

SOUTHERN NEWS February 2016



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1. SACTCG Meeting

SACTCG business meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from **4:30 to 6:00pm**.

The next meeting will be **15th March**, meeting at the Erindale Business Park, 2 Lansell Circuit Wanniasa to car pool out to the site. All are welcome and encouraged to come along to find out what's happening in our neck of the woods.

Please RSVP to Martine on 62578969 or info@sactcg.org.au

2. Green Army Teams

The current Green Army Team finished up on the 25th Feb and for those who got to use them I'm sure you'll agree they were a great resource. The Catchment Group delivery model we are using in the ACT has been hailed nationally as one of the most successful models as it uses existing networks, coordinators and value adds to current local projects. This has also allowed us to provide a more diverse experience for the participants.

The next team will be starting up on the 21st March and will hit the ground on the **28th March**. They are already booked up until the first week of May and it is expected to be a busy calendar for them. SACTCG has a lot of planting jobs for them with projects on the Cotter and at Castle Hill. The Green Army will continue to be available for ParkCare and landholder support, but you may need to be a bit patient during planting seasons.

The three Catchment Groups have 5 teams left to come with 2 teams running concurrently throughout 2017, one of which will be an Aboriginal Land Management Team. So there will be plenty of hands available in the future. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any queries. For more information and to book a team in the South contact **Martine 62966400** or info@sactcg.org.au

3. UMCCC Forum

Managing Your Land for the Future: Resilience and Adaptation for Climate Change.

A two-day forum is being hosted by the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Coordinating Committee (UMCCC) The forum includes speakers addressing the science of Climate Change such as Mark Stafford Smith from the Climate Adaptation Flagship at CSIRO and Phil Graham from the NSW DPI speaking on temperature and animal. The forum includes field trips to different parts of the catchment to learn about 'whole-of-paddock' rehabilitation and looking after your River Paddocks.

When: **18 & 19 March 2016, 9.00a - 4.00pm**

Where: Day 1 (18 March) - Murrumbateman Recreation Hall, Barton Highway, NSW. Day 2 (19 March) - Jerrabomberra Community Centre, Queanbeyan, NSW.

Buses will be provided for field trips.

Cost: \$50 for two days, fully inclusive. (\$30 for one day)

For details visit the [UMCCC website](#)

Register [HERE](#) or by clicking the link below or if you have any questions you can contact Fiona Dyer by [EMAIL](#) or on 6201 2452.

4. Clean Up Australia Day at Point Hut

Join the Parkcarers of the Southern Murrumbidgee (PoSM) for Clean Up Australia Day at the Point Hut Picnic area.

When: **5 Mar 2016 - 9:00am**

Where: Meet at 9am and bring gloves.

Call the SACTCG on 62966400 for more details.

Volunteers are encouraged to register at [Clean Up Australia Day](#).

Clean Up Australia Day is nearly here with events to be staged on the following dates:

Business Clean Up Day: Tuesday 1 March

Schools Clean Up Day: Friday 4 March

Clean Up Australia Day: Sunday 6 March

If you'd like to host an event, please register with Clean Up Australia [here](#). Registrations should be lodged as soon as possible so you receive your clean up kits before March.

5. Five Year ACT Heritage Strategy 2016–2021

The ACT Government is seeking community input to the development of a five year Heritage Strategy. The Strategy will set a clear direction and framework for the recognition, protection, conservation and promotion of heritage places and objects over the next five years.

The key topics on which the ACT Government would like your input are:

- The heritage image
- Stakeholder engagement and communication
- Interpreting our stories
- Registration of places and objects
- Heritage Guidelines
- Providing opportunities for growth, development and adaptive reuse
- Supporting heritage property owners
- Government owned heritage assets

A six week period of public consultation will occur, through online platform, Bang the Table. Public comment is being sought until 9am **Tuesday 29 March 2016**. The discussion paper and details about the information sessions and how to submit feedback, is available at

<http://haveyoursay.planning.act.gov.au/>

Or you can provide your input through Martine at SACTCG on 62966400 or at info@sactcg.org.au

6. National Seed Science Forum

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership is staging a National Seed Science Forum in March 2016. The Forum will commence with an evening event on **Monday 14 March**, with the main science programme being presented on **15-16 March** 2016.

This is a rare opportunity to bring together leading botanical and agricultural institutions, seed scientists, and conservation and restoration experts to share ideas that showcase the importance of seed science to the future of plant conservation and food security in Australia. Visit their [website](#) for more information.

7. Connect and Participate Expo

When: Saturday **19 March 2016, 11am – 4pm.**

Where: Old Bus Depot Markets, 21 Wentworth Avenue, Kingston

The CAP EXPO is a community event that will showcase the range of opportunities available for Canberrans of all abilities and ages to join groups and build social connections around common interests. People attending can participate in 'Come and Try' activities, or simply talk with personnel from a wide variety of groups. For more information visit the [CAP EXPO](#) website.

8. RLF Sponsored Attendance at the Sustainable Horsekeeping Conference- Sydney

The ACT RLF will be sponsoring 4 individuals from the ACT to attend the [Sustainable Horsekeeping Conference](#) (sponsorship includes conference registration only). If you are interested in financial assistance to attend, tell us why in 300 words or less and send by email to actlandcare@act.gov.au **before 11th March**. Priority will be given to those who are actively seeking information to improve natural resource management in the ACT.

9. Healthy Canberra Grants Now Open

Healthy Canberra Grants is now open for expressions of interest from community-based groups, school communities, not-for-profit organisations and government agencies. This funding opportunity will be for programs of up to three years duration. Application to Healthy Canberra Grants is through a two-stage application process with an initial expression of interest to be submitted by 4 PM on Friday 18 March 2016. See this [link](#) for more information.

SACTCG is considering a submission under this program as it is intended for large / longer term regional projects. If you have any ideas or wish to discuss our application please contact Martine at 62966400 or at info@sactcg.org.au

10. Equipment, resources and information available.

Small Equipment

SACTCG has a range of small equipment available for lending to ParkCarers/ Landcarers and landholders including:

- 5 motorised backpack sprayers with 20L capacity
- GPS /tablets for mapping weeds and pests (rabbits)
- Tools including long handled loppers, shovels, picks and long handles rubbish collection tools, gloves and eye protection
- Pamphlets, display boards, sandwich boards, marquees, tables etc.

Please call 62966400 if you are interested in borrowing any of these for your volunteer activity or email info@sactcg.org.au

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 booked out till the end of the year but will be available . To find out more or book the spray unit contact Martine Franco or Martin Lind on 6296 6400.

Native Seed Harvester

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.

To find out more or book the Mobile Grass Seed Harvester email: info@sactcg.org.au or phone Martine Franco on 6296 6400

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 Martine or Martin on 62966400 if you would like to join us to talk about your patch or activities live on air!

And our program has been profiled in the 2xx newsletter this week. You can read it [here](#).

The Weed's News

The Weed's News can be read on-line at any time by visiting www.weedsnetwork.com

Australian National Botanic Gardens Botanical Resource Centre

Have a specimen you want to identify? Why not use the The Botanical Resource Centre, located within the Australian National Botanic Gardens. This is a free facility available to anyone interested in learning to identify and obtain information about native plants. The centre is open daily from 9.30am to 4.30pm. See the website for further information:

<http://www.anbg.gov.au/gardens/research/resource/index.html>