

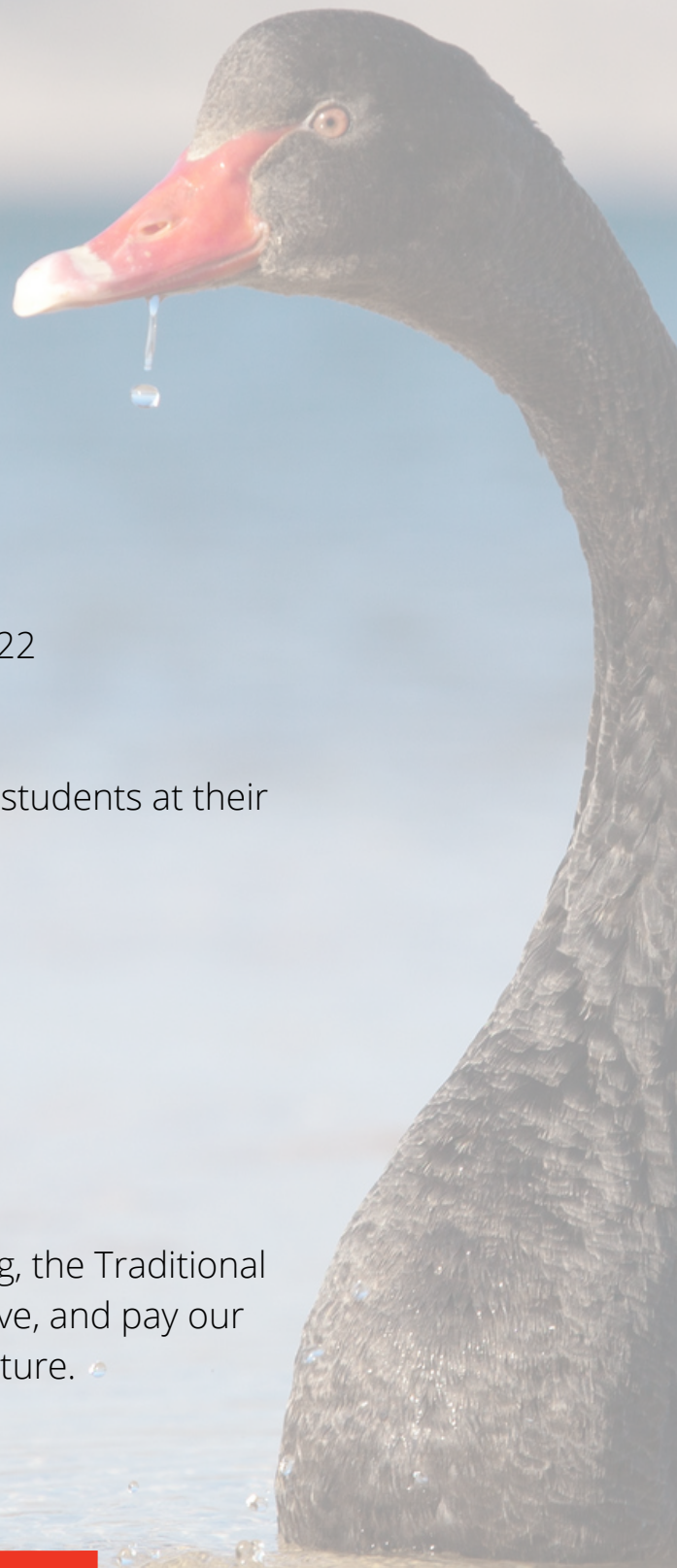
BELLARINE CATCHMENT NETWORK



ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022





Bellarine Catchment Network

865 Swan Bay Road, Mannerim, Victoria, 3222

www.environmentbellarine.org.au

Front cover image: Leopold Primary School students at their annual school environment day in 2021.

Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge Wadawurrung, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and live, and pay our respects to their elders past, present and future.





