Are there still Quolls in the Wooragee district – that is the $64,000 question?

Jerry Alexander (Wooragee Landcare Committee)

For an animal that has white spots all over it and is roughly the size of a cat, the Spot-tailed Quoll is incredibly cryptic. Most sightings, in recent times, are of males on the roadside often on the prowl looking for a mate during the breeding season which starts from about June onwards.

Although there are few records for north east Victoria in the last ten years, we are quite lucky to have the Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park nearby that contains a large expanse of suitable quoll habitat – lots of great rocky outcrop complexes and hollow logs. Some may remember being involved previously in searches for quolls in the park with a degree of success finding evidence of the species in the Mt Pilot Range Reference Area and near the summit of Mt Pilot.

Female quolls will deposit their scats during the breeding season at latrines to let males know they are “ready”. These latrines are often at rocky sites or on high vantage points usually with a great view. Landcare members have previously been trained in how to identify quoll scats and how to systematically search for the most likely latrine sites.

The Wooragee Landcare committee will be organising a field day on Sunday 5 June 201, this time with quoll biologist, Dr Jenny Nelson from the Arthur Rylah Institute. I will be running through a bit of the ecology of the quoll and then we will head out bush to learn a bit about how to recognise quoll habitat and how to use the variety of tools available to help detect (either using remote cameras or identifying potential latrine sites). More info can be found on the flyer (page 3), otherwise feel free to contact Jerry on 0427352837 if you are interested.
**GORSE CONTROL REBATE AVAILABLE**

The Wooragee Landcare Group was successful in securing funding to support the control and management of the noxious weed Gorse. This grant enables the group to offer rebates to Landcare Group members for expenses incurred in the management of Gorse. Wooragee Landcare is able to offer support, information, education and facilitation of a control program designed for your property where they can fund up to 50% of necessary control methods. Wooragee Landcare is asking for any Landholders who would like assistance with Gorse control to contact Cathryn Mahon.

If you require any further information or wish to be a part of this program please contact Cathryn Mahon on 0499 004 924 or email cathryn@southerncrossvermin.com

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**RABBIT CONTROL - PHOSTOXIN AVAILABLE**

The group has some canisters of Phostoxin available to group members FREE for the control of rabbits and fox dens. Now is the ideal time to fumigate rabbit warrens with numbers starting to increase again. I have been seeing many young rabbits around lately and it will not be long before these are producing litters as well.

To arrange collection of the Phostoxin contact Cathryn Mahon on 0499 004 924 or email cathryn@southerncrossvermin.com

*All fumigants are Schedule 7 poisons therefore an Agricultural Chemical Users Permit (ACUP) is required to purchase them. Schedule 7 poisons can only be used by holder of an ACUP or under the direct supervision of an ACUP holder.*

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**Wooragee Landcare Group Committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Cathryn Mahon</td>
<td>0499 004 924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Terry Shipway</td>
<td>0427 251 910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Karen Bowley</td>
<td>03 5728 7397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Dirk deZwart</td>
<td>03 5728 7397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Alandi Durling</td>
<td>0428 211 008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Wooragee Landcare Group

invites you to attend

QUEST FOR QUOLLS

a general information session

WOORAGEE SCHOOL & THEN
CHILTERN-MT PILOT NP

SUNDAY 5TH JUNE
TIME 10AM TO 2PM

Free Lunch Provided

Presenters:
Jerry Alexander, Senior Biodiversity Officer, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Hume Region & Jenny Nelson, Senior Scientist, Arthur Rylah Institute

- **Characteristics of Quolls** - learn more about one of our little known unique Australian mammals, including the biology, habitat requirements and threats to their survival.

- **Habitat of Quolls** - evidence of Quolls has been recently recorded and they are still believed to live in the Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park. Find out how to look for them and where they like to hang out (you never know, you may be sharing your place with quolls!)

