

THE BUSHCARE BULLETIN

JULY 2021 - ISSUE 56



Bushcare Calendar

Date Event

JULY

14,15 & 28 Nursery Propagation

6 Menai Mania

20 Lucas Heights Conservation area walk

31 Native plant ID workshop

23 Nursery Gardening Group

AUGUST

11,19 & 25 Nursery Propagation

4 National Landcare Conference

22 Bonnet Bay Wildflower walk

27 Nursery Gardening Group

SEPTEMBER

8, 16 & 22 Nursery Propagation

12 Prince Edward Park walk

19 Bushcare Fair

24 Nursery Gardening Group

29 Bushwhackers

Cover image *Litoria fallax* (Eastern dwarf tree frog) - Bill Howse

Bushcare Update

By Dayna Mellor

It's been busy as usual in the Bushland Unit, our Bushcare groups are humming along doing great things in their reserves. A few quick highlights have been:

- The Heathcote groups combining forces, expanding their reach and getting to know each other at Boundary Road
- An excellent turnout at our long-running Carina Bay group in May
- An increase in numbers at Forest Grove Reserve

We have been hosting a number of work experience students at the Nursery and our Bushcare sites - training the next generation of Bush Regenerators and Horticulturalists.

As always, there has been some staff movement. Our Invasive Species Officer, Nathan is working with Council's Science Unit for the next year - he is looking forward to taking a break from the feral species and working more with the natives. This means that our Spray Operator, Chad will be helping out in the Invasive Species Unit for the time being. Kevin is still the Acting Bushland Coordinator and I have been acting in the Bushcare Team Leader role. A lot of my groups have been working with Polly and Chris from our Bush Regeneration team and a few of the groups even got to spend a session with Sabrina. Just a bit of organised chaos to keep things interesting! We are all working hard to support each other, our volunteers and keep our programs running well.

The other side of Fire in the Temperate Zones

By Lloyd Hedges

Australian temperate zone plants meet many challenges. The average rainfall is adequate but its unpredictability results in months and years when it is not. Wet periods followed by drought result in strong growth followed by high loads of drying fuel waiting for the spark. So the plants need the ability to survive not only the droughts but the resulting fires.

Some of the drought adaptations are vegetative adaptations: rapidly developing tap roots, reduced leaf areas etc. The fire adaptations include epicormic buds that emerge after the growing tips are lost and lignotubers packed with dormant buds. There are also the contractile roots of Gynerium Lilies and Grass Trees to draw the plant and meristem under the soil surface to a protected position. There are also the seeds retained on the plant in hard fire-resistant cases. But that is not all. There are other fire/drought defences hidden in the seeds.

With seed germination timing is everything. It needs to happen at the right time to be successful. The most obvious control mechanism is Physical Dormancy (PYD). This has the seed enclosed in a hard case that resists predators and water as well as desiccation and fire. Germination happens after the case is damaged by abrasion or fire and water enters.

Physiological Dormancy (PD) is a resistance to germination even when conditions are perfect according to normal parameters. This type of dormancy is based on the seasonal temperature cycle and ensures germination at the right time of the year which for many of our seeds is Autumn. Now there is another difference to Northern hemisphere plants.

Fun With Ferns

By Emma Brame

With a great response from the “Experimenting in the Nursery” article in the last edition of the bushcare bulletin, the nursery was contacted by volunteer Pam from Woronora about some Bird Nests ferns she has growing in her backyard. The nursery was quick to jump on this as we had just recently begun experimenting with growing ferns, and in particular growing ferns from spores. Researching the life cycle of ferns just prior to visiting Pam’s was ideal because Pam’s Bird Nest ferns were a perfect example of this, as the



The experiments - Emma Brame

ferns were all at different stages in the life cycle/germination process. It was particularly interesting to see the formation of prothalli. Prothalli is what initially forms after the fern spores have been set/sown. It appears as a mossy like green growth. The prothalli will eventually develop young leaves and roots. After this stage it will then develop in to a true fern with fronds. It has been very informative and interesting to watch the Bird Nest ferns develop through the different stages of the fern life cycle and will continue watching them.