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ABOUT BELLARINE CATCHMENT NETWORK

Bellarine Catchment Network (BCN) is a non-government, incorporated body that is governed by a volunteer committee of management. The network is made up representatives from key catchment and coastal organisations (both government and non-government) with an integrated catchment management focus. This includes environment groups, 'Friends of' groups, land managers, Landcare and Coastcare. Seven staff members currently deliver various programs and projects across the Geelong and Bellarine region.

We offer a variety of services to educational institutions, the wider community, other environmental organisations, businesses and government bodies. We also run a number of programs and projects in Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula including citizen science, on ground works and the facilitation of environment focused events and activities.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Graeme O'Leary

VICE PRESIDENT Beth Ross

SECRETARY Margot Busch

TREASURER Michael Skinner

GENERAL MEMBER Geoffrey Waite

GENERAL MEMBER Bernie Malone



NETWORK MEMBERS

Barwon Coast Committee of Management

Barwon Estuary Project

Barwon Heads Association

Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management

Bellarine Landcare Group

Bellarine Peninsula Orange-bellied Parrot Regional Group

Borough of Queenscliffe

City of Greater Geelong

Clifton Springs Curlewis Coastcare

Coastcare Victoria

Conservation Volunteers Australia

Corangamite Catchment Management Authority

Drysdale Clifton Springs Curlewis Association

Festival of the Sea Barwon Heads

Friends of the Barwon

Friends of Begola Wetlands

Friends of the Bellarine Rail Trail

Friends of Buckley Park

Friends of Edwards Point

Friends of Hooded Plover Bellarine

Friends of Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve

Friends of Ocean Grove Nature Reserve

Friends of Point Richards

Friends of Yellow Gums

Geelong Environment Council

Geelong Field Naturalists Club

Geelong Sustainability

Greening Australia

Ocean Grove Coastcare

Parks Victoria

SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre

Swan Bay Environment Association



PRESIDENTS REPORT



2022 has been a pivotal year in Bellarine Catchment Network's 25-year history of engaging with the community to conserve and enhance our local environment. With invaluable input from our members, and under the guidance of staff and a local consultant, BCN developed a Strategic Plan (a little overdue, with the last concluding in 2014!) that clearly defines agreed objectives to tangibly assist our community achieve their environmental aspirations over the next five years. The plan is one of the most significant achievements of the year, but more about that later...

Of course, while the Strategic Plan was under development the work of BCN did not stop. With grateful funding from valued partners the City of Greater Geelong, Corangamite CMA, Borough of Queenscliffe, DELWP, Bellarine Bayside CoM, as well as Landcare and Coastcare grants, our dedicated team, under the leadership of our Program Manager, Matt Crawley, and in collaboration with our members, partners and community, continued delivering comprehensive and effective programs and services, as well establishing new projects focusing on conserving our exceptional environmental assets.

Led by Biodiversity Program Leader, Lachie Forbes, and in partnership with the Geelong Cemeteries Trust, Moremac, CFA, VicTrack and Corangamite CMA, we continued our successful bush regeneration projects across the Bellarine.

Our resources for members were significantly boosted by two key projects in 2022, the first being a Coastal Education Trailer. The trailer, which has been funded from the DAL grants program, is designed to include interactive and interchangeable materials that can be used by member groups to promote their own organisation, and the local environment.

The second resource project developed by Rebecca St Ledger, Coastal Program, Sustainability & Circular Economy Coordinator, was the Bellarine and Geelong Environmental Volunteering Calendar. This online calendar provides our members with a central website to share knowledge, volunteering opportunities, group information and events. The site is designed to be easily found and will encourage environmentally focused people to join our members activities.

BCN continues to partner with our members and community on local projects, as exemplified by the Bellarine Landcare Group and BCN's joint support of the Blue Carbon Lab's studies of Swan Bay's saltmarsh. A project that works collaboratively with private landholders, keen to learn about the incredible capacity of saltmarshes to store carbon. We also furthered our engagement with local business organisations. Environmental education days were conducted for the staff and members of GMHBA and Cultura.

