

**SOUTHERN NEWS**  
**24/9/2010**



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**1. Tidbinbilla book launch**

The launch by Simon Corbell (MLA) of our book *The World of Tidbinbilla* will occur 11am Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October at Floriade. All welcome: Corporate Marquee near The World of Tidbinbilla is a user-friendly guide to the beauty, the riches and the history of Tidbinbilla. There are 5 sections:

*1. Where to go: maps; 2. What to do: walks and activities; 3. How to find: the animals; 4. How to find: the plants and rocks; 5. People: the stories of Tidbinbilla.*

The book allows you to enter the worlds of experts on plants, animals and rocks; bushwalkers and rangers; artists and map makers; pioneers and volunteers; the Ngunnawal people; and educators and managers who work at Tidbinbilla.

Copies will be on sale for \$25.

**2. UMCCC Forum 2010 - ‘The Upper Murrumbidgee – Helping it Work’**

Interested in how the Upper Murrumbidgee catchment is managed?

Ever thought what the catchment actually means to you and what values it embodies? High profile speakers at the UMCCC Forum on Friday October 29<sup>th</sup> have been asked to address this question as well as what does the catchment do well? what would you like to see it do better or differently? what needs to change for this to happen?

Friday October 29, 8.30am-4.30pm - The Common Room, University House, ANU.  
For more information including a detailed program and accompanying half day field trip itinerary October 28 go to <http://umccc.org.au/> or contact Jo Perkins at [joperkins@grapevine.com.au](mailto:joperkins@grapevine.com.au) or 0424 208 003

### 3. Vegetation monitoring training workshops

There has been a steady flow of participants for the workshops, with fairly even numbers coming up in the weekends, except for the one weekday one.

The workshop on the weekday, 4 November is already full. Therefore, there will be a **change for the workshop scheduled for Sunday 31 October to Thursday 11 November**, as there are likely to be more people who cannot attend weekend workshops.

If you are down for one of the other workshops and would like to change it to Thursday 11 November, that is fine, just notify Sarah at .  
[sarahsharp@grapevine.net.au](mailto:sarahsharp@grapevine.net.au)

Greening Australia Capital Region and Molonglo Catchment Group, with assistance from an ACT Government Environment Grant, are sponsoring monitoring workshops, to be run by Sarah Sharp, for community members and individuals who are involved in managing our natural resources.

The training will involve:

- A review of the *The Vegetation Monitoring Manual, A Step-by-Step Guide to Monitoring Native Vegetation in the ACT* (Sarah Sharp and Lori Gould, 2010) manual and what it does
- Preparation for monitoring: deciding what to do
- Site visit to practice using all the methods
- Review to show how the data can be analysed and used.

Participants will be given instruction material, a set of recording sheets and a CD containing a copy of the manual. Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

The dates and venues are listed below. Each workshop will run from 9.30 to 4.00.

Saturday 23 Oct: Mugga Mugga Education Centre and Callum Brae Nature Reserve

Saturday 30 Oct: Carwoola Hall and a field site to be advised

Sunday 31 Oct: Mugga Mugga Education Centre and Callum Brae Nature Reserve

Thursday 4 Nov: Mugga Mugga Education Centre and Callum Brae Nature Reserve

Saturday 13 Nov: at a site on the northern side of Canberra (tba)

RSVP is essential. If you wish to attend one of these workshops, please email Sarah on [sarahsharp@grapevine.net.au](mailto:sarahsharp@grapevine.net.au) with the following information:

Name; Email; Preferred workshop date; 2<sup>nd</sup> preference date; Group you are representing.

Confirmation will be provided regarding the date that you have proposed to attend. If you cannot attend one of these workshops, or wish to arrange a separate workshop for your group at a particular location, Sarah can be engaged to run additional workshops.

#### **4. The Southern ACT Catchment Group AGM**

The Annual General Meeting for the Southern ACT Catchment Group Inc. will be held on Tuesday 26 October at Tuggeranong Homestead, Richardson, 5.30pm to 8.30pm. All welcome. Apart from the election of office bearers, Jennie Gillies from TAMS will be outlining plans for water storage ponds in southern ACT.

For those interested there will be a stroll around the work undertaken by MOTH on the creek-line at 5pm before the meeting.

During a light supper, two short DVDs about Tuggeranong Homestead will be shown that were part of the Digital Stories heritage project at Tuggeranong Arts Centre last year.

#### **5. Southern Tablelands Community Weed Information Day**

Goulburn Rotary and NSW Industry and Investment, are organising this free event on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010 from 9.30am at Windellama Hall. (*Lunch & morning tea provided*).

The day will focus on Serrated Tussock and other emerging perennial grass weeds – Chilean Needle Grass and African Lovegrass

Speakers include:

- Carol James: Goulburn Rotary
- Luke Pope: NSW Industry and Investment
- Dale Chalker: NSW Industry and Investment
- Bill Johnston: Tablelands Livestock Health and Pest Authority
- Malcolm Ross: Goulburn Mulwaree Council
- Paul Brown: Upper Lachlan Shire Council

The day will also include practical demonstrations of weed control methods.

