

# THE BUSHCARE BULLETIN

JAN 2025 - ISSUE 70



# Bushcare Calendar

Date Event

## JANUARY

16 & 22 Nursery propagation

10 Seed collecting

14 Aboriginal bushfood walk

15 Scamper through the jungle

24 Nursery gardening group

29 Nursery Whackers

## FEBRUARY

12, 20 & 26 Nursery propagation

1 Yoga in the park

11 Aboriginal bushfood walk

12 Burnum Burnum guided walk

19 Bird spotting walk

28 Nursery gardening group

## MARCH

12, 20 & 26 Nursery propagation

5 Working with woody weeds

5 Aboriginal bushfood walk

10 Nursery Tour

12 LHCA guided walk

15 Nursery open day

28 Nursery gardening group

Cover image - Darook Park  
-Bill Howse

# Bushcare update

By Jason Salmon - Team Leader Bushcare

And just like that 2024, our 31st year of Bushcare, has come to a close and what a year it was!

Some of this year's highlights include

Grant funding for CRIF \$150K for pest animals, weeds and Don Lucas reserve, Saving our Species grant for *Prostanthera densa* \$6K, Saving Koalas fund \$200K. GSLLS Albert Delardes \$20K

A new Bushcare group at Biddie Giles Reserve Kirrawee looking after STIF (Sydney Turpentine -Ironbark Forest) a critically endangered ecological community and ANSTO Bushcare is back after a four year break, working in Barden's Creek which contains the Endangered Ecological Community Coastal Upland Swamp.

Events galore! We had numerous workshops, walks, bird watching, seed collecting, wood weed whittling, kayaking, dyeing and the Bushcare Fair, 58 events in total.

There were also a number of awards received this year in the SSC Bushland Unit

Sutherland Shire Council Nursery propagation volunteer group Jan, Carole, Christine and Helena were awarded Environmental Citizen of the year at the Australia Day Awards

Tony and Carol Allen being awarded the Southern Sydney Volunteer Team Winner at the NSW Volunteer of the Year Award. They attend Six Bushcare groups including Native Bee Garden, Dunoon Place, Gooyong, Prince Edward Park, Gooyong Riverside and Dysdale Place and only just missed out on a gong at the State Gala Ceremony held in December.

At the same event, Barbara Jones, who volunteers at Bass and Flinders Point and extensively at 3 Bridges Community, was awarded the Senior Volunteer of the Year.

At the Local Government NSW, Excellence in the Environment Awards 2024, The Nursery Team of Emma, Cris and Tammy who manage the volunteer program were awarded the Natural Environment Protection and Enhancement On-Ground Works award for the Growing our Future: Volunteers, trees and social connections project.

On behalf of all the Bushland Unit, I would like to thank you for your contribution in protecting and preserving The Shires unique biodiversity and wish you a merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you in 2025!



Tony and Carol  
- Bill Howse



Barbara winning  
- Bill Howse

# Variegation

By Emma Brame - Nursery Horticulturist

Variegation in plants is when the leaves have more than one colour on them. Most commonly this can be tones of light green, white, yellow, pink and red. The differing colouration can be in the form of dots, blotches, stripes, speckles or along the edges. Variegated plants can be very appealing and are more commonly known in the indoor plant world. They can be very rare and collectable, not to mention expensive! When it comes to natives, variegation is usually seen more in cultivated plants.

There are three main types/causes of variegation.

## 1. Genetic or Pattern Gene Variegation.

This is a natural form of variegation of markings making almost defined patterns along the leaves that almost look like they have perfect symmetry on either side of the leaf margin.

## 2. Viral variegation

As the name suggest this type of variegation is caused from a virus. As long as the virus is active in the plant, variegation will occur. Mosaic Virus is a commonly known type of this and usually affects mainly vegetable and fruit crops.

