

Woolshed / Thurgoona Landcare

AUGUST 2010

ISSUE TWO

Trinity Anglican College

Scott Melgaard

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On Friday 28th May, Trinity Anglican College held its second annual Enviroday.

Students throughout the College had the opportunity to learn about the flora and fauna within our local environment and each student made a contribution to improving it.

Aside from the important learning experiences, there were some amazing environmental outcomes as well. These included;

- 29 arboreal marsupial (squirrel glider, sugar glider and brush tail phascogale) nestboxes constructed and painted
- 465 indigenous grasses, climbers and shrubs planted in the wildlife corridor North of the College
- Approximately 3000 native seeds propagated which will be grown in classrooms for future planting



President's report on activities for our area

Graham Chapman

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Welcome to our second newsletter for 2010. In it you can see a sample of the many activities being undertaken to enhance the sustainable use of our local natural resources.

Whether you are a new, present or past member of the group, or just curious to see if you want to become a member, you are very welcome to attend the next meeting.

You could also consider contributing at one of the events planned for the next few months—more information on these at the meeting.

Platypus, tree planting and more

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A highlight of our next meeting will be a talk from Dr Melody

Next meeting

Date: 12 August 2010

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Thurgoona Golf Club

Serena of the platypus conservancy. She will attend our our next general meeting to share insights on the community platypus survey project (details on back page).

Other items on the agenda for the meeting include:

- ◆ Information and final arrangements for a community tree and shrub planting day at the Thurgoona Equestrian Centre
- ◆ Planning for community follow-up weeding on a previous Landcare planting at St John's Hill
- ◆ Information on a Spring family river ramble at Hawksview
- ◆ And an opportunity for you to raise your concerns, put forward your ideas for our Landcare group and local landscape.

Murray Catchment Management Authority

Sandy Delwo

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Murray CMA 2010-11 Incentives Program

The Murray CMA launched the 2010-11 incentives program on 2nd July 2010. In 2010-11 the Murray CMA has \$2.43 million to invest in partnership with landholders in the NSW Murray Catchment. These funds are made available through the Australian Government's "Caring for Our Country" and the NSW Government's "NSW Catchment Action" programs. The incentives enable landholders and community groups to apply for funding of natural resource management projects that meet the objectives of the Murray Catchment Action Plan.

The incentives cover four broad areas: 'Biodiversity & Riverine Conservation', 'Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Conservation', 'Eastern Murray Erosion Control', and 'Soil Health Slopes to Plains'.

To Apply:

1. Identify which of the four Murray CMA grants you would like to apply for
2. Register your interest
3. A CMA officer will ring to discuss your proposal
4. If your proposal meets the eligibility criteria, a CMA Officer will arrange a site visit. If a Soil Health project, the Murray CMA will send you an application form.
5. Eligible applicants submit application using the forms supplied by 17 September 2010

To Register: Call 02 6051 2250 or email: murray@cma.nsw.gov.au with '2010/11 Incentives' in the subject line

Registration Closes: Close of businesses 16 August 2010

For More Information: Obtain a detailed brochure by visiting the website www.murray.cma.nsw.gov.au or collect one from any Murray CMA office:

Deniliquin – 315 Victoria Street
Albury – 421 Swift Street
Tumbarumba – Cnr. Winton and Bridge Streets
Barham – Shed 1, 47 Moulamein Road

Note: Register early. If over subscribed, projects may be placed on a reserve list based on the date of registration.

Goulburn Murray Water Lake Hume revegetation project

Shane Paporth

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Goulburn-Murray Water, acting on behalf of the Murray Darling Basin Authority, has recently established a Lake Hume revegetation incentive program. This program is designed to provide assistance to Lake Hume foreshore landholders for native revegetation and gully stabilisation projects near Lake Hume and its immediate tributary streams.

Funding is available to both NSW and Victorian landholders in close proximity to the lake for:

- the establishment of revegetation of foreshore and stream bank areas with locally indigenous species,
- the protection of remnant vegetation,

- stabilisation of eroding gullies, and
- stock exclusion/ off-stream watering projects.

For approved projects Goulburn-Murray Water will typically fund and undertake the establishment of revegetation projects including all fencing costs, site preparation (ripping, pre-spraying), supply and planting of trees and shrubs, with landholders committing to undertaking the ongoing maintenance.

This winter approximately 25 Ha of revegetation projects are being implemented, mostly on foreshore sites in the Wirlinga-Bowna area, with several gully stabilisation and revegetation projects to follow in the Wymah area next year.

