



# AABR NEWS

Australian Association of Bush Regenerators

*working with natural processes*

**Nº 131**  
**January**  
**2017**

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Photo: V Bear

The Purple Copper Butterfly is found in specific habitats on the Central Tablelands of NSW.

On the AABR visit to Bathurst in September 2016, members and friends learnt about a project to help this endangered species (see article on Page 4).

Virginia Bear from Little Gecko Media was able to visit the habitat of these butterflies and take this gorgeous photo which shows its colouring.

## ***AABR lunch for pioneer regenerators***

AABR is still celebrating its 30th Birthday!

On **Monday 6 March 11am to 2pm** there will be a lunch at the **Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden** (northern Sydney) for those who were unable to attend the dinner and awards ceremony last July, and any who did and would like to catch up again with old friends and colleagues.

It will be a ticketed event to cover the costs of a light lunch.

We will assist with transport, so please let us know how we can help. If you come by train, the nearest station is Gordon, and we can provide transport from there if you wish.

See **page three** for more information on the pioneer regenerators

Please register by contacting Jane Gye, AABR Secretary at [secretary@aabr.org.au](mailto:secretary@aabr.org.au) or phone (02) 9456 6626

# President's Perspective

AABR is off to a great start in 2017 with the RegenTV program being given a boost of multiple newly uploaded videos and educational materials. There is a continuing momentum for action this year including the lunch for pioneer regenerators (see front page) and a number of other initiatives approved by our 'AGM in the pub'. The following are just some of these!

**New Executive Officer.** AABR's continued progress has been given a boost by the appointment of our very first Executive Officer, Suzanne Pritchard. Suzanne is a bundle of energy, inspiration and efficiency and comes to us with a huge swag of skills that will help to place AABR on a stronger footing for continuing our work in the long term. Suzanne has already proven her capacity in her work as our Education Officer and coordinator of the RegenTV project (See report on Page 12) and continues to bring fresh ideas to the task of administration and communication on behalf of the committee.

**Contractors Action Group.** A small group of five contractors has been nominated to progress forums and representations relevant to contractors. Suggestions raised to date include pressing for a review of the NSW Environmental Trust's guide to managing bush regeneration contracts (a project the Trust has expressed support for) and ideas for a future program of forums relevant to those involved in managing tenders and contracts. There is room for one or two more highly motivated members on the action group – so if you are a contractor and can carve out some time to contribute actively to the group please contact me on [president@aabr.org.au](mailto:president@aabr.org.au) or Scott Meier on [barrcltd@hotmail.com](mailto:barrcltd@hotmail.com).

**Field trips to Broken Hill.** Two trips are in the pipeline – one planned for (tentative date) February 27<sup>th</sup> to March 3<sup>rd</sup> to gather field information and hold an AABR workshop with locals involved in the Broken Hill Regeneration Reserves – arguably the earliest deliberately planned regeneration initiative in the world. The goal of the workshop is to bring together people from various sectors of the industry to discuss the project's history and current status, and plan a Spring 2017 industry award event for the project's initiators – Albert and Margaret Morris. (This year was chosen as it marks the 80th anniversary of the completion of fencing of the Broken Hill Regeneration Area.) The concept of the second trip is a user-pays bus trip to attend the awards ceremony and to experience a guided tour of the reserve in the company of a botanist and to visit other sites in the region (including Nyngan's waterponding sites!). Bookings for the trip will not open until at least April or May 2017 when the travel package is finalised. **Note:** Any **sponsors** willing to have their name associated with the Broken Hill field trips, workshop and award are most welcome to email me at [president@aabr.org.au](mailto:president@aabr.org.au).

**SER's International Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration** were released on December 12<sup>th</sup> 2016 at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP) in Cancun. This document is an internationalised version of the existing Australian National Standards in which AABR was a partner. It acknowledges the contribution of the AABR reps involved in the project. Great to see that our efforts to highlight assisted regeneration as an important approach to ecological restoration is now a core component of the international Standards.

Tein McDonald.  
President AABR

## AABR AGM

### Your new Committee 2016-17

At the AABR AGM held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016, the election took place, of the 2016-17 Committee and office bearers.

The committee comprises

- Tein McDonald (President),
- Suzanne Pritchard (Treasurer and Minutes Secretary),
- Jane Gye (Secretary),
- Committee members: Agata Mitchell, Andrew McGahey, Ben Ford, Melanie Ledgett, Elisabeth Dark, Matthew Pearson, Scott Meier, Spencer Shaw.

Our committee includes members from Sydney and coastal NSW, SE Qld and South Australia.

Welcome to the new committee members, Agata Mitchell and Andrew McGahey, and many thanks to Kate Low and Mark Cachia, who leave the committee, for their contribution.

Non-committee positions are

- Heather Stolle - Public Officer
- Louise Brodie - Membership and Newsletter
- Danny Hirschfeld - Accreditation
- Mitra Gusheh - Website maintenance
- Virginia Bear - Photography and videography

## AABR'S New Executive Officer

Late last year AABR contracted its first Executive Officer, Suzanne Pritchard, to support the AABR Committee to progress the aspirations of AABR.

Some of the projects that Suzanne will be undertaking include providing administrative support to AABR's Executive, promoting membership and accreditation, assisting with the development of robust online systems and governance, applying for grants, assisting with forums and fundraising and assisting with the coordination of AABR's events program.

Suzanne has a community landcaring background with experience in community engagement, communications, business administration, grant funding and on-ground project delivery in the Lake Macquarie-Newcastle area. She has worked for local government and not-for-profit community groups.

Suzanne can be contacted at [admin@aabr.org.au](mailto:admin@aabr.org.au).

### Welcome to new AABR Members

Matthew Ansley

Jesse Kenny

Tim Maher

Katrina Sachse

Jesse Vandenbosch

#### Business Memberships

Ecohort Pty Ltd

Wombine Wholesale Nursery

#### Congratulations on accreditation

Brendan Veitch

# AABR President, Tein McDonald receives a SERA award

A number of AABR members attended the joint conference of the Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia (SERA) & the New Zealand Ecological Society (NZES), which was held in New Zealand in November 2016.

## Inaugural SERA Awards for Restoration Excellence

At the conference SERA announced the winners of the inaugural SERA awards for excellence in ecological restoration practice for projects from Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

AABR President, Tein McDonald received a SPECIAL RECOGNITION award "for outstanding leadership in the profession of ecological restoration, in conceiving and leading the creation of the Australian Standards in Ecological Restoration and the first International Standards in Ecological Restoration."



AABR members at the SERA conference.

From left: Jen Ford, Rhonda James, Tein McDonald, Scott Meier, Suzanne Pritchard and Mike Delaney.



## Congratulations Tein!

### Pioneer regenerators

At the AABR 30 year dinner, bush regenerators who worked during the early years were recognised and received a certificate for their outstanding contribution to bush regeneration.

