



Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group

Annual Report 2017

– Celebrating 20 Years –



CHAIRS REPORT ANDREA MASON

The 2016/2017 Annual Report highlights our many achievements throughout the year. We continue to attract new funding, partnerships and project ideas to support our landowners and communities in river health, soil health, revegetation, gorse control, growling grass frog protection, Union Jack Creek protection in partnership with Upper Williamson's Creek Landcare, community education - particularly on the Yarrowee River and school education. We gratefully acknowledge the funding obtained from all sources listed.

The Scotsburn Phoenix Project was established at the end of 2016 when the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) and the Leigh Catchment Group (LCG) Landcare network were provided with a Victorian State Government grant of \$624,000 to work with and assist landholders affected by the December 2015 Scotsburn fire. This was a high intensity fire that affected 88 properties within the region. The aim of the project is to facilitate community/landholder involvement in protecting, enhancing and rehabilitating the natural environment and sustainable agriculture, particularly on private properties, in the Scotsburn fire zone whilst supporting community engagement that promotes community and individual resilience.

The Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program, project management fees and the Scotsburn Phoenix Project enabled us to expand our staffing capacity to almost 2 Full Time Equivalents. Nick McKinley and Jane Bevelander, our Landcare Coordinators, were joined by Michele Harvie as Accounts Manager to bring our operating systems up to speed.

Our new constitution is settled bringing change to our membership structure, but not to our ideals and support for our Landcare groups. Our Secretary, Sandra Weller has been undertaking governance training which is already proving beneficial. My sincere thanks to the members of the LCG Board who always give so generously of their volunteer time and who continue to support and contribute to the organisation through our 'strike teams' as issues arise.

Thank you to Xenon Ellis for his contribution before he moved away to Gippsland. Special thanks go to Peter Cameron who steps off the Board after twelve years, including seven as Treasurer. He has been a strong and steady contributor.

The value of networks and working together is very important to LCG – there is strength in numbers and belonging to the greater Landcare community – which celebrates 30 years of success this year. At LCG we welcomed Friends of Canadian Corridor and Friends of Yarrowee River to our network. Another Landcare Connect event was held to provide opportunities for groups to share and learn from each other. We have also begun discussions, facilitated by Natural Resources Conservation League, with our neighbouring networks and local environmental groups to form a landscape alliance which we hope will value add to our current operations and strengthen our position as a key delivery mechanism for landscape scale change in our region.

In November last year, I spoke at a forum on the Impacts of Climate Change on Rural Landscapes. Some of these changes are already evident. I remember planning for Autumn planting and groundwater springs that ran all year! Water security, impacts on biodiversity, changes to revegetation, impacts to agriculture, soils and productivity and continued risks from wind, fire and flood are all factors that we need to prepare for. We need to close the loop on our thinking – WE are responsible for these events!! Landcare has a key role to play in solutions – and that does not mean just chasing carbon dollars. Opportunities are emerging in waste to energy, improved research in biodiversity, sustainability practices and changes in agriculture.

As we begin to celebrate 20 Years of the Leigh Catchment Group making a difference...remember...*The times they are a changin'* and we aim to be ready!



Andrea Mason

Andrea Mason
Chair

BOARD MEMBERS 2016-2017

Andrea Mason	Chairperson
Heather Fagg	Vice Chairperson
Sandra Weller	Secretary
Peter Cameron	Treasurer
Louisa-Jane Cunningham	Board member
Talia Barrett	Board member
Xenon Ellis	Board member (resigned)
Gillian Armstrong	Board member
Bob Hartman	Board member

MEMBER 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
Friends of Canadian Creek Corridor
Friends of Yarrowee River

Subcommittees served by board members include; on-ground works, finances, marketing and communications, partnership and liaison, social and community events, operations, HR & staff.

OUR MISSION

The Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc. (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.

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 above.

The Leigh Catchment Group become officially incorporated on 1st October 2013. This necessitated an official name change to 'Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Incorporated'.

IMAGINE: a landscape where the major environmental assets of the region are connected.

A mosaic of indigenous biodiverse plantings centred on the Leigh river system, a permanent water source, linking existing biodiversity plantings with remnant vegetation including reserves, national parks and private land to create a pathway for the movement of flora & fauna whilst building on a strong community base in what will be an increasingly challenging climate.



