

The Advocate



Landcare
New South Wales

Many hands, one voice for NSW

November 2016

Welcome to the latest edition of The Advocate.

Recent months have seen our new team members settle into their roles and contribute to our service delivery.

In particular, the Sustaining Landcare: Landcare Trust project with its new Project Manager, Melissa Joseph, is progressing quickly through the key challenges, read on for solutions to insurance and other critical Landcare elements this project is tackling.

A highlight of the last few months has been joining the regional networks for their annual gatherings, forums and other meetings. It has been a pleasure to be out hearing the great work and also feedback from the Landcarers making a difference around NSW.

From regional to national, Sonia Williams and Megan Rowlett presented innovative Landcare initiatives, showcasing NSW as a builder of engaged communities, at the National Landcare Conference in Melbourne in late September.

Landcare NSW held their own Annual General Meeting and Quarterly Forum recently, this has resulted in some changes to Council and the Executive, but it is pleasing to see so many dedicated Councillors staying with us and to welcome those joining us into another year.

Rob Dulhunty
Chair, Landcare NSW Inc.

LANDCARE NSW QUARTERLY COUNCIL MEETING

On Tuesday 8th November Landcare NSW's Council met in Sydney for its quarterly council meeting. The Chair and Council welcomed new councillors Sue Salvin and Louise Greenaway.

The council meeting provided fruitful discussions on some of the challenges and success of Landcare throughout the state. The Quarterly Partnership Forum allowed Landcare councillors to update Government representatives about their region.

Chris McCulloch and Sonia Williams updated the council on the Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative (LLCI), highlighting and discussing achievements to date, the broad scope of the program, and that if successful, the program will have an impact beyond 2019 when the program ends.

THANK YOU

The Landcare NSW Council and Staff would like to very much thank our guests to the November Quarterly Partnership Forum. We were grateful to have join us;

- * **Bryce Wilde**, Natural Resources Commission
- * **Christine Aughey**, Assistant Director of Department Environment and Energy
- * **Alex Anthony**, Chair's Delegate Executive Support Local Land Services
- * **Chris McCulloch**, State Landcare Support Program Manager Local Land Services

AGM & NEW EXECUTIVE

At the meeting on Tuesday 8th November, the Landcare NSW Annual General Meeting was held. During the AGM, Landcare NSW councillors elected a new Executive Committee. The new committee is pictured below.

During the November AGM **David Walker**, the former Chair (2007-2011) and Deputy Chair (2011-2016), stepped down from his role on the Executive Committee. David was a founding member of Landcare NSW in 2007 and has since remained an integral part of Landcare NSW's council. Landcare NSW is immensely grateful for David's active participation in the leadership of Landcare NSW over the last 10 years. David was instrumental in establishing the National Landcare Network and continues to contribute at the National scale through his involvement on the National Landcare Advisory Committee. He will remain on the council as an endorsed member. **Thank you David!**



Above: Landcare NSW Executive Committee 2017. L to R: Dale Stringer, Keith Hyde, Steph Cameron (**Deputy Chair**), Rob Dulhunty (**Chair**), Bev Debrincat, Bob Jarman (**Secretary**), Chris Scott (**Treasurer**). Absent from photo: John Hughson.



YOU ASKED, WE DELIVERED!

LANDCARE NSW HAS A NEW INSURANCE PROGRAM

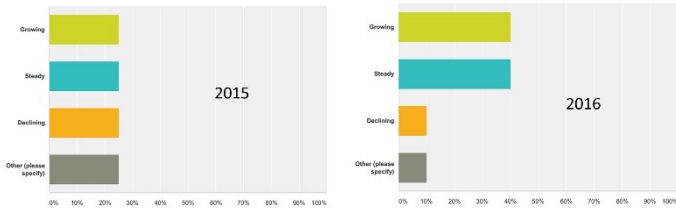
Landcare NSW has developed a NEW insurance product for its members, which has been tailored to the needs of 'care' groups in NSW. This gives you and your group peace of mind that your landcare activities are appropriately covered. To see what this means for your group please contact Melissa Joseph on 041 44 99 666 or mjoseph@landcarensw.org.au.

REGIONAL REPORTING RESULTS

We have recently analysed the results of the regional reporting provided by your Councillors to determine some trends in how Landcare across NSW is tracking. The results were positive, here's what we found:

In 2016, growth and steady Landcare activity in the regions was reported to be stronger and regions considering their activity to be in decline much less than 2015. However in both years respondents noted the high variability in activity across groups.

TREND: The response indicates that Landcare activity has had a period of growth from 2015 to 2016, congratulations!



In 2016, Councillors were proud of some of the same key themes from 2015;

- * Creating strong partnerships
- * Sourcing greater funding
- * The broad range of NRM and Sustainable Ag issues being addressed by groups
- * Creating social connection
- * High level of participation in events and reported new memberships



Some emerging themes included; **Local food** connections and activities, engagement of **young farmers**, growth for **Landcare nurseries**, use of new and **innovative NRM** techniques.

The main challenges for Groups were noted to be funding, communications, governance and declining membership. Some key solutions included;

- * **New ways to create groups** – for example around a particular theme or topic
- * Changed **engagement practices to suit young people** – keeping it hands on
- * Long term investment in **staff with high technical knowledge and skills**
- * **Consistent Landcare messages**, uniformity.



