



Native plant of  
the month –  
*Diospyros  
geminata*  
Page 2

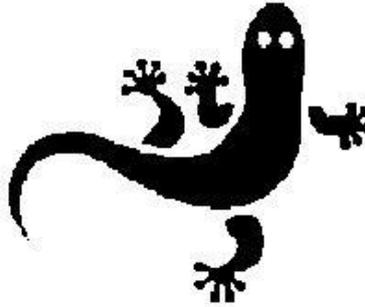


Regular Reads:  
Weed it out!,  
Word on Birds  
Top Regen Tip  
Pages 3-4



Local Landcare  
news including  
Junior Landcare,  
events, project  
updates and  
people  
Page 5

# The Enviro LINK



A monthly newsletter  
produced by the  
EnviroLINK Centre - a  
project of Capricorn Coast  
Landcare Group Inc.

ENVIROLINK CENTRE  
3/78 John Street  
Yeppoon Qld 4703  
Ph: 07 4939 1002  
Mob: 0429 477 985  
E: [envirolink@cqnet.com.au](mailto:envirolink@cqnet.com.au)



## Date Claimers

### December 2017

- 12<sup>th</sup> Greening Australia: **Cane Toad Hunting** | Barmaryee Multisport Complex, Yeppoon | see flyer on page 8
- 13<sup>th</sup> Cap Coast Landcare Group: **Mangroves Cleanup working bee** | 10.30 – 12.30pm | Meet Cordingley Street (Swan Park on Fig Tree Creek) | Lunch provided | BYO hat, sturdy shoes, water bottle | Contact Janet 4939 1002
- 16<sup>th</sup> Birdlife Capricornia: **Wader Survey** | Kinka Beach | meet at 7.30am (high tide 8.06am) | Contact Allan Briggs phone 49354645
- 19<sup>th</sup> Emu Park Bush Care: **Cane Toad Hunting** | Bicentennial Wetlands, Emu Park | long pants, sturdy shoes, mozzie spray | contact Julianne - [j.weekers@cqu.edu.au](mailto:j.weekers@cqu.edu.au)

### January 2018

- 13<sup>th</sup> PCYC Yeppoon: Chilli Festival | 11am – 4pm | PCYC – 170 Matthew Flinders Drive, Coee Bay | Contact 4930 2022
- 24<sup>th</sup> (CHANGED DATE – not 17<sup>th</sup>) Cap Coast Landcare: **Mangrove Cleanup** | 8.00 – 10.00pm | location to be advised | Morning tea provided | BYO hat, sturdy shoes, water bottle | Contact Sabrina @ Envirolink 4939 1002

#### Dignity First Washroom NOW OPEN!

At the Community Centre toilet facilities, 78 John Street, Yeppoon. Accessible washroom/laundry for the whole community, fitted with a private washing machine, dryer, toilet and shower. Focused on assisting those who are experiencing homelessness, living in less than ideal arrangements, or those who have been impacted by a natural disaster.

**Christmas & New Year closure for Landcare and Envirolink:  
22 December 2017 – 8 January 2018**



# plant of the month

Factsheets produced by Helen Gallehawk in collaboration with Nick Smith, Neil Hoy and Bob Newby



© Ethel Aardvark



© M Marathon

## Scaly Ebony & Qld Ebony

<b>Botanical Name</b>	<i>Diospyros geminata</i>
<b>Habitat/Ecology</b>	Important for threatened vine thickets, beach scrubs & dry rainforests. Riparian, rocky and serpentine areas. Fruit eaten by birds & a food plant for moth larvae.
<b>Home Use</b>	Large crop of edible fruit, sweet when deep orange/red. Adapts to wide range of soil types.
<b>Habit</b>	Tall compact shrub to small tree 3-6m.
<b>Flowers/Fruit</b>	<b>Flowers:</b> July-March; creamy green; males in clusters; females are solitary; 3-5mm. <b>Fruit:</b> Feb-Dec; berries, yellow to orange/red when ripe, ovoid, 8-12mm in pairs. Need both male and female plants to fruit.
<b>Leaves/Stems</b>	<b>Leaves:</b> Evergreen; slightly glossy green to dull on top; yellow olive/green below; 2.5-5cm long. <b>Bark:</b> Dull black, fissures & scales (older plants).
<b>Propagation</b>	Fresh seeds; difficult by cuttings; slow growing.
<b>Water/Shade</b>	Well drained, sunny to semi shade.
<b>Maintenance</b>	Unlikely to compete well with weeds.



