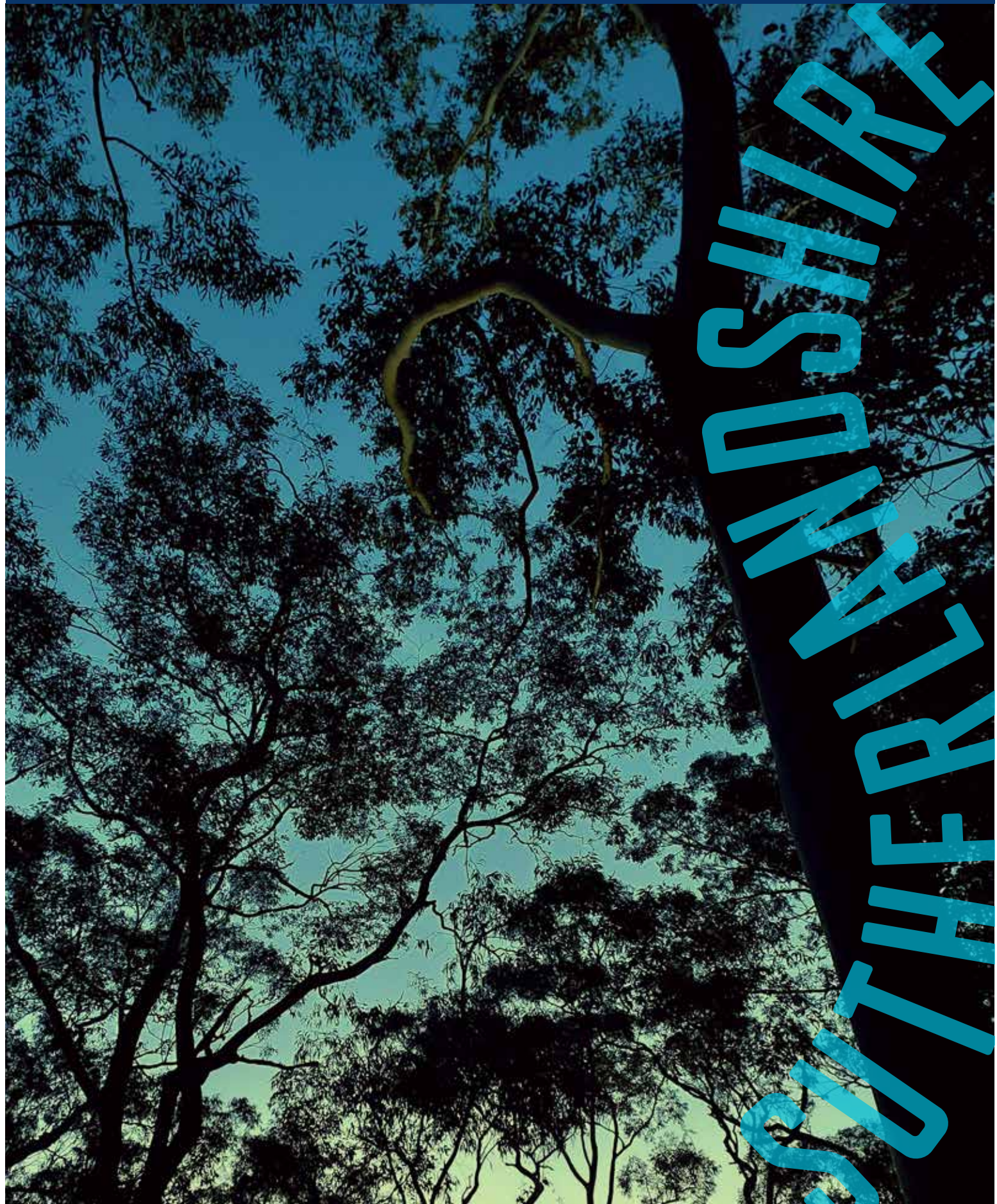


THE BUSHCARE BULLETIN

JULY 2023 - ISSUE 64



Bushcare Calendar

Date	Event
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JULY

12, 20 & 26	Nursery propagation
13	Scamper through the jungle
19	LHCA walk
28	Nursery gardening group

AUGUST

9, 17 & 23	Nursery propagation
20	Bonnet Bay Wildflower Walk
25	Nursery gardening group
30	Bush Whackers

SEPTEMBER

13, 21 & 27	Nursery propagation
17	Prince Edward Park Spring Walk
22	Nursery gardening group
23	Bushcraft Fest

Kareena Park at dusk- Emma Brame

Bushcare Update

By Jason Salmon

Once again, welcome to another magnificent edition of the Bushcare Bulletin, the quarterly newsletter that has been produced for 30 years, with 64 editions of the Bushcare Bulletin and 52 editions of the Bushcare Link produced since 1994.

The month-long celebration of 30 events for 30 years of Bushcare during May was very well received by volunteers with popular activities including weaving, spoon carving, natural fabric dying and weeding walks and talks at a number of Bushcare sites across The Shire.

The month culminated with our biggest Bush Whacker's event ever with 31 fabulous Bushcare Volunteers congregating at Burraneer Park for a spot of weeding, some morning tea and a sausage sizzle. Long-serving volunteer Michael Harrington was asked to cut the Bushcare birthday cake and he did so expertly with a bush regenerator's boning knife.

We have a number of annual wildflower walks coming up in late winter and early spring, it is a wonderfully colourful time to immerse yourself in The Shire's bushland with wattle and native pea flowering profusely through July and August.

Finally, thank you for volunteering your time to participate in the Bushcare program.

Enjoy the Bulletin!

