

## June 2018 E-newsletter

Dear Landcarers

Welcome to our monthly member newsletter, to help keep you up to date with local Landcare happenings and land and farming topics of interest.

### Cattle Tick Alert



Watch out! Cattle tick and tick fever outbreaks, a problem endemic in Queensland coastal areas, have struck the Mid North Coast.

There have been major stock losses across several properties in the Kendall area, and cattle movements from that area are being followed up by Hunter Local Land Services.

District Veterinarian Dr Lyndell Stone is reminding all landholders to be very vigilant with biosecurity, and ensure to take extra care with quarantining, treating and inspecting new stock. “While cattle are in your quarantine yard or small paddock, they should be inspected daily for any signs of disease or pest infestation and only let out with other stock and access to the wider property when you are confident they are healthy and not harbouring diseases, pest or weed seeds.”

Please notify your Hunter Local Land Services District Vet Dr Lyndell Stone on 6553 4233 if you see suspicious ticks.

For more information, please see [this link](#).

Warming climatic conditions mean we will increasingly need to look out for pests and weeds from more northerly coastal areas.

## LAST MONTH

### **All Abuzz About Native Bees**

Coolongolook certainly was “Abuzz” on May 7<sup>th</sup>, with 65 participants coming out to hear about native bees and how to care for them. We had very informative presentations from DPI Bee Biosecurity Officer Mark Page and Landcare legend Noel Jupp of Riverdene Nursery, and everyone went home with ideas for enhancing native bee habitat.

This workshop was made possible with a Community Grant from Hunter Local Land Services.



### **Weed Whacking and Riparian Regeneration**

We had a lovely day supported by MidCoast Council out at Stroud Road on May 29<sup>th</sup>, with a Welcome to Country and overview of TIDE’s bush regeneration and weed management work from Glen Jonas of Taree Indigenous Employment & Development, and update of strategic weed management and new weed threats from Terry Inkson of MidCoast Council, and plenty of practical bush regeneration advice and technical tips from Miles Dixon of Active Bush Works.

There was another very big turnout, with 55 in attendance at the local hall, and the local primary school joining us for the field walk at the Mammy Johnson River Reserve.

Wards River-Mammy Johnson River Rivercare group were pleased to host such a well-attended workshop. They are always on the lookout for volunteers with a love of bushcare, and have only a small active group at present and a big task looking after a precious remnant of Lowland Rainforest. The group meets at the reserve every Saturday from 11am-2pm, please call Amanda on 0403 645 521 to find out more.



## **Faecal Egg Count Practicals Continue**

We held three more do it yourself FEC days in May, including visits to Johns River and Wingham. Participants find these intensive small group practicals very useful, and are going on to obtain their own farm lab gear, which is quite affordable.

If you would like to learn about this useful technique for monitoring parasite burdens in your stock to inform treatment and selection decisions, please contact Joël on 0401 932 533 to express your interest – we can even bring our mobile lab to your local area if there are 6 or more participants lined up.

Look out for an upcoming integrated parasite management workshop with your district vet Dr Lyndell Stone.



## **Feature weed – Ochna**

*Ochna serrulata*, usually known as simply “Ochna” or “Mickey Mouse Plant”, is a bush regenerator’s nightmare. An evergreen shrub of up to 2m in height, it has been attractive to gardeners as an ornamental because of pretty, yellow flowers and colourful red and black seed bunches. Its copious seeds are highly attractive to birds, which spread it deep into bushland, where it can form monocultures, outcompeting native vegetation.

It is an incredibly hardy plant with a deep taproot, very resistant to manual removal, and notorious for suckering and becoming even harder to treat if it is inadequately treated with herbicide or mechanical methods.

If you think you have this weed, please seek control advice from Terry Inkson on 6591 7222.



## **IMMINENT KGLL EVENTS**

### **Great Lakes Soil Health Group**

**Thursday June 21<sup>st</sup>, 10am-12.30pm, Gloucester**

Great Lakes Soil Health Group is back from a break, with a visit to the Gloucester area, and discussion and demonstration of pasture weed management.

As usual, we'll also get down and dirty looking at soil assessments.

Morning tea will be provided.

Please RSVP to Joël on 0401 932 533 or [joel.dunn@glcr.org.au](mailto:joel.dunn@glcr.org.au)



### **Wang Wauk-Wallambah Sustainable Farming Group**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30am-12.30pm, Willina**

Join your local Sustainable Farming Group for our regular bi-monthly get together, this time with a food forest flavour as we tour a Permaculture inspired orchard.

