

Pollinator Book off to a Flying Start

Joint Media Release: R & R Smith Organic Orchards and the Bee Collective

Did you know that we rely on the work of pollinators to provide us with the food we eat? A new project with children in the Huon Valley is focussing on the important role of pollinators and is asking children to tell their stories about the connection between pollination and food.

Project co-ordinator and Founder of the Bee Collective, Jenni McLeod initiated the project when she started researching Tasmania's \$10bn 2050 AgriVision target.

"As adults we set visions, but we often forget to include children in the story, and they are the ones who will be tasked with delivering on these targets.

"Pollinators are key to realising this AgriVision target and this book project is an opportunity for children to start making those valuable connections between, pollinators, agriculture and food."

Ms McLeod initiated the 'Bee Book' written by children in Goodwood and for this project she has built new partnerships, including R & R Smith Organic Orchards who are providing funding for the project.

"We are pleased to be sponsoring this pollinator book project connecting children to how food is produced," said owner of R & R Smith Organic Orchards, Andrew Smith.

"Linking children from this community to pollinators and the thriving industries that exist here, is one way we can ensure the success of our industry into the future."

Mr Smith has launched this project today by taking a group of children from the Geeveston Community Centre on a tour of his apple orchard.

"The apples have just started flowering and this is a perfect time to see pollinators at work."

There will be 3 more workshops in the Huon Valley – the next workshop will be in October with the Huon Garden Club at Crawleighwood in Nicholls Rivulet, followed by a workshop for Pollinator Week in November at St James Primary School and finally a workshop at the Cygnet Library in January 2022.

For more information regarding this project, contact the Bee Collective directly at thebeecollectivetas@gmail.com

Contact for media release: Jenni McLeod 0448 515 867