

Newsletter

www.whitsundaylandcare.org.au



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A partnership for the natural resource management of catchments in the Central QLD Coast Bioregions.

CATCHMENT COORDINATOR:

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coordinator@whitsundaylandcare.org.au

PROJECT OFFICER:

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project@whitsundaylandcare.or.g.au

CONTACT US FOR INFORMATION:

- Natural Resource Management
- Land management Plans
- Native plants
- Environmental weeds
- Volunteer activities

BECOME A VOLUNTEER:

Come seed collecting; learn to identify native plants; how to propagate them; improve your environment; enjoy the outdoors in a fun, social setting.

If you're interested in doing your bit for the environment and socialising with like-minded people, we offer coordinated activities on Tuesday & Thursday mornings and more. Contact us!

WCL Management Committee: Graham Armstrong, Chair

Jacquie Sheils, Secretary Glenda Hodgson, Treasurer Dale Mengel John Casey WRC representative- CR. Gary Simpson One Community position vacant

WCL is a community not-for-profit group, relying on grants & donations. We are a registered charity; donations of

\$2 or more are tax deductible. To make a





donation please contact

Coming Up in September / October 2021 **COMMUNITY NURSERY OPEN FOR PLANT SALES** (CASH ONLY)

9am-12noon Tuesday, Thursday & the 1st Saturday of each month-Next Saturday opening—2nd October 2021.

Volunteer Activities in September 16th September Volunteer Event—

Visit to the QLD Government Community Sustainability Action Grant funded Cape Gloucester Beach Scrub project sites-Nelly Bay, Dingo Beach & Hydeaway Bay. See page 2 for details

Volunteer Activities in October

WCL Volunteer Event—21st October —9am—12noon.

Come along on a 'Weed Walk" - We will see how far we can get along to the Conway Circuit in Conway National Park.

See page 2 for details

At the Community Nursery in October: 33 Kelsey Creek Rd Proserpine Tuesday & Thursday 9am—12.30pm. For enquiries please Ph. 0483 811 229 or email: coordinator@whitsundaylandcare.org.au

Tuesday	Thursday
5th: Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.	7th: Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.
12th: Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.	14th: Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.
19th: Nursery Maintenance & propagation activities	21st: Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the Nursery OR 9am—12noon. Come along on a 'Weed Walk" in Conway national Park
26th: Nursery Maintenance & propagation activities	28th: Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.

WCL receives support from the following organizations:











WCL Volunteer Event—16th September —9am—12noon.

Our third Thursday of the month alternative to the WCL Community Nursery volunteer activity is a visit to the QLD Government Community Sustainability Action Grant funded Cape Gloucester Beach Scrub Rehabilitation project sites at Nelly Bay, Dingo Beach & Hydeaway Bay.

We will be checking the revegetation works, undertaking weeding and watering (if required) and collecting seed for propagation back at the nursery.

The QLD Governments Community Sustainability Program - Threatened Species Round 3 enabled WCL to undertake revegetation, provide supplementary watering & maintenance at the 3 sites.

The contract commenced in October 2019 and will end on the 31st October 2022

This event is offered as an alternative to attending the Community Nursery.

Please wear closed in shoes, sun smart clothes and a hat.

Please bring your water bottle

Please meet Chris Barbeler at the Nelly Bay Carpark at 9 am. Morning tea & water bottle refills provided.



WCL Volunteer Event—21st October —9am—12noon.

Our third Thursday of the month alternative to the WCL Community Nursery volunteer activity is.....

a visit to Conway National Park.

Come along on a 'Weed Walk" - We will see how far we can get along to the Conway Circuit in an hour walk then back track removing & bagging targeted weeds along the way to return to the carpark.

This event is enabled by a Volunteer Deed between QPWS and WCL that seeks to develop a long term mutually beneficial relationship. This is the first of many visits to the various walking tracks in the Conway National Park.

This event is offered as an alternative to attending the Community Nursery.

Please wear closed in shoes, sun smart clothes and a hat.

Please bring your water bottle

Please meet Chris Barbeler at the Brandy Creek Carpark at 9 am. Morning tea & water bottle refills provided.

What's Showing

Family: Rubiaceae

Common name: Butterfly bush

Scientific name: Pavetta australiensis

Description:

This is a large shrub, up to about 4 m tall, of the dry and subtropical rainforests of Queensland and NSW north from the McPherson Ranges, usually in the understorey. The plants photographed are at Cape Upstart Station.

