



# Newsletter for Landcare and Dunecare in Byron Shire

<http://www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/>

 Connect on facebook

**June 2016**

<b>JUNE</b>	<b>18 Renew Fest</b>
	<b>25 Barks and Trunks ID workshop</b>
<b>JULY</b>	<b>1 Field Day to Visit Regen Trail Plots</b>
<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>5 Weed ID Workshop</b>

## After the Floods by Alison Ratcliffe

So how did everyone fair in the weekends wild weather? We had a sleepless night wondering how all the new plantings would cope with the flood. Well the good news is that considering a lot of them were actually under water on Sunday, losses are not as bad as they could have been.

We think the main reason for this is using deep stem planting and also soaking the plants and holes well before planting. The plants were also all watered in the 2 weeks of extremely dry weather after they were planted. On the whole we estimate that we have only lost about 3% of plants. There has been a lot of damage assessment this week and time and energy has gone into caring for the plantings.



Empty holes

It was a game of plant hide and seek with many of the plants hidden under mulch. Some holes were empty but then the plants were found further down the creek and some were still in their holes but all their soil had been washed away.

The good news is we know from previous experience that plantings often do really well after a flood! Plants are resilient and

with good stock (thank you Brad),



Trees hidden under mulch

care and a bit of luck with the weather gods we hope to see a forest within two years.



Holes washed out

----- BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND -----

# FREE WORKSHOP

## Identifying Trees using Barks and Trunks



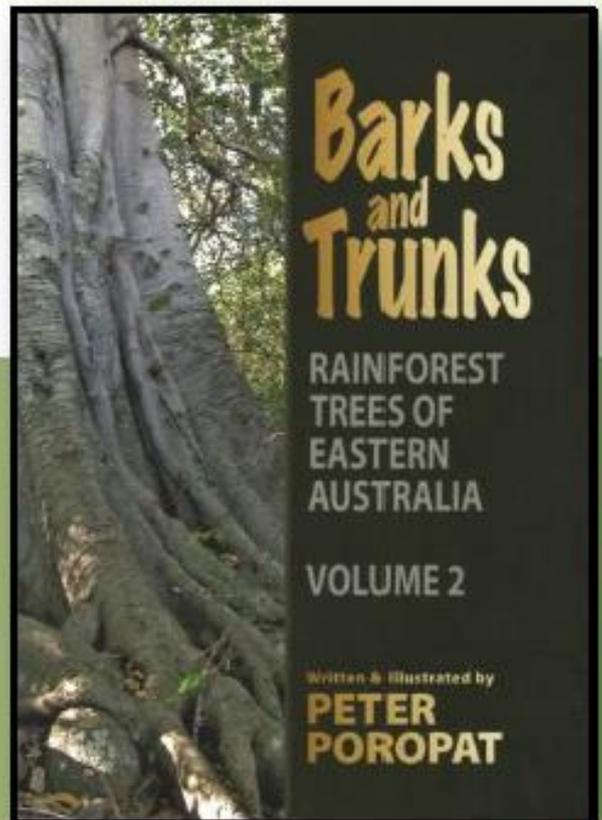
Ever wondered how to identify a tree when all you can see is the trunk?  
This workshop will teach you skills to identify rainforest trees using bark and trunk features.  
Come and learn from Peter Poropat a bark and trunk expert and author of two books.

**Trainer:** Peter Poropat  
**Date:** Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2016  
**Time:** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm  
**Location:** The Pocket (details will be provided with reservation)  
**Bookings Essential:** Please contact Justin Mallee  
[j.ecologic@gmail.com](mailto:j.ecologic@gmail.com)

**Come and walk among the giants in  
some ancient rainforest.**

Please bring the following along to the workshop

- Water, snacks and sturdy shoes
- Optional – binoculars, camera, pen, note book, hand lens
- Optional - Bark and Trunks Volume 1 & 2 – Both books will be available for purchase from Peter at the workshop (cash only).



