



Newsletter of the Weed Society of Victoria Inc.

volume 25 issue 1 2014

# Weedscene

## Justin Bieber, Dingoes, Golden Sun Moths, Fad Diets and Other Pests

I had to rub my eyes hard, a few times.

‘Sorry to disappoint, but we won’t be commenting on this one.’ ‘Because the system is broken.’ ‘You better believe it.’

These are three excerpts from the official White House response to the *We the People* petition to deport Justin Bieber, sometime teen heartthrob and now a hoon and felon for DUI in the United States. *We the People* (273,968 signatories) had enough, petitioning the Obama Administration to ‘remove Justin Bieber from our society’ because Bieber ‘is not only threatening the safety of our people but he is also a terrible influence on our nations [sic] youth.’<sup>1</sup>



Justin Bieber, on the wrong sort of podium. Credit: Reuters/Walter Michot

I am no fan of Mr. Bieber: I hadn’t even known he was Canadian. But the White House candour is refreshing for a political outfit — a far cry from the doublespeak I’d expect from black suits and power dresses — although the writer knows this commentary does not, and will not, throw the spinning of the geopolitical sphere.

But more to the point: When do we start to perceive a pest as one, and what does it take to stir us to do something about it?

It doesn’t help that there is really no firm form to the invasion biology/weedy species framework. As some biologists point out, the ‘native good, alien bad’ mantra, although largely correct, is possibly overly simplistic.<sup>2</sup> Many alien species do not flourish in their adventitious range, following introduction.<sup>3</sup> Also, an alien species may act as surrogate, and provide ecosystem service in lieu of an abdicating or locally extinct native one.

Take, for example, the dingo (*Canis familiaris dingo*), a pest and scourge of livestock husbandry<sup>4</sup>, and the largest mammalian carnivore on mainland Australia, since the demise of the Tasmanian tiger. It needs not be all about



Dingo. Credit: Wikipedia

notoriety. Arian Wallach, University Fellow (Adjunct) at Charles Darwin University, recently writes in *The Conversation* explains how culling by 1080 poison leads to unintended effects: ‘But instead of limiting the populations of foxes and cats, it often makes things worse. Dingoes, which otherwise control introduced predators, also eat the bait. With no other predators, foxes and cats increase.’<sup>5</sup> Where foxes and cats increase, native wildlife suffers.

Public buy-in matters. Even as the *We the People* petition ultimately failed, it elicited a cognate response from the Administration — a need for ‘common-sense immigration

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# WSV Directory

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## WSV Membership Rates 2013–14

Concession*	\$20.00
Ordinary	\$60.00
Corporate	\$140.00

\* Students and Pensioners

WSV is not registered to collect GST

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**COVER PHOTO:** *Aeonium haworthii* (courtesy Rob Richardson)

## Joining the Weed Society of Victoria

The benefits of membership to WSV include:

- Weedscene: newsletter packed full of information
- eWeedscene: regular electronic bulletin on weed news and events
- Discounts to WSV seminars, workshops, conferences and other events
- Opportunities to network with others.

To apply for membership, download and print the membership application form from the WSV website, [www.wsvic.org.au](http://www.wsvic.org.au), complete the details and mail to the WSV Secretary.

**Weedscene** Newsletter of the Weed Society of Victoria Inc.

Contributions to Weedscene are welcomed. Please contact the editor for further information.

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■ Half page	180 mm wide × 128 mm high	\$275.00
■ Whole page	180 mm wide × 257 mm high	\$450.00

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reform to make sure everyone plays by the same set of rules.<sup>71</sup> And getting everyone to play by rules is one of the unstated motifs of Victoria's new Invasive Species Management Bill. Perhaps if a bottom-up approach doesn't work, a top-down one will.

I hesitate, though, to think that the new legislation is a panacea for our invasive species ills. One, much of Victoria's land is in private hands, and it will take an extraordinary amount of policing, or landowner goodwill (or both) to stop the invasive tide. Two, by the *Containment* and *Asset-based Protection* areas on the DEPI generalised invasion curve<sup>6</sup>, the Government has implicitly admitted that there are weeds that are beyond eradication, and these look to continue a largely unfettered existence under the new Bill. Three, there are always detractors, regardless of the amount of legislative or scientific chainmail a policy is endowed with.

The golden sun moth (*Synemon plana*) is listed as a critically endangered species under the EPBC Act. Several land development projects had been put under review where this moth has been found. This has angered some members of the public, who saw the golden sun moth (and other listed species) as symbols of anti-progress. Andrew Bolt writes in the *Herald Sun*: 'Maybe we'd actually be better off without this damn bug — this orange bellied parrot of the insect world — that's now crippling developments from Sydney to Melbourne.'<sup>7</sup> Yes, one person's endangered species is another person's vile pest.

I think invasive species researchers and campaigners can learn a thing or two from climate change scepticism and fad diets. Science can point the way forward, but given the complexity of the subject — recent research gives evidence that plant invasions are context-dependent<sup>8</sup> — we will have to give up any pretence that science is exact, and accounts for itself only. Weed workers and scientists have to learn to craft effective messages for public consumption; to do this, they will need to grasp what makes humans tick (no menial task itself!) Fad diets may be a good place to start: What makes people jump so readily onto the latest diet bandwagon (irrespective of the 'science' behind the claim)? What drives their belief? What makes them abandon it eventually?



