



MEMBERSHIP
AND DONATIONS



Noosa & District Landcare 2017 Workshop Series



Monthly Series:

19 October, 5-7pm: **Threatened Species** with Dr Ian Gynther. [Click here](#) for the flyer.

16 November, 5-7pm: **Bringing Native Plants Into Your Life** with Eugene Bargo. Flyer to come! Just keep an eye on our [Facebook page](#). The flyer will be emailed to Members by early November.

Noosa Landcare workshops are free for Members and Bushland Care volunteers; \$10 for other attendees.

See '**Coming up in October and November**' below for local events.

Find us on  

For our Available Species List click on
the photo (Hibiscus splendens)



Welcome to our October - November 2017 E-news

North Queensland research trip a major success!

by Ilana Kelly, Projects Assistant

In early 2017, Noosa Landcare ran a very successful crowdfunding campaign to gather funds to further the research and survey efforts for the critically endangered Coxen's Fig Parrot. Part of the funds raised was to enable a research trip to North Queensland to record the calls of the closest relative of the parrot, to enable the development of auto-recognition digital software which will allow us to analyse bioacoustic call recordings. Ilana Kelly from Noosa Landcare accompanied researchers on the trip and shares with us the following report ...

Last week I embarked on a research expedition to North Queensland to assist the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's (EHP) Senior Conservation Officer Dr Ian Gynther, biologist Ted Pedersen and Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary's Allison Beutel to record the call repertoire and behaviours of the Macleay's fig parrot, the sister species of the Coxen's fig parrot.

Undertaking this trip was an integral component of Noosa Landcare's and EHP's recovery plan for the critically-endangered Coxen's fig parrot. The data collected will be used to create an automative call recognition software program, which will help analyse the acoustic data Noosa Landcare has been collecting over the past seven months in the Noosa Hinterland and that collected by EHP across various sites in Northern New South Wales and South East Queensland.

I am happy to report that the trip was a major success!

The fieldwork undertaken, which recorded the parrots in their in situ environment, allowed us to obtain unique call sequences that had not been previously recorded within captive populations. Additionally, with the Macleay's fig parrot just starting to go into breeding season, the team was lucky enough to observe the parrots creating their nesting hollows and record the novel interactions between breeding pairs. Exciting stuff!

I, Noosa Landcare and EHP would like to thank all our members and the wider community who helped to fund this incredibly important trip. Your generosity has created great momentum in the awareness and on-ground works being undertaken for this critically-endangered parrot. This is a major step forward for the Coxen's fig parrot!

Can you spot the Macleay's fig parrot in the photo above?

With thanks to our partners:





Coming up in October and November

With Noosa Landcare:

5-7pm, 19 October: *Threatened Species* workshop with Dr Ian Gynther, Senior Conservation Officer with the Department of Environment and Heritage. [View flyer here.](#)

25 October: *Frog habitat creation and Cooroy Creek frog identification workshop* at Cooroy Library with Eva Ford of the Mary River Catchment Co-ordinating Committee. Great for school groups as well as the public! [View flyer here.](#)

5-7pm, 16 November: *Bringing Native Plants Into Your Life* workshop with Eugene Bargo, Aboriginal Elder. Flyer to come! Keep an eye on our [Facebook page](#) for details.

And beyond:

6-8 October: *Advanced Livestock Movement & Management Course & Working Dog School*, Glastonbury via Gympie. [Click here](#) for details.

10-11 October: *Learning from Nature* - improving the profitability of horticultural enterprises, Kin Kin. [Click here](#) for details.

