Date:** June 2014**Coordinator:** Kristy Gregory**Proponent:** Landcare SJ Inc.**Description:** Weed control and revegetation.**Status:** Project update report submitted to the State NRM Office in April 2013. Control of love grass and watsonia carried out in two seasons by a spraying contractor. Planting of marri seedlings grown from collected seed will be carried out late in spring 2013 due to the wetness of the site.**Improving the quality of remnant vegetation on public land in the Shires of SJ and North Murray (\$36593)****Funding Body:** Community Action Grants (Caring for our Country)**Completion Date:** August 2013**Proponent:** Landcare SJ Inc.**Coordinator:** Francis Smit and Kristy Gregory**Description:** Funding for 2013 planting season, including weed control and nest box installation.**Status:** Funding acquitted and final report submitted. Planting season almost completed, with 18 planting sites in various reserves and other natural areas. Five nest boxes installed in SJ.**Control Weeds of National Significance on the Serpentine River (\$36,922)****Funding Body:** Australian Governments Caring for our Country Biodiversity Protection Program**Completion Date:** June 2013**Proponent:** Landcare SJ Inc.**Coordinator:** Francis Smit**Description:** Control of Lantana and other WONS on 700m stretch of the Serpentine River downstream of Turner Cottage.**Status:** Project funding acquitted and final report submitted. Spraying program completed. Planting of 3000 local native species was carried out in June 2013. A minimum 10% growth rate on the seedlings noted within two months of planting. Lantana control information session was held in April 2013, and an information brochure has been produced about control of weeds in wetlands. Recent site visits have shown that ongoing weed control will be necessary due to invading bridal creeper where the lantana has been removed. This project was a follow up to a South West Catchments Council project of \$26 000 for initial treatment in 2011/12.

By the Community  
For The Community

**Improving the health and habitat in the nationally significant Mundijong Road Reserve and Duckpond Reserve (\$11,795)**

**Funding Body:** South West Catchments Council

**Completion Date:** May 2013

**Proponent:** Landcare SJ Inc.

**Coordinator:** Kristy Gregory

**Description:** Weed control, revegetation, nest box installation.

**Status:** Project funding acquitted and final report submitted, including a project closure site visit from the funding body. Spraying program completed and three nest boxes installed. Planting sites near the Mundijong Rd Info Bay and the Duckpond Reserve will remain on the annual planting schedule. A relationship with the Public Transport Authority has been established through this project, which has resulted in two - three seasons of weed control being carried out in Duckpond Reserve every year since the start of the project, and now beyond the life of the project.

**Control blackberry and arum lily, and revegetation on the Serpentine River, Serpentine (\$15,400)**

**Funding Body:** State NRM Program

**Completion Date:** June 2014

**Proponent:** Landcare SJ Inc.

**Coordinator:** Kristy Gregory

**Description:** Weed control, revegetation.

**Status:** Project update report submitted to the State NRM Office in April 2013. Arum lily has been mapped. Weed contractor has been booked for spraying of arum lily in October 2013. Planting of 2000 seedlings will be carried out on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

**Enhancing sustainable recreation and environmental interpretation at 70 Acres Reserve, Darling Downs (\$6,650)**

**Funding Body:** DEC Environmental Community Grants

**Completion Date:** November 2013

**Proponent:** Landcare SJ Inc.

**Coordinator:** Francis Smit

**Description:** Weed control, educational signage.

**Status:** Weed control completed. In-kind planting at the Birrega Wetland. Signs designed ready for manufacture and installation.

