



# L4Y Forum

## Term 3 2010



### L4Y Project Update

Things have been moving along, ramping up and planting-a-plenty for National Tree Day with 20 schools making a day of it and 4500 plants going in. Congrats to Gateshead West and Rathmines Public Schools for having a go for the first time this year, Jacaranda Grove Preschool for getting the littlies involved and to all the regulars who have been actively greening for many a year.

The L4Y project is having a shift in focus for 6 months come September to concentrate on the networking aspects of the project. This means that there will be lots of advice on offer to develop projects & plan for plantings, and the development of the network and resources for schools. Supply of tubestock will not occur after September, but orders are encouraged to be placed for Term 2, 2011

It is hoped that we'll be able to get out and visit the school's e-teams, get some pix of the projects to share and provide ideas for other schools as part of the networking.

### The first L4Y Video conference

The inaugural L4Y Video Conference hosted by Eleebana Public School was a great event with Awaba, Rathmines and Gateshead West Public Schools logging in to share their Landcare experiences.

The schools were treated to a very informative presentation by the Eleebana e-team which covered their vegetable gardens, composting, and working with their groundsman. The participating schools got to ask questions like how big is the vege patch and what do you grow? The e-team responded with knowledge and enthusiasm.

All the schools gave an overview of what projects they were currently working on from growing the biggest Lemon Grass bush at Awaba, the biggest apple tree at Rathmines and most productive Strawberry patch at Eleebana. It was a great way to share how different schools were approaching Landcare projects and it was very exciting using the video conferencing technology and Brigit software.

Two High Schools, Hunter Sports High and Glendale Technology High tested the waters of the video conference medium as well. Hunter Sports High shared their planting projects and gained some advice on the Weed Warrior program, Glendale high conducted a SWOT analysis on the VC with suggestions for improvement being get more schools involved and gain familiarity with the protocols and process, both great suggestions.

Another aspect of the Video Conference was the sharing of a Placestories presentation that was produced from photos and audio captured at the Catchment Connections Carnival for World Environment Day. This will be uploaded to various project websites in the very near future.

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## The next L4Y Video conferences

One of the outcomes from the inaugural VC was to plan the next one. The Primary Schools were keen to try and arrange a lunchtime session for their e-teams, and for High Schools, a VC is in the wind for Coastcare week 6-12<sup>th</sup> December.

Both dates are to be confirmed and if you're at all interested let us know and we'll put you on the contact list for updates.

## Inservice Day 9/12/10

The Term3 inservice has been postponed till Coastcare Week where a suite of activities and resources will be presented to support learning about coastal processes and bush regeneration along Newcastle's coastal strip.

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December has been set aside to share and coastcare at the GreenCare Kids Centre, Janet St Merewether. Contact Jenny lodge your interest or get further information. Jenny 4969 1500 [education@treesinnewcastle.org.au](mailto:education@treesinnewcastle.org.au)

## Bahtabah Cultural Centre & Keeping Place

Bahtabah Local Aboriginal Land Council has a Cultural Centre & Keeping Place at Blacksmiths which aims to educate and promote, to the wider community, Aboriginal Natural Resource Management and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

Educational activities available in the Cultural Centre/Keeping Place include storytelling, local history and Aboriginal Art and Artefacts.

There are also tours of the site possible for school and community groups to see the bush tucker garden and The Serpent Trail.

Bahtabah LALC is located 44 Pacific Highway, Blacksmiths. Bookings and enquiries can be made by email [bahtabah@nexon.com.au](mailto:bahtabah@nexon.com.au) or phone 4971 4800.

## Events and Dates for doing

You can find all these dates, links and more at <http://www.sustainableschools.nsw.edu.au/Default.aspx?tabid=692>

A good term for focussing on the International Year of Biodiversity because

- Aug 23-28<sup>th</sup> is Keep Australia Beautiful Week
- September is Biodiversity Month and Green Day Month
- Landcare Week is 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> September
- National Threatened Species Day on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September
- TIN is celebrating its 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday with an Open Day and Plant Sale on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September
- LMCC are hosting a Living Smart Festival at Speers Point Park on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September
- It's Walk to Work Day on October 1<sup>st</sup>
- World Animal Day Monday October 4<sup>th</sup> and
- World Habitat Day on Tuesday October 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Online Resources & Research

### ECOS

Want to know what's been happening in the world of environmental education throughout Australia? There is a great summary in the current ECOS Magazine.

[http://www.ecosmagazine.com/?act=view\\_file&file\\_id=EC155p16.pdf](http://www.ecosmagazine.com/?act=view_file&file_id=EC155p16.pdf)

If you haven't come across ECOS yet it's CSIRO's environmental sustainability magazine, full of current Australian research in a very readable format.

