



# Newsletter

Conserving and restoring from forest to foreshore



1934-2025

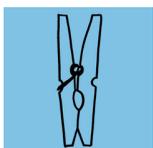
## Remembering Jane

Scientist. Conservationist. Humanitarian.

Image courtesy of Jane Goodall Institute Australia

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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

## The world has lost a giant



### **Vale Dr Jane Goodall 1934 - 2025**

Dr. Jane Goodall, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and UN Messenger of Peace, was a remarkable example of courage and conviction, working tirelessly throughout her life to raise awareness about threats to wildlife, promote conservation, and inspire a more harmonious, sustainable relationship between people, animals and the natural world.

She passed away in her sleep on October 1.

You can read more about Dr Jane's incredible life and work via the Jane Goodall Institute Australia's webpage <https://janegoodall.org.au/>

What a hero.

"Every single one of us makes a difference every day – it is up to us as to the kind of difference we make" Dr Jane Goodall.

In the words of another hero, Sir David Attenborough, paying tribute to his friend : "Jane Goodall devoted her life to protecting our planet and giving a voice to the wild animals and the ecosystems they inhabit. Her groundbreaking research on Chimpanzees in Tanzania transformed our understanding of how our closest relatives live, socialize, and think - reminding us that we are deeply connected not only to Chimpanzees and the other great apes, but to all life.

For decades, Jane traveled the world with tireless energy, awakening generations to the wonder of the natural world. She spoke directly to the next generation, instilling hope, responsibility, and the belief that every individual can make a difference. She inspired millions to care, to act, and to hope. She never stopped."

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# BVL NEWS

Welcome Valley aboard, BVL's new Coordinator



Hello Landcarers,

I am excited to have taken on the role as the new Landcare coordinator and am really looking forward to supporting the BVL Committee and the amazing work that Landcarers across the shire are doing in regeneration and conservation.

I've been connected to this community and environment since I was a child. I grew up in Main Arm and moved back to the area 25 years ago to raise my family here. Over the past decade, I've been regenerating my own property and more recently have been working alongside my neighbours and project managing a large riparian restoration project in Wilsons Creek. I have also been on the Wilsons Creek Landcare Committee for a few years.

I have a theatre and arts background; have coordinated many events and festivals, developed youth arts programs, worked with schools, government agencies and not for profit organisations on environmental education projects and run my outdoor theatre company Roundabout Theatre. I am passionate about caring for, learning from, connecting to and protecting the natural world and believe in the power of small communities to make a big impact. Please contact me to share your projects and ideas and ask for help and resources if you need, I look forward to meeting this great community.



# BVL NEWS

## Baby humpbacks born in NSW too!



Image credit: Vanessa Risku

Exciting new research challenges long-held beliefs about humpback whale births, revealing these whales are not always born in warmer, tropical waters.

The study, led by UNSW PhD candidate Jane McPhee-Frew, documents that humpback whales are giving birth much further south than previously believed, with sightings extending as far as Tasmania, more than 1,500 kilometres beyond the assumed calving zone.

Scientists Dr Adelaide Dedden and Andy Marshall from NPWS Marine Wildlife team contributed to the findings.

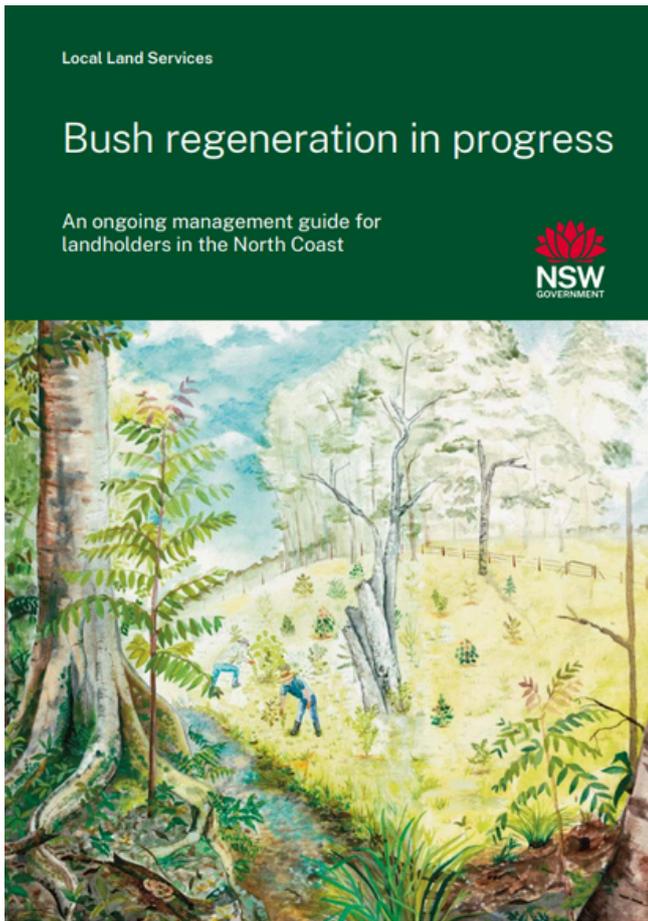
The study collates years of data from whale watching operators, citizen scientists and government wildlife agencies, resulting in more than 200 humpback calf sightings.

