



# Quality Droppings

The Newsletter of the Victorian Mobile Landcare Group Inc.

## Newsletter Summer 2023

Hi All,

This is first newsletter of the new committee and will bring everyone up to date with happenings within the group.

The new committee, elected at the AGM, held on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October, Brimbank Park Keilor consists of the following members and their roles

President: Bruce Halls.  
Vice President: Chris Houghton-Allen.  
Secretary: David McKinnon.  
Treasurer: Alan Marks.

### Ordinary members on Committee

Equipment Officer: Don Harris. Richard Northway has  
Programmes: Steve Priestly offer to take on the  
membership role.

The incoming President thanked all previous committee members for their efforts over preceding year and looked forward to working with the new position holders. For those that could not attend the meeting minutes are available.

### Coming Events for 2024

· **VP Lunch: Sunday 11 February 2024.** Located in Red Hill South, Food On The Hill is a cute country cafe that provides wholesome homemade food.

A GREEK HUSBAND AND AN ITALIAN WIFE MAKE THE PERFECT DUO IN SERVING AUTHENTIC MEDITERRANEAN FOOD IN THE WONDERFUL REGION OF THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA. SERVING BREAKFAST & LUNCH AS WELL AS COFFEE AND HOME MADE SWEETS, FOOD ON THE HILL IS THE PERFECT DESTINATION FOR A WHOLESOME BREAKFAST OR GREEK FEAST WHEN EXPLORING THE PENINSULA

NOW FULLY LICENSED! You can book in via the VMLCG website [here](#).

- **Nanya:** After the 2023 trips being cancelled due to floods and then David and Bruce not being available, it is hoped to run the 2024 trip during the Easter school holiday period over a 10-day period. Dates to be confirmed with the University.

For the new members Nanya Station is a former sheep grazing property in very marginal rainfall (30cm per year) area of South West NSW. It was purchased by Ballarat University, now Federation University for conservation and research into arid area ecosystems. More information is here: <https://federation.edu.au/institutes-and-schools/iiss/research/nanya-station>.

The property is around 15km east-west and 25km north-south, mostly covered with “mulga scrub”, salt lakes and open grassland. Since 2014, VMLCG has visited for a week each year to assist with property maintenance tasks and removing old fencing that is a hindrance to wildlife movement. On average, we clear about 5-6 km of fencing over a 3-4 day period. The wire is disposed of on site.

Accommodation:

There are the old shearer’s quarters (5 rooms, 2 x single beds), there are the new students’ rooms (5 rooms, 2 x single beds), and the old homestead has been partly refurbished. Of course, there is plenty of room to camp if so desired and full toilets/showers and laundry are available.

There is a commercial style kitchen with gas fridges, but it is not suited to multiple meals being cooked at one time. We generally have communal cooking. Each group responsible for one evening meal for the whole group. There is also a large BBQ available. Breakfast and lunch generally self-supply and serve. The VMLCG website page is up and running [here](#).



- **Moorland Farm tree planting:** We should be invited back around late October early September after a successful effort in 2023. The VCMLCG website page is up and running [here](#).
- **South Eastern Red Tail Cockatoo:** Held on the first Saturday in May located in the general area of Goroke. We were unable to complete the count in 2023 due to myself coming down with Covid and Dave not being well. The VMLCG website page is up and running [here](#).

- **Grow West Tree Planting:** Generally held in late June early July around the Bacchus Marsh / Ballan region. The VMLCG website page its up and running [here](#).

- **Water Testing Aire River:** Discussions are currently happening with Glen Aire Estuary Citizen Science who are working with CMA for funding to do water testing over the next 12 months. More news as it becomes available.
- **Tabilk Winery:** Don is looking into a social weekend at Nagambie, which hopefully will involve a visit to the wetlands, and wine tasting at Tabilk Winery.

## EQUIPMENT

A tandem lockup trailer has been purchased, and is currently being prepared for registration, insurance, and signwriting (magnetic signs in photos). This will store all of the club equipment in and make for easier management and transport.



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