Distribution:

In Australia, it is found in the Northern Territory, Cape York Peninsula, and north-east Queensland, at an altitudinal range from sea level to about 200 m. The tree is also found in the East Indies, hence the timorensis.

Leaves: The leaves are simple and opposite, oblanceolate to narrowly elliptic, to 4 - 15 cm in length, by 1 - 6 cm in width. The apex is acuminate to obtuse, the lamina thin-textured, more-or-less glossy, and glabrous. Triangular stipules are

present on the stem between pairs of leaves. The lamina is dark green, soft and thin, while the midrib and the lateral veins,

being lighter in colour, are clearly visible on both sides of the leaf. The leaves are softly succulent-looking. The petiole is 5 - 20 mm long.

Photo: J. Sheils

Flowers: The inflorescences are manyflowered, terminal above the uppermost leaves, subtended by fused bracts. The calyx is 1.5 – 2 mm long, the corolla white, the tube 10 - 15 mm long, the lobes 5 - 8 mm long. The style is twice the length of the corolla tube. The flowers are fragrant, appearing usually between late September and November, depending on the rainfall and temperatures. A very dry end to the year may prevent or restrict flowering. When this happens, there may be a flowering after the wet season.

Fruit: The fruit is a black globular berry up to 6 mm in diameter, crowned by a persistent calyx, and Above: Pavetta australiensis flower ripening usually about 4 months after the flowers appear.



Above: Pavetta australiensis shrub form. Located at Cape Upstart Photo: J. Sheils



Above: Pavetta australiensis shrub with Panicles of flower buds about to open. Located at Cape Upstart Photo: J. Sheils

Propagation: From fresh seed or cuttings

Notes: This is a highly ornamental plant very suitable for planting in gardens, happy in full sun or semi-shade, and preferring well-drained soils. The bush may be propagated from cuttings, and fairly copious watering will help it to grow rapidly. Once established, it is quite hardy, and needs little water. It has the added advantage of being very attractive to butterflies, as the common name suggests – they feed on the nectar in the flowers. The ripe fruits are eaten by frugivores. Caterpillars that feed on their leaves include:

• the moth <u>Macroglossum hirundo</u>, • the Coffee Hawk Moth <u>Cephonodes</u> hylas, and • the Gardenia Bee Hawk Cephonodes kingii.

Above: Pavetta australiensis

In the garden, pruning will help to maintain bushy growth, and prevent the

becoming too straggly. It can make a useful screen plant. This plant deserves to be seen more frequently in our gardens.

Sources:

https://somemagneticislandplants.com.au https://www.territorynativeplants.com.au

PEST HALL OF FAME

Common name: Siam weed

Scientific Name: Chromolaena odorata

Legal requirements

- · Siam weed is a category 3 restricted invasive plant under the Biosecurity Act 2014.
- It must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment.
- The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive plants and animals under their control. This is called a general biosecurity obligation (GBO).

· At a local level, each local government must have a biosecurity plan that covers invasive plants and animals in its area. This plan may include

actions to be taken on certain species. Some of these actions may be required under local laws. Contact your local government for more information.

Notes: Siam weed is native to Central and South America and is considered one of the world's most invasive weeds. This is because it has a phenomenal growth rate of 20mm per day, or 5m per year, and can out-compete and smother crops and native vegetation. It has yet to be identified in the Mackay Whitsunday region, however, Biosecurity QLD has advised that it may spread into this region in the future, despite concerted efforts to prevent this from happening. As a result, it is highly recommended that everyone becomes familiar with this weed and be on the lookout for any new infestations. If you think you have discovered Siam weed in your area, please contact Above: Chromoleaena of think you have discovered Siam weed in your area, please contact flowers & growth form Biosecurity QLD or your local government as soon as possible.





Above: Chromoleaena odorata PHOTO: OLD Business

Appearance: Young Siam weed looks similar Billy Goat weed (*Ageratum* spp.), but mature plants have a growth habit similar to Lantana (*Lantana camara*). Siam weed grows as a dense tangling bush to 2 - 3m, however, it can also scramble up trees to a height of 20m.



