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### **1. ACT landcare book 'A Labour of Love'**

The editorial team thanks all contributors for their 'Transfer of Agreement and Photographers approval. We ask those contributors who have not yet responded to please do so by Wednesday 26 September.

### **2. Catchment Group meeting**

Our next General meeting is scheduled for 25 September at SACTCG Office, 4.30pm and will be an opportunity for you to meet Martine Franco, the new Catchment Coordinator. The Annual General Meeting is set for 30 October at Tuggeranong Homestead from about 4.30.

### **3. Actions for Clean Water in the Upper Murrumbidgee**

The ACWA Plan is now available to download on the Murrumbidgee CMA's website at the following location:

[www.murrumbidgee.cma.nsw.gov.au/services/water/acwaplanlaunched.aspx](http://www.murrumbidgee.cma.nsw.gov.au/services/water/acwaplanlaunched.aspx)

The ACWA Plan sets out actions needed to improve water quality and reduce turbidity in the Upper Murrumbidgee. The Plan is the result of a collaborative venture between the Murrumbidgee CMA, ACT Natural Resource Management Council, Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Coordinating Committee, Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch and ACTEW Water, together with support from the Australian Government's Caring for our Country Program.

If you have any queries about the ACWA Plan please contact Matt de Jongh, Catchment Coordinator, Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority 6229 7711 [matt.dejongh@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:matt.dejongh@cma.nsw.gov.au)

### **4. Tuggeranong Lake (and Catchment) Carers (TLC)**

The first meeting was held of the Tuggeranong Lake (and Catchment) Carers (TLC) Committee on Thursday night the 13 September. A dozen people came together representing local residents, ACTEW, Concerned Residents of Kambah (CROWK), Lake Tuggeranong Rowing Club, Minders of Tuggeranong Homestead (MOTH), Southern ACT Catchment Group (SACTCG), Tuggeranong Community Council, Tuggeranong Lions Club, Tuggeranong Sea Scouts, Waterwatch with the support of a representative from ACT Urban Waterways.

The two previous forums had identified that there were four areas of concern:

1. Planning – developing or supporting development of an integrated Catchment plan
2. Cleaning up the lake
3. Wetlands
4. Education and raising Community Awareness of the issues

After discussion it was felt that we should launch our program with a Lake Cleanup. This will be held on Sunday 21 October from 10am to 1pm. It will be followed on Sunday the 25 November with planting fringing vegetation around the Lake (great water filters). Details about these events will be circulated, as they are available.

These two events will cover two areas of concern and will make a great start in raising community awareness and getting people engaged in the project. Members of the committee and any other interested people will be visiting Tuggeranong Homestead and the Inner North Wetlands to gain insight and ideas for our area. We will also be able to learn from what they did and didn't do and thus hope to achieve similar outcomes.

Other ideas presented included having frogwatch activities at Lake Tuggeranong and Tuggeranong Homestead during Water week; having a competition amongst Tuggeranong schools to design a logo for the TLC - which would at the same time raising community awareness; creating a Facebook page and having or sharing a stall at the Tuggeranong Festival.

We feel while it will take a long time to achieve our goals of a healthy Lake Tuggeranong we are on the right path. We ask if any of you want to join the TLC Committee please ring Glenys on 6231 0603 or the SACTCG office on 6296 6400.

## **5. Scottsdale 5-year report**

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bushtelegraph/> and look for Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September, ABC Radio National's Bush Telegraph Scottsdale 5-year report & bird species increases, as well as the importance of landscape-scale conservation work. Jim Radford BHA and Nicki Taws Greening Australia also: ABC south-east at 9.20am. Contact: Peter Saunders, Regional Reserve Manager- South East Australia, Bush Heritage Australia [www.bushheritage.org.au](http://www.bushheritage.org.au)

## **6. Black Mountain Wildflower Ramble**

Saturday 13 October 2012: 9.30 am sharp to 12 noon (or later)  
Belconnen Way entry, just before Caswell Drive turnoff (look for the balloons). Celebrate the diversity of spring wildflowers in the 41st annual Burbidge/Chippendale walk with Peter Ormay, Laurie Adams, Isobel Crawford and Jean Geue. Following the tradition set by Nancy and George, this will be a social occasion with a morning tea break (BYO), relatively easy grades and good company. It will be sponsored by NPA, U3A, ANPS, ANBG Friends and Field Nats. Who knows what spring will bring this year in this very special reserve. It's always fascinating to see how diversity and abundance differ. And there's been strange flowering this year. All welcome. Bring your friends especially those who are new to plant identification. BYO morning tea, hat, sunblock, water and stout shoes. Contact Jean on 6251-1601 or RSVP [friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com) so we know numbers.

