



north west cumberland carers network news

In This Issue:

January 2009

In July 2008 members of the Northwest Cumberland Carers network met for a morning tree planting to celebrate National Tree Day. This was the third year in a row that the network has participated in planting shrubs under the powerlines along Ropes Creek at North St Marys and across the creek at Whalan Reserve.

There was a great turn up of 40 volunteers to help the Friends of Ropes Creek group and the network members on the North St Marys side of the creek. An enthusiastic bunch of Scouts, Joeys and their families from 1st St Marys Scouts joined in. Together the volunteers planted 350 shrubs! These shrubs will help to provide habitat for small birds in an area previously cleared under the powerlines. In Whalan Reserve the turn up of volunteers was smaller however 200 plants were planted to extend the area revegetated by the network in 2007.

For more news on the next network activity go to the "Join in" Section over the page.

Rebecca Mooy
Community Support Officer
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Jumping Joeys in Gow Park, Mulgoa

In September 2008, a group of 8 parents and 14 pre schoolers from the Jumping Joeys playgroup assisted with a tree planting of 100 plants in Gow Park, Mulgoa. The efficient youngsters had the work all done in a little over an hour, complete with tree guards, stakes and jute mats! They followed up their hard work with a yummy barbeque with eggs, bacon, sausages and rissoles.

These plants have been established in a grassy area, flat and safe, to enable the children to help out. As the plants grow they will help to connect two bushland areas in the Mulgoa Valley and add to the great work of the Mulgoa Landcare Group.



Above: Jumping joeys planting at Gow Park last September

Right: Sikh Association of Australia volunteers at Tench Reserve in 2008.

News from the network

Planting Days at Gow Park, Mulgoa and Tench Reserve, Penrith

Flying Fox Open Day at Cabramatta Creek, Fairfield

Regenesis Project in Blacktown

Network Activities to join in with

Contacts

Planting Day at Tench Reserve, Penrith

The Sikh Association of Australia undertook a tree planting in 2007 and assisted again in 2008 for a second year running at Tench Reserve, Penrith. In 2007 there were 14 helpers and in August 2008 numbers of volunteers had grown to 21 willing workers! The assistance of the group has helped greatly to extend the riparian planting along the Nepean River.



Join In

Cabramatta Creek Flying Fox Reserve Open Day

On Saturday 18th October 2008, Fairfield City Council, the Cabramatta Creek Flying-Fox Committee, along with the Department of Environment and Climate Change hosted a community open day at the Cabramatta Creek Flying-Fox Reserve.

The aim of the day was to increase community awareness of the Grey-Headed Flying-Fox, provide information on the importance of the reserve, maintenance and protection of Flying Fox habitat. On the day, new publications were given out including brochures and pamphlets translated into Vietnamese, Chinese and Italian. The day was a success with a small crowd of community members attending.

At the Open Day those present learnt more interesting information and facts about this endangered species in their natural habitat, and gained valuable insight into their protection and future survival.

The following new publications are available in pdf from the weblinks or in hard copy from NSW DECC on Ph: 131 555

Protecting and restoring grey-headed flying fox habitat

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/threatenedspecies/08506tsdsflyingfox.pdf>

Best practice guidelines for the grey-headed flying fox

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/threatenedspecies/08540tsdsflyingfoxbpg.pdf>

Right: Grey Headed Flying-Fox, Cabramatta Creek

Regenesis project in Blacktown

The Regenesis project, is a first for Local Government in New South Wales and has been made possible thanks to a \$2 million grant under the NSW Government's Environmental Trust Urban Sustainability Program. The project involves native trees being planted to capture and 'sequester' or store carbon, thus reducing the effects of climate change and improving biodiversity, salinity and water quality outcomes.

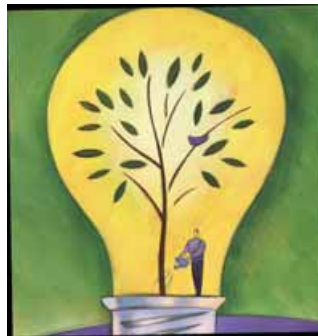
The Regenesis Project over the next three-years in Blacktown will have a strong focus on engaging business, community organisations and individuals by encouraging participation in a range of ways, including:

- Participating in community planting events
- Offsetting emissions through supporting Regenesis plantings
- Planting on private landholdings and receiving the benefits of carbon trading

Regenesis offers a range of options to assist individuals, families and community groups achieve these aims in the local area. Some ways in which you can participate is to

- Join in community planting days
- Offset your carbon emissions by sponsoring accredited plantings
- Work with Regenesis to plant communities of vegetation on your land (if you own a suitable site of more than 2,000 square metres) or
- Donate land to the project

More information on how your group can participate in the project can be gained by contacting Regenesis staff at Blacktown City Council on 9839 6283 or email regenesis@blacktown.nsw.gov.au



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