As noted earlier, one of our most significant achievements was the reflective and consultative development of the BCN 2023 - 2028 Strategic Plan. The plan was led, shaped, and adopted under the guidance of Naomi Wells, Communications and Community Engagement Coordinator, and it reconfirms our commitment to supporting and engaging with our members and diverse community in reliable, meaningful and collaborative ways. It also recognises our members as mentors, guides and beneficiaries of our programs and services.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

This strategic plan commits us to continue to engage and respectfully learn from the Wadawurrung people, Traditional Owners and custodians of the Bellarine, and with their permission, to incorporate their deep and ongoing knowledge and practice of caring for the Bellarine environment, in all our programs and services.

It is a strategy that strengthens our commitment to providing innovative, inclusive, culturally sensitive educational services and resources and effective bush regeneration and maintenance outcomes. A plan that embeds climate change mitigation and circular economy education in all our programs, and acknowledges our responsibility to our staff's wellbeing, and our organisational governance.

The plan also promotes the development of an 'Environmental Education and Community Centre'; a concept that has considerable community support. This opportunity to work collaboratively with our member organisations, the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and Barwon Water (as the owner of the Bellarine Basin reserve) to create a community run centre that has the potential to be a cultural heritage and environment learning centre is an exciting one. A base for scientific investigation. A central forum for land managers and member organisations, and a hub and meeting space for all the Bellarine and Geelong communities. We look forward to pursuing this project over the next few years.

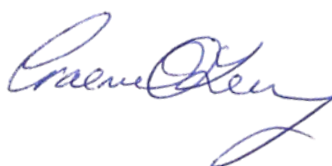
One of our challenges this year has been the reduction in grant funding to the sector, due to a range of factors governed by Commonwealth and State Government fiscal constraints. In recent years, BCN has been transitioning its financing model from one predominately based on grants, to one based on partnerships. 2022 has seen a further move in this direction, and whilst BCN has recorded a net loss for the financial year, prudent budgetary management has ensured that we have funds to meet our operational commitments.

I want to thank and recognise our dedicated committee, Beth, our Vice President, Margot, our Secretary, Michael, our Treasurer, and committee members, Geoffrey and Bernie, for their much-valued commitment and insightful contributions and governance of our organisation. I would also like to acknowledge and thank our dedicated team, Naomi, Bec, and Bellarine Landcare Group's Landcare Coordinator, Sophie, for their genuine conviction in the importance of, and their unwavering contribution to, the conservation of our local environment. Their energy and commitment to supporting our members and community in creative and practical ways has exemplified our vision and mission.

I want to take this opportunity to also thank Lachie, our Biodiversity Program Leader who has recently resigned to establish his own business providing ecological restoration services to the greater Geelong area. Lachie has been an invaluable member of our team for the last 4 years, actively leading and contributing to our on-ground biodiversity projects, promoting, and educating our community in the intrinsic values of our environment. Lachie has been an esteemed member of our team and we are very grateful for all his innumerable contributions. I particularly want to thank Matt Crawley, our Program Manager. Matt's enduring commitment and engagement with our unique environment has been remarkable and significant. His judicious and innovative contributions, exemplary leadership and support for the team, committee, partners, and membership is the driving force behind our organisation.

Finally, I want to thank our members, partners and community for their ongoing support, perceptive and significant contributions, and engagement with BCN. We are looking forward to continuing our engagement, working cooperatively with you in developing resources and solutions to assist you, and together, conserving and improving environmental conditions for our biodiversity to thrive.

GRAEME O'LEARY, PRESIDENT



PROGRAM MANAGER + STAFF

This past year has again challenged the BCN program and service delivery. We have continued with our proactive approach to ensure we identify and deliver environmental and community support services. The established partnerships and relationships enable these services to be delivered in a timely and efficient manner. We provide services in many forms; from supporting new groups like the Friends of Ramblers Road, to launching our 2023-2025 Strategic Plan. This year, the team also had representation on several advisory and steering committees, including the Port Phillip Bay Technical Advisory Group and the Barwon Water Environment Advisory Group. This demonstrates the additional ways that BCN works with, and for the community.

