



MEDIA RELEASE

(insert date)

Volunteers needed for Plant Out

Local Landcare groups together with Project Platypus are encouraging members of the community to pitch in and help plant 34,000 trees over the month of July.

This year, the community has six opportunities to get involved and help improve the local environment. Plant-outs will take place at Great Western on the 1st, Navarre on the 7th, Lake Lonsdale on the 15th, Moyston on the 21st, Elmhurst on the 28th of July and Dadswells Bridge on the 4th of August.

The plant-outs contribute to biodiversity, provide habitat, reduce salinity, and create shelter for livestock.

‘The positive environmental outcomes of the community plant-outs over the past 13 years to the local landscape is immeasurable’ said Project Manager David Margetson. Mr Margetson estimates that close to three hundred thousand trees, have been planted in the upper Wimmera catchment thanks to the dedication of over two thousand volunteers. ‘Without the support of the community, getting this many trees in the ground each planting season wouldn’t be possible’.

Mr Margetson believes it’s not just for the environmental benefits that the plant-outs attract so many volunteers. “We have volunteers returning each year to plant-out because they have such an enjoyable time. The plant-outs include a large social element with activities such as wine tours, music, and good food. Plus there’s plenty of time to chat to fellow volunteers as you plant” said Mr Margetson.

People wanting more information, or wishing to register can visit the Project Platypus website, or call Project Platypus on 5358 4410. The 2012 Plant Outs are supported by the Northern Grampians Shire Council.

Photos

All photos to be attributed to David Fletcher

Insert caption: ‘Sue Horvath and Daniel Samagalski prepare to plant a native seedling’

End of release

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