

**GINNINDERRA CATCHMENT GROUP connects, supports
and leads local communities to improve the health of
Ginninderra Creek & surrounding environments**



ACT and Region Frogwatch Program & the Ginninderra and Yass components
of Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch operate from the GCG office

Web: www.ginninderralandcare.org.au;
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GINNINDERRA CATCHMENT GROUP NEWS FEBRUARY 2018

Please distribute this newsletter to others in your networks and groups, or refer them to the link at www.ginninderralandcare.org.au.

From the Convenor

Welcome to another year of community-driven work to support Ginninderra Creek and Yass River (and therefore the Murrumbidgee River) Catchments. I hope you had a restful break and are all reinvigorated for 2018.

Our AGM and Christmas Party in December was well-attended. There was good discussion of catchment matters, and election of the 2018 Executive Committee, followed by the Local Heroes awards, Bruno's entertaining talk about our local turtles and general good times had by members (details about the new GCG executive are below).

It will be an exciting year for GCG. **Priorities for the year** include: Continuing to service our members and ensure strong delivery of current contracts; Continuing stakeholder engagement to support two budget bids with ACT Government (Core funding and Frogwatch); Following-up on the submitted Expressions of Interest for inclusion in the ACT Government's tender to the National Landcare Program; Continuing to strengthen governance and financial arrangements; and Implementing activities in Strategic Plan, as funding allows.

I look forward to seeing members and group convenors at GCG's first 2018 **General Meeting, Monday 5 February**, 5.30 pm. We have a year of achievement coming up!

Sandy Lolicato

Acknowledgement

UPCOMING DATES (*indicates working bee)

*3 Feb	Umbagog Landcare	12 Feb	Volunteering consultation, 2–4 pm
3 Feb	Jerrabomberra Wetlands day, 4–8 pm	13 Feb	Solar Farm discussion, Sutton, 7.30 pm
*4 Feb	Friends of Aranda Bushland	*14 Feb	Friends of Mulligans Flat
*5 Feb	Mt Rogers Landcare	17 Feb	Erosion control workshop, Wallaroo area
5 Feb	GCG General Meeting, 5.30 pm, Kippax	24 Feb	Ants ramble on Black Mountain
8 Feb	Grasslands talk, ANPS, 7.30 pm	*3 Mar	Hall Cemetery woodland
11 Feb	Pinnacle butterflies walk, 9–11 am	4 Mar	'Clean-Up Australia Day'

Clean Up days proposed: 4 March (Umbagog, Mulligans Flat) and 10 March (Franklin)

Regular workbees: *Wednesdays & Saturdays, North Belconnen Landcare. *Thursdays, FOTPIN

ALSO BELOW: Observations, notes & updates from 9 GCG land groups and Waterwatch. Hold a 'Bat Night' in autumn. Invitation to be part of Canberra Tree Week in early May. Invitation to cultural biodiversity trial, early April.

GENERAL GCG & LANDCARE – news from GCG Office

WELCOME TO THE NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2018

A big thanks to all the past GCG Executive Committee members, who provide an invaluable role in guiding the organisation. The new 2018 GCG Executive Committee, elected at the AGM, continues to be strong, comprising: *Convenor*, Sandy Lolicato. *Vice-Convenor*, Ken Hodgkinson. *Treasurer*, John Connelly. *Secretary*, Elena Grigorieva. *Education Officer*, Ann Milligan. *General members*: Wally Bell and Raj Kaus.

In changes from last year, Dr Ken Hodgkinson (previously a General Member) is now our Vice-Convenor. Rosemary Blemings has resigned, to gain more time for her other environmental work and we are very grateful to Rosemary for all her dedicated work on the Executive over several years. A special welcome to Elena Grigorieva (Secretary) from Macgregor Landcare Group and Raj Kaus (General Member) from North Belconnen Landcare Group who were elected as new GCG Executive Committee Members. We look forward to working with you all during the year!

INVITATION TO A FREE WORKSHOP ON TACKLING SOIL EROSION, SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY

Soils is a precious resource, well-worth protecting from loss through erosion. Ginninderra Catchment Group is running a hands-on workshop in mid-February to show what you yourself can do to tackle soil erosion at your place, be it a rural property or urban patch.

‘Erosion Control and Water Movement in the Landscape’, Saturday 17 February, 9 am-3.30 pm, starting at the Wallaroo Fire Shed.

