



Newsletter for the Macleay Catchment

EDITION 52 SPRING 2016



Welcome to our Spring Edition of your local Landcare Newsletter. Macleay Landcare Network is a not for profit, non government organisation. We are here to support individuals and community groups in their efforts towards natural resource management and sustainable agricultural practices in the lower Macleay River valley. Landcare Officers are here to support you. We are a busy network with many supporting partners and a large network of members. We hope you enjoy the following articles and other information that we have collated for our readers. This Spring Newsletter has extra content due to a Winter edition not being published. Landcare is also inviting members to contact us if they would like to be on our volunteer register.

A message from the new Chair

A new Committee was elected on September 5, 2016 a week after the scheduled AGM. The new Macleay Landcare Network Committee is as follows:

Vanessa Standing— Chairperson, Angela Hand— Vice Chair, Chris Osborne— Treasurer, Kristy Forche-Baird— Secretary, Sally Ayre-Smith, Roger Gowing and Troy Irwin— Committee members.

A big thankyou to these members for putting their hand up to support the MLN and to all the members who came to the AGM. I also would like to thank our previous Chair and Treasurer, Graham Butcher and Neil Cracknell for their dedication and hard work.

Sharon Cunial, Landcare Officer of 3yrs at Macleay Landcare, is moving interstate, the MLN Committee thank her for her contribution and wish her well in her new ventures. Tom Macindoe will be the newly appointed Project Officer replacing Sharon.

Stay tuned. We are planning an exciting year of interesting events, workshops etc. and please send us your ideas and wish lists for making the MLN an even stronger organisation. Best wishes to you all for the festive season.

Vanessa Standing

In this edition

Chairs Report	1
Water Quality Macleay	2
Freshwater Macrophytes	3
North Coast Weed Reforms	4
Whale Watching Site	7
Organic Beef Workshop	8
Koala and Echidna Articles	9,10

Upcoming events

16 Nov 2016 2-4pm Public Meeting on Proposed Biosecurity Act Coffs Harbour Community Centre Contact 1800 808 095 for more details.

09 Dec 2016 MLN Walk & Talk Workshop/ Social event. Please contact office on 026562 2076 for more details.

Grassy Head Dunecare will be starting new Working Bees as of **March 2017** (having held 6 successful events 160hrs this past year) Contact: Chris Kaczan 026569 0837 if interested.

SOME PROJECTS Macleay Landcare Network (MLN) are currently working on :

- Floodplains for the Future
- Upper Macleay Vine Weeds
- Rehabilitating Significant Coastal Vegetation at Grassy Head
- Fisheries—HAG—Caring for Fish Habitat

Visit www.macleaylandcare.org.au for more detailed information.

Water Quality Discussed at the Macleay River Working Group

A group of stakeholders including representatives from NSW Health, NSW Food Authority, Oyster Farmers, University of New England, Save Our Macleay River (www.saveourmacleayriver.com), Southern Cross University, Kempsey Shire Council, Office of Environment and Heritage, North Coast Local Land Services and Macleay Landcare met in late June to discuss latest research in water quality and catchment issues in the Macleay, particularly in relation to Arsenic (As) and Antimony (Sb) contamination

An outstanding issue identified at our last meeting and identified as an action in Councils Macleay River Estuary Plan was to undertake an audit of historic mine workings to establish what level of risk they pose to the Macleay River. To help answer this question Derelict Mines commissioned GHD to prepare a desktop assessment to determine which sub-catchments pose a risk and then to undertake field inspections of high risk sub-catchments to assess and quantify the contribution levels and describe and cost remediation options available. There are about 40 known mine sites, many smaller 'scratchings' but it is important to note that there are naturally occurring sources of As and Sb in the catchment as well. The findings of this report will help guide where investment should be directed to reduce the impact of historic workings.

Representatives from the Save Our Macleay River (SOMR) emphasized the importance of open communication between Government Agencies and Research Institutions with the local community. The Working Group unanimously agreed with this sentiment and representatives from both UNE and SCU agreed that research projects must be designed to provide practical and pragmatic solutions for residents, Kempsey Council and farmers.



Universities, Government Agencies including Kempsey Shire Council, NSW Food Authority and Community Groups aim to move forward with new Antimony and Arsenic findings.