Leaves: Soft, green, hairy and triangular in shape. They have a length of 50 120mm with a distinctive three-vein pitchfork pattern. New growth has a purple colouration and the leaves emit a pungent odour when crushed.

Flowers: Tubular, pale pink-mauve in colour, about 10mm long, usually in clusters of 10 - 35, found at the ends of the branches.

Fruits/Seeds: Brown to black, 4 - 5 mm long, with a tuft of white hairs at the top of the seed in addition to fine barbs. Each plant can produce > 80,000 seeds per season.

Above: Chromoleaena odorata Spread by: The tuft of white hairs that allow the seed to be transported leaves PHOTO: QLD Business by wind and water. Seeds will also attach to vehicles, machinery, clothing, footwear and animals.

Invades: Disturbed areas, creeks, riverbanks and remnant patches of rainforests. Siam weed is generally found where rainfall exceeds 600mm per annum (i.e. tropical and sub-tropical coastal regions).

Management

Ensure that the control of Siam weed is completed every year before flowering begins in winter.

Mechanical Control

Physical removal of the root ball is very effective and recommended for smaller infestations. However, it is extremely important that the plant does not remain in contact with the soil as it will re-shoot.

Impacts: Siam weed can cause skin complaints and asthma in allergy-prone people. It can also cause cattle deaths due to its high nitrate levels. In the dry season, dense thickets of Siam weed can cause more frequent and intense bushfires as the flames reach high into the trees.

https://www.daf.gld.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0015/50028/siam-weed.pdf

National Tree Day- August 1st 2021 Galbraith Park

With the cautionary low-key approach to this year's event pitched only to members, it was a different kind of event this year, but still a major step upwards from 2020! Some of the long-term regular attendees at such events were unavailable so it was great to see Gus back for his second event and Caroline and Sue step up for their first local NTD. This was the second planting at the R19 site at Galbraith Park, with the weather as unseasonably warm as the first had been unseasonably wet. But for all the reasons that this site was chosen for a volunteer planting site, we planted our full number of trees without too much bother.

This year we have had input from Fenna and Wayne in the preparation of the site, and at the risk of sounding like a DJ with only one record, this second stage of the re



WCL Volunteers planting at Galbraith Park Photo: Cath Campbell

-vegetation is as critical as any other. Of course nothing happens without the admin phase (stage 1) to organise funding, the coordination of stakeholders, suppliers and distributors of mulch, and so on. But having a well prepared site makes a huge difference that regular volunteers come to appreciate even as they go to plant their first tree of the day. We have been to events run by others not in the WCL family where volunteers have been heard to mutter "they're going to struggle in this hard/dry/poorly-mulched/boggy ground..."



WCL Volunteers 450 tube stock planted at Galbraith Park Photo: Cath Campbell

But at planting day (stage 3) it all came together well with the right selection and number of plants going easily into perfectly moistened soil evenly spread with just the right amount of mulch. With the heat on the day building by the end of the session, some of the plants were wilting from stress factors, and so it was a relief to man and plant alike to have a turn of a valve set the sprinklers in action. Within an hour everything looked fantastic.

Now comes the phase of irrigation support and weed control. These fourth and fifth stages are intertwined and require timely application of H2O, herbicide or manual labour to get the results we are all intent on achieving, which is 'best-practise' outcomes. The store of knowledge in the current stock of WCL staff and volunteers (learned from those before and by hands-on experience) is a considerable asset, and this feeds into the process of "getting it right".

Few casual observers could fail to notice our history of success, and the more astute can identify where some historical plantings worked better than others, with our KPI's consistently attaining the highest standard over the last several years. Galbraith Park serves as an exemplar of what following the right procedures (with advice from

WCL) can achieve in the region's waterways. With the onset of The Dry the riparian foliage thins, so it isn't at it's best aesthetically, but it still warrants going for a walk to appreciate the magical recovery that just grows and grows.

Submitted by Dave Young, WCL volunteer



WCL National Tree Day plantings being irrigated at Galbraith Park Photo: Cath Campbell

Cape Upstart Station Trip—August 25-27 2021

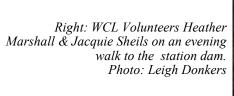
WCL Staff & volunteers visited the Cape Upstart Station site for a 3 day event. This project is a contract with NQ Dry Tropics to monitor beach scrub in 3 selected areas for weeds and collect marine debris from the beach. This time we covered 2 sites and covered 10.21ha of weed control & collected 520kg of marine debris. Here are a few photos of the trip.



