

# GLENRAC

# Newsletter

April/ June 2017

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

## Inside This Issue

- Bright Ideas
- Pasture Update
- New Books
- Mexican Water Lily
- Funding opportunities
- Coming Events

## New @ GLENRAC



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## The 18th New England North West Landcare Adventure

### Farming Smarter Communities

4-5 May 2017  
Armidale & Uralla

Members \$145  
Non-members \$195  
Includes tours, speakers, lunches, awards dinner & entertainment.

**Highlights:**  
Colin Seis & Dr Maarten Stapper on Regenerative Agriculture.  
The farmers working with scientists at UNE Smart Farm.  
The farmers & businesses linking up in Uralla: New England Brewing Company, The Wool Room, Zero-Net, The Alternate Root Cafe, New England Foodie Trail and more.  
NENW Regional Landcare Awards Ceremony & Dinner with entertainment by 'Ash Hall Trio'.  
Book online at [www.trybooking.com](http://www.trybooking.com) (search NENW Landcare Adventure). Accommodation bookings through Sylvia Hobbs, Flight Centre Armidale 02 8771 5474 will be eligible for a discount.  
This event is supported by funding from the Australian Government.

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- Colin Seis & Dr Maarten Stapper on Regenerative Agriculture.
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- NENW Regional Landcare Awards Ceremony & Dinner with entertainment by 'Ash Hall Trio'.

⇒ Visit the GLENRAC website to register to attend

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](mailto:glenrac@glenrac.org.au) Web: [www.glenrac.org.au](http://www.glenrac.org.au)

# GLENRAC Matters

Hello GLENRAC members,

*Do you use social media? GLENRAC has been on Facebook from some time now and this week has created an Instagram account for the interest of our members and partner organisations. If you have an account Find Us online and keep up to date.*

*Do you have a new neighbour? Let them know about the great services GLENRAC offers. Membership is still free of charge and members receive a regular e-flash with news and information about events and activities happening in Glen Innes and further afield. Don't have email? Make sure you visit our window box in Grey St (HR Block window) for your updates.*

*Make May a month for self development! GLENRAC is hosting several workshops in May including the internationally acclaimed communication and negotiation speaker, Allan Parker and NFP Success to run 3 workshops for members of all community groups.*

*Congratulations to all our nominees to the Northern Tablelands Landcare Awards—Dr. Mahri Koch, Glen Elgin Eco Carers and our own Kelly Walsh. A full report will be available following the Landcare Adventure on the 4 & 5 May 2017. Regards, GLENRAC Staff—Kylie, Lucy, Tanya, Jennie & Kelly*



## Bright Ideas

### Horses for Courses Workshops

'Horses for Courses' workshops on Equine Management on Small Acres are coming up in Armidale and Inverell in May. Cost \$30 per person to attend. Training will be delivered by Stuart Meyers of Equiculture.

**Armidale Workshop - Saturday 20 May**  
Register with Southern New England Landcare on 02 6772 9123

**Inverell Workshop - Sunday 21 May**  
Register with GWYMAC Landcare on 02 6721 1241.

### SproutX Accelerator Applications

Melbourne-based agtech innovation hub SproutX has opened applications for its first full accelerator program, which will see 10 startups work to develop and commercialise their ideas in the agricultural sector.

Teams will receive \$40,000 in seed funding in exchange for eight percent of equity, as well as the opportunity to receive follow-on funding from the SproutX VC fund.

- ⇒ Submissions close on the **8th of May 2017** and the program starts on the 22nd of May 2017.
- ⇒ For further information or applications, <http://sproutx.com.au/accelerator/>

### Do you know a fantastic farming woman?

Have you got five minutes to share their story and photo? Here's your opportunity to pay tribute to her and acknowledge the vital role of women on the land. The Invisible Farmer project is calling for tributes to the women who work the land.

Stories will be featured on the ABC and become part of the Invisible Farmer project - a national project initiated by Museums Victoria that is the first comprehensive study of farm women in Australia.

The process is very easy - you only need to share a couple of paragraphs about the contribution they make to their farm, their community and agriculture in general and upload a photo! Stories needed by 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

- ⇒ To participate visit <https://open.abc.net.au/projects>

### Meat Supply Chain tours

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services is planning a series of tours visiting beef and sheep feedlots and meat processing plants to help farmers understand their product, how it fits in the market place, and how feedback from feedlots and processors can be used to inform breeding decisions on farm.