Read more on this research here: [https://www.marine.nsw.gov.au/news-and-more/newsroom/news/2025-news/baby-humpbacks-born-in-nsw-too!?follow\\_link=true](https://www.marine.nsw.gov.au/news-and-more/newsroom/news/2025-news/baby-humpbacks-born-in-nsw-too!?follow_link=true)



# BVL NEWS

In case you missed it last month.... posting this resource again



NSW Local Land Services have just published a new guide for landholders on the North Coast. It's a pretty comprehensive booklet, covering everything from the principles of ecological restoration practice, management strategies, how to plan out your project in stages and right down to the specifics of weed control methods relevant to some of the common weed suspects in our region. It also comes with some really clear and useful diagrams & images.

It's been put together by an incredibly knowledgeable team - written and researched by Genevieve Murphy at LLS. Reviewers and contributors: John Blatch, David Dreher, Emily Headlam, Mark Dunphy, Tristan Mules, Nan Nicholson, Jesse Vandenbosch, Amber Murphy, Rhonda James, Hannah Rice-Hayes, Kate Steel, Dean Richards, Dr Sophie Pryor, Ashley Donges, Ben Herington.

How do you get a copy? Easy:

- hard copies are available from Byron Shire Council front desk
- have your copy posted if you're willing to pay for postage - to arrange, just email [info@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au](mailto:info@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au)
- or you can download a digital copy via the BVL website, link below: <https://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/resources/kits-guides/bush-regeneration/>



# BVL NEWS

## Flow Hive becomes Major Supporter of Big Scrub Rainforest Conservancy

Published by Big Scrub Conservancy Aug 21, 2025



Local Northern Rivers business Flow has long been a great supporter of the Big Scrub. From their support of Big Scrub Rainforest Day to assistance in protecting local habitat, their work to ensure biodiversity for pollinators has had a big impact on the local environment.

We're excited to announce the creators of the world-first honey harvesting invention have now become major supporters of Big Scrub Rainforest Conservancy.

As part of their mission to protect habitat for pollinators, Flow has partnered with Big Scrub Rainforest Conservancy to support our habitat regeneration work, as well as the development of the site of Science Saving Rainforests.

"Over the next decade we hope our support of habitat biodiversity will lead to billions of new flowers for pollinators to forage on," Niall Fahy from Flow explained. "Through our support of Big Scrub Rainforest Conservancy and other conservation organisations, we aim to help to save native bees from the threat of extinction."



### An exciting footnote for BVL

Thanks to a generous donation by Flow Hive to BVL, we'll be developing our own Pollinator Project to roll out in 2026. Watch this space.....

We're so grateful for your support Flow Hive team, thank you on behalf of Byron's pollinators and forests!



# BVL NEWS

## Landcare Australia Conference on the Gold Coast

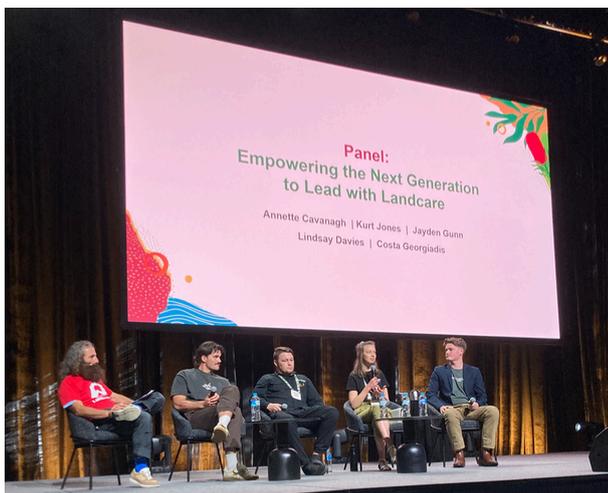
BVL represented at the recent Landcare Australia Conference in late September, with Harry & Committee member Felicity Watsford attending.