To reserve your place in this useful session, email landcare@ginninderralandcare.org.au by **Thursday 15 February**. **Morning tea and lunch are provided.**

The workshop will explain:

- Gully and riparian erosion – how, why and when should we fix it?
- The movement and storage of water within a functional local landscape.
- A range of low-cost, human-scale techniques, using locally available materials to tackle a variety of erosion issues.

The hands-on component of the workshop will:

- Demonstrate the application of principles for low cost erosion control.
- Provide skills in interpreting the landscape.
- Allow the opportunity for hands-on experience in addressing erosion.

The workshop will be led by Cam Wilson, Head Designer at Earth Integral. Cam has worked with numerous pioneers in regenerative land management and is particularly talented at synthesising various approaches through design, knowledge sharing and on-ground implementation.

For more information, contact Karissa Preuss landcare@ginninderralandcare.org.au or ph. 6278 3309.

Photo: Cam Wilson during a similar hands-on workshop.



Saturday 3 February: JERRABOMBERRA WETLANDS OPEN to celebrate WORLD WETLANDS DAY

World Wetlands Day, 2 February, is celebrated around the world to raise awareness of the crucial importance of wetlands in cleansing catchment waters and providing biodiverse habitats. Jerrabomberra Wetlands is hosting this year’s celebration in this region, with an **Open Day, tomorrow evening, Saturday 3 February, from 4 pm to 8 pm**. Entry by gold coin donation.

Ginninderra Catchment Group and Frogwatch will be there, among numerous stalls and activities for the whole family including ranger-guided walks, children's activities, reptile displays, art exhibitions, Indigenous cultural activities, food and lots more. 2 Dairy Road, Fyshwick. (Plenty of parking.)

GCG GENERAL MEETING DATES 2018

As a general rule, GCG general meetings are held from 5.30 pm on the first Monday of each month (or the following week in the case of public holidays), at the (former) Kippax Health Centre, unless otherwise specified. These are the expected dates for 2018: 5 February, 9 April, 4 June, 6 August, 8 October (All Groups Meeting). (Executive meetings are held the first Monday or the alternate months.)

Karissa Preuss, Executive Officer

WATERWATCH

This January we have been mainly training new Waterwatch volunteers, and we have four new members who are monitoring sites at McKellar Wetlands, Harrison, Gundaroo and Yass Gorge.

Bruno will work an additional day this first semester of 2018, delivering an educational program regarding Waterwatch and water quality, in conjunction with the other Waterwatch coordinators, in schools in Belconnen and Gungahlin.

Bruno Ferronato, Waterwatch Coordinator

Catchment 'happenings'

North Belconnen Landcare (Evatt)

North Belconnen Landcare Group meets regularly on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 8.30 am unless advised otherwise. See Open Groups on Facebook for updates on our group.

Watering to keep things alive has been our main focus. We take 2 or 3 litre bottles out to the thirsty plants. Our site keeps missing out on the storm activity which is very disappointing! Our established Blue Devils are still in flower and looking good but recent plantings of native grasses, Bulbine Lilies, Chocolate Lilies and others still need watering to help them survive.

All-age involvement has been a feature over the holiday period with some very young children barely able to toddle enjoying watering the plants and learning about the "goodies" and "baddies".

Lenore will be away in March from 2nd to 21st. Anyone who can assist with watering through that period please contact Lenore as she is putting together a roster of anyone who is willing to do a turn. It does not have to be on our regular days/times during that period.

Lenore Hodgkinson, Convenor

Sutton Landcare (just north of Mulligans Flat)

All are welcome to the Sutton Landcare **13 February meeting 7:30pm** – Sutton Primary School. **'Landcare aspects of proposed Springdale Solar Farm'**.

The Sutton Landcare Group (SLG) has been invited by Renew Estate to consider Landcare aspects of the proposed Springdale Solar farm on Tallagandra Lane. SLG has invited Renew Estate to present on these Landcare aspects at the 1st SLG meeting for 2018, to be followed by a discussion.

The presentation by Renew Estate will focus on the information required for the Environmental Impact Assessment, such as biodiversity, flooding and hydrology, aboriginal heritage and other environmental issues.

Most relevant to SLG is the plan for planting native trees and shrubs as screening corridor: SLG has been invited to propose relevant species. A list of (currently) planned species is available and can be discussed further at the Landcare meeting.

Note: SLG does not endorse nor oppose what private landowners do. This meeting is, therefore, not a community consultation. Its focus is on the Landcare aspects of this proposed development. More information can be found at: <https://www.springdalesolarfarm.com.au>.