Above: View to Cape Upstart National Park from the campground Photos: Leigh Donkers.



Left: James Gaston from the Gudjuda Rangers starting the smoking ceremony. NQ Dry Tropics Jaymie Rains & WCL Chairperson Graham Armstrong & WCL volunteer Dick Emery Photos: Cath Campbell







Above: WCL Volunteers resting up at the donger after a hard days work. Photos: Leigh Donkers

Above: WCL Volunteer Elmer Ten Harken & Jaymie Raines from NQ Dry Tropics dispatching rubber vine on the edge of the wetland Photos: Leigh Donkers



What's of interest in the news

CSIRO and Cooperative Research Centre for Tropical Rainforest Ecology and Management; Atherton site up for sale.

In 1970, the site was purchased by the Commonwealth for the development of the Department of National Development, Forestry and Timber Bureau. The centre was opened on the 21st of October 1971, as the headquarters of the now defunct Forestry Research Institute.

In 1971, about one hundred years after the first European commercial exploitation of rainforests in North Queensland, work commenced on the first, in a series of specifically planned, long-term research plots designed to examine natural processes in rainforests rather than responses to, or suitability for, timber extraction. This work was carried out by the Atherton-based staff of the Forest and Timber Bureau within the Commonwealth Department of National Development, under the leadership of a research forester, Geoff Stocker.

The construction of the laboratories at the Atherton site were completed in 1971. Ownership was then transferred to CSIRO in 1975. An extension to the herbarium took place in 1977/78. In 1987 a major redevelopment of the site occurred. Works included the construction of a new wing with new offices, research laboratories and a conference room. In 1994 another redevelopment of the site occurred. Works included an extension to the herbarium, the addition of a two story building which houses the site library as well as offices and laboratories. The site is a well-known hub for tropical environmental research and attracted rainforest scientists from around the world, including research at the site to monitor Wet Tropics cassowary & flying fox populations.

In 2013 CSIRO announced that "following three years of research and planning, CSIRO and the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN) have opened Australia's first large-scale rainforest research plot." The plot, which is located at Robson Creek on the Atherton Tablelands near Cairns, will allow scientists to monitor the rainforest over the long term and answer questions about the health of this unique Australian environment and any impacts that might arise from climate change. TERN and CSIRO invited scientists from Australia and across the world to undertake research at the Robson Creek site, which is the largest rainforest plot that has ever been set up in Australia.

Then in 2016 CSIRO undertook a review of the viability of regional laboratories. In June 2021, INDUSTRY AND SCIENCE MINISTER, Christian Porter confirmed that the CSIRO Atherton branch will be closed by mid-2022, in what will be a devastating blow for the Tablelands community. Six full time staff and two part time staff will be relocated under the plan, and a number of other organisations who were co-located in the Atherton CSIRO building could be left without a home, including Terrain NRM, Cape York NRM, Barron River Catchment Care and James Cook University (JCU).

The Atherton site is the location of a 3 ha, 50 year old Tropical Forest Arboretum which holds a collection of living mostly rain forest species from the Wet Tropics bioregion, but there are also significant collections from Cape York, Gulf of Carpentaria and the Northern Territory. Calls have gone out to researchers to come & collect genetic material & any samples that may be of future use and the. Locals, Tablelands Regional Council & the many that value the arboretum are hoping that at least the Arboretum will be excluded from the sites sale & preserved for the future.

Sources: https://rainforest-crc.jcu.edu.au/publications/permanent_plots_full.pdf https://csiropedia.csiro.au/australias-first-rainforest-research-supersite-opens-for-business/

Another interesting article:

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-08-18/cacti-trafficking-illegal-trade-international/100349306

INTERESTING WEB SITES:

Native Animals, Insects, Birds:

www.whitsundaylandcare.org.au http://www.wildlife.org.au/magazine/

http://www.aussiebee.com.au

www.birdsinbackyards.net

www.australianmuseum.net.au/reptiles

http://birdlife.org.au/locations/birdlife-mackay/activities-mac

Native plants:

http://ausgrass2.myspecies.info/content/oplismenus https://www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/cd-keys/rfk/

https://www.eucalyptaustralia.org.au/

http://sgaptownsville.org.au/

www.facebook.com.au/sgapmackay

Wetlands

http://wetlandinfo.ehp.qld.gov.au/wetlands/ecology/components/flora/mangroves/mangrove-moreton.html