Please RSVP to Ros McDiarmed, 0412 793 446



## Other Events

### **Bredwell Fedwell Workshop**

**Wherrol Flat, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 8.30am-3.30pm**

This popular practical workshop series is back, with great info on breeding and feeding to make more money. Guest speakers are Dr Peter McGilchrist, University of New England – Meat Science and Dr Jason Trompf, Private Consultant and Latrobe University – Animal Production Systems

Topics include:

- \* Breeding better heifers/cows
- \* Improving heifer/cow nutrition
- \* Developing a breeding goal
- \* Using EBVs in bull selection

Participation fee: \$25pp inc GST. Lunch provided.

To RSVP by Friday 8th June, please contact Albert Mullen 0428 670 524 or [albert.mullen@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:albert.mullen@lls.nsw.gov.au)



### **Manning Landcare Farm Gate Tour**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June, Cedar Party and Killabach area, visit times throughout day**

Manning Landcare are offering a fascinating farm gate tour, with six diverse sites to visit – not to be missed!

You will see pastured laying hens in rotation with cattle, mixed horticulture with beehives, a Jersey dairy with an innovative effluent system, a public land riparian bush regeneration project, a large organic vegetable system, and a steep land Permaculture project with an extensive pond network and commercial worm operation.

Please contact Alison on 0427 570 244 or Lyn on 0427 530 681 for more information, including a detailed flyer with visit times and a map.



## **Farmers' Markets**

Wingham – Wingham Showground, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month

Tea Gardens – Waterfront Memorial Park, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month

Bulahdelah – Wade Park (near library), 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month

Gloucester – Billabong Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month

Forster – Forster Neighbourhood Centre, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month

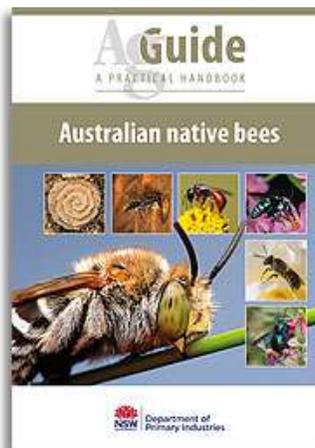
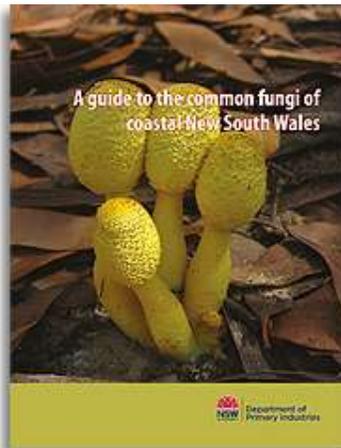
Nabiac – Nabiac Showground, last Saturday of the Month

Taree – Taree Park (Cnr Macquarie St & Wynter St), 8am-1pm, every Thursday

## **Resources available**

*A Guide to the Common Fungi of Coastal NSW* is designed to be used by people of all ages to identify fungi in the field. It also contains some great information on what fungi are, why they're so important, and where to find them. Fungi are an incredibly important part of our ecosystems and soil health, and we want to promote a better understanding of their role and management. These in-depth books are available from KGLL for only \$15 (RRP \$20). For more information, see

<http://www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/publications/list/field-crops-and-pastures/fungi-of-coastal-nsw>



*Australian Native Bees* - Combining the substantial expertise of many of Australia's leading native bee researchers, this book is a comprehensive guide to observing, protecting, encouraging and benefitting from Australia's broad range of native bee species. Available from KGLL for \$30 (RRP \$35). For more information, see <http://www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/publications/list/animals/australian-native-bees>

ALSO:	<i>Common Indigenous Trees of the Wallamba Valley &amp; Surrounds</i>	\$10
	<i>Grasses of the North Coast of NSW</i>	\$5
	<i>Legumes &amp; Herbs of the North Coast of NSW</i>	\$5
	Treeguards, triangular corflute:	
	Medium, 495mm high	\$1.75 each
	Large, 680mm high	\$2.60 each
	Heavy duty treeguard stakes	\$1.00 each
	Refractometer to measure plant health from sap	\$50.00 each (cost \$79)

To submit or suggest a newsletter item, please email your **Local Landcare Coordinator** Joël Dunn, [joel.dunn@glcr.org.au](mailto:joel.dunn@glcr.org.au) by one week before the end of the preceding month.

Contact Joël for any Landcare related queries, by email or 0401 932 533.

The **Landcare Office** at the Nابیac Neighbourhood Centre, [37 Nابیac St](#), is typically open on Mondays 9.30-2.30. Joel is often also working on landcare matters on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/karuahgreatlakeslandcare/>

Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare works in in collaboration with Manning Landcare, Manning Coastcare and Stewart's River Catchment Group on the **MidCoast 2 Tops Landcare Connection** <http://www.midcoast2tops.org.au/>