

GORSE TALK

ENEWS
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Committee Update

It's true, it's been a while since our last Gorse Talk newsletter, like so many other organisations COVID caused many disruptions to our core business over the last year.

We are looking forward to bringing in a new year with less restrictions so that we can continue some of the great work we have started during 2021.

After completing her contract at the beginning of the year, we said goodbye to our awesome Communications, Community Engagement and Extension Officer **Brydie Murrhiy**.

The VGT would like to acknowledge her work in assisting Victorian communities build their capacity to control gorse. Some of Brydie's accomplishments included developing and growing the VGT digital communication space, extension services to gorse affected property owners, developing online resources and engaging with key stakeholders on limiting the pathways of spread.

We were so lucky to have had Brydie in this key role and are even more pleased she has chosen to stay on as a valued and dedicated committee member throughout the year.

The **2020/2021 Progress Report** will be released in the next few weeks. You'll find a message from our Chair Ron Cosgrave, a snapshot of the VGT achievements and a summary of the finances.

The VGT wants to warmly thank everyone who has been involved in or supported our work throughout 2021. Merry Christmas and bring on 2022!

VGT seeking new committee members

Ever thought about being part of the solution to the gorse problem? Why not be part of the Taskforce?

The VGT are calling for new members to join the committee for 2021/22.

When: Tuesday 1 February 2022

Time: 11:00am

Where: Creswick Community Hub, Albert Street Creswick 3363

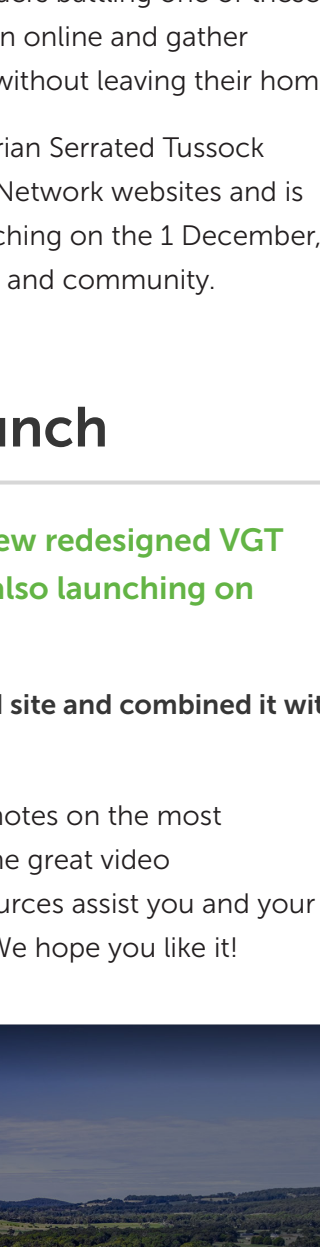
For more information email our Executive Officer: info@vicgorsetaskforce.com.au or call 0417 593 250.

Look out for the new Virtual Extension Officer website

Gain a virtual insight

Explore the Virtual Extension Officer, a new interactive tool designed to help you manage 3 of Victoria's worst invasive species - gorse, serrated tussock and rabbits.

[GO TO VIRTUAL EXTENSION OFFICER](#)



The VGT are very happy to finally announce the launch of the new Virtual Extension Officer (VEO) website.

The VEO is a free online resource for landholders effected by gorse, serrated tussock and rabbits.

The VEO was developed to enable landholders battling one of these species, to replicate their individual situation online and gather personalised information, in one location, without leaving their home.

