



NEWSLETTER

www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/bushcare



BUSHCARE

AUTUMN 2026 – ISSUE 69

COORDINATOR'S UPDATE

by Gareth Debney
Bushland Management Coordinator



Caption: Guests and staff at the Mayor's Community Christmas Gathering in the Hutley Hall on 11 December 2025. (L to R) Vera Yee, Svenjha Ehinger, Lucy Honey, Tristram Thomas and Sakshi Kishore.

Welcome back everyone and happy 2026! I hope you've all had a safe and restful break over the festive season and are feeling refreshed for another year of caring for your local bushland. It's wonderful to be starting the year with familiar faces returning to sites across the Local Government Area, as well as welcoming many new volunteers who are keen to get involved and contribute to this successful and rewarding program. Incidentally, 2025 saw the highest number of new volunteer applications since at least 2018, with around two-thirds of new volunteers attending more than one Bushcare meeting. This speaks volumes for the warm, welcoming culture within our Bushcare groups and is a critical element in retaining new volunteers and sustaining program participation.

Before we fully launch into the year ahead, I'd like to extend a sincere thank you to all the volunteers who attended the Mayor's Community Christmas Gathering in December 2025. It was

a lovely opportunity to celebrate the year's achievements, acknowledge the contribution of volunteers across Council programs and share some festive cheer. Your presence helped make the evening a warm and memorable occasion.

I'm also pleased to report on the successful closure of Balls Head Reserve for New Year's Eve 2025. Thanks to careful planning and cooperation between Council teams, the reserve was protected during this high-impact period, minimising damage to sensitive bushland vegetation, cultural heritage sites and vulnerable foreshore areas. This outcome highlights the importance of proactive management in safeguarding our natural spaces, particularly at times of increased visitation.

This year also marks a very special milestone - the 100th anniversary of both Balls Head Reserve and Berry Island Reserve being dedicated to the people of NSW and placed under the management

of North Sydney Council. To recognise the centenary, Council is planning a range of activities through the latter part of 2026, including guided walks, community events and educational opportunities that celebrate the history, ecology and ongoing care of these much-loved reserves. Bushcare volunteers will play an important role in these celebrations. More details will be shared as plans are finalised.

In 2026, the United Nations will mark the International Year of Volunteers (IYV2026) for Sustainable Development, recognising the vital role volunteers play in advancing the global 2030 Agenda. This observance aligns strongly with Bushcare's contribution to key Sustainable Development Goals - especially Sustainable Cities and Communities, Climate Action and Life on Land. Throughout the year, we'll celebrate our Bushcare volunteers' impact and invite the community to observe IYV2026 by joining a Bushcare meeting or taking

part in events like National Tree Day.

Supporting IYV2026, National Volunteer Week will be celebrated from 18 - 24 May 2026. This year's theme is 'Your Year to Volunteer'. We encourage existing volunteers and interested people to join Primrose Park Bushcare Group on Wednesday 20th, the Bushcare Nursery Morning Group on Thursday 21st, Mortlock Reserve and Forsyth Park on Saturday 23rd. Please complete a volunteer application form before these meetings and contact the Bushcare Convenor/Supervisor for the group you are interested in joining so we know to expect you. Details are on Council's website. northsydney.nsw.gov.au/bushcare

You may have seen recent updates regarding Council's decision to reapply for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) in early 2026. At its extraordinary meeting on 21 January, Council resolved to apply to IPART (Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal) for a 52.66% cumulative increase to rates, to be applied incrementally over

three years (including the rate peg). It also applied for an increase to the minimum residential and business rates of \$396.08 above rate peg over the three-year period. The submission to IPART will focus on financial sustainability and infrastructure management, while providing modest funding to respond to community needs, essential services, environmental programs and growth pressures.

Council submitted its application on Monday, 2 February. IPART will run a public consultation process where community members can provide feedback directly. For more information on how to have your say, visit ipart.nsw.gov.au.

