

# SLCMA Catchment News



**August 2018**

Office: 101 Sarina Beach Rd  
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**Temporary changes  
to Office  
opening times:**

**Monday to Wednesday  
9-12noon**

**(other times,  
by appointment only)**

**Coordinator**

Saskia von Fahland

**Call us for information:**

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

**Volunteer opportunities:**

SLCMA Community  
Volunteer Program:

- ◇ Wednesday 9-12noon:  
Seed collecting, native  
plant propagation at the  
SLCMA Community  
Nursery

**SLCMA Executive 17/18**

**Chair:**

Gloria Murray

**Vice-chair:**

Greg Melvin

**Treasurer:**

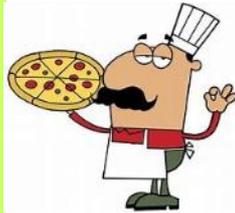
Jenny Price

**Secretary:**

Chris Brown



## Come along for pizza and information session



Come along on **Tuesday 21 August, 6pm** for pizza and a chat about what is involved in volunteering to be on the SLCMA Management Committee. All positions will become vacant at our Annual General Meeting (*scheduled in early September*) and we are now accepting expressions of interest for the following positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

The SLCMA Management Committee is an integral part of our organisation (*and required by law under the Incorporated Associations Act*). The committee is well supported by the SLCMA staff and provides input into the strategic direction of the organisation.

The event will be held at the SLCMA Office, 101 Beach Road at 6pm. For catering purposes, please RSVP by Monday 20 August on 4956 1388 or admin@sarinalandcare.org.au. All attendees are welcome to stay afterward for a quick general meeting.

If you would like to know more about the SLCMA Management Committee and the roles & responsibilities of the positions, please contact us on admin@sarinalandcare.org.au.



## Landcare playing vital role in Reef Catchments Disaster Recovery Program

Our regions natural environment was highly impacted by Cyclone Debbie. Waterways in many areas were flooded, cut away banks up to 30m into productive land and left vertical banks of up to 6m high. Banks were stripped of vegetation, with sheer unstable banks that were highly susceptible to further erosion. Reef Catchments, Canegrowers Mackay and the Whitsunday River Improvements Trust funded a rapid assessment of the impacts of Cyclone Debbie to quantify works required to rehabilitate priority areas to enable funding to be applied for.



Site inspection, Marion Ck.

The Australian and Queensland Governments have provided funding through the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Program (NDRRA) to rehabilitate highly impacted areas and increase the resilience of waterways. Reef Catchments recovery projects have a long-term goal to help build a landscape more equipped to withstand and recover from any natural disasters of the future, reducing sediment loss and ultimately improving reef water quality.

Reef Catchments Disaster Recovery Program will see works rolled out on sites along the O'Connell River, St. Helen's Creek, Bakers Creek, Oaky Creek, Cherry Tree Creek, Marion Creek and West Hill Creek. Reef Catchments is engaging with the three regional Landcare groups for plant propagation and planting/plant maintenance programs for sites. Overall the program is planned to see approximately 25,000 plants go into the ground to help stabilise banks at over 20 restoration sites. It will be a busy year for all with positive outcomes for the regions waterways.

Landholder standing on eroded bank assessing damage.



Images: contributed

For more information see - <http://reefcatchments.com.au/water/disaster-recovery/>.

## SLCMA Community Volunteer Program

Thankyou to our Volunteer team who have been busy in the SLCMA Community Nursery over the last few weeks....weeding, washing pots, moving plants and cleaning seed. The volunteers also enjoyed a recent field trip to Freshwater point, collecting seed from local coastal species (as well as soaking up some sunshine on these cool days). We have also had the chance to wander through the Sarina Community Native Gardens, talking about the purpose of the gardens, types of plants showcased and collecting seed for propagating in the nursery.



Volunteers busy in the nursery

*Enjoying some morning tea*



Thankyou to Nadine who is enjoying the opportunity to look after our volunteers while we are in the process of employing new staff.

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

## Sarina Community Native Gardens—Update

The Sarina Community Native Gardens are looking good at the moment, despite the dry weather. A big thankyou to Peter who can be seen regularly in the gardens providing some much needed TLC — at the moment, Peter is working hard removing nut grass and their nuts from the soil, re-mulching and pruning.

Passer-byers may have noticed the newest feature of the gardens; two roadside signs which have recently been installed along Sarina Beach Road. The aim of the signage is to raise the profile of the gardens to the Sarina Community. This project was funded through the *Sarina Community Bank Branch Bendigo Bank Engagement Program*.



Peter with one of many buckets of nut grass 'nuts' removed from the garden beds.

*Can you see Peter's two helpers?*

It is great to see the Sarina Community Native Gardens being utilised on a number of occasions recently, including the farewell morning tea for Administration Officer, Nadine Hamill and guided tours with the volunteer team and community members wanting to find out more about local plants. Community members are welcome to have a look at the gardens at any time or for more information contact the SLCMA Office.



Volunteers admiring one of the new roadside signs



Morning tea in the gardens for Nadine's farewell



## Join us for the Great Northern Clean Up!

**When:** Saturday 1 September, 8-10am

**Where:** Plane Creek Revegetation Site—meet at Apex Park

**What to bring/wear:** Closed shoes, hat, water bottle, long sleeve shirt, gloves.

The Plane Creek Revegetation Site is a community revegetation site located in Sarina along the banks of Plane Creek. Since 1994, many volunteers and community groups have contributed to the rehabilitation of the site. Currently, the Mackay Regional Council and SLCMA are working together to extend the site and undertake remediation activities, since it was affected by flooding from Cyclone Debbie. Unfortunately the site, like most roadsides, is subject to dumping of rubbish. **Come along, lend a hand and find out more about the site at our community clean up event.** *This event is supported by Queensland Government Community Sustainability Action Grant and Mackay Regional Council.*

# National Tree Day!

SLCMA worked alongside students from Sarina & District Community Kindergarten recently - to join in the National Tree Day fun! The students were very excited to get their hands dirty and plant 20 native plants into their gardens. They all worked well as a team - digging, planting, watering and mulching.

The native plants will help fill in some gaps between existing plants in the gardens and once mature will encourage more visitors such as butterflies and ladybirds to the gardens (which the students were very excited about).

It was a team effort, with *Mackay Regional Council Natural Environment Program* supporting the event and the *Sarina Community Bank Branch Bendigo Bank Engagement Program* sponsoring the native plants propagated in the SLCMA Community Nursery. Thankyou to Sarina & District Community Kindergarten for hosting the event.



Saskia with some keen students from Sarina & District Community Kindergarten

## SLCMA Community Nursery “Plant of the Month”

This month’s ‘Plant of the Month’ is ***Atractocarpus fitzalanii*** (prev. *Randia fitzalanii*)  
Native Gardenia, Brown Gardenia, Yellow Mangosteen

**Family:** Rubiaceae

**What is in a name?** *Atractocarpus fitzalanii* was originally described by German naturalist and Victorian State Botanist Ferdinand von Mueller, who named it in honour of the first person who collected it, Eugen Fitzalan.



**Form:** Shrub or small tree, to 8m.

**Leaves:** Simple opposite, bright lime coloured glossy leaves to 25cm long, distinctive sunken side-veins.

**Flower:** White, fragrant tubular flowers occur September to May, containing 5 prominent petals with overall diameter of 3cm. Flowers open in the afternoon, attracting day moths for fertilisation.

**Fruit:** Fleshy fruit, 4-8cm diameter, from green to yellow upon ripening, occur April to June. Whitish small, flat, triangular seeds surrounded by a soft pulp. Fresh fruit is edible.

**Habitat:** Rainforest , riparian forest.

**Distribution:** Cooktown to Central Coast of QLD.

**Notes:** This plant is becoming sought after in backyards for its beautifully scented flowers and lush growth. It is suitable for indoor or outdoor containers.

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. Please contact SLCMA for more information.

Images: S & A Pearson

Above: Native Gardenia leaves & flowers; fruit **Information sourced from:** CQCLN Plant database  
[www.cqclandcarenetwork.org.au](http://www.cqclandcarenetwork.org.au), SGAP plant notes.

## Battling Madeira Vine by Pioneer Catchment & Landcare Group



Erin showing the group, best practice treatment of madeira vine

The Mackay Regional Pest Management Group (MRPMG) held the first resource sharing day in the fight to eradicate Madeira Vine (*Anredera cordifolia*) from Plane Creek in Sarina.

This vine has been found along Plane Creek, Cattle Creek & the Finch Hatton Gorge, if you own a property adjacent to one of these creeks or a water course connected to these creeks and believe you have this vine then we ask that you contact us immediately and report it. For more information about Madeira Vine contact us, your local Council Pest Officer or visit the [Biosecurity Queensland](#) website.



Madiera vine with tubers

*SLCMA's vision is that the Sarina Catchment Area is an economically viable region, which is ecologically sustainable and well regarded as a healthy place to live and work (SLCMA Strategy, 2001)*

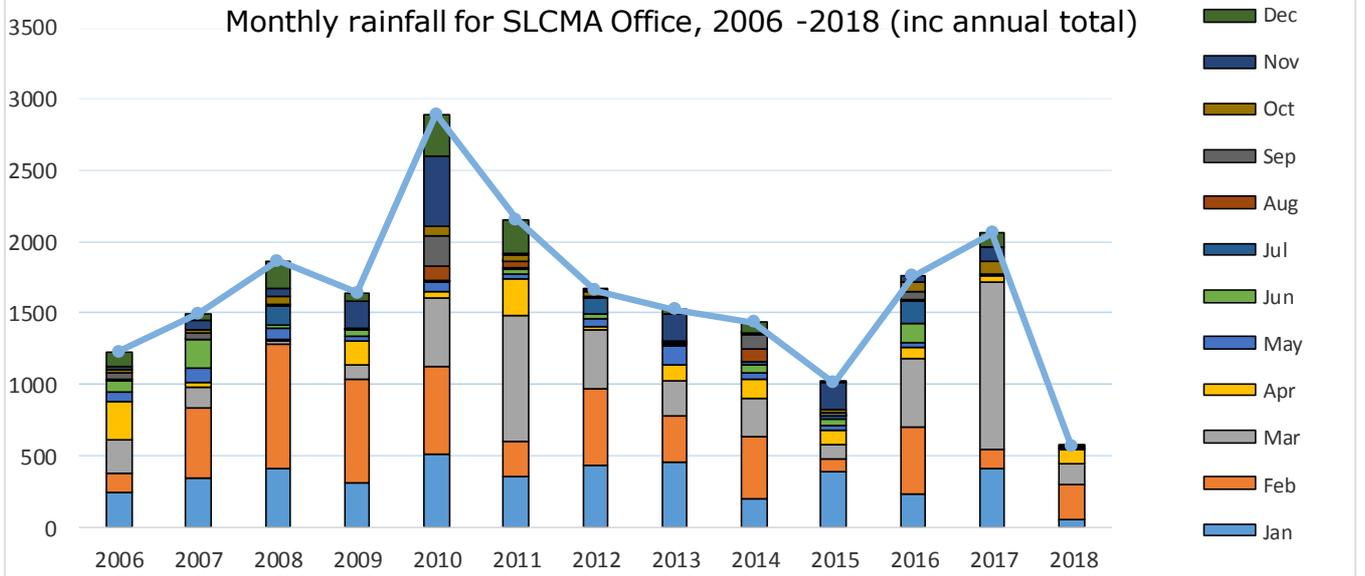


# What SLCMA Membership does for you !

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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
- ◇ Discounts on purchases of books for sale



**SLCMA Memberships are now due.** It is still only \$10 per year per member and with all the benefits! Membership renewals can be paid online or by cash in person at the SLCMA Office. If you renew via internet banking, please use your name as a reference and send us a quick email to confirm. Also, to ensure you receive our newsletter and other Landcare newsletters— remember to let us know if any of your contact details have changed and need updating.



[Find us on facebook](#)



Central QLD Coast  
**Landcare**  
 Network

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

## Just for fun!

**Why was the centipede late?**

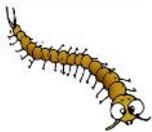
Because he was playing "This little piggy" with his baby brother!

**What do you get if you cross a centipede and a parrot?**

A walkie talkie!

**What is worse than a crocodile with a toothache?**

A centipede with athlete's foot!



**SLCMA is proudly supported by:**



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**RURAL BANK**

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 Federal Member for Capricornia  
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