

Celebrating 25 years since Landcare was launched as a national Initiative



In 1989 the Landcare movement officially began with Rick Farley of the National Farmers Federation and Phillip Toyne of the Australian Conservation Foundation, successfully lobbying the Hawke Labor Government to commit itself to the emerging movement. Landcare became a national program in July 1989 when the Australian Government, with bipartisan support, announced its “Decade of Landcare Plan” and committed \$320 million to fund the National Landcare Program.

NED is celebrating 25 years of Landcare and we would love you to attend so let's party!!

7.00pm Friday 17th October 2014, Oakey Community Centre, Campbell Street Oakey.

Cost \$10 per Adult BYO Alcohol

Special guests Geoff Penton and Mary Lou Gittins

Geoff Penton started working for Landcare in 1989 and was one of the first ever group of landcare coordinators employed by the State. Based in Toowoomba and covering the whole South West corner of the state, Geoff quickly established himself as an advocate for sustainable land management, on-farm conservation and balancing production with conservation needs. His passion for landcare has also extended beyond the Queensland Murray Darling Basin. In 2002, Geoff along with a number of colleagues established the Queensland Landcare Foundation, now known as Landcare Queensland – the first independent, Statewide Landcare organisation in the state. Over the past 20 years, while managing a massive workload and a large staff, Geoff has always found the time to counsel and mentor young (and not so young) facilitators and coordinators and to provide support to landcare groups going through all sorts of issues.

Mary Lou Gittins is the secretary of the Condamine Catchment Management Association (CCMA). She has worked for 25 years in volunteer landcare positions and been one of the main driving forces in the Darling Downs Region and South East QLD. Over the past years she has supported a number of other landcare organisations, planted thousands of trees, facilitated waste education for children and adults. Mary Lou has worked at the Toowoomba show and the Brisbane show educating children about landcare. She has worked in schools throughout the region educating children about the importance of taking care of the land and waterways for the future of our area. Mary Lou has been recognised by her peers and won an individual State Landcare Award in 2003.



RSVP to Owena by Friday 10th October for catering and booking purposes. **Phone** 0746911499 **Mobile** 0409058538

Direct deposit:- Email completed form to owena@nedlandcare.org.au Heritage Bank- BSB: 638 080 Account No: 5741882 Ref. your initials/25 or post the completed form and cheque to **North East Downs Landcare, P.O. Box 199 Oakey.**

Name/s of attendee/s: _____

Dietary requirements: _____