



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2024-25



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Cumberland Land Conservancy (CLC) is a volunteer operated not-for-profit charity dedicated to acquiring and managing land for conservation in perpetuity. We focus on the Cumberland Plain of Western Sydney, one of the most heavily cleared landscapes in Australia.

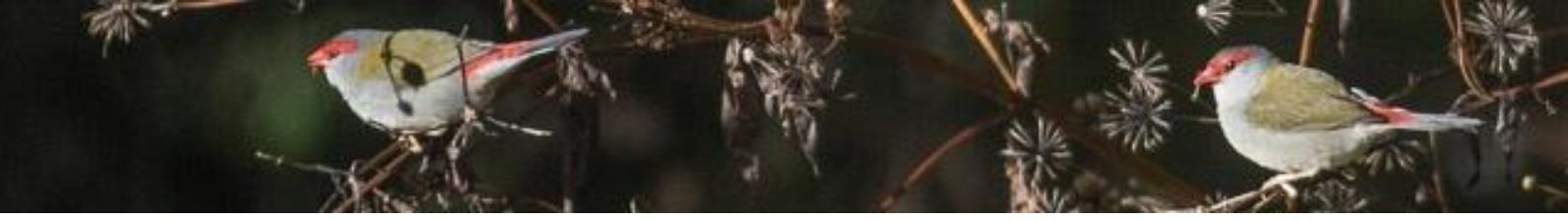
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Cover: Sundew (*Drosera peltata*) at 'Thornbill' Pic: © Damien Vella

Header: Red-browed Finches at 'Wallaroo' '*Neochmia temporalis*' Pic: © Mark Fuller

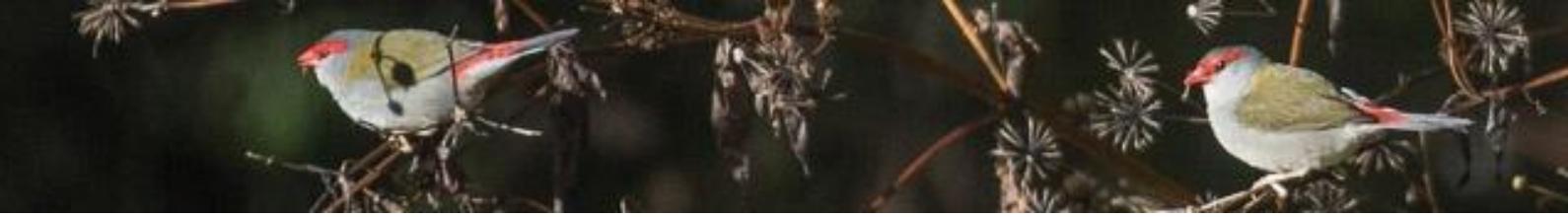
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Web: [www.cumberlandlc.org.au](http://www.cumberlandlc.org.au) | [info@cumberlandlc.org.au](mailto:info@cumberlandlc.org.au) | 26/19-21 Fitzroy St Leura NSW 2780



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## President's Report



This report is written by Wayne Olling in lieu of our President, Yogesh Nair, who, for family needs, was obliged to step down from the position shortly before the AGM.

Cumberland Land Conservancy Inc (CLC) has now been operating for eleven (11) years. The reward, to my mind, is seeing the amount of fauna utilizing the CLC properties for foraging and habitat. This is an outcome which justifies the existence of CLC and its role in preserving a permanent place for fauna against a background of widespread government pursuit of development for housing and industry, all at cost of lost habitat for flora and fauna.

CLC is reliant upon voluntary member involvement, particularly with “knees on the grounds” rehabilitating land that has a history of uses not conducive to sustaining flora and fauna populations. Where voluntary commitment from members is limited, we are reliant upon government grants and donations for engagement of contractors along with corporate volunteers and TAFE students in training to undertake weed control on our properties. CLC continues weekly bush regeneration activities and periodic feral pest control and bird and other fauna surveys and general property maintenance works.

The greatest contributor to our work in 2024-2025 was a NSW Government Environmental Trust grant for restoration and rehabilitation works at the property ‘Wallaroo’. We have now completed two of three years of delivery of that grant. ‘Wallaroo’ is our largest and most problematic property so the Environmental Trust grant is of immense benefit to our management regime. We have also completed three years of a small NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust grant for some weed removal and periodic slashing and brushcutting the pastoral grasses and herbs introduced by former landholders of ‘Wallaroo’. I am pleased to also report that the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust has approved a further three years of small grant funding for ‘Wallaroo’ but with a greater emphasis on weed removal over slashing/brushcutting. Small grants of equivalent value have been obtained from the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust for all weed control works on ‘Marsdenia’ and ‘Wombat’. A small NSW Government, Saving Our Species, grant has been worked at the property ‘Thornbill’ for sustaining and, hopefully, regenerating more of, the endangered *Persoonia nutans* plants existing on that property. Additionally, CLC has been blessed, for a few years now, with the support of Amazon Web Services through provision of volunteers and donations to specific projects on CLC properties. The donation in 2024-2025 enabled CLC to engage a contractor to remove areas of dense Lantana camara infestation at ‘Wombat’. This work has not had a detrimental impact on bird activity because bird survey counts at ‘Wombat’ indicate an increase in species over the previous year.

