



### COORDINATOR'S UPDATE

by Gareth Debney  
Bushland Management Coordinator



Caption: Recipients of voluntary service certificates and Councillors at the Bushcare Volunteer Christmas Party at the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability on Sunday 10 December 2023.

(L to R) Cr William Bourke, Ros Young, Kim Shepherd, Don Melrose, Mary-Lyn Lawrence, Mayor Zoë Baker, Cr MaryAnn Beregi, Cr Shannon Welsh, Linda Gatfield, Cr Godfrey Santer, GM Therese Manns and George Barbouttis.

On behalf of the team, I'd like to welcome all our wonderful volunteers and program supporters back to North Sydney Bushcare for 2024! We had a slow start to the summer break, with pretty mild weather leading up to Christmas – only to be replaced with some of the hottest and especially humid weather I can remember through January and February. Of course, these are perfect growing conditions for weeds and it's just as well Bushcare has resumed so our volunteers can tackle them head on!

Thank you to all our volunteers who attended the Bushcare Christmas Party at the Coal Loader on 10 December last year, celebrating the year's achievements as well as North Sydney Bushcare's 30th anniversary. It was a great opportunity to reflect on how far we've come in our ecological journey of bushland recovery, particularly since those vitally important community initiatives of the late 1980s and early 1990s. Amazingly, several North Sydney Bushcare volunteers have been part of the program since it's very beginnings. These special people, including Nicole Bannister; Mary-Lyn Lawrence; Heather Robson; Don Melrose; George and Fiona Barbouttis were recognised and personally thanked at the event by North Sydney Mayor Zoë Baker.

The results of our long-awaited North

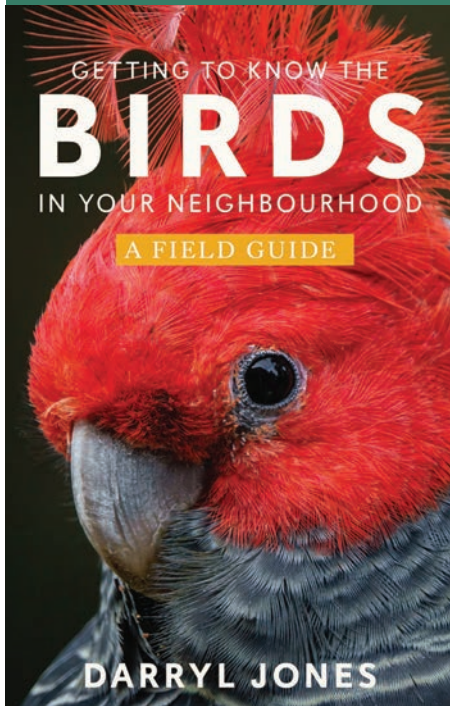
Sydney Natural Area Survey update have been received by Council and are currently being reviewed by the Bushland Team. Importantly, follow-up quadrat surveys conducted as part of the update have shown an improvement in both the ecological condition and species diversity of our bushland reserves since the original baseline assessment in 2010. Endemic plant species in NS bushland has increased from 347 to 371, whilst an additional five native wildlife species have been found to occur in our reserves. Much of the species' recovery can be attributed to our ongoing bushland rehabilitation program and Council's ecological burning program.

Unfortunately, not all the bushland news is positive. Our neighbouring councils of Willoughby and Lane Cove recently suffered tree vandalism on a scale that has not been seen locally before. These damaging acts of selfishness, usually motivated by property value and a distorted sense of amenity, are very difficult to redress without eyewitness accounts or physical evidence – both of which are rarely available. Whilst not to the same extent, North Sydney also suffered bushland damage on New Years Eve, as hundreds of people descended on Balls Head and Cremorne Point to watch the fireworks. As the formal lookout areas fill early with visitors, many people spread out

through the bushland to find or create their own vantage point, resulting in trampled bushland vegetation and snapped-off trees/shrubs. This damage will take longer than 12 months to repair, at which point it is vulnerable to further impact as the pattern repeats. The Bushland Team will be seeking a change in approach to the management of NYE visitors at Balls Head for 2024 and beyond.