OUR PURPOSE

- *To work together to ensure the preservation of natural heritage, sustainable agriculture, and communities
- *To ensure the ecologically sensitive restoration, development and maintenance of the Yarrowee/Leigh River, all tributaries, corridors and associated ecological communities within the Yarrowee Leigh Catchment group area.
- *To support our network of Landcare groups and community-based natural resource management groups and community.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION



The Leigh Catchment covers an area of 1,580 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. It also includes the Barwon River sub-catchments of Warrambine Creek, Native Hut Creek, and Bruce’s Creek and the Lake Murdeduke sub-catchment of Mia Mia Creek.

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:

- Incorporates strategies and priorities from 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.

Staffing: The Landcare Coordinator’s role (Nick McKinley, *right*) is to manage projects and activities undertaken through LCG and provide support to Landcare Group members. Nick is on a 0.6 full time equivalent (FTE) role.



LCG also employs a 0.8 FTE Environmental Project Officer (Jane Bevelander, *left*) to undertake the project management of additional on-ground and community engagement projects, primarily focusing on the Scotsburn Phoenix Project. In the light of increased funding this year a new 0.2 FTE role was created for an Executive Assistant; Financial (Michelle Harvie, *middle*) to oversee all financial activities.

Partners: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, City of Ballarat, Golden Plains Shire, Moorabool Shire, Federation University, Ballarat Environment Network, Central Highland Water and many community groups, landholders and individuals.

SECURING GRANTS 2016-2017

Project Title	Source of funding (name of funding program)	Purpose (on-ground, engagement, communications, coordination, other)	Amount \$ (ex GST)
CCMA Waterways	CCMA	Waterways Incentive Program to improve the health and of rivers and protect the riparian zones of our streams and rivers.	\$126,418
Scotsburn Phoenix Project	CCMA	Facilitate community/landholder involvement in protecting, enhancing and rehabilitating the natural environment on their properties in the Scotsburn fire zone.	\$155,198
Land Health	CCMA	Under the National Landcare Program we delivered a soil acidity and pasture field day.	\$2,720
Revitalisation of the Union Jack Creek	CCMA	Revegetation, weed control and community engagement along the Union Jack Creek in Buninyong	\$14,000
Sue Hickey Memorial Grant	CCMA	Governance training and catchment tour	\$4,900
CCMA Support Grant	CCMA Support Grant	Support Grant to assist in the ongoing operation expenses of the group.	\$500
Discover the Treasures of the Yarrowee	City of Ballarat	A kid's festival focused on discovering the Yarrowee through an arts/science lens.	\$5,394
Connecting to Nearby Nature - Brown Hill Project	City of Ballarat	Community and school environmental activities to engage the Brown Hill community with nearby nature	\$9,625
Finding Ballarat's Threatened Frogs	State Funding	Improving habitat for the Growling Grass Frog at Narmbool and community engagement through a frog census and frog surveys/talks	\$22,900
Victorian Landcare Facilitator Project	State Funding	Facilitation to support Landcare groups and networks as they strive to create sustainable landscapes for future generations.	\$47,674
Golden Plains Shire Community Grant	Golden Plains Shire	Redeveloped our website and provided Landcare Groups within our network website development training.	\$1,475
Victorian Gorse Task Force	Victorian Gorse Task Force	Eradication of gorse on private property	\$2,500
		TOTAL	\$393,304

ON-GROUND PROJECTS



LAND HEALTH

Soil acidity is one of the biggest inhibiting factors on pasture production within our network. A Field Day was held at Gordon Alfred Drive, Scotsburn on Friday the 10th of March 2017. This field day increased participants knowledge on how different properties of soil and soil nutrients affects plant growth and pasture production. Topics at this event included a soil pit demonstration and a focus on soil acidity and establishing pastures after bushfire. Participants learnt to match pasture selection with the soil type they have on their property. Timing on this event was focused in Autumn so that farmers/hobby farmers in the area could think about lime application and pasture selection for the next season.



