Cactus Warriors attack a Wheely Prickly Problem Lee Mead and Tarrangower Cactus Control Group Inc. info@cactuswarriors.org



Grassroots Community Action

The Tarrangower Cactus Control Group (TCCG) was formed in 2005 as a network of 3 Landcare groups around Maldon (Vic) and is dedicated to the control of Wheel Cactus *(Opuntia robusta*)

Partnership with Parks Vic

Since our formation, TCCG has had an excellent collaboration with Parks Victoria and together we have

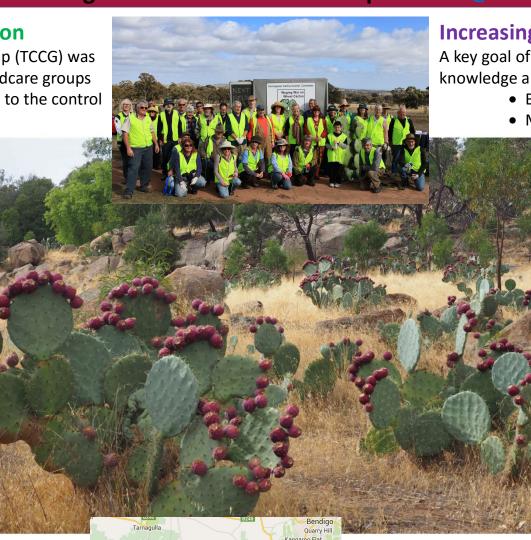
- Controlled Wheel Cactus infestations in our unique Historic Goldfields Parks
- Coordinated teamwork between volunteers, staff, students, work crews and contractors.



Increasing Landholder Participation

TCCG 'cactus warriors' have helped to increase participation in control activities by informing, teaching and assisting property owners with

- Community Field Days
- Individual demonstrations and assistance
- Incentives such as free equipment loans and free disposal of plants





Increasing Community Awareness

A key goal of TCCG is to raise awareness and knowledge about the threat of Wheel Cactus, using

- Brochures and mail outs
- Media releases in local print/radio/t.v.
 - Workshop and field trip
 - Information stalls at local events
 - Website <u>www.cactuswarriors.org</u>





Improving Control and Management

- Pilot trials to improve equipment and techniques
- Research collaboration with tertiary students
- Current Mapping Project to map all Wheel Cactus infestations in Victoria (please send photos and locations to Max) at <u>mschlachter@outlook,com.au</u>