BCN pride themselves on meeting the environmental challenges, community needs and expectations to the best of our ability. I am very proud of this teams commitment and service delivery to the environment and community of the Bellarine.



MATT CRAWLEY

Program Manager



JAMES ADAMS

Coastal Program Leader



LACHLAN FORBES

Biodiversity Coordinator



SOPHIE SMALL

Bellarine Landcare
Group, Landcare
Facilitator



REBECCA ST LEDGER

Sustainability and
Circular Economy
Coordinator



NAOMI WELLS

Communications &
Community Engagement
Coordinator



TIM TROTTIER

Biodiversity Field
Officer

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT - SCHOOLS

Over the last year, Bellarine Catchment Network engaged with many schools based in Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula. Our educational activities either revolve around place-based learning; at a local wetland, beach or nature reserve, or involve hands-on learning; from revegetation, weeding, surveying and more. Below is a summary of our school engagement for the 2021-2022 financial year.

Clifton Springs Primary School
Deakin University
Drysdale Primary School
Federation University
Geelong Lutheran College x 2
Kardinia International College
Kids Teaching Kids x 2
Leopold Primary School
Oberon High School
Portarlington Primary School
Queenscliff Primary School
Star of the Sea Primary School x 2
St Aloysius Primary School
St Josephs Flexible Learning College x 4
St Leonards Primary School x 2

806
STUDENTS
ENGAGED

22
SCHOOL
EVENTS

1000+
RESOURCES
DISTRIBUTED

Clifton Springs Primary School



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

COASTAL EDUCATION TRAILER

With funding from the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Capital Grants program, Bellarine Catchment Network designed and installed engaging branding on the new 'Coastal Education Trailer'. This trailer is a community resource that all can use at festivals, working bees, events and markets. During 2021-2022, the Coastal Education Trailer was used at many events. The trailer can facilitate the following:

- **Static beachcomb**
- **Aquascope and snorkel equipment storage**
- **Plant propagation station**
- **Plant display**
- **Resource display**
- **Video display**

The Coastal Education Trailer was used at the following events:

National Celtic Festival

Barwon Coast - *Dog Training Awareness and Education*

Friends of Ramblers Road - *Weeding*

Clifton Springs Curlewis Coastcare - *Beach Events*

Bellarine Bayside - *Summer Activities at Indented Head*

National Celtic Festival 2022



OUTCOMES

These outcomes reflect the broad reach that Bellarine Catchment Network has, from engagement at festivals and school environment days, to resources provided to partners. We would like to thank our network members, partners, funders, volunteers and supporters for helping us achieve these outstanding outcomes.

1,300
people engaged

30
community events

22
school events

5,000
resources distributed



BALANCE SHEET

Bellarine Catchment Network Inc As at 30 June 2022

	30 JUN 2022	30 JUN 2021
Assets		
Bank		
BBL - Card 1.	864	812
BBL - Card 2.	23	2,102
BBL - Card 3.	-	1,902
BBL - Card 4.	901	740
BBL - Card 5.	687	222
BBL - Main Account	203,088	480,834
BBL - Payroll Account	23,778	33,530
NAB Business Card	-	9,553
NAB Cash Manager	-	21,407
Total Bank	229,340	551,102
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	82,843	55,917
Suspense Account	-	480
Total Current Assets	82,843	56,397
Fixed Assets		
IT Equipment: At Cost	8,325	4,026
Motor Vehicle: At Cost	146,312	125,249
Plant & Equipment: At Cost	65,680	65,121
Plant & Equipment: Less Accumulated Depreciation	(677)	(677)
Total Fixed Assets	219,639	193,719
Total Assets	531,822	801,217
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	800	2,199
Current Provisions: Annual Leave	30,486	26,481
Current Provisions: Long Service Leave	30,748	27,747
GST	23,070	49,969
Payroll Liabilities: PAYG	6,329	5,397
Payroll Liabilities: Superannuation	8,517	8,195
Rounding	-	-
Triton (1SE7UB) - Finance	6,095	7,500
Triton (1SE7UB) - Unexpired Interest	-	(1,958)
Triton (1SK1AD) - Finance	5,607	6,988
Triton (1SK1AD) - Unexpired Interest	-	(1,805)
Triton (1UY4OL) - Finance	238	-
Triton (ARG889) - Finance	-	11,929
Total Current Liabilities	111,892	142,643
Non-current Liabilities		

