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Triple Bottom Line

NSPNR March 2021 Newsletter

In this edition:

Committee's comments

Dates for your diary

NRM Officer's review

Introducing Kyle Townsend

Annual fox shoot and community breakfast

Harvesting plantation sandalwood field day

Water management workshop review

Feral control at Monjebup

Gillamii grazing tour and chat

NSPNR Annual Membership Renewals 2020/2021

NSPNR Staff Contact Details and Website

During this period of renovations to NSPNR's office in Borden, check our [Facebook](#) page for updates on the Borden office opening times.

The office will be closed 22nd March to 26th March. Contact Stevi Filipowski Natural Resource Management Officer 0437 248 206 for assistance.

Committee's comments

Emily Jaekel, NSPNR Vice Chair

NSPNR has entered 2021 at full throttle, setting the pace for what is going to be an exciting year ahead!

First up is the adoption of the strategic plan! With thanks to the community members who participated in the survey, the committee and staff now have clear purpose, objectives and strategies to suit the current demographic's interests and needs.

This will assist the now FOUR staff members when applying for grants and new projects. Stevi, Laura and new-to-NSPNR Kyle Townsend are run off their feet managing current projects, along with new-office-manager-to-NSPNR Caroline House; all staff dutiful and efficient.

Nothing beats watching this highly skilled group tackle the workload with such high caliber. To say a lot is happening in the NSPNR office would be an understatement.

Excitingly these staff members will have a newly renovated office in just a few months! So watch this space (our website and Facebook page) for updates on office hours and availability while the renovations are underway. It is thanks to the Shire of Gnowangerup Drought Communities Funding that this organisation has the opportunity to upgrade the building which has been fundamental to adapting to the changing environment and farming practices in the past.

With the renovations, staff will have increased efficiency, customer comfort and will future-proof the facility to oversee the North Stirlings-Pallinup catchment long into its future.

We have welcomed a number of new committee members who are enjoying being part of our innovative, informative and fun meetings, with hope to twist a few more arms and increase community input at these meetings even further.

NSPNR looks forward to seeing you all at the next meeting! FYI **April 14th 6.30pm Ongerup Pub**

Dates for your diary

See details later in the newsletter, or on the **Grower Group Alliance [webpage](#)**

While the information was correct at time of publishing, please check the respective organisations for updates to ensure the event is going ahead.

23rd March What Can Farmers Do? Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Webinar. Check www.crawfordfund.org for details on how to register.

25th March 'Harvesting Plantation Sandalwood' field day, Borden. RSVP 22nd March Laura 0401 553 285.

26 March 2021 from 8:00 to 8:30 AM PestFax: 2021 Pests Growers Need To Watch
For webinar. register
at: https://dpird.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2WvNOTw9SpCPI7mPB2BVmg

30th March Gillamii Grazing Tour, Cranbrook. RSVP <https://www.trybooking.com/BPAGA> or message 0427 261 234

14th April next NSPNR general committee meeting 6.30pm Ongerup Pub

In the Nyoongar calendar, February-March is **Bunuru**. Hot easterly winds give way most afternoons to a cooling sea breeze. White blossoms of gums in full bloom include jarrah, marri and ghost gums. Zamia seed changes from green to red, attracting emus. Find out more <http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/calendars/nyoongar.shtml>



NRM Officer's review Stevi Filipowski

The year has kicked off with a lot of growth for NSPNR as an organisation, with the hiring of Caroline House as Office Manager as well as more recently hiring Kyle Townsend as a part-time NRM Officer, which will essentially double our capacity.

We are focusing on a lot of upskilling this year so that we can improve our abilities to advise the community on natural resource management, to better manage projects and to initiate more of them as well as bring you more events, field days and workshops.

Not only this but we are beginning renovations to the NSPNR office this month in Borden - it's all happening! A huge shoutout to Bec O'Meehan who has gone above and beyond for us as our project coordinator for the Shire of Gnowangerup's Drought Communities Funding project funded by the Federal Government.

This year is the second year of 'Waterways Restoration' which focuses on community involvement so we will be hosting a few events for this. The 'Regional Landcare Partnerships' project is also in its second year. All on-ground actions are complete and we are now setting up for the next financial year. Our newest project, 'Restoring an Ancient Landscape' in collaboration with Gillamii Centre in Cranbrook, is looking to be a busy one with all revegetation and fencing deliverables aimed at being completed. We are still in the stages of finalising the project management plan but it is looking to be another productive year for NSPNR.

We want to know what you think about climate change!