It's always refreshing being in a room full of Landcarers, both from our own region and all across the country. There were 650 delegates in the room. Gardening Australia host and Junior Landcare Ambassador Costa Georgiadis MC'd the 2-day Conference, held at Broadbeach. The Conference program was packed full of fascinating content, kicking off with a First Nations Landcare Gathering, NextGen Landcare Summit and Landcare Short Film Festival.



Concurrent stream sessions over the 2-days were split across a number of themes:

- Nature Repair & Climate Adaptation
- Technology & Innovation for Landcare
- Community-driven Landcare
- Restoring Biodiversity Across landscapes
- Sustainable Agriculture & Soil Health

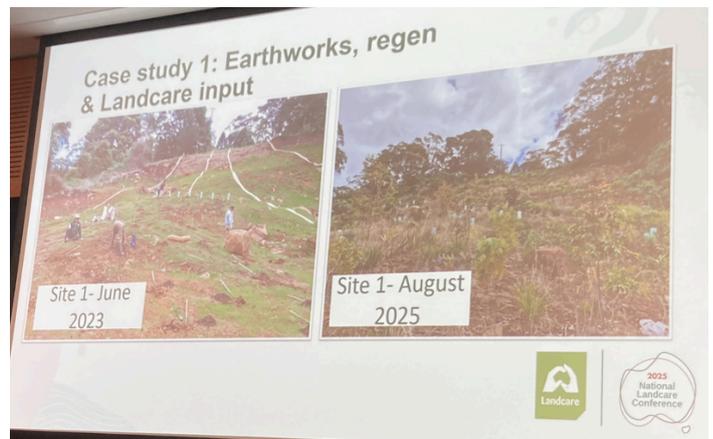


# BVL NEWS

## Landcare Australia Conference on the Gold Coast

The speakers were of such a high calibre, it was difficult to choose who to catch, but we did our best to get across the breadth of topics and case studies to learn from. Highlights included:

- “Restoring Subtropical Rainforest after landslides in the Northern Rivers NSW” by local heroes Tamar Cohen & Ivy Young from Border Ranges Richmond Valley & Richmond Valley Landcare Network
- “Building Biolinks: Citizen Science, AI and Teamwork to connect the Grampians to the Pyrenees” by Dr Elia Pirtle from Project Platypus
- “Blending Tradition & Technology: Indigenous-led Pest & Weed Management for a Resilient Future” by Trevor Meldrum of Cape York Weeds & Feral Animals Inc & Andrew Williams of Gold Coast City Council
- “Glideways in Central Victoria” by Dr Chris Pocknee of Biolinks Alliance
- “Future Proofing Landscapes: Climate Ready Revegetation in Action” by Sarah McGrath & Gill Hall of Yass Area Network of Landcare Groups
- “Wallibi Point Littoral Rainforest, Adaptation Embraced” by Tony Wales from Manning Coastcare, Wallibi Point Group
- “Linking the Tops to the Lakes: partnerships, Patience & Persistence” by Andrew Morris, Mid-Coast Council NSW



Images: Harry Hackett



# Resilient Farm Business Program

**Helping Northern Rivers farmers thrive in a changing climate**

Are you a farmer feeling the pressure of increasing climate variability? From unpredictable seasons to market fluctuations, building a truly resilient farm business has never been more critical. This program is your hands-on guide to turning uncertainty into opportunity.

### What you'll get

- Business model and strategy:
- A clear, one-page roadmap for your farm's future growth and strategic direction.
- Climate-assessed cash flow forecast: A robust 12-month financial plan that stress-tested against climate scenarios.
- Practical Resilience Playbook: A simple, actionable guide to inform your on-farm decisions and help you adapt through any season.