**A light morning tea will be provided.**

*This project is supported by Brunswick Valley Landcare through funding from the NSW Government.*



**FREE!**

inside **OUTSIDE**  
MANAGEMENT

## Holistic Management training

Partnering with nature to regenerate land, increase productivity and profitability

***"Holistic Management is one of the key tools at our disposal."***  
Tim Flannery

### BENEFITS OF HOLISTIC MANAGEMENT

- ◆ Increased profits
- ◆ More time for family and recreation
- ◆ Building soil carbon
- ◆ Clarity of future direction
- ◆ Shared business focus
- ◆ Increased productivity of agricultural land
- ◆ Improved wildlife habitat
- ◆ Increased stocking rate
- ◆ Obtaining maximum benefit from rainfall
- ◆ Production of clean water
- ◆ Reduced impact of weeds
- ◆ Managing drought effectively

The next TAFE training course will be starting in **Lismore NSW**, October 2016. Contact us today to express your interest in attending this valuable course.

*"Certainly the best course I have attended. Totally new ideas passionately promoted by the facilitators, lots of reinforcement. Gives me great hope and motivation for the future!"* Glenn Telford, Bymount

*"Useful for any farm enterprise and really anyone or group trying to make decisions that will be effective, long lasting and transformative. Skilled trainers, great content"* Andrew Jeeves, founding Director of the Permaculture Institute



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**FREE!**



## 2016 National Landcare Conference and Awards – Registrations now open

**21th – 23rd September 2016**

We are pleased to announce that registrations are now open for the 2016 National Landcare Conference and Awards, to be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from 21-23 September 2016.

Themed 'Collaborative Communities – Landcare in Action', the 2016 National Landcare Conference and Awards is your opportunity to contribute to, engage with, and learn from your community and peers.

Held over three exciting days, the 2016 National Landcare Conference and Awards will deliver an engaging programme, as well as offer you the opportunity to attend a variety of informative and educational field trips within close proximity to Melbourne CBD. To recognise the hard work and innovation of the Landcare community, the Landcare Awards gala dinner provides you the chance to let your hair down and celebrate the achievements of peers with the announcement of the National Landcare category winners, the People's Choice Award winner, and the ultimate acknowledgement of the 2016 Bob Hawke Landcare Award and \$50,000 prize winner.

We officially welcome Landcarers across the country, who grow our food and protect our environment, to register for the 2016 National Landcare Conference and Awards. The Conference represents the diversity of Australia's leading volunteer movement, providing an opportunity for all to join in the discussion on how we can build a resilient agricultural and environmental future.

Register now for your Early Bird discount and save. For further details or to register, go to the official **[National Landcare Conference website](#)**.

## Soilcare Conference Earlybird Registrations

2016 National Biological Farming Conference & Expo

**28 to 30 October 2016**, Cairns, Qld

'Early Bird' Delegate Registrations now open: \$225 + GST

Book the conference, pre-conference field trips & post conference workshops online.

[Visit the conference website here](#)



For information please visit [https://bigscrubrainforest.org.au/?page\\_id=3804](https://bigscrubrainforest.org.au/?page_id=3804)

# Draft Biodiversity Conservation Bill

The NSW Government has released a new draft Biodiversity Conservation Bill, a Local Land Services Amendment Bill, and information about proposed land clearing codes.

The legislative package is designed to replace the Native Vegetation Act, Threatened Species Conservation Act, the Nature Conservation Trust Act and parts of the National Parks & Wildlife Act.

The package is on public exhibition, and submissions close at **5pm Tuesday 28 June 2016**.

Read all about it on the NSW Government [website](#)

## The NSW Government is running 'drop-in' sessions

These community drop-in sessions to find out more about the proposed reforms. Representatives from the Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Primary Industries, Local Land Services and Department of Planning and Environment will be available to discuss the details of the reforms. There is also an opportunity to provide feedback and have your say.

