



Bush to Beach News

Important Dates:

- 24 Mar, 9 - 11 am** Green Bluff - 10 year celebration
- 28 Mar** Communities Environment Program E.o.I. close
- 7 April, 9.30 am** Coastal Bush Regeneration II, Macauleys Headland
- 12 April** CHCC E.L. close
- 1 May, 4 pm** CHRL General Meeting

President's report

With elections looming, both state and federal, it is interesting to watch the promises made by the coalition and Labor to fund Landcare. Over time governments have significantly reduced funding and presently, at state level we are just getting back some of which we had lost in the past.



Adequately funded Landcare is vital for the survival of the movement. However, I hope that you use your vote wisely and look at all relevant policies to ensure a sustainable future for us all whether you live in a city or country town.

Our staff continue to work with the local blueberry industry to further develop best management practices with funds provided by North Coast Local Land Services (NCLLS). Although we get very little recognition for our skills and knowledge we continue to be a very significant link between government and the community.

For the past two years I have been North Coast Landcare's representative on the NCLLS Weed Community Advisory Group with the view of developing a regional strategic weed management plan. This group originally consisted of 17 stakeholders from our region with a view of encompassing views from all significant land managers. This plan is now complete and as a result the advisory group will be significantly reduced in size to enter a new and very important phase of implementation. I sincerely hope that Landcare will again be represented.

Another weed project called Community Based Weed Project will soon be commenced with funding being provided from the Weed Action Program which has

largely funded local government with their weed management programs. \$10,000 will be provided to support local Landcare groups throughout the region to control selected weeds as defined in the strategic plan for containment only. These weeds include Glory Lilly, Yellow Bells, Broad Leaf Pepper Tree, Chinese Celtis and Kudzu.

Our very active Nursery Coordinator recently surveyed site coordinators with a view to seek their opinion on plants they need for their respective sites and provide these plants from our nursery. Although only half of the coordinators replied, some very useful information was forthcoming and will be actioned by the executive and staff.

Unfortunately, Anastasia informed us this week that she is not able to continue in her role as nursery coordinator due to family commitments. We are currently recruiting for this position to the end of June 2019.

Barry Powells

Funding Opportunities

Coffs Harbour City Council Environmental Levy

Our Volunteer Support program funded by the levy continues for another two years, so if your site requires contractor support or materials, let us know and you won't need to prepare a separate application.

However, if you have a new project in mind to the value between \$ 2,000 and \$ 25,000 you should download the application form from the Council's website.

Applications close on 12 April 2019 and projects must be completed by end of June 2020.

Communities Environment Program

This program is funded by the federal government to a cap of \$ 150,000 per electorate and projects can be to the value of between \$ 2,500 and \$ 20,000. Expressions of Interest are due on March 28th and successful E.o.I.s will be invited to submit a full application in April for a 12 month project during 2019/20. This grant program is aimed at community groups, not private individuals. You can find more information at:

<http://www.lukehartsuyker.com.au/communities-environment-program/>



Clean up Australia Day 2019

Another successful at many of our sites with loads of rubbish collected and removed from our environment.

Here are some examples:

Korora Basin Landcare: We collected along the highway at the Korora bus station for about 500m each side. 12 bags of rubbish (120 kg) were collected, up from 80—90 kg last year. Changes in collection from last year - no plastic bags & fewer cans/bottles & less McDonalds. Most common items packaging, hard & soft plastics, polystyrene & vehicle refuse ie rubber/plastic guards from trucks.

One member found \$10 and gave it to one of the children to share with his brother. Another found a Skagen watch.

Diggers Beach: What a great turnout at Diggers Beach for Clean Up Australia Day. Led by NPWS Ranger Lyndy Rees and Enjo Consultant Jenni McLennan a site record 24 enthusiastic volunteers spent a couple of hours collecting rubbish from the beach and dunes.



The volunteers were rewarded for their efforts with some Enjo show bags, native plants from CHRL Community nursery, and vouchers from the Happy Frog. Lyndy and Landcarer Maree then put in extra hours cleaning the eligible containers and returning them to the RVM to raise funds for CHRL. Awesome effort all round.

Corindi Beach

We had over 20 participants. Our monthly Landcare working bee was held at the same time. Several members of the public attending the clean up expressed interest in joining our Landcare group. There was a great community spirit in the air. The local shop donated cold bottles of water, a local cafe No Mans Land gave free coffee to all participants and most people took home a native plant from the nursery. Pictured from left to right is Katie, Judith, Maddy and Ellen.



