

Wagga Wagga Urban Landcare (WWUL) Group Activities 2020

Wow, what a year 2020 has been. It kicked off with some of the worst bushfires our country has ever seen and then promptly progressed into a global pandemic. The activities of our group, like every other pocket of society, were significantly disrupted as a result of these events.

Despite an inability to deliver events between April and July due to COVID, our group succeeded in regaining some momentum in the back half of the year with a total of seven events delivered in 2020. Further details are provided under the Activity day summary, below.

Activity days Summary

Planning Day (Feb)

We kicked-off the year with the lure of free pizza and used this as an opportunity to finalise our calendar events for 2020 and revisit the strategic plan. With the smoke still hanging in the air from the catastrophic summer bushfires, we attracted our biggest group of participants for a planning meeting yet. Many identified the conditions as their call to arms to do something for environment.

Clean-up Australia Day, Lake Albert Foreshore (March)

Lake Albert foreshore was identified as being in need of a good clean-up. The low water level meant that rubbish previously hidden among weeds or submerged was now visible and accessible. Landcare member Dick Green coordinated the event and provided a short talk on the history of the lake. This event was a direct outcome of our February planning event.



Image credit: Emma Hillier, Daily Advertiser

Woody weed removal, Willans Hill (March & July)

Warwick Hull's passion for getting woody weeds under control was on display once again as he coordinated two working bees to continue the work that we started in 2019. These formed our last and first events surrounding the COVID-restricted period.



Stroud Homes Tree Planting in partnership with Wagga Rail Trail and Fifteen Trees (Aug & Sep)

This was another event that was delivered based on an opportunity identified during our start of year planning session. Our group was approached by Wagga Rail Trail to partner with them to kick off some beautification and revegetation along the recently upgraded levee bank multipurpose track. A big thanks to our long-time funding supporters, Stroud Homes Wagga Wagga as well as Fifteen Trees who's financial assistance made this project possible. A big thanks also to Lisa Glastonbury, for coordinating the involvement of the Wagga Rai Trail volunteers, and to Wagga Council for their assistance with site preparation.



Bird walk, Flowerdale Lagoon (Sep)

Led by our Vice-President and resident twitcher, Steve Moore, a small group headed out early for a group birdwatching walk at Flowerdale Lagoon. We saw all sorts of birds, including some not frequently seen at the Lagoon like quails and nesting striated pardalotes. There was a good combined bird knowledge amongst the group members and it was a fun morning. There were nesting willie wagtails, duelling honeyeaters, trawling spoonbills and frolicking firetail finches.

Guest presentation, family BBQ & AGM (Nov)

We will wrap up the year in the usual format with our AGM and family BBQ. This year, we have also taken advantage of some of the extensive knowledge available within our membership base with local academic, Associate Professor, Andrew Peters to talk about the benefits of community participation in monitoring wildlife health using the local Bat Island bat population as a case study. Thanks to Big4 Caravan Park for welcoming us onto their premises and allowing the use of their facilities for lunch.