Some of these regenerators are still working; some are volunteers; some have moved into other areas often in natural resource management and others retired. Many are AABR members and some have been in the past. Most are from the Sydney region and the north coast of NSW, as these were the places where bush regeneration expanded quickly in the 1970's and 80's.

Early regenerators included those who started bush regeneration immediately after completing school or university or TAFE courses, and also those who came to bush regeneration later in life.

Those receiving citations are:

Rymill Abell	Tony Butteriss	Danny Hirschfeld	Toni McKay	Madeleine Schofield
Judy Abell	Susan Cobcroft (Rahiman)	Deb Holloman	David Meggit	Dennis Sellars
Andrew Allanson	Gerda Cohen	Lyn Hulme	Sheila Murray	Sonja Siegenthaler
Jan Allen	Heather Cooper	Paul Ibbetson	Karen Nippard	Harold Spies
Margaret Andreson	Lyn Crossing	Beryl Jenkinson	Danie Ondinea	Gay Spies
Judith Barry	Mike Delaney	David Jenkinson	Jill Pain	Lynne Springett
Virginia Bear	John Diamond	Bill Jones	Nancy Pallin	Judith Stanley
Linda Bell	Peter Dixon	Noela Jones	Jan Perry	Toni Stevenson
Pat Bell	Dorothy Doolan	Rosemary Joseph	Mike Pickles	Doug Stewart
Carol Bentley	Brigid Dowsett	Lance Kennedy	Pat Pike	Norma Stewart
Peter Bernard	Janet Fairlie- Cunninghame	Sue Kitchen	Jenny Porter	Heather Stolle
Penny Black	Sally Fisher	Van Klaphake	Helen Preston (Peterson)	Rosemary Taylor
Richard Blacklock	Nan Goodsell	Jane Lemann	Graham Quint	Elza Wade
Evelyn Bloom	Christine Guthrie	Ron Leslie	Graham Read	Sheila Walkerden
Margaret Booth	Marylin Guyot	Jennifer Lewis	Margaret Reidy	Lyn Whiley
Carole Bristow	Jane Gye	Stephanie Lymburner	Edie Rosenberg	Rhonda Williams
Louise Brodie	Gwen Hackett	Julian Lymburner	Jenny Roxburgh	Sheila Woods
Robin Buchanan	Ralph Hawkins	Marita Macrae	Georgina San Roque	
John Burke		Kevin Mathers		

### Missing contact details.

We do not have contact details for a number of people who were nominated for citations. Do you know the whereabouts of any of the following: Lydia Bell, Pat Fullagar, Barbara Gibbons, Joan Larking, Leonie Parker, Anne Parkes, Joan Redgrave, Margaret Renny, Shirley Slatyer, and Diana Winkworth?

If you can help, contact Jane Gye, AABR Secretary at [secretary@aabr.org.au](mailto:secretary@aabr.org.au) or phone (02) 9456 6626



Lunch at Boundary Road Reserve.

Photo: LBrodie

# Visiting Bathurst AABR Walk and Talk

Louise Brodie, AABR

with input from Deborah Taylor, Bathurst Regional Council and Colleen Farrow Central Tablelands Local Land Services

In September 2016, around 25 AABR members and friends were fortunate to visit the city of Bathurst, in central west NSW, around 200 kilometres west of Sydney on the other side of the Blue Mountains. Bathurst, proclaimed in 1815, is the oldest inland European settlement in Australia and today has a population of over 36,000. As such, native vegetation was cleared and the land grazed early in European settlement.

We were hosted by the Central Tablelands Local Land Services through one of their staff members, Diana Kureen, an AABR member. Bathurst Regional Council's Deborah Taylor was one of our major guides with Mick Callan and Colleen Farrow from the Local Land Services also hosting.

The central west area is home to the Wiradjuri people with the leader Windradyne well known for his resistance to Europeans at the time of settlement. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Windradyne>

We learnt about some of the biodiversity projects being carried out by the Local Land Services and bush and creek restoration projects being undertaken by Council.

## The Purple Copper Butterfly

Colleen Farrow, Senior Land Services Officer with Central Tablelands LLS, told us about this butterfly, which occurs only in the NSW central tablelands. It is one of Australia's rarest butterflies and listed as endangered under the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and vulnerable under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The purple copper butterfly lives in a very specific habitat being in the NSW central tablelands at an elevation above 900 metres and feeding only on a local native shrub, *Bursaria spinosa* ssp



The purple copper butterfly - camouflaged from this angle  
Photo: V Bear.

*lasiophylla* (native blackthorn). This shrub is found between Bathurst, Oberon and Lithgow, with known populations of the butterfly at Yetholme, Lithgow and Mount David. The butterfly also likes exposure to winter frosts and/or snow. Generally the butterfly is seen during late August to September.

The purple copper butterfly, *Paralucia spinifera*, although small, is very pretty with a wingspan of only 20-30 mm. The upper sides of its wings are black or deep brown, with a bronze or green iridescence when sunning.

The butterfly has a mutually dependent relationship with a small native ant. These ants keep the larvae underground in the ants nest during the day. At night the ants shepherd them out to continue grazing on the native blackthorn. The ants' efforts are rewarded with a sugary honeydew from a gland on the larvae's back.

Major threats to the butterfly include the grazing of native blackthorn habitat, removal of native blackthorn and weed infestation.

When fully grown, the larvae return to the ants' nest to pupate from January until the butterflies emerge between August and November.

As seen on our front cover, our AABR photographer, Virginia Bear, from Little Gecko Media, was lucky to be able to capture photos of the butterfly and also to video them in their natural habitat.



Habitat of the purple copper butterfly - woodland with *Bursaria spinosa* ssp *lasiophylla* (native blackthorn) Photo:V Bear.

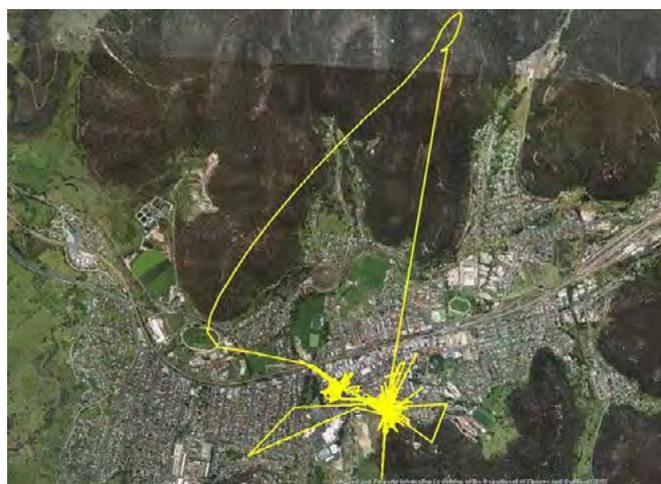
## Targeted Ecosystem Project: Domestic Cat Awareness.