*Come along and find out about Quolls*

*Plenty of time for your questions*

Register online at: [http://tinyurl.com/QuestForQuolls16](http://tinyurl.com/QuestForQuolls16)

**RSVP by 2nd June 2016**

Further information: Alandi Durling Ph 0428 211 008
E: alandi.durling@landcarevic.net.au
Breakfast Club is Launched

We are delighted to launch The Wooragee Primary School Breakfast Club Program which aims to deliver healthy breakfast foods to students who are not eating any breakfast, or not enough breakfast because there is a lack of time in the morning, or they are not hungry in the morning. Breakfast Club is every Thursday and Friday in our SAKG kitchen and is open to all students.

Research has shown a healthy breakfast has many positive benefits:

- improvement in child engagement in the classroom;
- improvement in school attendance;
- improvement in behaviour;
- development of child’s social skills;
- improvement in academic outcomes; and
- awareness of healthy eating habits (Mills 2011).

We appreciate the generosity of FoodBank Victoria and FoodShare Wodonga for providing us with the bulk of our breakfast menu items.

### Parsnip Soup

**Ingredients:**
- 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 4 garlic cloves
- 2 onions roughly chopped
- 3 large potatoes washed and chopped
- 3 parsnips chopped
- 1.5L chicken or vegetable stock
- 1 bay leaf
- 100ml milk
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp pepper
- Grated nutmeg for garnish
- Handful chopped parsley

**Method:**
1. Heat olive oil in large pot over medium heat.
2. Add garlic and onions & sauté for 2 minutes.
3. Add potatoes and parsnips & cook for 5 mins.
4. Add stock, bay leaf & bring to boil, reduce to low simmer for about 25 minutes or until vegetables are soft & tender.
5. Remove from heat and remove bay leaf.
6. Puree with hand blender until smooth.
7. Stir through milk and season with salt and pepper.
8. Ladle into bowls and garnish with parsley and nutmeg.

*Enjoy with family and friends!*
15 Mile Creek Camp

Congratulations to our fit students; Ned, Kalum, Rosie, Louis, Hugo, Belle, Matilda, Pat, James, Mark and Will who all completed a very challenging outdoor education camp at 15 Mile Creek Greta South from 26th –29th April. Their challenges included; human see-saw, rock climbing, abseiling, bush walks at Power’s Lookout, cave climbing, picnic at Cheshunt, King River water sleds, night walk—native animal spot light, night time flying fox, orienteering, hut building, damper on a stick, archery, bike riding, canoeing and yabbying!

All students completed the ‘Challenge and Grow’ Program with a positive can do attitude and gained many new resilience strategies such as ‘flip your rock’.

Why Wooragee kids should go to 15 Mile Creek again in 2017

1. Kids will get challenges like the flying fox in the dark.
2. Kids need to learn to do things for themselves like find your own hat and socks.
3. The challenges teach us not to give up.
4. 15 Mile Creek is the best camp to go on. The food is fantastic especially the never ending fruit bowl. Lyndon and Sue are great camp cooks. Everyone ate everything!
5. The camp teachers know a lot about the environment and fitness.
6. Camp teaches us resilience and how to get along with other people.
7. We love it and it is good for us…

Resilience strategies gained from camp can all use throughout life! 😊😊😊
Do you have email available? Please consider getting this newsletter electronically. You will be more environmentally friendly.
To celebrate the beauty of North East Victoria and Wooragee in particular Wooragee Landcare would like to invite adults, primary and secondary students to participate in a photographic competition.

Separate sections for primary school, secondary school and adult competitors:

- Landscape
- Biodiversity (Flora and Fauna)
- Human Interest

*Human Interest: Photos of farming, people enjoying the outdoors etc*

A SPECIAL PRIZE FOR PHOTOS TAKEN IN THE WOORAGEE VALLEY

**PRIZE MONEY EACH SECTION**
First $100.00  Second $75.00  Third $50.00

Entries close 15th August 2016 - Entry Fee $2.00 per photo

Winners announced September 2016

For further information contact Maureen Cooper
Email: brigadoon.99@bigpond.com Ph 03 5728 1311
WOORAGEE LANDCARE

Mountain Range to Wetlands

Photographic Competition

To celebrate the beauty of North East Victoria and Wooragee in particular, Wooragee Landcare would like to invite adults, primary and secondary students to participate in a photographic competition.