Thursday 9th June 5pm - 7:30pm Lismore City Hall 1 Bounty Street, Lismore

## Environmental Defenders Office public workshops

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 6pm - 8pm Lismore Workers Club 231 Keen St, Lismore and also in Murwillumbah, see flyer below. And also at the EDO [website](#)

## Landcare NSW Webinar on Biodiversity Reforms

Landcare NSW invites you to participate in a webinar on the NSW Government's Biodiversity Reforms. Landcare NSW has organised this webinar specifically for the Landcare community to hear about the changes first hand from senior NSW Government staff.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2:30pm - 4:30pm

Registration: To participate you must register at <http://www.webcasts.com.au/oeh170616/>



## FREE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP IN MURWILLUMBAH

### Draft Biodiversity Conservation Bill: How to have your say

**WHEN:** Wednesday 15 June 2016  
6-8pm

**WHERE:** Tweed Valley Uniting  
Church Hall  
2 Byangum Road  
Murwillumbah

**RSVP:** 02 9262 6989  
[www.edonsw.org.au/murbah\\_2016](http://www.edonsw.org.au/murbah_2016)

A light supper will be provided.

Caldera Environment Centre will host a free EDO NSW and NCC workshop in Murwillumbah explaining how the community can have their say about the proposed biodiversity legislative and policy package.

The NSW Government's *Biodiversity Conservation Bill*, *Local Land Services Amendment Bill*, and information about proposed land clearing codes is open for public comment until Tuesday 28 June 2016. This legislative and policy package is designed to replace the *Native Vegetation Act*, *Threatened Species Conservation Act*, the *Nature Conservation Trust Act* and parts of the *National Parks & Wildlife Act*.

This workshop will explain what is proposed under the legislative and policy package, our concerns with these proposals, and how the community can have their say.



## Sustaining Landcare – Landcare Trust

Thank you for leading a discussion in your community about the development of a Landcare Trust and contributing your ideas.

You can find a report summarising feedback received from around the State on the [website](#). May I encourage you to read this report and take it back to your networks.

As you know the goal of *Sustaining Landcare* is to design a new funding model to ensure Landcare support is funded into the future. I will keep you informed as this work progresses. Meanwhile I encourage you to keep the conversations going in your communities.'

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## Local Land Services: Board Recruitment

The Minister for Primary Industries and Lands and Water, The Hon Niall Blair is seeking applications to appoint Chairs and local board members to strategically lead and provide good governance to Local Land Services.

As the term of Ministerially-appointed Local Land Services board members ends in September 2016, recruitment is taking place from 21 May 2016 to replace a total of 45 Chairs and local board members across 11 Local Land Services regions.

Local Land Services has engaged Watermark Search International Pty Ltd to undertake the recruitment process.

The closing date for applications is 20 June 2016 <http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/about-lls/board-of-chairs/board-recruitment>

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## Cheapest and most effective ways to restore rivers

Research into the cheapest and most effective way to address threats to freshwater biodiversity recommends restoring rivers. This might include fencing out livestock, stabilising river banks, removing weeds, replanting native vegetation and expanding floodplain areas. Restorative farm practices include rotating pasture, reducing erosion through smart burning practices, and better management of pesticides and nutrients.

<https://theconversation.com/we-all-live-downstream-its-time-to-restore-our-freshwater-ecosystems-58934>

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## New atlas of soil biodiversity

This new atlas, available free online, is an excellent introduction to soil biota from burrowers to microbes, with close up photographs and colourful maps. The atlas illustrates the diversity of soil organisms, explains their distribution and the ecosystem functions and services they provide, outlines the threats they face, and shows what we can do to help.

<http://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/content/global-soil-biodiversity-atlas>

## STORIES to inspire and give you hope

### Rediscovery of the Blue-eyed-Ground-dove in Brazil

MAY 24, 2016 by Rainforest Trust

For the last few months a Rainforest Trust supported group of researchers, SAVE Brazil and Butantan Bird Observatory, have been working in secret to scientifically report the rediscovery of the of the Blue-eyed Ground-dove and to simultaneously develop a conservation plan that secures the critically endangered bird's long-term survival.