Another project Colleen told us about was the Domestic Cat Tracking Project coordinated by Central Tablelands Local Land Services in the Lithgow Local Government Area in 2016. The aim of the project was to educate cat owners and promote awareness of the surprisingly large distances that domestic cats can roam if they are given free access to the outdoors. Generally cat owners mistakenly believe their cats don't travel far!

Small GPS motion sensing devices were attached to domestic cats using a fitted harness for up to 10 days, to see how far the cats were travelling when unsupervised.

The survey surprised many owners with one cat travelling up to three kilometres from home. The owner was very happy to publicise this, and the story has been spread far and wide.

The project will be run in 2017 in Orange and Mid Western Local Government areas.



The path of one domestic cat - roaming 3 kilometres from home.

## Conserving Box-Gum Grassy Woodland: Bathurst Council Reserves

Many people have heard of Mount Panorama because of its association with car racing, especially the annual Bathurst 1000. But few know it is the site of high conservation value native vegetation.

Box-Gum Grassy Woodland is listed as a Critically Endangered Ecological Community under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and listed as an Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) under the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*. Grassy Box Woodlands were once common and widespread in the wheat-sheep belt of south-eastern Australia, and were cleared for agriculture. These woodlands now occur in isolated fragments on the western New South Wales slopes of the Great Dividing Range.

This vegetation community exists in fragments within the Mount Panorama precinct. Since it is understood that less than 5% of Box-Gum Grassy Woodland remains from pre-European settlement with less than 1% remaining in good condition, these sites are significant.

Council received a grant from the NSW Environmental Trust in 2013 for the project Racing to Save the Mount Panorama Woodlands. The aim was to improve the condition and connectivity of four remnant populations of Box-Gum Grassy Woodland to create a landscape-scale project over 100 hectares.

The project is a partnership between Council and Boundary Road Reserve Landcare Group and involved a variety of on-ground and educational works. See <https://www.facebook.com/MtPanoramaWoodlands>.

### Albens Reserve, Mount Panorama

Our first site visited was Albens Reserve which is in the Mount Panorama Precinct. This reserve has had work carried out under funding from the award winning 'Racing to Save the Mount Panorama Woodlands' project.

Comprising 23.8 hectares, this reserve is one of the last sites where white box (*Eucalyptus albens*) persists within the peri-urban zone of Bathurst. The reserve is on basalt soil with problems of gully erosion. Past use has seen the reserve used like a 'common' with grazing by sheep and resultant sheep camps. Some commons also allowed timber collection, which was evident in this reserve. Trees were coppiced, so there are few trees with hollows.

Albens Reserve has benefited greatly from the work which has been of minimal intervention. Work included destocking, rabbit control, removal of fencing, woody weed control (notably

boxthorn) and control of serrated tussock.

Destocking has resulted in good natural regeneration with a number of native ground covers and grasses now thriving. Weed control works are a key to rehabilitation of this Box-Gum Grassy Woodland community together with erosion control works.

Hardwood timber has been imported for habitat. Hollow augmentation has also been carried out with a view to creating habitat for superb parrots. This project had students using cameras with an arborist creating the hollows. On existing trees, 'plates' were taken off, the hollows created and the plate put back. (See Box below)



Above: Albens Reserve, Bathurst, showing *Eucalyptus albens* and regenerating groundcovers, pictured below, including *Swainsona reticulata*. Photos V Bear



## Hollow Augmentation to assist the recovery of the Superb Parrot

The superb parrot is listed nationally as being vulnerable. Threats include the loss of habitat especially hollow-bearing trees. It can take more than 100 years for a small hollow to develop naturally, and 200 to 300 years for large hollows that support bigger birds.

Central Tablelands Local Land Services has partnered with the Central West Environment and Waterways Alliance to provide new habitat by engaging an arborist to artificially create about 200 hollows in standing trees across the region.

Artificial hollows are placed in standing trees — dead or alive. This involves the removal of a 'face plate' or slab of timber which is set aside while the cavity is created with a chainsaw. Once the desired sized nesting chamber has been cut out, the face plate is re-attached and an entrance hole cut to provide access to the hollow.



## Boundary Road Reserve, Mount Panorama

The Boundary Road Reserve Landcare Group was formed in 1997 with the aim to conserve and improve the habitat value of this important patch of remnant vegetation. The Reserve contains one of the last and largest remnants of Yellow Box, Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland EEC on publicly accessible land close to the city.

Over the last 20 years, the volunteers have contributed over 5,000 hours to improving this site with more than 12,000 trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs planted during this time.



Our lunchtime companion at Boundary Road Reserve. Photo:V Bear

This reserve is Crown land with Council as Trustee for part of the Reserve and the Landcare Group nominated as Trustee for the remainder. Council has delegated its responsibilities to the Landcare Group and provides ongoing financial support for reserve management. Parts of the reserve are used for other purposes.

One of the issues has been severe gully erosion. In 2009, the then Central West Catchment Management Authority, funded the development of an Urban Waterways Management Plan

for the six main creeks within the urban area of Bathurst, including Hawthornden Creek which runs through Boundary Road Reserve. The first project carried out as a recommendation of the completed plan was the rehabilitation of this portion of Hawthornden Creek.

The erosion site is in the main trunk of the creek, not quite at the headwaters. Originally the area was a swampy meadow, with no erosion incursion. Clearing, grazing, and rabbit activity lead to silting, sedimentation and the incursion of erosion resulting in a deep erosion gully. The group looked at an area of deep gully erosion in Hawthornden creek, where rock sills and rock walls have been built and some banks have been armoured with rock.



Erosion now reduced by placement of rock sills.

## Creek Restoration Sites

### Hawthornden Creek - CSU

The Bathurst Urban Waterways Management Plan, 2010 listed Hawthornden Creek as a priority for action above the other 5 urban waterways within Bathurst. Following completion of the works in Boundary Road Reserve, work commenced on CSU (Charles Sturt University) land where historic erosion control involved using hundreds of tyres to stabilise the creek. In 2010 a blue stone culvert collapsed creating a head cut which as it moved upstream released hundreds of the tyres downstream.

The works in this reach of the stream are some of the most significant within the waterway with rock capping of remaining tyres, rock drop structures and rock sills constructed.

In 2013 Council received funding from the NSW Environmental Trust for a project titled Headcut to Stability: Restoring Hawthornden Creek. This project involved instream rock works at Jaques Park and Ray Morcombe Reserve. It also involved revegetation of the riparian zone at Jaques Park and CSU.



Repair of erosion along Hawthornden Creek.

