

Newsletter

GLENRAC

Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

Our vision is to create solutions for a sustainable and productive landscape.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

- Nominations open for 2021 NE&NW Landcare Awards
- Drought and Bushfire funding available
- GLENRAC project activity updates
- Weed watch: Broom
- EOIs for tree planting



Landcare
New South Wales



Local Land
Services



WHITE ROCK
Wind Farm

GLENRAC AWARDED BEST BUSINESS SUPPORTER AT GLEN INNES HIGHLANDS 2020 BUSINESS AWARDS



The GLENRAC staff team - Jennene, Lucy, Kelly, Jennie, Kylie and Mahri - at a recent Strategic Planning Day.

The team at GLENRAC were delighted to have been awarded the Best Business Supporter Award at this year's Glen Innes Highlands Business Awards! Cass Hill from Glen Innes Severn Council and Daniel Hayden from Glen Innes From Above have worked with this year's award recipients to capture some behind the scenes promotional footage. We're pretty excited to see the finished result! Stay tuned.



Daniel Hayden from Glen Innes From Above capturing footage of 9000 native seedlings arriving from Mole Station Nursery at Glen Industries, and filming established native tree lines at 'Blairmore', Stonehenge.



DO YOU NEED A HAND WITH FINDING OR SUBMITTING DROUGHT OR BUSHFIRE FORMS?

Make a **FREE** appointment with the **GLENRAC** Drought Support Officer today:
Phone 02 6732 3443

GLENRAC MATTERS

And so we arrive at the conclusion of another year! 2020 will go down as one never to forget for reasons other than COVID-19. Despite the ongoing challenges of the global health pandemic, this year has seen GLENRAC grow and adapt in ways that continue to surprise!

With face-to-face events suspended in March, GLENRAC embraced the online world of Zoom, partnering with Glen Innes Severn Council to roll out 27 disaster preparedness webinars for farm businesses, community groups and local businesses which were attended by 925 people.

Building on the success of this platform, we've gone on to deliver webinars with leading industry experts on topics including feral and pest animal research, Dead Tree Detectives, financial literacy and regenerative agriculture.

COVID restrictions in place, GLENRAC were able to host a number of events again later in the year, including our fortnightly Smokos, NLIS training, Zoom 101 training, Excel Skills for Farmers, Shearing School, Nest Box building, Chemical Card training, and, a serious highlight of the year, Rural Womens Day at Glen Dawn Woolshed.

We've planted out more than 9000 trees across the district as part of our work with the NSW Environmental Trust, are attacking weeds with New England Weeds Authority, monitoring the health of Little Llangothlin Lagoon and the Gondwana Rainforest Reserve with Local Land Services, supporting local food hubs and bushfire affected landholders with our Fire Break meal vouchers and assisting community groups to host annual Christmas events.

Our staff and board members have met with Julia Spicer from Engage and Create Consulting to develop our next 5 year strategic plan, responding to the needs of the Glen Innes community, and our membership numbers have expanded to include more than 1000 members across the district!

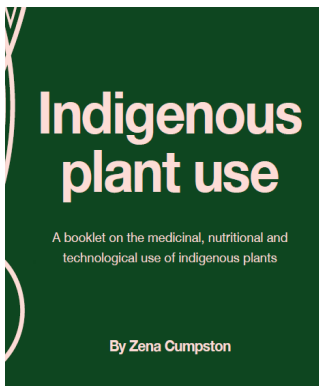
GLENRAC would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone across the Glen Innes and wider region for their support during 2020. We have big plans in the works for 2021 and can't wait to share these with the community. Stay tuned! Wishing everyone a safe and very happy festive season. See you in 2021!

The GLENRAC team – Kylie, Jennie, Mahri, Kelly, Jennene and Lucy

BRIGHT IDEAS

Spend in Glen this Holiday Season!

Support the Glen Innes economy and shop local this Christmas. Spend over \$20 at one of more than 50 businesses involved with the promo to go into the draw to win!