## 3. Mutation AKA Chimeral variegation

This is the most common type of variegation and is caused by lack of chlorophyll (green pigment) and a mutant cell. In the nursery we see this on the odd occasion in seedlings. However, it will either revert to its natural form if healthy enough or it will struggle to survive. The leaves turn brown and eventually drop off due to several reasons, the main one being too much water as variegated plants require less water. They also require less fertiliser as they are sensitive to a number of elements in fertilisers, even the low phosphorus native fertiliser used in the nursery.



*Hakea sericea*- Emma Brame



*Eucalyptus sp.*- Emma Brame



*Doryanthes excelsa*- Emma Brame

# Spring Bush Whackers At JB Gardens

By Bradley van Luyt - Bushcare Officer

A fifth Wednesday means Bush Whackers and our most recent combined event was at Joseph Banks Native Gardens. Polly is our head gardener at JB and my fellow Bushcare Officer Grace works with the Bushcare volunteer group that work there once a month. Volunteers from Australian Plants Society also have a monthly workday there.

All of our Bushcare sites could do with a helping hand now and again and this month JB was lucky enough to get the benefits of a concentrated hit of Bush Whackers.

It was a glorious day with a bit of sun and light breeze to making for a very nice morning in the field. Under a sunny blue sky we all rocked up to JB and gathered around the shelter hut. We were a bunch of volunteers, Bushcare Officers, Regenerators, an acting Invasive Species Officer and even Nathan, our boss, all ready to whack. Grace took us through the site induction and then pointed us in the general direction of the weeds. With bags, belts and bottles of herbicide we bumbled down the hill and got stuck in.

As a Bushcare Officer, my role is to facilitate Bushcare Groups, supporting the volunteers, advising on weeds and weeding techniques, supervising and assisting... but there was none of that nonsense this time. Head down bum up, I found a little patch of weeds for myself and just started killing. Small leaf privet.. Rip!! Fishbone Fern.. Rip!! Crofton weed.. Rii.. STOP!! WAIT! Lots of seed on it!!! Carefully, with newly sharpened seccos (Felco brand too. Nothing but the best for the workers!) I snipped off the feathery seed heads and placed them in my big white bag before looking to the base of the crofton and...Rip!!! Fiddle fiddle, snip, dig, wriggle, turn, crunch up, bend down, try to get the annoying stick out my bum, push the thorny twig away from my face, wriggle wiggle, bum shuffle and dig. I was a bit too close to the edge so I was careful to stick close to the face of the small cliff above. It actually provided quite the comfortable back rest as I worked on the next species annoying me. Ahead of me lay a nice little spread of seaside daisy. There was only a little bit, and then there was a little bit more and a bit more after that. What a bugger. It gets into everything! There was some really nice *Bauera rubioides* and *Gonocarpus teucrioides* there and the seaside daisy was right through all of it. I started thinking about my grandfather and his evening past-time of untangling fishing line and I started some untangling of my own. Fiddle fiddle, bloody stuff, fiddle fiddle, argh fu.. "Morning tea!!!!" Right, sod the daisies, let's cake!



Bush Whackers -Polly Simmonds

A blue swarm swept up the hill back to the hut and smoko was served. Our fearless leader Nathan is a terrific boss but his estimation on just how much cake a horde of hungry Bush Whackers could consume was sorely undercooked. Thankfully, Chris shot down to Loftus Pies to put things aright.

I can't remember just how many eager types we had on the day but it was certainly enough to empty most of our thermoses and demolish all of the cake. We had time for a quick sit down and chinwag and then the last gritty dregs were slurped down or slopped out and we sloped off back to the weed front.

No, the weed fairies hadn't been while we took tea, so it was back on the knees and into the tangled weave of Gonocarpus, Bauera and seaside daisy. More fiddling and a bit of heave-ho too as another bit of fishbone fern was helped to fall out of the ground and then, much to my dismay I had the questionable joy of getting closer to nature than I would've liked. Anyone familiar with the sting of bull ant? Ouch. Where did he come from? Oh, right there where I'd been stabbing away with my hori-hori. No wonder he was cranky... My friend and colleague Bill decided discretion was the better part of valour and he left me to this little corner of JB on my own. Some friend...! Oh well. At least I had the bull ants to keep me company...

