



SOUTHERN ACT
CATCHMENT GROUP INC



Annual General Meeting
2021-2022

What we do

- ▶ A support network for members
 - ▶ Project development, management and funding
 - ▶ Helping new groups form and operate
 - ▶ Volunteer recruitment, equipment, tools
 - ▶ Administration and financial management
 - ▶ Communications and promotion



- ▶ Building social capital
 - ▶ activities for members, landholders and broader community that build capacity
- ▶ Knowledge sharing - between community, government and other orgs
- ▶ Representation – A voice for Landcare
- ▶ Citizen Science Programs – Waterwatch



Our Members



SOUTHERN ACT
CATCHMENT GROUP INC



- 1 Holder Wetlands Volunteer Group
- 2 Friends of Fetherston Gardens
- 3 Weston Creek Orchard
- 4 Illoura Horse Owners Group
- 5 Friends of Hughes Grassy Woodland
- 6 Croton Park Carers
- 7 Oakey Hill Parkcare Group
- 8 Hughes Garran Woodland Group
- 9 Red Hill Regenerators
- 10 Griffith Woodland Volunteer Group
- 11 Cooleman Ridge Parkcare Group
- 12 Mount Taylor Parkcare Group
- 13 Isaacs Ridge/Mt Mugga Mugga Parkcare
- 14 Crozier Urban Carers
- 15 Farrer Ridge Parkcare Group
- 16 Friends of Urambi Hills
- 17 Tuggeranong Lake Carers
- 18 Parkcarers of Southern Murrumbidgee
- 19 Friends of Strangers Pond
- 20 Minders of Tuggeranong Homestead
- 21 Minders about Simpsons Hill
- 22 Friends of Tuggeranong Hill
- 23 Friends of Tidbinbilla
- 24 Gudgenby Bush Regeneration Group
- 25 Friends of Mawson Ponds
- 26 Holder Landcare
- 27 Cooleman Farm Urban Park
- 28 Friends of Condor Wetlands

← approx 11km
Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve

Grants for Members



In the past 8 years:

38 grants have been successful and project managed for 20 *individual member groups*.

26 grants for *all members* e.g. LC for Millennials, Green Army, wildlife cameras, brochures, EC workshops

• Hughes-Garran Woodland Group	6
• Griffith Woodland Volunteer Group	4
• Friends of Urambi Hills	3
• Gudgenby Bush Regenerators	3
• Holder Wetlands Volunteer Group	2
• Mt Taylor Parkcare Group	2
• Minders about Simpson Hill	2
• Red Hill Regenerators	2
• Friends of Hughes-Grassy Woodland	2
• Weston Creek Orchard	2
• Holder Landcare Group	1
• Uriarra Parkcare Group	1
• Friends of Tuggeranong Hill	1
• Friends of Strangers Pond	1
• Parkcarers of Southern Murrumbidgee	1
• Featherstone Gardens	1
• Farrer Ridge Parkcare Group	1
• Croton Park Carers	1
• Coleman Farm Park	1
• Little Taylor	1

- Rural Landholders 17 Weed management, erosion control, spray training
- General community 8 Finding Weston creek, drain stencilling, Monash grassland restoration
- Aboriginal 4 Interp. walks, canoe tree restoration, signage for grinding grooves Tugg Hill

New Small Projects Funded 21-22

Improved native diversity and cooling of Monash's Pond and Grasslands

- ▶ With Friends of Grasslands to protect significant patch of Natural Temperate Grassland
- ▶ Forming a stewardship group and weed control
- ▶ A scrape and sow site to trial whether NTG patch can be extended
- ▶ A canopy planting component to increase urban cooling and reduce erosion potential and sedimentation of Isabella Ponds
- ▶ Friends of Grassland grant for signage grant

With assistance from the ACT Government under the 2021-2022 ACT Environment Grant Program.



