July / August 2015

where to find us - National Park & Wildlife Services Building, 68 Church St Office Hours- Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm

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Northern Tablelands Local Land Services Community & Partnership Grants

Information Session Wed. 15th July 1:00pm -2:00pm at the Glen Innes Services Club Applications close 14th August More information on Page 5





Local Land Services Northern Tablelands



What does Landcare mean to you?

Over the past six months we have seen a number of Landcare and related groups resume their regular meetings with a strong commitment from members to meet a regular basis rather than on a needs basis. Many local Landcare groups were initially formed in response to a need or a need to address a shared problem. A need to plant trees to counteract dieback, to improve shade and shelter, a need to control pest animals such as foxes, wild dogs or rabbits. As these needs were met the need to have regular meetings also dwindled down to a social meeting rather than a needs based meeting.

Recent GLENRAC events supported by the Australian Government's drought assistance package have highlighted the importance of the need to regular social contact and maintaining social connections within our community. Landcare groups are only one means of this happening with many families and individuals involved in a number of other community groups such as the rural fire service, local sports groups, P&C etc. However, our local Landcare groups put us in touch with our immediate community, our neighbours and neighbours of neighbours.

Landcare groups in the Glen Innes district have been traditionally geographically based e.g. Furracabad Landcare, Glencoe-Stonehenge Landcare. But there is also potential to develop interest or issue based groups to bring together people from across our district or region, for example if you have a special interest in soils or native plants or organic agriculture, a Landcare group could connect you with other people with similar interests.

Landcare is defined by its members and the needs of its members. The health of Landcare depends on its members and their willingness to be counted as landcarers. What is a landcarer? Are you interested in improving your environment? Are you interested in sustainable agriculture? You are a landcarer.

GLENRAC staff are available to help new and existing Landcare groups to function effectively, assist with the promotion and running of meetings and events, development project proposals, writing grant applications and project management. If you would like to get more involved with Landcare in our local district contact GLENRAC and become a member, join your local group or start a new group!

GLENRAC PO Box 660 NPWS Building 68 Church Street GLEN INNES NSW 2370 Tel: 02 6732 3443 Mob: 0427 325 901 e-mail: glenrac@glenrac.org.au Web: www.glenrac.org.au

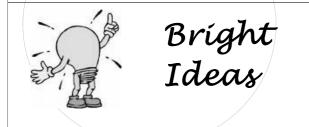
GLENRAC News

Hello All,

Winter is well and truly upon us. It's been great to see so many of our members and other interested community members and groups at recent events such as the Grasslands/MLA Pasture Update, Key beef production workshops, Ian Plowman's Cooperative Conversations Workshop, the recent Pasture walk with Jeff Lowein and Mick Duncan discussing pasture pest insects and the Biannual Landcare Adventure in Tamworth—congratulations to **Tony and Barb Hollis for winning the "Innovation in Sustainable Farming Practices" category**.

The Northern Tablelands Local Lands services have announced two new funding streams with more details to come—see page 5 for available information.

Our GLENRAC e/flash is proving to be the best way to keep in contact with news & opportunities available to landholders both locally and across the Northern Tablelands. To find out how to subscribe contact the GLENRAC office on 02 6732 3443 or office@glenrac.org.au . Regards, GLENRAC staff Kylie, Lucy, Tanya, Pam & Jennie



New Farm Diversity website

Farm diversification is the introduction of a new business activity to generate another source of farmbased income. Although the primary driver for diversifying is to generate income, other benefits of diversifying include:

- •Spreading income risk
- •Improved use and management of land
- Developing opportunities for future growth
 Creating opportunities for family involvement (including for succession planning)
- •Creating renewed interest in the farm business
- •Visit http://www.farmdiversity.com.au/

Rural Crime

Rural crime costs millions of dollars every year. Theft of livestock, produce and equipment, illegal shooting, trespassing and other crimes affect people's livelihood and well-being.

NSW Police Force needs the community's help to identify people involved in rural crime. With a statewide network of experienced and dedicated Rural Crime Investigators, they can work with rural communities to prevent and solve these crimes.

