

Natural Areas Newsletter

Autumn 2024

Volunteering Round Up

Friends of Collinsvale's Tanya Scharaschkin teamed up with **Landcare Tasmania** and **Collinsvale Primary School** to host a Know Your Patch event. A keen group of families learnt about plant pressing from Tanya, gave it a go and even got to take home their own plant press at the end of the morning!



Claremont Coast Care have been busy tending last year's planting at Windermere Bay, watering, weeding and removing guards where needed. In March, they held a seed collection workshop with Kirrily Kent from **The Understory Network**. Members from the group are hoping to propagate the native seed to plant in the foreshore over the coming years.



Our newest group, **Northern Suburbs Community Landcare** have been tackling a huge blackberry infestation in Islet Rivulet, Montrose Rd Reserve. They are hoping to source some plants to plant in the gaps they have created with weed removal.



The Lutana Woodlanders have focussed on thinning of she-oaks within the native grassland, which is now nearly complete in the northern grassland, making way for some biodiversity planting this winter. Peter from the group is trying his hand at Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) propagation with the help of **Nipaluna Nursery**. We hope to be able to plant these locally sourced plants into the grassland later this year. Rod has just about beat cocks-foot.



Conservation Volunteers Australia, led by **Water Watch's** John Gooderham had a session at Gould's Lagoon for World Wetlands Day. Volunteers gathered to sample the lagoon for water bugs. The types of bugs you find are great indicators of the quality of the waterway you are testing. Goulds Lagoon scored 2.2 out of 10 which John pointed out is most likely due to the regular salt-water inundation from the Derwent River. Later in the year Council's Environment Team will be creating a team of Water Watch volunteers to sample Glenorchy's Rivulets in a more comprehensive waterbug study. Contact Council's environment team if you would be interested in joining.



Brent St Landcare have continued to tackle blackberry within the reserve which is a huge job. Bit by bit, they are getting there. The amount of blackberry they have removed is impressive! They plan to plant some trees in Brent St Reserve later in the year to fill in the gaps left by the weed removal.

Volunteering Round Up Continued...

Moonah Nature Mates have turned their focus to Jim Bacon Reserve this year. This local patch of remnant threatened black gum woodland is worth protecting. We gathered in Feb to tackle woody weeds such as boneseed, ivy, blackberry and plenty more springing up in the reserve. The plan is to continue weeding in the woodland this coming April.



UTAS Landcare Society visited Glenorchy to kick start a project tackling boxthorn along the coast of Prince of Wales Bay. This particularly thorny weed is quickly spreading along the coastal areas of the Derwent Estuary, competing with native plants for sunlight, space and nutrients. Section by section, we would like to replace the weeds with natives, ensuring we don't lose the habitat benefits that boxthorn provides. **Conservation Volunteers Australia** picked up the tools to continue the job on March 24th, and we plan to host more boxthorn bashing events here in the future. Brew Lab are kindly supporting these events at Prince of Wales Bay by providing refreshments after the hard work is done!



On behalf of Glenorchy City Council, thank you to everyone who has been involved in such a strong start to our volunteering program for 2024, we are looking forward to seeing what we can achieve together throughout the rest of the year.

Volunteer Spotlight Jane Reinks

Jane Reinks is a committed member of the Lutana Woodlanders weeding team who meet every second Tuesday morning to protect and enhance the remnant native Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) grasslands at Lutana Woodlands.

Why I volunteer

To keep busy and to do something worthwhile with other people.

How I got started with volunteering

Looking after cats at Ten Lives! I chose to volunteer with Ten Lives because I have much-loved fur family (past and present) from them, they rehome all cats, they have a fantastic education program for schools, and a modern and innovative approach to everything they do.

I became involved with the Woodland Weeders through my friend Catharine and because the GCC dedicates resources to rehabilitating native habitat in public areas. That is very impressive and worthy of my support as a volunteer. And of course, it's been fun and great to see the crew every fortnight.

My favourite volunteering memory

Watching Rod cut swathes through dreaded cocksfoot

Favourite quote/rule to live by

First, do no harm, second, do some good, third, learn something new.

Volunteer Stats 2024 so far January to March

Number of volunteer events - 19

Number of volunteer hours contributed - 285

Boxthorn bushes removed - 12

Morning Teas enjoyed - 13

Themeda seeds planted - 1200

Piles of mulch spread - 3

Natural Areas Contractor Works Update

Wetlands & Wildlife Creations have been busy spraying spanish heath in Wellington Park. They have finished a section between Montrose Fire Trail, Goat Fire Trail and Chapel Fire Trail. They are also targeting various weeds within Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park., such as reseda, thistles, periwinkle, and more spanish heath.

At other reserves in the municipality, including GASP foreshore, Poimena Reserve, Whitestone Point and Goulds Lagoon, Wetlands and Wildlife Creations will be doing planting maintenance as well as targeting a variety of weeds including thistles, periwinkle, trailing daisy, hawthorn blackberry and sweet briar rose. They will also do some planting maintenance.

Pakana Services are busy tackling a variety of weeds such as spiny rush in Windermere Bay, broom, gorse and canary grass in Lutana Woodlands. They are also carrying out thinning of silver wattles in Jim Bacon Reserve, helping to preserve the remenant black gum woodland there.

Glenorchy City Council is currently engaging with a new contractor to do monthly surveys and maintenance in the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park, this is crucial in preserving the new trails in the area and looking after our recent investment into the park.

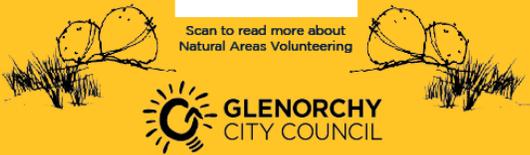
Our contractors are on track to complete all works by the end of financial year. if you see them out and about, say hi and thank them for all of their hard work!

This coastline is protected and enhanced by **Moonah Nature Mates** volunteer group.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Glenorchy City Council on (03) 6216 6800



Scan to read more about Natural Areas Volunteering



New Volunteer Group Signs

Look out for signs like the above, coming to your reserves soon. They will be either new signs, or stickers attached to existing signs .

The QR code will lead to www.gcc.tas.gov.au/natural-areas-volunteering the Natural Areas Volunteering section on the Glenorchy City Council website. We hope they will inform more people of our activities and result in more volunteers joining us.



If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter, or any ideas to be featured in the next one, please contact our Natural Areas Engagement Officer Ash on;
ashleigh.carden@gcc.tas.gov.au or (03) 6216 6353

