



PARKES and Districts LANDCARE

LANDCARE NEWS April 2011

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IMPORTANT DATES

September 5-7 - 2011 NSW Landcare and Catchment Management Forum @ Parkes "Thinking Differently... New solutions for the old Issues", for information visit <http://www.parkeslandcare.org.au/downloads/downloads-index.html>

LINKS

<http://www.juniorlandcare.com/> - Check out this Website for Junior Landcarers - Grants, challenges, Competitions and News

www.parkeslandcare.org.au - Find out the latest news, field trips, and more....Join us on facebook!

www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au - keep in touch with what is on offer - grants, news, etc

www.landcareaustralia.com.au - check out the Landcare Australia website.

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CENTRAL WEST CMA CHAMPIONS OF THE CATCHMENT REGIONAL AWARDS

Our chance to nominate individuals or groups who contribute to natural resource management in the Central West. Do you know someone that could be nominated? Applications are available online www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au or at your local Central West CMA Office. The nine award categories include: Individual, Community Group, Local Government Partnerships, Primary Producer, Education, Indigenous, Sustainable Farm Practices, Young Leader and Local Landcare Coordinator.

LACHLAN CATCHMENT NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AWARDS

The Lachlan CMA is asking for nominations for some of the wonderful projects happening in the region for recognition of continued passion and hard work in the environment. Winners will go to the NSW State Landcare Awards later in the year. State winners go on to be finalists in the National Landcare Awards in 2012. Apply now.

REVIEWS

"YES WE CAN" WOMEN'S EXPO

Parkes and District Landcare attended the Quota International Parkes women's expo day on 12 March 2011. The focus was to recognise the contribution of women in the Shire, to highlight various agencies and groups that support and provide welfare, education and development of women, and to showcase organisations providing leisure opportunities for women.

Margot and Joanne highlighted the importance of Parkes and Districts Landcare and the role it plays in both the rural and urban areas of the Shire and surrounding districts. Several new members were recruited and we look forward to them joining us at various projects. New members joining on the day went into a draw to win a Landcare T shirt & cap. The Lucky winner was Sharelle MacRae, congratulations.



PARKES FIELD DAY A SUCCESS

Parkes and Districts landcare had a stand at the field day with both the Lachlan CMA and the Central West CMA. The weather held out and there were plenty of enquiries and a number of new memberships taken, Thanks to our members Margaret Haddin, Georgina Brennand and Gavin Tom for assisting on the day, and to Nina Hooper and Kath Mann from the Lachlan CMA supporting.

DRUMMUSTER RESULTS



The DrumMUSTER in Parkes was held on Friday 4 March. A total of 1450 drums were received. Groups members from Coobang Valley, Tichbourne & Alectown landcare volunteered their time to assist in the collection. These groups will receive a donation from drumMUSTER for their participation in the collection.

We thank those landholders who delivered drums on the day. Landcare urges landholders to utilise the drum collecting day and not bring drums to the tip at other times as it created more work for the volunteers.

Forbes has a drumMUSTER on the second and fourth Friday of the month at Twin City recyclers. Contact Forbes Services Club on 6852 1488 to book in your time to save delays.

STUBBLE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Held on 10 March at Parkes Services Club. Bill Grabtree gave a very informative talk on the subject of stubble management with the focus on profitability and sustainability on the farm. Bill hails from Western Australia and they are somewhat ahead of NSW in no till farming concept.

The workshop was sponsored by CANFA and the Lachlan CMA, with twenty in attendance to hear Bill discuss the topic and share information on what techniques they were adopting on farms locally. In all a very informative and well presented workshop.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 6 MARCH 2011

What a success in both Forbes and Parkes. A great response from the community and also from the schools.

Forbes had 74 participants, 44 from the community and 30 from Red Bend School. The cleanup in Forbes concentrated on the Lake shore and the 4 roads coming into the town. There was a similar amount of general rubbish as last year - about two and a half tones of garbage.



Parkes had 65 registrations at Lions Park up from previous years. The Rural Fire Service was out in force and cleaned up PAC Park. Parkes High school, Holy Family and Parkes Public rallied behind the cleanup and were a tremendous help on the day, as were the Scouts and Guides. A team from McDonalds had a registration point at Henderson Reserve and cleaned up that area. Most of the parks were cleaned up and also Memorial Hill, Parkes Race track, the airport, the truck stop on Dubbo Road, Orange Road, Condobolin Road and the Wellington Road. In all 94 bags, two trailer loads (one of metal), 4 wheely bins and also the back of a ute filled with garbage collected.