As you can see the Sutton Landcare Group focuses on learning about our environment and sharing information. We meet every second month, on the second Tuesday at the Sutton School, and each meeting is followed by a supper where we talk and have an opportunity to ask our speakers some more questions.

The meetings are open to anyone. Each talk is announced in the 'Sutton Chatter', or direct to everyone on our email list. To join our emailing list, please write to Sutton.landcare@gmail.com. And, if you are interested in becoming member of SLG send us an email. I hope to see you at our meetings.

Arnold Dekker, President, Sutton Landcare Group

Mt Rogers Landcare (Spence, Melba, Flynn, Fraser)

How refreshing that at the Ginninderra Catchment Group's Christmas party GCG began a process of recognising landcaring LOCAL HEROES from among the Landcare and ParkCare groups for which GCG is the umbrella group. GCG felt it was more practical and meaningful to recognise those who consistently care for the special places in our part of Belconnen and beyond ... over and above the official Landcare Awards. Thank you!

There were several awardees from each of the Landcare and ParkCare groups in GCG, as well as from Frogwatch and Waterwatch. All our colleagues have a long involvement in volunteer-instigated caring for land, habitats and species with strong connections to Ginninderra Creek and the Creek's tributaries.

News & observations from Mt Rogers are uploaded to our blog, mtrogerslandcare.blogspot.com.au. Here are two excerpts (adapted) from the January post.

SNAKES: Lynn, Rod and Steve D have each reported sightings of large Brown Snakes since the weather turned to summer. It seems as though there's a resident Brown at or near the Summit but also that the snakes seek water and rodents in gardens adjacent to Mt Rogers. Other people have "walked here for years and never seen a snake". We all need to "be prepared" for sightings of these normally shy creatures and ready to retreat. Snakes are protected of course as are other native animals and plants.

DOGS: Two regular walkers have had dangerous and extremely distressing encounters with an on-leash German Shepherd recently. This *may* be the same dog that attacked another dog some months ago. In each incident the handlers were unable to adequately restrain the dog. Perhaps they were walking the dog for someone else. **Unprovoked attacks like this, wherever they occur, can be reported to the rangers** via dogcontrol@act.gov.au. If witnesses could report such attacks when they see them, to that same e-address, it will help the rangers analyse the occurrences of these ACT-wide incidents.

Rosemary Blemings, Convenor

Umbagog Landcare, Latham

Weather permitting, there will be an Umbagog working bee this **Saturday, 3 February, starting at 8 am**, to remove Verbascum spikes and St John's Wort flowers/seed heads to reduce the seed banks of these weeds in soil.

Meeting point: carpark off Florey Drive, Latham. People will need to sign on and off so they are covered for insurance purposes. *Contact on the day:* Celina [0435574243](tel:0435574243)

What to bring: Please bring secateurs to help to cut the weed and wear light protective clothing such as long sleeves, long pants, thick socks and sturdy shoes, hat, sunscreen, drinking water and gloves. Please bring gaiters if you have them.

If the weather is too wet I will send out an email an hour before the working bee, so please check your email prior to coming along.

Umbagog is registered for **Clean Up Australia Day on 4 March**, with details to be confirmed. To find out more, please contact the GCG office.

Celina Smith, Convenor

Jarramlee Park Landcare, Dunlop

The group's first meeting was on Monday 29 January, to discuss **Clean Up Day**, and also the infill planting of the floodway, planned for April, after pulling out so many dead trees and bushes. We need approval for that and also for the plants we put in.

TCCS (City Services in ACT Government) cut down and poisoned an area of Chinese Elms near the Ginninderra Creek crossing below Cashion Court, but there are more that did not get removed on the edge of the creek, and the seeds will go into the water and get spread. Before Xmas, the TCCS people also cut down or pruned several *Casuarinas* and took out a couple of *Acacias* in the two plant sites adjacent to Jarramlee Pond. The result is that they are a lot more open: the shading effect of the trees is gone, the sites are drying out faster and it will be harder to infill-plant there in the future. The lack of rain is having a deleterious effect on all our sites. Suckers from the Chinese Elms cut down in the floodway some time ago were not poisoned, and although we did 'glyphosate' them, there are still a lot of suckers that need re-treating. There are a few feral bushes or trees in the floodway that need a cut and dab, mostly privet or fruit.

Overall, our small dedicated team of older members still has quite a lot to do!

