

## Leigh Catchment Group

# Annual Report 2013/2014

## Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Incorporated

A network of the following Groups:

Bamganie/Meredith Landcare

Garibaldi Landcare

Grenville Landcare

Leigh District Landcare

Napoleons/Enfield Landcare

Ross Creek Landcare

Upper Williamson's Creek Landcare

Wattle Flat/Pootilla Landcare



## Working together to achieve sustainable ecosystems, agriculture and communities.

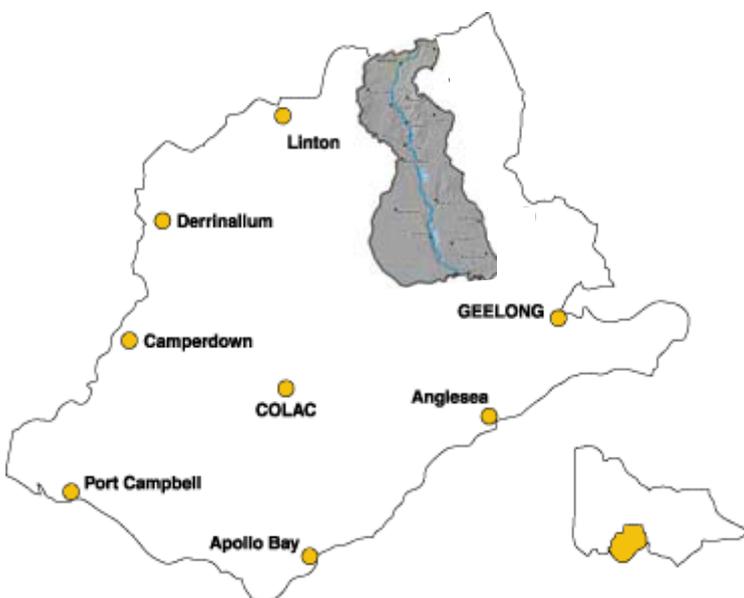
The Leigh Catchment Group (Inc.) (hereafter referred to as LCG) is a network of Landcare groups in the Corangamite Landcare region. It is one of ten Landcare networks in the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA) region (refer to map, below).

The LCG was formed in 1997 following recognition by the Landcare groups within the catchment that a combined and coordinated approach to management of the catchment would result in improved works and lead to an increase in funding for larger scale Natural Resource Management projects. These Landcare groups are listed on the front cover of this report.

The Leigh Catchment Board consists of nine elected Landcare Members and a Landcare Coordinator/Facilitator.



## The Leigh Catchment Group (LCG) in the Corangamite region



**DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU LIVE IN THE LEIGH CATCHMENT AREA?**

**THIS MEANS YOU COULD:**

- Access funding and advice on sustainable farming projects and funding for private environmental work.
- Find out about local farming trials and demonstration projects.
- Get involved in community planning for public environmental works.

**LANDCARE IS ABOUT CARING FOR THE LAND IN A WAY THAT IS RELEVANT TO YOU, SUCH AS:**

- Promoting sustainable agricultural practices
- Removal of invasive weeds
- Feral animal control – rabbits, foxes
- Revegetation using local plants – trees, shrubs, grasses, water plants.

**2014 STARTS OFF WITH THREE LANDHOLDER WORKSHOPS:**

- Breakfast at the Landcare Education Centre, Warrambreen, 7:00am for 7:30am, on **Thursday 3 April**
- Supper at the Inverleigh Hotel, 7:00pm for 7:30pm on **Thursday 10 April**
- Breakfast at the Meredith Memorial Hall, 7:00am for 7:30am on **Wednesday 16 April**

**CONTACT US:**  
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Website: www.leighcatchmentgroup.org

Fridge magnets (above) were sent to all farming zone landholders, south of Mount Mercer in January 2014.

The Corangamite CMA Regional Catchment Strategy 2013-1019 was published this year after extensive community consultation. The strategy details Key Achievements to date, identifies the region's Natural Resources, the Key Challenges and Opportunities. The Community is identified as the Key Agent of Change.

