




Newsletter for Landcare and Dunecare in Byron Shire

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

 Connect on facebook

November 2015

NOVEMBER 15 Mullumbimby Show Living Community Stall – activities, prizes and giveaways
FEBRUARY 14 Environmental Story Telling workshop with Jenny Carghill



Calling all Byron shire residents to count their koalas!

Koala Connections is calling all Byron Shire residents to help protect their local koalas by taking part in the 2013 national Koala Count! This is a great initiative that will help us to get a picture of where the koalas are in our shire.

The aim of the survey is to build a comprehensive picture of koala numbers and locations across Australia. By knowing where koalas are, where they are not and how populations are doing from year to year, we can take steps to help them.

This year, we have partnered with [NatureMapr](#) to develop a brand new app and website to make it easier than ever to count those koalas. You don't need any special skills or expertise to take part. Anyone with access to the internet and a smartphone can join. Count every day, or on just a single day - even a single survey provides valuable data.

To take part, register online at www.koalacount.org.au or via the NatureMapr app which is available from Google Play or iTunes.

Important notice for all 2013 and 2014 participants

If you would like to take part in the 2015 survey, you will need to reregister on the new app or website - registration takes just a few minutes. The NatureMapr app replaces BioTag so we suggest you delete the old app off your phone to avoid confusion. We hope that you will take part in this fun and worthwhile survey. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me at helens@npansw.org.au Happy counting! Helen, National Parks Association of NSW

FUNDING

National Landcare Programme Sustainable Agriculture Small Grants Round 2015-16



Grants to increase industry capacity

The Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, the Hon Barnaby Joyce announced that applications were open for the National Landcare Programme Sustainable Agriculture Small Grants Round 2015-16. Grants ranging between \$5500 and \$55,000 (GST inclusive) are now available to increase industry capacity and support the adoption of productive management practices.

A range of activities may be eligible, including:

- field days workshops, conferences
- demonstration events or workshops
- training or skill development sessions
- community information or education sessions
- development of decision-making tools
- development of new information channels within the current knowledge system
- conducting surveys.

Applications are invited from a range of entities, including farming systems groups, community groups and individuals to undertake projects across a variety of agricultural industries, including cropping, livestock, dairy, horticulture, pastoral, aquaculture and fisheries.

Applications will close 2.00pm (AEDT) Monday 7 December 2015

For more information, visit: www.nrm.gov.au/agsmallgrants or telephone 1800 283 940

Professional Development Program

As part of the NSW Government's \$300 million Drought Strategy, a \$45 million Farm Business Skills Professional Development Program has been developed to support farm business in all conditions, but particularly in relation to preparing for and responding to drought.



Department of
Primary Industries
Rural Assistance Authority

The Minister for Primary Industries, Lands and Water, Niall Blair, announced the first stage of the program, calling for education and service providers to apply for pre-approval of courses.

In the next stage, farmers will be able to complete pre-approved courses, or apply for consideration to attend another course which they have identified as meeting their particular requirements.

Approved participants will be able to claim reimbursement of costs upon completion of the course. A maximum reimbursement of \$5,000 over five years applies for any farmer with reimbursements capped at \$9,000 per farm business.

Three professional development priority areas have been identified:

- Risk management
- Financial and business management
- Farm business planning/drought preparedness.

<http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/professional-development-program>

\$50 million in grants available under Rural R&D for Profit Round 2



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Applications for grant funding are now open for Round 2 of the Coalition Government's Rural Research and Development (R&D) for Profit Programme.

Round 2 projects will be required to address one or more priorities in the following research, development or extension areas:

- **advanced technology** to enhance innovation of products, processes and practices across the supply chain
- **biosecurity** to improve understanding of pest and disease pathways
- **soil, water and managing natural resources** to manage soil health, improve water use efficiency, sustainably develop new production areas and improve resilience
- **adoption of R&D** focusing on flexible delivery of extension services that meet primary producers' needs.

Applications for Rural R&D for Profit Round 2 must be received by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources by **5 pm (AEST) on 1 December 2015**. For more information, visit agriculture.gov.au/rd4profit.