### O'Keefe Park and the bordering Rankens Bridge Park

The project in Rankens Bridge and O'Keefe Parks aims to restore Casuarina Gallery Forest along the Macquarie River to help provide habitat for the critically endangered Regent Honeyeater. To do so, riparian casuarina forest has been established along the river as this ecosystem would have naturally occurred prior to European land development. The project has been partly funded by the NSW Environmental Trust.

Works have involved the staged removal of willows and other noxious and woody weeds. The rootballs of the willows were left in-situ to maintain the stability of the banks. These weeds were then replaced with several thousand native trees, shrubs and grasses.

Additionally, a seed production area was established to provide native, local provenance plants for future rehabilitation works. Species planted include those from both Casuarina Gallery Forest and Box, Gum Grassy Woodland.

*AABR would like to thank the Local Land Services, notably Diana Kureen for her organisation of the visit, and Colleen Farrow and Mick Callan for their input, and thanks to Deborah Taylor from Bathurst Regional Council for being our guide on the site visits.*

*Thanks too, for a wonderful lunch and arranging our dinner on the Friday night.*



Planting to expand Casuarina gallery forest along the Macquarie River



Clearing along the river has led to weed invasion, erosion and slumping  
Above photos. V Bear



Seed orchard plantings. The view shows the land cleared for agriculture right to the riverbank.  
Photo: L. Brodie

# The Numinbah Nature Links project

## Challenges of implementing bush regeneration in high conservation value habitat on private property in Tweed Shire in NSW

Michael Corke, Tweed Shire Council

The Numinbah Nature Links project is a three year threatened species habitat recovery project located in the upper catchments of Couchy Creek and Pat Smiths Creek at Numinbah, northwest of Murwillumbah in far north NSW on the NSW–Queensland border.

Commencing in August 2016, the project is in its second year. The primary aim of the project is to restore twenty five hectares of key habitat on six private properties to improve the condition, connectivity and resilience of endangered ecosystems and threatened species. The project also aims to strengthen landholder and community capacity to manage weeds and to protect and enhance sensitive areas supporting high biodiversity and threatened species. The project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust. Tweed Shire Council, through its Biodiversity Grant Program, has also made a significant contribution to the project budget.

Restoration works are being conducted in an extensive vegetation corridor linking Springbrook National Park, Numinbah Nature Reserve and Couchy Creek Nature Reserve with Wollumbin National Park.

These core reserves are threatened species strongholds supporting a rich assemblage of flora and fauna and large areas of the Endangered Ecological Community *Lowland Rainforest in the NSW North Coast and Sydney Basin Bioregions* (EEC Lowland Rainforest). Reserves are buffered by high conservation value habitat on adjacent private land. The project addresses an urgent need to halt the declining threatened species habitat quality and connectivity caused by the spread of *Lantana camara*, Giant devils fig *Solanum chrysotrichum*, Kudzu *Pueraria lobata* and other weeds on private land buffering reserves.

### Obtaining Landholder participation

Landholders within a defined area were invited to participate. Properties were selected on the basis of

- proximity to reserves;
- connectivity and conservation value (likely presence of threatened plant species and EEC Lowland Rainforest, for example) of habitat;
- land accessibility and terrain; and
- demonstrated history of restoration work and/or the willingness and capacity of landholders to contribute to the project and to maintain work areas.

Of sixteen eligible landholders, eight applied to participate and the final six satisfied the above criteria to a high degree.

Participating landholders signed formal agreements outlining shared responsibilities and commitments and describing proposed works. With this project, each landholder has been allocated a bush regenerator from Council's panel of providers. Each landholder has received a comprehensive habitat restoration plan describing the property's habitat values and weed threats to same. A series of prioritised management actions targeting specific management zones is outlined to provide long-term guidance for the mitigation of weed threats to threatened species habitat. Under the project budget, forty-five person days has been allocated to each property to restore four hectares of habitat to the point where foliage projective cover of weeds is reduced to 5% or less. Year one has the completion of habitat restoration plans and primary work has been carried out in 15 hectares of bushland. Nineteen species of threatened plants have been recorded.



Left: View from a photomonitoring point showing heavy infestation of *Lantana camara* in riparian zone. Lantana infestations such as this are common on rainforest edges in the project area.

Right: same view end of year one following primary weed control. The very high kill rate is evident.

## Challenges

Management of long-term, publically-funded projects of this type sometimes pose challenges. In this instance, a condition of funding is that work areas are maintained beyond the life of the project, the responsibility lying primarily with individual landholders. This is an important consideration because if not properly maintained, project sites may again be degraded by weeds resulting in wastage of public monies and the loss of an ideal opportunity to mitigate serious threats to threatened species.

In fact, the problem of how to maintain restoration sites is emerging as one of the biggest issues in our fight against weeds. Ecological restoration can be difficult work requiring expert plant identification and weed control skills. In addition, landholders have competing time demands, get sick or sometimes sell up and move. Also, most funding regimes preclude the use of new funding for maintenance of existing (funded) areas.

The biggest challenge for the project has therefore been to prioritize on-ground works so that area and condition targets are met *and* work sites are fully restored and maintained. The challenge is essentially a balance between limited resources, good ecological outcomes and landholder capacity.

The meet this challenge on each property, selection of management zones and prioritisation of works in each zone were determined by assessing:

- Vegetation type, condition, biodiversity value and location of threatened species and EEC Lowland Rainforest;
- Abundance, distribution and threat of weeds;
- Access limitations; and
- The capacity of landholders to carry out supported site maintenance beyond the life of the project and various support options.

Bush regenerators, landholders and Council discussed these factors at length on site to negotiate individual, tailored plans providing sound guidance for long-term weed control without placing undue burden on landholders and with a degree of adaptive management flexibility. Each property, therefore, is typically receiving a combination of relatively labour intensive weed control in areas of heavy weed infestation including in areas adjacent to threatened species and quicker spot spray runs targeting lighter infestation under heavier canopy cover.

## Adapting work practices

One property posed an interesting dilemma. In one area of habitat, dense lantana threatens to encircle a cohort of healthy *Hicksbeachia pinnatifolia* red bopple nut; in another area was found a dense infestation of *Acrocarpus fraxinifolius* pink cedar. Initially, protecting the red bopple nut seemed the obvious priority. However, the lantana has remained static for some time and in this location will be relatively easy to control. However, research into the pink cedar reveals it to be a hardy, fast-growing tree from South East Asia capable of producing thousands of seeds easily spread by birds. It is therefore considered a major threat. Infestations like the one depicted here have been observed on other properties in the shire and once established it is difficult to eradicate. It was therefore decided that bush regenerators would treat the mature tree and half the seedlings and, after intensive landholder tuition, that the landholder will control the remaining seedlings.



Above: Mature Pink cedar. This specimen is 25 metres tall with a DBH of 60cm.

