Ash – Alright it’s recording. So my name is Ashleigh Giffney, I am the Collections Manager of the Burke Museum and I am doing an oral history here today with Pauline and Tess. Todays date is the eleventh of the eleventh twenty two and it is approximately eleven am in the morning. So Pauline, I’ll get you to introduce yourself.

Pauline – Oh my name is Pauline. Do you want the surname too?

Ash – Yep

Pauline – Pauline Carson, and umm I was involved with Wooragee Landcare when it was first formed.

Ash – Perfect. And Tess

Tess – My name is Dolores Lucas but I’m known as Tess. I first came to Wooragee in nineteen sixty three, to a very run down property, so I know the work that goes into restoring a farm that’s full of rabbits and bracken and blackberries.

Ash – Fantastic. Well let’s start off with how did you both find yourself working with Wooragee Landcare?

Pauline – Well Landcare had been a new movement that had been a developed through the collaboration developed between the Victorian Farmers Federation and the Victorian State government. So there was starting to be a group starting up, and there had been was an interest in setting a group in Wooragee. So they held a meeting at the hall and invited Tony Ransom from Springhurst Landcare Group to come and talk to landholders in Wooragee to talk about potentially setting up a Landcare Group in our area. What date was that – now what date was that, what was it? nineteen eighty eight

Karen – It was in nineteen eighty eight as was in nineteen eighty nin

Pauline – So Tony came and talked to the group and yes we decided that we would like to form a landcare group in our area. Then a committee was formed and they called for a committee to be formed. Tess was the first President Dot Stelling was the first Secretary and I put my hand up to the Treasurership. I was fairly new to the district and I arrived in nineteen eighty six and umm so I didn’t feel qualified to be involved with the nuts and bolts of landcare activities as I was still new.