I can't recall much else of the morning. It was like all our Bushwhacker days, a great gaggle of keen vollos and Bushcare staff, catching up with old friends and maybe making some new friends too while making another patch of the shire's bushland just that little bit better.

The morning slowly became the afternoon and knock-off was called. Bags were emptied (the Bush Regen truck was nearly full! I didn't think there were that many weeds when we started ), almost empty water bottles sloshed down and the blue swarm slowly evaporated. Let's hope it coalesces again at Nursery Whackers next year on Wednesday, 29th January, 2025.

You can join the Bushcare volunteers at Joseph Banks Native Gardens on the first Thursday of the month from 9am-12noon.

## Plants of the month

By Cris Breitenbach - Nursery Team Leader

One of the aims of the Community Nursery, is to promote the use of indigenous plants, that is plants that occur naturally in our local area. Our propagation material, either seed or cuttings are collected from our many beautiful parks, bush reserves and under license from the Royal National Park. The use of local natives for our retail customers, provides the advantage of the plants being adapted to local conditions and therefore requiring less intervention of fertilisers and pesticides. Use of local species is also an important way to stimulate natural biodiversity by supporting our native wildlife by providing food and shelter. Our local species are also far less likely to have a negative impact on our natural areas by becoming weedy and spreading unwanted seed via waterways, wind, animals or humans.



Display table - Cris Breitenbach

The nursery provides access all year round for our customers to redeem vouchers or purchase local native plants. For the tube stock on the benches, these are arranged by height and identified by a large label that provides information and usually photos, for each species.

We have recently purchased for the nursery, a new circular display bench, which is situated at the entrance to the retail area of the nursery. Each month a new group of plants will be displayed on the bench and an information sheet provided for customers to access. Different themes will be chosen each month, with the themes already promoted including bush tucker, Acacias, yellow flowering plants and ferns.

The advantages of this display bench include -creating a visually appealing and engaging display at the entrance

- Educating local residents on possibly unfamiliar plants
- Highlighting species by increasing their visibility
- Tailoring our display to connect with flowering times, special events or seasonal interest.
- Capture attention and create and maintain interest in local species

Next time you are visiting the nursery, be sure to keep your eye out for the next display.

# Bilums and Dilly Bags Made from Plants

By Graham Avery – Natural Areas Aboriginal Heritage Officer



During my annual leave in November 2023, May 2024, and November 2024, I went up to Madang Province, north of Papua New Guinea.

The Papuan kinship system is much the same with Aboriginal kinship system in New South Wales, that is, all the mother's sisters are mothers, and all the father's brothers are fathers.

The Madang coastline was very interesting, it is facing east like the New South Wales coastline, when you are facing southeast, you can see the high mountainous ranges along Ramu River, and when you turn to northeast, you can see a large island with the erupted volcano covering with clouds, known as Karkar Island.

I learnt so much about the plants, the corals, and geology in Madang Province. I was staying in the Madang Hotel Resort, most of the people live between tropical rainforest species, plantation species, and urban environment. They required roads to transport fruits and vegetables to the town markets to sell to make a living. Most of the Madang people know about their plants and they have their own plant names in their Tok Pisin language or their local languages. The Madang people in the main town, markets, and villages are quite friendly and open to conversation with non-Papuan tourists about their local area. There are 300 different language groups in Madang Province, and most of them speak their national language called Tok Pisin. Tok Pisin is similar to the Torres Strait Islander Creole.

The geological landscape around the main town is mostly an ancient coral reef, then it was pushed up by ancient volcanoes. The volcanic soil is very good for agriculture for via 6,000 years. What is famous about Madang Province and Papua New Guinea are the string bags called bilum. The Aboriginal people in Sydney used to make string bags like the bilums called dilly bags. I had met a Madang woman with wealth of knowledge of how to make bilums to sell in her local market in town. She made all the bilums herself as you can see in the photo above.



