



# Newsletter

Conserving and restoring from forest to foreshore



*Rhodosphaera rhodantha* - Image by Alison Ratcliffe

Welcome to October's BVL newsletter edition with this stunning spray of *Rhodosphaera rhodantha* known by common names Deep Yellow Wood, Yellow Cedar or Tulip Satinwood.

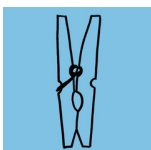
This rainforest tree grows 8m to 20m high, with brown to grey scaly bark; branchlets with reddish lenticels\*. *Rhodosphaera* is derived from Greek 'rhodon rose' and 'sphaera' a ball, referring to the reddish fruit of the genus; 'anthema' from the Greek 'anthos' a flower - the species name meaning red flower. Attracts King Parrots and Green Catbird to feed.

\*[Lenticels are small raised dots usually white to light-brown in colour, on surface of bark, through which gases are exchanged between the atmosphere and the underlying tissues.]

Happy onward reading - we hope you find items of interest in this month's BVL newsletter.

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### BRUNSWICK VALLEY LANDCARE IS A REGISTERED CHARITY ON PEGS AND PUBLINC



Local Pegs app allows businesses to offer discounted prices to locals. You can opt to keep the discount, tip the business, or donate to a local charity



As a Publinc member, not only do you get discounts on food and drinks at Hotel Brunswick, but you can donate your points to a local charity



This initiative is made possible by the NSW Landcare Program. A collaboration of Local Land Services and Landcare NSW supported by the NSW Government.

# BVL NEWS

## Improving communications around private landholder Conservation Agreements

This interesting University of Queensland research initiative is inviting landholders to “Take a stand for the land and have your say”. The survey takes 10 minutes to complete. Participants can choose to enter the draw to win five \$200 gift vouchers.

[https://uniofqueensland.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_01yPsAcSy4yifvo](https://uniofqueensland.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_01yPsAcSy4yifvo)



**Calling Australian Landholders!**

**Take a stand for the land and have your say.**

This research has received ethics approval  
(Approval Number: 2024/HE000965).





# BVL PROJECTS UPDATE

## Junior Landcare at Wilsons Creek, Byron Bay and Main Arm Upper Public Schools



L: Students at Main Arm Upper Public School learned expert planting technique with Dave Rawlins. The kids were so into it they gave their plants names.

Above: the beautiful planting area with many busy bees at Wilsons Creek Public School.

Huge thanks go to the Principals, students, teachers, school communities and local Landcare volunteers at three more amazing local primary schools involved in the Junior Landcare project. Wilsons Creek Public, Byron Bay Public and Main Arm Upper Public each welcomed Ray, Deb and the Junior Landcare team to their schools for a fun day of learning and planting.

The welcoming response from each school has been very appreciated, as has the work going on behind the scenes to bring the workshop plantings together at each site. Wilsons Creek students, already recipients of Landcare NSW 2024 Junior Landcare Award with their habitat restoration program, continued their fantastic efforts and planted out an area at their school site to complement their natural pond water garden. Byron Bay students had a Bush Tucker masterclass with Aunty Delta Kay, before planting food they'll be able to harvest at school. And the Main Arm Upper students learnt about Richmond Birdwing Butterfly's habitat and Upper Main Arm Landcare's project to help them. Students planted several of the uncommon *Pararistolochia praevenosa* vine, along with other riparian and pollinator species, in the hopes of making suitable habitat to attract these massive butterflies back to the valley.

Great job everybody!

Junior Landcare in the Northern Rivers: rejuvenation, regeneration, restoration" is a project made possible through funding from FRRR



# BVL NEWS

## The wellbeing benefits of participating in Landcare

This report was published back in 2021, but it's worth reminding ourselves..... the findings by KPMG Australia in partnership with Landcare Australia, indicate Landcare volunteers enjoy substantial improvements to their mental and physical wellbeing – with a significant decrease to their healthcare costs.

You can read full report here: <https://landcareaustralia.org.au/wellbeing-report/>

### THE WELLBEING BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN LANDCARE



**46%** of survey respondents reported an improvement in their mental resilience

Avoided healthcare costs is **\$57 million** for the estimated Landcare population of over 140,000  
**(or \$403 per Landcarer)**

Improved productivity is **\$97 million** for the estimated Landcare population of over 140,000  
**(or \$487 per Landcarer)**

With health benefits, productivity and disaster resilience taken into consideration, there is a **\$1,347 per person per year economic benefit** from participation in Landcare



**93%** of survey respondents reported a stronger connection to the land

**43%** of participants who reported that they spent 0-4 hours or less per month involved in Landcare, still reported an improvement in their mental wellbeing

**Younger adults** appeared to experience additional benefits of being involved in Landcare in comparison to the older population

**59%** of those in major cities reported an improvement in their mental wellbeing, compared to **47%** in regional areas



**90%** of survey respondents reported experiencing a stronger connection to the community



# BVL NEWS

## Two BVL events for your diaries



Revegetating Streams in the Brunswick Catchment

Launch of the new revised edition and how to use the guide for riparian restoration

**Friday 22nd November**  
9:15 am - 12.30 pm  
@ Main Arm

Free event but please book as numbers are limited  
<https://events.humanitix.com/revegetating-streams>

Supported by  
Brunswick Valley Landcare  
NSW GOVERNMENT  
BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL

The team can't wait to share this one with you!