THE BLUE-EYED GROUND-DOVE IS ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING AVIAN REDISCOVERIES IN DECADES. PHOTO BY RAFAEL BESSA



Last documented in 1941, the Blue-eyed Ground-dove was believed extinct. With cobalt-blue eyes and dark blue spots on its wings dimpled over reddish-chestnut plumage, it's surprising this beautiful bird went unnoticed for decades. But now the species has been found at locations in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais.

The rediscovery of the species is one of the most astonishing stories in Neotropical ornithology. However rapid rates of habitat loss in the region mean that many more species could be heading to extinction unless drastic action is taken. So far, researchers can only confirm sightings of 12 individuals, so securing the bird's habitat will be the key to conserving the species.

Ornithologist Rafael Bessa from Instituto Butantan first spotted the Blue-eyed Ground-dove in July 2015. Collaborating with SAVE Brazil, they formed a research group to study the species in secret. Mindful of the need to properly establish a conservation plan before announcing the rediscovery, the researchers partnered with Rainforest Trust for support.

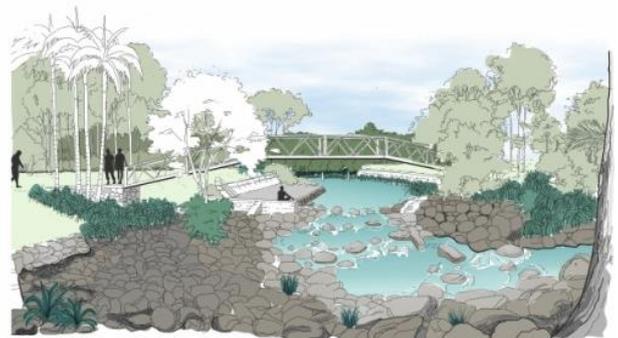
<https://www.rainforesttrust.org/news/rare-bird-brazil-rediscovered-rainforest-trust-support/>

### Bangalow Weir remediation works to start thanks to state government funding support

Thanks to \$100,000 funding support from the state governments NSW Environmental Trust's Restoration and Rehabilitation Program, the Bangalow Weir remediation works are set to start. Byron Shire Council will also provide an additional \$50,000 towards the works.

Christobel Munsen from the Bangalow Parkland Group excitedly welcomed the announcement ....

"The community of Bangalow greatly values its existing open space and Parklands," she said. "So our team is absolutely delighted that the last five years of nagging, cajoling, badgering, and generally working hard behind the scenes to find a way to fix the historic disintegrating weir wall, have had this excellent result, and that the end is in sight."



Bangalow Weir  
Looking South from the Weir Crossing  
Sketch Representation of Proposed Work, © March 2013

## Broken Head Coastal Corridor Restoration by Rhonda James

The Broken Head Environmental Trust project aims to improve biodiversity on eight properties bordering Broken Head Nature Reserve. One of the main threats in this area is Cherry Guava. Cherry Guava is invading the mid-storey of what are otherwise healthy regrowth sclerophyll forest and rainforest. The local landholders are working together with professional bush regenerators to restore the fauna corridor.

A planting was scheduled for early June and the site was prepared and fenced all ready to plant 1100 trees but was postponed due to the continuing dry weather conditions which persisted through April and May. The weekend rains have transformed the site, it is now mainly underwater and access has been cut by the nearby creek. The planting day is now scheduled for early August.

The August planting will be a community planting and will be located on Broken Head Road. The date will be confirmed in the July BVL newsletter.

Bushland Restoration Services are the contractor for the project and are working alongside the private landholders involved in the project. The selected site will link two areas of native vegetation and complete this section of the wildlife corridor.



Injecting Cherry Guava.



Broken Head planting site after the recent rain

## Join the 'Land for Wildlife' scheme

The Land for Wildlife (LFW) program is a voluntary property registration scheme for landowners who wish to manage areas for biodiversity and wildlife habitat.