## The future

To help overcome the ultimate challenge of maintaining project sites, bush regenerators are providing one-on-one tuition for all landholders to improve their plant identification and weed control techniques skills. Landholders are also required to work alongside bush regenerators, to further enhance their skills and to reinforce the importance of working systematically in accordance with prioritised recommendations articulated in plans.

Additionally, several weed control and plant identification workshops are scheduled in year two of the project to build landholder skills and to share collective knowledge of bush regenerators and other key stakeholders. Workshops will be well advertised and open to the community. Council will also provide ongoing support to landholders via its Biodiversity Grant Program and the Land for Wildlife program, both of which offer additional opportunities to develop relevant skills and knowledge.

Further information about the Numinbah Nature Links project is available by contacting Michael Corke, Project Officer – Biodiversity, on (02) 6670 2595 or [mcorke@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mcorke@tweed.nsw.gov.au)

Photos: supplied by landholder



Above: Detail of dense infestation of pink cedar seedlings requiring painstaking cut and paint control.



# Fire and Restoration Network



**Michelle Rose**  
 Bushfire Program Coordinator  
 Nature Conservation Council of NSW

The NSW Nature Conservation Council's Bushfire Program has recently launched a Fire and Restoration Network Hub.

Visit the website at  
<http://fireandrestoration.org.au>

## What is the network about?

The web based network is a discussion network and resource hub set up to allow the sharing of project stories and to engage people in discussions about how fire is being used to support ecological restoration. The site is designed as a place where practitioners and researchers can exchange knowledge and experiences, and post any queries or challenges they have encountered in relation to fire and restoration.

The Network was set up as a response to feedback after the NCCs 2015 Bushfire Conference when participants indicated that they were interested in being involved in a network to continue the Fire and Restoration conversations, build their knowledge and develop more skills in this area.

## Feature Interviews

The first articles on the hub feature a three part interview with



Fire burning Lane Cove 1992 | Photo: T. McDonald



Restoration at Coward's Jan 2015 | Photo: T. McDonald

Tein McDonald discussing fire and restoration principles, her experience working with Sydney bushcare sites in Lane Cove before and after the 1994-95 fire season and lessons from current projects working on sites in Northern NSW dominated by bitou bush, privet, lantana and setaria grass.

Another interview features Felipe Aires who completed his PhD in 2015 at the University of Sydney's Faculty of Agriculture and Environment, investigating the "Effects of woody weeds on fuels and fire behaviour in Eastern Australian forests and woodlands." In this interview we hear about Felipe's work with African Olive and Cootamundra Wattle and his suggestions for integrating fire response details into the weed databases.

## Using the Network

Other articles are now on the site and you can visit the site to read these articles and view related resources. You can read the discussions on weeds, fauna, cultural burning, restoration principles, fire thresholds and related topics.

## Becoming part of the discussion

To participate in the discussion you need to register to be part of the network.

The Network Hub is inviting everyone to contribute their stories from present and past projects.

So if you have experiences to share from your work, please add to the discussions or contact Michelle Rose about submitting an article.

Contact Michelle by email [mrose@nature.org.au](mailto:mrose@nature.org.au) or phone 9516 0359.

# Restoring long-distance pollinator habitat

## with bridges, frameworks and magnets

Suzanne Pritchard  
AABR Education

Principle 4 of the National Restoration Standards states, *“Full recovery is the goal of ecological restoration even if outcomes take a long timeframe”*.

One of the attributes that determine if an ecosystem is on this trajectory is the extent to which external exchanges with the surrounding landscape are taking place.

One such external exchange agent are pollinators, who play a significant role in ensuring genetic transfer across plant species and across the landscape, enhancing resilience which improves the ability of species to adapt and withstand human-driven changes such as habitat fragmentation and climate change.

Restoring pollinator habitat not only supports the survival of the pollinators but the plants and ecosystems that depend upon them. Thirteen threatened bird and mammal pollinators in NSW play a significant role in maintaining landscape exchanges, restoring their habitat has multiple benefits. The OEH has recently dedicated a [webpage to restoring pollinator habitat](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/saving-our-species-program/threatened-species-conservation/restoring-pollinator-habitat). (<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/saving-our-species-program/threatened-species-conservation/restoring-pollinator-habitat>)

### Hints for restoring habitat

Following is some information gleaned from this resource.

- To accommodate the nomadic migratory lifestyle of many pollinator birds and mammals, conservation efforts need to include privately owned land as well as conservation reserves, where efforts to protect existing feeding habitat are enhanced through replanting and regenerating to restore key habitat.
- One of the more significant actions that can be taken to support threatened pollinators is to ensure there is an adequate supply of nectar and pollen resources throughout winter and early spring to avoid a resource bottleneck, a shortage of food which diminishes body condition and reproductive success as well as increases mortality.

Plantings to restore and conserve pollinator networks should also prioritise plants that are:

- Bridging plants that provide food during bottlenecks of resource availability
- Framework plants that support diverse pollinator networks by providing food resources to a large number of species
- Magnet plants that provide rich resources that attract large numbers of pollinators

Other factors to consider in long-distance pollinator plantings are

- Long term planning to ensure there'll be flowering gums in 20 years, as it takes that long for some species to begin flowering.
- Quality not quantity to optimize canopy development and hence flowering. Planting at low densities speeds the canopy development and increases the rate of flower production with age.
- Planting near water and on fertile soil can also increase flower production and enhance riparian corridors.
- Planting less than 1km from existing mature habitat is more likely to attract hollow dependent pollinators and have a better chance of being visited by greater numbers and varieties of pollinators.

Some broad guidance for winter & spring flowering trees on the key regional habitat areas in NSW is provided [on the OEH website](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/saving-our-species-program/threatened-species-conservation/restoring-pollinator-habitat).

In addition there is a booklet you can download *Planting to conserve threatened nomadic pollinators in NSW*, which provides much more detail and an impressive list of references.



Download this from <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/planting-to-conserve-threatened-nomadic-pollinators-in-nsw>

Several bird and mammal pollinators are endangered including The Regent honeyeater (pictured on the book cover shown above). This bird is listed as Critically Endangered by the Commonwealth, NSW and Victoria and Endangered by Queensland and South Australia.



The Swift parrot (above) is listed as Critically Endangered by the Commonwealth and listed as Endangered by several states. (Photo: Henry Cook)

Right: The Grey-headed flying fox listed as Conservation status in NSW: Vulnerable by the Commonwealth and NSW and Least Concern in Queensland. Photo.V Jones





## a growing resource

An inspiring new raft of regenTV resources have made their way onto the AABR website over summer. The additions include presentations from the 2016 AABR Forum 'Experience Counts' and a new set of learning resources on the theme Selecting Appropriate Approaches for Restoration.

The new videos provide an opportunity to sit back with a cuppa and experience the intellectual stimulation of an AABR forum from the comfort of your chosen viewing platform.