In the tropical environment, the Papuan, Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal peoples on the coastline and islands make bilums directly from pandanus trees. However, the Dharawal and Dharug peoples in temperate climate of Sydney area probably made their string bags from *Brachychiton* species (Kurrajongs), *Commersonia* species (native hibiscus), and fibrous from *Livistona australis* (Cabbage Palm). Also, the bilum and dilly bag makers used fruits and ochres to make different colours for dyeing their bags and baskets to represent their clan, language, states, or provinces. One of the bilums I bought, it's made from a pineapple, and it is quite strong.



Bilums - Graham Avery

Shalah Johnson, the Chairperson of Sutherland Shire Reconciliation, of Anaiwan descent, has the wealth of knowledge of making baskets and strings from the *Livistona australis* (Dharawal palm), and other native fibrous, but she love making from *Lomandra longifolia* (mat-rush), because it was the first native plant shown by a Bundjalung Aunty.

I would love to see more Aboriginal dilly bags and baskets made from plants in south-east Australia. There are still remaining strong Aboriginal women in New South Wales who are currently keeping the weaving knowledge alive. There are different type of dilly bags; coiled basket, paperbark bag, palm frond bag, and weaving bag.

## The Fray

Bushcare's Shire partners are active all year round and continue to host events. All welcome volunteers to help run the programs that help protect the Shire's natural areas. Contact the groups direct if you wish to find out more information or participate

### AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY

#### (SUTHERLAND GROUP)

Sutherland APS group, meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7:00pm at the Gynea Community Centre, 39 Gynea Bay Rd, Gynea.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/APS.Sutherland>

Website: <http://austplants.com.au/Sutherland>

Contact Ralph Cartwright on 9548 1074



### MENAI WILDFLOWER GROUP

Meetings and propagation workshops are held at the Illawong Fire Station For activities check out our Website and Facebook page.

Website: [www.menaiwildflower.austplants.com.au](http://www.menaiwildflower.austplants.com.au)



### BOTANY BAY BUSY BEES

The group meet and work on the mornings of the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month, excluding December & January, 9:00am to noon at various locations within the park. Habitats range from coastal heath to tall woodland.

Morning tea is provided and tools supplied. Call Kamay Botany Bay National Park to enquire: 9668 2010. The group meet at the visitors centre in the Park.



### ROYAL NATIONAL PARK (FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL)

If you are interested in our program please contact Royal Area office on 9542 0632 or email: [royal.nationalpark@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:royal.nationalpark@environment.nsw.gov.au).

For more about Friends of Royal check their web page: [www.friendsofroyal.org.au/](http://www.friendsofroyal.org.au/)

# Mycorrhiza magic!

By Polly Simmonds - Joseph Banks Team Leader

Our local healthy sandstone ecosystems with shallow "poor" sandy soils support an average of over 50 different flora species per 400m<sup>2</sup> contiguous area [1]. This includes hundreds of individual plants, from little herbs to giant trees. With no added fertilisers or water, our bushland survives and thrives, putting on a fantastic display year round. How does it do it?

Our Aussie plants have evolved numerous adaptations over a very long time that help them thrive in "poor" soils. One example is proteoid roots. These are clusters of closely spaced short lateral rootlets, that form mats just beneath the leaf litter on Banksias, Grevilleas and Casuarinas. They have super phosphorous extraction capabilities.

Australian plants have evolved interactively with each other and also with all the other components of their ecosystems. Acacias and peas utilise rhizobacteria to take nitrogen from out of the air and fix it into their noduley roots. *Ericaceae* have fine feathery, ericoid mycorrhizal roots, that are very efficient at absorbing a range of nutrients. *Myrtaceae*, *Fabaceae*, *Poaceae*, *Asteraceae*, *Rutaceae*, *Rubiaceae*, *Lamiaceae*, many ferns, and orchids (which have particular orchid mycorrhiza); in fact the vast majority of Aussie plants; directly utilise mycorrhizal fungi to expand their nutrient and water uptake capabilities [2].