Rules and Entry Form

PRIZE MONEY: First - $100.00  Second - $75.00  Third - $50.00
Highly Commended Certificate for each section

Categories: Separate sections for primary school, secondary school and adult competitors
• Landscape
• Biodiversity (Flora and Fauna)
• Human Activities
A separate section will be created for Monochrome photographs if there are enough entries.

Special Prizes for photos taken in Wooragee which covers all photos taken in the Wooragee area.

COMPETITION RULES
1. All entries are to be accompanied by an entry form.
2. There will be a limit of three entries per person per category.
3. Entries must depict the natural biodiversity and landscape and human activities in the North East and can be colour or monochrome (Black and White) using either conventional film or digital camera.
4. All entrants are to provide 2,000kb to 8,000 kb image files on CD.
5. Photographs on the judge’s short list will be enlarged by the Wooragee Landcare Group and the winners chosen. This will save parents a lot of expense.
6. All Photographs have to be taken within 10 months of closing date.
7. All photographs will be displayed in Wooragee Hall as an electronic slide show and the winning entries in each section will also be displayed as enlarged prints.
8. All photographs are to have a title and location where taken on back of each entry. Digital images are to use the filename as title and location. Please do not put the entrant’s name on the back of the entry or on the CD.
9. Closing date for entries is 15th August, 2016
10. There will be a $2 entry fee per photo or image to be included with the entry form.

Direct deposit: Wooragee Landcare Other    BSB 803 070 Acc No. 100105195
Reference: your name and ‘entry fee’
Cheques payable to Wooragee Landcare Group

11. Awards will be presented in September date/location to be confirmed.
12. The organiser, Wooragee Landcare reserves the right to use any submitted photographs or images in publicity of natural resource management and conservation. Any photographs or images used will be credited to the photographer by way of acknowledgment.
13. Wooragee Landcare reserves the right to refuse or not display an entry.
14. The judge’s decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

For entry forms and further information email Maureen Cooper brigadoon.99@bigpond.com or phone 03 57 281 311
Wooragee Landcare Photographic Competition
Entry Form

Full Name ___________________________________________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________________________________________

Ph _________________________ Email __________________________________________________________

Level: Adult □
Level: School Primary □ Secondary □ (Please tick appropriate boxes) Age: __________

Entry 1
Title: _________________________________________________________________________________
Location _______________________________________________________________________________

Category: Landscape □ Human Activities □ Flora and Fauna□ Media: Jpeg Image □
Was this photo taken in the Wooragee or Woolshed area? Yes □ No □ (circle)

Entry 2
Title: _________________________________________________________________________________
Location _______________________________________________________________________________

Category: Landscape □ Human Activities □ Flora and Fauna□ Media: Jpeg Image □
Was this photo taken in the Wooragee or Woolshed area? Yes □ No □ (circle)

Entry 3
Title: _________________________________________________________________________________
Location _______________________________________________________________________________

Category: Landscape □ Human Activities □ Flora and Fauna□ Media: Jpeg Image □
Was this photo taken in the Wooragee or Woolshed area? Yes □ No □ (circle)

I, __________________________________________ declare that these photographs were taken by me and I have read the
rules and agree to abide by them.

Send entry form to:
Wooragee Landcare Group
c/o Maureen Cooper
PO Box 386
Beechworth Vic 3747

Email photos and entry form to: brigadoon.99@bigpond.com Phone 03 57 281 311
Do you have an interesting story, web site or advertisement you would like to place in the Wooragee Landcare Newsletter?

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the rising costs of printing and postage the Wooragee Landcare Community Newsletter will be sent 4 times a year to all Non-Landcare members in Wooragee and Woolshed that currently receive the newsletter via the post.

Wooragee Landcare Group
PO Box 368
Beechworth Vic, 3747

Compiled by: Alandi Durling - 0428211008

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