**Enhancing sustainable recreation at Beenyup Brook, Byford (\$6,600)**

**Funding Body:** DEC Environmental Community Grants

**Completion Date:** October 2013

**Proponent:** Landcare SJ Inc.

**Coordinator:** Francis Smit

**Description:** Pedestrian bridge for crossing Beenyup Brook.

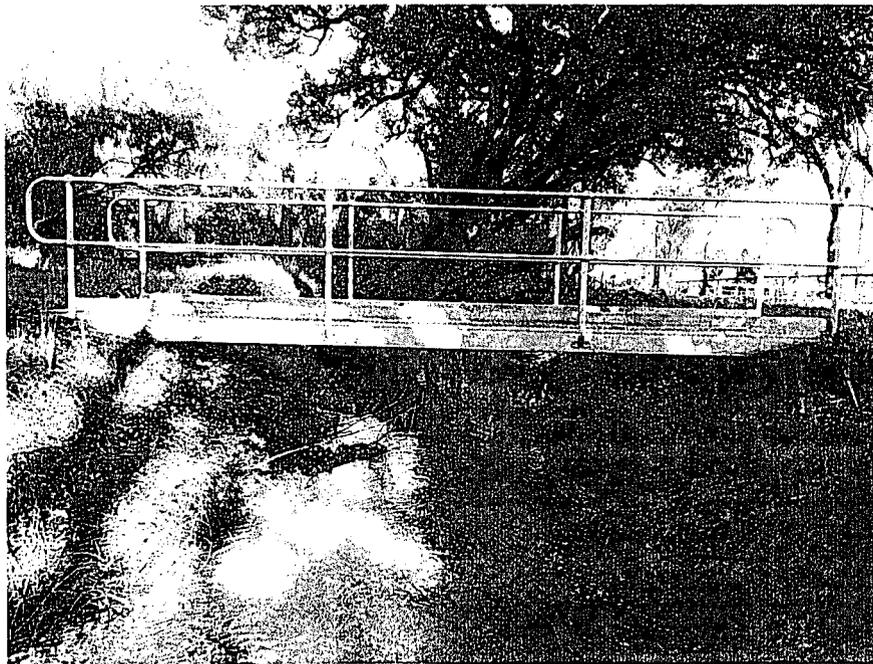
**Status:** Bridge installed. In-kind planting of sedges for bank stabilisation. Partnership project with Shire of SJ.



By the Community  
For The Community



Serpentine River planting site – Lantana removed and 3000 seedlings planted



Enhancing sustainable recreation on the Beenypup Brook, Byford  
"Athol's Bridge"

**Fee for service 2012-13****Kiln Rd Revegetation Screening (\$6,300)****Customer:** Austral Bricks**Completion Date:** September 2013**Coordinator:** Francis Smit and Kristy Gregory**Description:** Revegetation screen at Kiln Rd brickworks.**Status:** Planting completed.**Healthy Habitats—Stewardship Program for conservation of biodiversity on private property (\$74,400 remaining – refer expenditure statement)****Customer:** SJ Shire**Completion Date:** Current funding from the State NRM Program due for completion June 2014.**Coordinator:** Dr Penny Hollick (SJ Shire), Kristy Gregory**Description:** Provide support and assistance to landholders with native bushland on their properties.**Status:** Currently 21 members to the program. Field day held in June 2013, with other information events pending. Six on-ground projects funded. Conservation zoning of one property completed, with one more pending. Inaugural bi-monthly newsletter for members produced. (refer page 24-25 for further reporting).**Healthy Habitats Project****Statement of Income and Expenditure****For year ending June 30, 2013.****Income**

grant funds carried over from 2011/12	\$	30,840
Landcare SJ contribution	\$	29,200
grant funds received via shire 2012/13	\$	29,700
<b>Total Income</b>	\$	<b>89,740</b>

**Expenditure**

re-zoning	\$	3,800
printing	\$	90
workshop	\$	330
dieback management	\$	1,140
weed control	\$	2,220
revegetation	\$	1,290
project administration and reporting	\$	6,500
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	\$	<b>15,370</b>

<b>Balance carried over to 2013/14</b>	\$	<b>74,370</b>
--	----	---------------



By the Community  
For The Community

### ***Landcare SJ Enterprises Report***

Landcare SJ continued its successful enterprise projects in 2012/13. The announcement of the Cockatube<sup>®</sup> project being awarded finalist in the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Banksia Sustainability Awards was truly the highlight of the year. Or perhaps not. Professor Denis Saunders of the CSIRO has been monitoring a Carnaby's Cockatoo breeding site in the northern wheatbelt since 1967. Following the installation of 30 cockatubes at the site in September 2011, he reported at the Cockatoo Symposium in February this year that "some of the birds prefer the artificial hollow over the natural one". The installation of Cockatubes<sup>®</sup> at that site increased the breeding success by 38% on the previous year, according to Ric Dawson of the Department of Parks and Wildlife. Geoff Barrett, also of the Department of Parks and Wildlife, indicated that without the artificial nestbox program, Carnaby's Cockatoos could be extinct within 50 years.

