

## **Board talk**

The LGC board met on August 16 at Royal Park. Future board meetings will be held at this venue, since our coordinator's office has recently been relocated there. This relocation was necessary due to the sudden appearance of serious structural defects in the building in which our office was located at 405 Warrenheip Street, late last year.

Highlights from the August board meeting were:

Several recent grant applications have been successful.

A grant of \$500 was received from the CCMA for costs associated with incorporation.

- Jane Bevelander, our Yarrowee Project Officer, obtained a grant of \$8,600 for Community Engagement.
- Our coordinator, Nick McKinley, submitted an application for the Sue Hickey Grant, which was obtained. These funds will be used for governance training of board members and a bus trip, which is open to all members, to be organised for later in the year.
- Nick was also successful in his application for \$6,000 to fund fire recovery workshops.

To assist with fire recovery, the Rotary Club of Ballarat have made an offer to donate funds to householders affected by the Scotsburn Fires for garden plants.

The LCG is currently in the process of adopting a new constitution. By now, your secretary should have received an email with a copy of this, as a draft for comment. The next board meeting on September 20 will be open to all members of our Landcare groups and we welcome your attendance to give feedback about the constitution. Our AGM is to be held on October 25 at Royal Park. The adoption of the new constitution is to be our main agenda item, so any changes must be finalised by the end of September. This will allow time for a final review by all groups, prior to adoption.

At the present time, the LCG board has two board vacancies for two (2) ordinary board members. However, we will have three vacancies when one of our members, Adrian Newman, takes up an teaching exchange position in Canada next year. Expressions of interest are invited from Landcare Group members to fill these vacancies. You may nominate using the nomination forms that will be emailed to your group secretary before the AGM or by mail from our office.

The LCG board is also seeking anyone interested in the positions of treasurer and assistant treasurer. Nomination forms are also available for these positions, please contact Nick, our Coordinator, for more information.

At our last meeting, we received reports from all groups, thank you so much for that! However, notification of request for this board meeting was not made in time, so we did not receive these for the August meeting. In future, the secretary will send out a reminder at least to groups two weeks prior to board meetings, to allow sufficient time for submission one week prior to the board meetings.

To ensure we have sufficient equipment for planting days, our coordinators are in the process of obtaining additional Hamilton planters, mallets, gloves and other sundries. These will be available for Landcare groups to borrow, together with the equipment trailer, for planting days. The trailer includes a water tank, so plants can be watered immediately after planting.

The Landcare Conference is to be held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre on 21-23 September. Our Chair, Andrea Mason, will deliver a paper on Fire Recovery at the conference.