

This email updates *the progress “Soil Selfies” project and IYS through October*

If this is the first time you have received an update from me, as I have only met you recently, please add this email address to your safe senders.

Please, if you do not want to receive updates, email me to take you off my list. But you may also

suggest people to add! Thankyou. Jeanie

Hi to Soil Selfies contributors and supporters

My goodness! While adding another nine Soil Selfies to the on-line collection, there was plenty else happening in the Wimmera in October to publicise, and involve people in, the International Year of Soils and Soil Selfies, by:



- o Being interviewed by ACE radio - for their **“Country Today”** program;
- o giving an ‘IYS view of a trip to Europe’ talk, with photos of some lovely French and Swiss soils/farms I visited, for the **Warracknabeal’s Mens Probus Club**.
- o providing a display at the **Warracknabeal Show** and surveying people on *Why I like my soil* – loved the comments from the 5 yo’s to the 90’s that people gave (See more at <http://soils.enviroed4all.com.au/soils-in-stories/warracknabeal-show/>)
- o writing **‘Sustainability for soils’** - the fourth IYS article for the *Otherways*

magazine which draws on talks at the Global Soil Week putting soils into the new Global Sustainable Development Goals, announced in September.

- o becoming involved in the IYS **World Soil Day Event** in the first weekend in December in Federation Square, Melbourne .
- o preparing Session 4 of the **Wimmera Soil Education Project** for primary schools, and running it with the first schools at Natimuk, Marnoo and Yaapeet

Soil Selfies webpages growth

For this month, I added more Soil Selfies to the website about ways to care for different soil uses:
[Global](#) - organic family farm in the Upper Danube Valley in **Slovakia**
[New South Wales](#) – backyard family farm garden at **Werri Beach**
[South Australia](#) – BMX track at **Port Adelaide**.
[Victoria](#)- Columns to support (model) bridges in **Box Hill**;



soil used in new housing in **Box Hill**; school food garden program at **Apollo Bay**; and a rural family’s food and flower gardens and stock paddock near **Kilmore**.

Webpage links are both on the master ‘locations’ webpage and its subpages, and in the dropdown menus for each of these to the new pages. The collection now has 44 Soil Selfies, freely available for anyone to use to learn more about soils and their uses, challenges and management – as I hope they will be as we approach **World Soil Day** in early December. Thank you to those who have contributed them and ones that I still have to put onto the web – they are wonderful stories of our soils and worth the time it takes. I continued to put 2-3 Soil Selfies or other Soil activity per week onto Twitter, Linked in and Facebook. It’s hard to know how far they



go, so I was delighted when I got one comment back from the Camerouns.

Wimmera Soil Education Program session 4 – Caring for our soils

This last of the 4-session program draws together the previous three sessions as it:



- 1 shares the information gathered from the 8 schools in the program with each other for soil definitions, colours, healthy signs, pH, texture, common problems and care.
- 2 reviews the student’s own soil results and options to look after their soils
- 3 provides a practical application with seeds to take home to care for their soil, by raising a plant in it,
- 4 has fun using soil and the IYS logo to decoratively make **“IYS Soil Stars”**



(The program is at <http://soils.enviroed4all.com.au/soils-in-stories/soil-ed-program/>)

With thanks for your involvement and especially encouragement,

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