Farewell to Angus Underwood

Angus Underwood Byron Shire Council's Natural Environment Team Leader finishes in his position today. Angus has been a great support to me as I settled into my Landcare Community Support Officer role here at council and was always happy to answer any questions I had. I have really enjoyed working with him and will miss the energy, passion and the level head he brings to our joint projects.



In over five years of hard work at Council, Angus managed the natural environment team and achieved a great deal for biodiversity in Byron Shire. Angus was the Byron manager of the multi award winning Tweed Byron Bush Futures project, developed the Koala Connections project in conjunction with Tweed

Shire Council, developed many strategies for biodiversity and collaborated on sustainability projects across the Shire. His skill, passion and dedication to protecting and conserving our Shire's flora and fauna was inspiring and deeply valued by both council staff and community members.

Angus is going to have a break for the next few months before moving onto other projects in the new year. Good luck for the future Angus.



Brunswick Valley Landcare Inc. is looking for a new secretary

Brunswick Valley Landcare (BVL) is looking for a new Secretary. The duties of the secretary include attending to the activities that contribute to the administration of the organisation. This includes monitoring and responding to correspondence, keeping minutes of meetings and responding to membership applications.

This is a voluntary position and would suit someone who is organised and computer savvy, and with an interest in the environment and conservation. Training will be provided. Committee meetings are a relaxed monthly affair in Mullumbimby.

If you are interested, please contact the BVL for more information and a copy of the Duty Statement at: brunswickvalleylandcare@gmail.com.



Free Native Plants at the Mullumbimby Show

Byron Shire Council and Brunswick Valley Landcare are having a stall at the Living Community Village at the Mullumbimby Show on Sunday the 15th of November being held at the Mullumbimby Showgrounds.

Come and along and swap a used coffee cup for a free native plant and some local compost. There will also be information on green cleaning, Byron councils sustainability projects, Landcare activities and local plants and wildlife . There will also be fun adults and kids activities and lots of giveaways.



LIVING COMMUNITY VILLAGE
@
2015 MULLUM SHOW
for
Sustainability Education & Fun



SUNDAY 15TH
NOVEMBER 2015
10AM – 3PM
@ MULLUM SHOWGROUNDS

WITH SPECIAL GUEST
COSTA GEORGIARDIS
ABC'S GARDENING AUSTRALIA

- INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS
- KIDS ACTIVITIES
- COMMUNITY STALLS
- FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT





Vertebrate Pest Induction Training

Control Pest species on your Property

No Cost

Thursday 19th November 2015

9am - 12 noon

Main Camp

This course will be delivered by North Coast Local Land Services and cover topics including

- **Legislation, Pesticides Act and Control orders**
- **Risk Management**
- **Bait Types**
- **Poison notices**
- **Distance restrictions**
- **Transport**
- **Disposal**

For further details, directions and to register for the training contact:
Josh Wellman North Coast Local Land Services t: 02 66233908 f: 02 66212928 | m:0428645535 e: josh.wellman@lls.nsw.gov.au

Ecological restoration works across private and public land in the Bungawalbin are improving the condition and connectivity of emu habitat. Funded by NSW Environmental Trust, implementation of strategies and priority actions for the recovery of Emus is reducing threats and contributing to recovery of the Emu on the NSW North Coast. Specialist contractors are engaged to control dogs / foxes / pigs to reduce predation on eggs and chicks. Landowners are supported to undertake training and to survey for emus, feral pigs and wild dogs through remote camera trapping. The project works with groups such as the Northern Rivers Fire and Biodiversity Consortium and Bungawalbin Feral Pig Management Committee and Local Land Services to enhance Emu conservation. flora and fauna.



The project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through the NSW Environmental Trust.



**Local Land
Services
North Coast**



UNDERSTANDING OUR SOILS

How well do you know your soils?

Understanding Our Soils is a training workshop designed to improve your understanding of the soils on your farm and in the local landscape. This will help you make informed decisions about the management of the soil on your property and help you achieve the best outcomes for a sustainable and profitable future on the land.

Increasing your knowledge on soils and soil management will help to deliver best practice relating to the physical, chemical and biological properties of soils on farm without losses in productivity or profitability.



