



## Annual Show and Tell – Sustainable Neighbourhoods

Sunday 21 October 2012, 12noon – 1pm

Landcare Resource Centre, Teralba

Following the AGM, member groups gave us a run down of their project highlights from the previous year.

### Woodrising, Booragul and Marmong Point (Dot Seiffert)

**Community Garden project** – The group is mainly focussed on the Community Garden being established on the grounds of Booragul Public School. They have been holding regular working bees every second Sunday morning, and have so far removed a large amount of noxious weeds, and are setting up garden beds. Of special note are the garden beds being established especially for students from the Five Islands school for students with special needs. The group recently had an article included in the Post.

Action: Include details of working bees on website

Action: Promote upcoming Community Garden Tour (being organised by Council) amongst email network.

### Valentine (Baz Thrower)

The Valentine group have been busy with a number of projects:

- Numerous submissions to Council to improve cycle and footpaths in the neighbourhood, including to the Council Cycleways Strategy.
- Advocacy from the group has resulted in the installation of flashing 40km/h signs, and other improvements around the Valentine Public School
- Group members have also been working closely with Valentine Public School and Council to encourage more students to walk and/or cycle to school
- Development of project to manage graffiti in the neighbourhood, including grant application to promote graffiti reporting mechanisms, and to buy equipment to assist residents to remove graffiti on their own property.
- Clean Up day (October) around lake foreshore at Valentine

### Redhead (Colin Mondy)

- The Redhead group established 9 project teams according to priorities from their SNAP, and nominated a team leader from each project. The team leaders make up the coordinating committee to keep track of activities. The coordinating committee has started to dwindle somewhat, and the group are considering having regular guest speakers at their committee meetings, to attract participation from the general membership. Some highlights from the past year at Redhead:
- Group excursion to the CSIRO Energy Centre (<http://www.csiro.au/en/Outcomes/Climate/Reducing-GHG/Newcastle.aspx>) – they run group tours that are highly recommended.

communities working together



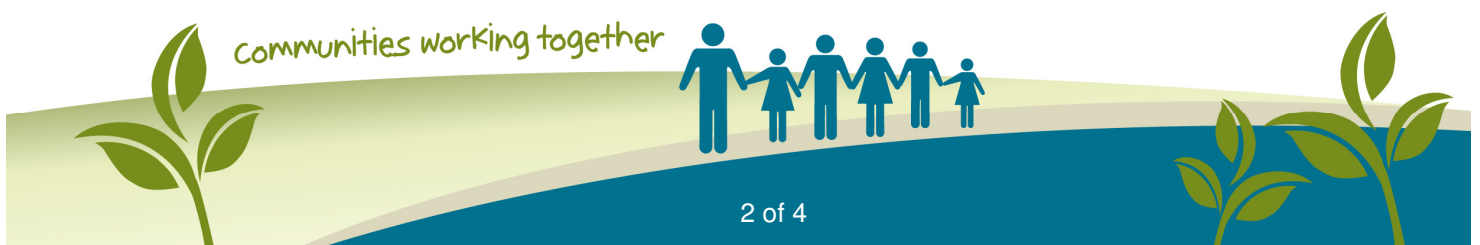
- Participated in the Energymark program (<http://www.csiro.au/science/Energymark-Trial>), which encouraged people to come together in small groups to learn about energy and climate change issues, and discuss what they can do to make a difference.
- Submission to Council's Cycleways Strategy, especially to improve access from Fernleigh Track to Redhead.
- Clean Up Australia Day at Redhead
- Produce and distribute a newsletter to Redhead residents (~1600) every 2 months. The newsletter is paid for through advertising from local businesses.
- Established and maintain a website at: [www.sustainableredhead.wordpress.com](http://www.sustainableredhead.wordpress.com)
- Three active Landcare groups in Redhead – SN group has encouraged more interaction between them. Landcare activities also include the Coastal Corridor Project, Beach revegetation, and participation from school groups
- Restoring Lambton Colliery Buildings. Project with NSW Heritage and Council to restore the historic buildings, and to encourage community management and access. Possible site for the Redhead Mens Shed.
- Community (of) gardens. Original efforts to locate land for a garden were frustrating, so the group initially started with a series of Permacultures group member's backyards, taking it in turns for the group to descend at someone's house to build vegie beds and the like. Since then they have been offered land at the Redhead Public School where the group are now establishing a community garden site.
- Webb Park – The group have been collaborating with Council staff to assist with the designs for Webb Park.
- Social events including Trivia night and Christmas at Redhead.
- Youth engagement project surveying young residents of Redhead.

