

Natural Areas Newsletter

Winter 2026

Momentum has continued throughout 2026! April to June recorded the highest number of volunteer hours ever achieved in a single quarter in Glenorchy Bushcare history! Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our natural areas, helping to make Glenorchy better for nature and people alike. Keep reading to hear about the highlights of the last three months.

Our **Boxthorn Busting Biochar** project hosted three workshops at Prince of Wales Bay and one at Montrose Road Reserve with the **Northern Suburbs Landcare Group**. The boxthorn infestation at Prince of Wales Bay is now largely under control, and native revegetation planting has continued along the coast.



Brent Street Reserve Landcare kept up with rubbish removal, planting maintenance, watering and removal of weeds from Brent Street Reserve. Planting has also recently continued. Brent Street Reserve Landcare Group meets on the first Sunday of the month and could use some extra hands! Please reach out to Glenorchy City Council if you would like to join us.



Chigwell Community Garden has been a hive of activity, planting winter crops, replacing fruit trees, fixing the irrigation system, revamping the bushtucker garden, and keeping on top of the lawns! We would love some new volunteers in this space, please contact us at chigwellcommunitygarden@gcc.tas.gov.au if you would like more information.



Claremont Coast Care has spent the autumn looking after last year's coastal revegetation sites at Windermere Bay. Weed control, mulching, litter-picking and watering are all important and ongoing jobs that ensure plants thrive. Planting has started, using plants propagated from the site earlier in the year.



Conservation Volunteers Australia have been doing planting maintenance at Windermere Bay. Their recent events have included creating biochar from boxthorn and celebrating World Environment Day with a native planting at Prince of Wales Bay. Visit their website at cva.org.au to find out about upcoming opportunities.



Collinsvale Landcare Group met in May to litter-pick in the Collinsvale Recreation Reserve. Group convener Tanya also held a nature journalling session. Nature journalling is a great way to unwind and connect with nature. Search for "Events Friends of Collinsvale-Landcare Group" on Facebook to find out when the next session is.



Volunteer Round Up Continued...

Friends of Wellington Park hosted the annual Glenorchy City Council and City of Hobart Council joint event at the gully in Kalang Avenue. Volunteers came together to plant 180 native plants. Guest speaker, Corinne Ooms, from the TV show 'Alone' gave a fascinating talk about her experience surviving the wilderness on the show.



The Lutana Woodlanders have kept busy, meeting twice per month to keep on top of invasive grass within the Kangaroo Grass grassland. They also prepared one of the areas for the ecological burn which unfortunately did not go ahead this autumn due to weather. We are aiming to do the ecological burn later this year but need an appropriate weather window.



The **New Town Rivulet Platypus Group** and **Moonah Nature Mates** teamed up to plant 200 native trees, shrubs and grasses on the corner of Gerrard Street and Creek Road, New Town. This planting aims to increase habitat and shade over the rivulet, and increase urban connectivity by linking with previous Moonah Nature Mates plantings at the Gerrard Street Reserve



Northern Suburbs Landcare Group have continued with native revegetation of Islet Rivulet at Montrose Road Reserve, particularly in open areas where they have removed a lot of blackberry, boneseed, and ivy. This planting site is hard work with rocky, dry ground and steep slopes, yet the group refuses to give up. Great work!



Rosetta Primary & Sacred Heart College students, along with volunteers from Nipaluna Nursery, have been planting riparian plants, and pocket forests around Glenorchy! We welcome opportunities to work with schools to get students amongst nature and learning about the environment.



Volunteer Spotlight - Gary Poland, Convener of Friends of Wellington Park

Why I volunteer

I believe we are caretakers of the environment and with Wellington Park on our back doorstep we have a responsibility to care for it... plus it's fun and I get to meet nice people!!

How I got started with volunteering

My parents did volunteer work and encouraged me to do it, so I've been volunteering since I was young. The organisations I've volunteered with have changed with my interests over the years, but it's part of my upbringing and who I am today.

Favourite volunteering memory

There's been a lot of highlights over the years as I try to find joy in whatever I'm doing and there have been some epic stints when I have volunteered on endurance events and you're just happy to see the last competitor through safely so you can go home to bed. I'm enjoying my current role in Friends of Wellington Park and loving seeing people turn up to do the same things I care about and enjoy doing.

Best volunteering achievement

Taking on the role of convener for FoWP, which means I'm also secretary, treasurer, newsletter editor and everything else, but at least the committee meetings go quickly.