Free workshops Register Now

What will be covered?

Participants in the workshops will cover:

- o Looking at land capability and the influence of geology and landforms on farms
- o The opportunity to look at different soil pits, learn about soil structure and undertake simple soil characterisation tests.
- o Soil surface condition, texture, structure and stability

- o Soil test interpretation and the physical properties of soils relating to plant growth
- o Soil chemical properties and plant nutrition
- o Soil moisture and water use
- o How to minimise the adverse impacts to the environment from farming practices



Understanding Our Soils is designed for farmers and land managers to improve soil health and soil management

Get involved to answer these questions:

- How can I maximise land capabilities?
- What do my soil test results tell me?
- Why is soil knowledge important in making management decisions?

For more information or to Register

Contact Kel Langfield at North Coast LLS

Ph: 02 6623 3927

Email: kel.langfield@lls.nsw.gov.au

This project is supported by North Coast Local Land Services, through funding from the National Landcare Program



Australian Government

National
Landcare
Programme



This will be a series of workshops over the next 3 years, in different locations across the region (based on interest)



Local Land
Services
North Coast

Floodplain Farming Field Day

Friday, 27 November 2015 | 9.30 am – 1.00 pm
360 Bungawalbin-Whiporie Road (access via Boggy Creek Road)
Bungawalbin
Lunch and refreshments will be provided | Cost: Free



North Coast Local Land Services would like to invite you to a floodplain farming field day.

North Coast Local Land Services has been working in partnership with WetlandCare Australia, Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) and Richmond River County Council to improve soil health, water management, native habitat and floodplain farming practices in the Richmond River catchment.

This field day will provide details of the project and information on what assistance is available for landholders.

There will also be presentations from a range of experts on how floodplain infrastructure modification and management on your property can improve your soils, pasture productivity and water quality.

This field day is possible thanks to funding from the Federal Government's National Landcare Programme.

Please book your place by Monday, 23 November 2015, indicating whether you have any specific dietary requirements. Email: claire.hewitt@lls.nsw.gov.au or phone: (02) 6623 3924



Come and get energised! North Coast "Energy Drinks"

The sparks are sure to fly when the North Coast energy community descends on the Byron Community Centre Wednesday 18th of November for a night of inspiration, energy project updates and connection.

This is our 2015 follow up to last year's hugely successful Energy Forum in Tweed; it's a free night to engage community, industry and government in our sustainable regional energy future

The night will be a fun and friendly chance to hear 15 lightning 'one minute soapboxes' on a fantastic range of energy projects in our region, mixed with drinks and nibbles and with an opportunity to meet like-minded future changers and engage with the project promoters.

Giles Parkinson from Renew Economy will be the keynote speaker on the night, giving his view on what will happen when the generous feed-in-tariff stops and where battery storage is really at.

The Energy Drinks will be held on Wednesday 18th of November from 5-8pm at the Byron Community Centre. To register for the free event please go to <http://ncef.net.au/2015-energy-drinks> or register on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/events/1674623416083133/>. Drinks can be purchased at the bar and complimentary classy local food will abound.

For more information about the Energy Drinks please call Jess on 0438 905 825 or email admin@ncef.net.au.

DATE: Wednesday 18th November, 5-8pm

WHERE: Byron Community Centre, Cavanbah Room

BOOK <http://www.trybooking.com/JJHY>



Northern Rivers Resource Efficiency Focus Farm Open Day

When: 10th Nov 2015 12:00pm-2:30pm

Where: Property of Andrew Wilson & Kelly Boyd 34 Numulgi Rd, Woodlawn

Contact: Nathan Jennings, Senior Land Services Officer, Phone 6623 3906

Fourth generation Woodlawn dairy farmer, Andrew Wilson and wife Kelly Boyd, will again welcome the local farming community to their property on November 10 from 12:00 pm for the Northern Rivers Resource Efficiency Focus Farm second open day.

The Northern Rivers Resource Efficiency Focus Farm project is financially supported by Dairy Australia and the Australian Government, with ongoing contributions also made by local organisations; North Coast LLS, Norco and the Subtropical Dairy Programme. The project can be followed by visiting www.dairyinfo.biz/focus-farm.