As we head into the first sessions of the year, our bushland is already responding to summer conditions, with plenty of growth—both native and weedy. Your continued efforts remain vital in protecting native species, supporting wildlife habitats and ensuring our reserves stay healthy and resilient. If you haven't already, check your Bushcare Calendar

or Council's website for upcoming guided walks, training, educational activities and events (like the Bushcare Nursery Open Day, which has moved forward to March from September this year).

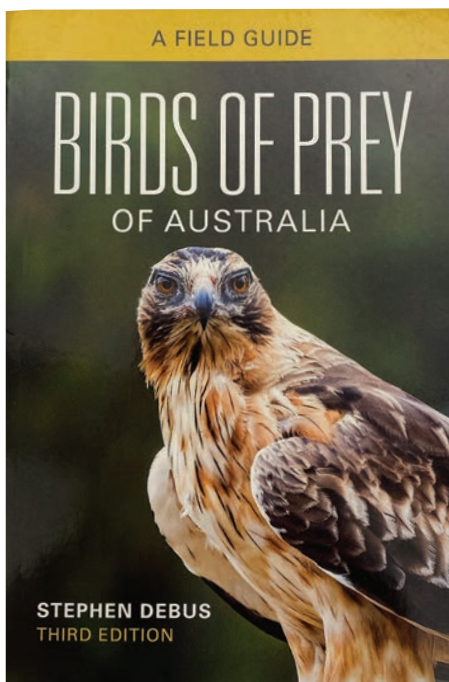
And for those who like a little adventure, why don't you join us for Building Bridges to Boorowa – our annual weekend pilgrimage to south-west NSW where we aim to plant at least 5,000 native tube stock plants on farming properties helping to reverse a range of environmental issues including habitat loss and fragmentation, salinity, erosion, creek bank stability and stock protection.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Brenda Park for coming into the office to help digitise archived Wildlife Watch records alongside Ruth Mitchell, we can use all the help we can get.

As always, thank you for being part of the Bushcare community. We look forward to another rewarding year of working together to care for North Sydney's natural areas!

BOOK REVIEW

A Field Guide to Birds of Prey of Australia by Stephen Debus, 3rd edition, 2019



Caption: Cover of A Field Guide Birds of Prey of Australia by Stephen Debus third Edition

A highlight of the Introduction to Wildlife Watch Walk in September 2025 was seeing a pair of Brown Goshawks nesting in Tunks Park. It's always a thrill to see a White-bellied Sea Eagle gliding up the Harbour. Plus, an Osprey has been observed recently around Balls Head. Quite a few raptors can be seen in North Sydney, but identifying raptors can be tricky, particularly when they are in flight, so a good field guide is essential.

The Field Guide to Birds of Prey of Australia is a step up from the standard field guides to the birds of Australia. It's perfect for people who want more help with identification and information on behaviour and ecology of Australia's 24 raptor species. Relatively slim at 204 pages, the book is divided into sections including: species description (with larger, more detailed drawings than a standard field guide, including juvenile plumage), a section on distinguishing difficult pairs of species from each other, photographs of each species in flight and a section describing the characteristics, distribution, behaviour, breeding and conservation status of each species. The sections are clearly and easily cross-

referenced. The text is mostly in plain English with any technical language used sparingly and explained in a glossary.

The author, Dr Stephen Debus, has researched raptors for many years and has been awarded BirdLife Australia's D L Serventy Medal for ornithological publication. His deep knowledge of the subject is clear in how he highlights features and behaviours that assist observers in identifying species in the field.

There were many occasions when reading this book where the descriptions illuminated something I had seen in the field. I'm looking forward to the Raptor Walk and Talk with Dr Debus on **Sunday 22 March** to learn more about these spectacular birds.

