

**SOUTHERN NEWS**  
**10/9/2010**



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**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 29th 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?

Speakers include:

Peter Hairsine Deputy Chief CSIRO Land and Water  
David Harriss Commissioner NSW Office of Water  
Rod Mason Senior Ngarigo traditional owner, Cooma  
Mark Sullivan Managing Director ACTEW Corporation  
David Papps Chief Executive ACT Dept. Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water  
Bill McCormick Deputy Chair ACT Natural Resource Management Council  
Greg Bugden General Manager Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority  
Greg Northover Primary Producer Yass  
Simon Holloway Environmental Services Coordinator Palerang Council  
Murray Darling Basin Authority representative.

Friday October 29, 8.30am-4.30pm - The Common Room, University House, ANU  
A detailed program and accompanying half day field trip information will be out soon. For more information or to register your interest  
[joperkins@grapevine.com.au](mailto:joperkins@grapevine.com.au) or 0424 208 003

## **Park Carers help needed for the Bill Kennedy Memorial Park**

Many years ago the preschool in Stapylton Street, Holder needed a car park to make access safer for the children and their parents. Part of the Bill Kennedy Memorial Park was converted to a gravel surface car park with surrounding fence and exotic deciduous trees and screening shrubbery. After closure of the preschool the building was eventually utilised by Respite Care for several years and their staff and visitors used the car park extensively. Unfortunately so did the local hoons - for burnouts, druggies - for business, and burglars - for surveillance of nearby residences.

Years of drought and inappropriate tree selection have seen the demise of almost all the shrubs and trees that were planted around the car park. What once served a community need and had the support of neighbours, is now unnecessary, has significantly degraded a small community park and is a community irritant rather than asset.

Residents adjacent to the park would appreciate your suggestions and advice with regards selecting appropriate native groundcover, shrub and tree species to help restore this part of Bill Kennedy Memorial Park to minimal maintenance suburban bushland. ACT Parks will assist the community facilitate this rehabilitation if our plans meet with their approval. This may take some time but if we're lucky it may start this spring. Please contact Steve Welch if you can assist this worthwhile project.



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

This is notification that 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.

## **ACT Environment Grants announced**

Our catchment group was again successful in the latest round of the ACT Environment Grants. We were awarded \$20000 for the 'ACT Community Weed Control Assistance' project which is designed to provide rural landholders and others with cheap access to a portable Quikspray unit for weed control across the ACT. The Southern ACT Catchment Group will purchase a 9TDE Quikspray Unit with 600 litre tank mounted on a 7x4 heavy duty off-road box trailer. This unit will be available for hire at a rate designed only to maintain the unit and cover registration and insurance costs. Details are still to be confirmed but it is expected the unit will be available from late October. Further details can be obtained by contacting Steve Welch 62966400 or [info@sactcg.org.au](mailto:info@sactcg.org.au)

SACTCG also sponsored 'Brindabella Banding', a project in conjunction with CSIRO to continue long-term volunteer monitoring of birds and mammals in the Brindabella Ranges.

The recipients of the ACT Environment Grants for 2010-2011 can be found at: [http://www.environment.act.gov.au/environment/2010-11\\_environment\\_grants](http://www.environment.act.gov.au/environment/2010-11_environment_grants)

## **Time to talk - Canberra 2030 Workshop**

Canberra, like other Australian and international cities is planning for the future. 'Time to talk' is your opportunity to have a say on the way Canberra looks and works as a city. It is about planning together for how we want the city to feel and function. The aim of 'Time to Talk – Canberra 2030' is to gather as much information about the kind of city Canberrans want to live in 20 years from now. Please join in the conversation and attend a workshop to give us your views. The workshops will take about 2½ hours. You need to attend only one workshop and refreshments will be provided.

Workshop 1 Central Canberra - 5:30pm Monday 20 September

Workshop 2 Woden -10:00am Wednesday 22 September

Workshop 3 Belconnen - 5:30pm Wednesday 22 September

Registration is free.

For information about venues and to register, please contact:

Susan Barr on 62079043 or email [susan.barr@act.gov.au](mailto:susan.barr@act.gov.au)

Gay Williamson on 62071770 or email [gay.williamson@act.gov.au](mailto:gay.williamson@act.gov.au)

by Monday 13 September 2010.

