



Capricorn Coast
Landcare
Group

Envirolink Newsletter

July 2016

Date Claimers!

ALL JULY

PLASTIC FREE JULY - **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK** FOR A PLASTIC TIP EVERY FRI IN JULY!

3rd – 10th

NAIDOC WEEK – **Gawula & Capricorn Coast Celebrations**

Sun 3rd

1pm on: Native Plants Capricornia – PREVIEW OF YABBA TOUR IN OCTOBER

Meet Northside Plaza for checking out sites for the day. *More info contact Neil 0439 943 281*

Mon 4th

10am: NAIDOC WEEK OFFICIAL OPENING

Yeppoon Main Beach, Anzac Parade. *More information contact Aunty Sally on 0439 745 641*

5th – 6th

FREE ACTIVITIES AT FLOW

Tues 5th

7.30pm: Capricorn Coast Landcare Group – GENERAL MEETING

Please arrive 7.15 - Envirolink Centre, John Street, Yeppoon. *More info contact Jo 4939 1002*

Sat 9th

3-5pm: Emu Park Bushcare – WORKING BEE

BYO gloves, sun smart gear. Marine Parade (orange fence). *Contact emuparkbushcare@ymail.com*

Sun 31st

9am-12pm: Livingstone Shire Council and Capricorn Coast Landcare Group - NATIONAL TREE DAY

Bluff Point National Park, Scenic Hwy, Yeppoon. *Contact paddy.delalande@livingstone.qld.gov.au*

▪ **COMING UP
IN AUGUST!**

▪ **9am-2pm Saturday 20th – FIGTREE COMMUNITY CREEKCARE AWARENESS DAY** celebrating **National Science Week** (13th-21st) and **Keep Australia Beautiful Week** (22nd-28th)



Family and friends planting one of Wade Mann's prized red cedars at the Yeppoon Community Centre. CCLG has been helping with the Wade Mann commemorative sensory garden.

More than a change in the weather

With mid year school holidays we're taking a little break from the school gardens but it's all systems go as we catch up in the office and plan for the next six months.

A big thankyou to our wonderful volunteers who helped construct the Wade Mann sensory garden at the Community Centre last month and have done a fantastic job Yeppoon State School environment area and Figtree Creek. Our very best wishes to CCLG volunteer Brian Johnson who has helped us for many months but will now enjoy the new-found freedom of retirement!

I'd also like to thank Louise Brown for her help with our newsletter this year and wish her all the best with her new bub – we now welcome aboard Helen Gallehawk who will be bringing you news on Pest Critters that cost us each month. Without further ado – onto July's news!

- *Alby Wooler*

President & Junior Landcare Coordinator

Figtree Community
Saturday 20th August
CreekCare Awareness Day
9am-2pm

**IGNITE YOUR
IMAGINATION**

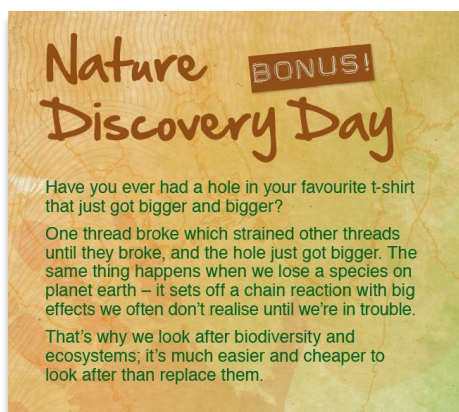
Face painting ➡ music ➡
BBQ lunch ➡ info displays
➡ free fun for all ages ➡
give-aways ➡ + more!
➡ Figtree Creek opp.
Yeppoon Central ➡

- ➡ Butter-ye-flies
- ➡ Buggin'a'bug
- ➡ Flappin' about birds
- ➡ Tackle tha water bandits
- ➡ What's up yer creek?
 - ➡ Plastic bites
 - ➡ Knowin'ya'natives
- ➡ Get the geo-flow lowdown

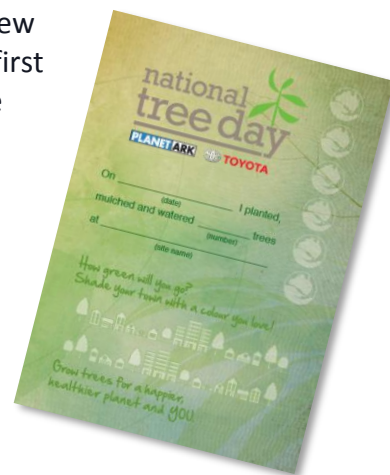
Write it on yer calendar now!