Again, CLC is pleased to assist the education of TAFE students undertaking the Conservation and Ecosystem Management course through on-ground training taking place on CLC properties.

Well, on now to 2025-2026 and may we all be pleased to enjoy and contribute to our natural heritage.

For President



# Our Purpose

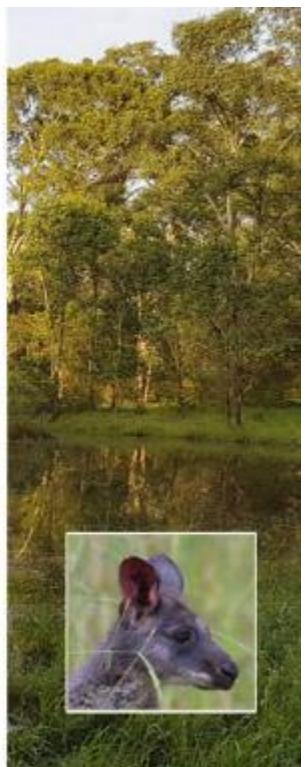
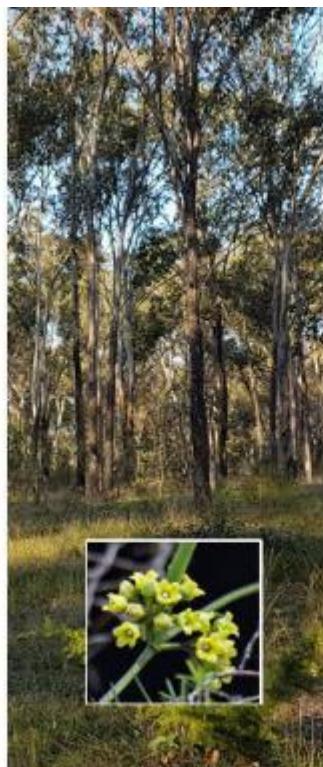
Cumberland Land Conservancy Inc (CLC) is a volunteer operated not-for-profit charity dedicated to acquiring land for conservation. Our principal focus is on the 'Cumberland Plain' of Sydney, one of the most heavily cleared landscapes in Australia. This region is now being cleared and developed at a more rapid rate than before and with insufficient priority toward conserving key linkages.

CLC aims to secure biodiversity corridors through engagement with and empowering the community while partnering with government and business toward the goal of establishing and managing the corridors.

This work would not be possible without the

sponsors – our now longest serving sponsor being Amazon Web Services. Harking back to our origin, we again thank former Commonwealth Government Environment Minister, The Hon Greg Hunt MP, who recognised the CLC initiative as a goal for the Federal Seat of Lindsay and who acquired three properties to assign to CLC for conservation management in perpetuity.

Each CLC member is a co-owner in CLC properties and custodian on behalf of all the residents and wildlife of Western Sydney



*Scenes from the four CLC owned and managed properties © Mark Fuller/CLC*  
support of our members, volunteers and



# Who We Are

Our committee is elected by popular vote at each Annual General Meeting (AGM). The committee in 2024-2025 was as follows:



**President – Yogesh Nair:** Yogesh has over 15 years of experience in bushland conservation, restoration, site supervision, project management, environment consultant (Botanist & Ecologist) including veg assessments and developing management plans. Qualifications include CLM III; Advanced Dip. App. Environmental Management; BSc and MSc in Biodiversity Conservation.



**Vice-President – Wayne Olling:** Wayne has been an advocate for conservation of the Cumberland Plain environment with numerous conservation organisations for more than 20 years. He was a founding member of Cumberland Land Conservancy Inc (CLC).



**Treasurer – Nikki Kirkman:** Nikki has had a love for the environment and native animals and has worked as a volunteer with Wires. After the devastating bushfires in 2019/2020 Nikki joined CLC and the NSW Rural Fire Service. Nikki brings to CLC three decades of accounting, bookkeeping and small business experience. She holds an Associate Diploma in Business (Accounting) and a Master's degree in Professional Accounting.



**Secretary & Public Officer – Lisa Kemp:** Lisa has volunteered in bushcare groups in western Sydney for over 30 years. She has an Honours degree in botany and zoology, and completed postgraduate studies leading to work as a librarian and TAFE teacher.



**Legal Officer - Martin O'Reilly:** Martin is a passionate advocate for the protection of both the natural environment of Western Sydney and the environment more broadly. Martin has a B.A., LLB and, for almost 20 years, occupied the position of President of Blacktown & District Environment Group Inc.



**Committee Member – Doug Meredith:** Doug has had a life-long interest in conservation and biodiversity, particularly avian fauna. He is a member of CPA Australia, has a degree in accounting & economics, a master's degree in accounting, a master's degree in business administration and a graduate certificate in applied finance & investment.



**Committee Member – Brian Kirkman:** From a young age Brian has had a strong interest in native fauna and the environment they live in. Brian has held senior roles in the Public and Private sector and brings these skills to assist the CLC's operational objectives.