Green Bluff Landcare—10 years

Green Bluff Landcare invites everyone to a celebration with a guided tour of their worksite on Sunday, 24 March at 9 am at Moonee Picnic Reserve. Please RSVP for catering purposes: davish.art@bigpond.com

Return and Earn

For 3 months only, until May 26th, when you return your recyclables via the Return and Earn program you can choose to donate the profits to CHRL. Such a great way to benefit the environment through both supporting the works here at CHRL and recycling. The deposit location is in the Home Consortium Coffs Harbour (in the car park of the former Masters Hardware store).

Each container returned earns 10c.



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Site reports

Fuller Street, Arrawarra: It is now just 12 months since the Fuller Street Dunecare Group formed.

Its 16 members, with the highly-valued support of CHRL, NPWS (Lyndy Rees) and contractor (Lindy Davis), have made some significant progress in that time.



A high proportion of the Group's resources has been spent within the highly degraded "Zone E" of its site plan, a weed farm if ever you saw one. Most of the woody weeds have now been removed and broad-leaf paspalum is being progressively sprayed, making sure to identify native plants for protection beforehand. This picture of Zone E was taken by member Jason Middleton at our March working bee where we planted out 300 native plants, including 200 themedas propagated by member John Fuller.

Further similar plant-outs are planned for upcoming working bees. This highly degraded zone is now well on the way to recovery. Work has also commenced in several of the other zones in the Group's site plan.

Greg Yeates

Coordinator, Fuller Street Dunecare Group

Pacific Villas: Max Brinsmead is working here with a small team in the interface between private land and Coastal Park land to restore the littoral rainforest vegetation community. The main weeds are Ochna (Micky Mouse Plant) and Senna and there is also lots of Corky Passionfruit. All mature plants have been removed but the seedlings are still coming up everywhere.

Marian Grove Wildlife Refuge Site:

A new-comer to the local Landcare Family is the re-establishment of the Marian Grove Landcare Group. A Bushcare Group was first established here about the year 2000 and was made up of residents and staff. This resulted in the establishment of a boardwalk and paved track along with regeneration activities.

The Marian Grove site is set in a wooded and wetland area of the Retirement Village at Toormina. It was declared a Wildlife Refuge under the NPWS Act and now has upwards of 50 bird species along with a wide collection of native vegetation.

Native planting, weed removal and contract spraying forms the basis of activities for this small Landcare group.

A recent 'bush tour' by well known botanist Alex Floyd created wide interest amongst fellow Landcarers.



Senna seedlings, Pacific Villas



Darkum Road: Chris and Paul Hatton cut their teeth and learnt about coastal bush regeneration while working with Roger Jennings and the group at Arrawarra Headland. They have now decided to concentrate on an area closer to their home at Darkum Road, where the main weeds are Asparagus, Senna and Paspalum.



After Asparagus removal in dune area

Common Myna Control Program

Phone calls come into the office almost every day with reports of Mynas and requests for traps. Some people are very disappointed when we explain to them that they, the people, have to look after the traps in their own backyards, as we don't have staff to do this for them.

Instead, we have currently three volunteers who distribute traps to people, explain how they need to be set up for best results, provide dogfood to entice the birds into the traps and then collect the trapped birds for destruction by CO2 gas (RSPCA approved humane method for destruction).

The Common Myna (formerly known as the Indian Myna) is ranked in the top ten of the world's most invasive species. Coffs Harbour has had a trapping program for more than ten years, usually run by volunteers, but funded for staffing for three years in the past. This consistent approach has resulted in a 'controlled' population of this pest bird, rather than a population explosion, which can be expected when the birds are allowed to breed undisturbed. The potential is for 18 chicks per year per breeding pair and close to 13,000 birds in 5 years. Greg Robinson is one of our volunteer coordinators and he reported a whopping 150 birds destroyed this financial year to date. We will compile all figures to include those of the other two coordinators and hope to be able to show those results on a map of the LGA.

We need more volunteer trapping coordinators to distribute this responsibility and reduce the driving our coordinators need to do.

This role involves a time commitment plus the ability to deliver and pick up traps as well as carry out the humane disposal of trapped birds. If you are interested and think you can fit this into your life, CHRL will provide you with full training as a volunteer trapper and reimbursement of your expenses.



CHRL Office goes solar!

At least, we're now on our way, the panels are on the roof, awaiting to be connected to the grid.

The CHRL Executive discussed this issue at length and decided to put their money where their conscience is and to install solar panels on the roof of the office. Since we don't own the building, negotiations took place with the owner who shares this conscientiousness. He kindly offered to pay for the installation and for us to pay it off with an increase of our rent. Once the panels are paid for, we should have free energy to run the office.



Noisy Miner (native)



Common Myna (pest)



Greenery for Grey Nomads

This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust Saving Our Species Contestable Grants Program. It will be managed by Coffs Harbour City Council over a seven year project duration.

The 'Greenery for our Grey Nomads' project will implement key actions identified in the Coffs Harbour Flying-Fox Strategic Management Plan (2017), which has recently been prepared in consultation with the local community.



