



Clarence Valley  
**Conservation in Action**  
**MYNA NEWSLETTER No 9**  
**JUNE 2013**



## **THE CLARENCE VALLEY NOW HAS 4150 LESS MYNAS. Well done.**

### LOTS OF FLOODS AND NOW THE CHILL OF WINTER

The floods this year appear to have had an affect on our trapping numbers in February and an unusually quite April have seen our tallies fall below last year's. Hopefully this is not because the Mynas are becoming trap shy.

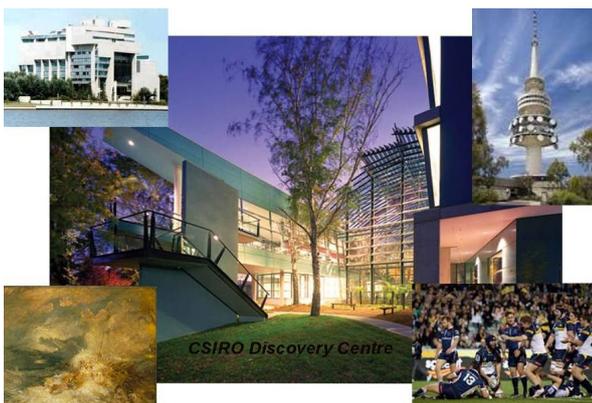
By now most Mynas will have found their winter roosting sites where they get together often in hundreds. Many trappers may not see them until next spring whereas if you are near a roost you may have large numbers. Please watch and listen for them and report any you notice to [mynas@cvcia.org.au](mailto:mynas@cvcia.org.au) or Kevin on 6649 4712.



### YOU'RE INVITED TO THE INDIAN MYNA CONFERENCE

This is being held in Canberra June 19th at the CSIRO Discovery Centre. So plan a wintery trip and include this one full day conference on your way to the snow fields, or Turner's exhibition at the Canberra Art Gallery, or even better—the Great Britain vs ACT Brumbies Rugby Union game in Canberra, or whatever takes your fancy. But make sure you pre-book accommodation as Canberra is pretty busy at that time.

Please come along and join us in our afternoon discussion and exchange ideas and observations and listen to the Drs, PhDs and other experts in the morning. If you're interested, please refer to the attachments (for those with email), visit the CVCIA blog on the website ([www.cvcia.org.au](http://www.cvcia.org.au)) or contact Kevin 6649 4712 for details. We are looking forward to getting together with many other IM groups and trappers.



### INDIAN MYNA WORKSHOPS ON THE NSW TABLELANDS

Laura and I were again asked to do our Indian Myna presentation for Granite Borders Landcare this time at Glen Innes as well as Tenterfield and Stanthorpe.



The workshops were well attended despite the winter chill. We also delivered the first six traps built by Nortec to GBLC, they were very well received.

Glen Innes now has a small program running and it seems that Inverell and Armidale are also involved in IM trapping.

### MILESTONE TRAPPERS

January 2013 was a big month for centuries:

**Moira the Myna Magnet from Coutts** scored her double century this January and her tally is now 207. Moira has resumed active trapping again after a short break.

**Palmers Channel - Julie and Graeme** in 2011 were concerned about their local fauna and the infestation of mynas so it was a timely intervention that a friend asked them to baby-sit his Myna trap whilst he was away. As Graeme found the trap to be very successful he borrowed his own trap and became a trapper of his own right in April 2011 and he now supplies callers to some other trappers in the area. He passed his 100<sup>th</sup> Myna in January 2013 and has a current total of 129 to the end of April.

**Roy from Waterview** started trapping June/July 2011 because his locality was infested with 100's of mynas. Although some buffalo flies were being eaten off his cattle by the mynas, he didn't think it was worth upsetting the balance of native birds in his area.

## MILESTONE TRAPPERS cont.

Roy didn't like the constant destruction of willy-wagtails' nests and other small bird habitats by these pest birds. Roy's total tally so far is 166.

**Jamie of Warregah Island** started trapping in April 2012 and 12 months later has a tally of 104. He also had large flocks visiting his cattle property and shooting the odd few wasn't really having any effect so he decided to give trapping a go.

## CHILDERS QLD – MYNA BOUNTY

In a novel approach to the Indian Myna problem the people of Childers will be given an incentive to catch the pests. The Bundaberg Regional Council has approved a \$2 bounty for every IM caught, in an attempt to eradicate these feathered pests.

Since 2009, an Indian Myna awareness and trapping program had seen a marked reduction in numbers of Mynas in Childers but there are still an estimated 600 in the area.

The bounty stipulates the birds have to be caught alive and handed to the council's land protection officer to be euthanased, to prevent any inhumane treatment and to avoid native birds being killed by mistake.

## A quote from a negative article on Myna control

*"I just believe it's wrong to kill off any bird, even if you believe it's a pest."*

Sometimes well meaning people think they are doing something good but the reality is that they are accidentally condoning the death and possible extinction of other species (in this case our natives) from the activities of mynas, foxes, wild dogs etc.

## MORE INDIAN MYNA CONTROL PROGRAMS

NE Victorian Indian Myna Control Network covering: Yarrowonga, Benalla, Shepparton, Cobram, Wangaratta & Seymour.

Mt Macedon IM program also in Vic. may soon be up and running.

Camden Council is setting up a control program and nearby Wingecarribee is re-activating its program.

Murrumbateman Landcare Group It would seem they are getting on top of the problem as while they trapped over a hundred birds in 2010-2011, they only caught 25 in the 2011-12 season.

Mid Western Indian Myna Group in Mudgee-Dunedoo area the effort continues over there with Simon now having caught 110 in Dunedoo and a further 14 in Burrengong.

Sunshine Coast Council program has been in operation since 2010 but they are increasing number of traps for loan, so as to ramp up their program.

## **MYNAS TRAPPED to April 2013**

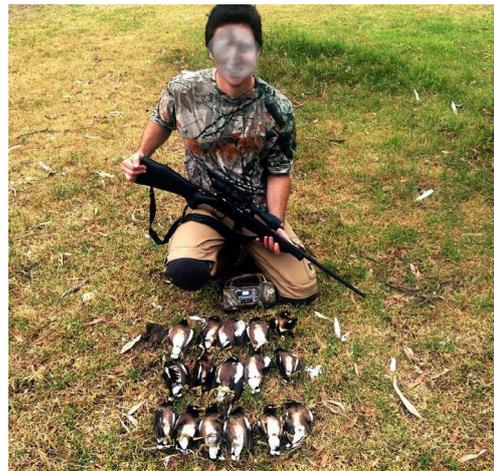
**2011 = 1593**

**2012 = 1971**

**2013 = 585**

## **TOP TRAPPING AREAS in 2013**

South Grafton	147
Glenreagh	64
Palmers Channel	43
Palmers Island	41
Coutts Crossing	39
Copmanhurst	37
Waterview Heights	33
Lilydale	32
Pillar Valley	23
Ulmarra	20



An avid Indian Myna trapper from Victoria sent this photo and some IM call recordings which he uses to lure the mynas. He finds they are very successful in bringing the mynas around. We would like to test them but need a site and trapper where there are plenty of mynas.

**If you received this by mail and have email please let us know as it is more economical to send this newsletter electronically**

**Email:** [mynas@cvcia.org.au](mailto:mynas@cvcia.org.au) , [laura@cvcia.org.au](mailto:laura@cvcia.org.au) , [kevin@cvcia.org.au](mailto:kevin@cvcia.org.au) , or your area coordinator.

**Phone:** Laura or Kevin on 6649 4712 or your area co-ordinator.