In the second half of 2014 the results of a CMA commissioned **Rural Profiling Survey**, which involved local Leigh Catchment land carers at the survey stage, were published.

Both of these documents are available on the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority website (<http://www.cma.vic.gov.au/Home.aspx>).

# Chairs report

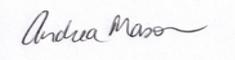
The 2013/2014 year has been one of change as we have worked toward renewing our focus on the agricultural sector of our catchment, while continuing the important on-ground and community work already being undertaken. Several partnership meetings and workshops have been held across the region to strengthen our relationships and consolidate our position as the leading group for natural resource management in the area and recognition that our landholder connections are valued by service providers in the sector.

The Victorian Local Landcare Facilitator Initiative support funding has enabled us to continue our many programs, landholder support and our Landcare office in Buninyong, under the guidance of our Landcare coordinator, Jenny Ryle. The stability this funding provides should not be underestimated as it enables the Board to concentrate on the business of caring for our catchment and community rather than constantly wondering if we are viable. Outcomes included schools education, individual and community revegetation and river health programs, gorse eradication, soil health programs and community engagement. Thanks to Jenny for her hard work and support.

We were also fortunate to be able to welcome Kate Constance to the team to undertake the community engagement for the \$1M Yarrowee River Project in partnership with the City of Ballarat.

The Annual Report highlights many of our achievements throughout the year and we gratefully acknowledge the funding obtained from all sources listed.

My thanks go to the Board members of LCG who continue to support and contribute to the organisation. A special thanks to those retiring after many years – Graeme Fagg and Gabrielle Murphy and best wishes to Sonia Mahony. Thanks also to our member Landcare groups. Next year we will continue to re-evaluate our strategic direction and action plans to enable us to meet future challenges and provide the best service for the region as possible.



Andrea Mason  
Chair

## Board members 2013/2014

Andrea Mason	Chairperson	<i>There are sub-committees and all board members serve on at least one of these.</i>
David Turley	Vice Chairperson	
Sandra Weller	Secretary	<i>They are :</i>
Peter Cameron	Treasurer	◆ <i>On-Grounds Works</i>
Graeme Fagg	Board member	◆ <i>Finances</i>
Gabrielle Murphy	Board member	◆ <i>Marketing and Communications</i>
Louisa-Jane Cunningham	Board member	◆ <i>Partnership and Liaison</i>
Sonia Mahony	Board member	◆ <i>Social and community events</i>
Mathew Dowler	Board member	◆ <i>Operations</i>
Jenny Ryle	Board member (non voting)	◆ <i>HR &amp; staff</i>
	Landcare Coordinator/Facilitator	

# Leigh Catchment Group becomes Incorporated

The Leigh Catchment Group became officially incorporated on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2013. This necessitated an official name change to “Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Incorporated”.

## Background Information

The Leigh Catchment covers an area of 1580 square kilometres. The Leigh river arises north-east of Ballarat as the Yarrowee River, which becomes the Leigh River at its confluence with Williamson’s Creek. The Leigh River flows into the Barwon River at Inverleigh.

The Leigh River supports intact corridors of riparian vegetation, which have important fauna habitat values. Agriculture is the predominant land use in the catchment. The urban and semi urban areas of Ballarat are also a significant component of the catchment.

The Leigh Catchment Action Plan 2008-2013 establishes a long term direction and identifies priority actions for the protection and enhancement of natural resources within the Leigh Catchment Group region.

The Plan

- Incorporates strategies, priorities and direction from current local, regional, state and national plans and frameworks.
- Identifies and describes natural resource values within the LCG area.
- Identifies and describes threats to natural resources within the LCG area.
- Describes previous Natural Resource Management (NRM )activities within the LCG area.
- Identifies a set of actions to protect and enhance NRM values within the LCG area.
- Identifies processes and partners for implementation of NRM actions.
- Identifies community engagement and capacity building strategies to help deliver and achieve Catchment Action Plan outcomes.