The Bushland team have placed a copy of A Field Guide Birds of Prey of Australia by Stephen Debus 3rd Edition and Australian Birds of Prey in Flight: A Photographic Guide by Richard Seaton, Mat Gilfedder and Stephen Debus in the Stanton Library for loan.

by Anne Pickles
- Wildlife Watch volunteer

WILDLIFE WATCH UPDATE (SUMMER 2025–2026)



Caption: Eastern Koel female, Berowra NSW by Bruce Ward-Smith, 31 Dec 2023 courtesy of Birdlifephotography.org.au
Caption: (inset) Eastern Koel male, by Angela Farnsworth, 2023 courtesy of Birdlifephotography.org.au

Eastern Koel (*Eudynamys orientalis*)

You may hear the distinctive “ko-EL!” call from this bird and see it if you are lucky. The migratory Eastern Koel visits Sydney during our warmer months (September - March). Most arrive from Papua New Guinea to breed and lay a single egg in another bird’s nest, before heading home.

From Robber flies to more swamp wallabies, a variety of living things were sighted and recorded this season. We are all familiar with brush turkeys, but who’s seen a Teddy-bear Bee or a Brown Goshawk?

This month, an Australian Fur-seal was spotted swimming near the ferry paths around Neutral Bay! Kingfishers were resting on electrical wires and more ringtail possums were found dead on roads.

During the hot days there were many water bowls put out that saw Blue-tongue Lizards and Eastern Water Dragons making repeat visits for a drink to cool down.

Tawny frogmouths were seen - like many of us – snoozing and taking it easy outdoors.

by Karina Hanemann
– Bushland Project Officer

Summer 2025–2026 sightings included:

- **Australian Fur-seal** (Neutral Harbour) in the water, along the ferry route.
- **Azure Kingfisher** (Waverton) perched on powerlines upslope of Badangi Reserve.
- **Eastern Koel** (Balls Head Reserve, Waverton, Anderson Park, Neutral Bay) males seen.
- **Swamp Wallaby** (Berry Island)
- **Orchard Butterfly** (Neutral Bay urban) female feeding on Agapanthus flowers.
- **Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo** (Neutral Bay urban) flying overhead.
- **Powerful Owl** (Waverton)
- **Australian Brush-turkey** (Neutral Bay, urban, Cremorne Point, Open Space Cremorne, Balls Head Reserve).
- **Brown Gerygone** (Gore Cove Reserve)
- **Eastern Blue-tongue Lizard** (Waverton) drinking from water bowl on ground, beside thick leaf-litter and local native plants.
- **Brown Goshawk** (Waverton) in an *Angophora costata* tree, appearing to have a small bird in its talons.
- **Australian Wood Duck** (Anderson Park, Neutral Bay) male and female seen.
- **Grey Butcherbird** (Brightmore Reserve, North Sydney urban, Waverton urban, Carradah Park, Balls Head Reserve, Anderson Park, Neutral Bay, Badangi Reserve, Berry Island).
- **Eastern Water Dragon** (Waverton, Cremorne Point) .
- **Tawny Frogmouth** (Balls Head Reserve, Cremorne urban).
- **St Andrew’s Cross Spider** (Cremorne Point) on Lomandra.
- **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** (Neutral Bay urban, Cremorne Point).
- **Teddy-bear Bee** (Cremorne Point) feeding on Agapanthus flowers.
- **Metallic Shield Bug** (Cremorne Point) on Sydney Red Gum (*Angophora costata*).
- **Welcome Swallow** (North Sydney Wharf, Cremorne Point, Primrose Park, Carradah Park, Balls Head Reserve, Neutral Bay urban).
- **Channel-billed Cuckoo** (Cremorne Point, Primrose Park, Cremorne urban) chick being fed in nest in fig tree by Pied Currawong; juvenile being fed in a tall Eucalypt by a Pied Currawong.
- **Common Ringtail Possum** (Balls Head Reserve, Neutral Bay urban and Cremorne urban).

For a full list of species, or to enter your own, search for Wildlife Watch on our website northsydney.nsw.gov.au/WildlifeWatch and click on ‘Submit or view sightings’.

You can also contribute sightings by contacting us at Council. We would love to hear your wildlife stories! Contact Council’s Bushland Project Officer on 9936 8100 or email council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

HILARY WALKER – RETIRING FROM HARRY HOWARD BUSHCARE

Hilary first joined Harry Howard Bushcare in 2000, beginning a journey that reflects dedication, consistency and care for the local environment. Since 2007*, she has generously contributed 251 hours of volunteer service to the Bushcare program and another 210 hours since 2011 for the Adopt a Plot initiative.

