

# The Advocate



Landcare  
New South Wales

Many hands, one voice for NSW

November 2013



Department of  
Primary Industries



Incorporated groups are invited to **become a member of Landcare NSW** and be a part of the bigger picture! Other groups and individuals are invited to become a friend of LNSW. Email [aharris@landcarensw.org.au](mailto:aharris@landcarensw.org.au) or check [www.landcarensw.org.au](http://www.landcarensw.org.au)!

## Two websites for Landcarers in NSW!

Are you looking for information on your local Landcare group? Would your group like a webpage? The Gateway is for you! [www.landcare.nsw.gov.au](http://www.landcare.nsw.gov.au)  
For info on regional Landcare and LNSW activities and representation go to [www.landcarensw.org.au](http://www.landcarensw.org.au).

## 2013 Landcare NSW Muster hailed a success!

The 2013 Landcare NSW Muster was held in conjunction with the State Landcare and Catchment Management Forum in Newcastle in September.

Over 160 people attended the Muster and, special guest, Costa Georgiadis commented that he was “singed by the energy in the room”. Pretty impressive from a live spark like Costa!

With enthusiastic participation in the ‘open space technology’ session, led by Bill Pigott, Landcare NSW has gathered and collated fantastic feedback to “help steer the ship” into the future (another Costa quote – there were a few memorable ones from the day!)

From the feedback gathered, Bill has reported on a number of topics including the value of Landcare; Landcare and Local Land Services as well as a list specifically for Landcare NSW to act on.

Feedback from these three topics, sampled from a collection of 15, are summarised below and will help Landcare NSW in their role as the voice of Landcare in NSW.

For Landcare NSW

- build up network contacts – community coalitions to maintain recognition of the value of volunteers
- communicate the fact that caring for the land, Landcare is the most effective strategy we have for regenerating a stable climate: establish a clear goal for the future
- helping on Landcare is to understand the value of Landcare – not as they need to join in – but rather so they “get” why people Landcare
- promote Landcare benefits to improve funding – lobby funding sources
- show the economic benefits Landcare can achieve

for farmers – the dollar value in having green belt and sustainably managing pasture and cropping lands, as a lot of farmers just see it as loss of productivity



- find ways to encourage more feedback to Landcare New South Wales from the grass roots.
- communication: the muster is proof that there is so much to be learned from interaction with other local groups and Landcare New South Wales should be the link for this to happen
- continue to develop fact sheets and templates across the broad range of issues of importance to Landcarers: keep up the good work – great job
- continue your good work in lobbying government to stop the gradual withdrawal of funding to NRM
- Landcare supporting ambitions of members, not delivering government programs
- maintain, promote and expand the ‘Landcare in a Box’ toolkit/templates
- Provide a place for the diversity of Landcare, and be comfortable with how messy Landcare can be. Thank you Landcare New South Wales
- support to networks for marketing Landcare: for example, packages, templates, media, funding, website upkeep, social media
- continue to be our representative at the levels of power, a representation through which our region issues are presented to heard.

## Update from AGM & November Meeting

At our recent AGM, some new blood was welcomed to the Management Committee of Landcare NSW with Chris Scott stepping up for the role of Treasurer and Pip Job joining the Committee. Rob Dulhunty has returned as Chair of the organisation, Mandi Stevenson as Vice-Chair and Chris Cumming as Secretary. **The full Chairs report for 2013 can be found at <http://www.landcarensw.org.au/annual-reports.php>**

The Council were also pleased to host John Macarthur-Stanham (Chair of Chairs LLS) and John Keniry (Commissioner, Natural Resources Commission) for lunch and part of the meeting. In addressing the Council, John Macarthur-Stanham outlined that the strength of LLS is that they are regionally based and out in the community. He also discussed that governance is important for confidence – for both people and government. He believes that the importance of Landcare is its links to the community, governance and adding value—a sense of community and value are really important if LLS is to be successful.

## You asked...we delivered!

### Improve Communication—up and down

A new website for Landcare NSW has been developed; check it out at [www.landcarensw.org.au](http://www.landcarensw.org.au) and helps Landcarers find their regional representatives and Regional Landcare Facilitators to keep the two-way conversation flowing!

The Muster was held at the Newcastle Landcare Forum in September this year. With around 160 participants it was the largest Muster held to date and validated the role that LNSW has played in supporting and advocating for Landcare. The information gathered from this Muster will help chart the direction that LNSW will take over the next two years.

### Insurance, Administration and Governance Support

Under the State Landcare Support Business Plan, Landcare NSW has delivered a number of projects to assist with the administration of on-ground Landcare groups. These include:

- the Snapshot and Prospectus projects as well as a Community of Practice project which has produced case studies. These are available from [www.landcarensw.org.au/resources.php](http://www.landcarensw.org.au/resources.php)
- A Member Services officer, Fiona Adams is available as the main point of contact for Landcare groups and networks for services such as insurance, incorporation and governance;
- A series of governance, administration and management fact sheets, “tips and tricks” publications and “useful templates”; known as Landcare in a Box. These are available from [www.landcarensw.org.au/resources.php](http://www.landcarensw.org.au/resources.php)
- Hothousing Landcare Leaders workshops—so far there have been five of these one-day workshops around the State. They have provided a good introduction to topics such as ‘Governance’ and ‘Marketing your Group’. For more involved training there is also ‘Landcare Essentials’ training available, organised by the DPI Landcare Support Unit, that will provide certification—see [www.landcare.nsw.gov.au](http://www.landcare.nsw.gov.au) for more information.



Hothouse workshop participants at Holbrook