



LOCAL YOUTH GREEN UP WITH ASSISTANCE FROM MITRE 10

Landcare grants

North-West projects will have the opportunity for an injection of funds through the Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grants Program.

Open to schools and other youth organisations, it provides funds to enable young people to participate in local Landcare projects.

Students will gain an appreciation of the value of native shrubs to enhance an area.

After the initial establishment period of a couple of years this garden

Landcare Grants program developed by Landcare Australia and Mitre 10, is one of Australia's largest environmental education

environmental program enabling children to observe first hand native flora and fauna.

"It is very difficult for many schools to find things like initiatives in June



Local kids clean up

Students from St. Joseph's soon be turning even grass received a Mitre 10 Jun

The St Joseph's School program

Return to the wild

Mullaway Primary removed working

placed in trees. "We want to encourage more wildlife," said Teacher at



Final garden

A love of the elementary to the final Awards.

A regional champion in 2003, the school is one of 35 finalists chosen from 250 entries across Victoria.

There was great excitement on Friday, November 5, when six judges including gardening personality, Jane Edman, arrived at the school by helicopter.

Students and the whole school community greeted the judges before taking them for a tour around the school grounds.

Judging is not based on the most aesthetically school ground, but rather grounds that have developed into rich learning and playing environments through the active involvement of students, teachers and the school community.

San Remo Primary principal, Graeme Bove, said the school has enjoyed past success

Bredbo students 'green up

Grace Ware 19, Year 8 - Lisa Coyne 21, Rhys Evans 21, Danielle Griffiths, Melnic Schomeld, Liam Toohy 18, Year 9 - Mugdha Bokil 21, Dane Evans 20, Alan Greig 20, Laura Paterson 20, Year 10 - Laura Clarke 25, Matthew Barnes 24, Moya Matthews 23, Narham Underwood 23.

Congratulations to all students receiving awards and our thanks to the many parents who attended the ceremony this year.

STUDENTS from Bredbo Public School will soon be seeing green after the school recently received a Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grant to undertake an environmental project at Bredbo Public School.

Bredbo Public School will use the grant to help establish a Native Habitat Garden. The garden is being designed and planted by the students using local native species. Once established the garden will be open to local Landcare groups and the community on special open days.

Bredbo Community Landcare Group is assisting with the project. The Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grants Program, developed by Landcare Australia and Mitre 10, is one of Australia's largest ever action-oriented environmental education programs.



MHS award winners Christopher Jenkins, Andrew Jenkins, Anita Donkers and Sarah Bowman

Landcare project



LEFT: Yepoon State School's Junior Landcare representatives Anthony Egretz (front left) and Justin Anderson were keen to show project development to Irons Hardware & Timber Mitre10 manager Blair Homer, teacher Judy Herold, Cap Coast Landcare president Alby Wooler and groundsman Aaron Poliard. The primary school's Landcare project, creating a regeneration garden, has been boosted through the Mitre10 Junior Landcare Program. Photo CHRIS WILKINS cw22/1104/1

Two years after the seeds were planted for the Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grants Program, thanks to the enthusiastic commitment from retailers, the initiative has grown to become an integral link between Mitre 10 stores and communities across Australia.

The Program not only provides retailers with an opportunity to connect with their local communities, but has established itself as an innovative educational tool for schools across Australia fostering environmental awareness.

Since its inception in 2003, 713 schools and youth groups nationwide have been granted a Mitre 10 Junior Landcare grant. Each successful school and youth group received a grant of up to \$500 to help them participate in environmental education activities.

The program also continues to produce strong media coverage. In 2004 alone, over 100 newspaper articles were generated, reaching more than four million people across Australia. Many Mitre 10 stores have already benefited from the additional media exposure.

The projects outlined on page two are just a few of the fantastic initiatives that have been developed with the help of the Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grants Program. It's all about inspiring our young people to protect and restore our environment.

Applications for the first round of grants for 2005 are now being accepted.

Why don't you put in a quick call to your local school to ensure that they don't miss out on getting their application in?