RSVP: Industry & Investment NSW

Ph: (02) 4828 6600 by Monday 11th October

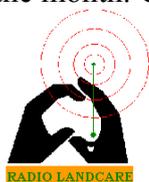
#### **6. Radio Landcare**

For an interesting update on local landcare listen to:

**2XX FM 98.3** Tuesdays 9 - 10am

**QBN FM 96.7** Sundays 8 - 9am

Southern ACT Catchment Group has a regular spot on 2XX every third Tuesday of the month. Contact Steve or Martin if you have a desire to be involved.



#### **7. Black Mountain Wildflower Ramble**

9.30am sharp to 12 noon - Saturday 9 October 2010

Belconnen Way entry, just before Caswell Drive turnoff (look for the balloons)

Join wildflower lovers to enjoy the spring diversity on Black Mountain. We are

running the 39th annual Burbidge/Chippendale wildflower ramble on Saturday 9 October from 9.30 am sharp to 12 noon (or later) from the Belconnen Way entry. This is a joint ramble sponsored by ANPS, NPA, Bot Gardens Friends, U3A and Field Nats. It will be an easy guided walk with leaders Laurie Adams, Isobel Crawford, Peter Ormay and myself. The wildflower displays this year have been the best for more than a decade. We are finding more species and more abundant flowering. The shiny, purple Glossodia orchids are just appearing and there are lots of tiny blue and pink orchids, plus widespread flowering wattles. This will be the first Chippendale ramble since George Chippendale's death earlier this year and the season has given us a worthy celebration.

All welcome - it's a great way to celebrate the spring and find out how to look for our sometimes cryptic wildflowers. Bring your friends especially those who are new to plant identification. BYO morning tea, hat, sunblock, water and stout shoes. Contact Jean Geue on 6251-1601.

### **8. Inquiry into the ecological carrying capacity of the ACT and region**

The Standing Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Water is conducting an inquiry into the ecological carrying capacity of the ACT and region. The Committee invites submissions from interested organisations and individuals. Submissions should address some or all of the terms of reference. The closing date for submissions is 12 November 2010. I have been invited to contribute to this important inquiry by making a submission so if you wish to add to such a submission please contact Steve Welch at [info@sactcg.org.au](mailto:info@sactcg.org.au)

#### **Terms of Reference**

<http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/committees/index1.asp?committee=112&inquiry=975&category=13>

### **9. Invitation to attend a community information session on the Guide to the proposed Basin Plan**

You are invited to attend a community information session on the *Guide to the proposed Basin Plan*. The Authority is releasing the Guide to provide people with an additional opportunity to get an overview of the proposed Basin Plan, ahead of its release and the associated formal consultation and submission process. The Guide presents proposed positions for consultation, discussion, discussion and debate and the Authority wants to receive your feedback.

The Authority is holding community information sessions in many towns throughout the Basin to provide people with an outline the Guide, hear people's views and respond to questions. The Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities will also attend to provide information and answer questions on related aspects of the Australian Government's Water for the Future program.

You are encouraged to take the opportunity to get involved in the development of the Basin Plan and contribute to the long-term planning of the Murray–Darling Basin's

water resources. The Authority will be meeting in the Finkel Lecture Theatre, Building 131 Australian National University, Canberra 9am on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

For details on any **updates to locations and timings** of these meetings or to access the Guide and associated documents and to provide feedback via the web, please go to [www.mdba.gov.au](http://www.mdba.gov.au)

To assist with catering, please RSVP by calling **1800 230 067** (free call).

Contact details:

**Mail:** Murray–Darling Basin Authority PO Box 3001 Canberra ACT 2601

**Phone:** 1800 230 067 (free call)

**Email:** [engagement@mdba.gov.au](mailto:engagement@mdba.gov.au)

## **10. Presentation on ethical investment**

On Wednesday 27 October, James Thier will give us a presentation on ethical investment.

During the presentation James will cover the following topics:

- What is ethical/sustainable investing?
- How it links to issues such as climate change, water & corporate responsibility
- How ethical screening can reduce investment risk and identify growth sectors
- The companies leading the way on a range of environmental and social criteria
- An overview of Australian Ethical's managed funds and superannuation
- An overview of the Climate Advocacy Fund, a breakthrough way to pursue improved climate change performance of companies through shareholder resolutions.

James Thier is a founding director of Australian Ethical Investment, a pioneer in ethical fund management in Australia. He is also a director of the not-for-profit Centre for Australian Ethical Research and was a founding board member of the Responsible Investment Association of Australia, an industry body.

Venue: Discovery Centre, CSIRO, (Turn up the hill from the roundabout on Clunies Ross Street. Date: Wednesday 27 October

Time: 7:30 pm

## **11. Websites**

The following local websites may interest our members:

- ACT NRM Council - [www.actnrmcouncil.org.au](http://www.actnrmcouncil.org.au)
- Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Coordinating Committee [www.umccc.org.au](http://www.umccc.org.au)
- ACT Landcare - [www.actlandcare.org.au](http://www.actlandcare.org.au)
- Southern ACT Catchment Group [www.sactcg.org.au](http://www.sactcg.org.au)
- Molonglo Catchment Group [www.molonglocatchment.com.au](http://www.molonglocatchment.com.au)
- Ginninderra Catchment Group [www.ginninderralandcare.org.au](http://www.ginninderralandcare.org.au)