Welcome to Bushcare's New Trainee

By Cristine Breitenbach - Nursery Team Leader

The Nursery and Bushcare are pleased to have a new trainee on board. Eli has been with us since March and is proving to be an asset to the team. His traineeship is through the training company HVTC and runs for two years. Next semester he should be able to commence his TAFE study doing Conservation/Ecosystem Land Management Course.

Eli has completed his first year of an Environmental Science degree at Wollongong Uni but felt he needed to get out and about to learn in a more hands-on environment. This traineeship should be able to offer the best of both worlds with study and practical application closely linked.

Most of his work to date has been within the nursery, where he has been able to develop his plant ID, propagation and cake-eating skills. Eli has also been out to sites collecting cutting materials and doing biosecurity Inspections with the Invasive Species Team at local nurseries, florists and aquariums.

Eli has a keen interest in aquatics, having several tanks at home for fish, plants and a turtle too. He has used this interest to set up two new frog ponds in the nursery and is also in the process of planting out a habitat garden.



Nursery Team - Astrid Breitenbach

What the Hawk?!

By Bradley van Luyt - Bushcare Officer

“Dad, there’s a hawk in the garage!” is not a phrase I’d ever expected to hear. Yet, these were the very words that my youngest, Margot, uttered as she entered said outbuilding to inflict more pain upon her drumkit (a Christmas gift from her wonderful parents. What were we thinking???)

A what???? A hawk! In the garage! A few moments of incredulity were followed by a sudden stirring of stumps as I sprung forth (ok, you know me. I don’t really spring now, but I was certainly up and moving) and headed out to check on this new avian guest.

I was still shaking my head in wonder as I entered the garage to see Margot pointing and saying, “See? A hawk, in the garage”. Well, I’ll be blowed, she was right. Sure enough, sat upon the floor next to the glass door at the far end of the garage, was a hawk. A brown goshawk or *Accipiter fasciatus* to be precise. I was impressed at Margot’s bird ID skills and stunned that we should have one in our garage among the axes, woodchips, spoons, guitars and drums.



As we gawped the hawk sat, quite calm and seemed to be ok. We didn’t know how long it had been there or how it got there, and, as much I wanted to pat it and make it my new pet and call it George, I knew we had to let it go. Our plan was to open the big roller door at the front then Margot would stalk around the back, open the glass doors and give it more options to exit the building. Up went the roller and we stood back, not wanting to get hit by a stir-crazy raptor bursting out in a flurry of feathers, hooked beak and sharp talons. Still it sat. What a fizzer! Margot moved around the back and was about to open the door when in a silent explosive movement it was gone. It had seen her approach and was off out the front like a shot. I had my phone out to get to some footage of the thing but it was gone before I had a chance to hit record. And so ended our brief period as Engadine’s Goshawk Sanctuary.

I see brown goshawks over our place regularly. We live on the ridge between Forbes Creek and the Woronora River with bushland not too far away hosting a very healthy bird population. An afternoon commotion in the sky with all birds up and screeching usually means a raptor is about. Sometimes it’s a white bellied sea eagle, *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (sometimes even a pair of them!) and sometimes even a white faced heron, *Egretta novaehollandiae* gives them the willies, but usually it is a brown goshawk. I love seeing them overhead. Sometimes almost too high to see but other times they are low and fast as they home in on an unsuspecting meal or are avoiding the mobbing by every other bird in the sky. Such a cool thing to see. As Margot says “nature is lit”.

What was it doing in our garage? Not much, but how did it get there? Dunno rightly but we expect it was seeking prey. As well as being soaring hunters taking prey on the wing, brown goshawks are also known to stalk their potential dinner on the ground. It may have been seeking said feed as it entered an open door which a breeze then shut behind it. The next question is what was it chasing? Will there be a future story starting with “Dad, there’s a scared looking rat/possum/chook in the garage...”?

