



Clarence  
Landcare

# Kookaburra News

October 2013



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## STATE LANDCARE AWARDS

### Clarence has winners!

Fig Tree Farms wins the Sustainable Farming Award

see Page 4



Henry Sheehan, of Fig Tree Farms, winner of the Sustainable Farming Award under one of the Figs of Fig Tree Farms.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### October 2013

**Thursday 31st** — Environmental Rehabilitation and Restoration Grants Due

### November 2013

**Saturday 2nd** – Clarence AGM with an evening of Spotighting with Russell Jago after the meeting

**Sunday 3rd** — Illuka Open day—Celebrating 20 years of achievement

**Wednesday 6th** — NRCMA Small Grants Close

**Tuesday 12th Nov** — In Safe Hands Workshop at Yamba. *Ensure you're Working Safely on your site.* Workplace Health and safety for Dunecare and Landcare

**7-17th Nov** — **Great Koala Count**

**Tues 26th** — Weeds Workshop:-Managing weeds as an alternative to herbicide .

## FROM THE CHAIR

### Brian Dodd reports:



#### Chairs Report October 2013

Things quite haven't settled down as yet as far as funding, and where Clarence Landcare Inc is heading into the future, but it is looking much better than it was at the end of the financial year.

We have a limited amount of funding that will keep the office open and the staff are still working with new projects appearing on the horizon. The way we work has changed a fair bit with the formation of the SEL (Socio-Ecological Landscape), a group of Landcare Inc's – Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and Clarence who are working in cooperation to achieve the outcomes in natural resource management as we always have.

Clarence Landcare hosted a great lunch at Yamba, which was very well attended by Landcarers from all around the catchment, to say farewell to Julie. The day was fine and there was an abundance of delicious food and drink. In case you weren't aware, Clarence Landcare presented Julie with a set of wine glasses etched with the rare orchid that Julie discovered growing at Yamba Public School, and live orchid in a beautiful pot.

We have advertised for someone to help out as with the new structure we are working within, there are always teething problems and lots of paperwork. Once things have settled down a bit more I am sure we will be back on track, sharing our resources within the SEL and ensuring the Clarence Valley is enhanced with the hard work of Landcarers.

Brian



**Don't miss**

## **INNOVATION IN WEED MANAGEMENT with David Low**

**Controlling Weeds without Herbicides**

**at Kungala on 26th November**  
See article Page # and attached flyer



## OFFICE HOURS

*It's always a good idea to RING THE OFFICE before attending, to ensure it is open. Even if the office is due to be or presumed to be open, staff may be out doing errands or site visits. The office is generally open 3 days a week, but these may vary. Please, **RING FIRST (66435009)** before coming to the office, to avoid the disappointment of finding it empty.*





# Farewell Julie Mousley after 14 great years of Service to Landcare



Upwards of 40 people gathered at Yamba's Flinder's Park, on Saturday 31st August to farewell a staunch champion of Landcare in the Clarence Valley and beyond.

Julie Mousley first joined Clarence Landcare in 1999 as a Landcare Coordinator, a role which in recent years, has evolved into a Community Support Officer. During this period of time, Landcare has seen many changes, growing from strength to strength, and Julie (together with co-workers Debbie Repschlager and Sue Moore) has been a central force in achieving this growth and strength.

Julie was, and continues to be, a strong voice for the coast and floodplain estuary. She wrote many successful funding submissions, represented the Floodplain at Committee Level, and designed and authored several Landcare publications. (...and that's just a snippet of what she's done! ).

Julie will continue to be a strong advocate for Landcare and Dunecare causes, with her role at Clarence Valley Council, and on a personal level, as she continues to reside at Wooloweyah.

Julie's sunny personality, her enthusiasm and hard work will be sorely missed.