CCMA WATERWAYS

Once again we partnered with the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority to deliver the Waterways Incentive Program. This program improves the health of streams and rivers in our catchment. Activities in this program include :

- *Fencing off the waterway to prevent livestock access*
- *Controlling pest plants and animals*
- *Revegetating the site*
- *Installation of off stream watering systems*

CCMA WATERWAYS continued

This year eight Landholders participated in the program. The total value of funding for the projects was \$126,418.

Here is a summary of the on-ground activities we achieved:

- *17.4 ha of woody weed control*
- *15.93 ha of rabbit control*
- *2 off stream watering systems installed*
- *6.86 km of waterways fenced*
- *9,273 local provenance indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses planted*

The local community assisted delivering the tree planting component of these projects. Secondary school students, local businesses, and prisoners in Landmate Program helped plant the trees.



Covenant College students tree planting,
Williamsons Creek, Elaine



Tree planting Williamson's Creek, Elaine



Fencing Leigh River, Bamganie to prevent livestock
Access to stream and protect Remnant Vegetation.



Fencing, Gorse and Blackberry Control on the
Yarrowee River, Grenville.

ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Connecting to Nearby Nature

“The future will belong to the nature-smart—those individuals, families, businesses, and political leaders who develop a deeper understanding of the transformative power of the natural world and who balance the virtual with the real. The more high-tech we become, the more nature we need.” —RICHARD LOUV

Community engagement is incorporated into most of our projects as it is a vital tool for creating a sense of ownership and protection over on-ground works and natural areas. We have been trialling new ways of engagement, such a botanic drawing by the river and responding to community needs, such as holding a four day whole farm planning workshop.



Above left: Brunch with the Birds event at Ditchfield Reserve in Brown Hill; **Above right:** Frog Walk and Talk. **Middle left:** Botanic Drawing by the River event. **Middle right:** Soil testing as part of the Small Farm Planning workshops. **Below:** New Cal-



ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Educational Activities

School children often help us deliver our projects. Through the process they learn about the local environment and get the opportunity to complete hands on work by planting, weeding and guarding trees. We have developed relationships with numerous schools within our catchment. Below is a summary of the school events which were undertaken last year:



- 450 trees planted at Williamsons Creek, Elaine, with 30 students from Covenant College.
- Tree planting at Yarrowee River, Garibaldi with 15 students from Covenant College.
- Tree planting at Yarrowee River, Sebastopol with students from St James Primary School.
- Tree planting Williamsons Creek, Elaine with students from Ballarat Grammar.
- Tree planting at James Reserve, Buninyong with 30 students from Ballarat Christian College.
- Maintenance at Macs Road, Buninyong with 23 students from Damascus College
- Planted 100 trees Williamsons Creek, Elaine with Ballarat Grammar.
- Tree planting day & maintenance activities with 20 kids from Damascus College, at James Reserve.
- 350 trees planted on Williamsons Creek, Elaine with 16 Ballarat Grammar students.
- 24 environmental education sessions at Yuille Wetland, Sebastopol with New Caledonian Primary, Dana St Primary and Little Bendigo Primary Schools

General Community Activities

- Active involvement with our Landcare Coordinator, Nick McKinley who is a member of the Scotsburn Fire Community Recovery Committee. This committee, in conjunction with the Upper Williamsons Creek Landcare Group, helped organise the monthly dinners for the Scotsburn Community. Other activities this committee undertook were Garden Recovery Tours, Football Game trip, Adventure Park Geelong trip, Movie night, Bonfire at Garibaldi and art displays. The contribution to the community was recognised by the Moorabool Shire, receiving a Australia Day award.
- Running a Phoenix Project Community Information Session at the Scotsburn Hall
- Help prepare a Chainsaw Operation workshop
- Having an information display at the Buninyong Sustainability Festival.
- Soil and Pasture Field day at Scotsburn
- Small Farm Management Course over four days in May—June 2017.
- Co-organised a Farm Business Planning Workshop at Warrambeen.
- Native Grass Planting with 31 children from Ballarat City Council Family Day Care Program.
- National Tree Planting day

SCOTSBURN PHOENIX FIRE RECOVERY



On 19 December 2015, the Scotsburn community experienced a significant wildfire event which burnt out 4,570 hectares and severely affected the community, assets and the natural environment. Since the devastating bushfire, the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) and Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group (LCG) have been working in partnership to support community action in environmental restoration works and community connectivity. The Victorian Government provided support for the Scotsburn community's bushfire recovery , with a \$624,000 funding boost for landscape rehabilitation to the Corangamite CMA. The Corangamite CMA has partnered with the Leigh Catchment Group to deliver the Scotsburn Phoenix Project into the community.