Dr. Sue Wilson and Dr. Matt Tighe from the Pollution Science Research Group at UNE have investigated arsenic and antimony contamination in the Macleay Catchment since 1999 and first presented research findings at the inaugural Working Group meeting at KSC. Since then they have undertaken extensive research including a recent study into the uptake of Sb and As in vegetables. The laboratory trials indicated there was uptake was low in certain short term vegetable crops but that



longer term trials were needed.. Additionally, UNE is testing acute toxicity of As and Sb in Australian Bass and Silver Perch. The findings will be published shortly.

There are many questions still to be answered by further research and the UNE and SCU are seeking to collaborate with relevant Agencies for an Australian Research Council grant. KSC has generously pledge a contribution to the research proposal however additional funds are needed from other key stakeholders to make the application viable.

Derelict Mines Program declined to commit funding until reviewing the research proposal against its funding guidelines and discussing the project further with its Steering Committee.

In the meantime Dr. Sue Wilson's team from UNE are using a small grant to 'Quantify antimony bioavailability and bioaccumulation in Australian aquatic food-chains' through sampling of water, suspended sediments, river sediments, molluscs and fish in the Macleay Catchment.

NSW Food Authority samples oysters for As and Sb every three years and their findings have given the Macleay estuary oysters the 'thumbs up'. *Inorganic* Arsenic was 'not detected' in two 2015 surveys of local oysters. (Note that seafood is naturally high is *Total* Arsenic and so the Authority tests for the *Inorganic* form of Arsenic). In terms of Antimony, a 2011 survey indicated low to 'not detected' levels in oysters. >>

The oyster industry and consumers would be notified if the sampling had detected As and Sb as the findings would trigger further investigation and action by the NSW Food Authority.

The Working Group agreed to continue to meet when required and also to upload research findings, reports and journal articles onto the Kempsey Shire Council website for all to read. The Save Our Macleay River website is also an excellent source of information and Macleay Landcare will continue to inform our members and the community of information when it arises.

The take away message provided by NSW Health is 'do not panic'. Council's water treatment systems are effective at removing sediment and contaminants.

If you are worried about water contamination drink town water or rain water.

Freshwater Macrophytes in the Macleay River

A 2015 report extract by Ben. E. Vincent, Sara Mika and Darren Ryder (University of New England)

For a start, what are Macrophytes and why bother researching them?

Glad you Asked! *Macrophyte* is the term given to aquatic plants that are visible to the naked eye, are floating, emergent (grow out of the water) or submergent, and include flowering plants, ferns and large algal species. It is important to study them because native macrophytes are a significant natural biological feature in rivers as they **enhance water quality**. They perform important ecological roles **reducing riverbank erosion**, and influencing water and nutrient cycling by **taking up and removing excessive nutrients** from water. Their ability to remove and effectively control excess nutrients is an increasingly valuable ecosystem service (eg. a 'free' service provided by nature such as bees pollinating fruit tree flowers) for anthropogenically (human induced) disturbed aquatic ecosystems. Below, Egeria flower.



The UNE report documents macrophyte communities occurring along a 215.5 km length of the Macleay River from upper reaches to the estuary. While native macrophytes were more numerous overall, exotic macrophytes, such as *Egeria*, were almost as prevalent in terms of total macrophyte cover and area. Native and exotic macrophytes co-occurred throughout the entirety of the study reach but predominantly occupied different river habitats, eg back waters, river edges.

What is *Egeria densa*?

It's also known as Leafy/Brazilian Elodea or Dense waterweed and is recognised as one of the world's worst aquatic weeds. The impacts caused by *Egeria* are many, and include direct ecological losses such as



reducing or replacing native aquatic flora, reducing light density and altering habitat conditions, and also economic losses by increasing siltation, reducing water flow, choking irrigation channels, reducing navigation in waterways and impeding commercial and recreational fishing activities.



Outside of its natural range in South America, *Egeria* has naturalised throughout many countries on all continents

except Antarctica, mainly as a result of the aquarium trade and human induced disturbances such as increased nutrients in waterways. *Egeria densa* was first reported in the Macleay River near Kempsey, NSW, in 1998 and has been described in the reaches both upstream and downstream of Fredrickton.

With the ability to reproduce asexually (fragments rather than seeds), *Egeria* is able to rapidly expand its range in aquatic systems once established. *Egeria* growth is promoted by factors such as high nutrient >

inputs, high disturbance rates, high adaptability, reduced or removed natural herbivores and diseases and efficient dispersal mechanisms such as floods, boats and fishing activities.

