

GLENRAC

Newsletter

July /Sept 2017

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

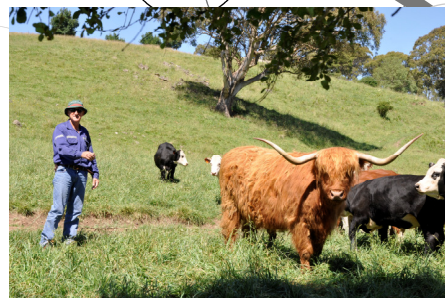
Inside This Issue

- Good news
- Workshop updates
- New Books
- War on waste
- Renewable Energy
- Funding opportunities
- Coming Events

New Chair of GLENRAC

GLENRAC welcomes John Bavea back as Chair of our committee of management.

The GLENRAC committee of management oversees the organisation's direction, its governance, and works with management to develop and execute the strategic plan. Our Board members offer a range of skills including finance, legal and risk management, government relations, business, agribusiness, and environment and water management. This is a voluntary committee and we thank all members for their time and commitment.



New @ GLENRAC



FOLLOW US ON

Instagram



Glen Innes
Natural Resources
Advisory Committee



Local Land
Services
Northern Tablelands



Local Land
Services

National Landcare Programme Community Grants NOW OPEN

Grants available for amounts
from \$ 2,000 to \$ 8,000
for projects that build community resilience

Applications close
Monday, 16th October 2017 at 5:00pm

For more information visit
www.glenrac.org.au
or Phone: 02 6732 3443



National
Landcare
Programme



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

GLENRAC Matters

Hello GLENRAC members,

Thanks to all of you who have been supporting us at events, on email and on the phone in the last few months. It has been a very busy time for us in the office and out at events.

Our AGM was very well attended this year as we welcome in a new Chair—John Bavea, some new faces on the committee of management and farewell our long standing public officer—John Brien.

There are many events coming up—see back page, and various funding opportunities as well as other information peppered throughout the newsletter.

We thank you again for your encouragement to us to be part of the “Solution for a sustainable and productive landscape”

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

GLENRAC Workshops

GLENRAC celebrates our Threatened Species Day 11th Sep 2017

GLENRAC hosted two events to celebrate National Threatened Species Day on Thursday 7th September 2017. The first event was focussed on understanding the ecology and behaviour of the Indian Myna Bird to effectively control its population in our landscape. These birds are intelligent, aggressive and not afraid of humans which makes control challenging!



The second event was an information evening titled ‘Save Our Threatened Species’. This year our keynote speaker was University of New England PhD student, Sophie Collins. Her project will review by ground truthing survey work completed 40

years ago across the New England and will document the presence of frog species found over the next two years with the findings from field work completed 40 years past. The information evening also featured Dr. Mahri Koch, Chair of the Community Consultative Committee for the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area and Peta Perrin, Glen Innes High School who spoke on the school’s proposed Eco-Garden and how that will link with local threatened species including the Boorolong Frog. Both events were supported by Landcare NSW and Regional Australia Bank.



World Heritage Gondwana Rainforests <https://www.facebook.com/NSWNationalParks/videos/1678624735513118/>

Focus on Feral Animals 24th Aug 2017

An impressive line up of speakers as outlined below featured at GLENRAC’s Pest Animal Forum highlighting current research being undertaken across a range of pest animal species, control techniques and the impact of pest animals on farm biosecurity.

Dr Guy Ballard, NSW Department of Primary Industries, has been working on wild dog research, amongst other things, for a number of years across northern NSW. He shared a wealth of knowledge and experience in wild dog ecology and movements and how this impacts oneffective control programs.

Darren Marshall, QLD Murray Darling Committee, is currently working with Northern Tablelands Local Land Services on a project to monitor feral pigs on the tablelands and slopes. **Paul Meek**, NSW Department of Primary Industries, is considered the guru of the use of monitoring cameras in pest animal control. **Troy Crittle**, NSW

Department of Primary Industries, is a jack of all pest animals. With deer an increasing problem for landholders across the

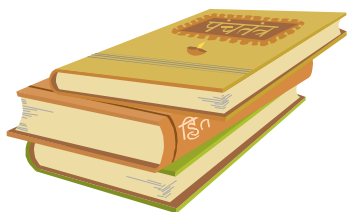


Northern Tablelands Troy talked about legislation, control and research.