**Right: Julie, flanked by Clarence Landcare Chair Brian, (left) holding a gift box, (middle) holding a bouquet from the garden of Clarence Landcare Treasurer Jan, (right.)**

## SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM NOW OPEN

Small Grants Program are now open and landholders and groups can apply for:

- on ground Natural Resource Management (NRM) projects between the values of \$2,000 and \$10,000 (ex GST)
- the development of NRM Plans up to the value of \$5,000 (ex GST)

**Application Forms, Guides, FAQs, available on website [www.clarencelandcare.com.au](http://www.clarencelandcare.com.au)**

Grants opened 11 October 2013 and close 6 November. For information contact Clarence Landcare on (02) 66435 099 or [clarence\\_landcare@bigpond.com.au](mailto:clarence_landcare@bigpond.com.au)



# NSW LANDCARE AWARDS

## Clarence has winners!

Newcastle was the venue for this years NSW Landcare and Catchment Management Forum, which Clarence Landcare's Debbie Repschlager and Sue Moore attended. Held over three days (3rd—5th Sept.) which included the NSW Landcare Muster the conference was also the venue for announcing the Winners of the NSW Landcare Awards, nominated from those who won their Regional Landcare Awards.

**Clarence Landcare Link members, Fig Tree Farms, were winners of the Sustainable Agriculture Award. Our congratulations go to Henry Sheehan and Glenn Morris for helping to fly the flag for Clarence in winning this award.**



Pictured at the recent NSW Landcare and Catchment Management Authority Forum at Newcastle: L to R : Fig Trees Farm *Sustainable Farm Practices* Award winner Henry Sheehan, Clarence Landcare's Deb Repschlager, ABC Local Radio *Rural Report* journalist Kim Honan, fellow award winner Glenn Morris, North Coast Regional Landcare network Coordinator Jodie Gager

Deb reported that there were many different sessions held at the Conference, across many different topics, including a key note address from Gardening Australia's Costa Georgiadis, who gave a very energetic presentation that included information gleaned from the mornings Landcare Muster and a heap of other great information. "Costa even changed his shirt half way through his presentation (behind a partition of course) because he couldn't decide which shirt to wear so he wore both!!, he even had a chicken on stage - certainly not the most conventional key note address I have seen but definitely the most entertaining".



Sue and Deb at the Conference and the Biodynamic Winery and Garlic Farm that we visited as part of the field trip to the Upper Hunter

## Connecting Resources – Local Seeds -- Local Plants -- Local Projects

Clarence Landcare's Biodiversity Resource Support Project funded by the Australian government's Clean Energy Future Biodiversity Fund and Clean Energy Futures Program, is now ramping up its pace for the Spring/Summer season to locate, record, map, collect, store and distribute seed resources.



With a primary focus for seed collection across the Clarence Floodplain and estuaries, the project will also be targeting other geographical areas within the Clarence Catchment to obtain collections from a wide variety of native species.

While the project has many goals, matching local seed to local revegetation requirements is a key aspect. With a comprehensive database now in place, Clarence Landcare has the ability to identify at the click of a button, seed collected and stored from a particular area which can be matched locally to revegetation projects. Project Officer Susan Moore said "plants being grown from native seed collections can also be linked to growers and then where they are planted.



After a recent visit to the local Wooli to Sandon Community Nursery, to see how the seed resources were growing there, we were quite impressed as Nursery Coordinator, Dennis Milne showed us around the vast array of healthy plants that are being grown for projects.

Apart from the Wooli to Sandon seed collection propagated for National Parks revegetation projects, the variety of native seed we have distributed to Dennis is now ready to go out the door.

Dennis said, "The native plants are available for local residents, at a purchase price based on cost-recovery rather than profit." This makes for very reasonable (bargain) prices and helps promote local biodiversity on private properties as well as Landcare sites.

So if you are looking for specific plants for a specific area, get in contact with us at Clarence Landcare and we can try and match your requirements and connect the resources.



**Above: Minnie Water Community Nursery coordinator Denis Milne, Clarence Landcare's Sue Moore, and Community volunteer, Tom Turnbull, of Wooli, pictured with Red Ash seedlings and seeds. (the latter held in Sue's hand.)**



## Can the new Green Army benefit your Landcare Project?

The new Federal Government has recently announced the creation of its new Green Army.

