



Kookaburra E-News September 2019



Landcare Community Office
Contact Details: Landcare Coordinator — Debbie Repschlager
Suite 1 (upstairs) Dougherty House, 48 Prince St Grafton. Postal Address: PO Box 594, Grafton NSW 2460
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Email: clarence_landcare@bigpond.com Website: www.clarencelandcare.com.au



Sue with flowers as the committee farewelled and thanked her for her 15 years of service.

Hi Everyone, it has been a long time since I have done a newsletter. It's been a pretty interesting 12 months with a lot of changes and challenges both on the home and work front for me. May/June 2018 saw the completion of some large long term projects for us and then a reduction of funds going into the 2018-19 financial year.

Sue Moore resigned at the end of Sept 2018 after fifteen and a half years working as admin officer and project officer and a shared role as Landcare Coordinator. After a short well deserved break all her NRM experience and skills was quickly snapped up by Local Lands Services. Some of you may have already been working with her in her new role.

With Sue leaving I quickly had to mobilise, learn the accounting program and get a handle of how to run this organisation. Things had changed quite considerably since last century when I last had the responsibility of managing Clarence Landcare along side our volunteer management committee. Nineteen years later I feel I have come full circle but with a larger office and ever increasing governance complications of running an organisation with funding coming from multiple sources.

Two days before I broke for Christmas in 2018 we got the final approval for a large Cane Toad Control project (\$178,000) with OEH/ DPI funds. Needless to say Fig Forest and myself had no break in January as we set about the planning and implementation of this new project. I took on the role of project manager and admin, Fig took the role of on ground Operations, we employed Kelly McRae a qualified primary teacher as education officer and we employed eight casual cane toad control officers. See the fact sheet attached for some pretty impressive outputs of the project. It looks like we will receive funding again soon to continue the project in this current year.



Left to right: Kelly, Fig and Deb..



The Cane Toad Control crew left to right: Annette, Carol, Scott, Terry, Rob, Fig, Solee, Chelsie and Jasmine..

In June 2019 we engaged Ros Woodward from Wooloweyah as bookkeeper/admin for one day a week and after nearly a year I think I almost have a handle on things.
Debbie Repschlager—Landcare Coordinator.



This newsletter has been produced with the support of the NSW Landcare Program—a partnership between Local Lands Services and Landcare NSW Inc. supported by the NSW Government.





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Clarence Landcare General Meeting June 15th 2019 Hosted by Maclean Landcare

Our June General meeting at Maclean was an ambitious 3 stage day, we managed to pull it off and it all went really well with 24 people attending.

The day kicked off with morning tea provided by Maclean Landcare and a tour around their Landcare Nursery. The Nursery provides many of the local groups with local native plants for their Landcare projects and also for the wider community upon request.



Morning tea at Maclean Landcare Nursery—Libby Cotter welcomed everyone and explained the groups role at the Clarence Valley Council facility.

We then progressed to the Maclean CWA rooms where we had our General Meeting and were treated to a fantastic lunch put on by the CWA ladies.

We then jumped in our cars and headed up to the Maclean Lookout. Wendy Plater described the work she and the group has undertaken over the years and the challenges faced working on a public reserve.



The CWA rooms at Maclean for the general meeting and Lunch.



Wendy Plater giving a presentation at Maclean Lookout—what a view from up there!!

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Lawrence Landcare and Lawrence School National Tree Day Planting Friday 26th July 2019



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The Lawrence Community Landcare group joined forces with Lawrence Public School, volunteers from other Landcare groups & the community and Clarence Valley Council to plant 130 trees to help provide food and habitat for koalas at Lawrence Cricket ground.

The local native trees were donated by Maclean Landcare Nursery and Minnie Water Community Nursery. Caragh Heenan from CVC gave a talk about Koalas and Debbie from Clarence Landcare gave a talk about Cane Toads, how to identify them and what



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WHAT'S ON ?



Feral Cat Control Workshop

Wed. September 25th 2019
Nymboida Hall, Armidale Rd
9.15 am – 2:30pm

Morning Tea and Lunch provided
No Charge

Guest speaker and trainers on impacts on wildlife, traps, equipment, use of lures and decoys and trap site selection.

RSVP Clarence Landcare Office—See attached flyer



Department of Primary Industries

This project is supported by the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Landcare NSW through funding received from the Established Pest Animals and Weeds initiative, part of the Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the government's plan for stronger farmers and a stronger economy.