This year has see LCG officers develop the plans and guidelines necessary to run this project efficiently, fairly and transparently. We have connected with the local community through expressions of interest, site visits, habitat surveys and collaboratively creating property plans. These property plans are designed to help the individual landholder recover their land whilst on a larger landscape scale improve the biodiversity and connectedness of the bushland. Next year will see the bulk of the on-ground work with fencing, planting, revegetation, pest and weed control. We have also provided training and engagement opportunities through workshops and tours.



LEIGH CATCHMENT GROUP BOARD MEMBERS



Andrea Mason,
Chairperson



Heather Fagg
Vice Chairperson



Sandra Weller
Secretary



Peter Cameron,
Treasurer



Gillian Armstrong,
Board Member



Louisa-Jane Cunningham
Board Member



Talia Barrett,
Board Member



Bob Hartmann,
Board Member

BOARD GOVERNANCE UPDATES AND TRAINING

By Sandra Weller (undertaking board governance training as part of a Sue Hickey Grant)

Adventure should be 80 percent 'I think this is manageable', but it's good to have the last 20 percent where you're right outside your comfort zone. Still safe, but outside your comfort zone." *Bear Grylls*

As a lifelong fan of the Guiding and Scouting movements (probably because I am a third generation member) the quote above from the Chief Scout of the UK feels like something like the right description of how my study for a Diploma of Business (Board Governance) has been going so far. Doing something new involves risk, but hopefully not too much. I have been a (kind of) professional scientist for much of my life, so doing something on another topic (business) felt slightly scary. But before deciding how scary, I needed to take a deep breath and realise that I wasn't doing this without any help at all.

Sharing a class with others from the not-for-profit sector was an amazing experience. Groups such as those that run large sporting bodies, assist victims of domestic violence, set up and run community owned renewable energy companies, run community arts organisations, were all represented by those who are taking on the same qualification I am. I had no idea that so many important services, which we all seem to take for granted, rely on the blood, sweat and tears of voluntary labour. It was refreshing to be with others who are also passionate about improving their communities and learning about their experiences.

This course has been both a huge challenge (the 20% out-of-my-comfort-zone part) but also rewarding. On the whole, it has been good for finding my feet as a community representative and why what I do matters. I still have a few assignments to complete before I get my diploma, but it is comforting to know (this is the 80% part) that what I am learning will be useful for myself and others. Like my classmates, I hope to learn how to give my time and effort more effectively to my local community, because now I have a better understanding what I can do. I have also been reminded of what was possibly the central philosophy learned during my time in Guides and Scouts - giving back to society is something we should all try to do. I would also like to give a huge thank-you to the Sue Hickey foundation for funding this course.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF LOCAL GROUPS

Members of the Landcare community have completed many projects over the past 12 months worth celebrating.



Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Groups' major focus for 2017 has been around and between the three Slaty Creek picnic grounds in Creswick State Forest. Woody weed infestations have been removed from gullies and track sides. We have conducted three plantings to replace the missing understorey and groundcover layers and are finalising BBQ installations, signage and development of a walking track between the RACV Goldfields Resort and Slaty Creek Picnic Ground Number 1. This has been a fantastic partnership with RACV and Parks Victoria and we are grateful for the significant support we have received from both organisations.

Maintenance working bees have continued at Ditchfield Reserve in Brown Hill with the removal of more than 500 guards from maturing plants over the last 12 months. This work will continue into 2018.

Roadside spraying, courtesy of funding from Moorabool and Hepburn Shires, small projects on private properties, National Tree Day and Clean-up Australia Day activities have kept the group busy. We welcomed Member Hazen Cleary to our AGM in May who inspired our on-going efforts to improve biodiversity and offset carbon emissions in our district with her talk "Antarctica: It's all about the weather". For the remainder of this year we look forward to a Wildflower Walk on 22 October and our annual end of year celebration – both at Slaty Creek.