Nigel Brown, District Veterinarian with Northern Tablelands LLS, brings extensive hands-on experience in clinical practice, meat and dairy production, food safety and security, and emergency management. **Dave Worsley**, North East Wild Dog Facilitator, has been working with landholders and state agencies to increase the effectiveness of wild dog control programs across the Northern Tablelands with a focus on the Feral Scan app and how it can be used as a monitoring tool.

“These speakers bought the best of knowledge to landholders of the district, it was a rare opportunity to hear from such a line up” said GLENRAC Project Manager, Jennie Coldham.

New Books



Australasian Eagles and Eagle-like Birds



Stephen Debus

Paperback - August 2017 - AU \$49.95

An illustrated record of sea-eagles, harpy eagles, booted eagles and eagle-like hawks in Australasia.

ISBN: 9781486306923 | 192 pages | 245 x 170 mm

Publisher: CSIRO Publishing

Managing Climate

Risk on Your Farm

AgGuide Series

NSW Department of Primary Industries

Distills the vast array of information about weather and climate into some key principles.

This book explains daily and seasonal weather events; discusses the drivers of weather and climate and reviews the longer term complex scientific models that measure and monitor our variable climate and describes how to manage the risks that weather and climate present to your business.

Distills the vast array of information about weather and climate into some key principles. This book explains daily and seasonal weather events; discusses the drivers of weather and climate and reviews the longer term complex scientific models that measure and monitor our variable climate and describes how to manage the risks that weather and climate present to your business.

\$ 25.00

ISBN: 9781742569895 |

90 pages | 297 x 210 mm

Publisher: NSW

Department of Primary Industries



New Myna Traps

to borrow from GLENRAC

Call us 6732 3443 or call around to the office 68 Church St



Did we fix Dieback?

David Carr

<http://armidaletreegroup.org.au/wp-content/uploads/ATG-NEWSLETTER-Spring-2017.pdf>



Look familiar? You need to attend this workshop!

Implementing Office Technology

**Thursday
12th Oct
9:00am—
3:00pm
Club Hotel—
Rose Room**

GLENRAC will host Julia Telford to present a one day workshop. Pick the day that suits you best. Places are limited

**Friday 13th
Oct
9:00am—
3:00pm
Sale Yards
Canteen**

This will be an fun and interactive workshop

Topic covered will include:

- Reduce office time
- Office design and essential equipment
- Email management
- Online finances and filing
- Keeping records
- Going paperless
- Communication and farm meetings

Event Partners



Department of Primary Industries



BOOK EARLY—COST \$20PP INC. ALL MEALS & COURSE MATERIALS. For more details contact GLENRAC 6732 3443



Have you completed your biosecurity farm plan?

<http://>

northerntablelands.lis.nsw.gov.au/resource-hub/publications

Trees as weed barriers— Ideas for the future

Janelle Jenkins— Invasive plants are a significant threat to agricultural production and the long-term sustainability of the environment and rural communities. Establishing barrier plantings of native vegetation can reduce the spread of priority weeds across public and private land, mitigating the threat these weeds pose to sustainable production and protect the natural resource base. Established corridors of native vegetation reduce incursions of weeds from public and private land onto productive agricultural and areas of valuable native vegetation.

Planting new native vegetation corridors of 30m wide adjacent to areas that have been identified as being under pressure from problem and noxious weeds including weed species such as, but not exclusive to, serrated tussock, Chilean needle grass, coolatai grass and African love grass.. These barriers can assist protection of agricultural land and areas.

Around the Farm

FARM WASTE MANAGEMENT

Good waste management on farms is essential to ensure a healthy, safe and productive farming enterprise. Farmers have obligations under legislation to ensure that their wastes do not impact on the environment. Inappropriate disposal of wastes on farms can cause contamination, pollution and increase your liability.