### Envirolink Centre

Mon-Fri 9am-3pm  
3/78 John Street  
Yeppoon Q 4703  
Ph. 07 4939 1002



### Native Plants Capricornia

401 Frenchville Rd  
Frenchville Qld 4701  
[rockhampton@npq.org.au](mailto:rockhampton@npq.org.au)  
SMS: 0477 492 083

Updated 13 October 2017

# weed it out

By Malcolm Wells



Photo: Malcolm Wells

## *Ochna serrulata* (Mickey Mouse plant)

Ochna is an ornamental species that can proliferate when it escapes into bushland. It is a native of Africa that has been widely planted in Australian gardens for its showy flowers. Birds are attracted to the fruit and spread the seeds. In south-east Queensland the weed regularly invades bare areas of disturbed riparian habitat; and is cropping up here in CQ. Ochna is not a declared pest plant under Queensland legislation, but Livingstone Shire Council do target the weed.

Ochna grows as an erect shrub erect to about 1.5 m high. The glossy leaves are up to 5 cm long and narrow, with serrated margins. New growth usually has a bronze tinge. Flowers are bright yellow with five petals. These petals fall off, leaving five sepals which turn scarlet red when the fruits appear. Fruits are initially green, turning glossy black in summer. The common name of Mickey Mouse plant comes from the fact that some say they look like Mickey Mouse ears.

Seedlings can be easily hand-pulled when the soil is soft, although the angled tap root is easily broken and may reshoot. Larger specimens can be sprayed, but it is easy to scrape and paint the bark with neat glyphosate, or cut the plant near the base and paint the stump. Make sure to remove and bag any viable seed to prevent new plants from shooting, and the rest of the plant can be mulched. Find more information [here](#)

# top regeneration tip

By Malcolm Wells



Photo: Malcolm Wells

## The Understorey

Most people walking through bushland will look around at the shrub species, or up at the trees. When I began working in bush regeneration in NSW, one of the main flora communities we encountered was the endangered Cumberland Plains Woodland. My mate, and TAFE teacher, told me to always remember to look down as I walked through the bush, because that's where you often found the most interesting species.

It can be the same when people are planning new gardens, or re-vegetating bushland areas; they tend to go for showy trees and shrubs and ignore the understorey. One of my neighbours does it deliberately because he likes to keep his garden neat and tidy and likes to mulch around his plants. Groundcover plants are too untidy and might conceal snakes or other unwanted visitors. I respect his opinion, but I like to include plenty of groundcovers, clumping grasses and rushes as well as the odd twining plant such as Wombat Berry. These have been coming up naturally in the plot I am regenerating and they self-seed readily. I just like to keep them under control, so they don't get too vigorous and scramble over some of the low growing shrubs.

Grasses such as Kangaroo or Barbed Wire are my favourites, as are Lomandra and Dianella from the rush family (photo on left). These plants also readily self-seed, reducing the need to keep buying plants.

# a word on birds

By Allan Briggs



Photo: Allan Briggs

## December Birds

November was quite a dry month but that has not stopped many of our bird species from nesting and starting the long process of incubating the eggs and raising young chicks. For some species this can be up to two months and the chances of predation are quite high. The best thing you can do to help out during a dry spell is to provide clean water in a bird bath. Make sure that you change the water regularly as algae will quickly grow in hot conditions.

I have a pair of Pacific Baza breeding at my place and they produce snowy white chicks that stay in the nest for around 35 days after hatching until they are big enough to make their first flight.

3<sup>rd</sup> December is the last survey for 2017 and thank you for staying the distance and recording the birds at your place throughout the year. The data you are providing is vitally important when it comes to understanding the distribution of species across our region. Once you have done the survey for December can you email your spreadsheet to me and I will begin the process of analysing the data. I will of course provide you with a summary for your Shire or Regional Council area. I will also send you a new spreadsheet for 2018 before the end of December so that you can start doing the survey early in January. If you know of anyone who might be interested in doing a bit of citizen science please let me know.

The loss of Landcare's beloved Alby Wooler earlier this year was a major blow to our Landcare group. We then had further changes to the committee at the AGM, with the decisions of Clyde Schipke and Rhonda Truscott not to stand for re-election. Early next year we will also see our Envirolink Co-ordinator Janet Schipke, departing for a new start on the Sunshine Coast and she will be sorely missed. On behalf of all, I thank her for all the hard work and long hours she has put in, and wish her and Clyde all the best for the future. I would also like to welcome Sabrina Burke, who will be taking over the role in January.