Mycorrhizal pellaea root soil clump  
- Anthony Duposevski

Mycorrhizal fungi is used commercially in mine site rehabilitation to revive dead soils; and in agriculture to maximise crop yield, by vastly increasing root nutrient absorption capability. On a five year dune restoration project I worked on, we found that restoration of sufficient soil mycorrhiza via reintroduction of primary colonisers was required before secondary species would survive [3].

There are two main types of mycorrhizal fungi. The first grows symbiotically on plant roots (ectomycorrhiza). The second grows into the cells of plant roots (endomycorrhiza). Endomycorrhiza tend to have smaller less obvious fruiting bodies, so you're unlikely to notice them. Australian plants with ectomycorrhiza, usually also have endomycorrhizal associations.

Endo are the most common mycorrhiza type, with about 150 species that form

associations with about 300,000 plant species globally, across a broad range of biomes. Nearly all of them can associate with a wide variety of plants, enabling connection and nutrient and water exchange between different plant species.

All the different plant families grow together in communities. They cycle and exchange nutrients and water, held in and transported throughout the soil, by the extensive threadlike hyphal network. It helps bind the soil and acts like a big water and nutrient holding spongy network linking the plants. Mycorrhizal fungi is assisted by Mycorrhizal helper bacteria that promote mycorrhiza growth and disease resistance. Other non mycorrhizal (NM) fungi and organisms break down dead organic matter and release nutrients back into the soil.

Most NM Australian plants have root systems with extensive root hairs and/or root clusters, such as *Proteaceae* with proteoid roots and *Haemodoraceae* with sand binding roots. These plants benefit indirectly from the ability of neighbouring plants' mycorrhiza to transport and



hold nutrients and water throughout the soil, which NM specialised roots can then access.

Some of the mycorrhizal ground layer species that we have been and will be planting at Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve are:

Plant species	Ecto	Endo	Nitrogen fixing
Kennedia rubicunda, K. prostrata		X	X
Hardenbergia violacea, Oxylobium and Mirbelia spp	X	X	X
Brachyscome, Calotis, Hibbertia, Patersonia, Goodenia, Lechenaultia, Lobelia, Chrysocephalum, Eremophila, Viola and Scaevola spp.		X	
Poa, Themeda, Eragrostis spp.		X	
Adiantum, Pellaea		X	
Podocarpus		X	
Hydrocotyle, Platysace, Xanthosia		X	
Bulbine		X	

1. Tozer, M. (2003) The native vegetation of the Cumberland Plain, western Sydney: systematic classification and field identification of communities. *Cunninghamia* 8(1): 1-75.

2. <https://mycorrhizas.info/ozplants.html>

3. Clements, AM, Simmonds, A, Hazelton, P, Inwood, C, Woolcock, C, Markovina, AL, O'Sullivan, P (2010) Construction of an environmentally sustainable development on a modified coastal sand mined and landfill site-Part 2. Re-establishing the natural ecosystems on the reconstructed beach dunes. *Sustainability*, 2010, 2 (3), pp. 717 - 741.

## The Disability Trust at the Nursery

By Cris Breitenbach - Nursery Team Leader

Once a month the nursery team host participants from The Disability Trust as part of our nursery propagation program. The group of young men and their support workers are a great help to us in preparing trays, doing *Carpobrotus glaucescens* (pigface) cuttings and cleaning up.

Over the year we have seen each individual gain confidence, develop new skills and improve their communication strengths. We enjoy their visits, and knowing that by getting dirty, we can help them in a small way to reach their full potential in a workplace setting.



