



Bushlands Re-wilding Project

The Re-wilding Project has started and the CBA Re-wilding Sub Committee is finalising plans which will lead to enhancement of the Bushlands' habitat. There will be two workshops which will focus on activities to enable all Bushland residents to further enhance our flora and fauna and protect endangered wildlife. The number of nest boxes in the Bushlands will be increased and ideas and information about how to take practical action to plant around our dams and make them eco-friendly and beautiful will be shared.

Definite dates cannot be decided yet owing to Covid restrictions, but when the weather gets warmer towards the end of this year and into 2021 you can look forward to:

Attending two free workshops. These events will be catered and open to all.

- **Dam enhancement:** This will be led by Damien Cook, Winner of the prestigious SERA Award for Restoration Excellence. Bushlanders will learn practical ways to enhance the habitat of their dams as well as participate in a planting demonstration activity with aquatic plant species. Bushlanders will take home a selection of free aquatic plants to plant in their own dams. Information about different plants and where to plant them on your property will be made available. This workshop will likely be in Autumn 2021 and will take place around Tim and Hannah's dam.



Photos: Left Damien Cook. Right Hannah and Tim's dam.

- **Nest boxes:** An exciting opportunity will be provided for all Bushlanders to be part of a discounted / subsidised purchase of flat pack nest boxes from Latrobe University. Bushlanders will have the opportunity to participate in an informal workshop where they will learn to assemble the nest boxes, learn about best placement, monitoring and maintenance. Details, including the workshop location, types/sizes of boxes, and the final costs are still being worked out. We want to see more nest boxes being installed. Order forms and information will be sent out to all Bushlanders later this year!

Floating pontoons might be one way to attract water birds to your dam and provide alternative habitat opportunities. Some Bushlanders are keen to explore this for their properties and some are already experimenting with different designs. Making floating pontoons is outside of the scope of the workshop being run by Damien, however, we encourage people to keep experimenting and to share their knowledge and learnings on the Facebook page. If you are keen to know further talk to Scott.



A grant completion event will be held to celebrate achievements. One proposal being explored is to include a smoking ceremony from the Dja Dja Wurrung with catering from the Murnong Mamas with participants having the opportunity to try bush food such as Murnong cakes, finger limes, lemon myrtle, Kakadu plum, and bush tomatoes. If you would like to be involved in organising this event, please talk to Scott.

[We urge Bushland residents to get involved:](#)

- Have fun
- Further strengthen Bushland friendships
- Support fellow Bushland residents
- Help endangered species
- Further enhance your dam and property as a sanctuary of peace and a haven for flora and fauna
- Share your ideas and expertise.

[We would love your comments and input.](#)

Please register your interest or provide feedback and ideas by contacting Scott Hall on 0413 931 232, or any of the Sub Committee members.

All CBA members will have the opportunity to benefit directly from this pilot project.

One aim is to provide a foundation for a larger grant application for a roll-out in the Bushlands and wider community.

Stay safe,

CBA Re-Wilding Sub Committee
Scott Hall, Karen Baker, Antoinette Birkenbeil,
Wayne Hollis, Hannah Nicholas.

Re-wilding sub-committee is off and running!!



Photo by Antoinette Birkenbeil