We still need participants for our 5-minute Climate survey - Please click the link below to help us better understand our community's view on climate change/seasonal variability.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YP96Y7G>

Stevi Filipowski- NRM Officer

Available: Monday- Thursday

P: (08) 9828 1086 | M: 0447765308 | E: stevi@nspnr.com.au |



Introducing new staff member - Kyle Townsend

I am a long-term resident of the Great Southern with a background in Conservation Biology and Environmental Sciences, specialising in plant genetics, the effects of fire, spatial information and environmental management. I was formerly involved with South Coast Natural Resource Management as an employee and volunteer (something I have a long and varied history as) where I primarily delivered on mapping projects and technical reports. I have a strong background in research and am currently studying Climate Change policy, focusing on how to effectively communicate policy to the public and how to communicate policy requirements to policymakers.

In this role I understand that the environment and agriculture exist together in a landscape: they are not separate entities and we need both to be productive and healthy in order to live, work and recreate. We need to have a sustainable approach to both, which includes increasing yields, supporting the community, and managing the environment. I look forward to working with many of you and getting to know what you do, how you do it, who you are and what you need from us to help you achieve the goals that we share.

Annual fox shoot and community breakfast

The fox shoot this year consisted of five registered teams across various properties in the Shire of Gnowangerup. Licensed gun owners went out on Friday the 12th and some continued until 6 am the next morning when we counted the kill at the Ongerup tip.

Foxes, cats and other invasive fauna are having a devastating impact on the region's wildlife species populations and biodiversity. In conjunction with other control mechanisms, such as 1080 baiting, the annual fox shoot aims to control pest numbers and reduce pressure on our native fauna as well as lambing costs to farmers. Foxes are estimated to cost farmers \$35 million annually throughout lambing periods. Toxoplasmosis is a parasite that can be transferred from feral cats to pregnant ewes, potentially causing embryonic fatalities and miscarriages.

Not only is the annual fox shoot beneficial both economically and environmentally but it is a great excuse to get together with some mates and catch up with other community members at the Yongergnow pre-seeding community breakfast.

The kill totals were:

Foxes: 112

Cats: 2

Rabbits: 20

The winning team was the 'Toompup Terrorizers' with 37 foxes and 7 rabbits. Great job!

A huge thankyou to our co-hosts Yongergnow-Ongerup CRC as well as the sponsors: Rays Firearms and Archery, Summit Fertilizers and Elders Borden. And of course thank you to all participating teams.



Congratulations to the Toompup Terrorizers - (L to R) Brett Page, Michael Long, Martin Brooks, Josh Norwood.

Harvesting plantation sandalwood field day Thursday 25th March 2021

Dr Geoff Woodall and NSPNR would like to take the opportunity to host his third and final field day for this project as he harvests the sandalwood plantations in Gnowangerup and Borden. This field day will follow on from the first and second field days in 1999 and 2008, which focused on planting and growing sandalwood.

Come along to the field day to hear about all things related to sandalwood thinning, harvesting, processing, licencing, and what to do with the land post-harvest.

Register 9am at the Borden Pavilion to listen to speakers and have morning tea then self-drive to two sites south of Borden to view and discuss harvesting in the field.

The Sandalwood Shop will have sandalwood products for display and sale at the Borden Pavilion 9-9.30am.

This field day is possible thanks to our sponsors Great Southern Development Commission, Australian Sandalwood Network, South Coast NRM, Australian Sandalwood Cooperative Ltd and the Sandalwood Shop.

RSVP 22nd March for catering Laura 0401 553 285 laura@nspnr.com.au





Harvesting Plantation Sandalwood Field Day

When: Thursday 25th March, 9am
Where: Borden Pavilion, then on-farm (self-drive)

RSVP for catering 22nd March
Laura on 0401 553 285 email laura@nspnr.com.au

The Great Southern region and the North Stirlings from Tambellup to Borden and beyond have a long history of sandalwood production.

On Thursday 25th March Dr Geoff Woodall (BSc Hort, PhD) will present his third and final field day for the plantation sandalwood project as he harvests the sandalwood plantations in Gnowangerup and Borden. It follows on from the first and second field days in 1999 and 2008, which focused on planting and growing sandalwood.

The field day will cover thinning, harvesting, processing, and licensing. Go on-farm to see the harvesting of plantation sandalwood and discuss harvesting, wood quality and what happens post-harvest. Learn about fuel management, insurance for sandalwood, and how to salvage burnt sandalwood.

The sandalwood growers' group, Australian Sandalwood Network, and potential buyers of the sustainably produced sandalwood are also invited to attend this event.

Australian sandalwood (*Santalum spicatum*) is a Western Australian native plant. The wood is used for incense and processed to extract oils for use in perfume, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products.

This field day is possible thanks to our sponsors Great Southern Development Commission, Australian Sandalwood Network, South Coast NRM, Australian Sandalwood Cooperative Ltd and The Sandalwood Shop.



Water management workshop

NSPNR recently hosted a water management workshop at the Borden Pavilion which was followed by a visit to view sub-surface drainage at a farm west of Cranbrook.

Prue Batchelor's take-home message: Long-term best practice water management means working with salt in the landscape rather than against it. Use a lot of small-scale

interventions to make the landscape work for you for long-term productivity. Mitigating rising salinity issues is about vegetation and smart planting.