# BUSHCARE WORKDAYS

**Workdays can be cancelled at short notice. (BvL) etc after the time denotes the first initial of the Bushcare Officer responsible for the group.**

## 1ST SATURDAY

Lucas Heights Conservation Area, 8.00am (JS)  
Gunnamatta Park 8.30am (GL)  
Wanda Beach, Cronulla 8.30am (ST)  
Alcheringa Reserve, Miranda 12.30pm (ST)  
Tea Tree Place, Kirrawee 1.00pm (GL)

## 2ND SATURDAY

Maandowie, Loftus 8.30am (GL)  
Freya St, Kareela 8.30am (ST)  
Struen Marie Reserve, Kareela 10.30am (ST)  
Yarra Vista Court, Yarrawarrah 1.00pm (ST)

## 3RD SATURDAY

Burraneer Park, Caringbah 8.30 am (GL)  
Hall Drive Reserve, Menai 8.30am (ST)  
Beauford Park, Caringbah 1.00pm (GL)  
Corinth Road, Heathcote 12.30pm (ST)

## 4TH SATURDAY

Akuna Avenue Oval, Bangor 8.30am (ST)  
The Esplanade, Cronulla Point 8.30am (GL)  
Biddy Giles Park, Kirrawee 12.30pm (ST)  
Various reserves, Maianbar 1.30pm (GL)

## 1ST SUNDAY

Carina Bay, Como 8:30am (GL)  
Bass & Flinders Point, Cronulla 8.30am (BH)  
Burnum Burnum Sanct., Jannali 9.00am (ST)  
The Crescent Creek, Woronora 1.00pm (BH)  
Oyster Creek Gully, Jannali 1.00pm (GL)  
Kingswood Road, Engadine 1.00pm (ST)

## 2ND SUNDAY

Kareena Park, Caringbah 8.30 (ST)  
Fernleigh Road Res, Caringbah 9:00am (BH)  
Kareela Reserve, Kareela 1.00pm (BH)  
Coora Rd Reserve, Yowie Bay 12:30pm (ST)

## 3RD SUNDAY

Prince Edward Park, Woronora 8.30am (BH)  
Honeysuckle Reserve, Jannali 8.30am (GL)  
Paruna Reserve, Como West 9.00am (ST)  
Grays Point Reserve 1.00pm (GL)  
Buckinbah Place Reserve, Lilli Pilli 1.00pm (ST)

## 4TH SUNDAY

Darook Park, Cronulla 8.30am (BH)  
The Glen Reserve, Bonnet Bay 8.30am (ST)  
Savilles Creek, Kirrawee 8.30am (GL)  
Banksia Res, Engadine 1.00pm (ST)  
Marina Crescent, Gymea Bay 1.00pm (GL)  
Rutherford Reserve, Burraneer, 1.00pm (BH)

## 1ST MONDAY

Whitton Street, Heathcote 8.30am (BvL)  
Taren Point Shorebird, Taren Point 9.00am (ST)  
Columbine Close, Loftus 1:00pm (BvL)  
Brigalow Place, Engadine 1:00pm (ST)

## 2ND MONDAY

Delta St, Sutherland 9.00am (BH)  
Koolangara Res, Bonnet Bay 9:00am (ST)

## 3RD MONDAY

Hakea Street, Yarrawarrah, 8.30am (BvL)  
Port Hacking Rd Res., Sylvania 9.00am (ST)  
Australia Rd, Barden Ridge 9.00am (BH)  
Nelson Street, Engadine 1.00pm (BvL)

## 4TH MONDAY

Young Street Reserve, Sylvania 9.00am (ST)

## 1ST TUESDAY

Myra Creek, Loftus 8.30am (BvL)  
Dunoon Place Reserve, Bangor 9.00am (BH)  
Menai Conservation Park, Menai 9.00am (ST)  
Upper Forbes Creek, Engadine 1.00pm (BvL)  
Surrey Place, Kirrawee 1.00pm (BH)

## 2ND TUESDAY

Caravan Head Res, Oyster Bay 9.00am (BvL)  
Lilli Pilli Point Reserve 9.00am (BH)  
Forbes Creek South, Engadine 1.00pm (BvL)