On a happier note, 2024 marks the 25th anniversary of our unique and award-winning urban-rural environmental partnership project *Building Bridges to Boorowa*. As many of you will know from first-hand experience, BB2B is a weekend activity, in which 20-30 North Sydney volunteers make a 3.5hr pilgrimage to Boorowa in south-west NSW to plant trees on properties in the district. Over the past 24 years, more than 65,000 trees have been planted in the district by NS volunteers in coordination with Boorowa Community Landcare Group and Hilltops Council. The project seeks to address landscape-scale environmental issues such as habitat loss; fragmentation of remnant vegetation; dryland salinity and gully erosion. If you are interested in joining us for this milestone trip to Boorowa on 24-26 May, please call me on 02 9936 8100 or email [Gareth.Debney@northsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Gareth.Debney@northsydney.nsw.gov.au).

# BOOK REVIEW: Getting to know the birds in your neighbourhood



Everywhere you go in North Sydney, you can see or hear birds. Many people see birds in their backyards, local parks and bushland reserves but are not sure what their names are. Field guides to all the birds in Australia can be intimidating and Google isn't always helpful.

Getting to know the birds in your neighbourhood: a field guide is a great place to start. It focuses on 139 species of birds you are most likely to see in the 20 largest cities in Australia. Of those, only 19 do not occur in Sydney.

This easy-to-use guide has been produced by Darryl Jones, a Professor of Ecology at Griffith University in Brisbane, who has spent his career studying the interactions between birds and people.

All North Sydney's most common birds are in the book, from Rainbow Lorikeets and Noisy

Miners to White Ibis and Tawny Frogmouths, and many of the less common ones too, such as White-Bellied Sea Eagles and Spotted Pardalotes.

Each bird gets a full page, with colour photo, lively description and information on where it lives, what it eats and how it interacts with people. Much easier to flip through than a big field guide, like birds are grouped together making it easy to distinguish between the different parrots or black-and-white birds such as magpies, butcherbirds and currawongs.

Aimed at adults, the book can be used by educators or children for projects or nature walks.

Compact, robust, friendly and colourful, this is a book to keep by your window, take with you to the park or give to a friend.

Anne Pickles, Wildlife Watch Volunteer

## THE RESTORATION DECADE ALLIANCE (RDA)

The Restoration Decade Alliance (RDA) is a network of 21 peak Australian non-profit environmental restoration organisations who have joined forces to support the goals of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

Following on from the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (2011 – 2020), the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration was launched as a rallying call for the protection and revival of ecosystems all around the world. It aims to halt the degradation of ecosystems and restore them to achieve global goals, for the benefit of people and nature. Only with healthy ecosystems can we enhance people's livelihoods, counteract climate change, and stop the collapse of biodiversity.

Above all, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration is building a strong global movement to ramp up restoration and put the world on track for a sustainable future. It runs from 2021 through 2030, which is also the deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals and the timeline scientists have identified as the last chance to prevent catastrophic climate change.

### Roadmap to Restoration

RDA members have been hard at work advocating for the development of a National Ecosystem Restoration Plan to help the Australian Government meet our obligations under two international agreements for which it is a signatory. The

first agreement relates to the declaration of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration which aims to 'prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems on every continent and in every ocean'. The second agreement is the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, of which Target 2 is to have at least 30% of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems under effective restoration by 2030. Other international initiatives Australia is a signatory to (and where ecosystem restoration is relevant) include the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement.

A key purpose of the Plan would be to optimise the potential for our nation to meaningfully meet our international biodiversity commitments and obligations. The Plan's functions would be to provide:

- (i) national goals, targets, and priorities for restoration consistent with Australia's Strategy for Nature;
- (ii) broad guiding principles to assist interpretation and adaptation
- (iii) a framework for action by governments, industry, and community
- (iv) recommendations for resourcing

The Plan would recognise the value of community-led action, prioritising the genuine, early and ongoing involvement

of First Nations peoples across Australia.

### Advisory Panel

The RDA recommends the federal government's Advisory Panel for the revision of Australia's Strategy for Nature and associated Action Plans should include independent ecosystem restoration experts with long and successful experience in the restoration sector.

