

Special points of interest:

- Region Award Winners
- Mountains to the Dunes Conference Last Minute
- Trees Trees Trees at lake Liddell

Forum & Muster 2009

By Liane Corocher

On Saturday 30 May winners of the 2009 Region Champions of the Catchments Awards were announced at the Hunter Region Landcare Network's Landcare (HRLN) Forum and Muster held at Tocal. These recognised their outstanding commitment to Landcare, natural resource management and environmental conservation in the Hunter-Central Rivers catchment.

To showcase and share the great work being done and to recognise outstanding achievement, the HRLN and the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority (CMA) have joined forces to coordinate the Champions of the Catchment Awards. This is the second time these awards have been held, with groups and individuals able to nominate in ten different categories including NRM Community Group Rural and Urban, Aboriginal Landcare, Primary Producer, Education, Landcare Legend (including a separate youth category), Nature Conservation, Coastcare and Local Government Partnership.

Nomination were made via PlaceStories, which is a new digital storytelling program developed by Queensland based group Feral Arts in partnership with Landcare NSW, which enables all nominees to showcase and share their projects.

CMA Chairman Dr Wej Paradise said all nominees are to be congratulated for their effort in developing their nomination. 'Previous awards have relied on a written nomination, which did not allow any of the nominees projects to be shared,' explained Dr Paradise. 'This year, because people nominated via PlaceStories we are

able to screen all the nominated projects at the Landcare Forum's Muster. This provides a great opportunity to showcase and share what we are all doing.'

HRLN Chair Ruth Hardy who was one of the Awards judges noted the many nominations received this year. 'We were very excited to receive thirty-three nominations and the four judges thoroughly enjoyed viewing the nominations and selecting the winners. However, it was tough as the standard was extremely high'. She added 'We are hoping winners or other nominees represent our region and enter the State Landcare Awards, which will be held in Port Macquarie in September.'

The Winners with some of their brief details are listed on the next page.

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The Champions or their representatives at the end of the Forum— congratulations and great work by all!

HRLN expresses grateful thanks to those who supported this Conference. Especially:

Hunter Central Rivers CMA
DPI—Tocal College
Riverdene Nursery
Hunter Indigenous Plants



Champions of the Catchment 2009 include

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Category	Winner	Project	Location
Community NRM Group Rural	Mid Coast Dairy Advancement Group	Farmers Target for Change	Gloucester, Taree Wingham (Lower North Coast)
Community NRM Group Urban	Mambo Wanda Wetland Reserve and Landcare Committee	Projects to protect and enhance the wetland	Port Stephens
Aboriginal Landcare	Conservation Volunteers Australia and Karuah First Green Team	Regenerating Worimi Country	Karuah (Lower North Coast)
Primary Producer	Chris and Sally Maslen	Various activities to improve the sustainability of the farm	Gloucester (Lower North Coast)
Education	Hunter Councils Environment Division	Turning the Pages	Upper Hunter
Landcare Legend (over 18 years)	Bea Brooks	Member of the Kooragang Landcare Volunteers	Lower Hunter
Nature Conservation	Kooragang Landcare Volunteers	Rewriting the history of Ash Island	Lower Hunter
Coastcare	Coastcare The Entrance North	Communities Caring for our Coast	The Entrance North (Central Coast)

Highly commended were;

- Abermain Landcare for the community benefit of their work
- Shortland to Wallsend Landcare for their project regenerating Crawchie Creek
- Kerrie Patterson for her inspirational work in involving Aboriginal communities in Landcare & NRM
- Taree Indigenous Development & Employment Corporation for the social and economic benefits

of their program

Junior Landcarers Jarrah and Wyatt Cain also received a Certificate of Encouragement.

HRLN and the CMA thank all who participated and congratulate all involved on a most successful function.

Liane is the Community Education Manager HCR-CMA who supplied most of the above text which has since been edited.

Mountains to the Dunes Landcare Conference – There's Still Time to Apply but be VERY Quick!

“Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so.”

Douglas Adams

3 and 4 July— Wyong

'Mountains to the Dunes' It's the Lake Macquarie, Central Coast Landcare forum - Now in its 5th year - held over two days.

There will be field trips to Landcare sites in Lake Macquarie, Wyong and Gosford on Friday 3rd July followed by dinner in the Wyong Council function room and a forum on Saturday 4th July, with keynote speakers Andrew Campell with a review on the Victorian Bushfires and

Phil Watson from DECC discussing the impacts of a changing climate on our coast.