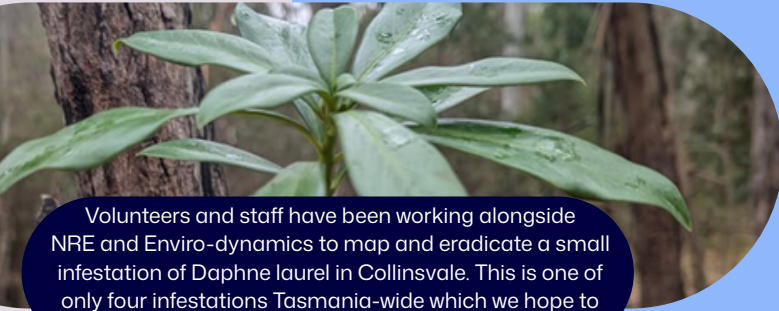
Favourite quote/rule to live by

Favourite quote: "Nature is not a place to visit. It is home." - Gary Snyder

Rule to live by: "If you're going through hell, keep going." - Winston Churchill



Natural Areas Update



Volunteers and staff have been working alongside NRE and Enviro-dynamics to map and eradicate a small infestation of Daphne laurel in Collinsvale. This is one of only four infestations Tasmania-wide which we hope to completely eliminate.



Our team have been building experience in conducting controlled burns in native bushland by assisting City of Hobart's burn program. We aim to commence ecological burns in Glenorchy's reserves later this year.



The team has developed Natural Areas Volunteering pamphlets highlighting our Bushcare program and advertising each group in the municipality. Please contact Council if you would like one for your local community noticeboard!



Chigwell Community Garden is officially back in action. Each Wednesday we meet for garden upkeep, socialising and food. Come and be a part of this community initiative, learn about growing your own food and take some fresh vegetables home at harvest time.



Rabbit proof fencing has been installed to protect native grasses and herbs surrounding the two large Eucalypts in Poimena Reserve. In the spring we will host a weeding event to remove the weeds growing within the fences as mentioned at last year's Christmas party.



Glenorchy City Council's Open Workshop on Monday 3 August, from 3:30pm, will hear Ash's update on our Bushcare program. Tune in on Council's Facebook page, or come into the Council Chambers to listen.

Volunteer Recognition Awards

Congratulations to our Bushcare volunteers who received awards/recognition at Council's Community and Volunteer awards during National Volunteer Week, for their ongoing commitment and contribution to Glenorchy's Bushcare program.

- **Bill Harvey** has led our Boxthorn Biochar project at Prince of Wales Bay, where over two years, we have removed tonnes of boxthorn and turned it into biochar through many volunteer workshops.
- **Danny Pullbrook** is the co-convenor of Northern Suburbs Landcare Group who continue to transform Islet Rivulet at Montrose Road, as well as activating Rosetta Primary School into taking care of their local rivulet.
- **Rod Palethorpe** commits hours of personal time each week, weeding invasive grasses from Lutana Woodland's Kangaroo Grass Grasslands, promoting native grasses and herbs. Without him, the grassland would not be as healthy.
- **Grant McKellar** is the convenor of Claremont Coast Care and has spearheaded the collection, propagation, growing and planting of thousands of native coastal plants along Curlew Parade, Claremont.
- **Tanya Scharaschkin** is the convenor for Collinsvale Landcare Group bringing her arts and sciences background to the group. She has also worked to bring Collinsvale Primary School students planting within Collinsvale Reserve.

Without these wonderful volunteers leading the way, we would not be able to achieve the awesome things we do here for our natural areas. Big thank you and congratulations to these outstanding volunteers.



Bill Harvey



Danny Pullbrook



Grant McKellar



Tanya Scharaschkin



Rod Palethorpe



Please scan the QR code below to find out more about our Bushcare program.



Thank you for reading. If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter, or any ideas to be featured in the next one, please contact our Natural Areas Engagement Officer Ash on: ashleigh.carden@gcc.tas.gov.au or (03) 6216 6353

Chigwell Community Garden

The end of Karambi Street, Chigwell

Glenorchy City Council invites you to get your hands dirty, grow some food, and get involved in the Chigwell Community Garden

WEDNESDAYS:

10-1PM - GARDEN GROUP PROJECT

Learn new gardening skills, make friends or just relax in the sun, we have something for everyone!

THURSDAYS:

10:30-12:30PM - GROW & PLAY PLAYGROUP

A playgroup for families with kids up to five years old. New families always welcome!



Glenorchy
City Council

For more information email Recreation & Environment Coordinator, Jasmine Young
jasmine.young@gcc.tas.gov.au or
chigwellcommunitygarden@gcc.tas.gov.au