What can be done? Control options are currently limited to chemical and physical control and these have their own negative environmental impacts. Ongoing research into biological controls is producing promising results. Long-term management of *Egeria densa* is likely to involve a combination of the control options, in addition to a reduction in nutrients entering waterways and human induced disturbance, improved land management practices and restoration of riparian vegetation.

This is where your Landcare activities may help reduce the spread of *Egeria densa* in the Macleay River system particularly if you are controlling stock access and maintaining a healthy functioning riparian zone.

A dense ground cover of grasses, sedges and rushes capture and store excess nutrients and sediment before they enter the waterway, and shade provided by overhanging trees and shrubs help to keep the water cool and oxygenated. In these circumstances native macrophytes are more likely to flourish and outcompete exotic macrophytes such as *Egeria*. This is yet another good reason to protect and rehabilitate your river or creek front riparian zone. Contact Landcare for help.

Images sourced from:

[DPI Leafy Elodea Weedwise Fact Sheet](#)

North Coast Weed Reforms

The new North Coast Regional Weeds Committee, formed under the NSW Weeds reforms process has replaced the Mid North Coast Weed Coordinating Committee and the North Coast Weed Advisory Committee. The new Committee is currently developing the North Coast Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan, in readiness for the new Biosecurity Act which comes into effect in 2017. Information regarding regional weed management activities, weed reforms and the Biosecurity Act can be found at www.northcoastweeds.org.au The draft plans will be available for comment through North Coast Local Land Services in early 2017, with further information on accessing the plan closer to the time. The proposed Biosecurity Act regulations will be available for public consultation from November 14, and public information sessions will be available. The closest session for the Macleay area is in Coffs Harbour on November 16, 2016. Call: 1800 808 095 or go to the following websites (<https://nswfoodauthority.createsend.com/t/ViewEmail/y/609AE3C748604B02/C67FD2F38AC4859C>)

and (<http://northcoast.ils.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/weed-control/nsw-weed-reforms>)



Tropical soda apple



Bush & Blossoms
Environmental Services

Sonja Bosch: 0410 836 890 | spaarky@hotmail.com.au



Natural Area Restoration

We also offer:

- * Vegetation Management Plans
- * photographic monitoring
- * reporting

- * **Bush regeneration**
 - spraying
 - cut & paint
 - scrape & paint
 - basal barking
 - drill & inject
 - brush cutting
- * **Revegetation**
 - native tubestock supply
 - site plans & preparation
 - planting & initial watering
 - follow up watering & fertilising
 - stakes & tree guards
 - ongoing maintenance



Father and daughter team, Sonja and Gerold Bosch provide a broad service in the district.

Get involved with Macleay Landcare

Talk & Walk Workshop

For Landcare Members & Friends 9th Dec 2016

**Are you interested in our environment?
Want to meet like minded people ?
Want to get involved?**



Members & friends are invited to this social event to share their ideas, VISION and enthusiasm with the Macleay Landcare Committee and staff.

Come and see a Jerseyville property managed for cattle and rehabilitated for BIODIVERSITY.

Be part of Landcare's FUTURE by commenting on the Strategic Plan, suggest field day topics, become a member or register your interest as a volunteer.

Where: Jerseyville (look for signs) - Call MLN for Address

When: Friday 9th December 3 to about 6pm

Bring: a plate of finger food to share, chair, walking shoes and your Landcare spirit!

RSVP: 6562 2076 or www.macleaylandcare.org.au in the case of very wet weather contact our officer for advice.



This activity is part of the Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative



Local Land Services

The Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative is funded by the NSW Government, and is supported through the partnership of Local Land Services and Landcare NSW.





Curtis Stone

Have you discovered the wonderful world of **Milkwood** yet? It's a website teeming with fresh and inspiring news, images and information about being as self sufficient as possible. The website is a resource for those interested in growing food organically, soil health, preserving and fermenting excess produce, designing and building gardens and homes.

It also links you to an array of courses that would appeal to many 'Landcarers'. Here is an example of three courses currently on offer:

Profitable Urban Farming with Curtis Stone (above) author of *The Urban Farmer*. This is a 12 week on-line course. See below for a little more information.

Gourmet Mushroom Cultivation 12-13 November in Sydney

Natural Bee Keeping Dec 5-6th in Bathurst.

