



## NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST LANDCARE

# REGIONAL UPDATE

Issue 98, 19th December 2013

### MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

New England North West Landcare Network Chairs and staff wish you and your family all the very best for a safe and happy Christmas, and for a wonderful and prosperous 2014. We look forward to continuing to provide you with information and support in 2014.

### LOCAL LAND SERVICES ELECTIONS ON 12 MARCH 2014

The inaugural Local Land Services Board Member elections will take place on 12 March 2014. There are three members to be elected to each region.

Nominations for Board member positions are now open. Occupiers of rateable land are eligible to nominate a candidate. Nominations close 5pm 31 January 2014.

Ratepayers across the State are encouraged to enrol to vote by lodging an enrolment form to be eligible to vote in the 2014 LLS elections.

Only persons on the Local Land Services electoral roll for the region will be eligible to vote. Persons on the electoral rolls of Livestock Health and Pest Authorities will not have their names automatically transferred to the LLS electoral roll.

Enrolments close 5pm 17 February 2014.

For more information please visit <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/locallandservices>

### SUNSUPER DREAMS GRANT NOW OPEN

This grant is about doing something positive for your community. The Sunsuper Dreams program provides grants of up to \$5000 to community groups, individuals and organisations to help make a positive impact on the community.

Your Dream project needs to be able to do something good in your community and be implemented within 6 months. Each month, Sunsuper will provide a \$5000 grant for projects voted most popular on their website.

Visit [www.sunsuperdreams.com.au](http://www.sunsuperdreams.com.au)

### COMMUNITY FUTURE GRANTS NOW OPEN

A program offered by Royal Agriculture Society of NSW, the Community Future Grants offer funding up to \$25,000 per project. 'The \$25,000 Question' is an annual Community Future grant targeting projects which will benefit rural and regional communities.

To be eligible, applicants need to be aged 35 or under, passionate about rural and regional issues, a resident of the community where the project will take place and be able to identify a clear need in your community.

Closes 13 January 2014, visit [www.rasf.org.au](http://www.rasf.org.au)

### YALLAROI FARMERS: FUNDS, SOIL TESTS AND WORKSHOP OFFERED

Upper Gwydir Landcare Association has secured funding for landholders in the Yallaroi region. Under the Caring for our Country - Community Landcare Grants, UGLA is offering a subsidised workshop (Soil and Plant Nutrition) and also funding for soil tests and on-ground works for participants' farms.

The workshops will be led by popular presenter, Bart Davidson of SystemAg. Bart has worked as a consultant for more than 15 years across a diverse range of farming operations.

If you'd like to participate in the project or find out more about the project, please contact UGLA's Brooke Kelly via email at [ugla@gwydir.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ugla@gwydir.nsw.gov.au).

### TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIP FOR AG STUDENTS

A Government scholarship that aims to attract school leavers into agriculture related university degrees is now accepting applications.

The Horizon Scholarship, an initiative of the Rural Industries R&D Corporation, in partnership with industry sponsors, provides \$5,000 per year for the duration of a student's university degree.

Applications close on 31 January 2014 and Scholarship winners are announced late February 2014. Visit [www.rirdc.gov.au/horizon](http://www.rirdc.gov.au/horizon) or contact RIRDC on 02 6271 4132.

Send your news for the Landcare Update to Jennie Coldham at [jennie@gblc.org.au](mailto:jennie@gblc.org.au)

The Regional Landcare Facilitator Program is an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture





## UGLA TO HOST HUGH LEVEL

Upper Gwydir Landcare Association has an exciting array of events planned for 2014, featuring well known speakers and trainers who have not been seen previously in our region.

UGLA will host a workshop with the internationally renowned Hugh Level on 9th & 10th April 2014, thanks to funding from Caring for our Country's Community Environment Grants.

Hugh Level is a farmer, multi-disciplinary scientist and international teacher of Biodynamic and Quantum Agriculture. He has over 30 years' experience biodynamic farming and since migrating to Australia in 2005, continues to teach, consult and write about how biodynamics works.

Further information about the Hugh Level event will be available from UGLA in 2014.

## FERAL PHOTOS COMPETITION

The Invasive Animals CRC Feral Photos Competition for 2013 has been finalised and there are some great winning photographs!

This year, there were more entries than ever and the judges stated that the images received were of a very high standard and the judging was extremely difficult!

An online gallery of entries is available on at <http://www.feral.org.au/feral-photos-2013/>

## APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 2014 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Applications are now open for the 2014 NSW Farmers' tertiary scholarship program. In 2014, five (5) scholarships to the value of \$4,000 each will be available.

Scholarships are open to students who are members (or come from a family that is a member) undertaking full time courses.

NSW Farmers' scholarships are available to students studying any course at any recognised tertiary institution and are not limited to those studying in NSW.

More information including an online application form can be found on <http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/our-services/member-services/tertiary-scholarship-program>. Applications close 5pm 14 February 2014.

## LITTLE LLANGOTHLIN WETLAND FIELD DAY

Is your land in the Little Llangothlin Lagoon catchment? It is the focus of important restoration works through a partnership between WetlandCare Australia and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services to improve the value and health of the land around the lagoon.

WetlandCare Australia is holding a field day at the Lagoon on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014. For more information contact Eli Dutton, WetlandCare Australia on 1800 816 147 or email: [elidutton@wetlandcare.com.au](mailto:elidutton@wetlandcare.com.au)

## NSW DPI PROFARM SHORT COURSES

NSW DPI are planning the following short courses in the first half of 2014:

Off-Road 4WD Training  
29th & 30th January—Tamworth

2nd & 3rd April—Armidale

Chainsaws: Trim & Cut Felled Trees

4th & 5th February—Bingara

6th & 7th February—Bingara

28th & 29th April—Glen Innes

Chainsaws: Fall Trees Manually

25th & 26th February—Bingara

27th & 28th February—Bingara

30th Apr & 1st May—Glen Innes

Chainsaws: Pole Saw Operation

2nd May—Glen Innes

Recognising Water Weeds

13th February—Lake Keepit

Managing Water Weeds

30th April—Tamworth TBA

Tractors—Safe Operation & Maintenance

18th & 19th February—Glen Innes

29th & 30th April—Tamworth

Farm Field Safety Day

19th March—Farrer, Tamworth

Quad Bike Handling

15th April—Tamworth

16th April—Tamworth

Faecal Egg Count for Worms

21st May—Tamworth

For enquiries or to register please

contact Cassie Gardiner 02

67631276 or Julie Chapman 02

67631285 or email

[tamworth.profarm@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tamworth.profarm@dpi.nsw.gov.au)