

**RHLN membership:** If you would like to join the Riverina Highlands Landcare Network, please complete the following membership slip. Cheques should be written out to **Riverina Highlands Landcare Network**. Membership fees are due on the 1st of May each year. An asterisk (\*) on your envelope mailing label indicates you are a paid financial member.

Name.....

Address.....

Phone No. ....Email Address.....

Attached is my membership fee of \$15 (incl GST) .....

I am interested in the following projects/issues .....

Please return this section to: **RHLN, PO Box 71 TUMUT NSW 2720** **Autumn 2014**

**www.riverina.lls.nsw.gov.au**



Riverina LLS & Riverina Highlands Landcare Network  
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NSW 2720

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**For further information:**

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CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY



**Local Land  
Services  
Riverina**

# Riverina Highlands Network Landcare Newsletter

TUMUT/GUNDAGAI/ADELONG

Autumn 2014

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## Introducing Riverina Local Land Services

Riverina Local Land Services (LLS) began in January this year providing local services for local people.

Local Land Services is a new improved way to deliver efficient and effective services, information and advice to farmers and landowners in rural and regional NSW including:

- agricultural advice & livestock management
- plant and animal disease management
- biosecurity
- emergency management assistance
- natural resource management

Riverina Local Land Services is one of 11 regionally based Local Land Services which are statutory organisations, governed by locally elected board members.

The Boards are accountable for delivering services that add value to local industries, enhance natural resources, protect industries from pests and diseases and help communities respond to emergencies.

The Board consist of the following members:

1. Sam Archer (Chair), Gundagai
2. Ian Auldish, Hay
3. Julie Briggs, Wagga Wagga
4. Barney Hyams, Batlow
5. John Davey, Arian Park
6. Helen Dalton, Binya
7. Peter Speirs, Temora

Further information on Riverina LLS, its Board Members and key programs can be found at the website:  
<http://riverina.lls.nsw.gov.au/>

## Influential Rural Womens Workshop

Influential Women is a one day workshop empowering women in rural Australia by building confidence, capacity and skills.

The workshop will be facilitated by Catherine Marriott— a passionate advocate for Australian agriculture.

The workshop focuses on communication and engagement, social media training, self awareness and confidence and an ability to promote sustainable agriculture and rural Australia in an engaging manner.



**When:** 9am-4.30pm Monday 7th April 2014  
**Where:** Tumut Turf Club  
**RSVP:** Cherie White Ph 6941 2253 or [cherie.white@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cherie.white@lls.nsw.gov.au)

## Making a Difference & RHLN AGM

The Riverina Highlands Landcare Network invites you to an inspiring breakfast talk to hear from Catherine as the guest speaker at Landcare's AGM.

Catherine Marriott represents the next generation of Australian farming. She is a highly accomplished woman with global experience in Agribusiness and an expert commentator on Australian rural industries.

As a passionate advocate for Australian farming systems, Catherine travels throughout Australia delivering inspirational presentations and workshops to improve skills in agricultural communication and leadership .

**When:** 8am to 10am Tuesday 8th April  
**Where:** 'Springdale' Yaven Creek  
**RSVP:** Cherie White on (02) 6941 2253 or email: [cherie.white@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cherie.white@lls.nsw.gov.au)



This newsletter is a partnership between Riverina Highlands Landcare Network and Riverina Local Land Services



**Local Land  
Services  
Riverina**

## Pasture Recovery: Fires & Drought

Whether landholders are restoring pastures after fire or coping with the current dry conditions, the take home message from recent meetings with Riverina Local Land Services has been similar. Things to consider include:

- Where dry feed is low and/or non existent there is a need to maximise pasture growth before the season turns cold thus limiting pasture growth.
- There can be a fertiliser affect on pastures burnt, but only if there was dry standing material standing pre fire.
- Even low rates of super phosphate can increase pasture growth in both introduced and native pastures where there is low fertility.
- If finances are limited select the potentially most responsive pastures for fertiliser application as a priority.
- Consider applying molybdenum fortified super if it hasn't been applied for more than 5 yrs as it is important for clover growth, which will help drive grass growth.
- It is possible to graze summer growing species (eg red grass, paspalum and couch) a bit harder at this time as once temperature drop they will quickly become dormant. This allows cooler season growing species (eg microlaena, wallaby grass, phalaris) a greater opportunity to recover and grow a feed wedge prior to winter.
- Be aware of stock poisoning when grazing regenerating paddocks. Plants such as variegated thistle and capeweed contain high levels of nitrate in their young foliage. A similar hazard exists on cereal forage crops grazed earlier than normal. The risk of staggers is another possibility on paddocks that are predominantly phalaris. Phalaris staggers generally occurs where stock eat the newly shot pastures early in the growing season.
- Stock poisoning usually occurs where hungry stock are put in a paddock where they have very little choice but to eat the species above.

