



MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS



Noosa & District Landcare 2017 Workshop Series



The Noosa Landcare 2017 Workshop Series looks to be packed with informative, stimulating and fun topics. Entry is free for Noosa Landcare Members and Bushland Carers; general entry is \$10. [View the full Calendar here.](#) RSVPs are essential, so book your spots early!

To kick off the Series, our first workshop is on Thursday 16 February, 5-7pm:
Developing On-farm Natural and Artificial Wetlands. [Click here for the flyer.](#)
We look forward to seeing you there.

Find us on  

For our Available Species List click on photo (*Cordyline rubra*)



Left: *Cyclopsitta coxeni* (Coxen's Fig Parrot); Right: *Glossopsitta pusilla* (Little Lorikeet)

Welcome to our February - March 2017 E-news
Happy New Year to all and welcome to new readers

Coxen's Fig Parrot versus Little Lorikeet

by Rae O'Flynn, Project Officer

I wish to share some information that may interest some of our readers regarding the identification of the Coxen's Fig Parrot, *Cyclopsitta coxeni*.

Most of us know that the Coxen's Fig Parrot is endangered. Noosa & District Landcare has recently received funding for monitoring equipment to be placed strategically in the Upper Pinbarren region, in the hope of collecting data that will confirm the presence of a population of this bird. ([Click here and scroll down the linked page](#) for our earlier article regarding the funding from the June Canavan Foundation.)

There may, however, be some instances of mistaken identity!

There is another small green bird called the Little Lorikeet, *Glossopsitta pusilla*, which has a wide distribution on the Australian east coast, including South East Queensland. It is difficult to see in the tree canopy, as it is fast, has a bright green back, yellowish belly and a short stumpy tail! Sound familiar?! There are a few differences between these two birds though. The main one is the distinctive blue patch on the forehead of the Coxen's Fig Parrot, larger on the male than the female. However, this can be difficult to define as it speeds past. In flight, the Coxen's Fig Parrot will appear dumpier than the Little Lorikeet; the latter appears finer and more streamlined, with the slightly longer lorikeet tail. The Coxen's flight pattern is more direct, while the Little Lorikeet tends to dart and dodge through the canopy.

As frustrating as this is, I do not want anyone to give up hope of finding the Coxen's Fig Parrot! We have a team of people looking for this little guy. It is hoped that, over the next two years, I can write with elation that we have evidence that it is here.

[Click here](#) for a comparison table that may help to identify the differences.

References

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedSpeciesApp/profile.aspx?id=20111>

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/9170039a-db76-4835-b541-5c08bb4a9775/files/cyclopsitta-diophthalma-coxeni.pdf>

With thanks to our partners:





Landholder
Environment
Grants

What's on in February and March?

At Noosa Landcare:

Thu 16 February, 5-7pm: Workshop 'Developing On-farm Natural and Artificial Wetlands'. [Click here for the flyer.](#)

Sat 25 February, 8-11am: Kin Kin Community Planting. All welcome! [Click here for the flyer.](#)

Sat 11 March, 8-12noon: Cats Claw Creeper Information Field Day. Details to be confirmed - just keep an eye on our [Facebook page!](#)

Thu 16 March, 5-7pm: Workshop 'Local Projects: What Are Local Landholders doing?'. Flyer will be sent to Noosa Landcare Members in early March. For non-members, keep an eye on our [Facebook page.](#)

And beyond:

2 February: [World Wetlands Day](#)

3 February: [Schools Clean Up Day](#)

5 February: [Clean Up Australia Day](#)

11 February: [Rainforest Plants: Interactive ID Key & App Workshop](#) with Gwen Harden and Bill McDonald

5-11 March: [National Groundwater Awareness Week](#)

23-24 March: [Rainforests of Subtropical Australia: A Symposium of Science and Practice](#), with Keynote Speaker Professor Ian Lowe. Early bird bookings by 15/2/17.

25 March: [Earth Hour](#)

Are you a landholder in the Sunshine Coast Council area?

Then you could be eligible for a landholder incentive!

Expressions of interest (EoI) for the **Sunshine Coast Council Landholder Environment Grants** opened on Monday 9 January. EoI close on 20 February, applications close on 10 April.

Funding is available for up to \$5,000 (with matching co-contribution in cash or kind), \$5-10,000 (matching contribution at least 25% in cash), \$10,000-15,000 (matching contribution at least 50% in cash) for projects that protect and enhance the environment, for example fencing to exclude stock from significant areas, modifying fencing to make it more wildlife friendly, weed control, reducing erosion, etc.

For full details about this funding, visit [Sunshine Coast Council here.](#)

If you need an estimate for works to accompany your application, please don't hesitate to contact Paul Sprecher at Noosa Landcare on 5485 2155 or email projects2@noosalandcare.org.