WHY IS WASTE MANAGEMENT AN ISSUE?

'Clean and green' agriculture is of increasing importance in the marketing of Australian produce, both domestically and overseas.

Appropriate management of farm wastes can benefit

your farm by preventing:

- contamination impacting property value
- contamination of the land and water on your farm
- breeding sites for disease spreading mosquitos, pest animals and predators
- contamination of produce
- stock injury, disease or death
- offensive odours
- large penalties and clean-up costs from poor waste management.

Access to alternative disposal and recycling programs

now provides farmers with more options for dealing with their waste.

EPA encourages waste disposal options in the following order of preference:

- * **Avoid or reduce the production of wastes**
- * **Reuse and recycle wastes whenever possible**
- * **Treat wastes where appropriate**
- * **Dispose of wastes only where permitted**

www.epa.vic.gov.au/waste/iwdb

Put it in your Biosecurity Plan



GET READY FOR UPCOMING BUSHFIRE SEASON

AFTER the driest winter in 15 years, Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall is encouraging all residents who live near bushland and areas prone to grass fires, to start preparing for the season ahead.

Mr Marshall said last summer the State experienced some of the worst bushfire conditions on record and after a very dry winter, and with bushfire season approaching, the region was again facing very challenging conditions. When preparing for the bush fire danger period there are a few simple steps you can take to make sure you are fire ready, including:

- trimming overhanging trees and shrubs;
- mowing your lawn and removing all the cut grass;
- removing flammable materials from around your home (eg. door mats, wood piles, mulch, leaves, paint, outdoor furniture);
- clearing and removing all the debris and leaves from gutters; and
- ensuring you have a hose or hoses that can cover the perimeter of your home.

Last month more than 2,200 fires burned across NSW.

You can download a Bushfire Survival Plan at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/resources/bush-fire-survival-plan

R U OK?

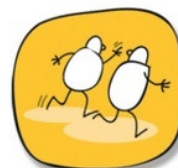
Simple steps that can change a life



1. Ask



2. Listen



3. Encourage
action



4. Check in

How do I encourage more birds on my farm?

- **Plan and manage for a variety of habitats on your farm**—different species occur in different areas.

Encourage a wide variety of bird life with pastures at different stages of recovery from grazing, crops, large patches of timber, scattered trees, well vegetated creeks and streams, some dams fenced off for clean water, and one or two large dams for larger waterbirds.



- **Revegetate new areas to increase habitat**—remember to use trees and shrubs, and allow regeneration of native grasses and forbs. Dense, shrubby windbreaks and corridors support the smaller insectivores and can

encourage their pest control services back out across cleared or dieback-affected open country.

Research has found some declining woodland bird species in planted windbreaks and revegetated corridors. This means that landholders are putting back habitat suitable for these species.

The possibility that woodland birds facing extinction in drier woodlands further west, will have a home on New England wool properties long into the future gives cause for optimism. Few national parks or nature reserves occur in the intensively developed parts of New England, so that bird conservation will be largely dependent on Landholders.

The potential to increase woodland birds in the New England landscape is a worthy goal for the regional rural community.

https://snelandcare.org.au/landwaterwool/FS1_Birds.pdf

http://www.glenrac.org.au/admin/files/resources/1327452818_birds_in_backyards_brochure.pdf

Guidelines for encouraging birds on farms

Contributed by Ruth Tremont, Citizens Wildlife Corridors Inc, Armidale

Experiments on the New England Tablelands have indicated that under natural condition, native birds remove 55-75% of these insects from farm trees.

Without birds, farm trees become sick and die. Once affected by dieback, trees are less attractive to birds and so declining bird diversity and numbers, and failing tree health are compounded. Birds also eat

large numbers of pasture grubs, grasshoppers and other insect pests.