For any further information on the Project, please contact the Project Manager, Dairy Australia's Land, Water and Carbon Consultant for NSW, Marguerite White on mwhite@icdprojectservices.com.au or 0447 500 415.



Environmental Storytelling Workshop

Are you searching for a tool to make your **environmental message** vividly memorable and deeply inspiring?

Do you want to **engage your listener's hearts** as well as their minds, but you're not sure how?

If so, this workshop will give you the tools you seek.

When: Sunday, 14 February, 2016

Time: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Who: Environmental Educators, Educators, Change-Makers and Parents

Where: Cavanbah Room, Byron Bay Community Centre

How much: \$95 Earlybird (until Dec 8) includes morning tea and lunch

\$105 (After Dec 8) includes morning tea and lunch

Presenter: Jenni Cargill-Strong

Video Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVCfOUQ2FUw>

Info & Bookings: Alison Ratcliffe 6626 7028 alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au

Presented in partnership between The Story Tree Company & Brunswick Valley Landcare Inc.



Brunswick Valley
Landcare
Inc.



The Storytree Company



Community input sought on the Draft North Coast Local Strategic Plan

North Coast Local Land Services is developing a roadmap to ensure that it is meeting its mission of improving primary production and better management of natural resources in the north coast region.

The *Draft North Coast Local Strategic Plan 2015-2020* has been released for public consultation and members of the community are invited to provide comment before midnight on 22 November.

The [North Coast Open](#) website was launched to provide an opportunity for individuals and organisations to comment on the Draft North Coast Local Strategic Plan. The Plan, a Fact Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions are available at the site. [North Coast Open](#) also features an online survey and discussion forum. The online survey to gather community input will be open until midnight on 22 November 2015.



North Coast Strategic Plan Goals:

North Coast Local Land Services is built on foundations of local service delivery and local strategy. The Plan sets clear goals that will enable the organisation to meet the challenges faced on the north coast and the organisation's mission of improving primary production and better management of natural resources.

The four goals are:

Goal 1: Resilient, self-reliant and prepared local communities.

Goal 2: Biosecure, profitable, productive and sustainable primary industries

Goal 3: Healthy, diverse, connected natural environments

Goal 4: Board members and staff who are collaborative, innovative and commercially-focused.

Contribution to regional sustainability:

The Plan outlines the organisation's commitment to building the sustainability of our primary industries, natural environments and local communities across the North Coast region. The Plan recognises:

The importance of profitable industries such as agriculture, fisheries and tourism.

The critical role that industry plays in supporting sustainable communities by providing employment and income to support the economic wellbeing of communities.

That industry viability and community wellbeing depends on healthy and resilient landscapes.

That industries and communities need to be supported in contributing to sustainable use of our natural resources.

Heritage Park

At least two bird varieties are active on nests in Heritage Park. They come each year and occupy the same sites, although probably in new nest material: a pair of Tawny Frogmouths, nesting in the *Eucalyptus Planchoniana* and a pair of Willy Wagtails in a willowy mangrove branch overhanging the boat ramp in Mill Road.



Many plants are flowering, including shy orchids – *Dendrobium gracilcaule*

Leopard Orchid, and *Dockrillia teretifolia* Thin Pencil Orchid. Its such a pleasure to come upon them.

As usual the native wisteria has been very floriferous, but as it comes to an end, the red Flame Trees and Golden Grevilleas are bursting into bloom; soon, the native Bats Wing Coral Tree will be out too. The three Bopple Nut Trees were very interesting, with their panicles of red blossom growing from their trunks.

Many other species are budding up, while other species are fruiting prolifically – the Blue Figs for



example. Then there's the 'Drunken Parrot' Tree *Schotia brachypetala*, not a native, but hosting a lot of activity. It is adjacent to the little bridge. A couple of the enormous figs near the playground are covered in tiny, pink figs. Another feast that nature is putting on for the birds.

Volunteers will be soon be placing new identification posts. After 35 years many of the original posts have rotted away and some of the plants have new names!

