

Shirtsleeves

Hunter Region Landcare Network

Network News

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GLENDORE KIDS CARE

Stage 1 and 2 students at Glendore Public School embraced a journey of learning through caring for their local school environment. Students were provided with opportunities to investigate the impact they have on their environment, with support through a Hunter Water Landcare Assistance Fund grant.

They identified two major impacts on their local environment, litter and land clearing for development, and identified strategies to put in place to address habitat loss. With the help of teachers and Landcarers they created a Bush Garden that would provide home to a range of local native animals.

Students realized that litter is a major threat to many animals, recorded over many months data on graphs and presented their findings to the school assembly, urging teachers and other students to act now on reducing litter.

As a result of their hard work Glendore Public School has a litter free playground and a safe habitat area for animals affected by land clearing.

For the students it was rewarding to work on this project and contribute to such an important issue with a practical, hands-on solution. Their attitude and behaviour has changed due to the kids care+curriculum being implemented at the school.

Kerrie Patterson



RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

Weeds Attack!

This is a web-based, interactive multimedia resource learning tool to assist students investigate Weeds of National Significance (WONS) in their local area. Uses a games-based approach to weeds control. Based on the Stage 3 Science and Technology curriculum and also relates to Stage 4 Science and Stage 6 Earth and Environmental Science: Introduced species.

Available on line www.dip.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/schools.

Wise Lives Now is a whole of school curriculum learning tool for Primary School students. It uses the written word and song to highlight and address environmental issues. Comes with CDs for different curriculum stages.

Enquiries can be made through HRLN 0458 348 110 or hrln@bigpond.com

KURRI KURRI FUNDRAISER

HRLN Publicity Officer Helen McClelland will be at Kurri Kurri on Saturday 19th of June, promoting Landcare, the HRLN and its Community Benefit Card for Landcare partnership with Ritchies IGA.

You can find Helen in the Kingsway Plaza from 9.00 a.m.

The HRLN stall will provide shoppers with information and handouts on our activities, native flora and fauna, local Landcare groups and other Landcare in the Hunter information. Helen will also let shoppers know about supporting Landcare by using a Ritchies IGA Community Benefit Card and using it whenever they shop at a Ritchies store. A percentage of a card holder's shopping bill is donated to the HRLN.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Port Stephens area Landcarer Fran Corner has been a member of the HRLN since its inception. A tireless worker for Landcare and the environment, Fran has participated in various HRLN committees and projects and provides regular input to Network Meetings and local and regional issues.

In her local area on the Tilligerry Peninsula Fran has highlighted, co-ordinated and supported Landcare community planning and on-ground works, community education and training, joint projects with Port Stephens Council and a broad range of policy development.

Fran has a hands on approach to environmental and community issues, readily sharing her knowledge of local historical and contemporary native flora and fauna with others. Particular passions for her are rejuvenation of Parks and Reserves in Tanilba Bay, growing and planting native vegetation, working with Port Stephens Council and engaging the community in native vegetation plantings.

For over 35 years she has served on committees such as Tidy Towns, Tanilba Parks and Reserves, the Rural Fire Service and local Hall Committees.

Recognition of Fran Corner's significant contribution to her community and the environment has resulted in her being awarded the Port Stephens Citizen of the Year. Fran said "My wish is for the betterment of the community, particularly its relationship with Port Stephens Council"

Congratulations Fran!

Jenny Castles



SUSTAINABILITY IN CESSNOCK

Cessnock City Council's new Sustainability Co-ordinator, Wendy Yeomans, has the responsibility for developing a Sustainability Plan for the LGA. Wendy said that for her sustainability is about intergenerational equity, giving future generations a chance to enjoy our local natural environment.

Wendy is keen to work with the HRLN and local Landcare Groups to identify and address Natural Resource Management within the Cessnock Local Government Area. As part of this process a Community Environment Advisory Committee is planned to be formed, to assist Council to identify and address environmental needs.

Working alongside Wendy is Tricia Donnelly as sustainability Officer.

They are keen to enhance their knowledge and skills in Native Vegetation and Biodiversity through training and cross-organisation input and networking.

Helen McClelland
Abermain Landcare

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Registered Landcare Group- Coal Point Progress Association Neighbourhood Watch & Landcare

REVEGETATING MORPETH

On Thursday 3rd of June, Year 5 and 6 students from Morpeth Public school celebrated an early start to National Tree Day+by planting 120 trees amongst a stand of 500 natives that were planted 3 years ago. It was a fun and practical way to involve the teachers and students in improving their knowledge of their natural surroundings, as part of their school activities.

Students discussed the importance of trees, birds and their habitat and how to care for their environment.