New Small Projects Funded 21-22

Screen Planting for Soil Improvement at Fetherston Gardens

- ▶ With the Friends of Fetherstone Gardens to plant a native corridor along the frontage of Featherstone Gardens to provide a windbreak for the garden on the exposed southerly border.
- ▶ Building on the native species already present on the garden grounds.
- ▶ Developing a tree canopy to an open part of Weston.
- ▶ Cooling effect to the road and the surrounding homes
- ▶ Improving the habitat and food source for local native birds and animals.
- ▶ TCCS maintenance needs have delayed this project.



New Small Projects Funded 21-22

Red Hill Herbaceous Weed Control

- ▶ Horehound and other invasive weeds have taken off on Red Hill, this grant aims to treat approximately 4 hectares of dense Horehound and Patersons Curse and sow with native seed mix.
- ▶ Approximately 200 trees and shrubs will also be planted in the area to provide more diversity to this open area.

With assistance from the ACT Government under the 2021-2022 ACT Environment Grant Program.



New Small Projects Funded 21-22

Protection of Pink Tailed Worm Lizard Habitat on Tuggeranong Hill and Farrer Ridge

- ▶ 4 hectares of weed control on Tuggeranong Hill
- ▶ 1 hectare of weed control on Farrer Ridge.
- ▶ Over \$26K

With assistance from the ACT Government under the 2021-2022 ACT Environment Grant Program.



Other projects worked on this year

Community Landcare Nursery – Stronger Communities Grant

- ▶ Building a community Landcare nursery at Lions Youth Haven.
- ▶ For groups to grow stock, share skills and socialise
- ▶ Sessions for children through LYH Farm Skills Programs
- ▶ Planning undertaken with volunteer Gary Stephenson
- ▶ Includes:
 - ▶ shipping container for storage
 - ▶ 6m poly tunnel
 - ▶ potting benches and
 - ▶ growing tables
- ▶ ICON water grant for water infrastructure

Funding for this project is provided by Stronger Communities Programme Round 7 through the Australian Government



Other projects worked on this year

Rejuvenation of Simpson Hill

- ▶ Focused on developing some on site resources for visitors to learn more about the reserve
- ▶ A park sign installed at the Schoolhouse
- ▶ A series of QR coded bollards installed that link to pages on the SACTCG website and speak about aspects of the hills, recreation, history, plants, animals and the view from the hill.



Project run with the assistance of the ACT Government under the 2019/2020 Adopt-A-Park Community Grants Program.

Other projects worked on this year

Pathway erosion control for Hughes Garran Woodland

- ▶ This delayed project included the development of a park sign (similar to the one at Simpsons Hill) and funds for more plants to reduce erosion from the paths. Lomandra's and grasses were planted along the paths at areas where runoff occurred.
- ▶ Grant objectives changed a bit as TCCS maintenance crews undertook some of the proposed work.
- ▶ A seat and play area for the local kids
- ▶ Weed control of veldt grass and paspalum at sites

Project run with the assistance of the ACT Government under the 2019/2020 Adopt-A-Park Community Grants Program.



Other projects worked on this year

Community visibility for Griffith Woodland

- ▶ Developed a large interpretive sign for the park, focussing on grassy woodlands and their importance in the landscape.
- ▶ Conservation bollards installed around the park
- ▶ Existing plantings augmented with more grassland species tubestock.



Project run with the assistance of the ACT Government under the 2019/2020 Adopt-A-Park Community Grants Program.