### The Green Lane Diary

This project is part of Green Cross Australia who's mission is to foster a global values shift towards a sustainable and secure future. The website has got lots of ideas and resources including a Green Diary for keeping track of eco-action things

<http://www.greenlanediary.org/the-diary.aspx>

<http://www.greenlanediary.org/media/9593585/greenlanediaryscrapbook.pdf>

### The Sustainable Schools

This site is worth a wander if you haven't been there yet, it has funding ideas, resource links and a handy calendar of events linked to all the green dates

<http://www.sustainableschools.nsw.edu.au/Default.aspx?tabid=692> ,

Another font of information is the Environmental and Sustainability Education e-News that you can subscribe to by sending a request to [ease@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ease@det.nsw.edu.au) .It comes out monthly, anyone can receive it or look at the other Environmental Ed resources at

[http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/env\\_ed/index.htm](http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/env_ed/index.htm)

## Programs to Ponder

There was a bit of a recycling theme which ran through the Term3 L4Y Network meeting

### Climate Clever Energy Savers program.

Climate Clever Energy Savers program (CCES) is a \$5 million program for primary and secondary schools over the calendar years 2010-2013.

The purpose of CCES is to support professional learning and student-directed energy saving and greenhouse gas reduction projects in NSW government schools.



**Mid August 2010:** Expressions of interest for 2011 open through InPrincipal, regional networks and online

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**Late September 2010:** Expressions of interest for 2011 close

**Late October 2010:** Participating schools for 2011 notified of their selection

**February and March 2011:** Regional workshops for participating teachers

## **Weed Warriors**

Recently a Weed Warriors workshop was held at the Landcare Resource Centre to outline the program that will assist in spreading a biological control for Bitou Bush and the propagation and release of Tortrix sp , a leaf rolling moth.



The program provides the advice and materials including

1. How to set up a Bitou Bush nursery to grow some host plants that will then feed the moths
2. How to rear the moths
3. How to release the moths
4. How to monitor the moths

Lesley Postle is the Project Officer and can be contacted on 02 4588 2113, or [Lesley.postle@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Lesley.postle@industry.nsw.gov.au) . More information about the Weed Warriors project can be found at <http://www.weedwarriors.net.au/about.html>

## **Battery recycling**

<http://www.batteryworld.com.au/asp/index.asp?pgid=11219>

Battery World offer consumers a free battery recycling service. Schools are welcome to contact a Battery World store to make commercial arrangements to dispose of their batteries or they can go to MRI direct - [www.mri.com.au](http://www.mri.com.au).

## **Mobile Muster**

[http://www.mobilemuster.com.au/organise\\_a\\_muster](http://www.mobilemuster.com.au/organise_a_muster)

At the recent L4Y meeting there was a discussion about the success of Belmont High's mobile muster project being run by the SRC. The SRC took total responsibility for all stages of the collection campaign including registering and there has been a great response from the student body. Enquiries about participating can be made on 1300 730 070

Your school can help collect mobile phones by

1. setting up a permanent collection points for the staff or students or
2. running a short term collection i.e. a "muster"

MobileMuster will provide free collection units, promotional material and support, [school activity sheets](#) plus a **free pick up service**.

## **Have you got your recycling bins?**

Every school in Lake Macquarie is entitled to 3 free recycling bins as part of LMCC's contract with Hunter Resource Recovery.

If your students are really keen recyclers extra bins can be ordered through LMCC and they will get charged at the contract rate which ends up about \$2/bin. Kelly

Wood is the Waste Education Coordinator ph 4921 0104  
[kwood@lakemac.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kwood@lakemac.nsw.gov.au)

Most primary schools have got their bins but not too many high schools have taken up the offer...yet.

**Aluminium can recycling** also came up for discussion and after a bit of research to try and locate a supplier of big cages to store Aluminium cans, the answer was the cages aren't being made any more.

One solution suggested at the Network meeting was to get a wheelie bin and cut a can sized hole in the top to make collection easier.

### **e-waste**

Lake Macquarie residents can recycle their eWaste at the free drop-off site at Awaba Waste Management Facility.

Any working or non-working eWaste items for recycling are accepted free of charge at the facility.

The Awaba Waste Management Facility is located at 367 Wilton Road, Awaba. Opening hours are 8am to 4pm daily, except Christmas Day.

### **Yates Junior Landcare Sunflower Challenge**

Yates is providing free Sunflowers to all registered student growers 16 or under who are up for the challenge of growing the biggest headed or tallest sunflower or capturing it creatively. The competition runs till February, so get growing. All the details are at <http://juniorlandcarechallenge.com/Sunflower/Home.htm>

## **Grants and On-ground Support**

The recent Network meeting held at the Landcare Resource Centre provided lots of ideas for supporting your school projects. Here are a few.

### **Bunnings**

[http://www.bunnings.com.au/contact-us\\_in-the-community\\_local-involvement.aspx](http://www.bunnings.com.au/contact-us_in-the-community_local-involvement.aspx)

If your school is looking for some support for your project your local Bunnings is worth a visit.

Bunnings regularly makes donations of goods and services to local schools requiring D.I.Y. repairs, a garden makeover or new facilities.

A large amount of requests for contributions are received, and regrettably not all applications are successful. Therefore Bunnings gives priority to:

- Schools and kindergartens
- Local community groups that assist the disadvantaged
- Junior community groups (Scouts, Girl Guides etc) Junior sports groups
- Local hospitals ,Community events and festivals

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## Teachers Credit Union

<http://www.teachersenvirofund.com.au/>

<http://www.teachersenvirofund.com.au/pdf/Application-for-funding.pdf>

Applications are open from 2<sup>nd</sup> August to 17<sup>th</sup> September upto \$5000

Any public school or TAFE can apply.

