

# Bulletin

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9 July 2008

*Distributed in the interests of the community and education. Please feel free to distribute via your networks, too.*

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CATCHMENT & BEYOND!**

This is just a brief outline of some of the events that will be happening over the coming months. It is not a comprehensive list, but will allow readers to pencil dates and details into their diaries ....

### **Nominations Open on the LMD CMA Board – NOW OPEN**

LMD CMA is seeking applications for appropriately skilled Catchment residents who may be interested in joining the LMD CMA Board. Application guidelines and information package is available from the LMD CMA website at [www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au) or by contacting Mrs Lesley Palmer, Manager Corporate Support on 03 5021 9460. Applications close at 4pm on **Friday 18 July 2008**.

### **New LMD CMA Staff Member**

We welcome Rhonda O'Donnell to the CMA in the position of Catchment Officer (Aboriginal Communities). Rhonda is an Aboriginal woman from the area, who has been working as Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer with the Sheriffs' Office Mildura and with the Loddon Mallee Aboriginal Justice Action Committee. She has been involved in various Indigenous Advisory Committees in previous employment.

### **Farewell to another LMD CMA Staff Member**

Jill French, our Regional Facilitator, left the CMA on 27 June 2008 due to her contract not being extended by the National funding body.

### **2010 Women's Gathering Submission Group – Do you have the talent we need??**

The Women's Gatherings are an annual weekend event organised by local committees with the support from the Rural Women's Network State Advisory Committee. Women's Gatherings are for all rural women including, farming women, Aboriginal women, women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, mining women, women in the fishing industry, women who live in regional cities, towns and villages, and coastal women.

The local organising committee makes key decisions, develops a theme and the weekend program. Each Gathering reflects the unique culture, industry, tourism and environment of the host community. Gatherings are now a well established annual state-wide community event for all rural women.

The LMD CMA is eager to get the community (both men and women) involved in the preparation of a submission to the Rural Women's Network to hold a Women's Gathering in the LMD catchment in October/November 2010. If our bid is successful, there will be many small sub-committees that will need to be formed to ensure a most successful Women's Gathering. The next meeting of this Submission group will be held on **Wednesday 3**

**September 2008** at 9.30am at the Buronga office. If you want to be involved or need more information, contact Susan on 03 5021 9460.

### **2008 Local Student Photographic Competition – NOW OPEN**

This competition is to encourage budding young photographers to get clicking around the catchment and submit their artistic interpretation of this year's theme "**Environment and People of the Catchment**". All entries will be displayed at the LMD CMA marquee at the Wentworth Show (30 & 31 August) with winners being presented with their vouchers on Saturday. The winning entries will become part of the LMD CMA 2009 Desk Calendar. Competition guidelines are available from [www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au) and is open to students living or attending school in the Lower Murray Darling catchment. It is free to enter. Photographic entries close **on 1 August 2008**.

### **Coonamble Women's Gathering – 17-19 October 2008**

*I hear the coach a-com'n, it's a-com'n round the bend, filled with catchment ladies ready to have fun!!!!* ..... LMD CMA has been able to secure funding for a coach load of catchment ladies to travel to Coonamble for a weekend of networking and upskilling. LMD CMA will partially subsidise the costs, with the ladies making up the difference – final costs yet to be confirmed. If you want to be on the list for notification, just email [Susan.walla@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Susan.walla@cma.nsw.gov.au) and your name will be added to the EOI list. Further details later and be ready to **PARTY !!!**.

## **FUNDING**

### **Housing NSW Scholarship Program – NOW OPEN**

Applications are now open for a unique Housing NSW scholarship program that encourages disadvantaged students in public, community and aboriginal housing to stay in school and to reach their full educational potential. The program will award 100 students with \$2,000 each to spend on their educational needs. Application forms available at [www.housing.nsw.gov.au](http://www.housing.nsw.gov.au) and close on **1 August 2008**.

