



EUROBODALLA LANDCARE & CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

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Coming Events - Pages 4 - 6

Landcare Stall and Plantswap, Broulee Primary
Evening Fete – Thurs, 15th March (PG)

Tuross Events

Sunday, 11th March, 8.30 am,

North Of One Tree Point

Sunday, 15th April, 9.00 am Mc William Park,

Sunday, 25th March, 8.30 am – Kyla Park

Moruya Markets Plant Swap (CF & TD)

9am - 2.30pm, Saturday 17th March.

Landcare and Weeds Stall at Snowy Hydro Day
(PG & PM))

10 – 2pm Sat, 24th March, Moruya Markets

Congo Bushcare Training (PG)

2pm Saturday, 24th March

South East Harvest 16,17, 18 March

Moruya (PG)

Landcare Stall, Seniors Week Expo

Botanic Gardens – Wed, 21 March (PG)

For further information contact:-

PG - Peter Gow 4474 1329

EP - Emma Patyus 4474 7300

TD - Tom Dexter 4474 7491

PM – Paul Martin 44741269

CF – Courtney Fink 4474 7442

March / April 2012

Save Paper / Save the Trees

This will be the last edition of the newsletter to be posted out to individuals.

Future newsletters will be available on line

www.esc.nsw.gov.au/environment/eurobodalla-landcare

If Landcare group contacts require a hard copy of the Newsletter to circulate please contact Peter Gow.

Long Beach Plant Swap

The Long Beach Plant Swap conducted recently at Sandy Place, Long Beach was well attended by local residents.

Landholders had the opportunity to swap environmental weeds from their gardens for native plants. The Plant Swap was conducted by Eurobodalla Shire Council and Long Beach Landcare to raise awareness in the community of the problems created by environmental weeds such as loss of plant biodiversity and habitat for native birds and animals.

Participants brought in samples of their weeds for identification and were supplied with handy booklets such as “Weeds of the NSW South Coast” for future reference.

P O Box 99 MORUYA NSW 2537

Phone 02 4474 1329 Fax 02 4474 1234

www.esc.nsw.gov.au/environment/eurobodalla-landcare

Email peter.gow@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au

Long Beach Landcare has been working hard for several years undertaking extensive weed control throughout the reserves of Long Beach. Community members had the opportunity to be shown the Landcare sites at Sandy Pl Foreshore Reserve and Reed Swamp Lagoon by local Landcare Coordinator, Alison Baird.



Taking the Weeds away – Peter Gow, Alison Baird, Emma Patyus and Barry Hart

SAGE PRODUCE GOES TO THOSE IN NEED

The SAGE Moruya Community Garden has begun distributing excess produce to those in need in the community. SAGE stands for “Sustainable Agriculture and Gardening Eurobodalla”



SAGE Community Garden site, Moruya

One of the three goals in the SAGE Produce Distribution Policy states that ‘excess

produce (should be made) available free to those in need in our community’.

This process had a happy beginning before Christmas, when vegetables were provided to the Moruya Women and Childrens’ Service refuge. The refuge had a full house in December. Residents are expected to provide their own food, but have very little money. The refuge coordinators said that fresh vegetables and fruit are extremely good for people who are under a lot of stress. So far the refuge has been supplied with silverbeet, green beans, rocket, zucchini, carrots, cucumbers, fruit and eggs on a regular basis, twice or three times a week. The residents and staff are very pleased with these contributions.

Any SAGE members who would like to contribute excess produce from their home gardens should contact Caroline Power - phone 4474 0498 or email

sagesec@gmail.com

A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR THE WALLAGA LAKE POTOROOS

The beginning of 2012 marks the half-way point of Eurobodalla Shire Council’s Project ‘Planting for Potoroos’. The project has had great success in 2011 with fox numbers at an all-time low since foxes arrived in the area many years ago.

The project implements a number of objectives;-

The first of these is to improve habitat by controlling weeds. The main weed that threatens Potoroo habitat is Lantana. There have been a number of weed contractors accessing some very difficult terrain to control the spread of Lantana into prime habitat. These have been on the mountain ‘Little Dromedary’ and adjacent areas. The second is to control foxes with landholder assistance. There have been fifteen

properties involved in fox control which cover the entire area surrounding known Potoroo populations. Foxes are the main threat to Potoroo's and many other small marsupials.

The third is to provide wildlife corridors across the landscape. This aids the movement of Potoroos through agricultural land and the transition between the two known Potoroo populations.

The last objective is to monitor both foxes and potoroos by using Infra-red cameras and sand plots.

A truffle oil bait is used to lure Potoroos into the motion activated cameras range. The images are then collected and analysed. Foxes are also caught on camera; however they are now not turning up on any cameras according to Olivia Forge from Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority. 'This is a very positive sign for Potoroos in the Wallaga lake area' Eurobodalla Shire Councils Environment Project Officer, Tom Dexter, said. He went on to say that 'landholder support has been invaluable in the survival of the Potoroos.'