If you've missed the excitement of the launch of the National Restoration Standards you can appreciate the significance of this milestone for the industry by viewing Jen Ford's presentation. Why have standards, what are they and how can they assist with on-ground restoration activities are all clearly explained.

Principle One of the National Restoration Standards states 'ecological restoration practice is based on an appropriate local indigenous reference ecosystem'. Gill Earl's talk describes how revegetation guides can provide a valuable resource in determining a local indigenous reference community. The elements of the Murray-Riverina guides are outlined and why they have achieved widespread adoption is discussed.

How do you work out what plants are suitable to grow in a climate changing world? Trevor Booth's presentation outlines a process using readily available web tools, the Atlas of Living Australia along side the Climate Change in Australia website, which enables a variety of climate change scenarios to be considered and the location of potential seed sources to be identified.

Perhaps you are still intrigued by the million-dollar question of 'provenance'. There are two videos featuring Linda Broadhurst to help unravel the change in thinking that is occurring in this area. One talk simply explains the role of genetics in understanding inbreeding depressions and how they can arise from small population sizes or reduced parental numbers. A must see video for anyone who collects or propagates seed for restoration projects. The second video documents a discussion between Tein McDonald and Linda around the changing understanding of 'provenance' and its implication for on-ground practitioners. It explores the question how do you ensure your restoration project will be resilient in times of changing climate and increased fragmentation across the landscape?

There are also three videos featuring onground case studies.

- Martin Driver's 5000ha grazing property has been in the family for many years. Martin outlines the transformations that have occurred as a result of fencing, the resilience of the landscape and the lessons he has learned in managing the land for grazing, protection of endangered plant communities and environmental outcomes. The talk is presented within the context of the National Restoration Standards.
- 'Back to Basics with a twist' provides a snapshot of successful restoration projects on the endangered ecological community in NSW, coastal *Themeda* grasslands, littoral rainforest

and dune systems by Northern Beaches Council. Local Governments undertaking ecological restoration projects have an additional suite of challenges to deal with. This presentation outlines the reality of working on-ground within a council system, how bush regeneration principles are applied under strategic parameters and the critical role and importance of volunteers in enhancing on-ground outcomes, education and leveraging funding.

- Just add water...Three wetland restoration case studies are presented by Mark Bachmann which outline the historical basis for the wetland degradation, the process of identifying viable project sites and the setting of goals to deliver significant wetland restoration. Mark references the Six Principles in the National Restoration Standards to highlight their relevance in designing, monitoring and evaluating restoration projects. An inspiring talk which showcases the resilience of aquatic systems and the positive results that can be attained by adding water to wetlands.

## Would you like to learn something about bush regen and assist AABR?

The regenTV project is humming along and we would like to get some formal feedback on how we're doing.

If you are a life long learner and want an incentive to brush up on some of the latest bush regeneration knowledge, and in the process assist AABR to evaluate our regenTV project, then we would really like to hear from you!

We're looking for 10 bush regeneration practitioners who have an hour to spare, who haven't watched any regenTV videos yet and who would be willing to

- watch two regenTV videos (about ½ an hour of viewing time)
- read ½ a page of text and do three short online surveys. One survey before watching, one after watching and one six months later.
  - The pre and post viewing surveys have five questions. (3 multiple choice and 2 open questions)
  - The 6 monthly survey has three questions. (2 multiple choice and 1 open question)

For your support AABR is offering a annual membership and a ticket in a raffle for a prize that every bush regenerator would appreciate. The raffle will be drawn after the 6-month survey.

There is **no** prior knowledge needed and formal qualifications **are not** required. The less training you've had will allow us to evaluate the learning resources more thoroughly. We are trying to see whether we have developed materials that can increase understanding of and capacity for best practice restoration in NSW.

If you'd like to support AABR in this way please contact Suzanne at [education@aabr.org.au](mailto:education@aabr.org.au)



# The Gib: Now available as an eBook

**The Gib** tells the story of Mount Gibraltar, a reserve between Bowral and Mittagong in the southern highlands of NSW. The book covers its social, industrial and environmental history. It is now available in electronic form, making it easily accessible to all members of the public.

Mount Gibraltar is the prominent tree-clad bluff giving character to the townships of Bowral and Mittagong, NSW and has had a dedicated group involved in restoring the bush.

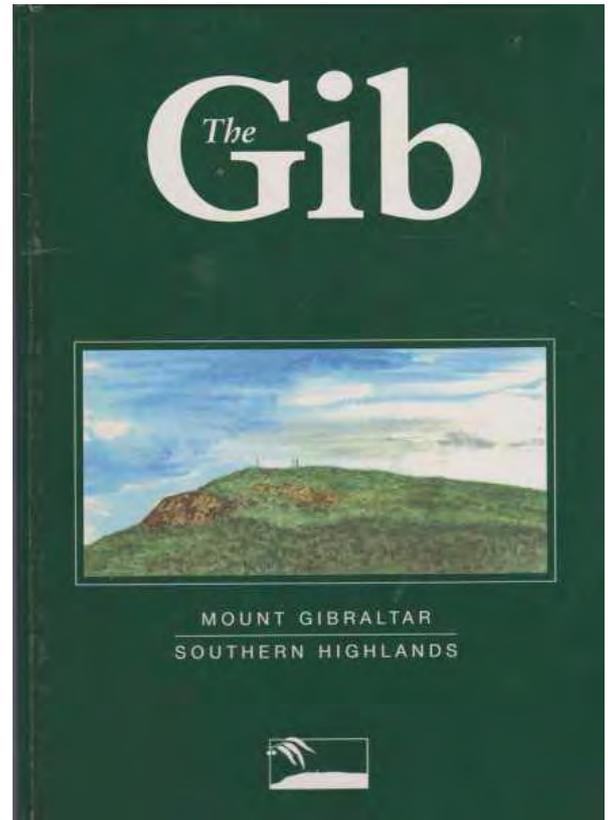
The Mount Gibraltar volunteers agreed to record their accumulated information for the benefit of residents, visitors, students and changing agency staff which led to the eventual production of a book. The editorial committee and experts spent time researching, checking and compiling information, to produce the book.

The book was first published in 2007, and the story of the book told in AABR Newsletter Number 96 February 2007. It was reprinted in 2009 by Mount Gibraltar Landcare and Bushcare under the auspices of the council.

The book is now available as an ebook on the Wingecarribee Shire Council web site. It provides a freely available, attractive and well researched history of the site. An updating Appendix has been added that maintains the book's importance as a reference source for the community. The contents can be searched and chapters clicked to. Republished using a Creative Commons license, the book may be downloaded, shared and used for derivative non-commercial purposes. This is a beautiful and important document that describes the unique environment of Mount Gibraltar, its history and the dedicated volunteers working to maintain its environment and amenity. It is shared "for all those who come after us."