Go to www.milkwood.net to have a look for yourself or to register to receive their wonderful eNewsletter.

Profitable Urban Farming is kind of an expanded, interactive version of Curtis's book (or his one-day workshop) but with stacks of more specific knowledge and resources, lots of encouragement, a paced learning style that follows along with your farm plot establishment, and a vibrant worldwide student community that becomes your farming community both during the course, and onward from there.

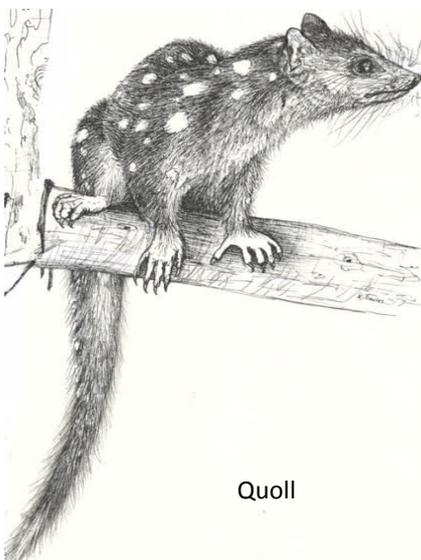
www.profitableurbanfarming.com

SPRING— Images below by K. Davies

The following wildlife drawings and photos are contributions from artist Kathleen (Kate) Davies. All images are copyright to the artist Kathleen



Spoonbills



Quoll



Bush stone-curlew



Wild About Whales

www.wildaboutwhales.com.au is a free download via Google or i-tunes which gives viewers an up to date guide on sightings, best vantage points etc., of whales in NSW during their Northern and Southern migration. During the months of September, October and November (Southern Migration) the Humpback Whales are on their return journey back to the Antarctic - some with new calves (as they do not breed yearly). This website is interactive, you can log your own sightings plus it provides helpful tips on spotting whales and is full of interesting factual information on cetaceans.



NSW WHALE WATCHING SEASON
WILD ABOUT WHALES
MAY - NOVEMBER

WHALE WATCHING

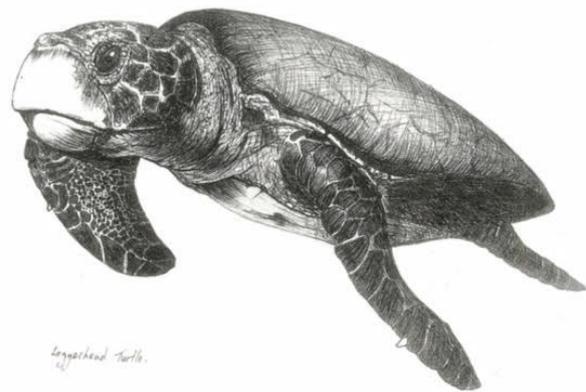
Check out our pick of the best whale watching vantage points, tours and accommodation in NSW.

FIND VIEWING HOTSPOTS

South Head, Sydney

Humpback whales
Spotted from Crescent Head
23 October. Heading North

Map data ©2016 Google



Sea Turtle - K.Davies (Copyright)

ORRCA

ORRCA Marine Mammal Rescue are always keen to hear from people interested in becoming volunteers. ORRCA regularly run Marine Mammal Rescue Training Workshops. For ORRCA activities and upcoming training dates go to www.orrca.org.au. In case of a stranding call the **24hr Whale Rescue Hotline 029415 3333**.

Organic Beef Workshop

By Sally Ayre-Smith

A conversation with Edward Lahey, a close friend and neighbour, prompted me to run a workshop on demystifying organic beef farming in our valley.

I had on many occasions over the last few years had conversations like this with beef farmers in our valley – there now seemed to be enough interest to convene a workshop, get some good speakers and help farmers in our valley understand the certification process.

I approached Kempsey Council and the North Coast LLS for their support. Susannah Smith (KSC) and Lindy Brown (LLS) were very supportive of the idea and agreed to share the costs of this workshop.

I approached the key note speakers and with the help of Geoff Le Messurier at LLS we worked the order of the day. I worked out what the day would cost and then handed it to Lindy and Susannah to administer the funds. Kristy Forche-Baird from Council designed a brilliant flyer and took all the registrations and organised the whole event from then on.

It was a brilliant workshop and a credit to our Council who ran it in such a professional way – over 45 people attended – most of the room were farmers who ran beef on their land. Our speakers were so interesting and approachable during the workshop and we had lots of positive feedback from participants.

One of the best outcomes is that Edward Lahey is hoping to convert to organics – maybe Edward had been thinking about this over a number of years but I am sure that the workshop helped Edward make up his mind to do it – that is the best outcome for all of us who worked so hard to run this workshop.

Sally Ayre-Smith

Certified Organic Farmer
Landcare Committee Member

Take Home Messages about Organic Beef Production

Local beef producer and Landcare member, Barry Lee attended this event. Landcare asked Barry what the take home messages from the workshop were for him and his operation. His (paraphrased) response follows:

‘Farming requires a holistic approach. Getting humus into the ground is important. Cell grazing is one way of building humus.

The workshop made you re-assess the way you think about things, for example you can feed a mineral mix to your cattle and let *them* spread minerals and nutrients from their manure into the soil.

There are even a few things that I can do now such as rethink my herbicide use and begin using natural minerals for my cattle’. *Thanks for those practical observations Barry.*



Dungay Park Angus Goes Organic

Ed Lahey pictured above at his Dondingalong property is moving towards organic beef production. Purchasing an additional ex-dairy property nearby has given him and his wife Kim the room to improve.

By working towards a lower residue practice Mr Lahey believes it won't be long before the intensively farmed dairy regains its microbial soil count which from that point the switch to organic certification will be well underway.

The goal to go organic won't yield him any more beef dollars during this current incredible spike in prices but as a premium brand this Angus product will continue to hold value.

They have limited the use of chemical drenches over the last decade and their cattle don't suffer with worms. As an alternative they have drenched cattle with trace elements and nutrient concentrate at the beginning of each season to boost the gut populations of beneficial microbes.

They also apply mineral supplements to their paddocks by direct drill so the fused magnesium calcium and phosphate prill is directed to the root zone where the plants need it most.

It is also important to maintain an adequate stocking rate that maintains cattle in top condition cattle throughout the year. Climate, pasture and soils need to be carefully considered.

Ed says that ‘For every week your cattle lose condition it takes a further two weeks on quality feed to return them to original condition’.

MLN would also like to acknowledge and credit Jamie Brown (Rural Press) for as the source of our abridged Newsletter article. The original story was featured in the 18th August 2016 edition of The Land Newspaper.

MLN is very keen to make contact with people in the valley who practice organic production or have been inspired by this recent Organic Beef workshop, so please be in touch with us on 02 6562 2076 to share your story.

Building Bird Habitat

Macleay Landcare was fortunate to have Peter West come and speak at our 'Building Habitat' Workshop held recently at Gladstone.

Peter is an experienced and well respected birdwatcher, is a member of the Hastings Bird Watchers Group and is also a bush regenerator with his wife Sue Proust. They are keenly involved as volunteers in projects that protect and restore key bird habitat.

Birdlife International has identified 14,000 Important Bird Biodiversity Areas (IBBAs) for rare and endangered bird species across the globe. And one of those areas is in our backyard – the Hastings-Macleay IBBA extends from the Camden Haven to the Stuarts Point area east of the Pacific Highway.

This area is extremely important habitat for the endangered Regent Honey Eater, Swift Parrot, Australasian Bittern and Eastern Curlew below in that order.

Bird trends indicate that populations of even common birds are declining. Habitat and connectivity loss is the main drivers for local and widespread extinction of birds.



Bird watchers : Peter West and Alastair Smedley

Bring Back the Birds:

Plant natives: a diverse mix of ground cover, shrub and canopy species.

Reduce 'edge effect' by planting in a square or triangle. Avoid long narrow plantings.

If you have the space allow 30m for a wildlife corridor for birds.

Link your corridor to an existing patch of remnant vegetation (the bigger the better). And avoid gaps more than 500m between patches.



