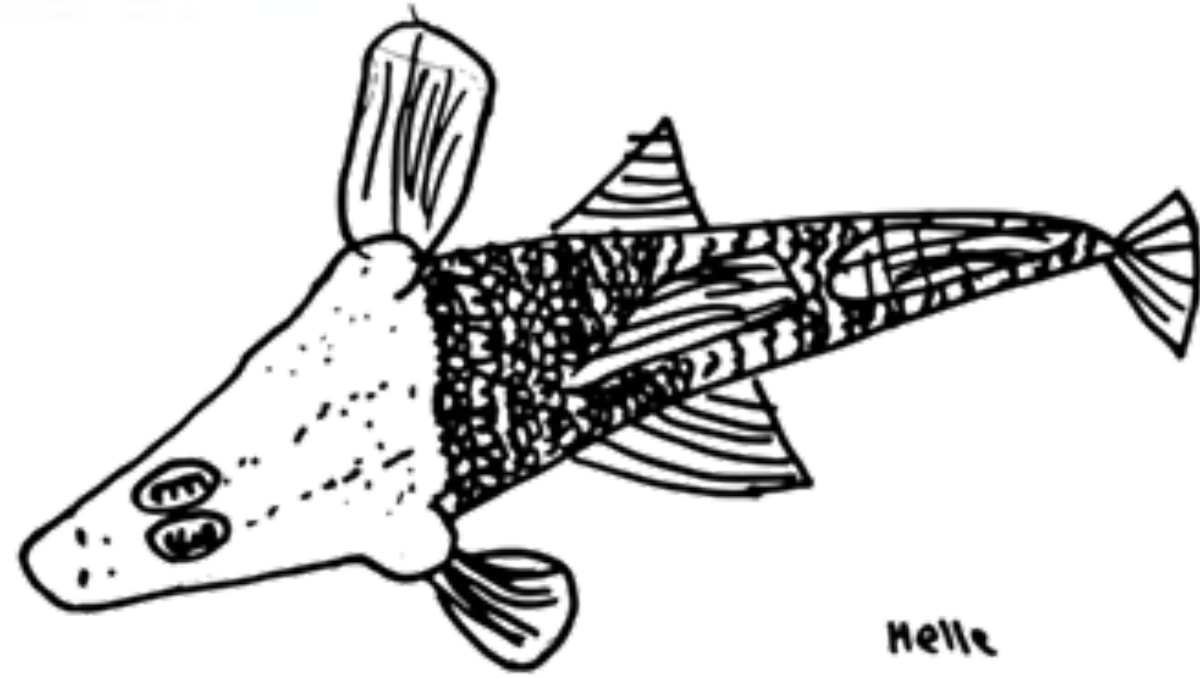


# WARDDELL

YOUTH LEADING  
THE WORLD



Helle



Proudly funded by



and supported by





## **PROGRAM 2023**

- **Facilitator training**
- **Eco adventure field trip 1**
- **River Adventure**
- **Eco Adventure field trip 2**
- **Youth forum**
- **Wardell youth space**

## **ANCILLARY**

- **Fishing competition**
- **School Holiday programs**



**This program has been a huge success and widely appreciated by the young people in our community, their parents and the community at large.**

**There is a huge gap in meaningful engagement programs in our region that focus on bring youth ideas to the table and supporting them to take action in ways that are driven by youth voices. We are super excited to have some program ideas that are now ready to deliver that have been co-designed by this youth cohort to bring to fruition this year and we look forward to seeking further resources and support to help to make this happen.**

**We are committed and passionate about working with our communities youth to help them achieve their goals and aspirations for the future of our town, region and local environment. It has been really inspiring to work with these great young people.**



I thought that the <sup>Peaches</sup> Wardell Youth  
Program was great. I had lots  
of fun exploring the River and  
learning about KOALAS, I hope  
I can do it again sometime.  
I had lots of fun planting  
trees with the Core, and  
seeing Koalas.



# School holiday program 1 - Clay Adventure

Over two sessions, we worked with local ceramist to explore the world of clay and exploring natural themes to create a flower press dish using delicate petals and leaf, and in the second session we carved and design a personality mug.

**Engagement :**  
36 participants





# School holiday program 2 - Mural Making

Mural painting was a great opportunity to unleash kids creativity, foster teamwork, and ignite a passion for art. This hands-on experience provided our youth with with a vibrant canvas to express themselves while creating a lasting masterpiece that is now featured in the main street of Wardell.