### How it works

- Group learning, expert guidance, and one-on-one support.
- Facilitated and led by Saadi Allan, with insights from special guest speakers.
- One in-person session each week, plus online mentoring slots and self guided learning.
- Dates and time: 2.30pm Mondays over four weeks, 3rd - 28th November 2025.
- Cost: \$100
- Location: Clunes TBA.



**Saadi Allan** is a business advisor with a passion for sustainable food systems. He was the Expert in Residence for the Regenerative Connection Accelerator in 2024, and previously co-founded the global composting brand Subpod and led marketing for the creators of the Flow Hive.

Invest in your farm's future. Spots are strictly limited to 12 participants. **Applications close 20th October.** Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/resilientfarmsprogram](https://bit.ly/resilientfarmsprogram)



Sign up [HERE](#)

## NSW Saving our Species: Celebrating a silver anniversary for South Coast shorebirds

courtesy of Saving our Species Media Release, 26 September 2025



As shorebirds return to South Coast beaches for the spring breeding season, locals and holiday-makers are being urged to 'share the shore' and help protect threatened species.

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service South Coast Shorebird Recovery Program is celebrating its 25th year of protecting endangered birds, and is asking beachgoers from Wollongong to Eden to be on the lookout and report sightings of shorebird nests.

Minns Labor Government MPs from along the south coast are teaming up to congratulate national parks staff and volunteers on the program's Silver Anniversary of protecting generations of endangered shorebirds.

Pied Oystercatchers, Little Terns and Hooded Plovers breed on south coast beaches from August each year, yet their nests are constantly at risk of disturbance, inundation and predation.

Read more about this great work here: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/news/celebrating-silver-anniversary-south-coast-shorebirds>

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### Critical Shorebird monitoring closer to home

If that story has piqued your interest, there is some incredible work for Shorebird protection happening regularly in Byron Shire and further south in Ballina, led by Byron Bird Buddies.

BBB members conduct regular shorebird counts at five different locations guided by the Birdlife Shorebird 2020 project. The locations are: Belongil Estuary, Byron Wetlands, the north side of the Brunswick River known as Marshalls Creek, the southside of the river known as the Saltmarsh and at Vallances Road. Members also participate in the 2020 Shorebird count around Ballina. To get involved, contact Jan on 0428 864 378 or email to [byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com)

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# Byron Shire Council News

## Vegetation restoration underway at Middleton Street Flying-Fox Roost

Media release published 8 October



Council has commenced important weed clearing and vegetation management at the Girang Roost (flying-fox roost) at Middleton Street.

Over the last three weeks Council staff have managed to restore the site significantly. More works including vine and ground cover control are planned for the future as funding becomes available.

“The vegetation in and around the Girang Roost at Middleton Street was in poor condition with a lot of it overgrown, and lots of weeds growing in the area,” said Council’s Biodiversity Team Leader, Liz Caddick.

“Council sought expertise from Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council, as future custodians of the area to guide management and restoration of this important area,” Ms Caddick added.

Flying-foxes play an essential role as pollinators of some of Australia’s most iconic forests. As nomadic animals, they move between roosts following the flowering seasons of native forests. Of the 21 known roosts in the Byron Shire, this is the only permanent one, providing critical habitat that flying-foxes rely on year-round.

“It was important to restore the vegetation that these animals rely on,” Ms Caddick said. “In Bundjalung language, a flying-fox is called girang or kirang, these names can also vary across the Bundjalung Nation. The animals are culturally important and respected for their role in the ecosystem,” said Council’s Aboriginal Project Officer, Robert Appo.

Initial vegetation restoration works have been funded by Council.

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# CRITTER CORNER!

Fireflies *Lampyridae* family, subfamily *Luciolinae*



Firefly *Atyphella lychnus* Image credit: Lesley Ballantyne Fireflies

Gosh, scientists are amazing. In researching this month's Critter of the Month - the Firefly - we came upon an incredible woman who has dedicated her career and life to studying Australian Fireflies. Her name is Lesley Ballantyne. Much of the information within this article is sourced from Lesley's website which features detailed fact sheets and excellent species ID (link next page)

## **What are Fireflies?**

Fireflies are actually beetles, which means they have their front wings hardened but do not use them to fly with (they are called elytra; singular is elytron). Instead, when they fly, sometimes not very well, they use their second pair of wings only. Perhaps you have seen the clumsy flight of a Christmas beetle? You can see the front wings of a Christmas beetle held out at the sides of the body, and the flight is usually slow and even a bit clumsy. Fireflies are not strong fliers, and for some types only the males can actually fly, the females have reduced wings and can't fly at all. But there is a reason why we call them fireflies. They can produce light and it is an amazing phenomenon, as it is almost 98% light and only 2 % heat.