Closing dates for the year are scheduled as follows:

- Round 1-24th February, 2005
Round 2-19th May, 2005
Round 3-4th August, 2005
Round 4-20th October, 2005

Don't let your local school miss out on a Junior Landcare Grant of up to \$500!

Call them now to remind them of round 1 closing date - 24 February!





Retailers give thumbs up to the Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Program



Jacqui Croucher from BMS Mitre 10 presents local Highfields State School their Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Certificate

After two successful years in operation, the Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grants Program demonstrates Mitre 10's commitment as a large corporation, to caring about the Australian environment.

BMS Mitre 10 Home & Trade Toowoomba retailer, Jacqui Croucher, explains why she gives her thumbs up to the Junior Landcare Grants Program.

Was the Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grants program easy to get involved in?

"The Landcare program was very easy to get involved in. As soon as it came online with Mitre 10, we sent letters to all schools in the region and then we left it up to them to put in a request. We had 5 successful grants which totalled around \$3000."

Would you recommend the program to stores who are yet to be involved?

"Yes, it's great for residents to see that Mitre 10 is involved in such an environmentally friendly and community-minded program"

Michael Stewart from Barrow & Bench Mitre 10 Solutions in Glenunga SA also believes that the Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grants Program is an important part of putting back into the local community.



Michael Stewart from Barrow & Bench Mitre 10 Solutions in Glenunga SA gives his thumbs up for the Junior Landcare Program.

What was the most positive outcome for you as a store from being involved in the Landcare program?

"The fact that our local community is aware of the fact that Mitre 10 is passionate about being proactive for the environment — the environment is about everyone's future. It's also great to provide students with the opportunity to increase their awareness of the benefits of caring for our land. For us as a store, the Junior Landcare Grants Program provides us with the opportunity to be involved in a community-minded and environmentally proactive initiative which has benefits for all involved."

What is the greatest benefit retailers can get out of the program?

"Long-term, not only does the environment benefit from Landcare but so does our store — people tend to build a rapport with businesses who are community minded rather than businesses that do not put back into the community"

Albert Park Primary School, Victoria

Albert Park Primary School were thrilled to hear they had received a Mitre 10 Junior Landcare grant and were able to continue to working with the Port Phillip Eco Centre on Melbourne's Westgate Park Project



Students from Albert Park Primary School created a frog habitat at Westgate Park in Melbourne.

to create a frog habitat. After many years of rehabilitation and regeneration, Westgate Park is an amazing example of how a disused rubbish tip can be restored to a thriving ecosystem. The 110 Grades 3 and 4 children planted over 2000 groundcover plants using their Mitre 10 Grant.

Eaglehawk Secondary College, Victoria

With the aim to inspire the students to create a permaculture garden and to recycle wastes, when Eaglehawk Secondary College was awarded their \$500 Mitre 10 Junior Landcare Grant, they decided to establish a vegetable garden.

As a result of the hard work that went into creating the vegetable garden they achieved a thriving vegetable patch in their school grounds



Students at Eaglehawk Secondary College hard at work in the vegetable patch they created.

in an area that had previously been unused and prone to collecting rubbish. Students were involved in clearing and preparing the plot and were very grateful to Mitre 10 for the grant that enabled them to carry out the project.

Bohlevale State School, Queensland

Following discussions on the effects of plastic bags on the environment, students and staff in Grade 4 at Bohlevale State School put their Junior Landcare Grant into action by producing their own reusable calico bags for sale.



In an effort to reduce the impact of plastic bags on their local environment, students, staff and parents at Bohlevale Primary School designed, printed and sewed reusable calico bags.

This not only reduces plastic bag usage in the community, but also the funds raised will be put towards helping save an endangered animal of their choice.

Cathy Freeman on tour to Care for our waterways

Last September, Cathy Freeman visited waterways projects across the country to kick off her official capacity as the Mitre 10/Landcare 'Caring for our waterways' program ambassador.