**Engagement :**  
36 participants





# MY RICHMOND RIVER

EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO  
INSPIRE OTHERS TO MAKE CHANGE

WARDELL & SURROUNDS

+ YOUTH OVER 10



RIVER HEALTH | ENVIRONMENTAL  
LEADERSHIP | PROJECT DELIVERY

INVITING ALL OUR COMMUNITY'S YOUTH TO  
PARTICIPATE IN OZGREEN'S CITIZEN SCIENCE  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



This 2 day program was facilitated by Sue Lennox from OzGreen and designed to kick start a range of youth projects in our community.

The program was designed to support youth into leadership roles and enable them to have the confidence to run local projects.

We included a number of adults in this program who were interested to help build support frameworks for our local young people in our community.

The program was targeted at youth over the age of 12.



# YOUTH LEAD<sup>ing</sup> the World



Day 1 – Saturday 26 August	
9.30am	Welcome, Introductions & overview of program
Session 1	Ecological Footprint
	Strategic Questioning & Deep Listening –for personal & social change (Focus – Vision – Change – Action)
	Strategic Questioning Skills Practice (in groups of 3)
1.00pm	Lunch Break
1.30pm Session 2	Focus: Pulse of the Planet – update on global trends in water, fuel, food, climate change, biodiversity, economics, wellbeing
	How does this affect you personally? What are you most concerned about?
	Vision: What would you like to see happen? Shifting to Fairer Futures
3.45pm	Checkin
4.00pm	Close day 1
Day 2 – Sunday 27 August	
9.30am Session 3	Group Check in
	Change: How do you think we can achieve this vision? Change stories; Brainstorm; VIBRANT Goals & SMART Goals
	Action: What can you see yourself doing? Planning for personal change - One Planet Living and Resilience Planning for Community Change Project
	1.00pm
1.30pm	Planning next steps: Weekly meetings, River Trip / Citizen science, Youth River Summit, Field Trip 2, Community Forum
2.30pm	Closing Circle
3.00pm	Close day 2

## OUTCOMES ( participant feedback)

What has been the most significant impact from participating in this workshop for you?

- One person can make a difference
- Connecting with people in my community more deeply
- I have more motivation for joining in & helping create ideas

Participants found the program to be :

- Really enjoyable
- Extremely interesting
- Extremely relevant

What did you hope to get out of attending this program?

- How to set or plan how to get local youth in community to have a voice and how to go about it
- I don't know
- Confidence to guide youth without asking too many questions
- Learning about how to help our youth protect and regenerate the environment
- Youth leadership support
- Being able to help my local ecosystem thrive and survive





## Richmond River Eco Adventure 1

Field trip exploring different eco-systems and understand the health of the Richmond River.

Water testing and observational field trip following the Richmond River catchment.

1. Richmond River - Wardell
2. Tuckean Nature Reserve - wetland environments
3. Wilson River - Wyrallah
4. Richmond Wilson confluence - Coraki