Other projects worked on this year

Local environment and Community Education at Strangers Pond

- ▶ Planting activity at the pond to try to boost volunteer numbers
- ▶ Social media promotion
- ▶ 250 plants around the pond planted, and BBQ afterwards
- ▶ Some plants were left over so another planting day is planned for October



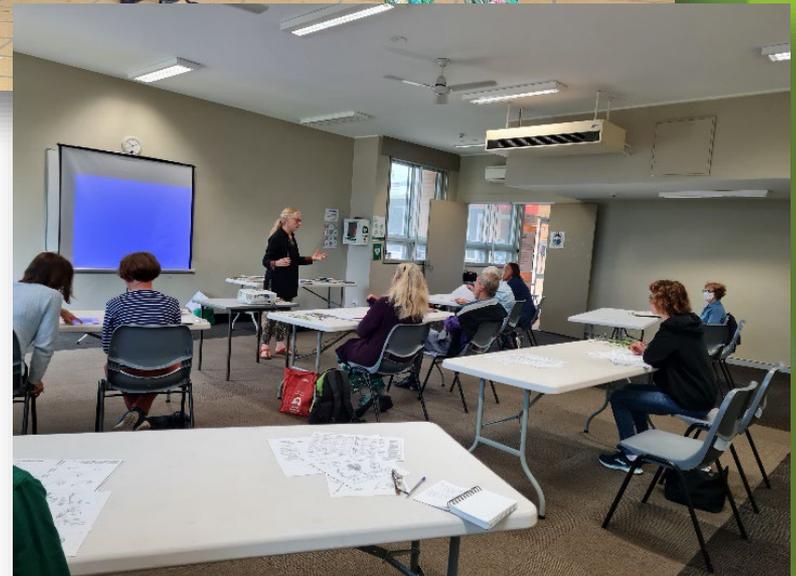
Project run with the assistance of the ACT Government under the 2019/2020 Adopt-A-Park Community Grants Program.

Other projects worked on this year

Grass Identification

- ▶ Two series of workshops, in October 2020 and February 2022
- ▶ 1 day workshop to learn about identifying grasses and forbes
- ▶ Followed by field trips to Griffith Woodland and Monash Grassland to try our hands at identifying grasses in the field.
- ▶ Alison Elvin, grassland ecologist from Natural Capital, ran the workshops which were very well received by participants.

Project run with the assistance of the ACT Government under the 2019/2020 Adopt-A-Park Community Grants Program.



Other projects worked on this year

Hughes Grassy Woodland Enhancing Bird Habitat

- ▶ Still ongoing
- ▶ Treated grass weeds throughout the woody area.
- ▶ A focus to provide habitat for parrots and gang gangs as there are known breeding sites.
- ▶ Understory species planted to replace some middle story habitat lost when Cootamandra wattles were removed.
- ▶ Will have more weed control and a second round of understory plantings to replace some which died.



Project run with the assistance of the ACT Government under the 2019/2020 Adopt-A-Park Community Grants Program.

Other projects worked on this year

Simpsons Hill School 'Adopt-a-Tree' Biodiversity Plantings

- ▶ Still underway. The original intention was to
- ▶ Work with the local Gilmore primary school to learn how to grow native plants and plant a corridor of trees and shrubs across the hill
- ▶ Due to fire zone concerns the program focused on groundcovers and flowers
- ▶ In April the children planted about 200 plants
- ▶ Weed control to tackle the blackberry taking hold in some spots
- ▶ Another planting activity is being planned.



With assistance from the ACT Government under the 2020-2021 ACT Environment Grant Program.

Other projects worked on this year

Holder Wetland Bird and bee friendly gardens

This project is almost completed.
Includes:

- ▶ A bee hotel workshop
- ▶ Bee hotels being installed around the wetlands
- ▶ Planting of shrubs, grasses and forbes in a bird and bee friendly garden area
- ▶ Scrape and sow site to see if a heavily seeded native patch can compete with exotic surrounds



With assistance from the ACT Government under the 2020-2021 ACT Environment Grant Program.