## **7. UMCCC Biennial Forum and Field Trip 23 and 24 October 2012**

UMCCC will be hosting our biennial forum on 23 and 24 October 2012. This year's theme is *Connectivity Conservation and Corridors: Connecting Environment, People and Production*.

Our field trip on 23 October encompasses two sites that are being developed or are already using connectivity conservation corridors to enhance biodiversity. Participants will visit a property and a nature reserve.

The forum day on 24 October will bring together a range of relevant presenters, and will be an interactive day for participants. Our headline speaker is Robyn Williams of ABC Radio's *The Science Show*. <http://umccc.org.au/forum/2012>  
SACTCG will subsidise a limited number of members to attend – Contact our office 62966400 or [info@sactcg.org.au](mailto:info@sactcg.org.au) .

## **8. Spring Wildflowers Walk**

The Friends of Farrer Ridge are hosting their annual Spring Wildflowers Walk on Sunday 23rd September, and would love to see you there. Meet at top of Muresk Street, Farrer 10 am – 12 noon. Bring cameras, binoculars, hat, & wear walking shoes. More information: Phil Selmes, P&C Stromlo depot: 6205 7384

## **9. Australian Naturalists Network 13-21 October 2012**

The Field naturalists Association of Canberra are hosting the annual ANN conference in Canberra with many activities NPA ACT members will enjoy and learn from. You can check out the agenda and book those activities you would like to participate in. There are lectures, outings, rambles, dinners etc. with people of the ilk of Ian Fraser, Gavin Young (fossils), John La Salle (Living Atlas), Don McGregor (Lyrebirds) etc. <http://www.fieldnatscanberra.com/>

## **10. Yates Junior Landcare Backyard Challenge**

The 2012 Yates Junior Landcare Backyard Challenge will ask kids (aged 8-16 years) to enter a short video or photograph around the theme of 'how does your backyard grow?' The challenge will give kids the opportunity to teach other kids about their backyard and the environment in their local community. Their 'backyard' could be anything from an outback farm, to a suburban veggie patch or an apartment balcony. Deadline for entries: Friday 16 November 2012. For more information visit <http://www.juniorlandcarechallenge.com.au/>

## **11. Mobile QuikSpray Unit**

The SACTCG Mobile QuikSpray Unit is available to assist landholders and managers across the ACT or in the Googong or Upper Murrumbidgee catchments (within 50 km south of the ACT border) to undertake weed control. It is booking out fast for next Spring so **consider booking now** if you need it. To find out more or book the spray unit contact Steve Welch or Martin Lind on 6296 6400.

## **12. Radio Landcare**

For an interesting update on local landcare listen to Radio Landcare:  
**2XX FM** 98.3 Tuesdays 9 - 10am and **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.

### **13. African Lovegrass posters and pamphlets**

A reminder that the SACTCG posters and pamphlets on in any quantity from our office at Kambah. Contact Steve on 6296 6400  
Also check out the latest 'placestories' added to the African Lovegrass section on our website <http://sactcg.org.au/node/348>

### **14. Seed Harvester available**

Bush Heritage Australia supported by The Southern ACT Catchment Group has available a Mobile Grass Seed Harvester to assist environment groups, landholders and managers across the ACT and surrounding regions to harvest native grass seed. This rotating brush style harvester is road registered and is fitted with electric brakes. Bush Heritage through Southern ACT Catchment Group Inc. offers to lend this harvester on the understanding that the:

- Harvester is to be returned in the same condition as it was lent, empty and clean;
- Maximum lending period is 5 days;
- The borrower must use a vehicle with towing capacity >730kg, preferably a 4x4, to tow and operate the Harvester;
- The Harvester can be delivered or picked up from Scottsdale (on the Monaro Highway), with instructions on its use given at handover.

A donation of \$50 for per day of lending is requested to be made to the Southern ACT Catchment Group to assist with administration and maintenance. If delivery and pick-up is required a donation based on 85 cents per kilometre is also requested. If any surplus funds are generated they will be used to purchase seed to give to Bush Heritage Australia to assist in Scottsdale regeneration work. To find out more or book the Mobile Grass Seed Harvester email: [info@sactcg.org.au](mailto:info@sactcg.org.au) or phone 6296 6400.

### **15. The Weed's News**

The Weed's News can be read on-line at any time by visiting [www.weedsnetwork.com](http://www.weedsnetwork.com)