BALANCE SHEET

30 JUN 2022 30 JUN 2021

Provisions:Long Service Leave	5,272	2,170
Triton 1SE7UB - Finance	26,746	35,398
Triton 1SE7UB - Unexpired Interest	-	(2,557)
Triton 1SK1AD - Finance	25,595	32,660
Triton 1SK1AD - Unexpired Interest	-	(2,357)
Triton 1UY4OL - Finance	19,374	-
Wages Payable - Payroll	-	31
Total Non-current Liabilities	76,987	65,345
Total Liabilities	188,879	207,988
Net Assets	342,943	593,230
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	(113,298)	459,566
Retained Earnings	456,241	133,663
Total Equity	342,943	593,230

PROFIT AND LOSS

Bellarine Catchment Network Inc For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
Trading Income		
Donations Income	2,246	198
Grant and Incomes	333,212	693,911
Interest Income	110	86
Total Trading Income	335,568	694,194
Gross Profit	335,568	694,194
Other Income		
Carried Forward Profit - Committed Funds from Prior Year	136,989	278,750
Cash Flow Boost	-	43,827
Total Other Income	136,989	322,577
Operating Expenses		
ADMINISTRATION : Executive Expenses	15	650
ADMINISTRATION: Annual Report & AGM	1,663	229
ADMINISTRATION:Accounting	1,429	-
ADMINISTRATION:Advertising	650	-
ADMINISTRATION:Annual Fees/Memberships	869	2,502
ADMINISTRATION:Bank Fees	251	1,351
ADMINISTRATION:Bookkeeping	13,148	14,111
ADMINISTRATION:First Aid	367	-
ADMINISTRATION:Gifts	55	247
ADMINISTRATION:Meeting Expenses	919	187
ADMINISTRATION:OHS	13	339
ADMINISTRATION:Organisation Insurance	1,197	-
ADMINISTRATION:Professional Development	(152)	1,664
ADMINISTRATION:Telephone-Mobiles	5,292	5,656
ADMINISTRATION:Travel Expenses	42	261
ADMINISTRATION:Uniforms PPE	2,433	3,384
Annual Leave Expense	4,005	(4,535)
Auspice Grant	41,170	13,460
BEC: Printer Services	982	1,452
BEC: Waste & Landfill	521	744
BEC:Cleaning	578	244
BEC:Electricity	763	986
BEC:Email Services	-	54
BEC:Equipment Purchases(Office)	1,153	1,273
BEC:Internet	1,328	1,895
BEC:IT Software	896	941
BEC:IT Support	6,178	4,666
BEC:Office Infrastructure	664	2,487
BEC:Office Insurance	883	796

