



Bush to Beach News

Important Dates:

- 26 Oct** Farm dams & off-stream watering, Taylors Arm, 10 am - 2.30 pm
- 25 - 27 Oct** NSW Landcare conference, Albury
- 8 Nov** CHRL executive meeting
- 8 Nov** Biological Farming field day, Upper Orara 9.30- 12.30
- 15 Nov** CHRL Gen Meeting & Christmas party, Boambee Reserve 4 pm

President's report

Our recently held AGM saw only minor changes to the CHRL Executive. I welcome our new secretary, Judith Webster, who with a wealth of senior administrative and field experience is a great addition. Judith has given a brief resume for inclusion in this newsletter.

Maree Lane was not re-nominated for a position on the executive. I would like to sincerely thank her for her contributions to CHRL over the past two years. Maree is a most enthusiastic landcare volunteer and works at several different sites as well as the nursery on a regular basis and I look forward to her continuing with this valuable work.

As I write this note it is raining heavily with 120mm recorded in three hours (Saturday 14th). After three months without any rain it is wonderful to see and hear it again. The effect on all different types of vegetation, both good and bad and has been exciting to watch.

The prolonged dry experienced after a wet autumn sent many of my plants into a forced period of dormancy, particularly pastures. Unfortunately many weeds continued to grow including Crofton Weed and Yellow Bells (*Tecoma stans*) and both are currently flowering prolifically.

However, in response to the dry weather many natives flowered profusely, including Callistemons and Eucalypts which had a significant impact on many species of native birds.



Scarlet Honeyeaters arrived in large numbers once the Callistemons flowered and have stayed for several weeks indicating the abundance of nectar available for them. Their bright colour is very attractive and their shrill call is quite loud for such a small bird.

Little Wattle Birds also arrived and were very busy driving other birds away from their territory as they were keen to breed which they did but their nest got washed out in a previous heavy fall of rain. They have since moved on to be replaced by a pair Grey Shrike Thrush. These birds are easily identified by their loud melodic calls. For several years they have very sensibly built a nest in a hanging basket under our verandah, a habit they are well known for.

While mentioning birds, a Regent Honeyeater was seen last week in the *Grevillea robusta* growing in the car park at the rear of our office.

What I have seen over the past few weeks are just small examples of the very important relationship between native plants and birds. As Landcarers we plant natives and remove weeds to improve our local environment to help make it more resilient to unpredictable climatic conditions while also improving the habitat for our local wildlife of all kinds.

As the weather warms up we will be increasingly busy working on our sites and I remind everyone to keep wearing the pyrethrum treated clothing to help keep ticks and mites away. We all know it works very well.

Barry Powells

Organic Farming—Beef and Chickens

This workshop will be held on Wednesday 8th November at Waterfall Produce in the Upper Orara Valley. Troy Blackman was the Young Farmer of the Year in 2016 in recognition of his innovative integration of production systems and the ethics of the farm to provide local sustainably produced beef and eggs to the local community. Troy pays much attention to soil health and environmental management and this workshop on his farm will be interesting to the farmer as well as the consumer. Bookings can be made via our website or by phone.



CHRL AGM 2017

Another very successful year came to a close at this Annual General Meeting. The financial report was as satisfying as it was last year with a balanced budget being implemented by the committee and our colleague Jude Turner.

The executive committee was elected as follows:

President:	Barry Powells (Sawtell Dunecare)
Vice President:	Larry Langman (Nana Glen)
Secretary:	Judith Webster (Serenity)
Committee:	Elisabeth Edwards (FoCC)
	Peta Fairbairn (Sandy Beach)
	Greg Robinson (Sapphille Beach)
	John Ross (Orara Rivercare)
	Ron Smith (Karangi)

As the constitution stipulates that an office bearer can not hold an office for more than 4 years and Elisabeth has been in the office of treasurer longer than this, she could not be elected treasurer. However, the executive meeting will appoint Elisabeth to the role again as there were no other nominations for treasurer.

