

## **LANDCARE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SERVICE AWARD**



**CORANGAMITE**

**PETER BERRISFORD**

Peter has played a leading role with Landcare across the Bellarine for over 15 years. He has been in for the long haul and has shown endurance, creativity and humility. He has not only been a loyal advocate for the Bellarine Landcare Group but for the Bellarine Catchment Network, Farm Tree and Landcare Association, the natural environment and the Landcare movement in general.

Peter has been generous with his time and professional capacities. He has been active and successful in submission writing, instrumental in ensuring a sound funding base for the Landcare group through various funding initiatives. In his roles as the treasurer, for the past eleven years, Peter has provided resourceful and intellectual leadership in developing sound financial and human relations policies and procedures for the group.

Peter's outstanding long term and dedicated commitment to the Landcare and related environmental agencies is remarkable. His commitment deserves extraordinary recognition.



#### **EAST GIPPSLAND**

#### **CRAIG BUSH**

Craig Bush has been a committed member of the East Gippsland Landcare Network for many years. Since 2009, Craig has volunteered on several committees for the network including human relations, finance and audit, pest plant and animal programs and the executive. For the past two years, Craig has undertaken the role of vice-president for the network. He is always considerate in his thoughts and comments and reliable in his support of all members, acknowledging their views and encouraging open and honest communication.

Craig's role on the network is only one example of his dedication to Landcare. Craig and his wife Andrea run a sheep property between Tom's Creek and the Perry River. Together they work hard and live the principles of Landcare on their farm, establishing shelterbelts, conducting revegetation trials for native grasses and securing land for wildlife in covenanted areas. Craig is well known and highly regarded with the Landcare community, however many wouldn't know how much time and energy he puts into making the Landcare network the vibrant and successful organisation it is.



**GLENELG HOPKINS**

**COLLEEN LOMAS**

Colleen has been volunteering with the Panyabyr Landcare Group since she moved to the area in 1997, as an enthusiastic member, planting trees, attending field days, workshops and planning days. As a primary producer with an accounting background, Colleen has been a much valued treasurer for the last 15 years for the group. She has always provided accurate and timely records, payments and invoicing. Colleen just makes this all happen, with no fuss and seemingly no effort. No doubt there have been plenty of late nights spent on Landcare.

The treasurers' role in any organisation is not 'front and centre' for members and community to see, nevertheless it is integral to the ongoing success of the group. Colleen is always a friendly, positive, cheerful, hardworking, honest member of the Landcare group and her commitment is truly exceptional. The community are extremely grateful to Colleen, for all the unseen volunteering effort and time she commits, for the benefit of others.



## **GOULBURN BROKEN**

### **ALLAN STUTE**

Allan Stute has been an active Landcare member and treasurer for three Landcare groups for over 22 years. In 1994, Allan was the inaugural treasurer for all three groups; Sunday Creek Dry Creek Landcare Group, Sunday Creek Sugarloaf Sub Catchment Inc. and South West Goulburn Landcare Collective.

Allan has been treasurer for these groups, through times of natural disasters, including droughts, floods and the Black Saturday bushfire which devastated the area. Allan has shown great leadership in professionally managing the finances, including handling several complex grant budgets and acquittals at the same time, which is no mean feat!

Allan puts a lot of time and effort into ensuring financial reports are detailed and accurate, this reflects the high level of professionalism and integrity he has. You could say Allan is a true Landcare treasure!



**MALLEE**

**DOROTHY REID**

Dorothy Reid is a founding member of the Birchip Landcare Group. Since 1989, she has held the position of secretary and committee member and has been extensively involved in most the group activities over the last 27 years. Dorothy has always shown a strong commitment to the Landcare group, always going above and beyond with her dedication to the role as secretary.

Dorothy always makes herself available to the group for any activities that the group may conduct and always contributes through her talents, ensuring that the group submits correct and concise grant applications and reports. Dorothy, along with her husband Max, demonstrate the Landcare ethic in their own family farming enterprise.

Dorothy has been an invaluable cornerstone of the group and still actively contributes on a regular basis. Being in her mid-eighties make this even more extraordinary, demonstrating her level of commitment and loyalty to Landcare and the Birchip community.



