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Updates from the Garden

- **Our Working Bees get a mention:** Did you catch the mention of our Working Bees in the May Peninsula Living Magazine? Looking good Chris M!



Working bee success

Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden have been working hard over the past few months, with volunteers digging in to perform some much-needed maintenance, weeding and pruning at the latest working bee.

Located in Manly, the gardens have been cared for by the group which was formed in 2018 to support the garden's makeover and help to give it a new lease of life. The gardens feature plants relevant to the Manly area, both Indigenous and cultivated.

Since forming, the group, which has over 80 members, has transformed areas of the garden, turfing the central lawn area and creating The Fernery and

The Mound. The gardens are enjoyed by the community, from those doing tai-chi to others having a picnic or taking a stroll.

The latest working bee saw dead and overgrown palm fronds removed, native garden beds weeded and logs added to the tree circle. Liriope was also planted in the Sensory Garden.

The group holds working bees on the third Saturday of the month, and on the following Wednesday. Social get-togethers are held every other month to discuss current and future progress in the garden, and to host guest speakers.

To volunteer, email info@friendsivanhoeparkbotanicgarden.com

- **Generous donation by our Member, Lee:** When Lee downsized her home and garden she had loads of beautiful pot plants that she couldn't take with her.

The pot plants were free, but Lee welcomed donations to our organisation to support us maintain our local gem.

As Lee told us: "People were very generous and gave donations to FIPBG between \$10.00 and up to one person donating \$100.00. I also promoted FIPBG and people were interested to know about the botanic garden and I hope to have raised awareness and some interest perhaps for some in volunteering. The best thing is that I was able to rehome all my pot plants." Lee donated a whopping \$575.00 which will be used for new plants and equipment. Thank you Lee for such a generous gift.



- **Mosman Garden Club Guided Tour:** We hosted an enthusiastic group from the Mosman Garden Club recently. Starting in the native garden, Tony and Lois guided our visitors along the old tramway where they were able to see a fallen Black Bean seed pod and our majestic Blue Quandong. The tour wandered down towards the imposing Small Leafed Fig, towering Bunya Bunya, our various pines, ending on the new Central Lawn.



- **Can you help us at our next Sausage Sizzle:** We're looking for a few members to join us on Sunday, July 26 @ Bunnings Balgowlah. You can sizzle sausages, serve our hungry customers, collect money, or assist with setup and break down before and after. We're looking at two shifts – morning and afternoon – so just let us know if you are interested.



- **Plant Propagation Group:** A number of members have expressed an interest in propagating plants so we're asking if others are interested in participating. So, whether you're experienced in propagation or willing to learn to propagate, then let us know. We'll set up a meeting to discuss how this will all work and how much time would be involved.
- **Is it time to renew your Membership?:** Membership in the Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden runs from July 1 to June 30 each year so some of you may be due for renewal. We'll be sending you an email reminder if that's the case.

Yearly membership		Three-year membership	
Individual	\$25	Individual	\$70
Pensioner/Senior	\$20	Pensioner/Senior	\$55
Family	\$35	Family	\$100

By renewing your membership know that you help us maintain this amazing asset to the Manly and Northern Beaches community that is Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden.

Important Dates for July 2026

Saturday, July 18: The Saturday Working Bee – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 22: The Wednesday Working Bee – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 26: A fund-raising Sausage Sizzle @ Balgowlah Bunnings. We are looking for volunteers for the day so please let us know if you can help out.

Our June Working Bees

Saturday Bee: A lovely sunny day saw Max working in the native garden, Lynn, our receptionist raking the large leaf drop in the area around the storeroom, while Brandon gathered rubbish and helped Paul, our NBC gardener for the day, load rubbish and foliage into the truck.

Ron, Tony and Brandon, led by Dave, our supervisor, focused on the garden bed on the right hand side of the new stairs from the Park Avenue entrance. Lots of weeds were hand removed along with climbing vines that wrapped around several trees. Foliage along the fence line was also cut back and dead palm fronds were collected.



