



## Goulburn Broken Landcare Snapshot 2004/05



**Landcare Group Name:** Strath Creek Landcare Group

**Group Contact Person:** Terry Hubbard

**Contact Phone Number/s:**

**Length of Group Operation:**

### Your Story of Success

**Project Name:** Self Sufficiency in Landcare Groups

**Project Location:** Strath Creek

**Project Partners (if any):**

**Project Funding Source/s & Amounts:**

**Project Description:** (300-500 words)

The Strath Creek Landcare Group has membership of 56 families. The group does not believe in having lots of meetings. Five years ago the group elected to conduct regular executive meetings and the executive of 14 members would formulate policy for the Landcare group and it would be distributed to members through newsletters. In addition, we work up a programme which is fairly involving for our members and there is always an opportunity for information exchange at those activities.

Our programme for the year usually consists of 3 or 4 tree planting days at various locations and is often preceded by 3 or 4 fencing days to assist landowners with the fencing out of their properties.

Our extra activities include:

- Fundraising via a "Bring and Buy" stall which started off 3 years ago and the first one raised about \$300, the second over \$600 and the third over \$1,000. The proceeds are used to augment our Landcare funds and to make sure our insurance is covered each year.
- Tree identification days. We have 3 competent horticulturalist in the group and one of these people will assist us in the process of tree identification.
- Annual Picnics
- Field Days where we examine and appreciate the work being done by some of our members on their properties.

The group also conducts roadside spraying campaigns as well as a roadside litter clean up campaign. The amount of litter being collected is reducing annually.

The group is also very supportive of the Flowerdale Primary School Junior Landcare Group both financially and physically. As a bi-product, the parents of the children involved also becoming involved in Landcare which should have lasting benefits for the Flowerdale area.



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The group has an Annual General Meeting and this is the only meeting of the year that all members are expected to attend. The attendance is usually very high. A guest speaker is organised and lunch is provided.

Joining fees are \$15 for the first year which includes a free sign to put on your gate to identify you as a Landcare member. Subsequent years the joining fee is only \$10 per family.

The group has not sought government funding for the last five years. We have chosen to rely on the Catchment Management Authorities remnant vegetation or streamside vegetation and help the people who are participating in those programmes to do those improvements in the area. This has had the effect of bringing us together as a fairly socially active and cohesive group.

The group owns and maintains 2 spray units which are available free of charge to members and can be hired to non members at a rate of \$20 a day. The group also owns 2000 tree guards and for the cost of 36 cents for the stake which holds the tree guard in place, any member of the group can apply for the use of some or all of the tree guards. The charge of 36 cents per stake enables the group to replace the stake the following year because that is usually the bit that deteriorates.

The group has also advanced funds for the purchase of fencing materials etc where people have had difficulty finding the funds to do the project immediately but it has been desirable to do it. The landowner reimburses the group when the CMA signed off on the particular project.

The group has a very strong focus on social activities. When work is being carried out on a property, the owner is asked to organise a BBQ for the workers. The main problem facing most Landcare groups is that the group is usually very dependant on the energy and drive of one or two people.

The group is not reliant on government funding and it doesn't want to be.