You can also report knowledge of rural crime anonymously to **Crime Stoppers - 1800 333 000**

You can look up a list of **Farm Security Tips** online at www.police.nsw.gov.au look under crime prevention.



Field Crop Herbicide Guide (2015) Kondinin Group– Version 9 is your complete guide to herbicides on-farm with updated information on new and existing herbicides including specific weed control, crop suitability and application advice. Order from www.kondiningroup.com or call 1800 677 761. Cost \$115.50 + P&H

Rural Living Handbook (NEW & Free online) This practical handbook brings together some of the significant issues you will face as a rural landowner or land manager in our community. It also gives contact details of people, websites and organisations that provide support to rural landowners. To download visit <u>www.centralwest.lls.nsw.gov.au and go to Resource</u> <u>Hub / Publications</u>

Noxious weeds handbook (2014) NSW DPI have recently updated and released their latest noxious and environmental weeds control handbook. Refer to it for the most up-to-date information on controlling weeds. Available to download free of charge 2.6MB at http:// www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds/ publications/noxious-enviro-weed-control

Cooperative Conversations—GLENRAC purchased this book at Ian Plowman's recent workshop in Armidale. It will be donated to the Glen Innes Severn Library. If you would like your own copy it costs \$70 + P&H and can be ordered directly from Ian at www.plowman.com.au

Weeds

Submitted by Graham Price,

Director Development, Regulatory & Sustainability Services

THE NEED TO CONTROL PRIVET

Health Affects

Privet can produce serious allergic reactions to many people which occur commonly during spring and early summer when privets produce masses of flowers. Allergy-like symptoms such as asthma, hay fever and irritation of mucous membranes affect some people and in extreme cases can cause hospitilisation.

Privet berries and leaves have also been reported by oversees sources to be poisonous to humans and livestock if ingested; however no known cases have been reported in Australia.

It is important to be a considerate neighbour and control Privet infestations so as to limit the health concerns associated with privets.

Land Owners/ Mangers and Council's Obligations

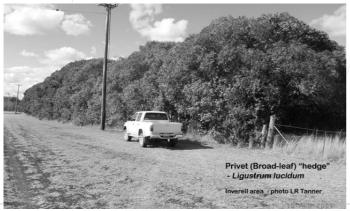
For large infestations allowances have been provided for a gradual eradication process:

The extent of the infestation must be reduced by a minimum of 25% annually. This allowance will be determined by the inspecting Council officer.

Due to limited resources Council will only carry out inspections after lodgement of a complaint or upon an owner's request. Council will conduct media and information releases as per the Council guidelines and there will also be information pamphlets available.

Under the provisions of the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* Privet will be required to be controlled on both private and public land, including road sides.

The Noxious Weeds Act 1993 makes provision for compliance. This will be achieved through property inspections, the issuing of Penalty Infringement Notices, fines and undertaking court proceedings when necessary for non compliance. Privet can be controlled Chemically, Manually, Mechanically and by Hedging.



Key Beef Production workshops across the Tablelands

Submitted by John Francis, Holmes & Sackett

John Francis of Holmes Sackett recently delivered a series of beef production workshops across the Northern Tablelands including Tenterfield, Glen Innes, Guyra, Inverell and Bingara.

The aim of the workshops was to:

- Provide background about why production is important.
- Demonstrate the feed supply curve and how timing of operations can influence feed demand at different times of the year.
- Demonstrate how feed intake changes based on the stage of the reproductive cycle and how this impacts the number of livestock that can be managed per hectare.
- Show how changes in time of calving and time of turn off (systems) can influence profitability.

Also presented on the day were tips on how to use a range of websites which assist in understanding current and historical pasture growth.

The key message for the day was that the key to improving productivity was not necessarily to produce more feed but to better utilise the feed already produced.

The amount of feed produced will differ between farms based on the physical resource base and location amongst other things. Participants were provided with tools to compare the feed demand of their own production systems against the feed supply to assess whether there was opportunity to make improvements.