CHRL Community Nursery

Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare this year was successful with an application to the Council Environmental Levy for a qualified nursery coordinator. Carl Freeman was appointed to the position and he now supports the nursery volunteers on two mornings per week. Carl was trained and has worked in the



nursery industry for many years but more recently he was field officer in the Coffs Coast National Park. With this funding comes a commitment to produce more plants at our nursery to go out to our sites. So, if you would like to plant at your site, please let the office know now how many plants and which species you would like to receive. This is very important for the nursery to be able to cater for your needs as there is a reasonably long lead time between seeding and plants being ready to go on site.

For a list of plants currently available, go to our website and click on 'Volunteering' then on CHRL Nursery.

Seed Collection Workshop

All nursery volunteers as well as other CHRL members recently attended this workshop with Carl Freeman at Woolgoolga. Unfortunately, we were a little bit too early to collect much seed, but we still learnt a lot. The Coastal Wattle and *Lomandra longifolia* were still in flower and Tuckeroo seed was still green. The importance of correct labelling was made very clear with the example of *Lomandra longifolia* and *hystrix* which can not be told apart when they grow in the nursery, but one prefers wet, the other a dry position. Getting them mixed up can be disastrous.



Lomandra longifolia

Coastal Dune Restoration

With some of our coastal dunes being battered by wind and waves again and again, we find a very steep drop-off and sometimes mature banksias and other trees toppling over onto the sand. This workshop, again with Carl Freeman, looked at simple and cost-effective methods for such situations. During the workshop, two sections of protective fencing were erected at the toe of the dune at Woolgoolga. Within these fences, spinifex, beach bean and pigface runners can be planted safe from people trampling over them or wind and waves exposing them again.





50th anniversary NPWS NSW

To celebrate this anniversary here in Coffs Harbour, volunteers were invited to a lunch at Bongil Bongil picnic area and close to 100 people attended with a good representation of Coffs Harbour Landcare volunteers.

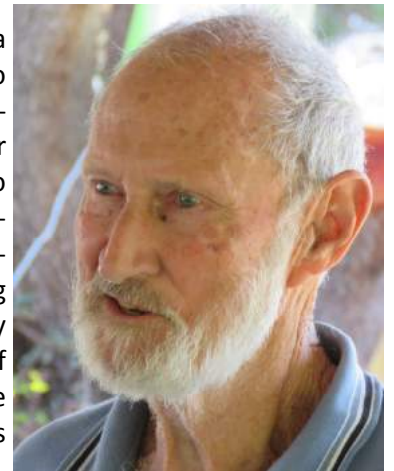
Lyndy Rees organised most of the activities on the day and Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare, to Alex Groot from Woolgoolga Back Beach and to Narelle Swanson for her work with Mutton Birds as well as other volunteers not associated with CHRL. Uncle Mark Flanders shared his story and his culture and showed the true meaning of reconciliation. The occasion was a great success and a wonderful day.



Coffs Harbour Landcare is well represented at this conference in Albury with Mel Craig giving a presentation on our work with local Blueberry Farmers and Lloyd Foster in the running for the Individual Landcarer Award for NSW.

Simon Proust is also attending to answer any questions on the Blueberry work and of course to be part of the action.

At age 81 Lloyd is still a very active contributor to the Orara Rivercare Project as a bush regenerator as well as the person to establish the relationships with the landholders. Lloyd has a lifelong interest in and advocacy for the conservation of our local natural heritage and we still rely on his knowledge and expertise, in particularly the riparian vegetation communities of the Orara catchment.



LLS Targeted Landcare projects

This year we have six project sites in the program, two of which are continuations from previous years, two are on steep ex-banana lands, one a rainforest remnant on Crown Land and one small remnant forested patch on the edge of Bongil Bongil National Park.

These are all small projects and all of the new sites are managed by members new to landcare. We find this funding stream the most useful to engage with new people as it allows them to develop their understanding and ideas of how to look after their land better.

Weed control is of course as usual the main activity with tree planting important to convert the steep lands back to native forest.



Camphor control and planting on Bonville Creek



2017 CHRL Awards

The Landcare awards are always a highlight of our Landcare year in Coffs Harbour and this year, we again gathered at the Jetty Foreshores to celebrate.

The guest of honour to hand out the awards this year was Bob Smith, the new chairman of the North Coast Local Land Services board. Bob told us about his long association with Landcare from its beginning in Victoria.