The Landcare Coordinator / Facilitator’s role is to manage projects and activities undertaken through LCG and provide support to the Landcare Group members. This is one person on a 0.8 full time equivalent (FTE) time fraction.

In April ,the LCG recruited a 0.4 FTE Project Officer to undertake the community engagement role into the three year ‘Breathing the life into the Yarrowee Project’.

***The Leigh Catchment Group is partnered by:***

***Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI)***

***Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA)***

***City of Ballarat (COB)***

***Golden Plains Shire (GPS)***

***Moorabool Shire (MS)***

***Federation University (Fed Uni)***

***Ballarat Environment Network( BEN)***

***Central Highlands Water (CHW)***

***Many community groups, landholders and individuals.***



An example of Cumbungi (*Typhae* spp.) on private property at Mt Mercer in waterway flowing to the Leigh River.

# Leigh Catchment Group's School Program

We were delighted this year to welcome students from **Glen Waverley College** in Melbourne to undertake studies on properties in the Leigh Gorge.

The students camped at Narmbool in July and August and visited the Gorge to



set up motion triggered cameras, which recorded movement in and around the river over a one month period. They presented their findings at the LCG AGM at Sovereign Hill on October 15th, 2013. A significant collection of native fauna was

recorded - as were feral animals, and farmers on motorbikes!

**Damascus College** visited LCG sites on two occasions. In October 2013 they received an unusual request for help from the LCG. A revegetation site at South Durham had been planted with sterile ryecorn, to suppress weed growth following ripping of sandy soil to remove rabbit warrens. The ryecorn had thrived in the moist conditions and prevented



weed establishment. However, it was also shading out the native planting and needed to be 'stomped down' to allow the native plants to receive sufficient light.

**Ballarat Christian College** also provided valuable support for planting at the Union Jack creek site in Buninyong (see above) We were happy to provide support for **Scotsburn and Buninyong PS** for their seed collecting program and the "Story of Buninyong" adventure walk.

## Achievements of Local Groups



In August 2014, the **Wattle Flat/Pootilla Landcare Group** added to the understorey planting along the Brown Hill stretch of the Yarrowee in Ballarat (see left), following up on the two previous years' plantings. Every year this event attracts dozens of local residents, due to local promotion of the event, strategic planning by the committee and a 'Communities for Nature' grant.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2014, the Victorian Environment Minister, Ryan Smith, launched the 'Breathing Life back into the Yarrowee' project. This event was attended by Simon Ramsey MP, Joshua Morris, Mayor of Ballarat, and Councillors Taylor, Coates and Coltman. Also in attendance were Alice Knight, Chair of Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, several CCMA staff members and Andrea Mason, Chair of Leigh Catchment Group. The launch took place at the start of the bluestone channel in the Yarrowee River. Further downstream the group were met and shown round Glassons Reserve by **Napoleons /Enfield Landcare Group**.



**Garibaldi Environment Group** initiated a River Health project, which will extend planting work at the Garibaldi bridge reserve. Sandy sediments along this stretch of the river become mobile during times of high water flow and bank erosion readily occurs. Plantings at this site are intended to stabilise this section to prevent further erosion.

To extend work on the Ross Creek Reserve, located behind the Primary School, **Ross Creek Landcare Group** applied for and received a 'Communities for Nature' Grant. With this grant the Group produced a colourful fridge magnet, with a map and photographs detailing the reserve's attractions. The fridge magnet was distributed locally to encourage access and enjoyment of the reserve.