Landcare
New South Wales

Grafton Beef Producers Day

Thurs 26th Sept 2019 9:30-3.00 pm
DPI Grafton Research Station "Show Shed"
Experiment Farm Rd Trenayr



Local Land Services
North Coast

See attached flyer



Clarence Native Bees Information Day on Native Bees Saturday 26th October 2019

\$40 non members \$10 Members

Healing Centre 18-26 Victoria Street Grafton
Ph: 02 66433750

Guest Speaker Dr Romina Radar, Native Bee hive split demo, and speakers on Australian Native Bees, solitary bees, hone bees, local gardens and plants suitable for bees.

See attached flyer



Landcare
New South Wales

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Local Land Services
North Coast



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WHAT'S ON ?



2ND AUSTRALIAN Native Bee CONFERENCE

05-07 DEC • 2019

BRISBANE • QUEENSLAND

Integrating beekeeping, crop pollination, hive products and research

Beekeepers, farmers, industry leaders, educators and researchers are invited to share knowledge at the second Australian Native Bee Conference. We will discuss issues required to increase understanding and unlock the potential of our native bees, a valuable but under-utilized natural resource.

Where: St Leo's College, University of Queensland, St Lucia, Brisbane, Queensland

When: Thu 5th Dec – Sat 7th Dec 2019

For more information, go to <https://australiannativebeeconference.com.au/>. see attached flyer

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On Monday 9th September, there will be a competition on [Summerland Credit Union's Facebook page](#) where Clarence Landcare can win a share of \$1,000. Just go on their page and LIKE the Clarence Landcare post to help us win - we're up against 2 other groups!



Heads up!! Clarence Landcare AGM & Awards Weekend will be **Friday Night 1st November** for Cane Tooting at Yamba Golf Course and **Saturday 2nd November** AGM at the Yamba Museum PLUS showcasing Yamba Landcare field visits



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Local Land Services
North Coast



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NSW LANDCARE & LOCAL LAND SERVICES CONFERENCE - REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Informative and insightful speakers, amazing workshops and field trips, as well as a number of unforgettable social events is what awaits those who venture out west.

[REGISTER NOW](#) for the 2019 NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference.

22-24 October 2019, Broken Hill.



BEE IN THE JUNIOR LANDCARE CHALLENGE

Junior Landcare has a challenge for kids across Australia to build 1,000 bee hotels schools, homes and with community groups.

With the support of teachers, parents and landcare groups, children will learn why bees are important to their local environment.

Get ready to bee involved, the campaign will launch during Landcare Week on Monday 2 September. Register your interest [HERE](#)



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Stronger Country Communities Fund



Round Three of this fund is now open and will continue to deliver crucial local infrastructure and programs to improve the quality of life of people living in regional NSW.

Since 2017, the Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF) has supported more than 1000 local projects that make regional communities even better places to call home.

In Round One, the NSW Government invested \$100 million to improve community facilities such as town halls, recreation facilities, shared paths and playgrounds. Through Round Two, the NSW Government invested a further \$200 million to provide high quality community and sports-related infrastructure.

Round Three will provide an additional \$100 million for community projects in regional NSW, with at least \$50 million for youth-related projects. The third round of the Stronger Country Communities Fund increases the total value of the Regional Growth Fund to \$1.7 billion. <https://www.nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/regional-nsw/regional-growth-fund/stronger-country-communities/>

For a range of Drought Support Resources go to this LandcareNSW gateway link <https://landcare.nsw.gov.au/resources/drought-support-resources/> ...also

Rural Aid is one of the largest rural charities in Australia. A nationwide charity, it was founded by Charles and Tracy Alder in 2015. Its focus is twofold – to provide support to farmers and rural communities in times of natural disaster as well as supporting the sustainability of the agricultural sector

FARMERS – REGISTER FOR FODDER, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND MORE

[Register so we know what type of support you need, fodder, water, groceries, counselling, workers etc](#)
[Once you've registered apply for \\$1500 of immediate bill assistance, paid in 14 days or less](#)

[Already Registered, apply for \\$1500 of immediate bill assistance, paid in 14 days or less](#)



Flyers attached—scroll down to see flyers mentioned in the enews and more!!



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Holding back the Southern Front of the Cane Toad

Clarence Landcare Inc



Clarence Landcare have banded together with other Landcare organisations, NSW Government, contractors and the wider community aiming to slow/ hold the southern front of Cane Toads.

The issue

The southern front of the introduced Cane Toad is currently (2019) within the Clarence Landcare area. The Clarence Valley Conservation in Action (CVCIA) Landcare Group have been working for a number of years with NSW National Parks and Wildlife and Local Lands Services to reduce the local impact of the cane toads on wildlife and to slow the march south. They have been taking on the challenge with a multi-pronged approach including trapping cane toads and their tadpoles, cane toad collection and euthanising, community education, monitoring and data collection.

