



## GREENING NOOSA



For some years now we have been weeding along the Coast Track in the Noosa National Park, and as a result there are fewer weeds, notwithstanding that conditions have been dry. The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service is currently constructing new paving and balustrading along part of this track, and will eradicate more weeds as part of their work. The rangers appear to appreciate our help keeping weeds under control, as do the many walkers who make comment. And of course we members of NPA much prefer a weed-free walk.

Next work days at the National Park are on Wednesday 8am April 19 and May 17. In the meantime everyone is most welcome to help on Noosa Spit near "Doggie Beach" on Thursday mornings April 13 and May 11. We continue to care for the **Noosa Parks Association Park** on Noosa Spit and value that the Noosa Parks Association occupies this central position of relatively stable land on the spit. Even recently in the local newspaper, again some bright sparks are eying off the Spit for car parking, suggesting there is lots of space to construct multi-level car parks. Noosa Spit was constructed across the river mouth as a sacrificial buffer to protect Noosa Sound from storm surge. We will continue to maintain the Noosa Parks Association Park as a vegetated recreation area for all to enjoy.

**Glen Gloster**

**Annette Ehrhardt**  
Greening Noosa  
Email: [amdeen45@bigpond.com](mailto:amdeen45@bigpond.com) or ph: 54491547

The 2017 activity program is on the NPA website [www.noosaparks.org.au](http://www.noosaparks.org.au) and hard copies are available at the Environment Centre.



**Members of Noosa Parks Association at their monthly weeding at Noosa National Park.**

## FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM

Friday Forum on March 31 was cancelled owing to weather problems, and the guest speaker has agreed to speak on May 5. See below for the forward program

Date	Topic	Speaker:
April 7	Myco-remediation	Sandra Tuszynska
Apr 14	<b>GOOD FRIDAY – No forum</b>	
Apr 21	Albert Lyrebirds on the Scenic Rim	Anna Fearnley
Apr 28	New Hope coal mine near Susan River	Julie Devine - Lock the Gate
May 05	Nudibranchs and Sea Slugs	David Mullins
May 12	Underwater in the Indonesian Archipelago	Jan Brown
May 19	In search of Coxen's Fig Parrot	Rae O'Flynn - Noosa Landcare
May 26	Underwater Photography and The Great Barrier Reef	Gary Cranitch - Qld Museum
June 02	"The curse of commonness and the invisible extinctions"	Dr Scott Burnett - USC

Additional volunteers are needed for the Environment Centre on Friday mornings. Please help us maintain a quality event. Contact me at: [fridayforum@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:fridayforum@noosaparks.org.au) or Tel: 5471 3195 if you want to chat about this.

Up to date information of each Environment Forum is provided every Tuesday in the Noosa News. A visit to the NPA website [www.noosaparks.org.au](http://www.noosaparks.org.au) is also recommended to see the innovative approach taken by David Anderson in updating the site each week with the Friday Forum information.

**Dianne Shun Wah**  
**Friday Environment Forum Organiser**  
[fridayforum@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:fridayforum@noosaparks.org.au)

## CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

So we can keep in contact with you please let us know if you change your email or postal address...

Email: [office@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:office@noosaparks.org.au) or Post: **PO Box 836, Noosa Heads, Q 4567**

## BOTANY GROUP



There was a really interesting start to the year in early February, with the launch of two brochures on the “Fungi of the Sunshine Coast” at the Maroochy Botanic Gardens by the Queensland Mycological Society. Each brochure contains about 100 colour photographs and they would be ideal to use as field guides. They were written and designed by Frances Guard and Sapphire McMullan-Fisher, who used to be a member of our Botany Group. The brochures are available at bookstores in Maleny, Barung Landcare, Maroochy Botanic Gardens and several other places. Please give me a ring for further details.

At our February meeting, Rod Jamieson gave a talk on ‘Red Leaves’. In Queensland, we don’t have deciduous trees whose leaves turn into glorious autumn colours before falling, so we travelled to New Zealand, Europe and America to see what happens over there. Thank you, Rod, for a most interesting talk.

In March, I gave a talk on *Melaleucas* (Paperbarks) which are well represented on the Sunshine Coast. One reason that I chose this subject was to investigate the reason why all *Callistemons* (Bottlebrushes) in Queensland, Northern Territory, ACT and Tasmania have been transferred to the *Melaleuca* genus. The botanists have their reasons, but the sad thing is that we no longer have any *Callistemons* in Queensland!