## 3RD TUESDAY

Forestgrove Drive, Menai 9.00am (ST)  
Kareena Park, Caringbah 9.00am (BH)  
Sesquicentenary Pk, Heathcote 9.00am (BvL)  
Darook Park Sth,  
Cronulla 1.00pm (BH)

## 4TH TUESDAY

Bottle Creek, Heathcote 8.30am (BvL)  
Loftus St, Bundeena 9.00am (BH)  
Lilli Pilli Point Reserve 9.00am (ST)  
Hungry Point Res, Cronulla 12.30pm (ST)

## 1ST WEDNESDAY

Windy Point, Cronulla 8.30am (ST)  
Bundeena Reserve, Bundeena 9.00am (GL)  
Prices Reserve South, Woronora 9.00am (BH)  
Simpson Rd, Bundeena 11.30am (GL)

## 2ND WEDNESDAY

Cabbage Tree Point, Bundeena 9.00am (BvL)  
Constables Point, Maianbar 9.00am (GL)  
Green Point Rd Res, Oyster Bay 9.00am (ST)  
Alcheringa Reserve 9.00am (BH)  
Gooyong Reserve, Bangor 1.00pm (BH)

## 3RD WEDNESDAY

Croston Rd, Engadine 9.00am (BvL)  
Albert Delardes Reserve, Illawong 9.00am (ST)  
Gooyong Riverside, Woronora 9.00am (BH)  
Dunwell Avenue, Loftus 1.00pm (BvL)

## 4TH WEDNESDAY

Forest & Corella Roads, Kirrawee 9.00am (BvL)  
Newcombe Street, Maianbar 9.00am (GL)  
Wattlebird Reserve, Caringbah 9.00am (BH)

## 1ST THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (GL)  
Joseph Banks Native Plant Reserve 9.00am (GL)  
Louden Avenue, Illawong 9.00am (BvL)  
John McKinn Park, Cronulla 9.00am (BH)

## 2ND THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (GL)  
Parc Menai 8.30am (BvL)  
Native pollinator Garden 9.00am (BH)

## 3RD THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (GL)  
Eighth Avenue, Loftus 8:30am (BvL)  
Savilles Creek Reserve, Kirrawee 9.00am (GL)

## 4TH THURSDAY

Kareela Golf Course 7.00am (GL)  
Drysdale Place, Kareela 9.00am (BH)

## 1ST FRIDAY

Coonong Creek Reserve, Gymea 8:30am (GL)  
Ewey Creek, Miranda 8.30am (BvL)

## 2ND FRIDAY

Ninth Avenue Reserve, Loftus 9.00am (BvL)

## 3RD FRIDAY

Farrer Place, Oyster Bay 8.30am (BvL)  
Kyogle Place, Grays Point 8.30am (GL)  
Gunnamatta Foreshore, Cronulla 1.00pm (GL)

## 4TH FRIDAY

Kiora Road South, Yowie Bay 8:30am (BvL)  
Shiprock Reserve, Lilli Pilli 9.00am (GL)  
Community Nursery, Gymea 9:00am



Yellow-tailed black cockatoo  
- Bill Howse

To join Bushcare  
please go to

<https://www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/Bushcare-Volunteers>



Don't forget our Facebook page. It is a hub to share information, photographs and video amongst users. Log onto Facebook, search 'Sutherland Shire Bushcare' and 'like' the page.

# Bushland Activities

## SEED COLLECTING

Friday 10 January  
9:00am - 12:00pm

Koorabar Rd, Bangor

Join Bushcare for a seed collecting trip to collect seed to be used in the Council Community Nursery.

## ABORIGINAL BUSHFOOD WALK

Tuesday 14 January  
Tuesday 11 February  
Wednesday 5 March

10:00am - 11:30am  
Joseph Banks Native Garden

Join Council's Native Areas Aboriginal Heritage Officer, Graham Avery, for a guided walk where you will learn about Australian native bushfood.