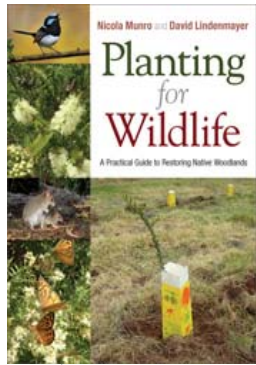
- ⇒ To register your interest for Supply Chain Tours contact Jason Siddell on 0459 162 295, or Brent McLeod on 0413 884 710.



# New Books



## 2017 Pasture Update a Success



### A Practical Guide to Restoring Native Woodlands

Nicola Munro, David Lindenmayer - See more at: Paperback - August 2011 - AU \$39.95

Provides the latest information on restoring woodlands, with particular emphasis on

plantings as habitat for wildlife.

Across Australia, woodlands are increasingly being planted on formerly cleared or semi-cleared land. Such revegetation efforts can improve biodiversity of farm wildlife, enhance aesthetics of the landscape and even boost farm production.

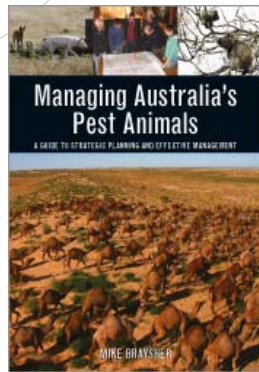
<http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/6716/>

### Managing Australia's Pest Animals

A Guide to Strategic Planning and Effective Management  
Mike Braysher - See more at:

Provides the knowledge to effectively plan, prioritise, develop and apply best practice pest animal management in Australia.

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7407/>



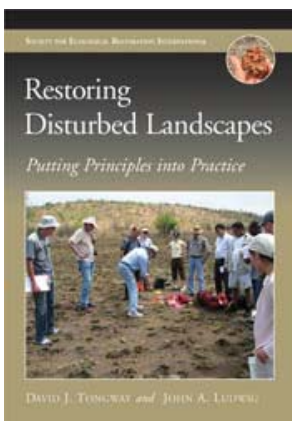
### Restoring Disturbed Landscapes

Putting Principles into Practice

David J Tongway, John A Ludwig

Paperback - December 2010 - AU \$69.08

A hands-on guide for individuals and groups seeking to improve the functional capacity of landscapes.



Restoring Disturbed Landscapes is a hands-on guide for individuals and groups seeking to improve the functional capacity of landscapes. The book presents a five-step, adaptive procedure for restoring landscapes that is supported by proven principles and concepts of ecological science.

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/6380/>

The Glen Innes Research and Advisory Station was the venue for the 2017 Pasture Update on Wednesday 22 March 2017. The event was well attended with 115 producers and university students travelling from across the Northern Tablelands to attend. The purpose of the event was to connect producers with current industry research and researchers as well as providing an opportunity to network with fellow producers.

GLENRAC Landcare Coordinator and event contact Kylie Falconer says 'Our key note speaker was Richard Simpson, a Senior Research Scientist from CSIRO in Canberra. Richard's presentation linked a range of information relating to the use of phosphorus inputs on farm, including some myth busting on the phosphorus nutrient cycle and the impact of single super phosphate on soil biology. Richard encouraged producers to utilise soil monitoring on a regular and consistent basis as a management decision tool to support the use of any form of fertilizer use on farm.'

The Pasture Update also featured presentations from Brad Walmsley, NSW DPI; Jessira Perovic, MLA; Tom Amey, Chair of the MLA's Northern Region Southern Australia Meat Research Council and Matt Benham, New England Weeds Authority.

The afternoon sessions were a popular break-out and featured concurrent sessions held onsite. Producers had the opportunity to experience drones first hand, to view infrastructure, collect still and video imagery and live cattle assessment.



The Pasture Update also gave producers the opportunity to provide feedback to Meat & Livestock

Australia's Southern Australia Meat Research Council what they believe are the research, development and adoption priorities for Northern NSW beef and sheep producers. In addition, feedback from event participants will help shape GLENRAC'S focus on future events for 2017.

Landholders can look forward to further events on precision agriculture techniques. These will include the use of drones as farm management tools, soil monitoring and nutrient status mapping to assist with farm input decision making.

## Farm Planning Course starting in Glen Innes 14th June 2017

Take your farm from where it is now to where it needs to be

- └ Identify what's holding you back
- └ Maintain farm viability in the long term
- └ Maximise profit through improving your natural resource base
- └ Gain access to technical specialists
- └ Learn from other farmers

The Farm Planning course is

- └ Targeted to the need of Northern Tablelands Farms
- └ Delivered free of charge to landholders in the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services area, including all materials, an aerial image of your farm, morning tea and lunch
- └ Tailored to your local area and includes on farm visits for practical application
- └ Face to face small group training in your local area
- └ Run over 5 days spread over several months
- └ Aligned with the national unit of competency AHCAGB505A Develop a Whole Farm Plan

To attend or for more information contact Kim Deans on 02 6720 8304 or 0448 182 183



Local Land  
Services  
Northern Tablelands

### Vertebrate Pest Training - GLEN INNES -

Training for use of 1080 and pindone will be on offer on 18th May 2017 in Glen Innes. This is free to attend for landholders.

The Vertebrate Pest and Canid Pest Ejector (CPE) Training course covers:

- 1080/Pindone handling
- use of Canid Pest Ejectors
- baiting techniques
- toxicity
- storage
- transport requirements
- legislation
- WH&S

The accreditation is valid for 5 years and is required if you want to collect and distribute baits on your property.

⇒ To register to attend contact Tania Stone on 02 6770 2000.

## Ratepayers vote in May for board representatives

Local Land Services board elections will take place this May. Ratepayers in the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services region will vote to decide on three locally elected board members. The remaining four board members are Ministerially-appointed.

Voting will open on Monday 8 May and close at 5pm on Friday 31 May. The newly elected board members will be announced by the end of June 2017.

## Wongwibinda cluster fence shuts out wild dogs

The Wongwibinda Cluster Fence project is about to shut the gate on wild dogs, keeping sheep and cattle safe from attack across an area of more than nine thousand hectares east of Guyra.

Project Manager, Leith Hawkins, from Northern Tablelands Local Land Services is working with five landholders in the Wongwibinda region to build a 60 kilometre dog exclusion fence that will protect all of the group's adjoining properties including Lynoch, Marysvale, Doughboy Mountain, Karuah and Wongwibinda Station.

A total of \$549,839 has been allocated to the Wongwibinda Cluster Fence project through the Australian Government's \$3 million Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper program for pest and weed management in NSW.

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services is planning a series of field days in 2017 where local farmers will be able to find out more about the Cluster Fence project.

For further information about cluster fencing and feral pest control contact [Leith Hawkins](#) at Northern Tablelands Local Land Services on 02 6770 2007.

## NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy 2017-2021

The NSW Department of Primary Industries is seeking public comment on an updated NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy. The updated document will guide specific actions to help reduce the negative impacts of wild dogs and defines the roles and responsibilities of government agencies, public and private land managers and other community members in managing wild dogs in NSW.

⇒ To find out more visit <https://www.nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/have-your-say/draft-nsw-wild-dog-management-strategy-20172021/>

⇒ Closes 5th May 2017





## *Sustain. Invest. Protect.*

A new approach to land management and conservation in NSW

Protecting the land we value most

NSW is home to some of the most treasured wildlife, natural environments and productive land, and we are rightly proud of that. Native trees and plants are vital for the health of our environment, supporting native animals and agriculture and protecting soil and water. Farmers own and manage the majority of land in NSW, and we have to work together to protect the land and animals we value most and to keep our rivers flowing and healthy.

The [Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016](#) and [Local Land Services Amendment Act 2016](#) take advantage of the best available science and data and deliver a modern approach to land management and biodiversity conservation in NSW.

### Key features of the new legislation

- \* Codes of practice support landholders to manage their land to ensure more productive farming methods and systems and to deliver improved environmental outcomes
- \* Changes to allowable activities have been made to improve clarity and certainty in their application on rural land
- \* Where clearing requires land to be set aside, a public register of these areas will be established
- \* A native vegetation regulatory map will be developed which identifies rural land that is exempt or regulated under the new land management framework
- \* A new State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) will be developed to regulate clearing vegetation in urban and other areas where it does not require development consent.

