



EUROBODALLA LANDCARE NETWORK NEWSLETTER

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MAY / JUNE 2014

Coming Events

Talking Beef Workshop

Wednesday 21 May 2014

Moruya

Tuross Food forest Workshop

Sunday 3 August 2014

Tuross Community Garden

Building Soils For Better Crops and Pasture

– Sustainable Soil Management

Sunday 15 June 2014

Moruya

For further information contact:-

Peter Gow 4475 1001

'TALKING BEEF' WORKSHOP



South East Local Land Services, in partnership with Brian Cumming Agriculture Consultants, invites beef producers to attend a free beef information day at Moruya on Wednesday 21 May 2014.

Former NSW Department of Primary Industries beef cattle officer, Brian Cumming, will be the guest speaker. Brian has worked in the industry for over 30 years and will be sharing his wealth of knowledge and experience.

The information day will have a particular focus on maximizing profitability through targeted beef production. Topics will include:

- ✓ **cattle behaviour and handling, including yard design**
- ✓ **live animal assessment**
- ✓ **marketing beef**
- ✓ **bull selection**
- ✓ **crossbreeding systems**

Supported by South East Local Land Services
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Peter.gow@lls.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.southeastlandcare.org.au/eurobodalla/>

TALKING BEEF WORKSHOP

The afternoon will include a mixture of theory and hands-on learning. There will also be a Q&A session, so please come prepared with questions!

When	Wednesday, 21 May 2014
Time	1.30pm – 3.30pm
Where	Moruya (exact directions will be given upon registration)
Cost	Free
Catering	Afternoon tea provided
RSVP by 20 May 2014	For further information, or to RSVP please contact: Peter Gow on 4475 1001 or 0477 351 353 Email: peter.gow@lts.nsw.gov.au John O'Connor on 4464 6008 or 0412 359 084 Email: john.oconnor@lts.nsw.gov.au

MARINE DEBRIS

Autumn's big southerly swells have been bring with it a deadly reminder of what lurks beyond the waves on our southern ocean.

It's time to get out and walk your local beach and check what has landed at the high tide mark.

Marine debris poses a vast and growing threat to our marine and coastal environment.

Around 70% of marine debris ends up on the sea bed with the rest floating on the water surface and washing up on our beaches.

This is your chance to take it out of the marine environment.



Marine Debris

Why not take the kids, wearing gloves, on a marine debris treasure hunt after school? It's easy, just scour the high tide area of your local beach and you will find a variety of plastics.

Plastics don't biodegrade, but over many years in the sun and elements they break down into smaller and smaller pieces until they're so small they're hard to see. These are just as important to pick up as a 'jelly fish' imitating plastic bag.

Send a photo of what you collect and where you collected it to bernadette.davis@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au

Bernadette Davis
Environment Education Officer
Natural Resource Team
Eurobodalla Shire Council

Tuross Food Forest workshop

Sunday 3 August 2014

We are all familiar with the concept of forests. Now imagine if everything in that forest was edible!

'Food Forest' is a term used in permaculture design to describe a forest garden system that has edible and useful plants at every level, from below ground tubers to ground covers through shrubs, vines, sub canopy and overstorey plants. Food Forests are places of incredible diversity, with an abundance of food all year round.

In August, Costa Georgiadis from Gardening Australia will be co-hosting a Food Forest workshop with biodynamic teacher Walther Kohler-Bond and local permaculture trainer John Champagne at the Tuross Community Garden.

South East Local Land Services Project Officer, Peter Gow said the workshop will be a great opportunity to learn aspects of permaculture design and implementation at a practical level.

"Attendees will be able to then create their own Food Forest at home or become part of the Tuross Community Garden and help to create a Food Forest on site using tropical, subtropical and temperate plant varieties selected to suit the south coast region," Mr Peter Gow said.

"Activities on the day will include presentations on the benefits of a Food Forest and future food security; ecology of Food Forests; design and construction and purpose of swales; the variety of plants for sun/wind/shade protection; and the use of weeds."

"The development of the Food Forest at the community garden will also provide ongoing learning opportunities through maintenance practices, such as disease control and pruning."

The workshop is on 3 August from 8.30 am to 5 pm at the Tuross Community Garden.

Cost is \$30 per person, which will include lunch. Secure your place early by contacting Peter Gow, Land Services Officer on 02 4475 1001.

This workshop is supported by South East Local Land Services and Catchment Action NSW.

Building Soils For Better Crops and Pasture – Sustainable Soil Management with Bruce Davison

Sunday, 15 June 2014 | 8:30am – 5pm

Moruya CWA Hall and SAGE Garden, 110 Queen St, Moruya

Understanding your soil is critical to growing highly nutritious and healthy food, and ensures the long-term viability of your grazing, growing, farm business and backyard garden. Good soil can function consistently as a vital living system, maintaining the key elements that promote grass and plant health in turn benefiting the health of your livestock, customers and family.

Bruce Davison's one-day workshop delivers fundamental information and great practical approaches to help you build your soil for better crops.

You will learn:

- How to identify and correct your soil chemistry to grow quality food and pasture that is less susceptible to disease.
- The significance of soil chemistry, soil microbiology and soil physics.
- How the composition of soil contributes to plant nutrition.
- What a nitrogen cycle is and how it functions.
- The importance of nutrient cycling.
- Understanding the connection between plant and soil nutrition.
- How to incorporate best management practice.
- How to interpret a soil analysis and manage soil pH.

Who should attend?

Anyone who is serious about growing quality plants – for both people and animals to enjoy! It's highly relevant to market gardeners, graziers, farmers, crop growers and backyard gardeners, large or small scale.

Cost

\$50 per person, which includes;

- Folder with worksheets
- 294pg book (valued at \$25)
- Morning and afternoon tea
- Light lunch

Bring

Gloves, pen and paper and a mug for your cuppa.

RSVP

Sandra – 0439 032 038 or education@sageproject.org.au by 1 June 2014

About the Presenter

Bruce Davison and his wife Heidi operate Candelo Salers which is a 'Beef Only' grazing property located in the Bega Valley. He has 18 years horticulture experience, including product marketing and managing co-operative growing and marketing, along with 11 years managing grazing cattle and meat goats.

Bruce has an Advanced Diploma of Agribusiness Management and conducted 12 years research into the nature and properties of soil and plant nutrition.

Bruce sees himself as enquiring farmer. His curiosity has led him to be one of the few farmers who managed the recent drought with cattle in good health. He has achieved the following honours and awards:

- 2009 runner up Carbon Cocky of the year
- 2010 FSCLA Golden Wombat
- 2011 Catchment Champion far south coast NSW
- 2012 Green Agriculture Innovation Award (GAIA)

* Please note: This workshop is usually valued at \$125/person plus an additional \$25 for the book. SAGE, along with the support of South East Local Land Services, is offering this workshop at this very special discount.

LANDCARE GROUP ARTICLES WANTED

We are always after items on the activities of Eurobodalla Landcare groups.

Share your group's success stories.

Email your articles to Peter.Gow@lls.nsw.gov.au