The solution

Clarence Landcare obtained a project contract from Office of Environment and Heritage via the Department of Primary Industries to assist the CVCIA Landcare Group and Cane Toad Contractors with their valuable work. The scope of the project was to engage more contractors to maximise cane toad collection, data collection and reporting. This, coupled with increased community education and engagement of local landowners, not only raised awareness about cane toads in the Clarence Valley but also gave access to private properties for cane toad and data collection.

Neighboring Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network have received a similar scaled down Cane Toad Project and we have been working in conjunction with them, sharing information, resources and landholder contact details in overlapping areas.

The impact

In a six month time frame Clarence Landcare employed on a casual/part time basis eight Cane Toad Collectors, an Education Officer to target local schools and community events, an Operations Coordinator and a Project Manager. We also trained and engaged the local Yaegl Bush Regeneration Team to assist with collection.

As a result of this project 2,237 mature cane toads were collected, in addition to 3,237 juveniles/sub adults, 31,242 metamorphs and 15,879 tadpoles = 52,595 Cane Toads controlled. Mapping of control areas was also completed.

Fifty five new landholders came on board as a result of door knocking, letterbox drops, posters and community events. Displays were held at five community events and five primary schools were attended as part of the Toad Talks series; engaging 1,123 students across the mid-lower Clarence Valley.



Key facts

- 9 new casuals employees
- 3 Yaegl (local Aboriginal) contractors engaged
- 5 community events
- 5 schools and 1,123 students engaged
- 55 new landholders engaged
- 36,716 cane toads and 15,879 tadpoles = 52,595 Cane Toads in total controlled



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12 Jun, 2019

FERAL CAT CONTROL WORKSHOP

Wednesday September 25th 2019

NYMBOIDA HALL

Armidale Rd, Nymboida

9:30am - 2:30pm (9:15am arrival for morning tea)

Speakers include:

Tiffany Felton - Senior Biosecurity Officer North Coast LLS
Pest Lures consultants - Tenterfield

These experts will explain the impacts of feral cats, the principles of control, and the Feral Cat Scan website/app. They will also provide hands on trapping experience and information including:

- Equipment preparation
- Sign identification
- Trap site selection and trap setting
- Use of lures and decoys
- Running traps - monitoring, humane euthanasia, release of non-target captures

MORNING TEA & LUNCH IS PROVIDED

For Enquiries & Bookings: 02 66435009 or clarence_landcare@bigpond.com

RSVP by 18/9/19 - Please include dietary requirements

Please bring a hat, sturdy shoes & a bottle of water

Cost: Free

Grafton Beef Producers Day

What:

Meeting for core group producers of the MLA Grazing Maize project followed by a field day. Covering topics including: climate update, early weaning strategies, how to use the Drought and Supplementary feeding App, Pasture Dieback Awareness.

When:

Thursday 26 th September, 9.30am – 3 pm
Meeting commences 9.30am. Field Day at 10am

Where:

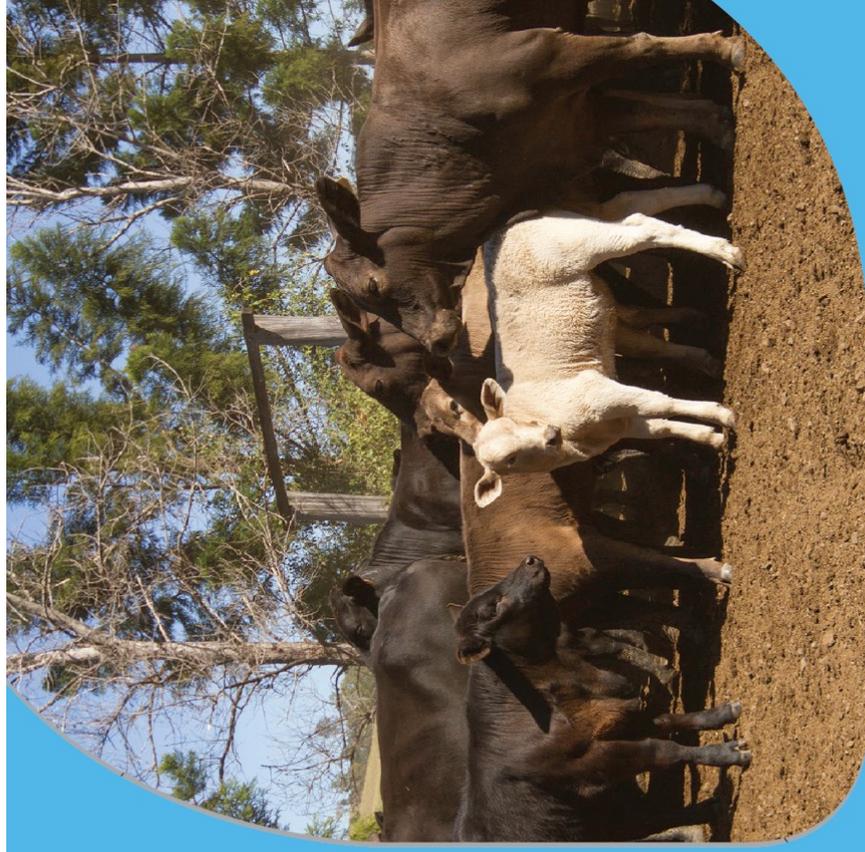
DPI Grafton Research Station "Show Shed" - Experiment Farm Rd Trenayr

