

# NORTH EAST DOWNS NEWS



May 2015

## NEWS UPDATES

**Welcome to Allyson Chen** who has taken on the position of NED treasurer.

“I grew up in Texas, USA and lived there most of my life. I loved to travel and have been to many countries. In 2010, I had an opportunity to visit Brisbane, Queensland. This city is very much like Dallas, I made a short trip to Toowoomba and felt in love with the place (the cultures / people / weather is no different from home, except Dallas has changed due to people from West / East of US moving South). I moved to Toowoomba in July 2011.”

**A group of NED landholders** have been attending a series of workshops in the Kulpi district since late 2014 to hear and learn about all aspects of carbon farming and greenhouse gases. The Farm 300 Project is being driven by the Meat and Livestock Authority with support funding from the Australian Government. The primary goal is to boost livestock efficiency and reduce greenhouse emissions, in conjunction with the Carbon Farming Initiative which aims to provide the financial incentives to landholders to develop such projects. The workshops are being facilitated and delivered by Dr Thakur Bhattarai, a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with Precision Livestock Management, School of Applied Sciences, at CQ University in Rockhampton. A group of CQ landholders have been similarly attending workshops in that area. *Dr Bhattaria, David Lange and Graham Cooke. David and Graham are two landholders attending the series of workshops in the Kulpi district. Photo courtesy of Miles Noller.*



## COMING EVENTS

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>25th May 2015</b>                | South Myall Landcare bus trip to UQ Gatton Campus  |
| <b>28th May 2015</b>                | Yamsion Rangemore Landcare Group Information Evening                                       |
| <b>2nd, 3rd &amp; 4th June 2015</b> | Farmfest, Kingsthorpe  |
| <b>4th June 2015</b>                | Bus trip to UQ Pinjarra Hills Campus visiting the “Algae farm” and Mt Sylvia Dolomite Mine |
| <b>25th August 2015</b>             | Day one - Naturally Resourceful Women Workshop, Oakey Community Centre                     |
| <b>31st Aug to 2nd Sept 2015</b>    | Reef, Range and Red Dust Conference  |
| <b>8th Sept 2015</b>                | Day two - Naturally Resourceful Women Bus trip   |
| <b>15th Sept 2015</b>               | Day three - Naturally Resourceful Women Workshop<br>Oakey Community Centre                 |
| <b>28th Nov 2015</b>                | Celebrating 21 years of NED Landcare<br>Oakey Cultural Centre                              |



For more information about coming events contact the Community Support Officer

## NOTICE BOARD

### ***Beating back the Box Thorn Demonstration Field Day***

The field day was held on Tuesday 24th February 2015 on Jon Gaffney's property Glendale Road, Bell. Welcome by Kym Campbell - Principle Project Officer Biodiversity, Condamine Alliance. Speakers were Emma Twine - DOW Agro Sciences, area manager for Northern NSW/ south QLD Chris Gaschk-and Lyle Steger -Western Downs Regional Council. John Matthews demonstrated the mulcher. This machine can be hired with or without a rock crusher. The day was hot but very well attended and very interesting. African Box thorn is a major problem and Condamine Alliance is offering an incentive scheme to landholders. Over the coming months more demonstration field days will be held throughout the catchment. The incentive forms and hard copies of the African boxthorn best practice manual will be available at the field days. If anyone would like an electronic copy of the manual copy please contact the office.



### ***Field Walk 30th March 2015***

North East Downs and Moola Creek Landcare Group have been working with agronomy consultant Ian Moss from Farm Agronomy and Resource Management (FARM) to run trials using a variety of tactics to improve farm sustainability, soil fertility and health. Landholders need to have tools in place to be able to measure trial results so that there is continual improvement. A recently released NVDI satellite image service captures images every 16 days during the season and provides fascinating information on paddock variability and is a great way to access commercial-scale trials. Weather played an important part in the success of the trials. Guest speakers for the day were Guy Pritchard and Gary Zerner from Ag Solutions who spoke about essential mineral functions for cattle and cropping. Condamine Alliance has given funding support to the trials through the Federal and State Governments Sustainable Agricultural Program for more information on the program visit [www.condaminealliance.com.au/sustainableagriculture](http://www.condaminealliance.com.au/sustainableagriculture)



### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Chair:</b>      | Graham Cooke                              |
| <b>Vice Chair:</b> | Ashley Volz                               |
| <b>Secretary:</b>  | Glenys Bowtell                            |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>  | Allyson Chen                              |
| <b>Members:</b>    | David Lange, Desley Spies, Cheryl Vonhoff |

### **Weeds of Southern Queensland and Tree**

**Identification manuals** These books are available from the office. The books are free but if you wanted one mailed out to you there would be a small charge for postage. Please contact the office to order any publications or to arrange to pick up a copy.

### **Community Support Officer**

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