

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.



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Opportunities to be involved



Women of the River Country - Fri 4th November - Sun 4th December 2016, at LibraryMuseum, Corner of Kiewa and Swift Streets, Albury, Free: The Murray Darling Basin stretches across four states in Australia, and is home to the country's three longest rivers; the Murray, the Darling and the Murrumbidgee. Every river has a story and these ever changing landscapes are, and have been, a lifeline to so many. Women of the River Country highlights stories of remarkable river women who have played vital roles in the shaping of our mighty river country from the mid 1800's to the present day, and include early pioneers, an internationally acclaimed sporting icon and a world class musician. All have been connected with our magnificent riverscape. Local stories include tennis legend Margaret Court from Albury and Murray Grey breeder Helen Sutherland from Wodonga.



Winning Sky Photos - Wednesday 9th November to Saturday 7th January at Lavington Library, Northpoint Tower, Griffith Road, Lavington: Winning Sky Photos is the exhibition of the top entries from the David Malin Awards astrophotography competition held annually by the Central West Astronomical Society and open to photographers around Australia. The photographs are judged by world renowned astrophotographer Dr David Malin. It aims to encourage photographers to use their vision, imagination and skill to produce inspiring and beautiful images of the sky. A Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences travelling exhibition. Awards presented by the Central West Astronomical Society for AstroFest, Parkes NSW. Supported by Canon Australia and CSIRO's Astronomy and Space Sciences.



BirdLife Ovens and Murray – Annual Challenge Count: Sat 3rd Dec 2016, from 9:00 am at Chiltern. (Meet at car park in front of Swim centre, on Chiltern-Beechworth Road between Chiltern town centre and railway): The Challenge Count is held on this weekend every year, and many of the BirdLife branches around the country will be counting the numbers of as many species as they can. BirdLife keeps a record of all the birds counted by each branch, so this enables a comparison of species year by year. We will be visiting several locations around Chiltern and the National Park, in order to count as many birds as possible from different habitats. As well as identifying and counting the birds that we see, we will also need to record this, so don't be put off if you don't think you are confident at identifying birds. 2009 was our best year, for a while, with 114 species seen, but last year we saw 'only' 66 species. We hope to do better this year, so join us if you can! This is an all day event, so BYO morning tea, lunch, chair, etc. But don't feel you need to spend all day with us if you don't want to! Leader: Philip Seely, phone 02 60215313.



Repair Café - Saturday 3rd Dec 2016, from 10.00 to 1.00 at Sustainable Activity Centre The SAC) (Former Tourist Information Centre, next to La Maison Cafe) Gateway Island, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga: Do you have a broken household item you'd like fixed but need a hand to do so? Then this is your opportunity. Our Repair Café is a **free** meeting place to bring along broken household items such as furniture, clothing, battery-operated appliances, books and bikes and learn how to fix them with the help of experienced, volunteer repairers. You can also bring along small, blunt garden tools like seca-

teurs and we'll show you how to sharpen them. Maximum three items per person per session. Repair Cafes are a great way to save money, bypass landfill, extend the life of belongings and learn the art of repair. Toss it? No way. You can repair it at the Repair Café. No need to register, just come along with your broken item and we'll do our best.



Albury Wodonga Farmers' Market, Wodonga – Saturday 3rd Dec 2016 from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at Gateway Village, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga: Providing fresh local produce direct from the producers so you can buy seasonally, locally and help support producers of our region. Free event. Contact details: M: 0475 300 052, W: www.alburywodongafarmersmarket.com.



Food Swap, West Wodonga – from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at Birallee Park Neighbourhood House, inside at 39 Emerald Ave, Wodonga. Our food/Plant swap happens every day from 9am-2pm inside Birallee Park Neighbourhood House at 39 Emerald Avenue, West Wodonga. Step inside to a warm, friendly, fun, environment! Any excess fresh produce is gratefully accepted and what is not swapped it is used in our emergency food program. Whilst you visit, take a look at our magnificent community gardens, have a coffee and smell the aromas wafting from our kitchen as we make over 150 daily meals ready for donation to many organisations in our community! Contact Amanda between 9am and 2pm, Monday -Friday on 60592590.



WaterWatch, Friends of Willow Park - Sun 4th Dec 2016, from 9:00 am - 10:30 am at Willow Park, Wodonga: Help measure the concentration of chemicals in House Creek. This event is being organised by Friends Of Willow Park. Meet near the BBQ in Willow Park. BYO water, sunscreen and hat. Friends of Willow Park will supply all other equipment. Join in with Community Gardening at 10.30am, if you like, followed by morning tea at 11.30am.



Community Gardening, Friends of Willow Park - Sun 4th Dec 2016 from 9:30 am - 11:30 am at Willow Park: Join us for a variety of gardening activities in Willow Park, including planting, mulching, weeding (and chatting). Meet near the BBQ in Willow Park. BYO Water, sunscreen and hat. Morning tea after gardening.



End of Year Picnic, Friends of Willow Park - Sun 4th Dec, 2016 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at Willow Park: Join us on the grass in the shade near the BBQ area in Willow Park. Bring a plate to share and a picnic rug or chair and some beverages to enjoy. Celebrate the delightful year we have had together, the wonderful park, the improvements that have been made, the potential for 2017 and our fantastic friendships. If the weather is inclement, the location will be changed to 18 Central Place.



North East Regional Sustainability Alliance (NERSA) Bi-monthly meeting - Mon 5th Dec 2016 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Indigo Shire Offices, Albert Street (Mayday Hills), Beechworth: The North East Regional Sustainability Alliance (NERSA) is a network of community sustainability groups which acts collaboratively with communities, agencies and organisations across the region. Meetings are held every two months in Beechworth. Anyone is welcome to attend.



Albury Wodonga Farmers' Market, Wodonga – Saturday 10th Dec 2016 from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at Cnr Riverina Highway and Wodonga Place, Albury: If you're after that fresh local produce, relaxing fun atmosphere, coffees and fresh baked goodies served straight from the oven, the Murray River Farmers Market is the place to be! Located at the Wood Fired Oven at Hovell Tree Park on the banks of the Murray River, every second Saturday between 8am and 12noon. Join us to roam the stalls, talk to the growers, sample the food and perhaps take home some of the many food selections on offer from gourmet chocolates, tasty sweet jams, fresh fruit and vegies, breads and cheeses, meat and

honey, free range eggs, relishes and more. Free event. Contact details: M: 0475 300 052, W: www.alburywodongafarmersmarket.com



Explore Mount Buffalo National Park - Sun 11th Dec 2016 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm at Mount Buffalo National Park. (Meet at Acacia Car Park, Wodonga). Albury-Wodonga Field Naturalists' Club Inc will explore Mount Buffalo National Park. This is a place with massive bluffs and near vertical granite rock faces that soar a thousand metres above the Ovens River valley and are typified by ridges heavily forested with Alpine Ash and Snow Gum. BYO Refreshments for the day. Leader Stephanie 6023 6464.



WATCH meeting - Tue 13th Dec 2016 from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm WATCH (Wodonga & Albury Toward Climate Health) is a non-partisan climate advocacy group that meets every second month in central Albury. If you want to do something about climate change, you can. We offer plenty of opportunities to take positive action. Find out more by attending one of our friendly meetings. See also: watch.id.au. Please RSVP to Lizette on 02 60 59 4185, to be advised of venue.



Yack Community Garden Food Swap – Sat 17th Dec 2016: from 9.30-11.30am, Yackandandah Community Garden. Our regular monthly food swap – open to everyone of all ages. Everything edible welcome. People bring chooks, ducks, seeds, veg, eggs, fruit, magazines, books, tools, equipment, honey – you name it! If it's to do with gardening, self-sufficiency, DIY, permaculture and growing things generally, it can go on the produce table. Love to see you there.... This is usually run in conjunction with a workshop which starts at 10.30 a.m. Gold coin donation welcome!



Albury Wodonga Farmers' Market, Wodonga – Saturday 17th Dec 2016 from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at Gateway Village, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga: Providing fresh local produce direct from the producers so you can buy seasonally, locally and help support producers of our region. Free event. Contact details: M: 0475 300 052, W: www.alburywodongafarmersmarket.com.



Murray River Farmers' Market, Albury – Saturday 24th Dec 2016 from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at Cnr Riverina Highway and Wodonga Place, Albury. Located at the Wood Fired Oven at Hovell Tree Park on the banks of the Murray River, every second Saturday between 8am and 12noon. Join us to roam the stalls, talk to the growers, sample the food and perhaps take home some of the many food selections on offer from gourmet chocolates, tasty sweet jams, fresh fruit and vegies, breads and cheeses, meat and honey, free range eggs, relishes and more. Free event. Contact details: M: 0475 300 052, W: www.alburywodongafarmersmarket.com

Learning Opportunities



The 2017 Community Landcare and Agricultural Leadership Program - EO's now open: This program covers community leadership, conflict resolution, governance, community capacity and resilience and trends in the NRM sector. An excellent opportunity to increase your networks and increase your ability to lead in your community and become more confident in your everyday life. Meet people working in Agriculture, Landcare and other Natural Resource Management areas. The cost is \$200 plus GST which covers your catering at all sessions, the two day field trip and all course materials. Applications for the program close on **13th December 2016** - places are limited. For more information, contact: Kim Scanlon, Executive Officer and new program development, 0417 348 547 [ad-
min@avclp.org.au](mailto:admin@avclp.org.au).



Our Community Webinar program: The feedback on our recent webinars on grant application writing, planned giving, and meetings and minutes has been terrific. Now, by popular de-

mand, and to help more people around Australia – particularly those in regional and remote areas – we're offering a new program of webinars on a range of topics. We're keeping the cost low at just \$88 – and as a bonus, that price includes a book relevant to the topic of each webinar. Alternatively, if you're on a tighter budget, you can register for the webinar only (no book) at just \$55. These prices include GST. All webinars start at noon AEST (or AEDST). We're taking registrations now for:

Strategic planning 7 December

How to win grants 23 February 2017

Crowdfunding webinar 23 March 2017

Questions your board needs to ask about Finances 27 April 2017

Being an effective chair 25 May 2017

Reviewing your board 15 June 2017

Register here <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/training/calendar.form>



Alpine Ecology Course (Bogong High Plains) - 5-10 February, 2017: Applications are now open. The course provides an opportunity to learn about the plants, animals, landforms and soils that make up alpine ecosystems, and their significance for landuse and current conservation issues. The Alpine Ecology Course is conducted in early February at Falls Creek Resort and the Bogong High Plains, usually every second year. The next course is on 5th to 10th of February 2017. For more information and to download the application form email: alpine.ecology@latrobe.edu.au.



Restore Regenerate Revegetate – 5th to 9th February 2017: A Conference about Restoring Ecological Processes, Ecosystems and Landscapes UNE, Armidale, NSW. Registrations are now open at the conference website: <http://conferencecompany.com.au/revegconf2017/> Early bird registration closes 7 December.



Australian Rural Leadership Program 2017: Applications are open for the next round of the Australian Rural Leadership Program. Course 24 runs from August 2017 until October 2018. It consists of up to 50 days face-to-face, delivered in multiple sessions over 15 months. Five of these sessions take place in locations across Australia, and one takes place overseas. More [here](#).

Resources & Inspiration



Green Army – Victoria: Are you aged between 17 and 24, an Australian citizen or permanent resident and would like to be a part of a team that will **make a real difference** to the environment in your local community? Would you like to be **paid an allowance** while gaining skills, training and experience that can help you enter the workforce, improve your career opportunities or further your education and training? The Green Army is an Australian Government initiative open to young people including Indigenous Australians, school leavers, gap year students, graduates and job seekers who are looking for employment to develop skills, undertake training and gain experience in the delivery of conservation. The Green Army provides all the tools, PPE and training required for each Project. Local transport to the project site is also provided to Green Army participants. [Learn more](#) about the Green Army, or [download a Green Army fact sheet](#). To stay up to date with all of our current Projects across Australia make sure you [visit our Facebook Page](#).



Heard about Farmers For Climate Action? Farmers who do the survey go in the running to win a Beam Energy & Flex solar system and battery solar storage from Enphase worth \$15,000. Info about our group - <http://www.farmersforclimateaction.org.au>
Here is the link to the survey - http://surveymonkey.net/r/farmers_survey
If you have any ideas for the best way we could promote it, I'd love to give you a call.
Info Farmers for Climate Action info@farmersforclimateaction.org.au



Threatened Species Recovery Hub – Enhancing monitoring for threatened species. A new set of guidelines for monitoring threatened species is being developed, following [a workshop](#) which brought together 28 managers and scientists from government conservation agencies, NGOs, and the National Environment Science Program TSR Hub. If you are a professional involved in a monitoring program, you are invited to participate in [a survey](#).

Funding Opportunities



The Myer Innovation Fellowships aim to support breakthrough solutions to Australia's most pressing social and environmental challenges and bring new talent to the social sector. Fellows are offered the unique opportunity to take nine to twelve months away from their current role to pursue a big idea that has the potential to achieve positive outcomes in the areas of: Education, Poverty and Disadvantage, Sustainability and the Environment. The Myer Innovation Fellowships provide recipients with time and support needed to develop their ground-breaking idea into a sustainable plan for action. Fellows will each receive \$100,000 for their nine to twelve month commitment to the program and an additional \$30,000 will be available to each Fellow for approved expenses such as work space, rent, travel and contracting of external expertise. <http://myerfoundation.org.au/grants/other-programs/mif/>



Ian Potter Foundation Environment & Conservation grants of minimum \$100,000: <http://www.ianpotter.org.au/> - EOI close 9 Dec. Applications open 7 Nov and close 24 Jan 2017.



The Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and Entrepreneurship Programme provides funding for businesses, not-for-profits and research organisations to support outreach programmes that target girls and women to encourage their interest in entrepreneurship, develop their innovation and entrepreneurial skills and build their professional networks. Find further information on eligibility requirements in the [Programme Guidelines](#) - PDF; <https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/women-in-stem-and-entrepreneurship>



Volunteer Grants 2016 close 20 December 2016 - 2:00pm AEDT. General enquiries: 1800 020 283. The Community Grants Hub, on behalf of the Department of Social Services (DSS), is inviting organisations and individuals/authorised signatories representing volunteer based community groups to apply for Volunteer Grants 2016 funding. These grants provide small amounts of money that organisations and community groups can use to help their volunteers. Grants of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 each will allow organisations to buy much needed equipment, such as computers, or help with training volunteers, fuel costs or undertaking background security checks. [Volunteer Grants 2016 Application Form](#) [subscribe to receive alerts](#) when new information is made available.



The R E Ross Trust Grants – Vic: The grants work around 4 impact areas. For Landcare groups the most relevant area is impact area D; the protection and preservation of Australian Flora and Fauna. Organisations must first submit an expression of interest for consideration by the Trustees and may then be invited to submit a full application. Applications are considered all year round. For more information go to: <http://www.rosstrust.org.au/grants/apply-for-a-grant/>



Norman Wettenhall Small Environmental Grant Scheme: The Small Environmental Grant Scheme provides support for groups or individuals undertaking biodiversity conservation projects in Australia. Projects can be about one or more of the following: monitoring, recording and sharing data, delivering community education, providing community capacity building (training), research and science, or landscape restoration and education (Victoria only). Have a look at: [can you apply](#).



Competitive Grants Programme Now Open - Applications are now open for the Control tools and technologies for established pest animals and weeds competitive grants programme, 2016-17 round. The Australian Government is supporting farmers and the community to tackle established pest animals and weeds through the Control tools and technologies for established pest animals and weeds competitive grants programme. Approximately \$10 million is available through the programme in 2016–17, to support the development of, and/or improvement to, innovative and forward-thinking control tools and technologies from 2016–17 to 2018–19. To be eligible for funding, projects must propose to develop a chemical, biological or physical control tool or technology to manage one or more established pest animals (excluding invertebrates) and/or weeds that are not native to Australia or a particular part of Australia. The targeted pest animals and/or weeds must have a national impact on Australian agricultural productivity and profitability, excluding fisheries and forestry sectors, and pose a threat to Australian ecosystems, habitats or native species. **Applications close 5pm AEST, Monday 23 January 2017.** Refer to the [programme guidelines](#) for detailed eligibility and assessment criteria, and to check our definition of a 'new' and 'improved' control tool or technology.

Opportunities to have your say



Get involved! Strengthening parks Victoria - your vision for parks: In December this year Parks Victoria will reach its 20th anniversary and as part of the celebration Parks Victoria are undertaking the Strengthening Parks Victoria Project. Share your experiences, expectations and aspirations for parks with us and the broader community, vote and comment on the ideas of others, and post your favourite inspirational images or videos of parks at http://lets-talk.parks.vic.gov.au/strengtheningparks?tool=story_telling_tool



ClimateWatch App – become a Citizen Scientist: ClimateWatch is a national program developed by Earthwatch Australia, Bureau of Meteorology and the University of Melbourne to better understand how climate change is affecting our wildlife. The first continental phenology project in the Southern Hemisphere, ClimateWatch enables every Australian to become a citizen scientist, by collecting and recording data that will help shape the country's scientific response to climate change. Go to <http://www.climatewatch.org.au/>



More Citizen Science - Australian Bird Feeding & Watering Study: Our backyard gardens provide habitat, food and water for many birds living in Albury and Wodonga, and the small towns and farms throughout the region. Thanks to Deakin and Griffith Universities, if you have a bird bath or bird feeder in your backyard, you have all the ingredients to contribute to an important study comparing birdlife in urban and rural areas. The Australian Bird Feeding & Watering Study aims to examine the feeding and watering of garden birds throughout Australia, including which species use bird feeders and baths and how our behaviours and garden habits may impact or influence the birds that visit. Read more and sign up as a 'citizen scientist' at <https://csdb.org.au>



Survey of Australian Farmers Regarding the Use of Big Data in Ag: Big Data in Agriculture - what is it? What is the potential and what are the pitfalls? Your chance to have your say. Gina Wood, a PhD researcher at the School of Law in the University of New England, is running a survey "Big Data in Primary Production - What Do Farmers Know and Not Know, Do and Not Do, Concerning Farm Data in Australia?" to find out what farmers think about Big Data and related technologies - is it a powerful tool to help farmers or more empty promises and hyped-up words? A means to improve productivity or a step towards dependency on suppliers? A way to make better decisions on farm or a loss of control? Ms Wood encourages all farmers to fill out her anonymous online 15-minute questionnaire whether you are familiar with "Big Data" or know nothing about it. Your answers are vital in helping to determine how Big Data and its associated technologies can be best put to use for the benefit of primary producers in Australia. http://uneprofessions.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6m9ENEZVD2evLQV