

NORTH EAST DOWNS NEWS



February/March

NED CELEBRATES 21 YEARS OF LANDCARE



On the 28th November 2015 North East Downs Landcare Group celebrated 21 years of landcare with a celebration dinner at the Oakey Cultural Centre.

North East Downs Landcare Group Inc. (NED) was formed in 1994/5 as a management group for landcare subgroups in the North East Darling Downs region of Queensland. NED shares the



“Our Place, Our Future” goal which assists our members and the broader community to increase their capability to build more socially, culturally, economically and environmentally sustainable communities. NED provides information, education, support and assistance to the community so that we can have a healthy and happy landscape for everyone. NED supports 14 subgroups that have over 370 members.

The first chairman of NED was Robert Rowlings 1994-1996, David Vonhoff 1996-1998, John Barber 1998-2000, Michael Fyffe 2000-2001, Glenys Bowtell 2001-2006, Owena Reimers 2006- May 2011, Graham Cooke May 2011 to September 2011 acting chair September 2011- current 2015.

The first landcare coordinator was David Wildermuth who is now the Manager, for Queensland Indigenous Land & Sea Ranger Program at Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

Guest speakers for the dinner were Bob Rowlings and Peter Crawford. Peter was coordinator from 1997 to 2011 and now works for Burnett Catchment Care as an extension officer. Former coordinators were Nicki Webb, Rachael Pignat, Justin Clark, Sandra Murphy and David Oliver. Over the years NED has worked on projects to improve water quality, soil quality, weeds and feral pests, salinity and vegetation management and published books and articles. We continue to maintain links with other landcare groups in the region and local, state and federal governments.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair:	Graham Cooke
Vice Chair:	Ashley Volz
Secretary:	Glenys Bowtell
Treasurer:	Davida Schemioneck
Members:	David Lange, Desley Spies, Cheryl Vonhoff

DATE CLAIMER

SOUTH MYALL LANDCARE GROUP, FRIDAY 22ND APRIL 2016
WEED FIELD DAY COALBANK BOUNDARY RD
10am. FOLLOWED BY A SAUSAGE SIZZLE & PRESENTATION TO PETER PRESTON AT PERANGA BOWLS CLUB 12 NOON
RSVP to Glenys 0428751070 by 15th April

Community Support Officer **Owena Reimers**

Phone: 07 4691 1499 Mobile: 0409 058 538

Email: owena@nedlandcare.org.au

Notice Board



Condamine Catchment Management Association

Our Condamine Catchment Community with the capacity to achieve a Sustainable Future



BUS TRIP WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY 2016

Quinalow Fertilizer and Pasture Trials to Increase Productivity and Soil Health

BUS DEPARTS QUINALOW HALL at 9.30 am – Arrives Volz' property 10am
Leaves Volz' 11am and arrives at **PERANGA BOWLS CLUB FOR LUNCH 11.30**
Departs Bowls Club at 12.15 to arrive at Kuck's property 12.30pm
FINISH 2pm

Cost \$15 per person for bus travel and lunch with Brian Johnson, Pasture Consultant and Dr. John Standley, Soil scientist

To demonstrate herbs of chicory, brassicas, plantane, with lucerne and medics. Guano gold fertilizer has been applied to fifteen of the thirty acres paddock which was planted.

Ashley and Maryellen Volz property 4091 Oakey Cooyar Road, Highgrove.

Plus **Lex and Judy Kucks'** property 916 Old Rosemount Rd, Quinalow. where Lex under sowed a forty acre paddock of silk sorghum with Gatton panic, Reclaimer Rhodes grass, Bissett creeping blue grass, & Sequel Lucerne.

He applied Impact Sulphate of Ammonia granular fertilizer to half the paddock (20 acres) and 20 acres wasn't fertilized.

Since 9th January Lex has had 88 head of Wagyu steers grazing on this paddock.

RSVP TO Glenys on 0428751070 or glenysbowtell@bigpond.com
by the 20th April 2016

Funded by the Australian Government



African box thorn field days Jondaryan and Kingsthorpe



In December 2015 North East Downs Landcare Group, Condamine Alliance and the Toowoomba Regional Council held Boxthorn management field days at Jondaryan and Kingsthorpe.

A short information session was held first and then attendees travelled to demonstration sites. African boxthorn is a spiny shrub from South Africa that was introduced to Australia in the mid-1800s as a hedge plant.

African boxthorn has been recognised in Australia as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS) It can be an aggressive invader of pastures, roadsides and reserves and can form impenetrable, sharp-spined thicket. Birds and

animals spread African boxthorn by eating the berries and excreting viable seed. Toowoomba Regional Council, Conservation and Pest Management Officers informed landholders of their Pest Management responsibilities under the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management Act 2002). Council is carrying out Pest Survey Programs in approved locations across TRC to identify priority Class 1 & 2 Pests as identified in Council's adopted Pest Management Plan. Landholders found to be non-compliant with the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management Act 2002)* may be issued with a Pest Control Notice to comply with the act. Toowoomba Regional Council has 2 quick spray units that they hire out to landholders to use on their properties for a minimal fee.