## Securing grants 2013/2014

Project Title	Source of funding (name of funding program)	Purpose (on-ground, engagement, communications, coordination, other)	Amount \$ (ex GST)
Victorian Local Landcare Facilitator Initiative (VLLFI)	DEPI (state funding)	Facilitation to support Landcare groups and networks as they strive to create sustainable landscapes for future generations.	\$46,510.00
Back from the Brink- Communities growing to save their landscapes	DEPI (Communities for Nature)	Propagation and revegetation of endangered species and EVCs (Year 2)	\$36,748.00
Securing the Health of the Barwon –	CCMA	River health work (5 projects)	\$25,711.40
Garibaldi/Napoleons Weed action Group	VGTF	Weed control management in Target area	\$10,000.00
Golden Plains Landcare Grant	Golden Plains Shire	Woody weed control adjacent to VGTF Target area	\$5,000
Community Engagement on the Yarrowee River	City of Ballarat/CCMA	Community engagement	\$32,000
Increasing engagement and participation of natural resource management activities in the southern Leigh catchment area.	Regional Facilitator Funding Grant 13/14	Farmers Workshops and visits	\$3,200
Support grant	Corangamite Landcare Grant 14/15	Administrative support	\$500
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$159,669.40</b>
<b>Levered contributions to projects</b>			
<i>Willow removal- Leigh catchment</i>	CCMA	<i>Willow removal on the Yarrowee</i>	<i>\$36,000</i>
<i>Garibaldi/Napoleons Weed action Group</i>	VGTF	<i>Employment costs of gorse project officer</i>	<i>\$7,500</i>
<i>Glassons road access improvements</i>	<i>Golden Plains Shire grant</i>	<i>Napoleons /Enfield Landcare Group project</i>	<i>\$3,400</i>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$46,900</b>

# Building on Past Success—The Yarrowee Project

During the early years of the millennium the LCG, together with many partners, undertook a project to create the **Yarrowee Trail** through the heart of Ballarat. This work culminated in the ‘LINCS Project’ (Linear Network of Communal Spaces) which aimed for a larger than local scale approach to riparian restoration. Part of the aim was to improve water quality in the Yarrowee River downstream from the City of Ballarat.

Following damage caused by the floods of 2009, a protest was made to the visiting politicians by the Napole-



ons/Enfield Landcare Group concerning the quality and quantity of the Yarrowee’s water as it flowed past downstream townships.

This resulted in a promise from the Coalition government, then in opposition, to provide funding to address this issue. This promise has now been fulfilled with the funding of the ‘**Breathing Life into the Yarrowee**’ Project, which is administered by the CCMA and delivered through the City of Ballarat. The Lakes and Waterways team of the COB are directly responsible for administering the project. The COB is undertaking technical works, including revetment works and repairing litter traps.

The LCG put forward a successful collaborative tender to take on the role of Community Engagement. To deliver this work for the next three years, LCG recruited **Kate Constance** as the part time Project Officer. Kate’s role is to organise plantings and other events along the river, upstream from Magpie. She took up this position in April and has already begun to build a network of locals who are welcoming the opportunity to be ‘river guardians’.

*Photo: The end of the bluestone channel at Hill Street*

## What’s happened with other past projects?

In 2007, Dung Beetles These patches, photographed in Napoleons Western Australia. Dung twenty metres from the is a waterway pollutant. river, are of cow pats incorporated into the soil by the beetles. This indicates successful establishment of dung beetles and will in future reduce polluting runoff into waterways.



The Walking Track at South Durham Bridge was established in 2000. It now has many fans, who access it by horse-back, push-bike or on foot.

In 2012 a seal of approval was given to the area by the koalas. Appropriately, they were spotted in the trees on National Tree Day.



Shrubs and trees (right) are growing well and flowering at Glassons Road Reserve



The understorey plantings on Mount Buninyong Trail are doing well, particularly the rare *Acacia nanodealbata* (Dwarf Silver Wattle) which was grown on from a single plant by Upper Williamsons’ Creek Landcare members.

## Back from the Brink– the second year.

After the first year of this project, we were able to ‘do it all again’ in Year 2. The targets set in Year 1, which were to collect seeds of the identified ‘likely to disappear’ species and propagate sufficient tube stock to plant out in five hectares, were achieved. For Year 2 a new set of landholders were lined up with approved projects by January and the project was once again on target.

