

## Upper Goulburn Landcare Network Progress, May 2018

UGLN's Question Without an Easy Answer has been "How do we educate new settlers?" With LVI's CLEA Project facilitating, the Network committee looked at what had strengthened in the Network and where they needed to break new ground.

Like many areas close to Melbourne, the Upper Goulburn has a continual flow of new people coming into the area. They come for cheap land, more space, for peace of the bush, to retire or to work from home offices (and sometimes to commute!). Most don't realise what's involved in managing a property, and they don't always realise that they are moving into a working agricultural landscape.

UGLN's committee broke the big question of educating new settlers into four parts:

- Q 1. How do we reach new settlers?
- Q 2. How do we educate new settlers about land management?
- Q 3. How do we show new settlers how production and conservation go together in this landscape?
- Q 4. How do we set up public recognition of good land managers?

They have made solid progress and put in place ways to improve their connection to new settlers.

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

## How do we educate new settlers?

*We share mailing lists with other community organisations.* UGLN shares mailing lists with other organisations that want to reach residents in the upper Goulburn, like Yea Community House and CEACA, the Continuing Education and Arts Centre of Alexandra. We keep in touch with the managers of those organisations, so there's a personal relationship, not just an administrative one.

*Our one-day forums introduce owners of smaller properties to the basics of land management.* The forums are well-attended and show people what they need to get on top of in managing a property.

*Our follow-up workshops on specific topics are giving people more.* People are stepping on from our intro forum to learn more about specific topics that interest them, like managing horse properties, organic farming on a smaller property, orchard pruning, and management of cattle. And these workshops are bringing in new people interested in each topic.

*We get our news out through multiple channels.* Our newsletter of course, and mail to our member groups, but also posters in local shops, advertisements and articles in local newspapers, community radio, and our own mailing list, which we keep adding to as new people attend our events.

*We are reaching new settlers by connecting to their children.* We support teachers in our primary schools with materials on environmental issues, building towards the annual 'Kids Teaching Kids' day. And we have a composting project underway in Alexandra, where kids pick up food waste from shops and bring it to their own composting set up.



**LVI's CLEA Project**  
Community Learning for Environmental Action