

GLENRAC NEWSletter

GLENRAC

Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

- GLENRAC project activity updates
- Knitted goods!
- Drought, flood, bushfire, mice funding - what are you eligible for?
- Do you know the value of your natural capital?



Landcare
New South Wales



Local Land Services



WHITE ROCK
Wind Farm

2020-2021; GLENRAC'S BIGGEST YEAR YET!



Some of GLENRAC's projects for this year, including the Winter Garden Weekend, Dundee Pasture Walk and 3 Day Wool Works Shearing School.

Financial year 2020-2021 has been enormous here at GLENRAC headquarters. It's time to pause, take a breath and reflect on the huge amount of achievements made this year, don't you think? Phew!

We're proud to share that in 20-21 we secured more than \$1.1 million worth of funding for the region, allowing us to facilitate 100 events, attended by 3198 participants. Project activities included drought, flood and bushfire support; on-ground soil, erosion, weeds and tree planting works; Regent Honeyeater bird walks; nest box building; NLIS, Chem Card, First Aid and Mental Health First Aid training; and, workshops on Natural Sequence Farming, natural capital accounting and digital skill building. We were also able to support 462 people to attend a 'Fire Break' dinner at one of the many food hubs in the Glen Innes region.

Some of our stand out events in the last few months have included the Winter Garden Weekend (kindly hosted by Cath and Bob Wheatley and Ros and Pete Alexander), Dundee Pasture Walk and Smoko, Soil for Life workshops with Kristy Youman from Soil, Land, Food and the 3 Day Wool Works Shearing School at Glen Innes Ag Station.

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TAKE SOME TIME OUT FROM THE HEAT!

GLENRAC have Fire Break meal vouchers to the value of \$300 for community members to enjoy a night out with friends or family at a local food venue. *FIND OUT HOW TO APPLY - page 7*



GLENRAC MATTERS

Welcome back to another edition of the GLENRAC newsletter! As you can probably tell by the article on the front page, it's been a busy time at GLENRAC over the past few months! As always, our committee and staff are working hard to bring funding, opportunities and activities to the Glen Innes and wider region.

Unfortunately our Melinda Schneider and Native Tree Planting and Field ID day had to be postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions, however we anticipate to bring both these events back this year as well as a huge variety of other events, including Natural Capital Accounting, Farmer Updates, Rural Women's Day, Fit Farmers and Smokos. Stay tuned!

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



We love our Dolly's Dream butterfly shirts! Some of the GLENRAC team rocking the shirt on Do it for Dolly Day, 14th May 2021. It's never too late to change the culture around bullying.

2020-2021; GLENRAC'S BIGGEST YEAR YET!

- continued from front page.

We also had the pleasure of partnering with 107 different organisations, businesses or individuals during this year, including some of our long-term partners - such as Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, NSW DPI, New England Weeds Authority, Glen Innes Severn Council, UNE and NSW Environmental Trust - and exciting new partners including St Vincent de Paul, Banbai Rangers and Backtrack Youthworks. These partnerships also include the many local businesses who host, cater or supply information or resources for our events.

A big thank you to everyone who made 20-21 such a success - here's to 21-22!

GREAT DAY FOR A HELICOPTER FLIGHT WITH NSW NATIONAL PARKS!

Jennie and Kelly had a brilliant morning up in the sky recently with the Glen Innes NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service team, conducting honey locust surveys along the Mann River. A big thank you to our Parks mates, Nerida Holznagel and Mick Lieberman for organising the day and to Jimmy from Fleet Helicopters for keeping the team safe! This project was funded through NT Local Land Services.



BRIGHT IDEAS



1 PAIR OF UNDIES, 8 WEEKS UNDERGROUND. WHAT WILL BE LEFT OF YOURS?

The Soil Your Undies Challenge is back again in 2021 and registrations are open now! Join citizen science groups in schools all across Australia to test your soil health. Cotton is a natural fiber which organisms in the ground love to munch on. The healthier your soil, the faster your undies will break down! How much will be left of yours after 8 weeks? Join the challenge now! Visit www.unediscovaryvoyager.org.au/soilyourundies-registration

YOUNG FARMER BUSINESS PROGRAM LEASING AND AGISTMENT TOOLKIT

Are you a young farmer starting out or looking to grow your business? The Leasing and Agistment Toolkit is here to help! The YFBP has developed a range of videos, factsheets, and templates to support you to reach your farming goals through leasing land and/or through the agistment of your stock. Check them out at www.youngfarmer.farmtable.com.au/toolkit/leasing-agistment-toolkit/



LISTEN, WATCH, READ!



HUMANS OF AGRICULTURE PODCAST SERIES
A podcast series dedicated to discovering more about our food system, from the people involved in it. You can listen and subscribe to the podcast on Apple Music, Spotify and Google Podcasts.



CLARKSON'S FARM
Follow Jeremy Clarkson as he attempts to run a farm in the countryside. With no previous farming experience, Jeremy contends with the worst farming weather in decades, disobedient animals, unresponsive crops, and an unexpected pandemic. Stream today on Amazon Prime.



FIRE COUNTRY - HOW INDIGENOUS FIRE MANAGEMENT COULD HELP SAVE AUSTRALIA
Delving deep into the Australian landscape and the environmental challenges we face, Fire Country is a powerful account from Indigenous land management expert Victor Steffensen on how the revival of cultural burning practices, and improved 'reading' of country, could help to restore our land. Buy/borrow from all good bookshops.



STONEHENGE/GLENCOE LANDCARE GROUP DONATION TO GLENRAC

GLENRAC would like to thank John Lynn and the Stonehenge/Glencoe Landcare Group for the donation of \$2,734.08 to GLENRAC in the wind up of their group funds. GLENRAC have placed these funds in a separate bank account and will look to use them for a suitable purpose in the future. *Image by Daryl James Photography, courtesy of Glen Innes Severn Council.*



RANGE OF HAND-KNITTED GOODS AVAILABLE AT GLENRAC OFFICE!

How adorable/stylish are Annie and Ange in their hand knitted lamb jumpers? We are very lucky here at GLENRAC to receive donations like these from so many lovely people across the area. We have a great range of donated knitted items in our office including scarves, blankets, jumpers and knitted lamb coats like these. *Call our office on 02 6732 3443 or drop in to 68 Church St to get yours today!*

PROJECT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

MORE THAN 17,000 NATIVE SEEDLINGS TO BE PLANTED ON FARMS IN GLEN INNES IN 2021

We are delighted to announce the successful application of a grant of \$97,988 from the 2019 NSW Environmental Trust Restoration and Rehabilitation project. The funding will be utilised to plant more than 17,000 native seedlings across Glen Innes in 2021 to increase the extent of native habitat at 26 privately managed farming properties in the region. The seedlings, which will be grown and supplied by Mole River Native Nursery, will be a mix of tree and shrub species known to be present in two threatened ecological communities – New England Peppermint grassy woodlands and White box-Yellow box-Blakley's red gum grassy woodlands. Whilst some sites are connected to existing tree corridors, most sites will provide flora and fauna species to an otherwise fragmented landscape. GLENRAC and landholders will work with local disability and support services organisation Glen Industries who will plant the 17,000 seedlings after their arrival in October 2021, a mammoth effort which GLENRAC are extremely appreciative of. Northern Tablelands Local Land Services will also provide landholders access to a three-point linkage moulder during the month of September to assist with site preparation pre-planting.

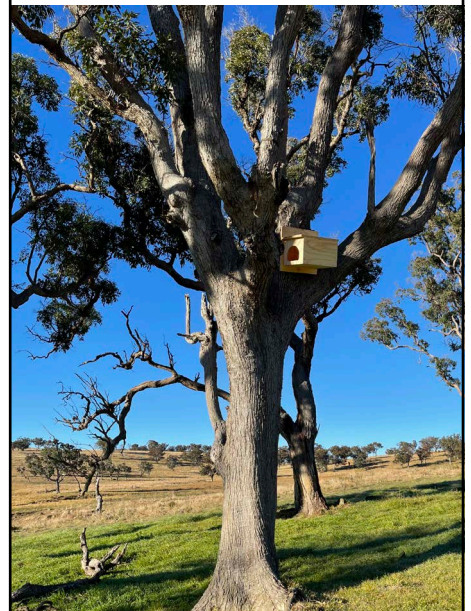


WINTER GARDEN WEEKEND WITH MEREDITH KIRTON A RAGING SUCCESS!

GLENRAC organised a winter garden weekend to take place across the 2021 June long weekend in two gardens that were directly impacted by bushfire: 'Rosedale', the home of Rob and Cath Wheatley at Stannum, and 'Whinstanes', the home of Pete and Ros Alexander at Skeleton Creek. Both events included a presentation and garden tour by gardening author and Gardening Australia presenter alumni Meredith Kirton, as well as talks by local nursery owners and experts Sarah Caldwell from Mole Station Native Nursery at 'Rosedale', and Pam Youman from Black Mountain Nursery at 'Whinstanes'. The local NSW Department of Primary Industries Recovery Support Officer Jane Munro also chaired both events. More than 260 people from all facets of the region turned out to enjoy the garden weekend events, highlighting the joy of gardening and its important role in recovery after devastating events, as well as how critical it is for people in rural communities to have opportunities for social interaction. The events also celebrated local community groups and small businesses. Deepwater Primary School P&C and Glen Innes Pony Club provided fundraising catering, presenters and hosts were gifted crafts by local makers Late Night Pottery and Carmel Yeoman, and prizes to the Garden Patch Nursery in Glen Innes were awarded to especially lucky attendees!

WETTENHALL NEST BOXES INSTALLED

40 beautiful nest boxes built by Paul Hughes have been installed on private properties around Glen Innes as part of our project with Wettenhall Environment Trust. Species boxes range from the tiny micro bat to the king parrot, southern boobook, brushtail possum; all the way through to the extremely impressive powerful owl! Landholders will monitor the box activity with trail cameras - stay tuned to see what they discover!



PROJECT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES



REVEGETATION MILESTONE ACHIEVED AT LITTLE LLANGOTHLIN NATURE RESERVE

Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve is an internationally recognised treasure in the Northern Tablelands region. It has been the focus of a five-year project to revegetate an endangered native vegetation community and has provided an opportunity for some local children to connect with country. GLENRAC project manager, Dr Mahri Koch, was privileged to share the final tree planting exercise at Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve with the Banbai Rangers team and their children along with National Parks and Wildlife Service Ranger, Koen Dijkstra. For the last three years, GLENRAC, National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Banbai Rangers, and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services have been engaged in a seasonal tree planting at the Reserve. 500 seedlings were planted across four hectares to bring the total area of regeneration of the Endangered Ecological Community of New England Peppermint woodlands, to 10 hectares at the Ramsar site (an internationally recognised wetland for its importance in conservation). This is a key milestone for the project which is jointly funded through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services.

SOIL WORKSHOPS!

As part of our Soils in the Spotlight project funded by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, we have been working with Kristy Youman from Soil Land Food as she delivers a range of Digging Deeper workshops. Landholders are learning about the physical properties of soil, like slaking and dispersion, as well as pH, cations and soil sampling for soil fertility testing. Participants are also learning about how to interpret soil test results and how these can inform fertiliser decisions.



TORRINGTON MEMORIAL HALL UPGRADE APPROVED

GLENRAC's project to upgrade the Torrington Memorial Hall facilities has been approved and a total budget of \$74,7728 in funding has been provided by the Federal Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources' Community Enterprise Foundation. The upgrade will enable the hall to serve as a multi-purpose evacuation centre, complete with new shower facilities and a fire sprinkler system installed on the roof of the hall. Additional water tanks are included in the project to provide water for the "rain-maker" fire sprinkler system. This upgrade will provide extra security from the threat of bushfire for this important community asset and works are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2021.

DO YOU KNOW THE VALUE OF YOUR NATURAL CAPITAL?



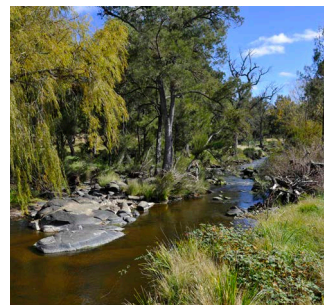
The Benchmarking Natural Capital for Resilient Farms, Glen Innes NSW project running from June 2021 to November 2022 offers GLENRAC farmers the opportunity to participate in two activities. Firstly, to support the assessment of on-farm natural capital and secondly, to document GLENRAC farmers annual contribution to environmental outcomes in the region.

The natural capital assessment component of the project will be based on a Property Management Planning System approach that will be trialled on 6 pilot farms to provide farmers with the tools and resources required to determine a baseline and conditional assessment of the natural assets of the farm. This system is also designed to align with ecosystem service markets such as biodiversity, carbon and sustainable agriculture. The aim is to develop and test an 'on-farm' system that is consistent and harmonized with national and international standards to respond to multiple markets, government, community and financial sector requirements.

We are currently asking for Expressions of Interest for the 6 pilot farms, please contact Kylie if you are interested on 02 6732 3443 or email kylie@glenrac.org.au

The GLENRAC farmers annual public good environmental contributions component will involve a survey to document the contribution farmers make to natural resource management and estimate a value of those public good NRM activities (2021-2022). This will involve providing information about the area of your farm and the different land uses undertaken on farm; information about the various 'environmental service' activities undertaken on the farm (including time and expenditure) and information about the time and expenses associated with natural resource management meetings (Landcare/environment/Industry/Government). Ideally, we would like as many GLENRAC farmers to participate in the survey as possible so we can collectively report the substantial public good environmental contributions made within the shire.

Further details about both these activities will be provided at the GLENRAC meeting on 21st July, or by contacting our office thereafter.



Vertebrate Pesticide Induction Training

Online Vertebrate Pesticide Training NOW AVAILABLE

No waiting times. No cost. Accreditation for 5 years.

Save time, do it online!

www.lls.nsw.gov.au/VPIT
or call 1300 795 299

DOES THE PRICE TAG STOP YOU DOING LANDCARE WORK?

Primary producers are eligible for a number of tax rebates for undertaking landcare works. But sometimes it can seem more effort than it's worth to wade through the technical language and forms and what-have-you to get to the nitty gritty. For some simple, easy to read guides to help farmers get the rebates they are entitled to for doing landcare works, visit:

www.basalttobay.org.au/interest-areas/tax-rebates

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 LOCAL FOOD HUB.**

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



FARMER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE

- **Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) Flood Grant - Special Disaster Grants–NSW Storms and Floods** - Grants of up to \$75,000 for primary producers in LGAs affected by the NSW storms and floods Feb-Mar 21. Up to \$75,000 available per property.
Expires 31/10/21.
- **RAA Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme** - Eligible primary producers access to a 25% rebate, up to \$25,000, on purchases and installation costs of water infrastructure.
Close date TBC.
Applicants urged to apply quickly.
- **Rural Aid \$1000 Mice Plague Fund** - one off \$1000 pre-paid VISA card to assist during the mice plague.
Expires when \$1m funding runs out.
- **Service NSW Mouse Control Rebate** - Rebates up to \$500 for eligible households and \$1000 for small businesses/primary producers in rural or regional NSW and you've purchased mouse baits, traps or cleaning materials from 1 February 2021.

DO YOU NEED A HAND ACCESSING, SCANNING OR SUBMITTING GRANT OR REBATE DOCUMENTS?

GLENRAC ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

Call our office on 02 6732 3443 to make an appointment with one of our team today.

JOIN THE GLENRAC MOB



Sign up -
scan here!



WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A GLENRAC MEMBER?

- First 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 WWW.BIT.LY/GLENRACMEMBER or call 02 6732 3443 TO SIGN UP TODAY!

GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2021/22

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

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Mobile: 0427 325 901

Email: glenrac@glenrac.org.au

www.glenrac.org.au

GLENRAC
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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 partnerships of Local Land Services and Landcare NSW.



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

COMING EVENTS:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 20th July | Australian Wool Innovation Lunch – 10:30am, Glen Innes Services Club. |
| 21st July | Environmental Accounting for Nature Webinar – 9:00am-1:40pm, GLENRAC office. |
| 21st July | Focus: Farmer Update – 7:00pm-9:00pm, Glen Innes Services Club. |
| 4th-6th August | National Landcare Conference – Daily, Sydney. |
| 18th August | TREES! Native Tree Planting and Field ID – 10:00am-12:00pm, 149 Whitmore Rd
Glen Innes (Home of Sandy and Desmond Fitzgerald) |
| 9th September | Fit Farmers |
| 15th October | Rural Women's Day |

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