

LANDCARE LA
0 TO 171






2017 LANDCARE NSW

Muster

MANY HANDS, ONE VOICE

Muster Preparation Kit

Help define the path Landcare in NSW is taking:

-  What are your Landcare group's main concerns?
-  What's important to help keep your group active functioning and supported?
-  Got something you want to tell Landcare NSW?



Did you know there really is a Landcare Lane?

It's an initiative of Corowa District Landcare Group - just one of the many remarkable achievements of the wonderful Landcare groups in NSW (background photo by Joanne Diver).

The 2017 Muster is brought to you by Landcare NSW with the support of the NSW Environmental Trust and the National Landcare Programme.



About 2017 NSW Landcare Muster

The 2017 Muster will be held **on the first** day of the Landcare and Local Land Services Conference to be held in Albury 25-27 October 2017. More information: <http://nswlandcareconference.com.au/>.

The Muster will be held on the morning of the 25th October, with a summary session providing initial feedback from the Muster to the conference on the morning of the 27th October.

Your Preparation for the Muster

Landcare NSW is providing two important opportunities to shape our 2017 NSW Landcare Muster and ensure it is relevant to you and your local members.

1. Online Survey: getting information back to us has never been faster, while it doesn't hold the benefit of a 'collective-view' from your region, it is a good way to provide your thoughts back to us on your suggested Muster topics and other ideas. See below for more information.
2. Host a Mini-Muster: take this opportunity to follow our guide to gathering regional input in preparation for Muster, we've provided all of the tools below. The information you gather will be used to shape this year's Muster.

Attending the Muster?

Attendance at the Muster is included as part of the registration for the 2017 Landcare and Local Land Services Conference. Please ensure you indicate if you are attending the Muster on the registration sheet.

If you are not attending the conference you are still welcome to attend the Muster session on the morning of the 25th October. Please ensure you sign in on the day, but please note you will be unable to attend any further part of the conference activities.

Need more Information –

Sonia Williams State Landcare Coordinator, Landcare NSW Ph 0411113590 swilliams@landcarensw.org.au	Jennie Coldham Member Services Officer, Landcare NSW Ph 0427 260 258 jennie@landcarensw.org.au
--	---

Background to the Muster

Landcare NSW works to serve community Landcare in NSW by providing a representative voice, member services and support. The NSW Landcare Muster is an opportunity for the diverse Landcare community to capture collective issues and consistent themes. The 'many hands, one voice' outcomes of the Muster guides the actions of Landcare NSW between Musters.

The initial Muster was in Tamworth in 2007; and since then Musters have been held as part of the State Landcare Conference in 2009, 2011, 2013, and 2015.

The Muster provides an important way for Landcare NSW to ensure its work is directed by the grassroots Landcare community it serves. Information captured from the Musters is utilised by the representative Council of Landcare NSW to develop policy, programs and support services.

Landcare NSW Inc - Many Hands One Voice

A state wide peak body for Landcare groups - provides a state-wide voice in the complex web of Landcare support

Endorsed representatives from each region in NSW, work through ideas and opportunities raised at the Biennial Muster by grassroots Landcarers.

Local Council reps for New England North West are:



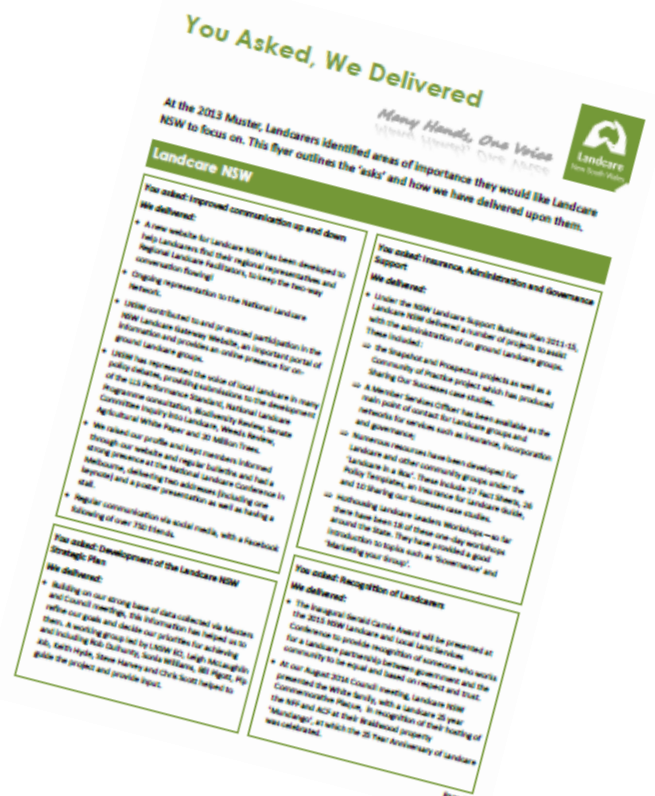
Steph Cameron and Steve Harvey



Key Documents

More information about past Musters and Landcare NSW can be found at www.landcarensw.org.au

-  2015 Muster Report
-  "You Asked We Delivered" report
-  Landcare NSW Strategic Plan 2015-2018
-  Presentation: Landcare NSW - A voice for Landcare in NSW
-  Landcare NSW Annual Report 2015-16



You Asked, We Delivered

Many Hands, One Voice
NSW Landcare NSW

At the 2013 Muster, Landcarers identified areas of importance they would like Landcare NSW to focus on. This flyer outlines the 'asks' and how we have delivered upon them.

Landcare NSW

You asked: Improved communication up and down

We delivered:

- A new website for Landcare NSW has been developed to help Landcarers find their regional representatives and conservation funding!
- Ongoing representation to the National Landcare Network.
- Letter word-factbook to send or printed participation in the NSW Landcare Gateway website, an important portal of information and provides an online presence for all general Landcare groups.
- Letter has represented the voice of local Landcare in many public debates, providing submissions to the development of the NSW Landcare Gateway website, National Landcare Programme coordinator, National Landcare Conference (2013), National Landcare Week Review, Senate Agricultural White Paper and 20 Million Trees.
- Through our website and regular updates and held a meeting practice at the National Landcare Conference in Melbourne, detailing the address (including one keynote) and a poster presentation as well as holding a briefing of over 750 Landcarers.

You asked: Increased, Administration and Governance Support

We delivered:

- Under the NSW Landcare Support Business Plan 2013-15, Landcare NSW delivered a number of projects to assist with the administration of on ground Landcare groups. These included:
 - The Specialist and Prospective projects as well as a Community of Practice project which has produced Starting Our Business case studies.
 - A Member Services Officer has been available as the main point of contact for Landcare groups and networks for services such as insurance, incorporation and governance.
 - Workshop resources have been developed for Landcare and other community groups under the 'Landcare in a Box' theme (include 27 fact sheets, 26 Policy Templates, an Invoice for Landcare Groups and 10 Starting Our Business case studies).
 - Workshop resources have been developed for Landcare and other community groups under the 'Landcare in a Box' theme (include 27 fact sheets, 26 Policy Templates, an Invoice for Landcare Groups and 10 Starting Our Business case studies).
- There have been 24 of these one-day workshops around the State. They have provided a good introduction to topics such as 'Governance' and 'Marketing your group'.

You asked: Development of the Landcare NSW Strategic Plan

We delivered:

- Building on our strong base of data collected via Musters and Council meetings, the Information has helped us to define our goals and decide our priorities for achieving them, a working group (led by LNSW CEO, Leigh Macgregor) and including Bob Collins, Mike Williams, Gill Pigot, Pip Gill, Keith Hyde, Steve Harvey and Chris Scott helped to define the project and provide input.

You asked: Recognition of Landcarers

We delivered:

- The inaugural David Corrie Award will be presented at the 2015 Muster (Landcare and Local Land Service Conference) to provide recognition of someone who works for a Landcare partnership between government and the community to be equal and based on trust and respect.
- At our August 2014 Council meeting, Landcare NSW presented the White Landy, with a Landcare 25 Year Commemorative Medal, in recognition of their 25 year 'Muster' at their 25th anniversary property was celebrated.