To download the book, go to <http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/mount-gibraltar-reserve3>

If you want to know more about Mount Gibraltar go to <http://www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/mt-gibraltar-bushcare-and-landcare> or contact Jane Lemann. 02 4887 1294



**Beauty, Rich and Rare**  
CELEBRATING OUR REGION'S ICONIC EUCALYPTS

## Beauty, Rich and Rare:

### Celebrating Our Region's Iconic Eucalypts

Amanda Burdon

**Corowa District Landcare, 6 Mar. 2016 - 60 pages**

This book is a celebration of eucalypts. Whether they grow beside the roads and rivers we travel, in the paddocks and backyards, eucalypts cast a long shadow. They sustain native animals, support agriculture, cycle nutrients, and are sources of inspiration and comfort. Inscribed with the stories of our peoples, eucalypts speak of the past and foretell our future.

This project enlisted the help of individuals, photographers, historical societies and community groups to bring together a collection of beautiful photographs and enduring stories. *Beauty, Rich and Rare* celebrates the historical, social and ecological significance of eucalypts throughout Corowa and district.

Corowa is on the Murray River in NSW around 60 kilometres west of Albury. Much of the information is relevant to a much broader area and describes the role of eucalypts in the landscape and their role in the environment.

The GPS locations are given for a number of trees that are described in the book. Many areas would benefit from having their own such book to describe those iconic trees known and beloved by people of an area.

To obtain a copy phone 02 6033 1137 or via the Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/corowadistrictlandcare/>

# Snippets

## SER Restoration Practitioner Certification.

At the SERA conference in New Zealand in November 2016, six reps of AABR (including four assessors) participated in a lunchtime meeting with Bethanie Walder, the Executive Director of the international Society for Ecological Restoration. The topic was how the new SER Certification program for restoration consultants (see <http://www.ser.org/?page=Certification>) could dovetail with AABR's accreditation system. It is early days, but there is promising potential for AABR's accreditation and even our RegenTV educational materials to contribute towards SERA accreditation or be part of ongoing training that is required in the certification system. Watch this space!

## Eco News

Wanting to stay abreast of the environmental news behind the normal headlines? Subscribe to Eco News. This daily *newsletter* provides "as it happens" news articles, from an Australian perspective.

It is free to subscribe. Go to [www.econews.com.au](http://www.econews.com.au) and sign up, or download the app.

## Offsetting and on setting

Following a screening of Attenborough's Ark, the Australian Museum presented a panel discussion which was recorded as part of the 2016 Australian Museum Science Festival, 16th August.

The panel discussed threatened species and talked about which species they'd most like to save here, and why.

During the discussion, the subject of 'on-setting' and 'off-setting' was raised, and makes for interesting listening.

The program is available to listen to on [Radio National's Big Ideas](#).

Go to <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bigideas/threatened-species-ep/7843446>

Click on "Download audio"

Once the program has downloaded as an mp3 file, drag across the scroll bar to about 28 minutes to hear the moderator ask Dr Brendan Wintle talk around off-sets, then "on-sets".

## Using birds to monitor bush regeneration

If you listen to [Off Track](#) with Ann Jones on ABC's Radio National, you may have heard the program on 14 Nov 2016 and heard Floyd Holmes talk about his PhD work on Rottneest Island

On Rottneest Island, Floyd Holmes is completing research towards a PhD at Edith Cowan University, with a specific focus on restoration and completion criteria for the creation of a successful woodland habitat. He is looking at what the birds are saying about the success of the restoration programs on the island. He wants to understand this bird's critique of human efforts to regenerate this patch of bush on Rottneest Island, just off the coast of Fremantle in WA. "My hypothesis is that animal behaviour might be a useful tool in assessing the quality of the habitat," he said.

One of his methods is the recording a "bird minute", a way of taking a scientific measurement of bird behaviour in the wild.

### If You Build It, They Might Not Come

Regeneration occurs across Australia's mining, industrial, urban and agricultural landscapes, with immense efforts in propagating seedlings and planting them out. Most assessments of regeneration success have been heavily biased towards plant communities. The restoration works on the premise that 'if you build it they will come', and assumes that revegetating is enough to start ecological processes again.

Floyd hopes to go one step further by measuring success when he can say "yes, the birds are breeding in this habitat". His research zooms in on insectivorous birds, like the red-capped robin and the golden whistler, on Rottneest Island, where the environment has been almost completely altered since European arrival. Now, only small pockets of the endangered Rottneest

woodland exist. They have been reduced from about 80 per cent coverage to 5 per cent of the island.

Ironically, one of the threats to the woodland is the vulnerable quokka, as the mammal's numbers and insatiable appetite can hamper new growth and alter the understory. His research will inform the woodland conservation strategy of the Rottneest Island Authority, which will seek restore Rottneest's woodlands to a more interconnected, woodland bird paradise.

Listen to the story on line <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/offtrack/rotnnest-birds-seg/8009478>

or go to [www.abc.net.au](http://www.abc.net.au) search for Off Track and scroll down to the program of Saturday 12 November 2016 "If I could talk to the animals".

### Your AABR Newsletter

#### Do you have a story to tell?

Whatever your story about bush regeneration, weeds and habitat restoration, you can be assured that others want to read about it.

Why not send us your idea for a story and we can help you put it into a nice article for the newsletter.

Or point us in the direction of new resources, events or interesting projects you have seen.

Send your ideas to Louise at [newsletter@aabr.org.au](mailto:newsletter@aabr.org.au)

The next newsletter will be mid April.



# Fire, Fauna & Ferals: from backyards to bush



Image: Tobias Hayashi

## Nature Conservation Council's 2017 Bushfire Conference

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May, Sydney**

**Field Trip on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW is proud to present our 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Bushfire Conference **Fire, Fauna and Ferals: from backyards to bush**. We are now accepting abstracts for presentations, speed talks, and posters.

**Please submit abstracts by Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.**

This multi-disciplinary fire management conference will explore how fire management can support ecological values across the landscape: from our backyards through to the bushland interface and beyond. The program will examine the interactions between fire and fauna across a range of ecosystems and look at integrated approaches to managing fire, native fauna and flora, weeds and pest animals. Building on themes from previous conferences we will continue to showcase on-ground fire and restoration projects and Aboriginal burning initiatives. This Conference is an opportunity to contribute to discussions on how we can move beyond our current fire management approaches that aim to minimise environmental harm and toward approaches that help protect, support and restore ecological values.

#### Four Key Conference Themes

1. **Buildings and backyards for people, plants and animals – risk, resilience and adaptation.** How can we support and broaden community acceptance of fire as an integral part of our natural systems?
2. **Using fire for restoration.** How are we using fire for ecological restoration and integrating burning with other land management activities?
3. **Fire and fauna.** What have we learnt about the interactions of fire, fauna and habitat and how is this knowledge influencing on-ground management practices?
4. **Fire, weeds and ferals.** How can we best manage the interactions of fire, weeds and feral animal species?

