

14 January 2008

COBAR AND BOURKE PHOTOGRAPHERS ATTEND SCREENSAVER LAUNCH

A commemorative screensaver featuring the best photographs submitted to the *'Life and Light of the Western Catchment'* photographic competition over the past ten years was officially launched in Cobar during December.

The Light and Life of the Western Catchment Commemorative Screensaver was produced by the Western Catchment Management Authority (CMA) to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the photographic competition. The screensaver is available free of charge by ringing the Western CMA on 1800 032 101.

Western CMA Communications Officer, Maree Barnes, says that approximately thirty people attended the launch of the screensaver at the Cobar Museum on December 18, including five of the contributing photographers.

"Cobar residents, Jamie Sloan, Angela Webb, Sheree Bamforth and her daughter, Kelsey Donally, were present while Julie Mahoney made the trip from Bourke for the evening," Ms Barnes said.

"Angela Webb's photo of a ram titled 'Big Fella' is an iconic image of Western NSW, whilst two of Jamie Sloan's photographs of brilliantly colour insects have been included.

"Sheree Bamforth has been the competition's most successful entrant and 14 of her images have been included. Sheree was originally a judge when the competition first began but decided to swap to become a competitor in 2002.

"Her daughter, Kelsey, appears in a number of those photographs and as well as growing up in front of the lens, Kelsey has obviously inherited her mother's talent, as her photograph titled 'Water brings Life' has also been included in the screensaver.

"Julie Mahony of Bourke took advantage of her role as the first female paddlesteamer captain on the Darling River to photograph the Old Bourke Bridge from the deck of the 'Jandra' with its unusual vantage point resulting in its inclusion in the screensaver.

"Each of the 115 images selected for the screensaver has its own story to tell and together they communicate the beauty and diversity of the Western Catchment," Ms Barnes said.

The screensaver is available free of charge at Western CMA offices, the Cobar Museum which is currently exhibiting the winning entries from the 2007 competition, or by ringing the Western CMA on 1800 032 101.

"The screensaver has generated quite a lot of interest since its launch. The Western CMA has received requests from at least 150 people since mid-December. A number of people have sent them with Christmas cards to showcase the area to their friends and family living interstate and overseas," Ms Barnes said.



MEDIA RELEASE



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For further information:

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Captions:

- Cobar photographers with copies of the Commemorative Screensaver: Jamie Sloan, Angela Webb, Kelsey Donally and Sheree Bamforth
- Western CMA board member and White Cliffs resident, Diana Hoffman, with Bourke photographer, Julie Mahony.
- Chair of the Western CMA Board, Rory Treweeke, with Bourke photographer, Julie Mahony
- Present and past Cobar residents at the Commemorative Screensaver launch: Leah Arnold and Sue Green.