Golden sun moths. Credit: Wikipedia

These changes will not happen overnight, but in the meantime, the WSV brings this year an extra dimension to our weeds conference series: animals. While the Fifth Victorian Weeds Conference may not be focusing on pest plant–animal synergies all the way — there are traditional sessions dedicated to weedy plants — I trust conference participants will come away with a greater appreciation of interactions between plants and animals, both native and alien.

Another development in this year's conference is a forum, *Putting Public Interest into Invasive Species Management*, chaired by Andrew Cox, of the Invasive Species Council. I am also delighted that the community rubric is mirrored in this year's 19th Australasian Weeds Conference in Tasmania, where David Simberloff, author of the layperson's book *Invasive Species: What Everyone Needs to Know* is giving a keynote address. These are exciting times ahead, and the WSV hopes to see you at both events.

## References

- <sup>1</sup> We the People (2014). *We petition the Obama Administration to deport Justin Bieber and revoke his green card*. Retrieved from <https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/deport-justin-bieber-and-revoke-his-green-card/ST1yqHJL>.
- <sup>2</sup> Goodenough, A.E. (2010). Are the ecological impacts of alien species misrepresented? A review of the 'native good, alien bad' philosophy. *Community Ecology*, 11(1), 13-21.
- <sup>3</sup> Colautti, R., Parker, J.D., Cadotte, M.W., Pysek, P., Brown, C.S., Sax, D., & Richardson, D. (2014). Quantifying the invasiveness of species. *NeoBiota*, 21, 7-27.
- <sup>4</sup> The State of Queensland (Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry). (2010). *Canis familiaris dingo*. Retrieved from <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/plants/weeds-pest-animals-ants/pest-animals/a-z-listing-of-pest-animals/photo-guide-to-pest-animals/dingo>.
- <sup>5</sup> Wallach, A. (2014). *Australia should enlist dingoes to control invasive species*. Retrieved from <http://theconversation.com/australia-should-enlist-dingoes-to-control-invasive-species-24807>.
- <sup>6</sup> The State of Victoria (Department of Environment and Primary Industries). (1996). *Protecting Victoria from pest animals and weeds*. Retrieved from <http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/agriculture-and-food/pests-diseases-and-weeds/protecting-victoria-from-pest-animals-and-weeds>.
- <sup>7</sup> Bolt, A. (2010). *Why save an animal just begging for extinction?* Retrieved from [http://blogs.news.com.au/heraldsun/andrewbolt/index.php/heraldsun/comments/column\\_why\\_save\\_an\\_animal\\_just\\_begging\\_for\\_extinction/](http://blogs.news.com.au/heraldsun/andrewbolt/index.php/heraldsun/comments/column_why_save_an_animal_just_begging_for_extinction/).
- <sup>8</sup> González-Moreno, P., Diez, J. M., Ibáñez, I., Font, X., & Vilà, M. (In press). Plant invasions are context-dependent: Multiscale effects of climate, human activity and habitat. *Diversity and Distributions*. DOI: 10.1111/ddi.12206.

Gerry Ho



## PROXY FORM

I, (a) ..... appoint

(b) .....

as my proxy to represent me at the AGM on Wednesday 14 May 2014 and vote on any motion as he/she sees fit.

Signed ..... Date ..... / ..... / .....

(a) Name of financial member wishing to vote (non-financial members votes excluded).

(b) Insert name of member attending meeting to whom proxy is delegated.

## NOMINATION FORM *To join the 2014 WSV Committee*

All positions are vacant and nominations are required for the AGM which will be held during an extended lunch on Wednesday 14 May 2014, at the 5th Biennial Conference, Mercure Geelong

Name of nominee .....

Address .....

Phone: ..... Email: .....

For the position of (please mark):

- ☐ **PRESIDENT**
- ☐ **VICE PRESIDENT**
- ☐ **SECRETARY**
- ☐ **TREASURER**
- ☐ **PUBLICITY OFFICER**
- ☐ **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**
- ☐ **GENERAL COMMITTEE**

Name of nominator .....

Signature of nominator ..... Date ..... / ..... / .....

Name of seconder .....

Signature of seconder ..... Date ..... / ..... / .....

**NOMINATIONS CAN ONLY BE MADE BY FINANCIAL MEMBERS** Please note – you are welcome to nominate yourself and to ask a member of the Society to second your application for a position.

**Please send or email your nomination to:**

The Secretary, Rebecca Grant, Weed Society of Victoria, PO Box 234, Batman, Victoria 3058  
Email [secretary@wsvic.org.au](mailto:secretary@wsvic.org.au) Phone 0437 861 449



# The Weed Society of Victoria Inc. Constitution



## 1. NAME

The name of the Society shall be 'The Weed Society of Victoria'.