The Coffs Harbour City Council will team up with partners from our local community to invest in and deliver the project, including wildlife care group WIRES, NSW National Parks and Wildlife, and Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare.

The project will significantly contribute to the regeneration of three nationally important areas of habitat for the threatened Grey-Headed Flying-Fox and will help manage buffer areas surrounding the flying-fox camps, to assist in reducing human-animal conflict relating to this species. The three sites are: Barcoo Wetland at Toormina, West Coffs Creek and Woolgoolga Lake.

It will also address other key threats to the Grey-Headed Flying-Fox and project activities will directly benefit a number of other special threatened species

and ecological communities that occur in the three project areas. An important part of the project will involve exciting and interactive education sessions for local primary school aged children, on the environmental values of the project areas.

In addition, the project includes a robust monitoring program that will allow the conservation and other outcomes of the project to be tracked, measured and evaluated over the life of the seven year project.

Coffs Landcare on Facebook

Yes, we have finally entered the social media world with our presence on Facebook. Find us there, like us, follow us, share us to your friends to spread the word about our (your) good work

<https://www.facebook.com/coffslandcare/?ref=bookmarks>



Red Rock Controlled Burn

Site coordinator at Red Rock, Vern Treilibs, provided a very interesting article to our last newsletter about a controlled burn that was undertaken in the heath on Crown Lands. Vern was critical about the change of strategy applied to this burn from the original 'mosaic' pattern of burning small areas to a larger area burn.

His article promoted concerned responses from the Crown Lands senior bushfire officer Graham Hicks, as well as from Mick Raby, Director Sustainable Infrastructure, Coffs Harbour City Council.

The Crown Lands officer considered it inaccurate and reiterated that a lot of careful planning by the Mid north coast Bushfire Management Committee, had gone into that burn, and he considered it was successful in achieving the desired results.

Coffs Council is careful to point out that the fact that the Council logo is on our newsletter does not mean that the views expressed are those of Council.

We are glad that our newsletter is being read and that it promotes discussion and sincerely hope that our excellent relationships with the agencies concerned are not impacted negatively in this instance.

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NSW State Elections and Landcare NSW

Landcare NSW has worked very hard on our behalf to lobby all political parties for a program to support Landcare networks through the provision of support staff. The full media releases about funding commitments as announced by both the NSW Government and NSW Opposition for the NSW Landcare Support Program (formerly LLCI program) 2019-2023 are available on the Landcare NSW website.

They compare as follows:

NSW Liberal/National Coalition

60 x part-time (0.5 FTE) Local Landcare Coordinators

11 x part-time (0.6 FTE) Regional Coordinators

a budget for an aboriginal Landcare program;

funded programs for professional development and training for local and regional coordinators

Total promised: \$ 22.4 million

NSW Labor Party

50 x (1 FTE) Local Landcare Coordinators

11 x (1 FTE) Regional Coordinators

a budget for an aboriginal Landcare program;

Total Promised: \$ 32.5 million

Landcare at the Royal Easter Show

Landcare NSW, (LNSW) will have a presence at this year's Sydney Royal Easter Show as an exhibitor across the four-day Easter long-weekend peak period.

(General Manager of the Sydney Royal Easter Show, Murray Wilton, met with LNSW CEO, Dr Adrian Zammit and offered LNSW this opportunity and additional benefits at no charge to us).

The Sydney Royal Easter show attracts more than 900,000 visitors each year. This presents an unparalleled opportunity over four days from **19 - 22 April** for LNSW to:

- Raise our profile;
- Entice supporters including Corporate Partnerships;
- Expand the Friends of Landcare database.

We are currently developing a program of visual, engaging and interactive materials and activities to provide attendees with a clear understanding of the work that Landcare does.

VOLUNTEERS:

To fully seize this opportunity, we are calling on our LNSW network to be volunteers especially on Good Friday, Saturday and Easter Sunday.

We are asking people to commit **to one four-hour shift** across this period.

If you can support us, please email amclaughlin@landcarensw.org.au ASAP nominating your preferred day and time.

Volunteers will be given a family ticket pass to use on the day they volunteer.

Seed to collect in autumn

Beach Birds Eye

Separate black seeds from fleshy red aril and soak overnight before draining and sowing.



Broad-leaved paperbark



Collect woody capsules that have been on the tree from last season. Place capsules in a paper bag to allow seeds to release.

Creek Sandpaper Fig

Sow seed when fresh.





Worksites

Site coordinators please note: If your site information is not correct please let CHRL know. Ph 6651 1308 or email chrl@coffslandcare.org.au

Arrawarra Coastcare: Volunteers working monthly on littoral rainforest at the southern end of Corindi Beach. Contact David Bryant 6649 2825.

