



LAG

Liverpool Action Group

Incorporated 2005 under the Associations Incorporations Act 1984
PO Box 364 Liverpool NSW 2170.

Serving the Community since 2005

FASHION SPREE Viscount Pl. Liverpool | LAG Environment Group Sponsor 2020.

The Secretary
The Department of Planning Industry and Environment
Email: biodiversity@planning.nsw.gov.au

6 October 2020

RE: The Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan. A Significant Example of Successful Bush Regeneration in Liverpool.

The LAG Environment Group, led by Mr Robert Storey, volunteer environmentalist, has, over the past seven years, rehabilitated large sections of the banks of the Georges River at Chipping Norton, Sydney. Many volunteers have spent time with Mr Storey over the years, at times in groups of 10 or more. LAG is a not-for-profit organisation. Grants from Liverpool City Council and the NSW State Government have allowed the Group to purchase equipment which is very effective in the mechanical removal of woody weeds and vines. All volunteers are trained and certified.

Introduced woody weeds such as lantana, privet and cestrum were well established along the river banks and an adjoining creek and feral vines, mostly madeira, balloon and morning glory covered many native trees. As introduced species were removed, it was only a few weeks before the resilience of the areas became apparent. Reeds (*Phragmites*) on the river's edge, some mangroves and trees started to appear. Drought through 2017-18 slowed regeneration and kept the success of new plantings at a low rate of survival, but many trees, bushes and grasses have done well and show great value for effort. Plantings include Rough-barked Apple, Forest Red Gum, Cabbage Gum, Parramatta Wattle and Blackthorn. Grasses and sedges such as Blady Grass and Juncus have done extremely well and proved their ground-stabilising qualities during floods in 2016 and 2019.

It is difficult to quantify in hectares, but at least a kilometre of river bank has benefited from this work. The volunteers have often remarked how efficient and successful has been a half day working with the right tools. A report prepared for one of our benefactors accompanies this letter. The pictures show clearly how well the work has helped to restore the bush in quite a short time.

Our call is for government at all levels to ensure that people, whether volunteers or permanent employees of Councils and Environmental Organisations, have the support to restore the Cumberland Plain and ensure that it is **conserved** into the future. LAG Environment Group show what can be done to rehabilitate the Cumberland Plain and its watercourses.

It is a Significant Example of Successful Bush Regeneration that can be repeated and should be repeated, across the Cumberland Plain.

Yours Sincerely

Ian Bailey OLO, Secretary, Liverpool Action Group inc. T/As LAG Environment Group

Attached: Report on the work of LAG in Liverpool

The Superb Fairy-wrens of Liverpool.
Thanks the Council for Building Habitat.
We make our Home on the Georges River at Chauvel Park.



A male Superb Fairy-wren in breeding plumage. Out of breeding, it moults into female-like plumage, except for its pale lores and black bill.

436 FAMILY MALURIDAE fairy-wrens and allies

The Liverpool Action Group thanks the Liverpool City Council for the Environment Grant of \$4520 to removed the noxious weeds that has killed all the native vegetation. We will be plant a variety of native Trees, Shrubs and grass plants that support the existing wild life in the area. The area 7 is located on the edge of the Georges River and will be a larger habitat for the Superb Fairy-wrens. (see photo above)



The site before work commenced



The site after the noxious weeds have been removed and planting will be carried out in September 2017



The site before work commenced.



The site after the weeds have been removed and prior to low planting being carried out. We always plant the appropriate plant material to keep the views of the Georges River.