



Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living

Report 2013-2014

Presented to Campbelltown City Council

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1. Introduction

The Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living (MCSL, the Centre) is a not-for-profit, community-focused organisation that aspires to be a world-class educational facility and model for the promotion of sustainable technology and practices in homes, urban precincts and businesses. The Centre aims to display and demonstrate alternative energy production and use, waste-water recycling, water and energy efficiency, waste avoidance and green space management. The Centre conducts community educational programs and projects that build social capacity and empower individuals to embrace sustainable lifestyles.

2. Background

In 2004, the Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust (the Trust) joined forces with CERES Macarthur, an environmentally committed group of Macarthur residents with the support of local councils and MACROC (Macarthur Regional Organisation of Councils), to form a new company called the Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living. The Board of Directors was composed of three CERES members and three Trust members. With funding (approximately \$1.8 million) from the Australian Government's Sustainable Regions Program, the Centre was built and demonstrates the best in environmental design and construction. The funds were primarily for construction costs but covered staff costs until the end of the grant. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the landowner (the Trust) and MCSL which included a property lease of 5.3 hectares for four years with the option to renew for another four years. The Centre was officially opened on Tuesday 20 February 2007.

A series of grants were secured to enable the Centre to employ staff to run the Centre while communicating sustainability education. CERES Macarthur ceased to exist in 2009 and Campbelltown City Council took the lead in setting up a three council (Campbelltown City, Camden and Wollondilly Council) group to partner with the Trust to ensure continuity of the Centre.

Volunteer support of community members, Councils and the Trust has kept the Centre alive and recent funding injections for a limited period has enabled a new Board of Directors (made up of three representatives each from the Councils and the Trust) to appoint a full

time Coordinator/Centre Manager with the necessary administrative, training and management skills to significantly turn around the profile of MCSL. The Board conducted its AGM on 8 December 2010 and meets monthly to consider future directions.

A Business Plan for 2011 was drawn up, a strategic direction set for next four years and the Mission Statement revised.

3. Current Status of MCSL

While Campbelltown City Council remains the most significant financial contributor to the operations of the Centre, the other two Councils have provided or are committed to providing further funding. With this financial involvement of the three LGAs and the growth of the Centre's own income streams the future for MCSL is in a much stronger position to fulfil its new mission. Public attendance at the Centre now averages 820 per month with ongoing community workshops general visitors dropping in for advice, increased number of school visits and increased use of the Centre's facilities by community and business groups for planning days and meetings. Volunteer numbers have increased to 22 and together with TAFE and school students, a number of new beds have been developed and constructed within the community garden. Lawns are being mowed regularly and the nursery and general plantings are being maintained. Walking paths have been enhanced, the existing cottage has been repainted (and computer networked), administrative systems improved and the Centre fitted with soft furnishings. The Centre Manager also fulfilled the Centre's grant obligations to a major Urban Sustainability Project for the Macarthur Region which ran for 2007-2011 and employed key support staff and re-established many meaningful relationships for future partnerships.

In 2012 & 2013 steps were taken to improve signage and interpretation, media coverage and on-line promotion. MCSL Board members, employees and volunteers enhance the visitor experience and effectively and efficiently communicate key messages to the whole community – to real and virtual visitors.

These key messages assist to promote the wider learning opportunities; increase visitor numbers and raise awareness of the organisation, its revenue streams and community engagement.

2014 is the year of progress; the Centre is consolidating its educational program, providing training to the community where ever possible e.g. in Schools, Child Care Centres, Housing Development Areas such as Oran Park or holding Tours at the Centre. The School Holiday program is running well and averages 400 students and 60 teachers each holiday. The Little Explorers playgroup has approximately 44-47 parents, Children, Bubs and Grandparents attending weekly, Children are loving the gardening activities plus learning about our local environment. The Centre now conducts group Tours with Devonshire Teas or Lunch, sustainable Venue hire and attends Expo's and Shows with our Kids Interactive Tent.

4. Scope and purpose of MCSL

A well run organisation has a clearly articulated mission, vision and strategic direction which are understood by all who are involved with it. It has also worked out what key messages it wants to convey to visitors and the wider community and how best to achieve this.

4.1 The mission, vision and objectives of MCSL

Organisational Mission:

To develop MCSL into a regional place of excellence that inspires the community to embrace an environmental conscience.