Our volunteers also deserve a big thank you for all their hard work and dedication over the year. Thanks to all Landcare members for their ongoing commitment, and our gratitude to Livingstone Shire Council, FBA and Capricornia Catchments for their help and financial support, without which we could not operate.

I hope everyone enjoys a good Christmas break and comes back in the new year refreshed and eager to carry on the good work. In 2018, let us continue to build upon all the good work Alby and the Capricorn Coast Landcare Group has achieved over the years. Merry Christmas and a productive new year!



From Malcolm

# Local Landcare News

## Mangroves deliver big rubbish haul

November and December clean-ups saw 15 volunteers remove 384.77kg from our urban mangroves along Fig Tree and Ross Creek systems.

These monthly clean-ups are part of Landcare's Community Sustainability Action Grant - *Fig Tree Mangroves Community Connections Project*.

Special thanks to Landcare member and regular volunteer, Derek Maguire, who's trusty ute and trailer get all this rubbish to the dump (and/or recycling bins) each month. We'd still be up the creek without his contribution!

**IF YOU FEEL YOU'D LIKE TO DO SOMETHING SATISFYING AND HELP LANDCARE, OUR NEXT CLEAN-UP EVENT WILL BE WEDNESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER.**



December cleanup: Mitch Vallely (FBA), Dave Higgins, Derek Maguire, Erin Messenger, Janet Schipke, Lily Neaton, Laura Lubans Bates. (Photo: Malcolm Wells)

## Kinka Wetlands comes to life

The beautiful Kinka Wetlands continues to be a focus for Birdlife Capricornia supported by Livingstone Shire Council and the Fitzroy Basin Association through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme.

The rehabilitation of the old quarry site continued earlier this month with the installation of coir logs to stop sediment washing into the wetlands and ultimately to Keppel Bay.

A past project that saw similar work take place has led to re-establishment of native species that are taking hold in the sediment held back by the logs... Another example of local groups taking care of our place!

## Mangrove Discovery Day

There was a great turnout at WPSQ Capricorn Branch and Capricornia Catchments' *Mangrove Discovery Day* at Anderson Park recently. Aside from an interpretive walk-n-talk through the mangroves and flying fox colony and an opportune rubbish pickup, EHP staff were present and gave an interesting crocodile awareness presentation. Other groups participating on the day were Cap Coast Landcare with a catchment storyboard activity, FBA, and Wildlife Rockhampton ran the BBQ,



# Conservation Conversations

*I have presented several public talks lately on how to reduce our reliance on disposable plastic packaging. We humans have taken a wonderfully tough and light material, designed to last for decades, and created out of it a vast multitude of single use, disposable items. These items are designed for seconds on our lips; however, they last an eternity in landfills around our country.*

## Part 2

If you would like to reduce the amount that you are sending to landfill consider the following small changes that you could make:

1. Keep reusable shopping bags in your car, handbag, attached to your mobile phone, or near your front door so that you aren't caught unprepared and need to take plastic shopping bags at the checkout.

Consider durable fabric bags rather than the green poly bags from the shops which deteriorate over time. Give your reusable bags a wash monthly so the checkout staff don't find any undesirable mould or bugs.

2. If the only reason you take plastic shopping bags is to line your rubbish bin, consider composting all your wet biodegradable waste, and

rinse out dirty food bags & dry on your line before taking to Coles soft-plastic recycling.

With a few changes you may find that like us, over the course of a year, you no longer need to line your bin as there are no longer wet smelly items in it.

3. Fill a reusable water bottle with filtered tap water from home to avoid buying disposable drink bottles. We have a simple benchtop gravity filter from Stefani.

4. Ask takeaway restaurants if they will put your food into your own containers or a paper bag. If the cost for dine in & eat out are the same, you could order the food to dine in, and put it into your own containers before departing.

5. Always request 'no straw' when ordering a beverage at a restaurant or bar, as these are not recyclable.

## Christmas season event catering

Take your own clean reusable containers to the deli (such as Farm Street SUPA IGA) to fill with olives, cheeses, stuffed peppers and other finger foods. Also take containers to Lenards or your local butcher to fill with sausages, chicken products, and bacon, just tell them beforehand that you want to avoid all the disposable plastic packaging.

