

Natural Areas Newsletter

Summer 2023

Volunteering Round Up

If you would like any more info on any of these groups or their meet-ups, please contact me on ashleigh.carden@gcc.tas.gov.au

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all. Thank you for all the hard work you have put into our reserves this year. We have made such a difference together.

Claremont Coast Care has spent the spring and start of summer maintaining past plantings in Windermere Bay including the Cadbury's 100-year anniversary planting and their own National Tree Day planting from earlier this year. This year's planting includes 846 newly planted natives in the riparian buffer zone. Next month they are planning a New Year BBQ

Brent Street Reserve Landcare continued tackling a large bank of black berry in the reserve. We noted that the Poa planted on the concrete retaining wall is doing well! Please see our before and after picture of the retaining wall below!



The Lutana Woodlanders meet often, focussing on weeding exotic grasses from our patch of threatened Lowland Native *Themeda* Grasslands. They have been targeting cocksfoot in the reserve and have pulled out over four tonnes of it since I began recording in March this year. She-oak thinning has also progressed this spring in the Southern Grassland, opening it up and giving the Kangaroo Grass a chance to spread.

Friends of Collinsvale met on Saturday, 18th November to remove Spanish Heath from the remnant bush areas at Collinsvale Recreational Reserve. We are pleased to find that follow up on initial eradication of Spanish Heath in this area is working and we can now maintain it in a morning's work.

Moonah Nature Mates held a successful walk and talk at Jim Bacon Memorial Reserve lead by community expert Adam Muyt who many of you will know. Four volunteers braved the weather to discuss all things threatened/rare plants, weeds, reserve management and more. We checked out the site where a fire had been started in Jim Bacon in September and we were pleased to find the Blue Devil is thriving! Pictured below; Blue devil listed as vulnerable is found throughout Jim Bacon, and our guide Adam teaching us about weeds.



Friends of Wellington Park held their final event of the year on Tuesday, 18 December, controlling the spread of Spanish Heath up near the summit of Mount Hull.

Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) organised a beautiful mental health awareness week event where we paired weeding at Goulds Lagoon with a botanical drawing class with expert Dr Tanya Scharaschkin. 19 volunteers from CVA, the Migrant Resource Centre and the Australian International Youth Association came out to enjoy the morning of mindfulness.

The Church of the Latter-Day Saints showed up in numbers for a mega clean-up of Wellington Park, along Humphreys Rivulet, behind the tip. The group of 14 – 17-year-olds did a fantastic job picking up hundreds of kgs of rubbish from the area (pictured below).



GLENORCHY
CITY COUNCIL

Track Care Launched



On Sunday, 19 November we held the inaugural Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park Track Care event. After spending a lot of time, money, and effort on a much-needed upgrade to Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park, we have teamed up with Hobart Wheelers Dirt Devils cycling club to run Track Care in Glenorchy.

The focus of the group will be to rake tracks and drains of fallen leaves and debris, remove tree branches that pose a safety risk, prepare the trails for competitions and be the eyes and ears on the trails, alerting us to areas which need more complex works, sooner. We hope this will mean long lasting, safe, enjoyable mountain bike trails for the community to enjoy.

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact our customer service team on the contact details at the bottom of this newsletter and they will direct you to the right person.

Planting Plans 2024

We have put in our order for a killer planting season for 2024!

Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park - 1805

Continued planting for erosion control and revegetation of the lower park/pine removal area.

Goulds Lagoon - 110

Screening of fences, habitat, and infill of dead plants from 2020/2021 plantings.

Poimena – 150

Bandicoot habitat enrichment as we plan to remove blackberry and she-oaks.

Jim Bacon – 10

Protection of mowing boundary

Whitestone Point – 120

Habitat restoration after rose/boxthorn removal

Lutana Woodlands Reserve – 185

Increase floristic diversity and grassland size/quality to progress towards EPBCA listing.

Upper Brent St Reserve – 31

Increase diversity and cover after weed removal.



New Group Alert

Northern Suburbs Community Landcare are officially our newest natural areas volunteering group in the municipality. Based on the corner of Montrose Rd and Pitcairn St, they are focussing on weeding in the rivulet section of the reserve

Over the last couple of months, they have tackled a huge infestation of boneseed and have now moved on to attacking blackberry. Although there are a lot of weeds present in the rivulet, there is also a core of beautiful natives worthy of protecting including the a huge native cherry tree!

Thank you to locals Corrine and Danny for taking initiative and starting the group, I can't wait to see the results!



2023 Planting Season

Gerrard St Reserve - 569

Thank you Moonah Nature Mates



Windermere Bay – 846

Thank you Claremont Coast Care



Lutana Woodlands – 240

Thank you Lutana Woodlanders & UTAS Landcare



Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park – 500

Thanks Glenorchy City Council



Brent St Reserve – 60

Thanks Brent St Landcare



Volunteer Spotlight



Tim is the convener for Brent St Landcare. This group has been operating for one year, focussing on weeding, rubbish removal, and increasing biodiversity in their local 1.4 ha reserve.

Why I volunteer

I volunteer because I want to help improve the local environment for local wildlife, the community, and my family. I think it's important for the local community to be able to take pride in their local environment, and the work that we do at Brent Street Reserve Landcare goes some small way to making that possible.

How I got started with volunteering

I've wanted to volunteer to improve the local environment for some time. After looking on the Landcare website and seeing that there were no Landcare groups walking distance from where I live, I contacted them and asked them about the process of getting a group set up at Brent Street Reserve. They were very helpful and suggested that I contact the council to get permission to work at Brent Street Reserve and additional support. We've been very lucky that the council, and especially Ash, has provided such strong support to our group.

My favourite volunteering memory

In one of early working bees we had a roving Landcare group come along to help out. We got so much done that day, and it really helped to emphasise what a group of motivated volunteers can achieve.

Favourite quote/rule to live by

"Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so." ~ Douglas Adams, Last Chance to See. This book changed the way I see the natural world and our place within it. This quote in particular makes me reflect on how I must always consciously work to grow and evolve as a person.

If you would like to feature in the next newsletter, please contact Ash on ashleigh.carden@gcc.tas.gov.au