Organisational Vision:

The Board of Directors and staff of MCSL are committed to:

- Adopting and promoting best practice in environmental sustainability
- Conducting our business ethically, honestly and transparently

- Providing value for sponsors' and supporters' investments
- Fulfilling our duty of care to employees, volunteers and the public.

Organisational Objectives:

- As part of its business plan, the Board of Directors determined that:
- MCSL will encourage the community to adopt sustainable lifestyle choices to make a positive difference to the environmental sustainability of the Macarthur Region and beyond.
- MCSL will provide an attractive place of environmental excellence where visitors will see sustainability in action; have access to experts and plenty of opportunities to develop their own knowledge, interests and understanding.
- MCSL will develop strong partnerships with business and community-based stakeholders to secure MCSL's financial independence and future existence.
- MCSL will provide value-for-money to funding bodies to maintain MCSL's credibility and their respect.
- MCSL will continually review and improve its administrative systems to ensure a stable administrative foundation on which to build the Centre's operations.

4.2 New visitor objectives

The following objectives have been identified based on seven years existence of MCSL as a public place conducting numerous public programs and evaluations.

MCSL stakeholders and visitors to the Centre expect and deserve the following:

- An enjoyable outing where their needs for safety, comfort, orientation, information, recreation and education are met.
- Easy access to MCSL facilities and expertise, collections, messages and values.
- An experience that raises awareness of a wide range of sustainable technology and practices in homes, urban precincts and businesses – from the latest and the most sophisticated to the simplest but effective techniques for conserving earth's resources.

- An experience that engages and delivers satisfaction and empowerment to adopt sustainable living practices.
- An experience that fosters community interest and ownership of MCSL: the organisation and the Centre.
- An experience that is worth telling others about; that spreads MCSL’s messages, programs and services ‘well beyond the Centre boundaries’.

4.3 Visitor profiles

Past planning sessions and documentation have identified the following user groups:

CUSTOMERS/POTENTIAL VISITORS	Needs/ Expectations
<i>Schools, TAFEs and other educational institutions: teachers and students and accompanying carers</i>	Curriculum-linked outdoor learning experiences; practical environmental education, advice on sustainable buildings & garden design; assistance with devising School Environmental Plans and other policies and procedures; work experience and skill building opportunities; train the trainer opportunities; fieldwork and research; opportunities for team building and developing other social skills; a good time, fun.
<i>Businesses, construction and landscape industry including builders, developers, tradespeople, designers and architects</i>	Practical product knowledge and skills; professional development and environmental credibility training; environmental certification; opportunity to showcase best practice; resource sharing; apprenticeship support; online database for sustainable builders and landscapers; practical demonstrations and hands on experience in sustainable initiatives.
<i>Residents, home owners, DIY renovators, home gardeners,</i>	A place where they can see things in operation, get reliable advice and unbiased information on a broad range of environmental issues; attend educational activities, workshops and training; purchase environmental products; access recommended sustainable professionals; linkage to other facilities and groups.
<i>Community, Probus clubs, tourists, day visitors</i>	Venue, place to meet, socialise, learn and practice, display, exhibit and perform all manner of activities linked by the common theme of environment; exposure to the Macarthur region; safe and inspirational encounter with nature, frogs and other wildlife; food, fun, souvenirs, relaxation, events and festivals, a unique and memorable experience.

<p>Government, Ministers, local Members and other political leaders, local, state and federal organisations, staff and volunteers, other ecocentres.</p>	<p>Environmental public face of government; good news and photo opportunities; input and consultation; good financial management and governance; regular updates and good reporting mechanisms; kudos and voter support; success story and raised profile of a regional education resource; a sound capital investment with enviro-relevance and physical improvement; opportunities for short-term and ongoing partnership programs with DET; Sydney Water, DEUS, Integral Energy etc.</p>
<p>Staff and volunteers, Board members, governing bodies</p>	<p>Good employment conditions; financial stability; meaningful and structured work programs; accountability and responsibility to all stakeholders ; fairness; incentives and recognition in the community; to be valued, involved and part of a working and sustainable MCSL; tangible evidence of ‘making a difference’ to species survival and well-being, energy and water use, inter-generational equity and benefit sharing.</p>
<p>Benefactors, sponsors, funding bodies</p>	<p>A sound financial investment with enviro-relevance and regional presence; cross-promotional synergies, good news stories and photo opportunities, pride and kudos of being associated with a regional place of excellence that inspires the community to embrace an environmental conscience.</p>