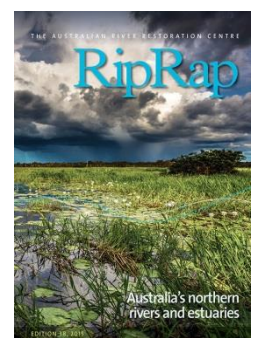
Watch out for Heritage Parks' celebration next year.

Dianna Hughs

Edition 38: Australia's Northern Rivers and Estuaries

Northern Australia's rivers and estuaries are unique and amazing, with outstanding conservation and cultural values. They are integral to the lifestyles and livelihoods of northerners, and many Australians feel a strong connection to this part of our country. This edition of RipRap features stories about this fabulous part of Australia, with multiple perspectives providing thought-provoking articles, and stunning photos transporting you into this awesome riverscape. – Siwan Lovett, **Editor**

<https://arcc.com.au/edition-38-australias-northern-rivers-and-estuaries/>



New approach to environmental zoning on the Far North Coast

The *Northern Councils E Zone Review Final Recommendations Report* has been released, which will help to provide a balanced approach to environmental zonings on the Far North Coast.



These recommendations aim to support farming and protect the environment, as well as provide greater certainty for landowners, councils and the community.

The final recommendations take into account the feedback we received from councils, community groups, landowners and the broader community during consultation on the interim report.

The report's recommendations will come into effect in the local government areas of Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Lismore City and Tweed on 20 October 2015.

You can view the *Northern Councils E Zone Review Final Recommendations Report* and the *E Zone Review Submissions Report* on [our website](#).

For more information, please contact the Northern Regional office at the Department of Planning and Environment on (02) 6641 6600.

Government response to Crown Lands submissions

The NSW Government has published its response to the 2014 Crown Lands Legislation White Paper. The majority of submissions supported the idea of new consolidated legislation and repealing the existing Acts. Few comments were received in relation to the proposed repeal of the Western Lands Act 1901, or the Wentworth Irrigation Act 1890 and the Hay Irrigation Act 1902. There was overwhelming support for protection of environmental, cultural heritage and social values, and concern at the focus on economic values of Crown land.

http://www.lpma.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/206680/response-to-crown-lands-legislation-white-paper.pdf

Feedback: pest animal management in NSW

Landholders and the broader community are invited to provide feedback to the NSW Natural Resources Commission on an issues paper regarding the State-wide review of pest animal management.

<http://www.nrc.nsw.gov.au/pest-animal-management>



ABC Catalyst: parrots versus possums

A team of Australian researchers, including IA CRC PhD student Cat Campbell, have found that approximately "half of the adult breeding female swift parrots get eaten every year." But who or what is the culprit? The answer may surprise you. [Watch the full report](#).

National Biological Farming Conference and Expo 2015

As 2015 is the International Year of Soils, the theme of this year's National Biological Farming Conference was "Regenerating Our Soils". The Conference was organised by Soilcare Inc (part of the Landcare family) and held on 6 – 8 November at Southern Cross University Lismore. Bela Allen and Jenny Hartigan attended from BVL.

26 speakers from Australia and overseas addressed topics ranging from soil science and analysis, biological pest control, weed management, soil regeneration and fertility

through to practical examples of better environmental and financial outcomes delivered by a biological approach to farming.

Exhibitors at the Expo also provided a wide variety of product and resource information.

For me the "take home" messages were:

There are three components to soil health: soil chemistry, soil biology and soil structure. All are important.

- Over worked / degraded soil can be regenerated, once you know the current status of your soil.
- "Biological" approaches are moving from the boutique to more mainstream farming enterprises.



photo: Dr Maarten Stapper – Healthy Soils for Healthy Quality Food

- Healthy soil leads to health plants which in turn leads to healthy animals and people.

The conference presentations will be put on to the Soilcare website so for more information, go to

www.soilcare.org

Jenny Hartigan



Trial data needed to verify new drought indicator system

NSW DPI is developing a new Enhanced Drought Indicator System (EDIS) that will combine rainfall, soil moisture, and modelled pasture and crop growth data to better assess drought onset, severity and recovery. The project team is looking for data from current and historic grazing, pasture and crop trials to verify and improve EDIS's accuracy. Data from paddock-scale trials is particularly valuable for this project. If you have data that you would like to contribute to the project, or know of suitable data, please contact Belinda Hackney by email or on 6850 1623. All data contributions will be acknowledged.