The program and very last minute registrations can be accessed by going to www.wyocare.com

Rebecca Dugan
Landcare Co-ordinator
Open Space and Recreation
Wyong Council

National Network of Landcare Coordinators to Continue

The Federal Government recently announced a national network of local Landcare facilitators will continue, with a total \$33.6 million committed over four years. Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Tony Burke said the decision followed extensive discussions with local Landcare groups and strong representations from a number of MPs.

The Government will also provide immediate transitional funding, to allow current Landcare coordinators to continue in their existing positions until the end of this year.

The current coordinators are based in regional natural resource management groups such as Catchment Management Authorities.

From next year, coordinator positions will be funded under an open, competitive process to ensure broad representation across different regions and agricultural industries.

Add to your Event Mix!



HLRN Puppet Theatre is available FREE for the school classroom, fete or community event. (In some cases free delivery & pick up can be arranged too.)

In its basic form suitable for ages 5 to 10 years and includes theatre, puppets, scripts, backing CD & a background DVD too.

(Please supply your own CD player or a loan CD player is available on payment of a security deposit.)

For further details please phone Helen McClelland on 4930-1030 (only Mondays to Fridays between 9 am to 4 pm please).



Network Day at the Beach!

Well, very near it anyway (and you can swim afterwards if you really wish to).

When? - Saturday 15 August

From 10 am to mid afternoon. (Why not make a day of it?)

Morning Tea & Lunch are provided.

Meeting at the Regional Sustainability Centre on the grounds of Holy Family School, Janet Street, Merewether (Newcastle) . After lunch and close of the business a tour of the school grounds and the Merewether coastal projects Trees in Newcastle (TIN) has been involved with over the years (1.5 - 2 hours). There might even be time to extend the tour further to encompass King Edward Park and Burwood Beach if time permits and there is interest shown .

Thanks! We thank all contributors and reserve the right to reduce or edit all contributions. Due to space limitations some items may be held over to a future issue. Thank you for your understanding.

Upper Hunter Tree Jamboree 2009

By Stephen Thatcher

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Landcare Network

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Following the very successful Tree Jamboree 2007 at Lake Liddell, Upper Hunter Scouts and Lake Liddell Trust once again held a similar event recently. Site preparation included Liddell Coal Company arranging the ripping four kilometres of lines along the fore-shore and the Trust purchasing plants.

The weekend of 18/19 April saw 160 Scouts and families from the Hunter Region gathered at Lake Liddell in the Upper Hunter for tree planting and other Scouting activities.



Wolf Robe in June 1909

Only when the last tree has died and the last river been poisoned and the last fish been caught will we realise we cannot eat money.

Cree Indian saying



On Sunday members of the Hunter Region Landcare Network held an information session on a proposed aquatic plant nursery soon to be constructed on the site.

It proved to be a very successful weekend

with 2700 plants being planted. There were many tired Scouts on Sunday who will be able to look in on the site in future knowing they played a part in it's rejuvenation. The Lake Liddell Trust expresses its appreciation to the many people involved in the organising and successful running of the Tree Jamboree 2009.

Stephen is the Chairman of Lake Liddell Trust and is also a member of HRLN

Got a Worthwhile Project but Need Some Funds to Continue it?

The First Round of the Landcare Assistance Fund 2009/10 for grants of up to \$1500 may be able to help you! There is money available for projects in the Lower Hunter and Coastal areas. Contact Rodney Parker—Wright on 0402 469-666 for details.

What's Coming Up?

- July 1—Landcare Assistance Fund Round Opens
- July 20—Operations Committee Meeting
- August 2—National Tree Day
- August 15—Network Meeting (Newcastle)
- September 1 to 7—National Landcare Week
- September 9—NSW Landcare Forum & Awards (Port Macquarie)

Who's Who in HRLN

Chair:

Ruth Hardy
6545-1996 h

Deputy Chair:

Rodney Parker-Wright
0402 469-666

Secretary:

Andrew Martin
6579-4505 h

Hon Treasurer:

Graham Whitelaw
4959-1081 h

Public Officer:

John Hughson
4998-0029 h

The Seven Sins of the World

- Wealth without work
- Pleasure without conscience
- Knowledge without character
- Commerce without morality
- Science without humanity
- Worship without sacrifice
- Politics without principle

Mathatma Gandhi