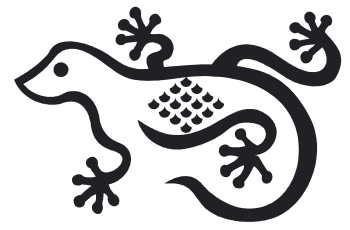


# CHRRUP UPDATE

Central Highlands Regional Resources Use Planning Cooperative

## October 2009



## CHRRUP

### Farewell From Rolfe

As they say; all good things must come to an end and my time at CHRRUP will end on November 6. I have been offered an overseas position that offers a new challenge that is too enticing to refuse. I will be participating in the creation of a commercial farmers cooperative in Abu Dhabi.

It is customary for people to wax lyrical about their working environment just as they leave. I will do the same but I hope I can impart some sincerity as I do it. I have genuinely enjoyed my time at CHRRUP and the experience has been invaluable to me and, ironically, contributed greatly to my ability to satisfy the requirements of my new endeavour.

The CHRRUP Executive Officer is privileged to function in a wonderful working environment and I would like to thank the CHRRUP Board and in particular the Chair, Annette Smith, for their assistance and support throughout my tenure.

As is always the case I have probably learnt more from the CHRRUP staff than they have from me and I have no doubt I will be taking a backwards step in this regard when I move on. I'd like to sincerely thank the CHRRUP team, Vicki, Bronwyn, Sally and Sue, who are all part of a package that will be impossible to forget. They are a receptive, functional and competent working unit that are capable of anything and I hope in the future they get the opportunities to show even more of what they can do.

CHRRUP has always had a close and productive working relationship with the Fitzroy Basin Association and, from my side at least, this continued to be the case while I was here. Everybody at FBA has been tremendously supportive to me and made my job so much easier.

I am not a high profile kind of person and there will be many people who I have not had the chance to meet. None the less I did work with many people in the area and I can honestly say I cannot think of any relationship that wasn't positive. It wasn't always easy but it was always productive and rewarding and I thank everybody for that.

CHRRUP is a fantastic little organisation and I sincerely hope it not only continues to function

but prospers. I know the CHRRUP staff are the genuine article and they truly see the local community and landholders as the focus of their work. It is important that the community continues to recognise this and supports them.

### Find Out How to Control Parkinsonia!

A Parkinsonia Field Day is being held at Marlene and Andrew Slack's property at 'Mayview', Emerald to discuss the latest research on controlling Parkinsonia. A range of control methods will be illustrated, including mechanical, cut stump, basal bark, foliar spraying, bio-control and pasture management. Parkinsonia is a Weed of National Significance. It is regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia because of its invasiveness, potential for spread, and economic and environmental impacts. Economic costs to landholders stem from an increased difficulty in mustering stock, a reduction in stock access to watering points and a decrease in primary production of grasses that are replaced by Parkinsonia. Additionally, Parkinsonia infestations provide refuges for feral animals, especially pigs. The field day will be held on Thursday, 15 October, from 8:30am till 1:30pm, with morning tea and lunch supplied. Please RSVP to Caroline Sandral, DEEDI, on 0428 115953. This workshop is supported by CHRRUP and the Central Highlands Regional Council.

### CHRRUP Seeks New Executive Officer

CHRRUP is looking for a dynamic leader with a passion for sustainable agriculture and community based natural resource management.

Working with the CHRRUP Board and Chairperson, the Executive Officer provides active leadership to the staff and organisation. We are looking for someone who can build strong relationships, has empathy with landholders and regional community members, has good decision making skills, is diplomatic and has experience in performance, project management and managing staff.

### Date Claimers

**15 October** – Parkinsonia Field Day. 8:30 till 1:30pm, 'Mayview', Emerald. Contact Caroline Sandral, DEEDI 0428 115 953 for catering.

**17 October** – Kestrel Mine Open Day. From 8:30am. For more information contact Maureen Tutton 4984 7694.

**22 October** – Grains BMP workshop. 8:30 till 4pm, Capella Cultural Centre. Contact Vicki Horstman 0427 320539 for catering

**23 October** – FBA Annual General Meeting and panel discussion. 11am at Customs House, Quay St, Rockhampton. RSVP to Karlee Goodsall 4999 2827.

**5-6 November** – Chemcert Training Course, AACC Campus Emerald. Contact Donna Goodall on 49828 807.

**6 November** – Grains BMP workshop. 8:30 till 4pm, Springsure Town Hall. Contact Vicki Horstman 0427 320539 for catering.