Page 1

Providing Input

1. Muster Topics

To help with the preparation of the 2017 Muster, Landcarers have the opportunity to provide input on the focus areas for the Muster, starting with those raised in 2015 as detailed below. We ask that you inform us of the current relevance of the 2015 topics and also of any new areas that they would like discussed at the 2017 Muster. To do this you can access the [online survey](#) to provide your input, or by paper version, provided in Attachment 1.

At the 2015 Muster the following topics were raised as issues of importance to Landcarers, who were then provided the opportunity to workshop these in round table grouping to examine the topics and provide direction to Landcare NSW as to what they felt Landcare NSW could do about these topic areas. The full report from the 2015 Muster can be read at <http://landcarensw.org.au/news-events/musters/>

At the 2017 Landcare Muster, Landcare NSW will report back on progress against these asks.

Topic areas identified by Landcarers at the 2015 Muster

- Recognition of Landcarers
- Advocacy - on communicating the Value of Landcare, including economic benefits
- Advocacy to enable the voice of Landcare in consultation and delivery of NRM
- Development of Landcare NSW Strategic Plan
- Insurance, Governance and Administration Support
- Governance Information and Training
- Information and data management
- Improved Communications (Up and Down)
- Funding (generally)
- Funding, management and recognition of Community Support Officers (CSOs)
- Working with Traditional Owners
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement
- Youth Engagement
- Relationship Management between Landcare and Local Land Services
- Building Relationships and links between other NRM groups
- Local Land Services – Relationships and Support
- Local Land Services - Local Community Advisory Groups (function and effectiveness)
- Landcare Australia Ltd – use of the Landcare Brand
- National Landcare Program
- 20 Million Tree Program
- Green Army
- Biodiversity Review

2. Holding a Mini Muster prior to the 2017 Landcare NSW Muster

Landcare NSW encourages groups, districts or regions to get together prior to the Muster to gather input from their own members to:

- Ensure that representatives of the group attending the Muster are providing input gathered from their members.
- Identify issues of importance to your group, district or region that can be advanced to Landcare NSW.

Area of Focus

Landcare NSW's Vision is for a viable and resilient Landcare community contributing as a valued partner to a range of community, natural resource management and agricultural outcomes.

Whilst groups will have a number of issues or priorities that they would like to see Landcare NSW take action on, it is important to make the distinction between:

1. Issues of importance to each Landcare group in their local areas (such as weeds, pests, biodiversity, production)
2. Issues around the value and support of Landcare groups which impact on the ability to operate and meaningfully contribute and deliver to their local communities.

The **focus of Landcare NSW's work is on the second point**, this should be the focus area for any of the issues you progress through the mini Muster to Landcare NSW and the 2017 Muster.

Holding a Mini-Muster

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Step 1 | Invite your members! Obvious but important. Make it an informal affair – have a catch up over a cup of tea. |
| Step 2 | Outline what the Landcare NSW Muster is and its purpose (use this document) |
| Step 3 | Complete the Muster survey (Attachment 1) as a group, and identify the topics of importance TO YOUR GROUP from the topics raised at the previous Muster. |
| Step 4 | Identify any other topics your group considers important. Identify three key priorities. |
| Step 5 | For your three priority areas complete a Muster worksheet (Attachment 2) |
| Step 6 | Return this information to Landcare NSW at
4/48 Tamar St, Ballina NSW 2478
Or to jlovell@landcarensw.org.au
By Monday 25th September
Please ensure, if you have any representatives attending the Muster, that they have a copy of the information with them to refer to during their discussions. |



Muster Topic Survey 2017 (Attachment 1)

The Muster is an important way that Landcare NSW can ensure its work is directed by the grassroots members it serves. Information captured from the Muster is utilised by the representative Council of Landcare NSW to develop policy, programs and support services.

Please complete this survey and return by **Monday 25th September** to help us be able to work better for you. This should be completed on-line where ever possible (access here [on-line survey](#)) or if you prefer, download this paper version.