The nursery staff along with help from another volunteer, Helena, have begun our own trial on sowing fern spores. We have sown two lots of fern spores and are enjoying watching them develop. It is exciting to say that we have just noticed prothalli starting to develop. We will continue to watch with great anticipation.



Germination of spores - Emma Brame

Over the years the nursery staff have experimented with division of ferns but have found it to be a hard and slow process which is best done in the warmer months. We have also found it hard to find enough clumps of ferns in our reserves and bushcare sites to make it worth while without depleting the area of them. We hope growing ferns by spores will be a means of growing larger quantities. Once we master this propagation technique, we will be able to determine what fern species we would like to grow and have available in the nursery. The nursery is hoping to stock up to ten different species. In addition to this, we are hoping to get our very own fernery. Watch this space.

Not Everything in the Bush Wants to Kill Us.

By Bradley van Luyt

April saw me have a couple of weeks of leave. Nothing international this time, just a nice time at home. I was in my backyard fiddling about with who knows what when I heard a bit of a commotion. Noisy miners were going off and that usually means something is up. Birds are great at letting each other know when danger is afoot (a claw? atallon?) Right across all species a danger call seems to be universally understood. Such a call usually signal the presence of a raptor, usually a brown goshawk, but sometimes a kite and even the occasional White Bellied Sea Eagles. About a year ago all were up in arms (or wings..?) over a Diamond Python in my next-door neighbour's yard. This time however, the cause of distress and avian ire was something a little different. I put down my miscellaneous fiddlements and had a look out the back to see to all of this feathered commotion. All birds were diving in and out of a large Liquidambar in my neighbour over the back's yard. I tracked the angry birds to where they seemed to be concentrating their collective displeasure and saw an unfamiliar grey blob in the autumnally thin canopy of the tree. I squinted. Oh. Hmmmm. Is it..? Could it be..? Nahhhh. Couldn't be. Hmmmmm. "Violet, fetch the binoculars!" Upon their arrival I deployed said field glasses and trained them upon the aforementioned unfamiliar grey blob. Grey and furry, it was obviously a large a possum, but (and I'm sure you can all see where this is leading) this possum had no tail. Oh my giddy aunt, it's a koala! Holy cow! A koala in my (neighbour's) yard! Well, close enough to my yard. Anyway, there it was, a largish specimen, curled up in the fork of this liquidambar, occasionally scratching at some random bit of koala anatomy and generally ignoring all that flew about him. Him? Dunno for sure as my binoculars weren't that good, but certainly good enough to allow me to identify the soft fluffy arboreal marsupial. Awwwwwww... soft... fluffy....!

I called to my neighbour Sharon, a former WIRES carer and mad birdo. First I apologised that it wasn't a bird and then proceeded to give her a target indication as to where our special guest was in the tree. I told her to bring her camera and she came back with a massive thing with a lens about 6' long (that might be a slight exaggeration). She took a few shots from our vantage point and then headed down the hill to get a closer look. I just stayed in the backyard and kept watching the fluffy thing. So, so cool. I was absolutely chuffed to think that I had a koala in my (neighbour's) backyard.

I downloaded the I Spy Koala app to my phone and logged my sighting. A good tick in the box. Throughout the rest of the day I glanced up at the tree as I wandered back and forth while carrying out other miscellaneous trivialities, just to check up on his well-being. "Is he still there?" Yep. "Doing anything?" Nup. Not a bad life.

Next day my new best mate was gone. Liquidambar is not on the list of fodder trees for Koalas. It was just roosting there for the day. When I spoke with Sharon later she said that there had been reports of it on Facebook and some locals had helped it across the road the following day. I'm guessing it was the same one. It was identified as an adult male.

Why was he there? Dunno. Everybody's got to be somewhere. It's nice to think that we have such fauna so close to us but the pessimist in me has me wondering why. Maybe koalas are so abundant that they're sleeping in our suburban trees now, but my unqualified theory



Sleeping koala - Sharon Redman

is less positive. I'm inclined to think habitat loss is the main reason for driving such creatures closer toward the urban fringe. Impacts from urban development and, more recently massive habitat loss from the 2019-20 bushfires, are driving many wild species toward our homes. The week before the sighting a large Eucalyptus punctata (Sydney Grey Gum) was cut down about four doors up from us. At least four others of similar size and presumably age have been lost along my street in the last 10 years. E.punctata is recognized as a valuable fodder tree for Koalas. Is this recent loss in local canopy one of the reasons why he was in a liquidambar rather than having a chew on a grey gum? I don't know, but it certainly could be.