Bakker Drive Landcare: Volunteers look after the creek area adjacent the park. Ph: Robyn Thomson on 0429 032005

Bundagen Landcare: Aloka Reeves coordinates Landcare activities at Bundagen Community, adjacent to Bongil Bongil National Park. Contact CHRL office 66511308.

CHRL Nursery: Dedicated plant enthusiasts who meet each Mon & Thurs mornings. Ph: CHRL office 66511308.

Corindi Beach Landcare: New group rehabilitating the dunes off Ocean St at Corindi Beach. Meeting 1st Sun of the month. Contact Ellen Taylor 0403 464 477

Eastern Dorrigo Landcare: Work on riparian zones on public & private land. Contact CHRL office 66511308.

Emerald Beach Dunecare: Volunteers continue to work on the site so beloved by the late Dee Wallace. They meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Contact Emily Brummitt 0421506576

Green Bluff Landcare: Work on Green Bluff Headland at Moonee Beach. Contact Lindy Davis 0448 651 239

Friends of Coffs Creek: Meet 1st & 3rd Saturdays 9am-12; Weekly: Mon 8.30-2.30, Tues 8.30-2.30, & Thurs 8.30-11. Contact Elisabeth Edwards 0400 579 426.

Fuller St Dunecare (adjacent to Mullawarra Beach): Volunteers work on vegetation management in the Regional Park between Mullawarra Beach and Fuller St. Meet 8.30am 1st Sat of month. Ph: Greg Yeates 6654 7828.

Jarrett Creek Landcare: Working on Fridays, 8-12. More volunteers needed here in Woolgoolga. Contact Maree Lane 0421 250 794.

Jetty Dunecare Group Inc: Continuing their bush regeneration work in the Jetty area. Meet Tues and Sat from 7.30am. Contact Jane Ireland on 6652 4389.

Karangie Landcare Group: Meet monthly to weed areas around the Cemetery. Contact Ron Smith 66538249

Kinchela Reserve Landcare: Meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Ph: Helen Lawrence 6653 2015

Korora Basin Landcare: Meet the 1st Sat of every month, alternating between public & private land.

Ph: Simon Proust 0412 825 395

Macauleys Headland Landcare: More volunteers needed to join Russell Flanders and his team restoring the vegetation on this site in the Regional Park. Contact CHRL office 6651 1308.

Mullawarra Dunecare: Meet on the last Saturday of the month. Contact Roger Jennings 6654 1203.

Nana Glen Landcare Group: Working bee every third Saturday. Contact Peter Franklin 6654 3452.

Pacific Villas Landcare: Work in the Regional Park at Charlesworth Bay. Contact Max Brinsmead 0409870346

Park Beach Dunecare: Volunteers meet on Fridays at 9am. Contact Rosemary on 6652 5940 or Judy on 6651 7691 to find out the *actual* meeting place.

Pearce Drive Reserve Landcare: Reestablishing rainforest in the riparian zone in West Coffs. Contact CHRL office 6651 1308.

Red Rock Landcare: Various locations around Red Rock. Contact Rose & Vern Treilibs 0418 112 390.

Safety Beach: Working bees on the 1st Saturday of the month, 8—10 am. Contact the office for details.

Sandy Beach Dunecare: Working bees on Wednesdays, 8 - 12. Contact Maree Lane 0421 250794.

Sapphire Reserve Landcare: Volunteers meet every 2nd Sunday 8.30—10.30am. Contact Greg Robinson 0429 922 845 or grob1418@gmail.com

Sawtell Dunecare: Continue rehabilitation of the dunal zone at Murray's Beach. Ph: Barry Powells 0466 347 364

Serenity Landcare: Volunteers regularly work along Serenity Beach and Look at me now Headland. Contact Karina Rothacker 0408 209 995.

Treefern Creek: Restoring riparian vegetation along a tributary of Coffs Creek every second Saturday of the month. Contact CHRL 66511308.

Woolgoolga Main Beach Dunecare: More volunteers are needed. Contact Maree Lane 0421 250 794.

Woolgoolga Back Beach Dunecare: Working bees on the 2nd Sunday of each month, 8-11am, meet at the Back Beach picnic area at the end of High St. Contact Alex Groot 0421 338115.

Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare Inc

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Contacts

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CHRL Jude Turner (Mon, Wed, Thurs)	6651 1308
CHRL Mel Craig (Mon, Wed, Thurs)	6651 1308
Northern Coast Local Land Services:	6659 9400
Coffs Harbour City Council (Coastal Works) Acting Technical Officer Open Spaces: Sally Spinner	6648 4541
OEH Coffs Coast Regional Park Rangers:	
Mark Watt	6652 0928
Lynn Rees (volunteer coordinator)	6652 0909

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