



NEWSLETTER

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B U S H C A R E WINTER 2022 – ISSUE 54

COORDINATOR'S UPDATE

by Gareth Debney
Bushland Management Coordinator

After years of drought and prolonged periods of minimal precipitation, it feels wrong to say this – but geez we're sick of all this rain! Since recommencing Bushcare last December post the COVID lockdown, rain has scuttled nearly half of our scheduled volunteer work sessions. Understandably, attendance is also down for some of the groups that have managed to find a suitable weather window to meet up. Hopefully, this La Niña pattern eases soon, and more settled conditions will prevail, enabling our Bushcare groups to work and rebuild their bushland rehabilitation momentum!

Over the past two years, the Bushland Team's focus on promoting our biodiversity conservation and community engagement programs, including Bushcare, Adopt a Plot, Native Havens and Wildlife Watch has taken a necessary back-seat, as increasing participation in these programs during a global pandemic was considered imprudent. Now that the State Government is relaxing most of the previous restrictions, we are responding with the reactivation of our Bushcare calendar workshops and events, as well as those annual highlight activities like National Tree Day and Building Bridges to Boorowa. Another avenue of promotion that has recently returned is the Bushcare/Native Havens stall at the Northside Produce Markets. The stall was popular on Saturday 19 March and I'd like to say a huge thank you to Smoothery Park Bushcare volunteer Siobhan Morrell for helping Andrew operate the stall and even running it solo for several hours. Thanks Siobhan!

I'd also like to acknowledge and thank our newest team member, Bush Regenerator Tom Windon, for stepping up and helping to take on the bulk of our weekend Bushcare Group supervision while we recruit for various vacant positions in the team. Thank you also to our Nursery Supervisor Clare McElroy, who has also temporarily resumed Bushcare Group supervision as well as maintaining several Adopt-a-Plot



Caption: David Bell – Tunks West Bushcare Group receiving the Environmental Citizen of the Year Award from Mayor Zoe Baker at the Community Awards Ceremony held at The North Sydney Function Centre (The Molly Dive) on 1 April 2022, photo by Diana Shypula Director, Chief Photographer/Videographer.

sites as we await the commencement of our new appointees.

This is a good opportunity to recognise and congratulate our Tunks West Bushcare volunteer David Bell for being awarded Environmental Citizen of the Year at the North Sydney Community Awards Ceremony on 1 April. Well done David – we really appreciate your involvement in North Sydney Bushcare and your dedication to early morning Rakali monitoring around the foreshores of North Sydney.

Last, but not least (by a long shot), it is with mixed emotions that we farewell one of North Sydney Bushcare's foundation staff members. After 23 years with the Bushland Team, Ramin Khosravi – Bush Regenerator and Bushland Projects Officer, has hung up his pouch kit and moved on to an exciting new career path with Transport for NSW as a Senior Environment Sustainability Officer! Over the years, Ramin has supervised nearly all North Sydney's Bushcare Groups, however, it's been Brightmore Reserve in Cremorne where Ramin has been THE

supervisor for as long as I can remember. And what an improvement the Brightmore Bushcare Group have made to the Blackbutt Gully & Angophora Foreshore Forests under Ramin's guidance! This is just one of many legacies Ramin has 'planted' in North Sydney's bushland. Of equal importance are the many hundreds of residents Ramin has guided and encouraged into the world of habitat gardening. Under his stewardship, the Native Havens program has grown, helping to make those vital green connections between our fragmented bushland reserves. Ramin's ability to engage with people and bring out their inner enthusiasm for biodiversity conservation is truly remarkable, attested by the many emails of compliments and praise that I have received from Native Havens participants over the years.

On behalf of the Bushland Team, we wish you all the best in the future Ramin – we know you will excel in this new role, especially as you entice those transport engineers over to the "green side"!

NSW LANDCARE AND LOCAL LAND SERVICES CONFERENCE

17 MARCH 2022

This year's conference was originally planned to be held on the North Coast but no surprise that the conference was switched to an online event. In any case the online conference platform and support worked really well – one of the best I've experienced.

The theme of the Conference was *Rethink Renew Recharge*, and this was something that all the contributors returned to throughout the sessions.