A good sign or not it still feels nice to know that we're sharing our sites with local fauna. Isn't that one of the reason we do Bushcare? Next time we're out and looking down at the weeds let's all listen to the birds and look up now and again. We may be very happy to see what is in the canopy above us.

Pushing (the) Boundary

By Bradley van Luyt

I'm very lucky to spend the morning of the first Saturday of the month in the good company of the Martin and Whitton St Reserve Bushcare group at Heathcote. Last month one of our volunteers, Bronwyn, asked if I could have a look at another small site not far from where we work. She said it was getting weedy she wanted to see if we could "do something". This little forgotten postage-stamp of bush is Boundary Road Reserve. It's about half lawn and half remnant bush. Not burned in a long time. Thick, and scrubby, a fair amount of fallen timber and ... Weeds!!! Asparagus, Senna and Cotton Bush were the big ones along with a few Privets, Lantana, some Fishbone Fern and a few herbaceous and grassy weeds. Bronwyn wanted our "something" to be a day having a go at these weeds. They'd been established for some time now and beginning to annoy all of us that wandered past it each month. Our home site of Martin and Whitton has been looking good of late and a recent visit by regenerators from Apunga Ecological Management gave us the opportunity to leave it for a month and hit Boundary Rd Reserve on our next work day 5 June (coincidentally World Environment Day) to "do something".

We printed leaflet for a letterbox drop for the neighbourhood (thanks Bill!) and I also emailed all our Heathcote volunteers inviting them to a morning of weeding of a new site, and then I waited. I didn't know how many would come so I gathered (read scavenged and borrowed) as many toolbelts I could find. A bucket of picks, boxes of biscuits and an extra thermos or two and I was ready to go.

Ute parked, signs out and a quick wander over the site. A glorious winter's morning- brilliant blue sky, air crisp, but not uncomfortable. And then the first vollos appeared. Slowly they wandered in. All of my M&W crew arrived, a great turn out from our Corinth Rd group and a couple of the local residents that had got our leaflet. The system works! And so to "something". I didn't have to say much. Our experienced vollos jumped at the chance to knock down some woodies and Asparagus always seems to stir up a good hate. I introduced our new chums to the group (and the weeds) and showed them too the joys of cutting and painting and crowning.

Work was interrupted by the obligatory morning tea and despite my fears of not having enough water my instruction to "bring a thermos if you've got one" meant everyone had a hot brew and there was enough for Clr Steinwall who made a surprise visit.

Cups drained, crumbs licked form fingers and back to work. There were still a few weeds left and we kept "doing something" to them until all of a sudden it was pack up time. The pile of weed ready for the loader certainly told us that we had "done something" at Boundary Rd Reserve.

Martin and Whitton St Reserve Bushcare group meets on the first Saturday of the month from 8.30am.



A well earned rest - Clr Steinwall

Menai's Endangered Communities Need You!!

By Polly Simmonds

Forest Grove Reserve is a beautiful patch of remnant critically endangered Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest, located on the corner of Menai Rd and Forest Grove Drive. It's a bit different from most of the other vegetation in the Shire, because it's on clay soil. It has tall Ironbark and Turpentine trees, with a ferny grassy ground layer, lovely patches of maidenhair fern, sedges and little native herbs. It has been lovingly maintained by volunteers over the



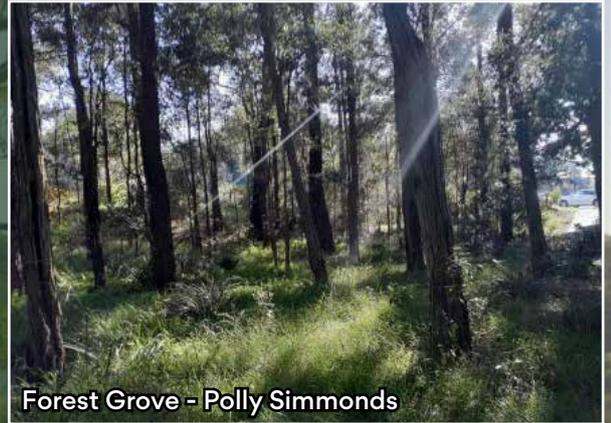
Pultenaea stipularis at Menai Conservation Park

years, is in excellent condition, and is a valuable living ark to pass on to future generations.