The greater the diversity of birds on a farm, the more diverse and healthy are the trees, shrubs, pastures, vertebrate and invertebrate fauna and whole biological systems. Many people wonder whether tree-planting and Landcare type activities are bringing birds back into the rural landscape. The answer is yes. The community-based Birds on Farms Survey and a CSIRO survey or Greening Australia has given us some guiding principles for bird friendly management of native vegetation on farms and across the rural landscape.

How much tree cover does a farm need? A minimum of 30 per cent continuous (rather than scattered) tree cover is needed across the farm, of which at least is 10 per cent is local native trees and shrubs and some are on richer soils.

Are understory shrubs important? Patches of farm trees should have at least 20-30 per cent cover of local shrub species within each patch. There is a 20-30 per cent increase in bird diversity where dense, shrubby understory vegetation occurs on farms and understory shrubs help prevent spread of eucalypt dieback and Noisy Miners.

How big does a patch of trees and shrubs need to be, and what shape? Patches of farm trees need to be at least 6ha (preferably > 10ha) to survive and be useful in the rural landscape. Patches should be round or square rather than long. The more diverse the plant species are the better.

How far apart should patches of farm trees and shrubs be?

Patches of trees should be not more than 400 metres apart. Bird diversity is greater in patches of trees that are clumped together, rather than spread across the farm. The effects of isolation are strongest on farms with less than 20 per cent tree cover. Small foliage gleaning (insect eating) birds and migratory birds are 15 per cent more diverse in patches of farm trees surrounded by other trees and foliage gleaners are 14 per cent less common in isolated patches of farm trees - helping explain increased levels of eucalypt dieback at such sites.

How important are old trees and fallen trees?

Very. One in five bird species requires nest hollows (which take more than 100 years to form) and old trees produce leaf litter and fallen branches.

Where should trees and shrubs be planted?

Aim to make small patches of existing native trees and shrubs larger (at least 6-10ha). Attempt to regenerate trees and shrubs naturally before planting. Bird diversity is up to 20.5 per cent greater at sites where trees have regenerated naturally rather than being planted.

How long before birds will use farm tree and shrub plantings?

Bird diversity increases significantly in planted trees after about 7 years, Ground-foraging birds become more diverse in planted areas after 20 years.



Weed update

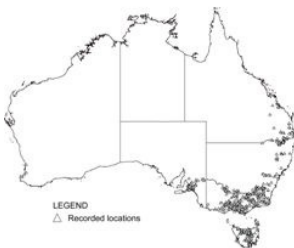
Willows as Weeds

Willows (*Salix* spp.) are among the worst weeds in Australia because of the impact they are having on our waterways and their amazing ability to spread. They have invaded riverbanks in throughout Australia and now occupy thousands of kilometres of streams and numerous wetland areas. Willows spread their roots well into the watercourse slowing the flow of water, catching sediments and reducing the overall quality of the water.

Unlike native species, willows are deciduous and dump massive amounts of organic matter into the waterway when they lose their leaves in autumn. This leaf dump reduces water quality and importantly reduces the oxygen levels in the water, threatening the native plants and animals including frogs and fish. Because they are so shady, Willows displace the native vegetation completely, and dominate the river banks. Willows don't tend to form hollows, so the natural hollows needed by mammals and birds vanish as well. So do food sources, such as gum flowers on which native animals depend. Native and introduced bees are believed to be among the few animals to benefit from willows.

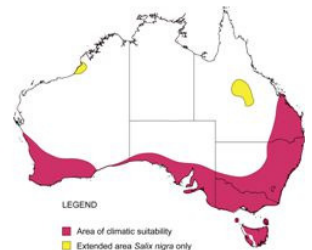
Although many willows produce viable seed they only last for a few weeks. Most willows however can easily spread vegetatively - a small twig can break off, be carried many

Weeds of National Significance



LEGEND
△ Recorded locations

WILLOW MAPPING



Supported by the State Government of Victoria.



Australian Government

kilometres down stream where it then can take root.

Several species have been widely planted along waterways of NSW to control erosion. Many were also sold through nurseries. Australia now spends millions of dollars each year on willow control. Willows have only invaded a small portion of streams where it could possibly grow and there are concerns about the rate at which it is spreading.