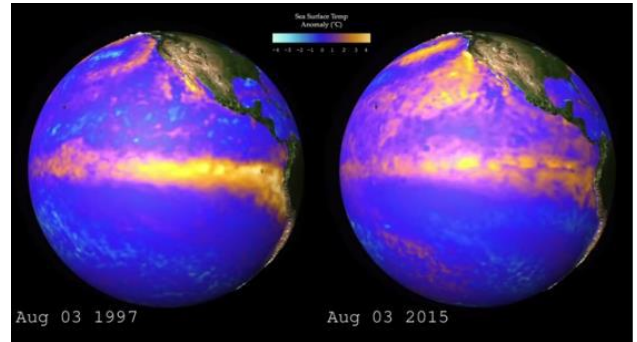
belinda.hackney@lls.nsw.gov.au

<http://www.climatecentral.org/news/animation-compares-blockbuster-el-ninos-19408>

Comparison of El Nino sea temperatures in 1997 and 2015

This animation shows the development of the 1997 and 2015 El Ninos from January to August.

<http://www.climatecentral.org/news/animation-compares-blockbuster-el-ninos-19408>



Simple climate model anyone can use

Monash University has developed a simple climate model for students and the public to do their own climate simulations. It provides a simple model of the average global climate and its response to external factors such as changes in sunlight or CO2 concentration. You can take the climate apart and see how it responds to different climate change scenarios. The website also provides educational tutorials about the climate, climate models and climate change.

<http://monash.edu/research/simple-climate-model/mscm/index.html>

Increasing CO2 is reducing river flows

Rising carbon dioxide concentrations are causing vegetation across large parts of Australia to grow more quickly, in turn consuming more water and reducing flows into river basins. River flows have decreased by 24-28% in a large part of Australia due to increasing CO2 levels, which have risen by 14% since the early 1980s. This could exacerbate water scarcity in several populated and agriculturally important regions.

<https://theconversation.com/river-flows-drop-as-carbon-dioxide-creates-thirstier-plants-49371>



Myrtle rust is impacting rainforest species

A global study of myrtle rust in natural ecosystems reveals local extinction of key rainforest species is inevitable. Myrtle rust was detected on the Central Coast in NSW in April 2010 and is now established along the east coast from Batemans Bay to far north Queensland. Repeated damage can kill rainforest trees in less than four years, and within two years in severe cases.

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10530-015-0996-y>

The amazing world of plant roots

US photographer Jim Richardson has been working with agroecologist Jerry Glover to develop ways to photograph the extraordinary roots of wild prairie grass which can grow over four metres beneath the soil surface. They grow the grasses in PVC pipes for one to two years, split the pipes, and wash and photograph the roots.

<http://proof.nationalgeographic.com/2015/10/15/digging-deep-reveals-the-intricate-world-of-roots/>



Indian Myna birds are increasing in our shire

Indian Mynas are aggressive birds that displace our native species. There has been more sightings this year than before.

Therefore more trappers are needed to help control these birds. Traps are available from Byron Shire Council. Traps can be borrowed FREE of charge. Decoy birds are available to make trapping more successful. Euthanasia for caught birds is available at the local vets. If you see Mynas in your yard but aren't able to trap please report the sighting.

Information about Indian Mynas is available online at:

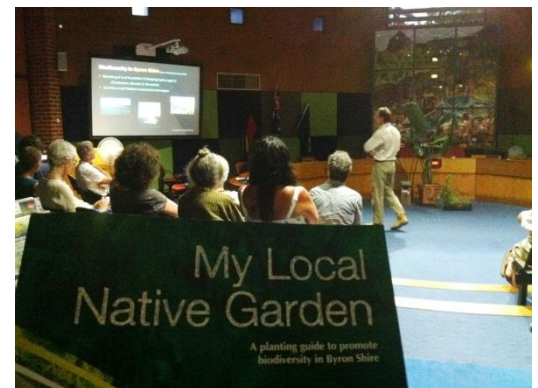
<http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/indian-mynas>