Land for Wildlife encourages and assists landholders to include nature conservation along with other land management objectives.

Land for Wildlife is free to join and is not legally binding. Registration in the scheme will not change the legal status of a property.

**Brunswick Valley Landcare is pleased to announce they have taken on the regional provision of the Land for Wildlife scheme for Byron Shire.**

For more information on Land for Wildlife please contact Alison Ratcliffe, Landcare Support Officer on 02 6626 7028 or email [alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au)



## FUNDING

### Do you have a great project and need funds to make it happen?

You can find more information on available grants on the Brunswick Valley Landcare website including a calendar of all grants expected to be available during 2016. There are also some handy tips on how to be successful with grant applications. Below is a summary of grants which are currently accepting applications and ones that are anticipated to open within the next month.

<http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/funding/>

### Green Army Round Five

Round Five of the Green Army Programme is now open and seeks to maximise positive environmental and heritage impacts through the use of multiple Green Army teams over a two to three year period. The round closes at **2:00PM** (Canberra time)

**Thursday 16 June 2016.**

<http://www.environment.gov.au/land/green-army/projects/round-5>

Suitable for projects that require a team of 10 people for 6 months



### Eco Schools grants

The next round Eco Schools Grants Program is now open and the closing date is **Friday 17 June 2016**. The Eco Schools Grant Program aims to provide learning opportunities for students, teachers and the school community, through hands-on curriculum-based environmental projects that focus on strong student participation.

The program will fund school environmental management projects aimed at one or more of the following objectives: Environmental benefits, student participation, teacher engagement and managing for sustainability in school and the community. The ultimate goal of the Eco Schools Grant Program is the development of environmentally sustainable schools.

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/schools.htm>

Suitable for schools doing environmental projects



### Grants that are opening soon .....

#### Protecting our Places grants

The aim of the Protecting our Places program is to protect land that is culturally significant to Aboriginal people and to support education projects about the environment and its importance in Aboriginal life.

It is envisaged that the next call for applications will be in late 2015/early 2016. Keep an eye on the page below for updates regarding this years grants. <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/pop.htm>

Suitable for Aboriginal projects

#### Coles Junior Landcare Garden Grants

Coles Junior Landcare Garden Grants give \$1,000 to schools and youth groups to help create gardens in their grounds or community, such as bush tucker gardens, water wise gardens or veggie gardens. These programs encourage students to learn about the environment through "outdoor learning" and interaction in developing their own school gardens. All schools, kindergartens, daycare centres, and youth groups (e.g. Scouts) are eligible to apply for a Coles Junior Landcare Garden grant. Last year round one opened in February so keep an eye on the website for further info. <http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au/grants-2/coles-grant>

Suitable for schools and preschools



## The Jemena Live. Grow. Explore. Grants

The Jemena *Live. Grow. Explore.* Grants program is offering funding of up to \$1,000 to groups seeking to educate young Australians about environmental sustainability and energy literacy.

There are 35 grants available to schools, kindergartens, preschools, day care centres and youth/community groups (e.g. Scouts) located within Jemena's areas of operations.

Groups are invited to submit an application for a project that revolves around the themes of *living, growing and exploring sustainably*. Last year, Landcare Australia received a diverse range of ideas that encompassed energy efficiency, biodiversity improvement and revegetation of degraded landscapes. For ideas and information about project eligibility, take a look at the [grant guidelines and criteria](#) and the [Junior Landcare Curriculum Resources](#).

Last year grants opened at the beginning of June and closed in July.

<http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au/jemenagrants>

Suitable for schools and preschools

## Weed of the Month

This month's weed of the month is the Cherry Guava or Strawberry Guava *Psidium cattleianum*. A shrub or small tree to 10 metres in height it originates from Brazil and is common in gardens.



It has dark green, glossy leaves that are hairless, rounded and very shortly tapering to a point at the tip. The leaves are dotted with numerous glands below.