PASSPORT PROGRAM GETS STAMPS OF APPROVAL ALL ROUND

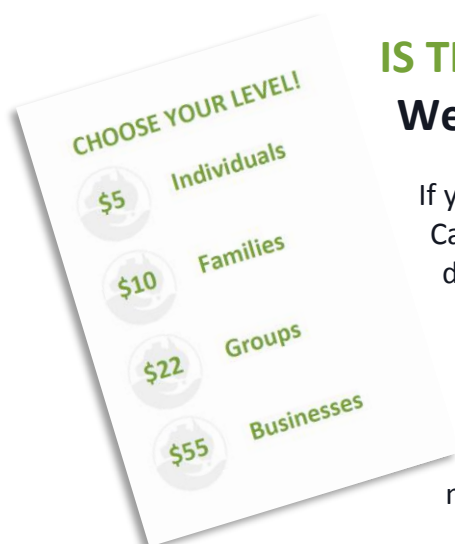


Junior Landcarers are loving their new passports, with many getting their first official stamps for taking part in the Nature Discovery Day at Cooberrie Park. This month many will also be stamping off their participation in **National Tree Day** which takes place on 31st July. Be sure to get your gloves and hats ready and yourselves down to the southern end of Kemp Beach on



NATIONAL TREE DAY Sunday 31st July

BBQ lunch and refreshments provided. BYO sun protection, water bottle, and wear closed in shoes and gloves. For more info go to the [Tree Day event page](#)!.



IS THIS NEWSLETTER WORTH PAYING FOR?

We think so and that's why we put it out every month!

If you're liking the monthly updates we encourage you to join Capricorn Coast Landcare Group as a paid up member so we can keep delivering the good stuff to your inbox and the environment ☺

If you sign up this July, you'll be covered for 15 months instead of the usual 12 – because we're generous like that!

Just fill in the form at the back of this newsletter and drop in your membership fee in person or EFT (details on the form!)



TOTALLY WILD IS SHOWCASING COOL STUFF FROM CENTRAL QUEENSLAND!

TUNE IN 8am on channel Eleven

A team from the Fitzroy Basin Association managed to get the Totally Wild crew up to visit our region... check it out!

Wed 6th July – MT ETNA CAVES *showcasing Mt Etna National Park and the 20 million trees funded revegetation project to restore semi-evergreen vine thicket habitat for the Ghost Bat and microbat populations.*

Sat 9th July – SEAGRASS VS ZOMBIES *CQ University research and education project in the Gladstone Harbour on local seagrasses and their resilience to climate and human impacts, the seagrass vs zombie game was modelled off the popular game app "plants vs zombies".*



Photo: [Wilfried Niedermayr](#)

A 'LIL WORD ON WILDLIFE

from Steph K

After spending their summer in the Antarctic waters feeding and building up their fat reserves, these majestic animals will soon be making the long journey to our warmer waters to get ready to breed. These spectacular animals weigh up to 50 tonnes with calves up to 2 tonnes at birth. A female whale will have a calf every 2-3 years. These guys cruise along in the water at 8km/h and are often seen performing their amazing acrobatics, including breaching and slapping their fins and tails on the water surface (in fact I've heard Cap Coast gives

Harvey Bay a run for its money when it comes to whale watching). They are also famous for their beautiful songs, thought to be a way for females to attract males.

After being hunted by whalers driving them to near extinction in the 1950's, their numbers have now significantly increased with populations having doubled over the last 10 years. You can help protect these beautiful creatures by ensuring you don't litter, as rubbish that ends up in the ocean can harm many marine animals. If you see them while out in your boat it is recommended to stay at least 100 meters away from them and not to touch or feed them. If you happen to see an injured or stranded whale report it to your [local environment agency](#).



Photo: [Atlas of Living Australia](#)

NATIVE PLANT OF THE MONTH

Giant Palm Lily *by Malcom W*

Cordyline allportsii is an evergreen shrub that is naturally found only along the eastern coast between central and far north Queensland. As a tropical plant it is best positioned in a warm and moist situation, which will not be hard in our climate.

It can grow to 5 metres, but will normally reach a height of 2-4 metres; and produces a panicle of attractive white flowers from February to May. These are followed by a mass of red berries which make it an appealing feature plant for many gardens and a handy food plant for the Australasian Figbird and Olive-backed Oriole. Interestingly, this plant has been the subject of a weed warning in South-east QLD because its seed is readily dispersed by birds over significant distances and it will grow quite happily in wet forest and paperbark swamp areas where it is not native (the concern is it will outcompete or replace local palm lily species).

A FREE Giant Palm Lily is available for all CCLG members from the Envirolink Office courtesy of Livingstone Community Nursery.



Photo: M Hagman

PEST CRITTERS THAT COST US

Cane Toads *by Helen G*

Rhinella marina (prev. *Bufo marinus*) was introduced to Queensland from Hawaii in 1935 to control sugar cane scarab beetles. It competes with native fauna for food and shelter, and can kill, poison or injure our native and domestic animals. Under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, these toads are listed as a 'key threatening process'. Cane toads exude poison from glands on their shoulders that acts on the heart and central nervous system when absorbed through the eyes, mouth or nose and

Destroy jelly like strings of toad eggs to reduce toad numbers.

when eaten can kill native goannas and other animals. Toads are also known to prey on the eggs and nestlings of our ground-nesting rainbow bee-eaters, and consume native frogs.