The project must be viable in the long term, linked to broader environmental education strategy, supported by the local community and monitored effectively and communicated back to the Teachers Credit Union

## Raising Funds Newsletter

The July edition of the Raising Funds Newsletter from [www.ourcommunity.com.au](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au) had an interesting article on grants for your schools. Utilising the information gleaned and the brains trust at TIN we have put together a quick guide to think about how to access funds for your school at the end of this newsletter

## Contacts

### Biodiversity & L4Y

#### **Jenny Robinson**

Trees In Newcastle  
252 Parry Street, Newcastle West  
ph 4969 1500 fax 4927 6821  
[education@treesinnewcastle.org.au](mailto:education@treesinnewcastle.org.au)

### Landcare 4 Youth- Support

#### **Suzanne Pritchard**

[enquiries@treesinnewcastle.org.au](mailto:enquiries@treesinnewcastle.org.au)  
[landcare4youth@gmail.com](mailto:landcare4youth@gmail.com)

### Team Leader Training

#### **John Hughson**

Landcare Resource Office  
ph 4921 0392  
[lro@lakemac.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lro@lakemac.nsw.gov.au)

### GreenCare Kids Centre

ph 0410 459 945  
[jenny@greencarekids.com](mailto:jenny@greencarekids.com)  
Janet Street, Merewether

### Awabakal Environmental Education Centre

**Su Saxby** Wed, Thurs ph 4944 8233  
[sue.saxby@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sue.saxby@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Boundary Street, Dudley

### The Wetlands Environmental Education Centre

**Chris Prieto**, ph 4955 8673  
[Wetlands-e.School@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Wetlands-e.School@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Sandgate Road, Shortland

### Weeds

#### **Kim Hignell,**

LMCC Noxious Weeds Officer  
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### Water Quality Monitoring

#### **Amanda Gregory,**

Hunter-Central Rivers Waterwatch  
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#### **Margo Smith,**

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### Waste

#### **Kelly Wood**

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### Energy & Schools

#### **Pamela Baker,**

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## **Grant Go-Getter Guide for Schools**

### ***In the beginning there is a Grant Seeking Committee...***

If you are getting a group together to consider funding options the following information will be important for your committee to consider.

#### **1. Who's on the School Grants Committee?**

- a. Someone to write the grant
    - i. Name:
    - ii. Email:
    - iii. Phone:
    - iv. Parent of:
  - b. Someone to search for grant opportunities
    - i. Name:
    - ii. Email:
    - iii. Phone:
    - iv. Parent of:
  - c. Someone else to smile and encourage (optional)
    - i. Name:
    - ii. Email:
    - iii. Phone:
    - iv. Parent of:
2. What is your funding policy?
- a. Who will you accept funds off?
    - i. Guiding principle 1:
    - ii. Guiding principle 2:
    - iii. Guiding principle 3:
3. Information needed on most funding applications
- a. ABN:
  - b. GST status:
  - c. Deductible Gift Recipient status:
  - d. School address:
  - e. School Staff contact
    - i. Name:
    - ii. Email:
    - iii. Phone:
  - f. Bank account details:
  - g. Insurance Policy number:
4. List of school projects which need funding
- a. Project name
    - i. Budget- itemised and quite detailed

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### ***Then comes the funding source...***

If you're looking for funding for a pet project it's best to work out what your idea or project is first then search out a funding source rather than see a grant and try and mould your project to fit. This way you will get the project you want not one that the funding body wants.

Even better if you have a SEMP, then things will start to fall into place with the overall goal of a sustainable school always in sight.

There is a lot of money out there in grant-world, thinking outside the square often helps because funders see things from a different perspective.

Some places that do a lot of the collating of available grants for you are

- ourcommunity.com.au- They have an Easygrants newsletter which cost \$55/year, it comes out monthly and is very worthwhile if you are continually on the look out for dollars.  
[http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/funding/funding\\_main.jsp](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/funding/funding_main.jsp)
- Community Builders NSW is a free service with lots of info too  
<http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/funding.html>

### ***And finally the application...***

Other helpful hints

- Make sure that you check the guidelines and your project is eligible and if in doubt ring the funding body and have a chat.
- Look to try and make the project sustainable in the long run after the funding has ceased
- Don't forget to factor in school 'down time such as holidays, sports carnivals, tests and the like
- Make sure your budget is real, usually funding application assessors have a pretty good idea of how much things cost
- If you've got some statistics to back up your requests use them and use them again when you're evaluating.
- Less is more with the application word count, try to be as efficient with your words as possible, once again the funders have to read quite a few...which leads on to
- Make sure you've run the spell-checker and someone with an eagle eye for grammar to proof read it.
- Finally there's nothing like saying thanks and keeping in touch. Building a relationship with the funder is a great way to become more than a bucket of money, they can help when things don't go to plan, they can talk about your project from the relationship you have developed, which is always good for future projects.

### **BRILLIANT IDEAS TO PONDER**