Native Habitat Garden

By Eli Ireland - Bushcare Trainee

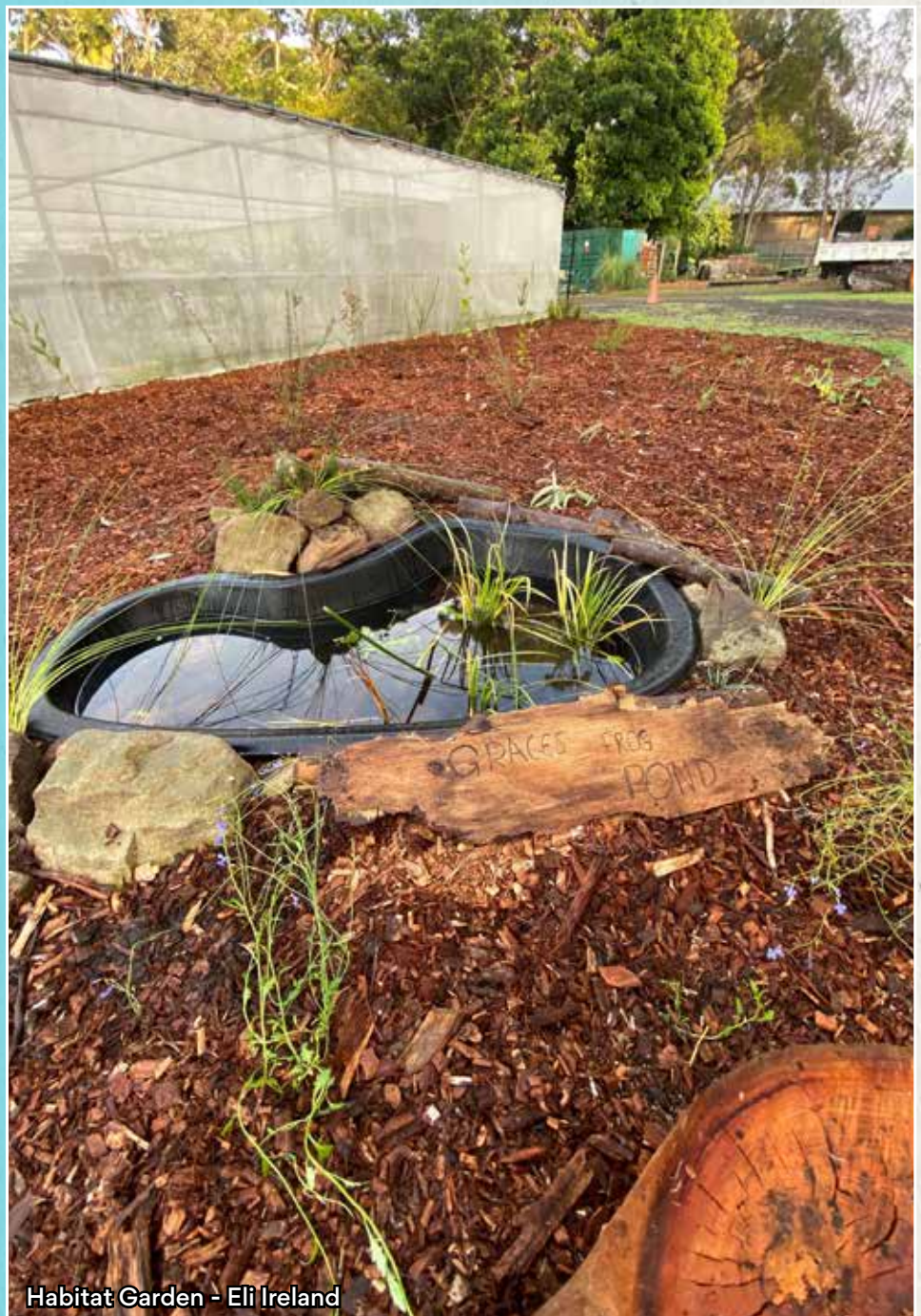
If you have been to the nursery recently, you may have noticed the introduction of two new frog ponds, this is part of the re-installation of the garden beds around the back of the nursery, in an attempt to create new native habitat gardens. Whilst the use of habitat garden beds are great for bringing in a greater diversity of natural wildlife such as birds and small marsupials, they lack a potential plethora of other various critters and amphibians (frogs in this case), that prefer to have a water source nearby. frog ponds provide a whole new niche for wildlife in the gardens in conjunction with the already existing amount that do not rely on such a close water source.

Ponds provide the necessities that frogs need for survival such as moisture and shelter, food is naturally abundant as small insect larvae are aquatic until adulthood meaning there is always plentiful food sources available around the pond. If the new frog ponds are successful, we should see an increase of frog spawn soon enough to help conserve local frog populations.

Plant choice is important when creating a native garden bed, to provide the appropriate environment for potential fauna it is recommended that dense spikey bushes such as *Acacia ulicifolia* are used as they will offer some protection for various bird species. many flowering and fruiting plants are also necessary as they are a vital food source for birds thus imperative to the garden becoming a habitat. The use of native growing bushes and shrubs provide the shelter for birds as well as linking the garden with the surrounding natural area, addressing the recent disconnection from the natural world society is experiencing, so by using native plants we have the ability bring ourselves closer to creating a controlled natural environment for the creatures that choose to inhabit the gardens.

Installing a native habitat garden instead of a formal or exotic garden contribute to conserving native wildlife in urbanised regions, recently natural habitats are all vulnerable to pollution, invasive plant/animal species or even habitat destruction due to irresponsible behaviour in the bush.

The native habitat gardens will hopefully meet the expectations of the natural world and be of use to the nearby wildlife.



Habitat Garden - Eli Ireland

Dynamic Nature

By Peter Turbet - Bushcare Volunteer

Charles Darwin is supposed to have said: "It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the ones most responsive to change." Apparently, there is no record of Darwin ever making this statement, but he probably wouldn't have disagreed. Here are a few examples of local species that have benefitted from change in recent decades:

Honeyeater Wars

In the last twenty years or so, the Noisy Miner (*Manorina melanocephala*) has become the dominant bird of the Sydney region. They were already known in the area, but because they prefer open eucalypt country with little understory, suburbia is an ideal place for them, and their population has exploded. The garden planting of large-flowered grevilleas, like *Grevillea* "Robyn Gordon", has also been very advantageous to them.

Before noisy miners arrived in our area the Red Wattlebird (*Anthochaera carunculata*) was the common large honeyeater we would see in our backyards, but noisy miners have changed all that. Both species are pugnacious birds, but noisy miners attack in gangs and, when confronted by a squealing tribe of miners a single wattlebird has little choice but to scarper. Noisy miners are now the sole honeyeater in many places – the Wattlebird Reserve Bushcare group has not seen a wattlebird onsite for years!

Of course, wattlebirds are not the only victims of noisy miner aggression – many smaller birds have also disappeared in the face of their onslaught. Let's keep planting understorey natives in our Bushcare reserves to give the more diminutive species the cover they need.

Rainbow Rockets and Bin Chickens

Up until the 1970s Rainbow Lorikeets (*Trichoglossus moluccanas*) were seldom observed around Sydney. The place to experience them was at the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary on the Gold Coast where hundreds of birds would come screeching down to land on the arms of tourists who had purchased honey-soaked bread to feed them. During the 1980s we started seeing a few in the Shire and now they seem to be everywhere and could easily be our most abundant bird (rivalling the noisy miner!).