Toads are estimated to be moving west at 40 to 60 km/year and with no predators or diseases controlling their numbers have reached the WA border. They are long-lived (over 15 years) and female toads can lay up to 30 000 eggs at a time from 1 year of age (native frogs typically lay only up to 2000 a year). Toads less than 5 cm can be hard to distinguish from some native frogs. If you're unsure, **remember the 3 Ms** of a cane toad's distinguishing features - **'M'** on the face, **Mottling** on the stomach and **Moving** in short hops with a tendency to sit upright. The '[Be Toadally Sure](#)' brochure from Qld Frog Society provides further information.



Capture adults and refrigerate for several hours prior to freezing or use a contact spray such as HOPTSTOP to humanely kill toads.



Photo courtesy of Malcolm Wells

WEED IT OUT NOW! *by Malcom W*

With its fluffy red seed heads, Red natal grass is an attractive looking grass, but it is a real pest. The plant is a native of southern Africa and grows as a slender tussocky grass to a height of 30-100cm. In summer it produces fluffy pink to pale red seed heads, and the seeds are easily spread by wind. This grass can be seen all around the coast and Rockhampton area in large swathes on roadsides, disturbed soils and wastelands.

Being a shallow rooted grass it is easy to hand remove, but if you need to remove large areas of this weed it can cause significant soil disturbance, allowing other weeds to emerge. Red natal is creeping into the council land I am regenerating adjacent to my

garden; and it is now invading my garden as well. If you can recognise it before it seeds then remove it straight away. If it is in seed, then be sure to bag it straight away to reduce the chance of it coming back. If you do have a lawn, or large patches of non-native grasses, be sure to keep them mown before they seed, or collect seed heads to avoid them escaping and becoming a pest.

TOP GARDENING TIP *from Malcom W*

You want to grow vegetables but you have poor soil or limited garden bed space... hmmm.... your answer could be a [straw bale garden](#)!

If you source clean bales in winter you can condition them (which takes several weeks) for planting in spring, and weeds should not grow in clean straw (I recommend finding a reputable supplier). Retain the bale strings to keep the shape during the growing season (hint place the bale so the strings go around the sides of the bales). The bales will gradually soften and decompose over time, but by the time it comes to harvest your crop, you can just pull the bale apart and use the straw as ready-made compost.

The key to successful straw bale gardening is to condition your bales before you plant into them. There are various recommended treatments, so I will suggest just one here.... sprinkle each bale with 3 cups of organic fertilizer every second day for six days. Water the bales each day to saturate the straw well and start it composting. On days 7 to 9 add 1.5 cups of organic fertilizer each day and water. On day 10 add 3 cups of bone or fish meal and you should be ready to go.

To plant seedlings, make a hole and add potting mix to cover any exposed roots. If growing from seed, lay a 25mm to 50 mm layer of potting mix and sow seeds at the recommended depth. You now have a great low maintenance veggie or herb patch!



Photo: [knitsteel on Flickr](#).

FLOW Exploration session – Canopy capers and explore endangered species

A guided tour from a Birdlife expert will help you discover where birds live and their secret hidey places! Learn some fun facts and see these feathered creatures in their environment at feeding time – bugs and seed... yum yum!

Tue 5 Jul | 2-3pm | At the Aviary, Rockhampton Botanical Gardens/Zoo (100 Spencer St)
Presented by Birdlife Capricornia

Do bees get hot under the collar?

Do humans worry bees as much as they worry us? Learn UnBEElievably cool facts about European and native bees, hive-building, bee-keeping and bee rescue. Examine native bees under the microscope without getting attacked and taste test native bee honey.

Wed 6 Jul | 11am-12pm | At the FLOW Centre Presented by Lloyd Younger

FLOW Exploration session – Flying robots

Discover incredible robotics used in clever farming and food production! Come along and be in the draw to experience a play in our hands-on "drone zone" and see if you make a successful pilot!

Wed 6 Jul | 2-3pm | At the Indoor Sports Arena - 37 Hollingsworth St, Kawana
Presented by Dynamic Spatial Solutions & Rory's RC Hobby House

VISIT AND EXPLORE FLOW

Displays 10am – 4pm from 28 Jun – 7 Jul (Closed Mondays & Fri 8 Jul)

Birds & Bees – Making bird friendly gardens, explore specimens with microscopes

Qld Museum Kit – Spider and Insect Homes

Paper plane flying challenge – Prizes to be won!

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Check out FLOW
www.discovercq.com
and activity times
www.fba.org.au/calendar



Old Post Office, Cnr East & Denham Sts, Rockhampton | Open Tue-Thurs, 10am-4pm Register: flow@fba.org.au - bookings essential

Community Grants up for Grabs!



Do you have a great project idea which includes revegetation, marine debris, pest and weed management, erosion control or dune restoration activities? Or do you want to run an educational program or event to enhance community attitudes about our environment?

Community groups can apply for up to \$20,000 to carry out environmental activities*

APPLY NOW

Find out more:
www.fba.org.au/tenders-and-funding or call 4999 2836



These grants are provided by Fitzroy Basin Association through the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme. *Eligibility criteria applies



Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.

ABN: 48 170 539 519



Landcare – a partnership between the environment and sustainable production

General meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of every second month at 7.30 pm 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
Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive them.

☐

mailing lists.

☐

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

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