Website Links

Look at the Meat & Livestock Australia website, www.mla.com.au under *Extension*, *Training & Tools* for more information on

- More Beef from Pastures
- Under Tools & Calculators for information on-
- Stocking rate calculator
- Feed budget and rotation planner

The **Pastures from Space** program provides estimates of pasture production during the growing season by means of remote sensing. To access this tool <u>www.pasturesfromspace.csiro.au</u>

These workshops were supported by funding from Carers NSW, The Ascent Group as part of the Australian Government's drought assistance package and from Meat & Livestock Australia's More Beef From Pastures programme.

Webinars-What's the Fuss?

GLENRAC regularly promotes webinar events on our e/ flash and in our newsletter. But we realise not everyone is a regular user of computer technology so we thought we'd take the opportunity to tell you some more about webinars and why they might be of interest to you.

What is a Webinar?

Short for **Web-based seminar**, a webinar is a presentation, lecture, workshop or meeting that is transmitted over the web so you can "attend" without physically leaving home. Just like face-to-face education, webinars offer opportunities for people to learn, ask questions and share experiences and ideas with others.

How do I participate?

All you'll need is an Internet connection and a computer you can hear sound through. The type of computer or operating system you use doesn't matter. A reliable internet connection is required, however some satellite services will support the program.

It's a good idea to visit the webinar site a few days before the scheduled session to make sure you have the appropriate software and web connection. Then, just click the link to the webinar's virtual room about 15 minutes before the start time.

The really good news is that most webinars are free to attend. This means you can avail yourself to the most up to date information without leaving home. No travel time, no accommodation costs!

If you see an advertised webinar that is related to natural resource management/ agriculture GLENRAC has the facilities to host a webinar event in town. If you are interested call the office and we may be able to host the webinar at our office for you or a group of interested people.

Some upcoming webinar events for your interest-

National Rural Women's Coalition run a free monthly inspirational webinar event called "The Cuppa with". Each webinar lasts for one-hour. This months is A Cuppa With Kath Mazella on the topic "Not So Secret Women's Business - *live collaborative discussion*", Thursday 9th July 2015, starts 7.45 pm for a 8.00 pm start until 9.30pm AEST

You can subscribe to a free newsletter from the NRWC by visiting

their website at <u>www.nrwc.com.au</u>



Sheep Connect have pre-recorded webinars available to be viewed to at any time that suits you. Visit www.sheepconnectnsw.com.au and look under **Re**sources. There are currently 3 webinars available.

- 1. 'Plan Ahead—Save Lambs' provides the latest information Dr. Gordon Refshauge, Sheep Research Officer on pre-lambing management and lamb survival.
- 2. 'Will feed lotting pay?' Presented by Geoff Duddy (Sheep Solutions) provides helpful information on the do's and don't's of feedlot rations.
- 3. **"Scanning for success"** Presented by Chris Shands (Chris Shands Rural) provides participants with practical information on the importance and benefits of scanning as a tool to lift lamb survival.

You can subscribe for free to the Sheep Connect NSW newsletter by subscribing on their home page.



Department of Primary Industries

NSW DPI host a monthly Soils Network of Knowledge webinar. This months webinar is "What happens to carbon in the soil after biochar is applied?" presented by Zhe Weng) on the 9th of July at 9:30am. Han received the prize for best presentation by an under 35 year old for this presentation at the National Soil Science Conference in Melbourne in November 2014. To subscribe for their webinar updates email abigail.jenkins@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

On-farm biosecurity – what you need to know to protect your livelihood

Meat & Livestock Australia & Livestock Biosecurity Network will host a webinar on Jul 21, 2015 at 12:00 PM AEST. To hear more about how you can manage the risks to your property, register for this informative webinar lead by Emma Rooke of the Livestock Biosecurity Network.

Having an effective on-farm biosecurity plan will provide immediate and ongoing returns including reducing your chances of introducing important economic diseases to your livestock including Johne's disease, footrot, lice, multi-resistant worms, CAE and pestivirus.

To register go to the MLA website, <u>www.mla.com.au</u> and look under Events. If you have any questions or require more information contact Julie Petty



information contact Julie Petty of Meat MLA on 0411 680 516 or jpetty@mla.com.au

Funding on offer for sustainable agriculture & natural resource projects

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services is inviting innovative landholders, community members and groups to take advantage of a new round of funding on offer for projects that invest in the long term sustainability of agriculture and improve the management of natural resources.

