



Newsletter

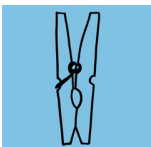
Conserving and restoring from forest to foreshore



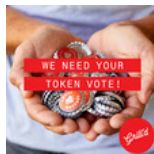
Congratulations Jan Olley of Byron Bird Buddies - recipient of Byron Shire Council's 2025 Community Member of the year!

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BRUNSWICK VALLEY LANDCARE IS A REGISTERED CHARITY ON PEGS AND GRILL'D



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



Grill'd Local Matters have chosen Brunswick Valley Landcare to be one of the three local community groups for this month. So if you grab a burger at Grill'd Byron Bay we'd love it if you chose us.



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

Jan Olley is the 2025 Byron Shire Community Member of the Year

Byron Shire Council media release 5 August

The unflappable Jan Olley is the 2025 Byron Shire Community Member of the Year.

Byron Shire Mayor, Sarah Ndiaye, presented Jan with her award on 5 August in front of friends and family at the Byron Shire Community Awards.

The annual Community Awards recognise local champions, with nominations and selections made by members of the community. This year, Council received 95 nominations across eight categories.

"Jan Olley's contribution to the protection, awareness and preservation of birds in the Byron Shire is truly exceptional," Byron Shire Mayor, Sarah Ndiaye, said.

"Jan, well known for her hat and the binoculars around her neck, was a founder of Byron Bird Buddies some 20 years ago, a conservation group committed to the preservation of habitat for resident and migratory birds including their roosting, breeding and feeding areas.

"Jan is a fierce advocate for the birds and so very respected, in the community, at Council and by many other agencies such as the NPWS and BirdLife Australia.

"Last year the Bird Buddies spent 270 hours doing surveys for conservation, with Jan leading the charge.

"You'll find Jan at workshops, stalls, developing educational materials, doing guided walks, bird counts and environmental clean-ups.

"Her knowledge is immense, she shares it so willingly and she advocates passionately for the birds, with strong support from her fellow volunteers.

"Jan Olley is a powerhouse, and thanks to her, and the other Byron Bird Buddies who carry out bird surveys all year round, we have incredible, important, recorded data on bird life in the Byron Shire over many years.

"Congratulations Jan – it's an honour to be able to present you with this award as a very small, but heartfelt token of our sincere appreciation," Mayor Ndiaye said.

END Release.

BVL also extends congratulations to the other Community Award category winners doing great things for our community: Billie Rettenmaier, Pauline Menczer, Lisa Sandstrom, Virginia Reid, Anouska Samantha Gammon, Dianne Browne, Perigee Farms and Laura Upsall. Thank you all for your service!

Byron Bird Buddies is such a fantastic organisation of local Volunteers, and one of BVL's long-standing Locality Groups. There is so much to get involved in with an excellent group of people. Check out what the Buddies are up to for the rest of the year:
<https://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au/2025/07/09/bbb-program-for-july-to-december-2025/>

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BVL NEWS

Some big news



BVL's current Local Landcare Coordinator, Alison Ratcliffe, is resigning to make more time for family and her consulting work.

After 10 years of exceptional service to BVL and our community, we wish Aly and the kids so much goodwill and our thanks. Aly will however, maintain ties with us by doing some contract work with BVL, which is great. Her experience, commitment and knowledge are invaluable.

We asked Aly to share a few thoughts on her Landcare experience:

"Over the past 10 years as Landcare Coordinator, I've had the privilege of meeting and working alongside so many dedicated volunteers and passionate landholders.

I've valued the chance to connect and share ideas. It's been inspiring to witness the care, commitment, and community spirit that you all bring to restoring and protecting our beautiful shire. It's been a pleasure to be part of such a committed and down-to-earth community.

I'll still be doing some consulting work for BVL so you may still here from me or see me around."

So not a total goodbye, phew, but a lot of people are going to miss you in the role Aly. Thank you for everything.



BVL NEWS

Do you see yourself as the next Local Landcare Coordinator for BVL?



The BVL Committee invites applications for the position of Local Landcare Coordinator. In short, the role is for 23.5 hours a week, at a rate of \$47/hr plus benefits like super, sick leave and holiday loading.

Reporting to the volunteer BVL committee, the Coordinator has a community focus, empowering our Locality Groups and community in building their expertise, attracting new members, liaising with the position funders, Byron Shire Council and your equivalent LC's elsewhere.

BVL is known for its diversity, holding workshops, field days, producing publications and getting on with people www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au

Solid communication, reporting and knowledge of our region's people, vegetation management, and environmental issues is desirable. As well as a current drivers licence and the ability to work alone, flexibly, and with occasional travel within northern NSW.

You can find full Position Description and information on How to Apply on the BVL website: <https://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/news/position-vacant/>

Applications close Friday 5 September, 2025.