### **Dora Creek (Laurene Mulcahy)**

- Education resource kit – Reduce, Prepare, Respond. A toolkit available for use in primary schools as a learning resource about climate change. Dora Creek Primary School have been using the resource and have given fantastic feedback.
- Develop newsletter for Dora Creek residents twice a year.
- Currently working with Council to install a wetland to improve the drainage area
- Working with the SES, assisting with door knocking local residents to provide advice about how to prepare for floods.

### **Morisset and Peninsula (John Hegarty and Joy Edmonds)**

- Yunung Community and Indigenous Garden
  - Includes a war memorial with grant funding
  - Series of community sustainability workshops
  - Participating in upcoming Community Garden Tour
- Watercourse rehabilitation and habitat project at St John Vianney's Catholic School (Winner of Lake Mac School Environment Awards)
- Creating partnerships with lots of other local community groups and resources eg Cooranbong Gazette, local primary schools etc
- New newsletter for Bonnells Bay and Peninsula
- Group has expanded to include the Morisset Peninsula (Now known as MAPS – Morisset and Peninsula Sustainability)



## **Belmont (Deb Bailey and Sandy Benson)**

- Success in having bike racks installed by lobbying Council
- Kiosk also now operating at end of Fernleigh Track
- Clean up day at the Belmont Wetlands (over 60 volunteers)
- Applied for grant for bush tucker garden at Belmont PS - to include interpretative signage
- Number have dwindled and looking for ideas/inspiration to increase numbers

## **Dudley (Indra Deamer and Susan Denholm)**

- Various active Landcare sites - cleared Lantana and Blackberry
- Rock shelf project – installation of bag limit signs near Dudley rock platform to deter illegal harvesting
- Cycle track project - reuse railway line / referring to LMCC Cycle Plan (safer riding path)
- Community Garden - forming a committee / remaining active in the mean time
- Street garage Sales
- Mural Project - using art / bring community together to tell story of Dudley to increase community pride and ownership of looking after the place / Involving street art artists ' getting young people who are responsible for graffiti involved / intergenerational approach / will include plaque with family names on it
- Currently suffering from "meeting syndrome" – Trying to find better ways of communicating with each other than a monthly meeting. Eg email networks, wiki-page, breakfast get-togethers.

## **Toronto (Steve Dewar and John Gill)**

- Successful launch recently
- Currently undertaking a cycle survey to identify infrastructure needs
- Linked with LT Creek and the Toronto Progress Assoc. to organise a talk by John Shiel (25 people turned up) - he talked about sustainable villages
- Have increased membership since the launch

## **Wangi (Annabel Jaffray and Peter Lipscomb)**

- New group currently working through terms of reference. Very enthusiastic community so far.
- Have completed their draft SNAP

## **Cooranbong (Avril Lockton)**

- Generally meet every month or two with a guest speaker:
  - Where the wild things are nature walk along Dora Creek - platypus habitat. About 40 participants.
  - Secrets in the sea grass with OCCI



- Bag It through OCCI

## **Charlestown East (Jean McGarry)**

- Community garden established at Charlestown East Public School – only a few members
- Holding movie night at Charlestown pool on the 16 Nov to increase numbers - reinvigorate and expand

Communities working together