The winners are:

Eileen Moody Award for Individual Landcarer:

Martin Horseman

Martin was nominated for his “unswerving commitment to a good environment and his invaluable support to the site coordinator for Friends of Coffs Creek. Martin has a detailed interest in native plants and weeds and he does the computer-based research for the group.



The Dee Wallace Memorial Award for a Landcare Group went to **Kinchela Reserve**.

“Kinchela Reserve is a great example of what can be achieved by a small band of dedicated individuals when they are given proper resources and ongoing support. Under the care of this group this area has gone from having a few large old trees with an understorey totally dominated by weeds of all kinds, to what we can see there today, in just over 6 years.

With persistent effort this gully, with its 7 planted areas, has now become an important corridor for Koalas and other wildlife as well as improving the aesthetic value of the whole area. As the original site continues to require less and less maintenance the project area is being extended east (below the dam wall) which will continue to improve the resilience and ecological function of this place.”

Jaliigirr Eastern Dorriggo Project

The 2017-18 Jaliigirr Eastern Dorriggo project will see further bush regeneration and stock management work completed around Brooklana, Ulong and Lowanna on the eastern Dorriggo plateau. Over the past 5 years 17 landholders have been involved in the project, resulting in the control of Small-leaf Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) across entire sub-catchments. In 2017-18 work will continue on 11 properties with three additional properties joining the



been included to extend the work into the Little Nymboi-da catchment.

Funding for the 2017-18 project comes from the Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance, North Coast LLS and Coffs Harbour City Council.





Environmental Trust Restoration & Rehabilitation Grant Program

This program will open in November with applications expected to close in early February 2018. *"The aim of the Restoration and Rehabilitation Program is to facilitate projects run by community organisations and government entities working to prevent or reduce environmental degradation of any kind. Through these projects, we also aim to improve the capacity of communities and organisations to protect, restore and enhance the environment."*

A total of \$4 million was available under the 2016-17 round of the Restoration and Rehabilitation grants program. This included:

- \$2 million for projects by community organisations
- \$2 million for projects by government entities.

Grants of between \$5000 and \$100,000 were available. These applications are very involved and require a lot of preparation, taking much time. If you have a project in mind it is a good idea to start to plan it now.

Green Bluff Environmental Trust Project

This project is in its second year and the aim is to preserve three endangered plant communities and protect them from being overrun by exotic grasses and other invasive weeds.

The South Moonee Forest is now part of the project area as well, after the Roads and Maritime Services purchased the land as an offset to the environmental impacts caused by the Pacific Highway construction. South Moonee Forest is in transition to be managed as part of the Coffs Coast Regional Park.

To find out what difference this work will make on the local animal populations, extensive bird monitoring is undertaken to compare bird use of the areas before and after restoration work.

The support of local volunteers for bird monitoring, hands-on weed work as well as responsible dog owners, who 'take the lead' will bring the project forward.

Green Bluff is still looking for volunteers to join in with the weed work as well as with bird monitoring.

Coffs Coast Regional Park

The **Coffs Coast Regional Park Draft Plan of Management** has been prepared and is being exhibited in accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. This draft plan has been developed on behalf of the Coffs Coast Regional Park Trust Board by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and the Coffs Harbour City Council. The board has the care, control and management of the park and facilitates the day-to-day management of the park by Coffs Harbour City Council and NPWS. The board includes Coffs Harbour City councillors and representatives from NPWS, the local Aboriginal community and general community.



Unlike most other categories of park, the management of Coffs Coast Regional Park involves a partnership approach involving the Coffs Coast Regional Park Trust Board, Coffs Harbour City Council and NPWS.

The park is located north of Coffs Harbour on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales. The park is adjacent to Coffs Harbour, Woolgoolga and several coastal residential villages (Arrawarra, Mullaway, Safety Beach, Sandy Beach, Emerald Beach, Moonee, Sapphire and Korora).

The draft plan of management can be viewed at <https://engage.environment.nsw.gov.au/consult>.

For further information, community information sessions will be held at:

- Woolgoolga markets – Saturday 11 November 2017 (9am to 1pm)
- Sandy Beach, near playground – Saturday 18 November 2017 (9am to 1pm)
- Sapphire Beach, end of Lakeside Drive – Saturday 25 November 2017 (9am to 1pm).



