

SLCMA Catchment News 2022



July/August

Office: 101 Sarina Beach Rd
Sarina, QLD, 4737

Phone: (07) 4956 1388

Website:
www.sarinalandcare.org.au

Email:
admin@sarinalandcare.org.au

*Office opening
hours:
9am-3.30pm weekdays.*

*Other times by
appointment, please
call 4956 1388 :)*

Staff

Administration Officer

Helen Dangerfield

Coordinator

Saskia von Fahland

Nursery Officer

Susie Tomlinson

Project Officer

vacant

Call us for information:

- ◇ Weed management
- ◇ Plant identification
- ◇ Land management
- ◇ FREE property visits
- ◇ Land for Wildlife

Volunteer opportunities:

* SLCMA Community
Volunteer Program,
Wednesday, 9-12 noon.

* Friends of the Sarina
Community Native Gardens,
Friday, 9-11am.

Native plants available for
purchase \$3.30 each.

SLCMA Executive 21/22

Chair: Lachlan McBride

Vice-chair: Karen May

Treasurer: Kevin Plumb

Secretary: Shirley Sidey

Executive members:

Rod McFadzen



Sarina
Landcare

SLCMA News!

Friendly reminder that membership renewals are currently due. Thank you to those who have already re-joined :) We value your membership and support and, look forward to your continued involvement in Landcare during 22/23 financial year.



The membership fee remains at \$10 per person annually, with all of the great benefits. You are welcome to pay by internet banking, credit card or cash. Contact us, to workout the best option for you.

SLCMA Annual General Meeting— is scheduled for October/November (more details to follow at a later date). Please consider nominating for a volunteer position on the SLCMA Management Committee. The management committee helps guide the future direction of the organisation and is well-supported by paid staff.

As incorporated association, we are required to fill the following positions: Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary and Treasurer. There is also the opportunity to have two more executive members—this helps support the management committee and bring more ideas and experience to the table :) Please contact us for an information pack, if you are interested in nominating.



Farewell and thank you to Susan Whiteley, who has been our Project Officer since October 2021. Susan has helped to deliver a range of projects while she has been with us, including the Citizen Science Waterwatch Project, Reef Assist and Land for Wildlife Program and, has supported many events and updates to our regional plant database—just to name a few! Susan finished up with us at the end of August. We wish her all the best on her next adventure.

We would like to welcome our new Administration Officer, Helen Dangerfield to the SLCMA team. Helen is local to the Sarina area and comes with accounting experience and a keen interest in native plants. We look forward to working with Helen :)

*Left: Susan Whiteley, Project Officer
Right: Helen Dangerfield, Administration Officer*



Photos: S von Fahland

Friends of the Sarina Community Native Gardens

**Do you need some time out from your everyday routine?
Interested in learning more about local plants?
Looking to connect with likeminded people?**

The **Friends of the Sarina Community Native Gardens** -
volunteer morning could be for you!

Join in for an hour and a half of gardening in a relaxed social environment then sit down for a refreshing cuppa and morning tea chat.

Darrin, Roy and Pete give the thumbs up to the newly dug, mulched and planted garden they recently completed. Looking forward to seeing these *Melaleuca viridiflora* (Broad-leaved paperbark) grow. Nice work guys!

For those interested, the **Friends of the Gardens** are held in the Sarina Community Native Gardens **every Friday, 9am-11am**. Please contact us, if you would like to volunteer or find out more about the program.



Photo: S Tomlinson

Darrin, Roy, Pete enjoying creating a new section of garden

National Tree Day—Louisa Creek Reserve

Friday the 5th August was a great morning to join forces at Louisa Creek Reserve, for National Tree Day. A team of 20 enthusiastic staff from SLCMA, Mackay Regional Council (MRC), Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal (DBCTPL), Dalrymple Bay Infrastructure (DBI) and BMA, enjoyed the fun filled morning, planting and guarding 150 native coastal plants.

All the plants were grown in the SLCMA Community Nursery, with seed sourced locally by the SLCMA volunteers. The variety of native coastal vines, grasses, herbs, shrubs and trees will assist to shade out weeds, provide habitat for native fauna and build resilience in the landscape.

Louisa Creek Reserve is registered under the Land for Wildlife Program and has received ongoing rehabilitation activities by SLCMA, DBCT PL, Council and the local community since the early 2000's. The benefits of the gradual rehabilitation of the reserve can be seen with improved aesthetics, biodiversity, canopy cover and wildlife habitat as well as reduced weed invasion, fuel loads and illegal dumping of waste. This event was supported by the Queensland Government Reef Assist Program, MRC, DBCTPL.



Photos: contributed

Fox, what fox?