The fruit is purplish red and edible and spread widely by birds and Mammals. It has a smooth, blotchy, brown and cream trunk. It flowers in spring and fruits in summer. It is highly invasive and difficult to control once established. It displaces native species by out competing them.

It is common in coastal rainforest with extensive infestations known from the Broken Head area, spreading into the Broken



Head Nature Reserve. Plants are spreading in bushland in the Suffolk Park, Wilsons Creek and Main Arm areas. Cherry Guava is widespread throughout islands in the Pacific.

For more information on weeds in the shire please visit the Byron Shire Council website and you will find weed profile sheets:

<http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/weed-profiles>

## The weed from hell is spreading on the NSW North Coast

In 2010, Tropical Soda Apple (TSA) was identified on a few North Coast properties. By 2015 it was found on over 500 properties, and that number is growing.

TSA is mainly spread by cattle that eat the sweet-smelling fruit and movement in water. It has also been introduced through baled fodder (silage), unclean fill, by flood and other animals such as deer, pigs and birds.



### Report

Timing is critical; report TSA to your Local Weed Control Authority within 24 hours.

Whether agisting your own animals elsewhere or providing agistment land for others, reporting TSA, quarantining stock and maintaining fortnightly follow-up of infestations is essential.

Four good reasons for weed reporting:

- 1) Local authorities can help with weed identification and control before weeds become unmanageable.
- 2) Unskilled control methods can increase the size of infestations and worsen the problem.
- 3) As a landowner, you have a legal obligation to ensure

that TSA is eradicated from your land and that your land is kept free of the plant. Unreported infestations will eventually be found and penalties of up to \$11,000 may be enforced.

4) Transmitting and harbouring weeds affects North Coast farmers' livelihoods and biodiversity.

### Mistaken identity

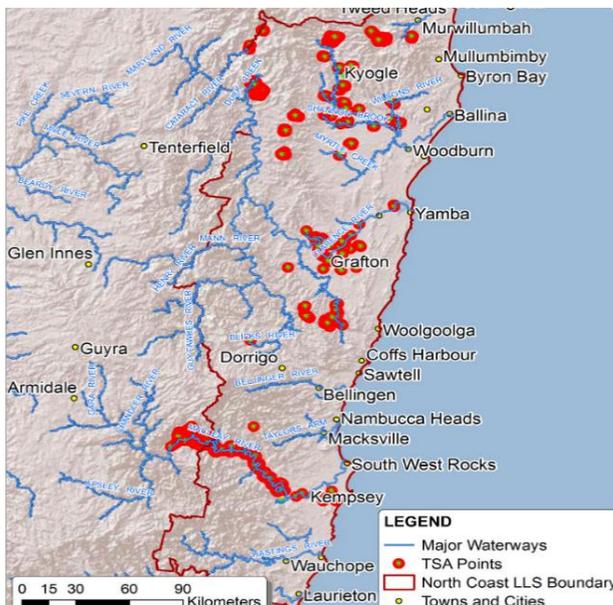
Other weedy Solanums can be confused with TSA. Check it is *Solanum viarum* or contact your local council weed officer on 6623 3847.



Giant devil's fig *Solanum chrysotrichum*



Devil's apple *Solanum capsicoides*



## WORKING BEES - why not get out and get involved in one of our local groups?

For all Landcare Working Bees please wear protective clothing - long pants, long-sleeved shirt, closed-in shoes, hat, gloves and bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent. **Please always contact the groups co-ordinators before attending a working bee as plans do change!**

### Brunswick Heads Dunecare

WHEN: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month 8:00am – 11:00am  
WHERE: Meet between the rock wall and the surf club  
CONTACT: Jordan Moore [brunswickheadsdunecare@gmail.com](mailto:brunswickheadsdunecare@gmail.com) 0413 962 468 txt mess pls

