

MEDIA RELEASE

3 September 2007



Event Builds Sustainability of Roma Community

Roma community members have gained new skills and perspectives through the 2007 Discovering Landcare Forum. A number of workshops and guest speaker events were held over two days to inform and build the capacity of the local community for environmental, social and economic sustainability.

Over 100 community members attended the event organised by the Queensland Murray-Darling Committee (QMDC), in addition to the 450 students and teachers who participated in student-centred environmental activities, which ran concurrently at the Forum.

Workshop topics included climate change, the commercial implications of soil carbon, biodynamic farming and grant writing skills.

“We covered a variety of topics under the sustainability umbrella in response to community demand,” said Pam Fisher, event organiser.

“It was amazing to have speakers of such calibre as Dr. Christine Jones travelling to Roma from interstate to share their experiences and ideas and it has been great to hear the on-going interest and excitement that that has been generated by the talks.”

Over 50 different organisations contributed to the running of the Forum including Pumps 'N Solar, Mounts Machinery, Goodyear, Amalgamated Pest control, 4X4 Accessories and Black who all provided marquees or equipment for the activities.

“The Forum would not have been possible without the support of the Roma community and QMDC would like to say a big thank you to the many organisations and individuals involved. We are also very grateful for the support provided by our sponsors the Blue Print for the Bush, National Science Week grants and Heritage Building Society,” said Pam.

“QMDC looks forward to bringing the Forum to another regional town next year.”

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Left: QMDC staff and Gill Campbell examine water quality testing at the 2007 Discovering Landcare Forum.



Left: Dinner speakers Dr Christine Jones and Shane Joyce with members of the Maranoa-Balonne Catchment Management Association at the 2007 Discovering Landcare Forum.