FREE EBOOK - Indigenous Plant Use by Zena Cumpston

For individuals who want to connect with native plants and understand the medicinal, nutritional and technological use of

developed by Australia's First Peoples. Also how to make garden beds, plant groupings and where to buy them and how to keep your garden healthy. Visit <https://bit.ly/3ewfgjV>



Wishing you a safe and
Merry Christmas

THE GLENRAC OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED FROM
FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2020 -
MONDAY THE 11TH JANUARY 2021

GLENRAC strategic plans for the next five years

What's that old saying again? Teams that strategic plan together, stay together! GLENRAC committee and staff were joined by the fantastic Julia Spicer from Engage & Create Consulting earlier in the year to work on the next stage of GLENRAC's five year Strategic Plan. It was a great day with a group of passionate people, dedicated landholders and community members who have a range of ideas and aspirations for the success of the Glen Innes region, and the drive to see it happen! Thank you to Julia for her enthusiasm and thought provoking questions on the day. The Glen Innes community can feel confident that GLENRAC is powering ahead with BIG plans for the future – beginning with the next five years!



NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

2021 NEW ENGLAND & NORTH WEST LANDCARE AWARDS



NOMINATE SOMEONE TODAY!
VISIT:
BIT.LY/NEWNOMINATE
APPLICATIONS
CLOSE
8/1/21

FOR MORE INFORMATION
EMAIL REGIONAL COORDINATOR
CRAIG PULLMAN
CRAIG@TRLA.ORG.AU
OR CALL 0428 648 581

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS PASSIONATE ABOUT OUR LANDSCAPE?

Nominations for the 2021 New England and North West Landcare Awards are now open! These awards are your chance to recognise an outstanding person or group within the New England or North West region who is working to conserve our natural environment and/or sustainable, regenerative farming systems.

Visit bit.ly/newnominat and nominate someone today!

Applications close 08/01/21.

For more information contact

Regional Coordinator Craig Pullman
craig@trla.org.au or call 0428 649 581

DROUGHT AND BUSHFIRE FUNDING YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT



SPECIAL DISASTER RECOVERY GRANT – Up to \$75,000 for primary producers whose properties were directly impacted by last summer's bushfires.

RIC DROUGHT LOAN – Loans up to \$2 million for primary producers to prepare for, manage or recover from the effects of drought. 1.92% interest, first 2 years interest free (applications received before 30th Sept 2020), 10 year term.

DROUGHT ASSISTANCE FUND – Interest-free loans up to \$100,000 for primary producers to implement systems and management practices that enhance the sustainability of their farm business. 7 year term, no repayments for first 2 years. Can be used for restocking purposes.

EMERGENCY DROUGHT TRANSPORT SUBSIDY – Round 3 of the Drought Transport Subsidy open from 1 July 2020. Eligible primary producers can claim up to a maximum of \$25,000 up to 31 Dec 2020, subject to funds being available. From the 1 July 2020, the subsidy has been expanded to include transport of purchased stock to a farm business.

Contact the GLENRAC Drought Support Officer 02 6732 3443 for more information.

PROJECT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

LITTLE LLANGOTHLIN NATURE RESERVE RAMSAR SITE

Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve – a RAMSAR site – now has water for the first spring season since early 2018! Aquatic biologist, Sam Lewis, has been busy there this month sweeping for aquatic invertebrates, listening to the many frogs calling, and observing the hundreds of water birds that have arrived for this year's breeding season.

So what is this project we are working on? Protecting Little Llangothlin Lagoon for Future Generations is a project to evaluate the ecological condition of the Nature Reserve, with a focus on improving conditions for

threatened species and ecological communities. We're discovering the web of life at this magical reserve. The project is being delivered by Dr Mahri Koch from GLENRAC, in collaboration with Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, through funding from the Australian Government National Landcare Program.



RURAL WOMENS DAY 2020 AT GLEN DAWN WOOLSHED

We had a fantastic day celebrating International Rural Women's Day at Glen Dawn Woolshed! A gorgeous bunch of ladies from around the Glen Innes region gathered together to celebrate the health, wealth and wellness of rural women, and also to catch up with old and new friends.

Thank you so much to our brilliant guest speakers, Ben Law a.k.a Queensland Country Life The Financial Bloke, Chris Connor from Healthwise New England North West, Ellen Adams from Moveology, New England and Letitia Cross from Rural Adversity Mental Health Program - RAMHP. A special mention to the wonderful Rashelle Bischoff from Gather New England and The Sage and Clover for her beautiful and delicious catering. Last but not least, thank you to Frances Parsons for providing such a beautiful venue. If you, or anyone you know, are on the lookout for a place to host your next event, add Glen Dawn Farmhouse to the top of your list!



NEST BOX BUILDING AT WYTALIBA

We had a great time nest box building at Wyaliba! A big thank you to our builder extraordinaire, Paul Hughes, for showing us how to assemble a number of boxes for King Parrots, Rosellas, Microbats, Brushtail Possums and Southern Boobooks.

This event was made possible through funding from Glen Innes Severn Council & Landcare NSW.

P.s. Did you know that Australia is the continent with the largest number of hollow dependent fauna? According to our resident wildlife expert, Dr Peter Croft from NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, 15% of Australian birds, 31% mammals, 10% reptiles and 13% frogs use hollows to survive. The next nearest is central America with 9% of birds relying on hollows for their habitat.



PROJECT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES



GLENRAC SMOKOS IN FULL SWING

We've had a great time at all of our Smoko events over the last few weeks, bringing guest speakers from New England Weeds Authority, Local Land Services, Glen Innes Vets, Rural Fire Service and Healthwise at locations including Glencoe, Wellingrove, Glen Elgin. We have three more Smokos to roll out before the end of the year at Emmaville, Red Range and Torrington - keep an eye out for one near you!

SHEARING SCHOOL EXTRAVAGANZA!

27 students from Glen Innes and Macintyre High Schools participated in our recent 2-day shearing school at the Glen Innes Agricultural Research and Advisory Station in partnership with Australian Wool Innovation and Regional Development Australia Northern Inland.



9000 NATIVE TREES ARRIVE

We were very excited to unload more than 9000 native seedlings at Glen Industries recently from Mole River Native Nursery! The Glen Industries boys will be planting these seedlings out at 10 farm properties around the Glen Innes district before the end of the year as part of GLENRAC's project with NSW Environmental Trust.



ZOOM 101 TRAINING

GLENRAC'S very own queen of Zoom, Kelly Walsh, recently delivered ZOOM 101 training through funding from the Australian Government's Be Connected program. A great bunch of ladies put their online skills to the test, learning everything there is to know about online meetings, webinars and events. Look out Australia - there are some new ZOOM maestros on the loose!



WEED WATCH: BROOM

Originally introduced from Europe, most probably as a hedge plant, broom species prefer cooler climates and have established in many parts of the Northern Tablelands. Once established, brooms will form very dense thickets which will exclude desirable species in native communities and reduce stocking rates on agricultural land. Additionally, they provide habitat for feral animals including rabbits, foxes and pigs. It is also believed to be toxic to both stock and humans.



Brooms often establish on river banks, forest margins, roadsides and other disturbed areas. The fruit pods burst open in hot weather during spring and summer launching seeds several metres from the plant. The seeds have very hard seed coats which allow the seed to remain viable for many years. Germination is often stimulated by fire.



Scotch broom (or English broom) is an upright shrub that can grow up to 4ms high, but is most often around 2m in height. It has yellow pea like flowers about 2 cm long. The soft hairy leaves have 3 leaflets per leaf, with the middle leaf also about 2cm long. They also produce pea pods which are usually about 7cm long. Cape broom (or Montpellier broom) is very similar in appearance but has larger leaves and smaller flowers. Both should be controlled in the New England area.

Under the Biosecurity Act 2015, there is a General Biosecurity Duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise the risk posed by broom. This means it is an offense to spread the weed. Seeds can be carried on vehicles, animals and people. Doing so carelessly is a breach of the Act. Landholders also have an obligation to control this weed on land under their control. At this stage New England Weeds Authority (NEWA) focus on controlling broom infestation outside of the town boundaries so as to prevent the spread into agricultural land and significant native vegetation areas.