Feral Animals: feralflyer@invasiveanimals.com https://alumni.uq.edu.au/cane-toad-baits

Feral plants:

www.weeds.org.au

www.environment.gov.au >Biodiversity >Invasive species > weeds

www.iewf.org/weedid/index_by_reserve.htm

www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/herbarium/ https://www.vision6.com.au/em/mail/view.php? id=1769275019&a=17056&k=a87f8df

WCL Community Nursery- Always

Needs Seeds

The WCL Nursery is very keen to source endemic seed so please keep an eye on your flowering native trees, shrubs & grasses for the volunteer nursery. Some of the species we need

Abutilon auritum Abutilon albescens Acacia aulacocarpa Acacia leptocarpa Acacia leptostachya Acacia simsii Alphitonia excelsa Alphitonia petriei

Antidesma parviflorum

Aphananthe philippinensis Archontophoenix alexandrae Alexander Palm Allocasuarina torulosa Black she-oak

Allocasuarina luehmannii

Aidia racemosa Archer Cherry Veiny Whitewood Atalaya rigida Coffee Bush Brevnia oblongifolia Cajanus reticulatus Native Pigeon Pea Freshwater mangrove Carallia brachiata

Casuarina cunninghamiana River oak Chionanthus ramiflorus Native Olive

Cordia dichotoma

Cordia subcordata Sea Trumpet

Corymbia clarksoniana Corymbia intermedia Corymbia tessellaris Corymbia erythrophloia Cryptocarya hypospodia

Red Bloodwood Large leafed Laurel Tuckeroo Cupaniopsis anacardioides Diospyros compacta

Diospyros geminata Diospyros hebecarpa

Dysoxylum gaudichaudianum

Elaeocarpus grandis Eucalyptus crebra Eucalyptus platyphylla Eucalyptus exserta

Eucalyptus tereticornis Euroschinus falcatus Ficus racemosa Hymenosporum flavum Indigofera pratensis

Ixora timorense Ganophyllum falcatum

Blue Quandang Narrow-leafed Ironbark

QLD Peppermint QLD Blue Gum Ribbonwood Cluster fig Native frangipani

Pink Bloodwood

Morton Bav Ash

Scaly Ash

Lagerstroemia archeriana Lophostemon confertus Lophostemon grandiflorus Lysiphyllum hookeri Macaranga tanarius Melaleuca dealbata Melaleuca leucadendra Melaleuca viminalis Melicope ellervana

Memecylon pauciflorum var. pauciflorum Micromelum minutum

Omphalea celata Pandanus sp.

Petalostigma pubescens

Planchonia careya Cocky Apple Ptychosperma elegans Solitaire palm

Phyllanthus novae-hollandiae

Sterculia quadrifida Peanut Tree Syzygium australe River cherry

Tabernaemontana orientalis

Timonius timon Tim Tam Tree

Trema tomentosa var. aspera Peach-leafed Poison Bush

Brush Box

Macaranga

Blue Tea Tree

Nthn Swamp Mahogany

Weeping Bottle Brush

Corkwood, Euodia

Native Lime Berry

Hookers Bauhinia

Trema orientalis

Vachellia bidwillii (WAS Acacia bidwillii) Corkwood Vitex trifolia Vitex

Guidelines for seed collecting:

- Only collect seed from your own property or with written permission
- Source plants must have grown from seed from the Whitsunday Region
- Collect ripe, mature seed & no more than 10% of the seed from any one plant
- Collect from several parts of the plant, mainly the middle & upper branches
- Use paper bags (not plastic) to store the seed & keep them in a cool place
- Label the bag with the species, location, date and your name. Not sure of your plant identification? Include a stem with some leaves & /or take a photo.

You can drop seed off at the nursery on Tuesday or Thursday mornings, at 33 Kelsey Creek Road Proserpine, or call 0483 811 229.

You can make a tax deductable donation to the Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Fund at any time.

