



NEW ENGLAND  
NORTH WEST  
LANDCARE

# REGIONAL UPDATE

Issue 52: 9 Mar 2012

## WESTERN LANDCARE FORUM

With a theme of 'New Opportunities, New Ideas', this event will be held in Cobar 20-21 April. Speakers include well-respected + entertaining array of guests, addressing a range of current issues for land management. Speakers include:

**Dr Carole Hungerford**, author + champion of nutrition based wellness.

**Terry McCosker**, cell grazing founder

**Rus Glover**, NRM Officer with Australian Government

**Mike Parish**, teacher of applied grazing principles

**Tom Nicholas**, Healthy Soils Australia Chair

**Sally McInnes Clarke**, NSW Soil Watch Coordinator

Entertainment will be an Elvis Spectacular. Property visits + kids activities will also feature. Register with Buckwaroon Catchment Landcare Group 68364682 (Emma) or 68373912 (Rana).

## MANAGING SCANNED EWES

NSW DPI will host this workshop at 'Maryland' Nullamanna (north of Inverell) on 3rd April. The hands on workshop is for sheep producers who pregnancy scan their ewes, or plan to scan. Workshop to be presented by Chris Shands. Themes of the workshop include scanning and ewe management, managing single and twin-bearing ewes; management targets and maternal behaviour. Morning

tea + light lunch provided. Date RSVP to Chris 67301900 or 0411 139702

## BEN LOMOND SOILS DAY

GLENRAC + Ben Lomond Landcare Group will host a 'Sustainable Management—Sustainable Soils' field day 21.3.2012. Commences 10am, this project will share the results of the Ben Lomond group's soil carbon trials over 12 properties. Guest speakers include Dr Brian Wilson, a soil scientist / ecologist from UNE + Garry McDouall, a senior teacher + presenter with Resource Consulting Services. RSVP to GLENRAC 67323443 by 17th March.

## HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT OZDOC?

The University of Melbourne has launched a "citizen science" program for volunteers, to help collate weather data to work out what Australia's natural climate was like before industrialisation in the 1950's. A pilot program has already unearthed extreme weather events, such as an inch of snow falling in inner-city Sydney in 1836.

Volunteers will get to look at the logbooks of the first fleet + various explorers, as well as old farm diaries. Researchers believe not enough is known about climate before the Bureau of Meteorology was established in 1908. Research will also include natural archives of tree rings, coral

records + more. To be involved, visit [Ozdocs.climatehistory.com.au](http://Ozdocs.climatehistory.com.au)

## MANAGING FOR METHANE

This event will be hosted at Armidale, Tuesday 3rd April. Themed 'Out of the Lab and Into the Paddock', it will be an opportunity to hear the latest research + techniques in methane management available to Northern Tablelands sheep producers. Guest speakers include Mick Keogh, Australian Farm Institute, Annette Cowie, Rural Climate Solutions + Roger Hegarty, UNE. Morning tea + lunch provided. RSVP to [rsvp@seftonpr.com.au](mailto:rsvp@seftonpr.com.au) or 67665222

## NRMA INSURANCE GRANTS

NRMA is celebrating 10 years of supporting communities through their Community Grants Program, which has invested \$4.6million into more than 1200 projects across Australia. This grant is open again + this year, will offer grants of up to \$10,000 to eligible community organizations in the categories of crime prevention, road safety, emergence readiness + response and the environment. Download an information booklet at [www.nrma.com.au](http://www.nrma.com.au). Applications close 30.3.2012

## SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTEER ORGANISATIONS

Minister for Social Inclusion, Mark Butler has announced new funding arrangement so to support volunteering. The new



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Send your news for the Landcare Update to Fiona Adams at [fiona@gwymaclandcare.net.au](mailto:fiona@gwymaclandcare.net.au)



arrangements recognize the way people volunteer is changing + will encourage greater collaboration + provide more flexible funding. A National Project Fund Grants round will open in April 2012, with project selected by September 2012.

## AG N CHAT @ YETMAN

Gwymac Landcare will host their next of their Ag n Chat gatherings for rural women at Yetman 15th March. This will feature regional artist Karen Backus, who will share her story about being an artist, life on the land + also provide a display of her work.

Also includes a cheese-making demonstration, news on Landcare + more. Commences 10am (NSW time). This will be followed by a joint Landcare-CMA information session, with a free BBQ lunch. The second event is open to all land managers—both urban + rural. All welcome. RSVP to Gwymac 67211241.

## 1 MORE WEEK TO REGISTER

The 2012 Landcare Adventure is to be held in the Inverell region 26-27 March. Registrations are now being accepted + RSVP is 16th March. The 2-day event is \$90 for community members + \$150 for government agency staff. Special guests include Major General Michael Jeffery, Fiona Simson (NSWF), Bob Freebairn, as well as NSW DPI's Greg Reid on the Carbon Farming Initiative + John Polglase, an independent geo-

scientist on Coal Seam Gas. RSVP to Gwymac Landcare 67211241 or admin@gwymaclandcare.net.au

## CMA EXPANDS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT TEAM

Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA has expanded its Property Management Planning team, to increase the number of landholders using Property Management Plan. Already, more than 800 farming families have taken part in the CMA's courses since it commences in 2004. The expanded team now includes Bruce Gardiner, Scott Graham + Mark Blair.

## WETLAND OPPORTUNITY

Namoi CMA have available funding to assist landholders manage wetlands they may have. This includes access to help for protecting and restoring these areas, funding, provision of alternate water, vegetation enhancement, weed control, etc. A workshop will be held at Woolbrook Hall 13th March 3-6pm. Contact SNELC to register your attendance 67729123 or mail@snelcc.org.au.

## NLN AGM RESULTS

The National Landcare Network held their recent AGM in Tasmania. This included the election of the new Executive for the coming year. This includes:  
David Walker (NSW) Chair  
Gerry Butler (SA) Deputy Chair

Naomi Wilson (NT) Treasurer  
Richard Murphy (QLD) Secretary  
Roger Hardley (VIC) General member  
Vickie Webb (TAS) CEO

## RURAL WOMEN ADAPTING TO CHANGING LANDSCAPES TOUR

Ladies can now register for this bus tour to Kentucky (near Armidale). The tour commences 12th March from 10am and departs from Armidale Information Centre. The event will include inspirations ladies who are doing wonderful things on the land. A program for the event is available from Sally at Southern New England Landcare sally@snelcc.org.au Free, catering provided.

## YOUNG VOLUNTEERS HANDBOOK

The Australian Government has released a handbook 'Young People as Volunteers' with tools + guidelines for organisations engaged with youth volunteers (18-25). This includes tips on new approaches to volunteer roles in the online world, encouraging flexibility with a transient populations + more. Useful for organizations establishing or restructuring their volunteer programs. Download your copy at [www.volunteeringqld.org.au/home/index.php/nonprofits/innovate/young-people-as-volunteers](http://www.volunteeringqld.org.au/home/index.php/nonprofits/innovate/young-people-as-volunteers)