## Our Conservation Impact

Our core purpose remains the acquisition of land for conservation toward protecting wildlife corridors. As in past years, weed control was our primary activity in Year 2024-2025 on the 49.61 ha of land under our care. Increased fauna presence was a pleasing observation. Members of CLC are part owners of land in our care, the land also being subject to a Conservation Agreement with the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust for perpetual conservation management.

As suggested already, CLC has a particular focus on biodiversity corridors. Corridors are vital for maintaining connection between the shrinking patches of habitat in the Cumberland Plain - none of which are of sufficient scale to survive in isolation. Corridors are also vital in providing links for migratory wildlife including a number of endangered bird species which rely on the Cumberland Plain.

The overarching strategy of CLC is discreet acquisitions in the *Cumberland Conservation Corridor*, a corridor plan for the region developed by community volunteers & biodiversity experts. The *Cumberland Conservation Corridor* was incorporated, largely unmodified, into the NSW Government's Biodiversity Investment Opportunity map for the Cumberland IBRA Subregion.

CLC is the only community-based organisation presently securing corridors in the Cumberland Plain.

All our properties now protect key links in the Cumberland Conservation Corridor. Our properties in corridor context are shown in the map on page 6.



© MAFuller



© Mark Fuller

(top) one of two major dams on 'Wallaroo' (bottom) Eastern Grey Kangaroos at rest on 'Wallaroo' © Mark Fuller

## Conservation Property Portfolio

Habitat protected in perpetuity ...

Property	Area (hectares)	Endangered Ecological Communities & Threatened Species observed on the properties.
'Wallaroo', Mulgoa	38.86	Cumberland Plain Woodland Cumberland, River-flat Eucalypt Forest Cumberland Plain Land Snail ( <i>Sauroconcha corneovirens</i> ) White-bellied Sea Eagle ( <i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i> ) Varied Sittella ( <i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i> ) Eastern falsistrelle ( <i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i> ) Eastern Coastal Freetail Bat ( <i>Miconomus norfolkensis</i> ) Eastern Bent-winged Bat ( <i>Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis</i> ) Large-eared Pied Bat ( <i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i> ) Large Bent-winged Bat ( <i>Miniopterus orianae</i> ) Greater Broad-nosed Bat ( <i>Scoteanax ruepellii</i> ) Large-footed Myotis ( <i>Myotis macropus</i> ) Little Bent-winged Bat ( <i>Miniopterus australis</i> ) Grey-headed Flying Fox ( <i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i> )
'Thornbill', Agnes Banks	2.20	Cumberland Shale-Gravel Transition Forest, Cumberland Plain Land Snail ( <i>Sauroconcha corneovirens</i> ) Gravel Pea ( <i>Dillwynia tenuifolia</i> ) Nodding Geebung ( <i>Persoonia nutans</i> ) Square-tailed Kite ( <i>Lophoictinia isura</i> )
'Marsdenia', Llandilo	3.75	Cumberland Plain Woodland Cumberland Plain Land Snail ( <i>Sauroconcha corneovirens</i> ) Native Pear ( <i>Marsdenia viridiflora</i> subsp. <i>viridiflora</i> ) Juniper-leaf Grevillea ( <i>Grevillea juniperina</i> ) Grey-headed Flying Fox ( <i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i> )
'Wombat', Regentville	4.80	Cumberland Plain Woodland, Shale-Sandstone Transition Forest Dural Land Snail ( <i>Pommerhelix duralensis</i> ) Varied Sittella ( <i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i> ) Swift Parrot ( <i>Lathamus discolor</i> ) Large-eared Pied Bat ( <i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i> ) Eastern Coastal Freetail Bat ( <i>Miconomus norfolkensis</i> ) Large Bent-winged Bat ( <i>Miniopterus orianae</i> ) Large-footed Myotis ( <i>Myotis macropus</i> ) Little Bent-winged Bat ( <i>Miniopterus australis</i> ) Greater Broad-nosed Bat ( <i>Scoteanax ruepellii</i> ) Grey-headed Flying Fox ( <i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i> )
Total area protected	49.61 hectares	19 threatened species 4 endangered ecological communities





## 'Wombat'

'Wombat' is a gift to CLC by TransGrid and had extensive cover of *Lantana camara* upon takeup. However, it is also rich in fauna activity including birds which inhabit and migrate between the eastern limits of the Blue Mountains and the western limits of the Cumberland Plain. Removal of *Lantana camara* is being done gradually so as not to adversely impact on fauna present.



