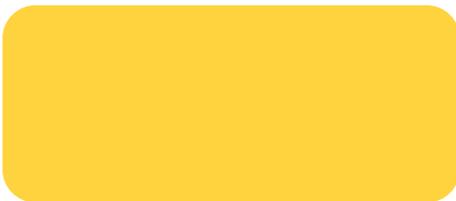
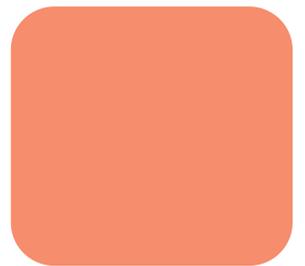




# Landcare NSW Inc

## 2015/16 Annual Report





# LANDCARE NSW

## VISION

*The result of our collective efforts will be to create...*

A viable and resilient Landcare community contributing as a valued partner to a range of community, natural resource management and agricultural outcomes.

## MISSION

*We will work...*

To serve community Landcare in NSW by providing a representative voice, member services and support.

## KEY PROJECT OVERVIEW | Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative

Responding to the requests from the Landcare community, **Landcare NSW was successful in securing funding for the placement of over 60 Local Landcare Coordinators** across the State (see map below).

The range of activities conducted during 2015/16 at the group, district and regional scale is astounding. There are good news stories ranging from increased membership, reaching out to new target audiences, to local support and resourcing for Landcare activities and operations. These activities have been promoted by the Groups on the Landcare Gateway website, providing a central hub where Landcarers can connect, share and learn from each other.

There have been a number of community of practice activities this year, including teleconferences, training days and partnership forums. The Regional Landcare Facilitators (RLFs) 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 year. 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 trouble-shooting, and provided a monthly e-bulletin to all RLFs and Coordinators to distribute through their networks with current information and opportunities.

Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative: Host Organisation Locations



**ABOVE:** Landcare Coordinator locations across NSW.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### | Landcare Coordinator Workshop

Local Landcare Coordinators (LLCs) are part of a connected network across NSW and the first step in developing this network was achieved by bringing the Coordinators and their host organisations together at the Induction and Training Workshop in early 2016 at Stockton Beach. **170 participants** attended including Local Landcare Coordinators, host organisations, Regional Landcare Facilitators and Local Land Services (LLS) staff.

**Highlights** included; Minister Blair speaking to the group via video about the importance of the program being community owned and the Chair of the LLS Board of Chairs, Tim de Mestre speaking about value of Landcare.

#### What people are saying:

*As an 'old hand' in Landcare, I want to remind everyone that.... we must not forget the magic of Landcare is that people draw on their intrinsic motivation to participate.* David Henderson, Southern New England Landcare Board member.

*The energy and atmosphere of the meeting took me back to an earlier era when I was a new [to] Landcare... the sense of enthusiasm, the opportunities ahead.* Erlina Compton, General Manager Western LLS.

### | Muster

The 2015 NSW Landcare Muster was held as part of the 2015 State Landcare and Local Land Services Conference, themed "From the Ground Up". Held in Orange (NSW), the Muster was attended by **227 passionate Landcarers** and supporters from throughout NSW. Participants represented a diverse range of groups including Bushcare, Coastcare, Friends of and Landcare groups.

A number of **key themes** were highlighted during the 2015 Muster including;

- \* Increasing youth engagement,
- \* Increasing opportunities to work with and learn from Traditional Owners,
- \* Partnerships and communications with government agencies and other natural resource management groups,
- \* Funding support and opportunities for leveraging investment,
- \* Improving governance of Landcare through training opportunities and increased support,
- \* Improved communication of the expertise and achievements of Landcare at all levels,
- \* Representation and advocacy of Landcare with government to inform policy decisions.

### | Biodiversity Workshops

Landcare NSW, through the support of the NSW Environmental Trust, delivered a series of **eight workshops** across NSW during the submission phase of the NSW Biodiversity Reforms.