The light is produced in special organs (called light organs) at the end of their abdomens (tail) on the underside. In our Australian fireflies, the last two segments of the underside of the abdomen are white.

There are 24 species of Firefly in Australia across 7 genera.

*continued over.....*

# CRITTER CORNER

## Fireflies Lampyridae family, subfamily Luciolinae

### Distribution

Fireflies occur mainly along the eastern seaboard of Australia from Cape York Peninsula to as far south as Kangaroo Valley in NSW. This is a discontinuous pattern that parallels for the most part regions of rainforest, wet sclerophyll forest and mangroves. There are many records of fireflies from the northern part of the northern Territory, where they seem to occur mainly in association with bodies of water. It seems that there are a few unpublished records of fireflies in north western WA, but thus far we don't know anything about their environment. There are no fireflies south of Kangaroo valley, and none in Victoria, South Australia, or Tasmania.

Firefly larvae feed on small snails and slugs and earthworms which live in moist leaf litter, so their distribution is tied to the incidence of areas that have abundant sources of the larval food

### Habitat and ecology

Australian fireflies are all flashing fireflies – both males and females can produce light which is used so the sexes can find each other for mating. Their immature stages, called larvae, are also capable of producing a light, which is not flashed but will often be turned off if you are treading nearby.

Most species of fireflies are crepuscular, meaning they're active during twilight. They prefer moist environments such as rainforests and mangroves and tropical areas. Fireflies start their lives as a fertilized egg, deposited in damp soil during the summer months. After 3-4 weeks, resembling a serrated worm, they emerge as larvae. The larval stage typically lasts two years, during which they are carnivorous. Armed with tubular mandibles, the larvae paralyse their prey (their preference is snails) and inject digestive secretions into them. After the secretions have taken effect, the larvae suck out the liquefied contents. During the warmer months they live in damp areas in soil and leaf-litter. In winter they burrow into soil chambers or find cover under bark.

In early spring of the 2nd year the larvae pupate and 1-3 weeks later, emerge as the adults we see flitting about in the evening sky. Research has found that the fireflies on the Springbrook Plateau QLD (species *Atyphella atra*) have a short adult life-span of only four nights.

Unlike their larval form, most species of firefly do not feed as adults. Instead, they spend their brief adulthood, which lasts a few days to a few weeks, finding a mate. This is where their lightshow comes into play. Believed to differ between each species, the flashing pattern emitted by fireflies alerts potential mates to each other's whereabouts. The often flightless females (their wings can be either highly reduced or non-existent) wait on the ground, perched on a rock or small plant as the males zip around in the air. When a female recognises the passing flashes as those of a male from her own species, and deems him a suitable mate, she blinks in response. Often it is the males with the brightest flashes and who last the longest that attract the females' attention. The duration of aerial flashing recorded at the Springbrook Research Centre is about 30-45 minutes. Fireflies are most active in the hour after sunset and more so on dark nights with a new moon.

Information sourced from Lesley Ballantyne Fireflies <https://lesleyballantyne.com/australian-fireflies>  
Additional Habitat & Ecology information by Lexie Webster, Land for Wildlife Extension Officer Gold Coast Council, full article here: <https://www.lfwseq.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Land-for-Wildlife-Newsletter-October-2010.pdf>



# PLANT PROFILE

## *Brachychiton acerifolius* Illawarra Flame Tree



Images: L - iNaturalist © RayBrown and R - CSIRO

The beautiful deciduous *Brachychiton acerifolius* (flame trees) are losing their leaves at the moment and their spectacular red flowers are bursting into bloom. There are a few very showy specimens on Dalley street on the way out of Mullumbimby. One tree is next to a Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*), that is also beginning to flower – stunning. Although they make beautiful street trees; probably best not to park under them as apparently when the fruits are wounded by insects they produce mucilage that is strong enough to lift paint of a vehicle.