**Who should contribute?** Fire ecologists, researchers, fire agencies, restoration consultants and any organisations, agencies/communities/individuals investigating and using fire to support ecological values.

**Further information:** [BushfireConf2017@nature.org.au](mailto:BushfireConf2017@nature.org.au) or 9516 0359



# What's happening

**Sunday, 5 to Thursday 9  
February 2017**

## Restore Regenerate Revegetate

A Conference on Restoring Ecological Processes, Ecosystems and Landscapes in a Changing World

The sustainable management and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems has never been more important and challenging, given humankind's growing reach throughout the biosphere and resulting accelerating changes from local to global level. It has been a decade since the broad community involved in revegetation, including Landcarers, mine rehabilitation experts, carbon farmers, wildlife scientists, natural resource managers, restoration ecologists, conservation biologists and social scientists met nationally to review current theory and practice in restoration science, practice and landscape repair.

Over five days in February 2017, you are invited to the University of New England to contribute to our joint understanding of the challenges and successes in restoration, revegetation and reintroduction in a fast-changing world, with some of Australia's and the world's leading practitioners, scientists, consultants and advisers working in this space.

The program includes three and a quarter days of plenary presentations, themed symposia, open forums and a poster sessions, displays and an industry expo on-site; a day-long workshop for postgraduate students; a welcoming reception; a three-quarter day conference excursion; preconference tours; a conference dinner; an arts program, and additional social activities.

**LOCATION:** University of New England Armidale NSW

**BOOKING:** For more details and registration go to <http://conferencecompany.com.au/revconf2017/>

**Saturday 18 and Sunday  
19th March 2017**

## The Strategic Wombat Conference

The Wombat Protection Society of Australia is pleased to announce a conference to further knowledge, update understanding and develop strategies for the protection and preservation of wombats in Australia

Research, knowledge and policies regarding wombats will be brought up to date and published as conference proceedings.

**WHERE:** Panthers Leagues Cub, Penrith NSW

**BOOKING:** For more details and registration go to <http://www.wombatprotection.org.au/WombatConference.htm>

**Contact:** The Wombat Protection Society on 0448 087 994

**Tuesday 30th and  
Wednesday 31st May 2017**

## Field Trip on Thursday 1st June

### Fire, Fauna and Ferals: from backyards to bush

Nature Conservation Council's 2017 Bushfire Conference

This multi-disciplinary conference will explore how fire management can support ecological values across the landscape: from our backyards through to the bushland interface and beyond.

**WHERE:** Teachers Federation Conference Centre, 37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills, New South Wales, Australia, 2010

**BOOKING:** For more details and registration <https://www.o-tix.com/event/bushfireconf2017>

**Contact:** Michelle Rose on email [mrose@nature.org.au](mailto:mrose@nature.org.au) or phone 02 9516 0359

## ENVIROSOURCE

The Envirosource website has a section for events from all over Australia covering a diversity of topics related to the environment and sustainability.

Go to:  
<https://www.envirosource.com.au/events>

The web site is an easy way to find what you need such as opportunities, knowledge and resources.

Tap into Australia's leading environmental organisations and individuals, from wherever you're located.

This central knowledge hub aims to highlight all the positive environmental work happening across Australia. It's a great place to find (and share) your environmental events, jobs, awards, grants, tenders and panels. You'll also find lots of other tools to support your work including articles and webinars. And this is just the beginning.

## Friends of Grasslands

For a whole swag of interesting events, check out the FoG calendar.

Friends of Grasslands is a community group dedicated to conservation of natural temperate grassy ecosystems in south-eastern Australia. FoG advocates, educates and advises on matters to do with the conservation of grassy ecosystems, and carries out surveys and other on-ground work. FoG is based in Canberra and its members include professional scientists, landowners, land managers and interested members of the public.

[www.fog.org.au/](http://www.fog.org.au/)



## Australian Association of Bush Regenerators

**President**  
Tein McDonald [president@aabr.org.au](mailto:president@aabr.org.au)

**Treasurer**  
Suzanne Pritchard [admin@aabr.org.au](mailto:admin@aabr.org.au)

**Membership Officer**  
Louise Brodie [membership@aabr.org.au](mailto:membership@aabr.org.au)

**Secretary**  
Jane Gye [secretary@aabr.org.au](mailto:secretary@aabr.org.au)

**Website advertising**  
Mitra Gusheh [advertise@aabr.org.au](mailto:advertise@aabr.org.au)

**Committee members**  
Elisabeth Dark, Spencer Shaw, Scott Meier, Melanie Ledgett, Ben Ford, Matthew Pearson, Agata Mitchell, Andrew McGahey.

**Northeast NSW/Southeast QLD subcommittee**  
Mike Delaney 02 6621 9588  
[miked@envite.org.au](mailto:miked@envite.org.au)

**Coffs Harbour subcommittee**  
Lindy Davis 0448 651 239 or 02 6654 5313

**The Australian Association of Bush Regenerators Inc (AABR)** was incorporated in NSW in 1986, and has several hundred members from all over Australia. AABR is pronounced 'arbor'.

Our aim is to promote the study and practice of ecological restoration, and encourage effective management of natural areas.

**All interested people and organisations are welcome to join.** AABR members include bush regeneration professionals, volunteers, natural area managers, landowners, policy makers, contractors, consultants, nursery people, local, state and commonwealth government officers—and lots of people who just love the bush and want to see it conserved.

**AABR also offers accreditation** for experienced practitioners.

**AABR News** is usually published in January, April, July, and November.

**AABR C/O Total Environment Centre**  
P.O. Box K61 Haymarket NSW 1240  
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[www.aabr.org.au](http://www.aabr.org.au)  
[enquiries@aabr.org.au](mailto:enquiries@aabr.org.au)  
ABN: 33 053 528 029 ARBN: 059 120 802

### Membership fees

Individuals	\$30 (unwaged \$15)
Organisations ( <i>does not confer membership to individuals in the organisation</i> )	
• business (< 5 staff)	\$120
• business (5-20 staff)	\$300
• business (> 20 staff)	\$480
Government	\$60
Not for profit	\$30 (or \$0 with newsletter exchange)

### Benefits of Membership:

- discount admission to all AABR events
- four newsletters per year
- increased job opportunities
- discount subscription to the journal Ecological Management & Restoration
- opportunities to network with others involved in natural area restoration
- helping AABR to be a strong and effective force to promote natural area restoration, and support the industry.

### Newsletter contributions and comments are welcome

Contact Louise Brodie [newsletter@aabr.org.au](mailto:newsletter@aabr.org.au) 0407 068 688

*Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of AABR*