

January, 2013

### From the Chair

How was 2012 in your area? I suspect 'average' would be applicable for most members. We saw earlier in the Year the high variability in weather patterns across Southern Queensland, which was followed by reasonable early winter rain, then a period of colder and drier conditions into the spring.

On reflection, the year overall provided some real weather related challenges for cropping and pasture management. However, it is my observation that all of us in the NED coverage area have our own particular Landcare challenges aside from the weather. We know that Queensland is a very large and diverse State, from the East to the West and South to the North, yet we see a high level of diversity in our challenges across the NED area, be it weeds, feral pests, and/or sustainable agriculture.

My particular concern is 'Lippia', while it may be Lantana, Mother of Millions etc for others. Though there is a lot of good research and practical experimentation for a broad range of concerns, no one has all 'the answers' for the longer term management and control of the respective challenges. Regardless, it is pleasing to see all members remain focussed and committed to Landcare.

From an administrative view, the changes to the WH&S Act & Regs at the start of 2012, are an ongoing reminder for us to review and reassess our approach to Health and Safety. All of us have a role to play in Health and Safety, so think, act and be safe in all your activities.

**Website:** Remember that the NED site has good information on Projects, Field days and Workshops, along with links to the latest research news and topics.

Graham Cooke.

### COMING EVENTS

- **30th January 2013** New Acland Community information session
- **12th February 2013** Bus trip Aubigny/Brookvale Park District
- **19th March 2013** Workshop & Field day - Maarten Stapper and Hugh Lovell - Maclagan
- **27th-29th September 2013** Queensland State Landcare Conference - Warwick

For more information on any of the coming events contact the NED office

## AROUND THE RIDGES



**Bunya Biolink-** NED is current working with Greening Australia and SEQ Catchments on this project in the Yamsion Rangemore/ Moola Districts. Landholders will be targeting weeds which

include Mother of Millions, African Box Thorn and Lantana. The Greening Australia work crew will be assisting some landholders to spray chemicals.

### Everyone’s Environment Grant

NED will receive \$39,080 to “Building resilient farm landscapes in the North East Darling Downs Region”. The funding received will help fund 11 kilometers of riparian fencing, install off stream watering points and control and reduce the spread of weeds.

### Grain and Graze

This project provides support for the DAFF-Q/G&G delivery team to undertake targeted activities in the NED area. The Grain and Graze project will be undertaking a number of activities in the Condamine catchment before the end of June 2013.

**Biological Farming on the Darling Downs - the next step.** *Bus trip to Northern NSW.*



This trip was probably the highlight of 2012. Everyone who went on the trip really enjoyed it. We visited farms, a composting site, met with other NRM groups and talked to many interesting people.

**Designing sustainable farm landscapes in the North East Darling Downs region.** *Workshop with Mark Genrich.*

What an interesting day we had. Mark even took us out to play in the playground! Mark will be visiting landholders who have landscape problems to give them advice on how they maybe able to solve their problems. Participants will receive a map of their property with overlays to assist them to design their farm landscapes. If you would like Mark to visit your farm then please contact me. Contact details are below.



### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- Chair:** Graham Cooke
- Vice Chair:** Ashley Volz
- Secretary:** Glenys Bowtell
- Treasurer:** Diana Beal
- Members:** David Lange  
Desley Spies

***NED has publications and Fact Sheets for members, so call in to the office and have a browse.***

### ADVERTISEMENT

**Vetiver grass:**  
About 10 square meters of dense vetiver grass for sale. Will break up into thousands of plants. Best offers.  
**Phone:** Diana Beal 07 4630 7054

### CONTACT DETAILS

#### WHO DO I CONTACT AT NED?

**Community Support Officer—Owena Reimers**

Email: [owena@nedlandcare.org.au](mailto:owena@nedlandcare.org.au)

Phone: 07 4691 1499

Mobile: 0409 058 538