#### **NORTH CENTRAL**

#### **DOUG HANSFORD**

Doug has been a committed and innovative member of the Guildford and Upper Loddon Landcare Group for over 20 years. In that time, Doug has overseen the implementation of many landscape restoration projects and community activities, bringing together landholders from across the area.

Doug joined the Landcare group in 1995 and continues to be committed to his role as president within the group. Working full time and managing a large local business, Doug has retained enthusiasm for the group and has been instrumental in implementing many large projects. He has provided leadership and support to all the members, volunteers, contractors and crews that make up the larger picture of landscape restoration within the Loddon River and Jim Crow catchments.





#### **NORTH EAST**

#### **JIM DE HENNIN**

Since 1999, Jim has been president of the Wises Creek-Talgarno Landcare Group, and the founding and current president of the Mitta to Murray Blackberry Action Group.

Jim continuously encourages others to be involved in Landcare and sustainability. As a leader of these groups, Jim actively invites residents to participate and goes out of his way to make them welcome.

Jim is highly respected in the community and participates in providing leadership and support, either as executive or advisory role to a range of groups. These include Landcare, Blackberry Action Group, Grasslands Society of Southern Australia, Better Beef, North East CMA Regional Facilitator Program, Lake Hume Community Reference Group and the CFA.

Jim always looks to build the capacity of group members, by encouraging people to participate in governance and committees, training and development opportunities and leadership positions and expand their horizons. Jim is always there to support the Landcare community and attend field days, workshops, trials, conferences and meetings, some of which have been run on his Murray River property.

Jim's outstanding long term and dedicated commitment to the Landcare is remarkable, and this award is highly deserving for his years of volunteer service.



## **PORT PHILLIP AND WESTERNPORT**

### **IRENE PEAREY**

Irene is an exemplary member of the Yarra Ranges Landcare Network, where she has held executive roles since its inception. Irene has just stepped down as president to assume treasury duties which is a considerable undertaking for a volunteer. Irene is thorough, scrupulous, responsible for detailed and onerous records and reporting. She has applied many of the principles of property management learnt from Landcare including revegetation and pasture management to her six hectare lifestyle property, which is an outstanding example of good, responsible management.

The role Irene has played for more than twenty years, is greatly admired by the people she has worked with. Her contribution has not only helped her local Macclesfield Landcare Group but her active participation on various NRM committees has played an important role in community leadership.

She has devoted a great deal of her life to the Landcare movement, believing in the power of community to create change.





## **WEST GIPPSLAND**

### **MELISSA AINSWORTH**

Melissa is a constant support and encouragement to the Merriman Creek community in west Gippsland, always putting the environment first in her actions. She is efficient, diligent and hardworking, supporting Landcare for over 20 years and taking on the role of secretary of the Yarram Yarram Landcare Network for the past four years.

She is constantly a positive and willing volunteer for the Merriman Creek Landcare Group, offering many hours of her time and almost singlehandedly keeping the group actively involved in on ground works. She has written funding applications, delivered project reports, organised meetings and encouraged others to participate in projects and events.

As network secretary, Melissa has taken the lead on many occasions to make decisions such as coordinating guest speakers, calling meetings, setting agendas and keeping the records up to date. Melissa has helped to build the Yarram Yarram Landcare Network board into a cohesive committee and has played a big part in why it operates so effectively today.



## **WIMMERA**

### **MICHAEL MCMURTRIE**

Michael played a leading role in establishing Project Platypus in 1994, when it became obvious that the land and water degradation problems were becoming extensive. As the inaugural chairman, Michael steered the ship for five highly productive and busy years.

As president of the Jallukar Landcare Group, Michael continued as a representative on the Project Platypus board for 17 years. He has always been an outspoken champion for Project Platypus and never misses an opportunity to promote the organisation to politicians, potential sponsors and community members.

Michael is a passionate advocate for group-based action and has helped the community through the highs and lows of changing funding cycles, government priorities and support. This has involved many challenging decisions and much discussion and teamwork.

The local volunteers acknowledge the amazing lifelong contribution and leadership Michael has given to Landcare in the Upper Wimmera community.