

WEEKLY UPDATE – Tuesday 10 August 2010

Late News:

Gaham Whitelaw

Lake Macquarie Landcare is sad to announce the passing of one of our fellow Landcarers, Graham Whitelaw from Kilaben Bay Landcare and for many years Treasurer of Lake Macquarie Landcare Inc.

He passed away on Saturday 7th August, after working on his site.

He will be greatly missed, having been involved with Landcare for many years in Lake Macquarie and formerly in Sydney. He was also involved with Hunter Region Landcare.

Our thoughts are with his widow Margaret and extended family.

Upcoming Events at the LRO

- Sat. 14 August **LM Landcare Team Leader Training** 1pm to 4pm
- 6th to 12th September – **Landcare Week various Landcare & NRM workshops** - details to be advised
- Sat. 11 Sep. **Warners Creek Field Day** 9am to 1pm
- Sun. 26 Sep. **Floraville Ridge & Rainforest Field Day** 9am to 12pm
- Thur. 30 Sep. **Sunshine Silverwater Field Day** 10am to 1pm

For more details and bookings (essential) contact the office on **49210392** or email here.

Hunter Organic Growers Society (HOGS) 30th Anniversary & AGM

When: **Sat. August 14th - 1.30pm**

Where: **Hunter Wetlands Centre, Sandgate Road, Shortland**

Guest speaker: Andrew Dempster from Slow Food Hunter Valley

Contact: Angela Finney before August 7th

Phone: **4959 9525** or Email: angela.finney@harboursat.com.au

CMA's Central Coast Marine Discovery Series

Explore deep beneath the Southern Seas and learn about the logistics of ships moored off the coast

When: **Mon. 16th August 2010 6.30 - 8.30pm**

Where: **Crowne Plaza Terrigal**

Pre seminar nibblies will be provided from 6pm. Attendance is free.

Multi award winning cinematographer George Evatt presents a fascinating journey into our temperate waters, and Ron Sorenson from Newcastle Port Corporation unravels the intricacies of managing coal ships moored off our coast.

For more information contact Joanne Hill on 02 4337 1202

Pulbah Island Bush Regeneration Day & 10 year celebration

When: **Sun. 29th August 2010 8am to 1pm**

Contact: **4972 9000 to RSVP.**

Help regenerate the bushland of Pulbah Island.

Boats leave from Murrays Beach and Dobell Park, Wangi.

Bring a hat, long sleeves, long pants, sturdy enclosed footwear and plenty of enthusiasm!

Morning tea provided.

eShorance - Estuarine Shoreline Response to Sea Level Rise

eShorance is an online assessment tool for anyone who plans for or manages an estuarine shoreline, to help them understand how the shoreline may respond to rising sea levels.

The **eShorance** assessment tool and full supporting technical report will be presented at this workshop, which is recommended for planners, natural resource managers, land managers, development assessors, Landcarers, and recreation planners.

eShorance is the result of a joint project of LMCC and the NSW Estuary Management Program.

When: **Friday 27 August 10am - 12pm**

Where: **LMCC Administration Building Committee Room.**

Registration: Greg Giles **4921 0365** or ggiles@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

To preview eShorance and the supporting technical reports visit www.lakemac.com.au/eshorance/

The 9th Annual Awabakal Wildflower Walk

Organised by the National Parks Association (Hunter Branch), a slow walk through the spring wildflowers of the coastal heath. Enjoy the beauty of the blooms against the backdrop of the Pacific Ocean. Local experts will help with plant ID and ecological information. Bring a hat a something to drink.

When: **Sunday 5 September 10am - 12.30pm**

Where: **Awabakal Nature Reserve - Meet in the car park at the far end of Ocean St, Dudley**

For more information contact Greg Giles Ph: 4961 1105 (A.H.)

Lake Macquarie City Council's Living Smart Festival

An inspirational and educational celebration of sustainable living in Lake Macquarie. The 1st of its kind in Lake Macquarie, there will be music, art, fashion, food, market stalls, free workshops, kids entertainment and plenty of interesting displays to keep you amused.

When: **Sunday 12 September 9.30am - 5.00pm**

Where: **Speers Point Park**

Cost: **Free**

Native Plant Giveaways, 10am - 3pm; Solar power and solar hot water displays; Backyard vegies and bush tucker; Rainwater tanks; Gardening tips; Amazing worms; Community group displays; Measure your ecological footprint; Bike advice and bike maintenance workshops... and much more!

Lake Macquarie City Council Sustainability Workshops

Gardening with Natives: Find out which natives suit your garden and how to keep them looking great!

When: **Sat. 18 September - 9.30 am to 12.00 noon**

Where: **Council Administration Building**

Food for thought: What really goes into your shopping basket each week? Attendees will gain valuable information relating to reading labels, additives, cosmetic ingredients, GM foods, Organic certification, food miles, food production, Fair Trade, food waste, ethical shopping and more. Soft cheese and yoghurt making demonstration

When: **Sat. 18 September - 9.30 am to 12.30 pm**

Where: **Toronto Multipurpose Centre**

Refreshments provided, bookings essential **Contact** Pamela Baker - Sustainability Project Coordinator Lake Macquarie City Council. Phone: **02 4921 0144** email: **pjbaker@lakemac.nsw.gov.au**

8th National Conference: Planning conservation to achieve restoration

When: **28 September to 1 October 2010, Perth WA**

Australian Network for Plant Conservation Inc - A conference for everyone involved in conserving Australia's unique flora and native vegetation. Registration open until 13 September

For more information visit the ANPC website: **www.anpc.asn.au/conferences/2010/** or phone: **02 6250 9509**

13th National Conference on Volunteering

When: **27 - 29 October 2010**

Where: **The Sebel and Citigate Albert Park, Melbourne, Victoria**

Challenges such as the impacts of an ageing population and the global financial crisis, opportunities for exploring greater partnerships with the corporate and government sectors, and cementing the pivotal role that volunteering has within the broader social inclusion context, continue to be areas of discussion within the sector.

The 13th National Conference on Volunteering aims to provide a national forum to:

- **Initiate** discussion, debate and analyse issues affecting volunteering
- **Discover** new technologies that can affect or support volunteering
- **Examine** initiatives that will grow volunteering and promote best practice in volunteering

Program available Mon 2nd Aug. Visit **http://volunteeringaustralia.org**

Caring For Our Country Community Action Grants

Applications \$5000 to \$20,000 open today to support local community groups to protect and improve their natural environment. Priorities include biodiversity and natural icons; coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats; and sustainable farm practices.

Applications close **31 August 2010**. Applicant guidelines and eligibility criteria are available at **www.nrm.gov.au** or contact the LRO.

Landcare Australia Grants Available

For a limited time, Landcare Australia will offer 20 x \$1,000 grants to groups who register on Landcare Online by September 6th - the first day of Landcare Week. The winning grant recipients will be selected at random from the database and announced on **www.coastcare.com.au**

Habitat Action Grants

Now available for individuals, groups, local Councils and organisations interested in undertaking a fish friendly project and improving their local waterways for fish.

Closes 15 October.

Visit: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/habitat/rehabilitating/ahr-grants-program

News from the North-East Biodiversity Assessment and Conservation Section - Dept of Environment, Climate Change and Water

Celebrate National Threatened Species Day by helping search for the critically endangered North Rothbury *Personia*

When: **7 September 10am - 3pm -Morning tea and lunch provided**

Where: **Corner Mayne Rd and Washery Rd, North Rothbury**

Contact: Tricia **4908 6802** or tricia.hogbin@environment.nsw.gov.au

NSW Landcare Website

The original NSW Landcare website (www.landcare.nsw.gov.au and www.landcare.org) has closed down. This website was established in 1998 and was maintained by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) on behalf of the NSW Landcare community and the NSW Landcare Committee (NSWLC). DECCW, NSWLC and Landcare NSW Inc have agreed to endorse the Landcare NSW Inc website as the main site supporting the NSW Landcare community. Subsequently, the NSW government run website closed down on 30 July 2010.

Fungi Photography Exhibition

Gregg Heathcote has been systematically compiling a fetching photographic record of fungi at the University of Newcastle's Callaghan campus.

An exhibition of his fungi photography is now underway in the University's Auchmuty Library, and a complete set of captioned images is available online in his Facebook album, publicly accessible via the open link:

www.facebook.com/album.php?id=196544&id=605247767&l=66f14a3dc9

Proposed State environmental planning policy to list South Wallarah Peninsula as a State significant site

NSW Department of Planning is currently exhibiting the explanation of the intended effect of the proposed State environmental planning policy (SEPP) that will list certain land at Catherine Hill Bay and Gwandalan as a State significant site in Schedule 3 to the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Major Development) 2005* (the Major Development SEPP).

The proposed SEPP will also repeal Part 14 (South Wallarah Peninsula) of Schedule 3 to the Major Development SEPP. The explanation of the intended effect, alongside the proposed SEPP and associated maps, are on public exhibition from 28 July to 25 August 2010 at the following locations:

- **Department of Planning (Hunter Office)** - 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, Price Waterhouse Coopers Centre - Level 2, 26 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle.
- **Lake Macquarie Council** - 8.00am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, 126-138 Main Road, Speers Point.
- **Catherine Hill Bay Bowling Club**, Flowers Drive, Catherine Hill Bay.

All documentation relating to the proposed SEPP is also available for download from the Department's website at www.planning.nsw.gov.au

Should you wish to make a submission regarding the explanation of the intended effect of the proposed instrument, please ensure that your comments are received by the close of business on 25 August 2010. Please notify Caitlin Bennett, Team Leader, Strategic Assessment by email: caitlin.bennett@planning.nsw.gov.au or phone **(02) 9228 6197**

~Happy Landcaring~

Kind Regards, Jess Welham