A great effort in both Forbes and Parkes to keep our town parks, reserves and streets clean.

A TOWN LIKE TRUNDLE INITIATIVE UPDATE

During October 2010, 500 trees were planted at the entrances to Trundle by volunteers. The tree plantings are part of A Town Like Trundle initiative and are the first step in the Trundle Lagoon Project. It is hoped that 2000 to 2500 trees will be planted in and around the village and our intention to re-establish the Trundle lagoon, create a camping area and establish walking trails with signage interpreting local flora and fauna. There are two main aims of this project:

- To conserve, promote and increase the biodiversity in Trundle and surrounding bushland which is a great example of Central West Plains ecosystem with significant conservation value. Some of the plant community groups include: grey box, red/yellow box, poplar box and open cypress grasslands. The area contains over 2000 different plant species and 450 vertebrate species.

- To make Trundle more attractive to new residents, encourage existing residents to remain and promote visitors to the town.

Trundle CCC, Development of Town & Natural Environment Group would like to thank: Caring for our Country, Parkes & Districts Landcare, Parkes Shire Council, volunteers and Bruie Plains Rural Fire Service.

LANDCARE'S 'EARTH HOUR' TREE PLANTING EVENT

On Saturday 26 March 2011, members from Parkes and Districts Landcare met at 5:30 at Northparkes Oval to take part in a community tree planting day. Trees were provided as part of the Shiny Halo blog, <http://centroc.com.au/shinyhalo/> where one tree is planted for each article posted. Parkes Shire Council supports the blog, and as a result was allocated 200 trees to plant as part of a community activity.



Parkes Shire Council prepared the site for the plantings of about 100 trees which will form a windbreak around Northparkes Oval. Following the afternoon's activities, members enjoyed a cold drink & BBQ at Northparkes Mine's 'Earth Hour'

Parkes and Districts Landcare representative, Bill Archer was impressed with the achievement and recommended a similar event be run again next year. Central West Catchment Management Authorities Project Officer Chris McCulloch also commented that the event was "a pretty good success! It was great to see the kids there as well." Trees were supplied from 'Springvale Farm trees' Back Yamma Road, Parkes (Phone: Gary Brennand, 0427 662 197).

NORTH PARKES MINES EARTH HOUR

Northparkes Mines, Parkes Shire Council and Parkes and District Landcare participated in Earth Hour 2011 on Saturday 26 March by turning off all surface lights at the mines' operations and the lights on Memorial Hill, a prominent feature in Parkes. The event was marked by a BBQ, an acoustic band, candles, videos on a big screen and kid's activities at Northparkes Oval where a crowd of approximately 100 watched Memorial Hill lights and Northparkes' operations lights being switched off on the big screen at 8.30pm for one hour. Members of Parkes and Districts Landcare also attended following a day of tree planting at Northparkes Oval.

The event was a huge success and was testament to the fact the issue of climate change and the importance of looking after the environment was a priority for our community.

Since first participating in the Federal Government's EEO program in 2006, Northparkes Mines has identified and implemented a number of improvement opportunities to increase energy efficiency across its operations. Improving water and energy efficiency and reducing carbon emissions at Northparkes are a key part of the business plan and amongst several guiding principles of our Step Change pre-feasibility study.

BRUNCH ON THE BRIDGE PREPARATION KALARI-LACHLAN ARTS FESTIVAL

Brunch on the Bridge was held on the 19 March at the historic Bates Bridge in Forbes. There was a good representation of schools, choir, bands, orchestras and arts groups.

The idea of the brunch on the bridge was to get as many community organisations to attend so they could get an update on the festival activities so far, and to also have community input in the festival. There was great enthusiasm extended on the day.

The conveners were all very grateful for the use of the CMA barbecue and the trouble everyone went to, including Len Reade from Forbes Urban Landcare for getting the BBQ from Boorowa to Bates Bridge in Forbes.

Photos feature the legendary CMA barbecue and Forbes Urban's Len Reade, with one of the Kalarie-Lachlan River Arts Festival conveners, Ro Burns of Central West Arts Group.



Parques and District Landcare would like to thank the following sponsors:



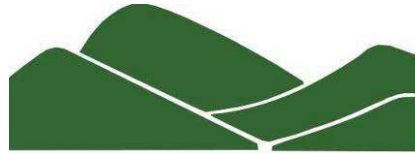
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