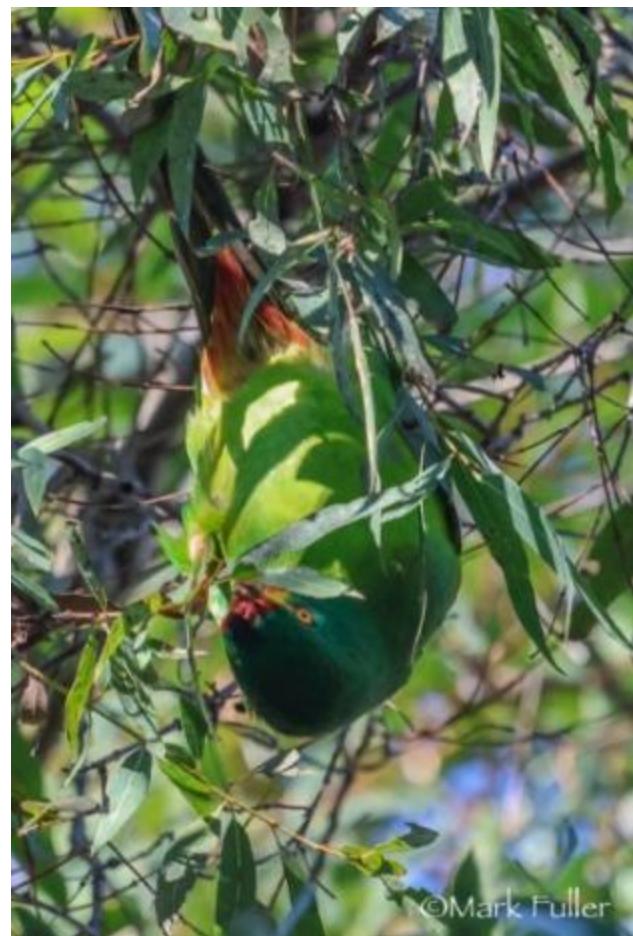
(above) Recurring visitors to 'Wombat' are Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos. © Mark Fuller



(above) Wallaroo at 'Wombat' © Mark Fuller

The property is a key link between Blue Mountains National Park and Mulgoa Nature Reserve. These east-west links remain critical to the seasonal migration of bird species which move from the Blue Mountains to the fertile Cumberland Plain each Winter while, at all times, sustaining terrestrial fauna habitat on the western limits of the Cumberland Plain.

Good progress is being made in rehabilitating this property and our volunteers were delighted to see more than a score of Swift Parrots had come to the site to forage in June 2025.



(above) Welcome visitors to 'Wombat' in Winter 2025 was a flock of Swift Parrots. © Mark Fuller



## 'Wallaroo'

'Wallaroo' is a 38.86 hectare property at Mulgoa entrusted to CLC by the Commonwealth Government via the former NSW Nature Conservation Trust. 'Wallaroo' protects critically endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland, River-flat Eucalypt Forest, Alluvial Woodland and affords habitat and/or foraging for ten threatened species.

Weed management on a 38.86ha is an everlasting task and we are grateful for government grants to help the goal.

Nevertheless, such an area of protected land benefits greatly a wide range of fauna and, with residential, industrial and infrastructure development consuming so much open land, it is vital to have a space such as this in the mix of available habitat and foraging for fauna.



(above) Eastern Grey Kangaroos (top right)  
Red-bellied Black Snake (mid right) Scarlet  
Honeyeater (lower right) Water Dragon in the  
creek – all pics at 'Wallaroo' and copyright  
Mark Fuller.



## 'Thornbill'

'Thornbill' at Agnes Banks protects 2.2 hectares of high conservation bushland in Sydney's north west. The property forms part of a key corridor between the woodland on Western Sydney University Richmond Campus and the Agnes Banks Nature Reserve.

This acquisition was entrusted to CLC by the Commonwealth Government via the former NSW Nature Conservation Trust. It protects Critically Endangered Shale-Gravel Transition Forest; Alluvial Woodland; the endangered Cumberland Plain Land Snail (*Meridolum corneovirens*), *Persoonia nutans* and vulnerable *Dillwynia tenuifolia*.



(above) *Boronia polygalifolia* at 'Thornbill'.  
© Roger Lembit

For four years, CLC has been working a NSW Government Saving Our Species grant to protect existing and regenerate more *Persoonia nutans* plants on 'Thornbill'.

What had been a property dominated by African Lovegrass on take-up is now dominated by native vegetation.



(above) Yellow-faced Whip Snake at 'Thornbill'  
© Ray Myles.



(above) *Hardenbergia violacea* at 'Thornbill' ©  
Natalie James



## 'Marsdenia'

This property at Llandilo is 3.75 ha of high quality conservation bushland and part of a key corridor between the Wianamatta Regional Park and the Wianamatta Nature Reserve. It was entrusted to CLC in 2017 by the Commonwealth Government via the former NSW Nature Conservation Trust.

Negotiations are progressing with Lend Lease for CLC to be gifted 8,000sqm of adjoining bushland to include in the 'Marsdenia' land holding.

Mother-of-Millions remains a problem weed to remove but we persevere with financial help from the NSW BCT Conservation Partnership Grant scheme and Greater Sydney Local Land Services.

'Marsdenia' comprises Critically Endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland and threatened flora and fauna including:

- Cumberland Plain Land Snail (Endangered, NSW)
- *Grevillea juniperina* subsp. *juniperina* (Vulnerable, NSW)
- *Marsdenia viridiflora* var. *viridiflora* (Endangered population NSW)



(above left) Lace Monitor © Robert Shestanovich (top right) *Polyhrachis vermiculosa* on *Plantago debilis* © Skye Virgin (bottom right) juvenile *Marasdenia viridiflora* © Ray Myles - all at 'Marsdenia'



## Restoring Our Properties

Each property is being restored under a detailed Plan of Management developed in partnership with conservation experts.

2nd Saturday at 'Wallaroo', 3rd Saturday at 'Wombat' and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 'Thornbill'.