It's a lovely shady spot to work all year round, and is a flat site with mainly hand weeding. Please, come and help us keep it alive and healthy. Volunteer group meets on site at 9am on the third Tuesday of each month.

Menai Conservation Park, located between Menai shopping centre and Allison Crescent is a lovely piece of sandstone ridgetop woodland containing and supporting an area of endangered Shale Sandstone Transition Forest, and the threatened Deane's Paperbark, *Melaleuca deanei*. The site has a great diversity of flora species, with an abundance of native peas. It has been being looked after by volunteers, but we need more hands. Please come and join us on the first Tuesday of each month at 9am. Hope to see you there.

Contact Bushcare on 9524 5672



Forest Grove - Polly Simmonds

Bugs Are Thriving at Oyster Creek

By Linda Brown

During the last school holidays Sutherland Shire Council and Georges River Keeper hosted another bush bug event at Oyster Creek. Kids, parents, and grandparents had a great time looking for bugs that live in the creek and the surrounding bushland. They learnt about the roles these little critters play in the environment and how bush regeneration activities can increase their abundance and diversity. It was great to find a lot more water bugs than last year. We even discovered a few stoneflies. Stoneflies are very sensitive to pollution which means the creek there is quite clean.

This project is funded through the NSW Environmental Trust Restoration and Rehabilitation grants program with the support of Sutherland Shire Council, Sutherland Shire Bushcare and Georges River Combined Council's Committee.



Linda with beetle larvae - Emma Brame

Don't Touch!

By Bradley van Luyt

During my career I've been very lucky to escape serious injury despite the nature of our work. We work in some rough terrain, using sharp things around prickly stuff and near some bitey things too. So far so good, until...

My run of luck ground to a halt recently when I got too close to a Rhus Tree (*Toxicodendron succedaneum*). Of the family Anacardiaceae it's a native of Asia, introduced as an ornamental due to its spectacular Autumn beauty. As the seasons turn it shows brilliant oranges and deep reds. In the bush it's a weed, mostly spread by birds. It used to be on the old Noxious weed list, because it's detrimental to agriculture or to human health. This one is definitely the latter. Their beauty belies their toxicity. Every part of the plant can do you harm, any contact causing an allergic reaction in most people. The reaction is usually reddening of the skin and often irritation or pain and even blistering, followed by discolouration of the affected area for many weeks. Crikey!!! This I experienced first-hand (and on my second hand too!).



Rhus rash - Bradley van Luyt

We were fiddling about in the bush at 9th Ave, Loftus, pulling weeds, chatting and looking forward to morning tea. As I crawled along, yanking out Privet, Camphor and Ochna seedlings, I spied a little bipinnate thing. Had a terminal leaflet on the tip. Yep, Rhus Tree. We don't see many these days. Most have been removed from gardens so there are few sources of fruit for our friendly frugivores to spread about. It's rare now so I alerted my volunteers to it, discussed its features and dangerous attributes, then pulled it out. No probs. I had on the required PPE ie gloves, long sleeves, so I was going to be fine.



Rhus Tree - Bill Howse

Two days later at breakfast I noticed some redness on my wrists. Very odd. My wife, Violet, had been restoring an old bug sprayer and I had handled it. My first thoughts were some old chemical residue of unknown identity, but Violet's hands showed no inflammation whatsoever. My mind returned to the previous Friday morning at Loftus. Could that little Rhus be the source of my increasing colour change? How'd it happen? Not sure but I reckon it was from residue (Rhus-idue???) on my gloves. Look at the pics accompanying this piece and imagine the action of putting on and taking off gloves. Our thumb goes in under the cuff to pull them on and the peel them off at the end of the job too. Was this culprit? Probably.