We haven't had the amounts of rain that nearby suburbs have – in fact, very little at all. A rain shadow, caused by the Brindabellas, means the storms and rain clouds go drifting north or south of us. Heavy clouds that do come over us may give a few drops before they disappear. Very rarely do we get a good downpour.

There is a large patch of very, very green grass around the sewerage manhole, near the Jarramlee Park sign, it spreads across to the dip that feeds the aboveground rainwater to the Gross Pollutant Trap from the floodway. I suspect some seepage?

Pamela Fawke, Convenor

Friends of Aranda Bushland

Our summer work parties are on the first Sunday of the month, 8.30 am and 11.30 am. See our website for details: <http://friendsofarandabushland.org.au>.

AGM & NEW YEAR PARTY: Our group's AGM was held on Sunday the 14th of January, at 11:30 am, at the home of one of our members. The formalities took about twenty minutes (confirmation of last year's AGM minutes, tabling of annual reports, and the election unopposed of all nominees), and was followed immediately by a splendid lunch. Everybody brought a dish to share and it was very pleasant. As the weather had suddenly turned cold, we remained indoors, although in other years we have dined outside under umbrellas.

WEEKLY WORK PARTIES: Since mid-November we have been meeting every Sunday morning in the grassland of the Snowgums Reserve, to attack the ever-resurgent St John's Wort (see photo). We do

not use herbicides in this area because of the abundance of native forbs.

During that time the Wort plants have progressively borne buds, then open flowers, then fading flowers, then green seed-heads, and have recently arrived at the dangerous stage of ripe brown seed-heads. We are now obliged to bag the seed-heads, rather than leaving them lying on the ground or throwing them into the dam.



This sustained effort has had a dramatic effect on the population of these hated invaders, although we cannot claim to have eliminated them. All our other projects have been postponed until the danger of seed dispersal is past.

Jenny Andrews, Convenor

Friends of Mulligans Flat

The Friends of Mulligans Flat has over 450 members who have registered on our MyVolunteer database. It is through this database, supported by the Woodlands and Wetlands Trust, and Facebook, that we communicate news updates about the Mulligans Flat Wildlife Sanctuary, upcoming events and activities. Apart from the 'standard' park care activities (weeding and rubbish) the Friends can get involved in turtle relocation, Echidna counts, Bettong monitoring, Bush-stone Curlew feeding and assisting in a range of ANU projects.

Monthly work parties are held on the second Wednesday of each month. Meet at the Woolshed at 9:30 am. Seasonal work parties are held on a Sunday morning once each season, actual dates being advised closer to the activity. We usually meet at the Woolshed at 10:00 am.

Our group had a very quiet time over the holidays, with our only group activity being the December work party, finishing off some annoying Paterson's Curse.

Our next work party will be on **Wednesday 14 February**, meeting at the **Woolshed at 9:30 am**.

The Autumn Work Party will once again be held on **Clean-Up Australia Day** in March attacking the build-up of rubbish along the Mulligans Flat Reserve boundary with the suburb of Forde.

Mark Smith, Convenor

Friends of the Pinnacle (FOTPIN), Weetangera/Hawker

Here are several guided walks you can join, at The Pinnacle over coming weeks.

For each walk please contact John Brannan for more detail, convenor@fotpin.org.au.

PINNACLE BUTTERFLY WALK. Sunday **11 February**, 9 to 11 am At this time of year butterflies abound on the Reserve. Join butterfly expert Suzi Bond* for a ramble to see how many of the 87 species found in the ACT we can sight on the Pinnacle.

Meet: at the Dungowan St entrance to the Reserve. *Wear:* sturdy footwear and a hat, and clothing suitable for the weather. Bring water and a camera and binoculars if you wish.

*Suzi is the coauthor, with Steve Holliday and John Stein, of the popular *Field Guide to the Butterflies of the Australian Capital Territory*. She has surveyed butterfly populations and led walks on several Canberra Nature Reserves.



ABORIGINAL HERITAGE WALK AT THE PINNACLE Sunday **22 April**, 9 to 11 am. As part of the Canberra & Region Heritage Festival, we welcome local Ngunawal elder Wally Bell to the reserve to take us on

a walk to discover the landscape through the eyes of Australia's first people. Wally will point out and explain the traces of his people's ancient history in the region and how they used its natural resources. All ages welcome.

Meet at the Dungowan St entrance to the Pinnacle Nature Reserve. Wear: sturdy footwear and a hat, and clothing suitable for the weather.