Women in Agriculture

▶ Three workshops delivered:

- ▶ Amberly Farm
 - ▶ Women in Regenerative Agriculture
 - ▶ Farm Dams Regeneration
- ▶ Cypress Springs
 - ▶ Planning for the Next Farming Generation



Australian Government

National
Landcare
Programme



This project is supported by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, through funding from Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

CATCHMENT WIDE PROJECTS

Waterwatch

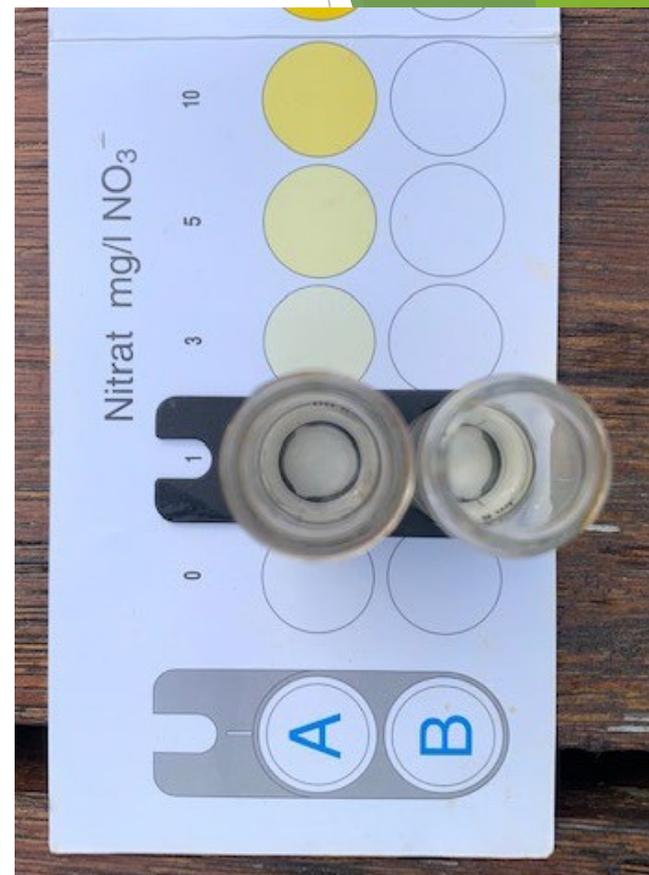


In 12 months;

- ▶ Number of volunteers= 35 individuals, a high school & a Scouting group.
- ▶ Number of sites tested= 70 sites
- ▶ Number waterbug surveys= 53
- ▶ Number of riparian zones surveyed= 35
- ▶ Number of platypus surveys= 6
- ▶ Hours of volunteer time spent= 14 700 hours (1225/month on average)
- ▶ Nasty readings reported to authorities= 77 (1.5 per week)

Our WW data collected was used in....

- ▶ **State of the Lakes and Waterways in the ACT Report (OCSE)**
- ▶ ACT Environmental Volunteers - show casing environmental volunteers work (OCSE)
- ▶ **Drinking Water Code - Icon Water Report on Catchment Sanitary Survey**
- ▶ ACT Heritage Library
- ▶ Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES)
- ▶ Minister for Water Healthy Waterways announcement for Lake Tuggeranong
- ▶ Canberra Times and ABC News focus on CHIP



With assistance from the ACT Government

CATCHMENT WIDE PROJECTS

Community Environmental Stewardship and Education Program

- ▶ On-ground and capacity building:
 - ▶ Wildlife cameras
 - ▶ Bat detectors
 - ▶ New group introduction
 - ▶ Members group meetings



With assistance from the ACT Government

CATCHMENT WIDE PROJECTS

Community Environmental Stewardship and Education Program

- ▶ Information sharing and knowledge brokerage:
 - ▶ Weeds forum
 - ▶ Submissions made for inquiry to Environmental Volunteerism
 - ▶ MBRC management plant review
 - ▶ The Commissioner for the Environment Volunteering in the ACT Report.
- ▶ Broad community engagement:
 - ▶ Seniors Expo
 - ▶ Volunteering Expo
 - ▶ Bus Depot markets
 - ▶ See-Change Repair café



