

Swan Bay Environment Association Inc.



NEWSLETTER NO. 57 –December 2010

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Some activities during 2010

There have been numerous interesting events during the year that SBEA members have attended.

1. Moolapio Coastal Field Day (16th Sept)
Greening Australia, Alcoa and Caring for our Country hosted a Coastal Field Day with guided tours by Trevor Pescott (birds) and Sue Longmore (plants). Participants learnt much (despite the bitterly cold day) as that coastal saltmarsh flora and fauna is similar to that of the Swan Bay area.

2. Moolapio Grassland Discovery Day (5th Nov)
In 2007, Greening Australia partnered with Alcoa to initiate a new land management program at Pt. Henry. Part of the project aims to re-establish native wildflower grasslands on large areas of ex-agricultural land using direct seeding methods. It was an absolute delight - on a beautiful day - to walk through hectares of waving grasslands and beautiful wildflowers.

3. Bellarine Rail Trail Spring Wildflower Walk (16th Sept).
This was lead by Beth Ross, a lecturer from the Gordon, who has a wealth of botanical knowledge. Many of the plants seen are ones we grow at our Nursery so it was rewarding to see them in situ.

4. In November, the Queenscliffe Cruising Yacht Club on Swan Island invited the Nursery volunteers to see the landscaping and re-vegetation work (some with plants from our Nursery) they are doing in their club grounds and some volunteers (16 of them) returned the following week to do some weeding and planting there.

5. Revegetation Work
Working bees were held a various times on the Narrows Dog Beach, on the Bellarine Rail Trail near Swan Bay and on a few private properties with Landcare.

Development around Swan Bay

We continue to be disappointed and worried about the extent of the Stockland development and feel insufficient attention is being paid to the possible effects of run-off into Swan Bay. The SBEA committee is investigating to what extent water quality is being monitored in Swan Bay.

And Parks Vic. is soon to embark on a project involving dredging between the Swan Bay Bridge and Sand Island in order to create moorings for the couta boats unable to be housed in the Marina. This will inevitably have some impact on Swan Bay.

Nursery

The Queenscliffe Community Indigenous Plant Nursery (a joint venture of the SBEA and Queenscliffe Council) continues to be hugely successful with thousands of plants going to re-vegetation projects or purchased by individuals in 2011.

Nursery (at 79 Nelson Rd) working bees are held:	
Wednesdays	9-12
Last Friday of the month	9-12
3 rd Sunday of the month.	10-12

Plants can be purchased for 50cents each.

We are always happy to see more volunteers. Just come, or contact Jill Warneke on 5258 1716, or visit our SBEA website:

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~sbea/>

AGM

The Association's AGM will be held on Friday 25th February, 2011. Details will be sent in the New Year.

Please give consideration to joining our committee for 2011.

**WE STILL NEED COMMITTEE
MEMBERS**

*THE COMMITTEE MEETS ON THE THIRD
SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, 10-11am, at the
NURSERY, 79 Nelson Rd.*

*If interested ring Bob Fuller (5258 1897) to
discuss the work of the committee.*

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS

*And thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who assisted
with the Association's activities during 2010,
particularly the re-vegetation working bees and the
potting activities at the Nursery.*