Wednesday Bee: Winter arrived with a vengeance today but we soon warmed up in the wintery sun. Chris M supervised our small group while Deanna ensured everyone signed in and registered the tools they took for their tasks.



George, Kerrie and Chris M worked in the perennial garden weeding and pruning.



Kerrie raked fallen leaves in the playground and on the grassy slope near our storeroom, then discovered that the leaf blower was more efficient!



Chris M went the extra mile by digging out dirt and debris that was blocking the gutter alongside the perennial garden.



We then sat down to chat about the day's efforts and shared a cuppa, lamingtons and bikkies.



The June Get-together

A great turnout at our June get-together – was it the \$10 off Main Meals at the Manly Club, the anticipation of winning a door prize, or the promise of a fascinating speaker in Sonja Elwood? We think it was definitely our speaker judging by the attentiveness of our members and the multitude of questions raised afterwards.



Managing Priority Weeds to Protect Biodiversity on Sydney's Northern Beaches



Eastern Pygmy Possums in hollow within heathland

Sonja, an invasive species officer has worked for Northern Beaches Council for 20 years. Her role includes fauna management including frogs and insects as well as monitoring endemic and invasive plant species across the Northern Beaches.

Her presentation provided a snapshot about priority weed management in Sydney's northern beaches for the protection of biodiversity and some of the challenges faced in a fairly heavily populated urban setting with a lot of natural assets.

The northern beaches cover an area of 254 sq km, with 300 bushland reserves, 3 national parks, 80 km of coastline, more than 20 beaches, 10 headlands, 5 coastal lagoons, 10 remnant dune systems, one large estuary – Pittwater Estuary – which also contains two islands, one containing bushland only and the other home to Sydney's only population of little penguins.



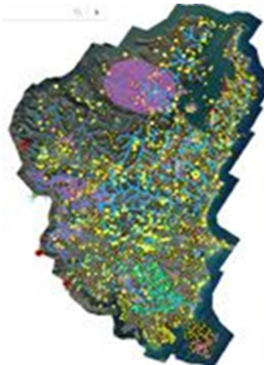
Protecting Biodiversity on Sydney's Northern Beaches



Little Penguin



Grey-headed Flying-fox



Protecting Biodiversity on Sydney's Northern Beaches



Long-nosed Bandicoot



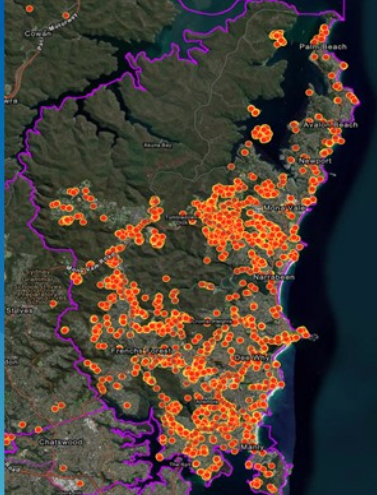
Little Penguin

Sonja and her team monitor and remove priority weeds in bushland reserves, along creek lines and roadsides, and in wetlands such as Warriewood. High risk sites for introducing banned plant species are Plant Nurseries, Golf Clubs, Tips, bicycle tracks and horse trails.

Priority Weed Risks on Sydney's Northern Beaches

High Risk Sites and Pathways:

- 80kms Arterial and sub-arterial roads
- 200kms creek lines (50kms on private land)
- 100+ High Risk Sites including:
 - Plant and flower outlets, golf courses
 - bike trails, horse and pony clubs and tips



Management strategies include an annual program of inspection of high-risk areas, active controls and eradication, public education, resident reporting and annual community events. Funding for her team is partly provided by State Government for weed control education as well as Crown Lands.



Kudzu Vine



Water Poppy



Kidney-leaf Mud Plantain

Management of Priority Weeds on Sydney's Northern Beaches

- Annual program of regulatory inspections
- Annual program of reinspection and maintenance control works
- Implementation of Weed Action Program (WAP) grant funding and admin
- Other grant opportunities
- Respond to resident enquiries

To support their work, they have developed a Local Priority Weed Management Plan to educate and advise the community about the *Biosecurity Act* and priority weeds and how best to manage them. The LPWMP includes a comprehensive list of almost 40 persistent and widespread weeds.