This year, an invitation was extended to the general public to attend workshops on seed collection from indigenous species. This workshop was held in the Smart Living centre in Lydiard Street, Ballarat. A big “thank-you” to Dan Frost from Seeding Victoria for his assistance with this event. It was pleasing to once again to have Roger Thomas and his team of volunteers at the Community Nursery assist workshop

attendees to learn the techniques of propagation and pricking out. With help from local volunteers, Matt from Ballarat Wild Plants, and, despite very hot conditions over summer, a thousand specimens of ‘focal species’ were ready to be picked up for planting by landholders, by late August.

A proportion of the tube stock were allocated to be planted with other ‘Valley Grassy Forest’ species at Macs Road, along the Union Jack Creek behind Buninyong Golf Course. The trees were planted on National Tree Day in late July 2013, adding to several plantings at this site from previous years. It is increasingly looking like a small, bio-diverse forest and aims to provide an enjoyable walk along the creek. (see below).



**Above left:** A major driver for this project was to safeguard the future of paddock trees in Napoleons.

**Above right:** Planted corridors up from Williamsons’ Creek include the four focal species Silver Banksia, Black Sheoak, Yarra Gum, and Snow Gum

# River health projects

River health projects aim to provide protection and revegetation not only to the main **Yarrowee/Leigh** waterway, but also to its important tributaries ( see projects below).



Downstream from Garibaldi, work on private property has continued, with extensive gorse removal and fencing constructed to prevent access to of the river by livestock. This section of the Yarrowee is susceptible to damage from intense rain fall events higher up in the catchment (above Ballarat). Stabilising of the sandy sediments along this section of river aims to prevent sediment 'slugs' from moving downstream. These bodies of water -mobilised sediment may fill in platypus burrows and coat vegetation, thereby damaging riparian flora and fauna.

At Garibaldi Bridge Reserve, which can be seen from the bridge on the Mount Mercer-Buninyong Road, substantial work has been carried out over many years by the Garibaldi Environment Group (now the Garibaldi Landcare Group). In August 2013 four large willows were removed and a thousand plants planted on Crown land along the river.



*Careful willow removal leaves the stump in situ to rot slowly. All top material is burnt to prevent re-sprouting*



**Two paired projects.** Above left: A view of both sides of the **Cargarie Creek**, which flows directly into the Leigh River Gorge. Neighbouring farmers have worked together to create the revegetated zone along the slopes of the creek. This complements the tree corridor, planted 10 years ago, which can be seen in the distance.

Above right: The **Williamson's Creek** at Scotsburn formed a single channel once again after willow removal on the boundaries of two neighbours' blocks. Working together, these neighbours have planted locally indigenous species and controlled access by livestock, which were causing extensive soil damage in the riparian area.

# The Victorian Local Landcare Facilitator Initiative

LCG has received funding from the Victorian Local Landcare Facilitator Initiative (VLLFI) funding stream for over two years. This funding has enabled Jenny Ryle, our Landcare Coordinator/Facilitator, to coordinate on-ground projects, support local groups, liaise with all partners to run school programs, provide advice and communication about Landcare activities through emails and the website. Without this funding across the state, much less would be achieved at local and regional level.

*Photo: Corangamite Landcare Coordinators/Facilitators meeting at Garibaldi Hall in June 2014.*



## Regional Facilitator Funding 2013/2014

Over the past five years, due in part to reduced funding from governments, there have been few projects in the southern half of the catchment. To address this, LCG has commenced a re-engagement with landholders in this region. This was begun by holding a Partners Meeting at Warrambeen Landcare Centre in January 2014.



A successful application to the Regional Facilitator Fund enabled LCG to hold three workshops for landholders. These took place in the first half of 2014 in Warrambeen, Inverleigh and Meredith. At these workshops speakers from several agencies outlined the current initiatives for landholders and emphasised the importance of involvement in trials progress research and educate landholders on best farming practice.