For further information and to RSVP contact:

Julie Dart Senior Land Service Officer (Agricultural Advice)
0427 007 501 julie.dart@lls.nsw.gov.au

Please bring: Your smartphone or tablet (download the Drought and Supplementary feeding App beforehand), Hat, Sunsafe clothing and clean enclosed shoes.

Attendance is free. Morning tea and a light lunch provided.



RSVP:

To assist us with catering please RSVP by Monday 23 rd Sept to Julie Dart
email: julie.dart@lls.nsw.gov.au or 0427 007 501
(Text or Call)



**Local Land
Services**



facebook.com/region

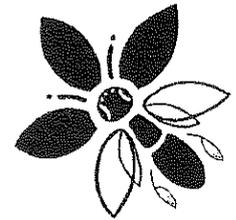


twitter.com/region

Information Day on Native Bees

Clarence Native Bees Inc

Member of Clarence Landcare



Promoting the value of native bees in our community

- **Guest Speaker Dr Romina Rader**

Lecturer in Community Ecology (Plant-Animal Interactions) - School of Environmental and Rural Science from University of New England
Researcher in plant-animal interactions in natural and human-modified landscapes; the impacts of land-use change on biodiversity; how plant and animal functional traits respond to landscape structure, configuration, management and scale; and the provision of ecosystem services by biodiversity.



- **Native bee hive split / duplication**

- **Other guest speakers on Australian native bees, solitary bees, honey bees, plants suitable for bees & local gardens.**

Lunch, morning & afternoon tea provided

Cost Non-members \$40

Members \$10 (if joined by 30th ~~August~~ ^{SEPT} 2019)

When Saturday 26th October 2019, start 9:30am sharp – 3:30pm

Where Healing Centre, 18-26 Victoria Street, Grafton



Contact: Carol & Ken Faulkner 02 6643 3750

Publicity officer Bronwynn Lusted 0427 690 971

www.clarencenativebees.org

clarencenativebees.info@gmail.com

Facebook Group - Clarence Native Bees Landcare



2ND AUSTRALIAN Native Bee CONFERENCE

05-07 DEC • 2019 BRISBANE • QUEENSLAND

Integrating beekeeping, crop pollination, hive products and research

Beekeepers, farmers, industry leaders, educators and researchers are invited to share knowledge at the second Australian Native Bee Conference. We will discuss issues required to increase understanding and unlock the potential of our native bees, a valuable but under-utilized natural resource.

Where: St Leo's College, University of Queensland, St Lucia, Brisbane, Queensland

When: Thu 5th Dec – Sat 7th Dec 2019

Following on from the success of the first, the second conference promises even more. Spread over three days are speakers, trade shows, a field trip and a hive exhibition. Several overseas luminaries, including Cristiano Menezes, a Brazilian expert on management of stingless bees and Laurence Packer from Canada, author of "Keeping the Bees" will deliver keynote presentations. The sessions will present a mix of scientific and practical information ensuring that all attendees will learn valuable new information. In the breaks and evenings spend time building your social and professional networks.

The registration price includes entrance to sessions, printed copy of program, morning and afternoon refreshments and lunch for all three days. Economical on-site accommodation, evening meals and the field trip can be booked as extras.

Key dates:

- Send us an abstract of your proposed talk by 27 Sep.
- Register by 13 Oct for your discounted Early-bee registration.

A separate bee identification workshop will be held the following day, 8th Dec.

To register, find out about prices, more associated events, contact us, or get more details, go to: australiannativebeeconference.com.au.

Session at 1st Australian Native Bee Conference



Hosted by ANBA

<https://australiannativebee.org.au/>

ANBA
Australian Native Bee ASSOC.