### Bush Regeneration

Bush regeneration is a key activity on all our properties with discreet planting regimes. Each volunteer bushcare day has at least one fully qualified and experienced bush regenerator present. Bush regeneration (weeding) as opposed to revegetation (planting) is the preferred strategy as this assists regeneration of native seed in the soil. We have found, however, that, on river flats, intense planting of *Acacia parramattensis*, interspersed with the occasional Eucalypt has allowed the native grass *Microlaena stipoides* to come through and dominate Paspalum and other exotics because of the shade created by the Acacias and, later, the Eucalypts.

Contract bush regenerators are also employed we have grant or donation funding for the works.



CLC is a registered and insured Landcare group and we host monthly bushcare activities – 1st Saturday at 'Marsdenia',



(above) Volunteers keen to work in the rain at 'Marsdenia' (top right) Volunteers enjoying a well-earned break at 'Thornbill' (bottom right) Volunteers assisting in translocation of *Persoonia nutans* from bike track outside back of 'Thornbill' into the property for safety and survival.

## Pest Management

Vertebrate pests continue as a problem on the Cumberland Plain. Deer, Foxes and Carp occur at 'Wallaroo' with Deer and Foxes at 'Wombat'. Foxes occur at all CLC properties and rabbits are also evident at 'Thornbill'.

Without grant funding, CLC has been dependent on intermittent volunteer deer culling at 'Wallaroo'.

'Thornbill' and 'Marsdenia' are situated near residential properties so culling of Foxes at those properties is problematic. We are thankful that we don't observe much damage done at these two properties from feral pests.

Carp present as a threat to native fish species and adversely impact on creek bank stability. Whereas there had been some control of Carp by fishing with Streamwatch in past years, reduced numbers of Streamwatch volunteers has impacted capacity to control Carp.

## Operations

As suggested above, operations to control deer and foxes in 2024-2025 were restricted due to lack of funding to engage a contractor. Deer and foxes are known to occur at 'Wallaroo' and 'Wombat' because scats are observed here and there and the animals are occasionally seen during fauna surveys and bushcare.



(top) Fallow Deer near 'Wallaroo' © Mark Fuller  
(middle) Fox at 'Wombat' (bottom) Carp fishing in Mulgoa Creek within 'Wallaroo' © Linda Brown



## Fire Management

Fire is a recurring element of the Cumberland Plain Ecosystems accommodate, even benefit from, the occurrence of fires so long as the fires are not too frequent.

Today, fire is a necessary tool in maintaining asset protection, ecological processes and control of weeds.

CLC has developed a detailed Fire Management plan for each property in consultation with the Rural Fire Service, Fire and Rescue and nearby property neighbours.

Finally, a burn occurred at 'Marsdenia' as a measure to control Mother-of-Millions at the property. The burn, involving Fire & Rescue and the Rural Fire Service occurred at Easter 2025.

Due to a lack of fuel on the ground, the burn did not generate the heat we sought nor did it cover all areas in the dedicated zone for the burn. It was necessary, then, to create some piles of cut *Bursaria spinosa* branches to do later pile burns.

We are observing regrowth in the area burned to evaluate the effectiveness of the burn at time of writing this report.



*Series of pics showing stages of the ecological burn at 'Wombat' in April 2025. Pic at the bottom is a burn area showing impact on Mother-of-Millions. © CLC*

## Wildlife Recovery

Weed removal/management, discreet plantings and ensuring minimum fauna disturbance are our priorities.

The high density of *Lantana camara* at 'Wombat' upon take-up of the property needed a careful regime of removal to avoid adverse impact on fauna. Indications are, that clearing of *Lantana camara* over the years and more intensely in one area over the latter half of the year has had the beneficial effect of increasing bird species sightings over the previous years. Further, burn pile and habitat piles from cleared Lantana produced a dual sighting of *Antechinus stuartii* and, from camera placement, a native rat.

The occurrence of more than twenty Swift Parrots in June 2025 at 'Wombat' is further evidence that something is right about our approach to restoring that property and all properties under our care.

Indeed, the sighting of reptile species, not seen before on all our properties, is an indication that fauna are benefitting.

*(In order from top right) a healthy Eastern Grey Kangaroo joey at 'Thornbill' © Mark Fuller; juvenile Bearded Dragon at 'Thornbill' © Natalie James. Rainbow Lorikeets at their hollow habitat at 'Wallaroo' © Mark Fuller*





## Monitoring Our Success

CLC constantly monitors what occurs on its properties with a view to ensure we are moving ahead to restore and rehabilitate the natural habitat so that we play our part in sustaining viable populations of the natural heritage of the Cumberland Plain.

Regular monitoring includes weed density mapping, photo points, threatened species monitoring, native flora monitoring, terrestrial wildlife survey (spotlighting and automated camera methods), macroinvertebrate sampling, bird and other fauna surveys.

### Vegetation Monitoring

Photo points and transects with nested quadrats are used to assess canopy cover and plant species as part of a NSW Environmental Trust grant for habitat restoration and rehabilitation at 'Wallaroo'. In late 2025, we enter the third year of that grant and we are grateful for the assistance given us by the Environmental Trust for these works.

Monthly reporting of the vegetation status and issues to be addressed occurs through monthly volunteer bushcare and recurring contractor engagement for bush regeneration on all properties.

