



## This Issue:

### Page 1

- Clarence Landcare's AGM

### Page 2

- Dates for your Diary
- Caring for Our Country Community Action Grants
- Fish Habitat Action Grants

### Page 3

- Maclean Landcare at the Show
- Clarence Landcare Minnie Water Meeting
- Food Links Project

### Pages 4 & 5

- Clarence Landcare Field Days and Workshops

### Page 6

- Clarence Landcare Inc.'s Chairs Report 09/10
- Land for Wildlife

### Page 7

- Biological farming Course
- National Green Jobs Corp Team

### Back page

- Reminder Clarence Landcare Membership Fees are Due

## Clarence Landcare's Annual General Meeting 2010

Our AGM was held on Tuesday 17th August 2010. We had yet another successful night with a great list of people voted on to our

Management Committee.



Lance and Deslee Blemmings

The committee was elected as follows Chair -Brian Dodd (Cowans Pond), Vice Chair Jim Knight (Kangaroo Creek Landcare), Secretary- Pauline Wallace

(Waterlands Landcare), Treasurer—Jan Scott (Landcare Link) and committee members, Merye White (Kangaroo Creek), Nadia Camatta (Maclean Landcare), Margaret Good (Waterlands Landcare), Alastair Maple (Nymboida Landcare), Lance Blemmings (Diggers Camp Dunecare) Glen Sheather (Landcare Link) and Lance Timms (Landcare Link). Thankyou to all of you and we look forward to another year.

Ron Smith from Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare was a guest speaker and talked about their successful Common Myna (Indian Myna) control program. Ron's presentation was very inspiring as they almost have the Myna's under control in Coffs Harbour.

Ron discussed in detail the importance of having well made, purpose designed and built Myna traps.



Ron's Myna Bird trap

Good trapping techniques include the right location of the trap and the right bait. Ron also stressed the point that once trapped within the cage the birds need to be comfortable with shade, food and water. This is not only for humane reasons but also so they attract other birds into the cage, if the birds in the cage are stressed others won't come in. The birds are then euthanised to strict RSPCA standards.



Ron Smith explains that you need the right bait for the traps.

Sharon Lehman –Clarence Valley Conservation In Action followed on from Ron about how the CVCIA is working with the council to develop a coordinated approach to Myna Control in the Clarence Valley. The biggest challenge is not only to get a suite of good traps but also involve people out in the valley to coordinate the distribution of traps and to trap at a local level.



The Common Myna

I know most people out there love their native birds, well this is a chance to protect them, as the Common Myna is moving in fast. They are very aggressive toward our native fauna and they compete for nesting hollows. Please contact the Landcare Office or the CVCIA to see how you can help.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### August 2010

31 August— 5pm Community Action Grants Close (Caring for our Country)

### September 2010

29th September— Brooms Head Coastal Environment Day

### October 2010

15th Oct.– Fish Habitat Action Grants Close

### November 2010

4th November– NSW Landcare Muster

10 –12th November– NSW Coastal Conference



## **The 2010 /2011**

### **Caring for our Country**

Community Action Grants (\$5,000 to \$20,000)

31 August— 5pm Community Action Grants Close

#### **What are Community Action Grants?**

Community Action Grants are the small grants component of the Australian Government's Caring for our Country initiative that aims to help community groups take action to conserve and protect their natural environment. The grants are targeted towards established community-based organisations which have sustainable farming and/or protecting and enhancing the natural environment as their principal objective.

Community Action Grants support local activities such as tree planting, revegetation, dune rehabilitation, field days, improving land management practices, and recording and use of traditional ecological knowledge.

<http://www.nrm.gov.au/cag/>



**Industry & Investment**

## **Habitat Action Grants—submissions Close 15th Oct 2010**

Angling clubs, individuals, community groups, local councils and organisations interested in rehabilitating fish habitats in freshwater and saltwater areas throughout NSW can apply for grants.