## 2. OBJECTS

The objects for which the Society is established are:

- a) To promote wider interest in weeds and their control.
- b) To provide opportunities for those interested in weeds and their control, to exchange information and ideas based on research and practice.
- c) To encourage the investigation of all aspects of weeds and weed control.
- d) To co-operate and, where appropriate, affiliate with other organisations engaged in related activities in Australia and overseas.
- e) To encourage the study of weed science and the dissemination of its findings.
- f) To produce and publish such material as considered desirable.
- g) To foster the development of an Australia-wide Weeds Organisation.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership shall be of three classes 'ordinary', 'honorary' and 'corporate body', and shall be open to those individuals and corporate bodies respectively who are interested in weeds.
- b) Honorary members may be elected from persons who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee have made major contributions to the objects of the Society and shall have the same rights as ordinary members.
- c) Corporate body members may nominate one representative to the Society who shall have the same rights as an ordinary member.
- d) Applications for membership shall be considered by the Executive Committee and any person or corporate body who is approved by resolution passed by two-thirds majority as being suitable for election shall be regarded as a member.
- e) Any member wishing to withdraw from the Society shall give written notice to the Honorary Secretary on or before 31st December of the then current year. The resignation of such member shall be accepted upon receipt of such notice provided all subscriptions and dues have been paid by the member up to the end of the financial year.

## 4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Each ordinary member and each corporate body member shall pay an entrance fee and thenceforth an annual subscription which shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting for the current year. The subscription shall be payable annually and shall fall due on the first day of March. In the event of the subscription being one year in arrears membership shall lapse. Before any person can be re-elected to membership all arrears in subscription shall be paid.

## 5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a) The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, the Immediate Past President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Publicity Officer and four other members the Society.
- b) The management of the Society shall be vested in the Executive Committee.
- c) Other than the Immediate Past President the members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. They shall be eligible for reselection except that the office of President shall not be

held by any one person for more than two consecutive terms.

- d) The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill a casual vacancy in its membership.
- e) The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt members for specific purposes.
- f) A quorum for the executive committee shall be five (5).

## 6. QUORUM AT GENERAL MEETINGS

1. No item of business may be conducted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members entitled under these Rules to vote is present at the time when the meeting is considering that item.
2. Five members personally present (being members entitled under these Rules to vote at a general meeting) constitute a quorum for the conduct of the business of a general meeting.
3. If, within half an hour after the appointed time for the commencement of a general meeting, a quorum is not present:
  - (i) in the case of a meeting convened upon the request of members – the meeting must be dissolved; and
  - (ii) in any other case-the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time (unless another place is specified by the by the Chairperson at the time of the adjournment or by written notice to members given before the day to which the meeting is adjourned) at the same place.
4. If at the adjourned meeting the quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the members personally present (being not less than three) shall be a quorum.

## 7. NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

1. The Secretary of the Society, at least 14 days, or if a special resolution has been proposed at least 21 days, before the date fixed for holding a general meeting of the Society, must cause to be sent to each member of the Society, a notice stating the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business to be conducted at the meeting.
2. Notice may be sent:
  - (i) by prepaid post to the address appearing in the register of members; or
  - (ii) if the member requests, by facsimile transmission or electronic transmission.
3. No business other than that set out in the notice convening the meeting may be conducted at the meeting.
4. A member intending to bring any business before a meeting may notify in writing, or by electronic transmission, the Secretary of that business, who must include that business in the notice calling the next general meeting.

## 8. VACANCIES

The office of an officer of the Society, or of an ordinary member of the committee, becomes vacant if the officer or member:

- a) ceases to be a member of the organisation, or
- b) becomes insolvent under administration within the meaning of the Corporations Act; or
- c) resigns from office by notice in writing given to the Secretary.



## 9. MEETINGS

The Executive Committee shall convene and hold an Annual General Meeting within five months of the end of the Financial Year, which is deemed the last day of

February of each year; and such other meetings as it may consider necessary. The Executive Committee shall convene a Special General Meeting if so required by requisition in writing by at least ten (10) financial members. A quorum for an Annual General Meeting shall be fifteen (15), for a meeting of the executive meeting it shall be five (5).

## 10. PRESIDING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

1. The President, or in the President's absence, the Vice President, shall preside as Chairperson at each general meeting of the Society.
2. If the President and Vice President are absent from a general meeting, or are unable to preside, the members present must select one of their number to preside as Chairperson.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETINGS

1. The person presiding may, with the consent of a majority of members present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and place to place.
2. No business may be conducted at an adjourned meeting other than the unfinished business from the meeting that was adjourned.
3. If a meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting must be given in accordance with rule 12.
4. Except as provided in subrule 3, it is not necessary to give notice of an adjournment or of the business to be conducted at an adjourned meeting.

## 12. VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

1. Upon any question arising at a General meeting of the Society, a member has one vote only.
2. All votes must be given personally or in proxy.
3. In the case of inequality of voting on a question, the Chairperson of the meeting is entitled to exercise a second or casting vote.
4. A member is not entitled to vote at a general meeting unless all moneys due and payable by the member of the Society has been paid, other than the amount of the annual subscription payable in respect of the current financial year.

## 13. POLL AT GENERAL MEETINGS

1. If at a meeting a poll on any question is demanded by not less than 3 members, it must be taken at that meeting in such manner as the Chairperson may direct and the resolution of the poll shall be deemed to be a resolution of the meeting on that question.
2. A poll that is demanded on the election of a Chairperson or on a question of an adjournment must be taken immediately and a poll that is demanded on any other question must be taken at such time before the close of the meeting as the Chairperson may direct.