Management of Priority Weeds on Sydney's Northern Beaches

- Local Priority Weed Mgmt. Plan
- Community Weeds Roundtable
- Annual Community Events Program
- Greater Sydney Weeds Network – Coastal Sub-Network



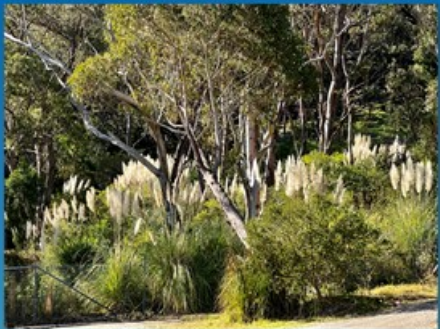
These widespread weeds cause issues on both private and public lands but, of course, do not attract grant funding for control and unfortunately on private land can cause conflict between residents. They host a quarterly roundtable with community bush care volunteers, environmentalists and groups to collaborate on all things weeds and are very grateful for the assistance of volunteers – there are quite a large number of them on the beaches, and they are a great asset in acting as the eyes and ears on the ground in identifying and actively controlling local priority weeds in our bushland reserves.

Some High Priority weeds in our area are: Senegal Tea, Giant Devils Fig, Singapore Daisy, *Ludwigia*, *Salvinia*, Alligator Weed, Giant Reed. And most recently Broom Asparagus, Kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*), Kidney-leaf Mud Plantain (*Heteranthera reniformis*), Frog Bit (*Limnobiium laevigatum*), Water Poppy (*Hydrocleys nymphoides*), Sticky Nightshade and last but not least Pampas Grass which is now on around 20 sites on bushland and national parks borders.

So amongst these, their greatest challenges are controlling aquatic weeds. They have seen in the past 12 months the first incursions of Kudzu, Kidney-leaf Mud Plantain and Mexican Water Poppy within creek lines and are doing their very best to eradicate those before they manage to reproduce or spread. They have also seen the propagation and online sale of Frog Bit within the LGA but again, for the moment, they appear to have nipped that in the bud before it has gotten away on them.



Sticky Nightshade



Pampas Grass

Priority Weeds on Sydney's Northern Beaches

- Senegal Tea, Giant Devils Fig, Singapore Daisy, *Ludwigia*, *Salvinia*, Alligator Weed, and Giant Reed, Bitou Bush, Boneseed, and Sea Spurge.
- Broom Asparagus, Kudzu, Kidney leaf Mud Plantain, Mexican Water Poppy, Frog Bit, Sticky Nightshade and Pampas Grass

Sonja also give a brief overview of a case study looking at what Council is doing in an attempt to save a significant freshwater wetland – Warriewood Wetlands. The wetlands provide habitat for over 145 bird species many of which, of course, are unable to survive anywhere else. The wetlands are also home to a colony of grey-headed flying-foxes, a large culvert roost site for the threatened little fishing bat, and several migratory or seasonally migratory bird species such as the Regent Honeyeater and Noisy Pitta and a number of other locally significant species such as bandicoots, swamp and bush rats and swamp wallabies.