Beyond her local reserve, Hilary has been a loyal participant in the Building Bridges to Boorowa program for more than a decade. She took part from 2012 to 2019 and again in 2025, with earlier photos showing her involvement as far back as 2005 and 2006.

Hilary grew up on a sugar farm in Far North Queensland where she developed her love of the land. Her knowledge of various plants and weeds is remarkable and she is always generous in passing this on.

She remains sure-footed and can garden far longer than many. One field of specialty is Ehrharta, which she can weed for hours with her trusty blue bucket in tow.

Hilary's Adopt a Plot (HH2) lies on a steep, north-facing slope down to Newlands Lane, Wollstonecraft. Once overrun with garden escapes like *Monstera deliciosa* and Fishbone Fern, it has been transformed under Hilary's care. Working in the early years with fellow volunteer Jacqui Axford, she cleared weeds, terraced the slope and replanted hardy natives. Today, native vegetation covers most of the area, a clear result of her long-term effort and care.

But, Hilary's community contributions don't stop there. On a Saturday you will find her at the Coal Loader Community Garden, and you'll also see her there once or twice during the year watering and tending to the vegetables. On Mondays, she'll be out the front with the Waverton Hub walking group, doing at least six kilometres.

When asking others about Hilary, one person said her passion for life and generosity of spirit is wonderful. Another that she is always energetic and had a special talent of lifting others up when they were exhausted from a days' work.



Caption: Hilary Walker planting tree lanes, wildlife corridors, for Building Bridges to Boorowa, 2014 by Andrew Scott.

The Harry Howard Bushcare Group is sad to lose Hilary but is equally thankful for her service. Her time with the group reflects not only her commitment to bush regeneration, but her genuine love for the environment.

*Bushcare volunteer hourly contributions have been kept since 2007

Bushcare Community Nursery Open Day

A reminder to our North Sydney residents that the Bushcare Community Nursery Open Day is on

**Sunday 29 March
9am – 12pm**

This is an opportunity to learn about our volunteer environmental programs such as Bushcare, Wildlife Watch and Native Havens. North Sydney LGA households can also receive up to four native plants to create wildlife habitat at home.

Register for the Open Day at
northsydney.nsw.gov.au/NurseryOpenDay



WANDERING WEEDER



Caption: Mount Ainslie, Canberra (seen from across Lake Burley Griffin, the Australian War Memorial is centred) Photo taken by John Conway, 15 October 2004 courtesy of Wikimedia.

During my summer breaks from North Sydney Council Bushcare I like to join other environmental restoration groups on the North Coast and Southeast Coast while visiting family. I can recommend joining the following groups for a fun time while regenerating the bush.

South West Rocks Community Dune Care is five stars, they work 16 kilometres of coast from the mouth of the Macleay River round to Smoky Beach, south of Smoky Cape lighthouse on public land controlled by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and Kempsey Shire. Some keen individuals have worked tirelessly for decades restoring the dunes from Bitou Bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. rotundata*) invasion with spectacular results. The usual culprits are all there; *Lantana camara*, *Senna pendula*, Mother of Millions (*Bryophyllum delagoense*) and Asparagus Fern (*Asparagus aethiopicus*). This group works regular weekends and volunteer weeks at different locations throughout the year.

southwestrocksdunecare.com.au

Bellingen/Bat Island (Balawirr) Landcare Group is working to rehabilitate a remnant Littoral Rainforest beside the Bellinger River that hosts a colony of Grey-headed Flying-fox and some Little Red Flying-fox. They have removed veils of Madeira Vine (*Anredera cordifolia*) to reveal huge, magnificent trees. Of course, there are hundreds of tiny Madeira tubers to remove and some Trad (*Tradescantia fluminensis*) too. Some of the ground covers regenerating include ferns, native ginger and lovely mauve Pastel Flowers (*Pseuderanthemum variabile*).

bellingerlandcare.org.au/get-involved/local-groups

Canberra is another of my frequent destinations and the Mt Ainslie Weeders do not disappoint. Parks ACT oversee this group who are restoring an old tip site in the lovely Box Gum Grassy Woodland. Lots of planting, watering and building guards against the roos has taken place, as well as removing St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), thistles, Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*), Blue Periwinkle (*Vinca major*) and Cootamundra Wattle (*Acacia baileyana*).