## SCAMPER THROUGH THE JUNGLE

Wednesday 15 January  
9:30am - 11:30am

Our "Scamper through the Jungle" Bushcare event has become our most successful school holidays activity for kids, and it's free! Form a small team or pair and collect clues as you race through the amazing gardens of the Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve. Recommended for primary school ages, parents are welcome to accompany their children on this activity. Registration is required.

## BUSH WHACKERS

Wednesday 29 January  
9:00am - 12:00pm  
Council Community Nursery

If you're curious about Bushcare, come along to the Council Community Nursery, Gymea. This special Bushcare event is the perfect excuse to get out and meet new people and learn about the Shire's beautiful bushland.

## YOGA IN THE PARK

Saturday 1 February  
Gunnamatta Park  
8:30am - 12:00pm

Join Bushcare for a gentle yoga class followed by a native planting session at Gunnamatta Park.

## BURNUM BURNUM WALK

Wednesday 12 February  
9:00am - 11:30am

Join Bushcare and botanist Dan Clarke for a guided nature walk through Burnum Burnum Reserve. This walk will be looking at the reserve after a hazard reduction burn. Bookings are essential.

## BIRD SPOTTING WALK

Wednesday 19 February  
8:00am - 11:00am

Thorpe Road, Woronora

Join Bushcare and bird expert, Ricki Coughlan, for a guided bird spotting and walk through the bushland around Thorpe Road.

## WORKING WITH WOODY WEEDS

Wednesday 5 March  
8:30am - 4:00pm

Join Bushcare on a journey to discover what to do with woody weeds. You'll learn how to turn useless privet into one of the most useful of objects - a spoon. All tools, materials and morning tea supplied.

## NURSERY TOUR

Monday 10 March  
Council Community Nursery  
9:00am - 10:30am

Visit the Community Nursery in Gymea for a behind the scenes tour of our production facilities. See how we produce over 150,000 plants a year, from seed or cuttings all the way to the sales bench. Morning tea provided.

## NATURE WALK: LUCAS HEIGHTS CONSERVATION AREA

Wednesday 12 March  
9:00am - 12:00pm

Join Bushcare and botanist Dan Clarke for a guided nature walk through this seldom visited reserve in the west of the Shire. This walk will highlight the extensive conservation work Bushcare has undertaken in partnership with the Mill Creek Mountain Bike Community.

## NURSERY OPEN DAY

Saturday 15 March  
8:00am - 1:00pm  
Council Community Nursery,  
Gymea.

Can't make it to the nursery during the week? This is your chance to use your voucher to get your free plants. Bring a bag or a box with you for your plant purchases.



*Litoria peronii* - Emma Brame

# Invasive Species end of year wrap up

By Chris Banks - Invasive Species Officer

As the year comes to a close, it's been exciting to see a couple of important projects commence, namely our annual Aquatic Weeds Program and a National Heritage Trust grant funded project which focuses upon the restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance of natural areas buffering key migratory shorebird wetland and Saltmarsh habitats fringing the shores of Botany Bay.

Our aquatic weeds program is now in it's fifth year of operation and has been invaluable in monitoring and treating for priority weeds such as Alligator weed, Ludwigia and Salvinia across 14 wetland and creekline sites throughout the Shire. Alongside these programs, our fox and deer management programs continue to reduce impacts on the local environment and residents.



## Bushcare Contact Details

### PHONE

02 9524 5672

And follow the prompts

### EMAIL

bushcare@ssc.nsw.gov.au

### WEB

www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au

### JASON

0414 193 874 (Mon-Fri)

jsalmon@ssc.nsw.gov.au

### BRADLEY

0414 193 710 (Mon-Fri)

bvanluyt@ssc.nsw.gov.au

### BILL

0414 193 709 (Sun-Thur)

whowse@ssc.nsw.gov.au

### SABRINA

0414 193 873 (Sat-Wed)

smthompson@ssc.nsw.gov.au

### GRACE

0408 538 143 (Wed-Sun)

glonergan@ssc.nsw.gov.au



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