

HOLISTIC MANAGEMENT - Mark Gardner, Dubbo

Following an introduction to Holistic Management day presented by Mark Gardner, Mark Gardner & Associates, Dubbo held in Binalong last December a number of members have expressed a desire to undertake this training and it has been decided that HMLG apply for a Rural Assistance Training Grant to undertake this training.

What is **Holistic Management** - It is a practical decision making process which will ensure that decisions you make are economically, environmentally and socially sound. Holistic Management provides the process to improve profitability and sustainability. There are three modules which can be undertaken to ensure a sound understanding of the Holistic Management process. The learning process is designed to be practical, relevant and enjoyable, plus flexible to meet the need of our group.

The three modules are:-

A introduction to **Holistic Management**: three days introduction to the processes of the ecosystem, how to form a Holistic Goal for your property, using the seven testing questions, early warning monitoring, understanding the solar chain and an overview of Holistic Management Wealth Creation and holistic Management Biological Planning.

Holistic Management Wealth Creation, two day module on how to diagnose the weak link in your business, how to maximise 'solar dollars', breaking expenditure into the three crucial categories and how to direct expenditure to where it will do the most good in your business. Participants obtain a good understanding of how to look at capital expenditure in a new way and how to use the 'aide memoire' to plan finances.

Biological Planning, use the 'aide memoire' to plan grazings, to maximise animal and plant performance and to create your desired landscape. Hands on sessions on biological monitoring. How to create a land plan that helps you to achieve your Holistic Goal.

This course will be conducted in Binalong at dates agreeable to those participating. The cost will be \$2395 first family member and \$995 for each subsequent member. If we are successful in obtaining RAA funding cost should be around \$335/person. As you can see the cost of the course is high and I doubt we will conduct it if unsuccessful in obtaining RAA funding. The cost includes all training, materials, venue hire, and lunch/smoko, I am investigating the possibility of organised child care if required, there will be an extra charge for this. In total the course will take 7 days to be spread over 3 sessions.

If you would like to participate or more information, please contact me prior to **15 July** so I can forward you a Statutory Declaration form, stating that you are a bona fide farmer and derive the majority of your total income from my farming enterprise, you **do not** need to lodge budgets etc.

22 JULY - PAM Training Day.

This training day is aimed at those who have limited experience with PAM (Paddock Action Manager), Cost is \$50/computer, you need to bring your own. Bookings essential.

25-26 JULY - Farm Chemical Training Accreditation Course

¹ The course covers Integrated Pest Management Strategies, Legislation, Product Labels, Formulations, personal & environmental safety, equipment selection, maintenance & calibration. Cost \$120/person.

¹ HARDEN SHIRE COUNCIL PROUDLY SUPPORTING HARDEN MURRUMBURRAH LANDCARE

28 JULY - Farm Planning - Farming for the Future

These workshops are aimed at helping farm families build on their skills in the farm business and farm management. The workshop series now involves eight workshops over a timeframe set by the group covering:-

- introduction to planning
- the farms' physical environment
- communication and farm transfer
- assessing the natural resources
- enterprise evaluation
- financial realities
- making plans
- making your plans happen.

I have more detail available on this series of workshop if you are interested please call.

Database - Survey forms for 1997 have been mailed, if you have not received any and would like to participate, please contact me.

Emerging Opportunities in Agriculture Conference will be held in Harden on 31 October at the Murrumburrah High School. The event is being conducted by the NSW Zone of the Australian Institute of Agriculture and HMLG with support from Harden Consulting Service, NSW Agriculture and MHS. The conference aims to identify what are the new and emerging opportunities suitable for commercial farm enterprises in southern NSW, provide timely and relevant information about them and provide an opportunity for people to discuss farm-specific details with the speakers. Those attending the conference will be provided with written material with all relevant information about each enterprise such as capital investment likely, likely gross margins and potential market opportunities plus list of contacts for specialists and further information. Neil McColl, Stephen Woodhead, Mark Barber, Jim Wright and Louise Hufton are committee members for HMLG and would appreciate any suggestions on possible speakers or topics if you have any suggestions, cost \$50.

Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Award

Entry forms are now available from Chandlers IAMA (Sue McGregor) and I urge you to either nominate yourself or someone you consider would be a worthy winner of the Award. Entries close on 28 August and judging will take place either 2/3 September with the winner being announced at the Murrumburrah Harden Show on 6 September.

The HM Landcare Award is awarded to an individual farm owner or property manager whose achievement in implementing farm management practices with a commercial primary production system are judged to be a significant contribution to Landcare. Winner of the 1996 Award was Annie & Henry Nation, 'Old Moppity'.

Lawrie Kirk, Saltaction convener and DWLC Program Manager for Salinity in NSW is visiting Harden/Binalong on **Thursday 17 July**. A tour of various saline control methods being trialed by farmers within the district will be conducted, if you would like to be part of this tour please contact me and I will advise you of the itinerary when finalised. Lawrie will be addressing the Harden Landcare Meeting that night at the Harden Bowling Club commencing at 8.00p.m , all welcome.

Bookings essential for any of the above courses, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions.

Louise Hufton

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HARDEN MURRUMBURRAH LANDCARE PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY HARDEN SHIRE COUNCIL