### East Yallakool Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: each Wednesday 8:00am – 11:00 am  
WHERE: Inderwong Avenue, Ocean Shores (adjacent to the footbridge)  
CONTACT: David Kemp [dnkemp77@gmail.com](mailto:dnkemp77@gmail.com) 0427 650 861

### Green and Clean Awareness Team, Byron Bay

WHEN: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 9:00am  
WHERE: Meet Main Beach, Byron Bay  
CONTACT: Veda Turner [vedaturner@gmail.com](mailto:vedaturner@gmail.com) 0427 857 991

### Heritage Park Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: alternate Saturdays 9:00am – 11:00 am  
WHERE: Heritage Park, Mullumbimby  
CONTACT: Diana Hughes [bromspot@gmail.com](mailto:bromspot@gmail.com)

### Jinangong Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month  
WHERE: The Tunnel Road, Ocean Shores  
CONTACT: Ian Parer [ianparer@hotmail.com](mailto:ianparer@hotmail.com)

### Lower Mullum Creek Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month  
WHERE: Azalea Street Bridge to Riverside Bridge, Mullumbimby  
CONTACT: Annie Mullen 0478 517 625 [anne@jbailey.info](mailto:anne@jbailey.info)

### South New Brighton Dunecare

WHEN: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month 1:30pm - 4:30pm  
WHERE: Meet at southern end of the Esplanade at the Strand beach access point.  
CONTACT: Robyn Bolden [robyn.bolden@australis.net](mailto:robyn.bolden@australis.net) 6680 1970

### Suffolk Park Dunecare

WHEN: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month  
CONTACT: Helen Brown [hellyh@bigpond.com](mailto:hellyh@bigpond.com) 6685 4964

### Tyagarah Landcare

WHEN: Each Thursday 9:00am – 11:00am  
WHERE: 23 Prestons Lane, Tyagarah  
CONTACT: Bela Allen [bela\\_allen@yahoo.com](mailto:bela_allen@yahoo.com) 6684 7113

## LINKS

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- Arakwal <http://arakwal.com.au/>
  - Border Rangers Alliance <http://www.greasternranges.org.au/border-ranges/overview/overview>
  - Bangalow River and Landcare <http://www.bangalowlandcare.org.au/>
  - Big Scrub Landcare <https://www.bigscrubrainforest.org.au/>
  - Brunswick Valley Landcare <http://www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/>
  - Byron Bird Buddies <http://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au/>
  - Byron Community College <http://www.byroncollege.org.au/>
  - Byron Shire Council <http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/>
  - EnviTE [www.envite.org.au](http://www.envite.org.au)
  - Environmental Trust <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/envtrust.htm>
  - Ewingsdale Locality Group (BVL) <http://ewingsdale.org.au/#/landcare/4532495308>
  - Far North Coast Weeds <http://fncw.nsw.gov.au/>
  - Friends of the Koala [www.friendsofthekoala.org](http://www.friendsofthekoala.org)
  - North Coast Local Land Services <http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/>
  - Northern Landcare Support Services <http://www.nlss.com.au/>
  - Mullumbimby Community Gardens <http://mullumcommunitygarden.wordpress.com/>
  - North Coast nature <http://www.northcoastnature.org.au/>
  - Richmond Landcare Inc. <http://www.richmondlandcare.org/>
  - Soilcare <http://www.soilcare.org>
  - Suffolk Park Locality Group (BVL) [www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/suffolk-park-dunecare-group](http://www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/suffolk-park-dunecare-group)
  - Tweed Landcare Inc. <http://www.tweedlandcare.org.au/>
  - Wilson's Creek Huonbrook Landcare <http://wilsonscreeklandcare.mullum.com.au/>
  - Wetlandcare Australia <http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/index.php>
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For information about Landcare or other natural resource issues in Byron shire  
please contact

Landcare Community Support Officer

Alison Ratcliffe 66267028 (Tuesday and Wednesday)

email: [alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au)



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This newsletter is funded by North Coast Local Land Services and supported by Byron Shire Council.