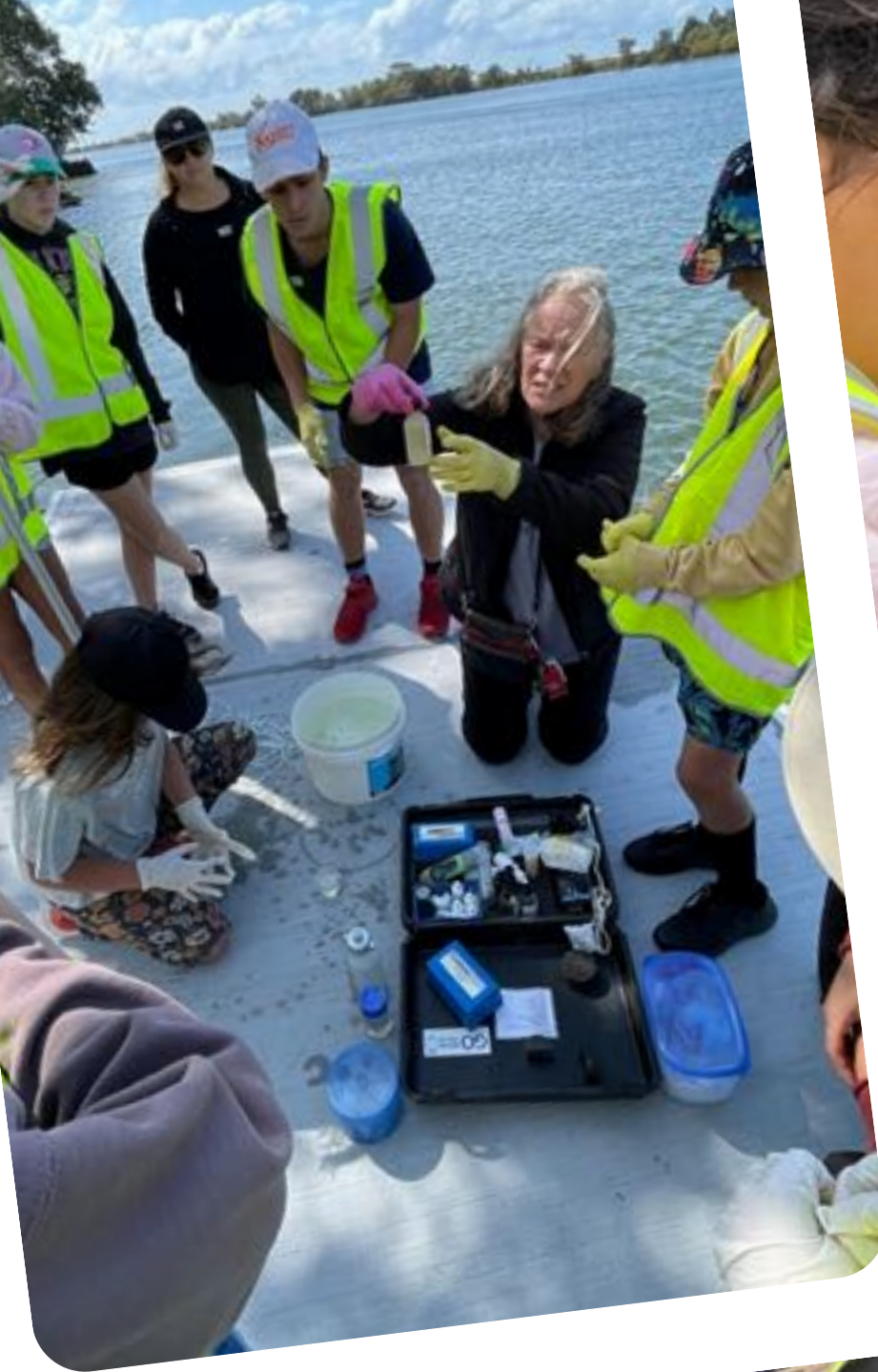




Wardell









My Richmond River Snapshot					
	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4	Site 5
Location	Richmond River Wardell	Richmond River Bagotville	Wilson River Wyrallah	Richmond River, Tatham	Confluence of Wilson and Richmond Rivers, Coraki
Date	10/9/2023	10/9/2023	10/9/2023	10/9/2023	10/9/2023
Time	10.00am	11.15am	12.00pm	12.30pm	1.00pm
Observations	Mangroves on river bank; sunny; tide outgoing	Barrage over river; outgoing low tide	Deep muddy banks, Cloudy and windy	High bridge Cloudy	Overcast, minimal riparian vegetation
Habitat Assessment Score	7	12	9	10	10
Habitat Assessment rating	moderately degraded	Healthy	Slightly degraded	Slightly degraded	Slightly degraded
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	8.5	8.9	9.4	7.6	8.9
Dissolved Oxyegen % saturation	94%	98%	110%	90%	98%
Water temp (oC)	19	19	20	21	20
Total dissolved solids (mg/L)	over range (salt water)	over range	230	480	730
Turbidity (NTU)	7	15	10	20	7
pH	7	7	7	7	7
Phosphates mg/L	0.01	0	0.01	0.08	0.01





This event brought over 70 community members together, including 27 youth participants, for a 2 day fishing competition on the Richmond River.

Junior anglers took out both first and second prizes with Stella winning the largest fish at 100cm and second prize going to Taj with a 63cm flathead. The event included a family friendly fishing competition, awards ceremony and BBQ lunch, raffles and giveaways.

The competition provided great opportunity for youth engagement and a number of surveys were conducted by young people to explore their engagement with the river and river health issues.