Coincidentally this happened only days after I had been viewing the work of a furniture restorer online. He'd been using a Japanese lacquer called Urushi. It is essentially the sap of the Lacquer tree *Toxicodendron vernicifluum*. Drips and splatters of the stuff had him in rashes and blisters! Gawd!!!! He suffered for his art. Works out the active constituent is an oil known as Urushiol, also found in Rhus Tree. Heard of Poison Ivy and Poison Oak in the USA? Both are of the *Toxicodendron* genus and "poison" owing to Urushiol. Had a rash from getting too close to a *Grevillea* or when working on a piece of Silky Oak timber? That's from Tridecylresorcinol a compound very similar to urushiol. Yes, the world is trying to kill us. Isn't nature wonderful???

Celebrating 50 years of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

By Nerida Gill - Greater Sydney Local Land Services

Our nearest Ramsar listed wetland is Towra Point Nature Reserve at Kurnell.

What is a Ramsar listed Wetland?

The year 2021 commemorates the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971 in Ramsar, Iran. This date is celebrated annually as World Wetlands Day. Australia has 66 Ramsar sites covering about 8.3 million hectares. The aim of the Convention is to halt the global loss of wetlands and to conserve those that remain through wise use and management. Other Ramsar wetlands include Kakadu National Park, Macquarie Marshes and the Hunter Estuary Wetlands.

What roles do wetlands play in the environment?

Clean water, ecosystem resilience, biodiversity conservation, storm buffering, carbon storage, climate change adaptation, tourism and recreation.

Quick facts about Towra Point Nature Reserve (NPWS)

- It is an important area for maintaining the biodiversity of the Sydney region. Its seagrass beds, in conjunction with its mangrove and saltmarsh communities, provide critical shelter and food for juvenile fish and crustaceans.
- The wetland and its islands and sand spits provide critical roosting and feeding habitat for migratory shorebirds protected under international agreements.
- It provides significant habitat and food source for at least 60 species of fish. They use the saltmarsh, mangroves and seagrass habitats in and next to the nature reserve for food and protection, and as a nursery habitat during the early stages in their life cycle.

- The saltmarsh is important for providing habitat for different crab species, which release large numbers of larvae in the ebb tide.

What can you do to look after our local Ramsar wetland?

Take the opportunity to go on guided walks with a NPWS Ranger. Join in any volunteer 'clean up' days at the National Park. Look out for migratory shorebirds, they travel from Towra Point to our shores and sandspits around Botany Bay, the Georges River and Port Hacking.



Map of Ramsar wetlands in NSW



The Value of Dead Wood in Bushland

By Dayna Mellor

The seasoned Bushcarers among us are well aware of the importance of keeping dead wood in bushland but it's a good topic to revisit. Whether lying on the ground or still standing, dead wood provides excellent habitat and is an integral part of a healthy ecosystem and should not be "tidied up".

Fallen logs are used for shelter from predators, breeding and feeding by insects, birds, mammals and reptiles. Microbial organisms and fungi also live on dead wood, breaking it down and recycling important nutrients back into the soil.

In Australia about 290 vertebrate species use tree hollows*. The hollows can exist in living trees and persist in standing dead wood. Dead trees provide perching opportunities for birds, sometimes it seems that they prefer the dead limbs and trees, perhaps it provides good visibility.

I'm sure your fellow Bushcare volunteers will have a story about dead wood being used on your sites. Two that come to my mind is a Buff-banded Rail hiding in a hollow log and native Sugar bag bees nesting in fallen limb. It's not local, but a Landcare group in WA set a camera trap in front of a hollow log and recorded 7 fauna species utilising the same hollow. You can view the pictures at <https://swccnrm.org.au/the-importance-of-keeping-dead-wood-in-your-bushland>.



Echidna - R Elliott

Take a fresh look at the dead wood on your Bushcare sites – it's not untidy, it's habitat.