## Waterways Strategy Consultation

The public consultation session on the draft Waterways Strategy, which has been drawn up by the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority's River Health team, was well attended. It was an opportunity for riparian landholders throughout the catchment to meet and discuss related issues.



*Photo: Discussing waterways at Royal Park, Buninyong*

## Land Health Investment Prospectus

The RFL workshops were an opportunity to introduce the CCMA's Land Health Investment Prospectus. Here local farmer, Lachie Anderson talks with Lisa Miller from Southern Farming Systems.



# The Garibaldi/Napoleons Weed Action Project



The use of skilled contractors can avoid damaging indigenous plants.



This community led project, funded through the Victorian Gorse Task Force, targets gorse removal on private land in Ballarat's southern urban fringe. LCG, together with representatives from Garibaldi and Napoleons Landcare Groups, have employed a Project Officer to recruit landholders to the project.

This project provides participants with information about gorse control options and the opportunity to discuss and agree upon a three year plan of action. A capped fifty per cent contribution to the first years' work is awarded after the work had been inspected. To date, twenty-seven hectares of gorse has been removed. A second funding phase is now open to landholders in the Garibaldi and Napoleons regions.

Golden Plains Shire and City of Ballarat have become involved in this project by targeting their gorse removal activity on roadsides adjoining private land from which gorse has been removed. Funding for landholders adjacent to the Target area, via a grant from the Golden Plains Shire, is available through LCG. This funding is intended to extend the overall effort of gorse removal.

At the conclusion of this project, in two years time, this region may be sufficiently clear of this invasive weed to enable successful revegetation with indigenous species. This will improve habitat for native flora and fauna and reduce suitable habitat for feral species. However, gorse-cleared areas will require future monitoring.

## Union Jack Survey with Land Management TAFE students



In September 2013, students based at the Department of Primary Industries Horticultural Centre in Gillies Street, Ballarat, undertook a survey of the physical attributes of the Union Jack Creek. Permission was gained from the majority of private landholders along the creek for students to survey the entire length of the creek, from source to confluence with the Yarrowee River. Data gathered from this five day exercise was subsequently reported to each of the relevant Landcare groups, by the students.



# YARROWEE LEIGH CATCHMENT GROUP INC.

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

<b>STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS &amp; PAYMENTS</b>			
<b>YEAR ENDED 30 June 2014</b>			
	Note	2014	2013
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Grants	2	163,064	123,515
Interest		3,238	4,475
Other	3	1,538	2,857
GST Collected & Refunded		<u>19,508</u>	<u>14,136</u>
		<u>187,348</u>	<u>144,983</u>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
Administration	4	63,844	64,001
Projects	5	66,610	61,826
Other	6	1,433	4,547
GST Owing & Repaid		<u>16,743</u>	<u>14,100</u>
		<u>148,630</u>	<u>144,474</u>
<b>CASH SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>		38,718	509
<b>ADD: Cash at bank 30 June 2013</b>		105,349	104,840
<b>CASH AT BANK 30 June 2014</b>		<u>144,607</u>	<u>105,349</u>

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>			
<b>30 June 2014</b>			
	Note	2014	2013
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at Bank	7	144,607	105,349
Debtors		-	<u>21,564</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>144,607</u>	<u>126,913</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors	9	5,481	-
Projects	10	<u>80,321</u>	<u>76,048</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		85,802	76,048
<b>YARROWEE LEIGH CATCHMENT GROUP FUNDS</b>		<u>58,805</u>	<u>50,865</u>

**Note 3 – OTHER INCOME**

Buninyong Community Bank sponsorship	900
Brochure sales, Fees & Donations	<u>558</u>
	1,538

**Note 4 – ADMINISTRATION**

Office Rent	3,430
Office Expenses	1,164
Phone	1,610
Insurance	337
Computing & Website	938
Travel Expenses	3,055
Project Officer Salary	<u>53,310</u>
	63,844