Upper Williamson's Landcare Group has been involved in the Scotsburn fire recovery and has seen an increased interest in the group with new members joining in the wake of these efforts and the LCG Phoenix Project. To inform these new members (and some of the old) we are holding a series of speaker events. The first of these was Andrea Mason who gave a history of the Landcare group and Anne Beggs-Sunter will present a history of Williamson's Creek at the next meeting. We then hope to cover our cultural heritage perspective and areas of natural significance next year.

Addressing some of the issues faced by landholders since the fires a series of courses has been planned. We ran a chainsaw course over 3 days - jointly with Napoleons Enfield Landcare - and attended by around 12 people. This was very successful. The next course planned in this series is a small engine maintenance course - probably later in the year. The third course in this series will be a seed collection and plant identification, probably to be held November/December.

A drone purchased by LCG and training has begun to assist with monitoring projects in the area and recording the changes in the landscape over time, particularly with the Phoenix Project.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF LOCAL GROUPS



Ross Creek Landcare Group has conducted a working bee on the first Saturday of each month during 2017, at our major site of operations at the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve. This has meant a great result for the year in keeping plantings growing and weeds down.

Metres of walking paths have been laid and used with plans to continue the path across the wetland and creek with a built boardwalk. Plantings since the September 2016 floods have done extremely well and the creek crossing has been restored. Next boxes installed last year are being investigated and used by the increasing wildlife.

Cooperation with other users of the reserve means ideas and work is shared and progress achieved for the whole community. Damascus College participation in National Tree Day was welcome and with Bunnings participation 600 plants were plated. Ross Creek Primary students use this area for exercise, learning and play during the whole school year.



Garibaldi Landcare Groups' biggest project in 2017 was implementing the Golden Plains funding (\$3,018) received to **create signage** at two reserve areas; South Durham Bridge and Hardies Hill Road. The purpose of these signs is to provide educational information about the sites related to flora and fauna and weed control, plus notification about working bees and other community activities. In addition, smaller A3 signs have been located at various sites along the walking paths to signpost plants or animals occurring in that specific location.



The group is also trialling a new approach to community engagement, which is a **Direct Seeding** project at Garibaldi Bridge and South Durham Bridge reserves. This involves local people taking responsibility for direct seeding a designated area with a wide range of locally occurring understorey plants including peas, orchids and grasses (all collected and prepared by Linda Wright). All key areas have been adopted so far with seeding, ongoing monitoring and weed control part of the role of the assigned caretaker. It is likely that Federation University students may also take on responsibility for an area at the Garibaldi Bridge in 2018.



Friends of Yarrowee River have had a busy year. We have formed an official committee, obtained group insurance, joined the Leigh Catchment Group and submitted our first successful grant.

We have had several working bees and our National Tree Day event ran adjacent to last years was well attended with 600 plants out in the group. This Mount Pleasant site has now had 4 years of consecutive plantings, creating habitat corridor.

We are still a new group and looking for new members. The CCMA grant that we have received will allow us to put provide opportunities to engage and recruit new members of the community.

YARROWEE LEIGH CATCHMENT INC.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 2017

ABN 53 973 990 946

Annual Financial Statement 2016-17

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS			
YEAR ENDED 30 June 2017			
	Note	2017	2016
RECEIPTS			
Grants	2	393,304	189,906
Interest		3,588	3,036
Other	3	2,683	404
GST Collected & Refunded		34,785	14,981
		434,360	208,327
PAYMENTS			
Management	4	117,542	83,350
Projects	5	150,678	91,803
Other	6	4,370	823
GST Owing & Repaid		33,205	19,428
		305,795	195,404
CASH SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR		128,565	12,923
ADD: Cash at bank 30 June 2016		180,714	167,791
CASH AT BANK 30 June 2017		309,279	180,714

BALANCE SHEET		30 JUNE 2017	
	Note	2017	2016
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank	7	309,279	180,714
Debtors	8	523	2,103
TOTAL ASSETS		309,802	182,817
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	9	9,789	3,581
Projects	10	152,813	36,894
TOTAL LIABILITIES		162,601	40,475
YARROWEE LEIGH CATCHMENT GROUP FUNDS		147,200	142,342

Notes to financial statements

Year ended 30 June 2017

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. The Annual Financial Statements are prepared as a special purpose financial report.

