



# NEWSLETTER

[www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/bushcare](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/bushcare)



## BUSHCARE SPRING 2020 – ISSUE 47

### COORDINATOR'S UPDATE Gareth Debney - Bushland Management Coordinator



*Caption: The Spencer Family enjoying a guided bushwalk of Smoothey Park/Gore Cove with Tristram Thomas – NSC Bush Regeneration Team Leader on 29 Feb 2020, pre-social distancing for COVID-19 Pandemic.*

Working in the field of urban bushland management is challenging at the best of times. However, as is the case for many other industries, the impacts of a constantly changing COVID-19 pandemic situation has taken these challenges to a whole new level of complexity.

Ensuring the safety of staff and volunteers during this time is paramount. Whilst at the same time, trying to maintain a semblance of normality for our Bushcare groups, as well as offering some workshops, and activities that engage the North Sydney Community in biodiversity conservation is at times proving to be an exercise in frustration. Just in the past month, activities that we had been carefully planning in accordance with public health requirements were either cancelled (e.g. Building Bridges to Boorowa; Hunter Landcare excursion etc) or very poorly attended, such as Bushcare Tree Day, which was organised to replace the cancelled National Tree Day. Certain activities have gone ahead however and been very successful. On 1 August, Tristram led a socially distanced group of ten participants on a guided bushwalk of Balls Head Reserve, and on the 13 August about

91 people tuned in to an online talk by Dr Catherine Price and Prof Peter Banks on bandicoots. Other upcoming activities that are planned include the Bushcare Nursery Open Day and Fires Sites Tour. Please remember, bookings are essential for all these activities as attendance needs to be strictly managed.

As mentioned in the last Bushcare Newsletter, the presence of Long-nosed Bandicoots in Badangi Reserve is a positive sign for the reserve's improving condition and habitat value. Encouraged by this discovery, the Bushland Team deployed our wildlife cameras along the Badangi Reserve foreshore, hoping to capture a glimpse of the secretive Rakali (or native Water Rat). This specialised aquatic mammal is thought to occur in low numbers around Sydney Harbour's bushland reserves but is rarely encountered. In a bittersweet twist, our cameras haven't caught any Rakali to date, however a dead Rakali was reported in Berry Island near the toilet block in early August. Sadly, puncture wounds on the body and head of the animal indicate it probably fell victim to an unleashed dog or roaming cat.

In other news, Council's bushland rehabilitation contract tender process was completed in June and contractors have now been appointed to work in many of our bushland reserves. The contractors undertake strategic bush regeneration activities that compliment and support works being carried out by our Bushcare groups and in-house Bush Regeneration Team.

We have also received a Capital Works budget this year to upgrade bushland walking tracks in Primrose Park. With some of these tracks affected by erosion and deteriorating infrastructure like boardwalks and footbridges, the funding will enable significant improvements that address user safety, remove unauthorised tracks and protect sensitive bushland vegetation.

Lastly, on behalf of the Bushland Team, I'd like to thank all our Bushcare volunteers for sticking with us through these difficult times and for understanding when changes have to be made to our usual routines – your cooperation and support is, as always, greatly appreciated.

## “Small, but perfectly formed” - TREE DAY EVENTS AUGUST 2020

Tree Day is usually a big event for the Bushland Team. This is when we join forces with the North Sydney community and Planet Ark to place hundreds of native plants in the ground to foster a greener future.

This year, COVID-19 changed the way community events and mass gatherings can be run, with restrictions on crowd size and the need for physical distancing necessitating our Tree Day event be smaller, with time slots to keep within the guidelines. Ultimately, Planet Ark cancelled the National Tree Day event as a risk management strategy but with preparations well under way, North Sydney Council decided to continue with our own individual event on 2 August at the Coal Loader, Waverton. The planting site is located between the tunnels and detention pond and chosen as an opportunity to improve fauna habitat and increase structural and floristic diversity in this popular, but rather neglected, pocket of parkland.