For more information contact please contact Janelle Jenkins, Mixed Farming Systems, Riverina LLS on 02 69412256 or [janelle.jenkins@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:janelle.jenkins@lls.nsw.gov.au).

## Revegetation support for Bushfire victims

In recognition of the loss of native vegetation by the recent bushfire, the Riverina Highlands Landcare Network is offering each affected landholder assistance with re-establishing native plants on their farm.

As part of the assistance, Landcare will provide a \$100 voucher to spend on trees, shrubs and/or groundcover plants grown locally by the Landcare Nursery.

It is hoped that landholders can use this voucher to purchase advanced plants to provide shade for stock or for tubestock to replace plants lost in any plantings on the farm or around the garden.

For further details please contact the Landcare Nursery on 0427 568 131.

## Film to Help Improve Wildlife on Farms

Farm Dam Blitz is a short film for landholders interested in enhancing wildlife habitat in their farm dams. Throughout the film, farmers talk about what they've done to make wildlife more welcome on their properties.

The film highlights the enormous potential of the hundreds of thousands of farm dams across Australia to support more wildlife. It shows how simple changes can make a big difference and that it's easy to have multi-functional farm dams. The typically barren farm dam can be transformed into an oasis for wildlife where one can marvel at the wonders of nature. For further details visit [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clxfkq\\_NjTY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clxfkq_NjTY)



*Discussing pasture recovery strategies with landholders affected by the Minjary Bushfire*

## Dates for your diary

### APRIL 2014

- 7 Influential Rural Womens Workshop
- 8 RHLN AGM
- 30 Farm Safety Rebate closes

## Adjungbilly Creek Catchment Project

The Riverina Local Land Services (LLS) has launched a new project at Bongongo School to improve local populations of endangered plants and animals that live in the catchment.

Over the coming months, Riverina LLS, in partnership with NSW Dept of Primary Industries, Office of Environment and Heritage and Australian National University, will work with landholders and the community to collect information on significant plants and animals found in the area.



*Luke Pearce, DPI Fisheries helping to launch the new project at Bongongo school*

This information will be used to inform future works within the catchment which may include cross property planning, fencing and tree planting.

Riverina LLS is seeking to work with landholders who border the Adjungbilly Creek and those within the Adjungbilly catchment. If you have or know of areas where Macquarie Perch or other significant plants and animals are located we would love to hear about it.

For more information on this project please contact Cherie White on 6941 2253 or [cherie.white@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cherie.white@lls.nsw.gov.au).

## Funding for Paddock Trees

The Riverina Highlands Landcare Network is set to receive \$10,000 from Riverina LLS to pilot a paddock tree project.

Paddock trees provide a number of local and landscape ecological functions. Research indicates that paddock trees are declining rapidly and most will be lost in less than 40 years.

Despite being a keystone feature of our landscape, there is no known project in the local area which has attempted to reverse paddock tree decline using a range of techniques for their retention, rehabilitation and expansion. This unique project enables researchers, stakeholders and farmers to work together implementing integrated management actions to reverse paddock tree decline in a pilot subcatchment of the Riverina Highlands.

## Fully Funded Diploma of Ag

The NSW Government is offering assistance towards a Diploma of Agriculture to help up skill and empower NSW Agriculture workforce on drought, drought preparation, sustainability, climate change, financial and farm management and more.

All rural regions of NSW/NSW residents can apply regardless of whether they are in drought or if they want to strategically plan for future drought. For further information contact Rural Skills Australia 0419 496 876.

## Farm Safety Rebate

The sheep and cattle industry rebate has been reopened by the NSW government until the end of April 2014 to help sheep and cattle farmers improve farm safety.

The rebate reimburses eligible primary producers for up to \$2000 who implement specific safety improvements to such as: working with livestock; animal husbandry; shearing; operating tractors and attachments and; being exposed to sun, noise and chemicals on the farm.

For more information contact Work Cover on 13 10 or visit [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au)

