



The National Landcare Network is the voice of Landcare and Landcarers at the national level. The NLN Board members are nominated by each State and Territory.

ACT Board member:
Peter Bridgewater
www.landcareact.org.au

NSW Board Member:
Rob Dulhunty
www.landcarensw.org.au

NT Board Member:
Sue McKinnon
www.landarent.org.au

QLD Board Member:
Geoff Elliot
www.qwalc.org.au

SA Board Member:
Gerry Butler
www.landcaresa.asn.au

TAS Board Member:
Anthea Fergusson
www.landcaretas.org.au

VIC Board Member:
Terry Hubbard
www.vlc.org.au

WA Board Member:
Keith Bradby
www.landcarewa.org.au

\$100 Million for Landcare - Some News At Last!

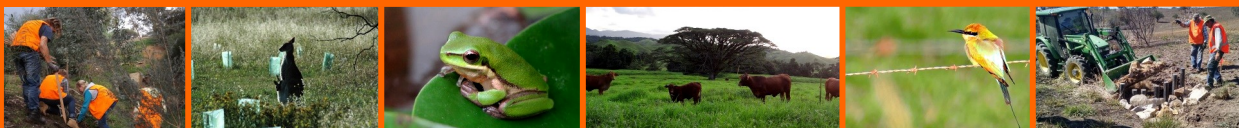
We have finally have some news on the additional \$100 million for Landcare that was announced in the MYEFO in December!

In the last few months the NLN, together with Landcare Australia, has been in discussions with the Australian Government and the Australian Greens to try and ensure that this money is spent in a way which will bring benefits to landcarers and farmers on the ground. We have now had confirmation that:

- A first instalment of the funding will be available this financial year after budget announcements in May.
- Support for on-ground Landcare projects and small grants for sustainable agriculture and environmental projects will be prioritised in allocating this funding.
- \$15 million will be allocated to new Indigenous Protected Areas.
- Money will be available to support Landcare Australia in delivering the State and National Landcare Awards which celebrate the achievements of landcarers.

The NLN and Landcare Australia met with Finance Minister Mathias Cormann's office at the end of March to confirm these allocations and to discuss various aspects of the budget as they relate to Landcare.

Our thanks to the Australian Government and Australian Greens for their ongoing commitment to Landcare!



Aligning National Landcare

In the last edition of the Fairywren, we gave an overview of some of the major organisations involved in Landcare nationally. This includes Landcare Australia Ltd, who among other things run the Landcare Awards and the National Landcare Conference. The NLN and Landcare Australia have increasingly been working together when speaking to government and other national organisations to present a united front on matters which are important to Landcare, such as the allocation of the \$100 million for Landcare and the design of the program that follows the National Landcare Programme, which will come to an end in June 2018.

This partnership is going so well that we are now looking into how we might reinforce it even further. The two organisations have different areas of strength and complement one another well, so it makes a lot of sense to join forces on work which benefits grassroots Landcare. A project is now underway to look into options for what a closer alignment of the NLN and Landcare Australia might look like in practice. We'll be talking to all our members about this as it develops—keep an eye out for more information soon.



Landcare Association of SA Happenings

LASA had the opportunity to meet with Environment and Energy Minister Josh Frydenberg during his recent trip to SA. Together with partners Primary Producers SA, Council of NRM Presiding Members, the Aboriginal Lands Trust and the Conservation Council of SA, LASA discussed the SA NRM Investment Strategy and opportunities

for investment by the Australian Government. It was terrific to be able to demonstrate such a strong partnership and united voice to Minister Frydenberg.

LASA and eight of its member groups took Landcare to the WOMADelaide festival from 10 to 13 March, through the inaugural Landcare SA stall. The stall enabled the groups involved to promote their role and their activities, and to share their enthusiasm, experience, and knowledge, with an audience of tens of thousands of local, interstate, and overseas visitors.

LASA member groups taking part in the WOMADelaide stall were: Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association, Riverland West Landcare, Mid-Murray Landcare, Renmark to the Border Local Action Planning Association, Campbelltown Landcare Group, Trees For Life, Tennyson Dunes Group, and Basket Range Landcare Group.



Strengthening the Voice of Landcare in Victoria

NLN member, the Victorian Landcare Council, is about to complete a formal merger with the Farm Tree and Landcare Association, to form a new entity called Landcare Victoria Incorporated. The merger will be formalised on 3rd April 2017, and is the culmination of months of hard work from the members of both organisations.

This will mean there is a single organisation speaking on behalf of community Landcare in Victoria. We look forward to working with our future member Landcare Victoria and wish them all the best with continuing and building on the work done by the Victorian Landcare Council and Farm Tree and Landcare Association during their long histories.

New Chair for Landcare ACT

In February, Landcare ACT bid farewell to its inaugural Chair Jonathan Miller, and welcomed Professor Peter Bridgewater (pictured below) to the role. Professor Bridgewater has had an extensive career in academia and biodiversity conservation both in Australia and overseas.

"I am really looking forward to becoming involved in Landcare in the ACT at a grass-roots level" said Professor Bridgewater. "I love Canberra and its bush landscape and Landcare ACT will give me an opportunity to contribute my experience at local level".



Thanks to Jonathan for all his contributions to Landcare ACT and the NLN, and we look forward to working with you Peter!



The National Landcare Network is supported by funding through the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme.





Landcare Northern Territory Happenings

Landcare NT 's Executive Officer, Anna Boustead, will going on maternity leave for six months from mid-April. A recruitment process to cover her position during this time has been completed, and details of the interim Executive Officer will be announced soon. Thanks to Anna for all the great work you've done since joining Landcare NT, and all the best with the adventures of motherhood!