To borrow a trap or report birds please contact: Jo Green 02 6626 7068 joanne.green@byron.nsw.gov.au



Workshops and Field Days

It's been a busy month for BVL with workshops and field days in partnership with Byron Shire Council. We had the "Pick that weed and put it in the bin" on the 16th October with 25 participants where we learnt about 20 local weeds and also learnt about what happens to our waste from the green bins. Then we had the "Saving the coastal koala" field day on 18th October with 30 participants hearing from Lorraine Vass from friends of the Koala and visiting 3 different sites from the Koala Connections project. Then on the 3rd November as part of Byron Shire Council's sustainability series we talked about "My local native garden" with 25 participants. John Turnbull, Bushland Officer for Tweed Shire Council, Dr Brendan Taylor, Sandpiper Ecological and Brad Green from Mullum Creek Native Nursery covered vegetation communities and choosing suitable local species, how to attract wildlife to your garden and suitable local plants for landscaping. Thank you to everyone who attended. Look out for more events in the new year.



Giant Devil's Fig



In 2014, the Minister for Primary Industries announced Giant devil's fig as a class 3 noxious weed on the North Coast. Landholders are finding dense infestations in areas all over the North Coast and are obligated to remove them from their land.

In our region it is mostly found along creeks and in moist areas, but can tolerate a wide range of conditions – from shady creek banks to dry open grassland and any areas that have been recently disturbed. Like many weeds, it out competes native species and can totally dominate an area if not controlled.

Giant devil's fig is a member of the Solanaceae family. It is a tall, perennial shrub up to five metres high, with large lobed leaves. New stems and leaves have soft hairs, which may be reddish in colour. Stems, leaf stalks and leaf veins have prickles up to six millimetres long; the bark also has thorns.

The plants flower from autumn through spring. The fruit is round and yellowish when ripe, and mainly spread by birds and bats. Plant parts are toxic to humans, stock and wildlife.

If you have large Giant Devils Fig plants, cut and swab them with chemical, small ones can be sprayed or hand removed. Be a good neighbour and do not let them flower and seed. Further media enquires: Kim Curtis, Extension Officer Weed Services, (02) 6623 3833 or 0427 335 502.



Weed of the Month

This months weed of the month is *Buddleja Buddleja madagascariensis*. This sprawling shrub was the weed that most people brought to the weed workshop to be identified.

It originates from Madagascar



and has long canes, up to 4 m high, but can climb up to 10m high if supported. It has narrow oval shaped or elliptic leaves which are dark green above and woolly white or yellowish on the underside. The flowers are yellow, orange, lilac or salmon-coloured in long sprays that are sweetly scented. The fruit is a round blue-violet berry, but is not usually set locally. It is in flower now and attracts butterflies. It smothers low-growing native vegetation, climbs and drags down taller stems. It reproduces from stem sections and is mostly spread in dumped garden rubbish or in machinery.

For more information on how to control these weeds and other 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>



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: 4th Sunday of the month 8:00am – 11:00am
WHERE: Meet between the rock wall and the surf club
CONTACT: Greg McDonald brunswickheadsdunecare@gmail.com 0414 457 346

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 0427 650 861

Green and Clean Awareness Team, Byron Bay

WHEN: 3rd Sunday of the month 9:00am
WHERE: Meet Main Beach, Byron Bay
CONTACT: Veda Turner 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

Jinangong Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: 1st Sunday of the month
WHERE: The Tunnel Road, Ocean Shores
CONTACT: Ian Parer ianparer@hotmail.com

Lower Mullum Creek Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: 2nd Sunday of the month
WHERE: Azalea Street Bridge to Riverside Bridge, Mullumbimby
CONTACT: John Bailey john@jbailey.info

South New Brighton Dunecare

WHEN: 1st 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 6680 1970

Suffolk Park Dunecare

WHEN: 1st Saturday of the month
CONTACT: Helen Brown 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 6684 7113

LINKS

- 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
 - 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
 - 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
 - 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>
-

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



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