21 October: *Breakfast with the Birds* with Steve Parish and Dr Ian Gynther, Pinbarren. Only 10 spaces available! [View flyer here.](#)

11 November: *Mary River Festival*, Kandanga. [Click here](#) for details.



Tree Place Community Exhibition Wan'din'in Art Space

by Anne Harris, Artist and Noosa Landcare member

10-3pm daily
16 November 2017 to 10 January 2018
Wan'din'in Art Space *

A massive *Eucalyptus tereticornis* fell on a road. Part of it has been saved from woodchipping and is being used as inspiration for workshops, collaborations and exhibitions. It is bringing community of all ages and interests together over a common passion, sharing knowledge, culture, history and connecting. It is celebrating the resilience of nature and people, and the sense of well-being that comes from our relationship with trees.

Included in this exhibition are spoon carvers of all levels, including Jeff Frazer, Gary Field and Carol Russel, and a collection from up-and-coming carvers from Noosa Pengari Steiner School. Added to this will be Tree Stories and Mythology from two local ceramicists Jane Welsh and Bec Lindenman and wearable art from Julie Gardner. Images from Dallas Sutherland and Viki Murray, Bunya Inspired Forms from Gubbi Gubbi (Kabbi Kabbi) artist Bianca Beetson. Intricately woven tree treasures from Jude Swaney and a collection of artwork created by the wider community at workshops held around the Sunshine Coast. One of the other treasures on show will be a local 200-million-year-old Pentaxylon fossilised tree.

The beauty of this work is the diversity and stories that keep evolving as Tree Place grows, the collaborations of people and the networks of community that are spreading. The workshops have been a way to give people creative tools to

18 November: Soil Health and Compost workshop, Kandanga. [Click here](#) for details.

Photo: Alan Rush, Glossy Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*)



inspire them to learn more about plants, seasons, habitats and notice what is happening around them. www.treeplace.com.au

* *Wan'din'in Art Space* is at the rear of the *Eumundi Heritage & Visitors Centre*, Corner of *Memorial Drive* and *Gridley Street*)



Making tracks

by Phil Moran, General Manager

As we walk in our bush, we are often not aware of what is all around us. This could be the Brown snake you just walked past, the koala in the tree above you, or the fox living in a den down near the dam. We can learn much from observing. Watching and listening are good tools also.

When feral animal control is your job, you need to employ a suite of skills to track what is going on in the bush. This is where identifying tracks come in. Each animal leaves tracks of some sort. They can be impossible to see in some conditions, and quite clear in other conditions. However the 'foot print' of each animal is quite distinct. Tom Garrett, the Weeds & Pest Animal Technical Officer from the Queensland Murray-Darling Committee, gave an interesting presentation on just this topic on 21st September as part of Noosa Landcare's workshop series. He has years of experience in feral animal control and shared his knowledge with us. As an example, the fox has a distinctive rear pad, which looks a bit like a boomerang, as the diagram below shows.

As Tom explained, it is often difficult to get a good look at a print. You can smooth the ground

Weed alert!

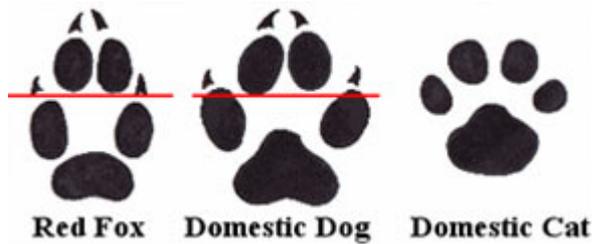
by Phil Moran

Water mimosa (*Neptunia oleracea*) has been found in Noosa shire. This aquatic plant is believed to originate from Asia, Africa and South America. It is commonly cultivated as a vegetable in South East Asia.

It was first recorded in Brisbane in 1979. Subsequent records include one in Logan and Acacia Ridge in 2006 and near Cairns also in 2006. Previously classed as a Class 1 Pest plant, under current Biosecurity legislation it is a 'Restricted Invasive Plant (category 2, 3, 4, 5). This means it is very bad!