The three other properties under our care are less problematic than 'Wallaroo' because their smaller size has restricted the extent of weed infestation. Visible progress in native vegetation regeneration on those smaller properties gives us encouragement.



*Pics in sequence from top to bottom show the progress of treatment of one location at 'Wallaroo' where the focus was on removal of Blackberry, Privet and Spear Thistle over two years. © CLC*

## Fauna Monitoring

CLC's second year of participation in the NSW Government's "Bats in Backyard" survey scheme at 'Wallaroo' and 'Wombat' produced a slightly higher bat diversity presence than the previous year. This may have been due to slightly different location of detectors than before but, just the same, increased diversity indicates an important role the properties play in biodiversity conservation.

Monthly (but usually more) walk arounds on each property take note of fauna presence/activity. As indicated earlier in this report, Macropod presence is commonly observed and reptiles well represented – not always recorded through camera lens.



©Mark Fuller



©Mark Fuller

## Camera Observation

Camera activity on one occasion during the reporting period at 'Wallaroo' revealed Sugar Glider, Brushtail Possum, Tawny Frogmouth and Wallaroo activity. Sadly, there is also feral pest activity at nights as well. See pics.



©Mark Fuller



©Mark Fuller

All pics © Mark Fuller

## 'Streamwatch' and "Climate Watch'

'Wallaroo' incorporates about 500 metres of Mulgoa Creek, a key regional waterbody. Monitoring this aquatic ecosystem requires regular measures of water quality, fish, and macroinvertebrates.

CLC is a registered 'Streamwatch' group with Greater Sydney Landcare Network.

'Streamwatch' is a citizen science water quality monitoring program empowering community groups to monitor and protect the health of local waterways.

CLC's 'Streamwatch' volunteers undertake monthly (2nd Saturday) readings of water temperature, dissolved oxygen, phosphorous, conductivity, turbidity and pH. During the year the readings for each were reasonable acceptable given many agricultural uses of the land upstream.

Macroinvertebrate surveys are also conducted periodically in the creek and dams on 'Wallaroo'. The next scheduled survey is scheduled for late 2025.

Volunteers learn how each parameter influences water quality and take an active part in the monitoring process. Once the data is collected it is entered into a database with the Atlas of Living Australia.

'Climate Watch is also a citizen science project which involves periodic observation of target species of flora & fauna to assess changes which might be influenced by climate change. The data is uploaded to the Earthwatch website.



*(above) A section of Mulgoa Creek within 'Wallaroo' which is target for Streamwatch activity © CLC*



*(above) Demonstration of macroinvertebrate activity via a Streamwatch event for the public during at 'Wallaroo' © CLC*



## Fauna Surveys 2024-2025

### 'Wallaroo'

The Blue Mountains Bird Observers (BMBO) outing to Wallaroo on 1 June 2025 added over 60 volunteer hours, while over 250 volunteer hours were spent in the monthly surveys by up to 8 persons, split into two groups, surveying the creekline and the hills.

Zonal abundance/species data provides habitat use and bird activity, last year's totals in brackets. Creek Zone A recorded 148/56 spp. (310/60); Zone B recorded 151/47 spp. (386/51); Zone C recorded 195/59 spp. (276/52) and Zone D recorded 155/49 spp. (357/48). In the hills Zone E recorded 115/38 spp. (285/42) Zone F recorded 132/44 spp. (276/46) Zone G recorded 88/36 spp. (105/26) and Zone H recorded 185/41 spp. (153/34) and grassland of Zone I, recorded 34/22 spp. (68/19).

Macropods (Common Wallaroo, Eastern Grey Kangaroo, Swamp Wallaby) are observed on most occasions all year round and a nocturnal survey on 24 June 2025 recorded a Brushtail Possum and Sugar Gliders.



A Sugar Glider at 'Wallaroo'. © Mark Fuller

### 'Wombat'

Over 100 volunteer survey hours at 'Wombat' recorded 255 individuals of 85 bird species. The most notable event was the sighting of 24 Critically Endangered Swift Parrots (*Lathamus discolor*) on 21<sup>st</sup> June, they were seen feeding/lerping on Ironbark and Angophora, and often clashing with the resident Bell Miners, subsequent surveys recording lower numbers with the last sighting of 5 birds seen on 29<sup>th</sup> June. This addition brings the total of bird species recorded at Wombat to 128. Regular terrestrial fauna presence includes Wombats, Common Wallaroos, Swamp Wallabies, Reptiles and, in something of a first for CLC, an *Antechinus stuartii* and a bush rat were seen but not photographed.



Swift Parrot at 'Wombat'. © Mark Fuller



Swamp Wallaby at 'Wombat'. © Mark Fuller

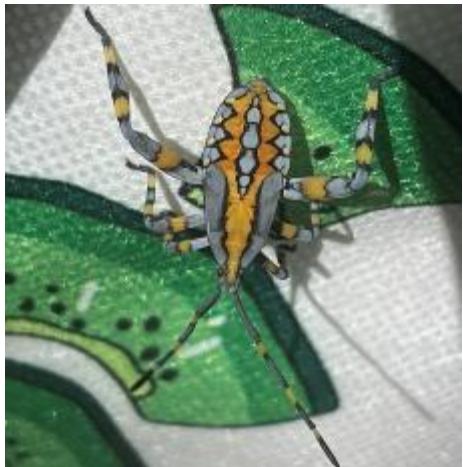


### 'Marsdenia'

A single fauna survey on 17 July 2024 recorded 11 bird species and a single Eastern Grey Kangaroo. Other incidental fauna observations were noted during regular monthly bushcare events. Small bush birds remain absent due to the dominant Noisy Miner colony with 46 bird species recorded to date.



