Media Release

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Students Help Grow Biodiversity Legacy at Kapunda Mine Site

Kapunda Primary School students rolled up their sleeves last week to take part in a community planting event at the Kapunda Mine site, helping to celebrate National Tree Day and contribute to a greener future for their community.

Organised by the Kapunda Shed Inc., with support from Light Regional Council, the event saw students' plant 200 locally indigenous plants to improve biodiversity, create habitat for local wildlife and encourage environmental stewardship.

The project formed part of a shared commitment by Council and community partners to enhance biodiversity across the region and improve the environmental value of the historic Kapunda Mine site. As the plants mature, they will establish important habitat corridors for native birds and wildlife while contributing to the long-term restoration and resilience of the local landscape.

Council has worked closely with the Kapunda Shed Inc. to support the project, with its Horticulture team undertaking site preparation works ahead of the event. Council also coordinated the sourcing of 200 plants, which were funded by the Australian Men’s Shed Association, engaged a local contractor to pre-drill planting holes, and supplied tree guards and stakes to help give the new plants the best chance to thrive.

The locally indigenous species have been carefully selected to suit the site's conditions and provide lasting environmental benefits. Over time, the vegetation will help improve ecosystem health, support pollinators and native fauna, capture carbon and contribute to a greener, more sustainable environment for future generations to enjoy.

The planting day brought together students, community volunteers, Council staff and Elected Members, highlighting the value of collaboration in caring for local natural spaces and creating lasting environmental benefits for future generations.

Councillor Deane Rohrlach, former Kapunda High School principal, said the project highlighted how collaboration between local organisations can create lasting benefits for both the environment and the community.

“As both a Councillor and former school principal, it is incredibly rewarding to see local students actively investing in the future of our region. This event was a very successful example of cooperation between the Kapunda Primary School, The Kapunda Shed and Council, evident in how efficiently it ran, and the obvious enjoyment of all present. By planting native vegetation, these young people are helping to improve biodiversity, support local wildlife and create a greener community. Their efforts today demonstrate that even small actions can have a lasting impact, and I congratulate everyone involved in this fantastic partnership." Cr Deane Rohrlach

This year marks the 30th anniversary of National Tree Day, Australia's largest community tree planting and nature care initiative. Established by Planet Ark in 1996, National Tree Day encourages people of all ages to take practical action for the environment while strengthening community connections. Through initiatives such as National Tree Day, Light Regional Council continues to invest in projects that strengthen biodiversity, encourage environmental stewardship and support healthy, connected communities. The planting at the Kapunda Mine site reflects Council's long-term commitment to preserving and enhancing natural spaces for current and future generations.

By taking part in the planting event, Kapunda Primary School students joined thousands of Australians contributing to healthier, greener communities and helping protect local biodiversity for years to come.

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