Office Improvements

During the year, the YLCG office was relocated to premises managed by the Friends of Royal Park

NOTE 2 & 5	SUMMARY OF CURRENT PROJECTS	Received		Spent
		Management	Project	
	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority			
	CCMA Waterways	17,466	108,952	85,881
	Scotsburn Pheonix Project	52,200	102,998	7,709
	Land Health	2,720		1,322
	Revillisation of the Union Jack Creek		14,000	12,173
	Sue Hickey Memorial Grant		4,900	4,195
	River Health Project			309
	CCMA Support Grant	500		
	City of Ballarat			
	City of Ballarat - Treasures of the Yarrowee		5,394	1,332
	City of Ballarat Brown Hill Project	625	9,000	809
	Victorian Government			
	Friends of Bannockburn bush			5,589
	Finding Ballarats Threatened Frogs	6,000	16,900	8,569
	Threatened Species - Growling Grass Frogs			8,115
	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Project	47,674		-
	Communitas for Nature			1,723
	Golden Plains Shire			
	Golden Plains Shire Community Grant		1,475	720
	Golden Plains Shire 2014/15			750
	Victorian GorseTask Force			
	Victorian Gorse Task Force		2,500	11,482
	Total	127,185	266,119	150,678
		\$		
	Total Grants	393,304.00		

Notes to financial statements Year ended 30 June 2017

NOTE 3 OTHER INCOME	
Ballarat Aboriginal Holiday Program	668.00
River Health Flood Repairs	2,000.00
Sundry	15.10
	2,683.10
NOTE 4 MANAGEMENT COSTS	
Office Rent	500
Office Expenses	4,709
Annual Meeting	462
Insurance	453
Internet & Phone	1,347
PO Travel Expences	5,750
Project Officers Salaries	92,521
Accounting & Book keeping	4,212
Computing & IT Upgrade	4,788
Royal Park Office Renovations	2,800
	117,542
NOTE 6 OTHER EXPENSES	
Farm Tree & Landcare Association Memebership	388
Landcare Conference	227
Ballarat Aboriginal Hoilday Program	575
River Health Flood Repairs	2,000
Tools	906
Trailer Expenses	147
Sundry	127
	4,370
NOTE 7 CASH AT BANK	
Cash Management Account	49,345
Cheque Account	79,451
Debit Card Account	483
Term Deposit	180,000
	309,279
NOTE 8 DEBTORS	
ATO- Net GST	523
	523
NOTE 9 CREDITORS	
Simpsons Personnel	9,789
	9,789
NOTE 10 FUNDS COMMITTED TO PROJECTS	
City of Ballarat Treasures of the Yarrowee	5,394
City of Ballarat Brown Hill Project	8,190
City of Ballarat Yarrowee Project	3,577
Friends of Bannockburn Bush	262
Finding Ballarats Threatened Frogs	8,331
Threatned Species - Growling Grass Frogs	125
Golden Plains Shire	755
Land Health	- 1,314
Scotsburn Pheonix Project	101,840
Sue Hickey Memorial Grant	705
Revitalisation of the Union Jack Creek	1,827
Victorian Gorse Task Force	50
CCMA Waterways	23,071
Total	152,813

INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW REPORT

To the Members of Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc

Report on the Financial Report

I have reviewed the accompanying Financial Report of the Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc (the Group), which comprises the Statement of Receipts and Payments, Balance Sheet and Notes to Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2017

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Report and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic). The committee's responsibilities also includes such internal controls as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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 Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2400 *Review of a Financial Report 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 me to believe that the financial report is not presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the reporting requirements of the Group. ASRE 2400 requires me to comply with the ethical requirements of the applicable code of professional conduct relevant to an Assurance Practitioner.

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 Australia Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable me to obtain assurance that we 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 requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Conclusion

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc as at 30th June, 2017, and of its financial performance for the year then ended, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial report.