Left: 150 native plants were planted for National Tree Day

SLCMA has been successful in seeking funds through the *Queensland Government's—Community Sustainability Action* grant program, to undertake fox detection surveys at Mt Hector Conservation Park, Cape Palmerston and Westhill National Parks. We are excited about this 18-month project, as an opportunity to work in partnership with QLD Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) and Mackay Regional Council to build on previous fox detection surveys within the region.

Mackay Regional Council have worked with Southern Queensland Landscapes – Project Delivery Officer Tom Garrett and Rocky the Conservation Detection Dog; to undertake annual surveys and eradication of foxes on public and private land within the Mackay Regional Council area over the last few years.

This project will link into the current fox detection program and extend the monitoring to within the identified park areas. The project will improve the knowledge of presence and location of foxes within the park areas and guide the future direction, monitoring and eradication activities to protect native wildlife.

Foxes are becoming more apparent in our region, particularly in our coastal zones. Foxes are a potential threat to native fauna such as the water mouse, northern quoll, marine turtle and ground nesting bird populations by feeding on nests and young.

The project is underway! We recently joined QLD Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) Rangers for a reconnaissance to Cape Palmerston and Westhill National Parks—to check access and have been collaborating and planning with Mackay Regional Council for up & coming fox surveys during September and October.

Come along to our meet & greet community event on Saturday 8th October at 10am, Louisa Creek Reserve.

- Find out about foxes within the region
- See in action - "Rocky and Cooper" Conservation Detection dogs and handler, Tom Garrett
- Meet and greet with Rocky & Tom and some of the project partners involved in the project

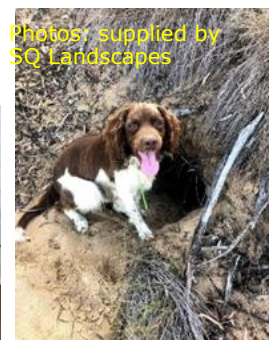
See our flyer for more details.

Photos: supplied by SQ Landscapes

Left to Right: Westhill National Park; Rocky & Tom, Cape Palmerston National Park, Rocky & fox den



Photo: S von Fahland



SLCMA attends "Unearthed" event in Mackay

It was a pleasure to be part of the 'Unearthed' event held on 21 August at the MECC, which saw an amazing 4,693 visitors through the MECC doors.

SLCMA showcased local citizen science opportunities including the Sarina Waterwatch program and the regional Koala Mapping project. The interactive display of macroinvertebrates (waterbugs) was a hit with the kids. Thank you to Susan, Shirley and Saskia for assisting with the event.

Unearthed is a key event for Project DIG in the Mackay community and is supported by Project DIG, a partnership between QLD Museum Network, BHP and BMA.



Photo: contributed

SLCMA Community Nursery update and 'Plant of the Month'

A big thank you to our Nursery Officer – Susie, who has been working hard behind the scenes in the SLCMA Community Nursery, to ensure we have a large variety of native plants available to the Sarina Community. Susie works enthusiastically along side our volunteers to ensure the plants are in tip top shape—ready for planting! Susie has also refined the process for members & the community to purchase native plants.

Members & the community are able to purchase our native plants a number of ways:

- ♦ **'Click & Collect' Plant Order Form** – The latest plant order form is available from our website www.sarinalandcare.org.au and is also emailed to our members, when it is updated. Submit your plant order form anytime and we will put the plant order together for you.
- ♦ **By appointment only** – Contact our office by phone on 4956 1388 or email your query to nursery@sarinalandcare.org.au
- ♦ **Native Plant sale** – Come along to our native plant sales held throughout the year. During the sale you may pick up your pre-ordered plants or, select from the native plants we have available. Our plant sales will be advertised in our newsletter, to our members by email and on facebook. Keep an eye out for a plant sale in October, details will come out soon!

:~:

This month's 'Plant of the Month' is the *Erythrina vespertilio*, Bat's wing coral tree

Family: Fabaceae

What is in a name? Greek *erythros*, red, refers to the flowers; Latin *vespertilio*, a bat, refers to the shape of the leaflets.

Form & height: Small, scraggly deciduous tree, 6-10m; brown corky furrowed bark with thorns on trunk and branches.

Leaves: 3-lobed or wedge shaped leaflets, resembling a bat's open wings.

Flowers: Large showy terminal orange-red pea flowers, October to December.

Fruit: Brown pods, up to 10cm long, constricted between seeds.

Habitat: All mainland states except Vic, widespread from arid areas to rainforest margins.

Notes: Propagate from scarified seed or cuttings. Needs good drainage and open, sunny position.

The "Plant of the Month" is currently available from the SLCMA Community Nursery. Landcare members are eligible to receive 1 free "Plant of the Month", throughout that month. This and other native plant species are also available for purchase at \$3.30 each. All plants are grown from locally sourced seed in the SLCMA Community Nursery by SLCMA staff and the SLCMA Volunteer team.