### How can you help?

Organisations that are passionate about ecosystem restoration can become a member, partner, or champion of the RDA, or help fund the work of the RDA by providing sponsorship. Find out more at <https://restorationdecadealliance.org/>

Individuals can also help meet the objectives of RDA and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration by supporting and promoting ecosystem restoration programs like North Sydney Council's Bushcare program.

by Andrew Scott - Bushcare Officer



Caption: Restoration Decade Alliance logo

# WILDLIFE WATCH UPDATE

(AUTUMN 2024)

From scorchers to refreshing rain, this season was filled with striking weather. It seemed to take a while, but cicadas eventually started calling out as the weather warmed and several different types were spotted this season, from the Black Prince to the Silver Princess.

Eastern Koels and Channel-billed Cuckoos were still heard calling, and some were seen being chased by magpies, or their chicks being fed by currawongs. Figbirds were seen in fig trees and Powerful Owls again rested cautiously in dense understory during the day.

Many regulars made a showing including the ubiquitous Noisy Miners, Rainbow Lorikeets and Brush-turkeys, some of whom have been named by locals. Insects, the basis of many food-chains, made appearances, including the Metallic Shield Bug (pictured right) and the Teddy Bear Bee who was 'buzz-pollinating' flowers.

Summer 2024 sightings included:

- **Little Black Cormorant** (Waverton Park) fishing
- **Spotted Pardalote** (Primrose Park, Badangi Reserve)
- **Blue-banded Bee** (Neutral Bay urban) on basil
- **European Honeybee** (Primrose Park and Cremorne Point) in tree hollows
- **Elegant Snake-eyed Skink** (Neutral Bay urban)
- **Tawny Frogmouth** (Wollstonecraft urban, Primrose Park, Balls Head) roosting in the daytime, some in pairs together
- **White-browed Scrubwren** (Gore Cove, Primrose Park, Cremorne Point) in Bracken fern and lantana
- **Teddy Bear Bee** (Waverton) 'buzz-pollinating' *Hibbertia scandens* flowers
- **Grey Butcherbird** (Waverton Park, Carradah Park, Waverton urban, Neutral Bay urban, Cremorne urban, Primrose Park, Cammeray urban, Grasmere Reserve Cremorne, Wollstonecraft urban, Badangi Reserve, Cremorne Point, Balls Head Reserve) seen and heard, including an adult feeding a hungry juvenile, whilst its sibling caught its own food
- **Pied Currawong** (Waverton Park, Cremorne urban) being harassed by Noisy Miners, feeding a juvenile Channel-billed Cuckoo
- **Australian Wood Duck** (Primrose Park)
- **Black Rat** (Kirribilli urban) decomposing
- **Double-Spotted Cicada, Black Prince, and Silver Princess** (all Cammeray urban)
- **Two-spined Spider** (Cremorne Reserve), egg sac on fig tree
- **Rufous Fantail** (Primrose Park) hunting for insects in privet
- **Metallic Shield Bug** (Balls Head Reserve, Cremorne Point)
- **Australasian Figbird** (Neutral Bay and Cremorne urban) pair seen in a fig tree
- **Channel-billed Cuckoo** (Anderson Park, Cremorne urban, Cremorne Reserve) feeding on fig-tree fruit, juvenile getting fed by a Pied Currawong, chased by magpies and Noisy Miners
- **Powerful Owl** (throughout the LGA) seen roosting
- **Jumping spider** (Neutral Bay urban)
- **Galahs** (North Sydney urban) small flock feeding on the lawn
- **Eastern Koel** (Anderson Park, Primrose Park, Forsyth Park, Badangi Reserve, Cremorne Point urban) heard calling out
- **Elephant Mosquito** (Cremorne urban) in a stairwell
- **Rakali** (Cammeray, Cremorne Point, Primrose Park) footprints on muddy foreshores and sandy beaches early in the morning
- **Laughing Kookaburra** (Cammeray urban, Primrose Park, Waverton Park, Balls Head Reserve, Cremorne urban, Cremorne Reserve, Neutral Bay urban, Primrose Park, Badangi, Anderson Park, Carradah Park)
- **Common Brushtail Possum** (Coal Loader site, Waverton) one dead, one alive
- **Sacred Kingfisher** (Balls Head Reserve)



Caption: Metallic Shield Bug (*Scutiphora pedicellata*) by Anne Pickles, 10 December 2023.

Your sightings help to build up a picture of what wildlife is in the area and how they are living. Why not go exploring and see what you can find and add to next season's sightings! We are starting a Wildlife Watch walking group soon – let us know if you are interested (details below) and keep your eyes peeled on Council's event page.

For a full listing of species, go to [www.ala.org.au/biocollect](http://www.ala.org.au/biocollect) and under Citizen Science Projects, search for NSC Wildlife Watch

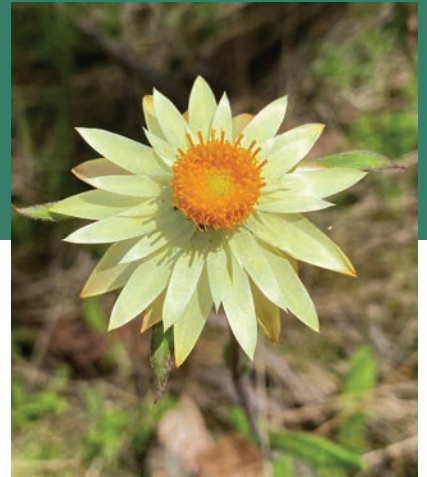
You can contribute sightings directly through the Biocollect website or by contacting us at Council. Find out more about the program by searching for Wildlife Watch on Council's website. For further information, contact the Council's Bushland Project Officer on 9936 8100 or by email [council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au)

by Karina Hanemann - Bushland  
Projects Officer

# BARRINGTON TOPS SCOTCH BROOM CONTROL PROGRAM 2024



Caption: Volunteers for Barrington Tops Scotch Broom Control at Polblue Campground by Andrew Scott, 24 February 2024



Caption: Golden Everlasting *Xerochrysum* sp., Polblue Swamp, Barrington Tops NP, 24 Feb 2024 by Andrew Scott

From 22-25 February, three North Sydney Bushcare Volunteers, David Bell, David Yip (veterans) and Avril Lim joined the Bushland Team and NSW National Parks volunteers for the Scotch Broom Control Program at Barrington Tops National Park.

Twenty-five volunteers participated during the four-day event at Polblue Swamp travelling from all around the State: either side of the valley in Stroud and Gloucester, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Newcastle, the Central Coast, Sydney and as far as Queanbeyan in the ACT, and Coffs Harbour on the north coast of NSW.

This year, we controlled about three hectares of Stage 2 (3 to 4-year-old) Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) 'brown stem' plants with the objective of stopping them growing to maturity and seeding. Last year, these plants were seedlings with 'green stems' that are photosynthetic and were thought to reshoot when cut without herbicide treatment as stated in the literature. Recently, Boyd Carney – Bush Regeneration and Volunteer Coordinator for NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) observed that these plants were not regrowing when stem-cut at Barrington Tops, so we controlled both Stage 1 and 2 plants which slowed our progress but will reduce workloads in the future. Boyd said, "I am always impressed by what volunteers can achieve".

The weather for the week/end was forecast to be wet, though it turned out to be sunny most days with showers in the evening. It was pleasing to work out the competition of the broom from the endangered Fragrant Pepperbush (*Tasmannia glaucifolia*) and Broad-leaved Pepperbush (*Tasmannia purpurascens*) amongst the towering Snow Gums (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) and the languid Black Sallies (*Eucalyptus stellulata*) around the wetland. Pretty butterflies journeyed between flushes of Golden Everlasting (*Xerochrysum* sp.) amongst the snow grasses (*Poa* sp.).

On Friday morning, after the daily induction and Work Health Safety briefing, Boyd invited Luke Foster and Aaron Mulcahy – Senior Conservation Officers for the Biodiversity and Conservation Division of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (who were visiting Barrington Tops NP to monitor a cultural burn site) to

talk about *Grow, Harvest, Heal: saving our species through traditional food stories*, a three-year project funded by the NSW Environmental Trust (2022-2025).

The **Grow, Harvest, Heal** project includes two First Nations Communities: the Worimi Community of the Barrington Tops and the Jerrinja Community from Bundarwa on the South Coast of NSW. Aaron said, "the project is a community-led partnership that aims to incorporate traditional food stories and cultural practices into the conservation and management of a threatened orchid species, Veined Doubletail (*Diuris venosa*)".

On Friday night, long term NPWS volunteer Ethan Barrett led a spotlight walk between rain showers, he located four or five Greater Gliders along the first section of the Polblue Swamp loop track to our great delight. Though seemingly common in the area, Greater Gliders are an endangered species in NSW that depend on old growth hollow bearing trees for habitat. Their population was seriously impacted by the Black Summer Bushfires.

On Saturday afternoon our group came across an infestation of the invasive weed Ox-eye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*). Peter Beard – NPWS Ranger Barrington Tops and Boyd gave us an awareness talk and said they were not sure it was a weed initially as there are dozens of other Asteraceae in the area. Boyd said an Ox-eye Daisy weed eradication program had been going for five years with funding for a further four. Contractors are carrying out the work and are enjoying driving around the Barrington Plateau, removing it by hand.

Once again, we had an enjoyable time at Barrington, taking in the fresh air and serene landscapes. Thanks to Boyd and NSW NPWS for being great hosts. We really appreciated the comforts of our accommodation at Polblue Depot and hope to return next year. The rest of the Bushland Team will be visiting Edward Swamp in Barrington Tops NP in March to control the broom in a fire affected area, following up on our previous work. Happy harvesting!

For further information, visit: [www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/volunteer-activities/scotch-broom-control-barrington-tops](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/volunteer-activities/scotch-broom-control-barrington-tops)

by Andrew Scott - Bushcare Officer

# OUT AND ABOUT - POST BURN MANAGEMENT

By Tom Windon - Bush Regenerator

On Thursday 2 November last year, there was finally a break in the unpredictable weather to initiate a long-awaited environmental burn in Brightmore Reserves Angophora and Blackbutt gully forests.

After a few months of letting the burnt areas sit undisturbed, it was time for the NSC Bushland Team to begin post burn management. After assessing the site, the team began their work carefully removing weeds (mainly herbaceous annuals) and some natives with more invasive behaviours. The main offenders were:

- *Oplismenus imbecillis*
- *Commelina cyanea*
- *Homalanthus*
- Native Ferns

Hand weeding in a burn zone is a much more delicate task than your usual weed removal job. After a burn, the site is at its most delicate. There is regeneration of shrubs, canopy species and grasses wherever you step. To prevent damage to the seedbank the team must use rocks, sticks and any other debris already on the ground to move around the site carefully. The team worked to remove any weeds that would prevent the burns natural regeneration – bigger weeds were removed using a cut and paint technique to minimise damage to the seedbank.

The regeneration has been very diverse with many species emerging, a few of the main native species we have found are:

## Canopy species

- Blackbutt – *Eucalyptus pilularis*
- Sydney Peppermint – *Eucalyptus piperita*
- Sydney Red Gum – *Angophora costata*

## Shrub species

- *Acacia terminalis*
- *Dodenaea viscosa*
- *Pultenaea flexilis*

## Ground layer species

- *Lomandra longifolia*
- *Entolasia stricta*
- *Echinopogon ovatus*

Future works on the site will include more hand weeding; marking native regeneration in more weed rich areas of the site with bamboo stakes; managing ferns as they emerge and out compete native regeneration for sunlight; and managing our faster growing native species of shrub to prevent a monoculture.



**Caption: Above** - Photo of Prickly Moses (*Acacia ulicifolia*) seedling geminating postburn at Brightmore Reserve.

**Below** - Photo of Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) seedling geminating postburn and encroaching Basket Grass (*Oplismenus imbecillis*) both from Brightmore Reserve, 1 January 2024 by Tom Windon.



## UPDATE

After having a short break and starting the new year, we are back on site to continue our maintenance work on each of the Adopt a Plot sites. It is a pleasure to get back to work with all the volunteers of the program.

The mix of weather conditions has caused the native plants to thrive – as well as some of the herbaceous weeds. Now that we are back in the swing of things, it will be easily achievable to get on top of each plot with the work of weed removal and native revegetation. These rainy weather conditions are favourable for native plant installation which will increase native plant density

and diversity and improve the vegetation structure overall.

The program currently has nine donor plots and six volunteer active plots, which cover sections of bushland in Cremorne Point, Waverton Park, Badangi Reserve, Gore Cove and Primrose Park. A couple of donor plots in Cremorne have discontinued and we are currently seeking new plots to join the program.

All the plots in the program are at a maintenance level, requiring only a couple of hours of work per month. This predominately involves hand removal of exotic plants, installation of native plantings, minimising dominant native

plant species and spot spraying. There is one new plot in Waverton which currently requires more hours as it involves the gradual treatment of dense woody weeds as well as maintenance removal of herbaceous weeds, vines and exotic grasses.

The work on each of these plots is valuable as they generate ecological communities that can sustain our unique flora and fauna. I look forward to seeing what can be achieved this new year as we work towards improving our beloved North Sydney bushland.

by Larissa Kabakov -  
Bush Regenerator

# FLOATING LANDCARE

## WHITE HORSE BEACH

On 12 November 2023, thirteen Bushcare volunteers joined North Sydney Council Bushland and National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) teams for a Floating Landcare activity at White Horse Beach in Ku-rin-gai Chase National Park on the Hawkesbury River.

Our group arrived early in the community bus to Cottage Point where we met our NPWS hosts, Officers Jude Morris and Bettina Tuerk-Rochl. Brett Hogbin from Hawkesbury River Tours ferried us across to White Horse Beach in two boat loads. It is a joy to motor along the Hawkesbury, taking in the scenery that includes masses of Sydney Red Gums (*Angophora costata*) in flower with their creamy white crowns heralding the arrival of summer.

We had originally planned to follow-up on our previous year's work at nearby Hungry Beach, but it had been burned out by a recent wildfire from an illegal camper.

From White Horse Beach we walked several hundred meters along a bush track to the work site at McGaw House Ruins, originally a two-story building lost during a 1971 bushfire, where we controlled Lantana and Peruvian Cape Ivy (*Delairea*

*odorata*) – a vigorous rhizomatous and stoloniferous vine that required treatment with the direct application of Glyphosate, and several other weed species.

There were several wildlife encounters on the day, the most memorable being a tame Swamp Wallaby and a superbly camouflaged Southern Leaf-tailed Gecko.

The warm conditions proved favourable for leeches, I removed seven from my person, one on the middle of my back that blood stained my shirt much to the horror of my coworkers. Several ticks were removed from clothing too, but nobody was bitten.

Our group accomplished a good amount of weed control and it was interesting to work at a new location. A big thanks to Jude and Bettina for being great hosts and to Brett our barge pilot who helped weed on the day.

North Sydney Council Bushcare will visit Hungry Beach next on 1 December 2024 (date change from the Bushcare calendar), contact the Bushcare Officer on 9936 8258 for further information.

Caption: Floating Landcare Volunteers at White Horse Beach - Sunday 12 November 2023 by Andrew Scott.



# WEED TO WATCH

Family: Convolvulaceae

Name: Blue Morning Glory (*Ipomoea Indica*)



Caption: Photo of Native Bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*) at Primrose Park Bushcare site by Andrew Scott, 19 February 2023.



Caption: Coastal Morning Glory (*Ipomoea cairica*) Willoughby Falls Primrose Park by Andrew Scott.



Caption: Morning Glory (*Ipomoea indica*) at Folly Point by Andrew Scott, 7 February 2024.

Native to South America but now found throughout tropical and subtropical coastal regions of the world.

Like so many beautiful but invasive weeds, Morning Glory was introduced to Australia as a garden ornamental before literally jumping the fence to become naturalised in all Australian states except, somewhat surprisingly, the Northern Territory.

Though preferring moist, enriched conditions, Morning Glory thrives in a range of environments, including coastal dunes, bushland gullies, rainforests, agricultural land, and wasteland.

In North Sydney, Morning Glory can be found along railway embankments, creek lines, and disturbed areas in bushland reserves, including Primrose Park, Tunks Park, Newlands Lane and Badangi Reserve.

As a robust, fast-growing exotic vine, Morning Glory can collapse ecosystems by rapidly smothering all vegetation layers, from ground level to canopy, destroying structural integrity and inhibiting photosynthesis and seed germination.

Stems are softly hairy and reddish when young, capable of rooting along the nodes, and often release a white sap when cut. Older stems are pale and greyish.

Leaves are softly hairy, 4-17cm long, 3-15cm wide, heart-shaped or with three deep lobes, and arranged alternately along the stem.

The eye-catching flowers are a rich violet-blue, funnel-shaped and 6-8cm across. They are produced from spring to autumn, singly or in clusters, and last only a day.

Seed is rarely produced in Australia but North Sydney's bushland staff have observed occasional seedlings locally and in the Northern Beaches area. The plant mainly spreads

vegetatively from stem fragments in dumped garden waste, along watercourses and in agricultural machinery. Plants are mildly poisonous to stock and seeds are poisonous to humans.

## Control

Anyone who has ever worked with Morning Glory infestations will attest to the persistence and patience required for complete eradication. The plant has a way of reappearing, time after time, shooting up from a rooted fragment or taunting with blue flowers on a missed canopy stem. It can be difficult to hold a boundary to worked areas of vine without a physical barrier, as re-incursions can be rapid from unworked areas.

The most effective control method largely depends on the nature of the infestation.

Hand weeding requires tracing and removal of rooted stems, removing all nodes. Canopy vines can be cut at head height (skirted) and cleared from the base of trees, leaving severed top growth to wither in the canopy. Heavy ground infestations can be slashed and raked or foliar sprayed. Vine fragments should be taken off site or rafted above ground level to dry out, not composted. Several herbicides are registered for use on Morning Glory in NSW, as a foliar spray or stem scrape application.

**Similar species:** other exotic *Ipomoea* species, notably *Ipomoea cairica* (Coastal Morning Glory) which has five lobed leaves and mauve-pink flowers.

Native Bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*) which has pink-tinged white flowers and arrow-shaped leaves, appears annually in Primrose Park and other coastal bushland reserves.

For further information, visit [weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/MorningGloryPurple](https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/MorningGloryPurple)

# GREEN EVENTS CALENDAR

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

## MARCH

- 14 **Bushcare Convenor Meeting** | Thursday 6pm to 8pm
- 14 **Frog and Fish of our Creeks Webinar** | Thursday 7pm to 8pm  
Bookings: [www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents](http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents)
- 15 **Bushwalk after Dark** | Friday 7.30pm to 9pm  
Bookings: [www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents](http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents)
- 16 **Stories of Country and Culture** | Saturday 10am to 11.30am  
Bookings: [www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents](http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents)
- 16 **Cuttings Workshop** | Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm
- 17 **Guided Bushwalk - Ferndale Park** | Sunday 9am to 12pm  
Bookings: [www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents](http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents)
- 21 **Microbat Talk** | Thursday 6.30pm to 8pm
- 21 **Bird Buddies - Lane Cove Bush Kids** | Thursday 9.45am to 11.15am  
Bookings: [www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents](http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents)
- 23 **Eucalyptus Walk & Talk** | Saturday 10am to 1pm
- 26 **Neighbourhood Brush-Turkeys Talk** | Tuesday 6pm to 7pm  
Bookings: [www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents](http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents)

## APRIL

- 6 **Growing Native Plants for Beginners** | Saturday 9am to 12pm  
Bookings: [www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents](http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents)
- 16 **Family Bush Walk** | Tuesday 10.30am to 12pm
- 17 **Family Kayak** | Wednesday 10.30am to 12pm
- 18 **Dark Skies for Wildlife - Webinar** | Thursday 6.30pm to 8pm  
Diary Dates at [www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au](http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au) or 9977 1000
- 18 **Family Spotlight Walk** | Thursday 5.30pm to 8.30pm
- 19 **Bird and Bug Hunt** | Friday 10.30am to 12pm

## MAY

- 8 **Nursery Tour - Central Coast Council** | Wednesday 7.30am to 4pm
- 11 **Remote Bushcare - Knapsack Gully** | Saturday 8am to 4pm
- 12 **Trees for Mums Day** | Sunday 9.30am to 11am
- 24-26 **Building Bridges to Boorowa** | Friday 7am to Sunday 5pm

## JUNE

- 13 **Fungi for Land webinar** | Thursday 6.30pm to 8pm
- 22 **Weaving with Weeds** | Saturday 10am to 1pm
- 23 **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Cruise** | Sunday 10am to 1pm



## Christmas Party snaps



Caption: Anne Pickles with stuffed Brush Turkey toy, a gift for her services to North Sydney Council's Wildlife Watch Program in 2023 at the Bushcare Volunteer Christmas Party at the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability on Sunday 10 December by Andrew Scott.



Caption: Participants for the bachata class at the Bushcare Volunteer Christmas Party at the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability on Sunday 10 December 2023 by George Barbouttis.



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



Visit regenTV the Australian Association of Bush regenerators video platform, view recordings of webinars, field days and forums. [www.aabr.org.au/regenTV](http://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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