Just go to http://www.givenow.com.au/whitsundaycatchmentlandcare All donors will receive a receipt from Givenow at the time of the do-

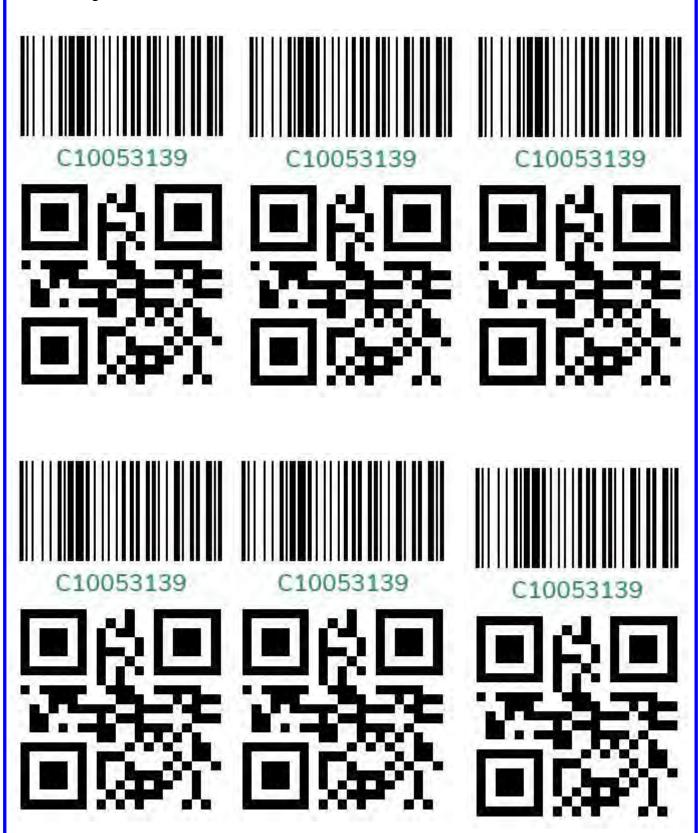
> If you would like to receive this e-newsletter please email coordinator@whitsundaylandcare.org.au with your request. Or you can phone Cath on mbl:0483 811 229 to request one.

Disclaimer: Information in this newsletter is offered as a guide only and while every care is taken to ensure its accuracy, Whitsunday Catchment Landcare does not invite reliance upon it, nor accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused by actions based on it.



Thank You Everyone!

Thank you to so many of you who have generously and kindly donated your container refunds to WCL. Your contributions are allocated to the WCL Public Fund which allows WCL to take on various projects for the ongoing education of our members and the wider community. Please find below our Containers for Change ID number to conveniently cut off and include in your bags. Anything Environmental who manage the local container exchange have moved to a QR Code— please find the new WCL ID below. Thank You again!





33 Kelsey Creek Road, Proserpine Old 4800

Phone: 0483 811 229

Email: coordinator@whitsundaylandcare.org.au

Chairperson: Graham Armstrong Coordinator: Cath Campbell

July 2021- June 2022 MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION FORM

Membership to WCL is currently free of charge and General meetings are usually held every 2 months.

Name of Applicant:			
Address:			
Phone:		Fax:	
Email:			
Name of Proxy: Optional	(s	separate nominat	ion form to be completed)
N	/IEMBERSHI	P TYPE (Pleas	e specify)
Ordinary Member	All persons who are approved of by the management committee, each of whom will have one vote.		
Renewal	Ordinary member renewal – complete section above only.		
☐ Organisation Member	Stakeholder groups/associations, public/other incorporated bodies, local authorities etc, each of whom will have one representative with one vote. If you will be representing another organisation during WCL meetings please complete the lines below and have an authorised person from your organisation complete page 2.		
	Organisation/Agency Name: Click here to enter text.		
	Role in Orga	nisation/Agency	(if applicable): Click here to enter text
Associate Member	Government departments/agencies, and any persons who have the interests of the Association and furtherance of its objectives in mind but who shall not have voting rights.		
Please tick your choice below.	Email is our p	referred contact	method.
I wish to receive the WCL newsletter via		email	no newsletters required
I wish to receive meeting notice	s	email	
Signed by Applicant:		Date	e: Click here to enter a date.
Please return to the VMembership is due Jur			@whitsundaylandcare.org.au.
	(OFF	FICE USE ONLY)	
Name:(Proposer – existing m			
(Proposer – existing m	ember)		(Seconder – existing member)
Signed:			
(Proposer)			(Seconder)
Date			