

**MUDGEE DISTRICT ENVIRONMENT GROUP INC**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014**  
**CLUB MUDGEE at 6pm**

**Chairperson's Report**

2013 -2014 has been a particularly busy and eventful year for MDEG.

During the past 12 months MDEG has held 9 monthly meetings with two sub committees. These are Friends of Adam's Lead and the Saving The Drip Campaign working group.

Friends of Adams Lead will be giving a quick report on their activities over the year. This included the first MDEG street stall for many years during the Back to Gulgong weekend in October 2013.

Saving The Drip working group held a successful fund raising event in August 2013 and launched a major campaign at the beginning of 2014 to get The Drip protected within an extension of Goulburn River National Park. The campaign included a proposed donation of land from group members Julia and Colin Imrie to improve the connectivity between The Drip block and the reserve boundary.

The campaign held information stalls at the Gulgong, Mudgee and Rylstone shows and in Mudgee CBD to collect signatures on a petition supporting the National Park proposal. Nearly 2,000 signatures were collected and will be presented to the new NSW Government in the May session of Parliament.

Also at the beginning of the year MDEG members presented submissions to the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) on the Moolarben Stage 2 proposal, the Moolarben Stage 1 modification 9 proposal and the Cobbora Mine proposal. There has been no decision handed down on any of these proposals, to date.

A grant was received through the Sunrise Project to work with the Environmental Defenders Office to engage experts to report to the Cobbora PAC. This was a successful exercise and generated a significant amount of media on the issues.

MDEG has also been working with other regional groups campaigning against the impacts of mining, including the Bylong Valley Protection Alliance. A joint information stall was held at the Mudgee Small Farms Field Days in July 2013 with MDEG members volunteering over the two days. We also contributed to the expenses.

This activity will be supported again this year.

MDEG donated a number of books to the Mudgee Library in June 2013. This resulted in a positive media article and photo in the Mudgee Guardian. The donation was dedicated to the memory of Jocelyn Hulme, a founding member of the group.

We engaged Brad Cover to update our website and we are very pleased to be launching it this evening.

I would like to thank all office bearers and dedicated volunteers who have helped keep MDEG an active and effective group in our community during the last 12 months.

I would especially like to thank Ian for his meticulous work as Treasurer and Public Officer and for helping the group re-establish our governance procedures after the loss of Jocelyn. We are going to miss his dedication to keeping our books and reporting in order.

I would also like to thank Phyllis for her exceptional organising skills. We wouldn't have achieved half the successes of the past year without her untiring efforts. Also to Berni for helping to achieve most of the current goals in the Adams Lead Management Plan and to Di for her unflagging fundraising activities.

We lost our excellent secretary during the year when Rae McPherson moved back to WA. We do need a full working executive to maintain the governance of our group.

I trust that we will be able to continue our important work over the next 12 months with sustained vigour, enthusiasm and support from community members.

Bev Smiles

Chairperson

**MUDGE DISTRICT ENVIRONMENT GROUP INC**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES  
FOR THE PERIOD 1st FEBRUARY 2013 TO 31st JANUARY 2014**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>		<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Subscriptions	\$355.00	Bank Fees	\$10.00
Donations	\$895.00	Subscriptions/Memberships	\$125.00
Grant (FRRR)	\$2060.00	Adams Lead Expenses	\$2,432.10
	0	Insurance	\$290.00
Grant (Adams Lead)	\$2022.00	Administration Costs	\$40.00
	0	Fuel Grant Payments	\$1,096.24
Grant (Sunrise Project)	\$5000.00	Dinner Dance Expenses	\$1,529.00
	0	Internet Fees	\$371.00
Interest Received	\$5.12	EDO/Legal/Search Fees	\$1,455.00
Dinner Dance	\$2620.00	Field Day Expenses	\$200.00
	0	Post Office Box	\$99.00
Dance Chocolate Wheel	\$480.00	Sundries	\$90.00
Raffles	\$200.00		
Sundries	\$140.00		
	\$13,777.12		\$7,737.34
Nett Funds Balance			\$6,039.78
<b>CASH SUMMARY</b>			
Balance as at 1st February 2013			\$3,106.98
Statement Balance as at 31st January 2014			\$9,146.76
Actual Cash Balance as at 31st January 2014			\$9,146.76

Nett Funds Balance for 2013/2014				\$6,039.78
<b>BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 31st JANUARY 2014</b>				
Balance as per Bank Statement				\$9,146.76
Balance as per Cash Book				\$9,146.76
I declare that this is a true and accurate record of the financial account of Mudgee District Environment Group for the year 2013/2014				
Ian McAdam				
Treasurer				

## Friends of Adams Lead Reserve Annual Report

**Grants** were received and used for the following:

- Purchase of equipment for Bush Regeneration work
- Funding for four positions in a Chem Cert course in Gulgong. John Clarke, Berni Aquilina and two students from Gulgong High attended.
- Petrol vouchers for volunteers – it's great to be able to thank them in this way!
- The development of a Risk Management Plan which was completed in 2013 by Terrence Jennings
- Three Plant Identification Workshops

The first Plant Identification Workshop was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March under the shade of the beautiful trees at Adams Lead Reserve. While Di and Phyllis prepared the morning tea our presenter Christine McRae introduced the eleven participants to the features (and terminology) of the main plant groups. She led everyone through interesting exercises that taught them how to use keys for plant identification using specimens she had collected. During the morning tea break the six new comers had the opportunity to get to know the members of FOAL present. The aim of the next two workshops is to:

- ❖ Raise awareness of and importance of forbs i.e. the small native plants in Grassy Box Woodlands
- ❖ Identify, Develop and Extend list of Plants at Adams Lead Reserve
- ❖ Inspire landholders to extend areas of native vegetation on their properties
- ❖ Extend Contacts and Networking for Adams Lead Reserve

### **Other Actions and Events**

- Gulgong Gossip Articles sent by Phyllis Setchell each month
- Bush Regeneration Working Bees held on the first Saturday morning of each month, organised by Berni Aquilina
- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April three members of Cudgegong Field Naturalists joined Berni for a bird watching morning at Adams Lead. Twenty two different species of birds have now been recorded at the reserve.
- Car access gate repaired by John Clarke and keys distributed.
- Networking through Newsletters with Land Care and other environment groups.
- Information stall and fundraising at Gulgong Back to Gulgong Weekend followed by a walk and talk at the reserve. Our thanks to all those who helped.
- Fundraising by Di O'Mara over the Easter weekend
- Pindone Rabbit eradication program carried out by Berni Aquilina
- Field day for TAFE students with Berni Aquilina
- Di O'Mara received an Australia Day award for her services to the environment and in particular for all the many years of hard work ,time and effort she has put towards Adams Lead

Phyllis Setchell

Co-ordinator