Would you like to become a Noosa Landcare Member? Or donate to our Public Fund?

Noosa Landcare offers several levels of Membership - [click here for details](#).

Basic membership is \$35 per year. What does this offer you?

- 10% discount on plant purchases
- Free newsletters (bimonthly E-news; biannual Members' newsletter)
- Free entry to our monthly workshops ([click here for the calendar](#))
- Free hat and work gloves when you join up
- Many opportunities to learn more about and get involved with local environmental topics and activities.

Or you might like to consider a donation to our Public Fund? The Public Fund is used for Noosa Landcare to provide:

- Public education and awareness activities to address environmental and climate change impacts
- Trees to protected areas for ecosystem resilience and increased biodiversity, carbon and environmental offsets, erosion control and wildlife corridors.

We work hard to ensure your donation goes a long way in the Sunshine Coast region. We are able to receive donations and bequests of cash and property to the Fund. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

The sounds of the night...

by Phil Moran

One of the things I remember from my long ago youth was the eerie, mournful sounds heard at night with my one friend around Brookfield in Brisbane. Evening mist through the moonlight at Moons Lane! I never saw the perpetrator, but my mate told me it was a bird ... a Bush thick-knee or Stone curlew or Bush Stone-curlew (*Burhinus grallarius*).

A while ago I visited North Keppel Island to see the good work being done at the North Keppel Island Environmental Education Centre, operated by the Department of Education and Training and situated off the Capricorn Coast via Yeppoon in Central Queensland. The Fitzroy River and Coastal Catchments group hosted this trip as part of a Twinning arrangement through the International Rivers Foundation.

The Centre is used to educate school students and as a base for university studies. The Centre is pretty well self-sufficient, with all power generated on site via solar panels and battery storage. Water is collected in tanks and food waste is composted on site.

Apart from the great work being done on the Island, I got to see Bush Curlews just wandering around the place.

To become a Member or to make a donation, please [click here](#).

If you have any queries, please call us on (07) 5485 2468. Thank you for your interest and support!

Photo: Education at work - Noosa Landcare's Rae O'Flynn at Cooran State School.

Native Plant of the Month

Acacia melanoxylon

(Pron: Ah-KAY-shah mel-ah-NOKS-ah-lon)

Blackwood

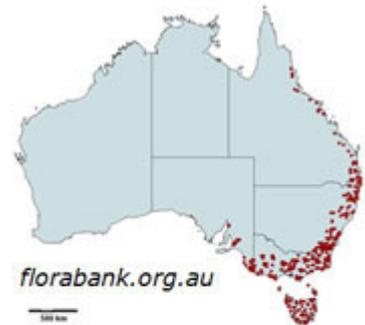
This medium-sized tree to 20m is naturally widespread in eastern Australia, from the Adelaide region in South Australia through to Far North Qld. In Tasmania it can grow up to 40m! Hardy, fast-growing, long-lived, it suits a wide range of soil types, but prefers sun.

The '**leaves**' are not true leaves but flattened leaf **stalks** up to 16cm long and 3cm wide, that function like regular leaves. White/cream to pale yellow **flowers** appear in the warmer months, arranged in dense, small, rounded clusters, each up to 10mm across. The **fruit** are irregularly coiled, tangled pods up to 15mm long and 8mm wide, which turn from green and leathery when young, to reddish-brown and more woody as they mature. Each pod contains several seeds.

Uses are many! Excellent cabinet timber for strength and beauty; firewood; Indigenous people made a bark infusion to relieve rheumatism, used the fibre for fishing lines, timber for spear throwers, boomerangs etc, used the gum as food and cement, and ate the highly-nutritious seed.

Great shade or screen tree.

We currently have ***Acacia melanoxylon*** in stock in our Nursery. [Click here](#) for our current Available Species List and nursery opening hours.



Weed of the Month

Cardiospermum grandiflorum

Balloon Vine

Native to tropical America, this fast-growing climber smothers and kills native trees and shrubs and is a Qld **Class 3** pest plant. This means it is a significant environmental weed (see photo)! It grows in coastal regions of eastern Australia in riparian areas, forest margins, disturbed sites, gardens, roadsides and waste areas.

It has hairy, ribbed **stems** and **leaflets** with toothed margins arranged in three groups of three with hairy undersides.

Small, white **flowers** with four petals appear in clusters in Spring and Summer. The **fruit** are balloon-like, inflated, papery capsules up to 6.5cm long and 4.5cm wide with pointed tips. They start as a green colour, turning straw-coloured then darker as they age. Each capsule contains a single, hard seed which is **dispersed** mostly by wind and water, but also via garden waste.

Control: for manual, chemical and biological control methods, [visit here](#).



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