

# New England Childrens Services Eco-mentoring Network

(NECSEN)

A yearlong project

Nadine McCrea – Project leader

our motto for the year:

'Its not easy being green... oh yes it is!'

*initial notice* (Oct 2011)



*"Julie & Deb were thought provoking & much more.*

*I came back oozing with ideas & ways to engage staff."* Galia, Yarm Gwanda CCC

**Would your service & you like to be part of helping make childrens services in the greater New England region *GREENER* during 2012?**

If so, plan ahead NOW and 'claim the dates' & 'mark your diary' on your 2012 calendar; and then, TODAY let us know by emailing your expression of interest to Di Swann at UNE (see below).

**What will happen?** you decide to opt in-and-out of events during the year...

**Event 1** - a GREENER weekend symposium & centre-planning workshop; **2, 3, 4 March 2012** [at UNE, Armidale: Friday late afternoon; all day Saturday; Sunday morning – full program appears in separate attached flyer]

**Events 2 & 3** - follow-up half-or-whole-day sharing forums with centre tours plus additional ideas & resources; **Saturday late-July** [location: probably Kindamindi Preschool, Inverell District Family Services] & **Saturday mid-October** [location: probably Walcha Preschool] note: ECA conference, Perth 3-6 October

**Mentoring activities during the year: 1)** everyone interacting & sharing online/email -- ideas, changes, resources, reflections on philosophy & practice; **2)** supporting individual centres – Ros & Nadine; **3)** researching with Ros & Nadine.  
**Create, share and discuss your links to National Quality Framework (NQF) documents throughout 2012.**

**Who will be involved?**

YŌŪ and **Nadine McCrea** [early childhood education program at UNE] is the project leader/planner of this series of events. For the March weekend, our consultant-facilitators will be well-respected **Julie Gaul** and **Deb Watson** - active members of **NSW ECEEN** (Early Childhood Environmental Education Network). Throughout 2012, **New England Institute of TAFE's Childrens Services** staff and **New England Branch of NSW-ECA** officers will be part of the Project's planning and event offerings. **Ros Littledyke**, also from early childhood at UNE, will be involved with events & mentoring activities.

**What do we do now & what are the costs?**

**For us to move beyond this planning idea, we need initial indications of a level of commitment from services & professionals in order to fully fund Event 1.**

**Register** your expression of interest for the March weekend **today-NOW** [interest deadline: 10 November] by emailing the following to **Di Swann** at: [dswann@une.edu.au](mailto:dswann@une.edu.au) First, please type 'NE Eco-mentoring' in the 'Subject line' at the top of your email; then, in the 'body' of the email provide the following: Name of service or individual; service or personal email address; your phone number; & if a service – list names of all staff planning to attend. **You are not registering or paying fees now!**

**Event 1 costs** - proposed costs [based on a minimum of about 12 centres; maximum group 50 people]: Centre registration for 2 people = \$500.00 or 3 people = \$600.00 OR Individual registration = \$300.00. Please note that New England ECA Branch is planning to seek support funds & thus help refund some fees. Registration forms and details will be emailed soon and **registration with payment will be due by 13 December.**