Small Community Grants and On-ground Partnership Grants are available through the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services 'Trees on Farms', 'Healthy Rivers', 'Sustainable Agriculture' and 'Resilient People' programs, with funding from the National Landcare Programme and NSW Catchment Action.

Small Community Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to support training events, field days and workshops, to increase knowledge, leadership, and community participation in improved natural resource management and sustainable agriculture. Up to \$10,000 is available for Aboriginal cultural heritage protection and knowledge sharing projects.

Expressions of Interest for On-ground Partnership Grants are also being sought for projects that:

- protect rivers and creeks,
- provide alternative water sources to reduce stock damage to environmentally sensitive areas,
- plant native vegetation for shade and shelter,
- bring back paddock trees,
- manage and restore threatened species habitat,
- protect bushland, and
- restore river health.

Projects that extend across more than one property are encouraged and receive a higher weighting when being assessed compared to standalone projects. The more landholders, (either neighbouring or sharing a common locality or issue) the greater the weighting.

Applications for Small Community Grants, and Expressions of Interest for On-ground Partnership Grants are now open and will close on Friday 14 August 2015.

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services can provide advice to help individuals or groups to develop their project ideas and can assist in preparing Expressions of Interest for On-ground Partnership Grants and applications for Small Community Grants.

Details are available on the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services website at: www.northerntablelands.lls.nsw.gov.au.

For more information contact Northern Tablelands Local Land Services in Inverell on: 02 6720 8300.

GLENRAC staff will be available every Wednesday to assist with grant applications. Please call our office on 02 6732 3443 or email office@glenrac.org.au to make an appointment



Local Land Services Northern Tablelands

Grant Information Session - Wednesday 15th July 1:00pm to 2:00pm

GLENRAC will host an information session on Wednesday 15th July at the Glen Innes & District Services Club, Remembrance Room, for interested land managers and community groups. A representative from NT LLS will present information on these new grants and be on hand to answer any questions.

If you would like to attend, an RSVP by the 14th July would be appreciated for printing purposes. Phone 02 6732 3443 or email glenrac@glenrac.org.au

PASTURE UPDATE - FOLLOW UP INFORMATION

Further to a recent e/flash on UNE's **Precision Agri**culture Research Group, have a link to PA Source as a free farm mapping software to produce digital maps. For more information and a step-by-step guide how to access and use PA source go to www.une.edu.au and search for Precision Ag.

Land satellite data is also available from PA Source on an annual subscription basis. Refer to "Services and Pricing" tab once you log-in.

Improving land with livestock

Dr Judi Earl is hosting a field day at 'Glen Orton', 3843 Warialda Rd, Coolatai on Friday 17th of July. Judi will discuss how the principles of holistic management have been applied at Glen Orton, and how she has taken on the challenges of regenerating degraded land by using planned grazing. Topics covered will include: managing Coolatai grass; improving soil health; low cost fencing and water; and feed supplements.

The day will include additional presentations from Glenn Morris, Philippa Morris and Alex Duddy. The field day will cost \$30 for advance bookings by 13th July, or \$40 on the day. For more information or to register, go to <u>www.glenorton.com.au/events</u> or phone Judi on 0409 151 969.

Plan before you plant

It's easy to say with hindsight 'it wasn't a good idea' but we all see many farm tree plantings that have had to be severely trimmed for safety as they have been planted under power lines.

The right trees in the right place provide shade, privacy, wildlife habitat and help prevent erosion. The wrong trees planted near power lines can become a safety hazard to the local environment and property, and may impact the reliability of your power supply.

Essential Energy has a guide available with a list of trees unsuitable for planting near power lines. Visit their website <u>www.essentialenergy.com.au</u> and look under **Vegetation Management** for a comprehensive guide.

Recent Library Donations

GLENRAC has recently donated the following resources to the Glen Innes library:

Habits Aren't Just for Nuns, Robyn Pulman 2010, 223 pp. Timeless wisdom to take control of your life, your career and your relationships, focusing on everyday events, people and circumstances you will relate to.