Most scales should be able to 'tare' (or zero) the container weight so you aren't paying for the weight of your container. We have had more success doing this with independent shops like IGA and small butchers.

*Sabrina Burke*

Coordinator  
Minimal Waste Central Queensland

# Volunteers

Many environmental and community groups, like Landcare, are blessed to have some terrific volunteers who always find a way to give their time and energy to others. Here's a short speech that Raymond Hansby - a volunteer with Livingstone Shire Council and also Landcare member and volunteer - gave at the recent Mayors Volunteer's Luncheon. I think Raymond has managed to encapsulate the spirit of giving and working for others that being a volunteer is all about. Thankyou Raymond!

My name is Raymond Hansby.

I was born in Melbourne, Victoria. I have travelled to different parts of Australia and have volunteered work in parts of Australia. I have volunteered in Merimbula, NSW, doing work in St. Vincent De Pauls. I have volunteered in Queanbeyan NSW doing work for St. Vincent De Pauls and my local MP's office. Also I volunteered at an aged care home.

When I arrived in Yeppoon, I volunteered at the Garden Nursery and the Community Development Centre. Also I volunteer with Landcare.

I have learnt new skills in my volunteering work. It teaches me to be more confident in my skills when I do volunteering in the community.

When you show skills to other people it helps people with their skills to learn. Also it's a great way to meet new people in the community. Always respect people in the community and show your kindness when you meet new people.



Shelly from Capricornia Catchments reports that **Friends Of Lammermoor Native Gardens'** volunteers have received '**Champions of Conservation'** with over **280 hours clocked in six months**- that is a LOT of weeding, planting and watering.

This project is supported by the Fitzroy Basin Association Inc. through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme and Livingstone Shire Council.

Congratulations and well earned, Friends!

*A letter from Karl French*  
*CQ Marine Turtle Monitoring Project*

Hi Avid Turtle Watchers,

As many of you may be aware, turtles have been coming ashore now on our local Capricorn and Curtis Coast beaches for several weeks now. We are still interested in gathering information about how the turtles are using our local beaches for nesting and in recording any threats or issues related to their efforts to nest.

If you see a turtle attempting to nest or even just a turtle track on one of the beaches within our CQ region please let us know. You can report sightings via the Fitzroy Basin Association Website, <https://www.fba.org.au/> where the scrolling banner headline will allow you to report a turtle sighting.

We have a number of local "Volunteer Champions" who will endeavour to contact you and follow up on your report. The data they collect will then be entered into the nesting turtle database operated by the Queensland Turtle Conservation Project. Reporting of nesting is valuable as it allows us to track turtle activity away from the better known turtle nesting beaches and may highlight shifts in nesting populations in relation to local changes in beach conditions.

Please don't interfere with nesting turtles as they are all protected species and please do not interfere with their nests. Also to aid our researchers in locating nests we ask that you don't obliterate the turtles' tracks as this makes it exceptionally difficult to confirm nesting.

Finally please note in your reports if you see evidence of likely nest predators such as dogs, foxes, goannas and wild pigs, also if the beach is heavily trafficked by 4wd vehicles, any major erosion, and whether artificial lights shine down onto the beach. All of these factors may influence the success of a turtle's nesting attempt. Also if you regularly walk a section of beach and you don't see a turtle, it's still valuable information, so please feel free to drop me an email to report beaches which are regularly walked and not utilised by marine turtles.

Thank you for your interest in the CQ Marine Turtle Monitoring Project. Please feel free to pass this on to other interested parties.

Thanks and happy turtle watching.

Kind Regards,  
**Karl French**  
0422 185 110  
[karlfrench@hotmail.com](mailto:karlfrench@hotmail.com)



Nesting loggerhead turtle and hatchlings at Burnett Heads. (Janet Schipke)

CAPRICORN COAST LANDCARE GROUP INC



# MANGROVE CLEAN-OPS MONTHLY

## FIG TREE & ROSS CREEKS

25 OCT | 15 NOV | 13 DEC |

17 JAN | 21 FEB | 18 APR |

WE NEED YOUR HELP

A LandCare Community Connections Project 2017-2018

ENVIROLINK  
3/78 JOHN STREET  
YEPPON QLD 4703  
PHONE - 49391002  
E: ENVIROLINK@COMET.COM.AU

This project is supported by the  
Queensland Government's  
Community Sustainability Action  
plans program



91.3fm

Capricorn Coast Community Radio

Radio 4NAG is a community run, not-for-profit radio station offering community and environmental groups free promotion for their upcoming events and new items.