Based on a similar model to Green Corps of the Howard era, this will be based on transition to work and study for otherwise unemployed participants in the 17-24 age group. Unlike Green Corps, which was a labour market program run under the direction of the Department of Employment and Workplace relations (DEWR), Green Corps will be part of the Coalition Government Department of Environment. Participants will work and study full time for six months, during which time they will complete Cert 2 in Conservation and Land Management at TAFE.

According to the Green Army Policy released before the election, the stated aim is to build an environmental workforce of 15,000, that will work with, and complement the work done by local Landcare groups, bush care groups, foreshore communities, Natural Resource Management Groups, local catchment authorities and councils, in their work restoring and protecting the local environment.

This is potentially a real gain for Landcare so coordinators of various groups should keep ears and noses close to the ground for further information. Clarence Landcare will be monitoring further developments as they are announced following the bedding down of the new government.

Check out the Nationals website [www.nationals.org.au](http://www.nationals.org.au) for an overview of the planned Green Army. (Scroll down the Policy page to Green Army. It's under "Boost Productivity and Reduce Regulation")



**Green corps participants at work.**  
(picture taken at Gills Creek Bridge, Kempsey.)**The new Green Army is based on a similar concept.**

## Feral Cats: a continuing Problem



**"The only tame cat is the one sitting on some-one's lap"—Anon.**

Feral cats are Australia's biggest threat to wildlife, and with that, biodiversity in general. Regarded by some as "an unfortunate piece of inherited European cultural baggage" and others as worth their weight in gold as companion animals, cats have always divided opinions. This can be on environmental grounds or as part of the great pet lovers debate between cats and dogs as preferred pets.

Environmentally, it has been estimated that there are more feral cats in Australia than (domestic?) people..For this reason it is essential that feral cats be controlled. This has difficulties because for many people the very notion of control of cats is an emotive issue. Many of our laws concerning cats are English in derivation and favour the protection of the cat, even if it causes damage (e.g. Poultry loss next door) although this is slowly changing. Controlling feral cats also has its challenges. Wild cats are extremely cunning and difficult to find. They are also suspicious of traps.

Since the Companion Animal ACT (1998) your tame moggy needs to be desexed, registered and microchipped for its own safety. (Breeding pedigree animals require higher registration fees.) In fact in NSW ALL cats (and dogs) must be identified by 12 weeks of age or when sold or given away—whichever comes first. They must be life-time registered (a one-off fee) before the age of six months. This provides a system to manage these animals for the benefit of all in the community. It also allows for the identification and return of your lost pet! **Above: The cute tame kitten on a pole inside could become a wild feral cat up a tree outside if left uncontrolled, and allowed to roam freely.**



## Managing weeds without herbicide!

### **INNOVATION IN WEED MANAGEMENT with David Low**

*David Low is qualified with a PhD in Scientific Communication (ANU 2003) and is a Master of Environmental Science (Monash1992). He became interested in weeds after talking with farmers. He realised that weeds can be used as a resource. For example, many weeds can be used as silage to feed stock. David also noticed that where there is biodiversity, there is decreased weed problems. So began David's enquiry into the financial and environmental benefits of sustainable weed management. In order to investigate and communicate information about sustainable weeding, The Weed's Network was founded in 2009. "The growth of interest in profitably and sustainably controlling and/or preventing weeds has been amazing – we now have more than 35,000 members linked into our network from all over the world."*

David Low will be running a series of workshops across the North Coast.

### **DON'T MISS DAVID LOW'S CLARENCE WORKSHOP!**

Tuesday 26th November; 1.00pm-4.30pm at Noble's Property, 298 Riverbend Road, KUNGALA  
(off Kungala Road at the Railway Crossing. (see attached flyer for more info and map)



### **Is Integrated Weed Management efficient for reducing environmental impacts of cropping systems? A case study based on life cycle assessment**

