



Australian
Landcare
International

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.



June 2016

President's Message

There has been increased activity and action overseas, and here in Oz, thanks especially to ALI members:

Japan Having submitted a new project we await Australia-Japan Foundation's 2016 grants announcement. The proposal is for a four-stage exchange between the two countries including conferences, training, excursions and disaster and conference planning. We wish our colleague in Japan, Professor Michael Seigel well as he recuperates from major surgery.

Uganda-Zambia ALI has a role in the farming-marketing project funded by ACIAR, Canberra and run by ICRAF/WAC in Uganda and Zambia; Bernie Wonder and Clinton Muller, now a Melbournian, worked on this project. (Welcome Clinton! And Alice and Matilda! And thanks Bernie for sterling

Committee service!) This may involve ALI teams running community workshops and specialist training for co-ordinators in those countries. Watch this space!

RSA conference At Kimberly on the 3-6th October 2016 – always exciting! See later.

Indonesia A high-level delegation from Indonesia's environment ministry may visit Victoria soon examining extensive revegetation, including aerial seeding by VicForests.

PR A Dutch journalist plans articles on Landcare in *Farming Matters*, published by Dutch NGO, *Solidaridad*.

Bhutan With Dr Jo Millar's CSU-Bhutan project approved, ALI hopes to assist with modest support; red panda conservation and repairing land

degradation through community group action is the major focus.

Caribbean Our Wolverhampton contact, Ms Keptreene Finch recently visited CARDI (Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute) on her home islands of St Kitts and Nevis, and found it quite interested in running regional Landcare training. ALI provided outline syllabuses for such events, which could also include organic and hydroponic farming.

National Landcare Conference The Conference is on this year in Melbourne on 21-23rd September 2016. ALI members have submitted three abstracts on international opportunities and activities. We hope we can attract, and look after, some overseas participants.

New Zealand Landcare Trust

The NZ government recently guaranteed funding to NZLT. This will boost their programs and we hope generate an expansion of Landcare in NZ

Rob Youl

robmyoul@gmail.com

0407 362 840



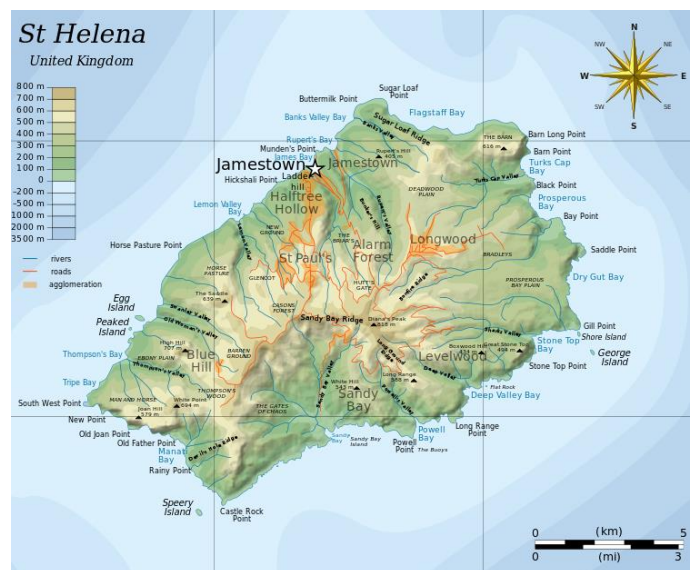
www.facebook.com/Australianlandcare



ALI@AusLandcareInt

Napoleon's Island - an early conservation initiative

St Helena, an island of 120 sq km in the South Atlantic, is one of the most remote places in the world. It is a British Overseas Territory and claimed by the British in 1658. Its fame for most people lies in the fact that it was the last resting place for Napoleon Bonaparte, ex Emperor of France.



By Barry Weaver and Jean-Pierre Langer

Back in 1715, the then Governor suggested all the population (about 1,000) move to Mauritius because of the major ecological problems of soil erosion, deforestation, vermin and drought. This move didn't happen but it triggered a major conservation program over the years which in part allowed for the island to enjoy a lengthy period of prosperity.