The traditional 'death by PowerPoint' style of conference presentation was barely used and I was impressed by contributors' use of a variety of presentation tools. Video presentations were used really well, particularly the technical quality of the videos. Many of the presenters spoke about the impact and aftermath of the fires in 2019/20, particularly on the North Coast. Some of the presenters were obviously still in the middle of dealing with the recent floods which presenters will no doubt cover at next year's conference.

The opening plenary session included some amazing footage of foxes preying on native and domestic animals. Some of it was quite terrible and I wondered if more Australians saw this type of footage, they would be more supportive of efforts to combat invasive species.

There were many key issues touched on in the presentations. Here are a few:

- First Nations people taking a lead in land restoration and rehabilitation – they have skills and perspectives which are sorely needed and goes beyond the obvious, such as fire management.
- Climate change survivability is becoming an important factor in considering which species will cope best with expected changes in our local environments.
- Documenting restoration projects and ensuring that these documents and records are properly archived and accessible.
- Protecting soil seed banks and local vectors for seed recolonisation – mentioned in the work they are doing in the Big Scrub rainforest.
- The need for more resources towards wildlife carer services to deal with emergencies such as bushfires.
- Using bio-bridges (or stepping stones) to link up remnants and provide corridors for species to move around – private land plays an important role.
- Young people are underrepresented in local land care - social media and digital marketing are important tools to attract and retain young people in land care.

Finally, a big thank you to North Sydney Council for sponsoring me to attend.

By David Bell – Tunks West Bushcare Group



Caption: Forest Bathing Walk at Primrose Park and Folly Point on 20 March 2022 to celebrate International Forest Day
photo taken by Toboji (toboji.com)

INTERNATIONAL FOREST DAY – FOREST BATHING WALK –

Our International Forest Day activity went well on Sunday 20 March at Primrose Park and Folly Point. Twelve people registered but half cancelled due to health reasons. Council's Bushland Team provided six local native trees at my request, and so it was worked out wonderfully for everyone to have their own pot to plant at the end of our forest bathing walk. The participants established a peaceful connection between themselves and nature. Many thanks to the Bushland Team for helping to make this a special event.

About Forest Bathing (Shinrin-yoku):

Originating in Japan, "Shinrin-yoku" translates to "Forest bathing" or "Immersion in the Forest" it is a science-based public health practice. The most important aspect of Shinrin-yoku is actively engaging each of your five senses, and consciously connecting with what's happening in the forest around you.

It is not a bush walk and there is no strenuous hiking or fast walk or identifying fauna and flora or testing knowledge about nature. Instead, we immerse ourselves into nature through our senses, guided through a sequence of Shinrin-yoku practice to slow us down and bring us into the present moment.

Though the practice has existed for centuries, the term "Shinrin-yoku" was coined in 1982 by Mr Akiyama, Director of the Japanese Forestry Agency.

When practicing Shinrin-yoku, we feel more deeply connected to nature and our own bodies through conscious awareness of our senses responding to the environment. Modern humans spend much less time in nature and are far more disconnected than ever before. Stress, mental health and lifestyle diseases are at record levels. Forest bathing is a simple and affordable way of stress management.

For more information about Forest Bathing, please visit www.forestminds.com

By Mayu Kataoka – Smoothery Park Bushcare Volunteer,
Forest Therapy Guide & Nature Photographer

WILDLIFE WATCH UPDATE (FEBRUARY 2022 TO APRIL 2022)