My top sightings here are Shingleback Lizard, Eastern Rosellas (favourite) and Gang-gang Cockatoos. Mt Ainslie Weeders meet on the first Sunday of the month.

molonglo.org.au/mtainslieweeder

From time to time I visit Scottsdale Reserve, a Bush Heritage site near Bredbo on Ngunnawal and Ngarigo Country 45 minutes from Canberra. It is a degraded pastoral property being rehabilitated into woodland. Tasks there include weeding a herb field with Button Wrinklewort (*Rutidosia leptorrhynchoides*) a threatened species, planting and the Platypus survey. The highlight of my visit was a great view of a Rakali/Australian Water Rat and sitting by the Murrumbidgee River at dawn in the snow. The Flame Robins are stunning there. Bush Heritage hosts regular volunteer events and activities throughout the year.

bushheritage.org.au/places/scottsdale

Wherever you go there is a Bushcare group waiting for you, so get involved.

By Rachel Dawson
– NSC Bushcare Volunteer

2026 BUSHCARE AND BUSHLAND PLANNED WORKS

The 2026 Bushcare program kicked off with the first session at Balls Head Reserve on the 5th of February. The Bushland team has been busy behind the scenes preparing for another productive year from site maintenance, safety procedures and planning future works. Now it's your turn to get organised, too.

Preparation for Bushcare begins with some essential housekeeping. This includes stocking up on everyone's favourite tea, coffee and biscuits, as well as checking that all Bushcare tools are ready for the year ahead. We need to make sure knives and secateurs in

tool belts are sharpened, tool kits are inspected and any old or worn equipment is repaired or replaced where needed. These small but important tasks help ensure that Bushcare sessions run smoothly, safely and comfortably for our volunteers and NSC staff.

On-site preparation is equally important. It includes an initial site walk which allows the Bushland team to review conditions on the ground and update the bushland rehabilitation plans for each Bushcare site. Having clear, up-to-date plans ensures that each Bushcare group is working toward long-term goals

and that efforts are focused where they are most needed. While Bushcarers were on their well-deserved break over the holiday period, the Bushland team carried out regular maintenance sweeps to keep weed levels under control until volunteers returned.

Making sites safer and more accessible for volunteers is also a key part of site preparation. At Tunks Park West, the Bushland team has recently replaced the old stairs, which had degraded and fallen apart over time. The new stairs have been constructed using in-ground treated pine sleepers and secured with star



Caption: Tunks Park Bushcare preparation – site access stair replacement by Tristram Thomas, February 2026.

pickets, improving access into the site and reducing safety risks for volunteers

moving through the area.

The Bushland team has also returned to Badangi Reserve, where a prescribed burn took place in October last year. The burn was carried out to reduce bushfire risk and to support ecological regeneration. Since then, the team has observed encouraging signs of regrowth, including native plant species such as *Dodonaea triquetra*, *Acacia longifolia*, *Entolasia stricta* and *Lomandra longifolia*. These early indicators suggest the site is responding well to the burn. The team will continue to monitor Badangi Reserve over the coming months, watching for further regeneration and selectively removing

overpopulated plant species, such as Cheese Trees (*Glochidion ferdinandi*) and Bracken Fern (*Pteridium esculentum*), where required. With some good rainfall, we expect to see many more native species return to the site.

In addition, the Bushland team is liaising with Fire and Rescue NSW to plan further prescribed burns across North Sydney this year. The proposed burn sites include Balls Head Reserve, Berry Island, Smoothery Park and Tunks Park as part of ongoing bushfire risk management and ecological restoration.