### **Forging Partnership – Round 4**

Congratulations to Rangeland Management Action Plan Inc (RMAP) for their successful project "*Shaping the Future – Educating City Youth on Rural Life in Western NSW*". Further details on the Forging Partnership program and other successful Round 4 projects can be found on the NRAC website at [www.nrac.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nrac.nsw.gov.au)

### **Caring for Our Country Open Grants 2008-2009 – NOW OPEN**

Funding is available for securing outcomes in the six Caring for Our Country national priority areas – particularly those that will:

- Protect, enhance or restore Australia's biodiversity and natural icons
- Improve the water quality of our critical aquatic habitats
- Achieve greater take-up of sustainable farm practices

Information is available at [www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au) or by phoning 1800 065 823. Closing date is **Friday 1 August 2008** for funding of high quality projects from \$80,000 to \$400,000.

### **Landcare Australia Ltd Grants**

Details of grants to groups registered on the Landcareonline directory can be accessed at [www.landcareonline.com](http://www.landcareonline.com)

- Australia Post Community Development Grants – close 19 September 2008
- Dilmah Water Quality Funding – close 31 October 2008
- Westpac Operation Backyard Employee Grant Program – no close date applies
- Junior Landcare Grants Program – close 1 August and 24 October 2008
- VISY Junior Landcare Recycling Grant
- Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grant

- Australia Post Junior Landcare biodiversity Grant
- Melbourne Water Young Watercare Grant

#### **Grants & Other Funding Websites**

- Grantslink – [www.grantslink.gov.au](http://www.grantslink.gov.au)
- DAFF Grants & Assistance – [www.daffa.gov.au/about/grants\\_and\\_assistance](http://www.daffa.gov.au/about/grants_and_assistance)
- DEQHA Grants & Funding – [www.environment.gov.au/programs/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/programs/index.html)

### **CONFERENCES**

#### **ADFA Growers' Open Forum – 21 July 2008 – 2pm-5pm**

This will be held at the Mildura Settlers Hotel, 8<sup>th</sup> St, Mildura. More details can be obtained from ADFA on (03) 5023 5174 or email [enquiries@adfa.asn.au](mailto:enquiries@adfa.asn.au)

#### **National & Trans Tasman Horticultural Conference – 21-23 July 2008**

"*Smart Science for Innovative Horticultural Enterprises*" to be held at the Gold Coast International Hotel, Surfers Paradise, Queensland. More details can be found at: [www.aushs.org.au](http://www.aushs.org.au)

#### **41<sup>st</sup> Annual Australian Institute of Food Science Technology Convention 2008**

"*Our Food, Our Future*" will be held at Sydney Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney 21-24 July 2008. Conference details at: <http://www.aifst.asn.au/>

#### **Australian Grains Industry Conference – 28-30 July 2008**

This is the premier annual grains industry event and is well attended by end users, marketers, bulk handlers, service providers, growers, government and R&D leaders. The Australian Grains Industry Conference 2008 will be held at the Hilton on the Park Melbourne. Contact the conference secretariat on 02 9427 6999 or visit [www.ausgrainsconf.com](http://www.ausgrainsconf.com)

#### **Precision Ag Crop Scanning Forum – Friday 8 August 2008**

SPAA (Southern Precision Agriculture Association) presents a forum at Technology Park, Mawson Lakes, Adelaide (SA) in conjunction with their 2008 SPAA AGM. An opportunity to hear the latest research and developments in crop scanning technology, experiences using scanners to improve crop management in wine grapes, potatoes and grain and much more. More information and registration to [info@spaa.com.au](mailto:info@spaa.com.au) or phone (08) 8636 2649.

#### **13<sup>th</sup> Annual National Water 2008 – 25-28 August 2008**

Bringing together key stakeholders from the rural and urban water sectors will be held at the Sofitel Melbourne. Enquiries to (02) 9021 8875 or online at [www.terrapinn.com/2008/water\\_au](http://www.terrapinn.com/2008/water_au)

#### **National Drought Policy Review Forum – 26 August in Mildura**

Venue and time is yet to be confirmed by DAFF. Regular updates can be read at DAFF on [www.daff.gov.au/droughtpolicyreview](http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtpolicyreview)

