

It has been such a pleasure editing this book. It is truly a community project with contributions from all over the Blackall Range region from writers and photographers as well as a plethora of brilliant artists and those who have shared their stories.

Steve deMasson's graphic design skills have given wonderful colour and life to the pages.

The Hinterland Business Centre (HBC) has shown great faith in their community by undertaking this venture and this faith has been rewarded. With a charter to showcase and promote small business, the HBC deserves full marks for bringing this concept to fruition over a period of almost two years.

It was a great team effort.

Thanks team!

Elaine Green (Editor)



Earth Dreams Magic: A journey through the Blackall Range Region

The Blackall Range region in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland is known throughout Australia and overseas as a place of great natural beauty. Whether it is the cool deep green rainforests, the clear running waters and cascades, or the rural and coastal outlooks, the scenery is spectacular. The area is also known as a place where artists and creative people find inspiration and where spiritual and physical healing often begins.

This photo-essay book takes the reader on a physical journey along the less travelled byways from the Glasshouse Mountains up to the Maleny Plateau - across the small towns of the Blackall Range and along the Mary River Valley, from Kenilworth to the Crystal Waters Eco-Village - drawing in stories along the way. More than one hundred creative and inspirational people are profiled together with some of the more interesting local business enterprises. The best photographers and the best writers of the Blackall Range region have contributed to this art-style publication.

This book is a celebration of the past and the present, the passion and the people. Their connection to the earth, their dreams and the special magic they create are shared for the first time in one place.



Earth Dreams Magic

Elaine Green (Editor)

Earth Dreams Magic

A journey through the Blackall Range Region

Edited by Elaine Green

In this foundation edition of *Earth Dreams Magic*, amazing creativity has been unearthed hidden away in one of the most beautiful parts of south-east Queensland. With more than one hundred artists, craftspeople, photographers, writers, musicians and innovators profiled, the depths of this great well of creativity are far from exhausted.

This is an inspirational book. The Blackall Range region is a series of rural communities, set aside from the faster pace and more commercial orientation of the Sunshine Coast. It has a unique history, from the first Indigenous inhabitants to the Tree Changers of the 21st century. People are drawn to live in this region to make significant life changes, more in harmony with the natural environment, to heal and to give birth to new enterprises and creative talents.

This is a book for locals and visitors alike. It is the stories of the earth, the dreams and the magic that are the Blackall Range Region.