Revegetation and rehabilitation of foreshore areas and tributaries is consistent with the objectives of the Lake Hume Land and On-water Management Plan, and is an important and positive step we can take to directly improve the health of the lake and its surrounds.

Goulburn-Murray Water is pleased to be able to offer this assistance through funding made available for the implementation of the Lake Hume Land and On-water Management Plan by the Murray Darling Basin Authority. Funding is however limited, and future potential projects will be considered on a priority basis.

Landholders with potential projects in mind can register their interest by contacting Anthony Lee on 02 6049 8239 anthonyl@g-mwater.com.au, or writing to:

Lake Hume Revegetation Incentive Program
Goulburn-Murray Water
Private Bag 2
WODONGA VIC 3691

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Slopes to Summit Open Day - report

Sam Neidre

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Over 250 people attended the Slopes to Summit Open Day, held on the 23rd May 2010 in perfect autumn weather on the beautiful property of Andrew and Anne Hicks, "Annandayle South", in Woomargama.

The aim of the 'Biodiversity on Farms' event was to bring together landholders, the general public, and a range of natural resource management and research organisations to discuss issues facing local biodiversity, to celebrate the achievements of landholders such as the Hicks, and to profile and officially launch the Slopes to Summit partnership.

The day featured a number of talks, demonstrations, and guided tours by leading experts, many of whom are partners of Slopes to Summit. Topics covered included direct seeding, identifying native grasses and managing native pastures, mistletoe, and soil productivity. Guided group tours of Woomargama National Park and of the Hicks' property proved very popular, with buses filled to capacity.

A number of activities were also run especially for children, including a conservation connectivity game developed by CSIRO. The day featured helicopter rides for those keen for a bird's eye view of the Slopes to Summit landscape, and to witness first-hand the scale of landscape fragmentation and the potential for connecting bushland areas by strategically designed revegetation on farms.

The primary aim of the Slopes to Summit program is to help protect our region's natural biodiversity in the face of climate change, through

improving the connectivity of the landscape to facilitate movement of threatened flora and fauna.

Partners of Slopes to Summit include the Department of Environment and Climate Change and Water (DECCW), Nature Conservation Trust of NSW, Charles Sturt University, CSIRO, Murray Catchment Management Authority, Holbrook Landcare Network, Australian National University, and Bush Heritage Australia.

The Open Day attracted a strong interest from local and regional media, and was attended by renowned nature photographer Esther Beaton, who is working with Australian Geographic on an article on the GER Initiative for their upcoming 100th issue. It is due for publication in September or October this year, so keep an eye out for the feature highlighting biodiversity in our local area.

For more information on the Slopes to Summit partnership, or to join the mailing list contact Sam Niedra (Facilitator) on 6051 9924, or sam@nct.org.au

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Landcare, 2010

Catherine Allan

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This Landcare group has been a little quiet in the past few years, but the Woolshed/ Thurgoona Landcare Group is becoming active again, and we aim for many events and achievements over the next few years.

In the past few months executive members of the Woolshed/ Thurgoona Landcare group have represented the group at:



The Trinity Anglican College Enviro Day (see front page)



The Murray Catchment Management Authority Asset Identification workshop



The Albruy Regional Crown Reserve Plan of Management workshop

Over Spring we will have a number of land management activities in which all members can contribute (see President's message on the front page).

The current executive include:

Graham Chapman (President)

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Greg Davis (Treasurer)

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Ros Webb

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Catherine Allan

callan@csu.edu.au

phone 60519781

Australian Platypus Conservancy



**in association with Woolshed/Thurgoona
Landcare Group**

Dr Melody Serena will present an illustrated talk about platypus conservation and the new community-based platypus monitoring program in the Albury-Wodonga region.

**THURSDAY 12 AUGUST 2010 6.30 p.m.
Thurgoona Golf Club**

Bookings:

Email: reception@linkrealestate.net.au
Or phone Hayley on 0260 414 600

Albury Platypus Count

Major Sponsor

Norske SkogThe

Squirrel Glider study

The results of the study of squirrel gliders in the Thurgoona and Albury Ranges, conducted for the Albury Conservation Company, area will be presented at the TAFE National Environment Centre on August 27.

Contact Rob Fenton for details

FROM THE EDITOR

This newsletter is produced for the Woolshed / Thurgoona Landcare Group. Its production and distribution is supported by the Albury-Wodonga campus of Charles Sturt University.

Contributions are welcome and should be sent to Catherine Allan callan@csu.edu.au

Woolshed Thurgoona
Landcare Group

To: interested residents of
the Woolshed Creek/
Thurgoona area