Jim Knight Memorial Landcare Award

Clarence Landcare Inc



In 2015 we started the Jim Knight Memorial Landcare Award in honour of Jim, the founding Chair of Clarence Landcare.

The issue

Clarence Landcare had not been active enough in recognising and promoting our amazingly dedicated Landcare volunteers. Nominating our volunteers for external awards happened every now and again and when we did it raised the issue of not knowing enough detail to write about the very people we worked with. As part of our strategic planning process, promoting our volunteers was identified as a gap we needed to address.

The solution

Upon the very sad passing of Jim Knight our beloved committee member of 20 years we felt it was important to create a tribute to Jim. We offered his family the idea of developing the Jim Knight Memorial Landcare Award, they were thrilled and so we proceeded and in 2015 the Inaugural Award was born.

The memorial plaque was designed, made and donated by a local artist and the Clarence Landcare Committee developed a nomination form and judging criteria. The award goes to a Clarence Landcare Group or Individual of the Year.

The impact

Jim's two daughters and grand son Jack attended our AGM to present Laura Noble the inaugural award in 2015. Jack is now a committee member of Clarence Landcare and presents the award most years at our Annual General Meeting.

The 2015 Inaugural Award went to Laura Noble - Clarence Valley Conservation in Action (CVCIA) Landcare Group for her work with Common Myna Bird control and the Clarence Native Bee Landcare Group.

The 2016 Award went to Dennis Milne - Yuraygir Landcare Group, for his work in Yuraygir National Park, weed control, seed collection and planting and also his work in running the Sandon to Woolli Community Plant Nursery.

The 2017 Award went to Wendy Plater - Maclean Landcare Group, for her work at Maclean Lookout- Pinnacles Reserve and also her work with Maclean Landcare Nursery.

The 2018 Award went to Peter Turland - Yuraygir Landcare for his work on the Weeping Paperbark Reserve in Tucabia.

Top Photo: Jim Knight

Bottom Photo: Award winners pictured above from left to right, Wendy Plater, Dennis Milne, Peter Turland and Laura Noble.



Key facts

- 2015 Award Winner - Laura Noble
- 2016 Award Winner - Dennis Milne
- 2017 Award Winner - Wendy Plater
- 2018 Award Winner - Peter Turland



The Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative Program that enables the promotion of these case studies on the Gateway, is funded by the NSW Government and is supported through the partnership of Local Land Services and Landcare NSW



When's Clarence Landcare's next AGM ?

Clarence Landcare Inc



Members and their families now look forward to our next AGM because in 2013 we changed the format for our Annual General Meetings (AGM's). We had so much fun this is now how we do it every year.

The issue

Clarence Landcare, like most community groups struggled to get numbers to their AGM's, we were lucky to get 10-15 people, even though we always made an effort to invite an interesting speaker as the focus for the gathering. The Clarence Landcare office is in Grafton - so this is where we usually held the meetings. We often worried about not being able to fill the executive roles.

The solution

In 2013 Iluka Landcare, one of our member groups were having their 25 year Anniversary Celebration so we decided to piggy back the event by running our AGM the day before. Iluka is 77 kms from Grafton and well over 100km from many of our committee member and staff homes. So we decided to stay at the Woody Head training facility on the Saturday night. We had our AGM meeting, a social BBQ for dinner, stayed the night, had a social Breakfast on the Sunday morning together then we attended Iluka Landcare's 25 Year celebration.

The impact

We all had so much fun, which included staff and committee members bringing their families along to this weekend. The location was in Bundgalung National Park a beautiful coastal park with magnificent beaches and a rainforest walk. Our families enjoyed the scenery whilst we had our meeting, then we all got together afterwards.

So this is how our new AGM format was born - and since then we have had 'Clarence Landcare AGM Weekends' every year in different locations - most hosted by the local Landcare group of the area so they can showcase their local projects as part of the program. Now instead of members dreading the next AGM - we get asked - "when and where is the next AGM going to be ?"

Learnings

By making the AGM weekend's fun and interesting for the whole family we now have people looking forward to it. Our numbers have jumped up to 20-30 people attending. And it seems to be easier to get committee members because a greater diversity of people come along from the hosting Landcare groups in a variety of localities. The weekends are a lot of work to organise but definitely well worth it.



Key facts

- Below are locations of our past AGM weekends:
- 2013 Woody Head - Iluka
- 2014 Nymboida - (which included a raft trip)
- 2015 The Clarence Gorge (which included a boat trip to the falls)
- 2016 Diggers Camp
- 2017 Wooloweyah/ Angourie
- 2018 Brooms Head (which included a Cane Toading Night)



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