## 14. MANNER OF DETERMINING WHETHER RESOLUTION CARRIED

If a question arising at a general meeting of the Society is determined on a show of hands:

- a) a declaration by the Chairperson that a resolution has been-
  - (i) carried; or
  - (ii) carried unanimously; or
  - (iii) carried by a particular majority; or
  - (iv) lost; and
- b) an entry to that effect in the minute book of the Society- is evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of, or against, that resolution.

## 15. PROXIES

1. Each member is entitled to appoint another member as a proxy by notice given to the Secretary no later than 24 hours before the time of the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed.
2. The notice appointing the proxy must be:
  - a) for a meeting of the Society convened under rule 18 (7), in the form set out in Appendix 1; or
  - b) in any other case, in the form set out in Appendix 2 of the Model Rules book.

## 16. FUNDS

1. The Treasurer of the Society must:
  - a) collect and receive all moneys due to the Society and make all payments authorised by the Society; and
  - b) keep correct accounts and books showing the financial affairs of the Society with full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of the Society.
2. All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by two members of the committee.
3. The funds of the Society shall be derived from entrance fees, annual subscriptions, donations and such other sources as the committee determines.

## 17. DISPUTES AND MEDIATION

1. The grievance procedure set out in this rule applies to disputes under these rules between:
  - a) A member and another member or
  - b) A member and the Society.
2. The parties to this dispute must meet and discuss the matter in dispute and, if possible, resolve the dispute within 14 days after the dispute comes to the attention of all the parties.
3. If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting, or if a party fails to attend the meeting, then the parties must, within 10 days, hold a meeting in the presence of a mediator.
4. The mediator must be:
  - a) A person chosen by agreement between the parties; or
  - b) In the absence of agreement:
    - (i) in the case of a dispute between a member and another member, a person appointed by the committee of the Society, or
    - (ii) in the case of a dispute between member and the Society, a person who is a mediator appointed or employed by the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria (Department of Justice).
5. A member of the Society can be a mediator.
6. The mediator cannot be a member who is party to the dispute.
7. The parties to the dispute must, in good faith, attempt to settle the dispute by mediation.
8. The mediator, in conducting the mediation must:
  - a) Give the parties to the mediation process every opportunity to be heard; and
  - b) Allow due consideration by all parties of any written statement submitted by any party; and
  - c) Ensure that natural justice is accorded to the parties to the dispute throughout the mediation process.
    - (i) The mediator must not determine the dispute.
    - (ii) If the mediation process does not result in the dispute being resolved, the parties may seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with the act, otherwise at law.

## 18. DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

1. Subject to these Rules, if the committee is of the opinion that a member has refused or neglected to comply with these Rules, or has been guilty



of conduct unbecoming a member or prejudicial to the interests of the Society, the committee may by resolution:

- a) suspend that member from membership of the Society for a specified period; or
  - b) expel that member from the Society; or
  - c) fine that member an amount not exceeding \$500.
2. A resolution of the committee under subrule (1) does not take effect unless:
- a) at a meeting held in accordance with subrule (3), the committee confirms the resolution; and
  - b) if the member exercises a right of appeal to the Society under this rule, the Society confirms the resolution in accordance with this rule.
3. A meeting of the committee to confirm or revoke a resolution passed under subrule (1) must be held not earlier than 14 days, and not later than 28 days, after notice has been given to the member in accordance with subrule (4).
4. For the purposes of giving notice in accordance with subrule (3), the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, cause to be given to the member a written notice:
- a) setting out the resolution of the committee and the grounds on which it is based; and
  - b) stating that the member, or his or her representative, may address the committee at a meeting to be held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after the notice has been given to that member; and
  - c) stating the date, place and time of that meeting; and
  - d) informing the member that he or she may do one or both of the following:
    - (i) attend that meeting;
    - (ii) give to the committee before the date of that meeting a written statement seeking the revocation of the resolution; and
  - e) informing the member that, if at that meeting, the committee confirms the resolution, he or she may, not later than 48 hours after that meeting, give the Secretary a notice to the effect that he or she wishes to appeal to the Society in general meeting against the resolution.
5. At a meeting of the committee to confirm or revoke a resolution passed under subrule (1), the committee must:
- a) give the member, or his or her representative, an opportunity to be heard; and
  - b) give due consideration to any written statement submitted by the member; and
  - c) determine by resolution whether to confirm or to revoke the resolution.
6. If at the meeting of the committee, the committee confirms the resolution, the member may, not later than 48 hours after that meeting, give the Secretary a notice to the effect that he or she wishes to appeal to the Society in general meeting against the resolution.
7. If the Secretary receives a notice under subrule (6), he or she must notify the committee and the committee must convene a general meeting of the Society to be held within 21 days after the date on which the Secretary received the notice.
8. At a general meeting of the Society convened under subrule (7):
- a) no business other than the question of the appeal may be conducted; and
  - b) the committee may place before the meeting details of the grounds for the resolution and the reasons for the passing of the resolution; and
  - c) the member, or his or her representative, must be given an opportunity to be heard; and
  - d) the members present must vote by secret ballot on the question whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
9. A resolution is confirmed if, at the general meeting, not less than two-thirds of the members vote in person, or by proxy, in favour of the

resolution. In any other case, the resolution is revoked.

