



ANNUAL REPORT 2003  
Landscapes for the Future





## History

Landscapes for the Future began as an initiative of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project.

Over a number of years, the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project had been working closely with Rick Pope from Land Victoria and Ballarat software developers Osprey Computing to develop a user friendly, low cost geographic information system (GIS) with Landcare specific application.

The software product developed by Osprey Computing is Streets Ahead™, and its application has become a very important tool for project management in the Woody Yaloak Catchment.

With the successful application of the software in the Woody Yaloak Catchment, widespread interest from the broader Landcare community became evident. In keeping with the desires of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group to share their experiences with others, a not-for-profit company, Landscapes for the Future Limited, was created in 2002. The specific purpose of the organisation is to extend the GIS concept to other Landcare networks.

Landscapes for the Future Limited offers Landcare networks a package of GIS/GPS technology, data, skills and knowledge. The package has been formulated to assist Landcare groups with project planning, monitoring, reporting and information sharing.

## The Landscapes for the Future Vision

*“To share the knowledge obtained as catchment management leaders to improve rural land management for the benefit of residents, businesses and the environment.”*

## The Board of Landscapes for the Future Limited

The Board is made up of four directors:

Alice Knight (Chairperson), Woody Yaloak Catchment Project  
Cam Nicholson, Nicon Rural Services  
Pam Oddie, DPM Computing  
Danny O'Neill, Chandris Pty Ltd

## Progress

The Governor of Victoria, John Landy, launched the Landscapes for the Future concept on March 21, 2002.

Since that time, the company has grown in capacity, output and reputation. The package is now well recognised in Victoria and is used by a wide range of Landcare Groups and Networks. Interest is also growing interstate, with Streets Ahead being used by a small number of Landcare Groups in Western Australia and Queensland.

Current users of Landscapes for the Future include:

Upper Campaspe Combined Landcare Group  
Mallee Catchment Landcare Groups & Networks  
Greening Australia, Portland  
Corangamite Catchment Landcare Networks  
Hopkins Moyne Landcare Network  
Emu Creek Catchment Landcare Group Inc., Jones Gully, Queensland

Sharing the skills and knowledge that has been developed in the Woody Yaloak Catchment is a very important part of the Landscapes for the Future ethos. Over the past 18 months, Landscapes for the Future has worked closely with Rural Industries Skill Training (RIST) Hamilton to develop an accredited training course designed specifically to compliment the Landscapes for the Future Package.

The training teaches landholders and Landcare coordinators to use Streets Ahead as a tool for recording information, planning and monitoring natural resource management activities at both farm and catchment level.

## Chairperson's Report

It was with great excitement that the Landscapes for the Future concept was launched in 2002. This was the culmination of seven years work by the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group and its supporters to create a Landcare specific, easy to use Geographic Information System.

Since its inception, Landscapes for the Future Limited has achieved some satisfying results. A total of 12 Landscapes for the Future base packages have been sold, plus an additional 26 copies of Streets Ahead Standard and 32 copies of Streets Ahead Pro. Approximately 20 demonstrative presentations and training sessions have been held for various resource management groups with some 50 people receiving hands-on practical training from our facilitation staff. In addition to this many landholders in the Woody Yaloak Catchment have also utilised one-on-one and group training sessions to become more familiar with their Streets Ahead software, which is assisting them in better land management.

The financial year ended 30 June, 2003, saw a pleasing result with the company returning a small surplus after expenses of \$3,872.13. In keeping with the strategic plans for the business, any surplus will be reinvested into the company for administrative costs and the funding of any further developmental projects.

On behalf of the Board of Landscapes for the Future Limited I would like to extend our thanks to the team of people who have enabled the concept to take flight. To Rick Pope (Land Victoria) for his ongoing commitment to the project; Jennifer Clarke for her tireless efforts particularly in facilitating presentations and training sessions; Cam Nicholson who has been a driving force for the project; the development team at Osprey Computing for the initiative they have shown in developing the Streets Ahead software; the co-ordinators at Rural Industry Skill Training, Hamilton who have greatly assisted in compiling an excellent training program; Alcoa Landcare for their strategic financial support and the input of Ted Rowley; and the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority for their financial support, especially in the establishment of *Landscapes for the Future Limited*.

