 **Landcare Broken Hill Inc**

***Greening the Hill Mk2***

ABC Radio interview No.49 – 29th April 2020

**Celebrating our 1st Anniversary**

**On the 29th April 2019 I came into the ABC studio and met Georgia Roberts for the first time and had my first interview talking about Landcare Broken Hill’s activities. It was during that interview that we launched our *Greening the Hill Mk2* Initiative. I then gave a glimpse of some of our 39 concurrent projects.**

“***When Landcare’s Greening the Hill Mk2 initiative was launched just twelve months ago, all our projects were focussed on the many opportunities by which we can individually and collectively become more sustainable in the way we live”.***

The 39 concurrent ***Greening the Hill Mk2*** projects were launched with an intention to strive for more sustainable land management and encourage more sustainable modes of living.

**“*We set out to talk about ways by which we could be better at looking after the environment: both the broader environment, but also the environment in our own homes”.***

**Partnerships needed & secured.** Landcare Broken Hill knew that we couldn’t achieve our vision alone, it was critical that we encouraged others to join us as partners to ensure that we were strong enough and had a greater reach.

**AGL tangibly demonstrates its support.** This week, Landcare Broken Hill received confirmation that one of Australia’s largest corporations in the renewable energy field, **AGL**, shared Landcare’s vision and identified the great values inherent in the ***Greening the Hill Mk2*** Initiative. **AGL**, with its strong presence in Australia’s solar energy and wind energy industries, particularly as a part owner of the Powering Australian Renewables Fund (**PARF**) Broken Hill’s solar plant, has made an encouraging donation to the Landcare Broken Hill ‘cause’, confirming that it stood by the Broken Hill community, expressing hope that Landcare achieves its ***Greening the Hill Mk2*** objectives.

Landcare Broken Hill is determined to work with the whole Broken Hill community to ensure we all become sustainable in the way we live. Last May, Landcare Broken Hill was pleased to welcome **Broken Hill City Council** as one of its first ***Greening the Hill Mk2*** partners and since then has encouraged many others to similarly become partners.

“***Now with AGL joining a number of other corporate supporters and partners, there can be little doubt that beyond this first anniversary, Landcare Broken Hill will be able to continue to strive to achieve its vision. We will be looking forward to talking to AGL in the future, post the COVID-19 pandemic, to discuss our plans to ensure that the Broken Hill community has a truly vital and sustainable future. With a leading Australian company like AGL wishing to join with us, I’m sure that together we will be able to raise the spirits of Broken Hill post COVID-19 confirming that Broken Hill has a bright ‘green’ future as part of its recovery”.***

**An Anniversary Roll Call of the *Greening the Hill Mk2* projects**

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| 1 | Regeneration Reserve - Work to reinstate a healthy Regen |  |
| 2 | Establish a native plant propagation nursery |  |
| 3 | Backyard Bush Nurseries |  |
| 4 | Creation of Aboriginal garden of traditionally useful & edible plants | X |
| 5 | Green Schools Project - started with Sacred Heart Parish Primary School + others |  |
| 6 | Community Tree Care |  |
| 7 | Sporting facilities & recreational parks |  |
| 8 | Joint ventures to assist major rehabilitation projects - eg University Dams Regen |  |
| 9 | Re-Greening community places eg the 3rd BH Sea Scouts Hall grounds |  |
| 10 | Trees for Travellers |  |
| 11 | City Landcare Mates | X |
| 12 | Keeping Trees – seeking to increase understanding of the value of trees |  |
| 13 | Demonstration nature-strips – Beryl St outside Centre for Community |  |
| 14 | Demonstration public park to assist in water-wise plant selection – Cons. Gardens |  |
| 15 | Assisting Public Authorities with env. Management particularly arboriculture  |  |
| 16 | Litter Removal Project |  |
| 17 | Renewable Energy Transition Project – promotion & discussions - AGL & Cobalt Bl |  |
| 18 | Sustainable Living & Housing Project – discussions with RENEW, Alt. Tech. Assoc. |  |
| 19 | Backyard gardening – stimulating interest in sustainable gardening |  |
| 20 | Sharing knowledge about composting – sustainable land management  |  |
| 21 | Communal community garden(s) – eg at the Centre for Community |  |
| 22 | Annual Landcare BH Awards eg Best Arid Zone Naturestrip & Best Waterwise Gar. | X |
| 23 | Reopen Council’s Green Waste Facility to produce community mulch | X |
| 24 | Inspirational & Educational Meetings – monthly, with guest speakers |  |
| 25 | Facilitating public awareness – ABC, other media, website, Facebook etc  |  |
| 26 | Caring for Country – workshops & field trips led by traditional owners | X |
| 27 | Aboriginal Knowledge of native plants – providing avenues like focussed tourism | X |
| 28 | Public Art Installations – to covey environmental knowledge & gain support  |  |
| 29 | Environmental Art Support – Broken Hill Art Exchange | X |
| 30 | Education of the reuse of grey water |  |
| 31 | Water Manual (or its equivalent) on water-wise practices – Essential Water | X |
| 32 | Water tanks uptake Project – To date, awareness raising – Roy Butler MP in Parl. |  |
| 33 | Promoting moisture retention gardening & land management practices |  |
| 34 | Mine de-watering & reuse of mine water to green Broken Hill - valuable talks  | X |
| 35 | Reopen public reserves & natural attractions – Sundown Trail & Imperial Lakes |  |
| 36 | Scientific Studies – fostering & cooperation eg phytoremediation & Select Carbon |  |
| 37 | Carbon Offset – Have Greening the Hill Mk2 approved as a carbon offset project  | X |
| 38 | Promoting Sustainable Conference Management – eg NSW State Landcare Conf  |  |
| 39 | Climate Change Emergency Resolution – achieved on 25 September 2019 |  |

**All Landcare Broken Hill’s public meetings have been cancelled for the foreseeable future due to COVID-19.**

**All Landcare Broken Hill’s on-the-ground projects have been deferred until further notice, although ‘backroom’ planning and preparation continues.**

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