**GONE FISHING DAY**  
7TH OCT 2023

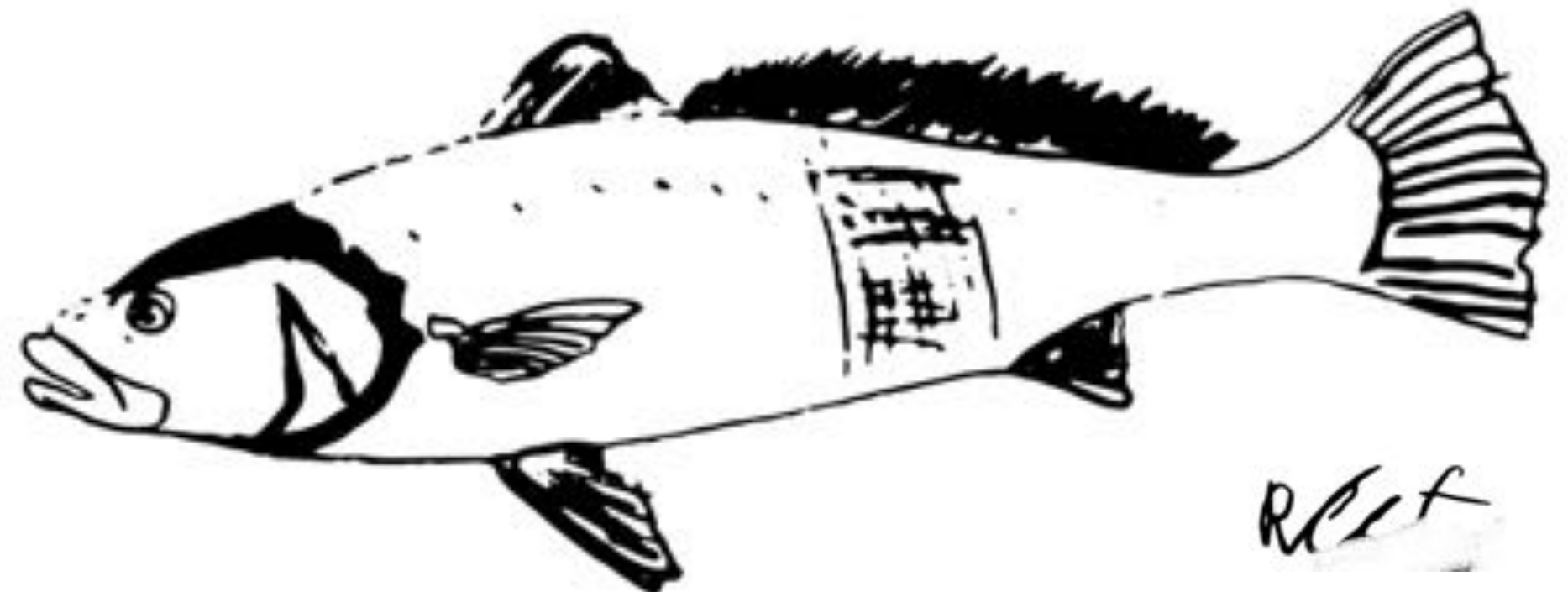
RECREATIONAL  
**FISHING COMP**  
& GET FISHING GIVEAWAYS

FISHING COMP  
GUEST SPEAKER - OZFISH  
FREE BBQ LUNCH RAFFLES  
HEAPS OF PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS

REGISTER SATURDAY  
OCT 7TH FROM 9AM  
WEIGH IN AT 12NOON  
SUNDAY 8TH  
@WARDELLCORE



Regional  
NSW









# A total of 22 youth surveys were completed



## My Richmond River Youth Survey October 2023

Age (tick)  0-5  6-10  11-14  15-19  20-25

25+

1. What do you think young people in Wardell are you most concerned about? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What would you like to see happen for young people in this region? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How do you think this can happen? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. How is the Richmond River important to you? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Looking ahead 20 years, how would you like the Richmond River to be?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What do you think needs to be done for this to come about?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. How can young people care for the river?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Other comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

0 to 6	
6 to 10	5
11 to 14	13
15 to 19	2
20 to 25	2



# MY RICHMOND RIVER

YOUNG PEOPLE COMING TOGETHER TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN PLANS FOR ACTION AND PROJECTS TO CARE OF OUR RIVER AND COMMUNITY



SCAN ME 

EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO INSPIRE OTHERS TO MAKE CHANGE

**SAT 6 + SUN 7 OCTOBER**  
CREATING YOUTH LED ACTION PLANS



## Key responses from the survey

What are young people in Wardell are you most concerned about

Flooding

Bushfires

Rubbish in river

What would they like to see happen for young people in this region

Skate park / Bike track

More activities for youth

Basketball court

More fishing

Outdoor activities

How do you think this can happen?

Help from local people

Get grants / government help / fundraising / charity

CORE host activities that bring kids together to learn new skills

Outdoor activities for youth, find land for skatepark

More opportunities for group activities that bring youth together to form friendships

How is the Richmond River important to you

Fishing

Swimming

Kayaking

Habitat for wildlife





# Key responses from the survey

Looking ahead 20 years, how would you like the Richmond River to be?