*Eastern Grey Kangaroo at 'Marsdenia'. © Mark Fuller*



*Tip Wilter Bug at 'Marsdenia'. © Ray Myles*

### 'Thornbill'

Three seasonal bird surveys at 'Thornbill' on 11 July and 14 September 2024 and 18 February 2025 recorded 99 individuals of 21 bird species. The July/Winter survey recorded the highest count (17) with addition of a Pacific Baza (*Aviceda subcristata*) bringing the total to 66 bird species to date. A mob of 6-12 Eastern Kangaroos were seen on all occasions, sometimes with young.



*Green Tree Frog at 'Marsdenia'. © Mark Fuller*



*Pacific Baza at 'Thornbill' © Mark Fuller*



## Community Engagement & Volunteers

CLC had 107 financial members in the year.

CLC has increased its assistance to TAFE students undertaking the Diploma of Conservation and Ecosystem Management course. Students undertake on-ground training on CLC properties in ecosystem management. A total of 574.5 hours of instruction were involved with the properties 'Wallaroo' and 'Wombat' being the venues for engagement.

The property 'Marsdenia' played host to 54 UTS students in Landscape Architecture Education as CLC members relayed their experience in ecosystem management.

Our Facebook presence continues with excess of 1,000 followers and general public responses to bushcare and surveys are much appreciated.

We again thank Amazon Web Services (AWS) and its employees for volunteer work on CLC properties and for financial support. *Lantana camara* removal at 'Wombat' and installation of "whirlybird" air vents on the storage sheds at 'Wallaroo' were funded by AWS this year.

The Estate of the late John Diamond continues to be of immense support to achieve financial security in future years by donating toward establishment of a Trust to fund our activities.

Such relationships contributed greatly to flora & fauna habitat restoration in Western Sydney.

If you, too, are interested in helping CLC protect & restore our environment please contact [president@cumberlandlc.org.au](mailto:president@cumberlandlc.org.au) or speak to any of our committee members.



*In sequence from top - TAFE students engaged in on-ground training at 'Wombat'; UTS Landscape Architecture students learning of CLC's work at 'Marsdenia'; AWS volunteers at 'Wallaroo' © CLC*



# Get Involved

CLC brings together people striving to secure and protect our natural environment.

Supporters help as financial donors, volunteers, pro bono service providers, partners/collaborators - all fundamental to our success.

## **NGO and Government**

CLC encourages partnerships with NGOs and government agencies to deliver real conservation outcomes for Western Sydney. CLC extends its gratitude for the support, in 2025-2025, of current partners including NSW Environmental Trust; NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust; NSW Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water; Greater Sydney Local Land Services; Landcare NSW and Greater Sydney Landcare Network. Together we have delivered best possible land management and conservation options for the Cumberland Plain.

## **Corporate**

CLC offers opportunity for cost-effective and meaningful change for Western Sydney's environment and encourages corporate support. Diversity of opportunities exist e.g. financial support, in-kind support, workplace volunteering and land negotiations.

CLC expresses its heartfelt thanks for ongoing corporate support provided by Amazon Web

Services (AWS) and Nexia Australia, each of which has assisted CLC in its goals.

## **Schools and Educational Institutions**

CLC seeks involvement of schools and educational institutions in understanding the function of the nation's natural heritage and how that portion resting in Western Sydney can be sustained. CLC offers venues and trainers for education and on-ground experience. CLC is a player in the Earthwatch driven citizen science program and has worked with TAFE institutions and Nepean Christian School staff, the latter referring students for biology projects.

## **Private Benefactors**

CLC encourages private benefactor support and, once again, we express our deepest thanks to the Estate of the late John Diamond for ongoing support.

## **Members & Volunteers**

None of CLC's work would be possible without the dedication and expertise of our volunteer base. Whether visiting as a bushcare volunteer or assisting behind-the-scenes there are numerous opportunities to help protect and restore our local environment. Regular volunteer opportunities including bushcare and biodiversity survey & monitoring are advertised on the CLC webpage calendar and Facebook. For other opportunities please contact us to discuss an opportunity that suits.



# Finance & Governance Report

CLC is a volunteer operated not-for-profit incorporated association and is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). CLC complies fully with ACNC regulations and, for our Public Fund, requirements of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) to ensure tax deductible gift recipient status for donations of \$2 or more to that fund.