Information sourced from: Melzer & Plumb (2007) *Plants of Capricornia*



Top: Flowers;
Below: Leaves of Bat's wing coral tree



Sarina Community Nursery Volunteer Program

Thanks again to the volunteers who continue to support our nursery. It's always a joy to see this productive space become a buzz of activity and conversation on volunteer mornings. Amongst the weeding, seeding, and planting we enjoy loads of chatting and laughing. Sometimes, we even see delightful, unexpected visitors pop up while we are at it!

If you would like to volunteer in your local community and meet new people while learning local native plants and their propagation, come along to the SLCMA Community Volunteer morning, every Wednesday, 9am to 12noon. For more details contact SLCMA on 4956 1388. SLCMA Community Volunteer Program is proudly supported by Mackay Regional Council, Natural Environment Levy.

Below

Left: Volunteers soaking in the sunshine during morning tea, at the SLCMA Office

Middle: Volunteers seed collecting at Sarina Beach

Right: Volunteers brushing up on plant identification skills, sometimes it's the finer details of plant's leaves that helps identify the difference in plants, like: *Macaranga involcrata*, *Hibiscus tiliaceus* & *Macaranga tanarius*

Right: One of the delightful, unexpected visitors pops up for a visit



Photo: S Tomlinson



Photos: S von Fahland



Land for Wildlife program - workshop wrap up



The annual Land for Wildlife event was held on 1 July. This year, we held a workshop, aimed at raising awareness of how landholders can protect and provide habitat (and homes) for our feathered and furry neighbours. We were joined by Pioneer Catchment and Landcare Group, a local wildlife enthusiast Tom Curtis and 14 members of the community.



During the workshop we discussed the types of habitat needed for native animals, how to observe and monitor our shy friends and, some hands-on fun with sandpaper, measurements and drills to build our very own nesting boxes. Thank you to Tom for sharing his wealth of knowledge and experience in the use of cameras to monitor and observe wildlife.



It was a lovely afternoon, which involved kids, parents and grandparents and friends helping friends; resulting in new wildlife homes being built and soon to be added into the local landscape. We are hoping to see plenty of cute wildlife photos be sent through to us!



This event is proudly supported by the Mackay Regional Council through the Land for Wildlife program. If you are interested in the program, please complete and return the [Expression of Interest Form](#) (found on our website www.sarinalandcare.org.au) to admin@sarinalandcare.org.au, or call the SLCMA Office on 4956 1388. *The Land for Wildlife Program is supported by Mackay Regional Council Natural Environment Levy.*



Photos: S von Fahland & S Whiteley

Land for Wildlife Workshop attendees helping each other out to build their own nesting boxes and learning about habitats

Carmila Beach rehabilitation by SLCMA team

Over the past few months, the SLCMA Revegetation team have been hard at work undertaking restoration works along Carmila Beach. The sites stretch along the Carmila Beach Reserve and include the critically endangered 'littoral rainforest and coastal vine thickets of eastern Australia' ecosystem. These vegetation types are known to provide essential habitat for the northern quoll, beach stone curlew and the mangrove mouse and a number of other listed species including the black-throated finch (*Poephila cincta*) and the lesser swamp-orchid (*Phaius australis*). In addition, the Carmila Beach area is highly valued by our community for its natural values and, is well utilised by travellers and locals for camping and recreational activities.

The project has seen 2,050 local native plants planted across seven sites within the coastal vegetation. The planting sites were chosen in areas most impacted by weeds and where thinning of native vegetation and loss of canopy cover is occurring. Initial site preparations included undertaking a vegetation condition assessment with Reef Catchments (RC), plant species selection (sourced from the SLCMA Community Nursery) and weed control. SLCMA is pleased to be undertaking the ongoing maintenance of the sites, to ensure the plants get the best chance of survival and growth. If you are down in the area you might like to admire this hard work and see the new plants that are striving to improve the health and resilience of this important ecosystem.

This project is supported by Reef Catchments and Isaac Regional Council, through funding from the Australian Government's Reef Trust.



