

## Loddon Plains Landcare Network CLEA Progress Report, 10/07/17

Loddon Plains Landcare Network had their first workshop with CLEA, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2017. We met for a morning 9-12 in the old Shire office in Serpentine. We got through to their Question Without an Easy Answer - **How will we improve communication flow across the Network?** – then went on to *Best Bets* for breaking new ground around that question - see the update on the right here.

Three months later, I phoned Michael Moore, LPLN's Secretary to see how things were going. We talked for half an hour (see right hand column) and got more of Michael's thinking on collaboration and communication. He's just started going to a networking meeting between local organisations from education, health and employment/training.

"You listen to them," says Michael, "and they've got all these people looking for opportunities, and we've got all these opportunities. How can we put the two together?"

Michael, now retired to Wedderburn, has many years experience as a teacher, from primary to tertiary level. He's been innovating for years. I put down the phone thinking how lucky we are to have people like Michael in the Landcare community, always thinking about how to do things better, but not pushing too hard. Give him a call if you're doing some of the same things. +61354943542.

**Ross Colliver, Organiser for LVI's CLEA Project**

## *How will we improve communication flow across the Network?*

- Hold Network CoM meetings progressively around Network area. Run a normal CoM meeting, but with a **regular agenda item** where a group or groups share what they're doing and want to do, hear about Network-wide projects, and discuss how the Network can support them. James to lay the ground work for this as he meets with groups.
- Identify **the Communicators** in each group and ask them what support they need to communicate with their community. Set up training and coaching across groups.
- Hold a **regular mid-year gathering in July** where a) we get together socially b) two or three groups showcase their projects c) the Network presents on funding programs.

- The Network CoM has had two meetings, each in a different location, and invited in local groups. They sat down together for a meal as well as the meeting, and the Network had a chance to tell them about its group capacity building project. The Network has 18 member groups, so it's going to take a while to get around to the groups.
- Their facilitator James Nelsson is visiting groups one-on-one too, to map out with them about where they want to build capacity.
- *"I never expected things to happen in a rush,"* says LPLN Secretary Michael Moore. *"It's a creeping process."*
- They haven't got to the communications role yet, but it's on the agenda as their Facilitator James Nelsson visits groups.
- If you're a facilitator building up the capacity of your local groups, James is interested to hear how you're doing it. 0490 412 430. Share the love.