## 19. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution may be amended only at a General Meeting of which at least twenty one (21) days notice in writing shall have been given to members. A proposed amendment to the constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary and shall require to be supported in writing by at least five (5) financial members.

## 20. AUDIT

Accounts shall be kept of all monies received and expended by the Society. An auditor who shall not be a member of the Executive Committee and who may or may not be a member of the Society shall be appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall be eligible for reselection. A statement showing the financial position of the Society examined and certified by the auditor shall be laid before the Annual General Meeting.

## 21. REGISTER OF MEMBERS

1. The Secretary must keep and maintain a register of members containing:
  - a) the name and address of each member, and
  - b) the date on which each member's name was entered on the register.
2. The register is available for inspection free of charge to any member upon request.
3. A member may make a copy of entries in the register.

## 22. CUSTODY AND INSPECTION OF BOOKS AND RECORDS

1. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, the Secretary must keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all books, documents and securities of the Society.
2. All accounts, books, securities and any other relevant documents of the Society must be available for inspection free of charge by any member upon request.
3. A member may make a copy of any accounts, books, securities and any other relevant documents of the Society.

## 23. BY-LAWS

The Society shall compile such by-laws and/or standing orders as may be desirable for the operations of the Society.

### *Honorary membership of Weed Society of Victoria*

1. The person shall have served on the committee for a minimum of six (6) years and/or shall have been active in promoting or executing weed control activities over at least a fifteen (15) year period.
2. The person must be widely recognised as a leader in weed control matters over an extended period and/or for at least fifteen (15) years prior to the nomination. Honorary membership should be viewed as something of distinction, and only bestowed on active weed control persons who have interstate, national and preferably international standing.
3. There shall only be five honorary members at any one time, unless the committee deems otherwise through extraordinary circumstances.
4. All nominations with justifications seconded by two people are to be in writing. The nominators must be financial members of the Society. The committee's decision is final.

## 24. WINDING UP

In the event of the winding up or the cancellation of the incorporation of the Society, the assets of the Society must be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

continued overleaf/...



**APPENDIX 1**  
**FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY FOR**  
**MEETING OF SOCIETY CONVENED UNDER**  
**RULE 18(7)**

I, *(name)*  
of *(address)*  
being a member of *(name of Incorporated Society)*  
appoint *(name of proxy holder)*  
of *(address of proxy holder)*  
being a member of that Incorporated Society, as my proxy to vote on my behalf  
at the appeal to the general meeting of the Society convened under rule 18(7),  
to be held on *(date of meeting)* and at any adjournment of that meeting.  
I authorise my proxy to vote on my behalf at their discretion in respect of the  
following resolution: *[insert details of resolution passed under rule 18(1)]*  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX 2**  
**FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY**

I, *(name)*  
of *(address)*  
being a member of *(name of Incorporated Society)*  
appoint *(name of proxy holder)*  
of *(address of proxy holder)*  
being a member of that Incorporated Society, as my proxy to vote on my behalf  
at the \*annual/\*special general meeting of the Society to be held on *(date of meeting)* and at any adjournment of that meeting.  
My proxy is authorised to vote \*in favour of/\*against the following resolution:  
*[insert details of resolution]*  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Delete if not applicable

## 2013 WSV Financial Members list

Cameron Algie	Gerry Ho	Plant Protection Society of WA
Isabella Amouzandeh	Holmesglen College of TAFE	Rob Richardson
Ian Anderson	Leila Huebner	Katrina Roberg
Ian Bate	Rebecca James	James Rose
Kate Blood	Maree Keenan	Royal Society of Victoria
James Booth	Lincoln Kern	James Russell
John Burley	Chris Knight	Marianne Sawyer
Geoff Carr	Kevin Krake	Rob Scott
Harry Combellack	Ingrid Krockenberger	Adam Shalekoff
Andrew Cox	Sally Lambourne	Ros Shepherd
Crop Science Society of SA	Jacinta Langdon	Shane Smith
Simon Denby	Peter Langdon	Gavin Snowdon
Judith Dinsdale	Ann Lawrie	South African Weed Science Society
Tim Dowling	Gregory Lefoe	Jackie Steel
John Dwyer	Lynda Lever	Matt Stephenson
European Weed Research Society	Mick Lumb	Sally Stewart
Ian Faithfull	Ako Mahmood	Norm Stone
Carolyn Ferguson	Rebecca Mayo	Melanie Szocs
Bonnie Gelman	Brett McGennissen	Tasmanian Weed Society
Rebecca Grant	David McLaren	Duncan Thomas
Grasslands Society of Southern Australia Inc.	Lyn Meredith	Daryl Wallis
Charles Grech	Les Mitchell	Weed Management Society of South Australia
Stephen Hammond	Michael Moerkerk	Weed Society of New South Wales Inc.
Michael Hansford	Tom Morley	Weed Society of Queensland
Cindy Hauser	Mornington Peninsula Shire	Sandra Weller
Matthew Hayes	N Z Plant Protection Society	Greg Wells
Greg Healy	Michael Noble	Bridie Wetzal
Rosemary Henderson	Kathryn O'Bryan	Peter Wilcock
Emma Hill	Arthur Paul	Kate Williams
	Garrique Pergl	





## WSV Agenda of the 48th Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome
2. Apologies/Proxies
3. Minutes from 47th Annual General Meeting (18th April 2013)
4. Annual Report, presented by the President, Michael Hansford
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Office Bearers of the Weed Society of Victoria and of the CAWS representatives
7. General Business: – new President
  - a) Confirmation of the position of Secretariat
  - b) Appointment of (honorary) auditor
  - c) Any other General Business?