Between 1791 and 1833, St. Helena became the site of a series of experiments in conservation, reforestation and attempts to boost rainfall artificially. This environmental

intervention was closely linked to the conceptualisation of the processes of environmental change and helped establish the roots of environmentalism. (Wikipedia)

A Great Australian Export

Landcare is a great Australian export which we should try to promote here and overseas.

This is one of the key statements that Clinton Muller made when he spoke at an ALI meeting recently. And he has had the last 4 years working in Africa on Landcare support as an Australian Volunteer to back that up. Clinton was talking about his work with Landcare mainly in East African countries under the various programs out of the World Agroforestry Centre, based in Nairobi, Kenya. Increasingly there are also Landcare programs that individual African governments are running out to local communities.

Landcare is particularly strong in South Africa and Uganda, and other nations like Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Malawi and Burundi have growing on-ground Landcare activities. It is important to note, says Clinton that each country has its own way of doing Landcare and this reflects its past experience, its government and community styles, and its pressing needs. Much of the focus on Landcare in

Africa is about building food production in a sustainable way.

While there are different emphases from place to place, Clinton said that he feels there are half a dozen “Principles of Landcare” that he sees as important. Here are countries where these principles are very much in evidence.

Landcare Principle	Country Example
1. <i>Integrated Sustainable Natural Resource Management</i>	Ethiopia
2. <i>Community based and led NRM within a participatory framework</i>	Zimbabwe
3. <i>Development of sustainable livelihoods utilising empowerment strategies</i>	Malawi & Kenya
4. <i>Government, community and individual capacity building</i>	South Africa
5. <i>Development of active and true partnerships</i>	Democratic Republic of Congo
6. <i>Blending together of appropriate upper level policy processes with bottom up feedback mechanisms</i>	Uganda

Clinton finished up with the following key take-home messages:

1. Landcare is a great Australian export
2. The operation of Landcare has evolved uniquely in each country - so too does the type of support needed
3. You need measured success stories to enable adoption
4. Soft skill development is as important as hard skills
5. Knowledge sharing and exchange is critically important for success

Mix Work with Pleasure

As we mentioned in the last newsletter the next South African Landcare Conference is to be held at Kimberly in the Northern Cape Province, from 3-6th October this year. This is a great opportunity to meet the very enthusiastic and energetic South African people involved in Landcare.

The RSA government has built Landcare into its rural programs and has keenly promoted Junior Landcare as a building block to improve the community understanding and natural resource knowledge of young South Africans.

ALI President Rob Youl has been to previous Landcare conferences in South Africa and extols their virtue as a great opportunity to see the country and make new friends. The details are still in the making. If you are interested in going as an individual or group, contact Rob Youl for further information on travel in RSA robmyoul@gmail.com

Communications

Send all material to Andrea Mason for website, Twitter and Facebook publishing:
andrea.mason@findingnorth.net.au



Judy Horacek

Noted Australian cartoonist and illustrator Judy Horacek has generously allowed ALI the use of some of her cartoons for the newsletter. See her website at www.horacek.com.au

Overseas Projects

Through our Overseas Landcare Fund we have been able to support 25 projects in 12 countries in Asia, Africa and the Pacific. Most of the donors have been landcare groups giving \$500 - \$1000 to a project. Some local groups are now providing funds on a continuing basis each year to "their" overseas community groups. ALI has personal contact with the recipient groups and we are confident of how the funds are used. Any interested Australian Landcare group or individual can contact Horrie Poussard at poussard@iinet.net.au or Rob Youl robmyoul@gmail.com

It's that time again to renew your membership.



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

- Using your Landcare experience to assist overseas groups
- Overseas contacts for future travel
- Developing links with possible sister groups overseas
- Being part of a world-wide movement for land, biodiversity and community improvement
- Regular e-newsletter on overseas Landcare developments

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Student or under 25	Free
Individual	\$20
Landcare or community group	\$40

Name/Group

Address

P/C

Email

Interested in volunteering some time? Yes

☐

We need help with admin, publications, PR, etc.

Type of membership (x) :

Student or < 25

☐

Individual

☐

Group

☐

Return with cheque (where required) to:

Treasurer ALI:

9/2 Bath Place, Port Melbourne 3207 Vic, Australia

Or direct Bank Transfer to Bendigo Bank

Acct: Australian Landcare International. BSB 633-000 Acct 1331 03598

And send details to treasurer@alci.com.au