Outback Wisdom from a City Slicker, Robyn Pulman 2013, 168 pp. Moving to the outback from a lifetime in cities, Robyn captured her own often humorous and sometimes painful lessons gleaned in her outback world and skilfully applied them to the human zoo.

Mate Helping Mate, John Harper 2006 DVD and Mate Helping Mate, John Harper 2012 CD. These follow John's journey with depression, and he discusses how it damaged his physical health, business and personal relationships, and how he managed to overcome it and help others along the way.

Tropical grasses (2nd edition), Harris et al. 2015 89 pp. A compilation of agronomic information and research on tropical grasses including establishment and management.

Welcome to New Wild Dog Facilitator

Dave Worsley has been appointed as the Wild Dog Facilitator for the north-east of NSW, based at Armidale, to help coordinate management of wild dogs across that region. Dave will work with wool and other livestock producers, public land managers, indus-



try bodies, government departments and other stakeholders in reducing the impact of wild dog predation on livestock.

Dave already has well developed networks in the area and has extensive knowledge of wild dogs and pest animal control. He is currently on the Board of the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and is Chairman of Gwymac Landcare.

Over the past 20 years he has been extensively involved in wild dog control on the Northern Tablelands and has been President of the Nullamanna Wild Dog Society for the past 11 years. He has also worked as a rural trainer and facilitator and manages a 7500 acre sheep and cattle farm near Inverell.

This position is funded by AWI and managed by the Invasive Animals CRC in partnership with AWI, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, NSW Farmers and local Landcare.

David's work will complement the IA CRC's National Wild Dog Facilitator position and AWI-funded wild dog coordinators currently operating in western NSW, Victoria and Queensland. Dave can be contacted at dave.worsley@invasiveanimals.com or 0429 638 078.

NEW Wild Dog Scan App

The Invasive Animals CRC have recently released an app for smartphone to quickly and easily records wild dog activity. David Worsley attended the Glen East Landcare meeting on the 30th of June and demonstrated how easily this app could be used to capture information on wild dog activity including sightings, tracks, scats and kills.

An additional benefit is that you can also view wild dog activity in your local area online as recorded by other land managers.

Download the App from the Apple Store <u>https://</u> itunes.apple.com/au/app/

field-guide-to-pest-animals/ id634197149?mt=8

For more information on this and other related apps, visit <u>www.feral.org.au</u>.