Mitre 10 retailers and Landcare volunteers were treated to a visit from the Olympic gold medalist when she visited local areas to promote the campaign. In a whirlwind week of planting, weeding, litter collection and water turbidity testing, Freeman met local community members and Mitre 10 retailers, united in their vision to repair waterways damage.

The tour commenced at Melbourne's Merri Creek where Cathy donned waders and removed litter from the damaged waterway. From there she traveled to Queensland to visit the Oxley Creek waterways project and joined forces with Landcare volunteers, local schools and the team from Woodman's Mitre 10 to start valuable work on the site. Then it was off to South Australia's Amber's Gully in Athelstone where Mitre 10's Glynde and Glenunga teams were already hard at work replanting native vegetation at the intermittent stream.

Michael Stewart from Barrow & Bench Mitre 10 in Glenunga said the day was a huge success and the locals were thrilled to meet Cathy.

"It's great to see Cathy Freeman supporting such a worthy cause. She is clearly passionate about caring for our environment," said Michael.

Despite her busy schedule, Cathy really enjoyed her road trip to South Australia and Queensland and said that she is looking forward to visiting more of the Caring for our waterways project sites in 2005.

"I got involved in this new project because it's about preserving the future and fostering community spirit. It's just so great to see everyone here working together to care for our land, our home," Cathy said.

See our next edition for news of Busselton, Forrestfield and Big O Mitre 10 working bees.

With all activity days proving to be a great success in achieving results for the projects, the relationship between Mitre 10 and Landcare looks set to grow stronger as more Mitre 10 retailers team up with their local Landcare group to help improve their local environment.

For further information about the program go to www.mitre10.com.au or www.landcareaustralia.com.au.



Cathy and staff from Mitre 10 Glenunga, SA.



Cathy and William Stewart, son of Barrow & Bench Mitre 10 Glenunga Store Manager, Michael Stewart.

Olympic hero swaps track for watercourse



Source: The Courier Mail



Cathy Freeman helps clean up the Rocklea stretch of Oxley Creek in QLD with pupils from Yeronga State School.



Cathy Freeman met 40 excited Landcare students from local primary schools in the area and was shown some of the achievements by the Landcare group in Ambers Creek Gully, Glenunga, SA.

ENVIRONMENT Freeman's role to help rivers run freely

While Cathy Freeman, right, may look like a fish out of water, she nonetheless rolled up her sleeves for her first role as ambassador for the Landcare-Mitre 10 *Caring for our waterways* program. The Olympic gold medalist was at Merri Creek, Clifton Hill, with other volunteers removing litter and weeds. Spokeswoman Emma Williams said Freeman was the perfect choice of ambassador. "We put our heads together and thought who represents the land? Who represents a sense of community? She was the first person to spring to mind," she said. Picture: Craig Sillitoe



Source: The Age



Cathy and staff from Mitre 10 Glynde, SA.



MITRE 10

STORES UPDATE

JANUARY 2005 EDITION 4

Page 4

Caring for our waterways

Landcare Australia, with the help of hardware company Mitre 10, has launched the environ-

Tender loving

THE Geopraphe Community Lar will receive some tender loving Landcare group and Busselton today.

Busselton Mitre 10 staff and I teers will hold a working bee fro



Environment and w are our most impo home improvement

WITH spring upon us already, Australians are ready to get outside and enjoy the outdoors.

This spring, Olympic champion Cathy Freeman, Mitre 10, Landcare Australia and communities across Australia will join forces to work on a national project to improve our environment - It's Our Most Important Home Improvement Project, Caring for our waterways.

Cathy's cultural background and her love for the land and for people are the major reasons why she has decided to get involved in this program.

"It's really important for me to help take care of our beautiful country so that we have a better future," she said.

"Mitre 10 has a proud heritage of being community-minded and the Caring for your waterways initiative encourages people to come together with a purpose of restoring a better

Brian Ser waterway long-terr through i

"Local our envi advice i they me

"It's Mitre 1 dreds i

ing w' make Mit proje

So wel...

ter-saving gardens

Local schools will be one of the many community groups encouraged to get involved in the

A fitting tribute to past leader

THE Mansfield Upper Broken River Landcare group is restoring and improving an important waterways project, thanks to a donation from Mitre 10.

