

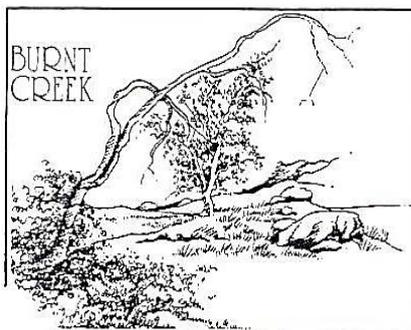
## **Burnt Creek Landcare Group Inc**

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### **Newsletter #142 March 2013**



# **A Reminder for an Interesting Get-Together**

## **A Really Uncertain Climate!**

**"My Ten Years in Remote Western Qld"**

**Tuesday 26th March - Upton Hill Fire Brigade**

**6.00pm + Steve Wilson** (Guest Speaker)

**+ BBQ dinner and BYO Wines**

**Beer available**

**Donation \$10 per head**

**Hear about the people, the climate and the challenges of the  
Lake Eyre Catchment Basin covering a third of Qld  
.....and see some extra-ordinary photos.**

**But please let us know if you are coming - the best way is**

**call/leave a message on 03 5796 2088**

**or**

**email to [sandymackenzie@ozemail.com.au](mailto:sandymackenzie@ozemail.com.au)**

Turn into the hills opposite the Avenel Caltex Roadhouse. After 300m turn left into Upton Road, travel 14kms from the Hume Freeway and, when the bitumen ends, the new Fire Station is easily seen.

### **Our Guest Speaker - Steve Wilson**

Steve Wilson is the Land and Biodiversity team leader at the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority. He has had a diverse and fascinating career.

After dropping out of high school, Steve started his career as a jackeroo in Qld and the NT followed by three years on prawn trawlers based at Weipa where he was in charge of removing deadly sea snakes from the nets - a vacant position because no others were brave enough (or silly enough) to tackle the snakes!

After a stint as a fork lift driver with Nissan he made a start on his education and spent ten years (part time) in the TAFE system gaining four associate diplomas. 1996 saw him graduating from Charles Sturt Uni followed by a Master's in Environmental Management from UniQld.

Steve spent ten years with the Zoological Board of Victoria, of which seven years were as Keeper in Charge at the Melbourne Zoo. During this time he spent two years in Chicago on the first USA/Australia zoo staff exchange program and, as part of that experience, had extensive field work in Central America (collecting for the Smithsonian Institute), in Mexico (grey whales) and in Canada (black bears). Now, the very affable Steve Wilson has to deal with rabbits, sugar gliders, legless lizards and buff-rumped thornbills!

Before joining the CMA he had ten years in Western Qld based in Longreach. His work included developing the natural resource management plan for the Lake Eyre Basin Catchment which is almost entirely in Qld and includes the iconic waterways of the Diamantina and Georgina Rivers and Coopers Creek. His area extended from the NSW border to the Barkly Tableland between Mt Isa and Camooweal and included such marvellous names as Urandangi, Birdsville, Boulia, Bedourie and Betoota!

Facing the realities of providing the expanded educational opportunities for his three children, the family moved to Victoria in 2011. He has plans to round his education off with a PhD, time permitting. However his greatest educational experiences and qualifications will always remain the real life experiences he has enjoyed with the people and places he has encountered.

Steve has worked with the Herald and Weekly Times, has co-authored four books and over 50 articles mostly on natural resource issues.

He has a special talent for photography which will be the highlight of the evening.

**We hope you will join us for drinks and a hamburger -  
get together and talk about the season, the rabbits, the weeds or the neighbours!**

**Enjoy Steve's presentation and his company**

**But please let us know if you are coming - the best way is**

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