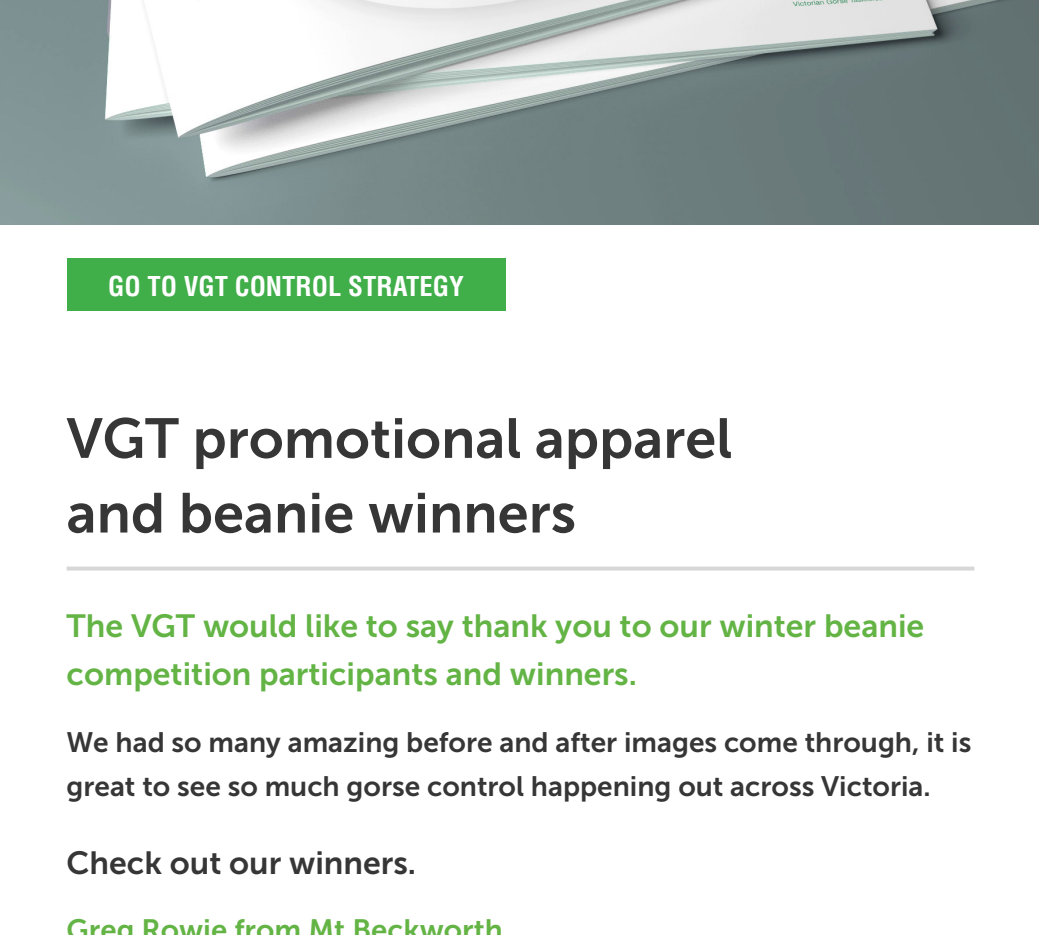
The VEO also interacts with the VGT, Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party and Victorian Rabbit Action Network websites and is compatible with most smart devices. Launching on the 1 December, check it out and share it with your network and community.

New VGT website launch

The VGT are so happy to share the new redesigned VGT website with the gorse community, also launching on 1 December, 2021.

We have taken all the best parts of our old site and combined it with some exciting new content.

Our new website highlights 14 new gorse notes on the most commonly used control methods plus some great video demonstrations. We hope these great resources assist you and your communities to effectively control gorse. We hope you like it!



[GO TO VGT WEBSITE](#)

Small Community Grant recipients 2021/2022

Congratulations to our Community Grant recipients for 2021-2022!

The successful project groups are:

- Ashbourne Landcare
- Best Food and Fibre Environmental Group Inc.
- Deep Creek Landcare Group
- Upper Loddon and Avoca Landcare Network
- Tylden Landcare Group
- South West Goulburn Landcare Group

We also have three private landowner groups this year which is very promising for those communities.



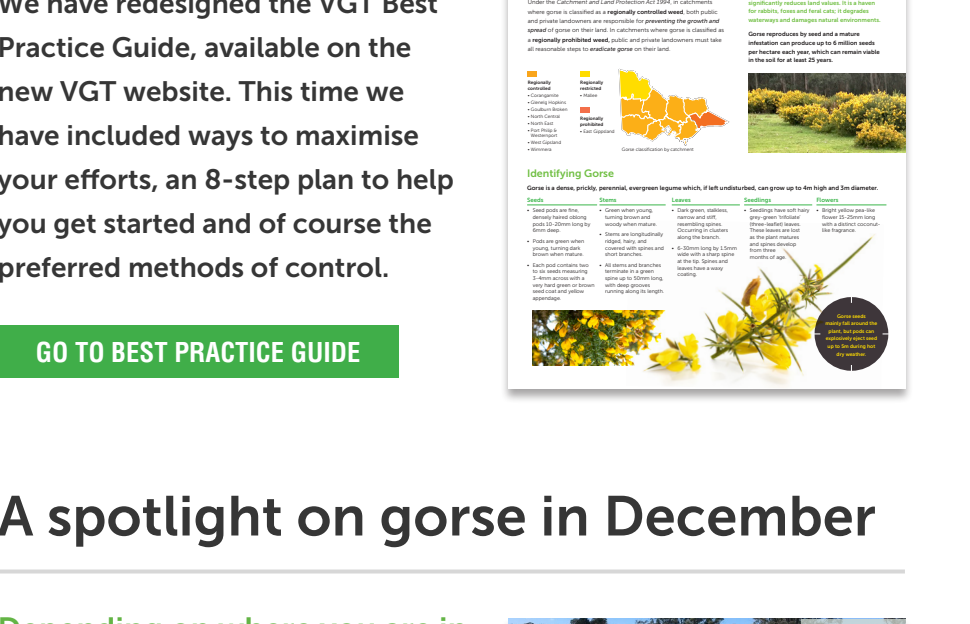
We are so happy to be able to continue to support community projects. We will keep you updated on their projects and success.