The workshops showcased biodiversity projects undertaken by local groups, presented biodiversity initiatives from government agencies, updated Landcarers on latest research as well as providing information about the new draft Biodiversity Legislation, from a wide range of sources including OEH, Local Land Services Environmental Defenders Office, NSW Farmers, and the Nature Conservation Council. A webinar was also held to ensure Landcarers from across NSW were able to be involved.

No specific policy position was adopted by Landcare NSW, rather Landcare NSW undertook to ensure the many views of Landcarers were represented in a submission to the reform process. Landcarers (groups and individuals) were also encouraged to make submissions to ensure a full range of views were represented.



## SHOWCASE EVENTS OF THE YEAR

### | Parliamentary Friends of Landcare

A highly successful 'Evening with Landcare' provided a unique opportunity for **Members of Parliament (MPs) to meet grassroots Landcarers** and engage with issues facing agriculture, the environment and rural communities in NSW. Held at Parliament House on 10 May 2016, the event was organised by the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Landcare (PFL), a non-partisan group formed in 2015 to enable MPs to show their support for Landcare in their local communities.

The event was attended by around **65 people**, with Landcare NSW Councillors, Local Coordinators, Landcare volunteers and senior departmental representatives mingling with MPs from all political parties and all parts of NSW.

PFL is chaired by the Hon. Katrina Hodgkinson, who hosted the evening. Ms. Hodgkinson noted the role of Landcare and Bushcare saying, "All these different types of caring for our land and caring for our environment are very, very important." She also highlighted the importance of the partnership between Local Land Services and Landcare NSW.

Deputy Premier the Hon Troy Grant and Minister for Agriculture Hon Niall Blair addressed the audience, highlighting the value of Landcare and the strength of the Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative. Deputy Premier Troy Grant MP said, "I think Landcare has an enormously exciting future and a vital role in our natural resources management of this State into the future."

To thank them for their support of Landcare, MPs were given a native seedling to take away and plant in their electorate. These were provided by Habitat Nursery, a community not for profit nursery in the Sydney suburb of Ryde – part of the Greater Sydney Landcare Network.



**ABOVE: (L to R)** The Hon. Richard Colless MLC, Hon. Katrina Hodgkinson MP, Hon. Niall Blair MLC and Rob Dulhunty (far right) (Chair, Landcare NSW) at Parliamentary Friends of Landcare event evening.

### | Celebrating Philanthropy Week

December 2015 saw the conclusion of the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation funded project which over the previous 18 months enabled Landcare NSW to develop its strategic plan, and employ a full time Executive Officer to commence the initiatives highlighted in the plan. The results of this philanthropic partnership, were celebrated with the release of a short film and an event to highlight the achievements from the partnership. Landcare NSW thanks the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal and the Australian Governments Department of Social Services for their funding support of this Philanthropy week activity.

### | With thanks to our volunteer Councillors

The following representatives are endorsed as Council members of Landcare NSW. Grey highlighted members indicate Executive Committee. For more information on Executive and Council members please visit: [www.landcarensw.org.au/about-us/council-members-2/](http://www.landcarensw.org.au/about-us/council-members-2/)

Robert	Dulhunty	Volunteer Chair
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	Mid Coast to Tops 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
Stuart	Mosely	Western Landcare NSW
Glenys	Patulny	Murrumbidgee Landcare - ACT
Bill	Pigott	South East Landcare
Chris	Post	South East Landcare
Jen	Quealy	Special Skills - Marketing
Megan	Rowlatt	Special Skills - Youth Engagement
Martin	Royds	South East Landcare
John	Ryan	Central West NRM Working Group
Sue	Salvin	North Coast Regional Landcare
Tony	Slade	LachLandcare
David	Walker	Special Skills - National Landcare
Hunter	White	Central Tablelands

### | With thanks to this year's Landcare NSW supporters:

