

Australian Landcare International (ALI) is an incorporated, not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to assist other countries to manage their natural resources using a Landcare approach.



### September 2017

### President's message.

April 2017 saw the Australian Government grant tax-deductibility for donations to ALI to support overseas projects. Members and past donors have since then raised over \$2000 with more promised in the near future. We hope this continues, and also makes ALI more attractive to the corporate sector.

Of late, a vital new role for Landcare has emerged - acting as the community's cornerstone after major disasters such as fire, flood and cyclones. This will be one of the cornerstones of the first conference international Landcare outside Australia. ALL which is with sponsoring in Nagoya our SPELJ counterpart Japanese and Nanzan University's Institute for Social Ethics. This gathering of Landcare academics and practitioners will discuss theories, practice and pragmatics of Landcare, localism, self-reliance,

sustainability. rural and regional resilience and post-emergency and recovery, application disaster for globally. Countries being represented include USA, South Africa, NZ, Kenya, Cambodia, the Philippines, Pakistan, Iceland and Japan, of course.

See the website:

http://resiliencestudies.com/landcareconference2017/

Several ALI members will attend, and ALI has raised some of the finance, thanks to grants from the Australia-Japan Foundation in Canberra and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development in Geneva. This money will go to travel grants and speakers travel and accommodation, including some overseas participants.

ALI recently took part in a workshop led by Prof Andrew Campbell, CEO of ACIAR. A group of Victorians, including several of our members, contributed ideas on new research projects and on Landcare training and dissemination of ideas and techniques.

Finally, we need more recruits to ALI, and to spread the action – to have cells of international Landcare activists in every state. I like to think we are heading steadily towards that goal, and that the Nagoya experience will result in new participants around Australia.

Rob Youl

President

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## Come to the AGM on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October

Following our normal committee meeting at 3.30, our AGM will be held on Friday 13th October at 4pm at Port Phillip Eco-Centre, Blessington Street, St Kilda. Nibbles later.

Our guest speaker will be *Rikka Hockkanen,* an Australian biologist who worked extensively in Malawi for private companies and NGOs, and before that in the Northern Territory. She now lives in Melbourne. She will be talking about :

Environmental Experiences in Malawi

# On-line courses on Natural Resource Management

I recently completed an on-line, university based course on Landscape Restoration for Sustainable Development: a Business Approach. It was an 8 week course with a final exercise for assessment by fellow students and lecturers.

It is the first on-line course I have ever attempted some 40 years after my last university studies, and I quite enjoyed being stretched with new ideas, particularly economically based views of land restoration. There was a strong emphasis on community based action to address broad-scale problems of land degradation and unprofitable land use. A very Landcare approach !

The course came from the Erasmus University Rotterdam with additional input from lecturers from universities in Iceland and the UK. The PowerPoint summaries and the on-line exercises discussions with other students and were very clear and helpful. Students came mainly from European countries but there were a few from Asia, Africa and South America. The basic course was free but a fee of about \$60 US was charged for a certificate of course completion. The course was one of numerous courses found under the Coursera brand (www.coursera.org) which draws on staff from many wellknown universities around the world. Horrie Poussard

## New International Landcare conference in Japan

The first International Landcare Conference outside Australia will be at Nagoya in Japan on 5-8<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. Nagoya, about half way between Tokyo and Osaka in central Japan. The conference will be conducted in English and there are no conference fees. The last International Landcare Conference was held in Melbourne in 2006 – more than 10 years ago. But time is short if you want to book in !

The Nagoya conference is being organised by Dr Mick Seigel and his team at Nanzan University Institute for Social Ethics with the title **Global** resilience through local self-reliance - the Landcare model.



#### Nagoya in Autumn

The conference is expected to have around fifty participants from various countries with lots of opportunity to swap ideas and experiences. It will focus on Landcare research and practice – social science, community development, practical outcomes, policy and funding impacts.

The conference has gathered a good set of international speakers including Prof Andrew Campbell, (formerly of Charles Darwin University and now head of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, Prof Yvonne Everett (Humboldt University, USA), Dr Nick Edgar (New Zealand), Gudmundur Ingi Gudbrandsson and Dr Andres Arnalds (both of Iceland) and Jen Quealy, and Dr Ross Colliver (Australia)

The Australia-Japan Foundation and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) have generously supported ALI to fund many of the speakers for the conference. Some additional grants have been awarded to participants to assist with travel costs.