It is a perennial aquatic, floating or prostrate herb found growing near the water's edge, and floating out onto the water body. Whilst it does set viable seeds, the most common method of reproduction is by vegetative means – from floating fragments. Stems as long as 1.5 metres are common, and the plant will detach from the primary root. It has many adventitious* roots, and forms a spongy stem in water. It has yellow ball-shaped flowers and a typical 'legume'-like bipinnate (having leaflets that divide into smaller leaflets) leaf.

out near a likely spot and observe first thing in the morning. You could also spread sand on a well-used track, and check in the morning. A good reference book is *Tracks, Scats and other Traces* by Barbara Triggs.



When this fails, call in the canine cavalry ... in this case Rocky, a Springer Spaniel. Rocky knows his stuff. He can detect foxes, cats and feral dogs purely by scent. Tom demonstrated Rocky's skill with an old towel that he had rubbed on a fox 12 months ago. The towel is wrapped in tape so Rocky does not wreck it. Tom asked one of the keen young people attending to hide the towel in the grounds of the Rural Futures Centre. Then another volunteer covered Rocky's eyes so he did not cheat! Then he was let go to 'find'. Within about a minute he had found the towel and was 'pointing' it out to Tom.

Dogs are great ... I love 'em. They also help with koala scat finding, palliative care, vision-impaired people, seizure dogs, bomb detection ... the list goes on. A great night, thank you Tom.

This plant poses an extreme threat to our waterways and wetlands. It can grow into dense rafts of interwoven stems, clogging waterways and outcompeting other native plants.

It is very important that we keep an eye out for this plant. As with many weed species, early detection is vital! You can help by watching out for it, particularly on farm dams. If sighted, this species must be reported immediately to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

* 'Adventitious' means able to sprout roots from parts of the plant that are not actual roots (eg a leaf or a stem), allowing the plant to propagate itself from several means.

Native Plant of the Month

Lophostemon suaveolens

(Family: Myrtaceae)

(Pron: Loff-OSS-te-mon con-FER-tus)

Swamp Box, Swamp Turpentine

This handsome small to medium coastal tree, 15-25 metres, grows naturally in moist sandy soils on the edge of swampland and along creek banks. It occurs in Papua New Guinea, south through Cape York Peninsula and down the eastern coast to north-eastern NSW.

Its **bark** is grey-brown and fibrous, with light tan flecks underneath. The dark, green **leaves** occur in whorls of 3 to 4 at the end of the branchlets. Creamy-white **flowers** 3-5mm long appear through Spring and Summer. The **fruit** are bell-shaped capsules 6-8mm long, with linear **seeds** up to 2mm long.

Uses: This timber of *Lophostemon suaveolens* is rot- and borer-resistant, and is used for piles and underground supports. It is an important species for a range of native animals. Among others Rainbow Lorikeets are attracted to the flowers, the leaves are koala food and attract caterpillars of the Ornate Dusk-flat, Coral Jewel and Fiery Jewel Butterflies.

We currently have *Lophostemon suaveolens* in stock.

[Click here](#) for our nursery opening hours and current Available Species List.



www.rbg Syd.nsw.gov.au



Weed of the Month

Ligustrum sinense

South African Pigeon Grass

This erect, densely-tufted and long-lived grass grows up to 2m tall and hails originally from tropical and southern Africa. It is regarded as an environmental weed in Qld, NSW and WA.

It has green to blueish-green, elongated, mostly hairless **leaves** up to 50cm long and 17mm wide.

Its spike-like, cylindrical **seed heads** grow up to 50cm long. The **flower** spikelets have golden yellow bristles. When the **seeds** shed from the seed head, these bristles are left behind.

This grass **reproduces** only by seed, and is **spread** either through

deliberate cultivation, fodder, or by wind, seed-eating birds or water.

Control: Hand removal or spot or foliar spray; bag and bin the seeds.

Native replacement species:

Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*)

Woolly Frogmouth (*Philydrum lanuginosum*)

Mat Rush (*Lomandra spp.*)

Baumea (*Baumea rubignosa*)



All images: Sheldon Navie

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