



Television producer, Fiona Egger (second left), with Landcare short video competition winners Dawn Parker (Innovations accepted by Caroline Doolan), Cath Woods (Landcare Legends), Louise Avery (Group Gossip) and Jo Trevaskis (Farming Flair). K1324-627



Bairnsdale Urban Landcare Group members Maxine Semple (left) and Ann Ronson (right) with highly commended award recipient in both the Landcare Legends category and group gossip category, Philippa Ellerton. K1324-635

Landcare celebrates 30 years

The successful grassroots organisation, Landcare in Victoria, is celebrating 30 years this month, and members from across East Gippsland gathering in Lakes Entrance last weekend to mark the occasion with a celebration dinner and awards night.

The dinner was also the culmination of the short video competition, hosted jointly by the East Gippsland Landcare Network, Far East Victoria Landcare and the Snowy Interstate Landcare Committee.

Winners were awarded in each of the six topic categories. School winners will receive their awards at special assemblies this week.

The Landcare Legends category was won by Cath Woods, from the Raymond Island Landcare Group,

with Philippa Ellerton receiving a highly commended award.

Group Gossip category was won by Louise Avery, from Nungurner Landcare Group, with Philippa Ellerton highly commended.

Other category winners were: Farming Flair - Jo Trevaskis, from Wairewa Landcare (winner), Allen Sheridan, from Bengworden Landcare (highly commended); Innovation - Dawn Parker, from Far East Victoria Landcare and Snowy West Landcare Group (winner), Snowy West Landcare Group (highly commended); Primary Schools - Lindelow Primary School (winner), Lindenow Primary School (highly commended); and Secondary Schools - Nagle College (winner), Bairnsdale Secondary College

(highly commended).

Celebrated television and film producer, Fiona Egger, presented the prizes, providing each winner a brief insight into what made their entry stand out for judges.

Almost 100 guests were treated to a two-course dinner featuring local produce. The MC for the evening was Craig Bush, who is also an active member of Toms Creek Landcare.

Guests saw a DVD of 30 years of Landcare, produced with the support of Craig Bush and Jan Lucas, which featured excerpts from the 20-year video in 2006. Participants were re-interviewed to review their predictions for Landcare and asked where Landcare could be in another 10 years. Their insight proved

remarkably accurate, and there was great confidence in Landcare's future.

Those interviewed included Rick and Jenny Robertson (Bengworden Landcare), Simon and Rowena Turner (Ensay/Swifts Creek Landcare), Barry Newcomen (Ensay/Swifts Creek Landcare), Michael Gibbs, Gillian and Robert Morpeth (Nungurner Landcare), Maurice Burns (Tambo Bluff Landcare), Rosemary Jennings (Lower Tambo Landcare), May Leatch (Snowy West Landcare), Emma Orgill (Marlo Landcare) and Matt Zagami (Wairewa Landcare).

Regional Landcare coordinator for the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority, Amanda

Bartkowski, said the evening's success pointed to a long future ahead for Landcare in the region.

"Coming together at this event to celebrate the huge variety of work done and continuing to be done shows what a strong record this region has in community involvement," she said.

"And the participation of school groups is an indication of Landcare's continuing value for many years to come," she said.

Links to the winning entries are available on East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (EGCMA) website. Copies of the free Landcare 30 Years celebration DVD are available through local Landcare networks or by contacting Carolyn Cameron at EGCMA.



Amanda Bartkowski (regional Landcare coordinator), Jenny Robertson (treasurer East Gippsland Landcare Network), Fiona Egger (television producer) and Jan Lucas (secretary East Gippsland Landcare Network). K1324-611



East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority members, Bill Bulmer, Chris Wrench and Rick Robertson. K1324-649



Victoria Landcare Council member, Beth Ripper, with Bernadette and Bill Bulmer. K1324-644



Russell Peel and Debbie Carruthers, of Paynesville Landcare, and Rick and Jenny Robertson, of Bengworden Landcare. K1324-642



Swifts Creek/Ensay Landcare Group members, Barry Newcomen and Peter Sibley, with regional Landcare coordinator, Amanda Bartkowski (centre). K1324-647



Raymond Island Landcare Group enjoyed catching up with other groups from the region. K1324-639