

# You Asked, We Delivered

*Many Hands, One Voice  
Wound Hands? One Voice*



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 Regional Landcare Facilitators, to keep the two-way conversation flowing!
- Ongoing representation to the National Landcare Network.
- LNSW contributed to and promoted participation in the NSW Landcare Gateway Website, an important portal of information and provides an online presence for on-ground Landcare groups.
- LNSW has represented the voice of local Landcare in many policy debates, providing submissions to the development of the LLS Performance Standard, National Landcare Programme consultation, Biodiversity Review, Senate Committee Inquiry into Landcare, Weeds Review, Agricultural White Paper and 20 Million Trees.
- We raised our profile and kept members informed through our website and regular bulletins and had a strong presence at the National Landcare Conference in Melbourne, delivering two addresses (including one keynote) and a poster presentation as well as having a stall.
- Regular communication via social media, with a Facebook following of over 750 friends.

### **You asked: Development of the Landcare NSW Strategic Plan**

#### **We delivered:**

- Building on our strong base of data collected via Musters and Council meetings, this information has helped us to refine our goals and decide our priorities for achieving them. A working group led by LNSW EO, Leigh McLaughlin and including Rob Dulhunty, Sonia Williams, Bill Pigott, Pip Job, Keith Hyde, Steve Harvey and Chris Scott helped to guide the project and provide input.

### **You asked: Insurance, Administration and Governance Support**

#### **We delivered:**

- Under the NSW Landcare Support Business Plan 2011-15, Landcare NSW delivered a number of projects to assist with the administration of on ground Landcare groups. These included:
  - ⇒ the Snapshot and Prospectus projects as well as a Community of Practice project which has produced Sharing Our Successes 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;
  - ⇒ Numerous resources have been developed for Landcare and other community groups under the 'Landcare in a Box'. These include 27 Fact Sheets, 26 Policy Templates, an Insurance for Landcare Guide, and 10 Sharing our Successes case studies.
  - ⇒ Hothousing Landcare Leaders Workshops—so far there have been 18 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: Recognition of Landcarers**

#### **We delivered:**

- The inaugural Gerald Carnie Award will be presented at the 2015 NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference to provide recognition of someone who works for a Landcare partnership between government and the community to be equal and based on respect and trust.
- At our August 2014 Council meeting, Landcare NSW presented the White family, with a Landcare 25 year Commemorative Plaque, in recognition of their hosting of the NFF and ACF at their Braidwood property 'Mundango', at which the 25 Year Anniversary of Landcare was celebrated.

## Landcare NSW continued...

**You asked: Build relationships and links with other natural resource management (NRM) groups.**

**We delivered:**

- Representation on a range of committees to ensure that planning and policy considers the important role of community and Landcare: Reference Panel for the development of Local Land Services; Business Plan Steering Committee for the State Government Support Programme; Office of Environment Ministers Quarterly Roundtable; Weeds Advisory Panel; Pest Animal Committee; Native Private Vegetation Committee; Public Service Sector Roundtable on Innovation; LLS and Landcare Partnership Steering Committee.
- LNSW provided a State-wide voice to Federal bodies and initiatives via: Representation on the National Landcare Network; Representation on the Advisory Committee for Landcare Australia Limited; Input to the Regional Landcare Facilitator Programme; Input to the development of the new National Landcare Programme; Presentations to the Regional Landcare Facilitator National Gathering. Both the LAL CEO, Tessa Jakszewicz and the Chairman of the LAL Board, Campbell Anderson addressed meetings of LNSW.

## Advocacy

**You asked: Enable the voice of Landcare in consultation and delivery of NRM**

**We delivered:**

- Promoted the submission of feedback to the Australian Government survey on the design and delivery of the Regional Stream of the National Landcare Programme.
- A Senate Inquiry collected submissions on the history and performance of the National Landcare Programme. Landcare NSW made a submission and was invited to give evidence to the Inquiry in Canberra.
- Representation to the National Landcare Advisory Committee—a joint Environment and Agriculture portfolio, established by the Natural Heritage Ministerial Board to provide advice on the development and implementation of the National Landcare Programme. LNSW Deputy Chair, David Walker is a member of the National Landcare Advisory Committee.
- Building on the cross-party support obtained through the election, members from all sides of the NSW Parliament have come together to form the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Landcare. The group was formalised at an inaugural meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and is Chaired by the Member for Cootamundra, the Hon. Katrina Hodgkinson MP.
- Grass Roots – maintaining the bottom-up approach: organisation of the 2014 Regional Landcare Forum in Dubbo; organisation of the 2015 Landcare NSW Muster.