Centre update for MCSL 2013/2014

Month/Year	Visitors to Centre	Workshop Attendances	Web Hits/Face Book etc	Projects/Workshop	Volunteer numbers + Works placement Students	Volunteer Hours per month
Jan 2013	218	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, MCSL Playgroup	Change over to new website	4x workshops Campbelltown Council 2x MCSL workshops	20x Volunteers	712hrs
Feb	697	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Mefarm, men's shed	2812	5x workshops Campbelltown Council 3x school workshop 1x MCSL workshops	23x Volunteers	728
March	1247	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Mefarm, festival, venue	3651	1x workshops Campbelltown Council 2x school workshop x MCSL workshops	25x Volunteers	744
April	617	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Mefarm, men shed venue	4184	workshops Campbelltown Council school workshop MCSL workshops	20x Volunteers	645hrs
May	655	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA,	2728	workshops Campbelltown Council	18x Volunteers	752Hrs

		Playgroups, Mefarm, men's shed, venue		school workshop MCSL workshops		
June	651	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Mefarm, men's shed, venue	2683	workshops Campbelltown Council school workshop MCSL workshops	22 Volunteers	798hrs
July	794	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Mefarm, men's shed, venue	2909	workshops Campbelltown Council school workshop MCSL workshops	22 Volunteers	798hrs
August	720	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Mefarm, men's shed	2829	workshops Campbelltown Council school workshop MCSL workshops	15 Volunteers	540hr
September	1352	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Mefarm, men's shed	2776	workshops Campbelltown Council school workshop MCSL workshops	15 Volunteers	540hr
October	1066	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Mefarm, men's shed	3384	workshops Campbelltown Council school workshop MCSL workshops	18 Volunteers	680hr
November	951	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Me farm,	5418	workshops Campbelltown Council school workshop MCSL workshops	17 Volunteers	260hr

		men's shed				
December	399	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Me farm, men's shed	9313 web hits	workshops Campbelltown Council school workshop MCSL workshops	17 Volunteers	300hrs
January 2014	543 35 offsite	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Me farm, men's shed	6620 web hits Face book Likes 325 Friends 87	workshops 5xCampbelltown Council 3x school workshop 1x MCSL workshops	12 Volunteers	150hrs
February	718	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Me farm, men's shed	12,516 web hits Face book Likes 374 Friends 100	<u>workshops</u> None as yet	17 Volunteers	210hrs
March	640 Off site Girl Guides Worm farming 150 girls Cooking 200 girls	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Me farm, men's shed	12058 web hits Face book Likes 388 Friends 102	<u>workshops</u> 4x Campbelltown Workshops	18 Volunteers	215hrs
April	1571 Visitors	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Me farm, men's shed	8254 web hits Facebook Likes 407 Friends 108	Workshops 3x Campbelltown Council	20 Volunteers	220hrs
May	664 visitors 24th May	Visitors, Tours, schools functions, TAFE, YWCA, Playgroups, Me farm, men's shed	3761 web hits Facebook Likes 449 Friends 114	Workshops 6x Campbelltown Council	22 Volunteers	250hrs

Visitor centre

The information/sustainable product Centre is open from 9.30-3.30pm Monday-Friday's in the cottage. It's now the centre of the site, where visitors meet to gather information and begin a site tour or gather information before walking around the centre. The Information Centre also sells honey fresh from the site as well as Jams, Chutneys etc made the Centre.