## From the Secretary

### The Fifth Biennial Weeds Conference: '*Invasive plants and animals – contrasts and connections*', and 48th Annual General Meeting

With the end of Summer has come the confirmation of what promises to be an interesting conference with a mix of presentation topics. We have confirmed two more keynote speakers, Professor Paul Martin on day one, and Michael Noble on day two.

Professor Paul Martin is the Director of the Australian Centre for Agriculture and Law at the University of New England. Together with his team Paul has conducted a large number of studies on rural landscape governance, working in Australia, Central Asia, the USA and Iceland, including consideration of laws, policies and institutions for managing invasives. Paul leads the Invasive Animals CRC 'Facilitating Effective Community Action' program, and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law's project on improving the effectiveness of legal aspects of natural resource governance, a key part of the IUCN's worldwide initiative on improving environmental governance.

Michael Noble works with the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Invasive Species Branch in Tasmania as Coordinator (Risk Assessment and Review). Until July 2013 he was Weeds of National Significance national coordinator for gorse and then African boxthorn. Michael has worked in natural resource management in local and state government, and for non-government organisations for over 20 years. In 2013 he wrote the African Boxthorn National Best Practice Manual and has drafted an African boxthorn chapter for the biology of Australian weeds publication. He and his partner, with their two kids, live in NW Tasmania and run a small beef and sheep farm there.

Arrangements for our field trip to see management of rabbits, gorse and *Nassella* control by domestic pigs, on the third day are being finalised. We've had a great response from those who have already registered wanting to attend. Our dinner

excursion to Mt Rothwell Biodiversity Interpretation Centre is also looking like it will be well attended. If you are planning on attending either of these conference events, please submit your registration forms quickly to secure your placement. It is also great to see from the registrations received so far, we will be welcoming many delegates from local government organisations and community action groups.

A confirmed programme is imminent and will be released via email to our membership and conference registration lists, as well as being posted on our website.

***A reminder that the AGM will be held at this conference during lunch, on Wednesday 14th May and registrations will only receive the early bird rate if submitted before COB March 31st.***

Rebecca Grant



# News

## West Gippsland Waging War on Weeds

The five Landcare Networks in West Gippsland are focusing on invasive plant control as part of a one year project funded by the State Government through the 2013–14 Victorian Landcare Grants (administered by the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority).

The project, called ‘Waging War on Invasive Plants through Landcare Network Collaboration’ promotes a collaborative focus for invasive plant control across West Gippsland. A big part of the project is about providing community education on invasive plant control. A series of weed related field days, forums and information sessions are being held across West Gippsland throughout the year. Another component of the project provides landholder assistance with on-ground works to control noxious weeds (within priority areas of each Landcare Network). Training courses for safe farm chemical use will also be available at subsidised rates.

If you live in West Gippsland find out what is happening in your area by visiting your local Landcare Network website for contact details and information:

- Bass Coast Landcare Network: [www.basscoastlandcare.org.au](http://www.basscoastlandcare.org.au),
- Latrobe Catchment Landcare Network: <http://westgippsland.landcarevic.net.au/lcln>,
- Maffra and District Landcare Network: <http://westgippsland.landcarevic.net.au/mdln>,
- South Gippsland Landcare Network [www.sgl.n.org.au](http://www.sgl.n.org.au),
- Yarram Yarram Landcare Network: <http://westgippsland.landcarevic.net.au/yyl.n>.



The West Gippsland project works to build community capacity in dealing with the threat of established noxious weeds. Credit: Kate Williams

## PLANTPLAN

Plant Health Australia (PHA) has released PLANTPLAN, a technical response plan for emergency plant pest incidents. It provides nationally consistent guidelines for response procedures under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD), outlining the phases of an incursion, as well as the key roles and responsibilities of industry and government during each of these phases. It incorporates best practice in emergency plant pest responses is updated regularly to incorporate new information or address gaps identified by the outcomes of emergency plant pest incident reviews. PHA has also received \$900,000 from the Federal Government a national weed and plant pest database, which will map present and new weed incursions in Australia, and provide management advice for farmers. [www.planthealthaustralia.com.au](http://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au).



Credit: PHA

## Giving a RATS – Autumn edition

Issue 8 investigates 2,4-D resistance in wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*), which has now been reported in New South Wales. Glyphosate-resistant wild radish is becoming widespread across Australia, and *RATS* warns that we are ‘running out of herbicide modes of action’ for this weed. Not all is lost: There is research and ground action on wild radish, and what you can do to keep it at bay. Also, there are stories on the SHERPA model of spread of resistance, a case study on ryegrass control, and managing glyphosate resistance in great brome. [www.agronomo.com.au/giving-a-rats/](http://www.agronomo.com.au/giving-a-rats/).

