

Southern ACT Catchment Group Coordinators Report June 2010

• 'The World of Tidbinbilla; a resource and memento for Tidbinbilla visitors':

The 'Tales of Tidbinbilla' Heritage Grant project is progressing well. The book has been renamed '*The World of Tidbinbilla*' and a draft copy is now with the Heritage Unit for their comments/approval. We will delay actual printing until we hear the results of our 2010/2011 Heritage Grant application for additional funds for printing; thereby determining the size of the print run.

Jon Stanhope has agreed to write the forward and to launch the book, probably late October or early November. We wait for the Heritage Unit's response to the draft before we organise a copy to Jon Stanhope.

Living with Lovegrass:

Continued planning up to the African Lovegrass workshop: 'Living with Lovegrass – Learning from each other on how to control African Lovegrass'. 'Living with Lovegrass', a forum designed around learning from each other on how to manage African Lovegrass was held at the Namadgi Visitor Centre on Saturday 22nd May. Around sixty people attended the forum and it was interesting to hear the range of views expressed about lovegrass. Some graziers expressed the view that lovegrass is here, cattle can use it, so perhaps we are better off devoting resources to Serrated Tussock. Others thought that lovegrass is potentially our worst environmental and agricultural weed species.

Whatever the view there is no denying African lovegrass is a highly persistent, summer growing, perennial grass weed that is invading rural properties, urban parklands and roadsides and nature reserves across our region. When the write-up of the forum is completed I will let you know that it is on our website. Anna Van Dugteren, Esther Duffy, Geoff Hyles, myself and potentially David Shorthouse will meet to discuss how we can promote recommendations out of the forum.

The Scrivener Hill Lookout project:

- Isaacs Ridge/Mt Mugga Mugga Park Care Group is coordinating the Scrivener Hill project. The planting of 300 trees and 200 shrubs took place in April and while some work continues on planting of shrubs and applying mulch we have been conspiring to determine the wording for the project signage.

Community Action Grants:

- Funds from the Caring for Our Country Community Action Grants to assist with the restoring the remnant Yellow box / Redgum woodland at Tuggeranong Homestead have been deposited into our account. The first order of plants has been placed with Greening Australia to enable a Spring planting.

Office

- All current accounts paid as of 17/06/10.

Other Activities

- Attended CLA
- Continued production and distribution of fortnightly email news
- Met with other coordinators to discuss future horse seminars
- Attended UMCCC
- Met with Disability Services representative to discuss future possibilities.