Despite this being our smallest ever Tree Day, we managed to get 101 native plants in the ground with the aid of five enthusiastic participants and two Bushland staff. Physical distancing was easy



Caption: Tree Day Volunteers at the Coal Loader, 2 August 2020

and with gloves and sanitiser, it was simple to keep everyone safe and enjoy the planting on a beautiful day with peerless harbour views.

All plants were grown at the Bushcare Community Nursery and comprised a selection of canopy trees (Eucalypts, Angophora and *Banksia integrifolia*), *Lomandra longifolia* and small to medium shrubs chosen for their aesthetic and ecological values.

The Tree Day event was followed with supplementary planting by the Bushland Team and a corporate volunteer planting day on 12 August. It included seven employees from the Salesforce Strategy Team, bringing our planting total to around 200.

Bianca Hung, Salesforce Sale Strategy Associate from the corporate volunteer group shared her experience of day.

"We loved being a part of the planting day with the North Sydney Council Bushland Team and it was great to hear and learn about the planting processes and the conservation work that goes on during the year.

"It was a great day out at beautiful Balls Head Reserve and massive thanks to Andrew, Tristram, Flo and Clare - what legends. We will definitely be back in the future," she added.

When asked why Salesforce engaged in a corporate social responsibility activity, Bianca shared this piece of wisdom.

"We have a philanthropic model where we aim to give back 1% of time, 1% equity and 1% product back to the community and we get several days off a year to volunteer."

It's proof that keeping it small can still be incredibly productive and worthwhile. Quality over quantity! A big thank you to all our August planting participants.

Clare McElroy – Bush Regenerator



Caption: Salesforce Strategy Team Corporate Volunteers at the Coal Loader, 13 August 2020

## NEW PAPER STOCK

Readers may have noticed this edition of the Bushcare newsletter appears brighter than usual. This is because we are using new FSC approved recycled paper products, Revive and/or *ecoStar*. The paper weight is also slightly heavy at 135gsm compared to 115gsm, which provides the publication with a superior feel. The previous stock *Envirocare*, had a warm appearance, a

shade of colour that most people would associate with recycled paper and is a unique product that can't be substituted and can be in limited supply. Besides providing flexibility sourcing paper stock, this change will also provide an enhanced reading experience with increased legibility and brighter photos.

I should also mention we are now printing less newsletters as hard copy subscriptions have been steadily decreasing over time in favour of digital. Personally, I prefer to read hard copy material, as I'm more likely to absorb it. I tend to skim-read digital content, yet with a hard-copy I have something tangible. I can turn the pages and it feels like I'm receiving something in return-like a memento.

Andrew Scott – Bushcare Officer

# WILDLIFE WATCH UPDATE

(MAY TO AUGUST 2020)

Big thanks to all the Wildlife Watch volunteers who monitor wildlife in North Sydney and submit their observations to Council. The highlights of recent sightings were:

- **White-bellied Sea- Eagle** (Coal Loader, Balls Head Reserve)
- **Crested Tern** (North Sydney Urban)
- **Figbird** (Cremorne Urban)
- **Australian Wood Duck** (North Sydney Urban, McMahons Point Urban)
- **Grey Fantail** (Badangi Reserve)
- **Spotted Pardalote** (Badangi Reserve)
- **Satin Bowerbird** (Badangi Reserve)
- **Red Wattlebird** (Badangi Reserve, Sugar Works Reserve)
- **Australian King-Parrot** (Neutral Bay Urban, Primrose Park, Cremorne Reserve, North Sydney Urban, Kurraba Point Reserve)
- **Musk Lorikeet** (Primrose Park, Cremorne Urban, Gore Cove Reserve, North Sydney Urban, Wollstonecraft Urban)
- **Superb Fairy-wren** (Badangi Reserve)
- **Variiegated Fairy-wren** (Primrose Park)
- **Tawny Frogmouth** (Neutral Bay Urban)
- **Laughing Kookaburra** (Brightmore Reserve, Cammeray Urban, Primrose Park, Badangi Reserve, Neutral Bay Urban)
- **Masked Lapwing** (Coal Loader, Primrose Park, Waverton Park, Forsyth Park, Berry Island Reserve)
- **Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo** (Cammeray Urban, Balls Head Reserve)
- **Eastern Whipbird** (Primrose Park, Brightmore Reserve, Badangi Reserve, Cremorne Reserve)
- **White-browed Scrubwren** (Badangi