## Fixing a hare-y problem

The ubiquitous European rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) was nary granted a respite, despite heralding Easter this year, as Federal Minister for Agriculture Barnaby Joyce launches an Invasive Animals CRC report, *Benefits of Rabbit Biocontrol in Australia*. Bunnies may bring smiles to confectioners, but they are costly to the environment (putting 75 plant species and 5 ecological communities at risk) and to agriculture (\$200 million in production losses each year). It would have been worse without biocontrol: losses are predicted to rise 2-fold without myxoma and rabbit haemorrhagic disease viruses supressing the rabbit population. The report calls for research to strengthen and renew rabbit biocontrol agents, a view endorsed by the Federal Government.

[www.feral.org.au/benefits-of-rabbit-biocontrol-in-australia/](http://www.feral.org.au/benefits-of-rabbit-biocontrol-in-australia/).



Credit: IA CRC

# From the President

Welcome to 2014!

And here we are, it's already April, and only one month till our 5th Biennial Weeds Conference at Mercure Geelong in May, and our AGM.

I'd like to encourage all members to attend the conference, and whether attending the conference or not, to please consider nominating to join our new committee for 2014. The AGM will be held during the conference, and you can nominate to join the committee by completing the nomination form enclosed with your copy of Weedscape, or you may attend the AGM and agree to join the committee there (we'll have the nomination forms at the AGM available too). At the AGM all committee positions will become vacant. I encourage anyone to nominate for any of the positions. If you don't want to take on a titled position on the Committee, we welcome you to join the committee as an ordinary member and will welcome your contributions throughout the year. As an example, Tim

Dowling joined as an ordinary member of the Committee in 2013 and has made a great contribution to the organisation of this year's Geelong conference by suggesting a great venue for the conference dinner (the Mount Rothwell Sanctuary) and Tim's reconnoitre of the venue and communications have seen this idea come to fruition, as it will be the main venue for our conference dinner this year.

Please consider joining the committee this year. Here are some common excuses I often hear (*now with misconceptions corrected!*):

- 'I can't join the committee because I don't have time to attend meetings' (*You don't have to attend every meeting. We understand that sometimes-busy committee members will be unable to attend every meeting. Business of the committee can continue as long as we achieve our quorum.*)
- 'I don't live in Melbourne, so I can't attend the meetings'. (*You*



*don't have to attend the meetings in person. We will ring you and you can join in on the phone from whatever location you choose. Even if you do live in Melbourne, we are happy to accommodate telephone attendance to any of our meetings.*)

- 'I don't have time to do any committee work as I am too busy in my work and home life.' (*You only take on any work for the committee voluntarily. We welcome just your ideas, if that's all you can do. Just by being a member of the committee, you will still be helping the committee because we need to have a certain number of committee members (on the books) to be able to comply with our constitution.*)

I look forward to seeing you at this year's conference and AGM in May.

Michael Hansford

## Diary

### 19th Australasian Weeds Conference

1–4 September 2014, Hobart, Tasmania.

The 19th AWC website is buzzing. Keynote speakers have been finalised (Daniel Simberloff! Kareena Arthy! Jamie Kirkpatrick! Lucy Woolford! Ian Sauer! Stephen Hopper! Greg Fraser! Hugh Griffiths... and Keith Pengilley!) and a preliminary program has been released. Early Bird rates ends 4 July. *Go to:* [australasianweeds2014.com.au](http://australasianweeds2014.com.au)



### Weed Society of Victoria Fifth Biennial Conference

13–15 May 2014, Geelong, Victoria. See this issue for more information. *Go to:* [www.wsvic.org.au](http://www.wsvic.org.au)

### 4th European Weed Research Society International Symposium on Weeds and Invasive Plants

18–23 May 2014, Montpellier, France. *Go to:* [invasive.weeds.montpellier.ewrs.org](http://invasive.weeds.montpellier.ewrs.org)

### Special International Workshop on Weeds and Invasive Plants. The 2nd

*Science Incubator: Exploring weeds and their management from novel viewpoints.*

24–28 June 2014, Benasque, Spain.

Organised by Roger Cousens, and sponsored by the GRDC, attendees 'must be prepared to debate vigorously!' *Other workshop criteria are at:* [andinallanos.weebly.com](http://andinallanos.weebly.com)

### 8th International Conference on Urban Pests

20–23 July 2014, Zurich, Switzerland. *Go to:* [www.icup2014.ch](http://www.icup2014.ch)

### New Zealand Plant Protection Society Conference 2014

12–14 August 2014, Taupo, New Zealand. *Go to:* [www.nzpps.org](http://www.nzpps.org)

### Meeting the Challenge: Preventing, Detecting, and Controlling

**Invasive Plants** 16–17 September 2014, University of Washington Botanic Gardens, Seattle, Washington. *Go to:* [depts.washington.edu/uwbg/education/conferences/2014InvPlants/InvPlants2014.shtml](http://depts.washington.edu/uwbg/education/conferences/2014InvPlants/InvPlants2014.shtml)