For more information on our 2021/22 grant recipients or the community grants program visit www.vicgorsetaskforce.com.au.

The new VGT Control Strategy is out now

The new strategy will focus the VGT's efforts over the next five years and help move towards realising the vision:

"All land managers, public and private, accept their responsibility for gorse control and the community is supported to take long-term action."



[GO TO VGT CONTROL STRATEGY](#)

VGT promotional apparel and beanie winners

The VGT would like to say thank you to our winter beanie competition participants and winners.

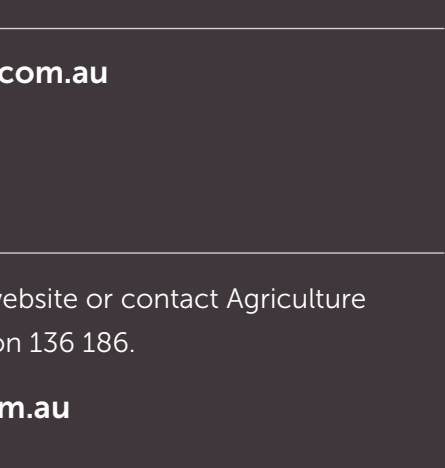
We had so many amazing before and after images come through, it is great to see so much gorse control happening out across Victoria.

Check out our winners.

Greg Rowie from Mt Beckworth



Before

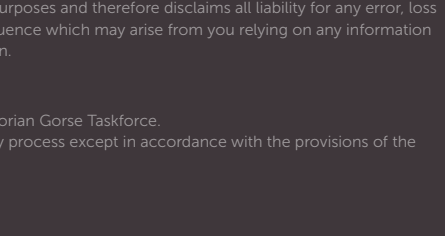


After

Declan ad Tabatha from Elmhurst



Before



After

The Greenline Project from Koroit

Before

After

Are you a gorse warrior or know someone who is? Then stay tuned for our next competition.

We have these amazing gorse warrior t-shirts to give away. So, if you're out and about controlling gorse over the next month, keep your camera with you. We can't wait to start this competition and see all the great photos come through.

Gorse story - LVI magazine

If you missed the winter 2021 issue of LVI's magazine that focused on invasive pest plants and animals then you can find the link below.

In this edition you'll find a great story co-written by VGT Deputy Chair Peter Forster and UHLMG Landcare Facilitator Ayesha Burdett about how the Ararat and UHLMG community rallied together for almost 20 years to stop gorse in its tracks. Happy reading!

[GO TO LVI MAGAZINE](#)

New VGT Best Practice Guide

There's a lot of information out there about gorse control, but is it all best practice?

We have redesigned the VGT Best Practice Guide, available on the new VGT website. This time we have included ways to maximise your efforts, an 8-step plan to help you get started and of course the preferred methods of control.

[GO TO BEST PRACTICE GUIDE](#)

A spotlight on gorse in December

Depending on where you are in Victoria, you will most likely see gorse in flower or starting to seed.

If you're looking to control gorse this month, it is extremely important to start before seeding begins, so don't delay. More seed going into the ground means more years of control needed.

Long-term management plans are the key to staying on top of gorse.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date:

www.facebook.com/VictorianGorseTaskforce

www.instagram.com/victorian_gorse_taskforce/

Contact the VGT

Email: info@vicgorsetaskforce.com.au

For more information

Visit the Victorian Gorse Taskforce website or contact Agriculture Victoria's Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

www.vicgorsetaskforce.com.au

Contribute to Gorse Talk

Send your Gorse Talk contribution to info@vicgorsetaskforce.com.au

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