***Loch-Nyora Landcare Group (est. 1996) President’s report July 2022***

Welcome to the 2022 Loch-Nyora Landcare AGM.

Another meeting, another passing of seasons and another year.

 It’s 2022 and just over 2 years since Covid 19 changed our lives with it’s complications.

Despite the virus LNLG has progressed and continued our community presence.

This year we received the news that we were successful with a Melbourne Water grant application to address Wasps and Weeds at the Loch Memorial Reserve. The wasps have been an increasing problem to users of the Reserve. An area under the suspension bridge is used by the Loch Kinder for their weekly Bush Kinder project program and it is hoped we can re-vegetate with them some time next year after the work is done.

The new Rail Trail is a wonderful asset for Loch and Nyora and the connectiveness and benefits will only increase in years to come. A walk out to Hilda Falls from Loch is now easy and with the viewing platform in place the glory of the Falls is now shared more widely. It is hoped LNLG can work with SGSC to further beautify and maintain this natural and historical feature.

Liaising with the Jeetho community, the SGLN and the SGSC and organised by uni student Jessica Steele we were involved with a Pedal and Plant project on the Rail Trail at Jeetho. 1000 trees were planted on the morning of June 18th by cyclists, walkers, committee and interested helpers. Lunch was enjoyed at the historic Jeetho Hall and in years to come the plantation will be part of the attraction of the rail trail.....especially with our member Austin’s adjacent plantation.

Our weed signs have been out for the weed season but unfortunately weeds continue to be a problem. It is disheartening to drive around the district in Summer and see so much yellow flowering Ragwort and as President I get asked what we are doing about it.... .....it’s an ongoing issue that needs to be constantly talked about and controlled. The ever increasing Sweet Pittosporum that is becoming prevalent is also an issue that needs addressing.

Cape Horn on Wonthaggi Road which has our Wark memorial plantation and seat had some vandalism during the year. We initiated repair of another table and chairs from our own funds as a good-will gesture.

Our partnership with Melaleuca Nursery at Inverloch continues with benefit to our members receiving 10 free tube-stock included in their $35 family membership. This year we move to an online portal with members currently paid up having an extra 6 months and not having to renew until January.

Our meetings are held every second month. We communicate to 52 families or groups on our mailing list through emails, regular seasonal newsletters with a local feature species (sometimes season reflections as we are a tad behind) in the local publication..... The Loch Express and on Facebook local community pages.

I would sincerely like to thank our wonderful committee....Christine Connelly our Secretary....... juggling a number of balls in the air, our ever efficient treasurer Gary Martin, George our VP and my brilliant committee of Ron, Dallas, Steve, Daryl, Bruce, Pam and Heather.

You have all stepped up and attended meetings and got behind our projects.

Engaging our members continues to be an objective for the group and hopefully 2023 will see more connection and involvement

Rosemary Knox President 2022

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And as I always finish with a quote......this year from The Lorax who once said.......

UNLESS SOMEONE LIKE YOU CARES A WHOLE AWFUL LOT, NOTHING IS GOING TO GET BETTER, IT’S NOT