*Smith & Lindenmayer 1988, Lindenmayer et al. 1991, Gibbons & Lindenmayer 1997

THE FRAY

Bushcare's Shire partners are active all year round and continue to host events. All welcome volunteers to help run the programs that help protect the Shire's natural areas. Contact the groups direct if you wish to find out more information or participate

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY

(SUTHERLAND GROUP)

Sutherland APS group, meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7.45pm at the Gynea Community Centre, 39 Gynea Bay Rd, Gynea.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/APS.Sutherland>

Website: <http://austplants.com.au/Sutherland>

Contact Ralph Cartwright on 9548 1074



MENAI WILDFLOWER GROUP

Meetings and propagation workshops are held at the Illawong Fire Station. For activities check out our Website and Facebook page.

Website: www.menaiwildflower.austplants.com.au



BOTANY BAY BUSY BEES

The group meet and work on the mornings of the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month, excluding December & January, 9am to noon at various locations within the park. Habitats range from coastal heath to tall woodland. Morning tea is provided and tools supplied. Call Kamay Botany Bay National Park to enquire: 9668 2010. The group meet at the visitors centre in the Park.



ROYAL NATIONAL PARK (FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL)

If you are interested in our program please contact Royal Area office on 9542 0632 or email: royal.nationalpark@environment.nsw.gov.au. For

more about Friends of Royal check their web page: www.friendsofroyal.org.au/

BUSHCARE WORKDAYS

Workdays can be cancelled at short notice. (B) etc after the time denotes the first initial of the Bushcare Officer responsible for the group. See page 8 for contact detail.

1ST SATURDAY

Lucas Heights Conservation Area, 8.00am (J)
Gunnamatta Park 8.30am (Bill)
Wanda Beach, Cronulla 8.30am (S)
Whitton Street, Heathcote 8:30am (B)
Burnum Burnum Sanct., Jannali 9.00am (D)
Alcheringa Reserve, Miranda 12.30pm (S)
Columbine Close, Loftus 1:00pm (B)
Tea Tree Place, Kirrawee 1.00pm (Bill)

2ND SATURDAY

Fremantle Place, Yarrowarrah 8.00am (B)
Forbes Creek, Woronora 8:30am (Bill)
Freya St, Kareela 8:30am (S)
Kareena Park, Caringbah 9.00 (D)
Struen Marie Reserve, Kareela 10:30am (S)
Ingrid Rd/Anitra Reserve, Kareela 1.00pm (D)
Drysdale Place Res., Kareela 1:00pm (Bill)
Yarra Vista Court, Yarrowarrah 1.00pm (B)

3RD SATURDAY

Burraneer Park, Caringbah 8.30 am (J)
Corinth Road, Heathcote 8.30am (B)
Hall Drive Reserve, Menai 8.30am (S)
Beauford Park, Caringbah 1.00pm (J)
Bangaroo, Bangor, 1.00pm (B)
Sesquicentenary Pk, Heathcote 12.30pm (S)

4TH SATURDAY

Bottle Creek, Heathcote 8.30am (B)
Akuna Avenue Oval, Bangor 8.30am (S)
Maandowie Reserve, Loftus 8:30am (Bill)
The Esplanade, Cronulla Point 8.30am (J)
Gooyong Reserve, Bangor 12.30pm (S)
Ninth Avenue North, Loftus 1.00pm (B)
Crescent Creek, Woronora 1.00pm (Bill)
Various reserves, Maianbar 1.30pm (J)

1ST SUNDAY

Carina Bay, Como 8:00am (J),
Bass & Flinders Point, Cronulla 8.30am (Bill)
Myra Creek, Loftus 8.30am (B)
Joseph Banks Native Plant Reserve 9.30am (J)
John McKinn Park, Cronulla 1.00pm (Bill)
Oyster Creek Gully, Jannali 1:00pm (J)
Upper Forbes Creek, Engadine 1:00pm (B)

2ND SUNDAY

Caravan Head Res., Oyster Bay 8:30am (B)
Fernleigh Road Res, Caringbah 9:00am (Bill)
Forbes Creek South, Engadine 1:00pm (B)
Kareela Reserve, Kareela 1.00pm (Bill)