Case Study: Protecting Freshwater Wetlands
Warriewood Wetlands



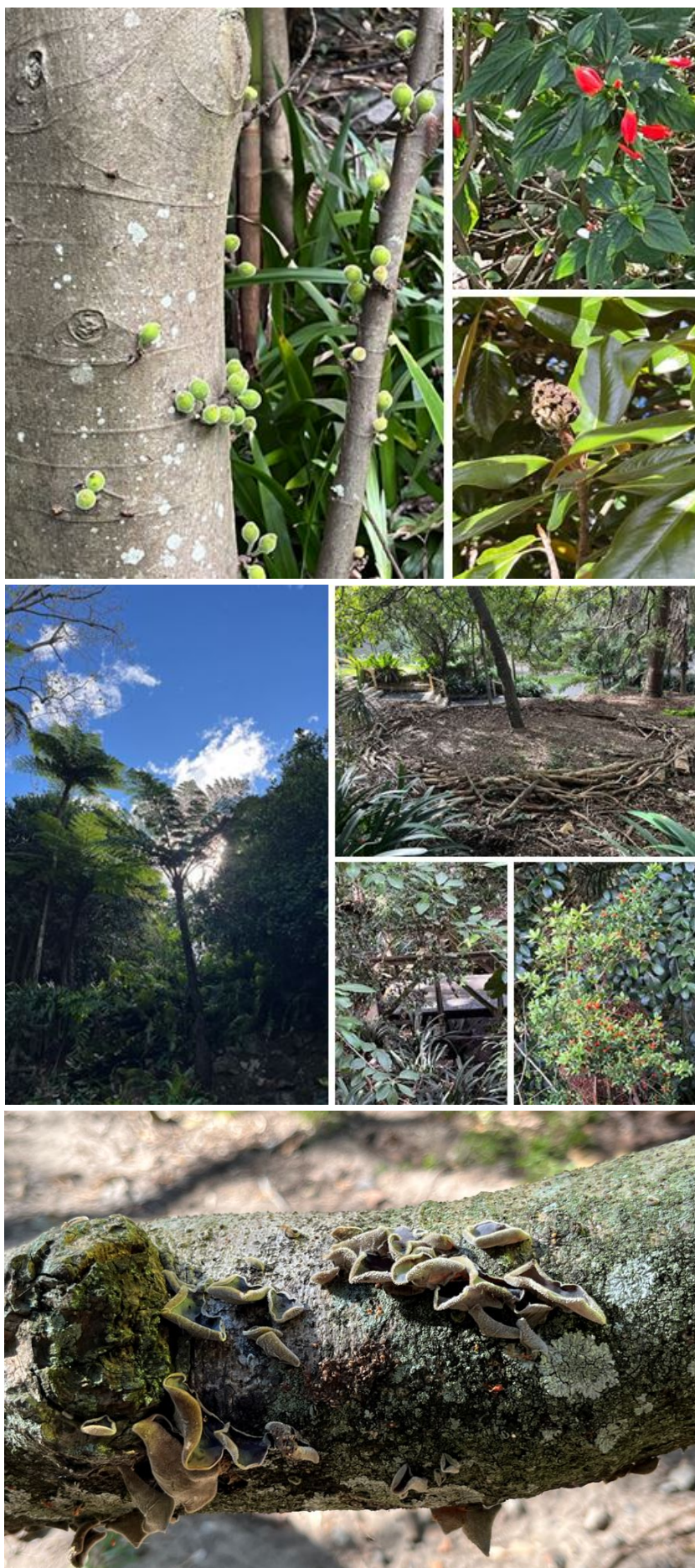

Case Study: Protecting Freshwater Wetlands
Warriewood Wetlands





Her complete presentation can be found [here](#).

Around the Garden



Other News

- **Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens:** Read their monthly e-ucalypt newsletter here: <https://us15.campaign-archive.com/?u=b1463fb90d44dd5ed074102f8&id=acfc7102a7>
 - **Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens** feature interesting podcasts on the home page of their website (www.fbbgsa.org.au)
- **Garden Clubs of Australia:** Always interesting articles: <https://gardenclubs.org.au/>
- **Permaculture Northern Beaches:** Keep up to date on their upcoming events: <https://www.permaculturenorthernbeaches.org.au/events>
- **Bunnings Balgowlah:** Check out their Garden Corner Workshop events: <https://www.bunnings.com.au/stores/nsw/balgowlah>
- **Good for Manly:** For topical talks and news, head here: <http://www.goodformanly.com.au/>

Keep up to date with happenings at Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden
by visiting our website anytime

www.friendsivanhoeParkbotanicgarden.com

Or email us at

info@friendsivanhoeParkbotanicgarden.com

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