With assistance from the ACT Government

Community Environmental Stewardship and Education Program

- ▶ Healthy Waterways and Stormwater Education
 - ▶ Music at Mawson Pond
 - ▶ Nature Printing on Weston Creek
 - ▶ Amberly Farm Dam and Water Quality workshop
 - ▶ Fadden Pines interpretive walk
 - ▶ Sacred Heart Pearce celebration feast day at Mawson Ponds
 - ▶ Clean up events
 - ▶ Tuggeranong Youth Forum Water Facilitation



With assistance from the ACT Government

Community Environmental Stewardship and Education Program

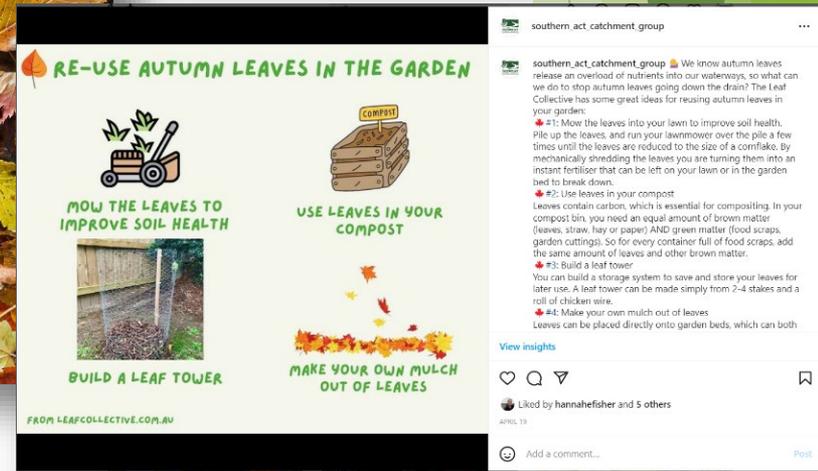
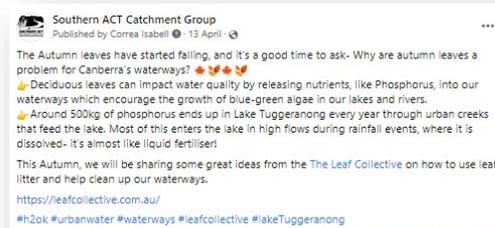
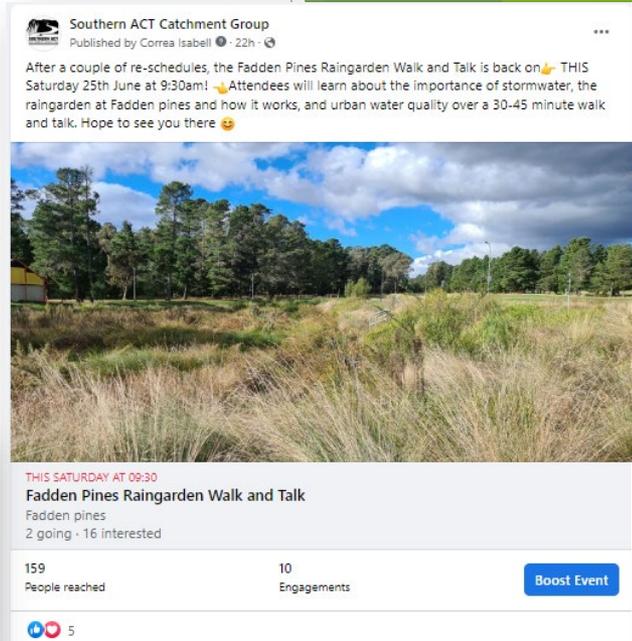


Partners

- ▶ 21 partners engaged including:
 - ▶ Weston Creek Community Council, Woden Community Council
 - ▶ Lions Youth Haven – Westwood Farm
 - ▶ Intrepid Landcare ANU
 - ▶ Catchment Studios
 - ▶ Friends of Grasslands
 - ▶ Greening Australia

Communications

- ▶ Facebook – 926 followers
- ▶ Instagram – 440 followers
- ▶ Newsletter – 605 subscribers



With assistance from the ACT Government



Bushfire Recovery



▶ Landcare-led Bushfire Recovery Program

- ▶ 6 events
- ▶ 120 volunteers
- ▶ 400+Vol hrs
- ▶ 13 comm groups/ org / businesses

This Landcare Led Bushfire Recovery Project has been supported by the Australian Government's Bushfire Recovery Program for Wildlife and their Habitat.