Caption: Musk Lorikeet at Belair Reserve by Vicki Stokes, courtesy of Birdlife Australia

Reserve, Primrose Park, Balls Head Reserve, Berry Island Reserve, Gore Cove Reserve)

- **White-faced Heron** (Kurraba Point Reserve, Gore Cove Reserve, Badangi Reserve, Primrose Park)
- **Little Pied Cormorant** (Coal Loader, Cremorne Reserve, Primrose Park)
- **Little Black Cormorant** (Primrose Park, North Sydney Urban, Badangi Reserve)
- **Australian Pelican** (Berry Island Reserve)

Have you seen any interesting fauna in the North Sydney Council area or do you have a photo of your observations? If so, email the Bushland Project Officer, Ramin Khosravi, at [council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au), visit Council's Bushcare webpage - [www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/bushcare](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/bushcare) or post your photo on the North Sydney Council Bushcare Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/bushcare](http://www.facebook.com/bushcare)

## WILDLIFE WATCH IS NOW ONLINE

Flo Stricher  
Bush Regenerator

The Wildlife Watch (WW) program aims to encourage reporting of wildlife sightings in the North Sydney Council area, which helps update our database of local fauna. Until recently, wildlife sightings were reported back to the Bushland Officer via an observation sheet but now anyone can access the Wildlife Watch Program from their smartphone, tablet and personal computer.

The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) now hosts WW through BioCollect - a field data collection tool that supports hundreds of similar Citizen Science projects and allows biodiversity data to be easily uploaded to the ALA where it can be made available for use in research, policy and management.

This new digital version of WW aims to make wildlife monitoring easier, faster and more accurate. You can access this application via your smartphone to make use of the device features (e.g. camera, clock and GPS) and you can also contribute by using the BioCollect

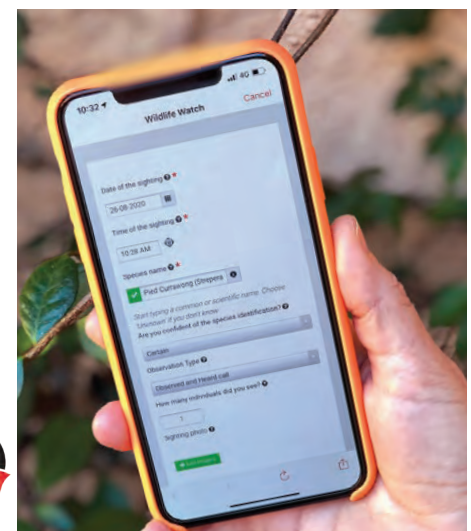
online web form to upload photographs of wildlife found in your garden, at Bushcare, or anywhere in North Sydney.

Help us encourage diverse groups to get involved in WW – from casual bushland users to school students – to increase data collection while raising mindfulness about our local flora and fauna. We are also hoping to collect further sightings of threatened or locally significant species, which will help identify and protect nesting, roosting and breeding sites. This information is crucial for the management of our bushland areas, assists in environmental planning decisions, the development of wildlife corridors and inclusion in the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service's BioNet.

To get involved, simply download the BioCollect mobile app and create an account with the ALA. Once logged on, look for the citizen science project



called 'Wildlife Watch NSC' with the North Sydney Council logo and add your first record to the project by completing the fields. Alternatively, you can go to the BioCollect website and enter your observations via a web-browser interface. Download the full instructions for Wildlife Watch Online from the North Sydney Council website under the Wildlife Watch page.



Caption: The BioCollect mobile application for the Wildlife Watch Program as seen on a smartphone.

