

Murrumbateman Landcare Group



Presidents Report, AGM 7th November, 2013

- **Monthly meetings** Meetings were held on the first Thursday's of most months again with a high quality range of speakers including Peter West, Director of the NSW DPI FeralScan Website, Invasive Animals CRC; Ian Fraser, award winning naturalist talking about native bird movements around the region; innovative Gunning farmer Vince Heffernan; Dr Richard Stirzaker Research Scientist from CSIRO on irrigation, salinity, water use of farming systems and ecological footprint of agriculture; a presentation by Tussock Tamer team, Jerrawa Creek Landcare, on managing serrated tussock; John Blay on the Bundian Way. A successful "show and tell" of local weeds, with Canberra Herbarium plant expert Isobel Crawford, had local landowners bring in a range of weeds to be identified and getting advice.
- **Projects and funding** MLG's grant from federal Biodiversity Fund of \$380,000 for the Landcare Linking Biodiversity Project enabled MLG to work with Greening Australia visiting individual properties to assist with planning management actions such as strategic revegetation to improve habitat connectivity, shifting grazing practices to encourage better ground cover and fund the on-ground work over the next 5 years, also develop and professionally print a detailed colour information brochure
- **Native Plant Nursery** Last year saw a major upgrade of nursery facilities – the nursery is now connected to electrical power and an improved irrigation system and new pump. This year required much liaison with Yass Valley Council re. access and mowing however a new road is now in place and mowing more regularly done. Propagation sessions were held regularly and tubestock grown for members plantings, Landcare Linking Biodiversity participants and community plantings. We provided tree guards for community plantings at Murrumbateman Cemetery. A new improved propagation and information for local seed 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 providing advice on plantings.
- **Field Days** In April MLG had 35 people attend a "Birds on Farms" field day on a sustainable grazing cattle property and in October a native plant survey field day with 30 people in conjunction with Friends of Grasslands on a valuable High Conservation Value remnant identified through the LLB project
- **2013 Murrumbateman Field Days** MLG and the Murrumbidgee CMA won the award for the 2nd year running 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 750 visitors and included talks, propagation displays, provided a wide range of information and advice to visitors as well as free native plants.
- **Reviewed the MLG constitution** and sent revisions to Dept Fair Trading after making a number of important changes to facilitate smooth operation of the group
- **Redeveloped newsletter distribution and disseminated a wide range of information** via newly updated email distribution list (170+) on a broad range of local and regional field days, training courses, funding opportunities and had a feature article in Murrumbateman Services Directory
- **Provided advice and letters of support** via phone and email enquiries, to local landowners, Lions Club, Rec Grounds, attended / submitted MLG input to Yass Shire Council community consultation events
- **Distribute a broad range** of latest land management factsheets and booklets to members at meetings, field days etc
- **Murrumbateman Cemetery and Merryville TSR** - sprayed African Lovegrass weed infestation on the common, coordinated with Lions Club on cemetery plantings, provided ongoing consultation and management advice to Yass Valley Council and Livestock Health and Pest Authority

Jacqui Stal

7th November 2013



**Agenda AGM ,
November 7th, 2013
Murrumbateman Recreation Grounds Hall**

- i. Welcome**
- ii. Apologies**
- iii. Minutes from 2012 AGM**
- iv. Chairperson's report**
- v. Treasurer's report and presentation of financial statement**
- vi. Election of office bearers**
- vii. General Business**
- viii. Date of next meeting**

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