Cilento Park in Nambour is usually a favourite botany walk, but in February, after the hottest and driest summer on record in Southeast Queensland, plants were not looking their best. The highlight of the walk is usually the waterfall, which was reduced to a mere trickle, but the pool at the base was able to support some interesting plants. We retired to a shelter for morning tea, and then the heavens opened. We were subjected to half an hour of heavy rain – the first we had seen for a very long time!

We look forward to our next walk at Peter and Liz’s place at the end of March on Main Camp Road.

Sonia MacDonald

**Joan Heavey**  
Co-coordinator, Botany Group.  
Ph: 5449 9192 or [joan.dennis@bigpond.com](mailto:joan.dennis@bigpond.com)

**Sonia Macdonald**  
Botany Group  
Ph: 5471 0572 or [soniamacdonald@ozemail.com.au](mailto:soniamacdonald@ozemail.com.au)

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## RECEIVE NPA MESSAGES BY EMAIL And help us save

You can help NPA use less paper and spend less on postage by notifying NPA to send you this newsletter, ‘Happenings’ and other member communications by email rather than post.

If you currently receive NPA mail by post and would like to switch to email, you are welcome to send an email to the Honorary Secretary at [office@noosaparks.org.au](mailto:office@noosaparks.org.au)

## NOOSA TRAMPERS



Following successful surgery, on 26<sup>th</sup> January, both Margaret and myself became Australian Citizens. So, Hi and G`day to you all. Thank you to all the Trampers who came to support us on that day.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February.** Mt Borumba, a climb of 530m and an 11km walk. Temperature around 32 degrees! Not for the faint hearted. Gail and Gunter did the recce the week, before in similar conditions. Lunch at the dam, then a quick pint in The Railway to cool down. Too hot—enough said.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February.** Again extremely hot. This was to be a circular trip, the temperature prompting a change of plan. Car sharing from Lions Park Coolum to Yaroomba Park obviated the necessity of walking on concrete, in areas without cover, it also reduced the overall distance to a comfortable level. Rewarded with spectacular views, through pleasant parks, The Coastal Path led us back to Coolum. Thank you to our enthusiastic leader Di, occasionally assisted by input from David H!



Lake Borumba from Mt Borumba



Mt Borumba from Lake Borumba

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March.** A 15 km round trip to Gheerula Falls, led by Peter. A cooler day. This is a very scenic walk through open eucalypt and littoral rainforest to reach the falls, which offered only a token dribble! Returning through the rain forest we were rewarded with a clothes drenching shower, adding to the ambiance.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March.** From Noosa Civic, a walk of 8kms, covering Noosaville's suburban / natural bush & wetland interface. Taking in Weyba Creek Parklands, AFL Oval, and Mangrove Walk. Returning via pathways of Noosa Waters, Noosa Northrise Estate, passing Domain R V, to reach the Civic. An impressive turnout of 27 walkers. Led by Stuart.

**Tony King**

**NPA Trampers Coordinator**

**Email: [tkraf22@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tkraf22@hotmail.co.uk) or Ph: 54122824**

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## COOLOOLA BUSHWALKERS



### Cooloola Bushwalkers February walk to Artists Cascades

This walk is part of the Conondale Range Great Walk and follows Booloumba Creek. The group of 11 walkers easily completed the 10.6 km return walk that left from Booloumba Creek Day Use area. The walk took us through subtropical and wet sclerophyll forest, providing much appreciated shade. On the way out to the Cascades we took a short side track to the Strangler Cairn.

The strangler Cairn was made by world renowned artist Andy Goldsworthy. It is composed of granite blocks shaped together with a strangler fig planted in the top. Over time the roots of the fig should grow down over the cairn. Richard has met (and worked briefly) with Andy Goldsworthy and it was very interesting to hear a bit about the artist himself and his very visceral approach to his art.

Further along the track we encountered a very sleek red bellied black snake sunning itself on the path. On our approach, it of course moved pretty quickly away from us into the bush. On to the Cascades and thankfully there was plenty of water in the swimming hole for a welcome dip. The return walk was on the same track but the thought of cold drinks at the cafe in Kenilworth sustained the group!



**Marguerite Wickens**  
Cooloola Bushwalkers Coordinator  
Email: [wickins63@dodo.com.au](mailto:wickins63@dodo.com.au)

**N.B. - Please note the changes to some walk dates on the Cooloola Bushwalkers Program. The 2017 activity program is on the NPA website [www.noosaparks.org.au](http://www.noosaparks.org.au) and hard copies are available at the Environment Centre.**

# NOOSA NATIONAL SURFING RESERVE

At last the unsatisfactory and highly deteriorated National Surfing Reserve plaque has been replaced and the original manufacturer has kindly refunded the cost. It looks very new and shiny and we hope this time it remains that way. A tart up of the surrounding landscaping has been included in the National Parks and Wildlife plans for upgrading of the Day Use Area.

At our meeting in February it was decided to reapply for World Surfing Reserve (WSR) status this year and make a definite push to become the 10th to be dedicated in 2018.

The steering committee sponsored the Sustainability Day during the Noosa Festival of Surfing in March, taking the opportunity to raise awareness of our objectives while raising the bank balance with sales of 'A Cup of Tea with God'. Copies of this book sold at the Info Hut also help with our fundraising. It gives a great overview of surfing in Noosa and contains some nostalgic photos from earlier days providing a 'beaut' coffee table book or the perfect souvenir.

Nick Mucha from the Vision Council of WSR was in Australia for the official dedication of the Gold Coast WSR and popped up to observe the Surfing Festival. Omar Bakhach from National Parks and Wildlife spent 8 hours showing him around Noosa and by all accounts he was impressed with this beautiful part of the world. We hope this strengthens our pending application.

Below is an outline of what a World Surfing Reserve is and what it means for Noosa, very similar to the existing National Surfing Reserve status, but on a global level. The Committee will be happy to provide further information as required.

## **NOOSA'S SURFING BACKGROUND**

The Noosa Surfing Reserve encompasses five superb right-hand point breaks within the Noosa National Park and two consistent beach breaks on either side, in one of Australia's most pristine and natural coastal settings. Noosa Heads is a favourite and iconic surf destination with rich surf heritage acknowledged the world over. Noosa Heads SLSC was founded 1927 & Malibu surfing took off on the breaks in the 1950's. Community based conservation group Noosa Parks Association has fought many battles in the past 50 years to retain Noosa's unique coastal environment.

## **WHAT IS A WORLD SURFING RESERVE?**

A World Surfing Reserves proactively identifies, designates and preserves outstanding waves, surf zones and surrounding environments around the world. The program serves as a global model for preserving wave breaks and their surrounding areas by recognizing and protecting the key environmental, cultural, economic and community attributes of surfing areas.

There are presently nine WSR's, two in USA, one each in Portugal, Peru, Mexico, Chile and Brazil, and two in Australia; Manly (2012) and Gold Coast (2016). A Surfing Reserve does not attempt to exclude any user group. WSR is a voluntary covenant with no legal status, much the same as the Noosa Biosphere Reserve.

## **WHAT ARE THE ESSENTIAL CRITERIA FOR DECLARATION OF A WSR?**

1. A globally-significant surf spot or outstanding series of surf breaks;
2. Unique environmental characteristics along clear avenues to protect them;
3. A rich surf culture and history;
4. Strong community support and capacity. Noosa Heads became the 19th NSR in Australia in 2014 and now aims to become the tenth WSR in the World.

## NOOSA NATIONAL SURFING RESERVE (continued)

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF HAVING NOOSA DECLARED A WORLD SURFING RESERVE?

- A Local Stewardship Council will be formed, bringing together representatives of all interest groups within the community, including local government and academics, to manage the reserve.
- This Council can form part of any discussions on matters relating to use of the coastal environment and make public statements on relevant issues on behalf of all user groups
- Having WSR status will complement and enhance Noosa's destination and lifestyle marketing
- Having WSR status will not alter the way the coastal environment is currently used and existing coastal and marine authority jurisdictions will remain unchanged
- The WSR will give recognition to Noosa's unique, natural environment and world-class waves

**Libby Winter**

**Noosa National Surfing Reserve**

[libby@winterco.com.au](mailto:libby@winterco.com.au)

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Noosa Parks Association Inc.

President	Michael Gloster	president@noosaparks.org.au
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Darlene Gower	dgower@iprimus.com.au
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Duncan Hogg	duncan@healthinperspective.org
Treasurer	David Anderson	treasurer@noosaparks.org.au
Honorary Secretary	Sharon Everton	office@noosaparks.org.au
Committee Members	Mike Sackett	msktt@yahoo.com
	Valerie Williams	valeriew688@gmail.com
	Prue McGowan	p7mcgowan@gmail.com
	John Chester-Freeman	jc-f@aapt.net.au
	Liz Smits	cdsandes@gmail.com