Numbers are limited and **bookings are essential**. Please **register with** John Brannan, convenor@fotpin.org.au. * This event is supported with funding made available by the ACT Government under the ACT Heritage Grants Program.



TREE WEEK BIRD WALK AT THE PINNACLE Sunday **6 May**, 9 to 11.30 am. Join John Brannan for a special bird walk for Canberra Tree Week 2018. All ages welcome.

Meet: at the Dungowan St entrance to the Reserve. Wear: sturdy footwear and a hat, and clothing suitable for the weather. Bring water and a camera and binoculars if you wish. * FOTPIN would like to thank the Canberra Ornithologists Group (COG) for their help in organising this event.



John Brannan, Convenor

Friends of Mount Painter (Cook)

Since our last contribution to a Ginninderra Catchment Group newsletter, Friends of Mt Painter has:

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- Held a butterfly walk led by Suzi Bond, author of *Field Guide to the Butterflies of the Australian Capital Territory*. On our way up to the summit where the butterflies were 'hilltopping', we saw 10 species. We learnt a great deal about butterflies and were fascinated to see the ants on the Amethyst Hairstreak larvae, which provide the larvae with protection in return for a sugar meal.



Amethyst Hairstreak adult and larva (Photos C. Busby)

- Celebrated a year of hard work on the reserve with sunset drinks on the Western Ridge just before Christmas.
- Cleared weeds, especially Saffron Thistles, along the summit path where they were overgrowing the path.
- Watered the Yellow Burr Daisies and eucalypts we planted last August with Friends of Aranda Bushland. All the eucalypts are still alive and 94% of the daisies.
- Drawn up a plan for our work in 2018.

Sarah Hnatiuk, Convenor

North Mitchell/Franklin

Andrew Leigh (federal MP) and Suzanne Orr (MLA) are planning to hold a **Clean Up Day** followed by

barbecue at the North Mitchell Grassland/Franklin Grassland area on **10 March**. More details in the next GCG newsletter.

Hall Cemetery woodland weeding

Friends of Grasslands Inc. will be doing landcare-type work to maintain the environmental values of the woodland surrounding Hall Cemetery on **Saturdays 3 March and 14 April, starting at 8.30 am**. Contact John Fitz Gerald, jfg_fog@bigpond.com, for more details.

NOTE:

To contact the Landcare or ParkCare Group Convenors, email or phone the GCG office, or check the groups' webpages on the GCG website at: www.ginninderralandcare.org.au > Landcare > Landcare groups.

Around the region

What does volunteering need?

Have your say to help develop the ACT Volunteering Action Plan

Volunteering and Contact ACT is calling on everyone that participates in the volunteering sector – volunteers, volunteer managers and volunteer-involving organisations – to [complete the short survey online](#). Alternatively you can have your say in person at our [Face-to-face consultation session: Monday 12 February](#), Nature Conservation House in Belconnen, **2 pm – 4 pm**. You can access both survey and session details via <https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/volunteeringactionplan>.

Talk about grasslands, Thursday 8 February, 7.30 pm

Geoff Robertson (President of Friends of Grasslands Inc.) will present 'Adventures in Grasslands' as guest speaker at the Australian Native Plant Society meeting on Thursday 8 February (starting 7.30 pm) in the Theatre, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Acton ACT. Geoff will focus on the richness of grasslands in our region and the beauty and diversity of grasses, daisies, orchids, peas, many other plant species, and grassland flora. He will discuss the different types of grasslands and grassy woodlands; management issues: grazing, fire, weeds and feral animals, urban encroachment, lack of image & resources; using traditional Aboriginal land management issues; grasslands, their management and associated advocacy issues; and grassland plants in the home gardens, weed watch and Canberra Nature Map. The meeting commences at 7.30 pm. The gates to the ANBG are opened at 7.00 pm for people to enter. At about 7.45 pm the gates are closed but not locked. That allows latecomers to enter, and for people to leave after the meeting. The meeting area is attended from 7.00 pm and there are books and usually plants on sale from about 7.10 pm. There is a supper after the meeting.

Ants Ramble, Saturday 24 February, 4.30 – 6 pm, Black Mountain

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the 452 ha Black Mountain Nature Reserve has more than 100 species of ant (compare that to Britain, where there are around 41 species)!

Ant expert Dr Ajay Narendra will lead a walk on Black Mountain to see which ant species are active in late afternoon as predators and scavengers, and talk about their amazing navigation skills.

This will be a generally easy ramble with some steep sections. Copies of 'Ants of Canberra' (a foldout leaflet) priced at \$1, and other items will be for sale.