The school has participated in Landcare activities for over 11 years, often with local Landcare. Co-operative activities have included environmental education, local knowledge sharing, mass planting and mulching of Native Vegetation on Morpeth Common.

Eric Huber from the new Morpeth Landcare group worked with staff and students to prepare the ground, plant the trees and provide the students with some Native Vegetation knowledge. He said "The enthusiasm of the children and their desire to learn about their environment made this a great day"

If you want to know more about Morpeth Landcare or about joining the group give Eric a call on 4933 6111.



KILABEN BAY, KIKUYU & KANGAROOS

Thanks to surplus funds from a CMA project and two \$1,500 Hunter Water Landcare Assistance Fund grants from the HRLN, the Kilaben Bay Landcare Group commenced a strategy to isolate the old Council garbage dump in Lake Macquarie from adjoining natural bushland.

Weeding commenced on the southern side of the dump in 2008 and in 2009 an excavator cleared tracks through massive Lantana stands, enabling access for weeding at the dump interface and good bushland. Thick stands of Lantana cover the very steep batters and with Kikuyu on the remaining flatter areas.

Our aim is not to remove the Lantana but to prevent it from spreading. It provides shelter for a few shy local Kangaroos, Swamp Wallabies and also Possum nests.

With the Lantana removed and the tracks bare a million or two weeds then sprouted. These were moved and sprayed several times to keep the tracks open.

Our group now have 1,000 Native Plants to put in this winter to reinforce the bushland, furthering the project. However, the interfaces will require constant maintenance.

Ken Macpherson
Kilaben Bay Landcare Group



KILABEN BAY GARBAGE DUMP SITE



TRACK AT THE NTH. INTERFACE OF THE DUMP & GOOD BUSHLAND ON POR. 90 14/08/09

Dates for diary:

HRLN General Meeting at
Lake Liddell, Muswellbrook
10.00am Saturday 12th June.
MacGen Solar Thermal Plant
& Landcare Field site visits.
Lunch provided.

Tel: Ruth 0458 348 110

Bush Regeneration Workshops
9.30- 1.00pm, then B-B-Q..
Monday 21st June - Scone
Tuesday 22nd June -
Muswellbrook.

Tel: CVA 4926 2103

TOTAL FIELD DAYS

The annual Total Field Days attracted 27,000 people over three days of lovely warm weather. HRLN moved to a new site in the Land Management Pavilion this year, enabling us to meet more people and even have a few words with the Minister. Never let a chance go by to bend a Minister's ear about how Landcare is alive and thriving!

We were alongside our mates from the Morpeth Men's Shed who had their down built bird and bat boxes there. The Native Animal Trust Fund were opposite us so we had a great view of live flying foxes and snakes which they brought out to show the kids.

We shared the Pavilion with Earthcare Park, Trees in Newcastle, Australian Plant Society, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Hunter Wetlands Centre, Organic Growers, Botanic Gardens and the Farm Forestry Network..

Our frog display attracted a lot of interest with people reporting Green & Golden Bell Frogs on their properties. They shared their experiences of improving their property or suburban block to encourage frogs. HRLN's How to Build a Frog Pond leaflets were very popular. Identifying frog calls from visitor vocalisations was challenging at times and I have since refined my own vocal range and been busy tuning my ears.

There were lots of questions on controlling weeds in the backyard, in creeks and on farms. Our resource library of manuals and booklets on various weeds and control strategies came in very handy, particularly for landholders of larger properties.

Our children's activity packs were taken by some very delighted school teachers with the promise of more material to be posted to them.

If you want HRLN activity packs or information just call HRLN on 0458 348 110.

Helen McClelland

HRLN Publicity Officer



Who's Who in HRLN

Chair:	Ruth Hardy	0458 348 110 (HRLN Mobile)
Asst. Secretary:	Helen McClelland	4930 1030
Treasurer:	Graham Whitelaw	4959 1081
Publicity:	Helen McClelland	4930 1030
HRLN email:	hrln@bigpond.com	
Website:	hunterlandcare.org.au	

Shirtsleeves Newsletter
Layout & editing · Ruth Hardy

Co-ordination · Jenny Castles
jencastles@hotmail.net.au

We thank all contributors and reserve the right to reduce or edit contributions. Due to space limitations some items may be held over to a future issue.

Links

Landcare NSW Inc: <http://www.landcarensw.org.au/>

Communities in Landscapes: integrating production & conservation across Box-Gum Grassy Woodlands: <http://cil.landcarensw.org.au>

Landlink - News for the Landcare Network

<http://promomail.adrenalinmedia.com.au/em/mail/view.php?id=1536903006&k=ee1766b>