Events and Opportunities

NSW Landcare Conference	Subsidised Training now available
The 2015 NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Confer- ence will be held from the 1 - 3 September, at Turners Vineyard in Orange, NSW. Early bird registration rates close 31st July.	RuralBiz Training is currently offering the Diploma of Agriculture and the Advanced Diploma of Agriculture to students in the New England and North West region, un- der subsidy from the NSW Government.
The Conference is being hosted by Landcare NSW and Central Tablelands Local Land Services, and is being co- ordinated in partnership with local Landcare and com- munity groups and the Department of Primary Indus- tries.	Under the NSW Smart and Skilled program (<u>https://smartandskilled.nsw.gov.au</u>) the subsidy pays around half of the full tuition fees for the qualification representing a saving to students of approximately \$4500.
This conference is the premier event to showcase sus- tainability, Landcare and volunteering across NSW and includes the annual Landcare Muster and the NSW State Landcare Awards. The theme for the Conference is 'From the Ground Up' - Celebrating the International Year of Soil.	All training is designed to be completed in your own time and on-line, eliminating the need to leave the farm to attend classes. There is a choice of livestock, crop- ping or business units to study, providing farmers with opportunities to improve their business and management skills at a greatly reduced cost.
For more information or to register visit www.nswlandcareconference.com.au or call 02 6650 9800.	Contact Melinda on 02 6884 8812 for more information or go to the website <u>www.ruralbiztraining.com.au</u>
	Win with sheep parasites
2015 Honour Roll - nominate a rural woman volunteer Hidden Treasures acknowledges the important volunteer roles women play within NSW rural communities. It is not an award, but provides a platform to pay tribute to rural women volunteers who donate their time and en- ergy to help others.	ParaBoss News is a free monthly e-newsletter provid- ing state and regional updates on worms, flies and lice, feature articles on controlling sheep parasites and a quick 3-question quiz to test your knowledge. Go to <u>www.paraboss.com.au</u> and choose SUBSCRIBE. New subscribers to ParaBoss News (or updated current subscriptions) in June or July 2015 will go into a draw for great prizes. Spend a few minutes and you could
Nominating a rural woman for the <i>Hidden Treasures</i> <i>Honour Roll</i> is a great way to celebrate rural women from across New South Wales who give so much of their time to improving our communities and neighbourhoods.	win–Riverina Pasture Supplements: 1 x \$850 prize or ACTA Mouseoff® BD Rodent Block 9 kg Pail: 4 x \$220 priz- es or Allflex Products: 4 x \$220 prizes.
You can nominate a friend, family member, colleague, community worker - any rural woman who you believe makes your community a better place to live. To nomi- nate a Hidden Treasures volunteer you simply need to complete the Nomination Form and tell us a short 'story' about why your nominee is worthy. All rural women nominated will be included in the Honour Roll. Online nominations for the 2015 Honour Roll are open and close 31 July 2015. To download a nomination form go to www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn or contact GLENRAC and we can post a hard copy out to you. For information or if you need as- sistance with your nomination call the Rural Women's Network on 02 6391 3433 or email:	GWYMAC to host Graeme Sait workshop Gwymac Inc. the Landcare network in Inverell is of- fering this 4-day fully accredited Nutrition Farming certificate course delivered by Graeme Sait of Nutri- Tech Solutions in September. If this course interests you we suggest you book early online at <u>https://</u> <u>nutritionfarming-inverell15.eventbrite.com.au</u> or phone Gwymac on 026721 1241. Early bird pricing is available for bookings made prior to 8th August. This project is jointly funded through Gwymac Inc., Inverell Community Garden and the Australian Gov-
rural.women@dpi.nsw.gov.au	ernment's National Landcare Programme's 25th Anni- versary Landcare Grants.

GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2014/15

CHAIRMAN - Jim Benton VICE CHAIRMAN /- John Bavea

TREASURER - Sam Baker

SECRETARY - Jeff Lowien

LANDHOLDER & DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Greg Chappell, Tony Holliss, Jane Munro, Desmond FitzGerald, Mike Norton, Norman Whitaker, Geoff Coldham, Gordon Wollen

Glen Innes Severn Council : Graham Price or Ian Trow & Col Price

Department of Primary Industries : Carol Harris , National Parks & Wildlife Office: Peter Croft Northern Tablelands Local Land Services: Rob Munro Glen Innes Local Aboriginal Lands Council: Karen Potter Public Officer: John Brien

For all questions relating to GLENRAC please contact our staff at -68 Church Street (PO Box 660) GLEN INNES NSW 2370 Ph: (02) 6732 3443 Mobile 0427 325 901 email kylie@glenrac.org.au

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

To The Land Manager





Local Land Services Northern Tablelands



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

Coming Events:

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14 July	GLENRAC 'How to use a GPS' workshop Ph 02 6732 3443	
15 July	Get "Onboard" with Organic Agriculture workshop, Grafton 02 6643 5009	
15 July	GLENRAC hosted Information Session on NT LLS Grants 02 6732 3443	
17 July	Field day at 'Glen Orton' with Dr. Judi Earl, Coolatai Ph	
23 & 24 July	Soil Science Australia workshop, 'Current Issues in Soil Science' Moree Ph 0407 990 613	
29th July	On Farm- Low Stress conversations, Jen Haberecht Rural 02 67363500	
31 July	Closing date for Hidden Treasures Nominations	~
14 August	Closing date for NT LLS Community & On Ground Partnership Grants	1
1-3 Sept.	NSW Landcare Conference, Orange "From the Ground Up" Celebrating	
	International Year of Soil 02 6368 7872	٦
7-10 Sept	NTS Nutrition Farming Certificate with Graeme Sait Ph 02 6721 1241	•
7-8 Nov.	National Biological Farming Conference & Expo, Lismore NSW Women For All Season	15
For more information on any of these events, including contact details		com
visit the GLENRAC website, www.glenrac.org.au ⁸		