

Murrumbateman Landcare Group



Presidents Report, AGM 12th December, 2012

- **Monthly meetings** Meetings were held on the first Thursday's of most months. We had a high quality range of speakers including Dr Phil Gibbons, ANU, looking at how best to manage for biodiversity in agricultural landscapes; Stephen Thurstan, Fisheries Education Officer, DPI on native fish; Graham Fifield from Greening Australia talking on best practices direct seeding techniques; Joe McAuliffe, former president of the ACT Herpetological Association and conservation officer at the National Botanic Gardens on native reptiles, and Dr Sarina Macfadyen, CSIRO on the role of pest/beneficial insects in our agricultural and natural landscapes.
- **Projects and funding** MLG received a major funding grant from the federal Biodiversity Fund of \$380,000 for the Landcare Linking Biodiversity Project. This will enable MLG to work with Greening Australia who will visit individual properties to assist with planning management actions such as strategic revegetation to improve habitat connectivity or shifting grazing practices to encourage better ground cover and help fund the on-ground work over the next 6 years.
- **Native Plant Nursery** This year has seen a major upgrade of nursery facilities – the nursery is now connected to electrical power and an improved irrigation system and new pump. A great range of activities were undertaken despite being hampered by major structural works adjoining the nursery & relocated rainwater tanks which meant handwatering and disruptions for much of the year. Regardless the propagation sessions were held regularly and tubestock grown for members plantings, Landcare Linking Biodiversity participants and community plantings. A new improved propagation and seed supply system was also implemented to streamline propagations, as well as sourcing seed specific to local vegetation communities, providing tree guards, propagation materials and advice on plantings. We also expanded the area under irrigation & secured another private donation of \$1000 through Landcare NSW and more funding through our LLB Biodiversity Fund grant.
- **2012 Murrumbateman Field Days** MLG and the Murrumbidgee CMA won the award for best display at the field days for Environmental Sustainability and demonstrating clean green and practical solutions. Our large and comprehensive landcare displays, in conjunction with the MCMA and other Landcare groups, attracted over 800 visitors and included talks, propagation displays, provided a wide range of information and advice to visitors as well as free native plants.
- **Research Project** MLG assisted CSIRO by finding 6 sites a for the CSIRO dung beetle project on members properties and also for woodland restoration projects
- **International collaboration** MLG hosted a delegation of the four National Directors of the Timor-Leste Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The directors were given a guided fieldtour of local properties focusing on the role of Landcare type organisations in providing agricultural produce within a environmentally sustainable framework
- **Distributed a wide range of information** via email distribution list (170+) on a broad range of local and regional field days, training courses, funding opportunities with a number of MLG members received funding grants through MLG efforts,
- **Provided advice** via email enquiries, Lions Club, Rec Grounds, attended / submitted MLG input to Yass Shire Council community consultation events, presented to other local Landcare groups (Sutton and Yass)
- **Distribute a broad range** of latest land management factsheets and booklets to members at meetings, field days etc
- **Murrumbateman Cemetery and Merryville TSR** - ongoing consultation and management advice to Yass Valley Council and Livestock Health and Pest Authority

Jacqui Stal

12th December 2012



**Agenda AGM ,
December 12th, 2012
Redbrow Gardens, Murrumbateman**

- i. Welcome**
- ii. Apologies**
- iii. Minutes from 2011 AGM**
- iv. Chairperson's report**
- v. Treasurer's report and presentation of financial statement**
- vi. Election of office bearers**
- vii. Special Resolution on the Model Constitution – Proposed amendments for Murrumbateman Landcare Group constitution**
- viii. Date of next meeting**

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