**Description:** Tree to 35 m, deciduous, flowers produced in spring on leafless branches. Adult foliage usually entire or shallowly 3-lobed, juvenile leaves often deeply 5-lobed; lamina rhombic to ovate, usually 10–30 cm long, entire or widely 3–5-lobed, glabrous, apex short-acuminate; petiole mostly 10–20 cm long. Flowers 10–20 mm long, bright coral-red. Carpels glabrous. Follicle glabrous, c. 10 cm long, on stalks 6–8 cm long; seed endocarp tomentose.

### **Distribution and Ecology:**

Endemic to Australia, occurs in CYP, NEQ, CEQ and southwards as far as south-eastern New South Wales. Altitudinal range in CYP and NEQ from near sea level to 1000 m. Grows in drier, more seasonal rain forest and well developed rain forests on a variety of sites.

*Brachychiton* spp are a food plant for the larval stages of the Pencilled Blue, Helenita Blue, Common Aeroplane and Tailed Emperor Butterflies. Common & Waterhouse (1981). The seeds are eaten by Australian king parrots and the regent and satin bowerbirds.

The seeds of *Brachychiton* species are edible—Indigenous Australians ate them either raw or roasted after removing the irritating hairs that surround them in the pod. They are nutritious, containing 18% protein and 25% fat with high levels of zinc and magnesium. They also ate the roots of young trees.

Information sourced from:

[https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/text/entities/brachychiton\\_acerifolius.htm](https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/text/entities/brachychiton_acerifolius.htm)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brachychiton\\_acerifolius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brachychiton_acerifolius)

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# SNIPPETS

## Celebrating Federal's Village Life

*Article published in The Echo October 13, 2025*

An art auction is a special addition to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Federal Park Party, which this year takes place on **Saturday, 1 November from 12 noon**.

The aim is to bring art into Federal Park by showcasing local artists, with profits reinvested into arts and culture in Federal.

Full story here: <https://www.echo.net.au/2025/10/celebrating-federals-village-life/>

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## These little bettongs were wiped out in South Australia a century ago. Now they're thriving alongside foxes and feral cats

*Article by Chloe Frick published in The Conversation 30 September, 2025*

Around 200 years ago, bettongs were the most common macropod in Australia. These small wallaby-like creatures were once found seemingly everywhere and in great numbers.

After colonisation, bettongs became harder to find. The five living species were decimated as land was cleared for farms, and feral cats and foxes spread across the continent. Weighing in at 1-2 kilos, these small rat-kangaroos were easy prey for introduced nocturnal ambush hunters.

To support and protect the species, conservationists have had success in translocating the critically endangered brush-tailed bettong (*Bettongia penicillata ogilbyii*) to fenced, feral predator-free reserves.

Full story here: <https://theconversation.com/these-little-bettongs-were-wiped-out-in-south-australia-a-century-ago-now-theyre-thriving-alongside-foxes-and-feral-cats-264697>

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## Parts of Coffs Coast Wildlife Sanctuary evacuated due to 'highly venomous' sea snake

*Article by Marina Trajkovich published ABC Mid-North Coast online October 15, 2025*

Staff at a northern New South Wales wildlife sanctuary were forced to temporarily evacuate parts of their centre after a woman brought in a highly venomous sea snake.

The woman found the snake stranded on a beach and picked it up, wearing gloves.

Experts are warning beach-goers not to handle stranded sea snakes, which are among the world's most venomous snakes.

Full story here: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-10-14/coffs-coast-wildlife-sanctuary-evacuated-due-to-sea-snake/105888174>

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## Hoop pine may set record as Australia's tallest rainforest tree

*Article by David Kirkpatrick published by ABC North Coast online 10 October 2025*

Researchers claim Australia's tallest rainforest tree has been discovered in the Border Ranges National Park in Far North NSW.

The 77-metre hoop pine was discovered using laser technology.

A ground expedition will be mounted to verify the exact height of the tree.

Full story here: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-10-10/hoop-pine-discovery-might-be-tallest-rainforest-tree/105876058>

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# GRANTS



## FRRR

Foundation for Rural  
Regional Renewal

## FRRR: Strengthening Rural Communities – Prepare & Recover

**Round 27 is now open with applications closing 4 December at 5pm, 2025**

The Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) Prepare & Recover program supports communities in remote, rural and regional communities across Australia to implement initiatives that prevent and prepare for future climate related impacts, or recover from existing disasters in the medium to long-term timeframe, generally one to ten years after the disaster.

