

**Southern ACT Catchment Group Coordinators Report  
4 December 2012**

**A Labour of Love:**

The Chief Minister has written the Foreword. The book is coming together: text has been to a professional editor and we are nearly ready to go to Kim Tatnell at big Island Graphics. We are aiming at a launch of 'A Labour of Love – Landcare in the ACT' at 11am on Friday 19th April 2013 at Tuggeranong Homestead. We have invited Katy Gallagher to launch the book.

**African Lovegrass project:**

Our project CAG10-00356 - *Regional education on African Lovegrass - an integrated approach* has expended all funds and Steve is the process of acquitting the project and it is currently with the Auditor.

**'Spray Safe and Save' training**

Regional Facilitators Program will help to fund next course in March. I am looking at options for funding for ongoing running of these valuable courses.

**Mobile QuikSpray Unit**

Mobile QuikSpray Unit available to assist landholders and managers across the ACT or in the Googong or Upper Murrumbidgee catchments (within 50 km south of the ACT border) to undertake weed control. It is booking out fast for next spring so the advice to prospective users is to consider booking now. I will be taking over the booking system from Steve by February next year.

We are seeking a grant from SWP Program to purchase a shipping container and house at Lyons Youth Haven Westwood farm.

We are having discussions with Pallerang Council regarding a second trailer to be housed at the council for lending. I will be seeking a grant for it's purchase.

**ACT Environment Grants**

Along with the other 2 catchment groups we were successful in our Environment grant application for funding to purchase equipment for SACTCG member groups enabling them to increase their efficiency at weed control, and better integrate their knowledge of location of weed to the relevant authorities and partner organisations. This will enable groups to accurately record the location of weeds and pest animal species in areas where they are working, and send this information directly to the ACT Parks and Conservation Service to be integrated into their data systems to assist in more efficiently planning pest plant and animal eradication programs. We have not yet received the funding.

Equipment included 1 tablet with GPS capability. I have arranged a meeting with the other 2 catchment groups and NRM Investment Development Manager to discuss training attached to this device and the choice of device/applications.

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The equipment also included 3 motorised high-pressure backpack sprayers which we will purchase when we receive the funding.

**Website**

- Seeking volunteer support to maintain [www.sactcg.org.au](http://www.sactcg.org.au)
- I am organising training for website management in March for myself and any interested members

**Office**

- New internet banking has been set up and is in use. We will no longer require the use of cheque books.
- All current accounts paid as of 2/12/2012.
- I am investigating a new computer for the office and a hot-desk in the spare (air-conditioned) room to put the old computer.

**Other Activities**

- Attended RIS meeting with to discuss options for next round of CFoC funding.
- Attended CLA meeting.
- Set up system and advertising for Seed Harvester lending.
- Attended Public consultation information session on the Nature Conservation Strategy.
- Tour of Isaacs Ridge and Mt Mugga Mugga with group convenor.
- Attended summer workshop for farmers.
- Arranged 2 x CVA days for removal of verbascum on Farrer Ridge.
- Attended Wetlands tour of the Northern Wetlands with members of TLC group.