More information about the updated Codes of Practice for Landholders: <https://www.landmanagement.nsw.gov.au/land-management-and-regulatory-maps/codes-of-practice-for-landholders/>

## *Native Plants and Animals*

Key features of the new legislation  
More information

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Fact Sheet Native Plants and Animals](#)

## *Changes to Australia's biosecurity system*

The department is changing the way we manage Australia's biosecurity system to deliver a modern system that is responsive and targeted, in a changing global trading environment. The changes will be achieved incrementally, with funding considered on an ongoing basis as part of the usual budget processes.

Australia's biosecurity system ensures good biosecurity outcomes through Australia's activities as an exporter and importer of goods. It relies on cooperation between the Australian Government and state and territory governments, as well as importers, exporters and the wider community. Onshore, industry groups contribute through planning, preparedness and response activities in cooperation with governments.

### Key themes of change

The changes being undertaken position the department to meet this increasing demand and to ensure the biosecurity system is effective and sustainable into the future. The five key themes of activity are:

- implementing a risk-based approach to biosecurity management
- managing biosecurity risk across the continuum - offshore, at the border and onshore
- strengthening partnerships with clients and stakeholders
- using robust science, being intelligence-led and evidence-based

developing and implementing modern legislation, technology, funding and business systems.

For more information go to: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/australia/biosecurity-reform>



# Weed update

## Mexican Waterlily Control Project to Protect the Oxley Wild Rivers



It is believed Mexican waterlily was introduced to Australia as an aquarium plant but has escaped due to careless disposal. Originally from Mexico and South Eastern USA, Mexican waterlily is now naturalised in many states of Australia. It has shown an ability to rapidly colonise shallow nutrient rich water bodies. It forms a dense floating mat that prevents light from penetrating the water surface. Dense infestations rapidly choke waterways restricting water movement, increasing siltation and generally deoxygenating the water. These impacts severely reduce the habitat value for our native flora and fauna. Additionally, foul odour and restricted waterside access reduce the recreational and economic value of these areas. Mexican waterlily is an attached aquatic perennial with emergent leaves and flowers. Leaves are waxy, elliptical and become erect when crowded. It produces attractive yellow flowers which open during the day and close at night. Mexican waterlily rarely produces seed in Australia. It does however produce stolons (horizontal stems) which produce new plants at each node. These new plants are easily detached from the parent plant and will drift downstream leading to new infestations.

**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

Mexican Waterlily is difficult to control and even harder to eradicate. Physical removal is rarely successful due to the vegetative way these plants reproduce.

All parts of the plant need to be carefully removed as remaining vegetative matter will almost certainly result in reinfestation. Chemical treatment is the most effective control measure although this must be done with great care given the sensitive aquatic environment. There are herbicides available that have been developed exclusively for aquatic use but landholders would be well advised to get good advice before spraying in waterbodies.

The New England Weeds Authority will be conducting an aerial survey over the next couple of weeks to gauge the full extent of the problem. "We will then access grant funds received from the Office of Environment and Heritage to run a control program to reduce the occurrence and spread of Mexican waterlily in the Oxley Wild Rivers Catchment." said District Weeds Officer, Josh Biddle.

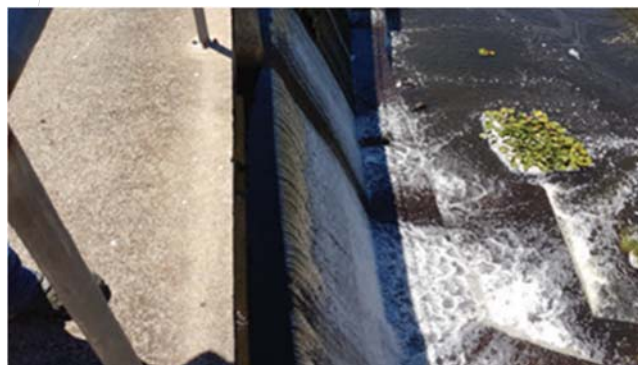


Photo: Mexican waterlily moving downstream from Gara Dam.



# Funding and Scholarship Opportunities

## Heywire grants now available to make life better for rural and regional youth

ABC Heywire is calling on community organisations to implement this and other ideas developed at the Heywire Regional Youth Summit by applying for seed-funding through the Foundation for Regional and Rural Renewal (FRRR).

The ideas from Heywire 2017 were:

- Dear CRIS: Combatting racism, thinking globally
- Ag Boom: Opportunities in agriculture, rural education
- Common Connections: Mental wellbeing, resilient communities
- Tech Hub in the Scrub: Access to technology, Indigenous education
- One Drop: Substance abuse, resilient communities
- Need a Nanna Network: Youth justice, at risk youth
- LGBTQandA: Youth leadership, queer communities

- ⇒ Apply for a Heywire Youth Innovation Grant. <http://www.frrr.org.au/grants/Heywire-youth-innovation>
- ⇒ Applications close 15th May 2017



## Tackling Tough Times Together (TTTT) - Round 8

FRRR's Tackling Tough Times Together grant program helps communities access the resources they need to support one another through the ongoing effects of the drought impacting Queensland and northern NSW including Glen Innes

- ⇒ For information and application: 1800 170 020, email [toughtimes@frrr.org.au](mailto:toughtimes@frrr.org.au) and website. <http://www.frrr.org.au/grants/>
- ⇒ Applications close 26 May 2017

## Farm Business Skills Professional Development Program

NSW farmers can take subsidised pre-approved courses through the State Government's \$45m Farm Business Skills Professional Development Program or farmers can apply for other professional development activities.

Participants can claim reimbursement of up to 50% (GST-exclusive) up to \$5000/farmer or \$9000/farm business. For more information visit: <http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/professional-development-program>

## NUFFIELD APPLICATIONS OPEN

Australia's pre-eminent agricultural scholarship, the Nuffield scholarships - offering \$30,000 bursaries for international study - are now open. There is a range of specialised scholarships for ag industries as diverse as banana-growing to eggs, aquaculture to cropping, vegetables, red meat, dairy, pork, wine and cotton. The program aims to develop leadership and Nuffield alumni are prominent in agriculture across Australia. Close 16

June 2017

More? <http://nuffield.com.au/>



## NATIONAL AG OPPORTUNITY

Applications are now open for the \$14.9m national Farming Together program. This Federal Government initiative is a two-year campaign for primary producers and processors to collaborate and claim marketplace power.

Any Australian citizen who farms within the ATO-recognised guidelines can register to receive a free one-on-one consultation to discuss their opportunities and appetite to create a successful collaborative group. This could be either as a co-operative, as a collective bargaining entity or as a less-formal collaborative group. Existing groupings may also apply. More? [www.farmingtogether.com.au](http://www.farmingtogether.com.au) or 1800 00 55 55.

## Quad bike rebates on offer until 30 June

Rural workplaces can apply for a NSW Government rebate to implement safety measures aimed at reducing quad bike tragedies and injuries on farms.

The Quad Bike Safety Improvement Program is offering a rebate of up to \$1,000 for the purchase of side by side vehicles, \$500 for the retro-fitting of safety equipment to existing quad bikes, and \$90 for the purchase of an approved helmet.

Rebates are also available for quad bike safety training courses tailored to farmers until 30 June 2017.

- ⇒ For more information visit— <http://www.nswfarmers.org.au/nsw-quad-bike-safety-improvement-program>

# GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2016/17

CHAIRMAN - Jim Benton

TREASURER - Sam Baker

SECRETARY - Tony Corcoran

## LANDHOLDER & DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Andrew Campbell, Chris Leahy, Gordon Wollen, Ian Lockwood, Jane Munro, John Bavea, Mike Norton, Norman Whitaker & Rose Gettens.

**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**: 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](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.



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

### Coming Events:

- 4-5 May 18th New England North West Landcare Adventure, Armidale
- 9 May Communication & Negotiation training with Allan Parker—Glen Innes
- 10 May Get Quad Safe - Glen Innes (NSW DPI PROfarm)
- 11 May Film Night - Restoring Earth - Inverell (GWYMAC)
- 20 May Horses for Courses - Equine Management on Small Acres - Armidale
- 21 May Horses for Courses - Equine Management on Small Acres - Inverell
- 25 May Arts North West "What, Why & Wow! The Art of Project Planning" Deepwater
- 25 May Creating Confident Committees
- 26 May Creating Confident Committees
- 14 June Farm Planning Course Day 1 - Glen Innes
- 25, 26 Jul Grassland Society of NSW Biennial Conference
- 14 Sept Fit Farmers Event - Pinkett