### 2014 National Landcare

**Conference** 17–19 September 2014, Crown Conference Centre, Melbourne. *Go to:* [www.landcareonline.com.au/nationalconference](http://www.landcareonline.com.au/nationalconference)

### 8th International IPM Symposium.

**IPM: Solutions for a changing world** 23–26 March 2015, Salt Lake City, Utah. *Go to:* [ipmcenters.org/ipmsymposium15](http://ipmcenters.org/ipmsymposium15)

### 7th International Weed Science

**Congress** 19–25 June 2016, Prague, Czech Republic. *Go to:* [www.iwsc2016.org](http://www.iwsc2016.org)





# Bookshelf

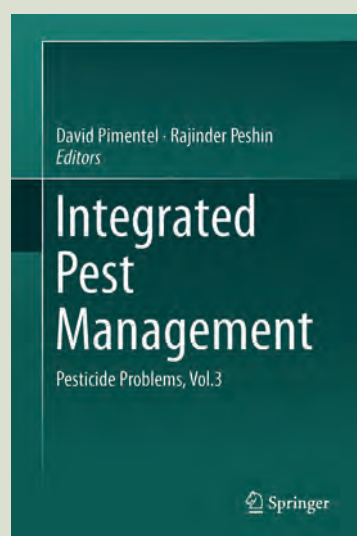
## Integrated Pest Management: Pesticide Problems, Volume 3

edited by David Pimentel and Rajinder Peshin

Published by Springer, hardcover and ebook, 474 pages, 54 illustrations, 29 illustrations in colour.

ISBN 978-94-007-7795-8 (hardcover); 978-94-007-7796-5 (ebook)

Price: €169.99 (hardcover). [www.springer.com](http://www.springer.com)



This book, the third in the series on integrated pest management (IPM), deals with pesticide use and the negative consequences of pesticide use in world agriculture. Despite some notable success, IPM implementation and pesticide reduction programs have not achieved the envisioned impact. Low volume pesticides and Bt crops both decreased and stabilised pesticide use in the last two decades, but in the last few years pesticide use has increased, and herbicide resistant transgenic crops are one of the factors propelling it. The book captures the essence of different techniques to reduce pesticide use from the perspective of international authorities from different disciplines and industry. An electronic book version will be available soon.

## Rethinking Invasion Ecologies from the Environmental Humanities

edited by Jodi Frawley and Iain McCalman

Published by Routledge, hardcover and paperback, 288 pages.

ISBN 978-0-415-71656-7 (hardcover);

978-0-415-71657-4 (paperback)

Price: £90.00 (hardcover); £27.00 (paperback). [www.routledge.com](http://www.routledge.com)



Research from a humanist perspective has much to offer in interrogating the social and cultural ramifications of invasion ecologies. The impossibility of securing national boundaries against accidental transfer and the unpredictable climatic changes of our time have introduced new dimensions and hazards to this old issue. Written by a team of international scholars, this book allows us to rethink the impact on national, regional or local ecologies of the deliberate or accidental introduction of foreign species, plant and animal. Modern environmental approaches that treat nature with naïve realism or mobilise it as a moral absolute, unaware or unwilling to accept that it is informed by specific cultural and temporal values, are doomed to fail. Instead, this book shows that we need to understand the complex interactions of ecologies and societies in the past, present and future over the Anthropocene, in order to address problems of the global environmental crisis. It demonstrates how humanistic methods and disciplines can be used to bring fresh clarity and perspective on this long vexed aspect of environmental thought and practice.

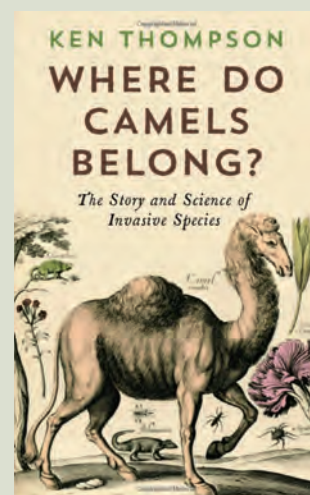
## Where Do Camels Belong? The Story and Science of Invasive Species

by Ken Thompson

Published by Profile Books, 272 pages, 30 illustrations.

ISBN 978-1-781-25174-4 (paperback); 978-1-847-65995-8 (ebook)

Price: £10.99 (paperback and ebook). [www.profilebooks.com](http://www.profilebooks.com)



Where do camels belong? In the Arab world may seem the obvious answer, but they are relative newcomers there. They evolved in North America, retain their greatest diversity in South America, and the only remaining wild dromedaries are in Australia.

This is a classic example of the contradictions of 'native' and 'invasive' species, a hot issue right now, as the flip-side of biodiversity. We have all heard the horror stories of invasives, from Japanese knotweed that puts fear into the heart of gardeners to brown tree snakes that have taken over the island of Guam.

But do we need to fear invaders? And indeed, can we control them, and do we choose the right targets?

Ken Thompson puts forward a fascinating array of narratives to explore what he sees as the crucial question — why only a minority of introduced species succeed, and why so few of them go on to cause trouble. He discusses, too, whether our fears could be getting in the way of conserving biodiversity, and responding to the threat of climate change.