The Conference will be held in the Kanayama Plaza Hotel in Nagoya. Further details of the conference program and costs can be found on http://resiliencestudies.com/landcare-conference2017/

Further information available from ALI at robmyoul@gmail.com or from secretary@alci.com.au

Make a tax-deductible donation to ALI for our Overseas Landcare Program and help get projects up and running. We currently have projects awaiting funding. For more information talk to President Rob Youl about donating.

#### DONATE ON-LINE

http://alci.com.au/overseas-landcarefund/

You can also donate by cheque (made payable to ALI) to ALI Treasurer, 17 Lookout Rd Kalimna , Vic. 3909. Or direct bank transfer to Bank Australia: Acct: Australian Landcare International. **BSB**: 633-000. **Acct**: 133103598 And send details (name, address & donation date) to: treasurer@alci.com.au

# ALI in partnership with CSU in Timor Leste

ALI is pleased to be a partner with Charles Stuart University (CSU) in a new project which has been awarded funding by the Darwin Initiative, a UK based funding group. The project is focused on natural regeneration and agroforestry in the Manatuto district in Timor Leste.

ALI provides a small financial support to the project as part of our on-going interest in Timor Leste. ALI Member Dr Jo Millar has been the key initiator of the project. A significant element of the project is improved biodiversity conservation and carbon payments through an internationally recognised carbon accreditation scheme. The not-General Training for-profit Northern Territory (GTNT) will be providing the main on-ground support and training for the project, along with World Vision Timor.

We have given several OLP grants to other projects in Timor Leste previously and we are supporting CSU on another Darwin Initiative project in Bhutan. The new Darwin Initiative project grant totals about \$500 000 over three years. It will support some local forestry staff and provide materials and labour for extensive community planting. Plantings of native and introduced species for timber and biodiversity (eg mahogany, teak, endangered species) and food trees (eg coffee, tea, cashew, fruits, honey) will be scaled up to 260ha. A new blog has been set up by CSU and information on the project can be found on

http://www.csu.edu.au/research/ilws/research/s ummaries/2017/community-reforestation

#### Sign up as a member

ALI membership is still only \$20 per annum and free for students and under 25s. Landcare groups pay \$40 per year. Membership helps us with funds for doing all those little but important things that keep our not-for-profit organisation ticking over. Membership also allows us to present a case to donors and government that ALI is a significant organisation doing worthwhile things with overseas communities.

We are always happy to see new members supporting ALI. We now have more than 60 members on our books and would love to have more. If you know of anyone who would be interested in what we do, please mention ALI to them.

#### ALI Committee

**President : Rob Youl** 

Secretary : Sandra McPhee

Treasurer : Paula Havelberg

**PR : Andrea Mason** 

**Projects : Horrie Poussard** 

Committee: Ian Oxenford, Kellie Nichols, Phil Horner.

New committee members welcomed



Another great cartoon by Judy Horacek

### **ALI website and Facebook**

Comments welcomed ..



www.facebook.com/Australianlandcare

And for Twitter fans



ALI@AusLandcareInt



Become a member of ALI. Your membership helps ALI keep up with what is happening globally and supports our website and other office costs.

THE BENEFITS OF ALI MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP		
• Using your Landcare experience to assist overseas groups	Student or under 25 Free		
<ul> <li>Overseas contacts for future travel</li> <li>Developing links with possible sister groups overseas</li> </ul>	Individual \$20		
<ul> <li>Being part of a world-wide movement for land, biodiversity and community improvement</li> </ul>	Landcare or community group \$40		
Regular e-newsletter on overseas Landcare developments			

Ν	Name/Group					
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l	nterested in vo	lunteering some	time? Yes			
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т	Type of membe	rship (x) :	Student or <	25 Individ	dual 🚺 Grou	ρ

Return with cheque (where required) to:

ALI: Treasurer 17 Lookout Rd Kalimna, Vic. 3909

Or direct Bank Transfer to Bendigo Bank Acct: Australian Landcare International. BSB 633-000 Acct 1331 03598 And send details to <u>treasurer@alci.com.au</u>

www.alci.com.au