2013

January/February Activities

18 week TAFE commenced in gardening

2x Burnside cooking workshops

1x MCSL Cheese making Course

MCSL completed 2x Composting/Worm Farming activities in local schools for Campbelltown City Council

MCSL completed 5 x workshops for Campbelltown City Council in gardening and cooking

MCSL completed 1 x workshop for Oran Park Town in Natural chemicals around the house

4x Every Thursday Little Explorers children workshops

Kuring-Gai Council Tour for 7 Council Staff

Rotary Men's shed BBQ Tuesday

1x School Tour for 17 students

1x Tour for NOVA disabilities group

1x SITA Meeting for the community

Narellan Lions and Macarthur Bee Keepers Monthly Meeting

Narellan Lions Youth of the Year event

1x Macarthur Community College Gardening course

3x Food for thought classes with Camden Community Connections at MCSL

1x 5 week class on Mosaicing with Camden Community Connections at MCSL

Lomandra School has set up a garden at MCSL and visit weekly

Macarthur Disabilities have set up a garden at MCSL and visit weekly

Camden Show Meeting for the Children's Inactive tent

MCSL web site staff training

Narellan Lions and Macarthur Bee Keepers Monthly Meeting

Camden Town farm and MCSL forming a partnership

Sherwood Hills Christian School excursion and workshops- 17 kids
 Garden Gates play group visits
 Formed MCSL sustainable Committee
 Community Greening Tours- Australian Botanic Gardens Sydney

March Activities

Photo & articles in local newspaper
 4x TAFE
 2x Camden Connection class
 1x Macarthur Greens Meeting
 4x little explorer's workshops
 1x Devonshire tea and Tour for 20 people
 1x Camden Family Day Care workshop
 Rock corp. meeting
 Camden Show MCSL running the Kids Interactive Tent
 1x Campbelltown Council School workshop- worm farming
 2x Campbelltown Council workshop
 Rock Corp. Project- Building a play area for the kids area
 MCSL's "LIVE SMART FESTIVAL"- 900 people attended
 John Edmondson High School 9 Hospitality Students cooking workshop
 Narellan Lions and Macarthur Bee Keepers Monthly Meeting
 Brand New Day- Pamper Day
 Camden Family Day care workshop
 MEfarm establishing the farm on site

April -July Activities

Girl Guides Session at MT Annan Gardens
 3x Worm farming, composting, cooking classes
 4x TAFE work placement student
 4x Mosaicing with Camden Community Connections-Venue
 Youth Week Kitchen Workshop-Camden Community Connections
 Youth Week activities with Camden Council –Scare Crow Making
 12x Tafe classes-venue
 Youth of the street gardening volunteers
 Jack & Jill Playgroup little explorers 12 kids (18months-4yr)
 12x Little Explorers
 MCSL Board Meeting

Mt Annan Roma- Gardens- Recycling, Worm farming/composting/info stall
 Oosh Visit x 35 (6-12yrs) Tour, worm farming, composting/ veggie gardening, Art Experiment
 Harrington Park Child Care centre Tour, worm farming, composting, veggie planting, chook care 30xkids Oosh 6-12yr
 2x Campbelltown Council Garden Workshop
 Ruse Hall-Campbelltown Education Bush Care group workshop
 Oosh Visit x 50 (6-12yrs) Tour, worm farming, composting/ veggie gardening, Art experiment
 Oosh Visit x 30 (6-12yrs) from Holsworthy's childcare -Tour, worm farming, recycle Olympics, waste Audit, Art
 Camdenville Vacation Care (Marrickville) approx 20x children Oosh 6-12yr
 2x Scare crowing making workshops for Camden Council
 8x Mosaicing classes plus a morning tea with Chris Patterson and Russell Mattheson
 5 Oosh groups' approx 187 kids over 2 weeks, made \$2665.00 Gross, net \$1015.00
 1x Bush regeneration workshop- Campbelltown Council
 7x Campbelltown Council Community workshops
 3x School workshop for Campbelltown Council
 2x Workshops with Botanic Gardens
 1x Food for thought program with Camden Connect and more to come
 1x TAFE talk with approx 40 students
 Rotary men's shed every Tuesday for breakfast meetings
 4x Burnside workshops
 Donation and Installation of a \$5,000 ecoPOP system
 New volunteers- 5 x Youth off the streets plus staff
 Little Explorers term 2 numbers 140 children and adults
 Camden Festival write up for MCSL Twilight produce markets in let's connect (have 6 stalls, entertainment)
 1x Illawarra Community Garden Tour with Del Cotter
 1xTour plus Devonshire tea for 22 people
 Camden Festival Meetings
 Container is now painted by Men's shed
 Narellan Lions and Macarthur Bee Keepers Monthly Meeting
 MEfarm partnership
 Attending University Wollongong Education for Social Equity
 1x Kitchen workshop and Tour