Clean / no rubbish

Preserved/ Healthy

Not polluted

What do you think needs to be done for this to come about?

No littering/ pick up rubbish

Hook and line bins / bins on bridge / more bins

Stop pollution

Put small fish / fish back

Plant more trees

How can young people care for the river?

Don't litter / take rubbish home

Tell other kids to look after river / talk to our mates

Put fish back / catch and release

Pick up rubbish



# MY RICHMOND RIVER

YOUNG PEOPLE COMING TOGETHER TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN PLANS FOR ACTION AND PROJECTS TO CARE OF OUR RIVER AND COMMUNITY



SCAN ME



EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO

INSPIRE OTHERS TO MAKE CHANGE

**SAT 21 / SUN 22 OCTOBER**  
**KAYAKING ECO ADVENTURE**



**Kayaking adventure and exploration of Richmond River health.**

**We explored our local ecosystem, biodiversity and riparian zones and discussed how we can look after our river and community.**

**We ran two sessions over 2 days providing guided water activities for 18 young people followed by creative workshops to design images for screen printing project.**

**The artworks reflected biodiversity, flora and fauna visible from the Kayak adventure.**









Lourdes





# MY RICHMOND RIVER

YOUNG PEOPLE COMING TOGETHER TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN PLANS FOR ACTION AND PROJECTS TO CARE OF OUR RIVER AND COMMUNITY



SCAN ME 

EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO INSPIRE OTHERS TO MAKE CHANGE

FRIENDS OF THE KOALA

## SAT 18 / SUN 19 NOVEMBER

### SAVE OUR KOALAS

BOOK YOUR SPOT - [WWW.WARDELLCORE.COMMUNITY/WARDELL-YOUTH-PROGRAMS](http://WWW.WARDELLCORE.COMMUNITY/WARDELL-YOUTH-PROGRAMS)



Over two days we took two groups of youth on an adventure and tour of the Koala Hospital, Koala Care Centre & Burribi Community Education Centre in Lismore with local Koala expert and conservation champion Maria Mathes from Friends of the Koalas.

With the support of Sue Lennox from Oz Green we explored our local ecosystem and Koala habitats to understand how bushfires, droughts, excessive deforestation, animal attacks and vehicle strikes have put our East coast koalas on the pathway to extinction.

We then took our groups to look for Koala's in the wild, explored how we can look after our local Koalas, viewed Koala forage plantations, and got our hands dirty planting a new Koala refuge in East Coraki.







I enjoyed my time at the Wardell Youth program when we saw koalas and planted trees for them. Doing that and the water testing taught me more about the health of the river. Learning more about the both of them was so much fun and I hope to do it again.

-Stella





Cabbage Tree Palm

Michelle





# MY RICHMOND RIVER



EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO  
INSPIRE OTHERS TO MAKE CHANGE

**SAT 2 DECEMBER**  
**SCREEN PRINTING WORKSHOP**

BOOK YOUR SPOT - [WWW.WARDELLCORE.COMMUNITY/WARDELL-YOUTH-PROGRAMS](http://WWW.WARDELLCORE.COMMUNITY/WARDELL-YOUTH-PROGRAMS)



For the final activity in this program we learnt to screen print and create our very own t-shirt designs using the artworks created in our previous programs.

We also worked with Sue Lennox from OzGreen to re-cap everything we have learnt, explore how we can take this program forward and continue to grow our youth leadership program to empower our communities young people to protect, preserve and celebrate our Richmond River.

We now have a number of projects in incubation to dive into with this group of inspiring young people next year under 3 key themes; animal protection and habitat, fundraising for positive action and creating a youth activity space.









## **Youth vision for the Richmond River**

- **Full of life**
- **Clean**
- **No rubbish**
- **Healthy**

**How young people want to create positive change.**

- **Take matters into your own hands**
- **Safe wildlife & restore habitats to help animals. Care for the plant life in the rivers**
- **More youth activities, make a youth space**
- **Fundraising : make some fabric bags and screen print on them, plant more trees along the rivers, tie dye things, music performance**



@ WARDELL CORE



# Youth Mental Health First Aid

## 14 hours training

Learn how to assist adolescents who are developing a mental health problem, experiencing mental health challenges or in a mental health crisis.

**Saturdays March 16 and 23. 9.00am to 4.30pm**

*Lunch provided*



**Free**







**Wardell CORE**

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