# FIRE RECOVERY PROJECT

## KILBRAY PARK WOMBAT COMPOUND REBUILD

Andrew Scott - NSC Bushcare Officer



A

The long-awaited wombat compound rebuild, facilitated by Sydney Wildlife Rescue volunteer Sonja Elwood, got underway on 25 & 26 July at Kilbray Park, which is on Anne William – NARG (Native Animal Rescue Group) wildlife carer's property in Sassafras NSW, 50km south west of Nowra.

Sydney Wildlife Rescue and NARG are member groups of the NSW Wildlife Council, the peak body for licensed wildlife rehabilitators in the state, comprising of 26 voluntary wildlife groups and just over 4,000 wildlife rescuers and carers.

Readers may recall Council's Bushland Team attended Sydney Wildlife's Northern Districts Branch Meeting in early February to see how we might help wildlife impacted by the unprecedented summer fires that devastated the North and South Coast of NSW. This was one of the outcomes from that meeting (See page 2, Autumn 2020).

With support from North Sydney Council, I was able to volunteer alongside 12 Sydney Wildlife members, their partners and friends to rebuild a wombat enclosure damaged by the Currowan fire from the south and the Tianjara fire from the east on 21 December 2019. Sonja said, "The International Fund for Animals Welfare via a generous international donor, financed the project and Brianna McDonald - Rescue and Recovery Resource, provided the plans, organised a builder, material lists and logistics for this weekend. Ace Guttering and Roofing at South Nowra provided the materials at mate's rates and delivered them free of charge - something we couldn't have done by ourselves."

The old compound was demolished the first morning and a plan for the new, enlarged enclosure was roughed-out – two enclosures with a shared wall and feed station shelters. The perimeter was marked out with bright yellow line marker



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between a grove of charred gum trees not far from the house.

An impressive workstation with a drop saw, operated by Marty Charles, sung high as it chewed through treated pine logs, cutting posts to size, ready to be aligned in the freshly augured holes at intervals along the trenched perimeter. These post would support the yet to be hung corrugated iron cladding. Anne mentioned it is necessary to use such materials, installed at a depth of 1m, as wombats are naughty and will try to escape if they can see out.

Two of the volunteers, Aaron Lane and Ricky Brock, operated the all-important excavator to dig the trenches and I can't imagine doing the job without it. They estimated we would need it just one day, but the poor conditions hampered our efforts. Significant tree roots had to be manoeuvred around as the rain poured down and didn't let up for the rest of the weekend. The hard, impact resistant, iron-rich basalt soils, became gluggy and stuck fast to all surfaces, including our boots. It weighed us down as we soldiered on. As the whole scene soon resembled trench warfare, my thoughts turned to the WW1 Diggers - how did they make it through?

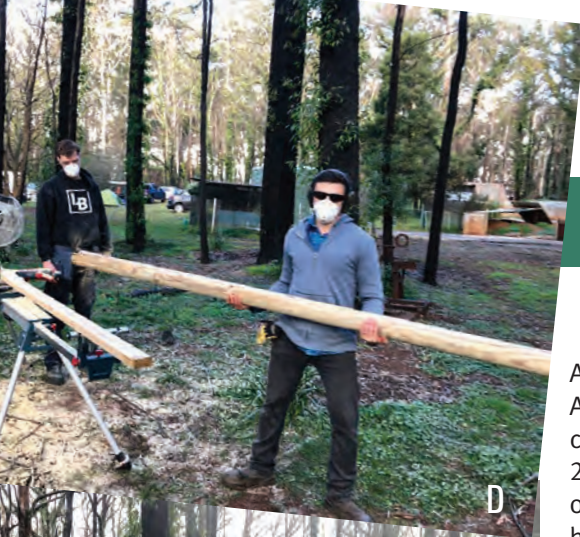
Both days, we worked till twilight to make the most of our time in Sassafras, as we didn't know when we could return due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 restrictions. I can recall the silhouette of

the excavator and the sentinel like trees through the mist.

By the end of the weekend we managed to dig all the trenches, concreted in most of the posts, and hung half the corrugated iron sheets. Sonja said, some of the team would return the following weekend to finish the job and cover the exposed trench that we left, so wildlife couldn't fall in. I finally felt some satisfaction from having taken action for bushfire recovery. I remember wondering at the peak of the devastation, "What could I do to help the wildlife?"

Sonja fed us and coordinated the labour and the materials all weekend which proved to me that individuals can make a





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## Anne Williams

### WILDLIFE CARER

Anne Williams is a member of Native Animal Rescue Group (NARG), a community organisation (formed in 2007) located in the Southern Tablelands of NSW that hosts a wildlife rescue hotline staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for the general public to report wild animals in need of assistance. Each animal rescued by NARG is assessed and transported to the most appropriately skilled and experienced local carer to manage its immediate needs, future rehabilitation and release.

Anne reflects on her experience as a wildlife carer raising wombats:

“I started caring for wildlife in 1993, when a friend of my husband asked if I would be interested in raising a wombat joey his wife couldn’t look after. I had to get a permit from National Parks and Wildlife Service, and they put me in contact with a wildlife carer who advised me on how to care for the joey. I named her Kiah – an Aboriginal word for beautiful place. That was the start of my love for these beautiful, playful, cuddly fur babies.

“Wombats are easy to raise but not ideal to keep in the house as they chew everything. You must care for them in secure enclosures where they can’t dig their way out. They are usually raised in pairs to help them socialise with other wombats, this also assists with their release into the wild.

“In 1995, my husband and I moved to Sassafras, a 40-acre bush block on the western boundary of Morton National Park. Here we set up some wombat compounds, two in a large shed and three outside with burrows to prepare them for soft release. When the time comes, I simply open the gate and they can come and go until they are ready to move out into the wild.

“The rehabilitation process must be staged to safely release wombats. The young joeys that come into my care are put into a small crate with a heat pad and blankets. Then into a timber box or cot and they then progress into a larger



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box and are put outside into a grazing yard for a couple of hours each day. Next, they go into a compound with a burrow where they have less contact with humans. During drought, I provide feed stations to supplement their diet so they don’t have to compete for native grasses. I put out some feed for the kangaroos and wallabies too.

“Wombats of all ages - including orphaned joeys - come into care as a result of car strike, or suffering burns from bush fires, or mange - a contagious skin infection caused by a parasitic mite that burrows into their skin. Some come after near drowning during floods or after they are attacked by dogs or other wombats. Injuries include broken bones, head injuries, burns and pneumonia. When they come into care, we transport them to a vet, and most of the time NARG pays for the bills. The survival rate of injured wombats depends on several factors. Young wombats generally do better than adult wombats as they are less stressed in captivity.

“Wombat joeys are in care for up to two years until they reach a release weight of 25kgs. I release two or three a year. Quite a few of the released wombats come back regularly to the feed stations. I can have up to five in at the same time and my favourites would have to be the old regulars that come back with their joeys at foot. So lovely that they trust me.

“NARG is always in need of more members and donors to help cover feed costs, the building of wildlife compounds and more. You can help by buying our wombat calendars - they make great Christmas presents!”

For further information, visit:  
[www.narg.asn.au/donate](http://www.narg.asn.au/donate)

**Captions:** F. Anne Williams - NARG Carer nursing a juvenile wombat separated from its mother during recent floods around Majors Creek in Queanbeyan/Palerang Regional Council, 11 August 2020.  
G. ‘Arthur’ at Majors Creek Wombat Refuge by Les Waterhouse

difference. It was such a pleasure to meet Anne and to be given the opportunity to help her. It’s carers like her, on the frontline, that do the essential work for wildlife rehabilitation, day in day out with little recognition for their service to the community at large.

A big thanks to Sonja, Sydney Wildlife and North Sydney Council for providing me this opportunity to volunteer for Bushfire Recovery.

**Captions:** A. Fire damaged wombat enclosure.  
B-E. enlarged wombat compound rebuild works, 25 & 26 July 2020



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# The Native Flower Garden



Caption: The Wondakiah Estate Garden Group and Waratah Group Services contract gardeners.

The Wondakiah Estate Gardening Group, with the assistance of Council's Native Havens Program, have been working to improve a large garden bed (about half a hectare in area) along the cutting at the end of Gas Works Road for the past 12 months.

Wondakiah was previously the site of the Old Gas Works, a significant wildlife corridor link to Gore Cove and neighbouring Lane Cove Council. The area borders Badangi Reserve in Wollstonecraft.

Dubbed by Cameron, 'The Native Flower Garden', the group (with support from the Wondakiah Estate Community Association) aim to revamp the garden and make it visually pleasing using interesting and colourful native flowering plants alongside endemic species.

Cameron shared how the area was previously not accessible as it was infested with Lantana, Chinese elm, privet and waste. These have been slowly removed over the past year with over 500 native plants and shrubs planted in their

place. The garden now has a series of walking tracks enjoyed by the residents of Wondakiah.

Ramin Khosravi from the Council's Bushland Team has helped Cameron and the Garden Group identify a variety of weed species to be controlled. Cameron presents these weed specimens each session as a reference for the volunteer gardeners.

Cameron also shared how the Garden Group retained logs for wildlife habitat, as the area is home to a variety of small bird species, the most noticeable being the Superb Fairy-wren. Other species observed include; Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos, Wattle Birds, Corella, King Parrots and Kookaburras. There are also possums, betrayed by the presence of their spherical nests of twigs and leaves (possum dreys) in the shrubs and trees, located just above head height. The team have also installed a native beehive which has been successfully established and provides an area of interest, especially for younger residents.

Council's Native Havens Program has provided a variety of plants since the Native Flower Garden project began, mostly small trees including *Eucalyptus haemastoma* and *A. hispida*, *Banksia serrata* and *Hakea sericea*, the latter a suitable bird habitat as it is dense and spiny. Some of the mid-story plants supplied include *Correa alba* which prefers full sun and shade, tolerant species such as *Goodenia ovata* and *Indigofera australis* with its pretty pink pea flowers and *Gahnia* - good for habitat in damp conditions. A variety of ground covers were provided, including Blady Grass, great for out-competing weed species in full sun and *Dichondra repens* (Kidney Weed), which prefer shade and damp conditions.

Cameron and the group will continue to build on their progress at this site.

See Council's website for more information about the Native Havens program  
[www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/nativehavens](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/nativehavens)

Andrew Scott – Bushcare Officer

# Gorgeous Grevilleas! Family: Proteaceae

Everyone knows grevilleas, right? With around 250 Australian species and over one hundred registered hybrids and cultivars available in the nursery trade, grevilleas are familiar to most Australian gardeners and even to non-gardeners.

Grevillea is a large genus comprising 359 species, mostly shrubs, found in Australia, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and New Caledonia. With few exceptions (e.g. *Grevillea robusta* or Silky Oak, found in rainforest) the Australian grevilleas occur in heaths, woodlands and open forests on well drained, low-nutrient soils.

Hybridisation is not common in the wild but under horticultural conditions, grevilleas hybridise relatively easily, giving rise to the countless named varieties that provide year-round nectar and seed for squabbling honeyeaters and parrots and which form the mainstay of the average native garden.

So how well do you know our local grevilleas? If you take a walk in North Sydney's bushland in late winter and spring, instead of a Robyn Gordon or Honey Gem, you'll be treated to a profuse floral display from our four, exquisitely pretty, local grevillea species:

- Grey Spider Flower (*Grevillea buxifolia*)
- White Spider Flower (*Grevillea linearifolia*)
- Red Spider Flower (*Grevillea speciosa*)
- Pink Spider Flower (*Grevillea sericea*)

These plants form rather loose shrubs ranging from 1.5 to 3m high, with spidery flowers in shades of white, pink and red followed by leathery follicles that split when ripe to release two seeds. Leaves are simple, often stiff and pungent pointed, with silky new growth. As with many Proteaceae species, the ratio of fruit-to-flower is low, with few seeds set when compared to the number of flowers produced by the plant. Our local grevilleas are obligate seeders, being killed by fire and relying on soil-stored seed to regenerate.

Is it a Grevillea or a Hakea? These two genera are closely related and local species have similar flowers. Distinguish hakeas by their much larger, persistent, woody fruits. Local hakea species only have flowers of white and cream.

Clare McElroy – Bushcare Nursery Supervisor

Caption: A. Grey Spider Flower *Grevillea buxifolia* B. White Spider Flower *Grevillea linearifolia* C. Red Spider Flower *Grevillea speciosa* D. Pink Spider Flower *Grevillea sericea*. All photos taken in Waverton by A. Scott



# GREEN EVENTS CALENDAR

BOOKINGS must be made for all events at: [www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/greenevents](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/greenevents) or 9936 8100 unless otherwise stated

The Bushland Team is committed to providing activities and events where social distancing measures can be applied. Please refer to the events listing on the North Sydney Council homepage and Green Events page for the most up-to-date information.

## SEPTEMBER

- 13 **Wildlife Watch Walk & Talk** | Sunday 7.30am to 11am
- 19 **Community Nursery Open Day** | Saturday 9am to 12pm

## OCTOBER

- 4 **Seed Propagation Workshop** | Sunday 9.30am to 12.30pm
- 6 **Family Bush Walk** | Tuesday 10.30am to 12pm
- 8 **Family Kayak** | Thursday 10.30am to 12pm
- 14 **Bushcare Visit - Constables Pt.** | Wednesday 10am to 3pm
- 24 **Fire Sites Tour** | Saturday 10am to 1pm

## NOVEMBER

- 15 **Bushcare Kayak Lane Cove River** | Sunday 8am to 2pm

## DECEMBER

- 5 **Yerrabingin Roof Top Garden** | Saturday 9am to 12pm
- 13 **Volunteer Christmas Party** | Cancelled at the moment, we may plan alternate group parties

## HABITAT TREES MAKE A DEAD TREE HOLD LIFE

The smooth limbs and filigree canopy of the 15m plus *Eucalyptus scoparia* (Willow Gum) had for decades been enjoyed by wildlife – flying foxes, possums, lorikeets and other bird species. However, in recent years, it began to drop bulk leaves, bark and large branches. Its location at the rear corner fences of semis in Montague Rd Conservation Area and overhanging the carpark of the large Strata block also began to cause concerns. Visits by Council Tree Expert Melanie confirmed the tree was senescent - its days were numbered.

Options were for a complete removal (stump and all) or reducing the tree to a fence level of 1.8m or leaving its sound trunk intact and creating a habitat tree. After some communications between adjoining semis and the Strata behind, it was decided that the best “eco-outcome” would be to create a habitat tree. Council-preferred habitat contractor Sydney Arbor Trees was engaged and undertook the works late July. The tree canopy was swiftly removed and the height was reduced to about 5m of gnarled, character trunk. Near the top, an entry hole was created on one side for lorikeets or the like, and a hatch covering a maze on the other side for microbats.

Visitors are not guaranteed but are awaited with quiet anticipation. Hopefully a report of the arrival of desired denizens can be made to Wildlife Watch in due course! It is heartening to see these habitat trees, which are able to attract endemic wildlife, more frequently created by local councils in reserves and other public spaces.

Private landholders with an affection for nature can play a part in species conservation by repurposing moribund or other appropriate mature trees as habitat trees. The wildlife experience on your own doorstep may thus be enriched.

By Phil Worrall - Vice Chair Willoughby Bay Precinct,  
Member Environment Reference Group



Did you know North Sydney Council Bushcare has a Facebook page? Like us at [www.facebook.com/bushcare](https://www.facebook.com/bushcare)



To be informed of interesting environmental education videos visit Envirotube on Youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/greenstylenorth>

**For more information** or to make a booking for any of these workshops or special events please contact the Bushcare Officer on 9936 8100. Printed on 100% recycled paper.

Gratitude to all our contributors who take the time to put ideas and research into words so we can learn. Thank you.

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