



Yarra Yarra Catchment
Management Group

Yarra Yarra News



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NACC AGM and Regional Forum

The NACC AGM and inaugural Regional Forum were held in Geraldton at the Queens Park Theater on the 25th of September.

The AGM marked the close of the Management Committee who were duly acknowledged for their time, dedication and commitment serving on the Committee, to make way for, a new skills based board.

The NACC board are

- Maurice Battilana
- Will Easton
- Elizabeth Eaton
- Paul Findlater
- Chris Gillam
- Chris King
- Yvonne Marsden

The aim of the Forum was to provide an opportunity for members of the community to learn more about what we are doing in the region and what innovative activities other are achieving in managing their natural resources.

Guest speakers included Colin Seis from "Winona" in Gulgong, NSW who has adopted Pasture Cropping on his property in response to concerns over decreasing profitability, poor soil structure, dryland salinity, soil acidification and increasing numbers of herbicide resistance weeds. Pasture cropping is a technique of sowing crops into living



From left to right, rear: Perenjori representative Chris King, Coomberdale representative Will Easton, Paul Findlater from the DAFWA, Irwin representative Chris Gillam. Front: Moonyoonooka representative Yvonne Marsden, NACC chairperson Alan Bradley and Elizabeth Eaton from Guilderton.

perennial pastures and having these crops grow symbiotically with the existing pastures.

Other speakers included Rob Youl, from Landcare Australia's

CarbonSMART program, Kristy Chapman and Dave Brindal from the Mingenew Irwin Group, who spoke about Environmental Management Systems (EMS) which is a methodical approach to assist a business to plan, implement and review their attempts to manage the environment

The final speaker of the day was Dr Patrick Smith from CSIRO. Dr Smith is an agricultural ecologist with a focus on finding opportunities to integrate conservation of native biodiversity into production landscapes.

Congratulations to Liz Easton, Regional Coordinator with NACC, for organizing such a fantastic event that was so well received by everyone that attended.



New NACC Chairperson

Congratulations to Chris King who is the chairman for NACC's new look board. Chris has been involved in landcare since 1983 and over the years has had involvement with East Perenjori LCD, Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group, and has been a board member with NACC since 2002.

Right. Chris King and Katie Hasleby (Yarra Yarra Local NRM Officer)



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Rural Education Program Grants for disadvantaged communities

The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) is an Australian philanthropic partnership organisation that assists with a range of projects particularly for disadvantaged rural areas. The Rural Education Program Grants (REP) are an example. Applications for funding will be accepted from incorporated not for profit organisations and schools with members experiencing financial hardship. Applications can be for projects and activities that directly alleviate the disruption caused to children and young people by rural crisis such as drought, bushfire, floods and economic downturn or remoteness. Also



funded will be basic research into the status of rural and remote education, and material. Aid for books, equipment, accommodation and clothing. Grants may range from \$100 to \$25,000. Apply by posting 2 copies of your application to FRRR. Applications will be accepted at any time and will be considered at the next REP Meeting. Enquiries can be made on freecall 1800 170 020 or to info@frrr.org.au Also see

<http://www.frrr.org.au/programsDetail.asp?ProgramID=9>

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kalanniedistillers@bigpond.com



More Deep Drainage About to Commence

The start of December marked the commencement of more deep open drainage work, this time at Jibberding, approximately 10km north-east of Wubin. Newholstein has been contracted to complete the drain which will be 10km long. We anticipate that the drain will be completed in January 2008.

In other drainage news, the Sub-Surface project, with three sites at Burakin, Darling Creek and Three Springs has been wound up and final reports completed. If anyone would like to view this, there are copies in the Perenjori office, or they are also available in electronic form which we can email to you.



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National Landcare Program Funding 2008/ 09



NLP Sustainable Practices (formerly known as Community Support) will fund activities that significantly increase the uptake of sustainable production and other NRM practices, enhance the knowledge and skills of natural resource managers and improve integration of NRM into management practices at the enterprise level. The activities funded must be consistent with priorities in regional NRM plans (copies of the NACC investment plan are available from the Perenjori office). NLP Sustainable Practices also complements the Envirofund, which supports a broad range of small-scale (up to \$50,000) activities. NLP Sustainable Practices will fund larger scale, strategic on-ground activities that allow for participation by landcare and industry groups with the capacity to undertake

larger projects.

Proposals will be assessed against the criteria indicated in the Guidelines. Because this is a competitive grants scheme, simply meeting the assessment criteria does not guarantee funding.

If you have an idea for a smaller scale project, keep in mind that the next Envirofund round will open sometime in the new year (dates to be confirmed)

Final decisions on investments will be made by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, on the basis of advice and recommendations from an independent assessment panel in each state and territory and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

If you have any ideas for a project that you would like to see get off the ground, please contact either Dene or Katie on 9973 1425.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



YYCMG hopes that everyone has a safe and a happy holiday!!

*Katie will be on leave from the 19th Dec- 21st Jan
Dene will be away from 19th Dec- 2nd Jan as well as
the last week in January.*