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*Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare*

**COMMUNITY LANDCARE OFFICER REPORT –11th May to 8th June 2021**

Work completed or in progress:

**CLO Admin-**

* + Updated the Community Landcare and Bridgetown Community Facebook pages with current and planned activities. The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Community Landcare page can be found at: [*www.facebook.com/BridgetownGreenbushesCommunityLandcare*](http://www.facebook.com/BridgetownGreenbushesCommunityLandcare).
  + Wrote an article on Helping Hands for the Mailbag.
  + Assisted Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire landholders and residents with-
    - general and specific landcare queries,
    - plant identification and weed control information,
    - 2 x property visits,
    - water monitoring of dams.
  + Monitored Somme Creek, Geegeelup Brook, the Shire Dam and the Blackwood River on 8/06/2021. The water samples are taken from the same place at each site and approximately 30cm below the water surface where possible. Sent all results to Aaron Hide at the Shires Parks and Gardens dept.
    - Results are-
      * Geegeelup Brook - pH 8.1; EC 2300µs/cm; water temp 11.9°C
      * Somme Creek - pH 7.8; EC 2500µs/cm; water temp 12.3°C
      * Shire Dam- pH 7.9; EC 2900µs/cm; water temp 13.5°C
      * Blackwood River- pH 7.8; EC 5300µs/cm; water temp 13.1°C

**Helping Hands Bushcare volunteers-**

* **Somme Creek Parklands-**
  + Cut and pulled out all dead and broken vegetation from area near skate park.
  + Pulled out a Honeysuckle infestation from creekline vegetation.
  + Picked up and removed all of the rubbish blown in from the skate park area.
* **Abbotts Reserve-**
  + Collected, bundled and removed all of last year’s tree guards used at the site.
  + Identify and dig up areas of garden bulbs, bag up for removal from the site.

***‘Managing Shire Bushland Reserves for Highest Environmental and Social Returns’* project-**

* + Weed and disturbance map **Winnejup Reserve**, met with DBCA Rare Flora and Fauna Officers and Hugh Wheatley on site to discuss vegetation complexes, cultural sites, priority ecological community listing and fire management of particular areas in the reserve.
  + Started planning for more field walks in several of the Shire Reserves in spring.
  + Met with Shire Emergency Services staff to discuss 2021-22 fire and mechanical mitigation activities in the Shire Reserves.
  + Weed and disturbance map **Sunnyside Reserve, Tweed Rd Flora Reserve** and **Dorothy Scott Bushland,** identify and plan activities for Helping Hands Bushcarers.

**Pollinator Project-**

* + Visited each of the properties and discussed support needed for this year revegetation plantings, ordered materials required.
  + Completed photopoint monitoring at each of the properties.
  + Completed SWCC quarterly and annual project reporting.
  + Contact all nurseries to coordinate the delivery of seedlings for this year’s revegetation plantings.
  + Review species numbers and supplement shortfalls where possible.

**Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire-**

* Botanical paintings- the three damaged paintings have been assessed as unable to be repaired, asked for them to be returned to allow BES to get a second opinion- still waiting for their return. No progress regarding the three missing paintings.
* Met with Shire staff and Contractor on the Walk Trail below the Bowling Club to discuss the best option for a particular area there, varying the current plan.
* Email discussion with Steele and Barbara at the Shire regarding any Shire support for the Helping Hands Bushcarers activities.

**Blackwood Biosecurity-**

* Attended another BBI committee meeting for further updates on the current restructure progress of the group, and the proposed timeline going forward.

**Others-**

* + Supported the Bridgetown Family and Community Centre with recommendations of appropriate local native plants for around the Big Blue Gilgie sculpture.
  + Provided more ‘Bird Friendly Rodent Control’ brochures from Birdlife Australia to Richfeeds and Mitre 10 to be placed with their mouse and rat baits to help prevent off target deaths from secondary poisoning.
  + Updated labels on herbarium specimens, develop more photographic herbarium sheets.
  + Attended a ‘**Traditional Fire Management’** workshop at Rosa Glen with Cultural Custodians from Undalup Association.
  + Had a mouse eradication program at the Visitors Centre- caught 7 in 3 days in traps.
  + Met with Felicity Littleton at the Greenbushes Herbarium to consider its future as she is leaving town soon.
  + Took Floyd Brown to my Somme Creek water sampling sites and the Sports ground Dam to collect samples for analysis. Followed the path of Somme Creek down to Memorial Park.
  + Attended the **‘Fire and Biodiversity’ Forum**, Workshop and Field Trip in Margaret River

With regards,

**Cheryl Hamence**

Community Landcare Officer

8/06/2021