New England Weeds Authority Weed Officers are on hand to assist with your noxious weed identification, management and control. Contact the team on 02 6770 3602, drop into their office at 2/129 Rusden St Armidale, or visit www.newa.com.au.



INFORMATION, OPPORTUNITIES AND FUNDING

TAKE SOME TIME OUT FROM THE HEAT

FIRE BREAK



**GLENRAC HAVE MEAL VOUCHERS
TO THE VALUE OF \$300 AVAILABLE
TO ASSIST SMALL GROUPS OF PEOPLE
IN OUR BUSHFIRE IMPACTED COMMUNITY TO
CATCH UP WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY
AT A FOOD HUB IN TOWN.**

LIMITED VOUCHERS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS ONLY.
CONTACT US TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION
02 6732 3443 OR EMAIL GLENRAC@GLENRAC.ORG.AU



CALLING FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR TREE PLANTING ON FARMS

Are you a landholder who is interested in taking part in a native revegetation project with GLENRAC in 2021, 22 or 23?

GLENRAC are now calling for landholders to submit expressions of interest to plant trees on their farms to promote biodiversity of native bird and wildlife and increase shelter protection.

Information will be used to secure future tree planting funding grants.

Visit the GLENRAC website and go to Opportunities > Tree Planting EOI to submit your interest.

*Minimum 400 trees to be planted in any individual site.

*Landholders must sign a Land Agreement contract with GLENRAC and commit to replacing any tree deaths above 20% of the initial planting.

*Submitting an EOI does not guarantee a landholder will receive trees

*Trees available will depend on funding

*Sites for tree plantings will be determined by the best suited for the project.

JOIN THE GLENRAC MOB



WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A GLENRAC MEMBER?

- Immediate access to the latest offers and resources available
- Incredible events tailor designed for the Glen Innes region
- Direct line to leading industry experts and information
- A stronger GLENRAC is a stronger Glen Innes
- It's FREE!

Visit BIT.LY/GLENRACMEMBER or call 02 6732 3443 TO SIGN UP TODAY!

GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2020/21

CHAIRMAN – Ian Lockwood

VICE CHAIR – Julie Firth

TREASURER – Sam Baker

SECRETARY – Tony Corcoran

LANDHOLDER & DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Rob Banham, John Bavea, Andrew Campbell, Sandy Fitzgerald, Barb Holliss,
Jane Munro, Mike Norton, Ian Vivers

GLEN INNES SEVERN COUNCIL: Graham Price, Col Price

PUBLIC OFFICER: Col Price

For all questions relating to GLENRAC please contact our staff at

68 Church Street PO Box 660 GLEN INNES NSW 2370

Phone: 02 6732 3443 Mobile: 0427 325 901 Email: glenrac@glenrac.org.au

www.glenrac.org.au

GLENRAC
PO Box 660
GLEN INNES
NSW 2370



To The Land Manager

This activity is part of the Local Landscape Coordinators Initiative



**Local Land
Services**

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



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

COMING EVENTS:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1st December | Smoko with Friends: Emmaville – 9:30am-12:30pm, Emmaville Club Hotel. |
| 2nd December | Landscape Reboot: Rehydrating land through farm management – 1:00pm-2:00pm, online. |
| 3rd December | WH&S: The Human Side – 9:00am-3:00pm, Glen Innes Showground Team Rooms. |
| 4rd December 8th | Attracting and Managing Your Staff – 9:00am-3:00pm, Glen Innes Showground Team Rooms. |
| December | Financial Literacy for Rural Families– 9:00am-3:00pm, Glen Dawn Woolshed. |
| 10th December | Smoko with Friends: Torrington – 9:30am-12:30pm, Torrington Hall. |
| 16-17th | Mental Health First Aid Training – 9:00am-3:00pm, The Inverell Club Inverell. |
| December | |
| 17th March 2021 | Natural Sequence Farming with Stuart Andrews, Danthonia, 9:00am-3:00pm. |

TO REGISTER, OR SEE OUR FULL RANGE OF EVENTS, VISIT WWW.GLENRAC.ORG.AU/EVENTS