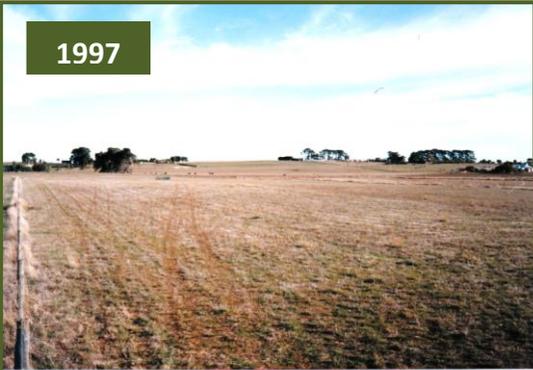


1997



2006



2014



PEACE IN PROGRESS: Before and After.
FIREWOOD: Plenty on the property.



PEACE IN NATURE

SMART LIVING MOUNT GAMBIER

Bryan and his family have converted their property from bare paddocks to a nature reserve over the past 18 years. In that time they have planted thousands of native plants on the property, beginning with trees and tall shrubs, then moving into under storey plants.

PURPOSE Bryan and his wife started with a vision of what they wanted their property to become. They planted with purpose – with the end vision in mind. That included for shelter, wind breaks, seed bank, biodiversity, timber and firewood.

BIODIVERSITY on the property has been dramatically improved. Bryan has done bird monitoring since they first moved in and observed the changes over time. The amount of birds, and the number of species, visiting the property have more than doubled. Many birds now make their home alongside Bryan's.

PEACE & SERENITY The thousands of trees and other plants have transformed the property into a place of peace and tranquillity, a veritable island sanctuary amongst bare paddocks.

TIMBER Bryan regularly harvests trees and shrubs on the property for timber for wood carving. In conjunction with developing the property, Bryan has developed his skills as a wood carver. Some of his creations are in the photo on the right.

FIREWOOD Along with timber, Bryan and his family also harvest trees for firewood. The property is now self-sufficient in firewood – a carbon neutral source of heating for the home. Bryan's firewood tree of choice is Black Wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*), it grows quickly and burns just as well as red gum.

If you have a few acres, get out there and start planting! You too can have the tremendous personal satisfaction that comes from transforming your property into a productive oasis.



CREATURE COMFORT: Many species of birds, insects and other creatures make their home at Bryan's.
GROWING: Another row of plants getting established.
HOME GROWN TIMBER: Many objects can be made.



Uses for Wood



Wood turning using local native species