3RD SUNDAY

Prince Edward Park, Woronora 8:30am (Bill)
Hakea Street, Yarrowarrah, 8.30am (B)
Honeysuckle Reserve, Jannali 8:30am (J)
Paruna Reserve, Como West 9.00am (D)
Grays Point Reserve 12.30pm (J)
Bundeena Res, Bundeena 1.15pm (D)
Nelson Street, Engadine 1:00pm (B)

4TH SUNDAY

Darook Park, Cronulla 8.30am (Bill)
The Glen Reserve, Bonnet Bay 8:30am (D)
Savilles Creek, Kirrawee 8.30am (J)
Lantana Rd Res (Banksia), Engadine 1.00pm (D)
Marina Crescent, Gymea Bay 1.00pm (J)
Rutherford Reserve, Burraneer, 1.00pm (Bill)

1ST MONDAY

Brigalow Place, Engadine 1.00pm (D)
Taren Point Shorebird, Taren Point
9.00am(D)

2ND MONDAY

Delta St, Sutherland 9.00am (Bill)
Koolangara Res, Bonnet Bay 9:00am (D)

3RD MONDAY

Port Hacking Rd Res., Sylvania 9.00am (D)
Australia Rd, Barden Ridge 9.00am (Bill)

4TH MONDAY

Loftus St, Bundeena 9.00am (Bill)
Young Street Reserve, Sylvania 9.00am (D)

1ST TUESDAY

Dunoon Place Reserve, Bangor 9.00.am (Bill)
Menai Conservation Park, Menai 9.00am (D)
Surrey Place, Kirrawee 1.00pm (Bill)

2ND TUESDAY

Lilli Pilli Point Reserve 9.00am (Bill)

3RD TUESDAY

Forest Grove Drive, Menai 9.00am (D)
Kareena Park, Caringbah 9:00am (Bill)
Corea Steet Reserve, Sylvania 1.00pm (D)
Darook Park Sth, Cronulla 1.00pm (Bill)

4TH TUESDAY

Lilli Pilli Point Reserve 9.00am (D)
Hungry Point Res, Cronulla 12.30pm (D)

1ST WEDNESDAY

Windy Point, Cronulla 8.30am (S)
Bundeena Reserve, Bundeena 9.00am (J)
Prices Reserve South, Woronora 9.00am (Bill)
Simpson Rd, Bundeena 11.30am (J)

Bushcare is currently following the lead of Federal Government and NSW Health with regard to corona virus (COVID-19). As the health and wellbeing of staff and our community is vitally important, Bushcare has taken the position that our events may be cancelled as a precautionary measure during this time.



Don't forget our Facebook page. It is a hub to share information, photographs and video amongst users. Log onto Facebook, search 'Sutherland Shire Bushcare' and 'like' the page.

To join Bushcare please go to

<https://www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/Bushcare-Volunteers>



2ND WEDNESDAY

Cabbage Tree Point, Bundeena 9.00am (B)
Constables Point, Maianbar 9.00am (J)
Green Point Rd Res, Oyster Bay 9.00am (S)
Alcheringa Reserve 9.00am (Bill)
Gooyong Reserve, Bangor 1.00pm (Bill)

3RD WEDNESDAY

Croston Rd, Engadine 9.00am (B)
ANSTO, Blue Trail, Lucas Heights 12.00pm (J)
Dunwell Avenue, Loftus 1.00pm (B)
Albert Delardes Reserve, Illawong 9.00am (S)

4TH WEDNESDAY

Forest & Corella Roads, Kirrawee 9.00am (B)
Newcombe Street, Maianbar 9.00am (J)
Wattlebird Reserve, Caringbah 9:00am (Bill)

1ST THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (J)
Joseph Banks Native Plant Reserve 9.00am (J)
Louden Avenue, Illawong 9.00am (B)

2ND THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (J)
Parc Menai 8.30am (B)

3RD THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (J)
Eighth Avenue, Loftus 8:30am (B)
Savilles Creek Reserve, Kirrawee 9.00am (J)

4TH THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (J)

1ST FRIDAY

Coonong Creek Reserve, Gymea 8:30am (J)
Ewey Creek, Miranda 8.30am (B)

2ND FRIDAY

Ninth Avenue Reserve, Loftus 9.00am (B)

3RD FRIDAY

Farrer Place, Oyster Bay 8.30am (B)
Kyogle Place, Grays Point 8.30am (J)
Gunnamatta Foreshore, Cronulla 1.00pm (J)

4TH FRIDAY

Kiara Road South, Yowie Bay 8:30am (B)
Shiprock Reserve, Lilli Pilli 9.00am (J)
Community Nursery, Gymea 9:00am



Bushland Activity

Bookings are essential and made on Council's website.
NOTE: For events in National Parks entry fee applies.