Why has this happened? The story of the Australian White Ibis (*Threskiornis molucca*) might provide some clues. Like the lorikeet, up until the 1970s white ibis were rarely seen in Sydney. Then in 1971, Taronga Zoo established a semi-tame free flying flock. During the drought of the late 1990s flocks of ibis came into Sydney in search of food and water. The Taronga human-habituated birds may have influenced visiting wild birds to lose their fear of people. Eventually, the flocks probably merged. Now white ibis, "bin chickens" or "tip turkeys" are seen all over Sydney and are not shy around people. They breed here and are often seen nesting in Canary Island Palms - at Beverley Hills for example. The Macquarie Marshes in western NSW, once a breeding stronghold, has not seen a nesting ibis for years.

So, could the rainbow lorikeet have the same trajectory as the ibis? Did semi-tame Currumbin birds influence wild birds to regard people not as a threat but as a food source? Very possibly.

The Optus Ringtail Highway

Anyone who lived in the eastern part of the Shire before 2000 would have seen plenty of brush-tailed possums but rarely, if ever, would they have spotted a ring-tailed possum (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*). When Optus cables were installed around 20 years ago that began to change: ringtails found the cables a safe way of getting around - high above the dangers of cats, dogs and cars. The cables are thick enough to grip onto and there is no danger of electrocution. The possums moved east, colonising areas where they had been absent for many decades – recently one was seen on a railing near the Cronulla Ocean Pool! All is not perfectly rosy however: dead ringtails are still found around the streets and a local veterinarian reckons that ringtails seldom survive a fall from a cable.

Powerful owls are a major predator, so might the recent appearance of powerful owls at some Bushcare sites be the result of more ringtails to prey upon? If so, the Optus cables have been a blessing to powerful owls as well!

AUSTRALIA ROAD BURN 2 YEARS ON

By Polly Simmonds - Joseph Banks native gardens team leader

A hazard reduction and ecological burn was undertaken at Australia Road Reserve, Bangor in December 2020, by the newly trained and very green and keen Bushcare Burn Team, under the watchful eye and guidance of both RFS and Fire and Rescue NSW. The burn was a slow (5 hour), cool to medium burn that was kept out of the canopy. At the beginning of the fire we could see all the ground insects and small lizards exiting in droves. This was good! Den Barber advised us at his Firesticks presentation that you will see this at a good slow cool burn that allows fauna time to move out of harm's way.

It is fairly well known and accepted that much Australian bushland is adapted to fire and requires fire to regenerate and stay diverse. Without fire, dry Sclerophyll communities like the one at Australia Road often have a thick layer of fallen leaves, twigs and branches, and become dominated by weeds and/or by native understorey rainforest species like *Pittosporum undulatum*, *Eleocarpus reticulatus* and *Glochidion ferdinandi*. Although these naturally occur, without fire they gradually dominate and suppress the growth of a diverse low-growing ground layer of native grasses, forbs and graminoids. Diversity in the mid layer is also impacted with less diversity of nitrogen-fixing *Acacias* and native peas, and lack of new growth of Proteaceae such as *Banksia*, *Hakea*, and *Persoonia*.

The use of fire in managing urban bushland in an evolving climate and landscape is a hotly debated topic – Is it beneficial? Does it reduce fire hazard? Does it increase species diversity? Is it better in the long term to just leave it? There is still a lack of comprehensive data. For this reason, Chris Banks and my self set about collecting data from a 40 m x 10 m transect sample area within our burn site (EEC Southern Sydney Sheltered Forest, on transitional sandstone soils) to add to the data bank. We have now collected two years' worth of data and can see some obvious changes. So far, there is a definite increase in native species diversity and change in structure to more herbs and grasses and low leaf litter that reduces fuel loading. It will be interesting to see what happens in the long term.

The RESULTS SO FAR....

Before the burn

Our site had not been burnt for at least 25 years. There was dense leaf litter (99% cover, to 10 cm depth) and lots of fallen branches. Overall fuel hazard was recorded as 20 tonnes per hectare. 48 native species plus one dead *Banksia serrata*, and seven weed species were recorded within the 0.04 ha sample area. Ground covered by native vegetation was recorded at 80%, mid layer 15% and overall weed cover less than 5%. The most dominant ground layer species was *Lomandra longifolia* (up to 50% cover), with frequent (up to 30% cover) *Imperata cylindrica* and *Smilax glycyphylla*; and occasional (up to 15% cover) *Asplenium flabellifolium*, *Cassytha glabella*, *Dianella caerulea*, *Gahnia clarkei*, *Hakea sericea*, *Lomatia silaifolia*, *Pittosporum undulatum*, *Pteridium esculentum* and *Schoenus melanostachys*. Other additional native species present in low numbers included 8 Proteaceae species, 4 grasses, 4 graminoids, 8 forbs, 1 *Eleocarpus reticulatus*, 1 *Leptospermum*, 1 vine and 1 orchid species.



First six months

In the six months following the burn, the site was weeded by volunteers, and there was plentiful rain. The fire had burnt off all the thick leaf litter, while still leaving large habitat logs and intact canopy. Immediately following the fire there was some canopy leaf drop; so, at our six months post burn survey there was still 80% ground cover by leaf litter, but the thickness was greatly reduced to under 0.5 cm depth. The burn pattern had been a bit patchy with both very mildly burnt dominated areas and hotter burnt areas with lots of juvenile native species regeneration, especially *Grevillea sericea* and *Acacia* species. Many seedlings were still too small at this stage to positively identify. One mature *Angophora costata* was nearly dead with some green epicormic growth present on upper limbs. Epicormic growth was observed on stems and limbs of *Eucalyptus* trees; and *Banksia spinulosa*, *Persoonia levis* and *Leptospermum trinervium* were reshooting from the base. Mature *Elaeocarpus*, *Allocasuarina littoralis*, *Hakea sericea* and *Petrophile sessilis* had been killed by the fire. At this stage, 6 weed species, 37 alive native species, and numerous unidentified juvenile native seedlings were recorded in the sample area. Other life on the site was well and truly active again, with various types of fungi, wallaby and bird scats, echidna scrapes, ant activity and millipedes



Two years

By the end of two years, leaf litter had again built up to an average of 5cm depth; but had gradually decreased to only covering 30% of the ground surface area. All the previously very juvenile seedlings had grown, thinned out and were now identifiable. A total of 9 weed species and 78 alive native species were recorded, including several juvenile *Allocasuarina littoralis* individuals. Now there was a more even spread of diversity in the ground and mid layers, with the most frequent (up to 30% cover) ground layer species present being *Acacia myrtifolia*, *A. linifolia*, and *Gonocarpus teucrioides*; occasional (up to 15% cover) *Dianella caerulea*,

Gahnia clarkei, *Imperata cylindrica*, *Lomandra longifolia*, *Microlaena stipoides* and *Poa affinis*; and rare occurrences (<5% cover each) of 64 other native species.

Some of the new species recorded were:

Fabaceae/ Mimosaceae- *Acacia falcata*, *Acacia floribunda*, *Acacia longifolia*, *Acacia myrtifolia*, *Acacia suaveolens*, *Acacia ulicifolia*, *Bossiaea heterophylla*, *Daviesia corymbosa*, *Hardenbergia violacea*, *Pultenaea linophylla*.

Poaceae- *Aristida vagans*, *Austrostipa pubescens*, *Entolasia marginata*, *Panicum effusum*, *Poa affinis*, *Rytidosperma* sp.

Other forbs - *Actinotus minor*, *Caesia parviflora*, *Cassinia uncata*, *Dodonaea triquetra*, *Epacris pulchella*, *Glochidion ferdinandi*, *Hibbertia diffusa*, *Hibbertia monogyna*, *Kunzea ambigua*, *Patersonia glabrata*, *Platysace linearifolia*, *Pomax umbellata*, *Xanthosia tridentata*, *Zieria smithii*.

In summary, up to the first two years post burn, the burn undertaken at Australia Rd has resulted in a significantly reduced litter load, and a 58 % increase in native floral diversity. We will continue monitoring to see what happens in the long term.

Celebrating 60 years of the Australian Plants Society, Sutherland Group



Rhonda Daniels - Secretary APS Sutherland

This year is not only a special anniversary for Bushcare, it is also a special year for the Sutherland Group of the Australian Plants Society. We were established in 1963 under our original name Society for Growing Australian Plants, meaning we are celebrating 60 years in 2023.

As you might expect, we have similar aims and values as the Bushcare program. Many of our members are Bushcare volunteers, and Bushcare Officers are members too. Our range of activities aim to share our knowledge and enthusiasm for Australian native plants, while having fun and sharing morning tea or supper. We have had monthly meetings with guest speakers on a diversity of plant-related topics in Gymea Community Centre hall since 1981 – that's a lot of interesting talks! Our plant table each meeting highlights what people grow in their local gardens and what is in flower each month, and our monthly newsletter keeps everyone informed.

We encourage sharing knowledge and enjoyment of our local native plants, in the bush and for home gardening. We have bushwalks and garden visits, and even provide native plant entries for the Easter Show each year to create a colourful display for the public.

We have had a long involvement with Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve at Manooka Place, Kareela. Members helped establish the planted garden in the late 1960s and early 1970s, including the layout, early planting, and extensive rockwork. We still contribute to maintenance, provide plant name labels and interpretive signs, and hold events for the public at the reserve.

A major group project was the development of our Coastal Plants of the Royal National Park CD-Rom, launched in 2006, to help non-botanists identify 300 plants on the coast walk. We have distributed over 1200 copies. Recognising changes in technology, it is currently being converted to a free app.



APS Sutherland Group - John Arney

Over the years, our members have also been very active in supporting the Australian Plants Society NSW, and our national body, in governance, publications, public events and conservation.

As an active community group, we look forward to many more years of supporting Australian native plants in Sutherland Shire and beyond.

Find out more about us at www.austplants.com.au

Seeing Red

By Emma Brame - Nursery Horticulturalist

In the last issue of the Bushcare Bulletin, I talked about new vs old and comparing the difference between seedling/juvenile leaves with mature leaves. One of the differences I mentioned was colour. The colour red had me curious, to why leaves often change colours or start off a different colour. Over the years I have often noticed this in the nursery on a number of species. *Telopea speciosissima* (Waratah), for example, displays a ray of varying red tones in the cooler months. Some *Hakea* species start off with tremendous rich red tones as do some of the *Banksia* and *Grevillea* species.

So, what causes these colours and why do they change? Most leaves are green, and this is due to the abundant amount of the chemical chlorophyll. Chlorophyll is green in pigment; it absorbs more sunlight and energy during photosynthesis and is better at producing glucose to feed the plant. With this being said, longer brighter days (spring time) are why many plants look their best and greenest.