The team behind Landscapes for the Future Ltd have some exciting plans for 2004 and beyond. These include a marketing campaign targeting further Victorian Catchment Management Authorities through informative promotional material and presentations to CMA staff, Landcare co-ordinators and landholders interested in improving their natural resource management. Promotion of useable GIS through Landscapes for the Future will also continue through our expanding network of contacts in other states.

**Alice Knight**  
Chair – Landscapes for the Future Ltd

## Package Details

The Landscapes for the Future Package includes:

- Streets Ahead™ Pro GIS software & compatible Sportrak Magellan Geographic Positioning System (GPS). The package includes 1 copy of the software and 1 GPS unit.
- Base data layers: hydrological, cadastre & contour data plus black & white satellite imagery for a Landcare Network/Group area. The standard data size supplied with the package is sufficient to cover an area of about 55 km by 55 km.
- Multi user licensing of data that allows the Landcare network to purchase one copy of the base data layers and share it amongst its members – one license covers the entire network. Please note, this data supply arrangement is specific to Victoria.

*In other states, Landscapes for the Future is only able to organise a multi-user licence for satellite imagery. Outside Victoria, network groups must negotiate with their state government agency to source hydrological, cadastre and contour data.*

- Training manuals – step by step, screen by screen guide to using the Streets Ahead software.
- Template layers to use for data collection or as a guide to develop customised map layers. Template layers are provided for mapping and collecting data about catchment boundaries, waterways, erosion, drainage, fact sheets, pasture, salinity, vegetation, wetlands, weeds, pests & paddock history.
- Twelve months technical support.

## Package costs \$5200 plus GST.

Additional copies of the software which include the rights to use the Landscapes for the Future Package:

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Streets Ahead™ Pro      | \$459 plus GST |
| Streets Ahead™ Standard | \$229 plus GST |

## Training

Training can be arranged through Rural Industries Skill Training (RIST). RIST offers an accredited training course comprising 3 very practical, half-day sessions.

For further information in regard to training workshops please contact RIST Hamilton on 03 5573 0943

LANDSCAPES FOR THE FUTURE LIMITED  
 ABN 39 101 860 600  
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003

Revenue from Ordinary Activities

|                                       |                                    |                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Income                                |                                    | <b>2003</b>        |
|                                       |                                    | <b>\$</b>          |
| <b>Software Sales</b>                 |                                    |                    |
|                                       | Demonstration Software             | 80.00              |
|                                       | GPS Units & Accessories            | 180.00             |
|                                       | Landscapes Base Package            | 24,613.46          |
|                                       | Streets Ahead Pro Sales            | 9,180.00           |
|                                       | Streets Ahead Standard Sales       | 3,183.10           |
|                                       |                                    | 37,236.46          |
| <b>Less Cost of Good Sold</b>         |                                    |                    |
| Software Purchased                    |                                    |                    |
|                                       | Licence/Data Purchase              | 7,500.90           |
|                                       | Purchase – GPS Units & Accessories | 793.64             |
|                                       | Purchase – Streets Ahead Pro       | 7,540.92           |
|                                       | Purchase – Streets Ahead Std       | 2,297.46           |
|                                       | Software Purchased – Other         | 6,023.63           |
|                                       | Postage & Delivery                 | 79.49              |
|                                       | Printing & Stationery              | 659.68             |
|                                       |                                    | 24,895.72          |
| <b>Gross Profit on Software Sales</b> |                                    | <b>12,340.84</b>   |
| CCMA Start-up Grant                   |                                    | 40,000             |
| Presentations to Groups               |                                    | 1,611.76           |
| Training                              |                                    | 2,829.00           |
| Training Manuals                      |                                    | 185.00             |
| <b>Net Income</b>                     |                                    | <b>56,966.60</b>   |
| Expenditure from Ordinary Activities  |                                    |                    |
|                                       | Administration/Secretarial Fees    | 4,877.09           |
|                                       | Bank Service Charges               | 33.55              |
|                                       | Company Registration Fees          | 406.00             |
|                                       | Facilitation Expenses              | 43,035.01          |
|                                       | Legal Fees                         | 3,234.00           |
|                                       | Marketing Supplies                 | 829.27             |
|                                       | Travel                             | 679.55             |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                 |                                    | <b>53,094.47</b>   |
| <b>Net Surplus</b>                    |                                    | <b>\$ 3,872.13</b> |