Habitat rehabilitation projects which may be funded include:

- removal or modification of barriers to fish passage
- rehabilitation of riparian lands (river banks, wetlands, mangrove forests, saltmarsh)
- re-snagging waterways with timber structure
- bank stabilisation works
- \* removal of exotic vegetation from waterways
- \* reinstatement of natural flow regimes

## **How to apply**

**Habitat Action Grants** are available in August each year and require the completion of a habitat-specific [Funding Application form](#). Funding applications must relate to the enhancement of recreational fishing through the improvement of fish habitat. Successful projects are usually funded for **one year**, however funding may be sought for multi-stage projects that take place over a number of years (e.g. two or three year projects). For further information or to obtain a [Funding Application form](#) contact the Habitat Action Program coordinator on [fish.habitat@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:fish.habitat@industry.nsw.gov.au) or ring (02) 6626 1107 (02) 6626 1107





## MACLEAN LANDCARE GROUP AT THE SHOW

Maclean Landcare Group (MLG) had a wonderful time at the Maclean Show promoting Landcare and the importance of our work. We work toward maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in our native forest remnant at Lookout Hill, Maclean.



We had harvested 68 Red Bottlebrush seedlings from the local library guttering and potted them up at the Community Nursery at Townsend.

MLG Safety Officer Nina wanted to give our "harvest" to local farms and gardens. Nina, also a member of Maclean Show Society arranged a stall in the best location at the show. We took lots of plants, met heaps of people and made our native local provenance plants available to the appropriate enquirer.

By Wendy Plater



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

E [jane@northernriversfoodlinks.com.au](mailto:jane@northernriversfoodlinks.com.au)

P 02 6686 3972

F 02 6681 5196

PO Box 1663 BALLINA NSW 2478



## Maximum Rain at Minnie Water Nursery Meeting

Clarence Landcare Inc had a General Meeting on Saturday 17th April 2010 at the Minnie Water Nursery as part of our plan to get our meetings out there and amongst it.

Well that certainly happened when the looming black clouds opened up and dumped torrential rain on us all huddled under tarps.



Sharon, Isabel Lehman and Gina Hart enjoy the dry comfort of the potting shed at Minnie Water Nursery.

We had some great information delivered by Rod McKelvey, NRCMA Board member, Sharon Lehman and Dennis Milne.



Jan and Jim Scott



Me all wet after the tarp of water was emptied on me—  
Deb





# Field Days and Workshops



## Whiteman Creek Field Day

26th March 2010  
45 people attended



## Legumes and Herb Field Day

28th April 2010

23 people attended



Over 190 people attended 8 Legume and herbs field days along the North Coast, run by Landcare and ISI NSW (Primary Industries). These days were used to launch the Legume and herb book, funded by the Northern Rivers Landcare Network, Caring for our country and ISI NSW. The field days were well recieved, with 90% of participants rating the day as very or Extremely useful. 100% of participants with land said that they would use the information on their farms.







Sullivan &  
Nicolaiades Pathology  
Group

Corporate Volunteers Day

With Yamba Landcare  
Group  
On 16th May



S & N  
Pathology Staff,  
Yamba and Maclean  
Landcare Groups combine  
forces

Maclean Landcare  
Group grew 200 coastal  
plants from local seed  
stock for the planting



Fish & River  
Workshop

May 13th 2010  
Nymboida Coaching  
Station 40 people  
attended



# CLARENCE LANDCARE INC

## CHAIRS REPORT August 2010

In the past 9 months since the last Chairs report Clarence Landcare Inc has shown that we are the premier agency for Natural Resource Management (NRM) in the Valley.

The securing of funding for projects and assisting many landholders in the restoration and rehabilitation of our environment has continued to grow. Many of these projects have been in partnership with other Landcare Inc's on the north coast, Clarence Valley Council, Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority and with the community of the Clarence Valley.

The major projects that have been on-going – the Nymboida River Project, Romiaka Is project and the Whiteman Creek project - all which have shown the expertise of our Community Support Officers Julie and Debbie.

The instigation of field days and other training for our members as well as the public has shown that there is a need for highlighting the positive aspects of NRM. All these field days have been well attended and in some cases requests that we hold further field days and training.

The staff and committee members have represented CLI on many advisory and liaison groups who engage in NRM in the Clarence Valley.

I wish to thank on behalf of the CLI members;

- the staff, Sue, Debbie and Julie, who do such a great job
- the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority who have shown support for Landcare not only in the Clarence Valley but for Landcare on the north coast
- Clarence Valley Council
- The committee who assist in the day to day running of CLI

Jim Scott for his assistance in the efficient running of our computers

Log Books are great for information gathering for Landcare and I would ask that all groups fill these in. If you don't have one, contact the office.

On another note, the North Coast Regional Landcare Network was successful in winning the bid to host the Regional Landcare Facilitator for the north coast.

A day for your dairy – 4<sup>th</sup> November is the date for the Landcare Muster for all the Landcarers of NSW to voice what has been happening and concerns which will be the basis of the LandcareNSW agenda for the next 12 months.