▶ Landcare ACT - Department of Infrastructure, Science, Energy and Resources

- ▶ 15 events
- ▶ 149 volunteers
- ▶ 900 +Vol hrs
- ▶ 15 comm groups/ org / businesses

This project was a partnership between Landcare ACT and Southern ACT Catchment Group



This project was funded by the Australian Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources



Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science,
Energy and Resources

▶ Activities Included

- ▶ Bog Restoration works
- ▶ Invasive weed & bog perimeter mapping
- ▶ Vertebrate pest monitoring, Interpretive walks
- ▶ Rare & endangered species surveys
Photo point installation for ongoing ecosystem monitoring



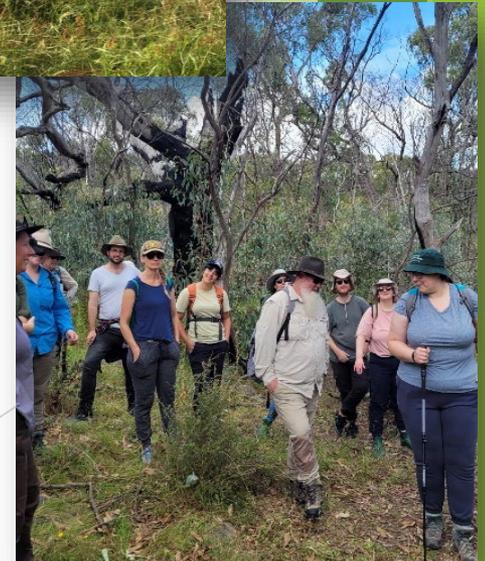
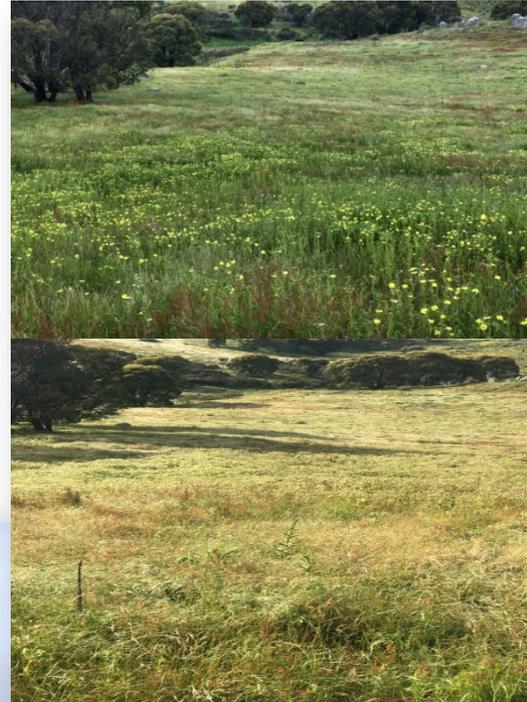
Bushfire Recovery

▶ Gudgenby Valley Weeding

- ▶ Assisted GBRG with some of their work parties with volunteers for weed control
- ▶ Contractor \$120,000 :
 - ▶ over 447Ha (1300 ovals) of control spraying of new incursion & invasive weeds in the Gudgenby Valley and Bobyan Forest

Subalpine Montane Bogs

- ▶ Both grants focused on this ecosystem as it is a sensitive environment needing help to recover following 2019-20 bushfires
- ▶ Engaged with Dr Ben Keane and Bruce CIT students to assess and manage ecological health bogs into the future





THANK YOU



For more information about SACTCG and our member groups, head to our website:

www.sactcg.org.au

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