



LAND FOR WILDLIFE

New South Wales

"The National Program run by Locals"



Number 8 – July 2013

Hello Land for Wildlifers,

Next Month we have our two yearly forum to network and listen to what is happening with Land for Wildlife. Numbers are limited to a total of only 80 but spaces are still available.

Prices have been kept low through sponsorships and we would like to see as many landholders as possible attend.

Land for Wildlife is working with Office of Environment and Heritage and GER on the Kanangra to Wyangala link on the Upper Lachlan. Melinda Hillery has recently joined the LFW Team to facilitate registrations in this area.

Narelle who many of you know is moving on from CEN to go back to teaching. We wish her well and express appreciation for her efforts.

Cheers

John

LFW NSW Forum - 16th & 17th Aug, 2013

With guest speakers and displays, the forum will bring together environmental leaders with private landholders and include:

Promoting the practical benefits of Land for Wildlife, including on-ground support, targeted training and workshops.

Providing a field trip to the Central Coast will see first hand what Land for Wildlife has achieved.

Creating natural connections with current Land for Wildlife members and partners from across New South Wales exchanging information and sharing ideas.

When:

Forum - Friday 16th August, 2013, registrations from 8.30 am

Field Trip - Saturday 17th August, 2013, bus leaves at 8.00 am

Where:

Friday - Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability, Waverton

Saturday - Meet at Central Station at 8:00 am to board a bus

to the Central Coast

Cost:

\$20 for one day or \$35 for both days

Cost includes morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and bus trip

For further **information** or to **register on-line** go to **www.cen.org.au** or you can contact the Community Environment Network on (02) **4349 4756** or email **lffw@cen.org.au**



Land for Wildlife is working with Ozgreen on their Stepping Stones project in the Hunter Valley. CEN LFW Assessor Rob Suesse is seen here with landholder Kara Matheson in the Cessnock Area.

CEN supports the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative





Land for Wildlife welcomes Citizens Wildlife Corridor Armidale



Around the Regions

Land for Wildlife NSW is very pleased to welcome a new Regional Provider, Citizens Wildlife Corridor (CWC), Armidale. CWC received LFW training earlier this year and are now ready to assess properties in the local government areas of Uralla, Armidale/Dumaresq and Glenn Innes.

CWC have produced a booklet on their projects completed during 2010-2012. An online version of the booklet can be accessed as a "flipping book" at: <http://sunne.com.au/flipbook/CWC%20Book/index.html>



LFW in Bathurst - April 2013



A friendly wombat from a wildlife sanctuary on the South Coast checking out the LFW display at Bathurst.

LFW in Great Lakes

Over 40 community members from far and wide came along to the Land for Wildlife Information Day held in March. The morning was hosted by Karuah-Great Lakes Landcare in partnership with Great Lakes Council and featured three speakers outlining the history, importance and many benefits of the Land for Wildlife (LFW) program.

NSW Land for Wildlife Program Coordinator, John Asquith, outlined how LFW operates across the country and the great progress the program is making toward seeing more and more private land managed for the benefit of both people and native wildlife.

Mat Bell, Great Lakes Council's Senior Ecologist, spoke about the vital importance of biodiversity on a global scale, as well as outlining the fascinating native plants and animals of the local Great Lakes area and the various threats they face. Mat also spoke about Council's Tops to Lakes Initiative, which is focussed on preserving and enhancing crucial natural corridors.

Finally, participants were treated to hearing the remarkable story of the transformation of Sylvia Gray's property in Wang Wauk from cleared and eroding paddocks to a wildlife wonderland. Sylvia shared with us the original vision she had for the degraded land she bought in the eighties, the work she has put into its restoration over the decades, and some wonderful stories of the wildlife for whom her property is now a haven. Sylvia's story was a real inspiration for everyone who attended, and was met with a very enthusiastic round of applause.

Since the Information Day, six new properties have submitted applications to join the Land for Wildlife program in the area.