It is anticipated that 2012 will be another highly successful year. With continued fox control, weed control, monitoring and corridor work.

North Head Signage

Peter Gow and Emma Patyus recently dug a couple of holes to accommodate the newest resident at North Head Camp Ground.... A sign highlighting the beautiful native vegetation in the area.

The sign is the final component of the long running Moruya Estuary Project that has seen masses of on ground weed removal works, vehicle and car park consolidation and erection of interpretive signage along the Moruya estuary. The original project

began in 2008 and has seen the majority of work conducted at Glenduart, North Head Campground and Silos, Ryan's Creek and Yaragee Reserves.

The sign was an immediate hit with visiting campers who had been on a recent walk through the nearby Bengello reserve and had loved the signs already erected through there.



Emma Patyus with camper, Bob Vines, who read the sign seconds after it was erected and had some impromptu native plant identification on the spot.

Landcare Action Planning Day

Representatives from 8 local Landcare groups were run through an Action Planning exercise with Landcare Community Support Officer, Peter Gow and Environment Project Officer, Emma Patyus recently.



Paul Martin demonstrating new powered hose winding equipment on the Landcare Action Planning Day at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens

Coastcare Youth caring for Shelly Beach

Shelly Beach at Moruya Heads has a new group working to care for the natural biodiversity of the area. This site is under threat from exotic weeds changing the look of the site by displacing the native plant species.

Participants from the Campbell - Page Moruya Youth Centre undertook Bushcare training last Thursday evening with Landcare Community Support Officer, Peter Gow, learning to identify Native Plants, exotic weeds and to learn weed control techniques.

A Vegetation transect was undertaken as a way of learning how the plant species change as we move inland from the beach front. The typical native plant succession was identified at the site. Nearest the ocean we found, Beach Spinifex, then Coastal Wattle, Sea Berry Saltbush, Coastal Beard Heath, and Coastal Banksia. Further inland we found Bangalay Gum and Spotted Gum trees. All of these species are needed as habitat and feed sources for native birds and animals.

However, exotic weeds were found to be invading this ecosystem. The main weeds found on the day were Fleabane, Farmers Friends, Arrowhead Vine, Bitou Bush, African Olive, and Asparagus Fern.

Mr Gow said "The keen new youth group consisting of Courtney Carr, Damien McDonald, Estelle McDonald, Craig Murray, Alinta Spackman - Parsons and supervisors, Raschelle Sherwood and Stephen Smith focussed on removing Fleabane to prevent it seeding and further invading the area. This will stop another year's worth of Fleabane seed from spreading around Shelly Beach"

The group will meet fortnightly to continue the work at Shelly Beach and welcome new volunteers. Contact Peter Gow on 4474 1329 to become involved in this important project to care for the environment of Shelly Beach



Removing Shelly Beach weeds: Damien McDonald, Peter Gow, Estelle McDonald, Raschelle Sherwood, Craig Murray, Stephen Smith, and Alinta Spackman - Parsons

COMING EVENTS:

TUROSS HEAD ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, 11th MARCH, 8.30 am, NORTH of ONE TREE POINT::

- WORKING BEE - weeding on dunal foreshore - polygala, honeysuckle, blackberry, Sth African daisy, asparagus fern, and also repairing fences along beach access track opposite shops if enough troops are available.
- SWAP A WEED FOR A PLANT STALL - will be held near working bee area beside cycle/walk.

SUNDAY, 25th MARCH, 8.30 am – KYLA PARK grazing land, TUROSS lake side. Meet at gate on Hector McWilliam Drive. *Activities:* Checking fencing around planted areas, mapping blackberry areas, checking previous plantings, removing tree guards, oiling fence padlocks, deciding on future plantings.

SUNDAY, 15th APRIL, McWILLIAM PARK, 9.00 am – meet next to Tuross Blvde, opposite_shops. *Activities:* Weeding along watercourse – morning glory, Sth. African daisy, asparagus fern, cape ivy and mopping up remaining bitou bush; fencing if needed.

For further information contact Maureen Baker on 44 73 8800

LANDCARE STALL AND PLANTSWAP AT BROULEE

Broulee Primary School Evening Fete

3 – 7pm, Thurs, 15th March

Come along and support Landcare and the Broulee Primary School. Contact Peter Gow for details.

SOUTH EAST HARVEST FESTIVAL 16,17, 18 MARCH – MORUYA

For full details visit the website at <http://southeastharvest.com.au/>

Program:
**Friday 16th
March**

Granite N Grub

Picnic & film night

6.00pm - Main Event Marquee

Gold coin donation

Saturday 17th March

Celebrities Jackie French, Julie Goodwin (Masterchef Winner) and Costa (from Coasta's Garden Oddesy recently on SBS) will all be making appearances during the day.