"Integrated Weed Management (IWM) in arable crops relies on the combination of various measures for preventing, avoiding and suppressing weeds, with the aim of reducing the reliance on herbicides and their environmental impacts. As IWM requires potentially deep changes in the cropping systems, modifying e.g. the crop sequence, the strategies for soil tillage and eventually introducing mechanical weeding, it is important to perform comprehensive evaluations of IWM-based cropping system prototypes. In this study, a Life Cycle Assessment method was used to compute several environmental impacts for four variants of Integrated Weed Management-based cropping system. When expressed per unit of cultivated area, most environmental indicators were improved in IWM-based systems, including the energy input, greenhouse gas emission, acidification, and ecotoxicity and human toxicity. In-field fuel consumption was a rather minor contribution to the overall energy demand and to global warming". **Dr David Low** —extract, *WeedsNews2773* / January 16, 2012

### **DON'T MISS DAVID LOW'S CLARENCE WORKSHOP!**

**KUNGALA 26th November 1.30—4.30pm**



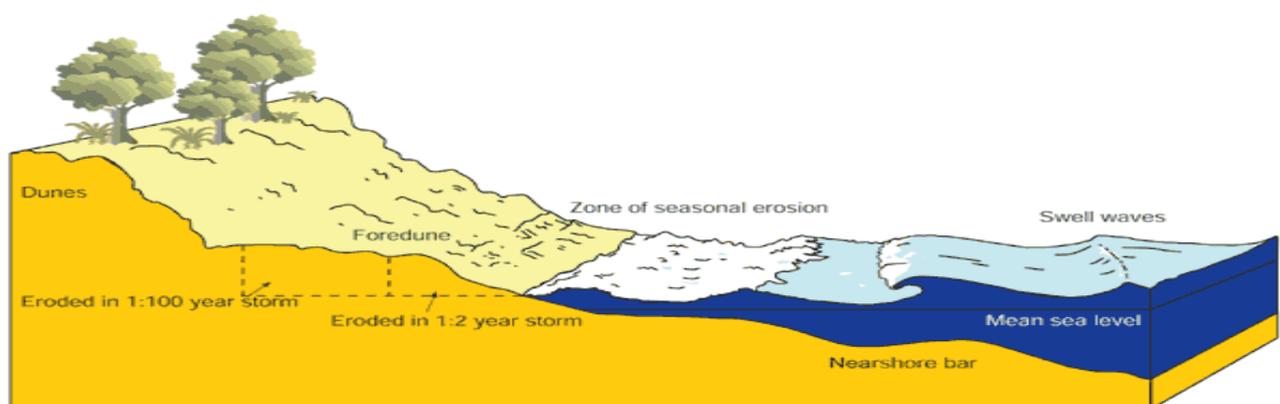
# Getting a handle on understanding Coastal Erosion

Beaches are dynamic. Sand is moved by wind and currents, which are created by wave or tidal energy. The key function performed by the beach is to absorb this energy. As waves approach the coastline their energy brings the sand into suspension and the associated currents transport the sand. The sand on the seabed is mobilized by every wave passing. Under calm conditions the sand may shift just a millimeter or so and during an extreme storm event beaches can change rapidly as sand is moved distances off shore. Extreme events such as storms are usually well-remembered, while slow gradual changes often go unseen. Regular beach users and observers are well aware of the beach constantly changing and reshaping.

**Coastal Erosion** is the permanent loss of land along the shoreline. The coast is constantly adjusting to changes in wave and tide processes and sediment supply. It is important to distinguish between **short-term changes** in the coast and **long-term coastal erosion**. Short-term shoreline changes do not constitute coastal erosion. These changes occur over periods of days to several years. The changes are most obvious during storms when high wave action actively removes sand from beaches. During storms waves reach a backshore area and erode sand from it. The function of this backshore is to act as a sand reservoir during storms. In the following months normal weather and wave patterns may cause sand to be replaced on beaches. **Long-term** coastal erosion occurs over years to decades. The varying coastline is observed to gradually move landward. **This recession** of the shoreline represents **long-term erosion**.

*For the past two decades sea level rise has been singled out as a likely cause of erosion throughout the Pacific, the Australian Bureau of Meteorology says.* While rising sea level is one possible factor, **climatic variability** may also be a significant cause of coastal erosion.