Seed to look out for now



Coastal Wattle



Coastal Flax Lily



Coastal Banksia



Tuckeroo



Green Wattle - *Acacia irrorata*



Kangaroo Grass - *Themeda australis*



Blueberry Project 2017/18

Mel Craig is looking after this project this year and Simon Proust continues to engage with the farmers and to supervise any construction work for soil conservation. This year again has a small budget of \$ 30,000 from North Coast Local Land Services and there is no contribution from Coffs Harbour City Council's Environmental Levy.

The focus is on the Sandy Beach and/ the Bucca Creek area and the project will look at point-source nutrient mitigation and/or the implementation of a previous Soil and Water Management Plan.

The project will continue to meet with growers twice per year to discuss issues as they arise and there is also an allowance for a re-print of the Blueberry Best Practice Management guide.



This is a program of voluntary conservation on private land. Once registered, landholders will receive a **FREE Environmental Property Assessment** . Ecological assessments will be undertaken on properties to identify and manage environmental issues.

Free Land for Wildlife sign to display on your front gate as recognition of the property providing conservation benefits.

Keep updated in Conservation Land Management sustainability - Receive invitation to field days/workshops, up to date resources and newsletters.

Develop potential funding opportunities on your property with assistance.

Land for Wildlife is applicable to properties that have a minimum of half a hectare of native vegetation.

Registration of the property is free, non-legally binding and does not alter the title of the property or allow public access. This service is provided by EnviTE for properties in the Coffs Harbour and Bellingen LGA . You can contact EnviTE via email: mickw@envite.org.au or phone: 6650 9170.

Farm dams and off-stream watering Best Practice workshop, Taylors Arm

Peter Corlis - Soil Conservation Service. Peter will talk about the importance of correct dam positioning and construction, spill way width, maintenance, common faults and solutions to rectify.

Tinks Pumps and Water, Macksville. Tink's pump specialist will talk about the correct pump for the correct application, off-stream watering options and necessary infrastructure.

Date: Thursday 26 October 2017.

Time: 9:30am morning tea for a 10:00am – 2:30pm

Location: 27 Bakers Creek Road Taylors Arm

Cost: FREE

RSVP: 19 October for catering purposes (lunch provided) Logan Zingus – Local Landcare Coordinator

Phone: 65647838

Email: lzingus@nvlandcare.org.au

Please bring a chair and a hat.





Introducing Judith Webster

Judith has moved from Sydney to Emerald Beach in 2015 and joined the Serenity Landcare group in 2016. She was recently elected to the role of Secretary on the Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare executive committee, taking over from the very capable Larry Langman.

Judith brings a broad range of skills and experience to the role of Secretary, having worked for more than 30 years in the NSW Public Service. Judith's career in the public service spans working with the NPWS initially as an Archaeologist and later as a Ranger in Royal National Park and western NSW to more recently serving in Senior Executive roles in the Department of Education and Department of Finance, Services and Innovation. Highlights of her career included establishing the field studies centre at Bicentennial Park in Homebush Bay; working on the environmental studies for the Homebush Bay redevelopment in the lead up to the Sydney Olympics, including being instrumental in the discovery of the Green and Golden Bell Frog at the site; and in working on major policy and legislative reform projects for COAG's National Marine Safety Committee.

Judith has a passion for environmental education, conservation, good governance and is very excited about joining the CHRL executive team.

The Use of Spray Marker Dye

I recently sprayed some grass weeds in a pasture situation with a selective herbicide. To enable me to see exactly where the spray went and to avoid double spraying I added a 1% concentration of red spray marker dye. It was an interesting experience to watch where the coloured spray droplets landed on both the target weeds and the other pasture plants. Most selective herbicides also seriously damage or kill legume plants which need to be encouraged as not only do they fix nitrogen in the soil for use by grasses but also provide good quality feed for grazing stock.

To spray herbicides correctly to achieve the desired outcome requires some basic skills, some of which includes the following:

Mix the herbicide at the correct rate. Adding just a little extra will not result in a better result. It is also illegal to use more than the label rate stipulates

Use relatively low pressure. This reduces the possibility of spray droplets hitting leaves and bouncing off to land somewhere it may harm off-target plants.