Wingecarribee Council

Workshop in Robertson



The Land for Wildlife workshop held in Robertson on Friday 12 April 2013 was attended by 14 keen participants, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The workshop involved an overview of LFW and private land conservation through financial incentives funded by Wingecarribee Shire Council's environment levy.

A local botanist, Dr Kevin Mills, provided a presentation on the two endangered ecological communities found in the area, namely Robertson Rainforest and Robertson Basalt Tall Open Forest. There was a presentation on weeds and their native look-a-likes with a practical

demonstration on control methods.

Several landholders spoke about projects on their own properties, and following a relaxed lunch, participants boarded a bus and were taken to a local property where they enjoyed a sign-posted rainforest walk.

The final activity was a discussion session, evaluation and wrap up. The day was enjoyed by all, and participants noted the variety of activities and presentations and were keen to attend future workshops. The workshop was funded by the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife and Wingecarribee Shire Council.



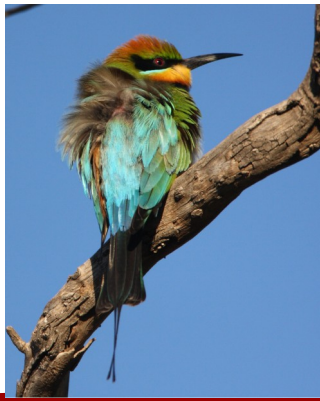
Summary of new members for 2013

Bathurst	1
Byron	5
Cessnock	4
Clarence	6
Gosford	2
Goulburn Mulwaree	1
Greater Taree	1
Kempsey	2
Lismore	3
Lithgow	2
Palerang	3
Port Macquarie/ Hastings	4
Wingecarribee	1
Wyong	1

Murrakool Land for Wildlife is supporting; 'Bitterns Boom in Rice' - a short film about the endangered Australasian Bittern and its use of rice crops.

Please share among your networks to help spread the word. <http://www.rga.org.au/rice-environment/biodiversity.aspx>

A couple of weeks ago, students at the Wakool-Burraboi, Blighty and Conargo Pubic Schools had a sneak peek and it was well received.



How Does Land for Wildlife Work?

Anyone with a rural landholding may now apply to join LFW. This is due to two models now being used to make the program available in a wider number of local government areas in NSW, namely:

- a. Regional Provider Model which involves an organization signing an agreement to conduct LFW locally. The agreement is a licence to operate to the LFW Protocols and standards. It gives local organizations the freedom to conduct the program in the way they want. Usually this means the LFW members receives local information, invitations to workshops and involvement with the organization.
- b. Partner Model, this involves CEN working with a local organization or group to provide Land for Wildlife assessments locally. CEN works with the organization or group to promote the program through the media, websites, brochures or networks. When an Expression of Interest is received, arrangements are made through the local organization or group to conduct the assessment and register the property.

The CEN Land for Wildlife program has now been accepted as an affiliate organization of the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative. This means the program will be concentrating on building memberships in the nearly 80 local government areas covered by the GER. In addition, over the past two years CEN has been working to build up LFW west of the dividing range, there are currently 71 properties registered and hopefully

this will reach 100 within the next 6 months.

Lastly, if you have local vegetation or habitat assessment skills we need volunteer assessors. CEN will provide training, support and some resources.

What does Land for wildlife do?

The key feature of the land for wildlife program is the signage and environmental property assessments the organization provides free to land holders. In addition to environmental property assessments, LfW gives landholders the opportunity to participate in workshops, meet like minded people and receive up to date information via fact sheets and regular newsletters.

Does my property qualify?

The program is available to landholders who:

- Have properties with half a hectare or more of native bush land
- Are willing to manage all or part of their property in an environmentally sustainable way

The Land for Wildlife program is available to private landholders who own properties ranging from small bush blocks up to large farming and grazing operations.

Schools and council managed public land may also qualify for Land for Wildlife.

After reading, please pass this newsletter on to a friend who may be interested in Land for Wildlife.



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