Byron Shire Council and BVL have collaborated on a revised edition of the original 1997 publication "Revegetating Streams in the Brunswick Catchment" by Raine, Golding & Gardiner.

It is a guide to species selection and planting methods for riparian restoration. This Launch will introduce people to the guide and the now almost-trebled species list that based on over a decade of ground-truthed surveys in the Brunswick Catchment.

The Launch of this timely new publication will take place on **Friday 22 November at Kohinur Hall**, Upper Main Arm from 9.30am - 1pm. You'll hear from Dr Jo Green and Liz Caddick, two of the team behind the revision, as well as Shaun Morris and Craig Hart from Local Land Services on the key concepts for river rehabilitation. Kohinur Hall provides perfect access to section of the upper Bruns River so the Launch will conclude with a Field component and opportunity for Q&A.

Morning tea will be provided. Numbers strictly limited so registrations are essential please: <https://events.humanitix.com/revegetating-streams>

This is a free event supported by Local Land Services Riverbank Rehabilitation Project and Byron Shire Council.

Dr Judi Earl will lead this excellent half day workshop and field demonstration at a local **Myocum farm on Monday 18th November**.

Dr Earl's extensive schedule of workshops, courses, and field days across the country underscores her popularity as a valued educator in pasture ecology/management and regenerative and holistic farming.

Places are limited and the full day schedule includes lunch, tickets \$35, Students free. <https://events.humanitix.com/healthy-soil-for-land-and-stock>



**Healthy Soil for Land & Stock**

A workshop with Dr Judi Earl

**Monday 18th November**  
8:30 am - 16.30 pm  
@ Myocum

Tickets \$35 includes lunch (free for students)  
Bookings: <https://events.humanitix.com/healthy-soil-for-land-and-stock>

Farming for the Future  
Brunswick Valley Landcare  
SoilCare Inc.

# BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS

## New light tower trial to prevent koala deaths on Byron Shire roads

*courtesy of Council media release published 26 September*

Byron Shire Council and Bangalow Koalas are joining forces to trial a new temporary solar powered lighting tower near the golf course on Broken Head Road, to help stop koalas and other wildlife from road strike in this area.

The initiative follows the death of Moji the koala who was killed by a car on this stretch of road in August this year. "This section of Broken Head Road is very poorly lit and is regularly used by local koalas moving between food trees on either side of the road," Council's Biodiversity Team Leader, Liz Caddick said.

"We're also in the middle of koala breeding season, which goes from June to December, so young males are moving around, crossing roads, finding new territories and finding mates. "These are healthy young koalas, and we can't afford to lose a single one of them.

"Koalas aren't quick enough to get out of the way of cars, so the onus really is on motorists to look out for them, and we are hoping that a new lighting tower will help," Ms Caddick said.

Bangalow Koalas' Linda Sparrow said it was the first time a temporary lighting tower had been used to reduce wildlife road strike in this area.

"Extra lighting is not appropriate in all locations and is only likely to be useful as a temporary measure, but the aim of this trial is to help us understand if lighting can be an effective tool to save our koalas," Ms Sparrow said.

"In the meantime, we already know that the best way to reduce wildlife road deaths is for all drivers to slow down on the road and look out for local wildlife," she said.

"Koalas are hard to spot, but there are some very active ones in Byron at the moment, from Suffolk Park to The Pass, so people should drive as if they're expecting to see one, especially between dusk and dawn," Ms Sparrow said.

Council also congratulates Bangalow Koalas, who started planting trees in Byron Shire in 2019, and today celebrated the planting of their 400,000th tree.





# BVL NEWS

## Important call out on behalf of our friends at the Byron Bay Wildlife Hospital

For those koalas that are injured and go into care at the Byron Bay Wildlife Hospital (BBWH), there's a pretty big effort required to supply koala patients with their daily food requirements - eucalyptus leaves. And lots of them!

Koalas are specialist feeders and have their preferences for which species they will feed on. The vets and carers at BBWH tell us that at the moment they can't get enough of Swamp Mahogany, Tallowood, Forest Red Gum and Grey Gum. That's both in terms of access to suitable trees to harvest from, and helpers needed to get out there harvesting for the hospital's koala patients.

If you're a landholder with an established koala tree planting (of 4 years maturity or more) you might be interested in harvesting fresh leaves yourself, or granting Byron Bay Wildlife Hospital staff or volunteers access to do so themselves.

BBWH provide volunteers with specific training so they can correctly I.D. koala feed trees and learn proper harvesting technique to not adversely impact the trees.

Or you may have some spare time and would like to become a koala food harvester for koalas in care. If either option is of interest to you, Byron Bay Wildlife Hospital's Volunteer Coordinator Annette Sundercombe would love to hear from you, email:

[annette@byronbaywildlifelifehospital.org](mailto:annette@byronbaywildlifelifehospital.org)



# BVL NEWS

## Two farewells: changes in Landcare NSW and North Coast Regional Landcare Network teams



### **Turlough Guerin, Landcare NSW CEO**

As of Thursday 19th September, Turlough Guerin has resigned from his position as CEO of Landcare NSW to explore new opportunities and interests. Turlough has led the organisation for just under 3 years through significant change, and the Landcare NSW Board sincerely thank him for his substantial dedication, constant energy and notable achievements that have strengthened Landcare at all levels.

Turlough joined Landcare at a time of transition and used his extensive corporate, community service and government experiences to transform many aspects of Landcare in parallel with the Board's governance and constitutional reforms. His strengths are many and his mix of technical, entrepreneurial and leadership skills have made a real difference.

*Message courtesy of Landcare NSW Chair, Gareth Johnston, published in Landcare NSW News*

### **Linda Daley, Regional Landcare Coordinator, North Coast Regional Landcare Network**

With sadness, the North Coast Network says farewell to Linda, our Regional Coordinator.

Linda has been a fantastic advocate for the network over her time in the role. Her energy, experience, enthusiasm, great communication skills, forward-thinking, and above all, kindness, have been both noticed and sincerely appreciated by the team at BVL. Also clearly recognised amongst the wider network. Linda went above and beyond in her efforts to provide professional support and development opportunities for local level Coordinators.

Hopefully she won't mind...in her parting thoughts Linda referenced a beautiful quote: 'If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together'. We think this speaks volumes about Linda's generous, collaborative spirit - an asset to Landcare.

Thank you Linda from BVL's Committee and staff. Don't be a stranger!





# CRITTER CORNER!

## Microbats of North East NSW



Little Bent-wing bat (*Miniopterus australis*). Image: Les Hall

With daylight hours longer, nights just starting to getting warmer, the insects are singing and we've started noticing these little tiny mighties zipping about after dusk.....Microbats.

Microbats (Microchiropteran bats) are so tiny, we knew we could fit in more than just one species to cover for this Critter Corner....these mammals range in weight from 3 grams up to 40 grams. They use both eye sight and echolocation for finding their way around and locating prey, being mostly insects. Microbats consume approximately 50% of their body weight in insects every night.

Microbats make up almost a quarter of Australia's native mammals.

Did you know that 19 microbat species are listed as Threatened under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (TSC Act)? Some of the species known to occur in North East NSW, all classed as Vulnerable, are:

- Large Bent-wing Bat (*Miniopterus schreibersii*)
- Little Bent-wing Bat (*Miniopterus australis*)
- Large-footed Myotis (*Myotis adversus/macropus*)
- Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*)
- Little Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus picatus*)
- Eastern Cave Bat (*Vespadelus troughtoni*)
- Eastern Falsistrelle (*Falsistrellus tasmaniensis*)
- Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail Bat (*Saccolaimus flaviventris*).

Three further species are protected under the National Parks & Wildlife Act (1974):

- Eastern Horseshoe Bat (*Rhinolophus megaphyllus*)
- Lesser Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus geoffroyi*)
- Chocolate Wattled Bat (*Chalinolobus morio*) - which possibly has one of the coolest latin names.

continued over.....

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# CRITTER CORNER

## Microbats of North East NSW

**The importance of microbat roost sites** - all microbats require roost sites for both day and night time resting, predator protection, social contact and breeding. Individual species are very specific in their choice of roost sites ranging from hollows and cavities in trees to rock overhangs, caves and subterranean tunnels. They have also adapted to use human-made structures such as buildings and the underside of timber and concrete bridges. These roost sites may alternate due to different weather, seasons or even on a daily basis.

### What are the threats Microbat populations are facing?

- Deforestation and urbanisation which contributes to the destruction of their natural roosting sites
- Pesticides and insecticides diminish the bats' insect prey, further jeopardising their survival.
- Climate change also poses challenges, affecting their prey abundance and altering roosting conditions, and also through longer periods of extreme heat
- Predators such as cats, rats and possums
- Other animals that nest in tree hollows and potentially out-compete bats for roost sites such as Lorikeets, Indian Mynahs and feral honey bees
- Pollution of waterways from urban or agricultural runoff
- Disturbance to breeding colonies or disturbance during winter torpor



L: Chocolate Wattled Bat and R: Large-footed Myotis.

Both images by A. Young of Australian Museum



### So what can you do?

- Protect and preserve hollow-bearing trees along with trees featuring defoliating (loose) or rough bark structure, providing crevices for microbats to roost
- We also need to protect rock overhangs, caves and subterranean tunnels
- If there's an absence of such structures in your landscape, consider how you might supplement them - doesn't have to be fancy, a friend hung a soft Snoopy toy carousel on her verandah and a little colony of microbats moved in for a while. Airflow is important as is access to water.
- Microbats are excellent insect control - if you can help establish a micro-bat friendly habitat,, they will be around to feed on insects. Rather than spraying mozzies, why not let the microbats snack them up? Just remember - 50% of their body weight they catch per night.
- Microbats are a natural biological control in the context of agricultural crop production. Keeping a diversity of microbat species in agricultural settings provides alternatives to traditional pesticide use.





# PLANT PROFILE

## *Hymenosporum flavum* - Native Frangipani



You might notice these handsome trees in flower at the moment, the Native Frangipani. It is a rainforest pioneer in the pittosporum family and the only species in its genus. Grows up to 22m tall, can reach 30m in rainforest; According to The Royal Botanic Garden Sydney botanist Russell Barrett, the bark of the tree, which is very fibrous, has been used by Aboriginal people in Australia to make string and rope for weaving and tools. Nectar-rich and perfumed flowers attract birds and insects.

Trunk: Usually cylindrical but on large trees the base is often slightly flanged.

Bark: (outer) Grey, smooth with short transverse lines of lenticels. Underbark light-brown. Outer surface of live bark mottled green and brown.

Branchlets: Moderately slender, grey or brown becoming green and hairy towards the ends. Leaf scars distinct.

Leaves: 10-15cm x 4-5 cm, leaves clustered or whorled

Sources: A. Benwell, A.G. Floyd, R. Barrett



# TOAD BUSTING

Article published by ABC Gardening Australia, Friday 4 October



SERIES 35 | Episode 28

There are few things more annoying than an unwanted guest in your garden - particularly one that comes at the expense of our native wildlife. Cane toads are a problem that the country has struggled with for decades, but now, some canny Queenslanders have come up with a plan of attack for home gardeners to lead the pushback!

In 1935, the Queensland Government infamously introduced the South American cane toad to control cane beetles. The unscientific release failed and the rest is history. The toads spread around Australia, poisoning and killing anything that consumes them, eating small reptiles, insects and other amphibians and displacing and out-competing native species for food and resources. They've gone down in the history books as one of the worst invasive species in the world and Australia has been largely powerless to stop their rapid march across the continent. They've radiated outwards and are now regularly found in Kakadu and the Kimberley.

Toads can get to 2.5 kilos. They're now a common sight across Brisbane and they regularly appear in Jerry's garden. Jerry meets with Nikki Thomsett, the Invasive Species Project officer for Queensland-based non-profit environmental charity Waterrgum. Nikki states that cane toads have an estimated population of about 2 billion and an ever-expanding range across Australia. They can breed twice a year and produce up to 35,000 eggs each time. On top of this, they are toxic, placing a real threat to anything that eats one - including pets - and they will also eat pretty much anything that they'll fit their mouth. This has caused declines in native populations of wildlife and can also impact agriculture.

A new trap and lure system has been developed and Nikki and her team are calling on home gardeners to get on board and push back these interlopers. The trap hinges on a charming quirk of cane toad tadpoles in Australia, where they'll actually seek out other cane toad eggs and cannibalise them. Because of this behaviour, researchers at the University of Queensland were able to create a lure that releases a chemical compound into the water that smells like cane toad eggs. The cane toad tadpoles will then find and follow into the trap, thinking that they're about to get their next meal. And native frog tadpoles just are simply not attracted to it.

The traps can be used in any waters with a depth of at least 15cm that have cane toad tadpoles present. The team engaged a community of over 3,000 toad-busters in Australia to trial the first traps and over the years, they've honed the design.

Watch the piece and find out more tips in using the trap and lure system:

<https://www.abc.net.au/gardening/how-to/toad-busting/104434144>



# SNIPPETS

## Watching for H5N1 Avian Influenza (bird flu) in Australia

*Article from Birdlife Australia*

The H5N1 strain is a highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) being closely monitored by Australian authorities due to the potential risk of spread to Australia. Large-scale outbreaks of the H5N1 strain of bird flu in the past two years have killed millions of wild birds and tens of thousands of mammals around the world. H5N1 bird flu has spread to all continents apart from Australia and experts predict it could arrive here with the spring migration of shorebirds and seabirds from the Northern Hemisphere.

Informative Birdlife Fact Sheet and full story here: <https://birdlife.org.au/avian-influenza/>

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## Why hurricanes like Milton in the US and cyclones in Australia are becoming more intense and harder to predict

*Article published in The Conversation 11 October*

In Australia, the tropical cyclone season (November to April) is approaching. The Bureau of Meteorology this week released its long-range forecast for this season.

It predicts an average number of tropical cyclones, 11, are likely to form in the region. Four are expected to cross the Australian coast. However, the risk of severe cyclones is higher than average. So what does an average number actually mean in our rapidly changing climate? And why is there a higher risk of intense cyclones?

<https://theconversation.com/why-hurricanes-like-milton-in-the-us-and-cyclones-in-australia-are-becoming-more-intense-and-harder-to-predict-241000>

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## Sharks filmed smashing sea urchins

Article by By Candice Marshall • 10 October 2024 Australian Geographic

Lobsters have long been known as a key predator of sea urchins. Several species of sea urchins, although native to Australian waters, are now considered to be a pest due to exploding populations. These masses of sea urchins eat kelp and seagrass, the loss of which is devastating to underwater ecosystems.

Warmer waters are pushing the long-spined sea urchin (*Centrostephanus rodgersii*) – having wreaked havoc in New South Wales for decades – now being spotted in Victoria and Tasmania. Jeremy Day's experiment was originally designed to show how lobsters prey on urchins, to inform management strategies of the pest.

"But that's not what we found," Jeremy says.

<https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/wildlife/2024/10/sharks-filmed-smashing-sea-urchins/>

# EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

Time-sensitive Agtech opportunity



The graphic features a dark teal background. In the top left is the NSW Government logo. In the top right, the text 'AGTECH WORKSHOP' is displayed in large white letters, with a QR code icon to the right. Below this, the text 'Agtech Fundamentals' and 'Monitoring your farm with Agtech' is written in white. The presenter's name, 'TOM FLANAGAN', and title, 'Presenter', are also in white. A circular photo of Tom Flanagan, a man with glasses wearing a blue shirt with 'Farms of the Future' and 'NSW Department of Primary Industries' logos, is positioned in the center. At the bottom left, the 'Farms of the Future' logo is shown with the tagline 'Paddocks of Tomorrow, Grounded in Technology'. At the bottom right, a light blue arrow-shaped box contains the event details: '17 OCTOBER, 2024', '9.30AM - 3PM', and 'MURWILLUMBAH'.

Farms of the Future is hosting their first Agtech Fundamentals workshop in Murwillumbah on **October 17 - Thursday next week.**

**Only a few tickets left, get in quick.**

The aim of the workshop is to deliver expert and practical knowledge for farmer keen to learn about how Agtech and connectivity solutions can be used on farm, and the potential benefits.

The workshop aims to:

- Provide an understanding of Agtech and connectivity definitions and terminology
- Help identify opportunities for Agtech on farm
- Explain the practical steps required to select appropriate Agtech and connectivity devices
- Build confidence in developing a plan to purchase, install and use Agtech on farm.

**To register:**

<https://events.blackthorn.io/en/2v3O83n7/g/xH1Vh927WH/agtech-fundamentals-murwillumbah-4a3yj3XdN4/overview>

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# EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

## Master Tree Grower course - MACLEAY LANDCARE

This comprehensive program is designed for landholders who want to develop their skills in cultivating trees for both conservation and economic benefits.

Learn more here: [MTG - Australian Agroforestry Foundation](https://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/auflii/au/agroforestry/mtg.html)

### What's involved?

- 8 full days of learning: The program consists of eight full days of field-based learning, spread over a couple of months.
- Dates: The course will run between February and June 2025.
- Location: The course will be held at various locations around the Kempsey LGA, with potential for some sessions to be held on farm venues in the Nambucca or Hastings LGAs.
- Travel: Please note that all travel arrangements and costs are the responsibility of the participant.
- Commitment: Seeking participants who are committed to attending the full program.
- Cost: A participation fee of \$200 for Macleay Landcare members and \$250 for non-members applies. This fee helps cover staff time, course materials, catering, and other related expenses.

### Why should you consider this program?

- Expertly designed: The Master Tree Grower program was developed by Rowan Reid, a renowned figure in agroforestry and former academic at The University of Melbourne.
- Flexible delivery: The program will be delivered over a couple of months, allowing you to fit it around your existing commitments.
- Practical focus: Gain hands-on experience and learn practical skills in tree planting, management and utilisation.
- Conservation and profit: Discover how to effectively integrate trees into your property for environmental benefits and potential income generation.
- Network with like-minded individuals: Connect with other passionate landholders and learn from their experiences.

If you're keen to learn more and potentially participate in this exciting opportunity, please complete the Expression of Interest form here: <https://form.jotform.com/242390364605859> (<https://form.jotform.com/242390364605859>).

The EOI period will close at the **end of October**, or once we receive 25-30 applications. Macleay Valley Landcare will then begin planning the course.

For any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the helpful Louis at Macleay Landcare - Louis Marree [coordinator.macleaylandcare@outlook.com](mailto:coordinator.macleaylandcare@outlook.com)



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# Byron Bird Buddies October Program

<https://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au/>

| October 2024 - Daylight Saving starts – 2am October 6 <sup>th</sup>  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>BBB</b> – continue monitoring of Pied Oystercatcher, Beach Stone-curlew & Bush Stone-curlew breeding sites and record site visit on BBB online Excel spreadsheet. – Contact BBB above.  |  |   |
| <b>Wednesday 2nd</b><br>8am – start  | To be advised or email - <b>Completed</b><br><a href="mailto:richmondbrunswickbirdwatchers@gmail.com">richmondbrunswickbirdwatchers@gmail.com</a>  | <b>RBB</b> - survey for BirdLife Atlas                        |
| <b>Week-end 5<sup>th</sup> &amp; 6<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>Brunswick Sculpture Festival</b> – BBB – stall and walk –<br><b>BBB –Stall</b> - featuring the Bush Stone-curlew. Set up stall on Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> only at the Shelter Shed near the toilet -<br><b>Guided Bird walk – Torakina Beach Reserve 8am – meeting at shelter sheds near the toilets</b> |   |
| <b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup></b><br>15.00 (3pm) start to dark   | <b>Byron Wetlands</b> - Register with Vicki<br><a href="mailto:davvix1@gmail.com">davvix1@gmail.com</a>  | <b>BBB</b> – Afternoon survey – for BSC reporting -           |
| <b>Sunday 13th</b><br>8am – start  | <b>Tintenbar – Private Property. Booking necessary. Contact:</b> Madeleine Murray -<br><a href="mailto:madzofi@gmail.com">madzofi@gmail.com</a>  | <b>BLNR</b> survey & outing.                                  |
| <b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup></b><br>07.00-08.00  | <b>Byron Wetlands</b> - Register with Vicki<br><a href="mailto:davvix1@gmail.com">davvix1@gmail.com</a>  | <b>BBB</b> – Monitoring Cells D, E & H for AWC reporting -    |
| <b>Wednesday 16th</b><br>8am – start   | To be advised or email<br><a href="mailto:richmondbrunswickbirdwatchers@gmail.com">richmondbrunswickbirdwatchers@gmail.com</a>   | <b>RBB</b> - survey for BirdLife Atlas                        |
| <b>National Bird Week Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> - Program – See attached Poster for more details</b>  |  |   |
| <b>Monday Oct 21st – Suffolk Park-Old STP site – 08.00. Meet at the bike track entry Suffolk Park-Old STP site.</b>  |  |   |
| <b>Wednesday Oct 23rd – Bangalow Byron Creek Walk - 08.00. Meet the Bangalow Heritage House/Museum Carpark off Deacon St – near the toilets. Walk along the banks of Byron Creek towards the Bowling Club.</b>   |  |   |
| <b>Sunday Oct 27th 08.00 – Albert’s Lyrebird &amp; Avian Flu Presentation – Vicki Sloane</b>   |  |   |
| <b>Byron Wetlands</b> – turn left off Bayshore Drive into Wallum Place just after the IGA in the Byron Industrial Estate (Habitat on the corner) & wait at the gate at the end of the road or if gate is open turn immediately left & park in the carpark at the end of the dirt track |  |   |
| <b>Time Event: 08.00-08.30 Avian Bird Flu presentation – 08.30- 10.00 Guided Walk; 10.00 - 10.30; Light Refreshments; then Albert’s Lyrebird presentation &amp; discussion till 12.00.). Light refreshments provided. Must Register</b>  |  |   |
| <b>The Aussie Backyard Bird Count is also held this one week in October as part of National Bird Week.</b>   |  |   |
| <b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup></b><br>07.00 start   | <b>Mt Jerusalem NP</b> – Middle Ridge Rd & South Chowan Creek. Meet at Main Arm store & car pool. <a href="mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com">byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com</a> or Mobile 0428864378  | <b>BBB</b> - survey – KBA site (2nd survey for 2024-25)       |
| <b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup></b><br>07.00 start   | <b>Koonyum Range Booking necessary. Meet: – Wilson Creek Rd &amp; Koonyum Range Rd &amp; carpool. Contact: <a href="mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com">byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com</a></b>  | <b>BBB</b> – survey KBA – monitoring (2nd survey for 2024-25) |
| <b>Wednesday 30th</b><br>8am – start   | To be advised or email<br><a href="mailto:richmondbrunswickbirdwatchers@gmail.com">richmondbrunswickbirdwatchers@gmail.com</a>   | <b>RBB</b> - survey for BirdLife Atlas                        |

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# Join Byron Bird Buddies for Bird Week



## BBB – National Bird Week October 2024

Featuring a presentation on our own Albert's Lyrebird

(photos & art by Margaret Hodgson)



### Activities

#### Guided Walks

**Monday Oct 21<sup>st</sup> – Suffolk Park-Old STP site – 08.00.** Meet at the bike track entry Suffolk Park-Old STP site. **Must Register**

**Wednesday Oct 23rd – Bangalow Byron Creek Walk – 08.00 – .** Meet the Bangalow Heritage House/Museum Carpark off Deacon St - near the toilets. Walk along the banks of Byron Creek towards the Bowling Club. **Must Register**

#### Presentation – Albert's Lyrebird & Avian Flu – Vicki Sloane

**Sunday Oct 27th 08.00 Byron Wetlands** – turn left off Bayshore Drive into Wallum Place just after the IGA in the Byron Industrial Estate (Habitat on the corner) & wait at the gate at the end of the road or if gate is open turn immediately left & park in the carpark at the end of the dirt track

**Time Event: 08.00-08.30 Avian Bird Flu presentation – 08.30- 10.00 Guided Walk; 10.00 -10.30; Light Refreshments; then Albert's Lyrebird presentation & discussion till 12.00.). Light refreshments provided. Must Register**

To all events, please wear covered shoes, protective clothing (guarding against sun & bites), hat & carry water.

**Booking & Registration necessary – Numbers will be limited**

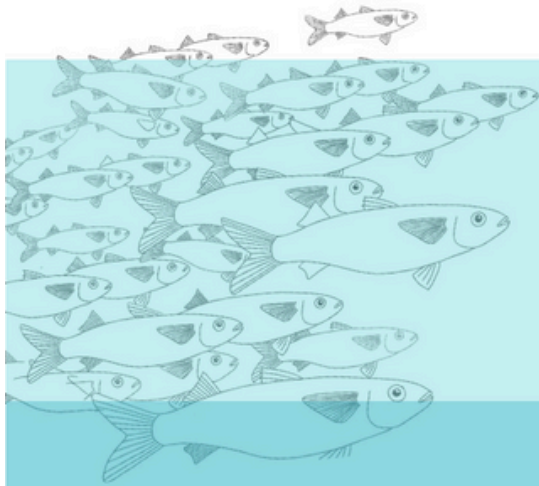
**Register with: [byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com)**

- **Byron Bird Buddies** c/- Brunswick Valley Landcare, PO Box 6 Brunswick Heads. NSW 2483 Email: [byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com) [www:byronbirdbuddies.com.au](http://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au)

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## EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

# Bruns Riverkeepers



11 days by the river

**16th - 26th Oct**

*we are all riverkeepers...*



Community Arts Hub  
6 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby

### **Wednesday 16th of October 5 - 7.30 pm: Opening and Launch of Bruns Riverkeepers Alliance**

This initiative emerged from the need for collective and catchment level action and caretaking to address the state of the river and the impacts of the 2022 floods. Collaboration and coordinated action is key to the Bruns Riverkeeper vision, as we see local landowners, indigenous custodians, scientists, council and other government agencies, environmental groups, local businesses, school children, and all who love and care for the river each playing a role.

The Bruns Riverkeepers launch "11 days by the river" brings together diverse opportunities to find your way as a riverkeeper and contemporary custodian of the waters by (and in) which we work, live and play! Byron Community College Community Arts Hub will be a home for 11 days to the many and diverse projects, activities and ways of connecting, caring for and celebrating the river.

For event information and registrations, head to:

<https://events.humanitix.com/bruns-riverkeepers-launch-11-days-by-the-river>





# National Glossy Black-Cockatoo Forum

Putting Science Into Practice



The Glossy Black Conservancy is bringing together Australia's Glossy Black-Cockatoo projects to maximise outcomes for our beloved Glossies.

Join us for the inaugural, national Glossy Black-Cockatoo Forum, taking place virtually **Tuesday 19 & Thursday 20 November**.

This national, virtual forum will gather community, researchers, planners and decision-makers, government representatives, policy makers and referral bodies to:

1. Share knowledge around science and research, community engagement and on-ground actions to help us work together to improve outcomes for Glossy Black-Cockatoos; and
2. Improve conservation outcomes by showcasing how we use science to inform policy and planning.

Topics will include: monitoring population trends, foraging habitat and feed trees, artificial nesting, habitat conservation in agricultural landscapes, Flossy ID, citizen science, habitat mapping, technology in the field, and recovery planning.

Program overview is available here: <https://glossyblack.org.au/national-forum>

Register now: <https://bit.ly/glossyforum24-register>



# FUNDING

## Living Carbon Grants



**North Coast applications are open.  
Applications close 6 December, 2024 at 5pm.**

Managing carbon is both a challenge and an enormous opportunity for landholders. If you are a landholder in NSW, you may be eligible for a NSW Government grant to set up a carbon planting project. This could help you secure the health of your land, improve productivity, and unlock new income streams. Your land could be used to revegetate habitats for threatened or iconic species such as koalas.

We are partnering with the NSW Koala Strategy and NSW Local Land Services to work with landholders who share our commitment to acting on climate change.

### **Eligibility**

We are investing \$5 million in Living Carbon grants to assist eligible applicants in delivering carbon abatement through planting projects in 3 regions in NSW:

- the Riverina Local Land Services region
- the North Coast Local Land Services region
- the MidCoast Local Government Area.

Successful applicants will receive up to \$200,000 of grant funding, and the landholder is expected to commit funding and/or in-kind contributions to complete the project.

Link for full program details: <https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/business-and-industry/programs-grants-and-schemes/primary-industries-productivity-and-abatement/living-carbon>



**NSW Climate and Energy Action**



# FUNDING



**FRRR**  
Foundation for Rural  
Regional Renewal

## **Small & Vital Grants round is now open, closes on 5 December 5pm AEST**

Grants up to \$10,000 are available for a broad range of grassroots, community-led initiatives that directly and clearly benefit local communities that strengthen local people, places and climate solutions, with a preference for smaller communities (populations under 15,000).

Full program details available here: <https://frrr.org.au/funding/place/src-small-vital/>

Also, recording of FRRR's Grantseeker workshop available here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVjCGg73TS4>

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## **FOOD DONATIONS CALL OUT**

### **Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre**



If you have any fresh produce to spare, the Mullum & District Neighbourhood Centre (MDNC) will gratefully accept your any donations for their food programs.

Through the More Than a Meal program, the MDNC kitchen has fed over 65,000 people since 2016. They also operate a Frozen Meals Program and Gulganii Food Pantry, a lifeline to people in need, offering fresh, healthy meals to hungry people.

Contact the Neighbourhood Centre on [02 6684 1286](tel:0266841286) Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4pm to find out when is the best time to drop off any donations of produce you can offer.

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# WEED OF THE MONTH

Elder *Sambucus nigra* L.



Images: Carolyn Lewis

Image: Sheldon Neave

Commonly called Elderberry.

Not a lot of information available in Australia but the Kiwis are all over it.

Elder is a deciduous shrub or small tree (<6 m tall). Stems are grey-fawn with white pith and many small and corky lumps (glands). Leaves comprise of 5-7 leaflets that are purple when very young, becoming green.

Origin: Native to north-western Africa (i.e. Algeria and Tunisia), the Azores, the Madeira Islands, Europe and western Asia (i.e. western Iran, northern Iraq, Turkey, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and south-western Russia).

Naturalised Distribution: Widely naturalised in eastern Australia (i.e. in south-eastern and northern Queensland, in some parts of eastern New South Wales, in the ACT, in many parts of Victoria, in Tasmania and in south-eastern South Australia). Also New Zealand.

Sources:

Weeds of Australia

[https://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/media/Html/sambucus\\_nigra.htm](https://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/media/Html/sambucus_nigra.htm)

Weed Busters NZ

<https://www.weedbusters.org.nz/what-are-weeds/weed-list/elder/>

Not to be confused with the native White Elderberry, *Sambucus gaudichaudiana*, which occurs naturally on the Merri Creek in Craigieburn Melbourne and is a new focus for conservation efforts. [https://www.mcmc.org.au/images/The\\_Elder\\_Mother.pdf](https://www.mcmc.org.au/images/The_Elder_Mother.pdf)



# WORKING BEES

Why not get out and get involved in one of our local groups?

For all Landcare Working Bees please wear protective clothing - long pants, long-sleeved shirt, closed-in shoes, hat, gloves and bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Please always contact the group co-ordinators before attending a working bee as plans do change!

Bangalow Land and Rivercare, Bangalow

WHEN: every Saturday 8:30am

WHERE: find out from

CONTACT: Noelene Plummer [bangalowlandcare@gmail.com](mailto:bangalowlandcare@gmail.com) 0431 20 0638 6687 4470

Friends of Lilli Pilli (Byron Bay)

WHEN: 1st Saturday of the month 3:30pm - 5:00pm

WHERE: At entrance to Lilli Pilli (contact Deb).

CONTACT: Deb Jorgensen [deborah.jorgensen60@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.jorgensen60@gmail.com) 0434 254 802

Green and Clean Awareness Team, Byron Bay

WHEN: 3rd Sunday of the month 9:00am

WHERE: Meet Main Beach, Byron Bay

CONTACT: Peter Farmakis [peter.farmakis@gmail.com](mailto:peter.farmakis@gmail.com) 0488 715 565

Heritage Park Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: Saturdays 9:00am – 11:00 am

WHERE: Heritage Park, Mullumbimby

CONTACT: Diana Hughes [bromspot@gmail.com](mailto:bromspot@gmail.com)

Jinangong Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: 1st Sunday of the month

WHERE: The Tunnel Road, Ocean Shores

CONTACT: Ian Parer [ianparer@hotmail.com](mailto:ianparer@hotmail.com)

Mullum Town Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: Morning of last Sunday of the month

WHERE: find out from John Tann

CONTACT: John Tann [johntann99@gmail.com](mailto:johntann99@gmail.com)

Ocean Shores Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: each Thursday at 8.30 – 11.00 am (8.00am DST)

WHERE: corner of Yallakool Drive and Warrambool Road, Ocean Shores

CONTACT: David Kemp [dnkemp77@gmail.com](mailto:dnkemp77@gmail.com) 0427 650 861

Suffolk Park Dunecare

WHEN: 8.30 - 10.30 every fourth Sunday of the month

WHERE: find out from:

CONTACT: Rebekah O'Flaherty [rebekahoflaherty@gmail.com](mailto:rebekahoflaherty@gmail.com) 0428 942 903

Tallowood Ridge Locality Landcare

WHEN: Second Saturday of the month from 3pm (winter), 4pm (summer).

WHERE: Tallowood Ridge Estate, Mullumbimby

CONTACT: Joanne McMurtry [jmcmurtry@bigpond.com](mailto:jmcmurtry@bigpond.com)

Tyagarah Landcare

WHEN: Each Thursday 9:00am – 11:00am

WHERE: 23 Prestons Lane, Tyagarah

CONTACT: Bela Allen [bela\\_allen@yahoo.com](mailto:bela_allen@yahoo.com) 6684 7113

Can't find a group near you? We have many other groups who meet on an ad hoc basis (contact us for more details) or if there isn't an existing group in your neighbourhood or you are interested in

# LINKS

- Arakwal <http://arakwal.com.au/>
- Australian Association of Bush Regenerators <http://aabr.org.au>
- Border Rangers Alliance [http://www.greasterranges.org.au/border\\_ranges/overview/overview](http://www.greasterranges.org.au/border_ranges/overview/overview)
- Bangalow Koalas <http://www.bangalowkoalas.com.au/>
- Bangalow River and Landcare <http://www.bangalowlandcare.org.au/>
- Big Scrub Landcare <https://www.bigscrubrainforest.org.au/>
- Brunswick Valley Landcare <http://www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/>
- Byron Bird Buddies <http://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au/>
- Byron Community College <http://www.byroncollege.org.au/>
- Byron Shire Council <http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/>
- EnviTE [www.envite.org.au](http://www.envite.org.au)
- Environmental Trust <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/envtrust.htm>
- Friends of the Koala [www.friendsofthekoala.org](http://www.friendsofthekoala.org)
- Federal Landcare Inc [federalandcare@gmail.com](mailto:federalandcare@gmail.com)
- Local Land Services [www.northcoast.ils.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northcoast.ils.nsw.gov.au)
- North Coast Local Land Services <http://northcoast.ils.nsw.gov.au/>
- Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare [www.brrvl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.brrvl.nsw.gov.au)
- Mullumbimby Community Gardens <http://mullumcommunitygarden.wordpress.com/>
- North Coast Nature <http://www.northcoastnature.org.au/>
- Richmond Landcare Inc. <http://www.richmondlandcare.org/>
- Rous County Council (formerly Far North Coast Weeds) <http://rous.nsw.gov.au/>
- Soilcare <http://www.soilcare.org>
- Tweed Landcare Inc. <http://www.tweedlandcare.org.au/>
- Wilson's Creek Huonbrook Landcare <http://www.wilsonscreeklandcare.mullum.com.au/>

**For information about Landcare or other natural resource issues in Byron shire please contact**



**Landcare Coordinator, Alison Ratcliffe 0421 244 640**  
[info@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au](mailto:info@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au)

**[www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au](http://www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au)**