#### **Murray Darling Association 64<sup>th</sup> National Conference & AGM – 27-30 August 2008**

The conference and AGM will be held at the Leeton Soldiers Club (Leeton, NSW) with the conference theme of "*Climate Change – The Challenge*" which is a most challenging environmental problem that the Murray-Darling Basin will face this century. The conference aims to address issues in managing Climate Change and to delve deep into the effects on communities within the Basin and those dependent upon its resources. More details at <http://www.mda.asn.au/>

#### **Rotating Farm Tour XII – 30 & 31 August 2008**

This will take place at "Kia Ora" Station, via Cobar with arrival at 12noon Saturday and departing Sunday after lunch. This is an excellent opportunity to see what other landholders

are up to in their regions of the Western Division. It is also a great social weekend and a chance to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. Children are welcome. Contact Rikki Allen on (02) 6837 3954 [meadowglen@bigpond.com](mailto:meadowglen@bigpond.com) or Paul & Donna Whytcross on (02) 6837 3803. BYO swag, chairs, tucker and drinks.

### **11<sup>th</sup> International Riversymposium – 1-4 September 2008**

“A Future of Extremes” at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Queensland will promote the exchange of ideas, knowledge and technology between, industry, the scientific community and environmental organisations regarding rivers and waterways. More conference details at [www.riversymposium.com](http://www.riversymposium.com)

### **2008 Queensland Landcare Conference – 21-24 September 2008**

“Infinity: Sustainability by Design” will be held at Monto, Queensland. Keynote speakers include Stephen Davis, Jerry Coleby-Williams and Donald Coventry. More conference details at [www.qldlandcareconference.com](http://www.qldlandcareconference.com)

### **15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Australian Rangelands Conference – 29 September-2 October 2008**

“A Climate of Change in the Rangelands” will be held at the World Theatre, Charters Towers, Queensland & will focus on the changing environmental, social, cultural and economics facing Australia’s rangelands in the future and linking this dynamic to the broader community’s real values concerning the rangelands. More conference details at [www.austrangesoc.com.au/](http://www.austrangesoc.com.au/)

### **Renmark Rose Festival – 17-26 October 2008**

Open rose gardens, floral display in the Institute, river cruises and lots more. Contact either Helen Slade (08) 8595 1664 or Marianne Smith (08) 8586 6870.

### **Riverland Renaissance Wine & Food Festival – Saturday 18 October 2008**

A huge celebration of wine and food in the Riverland with three weeks of dining, live music and festivities around the region between 26 September to 19 October. More details at [www.riverlandwineandfood.org](http://www.riverlandwineandfood.org)

## **MEDIA**

### **Managing Groundcover in the Rangelands and Cropping Areas – Spring 2008**

An relevant article for those landholders wanting to “see into the future”. Available at [http://www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au/pdf/mr\(152\)ManaginggroundcoverRangelandsJune2008.pdf](http://www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au/pdf/mr(152)ManaginggroundcoverRangelandsJune2008.pdf)

### **Minister Firth Opens Mulga Creek Wetlands at Broken Hill**

[http://www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au/pdf/mr\(152r1\)OpeningMulgaCreekWetlands%20MinisterFirth2July2008.pdf](http://www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au/pdf/mr(152r1)OpeningMulgaCreekWetlands%20MinisterFirth2July2008.pdf)

**The Garnaut Review** – the following is a part of Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator The Hon Penny Wong’s media release dated 4 July 2008. The report can be found at: [www.garnautreview.org.au/](http://www.garnautreview.org.au/)

*Professor Garnaut’s report makes it absolutely clear that the time for playing short term political games is over. We must act on climate change. This report is a timely reminder that the world is warming and this is causing more droughts, water shortages and extreme weather. Scientists have consistently warned that Australia is particularly vulnerable to climate change, given our already hot and dry conditions. Professor Garnaut has advised that Australia faces a 92 per cent reduction in irrigated agriculture in the Murray Darling Basin, catastrophic destruction of the Great Barrier Reef and critical water shortages.*

If you have any queries or require more information on any of the above, please contact Susan Walla on (03) 5021 9460 or email on [susan.walla@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:susan.walla@cma.nsw.gov.au)