Grants up to \$25,000 are available for a broad range of initiatives. Priority will be given to projects that:

- Respond to a specific climate impact or event, either historic or likely to occur in the future;
- Focus on [community-led resilience building](#) in recovery or preparedness to strengthen the capacity and capability of local people and systems, especially to manage the impact of future disasters, through: inclusion; networks; communication; information sharing; self-organising systems; local decision making; or resourcing, tools and support;
- Are from local community groups and not-for-profits or organisations that do not have DGR status.

**NOTE:** There are two streams of funding available within the Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) program: Prepare and Recover and [Small and Vital](#). Organisations may submit their application in one of these streams per SRC grant round, and any other applications in this round will be considered.

For Application Guidelines and details of how to apply, visit: <https://frrr.org.au/funding/src-prepare-recover/>



## EVENTS & WORKSHOPS



Already in full swing and into it's third week of the program, Richmond River Fest events are on until October 26.

Here's just one event coming up that will be of huge local interest, hosted by Richmond Riverkeeper, North Coast Regional Landcare and the Caring for Catchments Project Team:

**“Panel Dialogue: Caring for Catchments - how do nature-based solutions play a role in flood resilience?”**

**Monday 20 October 8.30am - 2pm at the Ramada Ballina**

For more information and tickets, head to:

<https://events.humanitix.com/cfc-nature-based-solutions-panel>

To check out the rest of the program remaining, go to: <https://richmondriverfest.com/>



## Free On-Farm Field Days to Launch Regional Producer Networks

This one is slightly further afield, but may be of interest and it's free. The Holistic Management Co-op is hosting free on-farm field days throughout October and November to launch Regional Impact Groups (RIGs) - an initiative designed to provide a group of like minded people in your region, connecting Australian producers, who want to make improving landscape health and productivity easier. The Northern NSW / SE QLD event is in Tenterfield.

**Venue: “Grantham”, 7935 New England Highway, Tenterfield**

**Date: 1st November**

**Hosted By: Glen Chapman**

Contact [officeahmc@gmail.com](mailto:officeahmc@gmail.com) for more information.



# EVENTS & WORKSHOPS



SoilCare  
Inc.



## Enhanced Compost for Phytophthora Management

An on farm process for multiplying a selected  
Indigenous Microorganism.

**Dr Dean Metcalf**  
Biocontrol Australia

**Dave Forrest**  
Organic Forrest

**Ross Arnett**  
Malua Macadamia Farm

**Monday 27 October 2025**

9.00 am – 10.45 am at DPIRD Wollongbar

11.00 am – 1.00 pm at Malua Farm, Lindendale



### Bookings & details at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/enhanced-compost-for-phytophthora-management>

### FREE EVENT – Morning Tea Provided

- Plant diseases – how they infect & how beneficial microbes inhibit disease.
- Integrated Disease Management – site factors & management practices
- Compost use and timing
- Practical methods of inoculation – adding spores to prepared compost windrow



BOOK NOW!



Biocontrol  
Australia



<https://events.humanitix.com/enhanced-compost-for-phytophthora-management>

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# EVENTS & WORKSHOPS



YOU ARE INVITED TO

## Brunswick Valley Landcare's 2025 AGM & Christmas Party

Sunday 23rd November, 2025

11am-3pm  
AGM 11am - 12pm followed by the party

Mullumbimby Showground Food Hall  
61 Main Arm Rd, Mullumbimby - enter via Chinbible Ave gate

Some refreshments and food will be provided but feel free to bring a plate. Please RSVP by Wednesday 17th November to assist with catering E: [valley@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au](mailto:valley@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au)

## BYRON BIRD BUDDIES



Image: Geoff Ball. Galah spring cleans and disinfects nest box at same time. This nest box was one erected by WildBNB, Mullumbimby NSW.

