



NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST LANDCARE

REGIONAL UPDATE

Issue 90, 30th August 2013

WOMEN'S WIGGLE WALK WITH WENDY

Wednesday 4th September 2013
9.30am Goonowiggall Nature Reserve - Wendy Hawes (ecologist) - The Envirofactor

BYO morning tea, hat, sunscreen, walking shoes and water. Picnic lunch provided. Concludes approx 1.30pm. Please RSVP to GWYMAC Landcare on 0267211241 or email admin@gwymaclandcare.net.au

BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS

Saturday 7th September 8am at Ross Hill Reserve – Bert & Janet Makepeace from Inverell Bird Watchers, and planting a few trees – breakfast provided.

BYO hat, sunscreen, closed in shoes and water. Please RSVP to GWYMAC Landcare on 0267211241 or email admin@gwymaclandcare.net.au

GRAVESEND CARP MUSTER

Friday 18th, Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th October 2013
Essy's Crossing, Gwydir Highway
Hosted by the Royal Hotel Anglers Club

Registration from 4PM Friday & 9AM Saturday & Sunday—\$2.00pp
BBQ available & Light refreshments
Saturday weigh in 10am—4pm,
Sunday weigh in 10am –12noon
Bring your registration

All entrants must abide by current NSW Fishing rules and regulations.

Landcare NSW invites you to attend the

Annual Muster

9-12pm, Tuesday 3rd September
at the Newcastle City Hall (290 King Street)

Come along to see what Landcare NSW have been doing for you and have your say on what they need to do in the future!
This is your opportunity to share your thoughts and issues and be a part of the solutions.

For more info or to RSVP contact: administration@landcarensw.org.au or 02 4933 1674

ENVIRONMENT FUNDING ANNOUNCED

The Australian Government has announced successful projects from *Caring for our Country* Targeted Area Grants and Community Environment Grants as well as the *Biodiversity Fund* Round Two which will support more than 100 conservation and biodiversity projects. For more information on successful projects please visit www.nrm.gov.au or www.environment.gov.au/cleanenergyfuture/biodiversity-fund

RAS: RURAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Closes 30 September 2013. Rural Scholarships are available to support individuals in NSW who demonstrate a passion for rural and commitment for any career that will ensure the future success of rural and regional NSW. Scholarships of \$5,000 for full-time study or \$2,500 for part-time study are available. There is no limit on the types of courses that qualify or the age of the applicant. For more info: <http://www.rasnw.com.au/829.htm>

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL RENEWAL: SMALL GRANTS FOR SMALL COMMUNITIES

Offer up to \$400,000 per round in grants up to \$5,000 for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities with populations of 10,000 or less, living in small rural and remote locations in Australia, contributing to their development in social and community welfare, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural areas.

Applications are invited from not-for-profit, incorporated community organisations. Organisations should have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate and projects must be for a charitable purpose (benefit the whole community). Deductible Gift Recipient status (DGR) is not required for this grant program.

Round 24 opens on 1st August 2013 and closes Friday 27 September 2013 at 5pm.

LANDCARE NSW INC "THE ADVOCATE"

The August 2013 edition of The Advocate is now on-line. For more information on how Landcare NSW Inc is working to support the Landcare movement across NSW and providing resources & services for your group read The Advocate at:

http://www.landcarensw.org.au/files/Advocate_Aug13.pdf



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

Send your news for the Landcare Update to Jennie Coldham at jennie@gblc.org.au



TAKE PART IN THE REGIONAL WELLBEING SURVEY

The wellbeing of Australia's rural and regional communities is of critical importance.

The Regional Wellbeing survey, conducted by The University of Canberra, will identify:

1. how to better support wellbeing in Australia's rural and regional areas,
2. how changes to agriculture and the environment affect rural and regional wellbeing, and
3. how to help communities adapt to change.

To achieve this they want to hear the views of people living in rural and regional Australia. So if you're a farmer, or live in a rural town or a regional city they want to hear your views.

All eligible survey participants can enter a draw to win one of nine prizes worth a total of \$7,000.

Complete the survey online at www.regionalwellbeing.org.au

CHEMICAL ACCREDITATION COURSE

Glen Innes / Tenterfield –
Wednesday 9th October 2013
New & Update Accreditation Course available. Pre-course material will be sent prior to the course for New Accreditation. Venue & times to be confirmed after close of bookings on 23/9/13. Please complete the following and email countrycotrain.audit@bigpond.com.au or fax (07) 4639 4920 or call us on freecall 1800 626 681.

RAA FARM FINANCE CONCESSIONAL LOANS SCHEME

NSW Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) currently have a 'Farm Finance Concessional Loans Scheme' available to farmers allowing them to refinance up to \$650,000 of their farm debt. Applications to the RAA close 30 September 2013. Full details available here <http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/farm-finance-package>.

BUSINESS PLANNING TRAINING

A specific requirement of the RAA application is to have a Business Plan which outlines how the concessional loan will assist the farming enterprise over the coming 5 years to return to commercial viability.

To assist with the business plan requirement Rural Biz Training are offering online training to farmers specifically designed in developing a business plan according to RAA requirements, the training will cover the nationally accredited unit AHCBUS506A Develop and review a business plan. Farmers will have the required business plan ready to attach to their application. Nil upfront costs for the training is available through VET FEE-HELP.

1-2 hour online sessions are planned in the week beginning 16 September – 20 September 2013.

For more information on the training and VET Fee Help please visit: <http://www.ruralbiztraining.com.au>

WINGS 'N THINGS BIRD & BUSH FESTIVAL

Gwydir Shire Council will host its first ever shire wide event this October long weekend. Wings 'n Things Bird and Bush Festival will run from Friday 4th to Monday 7th October 2013 and is a celebration of the incredible variety of birds located within the shire.

For enquiries, contact our friendly Visitor Information Centre Staff on 02 67240066 (Bingara) or 02 67290046 (Warialda).

LANDCARE HOTHOUSE WORKSHOP

Granite Borders Landcare are hosting a Landcare Hothouse Workshop on Wednesday 18th September at RSL Pavillion in Tenterfield starting at 4pm.

Topics covered include database options, website management, communications & advocacy and roles & responsibilities of committee members.

Please RSVP to Granite Borders Landcare on 02 67363500 or email landcare@gblc.org.au by 16th September 2013.

INTERNATIONAL RIVERSYMPOSIUM

The International Riversymposium, Brisbane, 23rd -26th September, featuring the Thiess International Riverprize, the Australian Riverprize and highlights of the European Riverprize – plus a special announcement on the evening that is not to be missed. <http://riversymposium.com/>