An innovative idea was the Hexa-cover Floating Cover for dams and reservoirs. It consists of many six-sided disks that fit together. A truckload of disks is simply tipped into the dam and they spread out to float on the surface. The cover reduces evaporation, reduces sunlight so reducing algal growth, and discourages waterfowl from landing so reducing *E. coli* contamination of the water. Hexa-cover disks have even been used in water troughs and cattle simply nose the units out of the way to access the water.



The installation of the pipe for subsurface drainage by Drainage Downunder required a significant bit of gear!



Thanks to the participants and speakers. This project is supported by North Stirlings Pallinup Natural Resources and South Coast NRM, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



Feral control at Monjebup

NSPNR staff were recently invited by Bush Heritage Australia to attend a project launch at the **Michael Tichbon Field Station at Red Moort Reserve (Monjebup)** to mark the commencement of the five-year Fitz-Stirling Fauna Recovery Project.

The Fitz-Stirling Fauna Recovery Project, funded through the support of Lotterywest, aims to protect and enhance native fauna in the region through the management of cats, foxes and rabbits throughout an area of over 37 000 hectares in the heart of the Fitz-Stirling landscape. This will be delivered through a long-term, coordinated baiting program across multiple private landholdings at a landscape scale, enhancing the existing predator baiting program delivered by Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions at the Corackerup and Peniup Nature Reserves.

This was the start of an important and transformational project that could see the recovery of many important species in the region including the honey possum, western pygmy possum, tammar and black-gloved wallabies and the malleefowl among others.

We wish Bush Heritage Australia well with their project.



Secure your baits. While goannas have tolerance to 1080 in fox baits, if they access and remove baits it reduces the effectiveness of a baiting program. Meat baits should be tethered by a length of light wire or similar to prevent them being moved.

THE GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE: GRAZING TOUR AND CHAT

GRAZING CEREALS FOR LAMBING EWES
FARMER CHAT AND SERINA HANCOCK- MURDOCH

**SUMMER FORAGE AND IMPROVING SOIL
HEALTH - SUPER SWEET SUDAN TRIAL**
PETER BOSTOCK - PIONEER SEEDS AND WENDY BRADSHAW

**PESTS AND RESISTANCE UPDATE AND
INTENSIVE GRAZING FOR RLEM CONTROL**
SVETLANA MICIC - DPIRD

**ENHANCING LEGUME CONTENT IN KIKUYU
PASTURES AND PASTURE Q&A**
PAUL SANFORD - DPIRD

**PASTURE/CROP SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT
TO MINIMISE COST AND RISK**
ANGELO LOI - DPIRD

NIBBLES AND DRINKS TO CONCLUDE THE TOUR

MARCH 30TH | 1 - 4 PM
CRANBROOK

RSVP [HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/BPAGA](https://www.trybooking.com/BPAGA)
OR MESSAGE ASHLEY 0427 261 234



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development



Soil Quality #5: *Soil Biology* was launched at GRDC Crop Updates in Perth recently.

This free ebook was published by the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) and SoilsWest [a research partnership between The University of Western Australia (UWA) and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)].

Previous books in this series are *Constraints to Plant Production; Integrated soil Management; Soil Organic Matter; and Soil Acidity*.

Read the ebook at <https://books.apple.com/au/book/soil-quality/id1554057153>

NSPNR Annual Membership Renewals 2020/21

Some benefits of membership are:

- ***Access to community projects such as funded revegetation, fencing and events***
- ***Research, trials and innovations relevant to our region***
- ***Tours (eg. Young Farmer Tour) and field days (eg. GRDC crop updates), at discounted rates***
- ***Events coordinated by partner organisations, eg. FBG, Gillamii, South Coast NRM***
- ***Aerial mapping & map production***
- ***Natural Resource Management Officer consultation***
- ***Funding assistance***
- ***Fox & rabbit baits and licencing assistance***
- ***Equipment hire – pottiputki hand planters and kidney trays, CommVeg, Chatfield tree planter.***

Annual Membership Rates (inc GST):

Grower \$150 including all family members

Community member \$20

Corporate \$300

Administration support only \$250

A tax invoice will be issued when membership is paid.

Membership may be paid by direct debit, using the details below:

BSB: 633-111

Account Number: 300883253

Account Name: NORTH STIRLINGS PALLINUP NATURAL RESOURCES

INCORPORATED

Reference: Memb. [surname]

Please email your payment confirmation and your business details to NSPNR's [admin email](#).

NSPNR Staff Contact Details

Stevi Filipowski Natural Resource Management Officer 0437 248 206

Kyle Townsend Natural Resource Management Officer 08 9828 1086

Laura Page Project Officer 08 9828 1086

Caroline House Office Manager 08 9828 1086

Check out our website! Find out about current and past projects, what is happening with natural resources, or become a NSPNR member.

nspnr.com.au



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