If you would like to get your message out to a wider audience and engage others, please phone them on

**4939 8211**

Radio 4NAG are always looking for sponsors to help them deliver an interesting and professional service to the community.

Address: Community Centre, 3/78 John Street, Yeppon |  
PO Box 346, Yeppon 4703 | email: [nagradio@bigpond.com](mailto:nagradio@bigpond.com)





# Cane Toad Hunting 2017

Help our local waterways and wildlife by lending a hand to eradicate *Rhinella marina*. Join local experts and learn humane ways to catch poisonous cane toads which pose a serious threat to native wildlife.

Full training, bags and gloves provided.

Date	Location
Tues 14 November	Sunset Drive playground, Rockhampton
Tues 21 November	Cedric Archer Park, Ian Besch Drive, Gracemere
Tues 28 November	Korte's Resort, Parkhurst
Tues 5 December	Yeppoon Golf Course
Tues 12 December	Barmaryee Multisport Complex, off Barmaryee Road, Yeppoon
Tues 19 December	Bicentennial Park, Emu Park

**Time:** 6pm - 8pm

## What to wear:

- sturdy closed in shoes
- long pants

## What to bring

- drinking water
- torch
- Mosquito spray
- A friend
- Children under 15 yrs must have adult supervision

## RSVP / Information:

Bethlea Bell P: 4999 2835 M: 0439 745 366

E: [bbell@greeningaustralia.org.au](mailto:bbell@greeningaustralia.org.au)



This Greening Australia project is supported by Fitzroy Basin Association Inc. through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme and supports the research of UQ's Institute for Molecular Bioscience.



## OPERATION EDUCATION

HELPING KIDS GET BACK TO SCHOOL IN 2018!

BRING YOUR DONATIONS OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO THE COMMUNITY CENTRE! CHECK THE 'NOTES' SECTION OF THE YOUTH IN LIVINGSTONE FACEBOOK PAGE FOR EXAMPLE STATIONERY LISTS.

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN!

**Christmas crafts** for young people will run from December 11 - 15 and December 18 - 22.

**Summer fun crafts** for young people will run from January 8 - 12 and January 15 - 19.

**Youth movies** will run on January 13.

Keep an eye on the *Youth in Livingstone* Facebook page for more details coming soon!

 80 JOHN STREET YEPPON QLD

 07 4913 3840

 ENQUIRIES@LIVINGSTONE.QLD.GOV.AU

 [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/YOUTHINLIVINGSTONE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/YOUTHINLIVINGSTONE)

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 [WWW.LIVINGSTONE.QLD.GOV.AU](http://WWW.LIVINGSTONE.QLD.GOV.AU)



# Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.



ABN: 48 170 539 519

*Landcare – a partnership between the environment and sustainable production*

General meetings are advised in advance and held at the Envirolink Centre, 3 / 78 John Street, Yeppoon. All memberships are due for renewal at the October AGM (one (1) vote per membership).

Your email will be automatically added to our Envirolink Newsletter and CCLG membership mailing lists.

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive them.

**New member**

**Renew / Update details**

MEMBER CONTACT DETAILS		
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Post Code:
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Mobile:
Email:		
SIGNATURE		
<i>I support the goals, values and activities of Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.</i>		
Signature of applicant:		Date:

PAYMENT METHOD		
<input type="checkbox"/> Single Membership is \$5.00 GST included.	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership is \$10.00 GST included	
<input type="checkbox"/> Group Membership is \$22.00 GST included.	<input type="checkbox"/> Business Membership is \$55.00 GST included	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque	<input type="checkbox"/> EFT
Electronic Transfer Reference Number :		
Bank details for on-line payments: BSB 064 712 A/C 10018138 Account Name: Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.		
* Reference deposit with your first initial & surname.		

### Please return to:

Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.  
PO Box 727, YEPPOON, QLD, 4703

Phone: (07) 4939 1002

Fax: (07) 4939 1668

Email: [envirolink@cqnet.com.au](mailto:envirolink@cqnet.com.au)

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FITZROY BASIN  
ASSOCIATION



Capricornia  
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QWALC  
QUEENSLAND WATER & LAND CARES



Livingstone  
SHIRE COUNCIL