## **Isaacs Ridge Mt. Mugga Mugga Park Care work-party**

IRMMM activity will be held this coming Sunday, 12 September from 9:30 to 11:30 on Scrivener Hill. Meet on Callemonda Rise, O'Malley opposite the reservoir. If you have any queries give Michael Sim a call on 62901425.

## **Fish friendly farms in the Upper Murrumbidgee**

A workshop for primary producers and land managers presented by Industry and Investment NSW in association with ACT Land Management and Planning  
Saturday 18 September 2010 at Namadgi National Park Visitor Centre, Naas Road,  
Tharwa ACT 9:00am – 2:30pm

The workshop presents information on:

- making your farm more ‘fish friendly’
- monitoring water quality in your local river or creek
- taking part in the Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach Project
- the Murray Darling Basin Authority’s Native Fish Strategy

An electro-fishing demonstration will also be given

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

Please wear clothing suitable for a walk along the Murrumbidgee River.

Please register before 14 September 2010 by contacting:

Charlie Carruthers Ph: 6298 0802 or email: [charlie.carruthers@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:charlie.carruthers@industry.nsw.gov.au)

This workshop is provided free of charge.

## **Greening Australia – Spring planting in the Cotter this Sunday**

If you haven't already sent your RSVP it is not too late to register for the Spring Planting in the Cotter this Sunday (Sept 12).

Come support your community and Greening Australia as we continue the rehabilitation of the Cotter. After the planting Dr David Feudenberger will give an informative talk on the Progress of Restoration.

RSVP's (essential) to [admin@act.greeningaustralia.org.au](mailto:admin@act.greeningaustralia.org.au) or phone 02 6253 3035.

Please specify if you require a seat on the bus.

For more information or follow the link

<http://www.greeningaustralia.org.au/community/capital-region>

## **Alternative Fertiliser Trial field day**

Binalong Landcare and Industry & Investment NSW Yass invite you to attend the Alternative Fertiliser Trial field day on Wednesday 13 October 2010 commencing at 12 noon.

The Alternative Fertiliser Trial is a three year project that aims to investigate a range of alternative fertiliser products for use on native perennial grass based pastures in the Yass district to increase soil fertility and pasture productivity. Current results from pasture and soil measurements will be presented and landholders will have an opportunity to observe visual differences between fertiliser treatments at “Kia-Ora” Bookham. All interested landholders are most welcome to attend.

### Agenda:

12.00 noon - Assemble at Bookham Hall for lunch and presentation of trial results

2.30pm - Visit “Kia-Ora” trial site (Whitefields Road off the Hume Highway, approximately 6 km from the Bookham Hall)

Please RSVP for catering purposes to: Donna Reid 6227 4237 or 0412 660 057  
[donnarei@cyberone.com.au](mailto:donnarei@cyberone.com.au)

## **Leading Change - The Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE) 2010 Conference**

Including an opportunity to hear Dr Tim Flannery talk about how we need to be leading change for environmental sustainability.

26 – 30 September 2010. More details: <http://www.conferenceco.com.au/AAEE/>

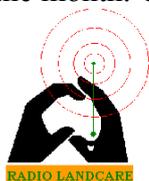
## **Radio Landcare**

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.



## **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**

- a) The resources available to the ACT in terms of water, energy, and food sourced from within the Territory and outside it;
- b) Effective measures for assessing ecological footprint and carrying capacity;
- c) Current levels of resource use by ACT residents, including: The current size of the ACT urban, ecological and carbon footprints and how this compares to national averages and similar sized cities globally; and Trends in resource use in the ACT and the sustainability or otherwise of these trends continuing.
- d) A sustainable level of resource use, in terms of ACT urban, ecological and carbon footprints, for the ACT;
- e) Appropriate ecological carrying capacities based on current, higher and lower consumption models;
- f) Effective measures for reducing the ACT's ecological footprint;
- g) The environmental, economic and social impacts of reduced resource consumption and a sustainable population;
- h) The role of the ACT in the region in relation to population and resource use;
- i) Relevant infrastructure issues; and
- j) Any other relevant matter.

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