Basis of Accounting

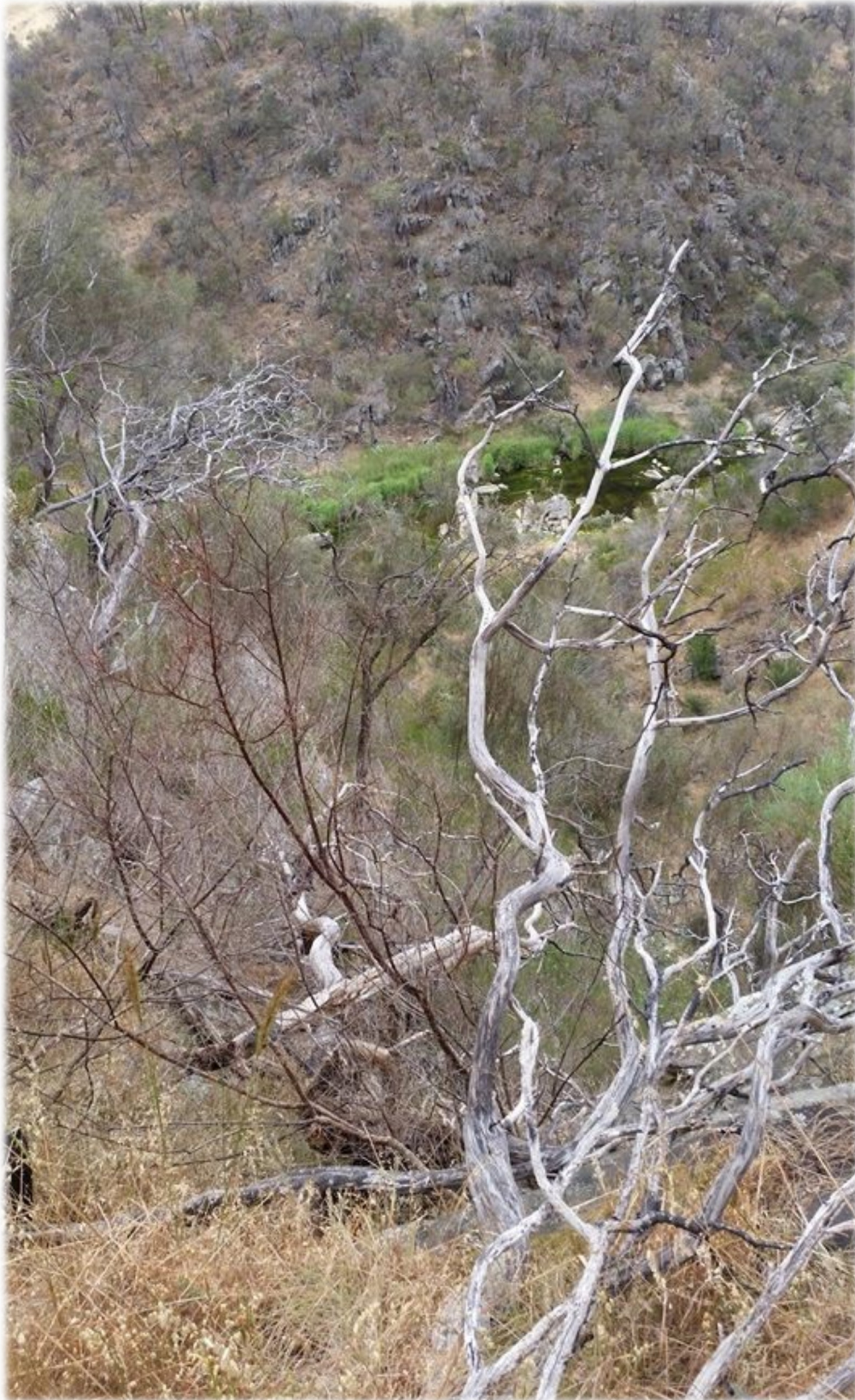
Without modifying my conclusion, I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis for accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc to meet its reporting requirements. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose

Florence Audit & Assurance



Rob Florence

Dated this 28th day of September, 2017



Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Incorporated

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[Instagram.com/leigh_catchment_group](https://www.instagram.com/leigh_catchment_group) | twitter.com/Leighcatchgroup