

# Southern Highlands Landcare Network President's Report Highlights from July 2024 – August 2025



## Goal 1 Thriving Organisation

### Members, Committee and Supporters

- Lou Fower awarded Life Membership
- All committee positions filled in 2024/2025 (*Your dedication is appreciated*)
- Activities and works supported by Nathan, our LEP co-ordinator
- Thank you to BDCU Community Bank for meeting room usage, Clive for storing our equipment, WinZero for shared facilities

### Activities Promoting SHLN

- Facebook posts
- Event articles uploaded to Landcare Gateway Web Page
- Stalls at Zen Oasis 20th Anniversary, Robertson Ag Show Moss Vale Ag show, Robertson Environment Community Day
- Going Wild in the Highlands Radio interview
- Mentioned in Council's Bushcare and LFW flyers and newsletters
- Council's Seniors Week activity 'Shine a Light on Berrima Wildlife Reserve'
- Brochures at What's Killing Our Trees Community Forum



## Goal 2 On ground conservation and restoration works

### Our Regular Event

- Berrima Wildlife Reserve Working Bees

### Planting Days (Supporting Schools, Land For Wildlife, Glossies in the Mist and Council Planting Programs)

- Exeter Public School Butterfly Garden planting and maintenance
- Frensham Junior School
- Kangaloon private property plus successful Endeavour Energy Grant for future plantings
- Welby Weir Bird Hide
- Mansfield Reserve East Bowral
- Penrose private property
- Canyonleigh private property
- Moss Vale private property (With St George Girls High Duke of Edinburgh)
- Anembo Park Moss Vale
- Berrima Wildlife Reserve
- Stony Creek planting day (Still being progressed)

### Maintenance / Weeding Days

- Canyonleigh private property
- Mittagong Bebrue Guides
- Wingello private property (Still being progressed)



# Goal 3 Broaden community understanding of natural eco systems

## Community Engagement and Research

- Adult day care talks on our environment, fauna and flora, value of habitat, biodiversity etc. completed
- Mt Gibraltar Flora Survey and Mapping completed
- Habitat/Wildlife Corridor(s)
  - Options explored for The Gib, Gibbergunyah, East Bowral and Kangaloon corridors
  - Presentation to local Real Estate Agent on wildlife corridors and Land For Wildlife
  - Engagement with Mansfield Reserve East Bowral neighbours
  - Engagement with council on a variety of potential planting sites
- Across the Fence Farming (ATFF) events at Exeter. In conjunction with Goulburn Mulwaree Landcare Landscapes
- Greater Glider Costume (Glenda) - grant sought
- Drought Resilience / ATFF Event at Penrose. In conjunction with Goulburn Mulwaree Landcare Landscapes (In progress)
- Mulloon Institute Water Stewardship Program - Field Day (In progress)
- Site assessments, advice and discussions with landowners at Bowral, Glenquarry, Berrima, Berrima/Woodlands area
- Actions to help reduce roadkill being explored

## Advocacy

- Duke St property adjoining The Gib - Development Objection submitted
- Plasrefine now Repoly - verbal and written objection to Independent Planning Commission submitted



# Goal 4 Effective and accountable governance

## Meetings

- SHLN Meetings held monthly, minutes circulated  
***All members are welcome to attend, your input is appreciated***
- 2024/2025 AGM held and NSW Fair Trading Forms submitted
- 2025/2026 AGM scheduled

## Governance

- New Constitution adopted (to accommodate various updates)
- Strategic Plan updated and adopted
- 2025/2026 NSW Landcare membership and insurance paid
- SHLN Charity status being progressed

## Digital Uplift

- shln.org.au committee email addresses issued
- Microsoft Teams set up

## Engagement with Landcare State and Regional Bodies

- South East Landcare (SEL) Governance workshop - attendance
- NSW Landcare Muster - attendance
- SEL Chairs Meeting - attendance every two months

**GOVERNANCE HEALTH CHECK**

FOR NETWORKS & LARGER LANDCARE GROUPS



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**WHO SHOULD USE THE HEALTH CHECK?**

This Health Check is designed for incorporated Networks and larger groups. All committee members and employees of your organisation should participate in the Health Check. The Health Check should be completed at least annually to track your organisation's progress. If your Network is a NSW Landcare Program participant then please upload the results of this Health Check via the link under Step 4 below.

**If your organisation is a smaller Landcare Group, without employees, please refer to the Governance Health Check for Landcare Groups available on the second tab of this spreadsheet.**

**WHY GOVERNANCE MATTERS:**

Good governance is crucial to the effective operation of community organisations and to gaining and retaining the confidence of the community, funding bodies, sponsors, volunteers and project partners.

Essentially, good governance means that structures, activities and operations of the Landcare organisation are conducted in accordance with the principles of legal compliance, probity, transparency, accountability and respect for people within the organisation and for other stakeholders.

The critical component of good governance is that all people involved in the direction and control of the organisation are aware of and comply with their roles and responsibilities.

**MEASURING YOUR LANDCARE ORGANISATION:**

The Organisational Health Check has been designed to give Landcare Networks a tool to identify important elements of governance and measure progress against these elements. The below Health Check is broken into sections of the business, meaning your Network can tackle the Health Check one section at a time.

# Engagement with other organisations and stakeholders

- Great Eastern Ranges - MOU, mapping activity being organised
- Private Land Conservation Matters (PLCM) Biodiversity Muster - attendance
- Saving our Species (SOS) Partnership Opportunities Manager - briefing meeting
- Glossies in the Mist (GITM) On Ground Team - update meeting, plantings
- South-west Sydney / Southern Highlands koala habitat restoration workshop - attendance. We were the only volunteer organisation.
- Wingecarribee Shire Council - Cllr Heather Champion assigned as our councillor for the environment.
- Wingecarribee Shire Council - Letter of Support provided to WSC for the Southern Highlands Innovation Park (SHIP) Environmental Safeguards
- Goulburn Mulwaree Landcare Landscapes - Event collaborations
- WinZero – Environmental advocacy and collaborations
- Mt Gibraltar Bushcare Group - Donation of tools received
- Local bush walking / running group - Financial donation received
- Greening Australia Urban Rivers Grant: Restoring The Wingecarribee River – we have a supporting role
- Mulloon Institute: Water Stewardship Program - Field Day planning and support
- Endeavour Energy - Offset Plantings EOI and Grant
- Federal MP for Whitlam Carol Berry - Office has made contact with us
- Water NSW. Information on area below Wingecarribee Reservoir Wall