Meet: Belconnen Way entry to Black Mountain (see balloons). **Bring:** Friends and family. Water. Snacks if you wish. 'Gold Coin Donation' to Friends of Black Mountain.

Wear: Sturdy walking gear, including hat and stout shoes.

Places are limited, so please book by emailing your name and phone number to friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com, or phone Linda (0437 298 711). Then you will hear if arrangements need to change (weather, etc.)

Hold a 'Bat Night' during February–early June?

Bat Nights are held in late summer and autumn by bat specialists and community/local government groups throughout Australia and New Zealand, and promoted by the Australasian Bat Society (ABS). The aim is to raise informed awareness about bats, debunk myths and fears associated with them, and demonstrate how better conservation measures can protect native bats and help people live alongside them.

In raising awareness, it is important that the public do not think they can handle bats. Please promote this message: "No touch, No risk."

Bat nights can be as simple or as grand as you like, from a bat talk to a community group with a walk to detect insectivorous bats or to a flying-fox colony to watch the flyout, to a full Bat Festival. They can include Citizen Science bat surveys, bat book readings in a library, bat parties, batty cruises or presentations on the latest bat research, or any combination. Bat Nights can be hosted by individuals, community groups or local government. Other ideas: building bat boxes; an 'Evening Bat Run (or Walk)' or 'Bike for Bats' around the time bats fly if you know they are in your area; a visit to a bat clinic or bat exhibit at a zoo or museum; bat shaped biscuit baking; planting trees to benefit bats; a photographic competition on bats; an expert presentation on bats;

ABS can badge and promote your event and *help find speakers if needed*. The 'ABS Bat Facts' is sent to all registered events, to give out factual information on bats, and they have sample presentations and photographs to help you. Please contact Bat Night Coordinator Maree Kerr, at batnight@ausbats.org.au, for further information and to discuss and register an event.

To learn more about bats, the ABS Bat Conference is on 3–6 April 2018 at Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment, Western Sydney University, Richmond, NSW, <http://ausbats.org.au/2018-conference-agm/>, with a public forum on the afternoon of 3 April. Earlybird registration closes 7 February.

Invitation to be part of Tree Week 2018

The purpose of Canberra Tree Week (first held in 2014) is to celebrate the many benefits of the trees that make up the Canberra landscape. This year, Canberra Tree Week will be held during **30 April to 6 May** to showcase the beautiful autumn colours of some of Canberra's trees.

TCCS would like to invite Landcare/ParkCare groups to join in the celebrations by attending some of the events or hosting an activity/working bee with a tree focus (they don't have to be introduced tree species). To see some of the great events that were held in Tree Weeks 2015, 2016 and 2017, visit <http://www.tccs.act.gov.au/city-living/trees/canberra-tree-week>.

If your group is interested in hosting an activity during Tree Week 2018, please **contact Sam Ning by 16 March**, and provide the name of your event, the date, time and location, and a brief summary of what it is you are hosting and where people can get more details. For further information, please don't hesitate to contact Sam Ning, Tree Protection Officer, Transport Canberra and City Services, phone [02 6207 8145](tel:0262078145) or email samantha.ning@act.gov.au.

Malleefowl Lore – bringing culture and biodiversity together, 7–8 April

A special weekend event on 7–8 April will induct Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal participants into Malleefowl lore and explore the question ‘*Can Traditional Kinship, Country, Culture and Lore bring about species protection & sustain long-term engagement in environmental management?*’. This trial of a new cultural approach model has been arranged by the Knowledge Services Team, Office of Heritage and Environment, based at Wagga. It will be held on the Aboriginal managed Rick Farley Reserve adjacent to Mungo National Park, western NSW, funded by the NSW Environmental Trust.

The reserve, 7 hours’ drive from Canberra, has camping facilities with toilets and limited showers. To discuss participation and find out more details as they become available, contact Geoff Robertson (of Kosciuszko to Coast (K2C) and FOG), geoffrobertson@iprimus.com.au or 02 6241 4065.

Frogwatching haven, Gunning

Please contact Robin Villiers-Brown, ph. [0401 771 642](tel:0401771642), email rvilliersbrown@gmail.com, if you would like details of 2 acres for sale with creek frontage (and small dam) hosting 4 species frogs and 85+ species birds, echidna, turtles, rakali; with cedar house. Blocks 18 – 24 Collector Rd, Gunning.

Ginninderra Catchment Group is grateful for support from

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