HARVEST Festival

share ~ connect ~ educate

9.00am - 3.00pm

Riverside Park

\$5 per person 16 yrs+

\$10 per family

(2 adults 2 kids 16 yrs+)

Kids under 16 FREE

Entry includes access to full Marquee program

SAGE Riverfeast (sold out)

Mediæval Banquet

7.30pm - Main Event Marquee

\$60 per person

Max 4 tickets per person

Sunday 18th March

The SAGE Project

Garden blitz for SAGE, Landcare and LIVE Life volunteers

10.00am - 1.00pm

SAGE Site, Queen Street

MORUYA PLANT SWAP AT THE SOUTHEAST HARVEST REGIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL, ON SATURDAY THE 17TH OF MARCH

Bring environmental weeds from your garden to the Eurobodalla Shire Council stall at the Southeast Harvest Regional Food Festival, on Saturday the 17th of March. You will be given up to 5 free native plants in exchange (depending on the volume of weeds surrendered). The plant swap will run between the hours of **9am and 2.30pm** on **Saturday 17th of March**. For further information on environmental weeds check Councils website at <http://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/site/Weeds/index.asp> or call Courtney Fink-Downes on 4474 7493

LANDCARE STALL AT SENIORS WEEK EXPO

Botanic Gardens 10 – 1.00, Wed, 21 March
Contact Peter Gow On 4474 1329

LANDCARE STALL AT SNOWY HYDRO DAY

10 – 2pm Sat, 24th March, Moruya Markets
Contact Peter Gow On 4474 1329

CONGO BUSHCARE TRAINING

2pm Saturday, 24th March

Contact Peter Gow On 4474 1329

JAMBEROO

CARBON/FUTURE FARMING FORUM / FIELD DAY

Day 1: 26th March - Dinner and Speakers:

What time? 6:30pm to 9:30pm

- *Greenhouse gas emissions and the Carbon Farming Initiative* - **Richard Eckard**, Associate Professor & Director, Primary Industries Climate Challenges Centre at University of Melbourne (<http://www.piccc.org.au/>).
- *Proactive Farming in a low carbon economy* - **Mick Keogh**, Executive Director of the Australian Farm Institute (<http://www.farminstitute.org.au/>).
- *Harnessing the power of poo* - **Stephen Wiedemann**, Agricultural Scientist with FSA Consulting (http://www.fsaconsulting.net/staff/staff_info.asp?id=55).
- *Carbon markets - the ins and outs* - **Louisa Kiely**, Carbon Farmers of Australia (<http://www.carboncoalition.com.au/CarbonFarmers/index.html>)
- *Making the science deliver for your farm business* - **Dr Neil Moss**, SBScibus (<http://www.sbscibus.com.au/index.html>)

Where? Jamberoo School of the Arts, 30 Allowrie St, Jamberoo NSW

How much does it cost? - \$10 contribution to dinner and refreshments (pay at door)

Day 2: 27th March - Field day presentations & Lemon Grove farm visit

What time? 10:00am to 2:30pm

- Join Dr Neil Moss on a farm walk where he will share pasture trial results that = [increase pasture protein and energy, lift milk production by up to two litres a day and use less fertiliser.

<http://www.cloverhilldairies.com.au/lemongrove.html>

- Associate Professor Richard Eckard will tell you "10 things you can do today on your farm to reduce your carbon footprint and put money in your pocket in the process".
- Stephen Wiedemann – Harnessing the Power of Poo on Farm. Steve Wiedemann is a carbon and nutrient management specialist currently running a number of national R&D projects looking at the carbon footprint of livestock enterprises. He works regularly with a wide range of farmers in the area of nutrient management.

2:30 pm - Clover Hill Farm walk, Clover Hill Rd Jamberoo NSW

Where? Lemon Grove Research Farm Factory Lane Jamberoo NSW

How much does it cost? Nothing - Morning tea and lunch provided

Please RSVP to (02) 4429 4444 or peter.pigott@cma.nsw.gov.au and indicate whether you would like to attend one or both days of the forum/field day event. RSVP essential for catering.

SEPARATE WORKSHOP - Monday 26th March

Carbon Farmers of Australia will be running their **Introduction to Carbon Farming and Trading workshop** that will help equip farmers for the Carbon Farming Initiative.

Where? Jamberoo School of the Arts, 30 Allowrie St, Jamberoo NSW

What time? 8:30am to 5:15pm

How much does it cost? \$400 incl. GST (FarmReady approved)

To register: Call 02 6374 0329 or email Louisa@carbonfarmersofaustralia.com.au