

June 2025

LIONS GREEN CANOPY PROJECT NEWSLETTER NUMBER 5

The recent heavy rains in the eastern states saturating the soil may be causing havoc for many, however it also provides the ideal environment for soil preparation to plant trees and shrubs. Subsoil moisture is at a maximum ensuring ongoing sustenance for new plantings.

Selection of suitable plants is essential to maintain the balance within our ecosystem. I have spoken with Lion Garry Bates, the incoming District Environmental Officer from Q3, who has had discussions with professionals at the University of Southern Queensland regarding this matter. The balance within the ecosystem is extremely delicate and we must make every effort to retain that balance.

We are all aware of the precarious position of our koala populations in Queensland, northern New South Wales, Riverina and many other select areas across our country. Koalas, like many fauna, require very specific eucalyptus varieties to survive. With many of their areas being cleared for timber and property development and seeing limited appropriate revegetation of these native areas, our Koala populations have been decimated.

Another area of deep concern is the rapidly deteriorating native bee population. We are all aware of the essential work that bees do within our ecosystem. While collecting nectar, native bees cross fertilise the majority of flora and generate many food sources for insects and animals alike. They are essential to maintain the balance of our ecosystem and we must do everything possible to retain the native populations.

As we go about our Lions business participating in this Multi District project, we must be vigilant to select plants not just suitable for an area but plants that retain "the balance". A thorough study of your terrain, the suitability of your area and investigation of the requirements of local fauna are necessary to retain the equilibrium of the ecosystem.

You may not have the native bees or koalas in your vicinity. You will, however, have issues unique to your area which it is important for you to address prior to jumping in and planting whatever plants are available. I ask you to consider these problems, talk to professionals with knowledge of your area then plant with a confidence that you have given your plantings the best opportunity to survive which in turn will best benefit the ecosystem. Remember that like everything in life, the ecosystem is only as strong as its weakest link and any break in that link can jeopardise its survival.

This project is not difficult when all resources are utilised. We continue to encourage clubs to work with your own communities and source knowledge to achieve their best results. Always remember, none of us are perfect. While we can make every effort to achieve the ultimate



Lions Australia Green Canopy Environment Project



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result, the forces of nature will determine this for us. Lack of or too much sun or water, soil bacteria, weed infestation, soil pH, pests and vandalism are all possible restraints to the perfect project result. If any of these happen do not lose faith. Assess the problem, work with it, restrict the likely damage, carry on and enjoy your results.

We continue to see this wonderful project gain momentum and receive questions from both individual Lions and Lions Clubs for which we are most thankful. We emphasise that as members of the committee we are guardians of your project and happily pass on what information comes to us to generate the stimuli for Lions members to liaise with their local communities and at the same time grow our own knowledge of the environment.

Please continue to tell us what you are doing so we can all absorb and learn from your efforts.

PDG Tim Moore - Chairman
Lions Green Canopy Project



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One million new trees by June 30, 2027

