

## Lilli Pilli / Malua Bay Landcare Group

Lilli Pilli is situated approximately 10 kilometres south of Batemans Bay and Malua Bay is situated a further 2 kilometres south of Lilli Pilli. The group formed in 1998 and now consists of approximately 30 working or supportive members. After a number of initial workshops members agreed that the worst problem in the area was invasive weeds. Therefore the group has been focused on the control of weeds throughout reserves, located on the headlands, riparian zones and tertiary dune vegetation.



### How has the problem been tackled?

With the help of Landcare members and a grant from Coastcare, the group developed and published a brochure, *Is Your Garden Going Bush?* This was distributed with the Eurobodalla Shire rates notices as well as to local bookshops, nurseries, real estate agents and left in letterboxes where appropriate. The brochure highlights the garden plants, which are escaping into bushland and competing with native bushland plant species. Some of the most problematic species have been identified as: Mile-a-Minute *Ipomoea cairica*, Asparagus Fern *Protasparagus aethiopicus*, Honeysuckle *Lonicera japonica*, Cassia/Senna *Senna pendula*, and English Ivy *Hedera helix*.

As part of the ongoing need to educate the community about the problem, weed displays have also been held at local shopping centres.

Under the Coastcare grant, a Bush Regenerator has been employed and is in the process of mapping out the weeds of the area. This mapping highlights weeds to be eradicated and will assist in the development of a Plan of Management for the future. The Bush Regenerator has been working with the group teaching the members the necessary skills to save native plants whilst dealing with the weeds. Working parties from Greencorps, Volunteers Abroad and a Koori Training Group, have also given help to the group.

The group holds working bee days on the third Saturday of each month, alternating between sites at Lilli Pilli and Malua Bay. Funding from Eurobodalla Landcare has allowed the purchase of tools and native plants.

Liaisons with the Eurobodalla Landcare Coordinator as well as the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens (ERBG) is important. Members have helped propagate native plants at the ERBG for usage in rehabilitation sites. A photographic record of work done by the group is being maintained while the group coordinator keeps a diary of activities.

The weed maintenance and bush regeneration will be ongoing. It is important to do continual follow up work creating minimal soil disturbance whilst working from areas with native plants towards weed infested areas, as it is easy for the weeds to become re-established.

### **Further Information.**

If you would like more information on the Lilli Pilli/Malua Bay Landcare Group please contact Peter Gow Eurobodalla Landcare Coordinator on: 4474 1329.

### **References**

Buchanan.R.A 1996. Bush Regeneration, Recovering Australian Landscapes. National Library of Australia Cataloguing in Publication Data.

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