July-August Activities

18 week TAFE Class with 18 students in it weekly
 Russell Mattheson visited the Little Explorers group on 18th July

4x Little Explorers workshops
 Sustainable Committee meeting
 Visit from Brian Doyle plus Brian visited the Men's shed
 2 x Camden Connection cookery class
 Little Explorers is now split into 2 groups on a Thursday 1x 10-12 for 0-5yrs and 1x 1-3pm for the 0-12yrs
 Upgraded MCSL Internet and phone system and changed over to Telstra
 2x School Composting workshop with Campbelltown Council
 4x Campbelltown Council workshop
 Helen updated her RSA for the Centre
 1x workshop in recycling, reduce with the Botanic Gardens
 Camden Festival Meeting
 Camden Festival Twilight Produce Markets
 Scare Crow Making with the Wizard of Oz festival
 Sydney weekender filming of MCSL Centre and workshops
 Riverfest 31st August
 Official Men's shed opening
 Narellan Lions and Macarthur Bee Keepers Monthly Meeting
 UWS meetings to form partnerships with grant
 Beginning stages of establishing a farmer's produce market on MCSL site
 The Australian Botanic Gardens, Mt Annan workshops
 MEfarm meeting
 SITA meeting
 The Australian Botanic Gardens Trust Meeting and staff BBQ
 Wollondilly Shire Council executive meeting

September Activities

Entered Camden Council Garden Competition
 4x TAFE gardening courses
 4x Little Explorers workshops
 Sherwood Girls gardening and cooking classes
 2x Eagle Vale High School Venue Hire
 MEfarm meeting
 8x Campbelltown City Council Workshops
 Visit Claymore community group
 Narellan Lions and Macarthur Bee Keepers Monthly Meeting
 Camden Council garden competition awards
 Twilight markets

1x Oosh Group – 30 children
Macarthur Greens Meeting
Macarthur Diversity Tour-10 students

October-November Activities

Camden Council Debrief for Camden Council Festival
4x TAFE Class
4x Little Explorers-2 groups on a Thursday 1 from 10-12 for 0-5yrs and 1 from 1-3pm for the 0-12yrs
6x Campbelltown Council workshop
1x Scare Crow making workshop at fishers Ghost Gig for Campbelltown Council
4x Sharwood Girls Volunteering at Centre and 4 Girls cooking muffins each week for the volunteers
2 x Kitchen Hires to Local Caterer- Chef and I
2x MCSL workshops bringing in \$630.00
Wollondilly Shire Community Forum Talk
2x bee keeper's workshop
2x cooking workshops for Burnside
Greening Australia/MCSL/Botanic Gardens Grants applicant
1x TAFE visit 12 Japanese Representatives
MCSL Sustainable Committee meeting- Renee, Dan and Chris
MEfarm and MCSL meeting- Andrew and Helen
1x Tour and Devonshire Tea- Migrant resources Centre Liverpool
SITA Grant Launch Bankstown Airport
SITA on site Excursion
2x Community Greening Tours
3x MEfarm tours
Janelle Hatherly + Mohammed's Visit to Centre
Narellan Lions and Macarthur Bee Keepers Monthly Meeting
Camden Connections Meeting and Art display
Camden Show Meeting for 2014
Mount Annan Christian College Volunteers
Wind core Turbine Arrives to Australia from China
MEfarm meeting

December Activities

1x Tour and Devonshire tea MEFarm
Narellan Lions and Macarthur Bee Keepers Monthly Meeting

MCSL volunteers and staff Christmas party

1x TAFE Class

2x Little Explorers-2 groups on a Thursday 1 from 10-12 for 0-5yrs and 1 from 1-3pm for the 0-12yrs

3x Campbelltown Council workshop

4 Sharwood Girls Volunteering at Centre

1x bee keeper's workshop

1x Camden Community College Art display

2x MEfarm and MCSL meeting- Andrew and Helen

Completed 2 youth week applications for Camden Council and Wollondilly Shire Council