Landcare NT has also recently launched their website! Check it out at www.landcarent.org.au to find out more about the work Landcare NT is doing up in the Territory.

Around our Network: Youth and Community Conservation in Action, SA

Youth and Community Conservation in Action, or YACCA, is an environmental youth group based in South Australia that teaches young people about the protection of the environment. It connects young people with community groups and encourages the development of projects that protect and maintain our natural environment.



The group started up at the Willunga Environment Centre in 2013 in response to the need for young people to have an environmental education and input in their community. YACCA aims to create a forum where young people can connect to environmental projects in a way that allows them to learn about environmental issues, make a positive contribution and feel a sense of worth and importance. By empowering them with these skills, YACCA works to ensure that young people grow up with a sense of connection to their natural environment.

This exchange works both ways. YACCA continually encourages community groups to work with youth and pass on the skills and

knowledge of their members to the next generation. This not only allows partner groups to reach educational outcomes but also influences the community to include and value the opinion of young people and their capabilities within the environmental field.

YACCA has so far worked on a huge range of activities including ecological surveys, water testing, revegetation, seed collection, and revegetation. The group has enjoyed regional and national recognition for its work, and especially for its founder Saskia Gerhardy in 2015, who has received a number of accolades including the Young Landcare Leader Award at the 2015 Premier's NRM and SA Landcare Awards, the Flinders Ports' Environment Award at the Channel 9 Young Achiever Awards, and selection as a finalist for the Manpower Young Landcare Leader Award at the 2016 National Landcare Awards. YACCA members have also recently won the Conservation Councils Young Achiever Award and the Onkaparinga Youth Award for Community Engagement.

For more information visit: <http://landcaresa.asn.au/yacca/>.



Members' Council Representatives

Find out who is representing your state or territory

ACT Council Members:

- Anne Duncan
- Martine Franco
- Karissa Preuss (Deputy Chair)

NSW Council Members:

- Rob Dulhunty
- Chris Scott
- Sonia Williams

NT Council Members:

- Anna Boustead
- Camilla Osborn

QLD Council Members:

- Darryl Ebenezer
- Phil Moran
- John Reghenzani

SA Council Members:

- Parry Agius
- Sandy Edwards
- Patrick O'Connor

TAS Council Members:

- Rod Knight
- Peter Voller

VIC Council Members:

- Beth Ripper
- Kaye Rodden
- Sandy Mackenzie

WA Council Members:

- Keith Bradby
- Louise Duxbury (Chair)
- Helen Watkins

Landcare NSW Happenings

One of the innovations that has come of the NSW Local Landcare Coordinator initiative is the development of a case study template that allows groups to "tell their story". This is a great way to produce a summary report on any activity or project that Landcare groups have done – it can be used as a web page, or can be downloaded for use as a flyer, inserted in a report, or even blown up as a poster. Check out some of the inspiring [case studies](http://www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/casestudy_listing) (www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/casestudy_listing) that have been completed so far.

Landcare NSW also recently released their new Membership and Insurance Program. For a number of years one of the things Landcare groups have consistently asked for is cost effective insurance that provides adequate protection for group members. One of the key things governments at all levels, investors and partner organisations have asked for is accurate information about Landcare in NSW, the number of groups and volunteers involved – the army on the ground. Landcare NSW are now able to deliver on these needs with the new Membership and Insurance Program.

Meet your Members Council: Karissa Preuss (Deputy Chair)

Karissa sits on the Members Council as a representative of Landcare ACT. Karissa grew up in rural Australia and has been working with local people to care for their environment for over 15 years. She spent ten years living and working in Central Australia, most recently developing an Indigenous Protected Area, which involved combining Indigenous ecological knowledge and Western science in developing the largest protected area on Australian land. Karissa now coordinates the Ginninderra Catchment Group, one of the three Landcare networks and community NRM organisations in the ACT. She has completed an Art/Science degree and a Masters thesis in community environmental management. Karissa lives just out of Canberra and regularly helps manage a family merino property near Yass.



State of Landcare in WA

The WALN released its 'State of landcare WA' report ahead of the state election. The paper sends a warning that while the landcare movement is needed more than ever, government support and funding is diminishing. This is the first overview of the 'State of landcare in WA' produced in the more than thirty year history of the movement. It finds that the unparalleled growth in engagement, self-reliance and on-ground change of landcare's early years has not continued uniformly and has faltered in some areas.

Despite current concerns there have also been many successes... "no-till farming is world class, the growth in Aboriginal Caring for Country programs across wide areas of WA is impressive, urban landcare and coastcare is flourishing. There is motivation in the community to do more," said Keith Bradby, Deputy Chair of WALN. "What then could be achieved if more consistent and locally based support was provided across WA?"

The report has been issued as a discussion paper to document the information currently available and to identify the additional information needed for good policy decisions. You can view it on the WALN website: <http://www.landcarewa.org.au/>.

New Partnerships in Tasmania

Landcare Tasmania has recently signed a partnership agreement –the first of its kind in Tasmania– with Kingborough Council, which will see the two organisations working more closely together to support community Landcare in Kingborough.



Photos in this edition courtesy of: Miranda Gardner, Landcare Association of SA, Landcare ACT, YACCA, Landcare Tasmania

Why the Fairywren? With one species or another of found in every corner of Australia, we thought these little birds would do a good job of raising the voice of the national representative body for Landcare across the country.

