

Fire Brigade news

Prepare now for the fire season



Now is the time to be preparing for summer and the fire season. Our area is still green but there's a lot of grass! Prepare your property, think about plans, change your plan from last year if circumstances have changed. Burning small piles is still allowed but you need to choose your time, we're at the point where green grass will burn in wind. Please have water on hand and register burn-offs at firepermits.vic.gov.au/notify or 1800 668 511.

When restrictions start they will show on this page. cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/northern-country-fire-district

There's no community Fire Ready meeting planned at this stage but there are a lot of resources on the CFA website, regular posts on the Sedgwick Brigade Facebook page and you can also contact the brigade for advice via email: Julian.Hall@members.cfa.vic.gov.au

No Christmas party this year...sorry!

The Sedgwick Hall and Conservation Reserve Management Committee waited and waited to make a decision, hoping COVID -19 restrictions would be eased sufficiently so we could hold our annual community Christmas party, but we cannot go ahead with it yet. Let's now look forward to a special summer event in the new year instead.

Landcare news

Re-emergence during the time of COVID-19

No accounting for timing! Late last year, NHSEL reconvened with enthusiasm, a huge list of events and a new committee. The impact of COVID slowed things down, but we have run a few events and have plans for more.

This year we've had a Sedgwick bush walk, a guided tour of a Sedgwick property, a celebration of National Tree Day with pledges of 1820 seedlings to be planted (our goal was 500 seedlings YAY!!) and a NHSEL volunteer planting of 50 seedlings on Sally and Phil's windy hill. We celebrated the coming of Spring in September with a month long photographic competition which resulted in some terrific shots and great engagement. We collaborated with Connecting Country and organised a self-guided bird watching walk along the channel in Sedgwick, this has had very positive feedback.

Eliza Alford has refreshed our social media profile, our facebook pages are looking good. We've also increased our email communication with members and are working to strike a balance between what fascinates us and too much information.

Because of COVID we had to postpone our nestbox building workshop. We plan to deliver that as soon as we can in 2021.

At an organisational level, we are reviewing our governance structure so we have solid oversight and compliance to operate from.

We welcome all members new and old and others who'd like to participate in what we do in the North Harcourt Sedgwick area.

La Nina

A brief comment on rainfall, to date in 2020 at Bendigo Airport:

Average Rainfall to November 477.4mm (115.2 days)

Total for 2020 538.4mm (145 days)

Total to this day in 2019 306.8mm (112 days)

Wettest Day 47.2mm on 4th April 2020

(Bendigo Airport data is derived from the Bureau of Meteorology) www.weatherzone.com.au/climate/station.jsp?lt=site&lc=81123

Water can still be seen running off the rocks in the granite country.

The bush and wildflowers have been spectacular. Pasture is very high - a timely reminder of the

importance of preparing your property for the bushfire season.

Patto - a recurring theme



Photo: Urban Bushland Council WA
bushlandperth.org.au

In 2016 a call went out to manage Patterson's Curse, let's return to this theme. It's been a bumper year for this wretched weed - the hills are purple.

Prevention and control are long terms activities that need an integrated approach - don't expect success in a single season.

Below are links to NSW and Victorian guides to prevention and management

weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Details/102

agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/weeds/priority-weeds/patersons-curse

Festival of Small Halls 2021

If all goes well and COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, we are anticipating the Festival of Small Halls will return to Sedgwick in March 2021.

More details as they come to hand.

North Harcourt Sedgwick Landcare Committee 2020

Karoline Klein President

Rohan Potter Vice-President

Kathie Stirling Treasurer

Peter Dingle Events Coordinator

Eliza Alford Social media

Jan Savage Communications/Secretary

Helen Jordan member

North Harcourt Sedgwick Landcare AGM 2020

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 29th November 2020 after our end of year get together at the Sedgwick Hall.

Sausages, bread and soft drinks will be provided (more details soon).

We hope this will be a chance to meet or re-acquaint with group members and enjoy a relaxed and happy celebration. At our brief meeting, we'll elect a new committee, so all nominations are very welcome (documents will be out next week) and outline past and future activities.

It would be terrific to see as many of you as possible in a socially distanced way. We are proceeding, confident that on 23rd November up to 50 people will be able to gather outdoors.

If you have any questions about North Harcourt Sedgwick Landcare or the the information in this article please contact Jan: nhselandcare@gmail.com



The Sedgwick Connect newsletter

This newsletter is issued periodically to keep residents of Sedgwick and North Harcourt informed of current events, essential information and community news.

Website and Facebook

The Sedgwick Connect website - sedgwickcommunity.org.au and the Sedgwick Connect Facebook page - facebook.com/sedgwickconnect

The Sedgwick Brigade Facebook page - facebook.com/sedgwickcfa