Represented MCSL at MWLP and Sector Connect Christmas Party

Camden Show Meeting with UWS and MCSL

2014

January Activities

Reopened 6th January

Radio sessions on C93.1

3x Oosh school groups

1x Oran Park No Dig Garden with 35 residents

UWS Meetings – MCSL, UWS & Local Schools partnering on "Love your Lagoon Project"

Meeting for the Camden Show- Kids Interactive Tent 2014

1x ME farm and MCSL meeting

Camden Council Business Economic Meeting on Ag

Men's shed talk 3 bin system & Recycling

1x Little Explorers-2 groups on a Thursday 1 from 10-12 for 0-5yrs and 1 from 1-3pm for the 0-12yrs

Campbelltown Council Kids Expo 8th March

5x Campbelltown Council workshops

2x Bee keepers meeting

2x bee keeper's workshop

February Activities

4 x Campbelltown City Council Workshops

4 x Little Explorers

2x Luncheons for Community Greening

UWS – Love your lagoon talks

Bee Keepers Meeting

Narellan Lions Club Meeting

Narellan Lions Club Youth of the Year Event
 Camden Connections Manager Meeting
 MCSL Science Month Event
 Northcott Disabilities Tour and Site Induction
 MEfarm Exit
 Camden Connection Food workshop
 Campbelltown City Council Kids Conference Expo-Workshop & Luncheon

March Activities

3 x Campbelltown City Council Workshops
 4 x Little Explorers
 Campbelltown Council kids Expo-40 child care/teachers from Child Care Centres across NSW completing workshops at MCSL
 1x Bee Keepers Meeting
 1x Narellan Lions Club Meeting
 Narellan Lions Club Meeting
 Meeting – Relle and Mary Belle from Sydney Australian Botanic Gardens
 Luncheon for Liverpool migrant Centre
 Commenced fortnightly C91.3 radio segments
 Solar Cooking Demonstrations
 Rotary Men's shed meeting
 Completed article for gardens magazine-Dan Bishop
 Attended Girl Guides event at the Gardens with worm farming, composting, chook care and cooking
 MCSL Science Month Event-1st August – 31st August
 Northcott Disabilities commenced as volunteers at MCSL
 Camden Connection Food workshops

April & May Activities

Camden Festival Meeting
 2x Little Explorers play group 0-5yrs
 Centre Youth week workshop- Pizza plant potting and Pizza Making
 Live Smart Festival- 500 people
 Annan ROMA Expo MCSL attended with centre information, samples of food from classes and solar cooker from USA
 8x OOSH groups
 1x Bee keeper meeting
 1x Lions club meeting

Sydney weekender aired 19th April
 Devonshire tea Plus Tour for 16 seniors from Hurstville
 Tour for Harmony House for 8 people
 2x Campbelltown Council cooking workshop
 Community Greening workshop
 4x Campbelltown Council garden workshop

Campbelltown City Council Workshops

Kids worm farming	No Dig Gardens & Mulching
Kids Veggie Garden	Garden To Table-Microwave
Green Cleaning	Easy Native Garden & Water Wise Gardening
Garden To Table-Summer stir fries and Salads	Wipe Out Weeds
Winter vegetable Gardens	Garden To Table- Slow Food Cooking
Garden to Table-Preserving	Kids Nature Photography
Keeping Chickens in your back yard	Kids Composting
Worm Farming & Composting	Garden To Table-Festive Leftovers
Kids Portable Herb Gardens	

- These workshops have been conducted by MCSL for the local Community to assist with waste or power reduction. Each workshop investigates where waste is produced such as the garden, kitchen (inside or outside) and then uses the easiest and most sustainable methods of reducing, recycling or reusing it from composting to slow food cooking. The Centre educates the local community to eliminate waste.

Statics for Workshops at MCSL sponsored by Campbelltown City Council

Year	Workshop participant Numbers	Number of workshops
2011	313	22
2012	373	26
2013	527	36
2014	302 (as of May 2014)	16 (as of May 2014)

***2013 & 2014 averaging 18.8 people in each workshop**

Campbelltown City Council Workshop Comments

Easy Native Gardens and Water Wise Gardening 2013

- Excellent presenter was very entertaining
- Enjoyable afternoon & informative

Green Cleaning workshop 2014

- Very informative. Picked up great tips. Please continue as I may like to do it again.
- Very informative. Presented well. Supplied info to take home, including a test product from the doc. Material supplied. Team activities which was fun. Provided alternatives to safety measures and reuse of containers to further promote sustainability initiatives.
- Very enthusiastic instructor. Great fun and very informative.

