2015

Rainbow Beach Cooloola Coast **GOMMUNITY NEWS**





Cooloola Coastcare volunteers joined a Reef Check Australia expedition and learnt all about our unique reefs in the Great Sandy Strait. Read more on page 18.

OUR BOOKINGS FOR:

FRASER ISLAND COLOURED SANDS

PEN 7 DAYS

PWS Beach & Camping Permits

OURIST INFO CENTRE



IN ONE PLAC

- **All Tourist Information**
- Tour Bookings to Fraser Island
- Tour Bookings to Coloured Sands
- Accommodation
- Souvenirs and Gift Lines
- Swimwear and Clothing

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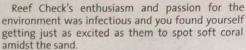
In exciting nonth to volunteer!

AST MONTH GAVE the volunteers of Cooloola Coastcare some unique opportunities to explore e different ecosystems of our beautiful coast.

First we hopped on a catamaran and tagged along th Reef Check Australia up the Sandy Strait for a oser look at the reefs in this area.

Using old maps as far back as twenty years we were ole to confirm or deny the existence of different





The most exciting find was along the strait where two volunteers found a long unmarked reef drop off

Next in the month Cooloola CoastCare drove up to Boonooroo to monitor the quantity and health of seagrass growing in the area. Seagrass is an important food source for marine life big and small including dugongs, sea turtles and sea urchins

If you want to get involved or have any questions please check out: www.cooloolacoastcare.org.au





Free local plants!

REE LOCAL PLANTS are available at Cooloola City Farm on your latest rates notice, so come in to see our range. City Farm will be open for the Garage Trail Sale on October 22, from 8am-1pm, with lots for sale, so please drop in.

Now is a great time to prepare your garden for the summer, before the weather gets too hot. Summer can be very taxing on even native plants, especially if there is an extended period of dry weather.

Mulching is the best way to help your plants through summer. Some of

its many benefits are: it helps retain moisture, replenishes potassium and nitrogen in sandy soils, decays and provides humus which improves the soil, and reduces weed growth.

time to mulch is after rain. If your mulching is successful, fertilising should not be required, but if you do fertilise, use an organic fertiliser specifically for

Lastly, encourage deep roots by watering minimally from the beginning. Deep roots will enable the plants to survive on less water.

City Farm, opposite the Community Centre, on Tin Can Bay Road, is open to the public for plant sales on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8am-3pm, 07 5486 2304, ccfni09@gmail.com, www.cooloolacityfarm.org

Plant of the month is Melaleuca pachyphylla (Wallum bottlebrush) -previously known as Callistemon pachyphyllus - a shrub to 1.5 metres, flowering right now in its green or red form

Little things count or Fraser

EXPERT NATURALISTS and sci preparing to converge on Fraser (Kgari) at the end of November to identify any living thing that s swims, hops, runs, flies or blows i

One of the organisers, John Si said that it is vital to learn more a Fraser's eco system so that it co better protected and managed, is why FIDO (Fraser Island Defe Organisation), QPWS, and the Univ of the Sunshine Coast are collabor to organise one of Australia's bi

"It is difficult to know how to pr plant and animal species that you know even occur there and kno them is critical to the island's V Heritage status, "Mr Sinclair said.

UNESCO recognizes the Fraser Islan "an outstanding example of signifi ongoing biological processes." Mr Sinclair said that the response f

scientists to scrutinize the 50 squ kilometre study area between the be and Lake Birrabeen so far has exceed expectations.

He added that the experts who h so far nominated to take part in BioBlitz are volunteers and are be drawn from naturalists clubs, vari societies in biological specialit museums, and universities.

"One of the scientists who help identify almost 300 species of ants a 57 species of Collembola (springtails a CSIRO study of Cooloola soils in t late 1970s will lead a team seeking identify similar small critters that to over K'Gari's soils, while other expe are identifying fungi, mammals, repti birds and spiders amongst other thing Mr Sinclair said.

Base camp for the BioBlitz will be the University of the Sunshine Coa Dilli Village Fraser Island Research Learning Centre. The study area exter from the ocean beach to Lake Birrabe covering all six dune systems i

encompassing most ecosystem types
The BioBlitz will run from Novem 28 to December 4. While participa will need to meet their own costs, is a unique opportunity to work wexperts from an array of disciplines very attractive field setting.

Find out more: www.fido.org.au

call John on 0418 650 535





