



3rd September 2012

**Landcare  
Week 2012**  
3rd - 9th September



**National Landcare Week Get involved**

After more than 25 years, the Landcare movement is still going strong, thanks to the enthusiasm and hard work of Landcare members. Landcare groups across the upper Wimmera catchment have been busy working on a range of projects and activities including weed and rabbit control, walking track establishment and revegetation projects.

Steve Start farms in Crowlands with his wife Michelle and three children Nathan, Emily and Charlotte. Mr Start is also a member of the Crowlands Landcare group and believes Landcare has been successful because of its ability to focus on real goals and achieve real outcomes the community can see. "Everybody gets a lot of pride and satisfaction out of revegetating an eroded gully or steep bare hill" said Mr Start.

But, being part of Landcare isn't just about implementing and delivering environmental projects, it's also provides the opportunity to meet up with other locals. "The great thing about Landcare is the social interaction that you have with people that you would never come across in your normal everyday life" said Mr Start.

And importantly, Landcare is also great for family. "Educating the kids and letting them join in suitable hands-on projects would have to be paramount. In my experience, the kids that are encouraged to take on some sort of an active role never forget, which will hold our community and environment in good stead for when they are leaders themselves" said Mr Start.

Project Platypus is celebrating National Landcare Week from September 3-9 by hosting its annual free tree giveaway this Friday, September 7 at the Project Platypus office between 8am-2pm. Project Platypus can also put you in touch with your local Landcare group. For enquiries or further information, contact David Margetson on 5358 4410.

**Image**

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Insert caption "One year old Charlotte Start lends a hand tree planting"

**End of release**

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