Keeping Chickens in your Backyard Workshop 2014

- A very informative workshop that has given our family the info needed to start caring for our own chickens.
- Would love to see workshop on bee keeping
- Very useful & informative.
- Great & very useful
- Thanks so much for yet another great workshop!
- Presenter was very knowledgeable
- Thank you so much, Keep it up
- Thank you it was fantastic!

Garden to Table-Preserving 2014

- Fantastic , more, more, more
- Always find the stuff here fantastic. Finding MCSL I found stuff I didn't think I would be interested in
- Found myself open to lots of different learning.
- Very enjoyable. Will come again!!

MCSL Venue Hire

Macarthur Greens

SITA

MWLP

Yr 12 High School venue Hire

Campbelltown Council Meeting

YWCA

Camden Connections

Wollondilly Community Links

3x Private Venue Hires

MEfarm venue hire

1x Brand New Day Event

Macarthur Bee Keepers Meetings

Youth Week Wollondilly Community Links Venue Hire

Narellan Lions Club Meetings

MEfarm Meetings

1x Wedding Function with 80-90 people

1x SITA venue Hire

1 x Yr12 School Venue Hire

2x kitchen hires with Camden Community College

1x Venue Hire- Baby Shower

1x Venue Hire-Engagement Party

1x Venue Hire- Community Restorative Centre Broadway

1x function for many field of Woman day – Cancer Day

1x Kitchen/Venue Hire for Dinner/Birthday Party

1x 30yr Birthday Party

1xNarellan Road Upgrade

1x50th Birthday party

Campbelltown City Council

1x SITA venue Hire

1x Venue Hire with Chef and I

21st Party – Venue Hire

SITA Venue Hire

Youth Week- venue hire- Brand New Day

Venue Hire 1st Birthday

Camden Connections Network Meetings

MCSL Awards

Federal Member for Macarthur Volunteers awards- 6x MCSL volunteers were recognised for their contribution to the Macarthur Region

International Woman's Day nomination for Louise Hetherington

MCSL Camden Garden Competition, winning 2 categories

MCSL ran the kid's activity marquee on 15th & 16th March at the Camden Show, winning two Awards.

Nominated for NSW Volunteer Awards at Kirribilli Club Sydney

Local Volunteers Award with Russell Matheson

Camden Show Kids interactive tent- won "Best Educational Display" for 2014

Australian Small Business Awards 2014- won the Australian Small Business Awards 2014

for not Profit Organisation

Latina Art Award

MCSL Community Partnerships

MCSL has developed associations with the following organisations

Concept Factory

Narellan Lions

Macarthur Greens

Campbelltown Council- Waste and Environmental Sections workshops

Childcare centres from inner Sydney coming out to MCSL to do a Holiday programs.

Narellan Rotary Men's shed

Macarthur Bee Keepers

Wind Core Turbine- Living Power

Tumble Weed and Angus Stewart

MCSL's "LIVE SMART FESTIVAL"

RockCorp/Optus 30 volunteers

Camden Family Day care

MWPL

SITA

Greening Australia

Living Power

Brand New Day

Camden Show Society

Sydney Weekender

Camden Community Connections
 Michael Mobbs- Eco POP



Kids Portable Herb Gardens workshop



Kids Vegetable Gardening Workshops



Garden to Table –Microwave Cooking



Campbelltown City Council Kids Expo



OOSH Workshop

Future of MCSL

The Centre continues to flourish under the financial assistance of the Campbelltown City Council, Camden Council and Wollondilly Shire Council. Without this assistance, the Centre would not be able to assist the Local Community plus visitors from all over NSW. Since the filming and airing of the Sydney Weekender Program on the Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living, visitors are dropping in looking for information, workshops or ideas on sustainable living and practices that can introduce into their daily lives.

From here the Centre has approval to erect a Windcore Turbine, the first in Australia to assist with educational training needs of TAFE and University Students plus a weekly farmers market. The Staff and Volunteers will continue working hard to harness the Centre's Community Hub whilst creating wonderful opportunities to grow and encapsulate sustainability within the Macarthur Region.