Our financial statements are independently audited. Below is a summary of the key items from the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

## Sources of income

<b>Grant funding:</b>	
NSW ET R&R - Wallaroo	62,150
BCT Grant - Wombat	16,500
BCT Grant - Marsdenia	16,500
DPE - SOS - Thornbill	11,000
Other - refund	99
<b>Sub-total grant funding</b>	<b>106,249</b>
Donations	63,378
Membership fees & other income	10,057
Interest	4,726
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$184,410</b>

## Expenses

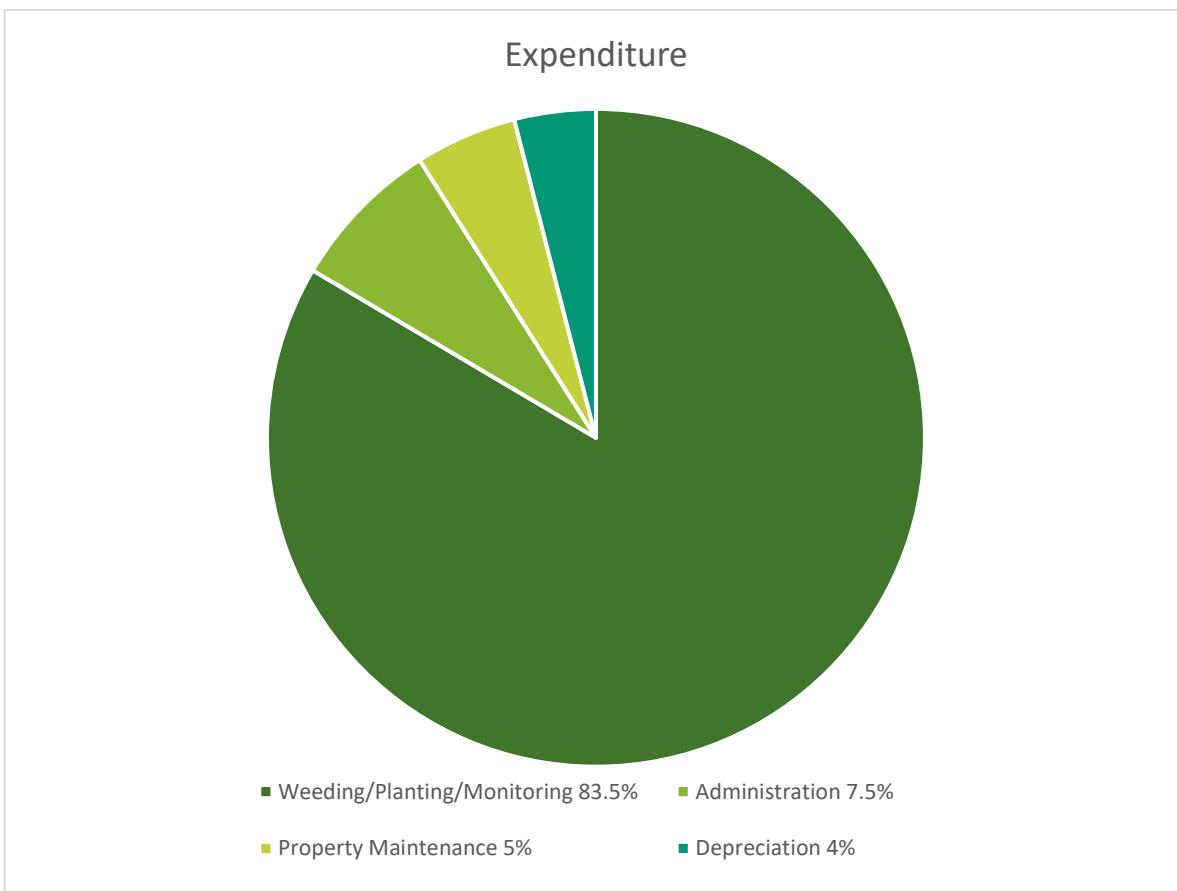
<b>Payment to suppliers:</b>	
GSLN Koala Project - Wallaroo	1,535
NSW ET R&R Grant - Wallaroo	71,517
BCT Grant - Wombat	9,797
BCT Grant - Marsdenia	12,634
BCT Slashing - Wallaroo	15,319
DPE - SOS - Thornbill	13,309
Other supplies & services	22,140
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$146,251</b>

## Cash held

Cash at bank at beginning of year	\$207,441
Net funds inflow for the year	\$38,159
<b>Cash at bank at end of year</b>	<b>\$245,600</b>



## Where CLC Invested in 2024-2025





## Volunteer Profile

### Skye Virgin



Since 2016, I have dedicated myself to environmental conservation, beginning my journey as a volunteer Bush Regenerator with the Bankstown Bushland Society. I transitioned into professional field work in 2017 while maintaining a steadfast commitment to community-led initiatives; I currently volunteer monthly with groups including Friends of Ropes Creek, Cumberland Land Conservancy, Penrith City Council, and Mulgoa Valley Landcare. Furthermore, I serve as a wildlife rescuer with WIRES, specializing in the rescue and care of reptiles and bats.

My work is driven by a lifelong passion for nature—originally inspired by David Attenborough and Jane Goodall, I am deeply eager to contribute to the long-term preservation of our native flora and fauna.

I am inspired by the Cumberland Land Conservancy's success in securing four properties for permanent preservation. The transformation of these lands through countless volunteer hours—reducing weeds and revitalizing biodiversity—is remarkable. From monitoring water quality and bird populations to providing water for local kangaroo mobs, their work in establishing vital green corridor connectivity is a mission I am proud to support.