PROFIT AND LOSS

	2022	2021
BEC:Postage	109	174
BEC:Staff Amenities	204	158
BEC:Stationery	248	483
CAPACITY BUILDING: Contractors - Casual	558	-
CAPACITY BUILDING: Education & Community Engagement	4,755	136
CAPACITY BUILDING:Catering	1,691	1,902
CAPACITY BUILDING:Media	11,214	4,600
CAPACITY BUILDING:Printing, Signage, Brochure	10,993	1,344
CAPACITY BUILDING:Workshop Expenses	3,482	193
Interest Expense	6,988	5,841
LITTER & WASTE : Infrastructure	-	7,311
Loss on Trade in of vehicle	-	20,991
Monitoring & Evaluation/Survey	-	1
MOTOR VEHICLE:Fuel	8,097	4,952
MOTOR VEHICLE:Parking	74	11
MOTOR VEHICLE:Tolls	-	55
MOTOR VEHICLE:Vehicle Insurance	2,150	2,890
MOTOR VEHICLE:Vehicle Maintenance	3,072	1,968
MOTOR VEHICLE:Vehicle Registration	1,702	619
ON GROUND WORKS: Guards & Stakes	527	-
ON GROUND WORKS: Monitoring Surveying	-	509
ON GROUND WORKS:Chemical Purchases	1,410	1,285
ON GROUND WORKS:Contractors	29,957	3,936
ON GROUND WORKS:Pest, Plant & Animals	198	45
ON GROUND WORKS:Repairs & Maintenance	689	7,518
ON GROUND WORKS:Revegetation	3,104	4,205
ON GROUND WORKS:Sundry	1,470	4,387
ON GROUND WORKS:Tools	5,251	3,785
PAYROLL:Casual Wages	3,658	190
PAYROLL:Long Service Leave	6,103	22,910
PAYROLL:Salaries - Contract & Ongoing	348,955	325,136
PAYROLL:Staff Training	-	694
PAYROLL:Super	38,083	33,393
PAYROLL:Workcover	3,485	3,029
PPB 19/20 - Community Engagement	-	4,852
PPB 19/20 - Contractors	-	1,064
PPB 19/20 - On-Ground Works	-	1,680
PPBR3 19-20 - Advertising	-	481
PPBR3 19-20 - Contractors	-	6,702
PPBR3 19-20 - Materials	-	9,197
PPBR3 19-20 - PPE	-	6,474
PPBR3 19-20 - Training	-	3,000
PPBR3 19-20 Other-Launch	-	1,850
TRAILER & MACHINERY ASSETS	-	1,706
TRAILER & MACHINERY ASSETS : Insurance	-	347

PROFIT AND LOSS

	2022	2021
TRAILER & MACHINERY ASSETS : Maintenance	144	-
TRAILER & MACHINERY ASSETS : Registration	173	61
Venue Hire	-	95
Total Operating Expenses	585,855	557,204
Net Profit	(113,298)	459,566

AUDIT REPORT

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF BELLARINE CATCHMENT NETWORK INCORPORATED

Scope

The Financial Report and Committee's Responsibility

I have audited the attached special purpose financial report of the Bellarine Catchment Network Incorporated, being the Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for the 12 months period ending 30 June 2022.

The Committee of the incorporated entity is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting requirements. I disclaim any responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Audit Approach

I have conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the members of the entity on its preparation and presentation. My audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of the audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, and inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

I performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, including compliance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with my understanding of the entity's financial position, and of its performance as represented by the result of its operations.

I formed an audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report.

While I considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of my procedures, my audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, subject to the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraphs not existed, the financial report is in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Bellarine Catchment Network Incorporated as at the 30 June 2022 and the results of its operations for the 12 months then ended and complies with the Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations).

Signed at Geelong this 11th day of November 2022



Mark SP Wilkinson

ASIC Registered Company Auditor 4485

6 Kintyre Crescent (PO Box 235), Leopold, Victoria, 3224 T: 0418 772212

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

NETWORK MEMBERS

Thank you to the representatives of all our member groups and organisations who have participated in our meetings in the 2021-2022 financial year.



Bellarine Peninsula Orange-bellied Parrot Regional Group



Friends of Begola Wetlands



Friends of Buckley Park



Friends of Indented Head Woodland Nature Reserve



COLLABORATORS





@bellarinecatchmentnetwork

MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.environmentbellarine.org.au

info@bcn.org.au