**Note 6 – OTHER EXPENSES**

Training - Mapping	200
Signboard at Office	600
Subscriptions & Registrations	287
Sundry Expenses	<u>346</u>
	1,433

**Note 7 – CASH AT BANK**

Cheque Account	7,401
Cash Management Account	16,666
Term Deposit	<u>120,000</u>
	144,067

**Note 9 – CREDITORS**

Simpson Personnel	3,390
ATO - Net GST	<u>2,091</u>
	5,481

**Note 10 - FUNDS COMMITTED TO PROJECTS**

Golden Plains Shire Grant 2013/14	1,809
River Health 4 - 2012/13	5,710
River Health 5 - 2013/14	13,876
Regional Landcare Facilitator Project	967
Communities for Nature 2012/16	25,358
Victorian Gorse Task Force	4,490
City of Ballarat Yarrowee Project	<u>28,111</u>
	80,321

# YARROWEE LEIGH CATCHMENT GROUP INC.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

### Note 1 – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Statement of Receipts and Payments is prepared on a cash basis and the surplus (deficit) shown has not been adjusted to reflect amounts due or amount owing by the Group as shown in the Balance Sheet included as part of the Financial Statements. The Financial Statements are prepared as a special purpose financial report. The values stated in the Balance Sheet are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

#### Equipment

The value of equipment is treated as an historical cost and not brought to account. This includes one trailer, registered and in fair condition; and all office furniture and equipment, including computers, printers and tools. No significant items were purchased during the year.

### Notes 2 & 5 - PROJECTS

<b>SUMMARY OF CURRENT PROJECTS</b>			
<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>RECEIVED 2013/14</b>		<b>SPENT 2013/14</b>
	<b>Management</b>	<b>Projects</b>	<b>Projects</b>
Vic Landcare Facilitator Funding Initiative	46,511		
VLFFI Foundation Grant			250
CCMA 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project			2,850
CCMA Landcare Support Grant	500		
Volunteer Recruitment Initiative			1,313
Communities for Nature 2012-16	14,098	22,650	7,804
Corangamite Landcare Grant 2012/13		3,129	5,160
Golden Plains Shire Grant 2013/14	500	4,500	2,691
River Health 2 - 2010/11			2,652
River Health 3 - 2011/12			8,962
River Health 4 - 2012/13		16,332	13,189
River Health 5 - 2013/14	1,418	8,866	6,362
Regional Landcare Facilitator Project		2,560	1,593
Victorian Gorse Task Force	3,000	7,000	9,510
City of Ballarat Yarrowee Project		32,000	4,274
	<u>66,027</u>	<u>97,037</u>	<u>66,610</u>
<b>Total Grants</b>	.. ..	<b>163,064</b>	
		<b>Note 2</b>	<b>Note 5</b>

## INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW REPORT

To Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc

### Report on the Financial Report

I have reviewed the accompanying financial report of Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc, which comprises the Balance Sheet as at 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 and the Statement of Receipts & Payments for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 and other notes to the accounts for the year ended on that date.

*Committee of Management's Responsibility for the Financial Report.)*

The Committee of Management of the Incorporated Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act (Vic) 1981 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

#### *Assurance Practitioner's Responsibility*

My responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on my review. I conducted my review in accordance with the Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2400 *Review of a Financial Report Performed by an Assurance Practitioner Who is Not the Auditor of the Entity*, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to my attention that caused me to believe that the financial report is not presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. ASRE 2400 requires me to comply with the requirements of the applicable code of professional conduct of a professional body.

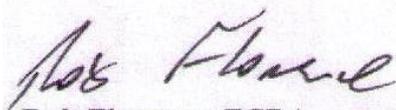
A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable me to obtain assurance that I would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion.

#### *Independence*

In conducting my review, I have complied with the independence and ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

#### *Conclusion*

Based on my review, which is not an audit, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial report of Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc does not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Group as at 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014, and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.



Rob Florence, FCPA

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2014

**For a full colour version of this annual report, please go to:**

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