Special Events

MENAI MANIA

Tuesday 6 July
9:30am - 11:30am

Our "Menai Mania" event has become our most successful school holidays activity for kids. And it's free! Form a small team or pair and collect clues as you race through the amazing bushland of Menai. Recommended for primary school ages, parents are welcome to accompany their children on this activity. Registration is required, the race will have a staggered start over 3 time periods.

BUSHCARE FAIR 2021

Sunday 19 September
10:00am - 3:00pm
Location: Parc Menai.

This biannual event will display, demonstrations, giveaways and a sausage sizzle. This event helps us engage the wider community and brings all our Bushcare partners together. Come along to this event and meet with representatives from Bushcare, Greenweb, the Community Nursery, Menai Wildflower Group, Rural Fire Service, Wires and many more.

BUSH WHACKERS Acer Nugundo Blitz

Wednesday 29 September
9:00am - 12:00pm
Orion Street, Engadine

Bushcare. What is it all about? If you're curious, come along to Bush Whackers at Orion Street, Engadine. Meet the whole Bushcare team. This special

Bushcare event is the perfect excuse to get out and meet new people, learn about the Shire's beautiful bushland and get some exercise. All equipment, gloves and morning tea will be provided.

Bushwalks and Guided Nature Walks



LUCAS HEIGHTS CONSERVATION AREA WALK

Tuesday 20 July
9:00am - 12:00pm

Join Bushcare as we explore this seldom visited reserve on the west of the Shire. This walk will highlight the extensive conservation work Bushcare has undertaken in partnership with the Mill Creek Mountain Bike Community.

BONNET BAY WILDFLOWER WALK

Sunday 22 August
10:00am - 3:00pm

Join Bushcare for a guided walk through the bushland reserves of Bonnet Bay where we will enjoy the spectacular display of wildflowers. There will be a Fishcare demonstration and a free sausage sizzle at lunch, supplied by Bushcare. All activities start from Bonnet Bay Public School.

PRINCE EDWARD PARK SPRING WALK

Sunday 12 September:
9.00am - 1.00pm

Fancy a guided bushwalk on a Sunday Morning? Come and enjoy an informative morning of bird watching and spring flowers of the Woronora valley.

TO BOOK GO TO:

www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au

**AND SEARCH FOR
BUSHCARE EVENTS**



Bug nymph (Scutelleridae)
- Linda Brown

Free Courses and Workshops

NATIVE PLANT ID

Saturday 31 July
9:00am - 1:00pm

This workshop will look at the common native plants found in many of our remnant bushland reserves with simple tips on how to identify them. It will include a field trip to a bushland reserve in the afternoon to view the studied plants in their natural habitat. Remember to bring your own water and your walking shoes.



Powerful Owl-Bill Howse

Grant Funding Boost

By Nathan Clare

From time to time opportunities arise for the Bushland Unit to apply for grant funding to boost our capacity to help the local environment. This year the Invasive Species Team have been lucky enough to receive grant funding from the Crown Lands Department as part of the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund. This funding will be used to manage priority weed species and pest animal species on large areas of Crown Land throughout the Sutherland Shire. The invasive species team are also partnering with the Department of Primary Industries for another 5 years on the Sydney Weed Action Program which provides funding for us to manage boneseed and other priority weed species across the Sutherland Shire. Linda, our invasive species officer has also managed to receive grant funding from Greater Sydney Local Land Services to support the Maianbar Bushcare Group who work in an endangered saltmarsh community that is heavily impacted by deer. These grants are good opportunities for us to attract extra funding for our local environment and help in conserving native species and ecosystems.

Bushcare Contact Details

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