Brian Dodd

Chair, Clarence Landcare Inc

17 August 2010



The Community Environment Network are NSW Co-ordinators of Land for Wildlife. The State Co-ordinator is John Asquith.

Mr Asquith said: *"When the LFW database was transferred many landholder details were incomplete. We are seeking to re-establish contact with landholders who may have been members of Land for Wildlife and have not heard from us in the past two years. If you are one of the 50 landholders in the Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley, Clarence Valley, or Coff Harbour areas and this applies to you, please contact me on 0414-730-032 if you would like to renew your registration."*

Land for Wildlife is a voluntary national program to recognise and network with landholders who include conservation in their property management. It commenced in Victoria 30 years ago and there are 10,000 members Australia wide.

Mr Asquith went on to say, *"Land for Wildlife landholders are easily noticed by the distinctive signage on their property which recognises their efforts."*

If you are interested in joining the Land For Wildlife program please contact Julie Mousley Clarence Landcare Inc. 02 66 435 009





## Biological Farming Course

A TAFE course for all farmers

*A few places are still available for this course which is definitely going ahead due to a good response from the Clarence so far!*

*This project is supported by SoilCare Inc through funding from the Australian Government's Caring for our Country.*

Teacher: Alan Coates, North Coast TAFE Wollongbar

Course duration: 9 sessions over 18 weeks

When: Starting February 2011 - every second Monday – 8.30 AM to 4.30 PM - Exact dates to be advised.

Where: Grafton - venue to be advised.

Class members will evaluate soil health and management practices on their respective farms. Class members will then develop a soil management plan for their farm using biological farming principles and the NEW Soil Best Management Practice Guides.

Farmers who complete the course and submit the course assessment (a soil management plan for their farm) will be reimbursed the \$219.00 TAFE course fee. Spaces are limited.

### Course Schedule

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Session 1: | Biological Farming Principles  |
| Session 2: | Composting, Build Compost Heap   |
| Session 3: | Soil Balance, Mineral Balance, pH, Nutrient Sources                    |
| Session 4: | Compost Check, Soil Structure, Soil Texture, Soil Profiles, Soil Water |
| Session 5: | Soil Carbon, Soil Biology, Soil Health Card                            |
| Session 6: | Compost Check, Mulches, Cover Crops, Biodiversity                      |
| Session 7: | Soil Testing, Soil/Plant Nutrition, Fertilizers, Nutrient Access       |
| Session 8: | Compost Check, Develop Biological Soil Management Plan                 |
| Session 9: | Soil Degradation, Sustainable Soil Management                          |

If you are interested in this course email: [info@soilcare.org](mailto:info@soilcare.org) or

Phone: Bonnie Walker 02 6628 1788 or Pam Woods 0417 486 685

## Two appointments to Australian Landcare Council from Northern Rivers



Two women from our northern rivers region have been appointed to the re-formed Australian Landcare Council. They are Judy Henderson (r), chair of the Northern Rivers CMA and Pamela Brook from Big Scrub Rainforest Landcare.

## A new National Greens Jobs Corps Team Hosted by Clarence Landcare



Kelly, Starlee, Brian (New Train), Liam and Tom (Supervisor)

The team has commenced and will be working with Clarence Landcare on Nymboida and Copmanhurst project sites plus a host of other sites as follow on from the previous Green Corp Team.



Visit the website.

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

[Lehmans@activ8.net.au](mailto:Lehmans@activ8.net.au)

Sharon Lehman





## Landcare Community Office

### *Contact Details*

Suite 1 (upstairs) Dougherty House

48 Prince St Grafton

Postal Address: PO Box 594, Grafton NSW 2460

Ph: (02) 66 435009 F ax: (02)66 435006

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

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



## Clarence Landcare Inc.

P.O. Box 594, Grafton NSW 2460

POSTAGE

PAID

AUSTRALIA



### A Message from Committee and Staff.

#### REMINDER:

**All Landcare Group and Clarence Landcare Link Membership is now due—thankyou to those who have paid.**

**Do we have your email address?** If you would like to receive information on grants, field days and information sessions between Newsletter issues please send us an email requesting we place you our **Newsletter email list**.

Please let us know how you would prefer to receive the Newsletter—Hard Copy in the mail or email link. Thanks Deb

This newsletter is produced by Clarence Landcare Inc. as part of our Community Support Program which is funded by the Caring for our Country and the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority