

# GLENRAC

# Newsletter

Jan/Mar 2019

**GLENRAC**

Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

**GLENRAC's**  
vision is  
solutions for a  
sustainable and  
productive  
landscape.

Where to find us -  
National Parks &  
Wildlife Services  
Building, 68 Church

### Inside This Issue

- New Apps
- New Funding
- Weed update
- Funding opportunities
- Coming Events

**Legumes: Pasture**



Many Hands, One Voice



**WHITE ROCK**  
Wind Farm

## Heroes or Nitrogen Thieves?



GLENRAC & NSW Grasslands Society of NSW Northern Tablelands recently hosted a Looking at Legumes event at the Glen Innes Agricultural Research Advisory Station. The event was held to provide an opportunity for farmers to hear about current industry research and findings relating to legumes in perennial pastures.

Legumes are a critical component of our pastures and more information on how to promote persistent, productive legumes was a key interest for our audience attending from Guyra, Glen Innes, Emmaville and Armidale. Dr. Susan Orgill, NSW DPI Leader, Soils South shared recent survey findings from Southern NSW across 225 sites where legume presence and nodulation was scored, botanical composition and soil tests were completed. This survey work has revealed some interesting findings including that fact that on

20% of the sites legume plants had no nodulation and that the average nodulation score was 2.6 (out of a maximum of 8). This means many legumes are not fixing nitrogen.

Susan's advice on this is the if legumes aren't fixing Nitrogen (N) they are using it, similar to grasses in our pastures. A discussion and demonstration on how to assess legume nodulation followed. The nodulation score card is now available at the GLENRAC office. A comparative survey has not been completed for Northern NSW but it expected that our legumes would show a range in nodulation scores as well. A critical point to establish effective

nodulation is at planting. Susan recommends using a peat-based inoculant for best results and to assess plant root nodulation 8-weeks after planting. She also strongly recommended looking for a green tick logo to ensure that the product meets the Australian standards.

Locally based Research Scientist, Pastures Carol Harris gave an overview of current and future research projects for the High Rainfall Zone in NSW that will produce results that will feed into making informed decisions for local farmers into the future.

More information from this event will be available in the New Year on the GLENRAC website, [www.glenrac.org.au](http://www.glenrac.org.au)



# GLENRAC Matters

Hi GLENRAC members,

Hope you have all had a fun filled and restful time over Christmas and New Year

We have a fairly busy year ahead of us with some longer term projects coming in such as the "Protecting Little Llangothlin (Ramsar) for Future Generations project", "Gondwana Shield NLP2 Project" and the "Turning the Tide for Threatened Species - Regent Honeyeater" - all 4 plus years projects jointly run with the LLS in this area. We also have an Environmental Trust project, and Ferals in Focus that will commence shortly

Regards, GLENRAC Staff—Kylie, Lucy, Jennie & Kelly

## Project updates

### Small Farm Tree Evening Pizza and Planting

25 locals and David Caldwell from Mole River nursery enjoyed an evening looking over the Glen Industries nursery area and the trees to be planted in this current season. There was then a walk through the community garden for a feed (from the Garden) and the pizza oven—YUM. The group then convoyed out to the Fitzgeralds to view a planting preparation site and tree planting demonstration. Thanks to all who participated in a fun evening.



Glen Industries nursery and community Garden



Luke Corben



2017–2018  
Trees on small farms Project  
2018  
Tree planting

**Facebook Socially Savvy Workshops**

**GLEN INNES**  
The Club Hotel, Black & White Room  
150 Grey St Glen Innes

Bring your iPhone or iPad to the event. Limited Wi-Fi will be available.

This training will be delivered by Louise Scott from Go Social  
<https://www.louisescott.com.au>

To register visit:  
<https://www.stickytickets.com.au/778307>  
or phone 02 6732 3443

Rsvp: 21 November 2018 5:00pm

**Monday 26 November 12:30pm to 5:00pm**  
Facebook for Business & Community Groups \$20pp.  
\*Must have your Facebook account and Page already set up

**Tuesday 27 November 9:00am to 3:00pm**  
Advanced Facebook for Business & Community Groups \$20pp.  
\*For more experienced Facebook users

**Tuesday 27 November 4:00pm - 6:00pm**  
Come & Try - Introduction to iPhone/iPad Free  
\*For new or inexperienced users

**Wednesday 28 November 9:00am - 1:00pm**  
Introduction to Instagram \$20pp.

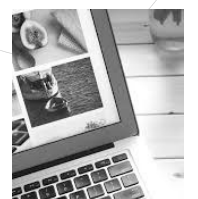
**Wednesday 29 November 2:00pm - 4:00pm**  
Come & Try - Introduction to iPhone/iPad Free  
\*For new or inexperienced users

For more information on each event visit [www.glenrac.org.au/events.php](http://www.glenrac.org.au/events.php)

About 50 people attended 5 social media events in Glen Innes towards the end of November. These workshops delivered new awareness, knowledge and skills to develop the personal and professional lives of women across the Glen Innes districts. The participants have also increased their connectedness in the community by linking up with others who attended the events.



Join GLENRAC on Facebook and Instagram



# GLENRAC and Members Successes

NSW Gould League of Bird Lovers was founded in 1910. Initially membership was considered to be for life and until 1931 child members received a large printed certificate. From 1931 to 1967 an annual certificate was issued. From 1933 adults could buy a Life Member's badge in sterling silver and a similar Honorary Life Member badge was made in gold and inscribed on the reverse with the members name and the year it was awarded.

The League began issuing annual membership badges from 1927 until 1978. Each year a different native Australian bird was beautifully depicted on the badge. Some of these birds are now endangered and rare and others have had name changes.

GLENRAC Inc. and the LLS secured funding to increase the awareness of one of these rare and endangered birds,

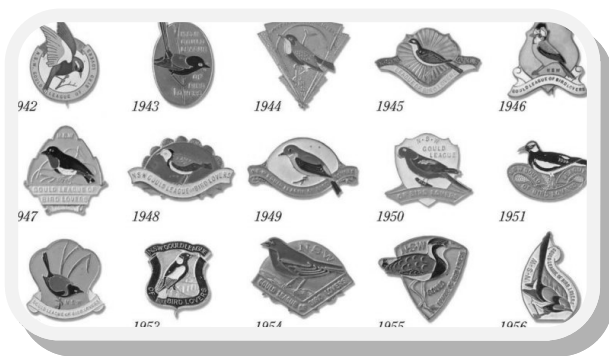
## “Turning the Tide for Threatened Species – Regent Honeyeater”

**At a national scale**, the Regent Honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*) is listed as a Critically Endangered species under the EPBC Act. Project delivery will assist the Australian Government to protect and manage key threats to a Matter of National Environmental Significance.

**At a state scale**, the species is also listed as Critically Endangered under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. Project delivery will support the contribution of the NSW State Government to secure the population of this threatened species.

**At a regional scale**, threatened species populations are a natural asset of high value to the community.

**At a local scale**, the species is iconic and attracts participants to annual local Regent Honeyeater count events.



GLENRAC is looking forward to working with our Landcare members and the wider

Community to raise community awareness of the Regent Honeyeater, its habitat, conservation status, threats and threat mitigation; build community capacity to manage threats to the species' population, its habitat and manage species habitat for species conservation; and address key threatening processes in priority areas.

We might even hold a “show and tell” for those of you with Gould League Badges - or anyone interested in birds and/or a bird group. Keep an eye on our e/flash and the community window.

## Protecting Little Llangothlin Lagoon (Ramsar Site) for Future Generations

The project will deliver priority actions that will result in:

- (1) Raised community awareness of: Ramsar wetlands; Little Llangothlin Lagoon; upland wetlands in the landscape; their conservation status; threats; and threat mitigation;
- (2) Improved community capacity to manage threats to upland wetlands and manage this TEC for conservation; and Addressing key threatening processes and knowledge gaps on site.

NPWS Ranger Koen Dijkstra examining revegetation sites at Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve for the NLP2 project.



## “Gondwana Shield NLP2 Project”

Glen Innes has World Heritage properties of Outstanding Universal Value on its door step and we will endeavour to keep these areas in the best possible condition

This project is investing in World Heritage sites within the Washpool/Gibraltar National Parks at Glen Innes. Invasive grass weed species, Lantana and Tropical Soda Apple have been identified as the major threats that either are impacting or have the ability to impact, if their spread into the National Parks is not stopped.

## “Ferals in Focus - Glen Innes”

Pest animals have been identified as a major issue for landholders across the Northern Tablelands region and as a threat to numerous threatened species and ecological communities. Pests such as rabbits, feral pigs, foxes, wild dogs and cats all have significant impacts on both the natural environment and agricultural production. This project will deliver a Pest Animal Forum bringing together land managers, both public and private land, technical experts and pest animal control practitioners from across northern NSW to share information, experience, techniques and new technologies.



## Drought Communities Programme.

### About the program

The Drought Communities Programme (DCP) supports communities in the most drought-affected regions of Australia and builds on the more than \$1.8 billion in additional Australian Government drought support measures already delivered.

### Drought Support Payments

On 26 October 2018, the Australian Government announced \$30 million in Drought Support Payments will be made available to farming households in the 81 eligible council areas facing hardship arising from the impact of drought.

Grants will be made available to a number of community and not-for-profit organisations to deliver the initiative and ensure the funding hits the ground quickly where it is most needed.

As a result of the Drought Support Payments grant, these community and not-for-profit organisations will be able to provide payments to farming households of up to \$3,000 per household. The payments could include a mix of vouchers to spend in their local communities and cash to cover urgent bills such as food, petrol and utilities to help ease the effect of drought.

The program guidelines are currently being developed and in the future will be available at [business.gov.au](http://business.gov.au). The Business Grants Hub at the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science will administer the program and grant payments to the community and not-for-profit organisations.

### Managing Farm Risk Program

The Managing Farm Risk Program is open for applications

The Managing Farm Risk Program provides rebates for advice and assessments to help farmers prepare and apply for a new insurance policy that assists with the management of drought and other production and market risks.

These one-off rebates will be for half of the costs incurred by eligible farm businesses, up to a maximum of \$2500 (GST exclusive). The rebates are not for insurance policy premiums. Insurance can significantly reduce the financial risks farmers face from production loss caused by factors beyond their control. The Australian Government understands that insurance for risks—like adverse weather, drought and fluctuating markets—can protect profits and give farmers peace of mind. But identifying and choosing suitable insurance can be challenging.

That's why the Australian Government is providing funding over four years to help farmers with

their decision making.

The Managing Farm Risk Program is part of the Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the government's plan to grow our agriculture sector for stronger farmers and a stronger economy.

### Eligibility criteria

To be eligible, farm businesses must meet the requirements of the program guidelines. You should consider whether you meet the eligibility criteria before you incur costs.

Managing Farm Risk Program guidelines are available on GrantConnect; Applicants should seek advice before deciding on any financial product, including insurance.

### Eligible activities

Eligible farm businesses can apply for a rebate of the costs of engaging suitably qualified service providers to carry out one or more of these activities:

undertaking an assessment required by an insurance provider compiling historical farm financial performance and production data analysing insurance options based on a long-term, whole-of-farm risk assessment.

Before applying for a rebate, you must have a written offer or refusal from an insurance provider for a new or additional policy covering a peril or climatic event that the farm business has not insured against within the last five years. This is limited to: multi-peril insurance products; parametric products, such as those based on rainfall or other climate factors; other single-peril products, such as fire, hail and frost insurance.

### How to apply

Go to GrantConnect, search for GO625 - Managing Farm Risk Program. Submit your completed application form following the instructions in GrantConnect.

More information

Telephone 1800 020 283

Email: [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au)

### CWA NSW Drought Aid Fund:

Assistance to meet household expenses for drought affected families, up to a **maximum of \$3,000 per family/household**. Expenses can include grocery bills, vehicle maintenance, school, electricity, rates, telephone, medical treatments etc. **Ph: 8337 0200**

### Farmer Support :

The Salvation Army is on the ground supporting families and communities affected by the droughts.

If you are currently living in a drought-affected area and would like to find out what support is available, we encourage you to reach out.

The logo for the NSW Mental Health Line. It features the text 'Mental Health Line' and '1800 011 511' in a large, bold font. Below this is the tagline 'The NSW Mental Health Line Connecting you with the right care' and '24 hour service across NSW'. A smaller note says 'Calls from landlines are free but charges may apply from mobiles.' There is an icon of a hand holding a telephone receiver. The NSW Government logo is at the bottom right.

**Mental Health Line**  
**1800 011 511**

The NSW Mental Health Line  
Connecting you with the right care  
24 hour service across NSW

Calls from landlines are free but charges may apply from mobiles.

NSW GOVERNMENT | Health





**Be Connected**  
Every Australian online.

Contact GLENRAC for more information on how to access this set of courses:

**Learn a new skill from home, or at a nearby community organisation.**

Join thousands of Australians who are taking our free courses on everything from how to access the internet, to using your device and keeping in touch with others online.

Some of the topics covered:

**The absolute basics**

This course will teach you the absolute essentials of using your device, whether it is a desktop computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone.

**Getting to know your device**

This course will teach you the basic functions of a keyboard, a mouse and a computer, including how to change settings and manage your files.

**Apps for registering sightings**



BirdLife Australia has created the Aussie Backyard Bird Count app for you to take part in Australia's first nationwide bird survey. **For one week each year near the end of October**, as part of National

Bird Week, join thousands of people as they get to know their local birds and help us discover how our birds are getting on. It only takes 20 minutes in your backyard, neighbourhood park, or favourite green patch to be a part of this exciting event. Apple and android app



The Atlas of Living Australia is the premier database for Australian biodiversity. It contains information on all the known species in Australia aggregated from a wide range of

data providers: museums, herbaria, community groups, government departments, individuals and universities.



**sunbird**

This app is a comprehensive tree app. The app describes in detail native and exotic trees and shrubs of the temperate zones of NSW especially urban trees of Sydney and surroundings. The app is a great

companion for Melbourne too, and covers many trees of Brisbane as well. The images show the full tree, bark, flower, fruit, and leaves. The idea for this app originated from our shared passion for nature in order to provide like-minded with a comprehensive and helpful tool to identify, map trees and shrubs to be of great help for all gardeners, landscape architects and biologists and nature lovers!

Pest animals cause significant damage to our environment, the economy and society. This App can be used at any time to record the location of pest animals in your local area, record the problems they are causing, and record control actions you undertake. Your records will be submitted to the FeralScan



community pest animal mapping website [www.feralscan.org.au](http://www.feralscan.org.au), to help develop and maintain an up-to-date picture of pest animals throughout your region. This information can be used to monitor populations, and to better target pests through coordinated pest control programs. Future versions of this app will include additional species, and more advanced mapping and data recording features.

The species included in this version of the application are: \* DeerScan; \* FeralFishScan; \* FoxScan; \* FeralCatScan; \* WildDogScan; \* RabbitScan; \* MouseAlert; \* FeralPigScan and \* ToadScan.

# Weed risks during drought

## WHAT IS A WEED?



From 1 July 2017, the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 was repealed and replaced with the Biosecurity Act 2015. As such the declaration status and control measure of weeds previously declared "noxious" no longer applies. The Northern Tablelands Local Land Services in conjunction with member Councils of the Northern Tablelands Regional Weed Committee have developed the Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2027 (Attachment below) which will guide the implementation of the new Act in relation to weeds. **Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2027**

It is widely accepted, that a weed is a plant that is growing out of place. They may be in a location or at a time that man considers to be inappropriate. Waldo Emerson (1964), wrote, "A weed is a plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered". The definition of a weed means different things to different people:-

Weeds are hard to eradicate, spread rapidly and may have toxic or harmful properties.

Weeds cost the Australian economy in excess of \$4 billion annually. This figure does not include any costs weeds cause to human health, or the environment, both of which have recently been recognized as being greatly affected by weeds.

Most of the serious weeds in Australia have been introduced from overseas. Some have found their way in as contamination in produce or packing material such as straw. Others have been smuggled in or introduced legitimately at first, for use as ornamental plants. Many of these plants have escaped from gardens and thrive in our conditions because none of their natural predators or diseases exist in Australia.

Plants such as rhus trees, pellitory and noogoora burr can cause serious health problems including asthma, allergies, dermatitis and conjunctivitis. Blackberry, pampas grass and aquatic plants such as water hyacinth and salvinia are ferocious invaders. In certain conditions aquatic weeds can grow so vigorously, that they can reduce oxygen

levels in the water and prevent the entry of sunlight.

Aquatic weeds stifle the growth of native trees and shrubs, block waterways and dams, are harmful to domesticated animals and indigenous wildlife and provide a haven for insects and vermin. Alligator weed has the potential to destroy the turf farming, extractive industries and water sports.

Although attractive when small, many of these species either quickly outgrow their space needing constant care or pruning - or produce large quantities of berries or seeds. They spread uncontrolled into neighbouring land, carried by birds or the wind, where the plants quickly establish at the expense of existing vegetation.

The majority of our troublesome weeds were introduced into Australia for their aesthetic value, as aquarium plants or due to previously inadequate quarantine restrictions. Once alienated from their climatic restrictions and free from predation that kept them under control in their natural environment, these plants were able to establish, thrive and become naturalised. With the urban development that followed, exotic plants were further encouraged by the increase in nutrients available to them.

Many exotic plants have become established after being accidentally released, however due to mans indifference to his environment, most infestations have occurred due to the neglect or thoughtlessness of man.

There are many ways to control unwanted weeds, and total eradication usually requires a concerted effort over a long period of time. Methods of control include hand weeding, burning, herbicides and in warmer northern areas, biological control agents. Once the weeds have been controlled it is essential to replace them with desirable species.

**NEWA: Weed Officers are on hand to assist with your noxious weed identification, management and control.**

**Visit [www.newa.com.au](http://www.newa.com.au) or Phone 6770 3602**



# Funding Opportunities and coming events

## Funding Opportunities

### Tackling Tough Times Together Grants Close 5 Feb 2019

The Tackling Tough Times Together grant program helps communities access the resources they need to support one another through the ongoing effects of the drought.

This program is designed to provide flexible funding to support community-based activities that both help to relieve current stressors and symptoms, and most importantly, build capacity and resilience for the future. Funds could also support activities that engage your local community in being proactive, exploring options and creating something that will stand the test of tough times. See the case studies below for examples of the types of projects we have funded in the past, which may provide some ideas.

Thanks to the generous support of donor partners, grants of up to \$20,000 are now available across drought-affected communities nationally. A smaller number of grants valued at up to \$60,000 and \$150,000 are also available for larger-scale and multi-year projects that have a broader impact. Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis and assessed quarterly.

### Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund Grants Close 27 February 2019

The Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund (AFTF) provides grants and loans for the enhancement, maintenance and protection of Aboriginal cultural fishing as well as for Aboriginal communities to develop businesses associated with fisheries resources throughout NSW. Read more.

### Private Native Forestry Review Submissions Close 31 January 2018

Private Native Forestry is the sustainable management of native forests on private property for timber production. It is a key resource for the NSW Forest Industry and an important land management option for many landholders.

Local Land Services is leading the review of Private Native Forestry in collaboration with the Environment Protection Authority and Department of Primary Industries. Full details and how to lodge your submission are on the North West Local Land Services website.

## “CATS” - Is your cat a predator?

“Cats hunt and prey on native species. ... Cats are widespread across Australia and pose a significant threat to small native mammals and birds. They are present in very high numbers in urban and outer-urban areas and threaten the survival of native animals in nearby bushland. Jul 29, 2018” Cats are one of the primary causes of the decline and extinction of many Australian native species over the last 200 years, including species of hopping-

mice, other small rodents, hare-wallaby, bettong, bandicoot and several species of birds.



They have had a serious impact on populations of bilby, mala and numbat. GLENRAC will be implementing cat control ideas in the next few months as this is a whole of district issue.

## NEW & FREE - WEED CONTROL HANDBOOK

GLENRAC has received the new **NSW Weed Control Handbook (7th Edition)** for distribution to interested landholders and community members. This book is a guide to weed control in non-crop, aquatic and bushland situations.

This handbook is a comprehensive guide for control options for a wide range of range of weeds, including registered chemicals and concentration and application rates for each weed.

If you'd like a copy, call in at the office to collect or you can access online [here](#).



## FREE - SHED SAFETY SIGNAGE KIT

Following the Ben Lomond Fit Farmer's event GLENRAC has accessed AWI's Shed Safety Sign Kits for local wool producers. These are a free resource but usually cost \$25 for freight to be delivered to you.

Developed and produced by the WA Shearing Industry Association (WASIA), with support from AWI, the kit meets legislative requirements in all states.

The kit includes 36 safety signs (22 different signs). The signs are printed on UV-stabilised polypropylene for durability, with pre-drilled holes for easy installation. The kit also includes guidance notes to assist in the proper location and installation of these signs.

These kits are now available, free of charge at the office. Call in to collect a kit for your wool shed.



# GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2017/18

**CHAIRMAN** - John Bavea

**VICE CHAIR** - Ian Lockwood    **TREASURER** - Sam Baker    **SECRETARY** - Tony Corcoran

## LANDHOLDER & DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Andrew Campbell, Chris Leahy, Jane Munro, Jim Benton, Mark Donovan, Mike Norton, Sandy Fitzgerald, Julie Firth.

**Glen Innes Severn Council** : TBA

**Department of Primary Industries** : Carol Harris ,

**National Parks & Wildlife Office:** Dr. Peter Croft

**Glen Innes Local Aboriginal Lands Council:** Jayden Potter

**Public Officer:** Mark Donovan

For all questions relating to GLENRAC please contact our staff at -

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Mobile 0427 325 901

email [kylie@glenrac.org.au](mailto:kylie@glenrac.org.au)

**GLENRAC**  
**PO Box 660**  
**GLEN INNES**  
**NSW 2370**



## To The Land Manager

This activity is part of the Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative



**Local Land Services**

The Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative is funded by the NSW Government, and is supported through the partnership of Local Land Services and Landcare NSW.



**Landcare**  
New South Wales



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

### Coming Events:

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 13 Feb      | A Day with Charles Massey and Colin Seis, Bingara NSLA (02) 6724 2052  |
| 14 Feb      | National Regenerative Agriculture Day- Contact GWYMAC (02) 6721 1241   |
| 15-17 Feb   | Glen Innes Show  |
| 19-20 March | Sheep CRC Final Conference, Dubbo                                      |
| 25-27 March | Certificate in Regenerative Ag Systems - Contact GWYMAC (02) 6721 1241 |
| Early April | Regent Honeyeater Workshop - Emmaville                                 |
| 19 - 20 May | National Regent survey weekend   |
| 12-13 June  | Landcare Adventure, Narrabri   |
| 5-8 Aug     | National Carbon Farming Conference and Expo, Albury NSW                |
| 22-24 Oct   | NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference, Broken Hill           |
| 1-3 Nov     | Walcha Rural Women's Gathering 2019                                    |