The salary is negotiable between \$63,000 and \$78,000 per annum, plus superannuation, leave loading, phone and vehicle. A current driver's licence is essential. This is a permanent position, subject to funding. Position descriptions and selection criteria are available on the website [www.chrrup.org](http://www.chrrup.org) or by contacting [admin@chrrup.org](mailto:admin@chrrup.org) or (07) 4982 2996. Closing date for applications is 9am, Monday, 2 November, 2009.

## Peter Andrews Workshop

CQ Best Prac, with support from CHRRUP, recently hosted a Natural Sequence Workshop near Calliope. This workshop was conducted with funding from the Farm Ready Industry Project. The program will enable graziers in central Queensland to learn about the latest science behind climate change and to adapt their management to take opportunities as they appear. Over 90 people travelled to 'Stowe Park' to hear Peter Andrews speak about the ideas he has developed through his observations and many years of farming experience. Some of the key principles behind Peter's theories include slowing the rate of water flow, and managing the transfer and movement of nutrients in the soil and water. A growing number of experts believe that Peter's holistic approach to natural resource management can be applied on a day-to-day basis to property, catchment and landscape management across diverse regions, in harmony with the Australian environment. Peter will be putting some of his theories into practice on 'Stowe Park', and a follow-up workshop will be conducted early next year, to examine the effects after one wet season.

## FBA Discuss Food or Fuel?

The feature of the FBA annual general meeting on Friday 23 October is a panel discussion by a number of local leaders, to address how our region can achieve sustainable development and growth into the future. The topic of the discussion, **Food or Fuel? Competing Land uses in a carbon constrained global village** will provide an insight into local perspectives on conflicting land uses and the influence of issues such as climate change, population growth, food shortages and the financial crisis. Panelists will include local ecological economist Professor John Rolfe and Chair of Future Food Queensland, Charlie Wilson, as well as others from the industry and conservation sectors. Please RSVP by 19 October to Karlee Goodsall on 4999 2827.

## FBA Focus on Healthy Waterway

FBA has intensified its focus on the health of waterways in the Fitzroy Basin through: a new monitoring and reporting project; the release of a Water Quality Improvement Report; membership of the State Government's Fitzroy water quality advisory group; and appointing Nathan Johnston to the new



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Healthy Waterways Manager position. FBA will continue to work with CHRRUP and local land managers to improve waterway health outcomes across the Central Highlands region.

## Email Newsletters

If you would like to receive your CHRRUP newsletter via email, please advise Sally Murden on 49 822996 or email [admin@chrrup.org](mailto:admin@chrrup.org)

## Grains BMP

Hello everyone!

We have some dates set for the first module Pesticide application in the BMP program. Workshops will be held in Capella and Springsure this month, as part of the introduction to the BMP process and the Pesticide Application Module. During the workshop, there will be the opportunity to complete the self assessment tasks and create action plans. Dates will be Thursday, 22 October at the Capella Cultural Centre, and Friday, 6 November at the Springsure Town Hall Supper Room. Workshops will run from 8:30 till 4pm, with smokos and lunch provided, so please RSVP by 19 October for catering.

Also there are incentives attached to this program at the moment from Reef Rescue funding; if you would like to know more about it you can have a look on [www.grainsbmp.com.au](http://www.grainsbmp.com.au) or give me ring and I will let you know.

If you are interested please let me know on the number below. For the last round of projects that went through technical panel with Rachel you should have received an email letting you know how it went; if you have not been informed let me know and I will chase it up, it could be in cyber space somewhere!! NB. There has been a change of date for the Springsure workshop, which was previously scheduled for the 29 October. **Vicki Horstman, Best Management Practice Officer, 0427 320 539 or email: [vicki@chrrup.org](mailto:vicki@chrrup.org)**

## Neighbourhood Catchments

Now that I have 16 projects on the go, I have come to realise it was a little ambitious of me to think I would have them all ready for a technical assessment panel at the end of the month! Especially with so much going on in and around the office at the moment! Therefore I am endeavouring to have a tech panel in November and will contact all landholders involved as soon as I know the results. I recently went to a Peter Andrews Natural Sequence Farming workshop in Calliope held by CQBest Prac and sponsored by CHRRUP. It was an excellent day with a fantastic attendance of over 90 people. Peter will be back for a follow-up workshop next year, and I am looking forward to seeing the results of the work he has done on the property. I am really excited about this work and the possibilities it holds, and I strongly recommend others to go along and hear what Peter has to say.

**Bronwyn Roberts, CHRRUP Field Officer, 0428 776 249 or email: [bronwyn@chrrup.org](mailto:bronwyn@chrrup.org)**