**Natural causes of erosion** include changes in wave climate such as an increase in wave height, and/or change in the angle of wave approach; or increased frequency of high magnitude waves. Another natural cause is a reduction in the amount of sediment delivered to the coast from reef. And finally, there is rising sea level. Whether this is natural or human-induced can be debated.



Cross-section of a sandy beach showing the significant difference in the volume of sediment eroded in high-magnitude storms (1:100 year) compared to seasonal erosional events. Source: Oz Coasts -Australian on line coastal information

## Getting a handle on understanding Coastal Erosion continued

**Human-induced causes of erosion** that are more self evident include sand extraction from beaches. This reduces the sand volume of the coast. Extraction of mineral sands included Rutile, zircon and illmenite. These were mined on the east coast from Gladstone to Port Kembla, a distance of 1700 kilometres. The well-intentioned but poorly informed introduction of Bitou bush to control resultant erosion from sand mining is well known to Dunecarers. Coral mining (below left) is another cause of beach erosion. This occurs especially in many third world Pacific nations, as a means to enable the building of concrete structures that we in the west take for granted as regular development.



Insertion of structures such as seawalls ( above right) which locally alter wave processes and change sediment transport are another cause of human-induced erosion.

(Paradoxically, sea walls are also used to *control* erosion.)

Mangroves (right) have been removed in ignorance (or arrogance); for development; and to remove a perceived threat of mosquitoes. The removal of mangroves is another cause of human-induced erosion. Mangroves offer protection for the coast by absorbing the energy of storm-driven waves and wind.



**The coastal zone is a vibrant area of natural change and of increasing human use. It is estimated that 3.1 billion people live within 200 kilometres from the sea. With three-quarters of the world population expected to reside in the coastal zone by 2025, human activities originating from this small land area will impose an inordinate amount of pressures on the global system. It is stating the obvious for the need to value and look after it.**

Article by Alastair Maple extracted from Coastal Dune Management work shop power point presentation. Information was sourced from a wide variety of on-line material.

***“gonna come up with a plan, Stan.”***



# Strategic Plan for Clarence Landcare

Clarence Landcare, along with other regional and State Landcare bodies, is embarking on a Strategic plan. A what? And why? A strategic plan is a means of implementing what we at Clarence Landcare think are the most important items we should be focusing on. And it is all the more meaningful if it comes from the members. So at the meeting at Woody Head on November 3rd—and it won't take long!-promise!—we'll be asking questions like: What does Clarence Landcare mean to you? What do Clarence Landcare members expect or want of Clarence Landcare in the future? Your opportunity for **Your** say in directions for Clarence Landcare.

## Feedback from out there in Landcare Land

Please send us any suggestions, comments, or contributions. We are always looking for ways of improving **your** KOOKABURRA newsletter.



## TAFE: Rural Operations-Land Management & Sustainability

### GET YOURSELF ACCREDITED!!

The TAFE campus at Trenayr is about to run Cert 2 in Rural Operations-Land Management and Sustainability. “This is a great way to get some accreditation to enter the workforce or further study” said TAFE lecturer Bill Sansom. “Term 4 starts soon, and with it, this new course.”

#### Course description

This course is for people who work, or want to work, at skilled operator level in natural resource management, especially in an outdoors environment. The course helps you develop competencies required by a wide range of sectors within the conservation and land management industry, including:

- control plant pests, diseases and disorders
- conduct tree inspections
- recognise plants
- maintain nursery plants
- recognise fauna
- collect seed

Ring the Trenayr TAFE Campus on 66444 700 for further information.



# Iluka Landcare Celebrate their 20 YEARS of achievement.

Iluka Landcare will celebrate 20 years of achievement with an Open Day, meeting at Iluka Bluff..

## AMAZING WORK

“It is amazing the work that this group has achieved,” said Coordinator and founding member Kay Jeffrey. “ As well as the work done by local volunteers, National Parks have been tremendously supportive over the years. We couldn’t have achieved what we’ve done without their help.”