Left: Brunswick Valley Landcare (BVL) get down to business at 'The Farm—Byron Bay' restoring a creek line through formerly grazed headwaters (Photo by: Alison Ratcliffe, BVL).

Full story at: www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/brunswick-valley-landcare-inc/hand-in-hand-riparian-restoration-farming-and-tourism

NATIONAL LANDCARE PROGRAMME SUPPORTS LANDCARE NSW

Landcare NSW has received ongoing support from the National Landcare Network (NLN) through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme. This funding, \$190,000 over the upcoming 2 years, will allow Landcare NSW to act as a representative state body that works with the NLN to build partnerships that drive collaboration, innovation and efficiency for the Landcare community in NSW.



Left: Sonia Williams (Landcare NSW) networking with Jonathan Miller (NLN Board) near Bronte Beach, Sydney.



Council members of Landcare NSW Inc.

The following representatives were endorsed as Council members of Landcare NSW for 2017. Grey highlighted members indicate Executive Committee. For more information on Executive and Council members please visit: www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/about-us/council-members-2/

Robert	Dulhunty	Chair, Endorsed member
Steph	Cameron	New England North West Landcare
Bev	Debrincat	Greater Sydney Landcare
John	Hughson	Hunter Region Landcare
Keith	Hyde	LachLandcare
Bob	Jarman	North Coast Regional Landcare
Chris	Scott	Manning Landcare
Dale	Stringer	Murray Region Landcare
Don	Bruce	Central Tablelands
Daintry	Gerrand	North Coast Regional Landcare
Louise	Greenaway	Greater Sydney Landcare
Stephen	Harvey	New England North West Landcare
John	McGrath	Murrumbidgee Landcare Ass'n
Stuart	Mosely	Western Landcare NSW
Glenys	Patulny	Murrumbidgee Landcare
Bill	Pigott	South East Landcare
Chris	Post	South East Landcare
Jen	Quealy	Endorsed individual member
Megan	Rowlatt	Endorsed individual member
Martin	Royds	South East Landcare
John	Ryan	Central West NRM Working Group
Sue	Salvin	North Coast Regional Landcare
Tony	Slade	LachLandcare
David	Walker	Endorsed individual member
Hunter	White	Central Tablelands

LOCAL LANDCARE COORDINATOR INITIATIVE: UPDATE

The range of activities being conducted at the group district and regional scale is astounding - with many good news stories ranging from increased membership, reaching out to new target audiences, to local support and resourcing for landcare activities and operations. Groups have been promoting activities and news items on the Landcare Gateway website, the Host organisations have just completed their first round of case studies as part of their reporting.

There have been a number of community of practice activities happening, including teleconferences, training days and partnership forums. The Regional Landcare Facilitators have been active in supporting the delivery of these, and Sonia Williams (State Landcare Coordinator, Landcare NSW) has been privileged to attend a number of them over the past months. *"Its great to get out and about and meet all of you – hear your stories and learn what Landcare looks like on your patch"* Sonia remarked. Based on the input from these events and your reporting, Landcare NSW has commenced work on updating their database and building a map of the various networks, groups and their linkages.

In addition Landcare NSW has supported a number of groups with governance and employment information and targeted troubleshooting, and provided a monthly e-bulletin to all RLFs and Coordinators to distribute through their networks with information and current opportunities.

GROUPS TELL THEIR STORIES

Under the Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative, one of the products has been the development of a case study template that allows groups to "tell their story".

This feature is available for all groups who have a NSW Landcare Gateway page – simply log in and choose "add new" and select case study. It's a great way to produce a summary report on any activity or project your group has done – it is visible as a web page view, or can be downloaded in to a pdf format that can be used as a flyer, inserted in a report, or even enlarged for use as a poster.

In completing case studies you are letting everyone know the great range of things that groups do – and are adding to an online library of activities that allows groups and individuals to Share Learn and Connect. We do hope you take the opportunity to tell your story by submitting a case study or two .

Go to <http://www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/help/how-to/case-studies-on-the-gateway> for instructions, and contact your local Landcare Coordinator who can help. When you submit your case study it will be reviewed by Landcare NSW and once endorsed it will be visible on your Gateway page, this process may take up to 10 working days.

Check out the NSW Landcare Gateway home page www.landcare.nsw.gov.au for links to the case studies that have been completed so far. If you need help with logging on to your group's Gateway page please contact Lucinda Chapman at lchapman@landcarensw.org.au.

INTRODUCING THE NEW NSW LANDCARE PROGRAM MANAGER

The NSW Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative is happy to welcome Chris McCulloch to the role of Landcare Program Manager. Chris comes to the position from Central Tablelands Local Land Services where he led the Strategy and Planning Team based in Bathurst.



"I am really enthusiastic about keeping the momentum rolling with our communities, Landcare NSW and our officers on the ground," Chris said. *"We are going to really forge a strong future between Local Land Services and what is a huge network of guys, girls and kids getting their hands dirty every day to protect our landscapes and environments."*



The NSW Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative is a four-year, \$15 million program to support our Landcare communities across the state in partnership with Landcare NSW. Funded by the NSW Government, the program is built on three components; the Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative, the Landcare Community of Practice and the Landcare Trust. If you have any questions or would like to know more about the program, feel free to call **Chris on (02) 6333 2315**.

This activity is part of the Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative



Local Land Services

The Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative is funded by the NSW Government, and is supported through the partnership of Local Land Services and Landcare NSW.