Landcare SJ sold 150 Cockatubes<sup>®</sup> in 2012/13, distributed throughout the metropolitan area and south west of the State, including: Armadale, Cockburn, Rockingham, Serpentine-Jarrahdale, Joondalup, Williams, Chittering, Margaret River and Bridgetown/Nannup. The installation service provided by Landcare SJ has also been widely accepted by our clients.

The program of complimenting Cockatube<sup>®</sup> sales with other nesting hollows for ground and tree dwelling species has also been in demand this year. The Coolup Conservation Group are hoping to discover use by Chuditch in their monitoring program, and have noted well worn tracks to the ground dwelling hollows. Possum boxes used in Byford are hoped to house possums which will assist in the control of Mistletoe. These programs are also complimented by continuing polypipe sales.

The Cockatube<sup>®</sup> and nestbox programs provide Landcare SJ with an increasing network and association with local governments, State government agencies and environmental programs on the East Coast, where Black Cockatoo species are suffering similar declines to those in Western Australia.

Success of the project would not be possible without the continuing efforts of Alan Elliott, the Byford Enviro-link, community volunteers and International volunteers - WWOOF's who give many hours of their time in developing contacts, construction of the nesting hollows, installation and monitoring. A big thank-you to you all.



By the Community  
For The Community

**Landcare Enterprises**  
**Statement of income and expenditure**  
**For year ended June 30, 2013.**

<b>Income</b>	<b>cockatubes</b>	<b>polypipe</b>	<b>nestboxes</b>
sales	\$ 53,230	\$ 1,300	\$ 7,950
installation costs recouped	\$ 14,170		\$ 1,000
salaries recouped	\$ 13,985		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 81,385</b>	<b>\$ 1,300</b>	<b>\$ 8,950</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
installation costs	\$ 14,170		
materials and timber	\$ 7,180		\$ 680
fuel	\$ 680		
project admin and wages	\$ 23,625		\$ 3,380
web site	\$ 350		
freight	\$ 50		
honarium	\$ 8,000		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 54,055</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,060</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>\$ 27,330</b>	<b>\$ 1,300</b>	<b>\$ 4,890</b>



Coolup Conservation Group take delivery of 150 assorted nesting hollows and bat-boxes



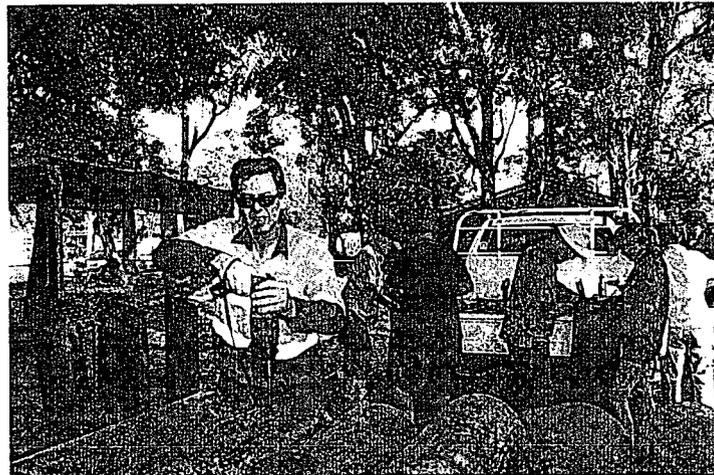
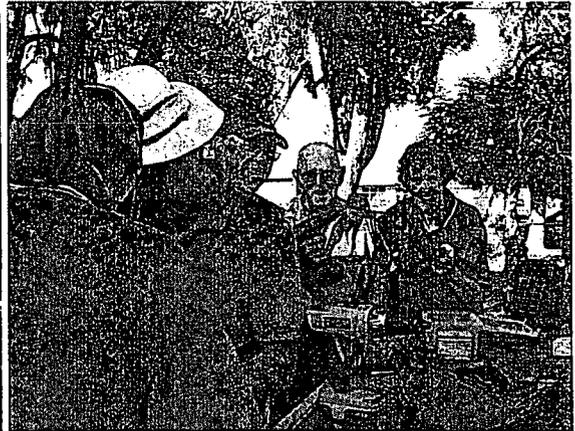
By the Community  
 For The Community



Forest Red-tailed black cockatoo chick found in nest box on a Serpentine property



Sign of use by black cockatoos: chewing on the sacrificial post (Paterson Street)



Community Cockatube® construction day at the Landcare Centre



By the Community  
For The Community

### ***Our Partners Acknowledged***

Landcare SJ relies to a large degree on partnerships with other organisations. In particular, to make ongoing steps towards our vision, and to access financial and in-kind support. We would like to express our thanks to the following organisations for their continued collaboration with us during the 2012/13 financial year.

#### **Serpentine Jarrahdale and Dandalup Murray Land Conservation District Committees (SJ and DM LCDCs)**

The Land Conservation District Committee is a statutory body formed under section 23 of the *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945* (the Act). The LCDC operates with respect to a defined land conservation district and is formed by an Order of the Governor in Council on the advice of the Minister for Agriculture and Food. The phrase "land degradation" as used in the Act includes soil erosion, salinity, eutrophication and flooding and the removal or deterioration of natural or introduced vegetation that may be detrimental to the present or future use of land. The SJ LCDC's focus is on sustainable and appropriate land management practices that do not contribute to soil and land degradation in the District of Serpentine Jarrahdale, with an added focus on maintaining, restoring and managing biodiversity.

The SJ and DM LCDCs have been functioning for more than 20 and 15 years respectively, and have a combined experience in land management of well over 100 years! They are invaluable in providing guidance to the Landcare staff and wider network of community groups, and providing a source of knowledge regarding the management of agricultural land. The LCDCs are directly involved in the following projects and activities:

- Ongoing coordination of the *Rivers Wetlands and Habitats* and *Landcare Project* funding. These invaluable programs allow for landholders to develop small scale environmental projects and apply to the LCDCs for financial assistance in carrying them out. The staff at the Landcare Centre provide applicants with guidance and technical assistance, with support from the LCDCs when they assess applications at their monthly (SJ) and bi-monthly (DM) meetings.
- The LCDCs have both contributed financially to the day to day running of the Landcare Centre and its programs. The SJ LCDC has funded the purchase of new shelves for the shed, and a new fox trap for hiring to landholders. They have also approved the purchase of a new digital projector for the Landcare Centre. Both the SJ and the DM LCDC contributed funds to cover the cost of a modified autumn baiting season in 2013.
- The LCDCs are frequently asked to take action on local issues by writing to various departments and organisations. For example, responding to applications for clearing permits, if it is perceived that the clearing is inappropriate or likely to contribute to environmental degradation.



By the Community  
For The Community

- The LCDCs frequently provide letters of support for applications for funding submitted by Landcare SJ to various funding bodies. Along with verbal expressions of support, they are also willing to provide in-kind and sometimes financial contributions to projects, which is invaluable in terms of the successful implementation of projects and also the likelihood of being funded.
- The SJ LCDC began a series of monthly information sessions in 2012. In 2013, they have been run bi-monthly, alternating with general meetings of the Committee. The 2013 series entitled “Love your Landscape with Landcare SJ” has gone beyond the local scale to incorporate such topics as weeds of waterways; a discussion on the SJ Rural Land Strategy; and gardening for biodiversity.



Rivers, wetlands and habitats funded infill planting at a constructed wetland on private property in Serpentine



August session of Love Your Landscape with Landcare SJ

### ***Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire***

The Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire contributed enormously to the Centre again this year, with \$60 000 in financial support as well as the following in-kind support, as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding between our two organisations:

- Ongoing maintenance of the infrastructure, internal cleaning and grounds management of The Meeting Place;
- Provision of utilities and building insurance for the Meeting Place;
- Provision of postal and photocopying services;
- Liaison with Shire Staff, including involvement in the Natural Environment and Sustainability Team;
- Provision of payroll service for salary administration; and,
- Access to Shire maps and publicly available property details.

The financial support from the SJ Shire has contributed wages of Landcare Centre staff and allowed the Landcare Centre to operate programs such as:

- Free verge plant and herbicide program;
- Bi-annual fox and rabbit baiting program;
- Provision of information, advice, education and awareness-raising to the community;
- Community group and landholder support;
- Project development, resourcing and support including reporting and management;
- Catchment planning;
- Direct involvement in SJ Shire committees, for example the Reserves Working Group;
- Partnership development; and,
- Comments on various planning documents and submissions.

The Healthy Habitats Program has continued to grow as the strongest partnership between the Shire and Landcare SJ. Landholders can become a member of the program if they have native bushland on their properties. Members benefit from site visits and tailored advice regarding the management of their bushland. The program has been nominated for a State award by one of its newest members, the Bodhinyana Buddhist Monastery. State NRM funds have been successfully acquitted, with the implementation of stage 1 of Healthy Habitats. A second round of State NRM funding is at present being used for stage 2 of the program, and a further application for funding has been submitted. There are currently 21 members to the program, and these members will receive a bi-monthly newsletter as well as regular information sessions and events. An open field day on the topic of bushland management was run in June 2013, with more field days to come. Six members have also benefitted from on-ground funding from Healthy Habitats. Funded projects include fencing off bushland from stock, revegetation and dieback management.



By the Community  
For The Community



Healthy Habitats partnership: Chris Portlock from the Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire, Venerable Mudu and Venerable Buddharakkhita from the Bodhinyana Buddhist Monastery, and Kristy Gregory from Landcare SJ



Penny Hollick from SJ Shire with Healthy Habitats member Lisa Keys



By the Community  
For The Community

### ***Peel Harvey Catchment Council***

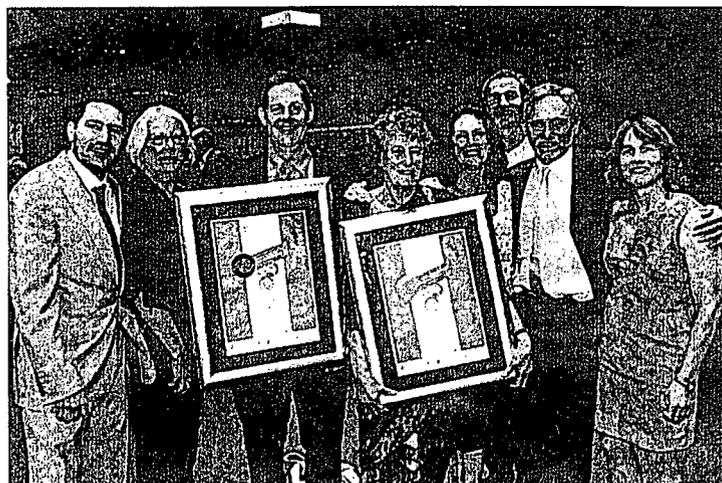
The Peel-Harvey Catchment Council (PHCC) is a community-run incorporated body comprising members of state government agencies, local government and community representatives with a strong interest and understanding of the sustainable use and management of our natural resources. In addition to their primary role of coordinating Natural Resource Management (NRM) issues within the catchment, the PHCC assists community groups to attract funding and to share resources and experiences.

#### **The Peel Harvey Catchment Council supports Landcare SJ through the following activities:**

- Providing a platform for Landcare Centre staff to share information to improve the coordination of NRM activities within the catchment;
- Providing leadership on NRM matters and facilitating partnerships with the State and Commonwealth Governments to promote the sharing of responsibility at all levels of NRM;
- Inclusion of Landcare SJ Inc. in the implementation of NRM projects in the region, to assist in directing funding to grass-roots level. Specifically, this has been through the Peel Lakes Project, which has been coordinated on behalf of Landcare SJ by Johanne Garvey. This project was completed at the end of 2012, and received a WA Environment Award under the category "Rivers, Estuaries and Wetlands".

This year, the PHCC moved into their new premises at 58 Sutton Street in Mandurah.

The PHCC is determined to maintain their role in linking community and government to achieve sustainable development in the Peel-Harvey Catchment. They will continue to look for new ways to support community-based natural resource management by working with government, industry and business that want to support the natural qualities of our environment.



PHCC members at the WA Environment Awards



By the Community  
For The Community

***Our supporters acknowledged***

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the following groups and organisations for their support and involvement throughout the year:

Australian Government Caring for our Country Program  
 Australian Government GVEHO program  
 Australian Native Nurseries Group—Oakford Native Nursery  
 BHP Billiton  
 Byford and Districts Bendigo Bank  
 Byford Envirolink  
 Byford Progress Association  
 Coolup LCDC  
 Darling Downs Residents' Association Inc.  
 Environmental Enterprises WA  
 Jarrahdale Community Association  
 Jarrahdale Primary School  
 Keysbrook Environmental Group  
 Korribinjal Brook Residents' Group  
 Lotterywest  
 Lowlands Conservation Association  
 Member for Darling Range, Tony Simpson  
 Mundijong Library  
 North Dandalup Primary School  
 Roadside Care Volunteers  
 Serpentine Bushland Group  
 Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Resource Centre  
 Serpentine Primary School  
 Shire of Murray  
 Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale  
 South West Catchments Council  
 WA Government Department of Environment and Conservation  
 WA Government State NRM Program  
 WA Museum



By the Community  
For The Community

***Landcare SJ******Audit report on accounts for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013***

The 2012-13 accounts of Landcare SJ Inc. were audited by accredited auditor Wayne Nurse (Byford). Full details of their audit are outlined in the following pages.



By the Community  
For The Community

*Wayne David Nurse*

Public Accountant

PO Box 155,  
Byford, WA 6122Mobile: 0429 811 146  
Email: waynurse@bigpond.com**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT****TO THE MEMBERS OF LANDCARE SJ (INC.)****Scope**

I have audited the attached special purpose financial report, comprising the Statement of Financial Performance and the Statement of Financial Position of Landcare SJ (Inc.) for the year ended 30 June 2013. The Landcare SJ (Inc.) Committee of Management is responsible for the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of Landcare SJ (Inc.) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of Landcare SJ (Inc.). No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared for the distribution to the members for the purpose of fulfilling the Landcare SJ (Inc.) Committee of Management's financial reporting requirements under the Landcare SJ (Inc.) constitution. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the special purpose financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the adopted Australian Accounting Standards and other professional reporting requirements as outlined in Note 1 of the financial report.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

**Qualification**

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practicable for Landcare SJ (Inc.) to maintain an effective system of internal control over transactions involving cash until their entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, my audit in relation to these items was limited to the amounts recorded.

**Qualified Audit Opinion**

In my opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraph not existed, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the adopted basis of accounting as described above, the performance as represented by the results of their operation and cash flows of Landcare SJ (Inc.) for the year ended 30 June 2013 and its financial position as at that date.

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2013      Signature:   
Wayne Nurse CTA, FIPA

*Solutions For Business*

**LANDCARE SJ (INC.)****STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

	\$
<b><u>OPERATING REVENUES</u></b>	
Sales	63838
Contract Income	12934
Donations	1670
Grant Income	81651
Project Income	106366
Interest	5851
Other Income	2110
Admin Costs Recouped	39566
Salary Costs Recouped	87719
	<hr/>
<b>GROSS INCOME FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>401705</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>	
Accountancy	880
Advertising	827
Bank Fees	248
Capital Acquisitions Expensed	54
Computer & Website Costs	3194
Consultants Fees	35217
Depreciation	3084
Honorariums	8250
Insurance	6264
Motor Vehicle Expenses	10713
Operating Expenses	98183
Printing & Stationery	3214
Project Costs	22573
Staff Training	1012
Sundry	2859
Telephone	4577
Travel, Accommodation & Conference	2426
Wages & Superannuation	121738
Transfer to/(from) Unused Grants Provision	8717
	<hr/>
<b>GROSS EXPENSES</b>	<b>334030</b>
<b>NET PROFIT/(LOSS)</b>	<b>67675</b>
Opening Retained Earnings 1 July 2012	(13951)
Add: Profit/(Loss) for Year Ended 30 June 2013	67675
Closing Retained Earnings 30 June 2013	53724

**LANDCARE SJ (INC.)****STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION****AS AT 30 JUNE 2013**

	\$
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>	
Cash Assets	192356
Receivables	16863
Total Current Assets	<u>209219</u>
<b><u>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>	
Plant & Equipment (at WDV)	13366
Total Non-Current Assets	<u>13366</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>222585</u></b>
<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>	
Creditors	0
GST Payable	2864
Unused Grants Provision	163061
Total Current Liabilities	<u>165925</u>
<b><u>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>	
Chattels Mortgage – Bendigo	2936
Total Non-Current Liabilities	<u>2936</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>168861</u></b>
<b>NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>	<b><u>53724</u></b>
<b><u>EQUITY</u></b>	
Accumulated Earnings	<u>53724</u>

**LANDCARE SJ (INC.)**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL  
REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This special purpose financial report is prepared for use by Landcare SJ (Inc.), who has determined the organisation is not a reporting entity

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards:

- AAS 1: Profit and Loss Accounts
- AAS 5: Materiality
- AAS 8: Events Occuring After Reporting Date

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis, and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values.