## TWENTY YEARS OF WEED REMOVAL

The twenty years the group has been working has seen the removal of an inordinate amount of environmental weeds, including bitou, potato vine, lantana, and Madeira vine. During this time work has been done on Iluka Bluff and Nature Reserve, Iluka World Heritage Rainforest and Bunjulong National Park.

Kay says there is now upwards of 19 people, working two days a week. “This month we’ve also .got Uni students from Southern Cross, and there’s 80 school kids coming on another day”, said Kay.

## SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Iluka Landcare are hoping for a big roll-up top help celebrate. “We will **meet at Iluka Bluff at 10am** on Sunday the **3rd of November**. From there we’ll go on a short walk to several work sites, and come back for a sausage sizzle afterwards”.

**To RSVP please ring Clarence Landcare 66435009.**



Never looked so good.....Iluka Landcare have been working for 20 years to help protect the biodiversity of this beautiful area.

*Come and help celebrate on 3rd November !*





# A Landcare Weekend at Woody Head

## Bundjalung National Park, Iluka

### 2nd & 3rd November 2013

Clarence Landcare Inc. have booked **Accommodation at the Swamp House**. Woody Head for Friday, Saturday and Sunday night - there are a number of rooms available. You can stay one night, two or three nights.

**If you stay you are there on location:(in a beautiful spot)** for our AGM on Saturday afternoon, there for the BBQ dinner (provided) and Spotighting on Saturday night and then wake up in the morning for the **Iluka Landcare Group 20 Year Celebration and Open Day at The Bluff on Sunday 3rd Nov 10am.**

There is a full kitchen for self catering outside the afternoon tea and dinner that Clarence Landcare is providing. You need to bring your own bedding for the beds.

Notice of the

**Clarence Landcare Inc.**

**Annual General Meeting 2013**

**& General Meeting**

**on Saturday 3rd November, 2013, 2.00 pm at the**

**Swamp House Training Centre,**

Woody Head Camp Ground

Bundjalung National Park, Iluka.

**AGM & General Meeting**

2.00 pm: Greetings, Tea & Coffee on arrival

2.15 pm: Chairmans Welcome and Report

2.20 pm **Election of Office Bearers**

**2.45 pm: General Meeting Commences**



*Iluka Bluff*

Minutes of previous meeting etc. and the following sessions:

1. Presentation by Clarence Landcare Staff - Our Achievements & highlights of 2012/13

2. **Guest Speaker—Ross Minchin—20 years with Iluka Landcare**

3. **The future of Clarence Landcare**

**4.00pm: Finish and Afternoon Tea (provided)**

This is the second notice of the AGM the first was in the September 27th 2013 Mini Kooka E- News

RSVP : by Wednesday 30th October 2013

Please phone the Landcare Office on 66 435 009 or email to let us know if you are coming to the weekend (or any part of it) we need to know for catering purposes. Please advise of any special dietary requirements. There is a \$20 booking fee for accommodation.



# In Safe Hands Toolkit

2013/14 Program

3rd Edition

*A safety management toolkit for community groups in practical conservation*



- ◆ Do you want to find out how to meet your 'duty of care' obligations to your volunteers?
- ◆ Is managing safety an area you find confusing and difficult?
- ◆ Do you want a user friendly approach to safety management?

If you answered YES to any of these questions then the In Safe Hands Toolkit is for you.

The In Safe Hands 2013/14 Program delivers to organisations working in practical conservation activities:

- ◆ The In Safe Hands Toolkit
- ◆ Training - Free workshops
- ◆ Direct assistance on safety
- ◆ Safety newsletters



## In Safe Hands Toolkit 3rd Edition

features NEW:

- ◆ Safety Policies
- ◆ Guidance Notes
- ◆ Safety Prompts
- ◆ Safety Record Templates

Go online to get your **FREE COPY** of the In Safe Hands Toolkit **NOW** and **REGISTER** to attend a workshop

[www.insafehands.org.au](http://www.insafehands.org.au)

**Workshop Location:** YAMBA

**Date & Time:** Tuesday 12th November 2013 9am-1pm

**Venue:** Treelands Drive Community Centre, Treelands Dr, Yamba

AVAILABLE TO COMMUNITY GROUPS WORKING IN PRACTICAL CONSERVATION

The In Safe Hands Toolkit is an initiative of Conservation Volunteers and the Conservation Skills Centre, supported by the

Australian Government - Department of Agriculture



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture



# More Horse Workshops on the horizon. Grants for landholders as well.



A series of workshops for horse lovers and owners was held across the region earlier this year during February. Funded by the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program in partnership with Clarence Landcare, there were workshops held at Bellingen, Coffs Harbour, Grafton and Casino.