**You asked: 'Value of Landcare' – economic benefits of Landcare, dialogue with government re funding.**

**We delivered:**

- Responded to government initiatives and policy announcements particularly in relation to the resourcing of Landcare and diversion of Landcare funding;
- Researched, wrote, published and promoted a paper on the 'Value of Landcare'.
- Contributed to the commitment of the National Landcare Programme by the Federal Government to ensure a funding stream was available to local Landcare projects. During the roll out phase, LNSW collated information from regions about how the Landcare community was engaged in designing, developing and delivering the Programmes developed in each region that formed the NLP bid for the regional allocation.
- A delegation from LNSW visited Parliament House in Macquarie Street on the 19th November to urge the NSW Government to renew and expand its partnership with Landcare. "We presented the evidence about the value of Landcare and explained how a partnership between Government and more than 60,000 Landcarers around NSW will deliver positive benefits for production, conservation and community wellbeing," said Chairman, Rob Dulhunty. Meetings were held with Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson; Minister for Natural Resources, Kevin Humphries; Shadow Minister for the Environment, Luke Foley; and Deputy Opposition Leader, Linda Burney.

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## Communication—sharing information and knowledge

**You asked:** Information and data management; membership and recruitment; common reporting formats

**We delivered:**

- LNSW has introduced an online Customer Relationship Management system, 'Salesforce' to store and manage contact databases, corporate knowledge and documents.

**You asked:** Landcare and Local Land Services – relationship management, showcase good relationships, monitor relationships. **We delivered:**

- Gathered feedback on regional issues including the impact of the LLS process
- The 2014 Regional Landcare Support Forum was held in Dubbo, which brought together Landcarers and LLS staff and Board Members from all regions in NSW. The working objective for the Programme was to provide shared learning opportunities about the changes to NRM delivery and provide facilitated sessions so that each region, LLS Board, staff and Landcarers can work together towards their community engagement plans. The Forum was funded by the NSW Government Landcare Support Programme, Business Plan 2011-15.
- In November 2014 the memorandum of understanding between LLS and Landcare, as developed by a joint working group, was ratified by the Council of Landcare NSW (it will be signed by Chairs of LLS and LNSW at the 2015 State Conference).

## Local Support Staff and CSOs

**You asked:** Funding, management and recognition for CSOs

**We delivered:**

- The LNSW Sustaining Landcare campaign was launched late in 2014 with a goal of securing State Government support for a properly funded Landcare support Programme of \$30million over 4 years. Our argument was that governments rely on Landcare to help them achieve their policy objectives. A healthy Landcare movement means community groups can take up funding opportunities and deliver projects and policies. Without a platform like Landcare it is very difficult for governments to get communities to share responsibility for natural resource management. The campaign successfully led to all major parties making significant election commitments to a funded Landcare support Programme.
- As a result of this campaign, the elected Coalition government is currently developing out their 4-year, \$15million Landcare Support Programme with details to be announced at the 2015 State Conference.

## Working with Traditional Owners

- Building the partnership with Aboriginal communities is a key action in our Strategic Plan. In January this year the Chair of Landcare NSW, Rob Dulhunty met with the Chair of the NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Craig Cromelin. The discussion was very useful to build a relationship, share information and think about opportunities to work together. There was agreement that there is synergy between our organisations with Rob suggesting Aboriginal people be recognised as the "original Landcarers".

## Education and Training

**You asked:** Governance information and training

**We delivered:**

- LNSW secured funding through NSW Environmental Trust to host a series of regional workshops across NSW for all those participating in Landcare and other 'care' groups, to increase community capacity and build a community of practice at the regional scale. These workshops will address skills shortfalls; share learnings and achievements; promote opportunities such as partnerships and funding; and develop leadership skills.
- Hothousing Landcare Leaders workshops—18 of these one-day workshops were held around the State. They have provided a good introduction to topics such as 'Governance' and 'Marketing your Group'.
- 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;
- Landcare in a box toolkit and templates - Numerous resources have been developed for Landcare and other community groups under the 'Landcare in a Box'. These include 27 Fact Sheets, 26 Policy Templates, an Insurance for Landcare Guide, and 10 Sharing our Successes case studies.

## Youth Engagement

- LNSW welcomed Megan Rowlatt to the Council as an endorsed member with special skills in youth engagement. Since 2009, Megan has been coordinating the Illawarra Intrepid Landcare group and was recognised as National Young Landcare Leader for efforts in 2012.

## Funding

**You asked:** Ensure funding is available across the State with timely, simple and localised application processes that address local issues. Project funding should enable projects to be completed. Landcare support should be provided as baseline funding. Ongoing help for Landcare groups to access and manage grants and funding.

**We delivered:**

- Ongoing meetings, discussions and planning with philanthropy and industry to develop opportunities for Landcare partnerships, resourcing and support;
- Community Mutual is donating \$1 to Landcare projects for every account holder who switches to e-statements. This was used for projects to benefit Landcare groups/networks in each of the 3 regions Community Mutual operate across – i.e. Hunter, New England and Orana, as well as state-wide.
- In celebration of World Environment Day and the 25 year anniversary of Landcare, Pozible and Landcare NSW developed a new global crowdfunding partnership: The Landcare & Environment Collection. The Landcare & Environment Collection is a space on the Pozible website that showcases and supports the crowdfunding campaigns of environmental groups in Australia and around the world. 25 projects (15 Australian, 10 international) were selected to feature in The Landcare & Environment Collection at the launch during Landcare Week at the National Landcare Conference in September 2014. These 25 environmental crowdfunding campaigns received significant publicity and support and raised \$194,000 for Landcare groups.

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