For details of the October 2025 program, including special Bird Week activities visit:  
<https://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au/2025/10/01/program-october-update-and-birdweek/>

# WEED OF THE MONTH

## *Ligustrum sinense* Small leaved privet



Also known as: Chinese privet, Chinese liguster, Chinese ligustrum, Hedge privet, Ligustrum, Narrow-leaf privet, Narrowleaf privet, Small-leaf privet

**Description** - A shrub or small tree with hairy younger stems and leaves. Its relatively small leaves (2-7 cm long and 1-3 cm wide) are borne in pairs along the stems. Its small white fragrant flowers have four petals and are produced in small branched clusters (4-11 cm long) at the tips of the stems. Its small rounded or egg-shaped fruit (4-6 mm long) turn bluish-black in colour when mature. It grows in dense stands and will out-compete other plants for water, nutrients and sunlight.

**Impact:** Small leaved privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) is regarded as a significant environmental weed in New South Wales and Queensland, and as an environmental weed or potential environmental weed in Victoria and the ACT. This species causes widespread and significant environmental damage, and was recently listed as a priority environmental weed in seven Natural Resource Management regions. It is of most concern in south-eastern Queensland, where it is ranked among the top 25 most invasive plant species, and in eastern New South Wales.

Small leaved privet commonly invades gullies, creeklines, watercourses, forest gaps and the margins of rainforests in eastern Australia, and tends to grow in more fertile soils. It forms dense thickets and its densely branching growth habit enables it to shade out other plants. It also germinates and grows relatively well in shady sites, giving it the ability to outcompete or suppress native vegetation living in the understorey of forests. Its tenacious root system also reduces the availability of water and nutrients for competing native species, and when the roots or stems are damaged or cut they sucker prolifically. Small leaved privet will eventually come to dominate the shrub layer of an invaded habitat, thus altering species composition and natural community structure by choking out native plant species. This transformation alters the habitat available to native animals and stands of this weed may also grow sufficiently thick to hinder animal movement through bushland areas.

*Continued over.....*

# WEED OF THE MONTH

*Ligustrum sinense* Small leaved privet



**Reproduction & Dispersal:** Mature plants produce up to ten million seeds each growing season. Small leaved privet is flowering now! This species reproduces by seed, root suckers, and it also resprouts after its stems are deliberately cut or otherwise damaged. Its seeds are readily dispersed by fruit-eating (i.e. frugivorous) birds and other animals. They may also be spread by water or in dumped garden waste.

Remove as many as you can before they go to seed and remember they can also grow through stem suckers and new shoots from the roots, so hang the stems off the ground

**Control:** control methods will vary according to size and age of infestation.

Wide dispersal of seed by birds cannot be controlled; therefore controlling the spread of privet requires the removal of seed trees and young seedlings before they produce seed. Successful weed control requires follow up after the initial efforts. This means looking for and killing regrowth or new seedlings. Using a combination of control methods is usually more successful. Small leaved privet is food and habitat for native animals. For these situations, remove it in stages, replacing it with suitable native species.

There are no introduced biological control agents available for privet control in Australia.

For advice on physical removal and chemical treatment options, further advice is available at <https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/PrivetNarrowleaf>

**Similar species:** Small leaved privet is very similar to broad-leaved privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*) and common privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*). It is also relatively similar to Indian hawthorn (*Rhaphiolepis indica*)

It is sometimes also confused with various native rainforest species when not in flower or fruit, including cheese tree (*Glochidion ferdinandii*) and many of the lilly-pilly's (*Syzygium spp.*)

Information and images sourced from Brisbane City Council Weed ID Tool & NSW DPIE Weedwise



# 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](mailto:bangalowlandcare@gmail.com) 0431 200 638

## **Green and Clean Awareness Team, Main Beach Byron Bay**

WHEN: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 9:00am

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

## **Friends of Lilli Pilli, Byron Bay**

WHEN: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 3.30 pm

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

## **Maslem Arboretum, Heritage Park Landcare, Mullumbimby**

WHEN: Saturdays 9:00am – 11:00 am

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

## **Mullum Town Landcare, Mullumbimby**

WHEN: last Sunday morning of the month

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

## **Tyagarah Landcare, Grays Lane Tyagarah**

WHEN: Each Thursday 9:00am – 11:00am

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

## **Waterlily Park Care Group, Waterlily Park Ocean Shores**

WHEN: Each Wednesday 8:00 am - 10.00 am

CONTACT: Ian Barker [barker5057@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au)

CONTACT: [byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto: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.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\\_](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, Valley Lipcer**

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



**0421 244 640**



**[info@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au](mailto:info@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au)**