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BVL NEWS

Dunes - an ever changing ecosystem



Image: New Brighton Beach - Alison Ratcliffe

A lovely sunset stroll along the beach - what could be better?

But with all the storms of 2025, we have all seen significant changes to the beach and especially the dunes. I've had a lot of enquiries from people wanting to do something, so I thought I'd ask some of our Dunecare members who have had over 20 years of experience. Brunswick Valley Landcare has a number of Dunecare groups working throughout the shire. I asked Ian Parer from South Golden Beach Dunecare to write an article about Dunecare and to share some of his knowledge.

What is Dunecare?

The aim of Dunecare is to restore dunes to a condition that is approaching what we think was the natural condition. Dunecare always involves suppressing weeds and often involves planting appropriate species of plants – both trees, shrubs and grasses/groundcovers. Success is having a well-vegetated dune profile with a dune that advances seawards.

What causes the changing amounts of sand on the beach?

The beach system is dynamic with dunes acting as sand stores. Large waves make 'withdrawals' from the sand bank in the dunes to build protective offshore sand bars, and then small waves make 'deposits', returning this sand back to the beach that is visible to us as we walk along it.

Wave attack during very high king tides and large wave conditions can lead to extreme sand loss. Sometimes there is a major erosion event during storms/cyclones, and then a gradual (> 10-year) return of the sand to the beach of the eroded material during quiet periods.

Every year, there is a net northward sand transport of about 150,000 - 200,000 cubic metres at the Clarence River. At South Golden Beach, it is about 350,000 cubic metres – that's almost 1000 cubic metres a day, and it all ends up in Queensland! The force driving the northward drift of sand is caused by the waves whipped up by the predominant south-east trade winds. This drifting sand must come from somewhere, and it comes from the gradual erosion of our dunes at the rate of 0.2 metres a year at South Golden Beach. Sometime in the next 50 years, it is likely that the South Golden Community Hall will be on the dune front.

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Image: New Brighton Beach after beach scraping 2017, Clarkes Beach, Byron Bay 2020 - Alison Ratcliffe

The History of our beaches

Sandmining occurred on most of our dunes up to the mid-1970s, and afterwards the dunes were not reshaped. Weedy species like Bitou Bush, *Chrysanthemoides monilifera*, were planted, which quickly dominated the dunes and do not hold the sand in the same way that native vegetation does. The destruction by sandmining was so complete that we are not sure what the original vegetation was on the dunes and behind the dunes.

There have been a number of physical interventions over the years, including beach scraping at New Brighton in 2017 where an excavator was brought in to re-profile the dunes. And numerous hard works have been carried out at Main Beach, Byron, in 2020, after severe erosion put the Clarkes Beach Cafe and Caravan Park at risk. However, these interventions are quite minimal compared to the sand bypass system and sand pumping that keep the Gold Coast beaches looking like they do.

What can help?

So, if we don't do extreme interventions to try to keep the sand controlled, what can we do to help? Having a well-vegetated incipient dune cannot stop erosion during a major event, but it can lead to the build-up of sand, which gives some protection to the main dune.

The long, deep and expansive root systems of native plants, especially Spinifex grass *Spinifex sericeous*, help to minimise sand losses from the frontal dune areas, which are closest to the ocean. You can watch a [video at Main Beach, Byron, by Colin Campbell of Gardening Australia](#), showing some of the great work carried out by Green and Clean Awareness Team Dunecare Group.



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BVL NEWS



Zone 4

Hind Dune

most common plants here are Coast Banksia *Banksia integrifolia*, Logan Apple *Acronychia imperforata* and Beach Alectryon *Alectryon coriaceus*.

Zones 2&3

Swale and Foredune should be dominated by Coastal Wattle *Acacia sophorae* which provides protection for the less salt/wind resilient plants to establish in zone 4.

Zone 1

Incipient foredune is dominated by Spinifex grass *Spinifex sericeous* which is the most important plant on the dunes. Spinifex facilitates dune growth by trapping wind-blown sand. It can withstand burial by wind-blown sand, a common occurrence in active frontal dune areas. Spinifex grows rapidly towards the ocean, gradually increasing the height and extent of the incipient dune. If spinifex is not present, it should be planted. In highly visited sites, spinifex may need to be protected by fencing.

Dunecare in Action

(1) Removal of weeds:

Weeding can be done by hand or by using chemicals. It is advisable for one member of a group to have done training in the use of chemicals.

(2) Planting suitable species:

Planting is very expensive and persistent strong winds, low nutrients and moisture levels in the soil, and mobile sands make it difficult to establish plants. Plants need to be provided with wind protection in the form of guards but still frequently may not survive. Often, natural regeneration is sufficient, but sometimes planting is necessary.

(3) Direct Seeding:

Spinifex seeds when mature can be directly planted into the dunes.

You do not need elaborate or bulky equipment for Dunecare. An adequate toolkit is shown below.



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BVL NEWS

Dunecare Groups

Knowledge and persistence are two important qualities to have as a Dunecarer. You need to be able to recognise weeds and how to deal with them, and you need to know what plants are suitable for each area. It would be desirable for at least one member of a Dunecare group to have done training at TAFE in a Conservation and Land Management. Brunswick Valley Landcare and Byron Council can give support in joining an existing group or setting up a new group.

Persistence is the most vital element for success for any Dunecare group. There has been Dunecare action on the dunes from South Golden to New Brighton for 20 years, and they still need to be visited 2-4 times a year, as unfortunately, weeds never stop and there will always be waves, winds, and storms.

Dunecaring is for conservation-minded people who are prepared to learn and are prepared to have a long-term commitment to a site and the resilience to weather many storms.



Image: New Brighton Beach 2020 and 2025 - Alison Ratcliffe



Image: Main Beach Byron Bay 2004 and 2016 - Bob Smeunix

Some Online Resources

Coastal Dune Management Manual

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/coasts/coastal-dune-mngt-manual.pdf>

Coastal Propagation and Revegetation Manual

https://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Coastal_propagation_and_revegetation_manual.pdf

Coffs Harbour Dune Plant ID workshop notes

https://www.coffsharbourlandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Chrl-Coastal-plant-id-workshop-notes_151111.pdf

Article supplied by Ian Parer - thank you and keep up the amazing work!

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BVL NEWS

NSW Saving our Species: Home is where the hollow is



Gang-Gang Cockatoos, Image by Alex Pike/NSW DCCEEW

Hollow-bearing trees and fallen logs provide vital shelter for our native wildlife, but they are disappearing at an alarming rate. Find out how you can help us take action and make a difference for NSW's threatened species.

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/saving-our-species-program/resources/home-where-hollow>

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New Landcare survey reveals volunteering helps find friendships and social connections

A new national survey "Tell Us What Matters" by Landcare Australia, the National Landcare Network and the State and Territory Landcare Organisations tells a compelling story of the increased connection to community through active engagement with landcare activities. Overwhelmingly, the data shows a significant number of Australians reporting new friendships and feeling a sense of belonging within their community.

The Landcare Week national survey has captured a convincing snapshot of the benefits of environmental and community volunteering, even for those who volunteer one day or a couple of hours a week.

The most common benefit reported by landcare volunteers was feeling more connected to nature in their local area (87%). Close behind, 79% said they have built stronger social connections within their community through volunteering.

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/media-release/new-landcare-survey-findings/>

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Byron Shire Council News

Council will try to open Belongil Creek AGAIN

Media release published 12 August



Council is hoping for third time lucky when it moves to reopen Belongil Creek to the ocean (hopefully) this week. A build-up of sand at the Belongil Creek mouth is acting like a dam, meaning there is a build-up of water in low-lying parts of Belongil and Byron Bay.

Council opened the creek mouth twice last week (Friday and Saturday) however the force of the waves and tides pushed the sand back within hours, closing it again. "Whenever we mechanically open the mouth of Belongil Creek we have to adhere to a process that includes timing the opening with forecast rain," Chloe Dowsett, Coastal and Biodiversity Coordinator, said.

"The reason for the protocol, which has been negotiated with Marine Parks, Crown Land and other stakeholders, is to balance opening of the creek which holds significant environmental and cultural values with flood risk management.

"We know that people are concerned about water inundation on and around their properties and we are watching the weather with the plan being to open the creek again towards the end of this week, if conditions are suitable," Ms Dowsett said.

"Our adopted strategy aims to reduce the chances of a fish kill and impact on the estuary," Ms Dowsett said.

Belongil Creek is an ICOLL, an intermittently closed and open lagoon system, that opens and closes to the ocean naturally depending on sand build up at the mouth of the creek.

"As soon as we are able we will be back down there with heavy equipment moving the sand to open up the creek and decrease water levels in the catchment," she said.

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BVL NEWS

Huge thanks to some of our local supporters

Stone & Wood generously donated funds from their May tasting paddle sales to BVL, which were put to excellent use at our 2025 Mother's Day tree planting. We went along to say a big thank you to the team and Tasting Room Lead Antoine Dufour treated us to a lunch and tour. Spoiled! Thank you Stone & Wood through supporting our community.



LOCAL MATTERS

BVL is now in line for a Grill'd Local Matters Jar through the Grill'd Store Byron. Local Matters is a way of giving back to the communities Grill'd is part of, right around Australia. Every month, each restaurant splits \$500 between three groups doing amazing work in the community —and that's where YOUR vote counts. 1 burger = 1 vote.

Through Local Matters, Grill'd give \$80,000 every month to groups across the country. Since 2011, Local Matters has donated over \$7 million to 30,000+ local community groups, organisations and projects.

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REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

News from the Byron Farmers Network: Honours student is seeking farmers to participate in climate change adaptation research

Eleanor, an honours student from University of Sydney is conducting a research study about the adoption of and barriers to climate change adaptations on farms in the Northern Rivers. Eleanor is looking for farmers from all production backgrounds based in the Northern Rivers to complete a 10-15 minute online survey about climate change adaptation in the region.

Completing the survey will put you in the running to win one of 3 \$50 gift vouchers which will be randomly drawn when the survey closes. Complete the survey here:

https://qualtricsxmzkw3tc79h.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eCH8kb1dSQt31pY

To learn more about the project or ask any questions, email Eleanor at esea8858@uni.sydney.edu.au

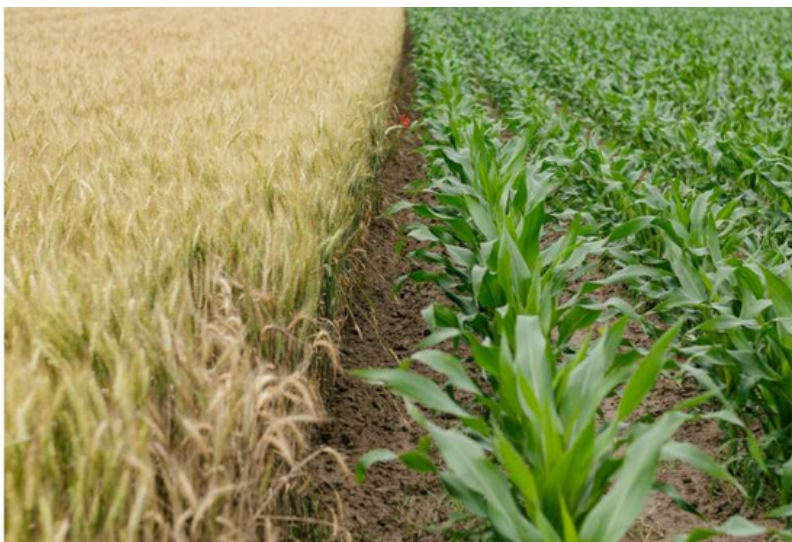
If you have friends or colleagues who would benefit from receiving these email updates, they can sign up to the Byron Farmers Network by registering [here](#).

Feel free to get in touch if you would like to have a chat or discuss your farming enterprise and let us know how we can help.

Mark Duncan – Agriculture Extension Officer, Byron Shire Council

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Microbial map reveals countless hidden connections between our food, health, and planet



Researchers have mapped how microbes underpin our food systems—and how we can stop their decline. Published in *Frontiers in Science*, their map of "agri-food system microbiomes" reveals how players at every stage of the food system can restore and protect dwindling microbiomes to help boost human and planetary health.

[Full article here](#) shared by SoilCare NSW, Source: *Frontiers in Science*

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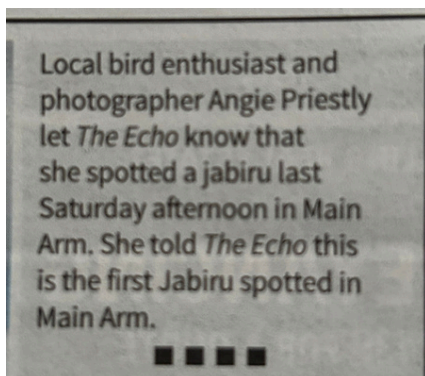
CRITTER CORNER!

Black-necked Stork (Jabiru) *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*



Image: Ralph Green, Australian Museum

The Black-necked Stork is the only stork found in Australia. With black and white body plumage, glossy dark green and purple neck and massive black bill, it is easily identified from all other Australian birds. The legs are long and coral-red in colour. The female is distinguished by its yellow eye. Immature birds resemble adults, but the black plumage is replaced by brown and the white plumage is duskier. This species has also been called the Jabiru.



The above notice popped up in August 13 edition of The Echo. The 2 distant photos on the right were taken in Main Arm August 17, 2015, almost to the week 10 years ago - great news, Main Arm IS on their map!



continued over.....

CRITTER CORNER

Black-necked Stork (Jabiru) *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

Distribution:

The Black-necked Stork is restricted mainly to coastal and near-coastal areas of northern and eastern Australia. Throughout the monsoonal areas of northern Australia, the Black-necked Stork is still widespread, but fewer numbers appear southwards to eastern Australia.

Habitat:

The Black-necked Stork inhabits wetlands, such as floodplains of rivers with large shallow swamps and pools, and deeper permanent bodies of water. Occasionally individuals will stray into open grass, woodland areas or flooded paddocks in search of food.

Seasonal movements:

Outside the breeding season, small family groups may be seen. These groups may be partially nomadic or may stay in the same area.

Feeding:

The Black-necked Stork feeds on fish, small crustaceans and amphibians. Most prey is caught by the bird jabbing and seizing it with its large bill. Some food is caught by lunging forward with a large stride or by leaping into the air.

Breeding:

Pairs of Black-necked Storks bond for several years, perhaps for life. The nest is a large platform of sticks and other vegetation, which is placed in a tall tree standing in or near water. Birds are secretive and nest in isolated pairs. There is little courtship, with the exception of some bowing and clapping of bills. The eggs are white and conical and are incubated by both parents. Both parents care for the young.

Conservation status:

In the past the species was found in much of eastern New South Wales, but is now extinct throughout much of this area. The range of the Black-necked Stork has been reduced with the modification of floodplains and tall reed beds for agriculture, mining and human settlement. In NSW the Jabiru is classed as Endangered.



A female Jabiru (distinguished by the yellow eye)
Image: Steph Miechel, Tourism NT

Information sourced from Birdlife Australia and the Australian Museum

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PLANT PROFILE

Hovea acutifolia Pointed-leaf Hovea



Images - iNaturalist L © WildlifebyGeorgie M © Darren Fielder R © Craig Robbins <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

One of the stand-out shrubs in late winter and early spring is the Pointed-leaf Hovea or Purple Pea bush. A fine open shrub that usually grows to 2m high and 1m wide, but can sometimes reach 3m in height. The stunning blue to purple pea-shaped flowers can completely cover the shrub.

The genus *Hovea* consists of around 20 species, all of which are Australian endemics.

Its natural habitat in rainforest and wet sclerophyll forest margins or damp sheltered sites can be easily replicated in the garden with filtered light, will grow in full sun to part shade. Deeper soils are preferred - well-draining, with moderate moisture depending on sun situation, mulch, and microclimate. It will tolerate light frost to salty soils. Benefits from mulching to retain moisture. A light pruning after flowering encourages new growth and more flowers.

It is fast-growing and typically has a life span of around 7 years. It is adapted to recolonising areas after fire. It is also a nitrogen fixer, forming a symbiotic relationship with rhizobia to enrich the soil for neighbouring trees.

The flowers are visited by native bees and the shrub provides excellent protection and shelter for small native birds, and attracts insects for them to feed on.

The dark green leaves with a bronze underside are \pm narrow-elliptic, mostly 3–7cm long, 3–12mm wide, evenly tapered at apex and base, margins slightly recurved. The leaves and stems are covered with a dense covering of grey to rusty hairs.

Propagation is easy from seed following pre-treatment to break the physical dormancy provided by the impervious seed coat. Pre-treatment can be carried out by abrasion or by the use of boiling water (further details can be found in under the "Propagation" tab of the "[Pea Family](#)" page). The seed retains viability for many years. Cuttings of hardened, current season's growth strike readily.

Ssp information sourced from [Plant NET](#), [Australian Plant Society](#) & [Australian National Botanic Gardens](#) and [Noosa Integrated Catchment Association](#).

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SNIPPETS

'Mind-blown': scientists discover sex reversal in kookaburras and lorikeets with cause unknown

Article by Graham Readfern published in The Guardian Australia 14 August 2025

About 5% of common Australian wild birds including kookaburras and lorikeets could have undergone a "sex reversal" where their genetic sex does not match their reproductive organs, according to a new study.

The study is thought to be the first to find widespread sex reversal across multiple wild bird species, but the cause of the phenomenon is not yet known. Full story here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/aug/14/sex-reversal-australian-birds-kookaburras-lorikeets>

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5 ingenious things trees do that human designers can learn from

Article by Stanislav Roudavski published in The Conversation 4 August 2025

Tasmania's mountain ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*) is the world's tallest flowering plant. It can grow 100 metres tall and live for more than 600 years.

These trees play a crucial role in their ecosystems, providing habitat and contributing to the overall health of the shared living world. But their numbers are dwindling due to logging, land degradation, fire and climate change.

This sad situation is indicative of a much bigger problem: humans consistently undervalue plants, despite having much to learn from them. Full story here:

<https://theconversation.com/5-ingenious-things-trees-do-that-human-designers-can-learn-from-252735>

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Nothing beats the rakali, Australia's mighty native water rat

Article by Jacinta Bowler and environment reporter Peter de Kruijff published by ABC 16 August 2025

Whether it's hunting invasive pests or rolling in a river like an otter, there's a lot to love about the rakali (*Hydromys chrysogaster*). The nation's biggest rodent is perhaps its most resourceful having adapted to urban, mountainous and coastal habitats around the country. All these traits and more have seen the rakali crowned the nation's most underrated animal in the ABC's National Science Week poll.

Full story here:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2025-08-16/australian-water-rat-rakali-science-week-underrated-animal-win/105648072>

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Richmond Riverkeeper Podcast #3: What Role Does Ceremony Play In River Health?

Podcast with Saundi McClain-Kloeckener and Tess Eckert, June 20, 2025

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2465751/episodes/17330824-what-role-does-ceremony-play-in-river-health-with-saundi-mcclain-kloeckener-and-tess-eckert>

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GRANTS

Byron Shire Council Regenerative Agriculture Small Grants



Images - Byron Shire Council - Riki and Maddie Eketone run a small cow-calf operation of Nguni.

We are pleased to announce that the Byron Shire Council Regenerative Agriculture Small Grants Program for 2025-26 is now open.

The grants of up to \$3,500 provide opportunities for local producers and landholders to help them adopt regenerative land management practices. Farmers and landholders are invited to apply for funding for on farm activities that will improve both productive capacity and biodiversity of their land.

If you have an idea of a project that fits the program objectives and would like to discuss the proposal on farm, you can book a site visit by emailing Mark at mduncan@byron.nsw.gov.au or by phone on 0266267375.

More details can be found by visiting the Byron Shire Council website and the following link [Regenerative Agriculture Small Grants Program](#).

Applications close on the 3rd October.



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GRANTS

2025 Healthy Cities Landcare Grants

Applications are now open for the Healthy Cities Landcare Grants Program.

Landcare Australia and Bupa have partnered to deliver the Healthy Cities Landcare Grants, as part of Bupa's Healthy Cities Challenge. This funding will support environmental community groups and organisations to establish native plants (trees, shrubs and groundcovers) across Australia in urban and peri-urban landscapes to enhance biodiversity and positive health outcomes.

Each application must contribute to the establishment of native plants and host community events open to the public.

Please note that the eligible areas in the Byron Shire are restricted to the coastal strip- interactive map is available



Eligible Planting sites

The Bupa Healthy Cities Landcare grant planting sites must be:

- in an eligible urban or peri-urban region;
- within public natural open space areas accessible to the community (e.g. parks and reserves);
- within 300m of an urban home, or easily accessible by public transport;
- in a location suitable for recreational physical activity such as walking and cycling; and
- Include a minimum of 500 plants.

Grant applications should be for a minimum of \$5,000 to a maximum of \$25,000 (ex-GST).

Applications close 5pm Friday 29 August, 2025.

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/grant/2025>

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EVENTS & WORKSHOPS



Yelgun Riparian Restoration Field Day



Have you considered restoring riverbanks on your property? Curious about rainforest planting?

On behalf of Yelgun Landcare, North Coast Regional Landcare Network are inviting the Brunswick Valley community to a riparian restoration field day at the Caring for Catchments Yelgun project site on Minjungbal country. Brunswick valley landholders and community will have an opportunity to view and learn about a riparian restoration project on private land. Including the:

- Implementing weed management and reforestation planting in a riparian zone
- Benefits of reforestation as a flood mitigation measure including biodiversity enhancement and improved catchment health

The day will include guided tours of two plantings on the riverbanks of Yelgun Creek: a 2023 planting alongside the Caring for Catchments planting completed in April 2025.

Landholder, Ryan Collins will be available to answer questions and Guest speakers will include Dr Joanne Green – Ecological Restoration expert and Liam Collyer Coyne – Bush Regenerator Wanganui Green.

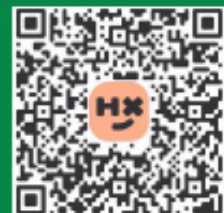


Friday August 29th, 2025

9:45AM-2:00PM

25 Yelgun Rd, Yelgun 2483 NSW

Register by 26th August 2025



This project is funded by the Australian Government through the Northern Rivers Recovery and Resilience Program 2022-23 administered by the NSW Reconstruction Authority. Delivered by North Coast Regional Landcare Network.



Booking via Humanitix <https://events.humanitix.com/yelgun-riparian-restoration-field-day>

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EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

GONDWANA SANCTUARY NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

SIMPSONS CREEK FLOODPLAIN CORRIDOR FIELD DAY



Join us for a field day to view the past 35 years of riparian restoration, including the ~~most~~ 1000 tree planting funded by a Caring for Catchments Grant.

5 SEPTEMBER 2025

Tyagarah

9:30am to 1:30pm

Includes morning tea and lunch

FIELD DAY HIGHLIGHTS :

- CAMPHOR CONVERSION TO RAINFOREST
- TOUR SWAMP SCLEROPHYLL AND RAINFOREST PLANTINGS
- SEE DIFFERENT AGES OF PLANTINGS
- ASK QUESTIONS OF LOCAL EXPERTS JO GREEN & DAVE RAWLINS



→ REGISTER AT [HTTPS://EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/SIMPSONS-CREEK](https://events.humanitix.com/simpsons-creek)



This project is funded by the Australian Government through the Northern Rivers Recovery and Resilience Program 2022-23 administered by the NSW Reconstruction Authority. Delivered by North Coast Regional Landcare Network.



To book your place: <https://events.humanitix.com/simpsons-creek>

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EVENTS & WORKSHOPS



FREE Grant Writing Workshops

NRCF are delivering their free grant writing workshops across the Northern Rivers, with eight locations to choose from. Facilitated by NRCF's experienced grants team, the workshop draws on real-world examples from successful local projects and offers the opportunity for Q&A and peer discussion. Whether you're new to grant writing or looking to sharpen your skills, this workshop provides valuable insights and tools you can immediately put into practice.

When and where:

BRUNSWICK HEADS: Monday 18 August, 10am - 1pm - [Register HERE](#)

TWEED HEADS: Tuesday 19 August, 10am - 1pm - [Register HERE](#)

EVANS HEAD: Wednesday 20 August, 10am - 1pm - [Register HERE](#)

LISMORE: Thursday 21 August, 10am - 1pm - [Register HERE](#)

CASINO: Friday 22 August, 10am - 1pm - [Register HERE](#)

MURWILLUMBAH: Monday 25th August, 10am - 1pm - [Register HERE](#)

BALLINA: Tuesday 26th August, 10am - 1pm - [Register HERE](#)

MACLEAN: Wednesday 27th August, 10am - 1pm - [Register HERE](#)

Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your skills and boost your chances of receiving funding from different government and philanthropic sources.

Places are limited for each workshop, so book your spot today!



Positive Change for Marine Life would like to invite you to '[A Night for the Brunswick River](#)' at the Brunswick Hotel on **Wednesday, 27 August at 5:30 pm.**

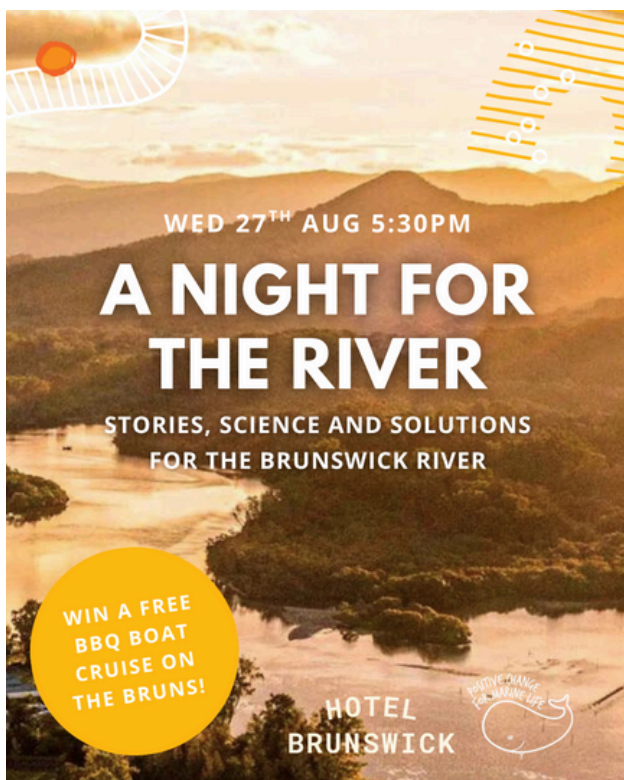
This evening is a great chance to learn more about the importance of the Brunswick River, the work that is being done by an amazing group of partners to restore the health of the waterway, and to see real community conservation in action, from restoring riverbanks and planting mangroves to creating habitats that support wildlife and aid local communities in protecting their Country. We'll be unveiling the updated Brunswick River Story Map – an interactive platform that blends local knowledge, scientific data, and stories from the catchment to highlight challenges, showcase progress, and inspire action.

We'd love for you to join us and to share the invitation with your community so more voices can help shape the next chapter of our work.

If you can attend, please be sure to [register via this link](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1574635329659?aff=oddttdtcreator>.

We look forward to celebrating what we've achieved together and exploring where we can go from here!



WEED OF THE MONTH

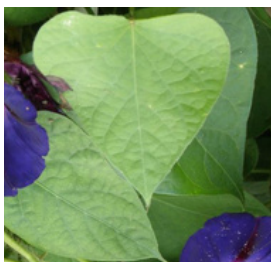
Morning Glory *Ipomea spp*

Sources: NSW WeedWise, Brisbane City Council Weed Identification Tool

There are many different species of Morning Glory. All species are strong, fast-growing vine weeds and can:

- smother and outcompete native plants on the ground and up to 15m into the canopy
- reduce habitat for native plants and animals
- reduce crop productivity
- make crop harvesting difficult.

Identification - Vine with leaves that are heart-shaped or lobed. Flowers vary in colour but all have the funnel shape.



Common morning glory *Ipomoea purpurea*

flowers usually blue or bluish-purple (can be white or pink) with pink centre (3-7cm wide), hairy stems, leaves bright green (2-10cm long, 2-10cm wide) base heart-shaped pointed tip, sometimes three-lobed, hairy, alternate.

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Morningglorycommon>



Coastal morning glory / Mile-a-minute *Ipomoea cairica*

flowers violet purple or pink (occasionally white) with a darker throat (6-8cm wide), hairless or slightly hairy, 5-7 lobed leaves (4-9 cm long and wide), alternate, twinning vines which are woody when old, milky sap from stem when cut.

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/MorningGloryCoastal>



Purple / Blue morning glory *Ipomoea indica*

larger flowers blue to purple with darker coloured throat in the morning then fading to pink in the afternoon (7-10cm wide), leaves (4-17cm long, 3-15cm wide) heart-shaped or 3 deep lobes, pointed at the tips, hairy on both sides, alternate.

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/MorningGloryPurple>



White morning glory / Moonflower *Ipomoea alba*

larger flowers white with 5 cream to greenish-yellow bands (7-11cm wide), open at night, usually withering by morning, leaves heart-shaped or 3 shallow lobes (7-11cm long, 5-10cm wide), sometimes slightly fleshy, alternate, stems hairless, milky sap, smooth or small projections.

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Moonflower>

Images: iNaturalist, NSW Weed Wise, Brisbane City Council Weed ID

Reproduction & Dispersal: many species of morning glory has been grown as an ornamental garden plant. It is still occasionally grown in gardens. Spreads by seed: One plant can produce up to 26 000 seeds. The seed are spread by water, wind and birds. The seeds may also be spread by contaminated produce. Can also reproduce vegetatively by rooting along its stems. Stem fragments are often dispersed in dumped garden waste, be spread by water or even in mowers/slathers.

Control

see links to websites above for how to control. As they spread by seed controlling before they set seed is important.

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Landcare working bees

For all Landcare Working Bees please wear protective clothing - long pants, long-sleeved shirt, closed-in shoes, hat, gloves & bring water, sunscreen, & insect repellent.

Please always contact the group coordinators before attending a working bee as plans do change!

JOIN US



Bangalow Land and Rivercare, Bangalow

WHEN: every Saturday 8:30am

CONTACT: Noelene Plummer bangalowlandcare@gmail.com 0431 200 638

Green and Clean Awareness Team, Main Beach Byron Bay

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

CONTACT: Peter Farmakis peter.farmakis@gmail.com 0488 715 565

Friends of Lilli Pilli, Byron Bay

WHEN: 1st Saturday of the month 3.30 pm

CONTACT: Deb Jorgensen deborah.jorgensen60@gmail.com

Maslem Arboretum, Heritage Park Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: Saturdays 9:00am – 11:00 am

CONTACT: Diana Hughes bromspot@gmail.com

Mullum Town Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: last Sunday morning of the month

CONTACT: John Tann johntann99@gmail.com

Ocean Shores Landcare, Yallakool Reserve and Devines Hill Ocean Shores

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

CONTACT: David Kemp dnkemp77@gmail.com 0427 650 861

Suffolk Park Dunecare

WHEN: Fourth Sunday of the month 8:30am – 10:30am

CONTACT: Rebekah O'Flaherty rebekahoflaherty@gmail.com

Tyagarah Landcare, Grays Lane Tyagarah

WHEN: Each Thursday 9:00am – 11:00am

CONTACT: Bela Allen bela.allen@yahoo.com 6684 7113

Waterlilly Park Care Group, Waterlilly Park Ocean Shores

WHEN: Each Wednesday 8:00 am - 10.00 am

CONTACT: Ian Barker barker5057@gmail.com 0403 001 946

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Byron Bird Buddies

WHEN: monthly program of surveys and walks
for more info visit www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au

CONTACT: byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com 0428 864 378

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 looking after a particular area, BVL can help you to form a locality group under the BVL umbrella.

LINKS

- Arakwal <http://arakwal.com.au/>
- Australian Association of Bush Regenerators <http://aabr.org.au>
- Border Rangers Alliance http://www.greasternranges.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
- Environmental Trust <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/envtrust.htm>
- Friends of the Koala www.friendsofthekoala.org
- Federal Landcare Inc federalandcare@gmail.com
- Local Land Services www.northcoast.lis.nsw.gov.au
- North Coast Local Land Services <http://northcoast.lis.nsw.gov.au/>
- Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare www.brrvln.org.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

www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au



0421 244 640



info@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au