Stuart Myers, internationally acclaimed author and sustainable horse property management expert from Equiculture, was principal speaker and educator at the workshops. He discussed how to develop and maintain pasture for horses, encourage biodiversity, and manage manure, water and vegetation.

At the Grafton workshop participants were asked to fill out an expression of interest form to become eligible to obtain some funding if a grant became available to put into practice some of the property management principles covered in the workshop.

Clarence Landcare were successful in their bid for a new Caring for our Country Community Landcare Grant entitled "Implementing Change: Sustainable Land Management Practices for Horse Properties."

Those landholders involved in this grant will be contacted shortly and will benefit from putting a small amount of grant money towards improving their properties in a sustainable manner. The work on the ground is only one part of the project, training is an important component. Stuart and Jane Myers from Equiculture will visit Grafton again, so those who missed out on seeing Stuart in February this year because of the floods will get another chance.

Other training and workshops will include property and project planning, soils and pastures and dung beetles for horse dung. This will be a great project and I am really looking forward to getting started.



## Nymboida Landcare successfully finish their Community Action Grant



This project has achieved more than anticipated. All of the known cats claw creeper sites have been treated – some up to three times during the project period. We have found a number of new infestations of Cats Claw Creeper also, one relatively large and a number smaller. – All of these have now been treated, mapped and photographed and will be included in Clarence Landcare's ongoing Nymboida River Project. We have also improved our strategy for treating the Cats Claw sites, instead of just addressing the weed vines, this project has enabled us to clear a significant zone around the infestations of other weeds, mainly small leaf privet that were masking the extent in which the weed vines were travelling under the ground cover and mulch layer. We now have a clear zone in which we can more easily monitor the sites for regrowth of the weed vines. We have also managed to engage through this project a new farmer which hopefully will continue to be part of the Nymboida River Project. These are all very significant achievements of the project.

The *phyllanthus microcladus* site is looking great, in fact we have discovered that there are considerably more plants than we first thought, and the extent of the community is larger. Since the start of the canopy weed control of this site, I believe individual plants have grown significantly and some are now in full fruit. (see photo)

The Nymboida River Biodiversity field day that was delivered in conjunction with two Clarence Landcare Nymboida River funded projects was a very successful day with one of the field site visits looking at the Pump Site – Cats Claw Creeper site.—Deb Repschlager





## Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants

### Call for applications

The Trust is calling for applications to the Restoration and Rehabilitation program. Applications opened on 21 September and close on **Thursday, 31 October 2013.**

**Aim of the program** The aim of the Restoration and Rehabilitation (R&R) program is to facilitate projects to prevent or reduce pollution, the waste stream or environmental degradation of any kind, run by community organisations and State and Local government organisations. Through these projects, we also aim to improve the capacity of communities and organisations to protect, restore and enhance the

## OPTUS COMMUNITY GRANTS NOW ARE NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

<https://www.optus.com.au/shop/aboutoptus/communitygrants/>

There are 3 entry categories:

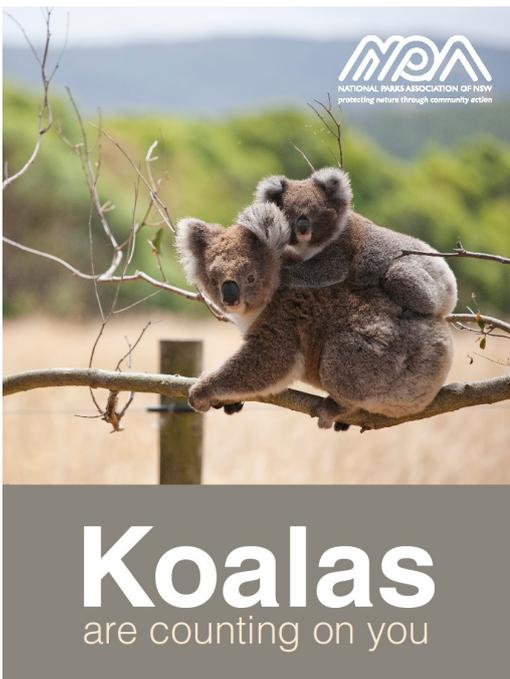
• **Education:** This category funds projects that help to improve education outcomes. Projects funded will aim to close education gaps, help kids stay engaged in school and remove barriers to completing education or training. Projects may fund equipment enabling the completion of school or TAFE assignments.

• **Wellbeing:** This category funds projects, which help to improve young people's wellbeing. This category includes young people accessing appropriate programs or resources in areas such as mental health, emotional and physical wellbeing support.

• **Access to technology:** This category funds projects for young people who come from difficult backgrounds with limited financial resources and access to technology. Projects may focus on the safe and responsible use of phones and the internet among youth.

Program Guidelines are available on line as well as terms and Conditions. Please read both documents before applying. If you would like advice or support you can contact me via return email or telephone 6645 0015 or Optus via email [togrants@optus.com.au](mailto:togrants@optus.com.au).

## PARTICIPATE IN THE GREAT KOALA COUNT!



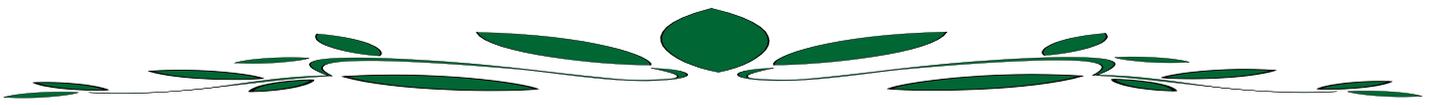
[www.npansw.org.au/data](http://www.npansw.org.au/data)

To participate in the Great Koala Count, people must first **register** at [www.koalacount.org.au](http://www.koalacount.org.au).

The National Parks Association (NPA) has developed a free Smart Phone App, called **Biotag**, which enables anyone with a GPS-enabled phone to record the location of koalas along with a few other observational details. Data collected by the BioTag App is automatically uploaded to the NPAs Citizen Science Data Portal. This information complements existing knowledge about koalas and is available to anyone with an interest in koalas

Once registered, you can download the BioTag app from iTunes or Google Play and use BioTag to record koala sightings anytime between **Nov 7 and 17**. **If you do not have access to a GPS-enabled Smartphone, you can still take part in the Count by entering your Koala sightings straight onto the Koala Count website. Koalas can be counted anytime during the 10 days of the Great Koala Count**





## Landcare Community Office



Clarence  
**Landcare**

### Contact Details

Suite 1 (upstairs) Dougherty House

48 Prince St Grafton Postal Address: PO Box 594, Grafton NSW 2460

Ph: (02) 66 435009 Fax: (02)66 435006



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY

Email: [clarence\\_landcare@bigpond.com](mailto:clarence_landcare@bigpond.com)

[www.clarencelandcare.com.au](http://www.clarencelandcare.com.au)



Northern Rivers

**CMA** CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

## Clarence Landcare Inc.

P.O. Box 594, Grafton NSW 2460

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### IMPORTANT Message from Committee and Staff !!

Thankyou to those individuals on our mailing list who notified us to continue to receive hard copies of the newsletter. This newsletter edition has been printed in full however and we are continuing to assess future editions.

If you want to receive information quickly outside Kookaburra News editions and you do not have an email address or don't check it regularly—we have a new **E-News Snail Mail List**. So you can get up to date information when grant rounds open and training and workshops are coming up with out relying on email.

We are looking forward to the Iluka Landcare weekend hope to see you there.

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Caring for our Country and the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority