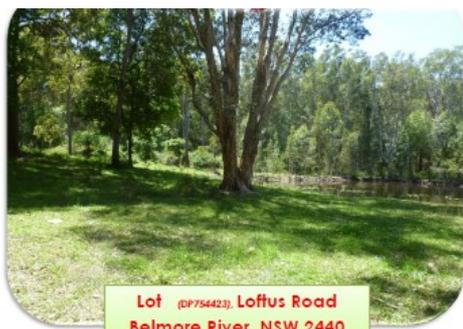
Two New NSW Department of Primary Industries Fisheries- Habitat Action Grants

Plans are in place for works occurring at 4 properties along the Macleay River for the Department of Primary Industries and North Coast Local Land Services funded Habitat Action Grant project "Macleay River Landholders Unite to Protect and Restore Fish Habitat". A group of four riparian landholders on the Macleay River will rehabilitate fish habitat by implementing the recommendations of a 2014 DPI Fisheries Management Plan by controlling stock access, addressing bank erosion, and revegetating with standard and long-stem tube-stock seedlings. The planting is set to take place in the Springtime.

Work has begun at an additional Habitat Action Grant funded project: "Caring for Fish Habitat– Dungay Creek". The project aims to improve fish habitat and protect stream banks from further erosion. Sharon from Landcare is pictured here with Peter Corlis from the soil conservation service, earthworks operator David Thurgood and landholder Owen Clarke.



LAND with SIGNIFICANT BIODIVERSITY VALUE FOR SALE NEAR CRESCENT HEAD



Lot (DP764423) Loftus Road
Belmore River, NSW 2440

Offers at or above \$550,000.00
Contact Steve Rowe
on 0438 625 235

- 52ha block of land for sale.
- Access to the block is via a 2km driveway with lockable gates at both the main entrance on the road and also at the internal entrance.
- The block comes with full building entitlements and a 10mtr easement for road and access to power.
- The block is close to pristine beaches and to the local beachside village (Crescent Head) for supplies and recreation.
- Vegetation and habitats on the block are suitable for Bio Banking (refer to report).
- The block has two elevated areas; both suitable for dwellings, one with a fresh water dam nearby and is mostly cleared.
- The block is 3 kilometres from the coast and is very secure and private.

KOALAS *Phascolarctos cinereus* in the MACLEAY

Between August to February is breeding season for Koalas (often more actively seen around November) and males will be vocalising more frequently and travelling extra distances in search of females. During the breeding season the previous years young are also dispersing from their mothers. Female Koalas who normally live till about 12yrs of age don't start breeding till they are about 3 or 4yrs of age and only usually produce one young (known as a joey) each year but not necessarily every year. **Habitat loss is the greatest threat to Koalas. In New South Wales under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995, the Koalas status is listed as "VULNERABLE". In NSW there is also a State Environment Planning Policy No.44—Koala Habitat Protection (SEPP 44) legislation introduced early in 1995 which further protects the Koala. But despite this legislation other factors continue to cause the decline and survival rate of Koalas which is of great concern. Some of the following reasons are: decreasing food stocks due to rural residential development and logging, disturbed forested areas (eg., lack of vegetation corridors which would normally allow Koalas to pass through areas safely) , dog attacks, motor vehicle accidents and disease (bacterial disease called Chlamydia).** Where koalas are able to live in undisturbed forested areas free of human interference their numbers tend to be healthier and higher in numbers. Please call the **Koala Hospital** at Lord Street Port Macquarie **24hr contact 026584 1522** should you sight a Koala in distress, injured or orphaned. Researchers at the hospital are currently collecting DNA data from Koalas. You can also view the website at www.koalahospital.org.au or email the Hospital via the following emails sightings@koalahospital.org.au or education@koalahospital.org.au

Or an alternative rescue service **FAWNA 24hr Rescue 026581 4141** Website: www.fawna.org.au **FAWNA** operates in the Macleay/Great Lakes & Sth of Macksville.



Deceased adult male Koala *Phascolarctos cinereus* on Crescent Head Road, Crescent Head October 2016

SHORT-BEAKED ECHIDNA *Tachyglossus aculeatus*



Echidna



Rolling into a ball for protection



Digging underground

During the end of June through to the end of September you may have seen an increase in the number of sightings of Echidnas. This is their breeding season and it is common to see the increase of sighting of both adults and sub adults (last season's young) especially in the late afternoons and early mornings .

The Echidna and the Platypus are the only two Australian mammals which lay eggs and are known as Monotremes (a sub class of the Mammal family).

The female echidna lays a single egg and carries this in her pouch (not a true pouch but a skinfold under the belly) till it is hatched 10 days later. The young echidna known as a Puggle is about the size of a jelly bean when it is born and is carried in the skinfold pouch for approximately three (3) months, the Puggle suckles from a mammary gland in the pouch during this time. After 3 months the puggle will start to develop spines, it is then when it leaves the pouch, but stays underground in a burrow made for it by its mother. The young echidna (Puggle) will continue to suckle the high nutrient milk from the mother's mammary gland, when the mother returns from feeding, although generally the mother will stay close to the burrow. But this is dependent on food sources, she may also only come back every few days sometimes up to 3-4days to feed the young.

The young Echidna will leave the safety of the burrow at about 12mths of age and at between 1-2kgs, when it is a fully grown adult it will weigh between 4-6kgs with males being the heavier. The lifespan of an echidna in the wild is generally believed to be approximately 10yrs but records of individuals up to 16yrs have been recorded (Rismiller & Seymour 1991). Echidnas do not have teeth but use their fine sense of smell, their beak and long sticky tongue to find their preferred source of food, termites and ants, as well as earthworms, beetles and moth larvae and grind their food between their tongues and the bottom of their mouths. In NSW the Short-beaked Echidna *Tachyglossus aculeatus* is protected under the Conservation status of Least Concern. Threats to the Echidna are motor vehicles and habitat destruction. Echidnas are particularly vulnerable as juveniles and sub adults when they are preyed upon by snakes, lizards, goannas, cats and foxes. Other injuries Echidnas sometimes sustain are from dogs. For more information on the Echidna go to www.environment.nsw.gov.au And another source of information can be found via links of video showcases by Dr. Peggy Rismiller who is a world renowned expert on Echidnas www.exceptionalkangarooisland.com

Should you find an injured Echidna it is important to make contact with Wildlife Carer Groups in the local area in the first instance, echidnas are wonderful escape artists so it is important to make sure you have a sturdy secure aerated container (not a cardboard box) during transportation. Their beak is also particularly vulnerable to damage, and echidnas need to be kept cool, these are very important things to remember if transporting an echidna to a wildlife carer. Please also take care to record exactly where the Echidna was found as it may have a young puggle underground awaiting return of it's mother. The survival of any young puggle offspring may depend on the exact area as to where the Echidna was found.

FAWNA 24hr Wildlife Rescue 026581 4141 Website: www.fawna.org.au FAWNA operates in the Macleay/Hastings/Great Lakes areas and will also rescue up to the Sth of Macksville .

This is the newsletter of the Macleay Landcare Network covering the Kempsey Shire and the Macleay Catchment
 PO Box 3048, 19 Sea St Kempsey Showground NSW 2440 Tel: 02 6562 2076
 Email: office.macleaylandcare@gmail.com web: www.macleaylandcare.org.au
 Facebook page: www.facebook.com/pages/Macleay-Landcare-Network/310156315856031



Welcome to the following new members: John Barnett, Susan Couch, Gregory Egan, Michael James-Handsaver, Bill Larkin, Rupert Milne Home, Astrid McCormick.



MACLEAY LANDCARE— SUPPORTING NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN THE MACLEAY VALLEY



This newsletter is produced by the Landcare Officers and support staff of the Macleay Landcare Network Inc. with assistance received in funding from the North Coast Local Land Services and the NSW Environmental Trust.

Whilst Macleay Landcare Network Inc. makes every effort to publish accurate and up to date information, the MLN and its employees do not accept responsibility for inaccuracies and or opinions that may be expressed in this newsletter.



MLN Committee Meetings

In the short term MLN committee will meet on the last Wednesday of each month.

Next Meeting: 30th Nov from 6pm at Macleay Landcare Office 19 Sea St, Kempsey Showground

A reminder that members are invited to the Macleay Landcare Network's Committee Meetings.

Come along to find out more about this network and how we are working with the community.

RSVP on 02 6562 2076

Events Calendar

Date and Time	Location	Event Theme
Wed 16 Nov 2016 2-4pm	Coffs Harbour Community Centre	Public Consultation Meeting— on the Proposed Regulation and Regulatory Impact Statement Biosecurity Act 2015 Reforms. Doc released 14/11/2016. Consultations various areas 14-30 Nov 2016. Comments closing 29 Jan 2017. For more information call Ph: 1800 808 095
20th & 27th November 2016	Venue TBA. Hastings Valley	Pollinator Week — Bee Workshops. Contact Hastings Landcare on 6586 4465 or email hastingslandcare@midcoast.com.au