

Wallaga Lake Heights community newsletter 24, 21 December 2022

Land Care work along Wallaga Lake foreshore

While the spring rains turned much of the lake side path and surrounds into a mudslide, much work has been done. Stabilisation of the bank using low native plants – Westringia, Correa, Rhagodia, Dianella – has proceeded apace. Banksia, Lomandra and Lilly Pilli have been planted closer to the lake.

The eternal battle with the weeds, themselves much encouraged by the rain, continues with lantana, blackberry, honeysuckle, moth vine and turkey rhubarb receiving some serious attention. And the mighty stand of elephant grass, while seriously subdued, keeps threatening to re-establish itself whenever we ignore it for more than a month.

Planting has been paused for summer and will start again in the autumn with new deliveries of plants purchased with the grants received from Bega Valley Shire.

STOP PRESS: We have just (21 December) hosted a visit from Far South Coast Land Care, their contractor Coastal Weeds, the Council's environmental, parks and recreation departments. We discussed our background and future plans while walking the foreshore to show them what had been achieved since we started in 2020. They were impressed, offering ongoing support in all of the disciplines covered. We look forward to a continuing constructive relationship with all of them.

Summer

A dry chilly start to summer has allowed the foreshore path along Wallaga Lake to dry out for the first time in many months. The third La Niña in a row is forecast for 2023, promising another summer free of the bushfire threat that led to the formation of Heights Care on New Year's Eve 2019. But it's only a forecast, and it wouldn't take long for a dry January and February to take conditions closer to 2019.

So we remain alert!

We wish all of out Heights Care community, residents, visitors, friends and supporters a wonderful Christmas holiday. Followed, we all hope, by a peaceful and prosperous 2023.

Best wishes, Heights Care steering group,

Roz Bannon Peter Campbell Ivana Gattegno

Alison Kuiter Doug Mein Olga Nielsen

Bill Southwood