The deliberate planting of willows along waterways has virtually ceased and extensive removal operations are now common. Removal must be carefully planned to prevent major stream erosion. The willows are then replaced by desirable species like the many native that would have naturally grown along these waterways.

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

Visit www.newa.com.au or Phone 6770 3602



Glen Innes Severn
Luke Turner
0438 501 286



Armidale
Regional
Robert Williams
0439 711 701



Funding and Scholarship Opportunities



Arts Grant Writing Basics is a workshop offering handy tips and tricks

to any individual or community organisation applying for arts grants.

The tools and techniques provided will increase your chance to win the support you need to get your great idea off the ground. Learn how to decode the application questions, summarise your project, prepare a justification and conquer your budget.

\$25 per person and include a detailed workbook covering the key content delivered in the workshop.

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=305831>

11 October Tenterfield School of Arts 10am - 1pm	18 October Gunnedah Theatre 10am - 1pm	22 November Quirindi Theatre 1.30pm - 4.30pm
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NAB Foundation's Environmental Wellbeing: Sustainable Regions Grants

The NAB Sustainable Regions Grants support the development and implementation of regional approaches to:

- strengthen co-ordination and collaboration between environmental groups, business, landholders and government,
- involve the community in practical on-ground action to improve the environment, and
- implement regional solutions to environmental challenges.

For more information go to <https://www.nab.com.au/about-us/corporate-responsibility/community/nab-foundation-and-grants>

The NAB Foundation's grant round will be open online from 9am Monday, 18 September and will close at 5pm Friday, 27 October 2017.

Department of Industry - Clubs NSW - Infrastructure Grants. Three program areas:

- Arts & Culture - \$50,000 - \$200,000
- Emergency Preparedness - \$10,000 - \$200,000
- Sport & Recreation - \$100,000 - \$300,000

For further information:

www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au or 02 9995 0992.

Applications close at 5pm on 20th November 2017.

National Landcare Programme Community Grants NOW OPEN

Grants available for amounts from \$2,000 to \$8,000 for projects that build community resilience

Applications close
Monday, 16th October 2017 at 5:00pm

For more information visit
www.glenrac.org.au
or Phone: 02 6732 3443



2018 Scholarships Guide a one-stop-resource for school leavers

The Country Education Foundation (CEF) has launched a new online **Scholarships Guide** today, helping young rural and regional Australians access scholarships, grants and bursaries. This purpose-built online search platform will allow students to locate hundreds of scholarships in just a few quick clicks.

There are hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships up for grabs each year but knowing where to look and how to apply is a big hurdle for school leavers, especially country students who don't have easy access to tertiary institutions. CEF has brought together scholarships from a broad range of facilities from across Australia in one easy to use website. The **CEF 2018 Scholarships Guide** is a gold mine of higher education scholarship opportunities. The **CEF 2018 Scholarships Guide** is available to search now at www.cef.org.au.

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, Rose Gettens, Sandy Fitzgerald.

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

Department of Primary Industries : Carol Harris , **National Parks & Wildlife Office**: Peter Croft

Glen Innes Local Aboriginal Lands Council: Trevor Potter

Public Officer: to be announced

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

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.



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

Coming Events:

- 11 Oct Final Property planning day
- 12, 13 Oct Landgirls - Julia Telford: Farm Office Efficiency
- 25- 27 Oct 2017 NSW Landcare & Local Land Services Conference, Albury
- 17-19 Oct 19th NSW Biennial Weeds Conference, Armidale
- 18-19 Oct 2 Day Soil Balancing Course— 02 6779 1722
- 23 Oct PROfarm Polesaw Operations, Glen Innes
- 24 Oct PROfarm Chainsaw trim & cut felled trees (Level 1 Chainsaw Operations), Glen Innes
- 25 - 27 Oct NSW Landcare & Local Land Services Conference, Albury
- 16 Nov Vert Pest and Canine Pest injector training— Nicole.miller@lls.nsw.gov.au
- 6-7 Dec Advanced Seed Collecting Course, Uralla. Free, Phone 0423 012 661