

# EUROBODALLA LANDCARE NEWSLETTER

July 2008

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## PAPERLESS NEWS!

With the start of the new financial year we would like to reduce the use of paper for our Eurobodalla Landcare newsletter. At our last count we send out 89 hard copies of the newsletter. That's a lot of paper! Please help us become more sustainable by switching to receiving this letter by email. Just contact Bernadette Davis on 02 44 741037 or email at [bernadette.davis@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bernadette.davis@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au)

## INVITATION – Important notice!

National Tree Day Celebrations

Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July

As a Eurobodalla Landcarer you are invited to attend a morning tea to celebrate National Tree Day. Without your efforts, countless habitats would be struggling to survive. The Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens and Eurobodalla Shire Council would like to thank you for your great and continued support.

**Venue** – Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens

**Time** – 10.00am

**Date** – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July

**RSVP** – No later than Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July to Bernadette Davis  
02 44741037

The Gardens will supply you a plant for your own garden to plant on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July, National Tree Day.

## CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY GRANTS

Caring for our Country has just issued a call for applications for Open Grants. These are for grants of \$80 000 to \$400 000 in size. Closing date for applications is **1 August 2008**.

For more details visit <http://www.nrm.gov.au/funding/open.html>

### **COASTAL CONFERENCE**

The 17<sup>th</sup> NSW Coastal Conference is to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> November in Wollongong. For more information please go to [www.costalconference.com](http://www.costalconference.com)

### **FIREWEED FIELD DAY, this Saturday!**

Eurobodalla Shire Council and the Eurobodalla Fireweed Advisory Committee invite you to the Fireweed Field Day this Saturday, 5 July at Small Hall in Central Tilba commencing at 10.15am.

Information regarding control of this troublesome and persistent weed will be presented by Hayden Kingston, District Agronomist– Bega Department of Primary Industries and Dr Bill Johnston, Agronomist– Research Scientist. Following the presentations we will move to a field site at Central Tilba to look at results from recent herbicide trials. Early results of this trial will be discussed as well as future trials planned that will determine and demonstrate the most effective methods for control of fireweed.

The day forms part of a project developed in partnership with the Eurobodalla Shire Council, Southern Rivers Catchment Authority, Bega Valley Shire Council and the Department of Primary Industry with support from Meat and Livestock Australia. The project is about assisting landholders in the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley with practical tools to help manage this weed.

For further information contact Graham Harding, Council's Senior Noxious Weeds Officer on 4474 1269.

### **GRANDFATHERS GULLY**



Emma Mungaloa and Heidi Thomson pictured with David Thompson of Lilli Pilli Malua Bay Landcare Group at the newly erected interpretive sign above the steps on the southern side of Grandfathers Gully, Lilli Pilli. This marks the completion of work for the Lilli Pilli/Malua Bay Landcare Group, under their Envirofund Round 8 grant.

At their June working bee Group members considered they had had an easy morning as the area was almost completely weed free!

### EXECUTIVE MEETING

The next ELMC Executive meeting will be on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August at 12.30pm in the Eurobodalla Shire Council Committee Room. If you would like to attend or add anything to the agenda please contact Peter Gow on 44741329.

### NAROOMA HIGH STUDENTS EXAMINE THE COAST

Year 11 Geography students from Narooma High recently had the opportunity to investigate coastal issues on an excursion around Wagonga inlet. At Bar Beach they learnt about taking vegetation transects, looking at the zonation of the native vegetation as you progress from the foreshore inland. The harsh conditions on the beach affect what type of vegetation is found there. Only hardier species will be found nearest the surf. Vegetation on the foredune then provides protection from wind, salt spray, wave action, and sand drift for other species growing in the hind dune areas.

The Freshwater wetland located behind Bar Beach was also a topic for study on the day. The students had the opportunity to do some water testing looking at turbidity, pH, temperature, and total dissolved solids. Peter Gow, Landcare Community Support Officer, explained to students how the Kianga/ Dalmeny Dunecare group had undertaken a range of environmental projects over the years caring for areas of the coast, including controlling weeds around this wetland.



Photo: Narooma High students Toby Brennan and Ryan Allan examining water samples from the freshwater wetland with Peter Gow, Landcare Community Support Officer.

## TUROSS LAKES PRESERVATION GROUP REPORT ON COMMON INDIAN MYNA BIRDS.

Tuross Lakes Landcare and other local residents are concerned about the number of Common Indian Myna birds prevalent in our area, including a flock of at least forty birds that have become established in the northern urban section of Tuross Head.

The Common Indian Myna has been declared amongst the 100 of the world's most invasive species by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) – and for good reason as this species has pushed native birds towards extinction in Polynesia, Hawaii and Mauritius.

The presence of numbers of these birds signals disaster for native bird species as the Myna's extremely aggressive behaviour chases out other species including small tree dwelling marsupials. Mynas love nesting in roofs of houses and the accumulated droppings and mites are a breeding ground for disease. Inhaled mites can cause asthma and hay fever and their bites cause itching and rashes.

We understand that many councils along the coast, from Caloundra in Queensland to Anglesea in Victoria, are looking at methods to control this pest. In Canberra a trial trapping program is currently being undertaken. The economic and environmental damage which can result from infestations of this species is of major concern. Our Group would like to hear from any other landcare group which is aware of infestations of this pest elsewhere in the shire and suggestions of how it can be controlled."

**Contact Maureen Baker on 44738800**

For more information on the Common Indian Myna please go to this web site.

<http://sres-associated.anu.edu.au/myna/problem.html>

You can also download this Indian Myna Bird handbook developed with funding from Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority and Australian Government Natural Heritage Trust

[http://www.indianmyna.org/documents/Indian\\_Myna\\_Handbook1.pdf](http://www.indianmyna.org/documents/Indian_Myna_Handbook1.pdf)