Part of the Mitre 10 Caring for our Waterways initiative, Landcare members are restoring a local site, dedicated to the late Neil Stevenson, a past president of Landcare.

Project Landcare coordinator Marcus Hann said the Upper Broken River project site has both environmental and local community significance and would serve as a fitting memorial for Mr Stevenson.

Horsley wetlands project number

By AILAN MURPHY

LANDCARE celebrated the festive season yesterday by holding a working bee.

A number of volunteers were joined by Mitre 10 staff to provide some attentive care to the Horsley Creek wetland

clean and fresh quality water.

project. The group worked on recreating native grassland and regenerating the creek's banks.

Such activities will help provide a habitat for native species and allow the local community to continue to

enjoy the area.

"We're pleased to be part of this initiative and look forward to working with Landcare at Horsley Creek in coming years," Mitre 10 store manager

Matt Crossingham said. The company is supporting

more than 20 wat projects nationw including wetlan itation, planting i water-saving gar native vegetation

Activity Days in full swing to keep caring for local waterways

Thanks to the national environmental improvement initiative supported by Mitre 10 and Landcare, more than 20 'Caring for our waterways' projects are now up and running around the country. Numerous Mitre 10 retailers have helped to kick start their local waterways project, by participating in working-bees held in conjunction with local Landcare volunteers in late 2004 and 2005. Some of the Mitre 10 stores who have participated in a workingbee day include:

J & R Niddrie Mitre 10 Keilor help the Friends of Taylors Creek, Victoria

More than 20 school children from Overnewton College's Taylors Lakes Campus and staff from J&R Niddrie Mitre 10 took part in a working bee in late November organized with Brimbank City Council to plant out the riparian zone at Taylors Creek.

"We are very pleased to be part of this initiative and look forward to working together with Landcare next year on further restoring Taylors Creek," said J&R Niddrie Mitre 10 Store Manager, Adam Needham.



Students from Overnewton College lend a hand at Taylor's Creek

Mitre 10 United Home & Trade Albion Park & Oak Flats Landcare group, New South Wales

The Oak Flats Landcare group celebrated the festive season in December by holding a working bee to kick start the Horsley Creek wetland project which has been supported by Mitre 10.

"We're pleased to be involved in such a worthwhile initiative and we hope that we can achieve positive results from working with Landcare at Horsley Creek in the coming years," Mitre 10 United Home and Trade Albion Park, Store Manager Matt Crossingham said.

Wallington Mitre 10 and Swan Bay Landcare group, Victoria

Store Manager of Mitre 10 Wallington, Will Van Berkel, said the working bee with the Swan Bay Landcare group was a great success, with volunteers taking cuttings and transplanting over 500 native plants for future projects. Will encourages other Mitre 10 stores who are connected with one of the 'Caring for our waterways' projects to contact their local Landcare group to arrange a working bee.

"It was a great experience for our staff, which I hope will continue to grow into a strong bond between Mitre 10 and Landcare," Will said.



The 'workers' hard at it on the day. Left to right — Michael Connell (Landcare), Will Van Berkle (Wallington Mitre 10 store manager), Steve Smithyman (Landcare) and Todd Van Berkel (son)

Working Bee with Tranmere – Clarence Plains Land & Coastcare Inc, Tasmania

On a sunny day in November, a working bee was held with the local school children and staff from Gunns Home & Trade Mitre 10 store to remove weeds and to gain an understanding of the issues affecting the saltmarsh. Gunns Mitre10 in Launceston prepared for the working bee by collecting newspaper and cardboard which was used to turn into homemade mulch for the area.

"We are very pleased to be part of this initiative and look forward to working together with Landcare next year on restoring Riverside Lake," said Phil De Ruiter from Gunns Mitre10.