Australian Government



Photos top to bottom:

1) SLCMA & RC undertaking vegetation condition assessment

2) Open canopy & weedy area to be rehabilitated

3) & 4) planting of native plants in open areas; plant guards used to protect the native plants



Photos: D Fuller & S von Fahland



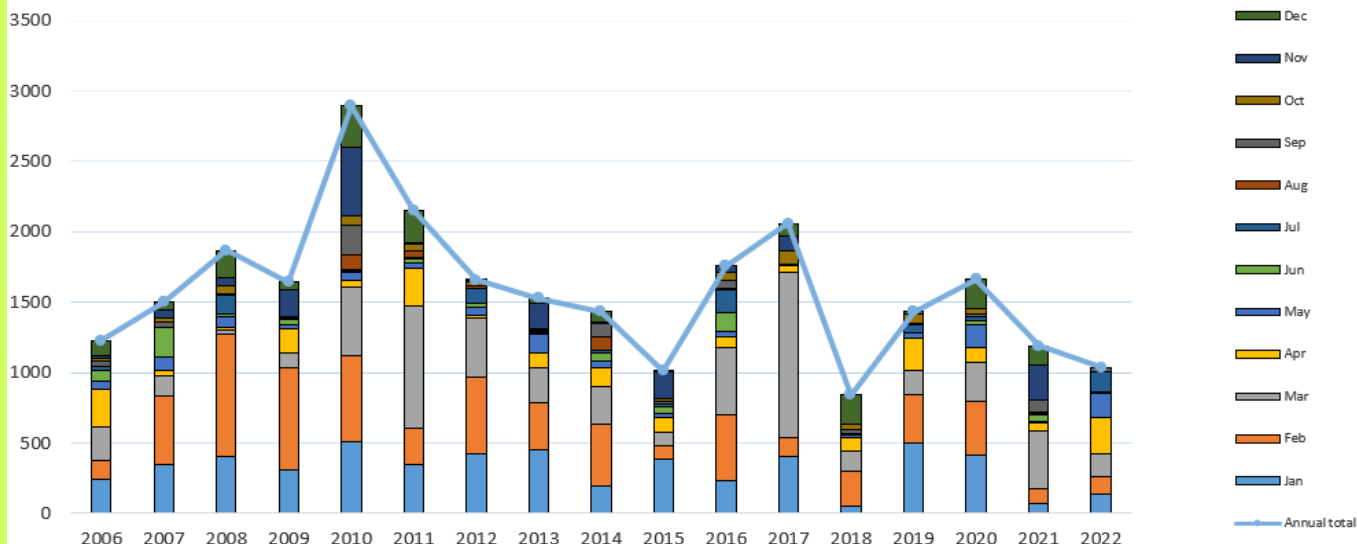
Address: 101 Sarina Beach Rd, Sarina QLD 4737
Phone: (07) 4956 1388
Website:
www.sarinalandcare.org.au
Email:
admin@sarinalandcare.org.au

What SLCMA Membership does for you !

A membership with SLCMA has many rewards:

- ◇ Easy access to Natural Resource Management information and extension
- ◇ Monthly newsletter, meeting minutes, progress and project reports
- ◇ A vote on issues in your catchment
- ◇ A say in the types of projects applied for
- ◇ Up to 10 free local native seedlings/year from the SLCMA Community Nursery
- ◇ Invitations to Natural Resource Management field days and workshops
- ◇ Copy of the SLCMA Annual Report

Monthly rainfall for SLCMA Office, 2006 -2022 (inc annual total)



Just for fun!

How do brand-new spring flowers greet each other?
 "Hey, bud!"

How can you tell spring flowers are friendly?
 They always have new buds.

When is it impossible to plant flowers?
 When you haven't botany.

Why couldn't the little flower ride a bike?
 It didn't have any petals.

How excited was the gardener about spring?
 So excited he wet his plants!

What falls but never gets hurt?
 The rain!

What bow can't be tied?
 A rainbow!

Why are frogs so happy?
 Because they eat whatever bugs them!



A partnership for the natural resource management of catchments in the Central Queensland Coast Bioregion: Pioneer, Sarina & Whitsunday Catchments.



Find us on facebook



SLCMA is proudly supported by:



A big thankyou to those who have donated their container refunds to SLCMA. Your donation will help us to continue helping the local community and carryout various landcare projects and community education programs.

When you are returning your containers, write our identifier '**C10002138**' on a piece of paper and place it IN the bag with your eligible returned containers. See below for a page of coupons with our ID number— to get you started :)



Please [Containers for Change website](https://www.containersforchange.com.au) to find a drop off point that is close to you!

Alternatively, you can drop them into the Landcare Office at 101 Beach Road, Sarina.



C10002138

- ⇒ Eligible containers and the ID number should be placed in an opaque bag and put inside the drop bins.
- ⇒ Containers must be empty and the caps removed.
- ⇒ Most aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paper-board beverage containers between 150ml and 3 litres are eligible for a refund (such as soft drinks, water bottles and small flavoured milk)
- ⇒ Containers must also have held a beverage included in the scheme and display the refund mark.

We appreciate your donation through the Container refund scheme, our identification code is:



C10002138



C10002138



C10002138



C10002138



C10002138



C10002138

