

## EPIC RIVER – LOCAL ARTS PROJECT

### WHAT'S YOUR STORY? WHAT'S ITS SECRET?

Epic River (working title) is an arts project which will revolve around Yass waterways as part of the Murray Darling Basin. It will potentially include life stories, work stories, poetry, short fiction, photography, artwork, scientific information, historical information, anecdotes, objects...whatever interests us. You can be involved. You can contribute your story, provide information, participate in workshops, and more.

If there is enough interest in Epic River, Binalong poet and artist Lizz Murphy, will apply for the project to be accepted and funded as one of about 10 interstate One River Local Projects in the One River – Murray Darling Basin program. More information and current projects at <http://oneriver.com.au/>

### WHAT WILL IT LOOK LIKE?

Epic River will potentially culminate in a series of linked art & text works forming an 'epic poem' or long creative 'journal' including all the elements above and presented as an exhibition in Yass and Canberra. Projects are also featured on the One River website. Funding will allow Lizz Murphy to promote the project, facilitate workshops and talks, purchase materials and present the exhibition.

### WHAT IS ONE RIVER?

One River is a Centenary of Canberra project aiming to connect the national capital with communities, towns and waterways throughout the Murray-Darling Basin and to promote the basin's rivers as 'common wealth.' Arts based projects will offer the opportunity to connect cultural, scientific and economic thinking about our water ways; local stories; local investigations of the phrase 'My River – One River – Our River.' It is supported by the ACT Government and the Australian Government.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

1. In the first instance let me know if you or your group would like to see this happen in the Yass Valley.
2. Let me know if you have a story or know someone who has – or photos or factual information, historical material, an environmental interest, personal memories...
3. Would you like to participate in the workshops, attend discussions, give a talk, be interviewed, interview others, contribute artwork, be involved in another way? Let me know. Contact details below.

### WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?

ASAP	Initial expressions of interest from the community
November 23	Application deadline
January/February	Workshops/discussions begin – tell stories/share stories/write/create
Mid 2013	Exhibition Yass and Canberra (potential for readings and other linked events)

### WHO?

Lizz Murphy has published eleven books including poetry, and literary and community anthologies. She was the project writer on Everyone Need Cleaners, Eh! (ACT Trades and Labour Council Arts & Working Life) and House at Work (PEO, Parliament House Canberra), and was co-writer/editor on The Pearly Griffin a social history of the old Griffin Community Centre ACT. She has facilitated workshops in creative writing and community contexts for many years. Lizz is also an (occasional) artist, exhibiting in recent years in group exhibitions at ANCA Gallery and the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery. Her awards include the 2011 Rosemary Dobson Poetry Prize. Lizz came to Binalong 31 years ago (from Belfast via Wollongong).

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