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

- **White-browed Scrubwren** (Balls Head Reserve, Primrose Park, Cremorne Reserve, Badangi Reserve)
- **Pacific Swallow** (Balls Head Reserve, Primrose Park, Cremorne Reserve, Badangi Reserve, North Sydney Urban, Cremorne Urban)
- **Eastern Whipbird** (Primrose Park, Badangi Reserve)
- **Channel-billed Cuckoo** (Anderson Park, Neutral Bay Urban)
- **Musk Lorikeet** (Primrose Park, Brightmore Reserve, Cremorne Urban, Cremorne Reserve, Neutral Bay Urban, Anderson Park, North Sydney Urban, Waverton Urban, Wollstonecraft Urban, Badangi Reserve, Berry Island)
- **Australian King-parrot** (Brightmore Reserve, Forsyth Park, North Sydney Urban)
- **Australian Wood Duck** (Cremorne Reserve)
- **Variiegated Fairy-wren** (Primrose Park Bushcare)
- **Superb Fairy-wren** (Badangi Reserve Bushcare)
- **Australasian Figbird** (Wollstonecraft Urban)
- **Pacific Koel** (Wollstonecraft Urban, Badangi Reserve)
- **Crested Tern** (Primrose Park)
- **Powerful Owl** (Tunks East Bushcare)
- **Red-browed Finch** (Tunks West Bushcare)
- **Spotted Pardalote** (Berry Island)
- **Red-triangle Slug** (Berry Island, Balls Head Reserve, Badangi Reserve Bushcare, North Sydney Urban, Neutral Bay Urban, Cremorne Reserve, Primrose Park)
- **Blue Banded Bee** (Neutral Bay Urban)
- **Blue Fanny** (Primrose Park, Cremorne Reserve)
- **Black Jezebel** (Balls Head Reserve, McMahons Pt. Urban)
- **Black Prince** (Tunks Park)
- **Rakali/Water Rat** (Primrose Park, Cremorne Reserve, Lavender Bay, Sawmillers Reserve, Waverton Park, Balls Head Reserve, Badangi Reserve, Berry Island, Gore Cove)
- **Grey-headed Flying-fox** (Cremorne Urban)
- **Australian Fur-seal** (Kirribilli Urban)
- **Pale-lipped Shadskink** (Neutral Bay Urban, North Sydney Urban)
- **Common Tree Snake** (Tunks Park Bushcare, Cremorne Reserve)
- **Golden-crowned Snake** (Cremorne Reserve)
- **Southern Leaf-tailed Gecko** (Balls Head Reserve)

Have you seen any interesting fauna in North Sydney Council, or do you have a photo of your observations? If so, upload your observation to Wildlife Watch NSC at <https://www.ala.org.au/biocollect-for-citizen-science/> or email the Bushland Project Officer at council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au



BAT COUNT AT CENTENNIAL PARK

On Saturday 19 February, Bushcare volunteers and workshop participants joined Amara Glynn – Environment Officer for Greater Sydney Parklands and the Centennial Parklands volunteers to participate in the quarterly census for the National Flying-fox Monitoring Program.

Amara said, the colony of mostly Grey-headed Flying-fox had been leaving their roost at Lachlan Swamp, Centennial Park

to forage between 7pm and 7.30pm in previous weeks. To our great surprise, they departed at 5.15pm on our night and we saw streams of bats flying above as we emerged from the Eastern Distributor on our approach.

Being unable to undertake a count, Sandra Guy from Sydney Wildlife very kindly provided a talk to our group from a good vantage point of the colony, followed by

a practice count with Amara.

Many thanks to Amara and Sandra for being great hosts, we hope to help monitor this camp at the same time next year.

This was one of many Bat Night activities during March and April, visit the Australasian Bat Society events website for more information www.events.ausbatsmembers.org.au

Andrew Scott - Bushcare Officer

Caption: Grey-headed Flying-fox belly dipping at Centennial Park photo by Tony Spira – Centennial Parklands Volunteer

Caption: Two penguin chicks in a natural burrow waiting for their parents to return at North Head by David Jenkins - Nomad Photography

LITTLE PENGUIN WARDEN PROGRAM UPDATE

By Taylor Springett

The quack of a Little Penguin is without a doubt the cutest thing I have ever heard. Just after the sun sets behind the city skyline and the water turns navy blue, the Little Penguins start to call. From the shore they purr like a seagull. The chicks are hungry, and the adult is tiring of parenting duty. The returning mate quacks back, letting them all know that they have brought food. As night settles in, so to do the penguins in their nests along the rocky shores of North Head in the Sydney Harbour National Park.

As a Penguin Warden volunteer with National Park & Wildlife Service (NPWS), it is my job to protect this population of Little Penguins, the last mainland breeding colony in NSW. The population is currently in a very critical situation with lowest numbers ever recorded and the number of breeding pairs, now just 27, falling below the number needed to sustain the population. The work of volunteers is now more important than ever.

I became involved in the volunteering program through my high school, Mosman High, and the school environment committee which frequently collaborated with Mel Tyas from NPWS. I participated in the annual Penguin Warden training day when I was in Year 7 and then became a volunteer at Manly Wharf and then in the National Park. I absolutely loved being a volunteer and I asked if I could be more involved in the Penguin Warden program. This is how I became responsible for monitoring the population with motion-sensing cameras and servicing these cameras for NPWS. It is quite rare to see the penguins during the day when they are at sea, however we are lucky to have cameras on land that capture adorable pictures of the penguins at night.

The Penguin Wardens monitor in Spring Cove (including Collins Flat and Store Beach) as well as at Little Manly. The beaches in the National Park are all closed at sunset so as Penguin Wardens, it is our job to close the beaches and ensure no one is staying past sunset. We also check for dog and fox prints on the beach as these animals pose a huge threat to the Little Penguins. Last season we lost two penguins from Store Beach to a fox that was particularly clever and managed to evade us



for a couple months. Finding those dead penguins was one of the hardest things I have ever done. Both were adult penguins from different pairs with chicks still in the nest which means two adults were left to care for their chicks on their own. Those chicks were likely not as healthy when they left the nest and will have a lower chance of surviving to adulthood. Their parents were also left without a mate and penguins mate for life. So, in losing two penguins to the fox, we have another four or five penguins that may never return to breed. This is the butterfly effect that really puts pressure on our population.

Fortunately, we have a great camera monitoring system with NPWS to keep an eye out for foxes. We know that young males tend to enter the National Park in between May and July looking for new territory. When a fox has been identified, we set up an immediate emergency fox-watch roster with the Penguin Wardens. This involves going down to the beaches early in the morning to check for any fox prints or other signs that might suggest fox activity overnight.

During the day penguins are at sea fishing for food. It is harder for us to keep an eye on them, but the risks remain. At sea they are vulnerable to boat strikes and seal attacks, and it is harder for us to document and record any incidents at sea. Luckily there is a Penguin Recovery Team with members from Taronga Zoo, penguin experts, Maritime Police and ferry operations (among many others) that do a lot of work behind the scenes for our penguins. We do a lot of work with ferry drivers and educating boat drivers to watch for penguins, particularly in



Caption: below Little Penguin out in the water off North Head by David Jenkins - Nomad Photography below right Taylor Springett – NPWS Penguin Warden at Collins Flat by Craig Springett, 5 Feb 2022.



the evenings when the Little Penguins group together on the surface to form a raft in Spring Cove.

I think the Little Penguins are lucky to have such a dedicated group of people working hard to look after them. The collaboration between volunteers, NPWS, Northern Beaches Council, the Penguin Recovery Team and the community is a testament to how much these special penguins are appreciated. Going forward, we hope to gain a bigger picture of what is happening to our penguin population and to understand if the declining numbers are exclusive to our population or if it's happening across the state. We hope to uncover new breeding sites around Sydney Harbour as it is possible that numbers are declining simply because penguins are moving to new locations that we are not currently monitoring.

And this is where you can help! If you see a penguin, let us know so we can get a better understanding of where these guys are hanging out. Please also keep your dogs out of the National Park and off the beaches and keep your cats inside at night - our penguins are only small and don't stand a chance against dogs or cats. If you are on a boat, drive slowly around Spring Cove and look out for penguin rafts, particularly in the evening.

The work of volunteers has a massive impact on our population of Little Penguins, and we put in a lot of time and effort so that both you and our penguins can enjoy our beautiful harbour. If you would like to get involved, you can contact me at taylor_springett@inet.net.au.

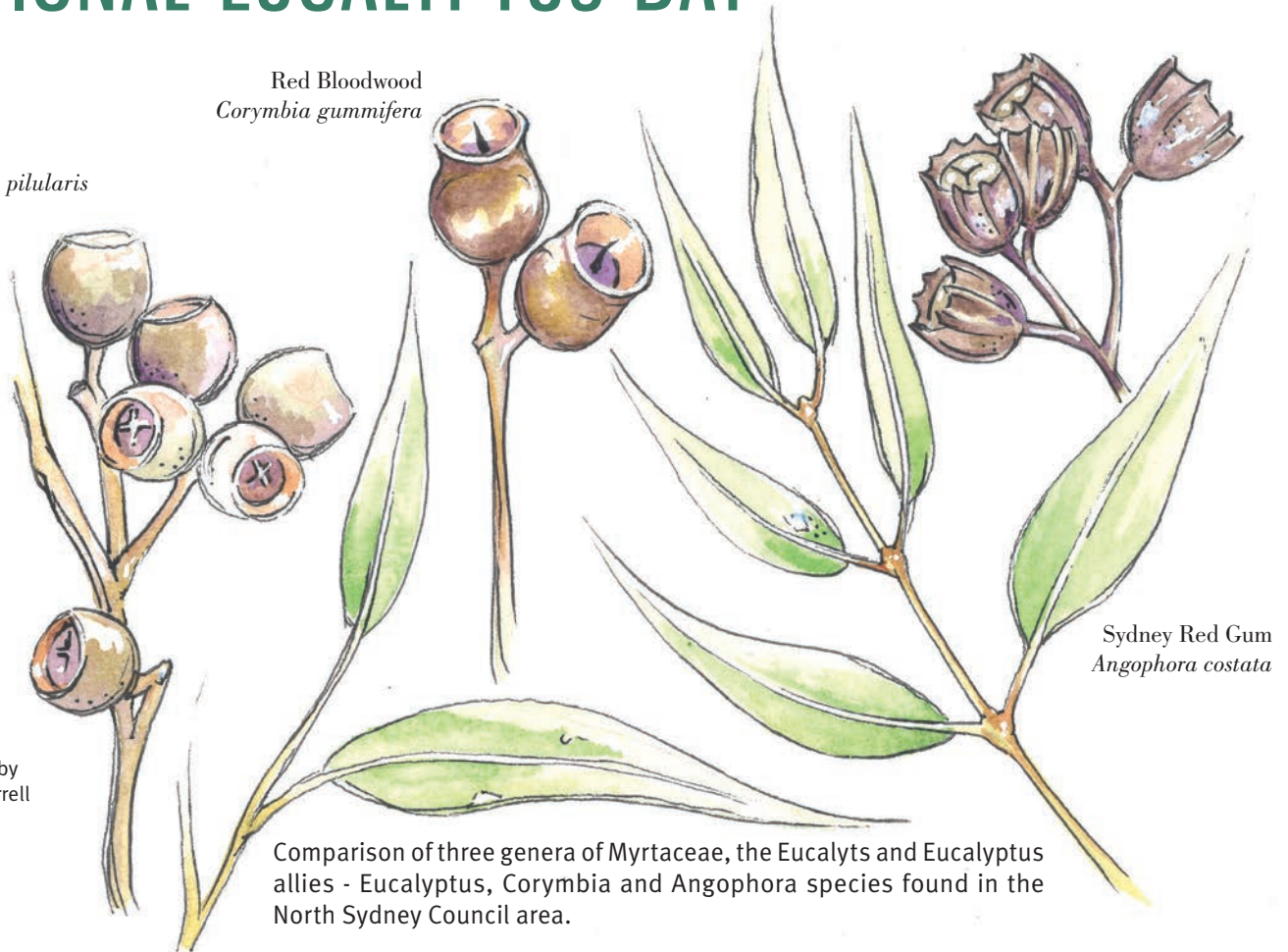
Follow [@friendsofmanlypenguins](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofmanlypenguins) on instagram to keep up to date with warden activities and Little Penguins at Manly.



NATIONAL EUCALYPTUS DAY

Blackbutt
Eucalyptus pilularis

Red Bloodwood
Corymbia gummifera



Caption:
Illustration by
Rebecca Farrell

Sydney Red Gum
Angophora costata

Comparison of three genera of Myrtaceae, the Eucalypts and Eucalyptus allies - Eucalyptus, Corymbia and Angophora species found in the North Sydney Council area.

Held annually on 23 March, National Eucalypt Day aims to raise awareness of eucalypts and celebrate the important place that they hold in the hearts and lives of Australians. For more information see, www.eucalyptaustralia.org.au

North Sydney Council participated in National Eucalyptus Day with a walk and talk around Balls Head Reserve on Saturday 26 March. Fortunately, the wet weather held off allowing the 11 attendees to observe the Reserve at a leisurely pace. The group was shown different plant communities and the interrelation

between tree species and soil types. They learnt key identifying features of bark, fruit and leaves, enabling them to quickly separate Eucalypts from Corymbias. The termites generated much intrigue and conversation. A few enjoyable hours were spent with many questions asked and answered and hopefully the occasion sparked renewed passion and appreciation for our majestic trees.

Participants were asked what they had learnt from this activity, responses included:

“The difference between Lemon Scented

Gum (*Corymbia citriodora*) [from tropical eastern Australia, naturalised in NSW] and Sydney Red Gum (*Angophora costata*) and learning about termites”

“How to choose a native plant for your area by considering the soil type, available space and what you want from the tree [e.g. shade].”

The Bushland Team would like to thank Margot Blues – Consulting Arborist and Arthur Durrant – NSC Tree Team for guiding this tour.

Margot Blues - Consulting Arborist

BUSHLAND OPERATIONS UPDATE

Despite a wet beginning to the year, our bushland sites are in good condition. There has been minor erosion around some walking tracks and a few fallen trees – shallow rooted species such as Coastal Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*).

The Bush Regeneration Team’s main focus has been staying on top of weedy vines such as Coastal Morning Glory (*Ipomoea cairica*) and Madeira Vine (*Anredera cordifolia*), as well as hand weeding various herbaceous annuals before they go to seed, particularly the Thick Head (*Crassocephalum crepidioides*).

The wet weather conditions have been unkind to Golden Crown Snakes (*Cacophis squamulosus*), a local snake species prone

to upper respiratory infections, a potentially fatal disease if it persists (signs include bubbling around the mouth).

During the school holidays Spotlight Walk at Balls Head Reserve, we found many Southern Leaf-tailed Geckos (*Phyllurus platurus*) who seem unfazed by the wet conditions. We also spotted a few happy Common Ringtail Possums (*Pseudocheirus peregrines*) and Common Brushtail Possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) munching on the Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus rubiginosa*).

Thanks to Arthur Durrant – NSC Tree Team for helping to guide this tour.

WEED TO WATCH MADEIRA VINE (*Anredera cordifolia*)



Caption: (above) Madeira Vine leaves at Primrose Park by Andrew Scott; (top right) Madeira Vine tuber at Primrose Park by Andrew Scott; (bottom right) Madeira Vine flower spikes courtesy of sydneyweeds.org.au

Family: Baselliaceae

Native to South America

Madeira Vine is a persistent weed in many northern Sydney bushland reserves and will be familiar to our dedicated Bushcare volunteers who have spent many years digging out tubers.

Originally introduced as a garden plant, and historically a problem in Queensland and NSW, Madeira Vine is now identified as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS) and occurs in all states.

It is common in urban areas, riparian vegetation, rainforest margins and damp, humid gullies where its rampant growth may climb to 20m or more, smothering and collapsing forest canopies and carpeting the understorey. The impacts of Madeira Vine can be so severe that it causes irreversible damage to the invaded ecosystem, leading to its categorisation as a “transformer species”.

Madeira Vine produces stems annually from fleshy underground, potato-like tubers up to 20cm in diameter and at depths of up to 1m. Stems are slender and hairless, initially herbaceous but becoming woody and ropey with age. Both underground and aerial stems produce clusters of warty tubers, from 5mm up to 25cm, that look like root ginger. Aerial tubers are easily detached and readily sprout to form new plants.

Leaves are brittle, fleshy, waxy green, heart-shaped, 4 - 12cm in length, largest on young plants.

Small, fragrant, creamy flowers are carried on drooping spikes that blanket the plants from December to April. Flowers do not produce viable seed in Australia, although there is a record of seed production from Toowoomba. Infestations spread from aerial and underground tubers, and from vegetative fragments spread through waterways, soil disturbance and vegetation dumping.

Leaves and tubers are edible but reportedly poisonous to livestock.

Native lookalikes: *Stephania japonica* (Snake Vine) is common in North Sydney and has a similar leaf shape and size. *Stephania japonica* leaves are thin textured (not fleshy and brittle) with obvious veins and a petiole (stem) that is attached to the centre of the leaf (like a pedestal) rather than the edge (as in Madeira Vine). *Stephania* has thin, tough stems, no aerial tubers, and clusters of red berries in April.

Control: The large numbers of subterranean and aerial reproductive tubers that may persist in the environment for many years make effective management difficult. The plant is also easily fragmented during physical removal.

Small infestations and regrowth can be controlled by manual removal (digging) of underground tubers and removing/bagging all top growth. Cutting and pulling the vines from the canopy is not generally recommended because it results in a rain of viable tubers and may be dangerous if dead and dying branches are pulled down with the weight of the vine.

Chemical: Several herbicides are registered for use on Madeira Vine, both for foliar spraying and cut/scrape/paint of stems.

Biological control: the Madeira Vine Leaf Beetle “*Plectonycha correntina*” was released near Brisbane in 2011, with further releases at test sites in Queensland and NSW since then. Both the adult and larval stages feed on the leaves of Madeira vine, reducing the plant’s ability to produce energy and causing it to deplete the resources stored in its tubers. The beetle does not kill the plant or attack underground tubers, but the vine defoliation assists in recovery of native canopy and controls further spread.

Clare McElroy - Bushcare Nursery Supervisor

GREEN EVENTS CALENDAR

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.

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

JUNE

- 3 **Coastal Bushwalk - North Arm Track** | Friday 10am to 1pm
www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Events
- 4 **Growing Ferns and Groundcovers** | Saturday 9am to 12pm
Bookings essential: www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents
- 9 **Adopt a Plot Annual General Meeting** | Thursday 6pm to 7pm
- 9 **Rewilding Bush Rats to North Head** | Thursday 7pm to 8.30pm
- 23 **Aboriginal Heritage Walk** | Thursday 10am to 1pm

JULY

- 10 **Bushcare Essentials** | Sunday 10am to 1pm
- 10 **Nestbox building workshop** | Sunday 10am to 2pm
- 13 **Bushcare Essentials** | Wednesday 10am to 1pm
- 31 **National Tree Day** | Sunday 9.30am to 11am
Register: treeday.planetark.org/site/10025974

AUGUST

- 11 **Fire Management Webinar** | Thursday 6pm to 8pm
- 13 **Introduction to Wildlife Watch** | Saturday 10am to 1pm
- 20 **Bushcare Stall – Produce Markets** | Saturday 8am to 12pm
- 27 **Bush Walk – Balls Head** | Saturday 10am to 1pm
- 28 **Wildflower Walk** | Sunday 8am to 4pm

SEPTEMBER

- 8 **Community Nursery Visit - HCC** | Thursday 9am to 2pm
- 10 **Native Havens Garden Tour** | Saturday 9am to 1pm
- 11 **Wildlife Watch Walk & Talk** | Sunday 7.30am to 11am
- 16 **Bushcare Visit – Kurrajong** | Friday 7.30am to 2pm
- 17 **Community Nursery Open Day** | Saturday 9am to 12pm
- 27 **Family Bush Walk – Berry Is.** | Tuesday 10.30am to 12pm

NURSERY UPDATE - Cuttings Workshop by Clare McElroy

In March 2022, after two years of cancellations caused by COVID and bad weather, we (finally!) ran our cuttings propagation workshop at the nursery. Late summer and autumn are an ideal time for taking semi-hardwood, stem cuttings and this year, after a wet summer, we had some exceptional plant material to hand. We used *Westringia fruticosa* and *Correa alba*, taking cuttings of current season growth that has firmed and thickened over summer.

In the Bushcare nursery, we don't grow a lot of plants from cuttings. For most of our bushland plants, seed is a quicker and more effective method of propagation that, most importantly, ensures genetic diversity in the progeny.

Plants grown from cuttings, or other vegetative propagation methods, are clones - genetically identical to the parent plant. Whilst this uniformity is preferred in the commercial nursery trade, so that selected, desirable traits from the parent can be reliably reproduced, from a biodiversity perspective it is less desirable.

The species used for our workshop are difficult to grow from seed but easy from cuttings, and they are mainly used for ornamental plantings.

Our participants learnt which species are best for cuttings, how to select the best plant material, how to prepare and strike the cuttings, and which tools and products to use. An excellent job was done by our enthusiastic attendees, seen here placing their cuttings under the misters in the polyhouse.



Caption: Happy cuttings workshop participants with Clare McElroy in the Bushcare Community Nursery hot house by Andrew Scott, 20 March 2022.



Did you know North Sydney Council Bushcare has a Facebook page? Like us at www.facebook.com/bushcare



Visit regenTV the Australian Association of Bush regenerators video platform, recordings of webinars, field days and forums. www.aabr.org.au/regenTV

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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