

Presidents Report 2024/25

Loch/Nyora LandCare Group (LNLG)

It's been a "steady as you go" year for the Loch-Nyora LandCare Group. Some regular activities have consolidated whilst new proposals and modifications have been initiated.

I would like to thank all committee members for their contributions and in particular, Bruce Freeman for taking on the duties of Secretary for the first time. His efforts have been significant.

Educational Sessions

More recently, our committee took on an approach to carry out more "Educational Sessions" for our membership and supporters. Whilst there has not been an activity since the last AGM there will be a Koala information session held after this AGM and it's expected to attract many attendees.

Physical Activities.

We did carryout some activities that involved some sweat and grunt this year.

Of note, there was a Pittosporum Removal session carried out on Wednesday the 20th of May at the entrance to Loch Village with four members attending. This triggered more activities on Mondays co-ordinated by Garry Knox and Daryl Smith as well as other locals, which continued that Pittosporum removal, treatment on other weeds and plantings. This has been a quiet but very successful initiative that has been effectively driven by Garry and Daryl. My thanks to them both.

Hilda Falls experienced another planting of ground covers on the 21st of September 2025. I encourage our membership to visit Hilda Falls and pull some weeds.

European Wasps

There was an outbreak of European Wasps in the vicinity of the Memorial Reserve, and as a group we financed a local contractor to reduce the presence of this pest. The costs were covered by a previous Melbourne Water grant, but the process was carried out smoothly and reflects good communication between various local groups and individuals.

Web Site

The Website has been utilised by members of the public and is still visible after a search on Google. It is being kept up to date by Bruce and to a lesser extent myself. Thanks to Bruce for his efforts on the website.

Free Tube Stock

The committee agreed to once again provide our members with free plants, and this was organised with the native plant nursery at Inverloch. The administration system has been updated to provide more rigor with a check list of membership being provided to the nursery for purchases. Several members have taken up the offer, but it would be nice for more members to do so.

Rosemary successfully facilitated the provision of free tube-stock to members after the group was notified of some excess plants from a local indigenous nursery. This happened quickly and effectively, demonstrating Rosemary's skills at getting things done when required. Thanks Rosemary.

Incorporation

Thanks to Bruce our group is now incorporated, which will prove to be valuable for grant applications. We are still seeking registration with the ATO and Bruce is still proving to successfully move forward with this challenge.

Cluster Meetings

Cluster meetings which are co-ordinated by the South Gippsland LandCare Network, are held on a regular basis in the western area of the South Gippsland LandCare Network. Our group has been effectively represented by Rosemary, Bruce and Dallas. My thanks to them for keeping up our presence on this group.

Allsops Creek

The frontage to the Allsops Creek at the Memorial Reserve has been undergoing rehabilitation works for three years by Melbourne Water. In June of 2026, the contractors who have been carrying out these works will stop, and our group will be taking up the cause. We can do this by using a grant we received many years ago from Melbourne Water. I look forward to our group being involved in this high-profile site.

Rail Trail at Nyora

The South Gippsland LandCare Network is intending to carry out a planting at the Nyora end of the Rail Trail as part of their regular Pedal and Plant program in 2026, and our group looks forward to being involved in this activity.

Nyora Conservation Reserve (Henry Little Dyke reserve)

The Nyora Conservation Reserve (also known as the Henry Little Dyke reserve) is managed by Parks Victoria. It is located between Nyora and Poowong and our group has been in discussion with Parks Victoria to organise some working bees at the reserve in the future. The process to organise a working bee is a little complicated, but I suspect some works can take place in the first half of 2026.

Our 30th Birthday

Next year will be the 30th Year our group has been in existence. This is a great achievement, and I'm sure we can organise an event to celebrate this momentous anniversary.

Finances

Our finances are sound, and we have been spending money on valuable projects, plants and paying registration to various government bodies whilst maintaining an effective buffer in the bank. Thanks to Gary for keeping the books.

Governance and Committee Functionality

We continue to experience good governance, and the committee work well together. I'm confident the group will continue to carry out useful activities and productive work within the Loch/Nyora district, thereby promoting sustainable property management.

Malcolm Brown
9 November 2025