Barry Powells

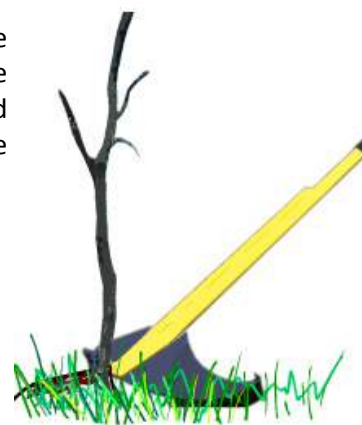
The Tree Popper

Designed in direct response to the need for eradicating invasive woody weeds, the Tree Popper is a robust, uncomplicated tool which can be used by one person.

A simple concept of leverage has been used to ensure the complete removal of unwanted vegetation providing a permanent solution to a long-standing problem.

Manufactured from mild steel, the Tree Popper comprises a lever/handle with a rubber grip and a foot piece firmly held together by a circlip. These two basic parts form a plier-like jaw which is used to grip the plant stem.

Pushing down on the handle exerts leverage pressure on the tree and pops it out of the ground.



Sizes and prices vary from \$ 250 to \$ 380 plus postage. Look it up on the web.

Aerator

Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare owns this aerator and the trailer to transport it. It was purchased with funding from the Northern Rivers CMA.

It is a very popular tool to increase moisture retention and fertiliser efficiency and increase the depth to which plants can reach. Worms and microbe populations also increase.

The aerator weighs 600 kg and a 50 HP tractor is required to pull it safely.

A maintenance contribution fee of \$ 75 applies to this implement. It

is housed at Karangi. Please contact the office on **66511 308** to arrange payment and pick-up.





Worksites

Site coordinators please note: The following information is sourced from your membership & work records forms, if it is not correct please let CHRL know, phone 6651 1308 or email chrl@coffslandcare.org.au

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

Ararwarra Headland: Contact the office for details.

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

Bundagen Landcare: Ando Morrison and Aloka Reeves coordinate Landcare work at Bundagen. Please contact the office & we will put you in touch with them.

CHRL Nursery: Dedicated plant enthusiasts who meet each Wed. & Thurs. Ph: Mel Craig 66511308.

Eastern Dorrigo Landcare: Continue work on riparian zones on public & private land. Contact Lindy Davis 6654 5313.

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 Roger Sharpe 0490 091 546

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

Friends of Coffs Creek: Meet 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 9-12, Mondays 8-2.30, Tues 8-2.30, and Thurs 8-11. Ph Elisabeth Edwards for more information 0400 579 426.

Jarrett Creek Landcare: Looking for more volunteers to join in this active site at Woolgoolga. Contact the CHRL office.

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.

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

Karangi Public School: Karangi School students continue to work along Karangi creek each fortnight.

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

Korora Basin Landcare: Meet the 1st Sat of the month. Ph: Simon Proust 0412 825 395

Korora Dunecare: Due to lack of volunteers this site is in hiatus. Volunteers wanting to work on Korora's fore-shore should contact the CHRL office.

Macauleys Headland Landcare: Russell Flanders and his team are working here in the Regional Park on Tues mornings. Contact the CHRL office to get involved.

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 between the Hoey Moey and the Bowling Club. Contact Rosemary on 6652 5940 or Judy on 6651 7691.

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

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.

Sandy Beach Dunecare: Working bees on Fridays, 8 - 12 at Sandy Beach. Contact Peta Fairbairn 6656 2255.

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

Sawtell Bushcare: Charlie England would like more volunteers to join him rehabilitating Dolman's Point, Sawtell. Further details from the CHRL office.

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 Kris Hely on 0427 536 782

Woolgoolga Main Beach Dunecare: More volunteers are needed. Contact the CHRL office to get involved.

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 6654 2833

Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare Inc

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Northern Rivers Local Land Services:	6659 9400
Coffs Harbour City Council (Coastal Works) Acting Technical Officer Open Spaces: Jon Murray	
	6648 4541
OEH Coffs Coast Regional Park Rangers:	
Mark Watt	6652 0928
Lynn Rees (volunteer coordinator)	6652 0909

Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare Inc



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