When the days become shorter, and we have less light being absorbed the plants cut down on the amount of chlorophyll being present. The green colour fades and other colours are seen. With less sunlight and colder temperatures, other chemicals react with the changing glucose levels and produce other colours. The colour red is produced due to the chemical reaction from the changing glucose levels and the chemical anthocyanin. Many plants have this chemical in their leaves all year round and some plants only produce this when we have shorter days, less sunlight and colder temperatures. Similar to this is a chemical called carotenoids. The name of this chemical giving away the colour it produces when it reacts with changing glucose levels. Shades of orange and yellows are produced.

With young seedlings with red leaves, glucose levels on some species have not yet been produced and stored to support the chlorophyll levels that cause the green colour. These seedlings are the species that have the red causing chemical in them. As the seedlings grow and are ready to be harden off in full sun, the seedling will start producing more glucose and in turn have higher chlorophyll levels and start turning green.



Telopea speciosissima - Emma Brame



Hakea salicifolia - Emma Brame



Banksia serrata - Emma Brame



Grevillea buxifolia - Emma Brame

The Nut and the War on Weeds

By Cristine Breitenbach - Nursery Team Leader

On a recent holiday to Tasmania, we ventured to the beautiful town of Stanley on the north-west coast. Home to about 300 permanent residents, probably an equal number of penguins and The Nut.

The Nut is a large volcanic plug that rises 150 m from the Bass Strait, it can be easily seen, long before you get to Stanley. There is a steep path that leads to the top of The Nut but luckily there is also a chairlift to take you up to enjoy the 360-degree views. Once up top, there is a 2 km circuit walking track, that takes you to several lookouts along the way. While the track does take you through windswept grasslands, including species such as *Themada*, *Poa* and *Lomandra*, *Kennedia* and *Glycine*, it also leads you through tall *Banksia*'s and *Eucalyptus viminalis*. There are over 100 native plant species including an endangered straw daisy on the cliff edges- *Leucochrysum albicans*.



The chairlift view - Tom Stock

Unfortunately, there are also large areas (estimated to be 30% of the site) covered with weed species that are believed to have come to the area with the arrival of the British and their

sheep in 1826. The seeds of Gorse- (*Ulex europaeus*) and Hemlock- (*Conium maculatum*) are among the biggest weed infestations here. Both species have been successful in smothering and out competing native vegetation due to the plant's longevity and production of large volumes of seed that can stay dormant in the soil for many decades.

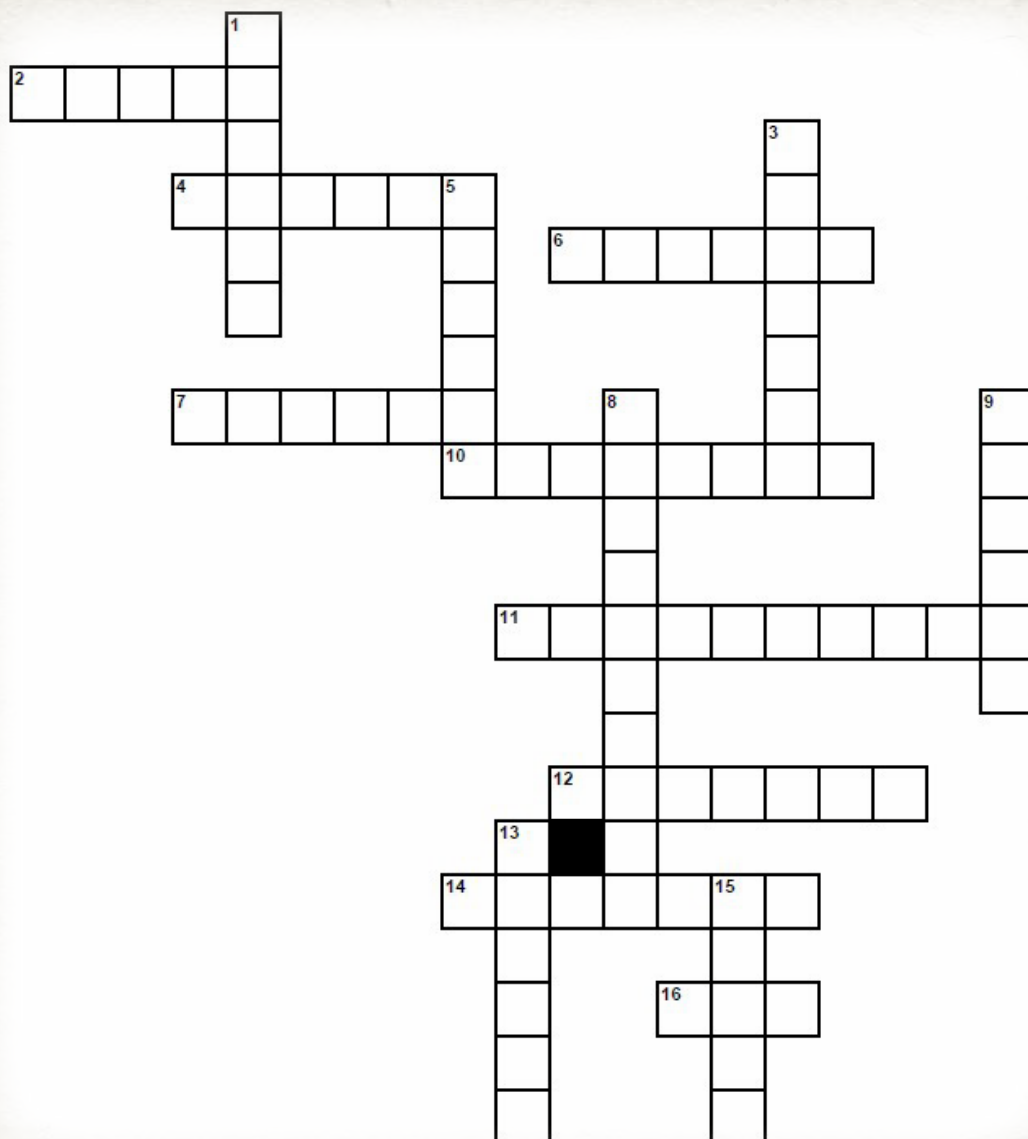
National Parks and Wildlife Service and volunteers are facing an ongoing battle using chemical, biological and aerial spraying to control the weeds in an area with challenging topography and endangered flora and fauna.



The Nut - Jo Mullen

Grace's Bushcare Crossword Adventure

By Grace Lonergan - Bushcare Officer



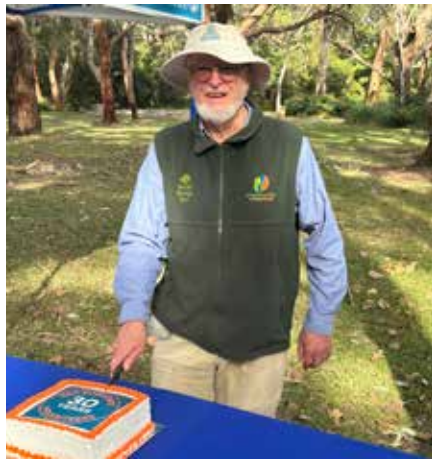
Across

- [2] An invertebrate found in the bush, it bites and causes bleeding, usually found in damp areas
[4] A weedy tree found near waterways, its fruits are spread by birds
[6] This weed shares its name with an American President
[7] An iconic native plant genus with almost 1000 species
[10] A town in the Royal National Park where Bushcare takes place
[11] A fruiting tree that shares a name with a suburb in the Shire
[12] A Bushcare Officer with a talent for carving woody weeds
[14] Sydney's most well-known Angophora
[16] An invasive mammal found across Bushland in the Shire

Down

- [1] Bushcare is celebrating this special birthday this year
[3] A tree named after a botanist on the Endeavour voyage
[5] This biscuit is enjoyed at morning teatime; it's considered an Aussie classic
[8] Bushcare's Autumn and Spring gatherings are held here, you can also find artworks on display
[9] This native bird often follows hand-weeders, looking for worms and insects
[13] A nocturnal mammal found in bushland and urban areas across Sydney
[15] Bushcare volunteers use this tool to remove pesky weeds

Answers in the next edition.





BUSHCARE WORKDAYS

Workdays can be cancelled at short notice. (BvL) etc after the time denotes the first initial of the Bushcare Officer responsible for the group.

1ST SATURDAY

Lucas Heights Conservation Area, 8.00am (JS)
Gunnamatta Park 8.30am (GL)
Wanda Beach, Cronulla 8.30am (ST)
Alcheringa Reserve, Miranda 12.30pm (ST)
Tea Tree Place, Kirrawee 1.00pm (GL)

2ND SATURDAY

Maandowie, Loftus 8.30am (GL)
Freya St, Kareela 8.30am (ST)
Struen Marie Reserve, Kareela 10.30am (ST)
Yarra Vista Court, Yarrawarrah 1.00pm (ST)

3RD SATURDAY

Burraneer Park, Caringbah 8.30 am (GL)
Hall Drive Reserve, Menai 8.30am (ST)
Beauford Park, Caringbah 1.00pm (GL)
Corinth Road, Heathcote 12.30pm (ST)

4TH SATURDAY

Akuna Avenue Oval, Bangor 8.30am (ST)
The Esplanade, Cronulla Point 8.30am (GL)
Gooyong Reserve, Bangor 12.30pm (ST)
Various reserves, Maianbar 1.30pm (GL)

1ST SUNDAY

Carina Bay, Como 8:00am (GL)
Bass & Flinders Point, Cronulla 8.30am (BH)
Burnum Burnum Sanct., Jannali 9.00am (ST)
The Crescent Creek, Woronora 1.00pm (BH)
Oyster Creek Gully, Jannali 1.00pm (GL)
Kingswood Road, Engadine 1.00pm (ST)

2ND SUNDAY

Kareena Park, Caringbah 8.30 (ST)
Fernleigh Road Res, Caringbah 9:00am (BH)
Kareela Reserve, Kareela 1.00pm (BH)
Ingrid Rd/Anitra Reserve, Kareela 1.00pm (ST)

3RD SUNDAY

Prince Edward Park, Woronora 8.30am (BH)
Honeysuckle Reserve, Jannali 8.30am (GL)
Paruna Reserve, Como West 9.00am (ST)
Grays Point Reserve 12.30pm (ST)

4TH SUNDAY

Darook Park, Cronulla 8.30am (BH)
The Glen Reserve, Bonnet Bay 8.30am (ST)
Savilles Creek, Kirrawee 8.30am (GL)
Banksia Res, Engadine 1.00pm (ST)
Marina Crescent, Gymea Bay 1.00pm (GL)
Rutherford Reserve, Burraneer, 1.00pm (BH)

1ST MONDAY

Whitton Street, Heathcote 8.30am (BvL)
Taren Point Shorebird, Taren Point 9.00am (ST)
Columbine Close, Loftus 1:00pm (BvL)
Brigalow Place, Engadine 1:00pm (ST)

2ND MONDAY

Delta St, Sutherland 9.00am (BH)
Koolangara Res, Bonnet Bay 9:00am (ST)

3RD MONDAY

Hakea Street, Yarrawarrah, 8.30am (BvL)
Port Hacking Rd Res., Sylvania 9.00am (ST)
Australia Rd, Barden Ridge 9.00am (BH)
Nelson Street, Engadine 1.00pm (BvL)

4TH MONDAY

Young Street Reserve, Sylvania 9.00am (ST)

1ST TUESDAY

Myra Creek, Loftus 8.30am (BvL)
Dunoon Place Reserve, Bangor 9.00am (BH)
Menai Conservation Park, Menai 9.00am (ST)
Upper Forbes Creek, Engadine 1.00pm (BvL)
Surrey Place, Kirrawee 1.00pm (BH)

2ND TUESDAY

Caravan Head Res, Oyster Bay 9.00am (BvL)
Lilli Pilli Point Reserve 9.00am (BH)
Forbes Creek South, Engadine 1.00pm (BvL)

3RD TUESDAY

Forestgrove Drive, Menai 9.00am (ST)
Kareena Park, Caringbah 9.00am (BH)
Sesquicentenary Pk, Heathcote 9.00am (BvL)
Corea Street Reserve, Sylvania 1.00pm (ST)
Darook Park Sth, Cronulla 1.00pm (BH)

4TH TUESDAY

Bottle Creek, Heathcote 8.30am (BvL)
Loftus St, Bundeena 9.00am (BH)
Lilli Pilli Point Reserve 9.00am (ST)
Hungry Point Res, Cronulla 12.30pm (ST)
Ninth Avenue North, Loftus 1.00pm (BvL)

1ST WEDNESDAY

Windy Point, Cronulla 8.30am (ST)
Bundeena Reserve, Bundeena 9.00am (GL)
Prices Reserve South, Woronora 9.00am (BH)
Simpson Rd, Bundeena 11.30am (GL)

2ND WEDNESDAY

Cabbage Tree Point, Bundeena 9.00am (BvL)
Constables Point, Maianbar 9.00am (GL)
Green Point Rd Res, Oyster Bay 9.00am (ST)
Alcheringa Reserve 9.00am (BH)
Gooyong Reserve, Bangor 1.00pm (BH)

3RD WEDNESDAY

Croston Rd, Engadine 9.00am (BvL)
Albert Delardes Reserve, Illawong 9.00am (ST)
Gooyong Riverside, Woronora 9.00am (BH)
Dunwell Avenue, Loftus 1.00pm (BvL)

4TH WEDNESDAY

Forest & Corella Roads, Kirrawee 9.00am (BvL)
Newcombe Street, Maianbar 9.00am (GL)
Wattlebird Reserve, Caringbah 9.00am (BH)

1ST THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (GL)
Joseph Banks Native Plant Reserve 9.00am (GL)
Louden Avenue, Illawong 9.00am (BvL)
John McKinn Park, Cronulla 9.00am (BH)

2ND THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (GL)
Parc Menai 8.30am (BvL)

3RD THURSDAY

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

4TH THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (GL)
Drysedale Place, Kareela 9.00am (BH)

1ST FRIDAY

Coonong Creek Reserve, Gymea 8:30am (GL)
Ewey Creek, Miranda 8.30am (BvL)

2ND FRIDAY

Ninth Avenue Reserve, Loftus 9.00am (BvL)

3RD FRIDAY

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

4TH FRIDAY

Kiora Road South, Yowie Bay 8:30am (BvL)
Shiprock Reserve, Lilli Pilli 9.00am (GL)
Community Nursery, Gymea 9:00am



Trachymene incisa - Emma Brame

**To join Bushcare
please go to**

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



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.

Bushland Activity

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

Special Events

SCAMPER THROUGH THE JUNGLE

Thursday 13 July
9:30am - 11:30am

Our "Scamper through the Jungle" Bushcare 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 gardens of the Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve. 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.

BUSH WHACKERS

Wednesday 30 August
9:00am - 12:00pm
Windy Point, Cronulla

Bushcare. What is it all about? If you're curious, come along to Bush Whackers at Windy Point, Cronulla. 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.

BUSHCRAFT FEST

Saturday 23 September
9:00am - 4:00pm

Join Bushcare as we host a range of sustainable activities at our first Bushcraft fest. All of our crafty events will be on offer. All tools, materials with morning tea and lunch supplied. Bookings essential.

Bushwalks and Guided Nature Walks



LUCAS HEIGHTS CONSERVATION AREA WALK

Wednesday 19 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 20 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 wildlife display and a free sausage sizzle at lunch, supplied by Bushcare. All activities start from Bonnet Bay Public School.

PRINCE EDWARD PARK SPRING WALK

Sunday 17 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.



Banksia serrata - Emma Brame



Friendly Kookaburra - Bill Howse

Boneseed Time

By Nathan Clare

It's that time of year again when boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera*) is in flower, allowing us to easily identify plants that may have been by unnoticed during the year. boneseed is a subspecies of bitou bush that is not restricted to the coast and will happily grow in both disturbed and undisturbed sites. Seeing the impact of its sibling, bitou bush, on coastal environments, boneseed has been placed under a total eradication order across New South Wales under the Biosecurity Act. As such boneseed is Sutherland Councils number one priority weed with the aim to prevent it from becoming widespread. So between August – November take a second look at any yellow flowers you may see around the Sutherland Shire and report any boneseed to Sutherland Shire Councils Invasive Species Officers on 9710 0333. For identifying characteristics and further information on Boneseed visit the Weedwise website and search for boneseed or visit the link <https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Boneseed>



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And follow the prompts

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