By Tom Windon – Bush Regenerator

NURSERY UPDATE

In 2025, staff and volunteers propagated 13,368 local native plants – a commendable achievement for our little nursery! It was also a busy year for planting and events, with a stock turnover of almost 11,000 plants.

As usual for this time of year, the long days and high temperatures of summer have resulted in growth of our young nursery plants, so the place is vibrant with life and greenery.

This year, we've decided to capitalise on this post-summer abundance and move our annual Nursery Open Day from September to March. Whilst we're conditioned to think of spring as the season for new beginnings - a northern hemisphere hold over – in our coastal Sydney area, autumn is an ideal time to get plants in the ground. Compared to spring, autumn tends to be a wetter season with higher soil moisture and milder temperatures, meaning favourable conditions for establishing new roots and less chance of new plantings becoming heat stressed as the season progresses. If you're a resident of the North Sydney LGA, you can collect four free plants on our open day in March and get a head start on spring.

It wouldn't be a nursery update without mention of insects. Have you ever been curious about those frothy gobs of 'spit'

that sometimes appear on plant stems as the weather warms? These foamy blobs are colloquially known as Cuckoo Spit, although they have no connection to cuckoos or spit (at least we hope not!). The term originated in the northern hemisphere, where the spittle appears in spring at the same time as cuckoos.

The bubbly foam is produced by insects, namely nymphs of some Froghopper and Spittlebug species – sap-sucking insects in the Cercopidae and Aphrophoridae families. These insects have a worldwide distribution with many species being native to Australia.

The 'spittle' is formed when the nymph blows plant sap and air through a specialised anal structure, creating a froth that protects it from dehydration and predation. Neat trick!

Adult Froghoppers can look like tiny, horned cicadas and are incredible jumpers – just try catching one! Although considered harmless, in high numbers their sap-sucking habits can damage young plant stems. In the nursery, Froghoppers seem especially fond of slitting acacia stems and we hand remove them when necessary.

by Clare McElroy – Bushcare Nursery Supervisor



Caption: Cuckoo Spit (spittle) on an acacia by Clare McElroy, 2025.



Caption: Photo of a Common Spittlebug (*Philagra parva*) courtesy of Brisbaneinsects.com Note; this may not be the same species found producing spittle at the nursery but is a typical example of their appearance.

WEED TO WATCH

Gazania spp.

Family: Asteraceae - Native to South Africa

Gazania will be familiar to most Australian gardeners as a hardy, perennial groundcover that forms large mats of colourful daisies in gardens, sand dunes and municipal landscaping.

Plants form spreading clumps to 15cm high, topped by long-stemmed daisy flowers around 8cm across, in bright shades of yellow, bronze, orange and red. Flowering can occur throughout the year, with the main flush in spring and summer.

Leaves are elliptic to narrow-oblongate, 4-10cm long with irregular lobes, dark green above and hairy white below. Some cultivars have silvery-grey leaves.

Seeds (up to 60 per flower) are wind-dispersed but can also spread through vegetation dumping and contaminated soil.

Despite Gazania's cheerful appearance, the reality is not so attractive.

In the 1950s and 1970s, two species of Gazania (*G. rigens* and *G. linearis*) were introduced to Australia as low maintenance ornamentals.

Since then, Gazania's adaptability and high tolerance to a range of environmental factors, including drought and salinity, have allowed it to invade grasslands, coastlines, roadsides and agricultural land throughout Australia. Infestations spread aggressively, suppressing native regeneration and biodiversity, altering ecosystem functions and rendering pasture and cropland unusable.

In 2015, Gazania was declared a prohibited weed and banned from sale* in South Australia, where it is devastating arid landscapes and grain production areas. Although long recognised as an environmental weed in other states, Gazanias are not restricted from sale and are still freely available from garden centres.

A 2025 study by La Trobe University called 'Seeds of success: seed biology and germination response of Gazania weed in Australia', discovered that gazania seeds have a much higher tolerance for range of environmental conditions than previously thought, including light levels, temperature, seed burial depth, salt, pH and moisture. This suggests that there are greater opportunities, and more serious consequences, from gazania infestations in the future.

In the wake of this study, the Invasive Species Council is calling for a ban on the sale of Gazania species in all states.

Gazania is difficult to control at a landscape scale. Slashing can suppress seed production but does not impact the existing population, as plants are perennial. Smaller infestations can be crowned or hand-pulled or sprayed with a registered herbicide. Vigilant follow up is needed to target seedlings germinating from the soil seed bank.

Native alternatives: for coastal and dune areas, Pigface (*Carpobrotus glaucescens*) and Dune Fan Flower (*Scaevola calendulacea*) are great alternatives. Native daisies, such as *Brachyscome multifida*, are pretty garden alternatives.

*There are some sale exemptions for verified sterile cultivars.



Caption: Gazania flower at South Maroubra Beach Dunecare site by Andrew Scott, 2019.



Caption: Gazania sp. (foreground) amongst Pigface and Coastal Geranium (*Pelargonium australe*) at South Maroubra Beach Dunecare site by Andrew Scott, 2019.

BUSHCARE EVENTS CALENDAR

Bookings must be made for all events at: www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/bushcare or 9936 8100 unless otherwise stated.

MARCH

- 14 **Native Plant Propagation** | Saturday 10am to 1pm
- 15 **Bushcare Essentials** | Sunday 10am to 1pm
- 21 **Gum Walk and Talk** | Saturday 10am to 1pm
- 22 **Raptor Walk and Talk** | Sunday 9am to 12pm
- 29 **Community Nursery Open Day** | Sunday 9am to 12pm

APRIL

- 9 **Spotlight Walk and Talk** | Thursday 5.30pm to 8.30pm
- 10 **Bird and Bug Hunt** | Friday 10.30am to 12pm
- 14 **Family Bushwalk** | Tuesday 10.30am to 12pm
- 15 **Family Kayak** | Wednesday 10.30am to 12pm

MAY

- 9 **Wildlife Habitat Tour** | Saturday 10am to 1pm
- 15 **Bushcare Visit - Kurrajong** | Friday 7.30am to 2pm
- 16 **Bat Count - Gladesville Reserve** | Saturday 4pm to 7pm
- 21 **Responsible Cat Owner Webinar** | Thursday 6.30am to 8pm
- 29–31 **Building Bridges to Boorowa** | Friday to Sunday
Enquiries: gareth.debney@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

JUNE

- 4 **World Environment Day** | Thursday 9am to 12pm
- 11 **Annual Adopt-a-Plot meeting** | Thursday 6.30pm to 8pm |
Enquiries: larissa.kabakov@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
- 27 **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Walk** | Saturday 9am to 2pm
Bookings: lanecove.nsw.gov.au/bushcareevents or 9911 3583



Caption: Nella Moyle at Mortlock Bushcare by Tristram Thomas



Caption: Forsyth Bushcare Group, 28 February 2026 by Tristram Thomas

OOPS!



We made two errors in our 'Bees and other beneficial insects: a pocket-book guide' book review in the print copy of the Bushcare Newsletter Summer 2025 edition.

We incorrectly said that teddy bear bees and banded bees are types of carpenter bees. In truth, carpenter bees are separate species from teddy bear bees and banded bees.

We also said that Carpenter Bees nest in the ground, which is incorrect. Carpenter bees burrow into wood, while small circular holes in bare soil areas are made by many invertebrates like emergent cicadas, beetles, crickets, spiders and 70% of solitary native bee species.



Did you know North Sydney Council Bushcare has a Facebook page? Like us at www.facebook.com/bushcare



Visit regenTV the Australian Association of Bush regenerators video platform, view recordings of webinars, field days and forums. www.aabr.org.au/regenTV

For more information or to make a booking for any of these workshops or special events please contact the Bushcare Officer on 9936 8100. Printed on 70% recycled paper, FSC approved.

Gratitude to all our contributors who take the time to put ideas and research into words so we can learn. Thank you.

Would you like the newsletter emailed to you instead? www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/bushcare