RETURN TO : 4/48 Tamar St, Ballina NSW 2478, or to jlovell@landcarensw.org.au

1. Name (optional): _____

2. I am a member of:
 - i. Group: _____
 - ii. Landcare Network: _____
 - iii. Regional Network: _____

3. I am a:
 - Landcare volunteer / group member
 - Landcare committee member
 - Landcare staff / contractor
 - Government staff
 - Other, please specify: _____

4. How would you describe the health and/or activity of Landcare in your area?
 - Growing
 - Steady
 - Declining

5. What are the three (3) main current issues for your area/group?
Remembering to focus on issues around the value and support of Landcare groups which impact on the ability to operate and meaningfully contribute and deliver to their local communities.
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____

6. The following topic areas were raised as issues of importance at the 2015 Muster, the LLCI state-wide webinar June 2017 and in Regional Reporting over the past 12 months. Please review and indicate how important they are still currently?

	Not important	Low importance	Moderate importance	High importance	Very high importance	N/A or Not sure
Representation						
Recognition of Landcarers and awareness of Landcare's work						
Development of Landcare NSW Strategic Plan						
Advocacy – communicating the value of Landcare						
Advocacy – enabling the voice of Landcare in consultation and delivery of NRM						
NSW Biodiversity Review						
Local Land Services – Local community advisory groups (function and effectiveness)						
Landcare Australia Ltd – using the Landcare brand						
Building new strategic partnerships and collaboration (outside of Government)						
Member Services/Support						
Insurance						
Governance - information and training						
Information and data management						
Group Governance – Strategic Planning						
Group Governance – Succession Planning						
Group Governance – committee training and development						
Communication & Engagement						
Improved communications (up and down)						
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement						
Youth Engagement						
Relationship management between Landcare and Local Land Services						
Building relationships and links between other NRM groups						
Attracting more volunteers and landholders						
Building on social connections as a value of Landcare						
Building Landcare's profile and increasing awareness, especially in metropolitan areas						
Landcare NSW membership – member benefits						
Funding						
Funding for your Landcare Group and activities						
Funding, management and recognition of Landcare Coordinators and support staff						
Local Land Services – Resourcing and support						
National Landcare Programme						
20 Million Trees Program						
Green Army						
NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust						
Seeking funding outside of Government programs						
Streamlining of reporting between programs reducing duplication						
Lack of feedback from project reporting						
Maintaining independence and identity whilst developing partnerships						

7. What support have you or your group accessed from Landcare NSW in the past 2 years (since 2015 Muster) (tick all that apply)?

✓	Support Resource
	Accessed Local Landcare Coordinator
	Taken up insurance through Landcare NSW
	Enquiry to Landcare NSW Member Services Officer or website or Gateway enquiry
	Utilised Landcare NSW online templates or fact sheets
	Utilised Landcare NSW Governance Health Check checklist
	Participated in regional scale training event provided through the LLCI Program
	Supported using the Gateway website
	Presentation by Landcare NSW staff or Council at your event

8. What services or support could Landcare NSW provide to help your group?

9. How important is Landcare NSW to helping Landcare in your local area or region? (circle)

- Not important
- Low importance
- Moderate importance
- Highly important



Mini-Muster Worksheet (Attachment 2)

****NOTE:** Use a new sheet for each identified issue/opportunity.

Group Name:

Contact person (name):

Phone:

Email:

- 1. Name the key issue or opportunity that your group sees as most important:**

Remembering to focus on issues around the value and support of Landcare groups which impact on the ability to operate and meaningfully contribute and deliver to their local communities.

- 2. Background – undertake a discussion to examine why this is an area is most important to your group. Provide a brief summary of your discussion:**

- 3. SWOT - get your group to list the threats /opportunities strengths/weaknesses relating to your chosen topic (from 1. above):**

Strength:	
Weakness:	
Opportunity:	
Threat:	

What can Landcare NSW do?

Based on this SWOT analysis, propose some actions your group would like to see Landcare NSW work on to progress the opportunities, or address the threats: