



# CLEAN4SHORE

*“Communities Protecting Local Waterways”*

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Local Land Services



**Subcontractors, supervisors and supporters that assisted Clean4shore in 2023**



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## Acknowledgements 2023

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Clean4shore must first acknowledge the support from the previous Coalition Federal Government, which supplied six years of secured grant funding. This funding enabled our organisation to plan and manage the disposal and transportation of equipment and collected rubbish, cover the repair and maintenance of equipment, and replace all personal protection equipment. This base funding was essential to enable the pre-planning and booking of schools, especially in the operation of the Clean4shore program. Clean4shore was disappointed that the incoming Labor Party Government chose not to continue this support in 2023.

With the entire program on the brink of closure commencing 2023, State Liberal Member for Terrigal Adam Crouch secured a grant from Landcare NSW, matched by Central Coast Council, and the program was again viable until June 2023. The importance of this needs to be acknowledged, as, without this support, 2023 would not have commenced.

Following the State Election and the change in Government, Clean4shore again fared poorly on grant submissions from both State and Federal Governments, with six unsuccessful submissions.

Central Coast Council recognised the program's benefits in removing litter from the waterways while developing educational outcomes for the volunteer participants and approved funding for the financial year commencing July 2023. This support, both in finance and program guidance, through Estuary Officers Warren Brown and Ben Cuerel, secured Clean4shore's viability until June 2024.

Hornsby Shire Council provided Clean4shore with funding to engage high schools within their boundaries to attend field trips in 2023. Catchment Officer David Bolton attended these field trips, providing valuable informational forums to the students prior to and during each field trip.

Port Stephens Council provided "In Kind" support with disposal fees for debris and litter collected from the Hunter River and delivered to Newline Landfill free of charge. Tangaroa Blue Foundation made a donation that allowed for the removal of bulk car tyres, which were delivered to the recyclers Tyre Cycle at Cameron Park free of charge.

Hunter Local Land Services provided funding to complete twenty field trips during 2023/24 within their boundaries, allowing an expansion into the Port Stephens waterway and possible further expansion into Lake Macquarie, Karuah River and Maitland Shire Council. Attendance on initial Port Stephens field trips was supported by the local Indigenous Landowners and coordinated by Lia and Ryan Pereira from "Shark and Ray Encounters" Port Stephens.

Clean4shore relies on the grants and funding mentioned above and is reluctant to promote donations and crowdfunding. However, when the car trailer required replacement, Clean4shore was contacted by the "Dickson Family Trust," which contributed towards the upgrade of a galvanised heavy-duty car trailer. This trailer is utilised to move our larger items, mostly vessels and concrete pontoons. Many thanks for this taxable donation, made through Landcare NSW.

The Environment Protection Authority continues to support Clean4Shore's application for EPA Exemption and "Charity Status" at Woy Woy, Summerhill, Mount St Vincent and Newline Waste Management Facilities. Central Coast, Maitland, Newcastle City, and Port Stephens Council support Clean4Shore's application, reducing our disposal fees. Staff at these facilities supply Clean4Shore with courteous and professional direction through the disposal process.

Clean4shore's barge and multiple trailers are stored on property adjacent to JD's Family Auto in MacMasters Beach, and owner James Crowther consistently manages our ongoing mechanical and equipment repair and maintenance. With 122 field trips completed in 2023, this equipment needs to be accessible and reliable after many kilometres of travel, both on and off the water.

The delivery of educational outcomes, mentoring, team building and community support for students and community volunteers is highly recognised through the Clean4shore program, with a large majority coming from the skill of our regular barge operator, Simon Funnell. The role of maintaining risk management and a safe working environment is often a demanding task, yet Simon delivers risk outcomes, maritime education and supportive life skill in a positive well received manner to all volunteers over the past twelve years. Many thanks also to supporting barge operators Damo, Rob Moxham's crew, Adam Millward, Carl, and Baden's crew from Banks Marine.

Clean4shore acknowledges the Department of Education for providing the vision and approvals to allow student participation during 2023. The engagement of proactive teaching and supportive staff ensures a positive environment for the often-difficult task of removing litter from the mangroves and foreshores. Mud, mozzies and more mud, still put a smile on the faces of the young volunteers, ensures a successful day, especially following a big Clean4shore healthy lunch.

Lyndi Legget from "Scuba Gym" delivered eleven underwater programs with volunteer divers clearing discarded items from beneath Central Coast Council public jetties. Central Coast Council approved and supported the diving program, which generated general public safety outcomes and the environmental benefit of metals, tyres, appliances, and plastics being removed from the waterway.

Central Coast Council and Brisbane Waters National Parks utilised the Clean4shore barge to deliver community, bushcare groups and TAFE volunteers to sites with the task of removing invasive weeds. Vikki Elliot, Ben Cuerel and the Bouddi Bushcare group must be commended for their roles in promoting this "Floating Landcare" program.

Clean4shore is a registered member of Landcare NSW and Landcare Australia, with proactive support from both organisations through grants and volunteers from Corporate Landcare. These are generally staff from an office background who challenge themselves on a Clean4shore adventure. Greater Sydney Landcare recognised Clean4shore with a regional win in the Coast Care category at their biannual awards in Katoomba.

Social media communication of field trips via Facebook and Instagram attracts a huge following, with valuable feedback received through this medium. Thanks to Shelly for the ongoing management of this platform. Clean4Shore promotes media well, including newspaper editorials, television, and regular ABC Central Coast interviews with Scott Levi and Caroline Perryman on "Waste Free Wednesday." Interviews were also completed with ABC Newcastle and Sydney following issues of concern, including the recent flooding events.

Clean4Shore must also acknowledge our small administration and management team of Michael Bambridge (President), Liz Phelps (Vice President), Sallie-Ann Macklin (Administration), Jan Sillato (Finance), Shelly (social media), Warren Brown & Ben Cuerel (Central Coast Council), David Bolton (Hunter Local Land Services), Lauren Ballard (Hunter Local Land Services), Vikki Elliot (National Parks), Simon Funnell (Barge Management) & David White (legal Administration).

## Financial Support 2023

### Groups

Australian Federal Government  
 Central Coast Council  
 Hunter Local Land Services  
 Landcare Australia  
 NSW State Government  
 Port Stephens Council  
 Newcastle City Council  
 Corporate Landcare  
 K Dickson (donation)  
 NSW Regional Landcare  
 Tangaroa Blue Foundation

### Logistical Support

Graham Johnston (program coordination)  
 Simon Funnell (barge operations)  
 Clean4Shore Committee: (Michael Bambridge,  
 Sallie-Ann Macklin, Liz Phelps, Jan Sillato,  
 Shelley Van Dan Hoovan)  
 Rob Moxham, Banks Marine (Barge Subcontractors)  
 Coast Rock Oysters (Barge Operations)  
 JD's Family Auto, mechanical and equipment storage  
 Jodi Jones Tangaroa Blue (statistics/data)  
 Vikki Elliot Brisbane Waters National Park  
 David Bolton (Hornsby Shire Council)  
 ABC Radio Central Coast & Newcastle  
 NSW Maritime & Fisheries  
 Growers Oceanwatch Australia  
 NBN Television Central Coast  
 Coast Community Newspaper  
 Lyndi Leggett (Scuba Gym)  
 Bullard (Hunter Local Land Services)  
 Warren Brown & Ben Cuerel (Central Coast Council)  
 Tyre Cycle

## School & Community

St Brigids College Tuggerah  
 Terrigal High School  
 Kincumber High School  
 St Edwards East Gosford  
 Narara Valley High School  
 Green Point Christian College  
 Gosford High School  
 Erina High School  
 Umina High 'Support'  
 St Piux College Hamilton  
 Central Coast Grammar College  
 St Leos Normanhurst  
 Lakes College Youth off the Street  
 The Glen Aboriginal Men's Health  
 Wadalbah High School  
 Maitland & Kurri TAFE  
 ING Direct  
 All Saints College Maitland  
 Sea Shelters Port Stephens  
 Maitland Christian College  
 Port Stephens Council  
 MacMasters Beach Surf Club  
 Bouddi Bushcare  
 Worimi Aboriginal Land Council  
 Hunter LLS Community Volunteer  
 Oceanwatch: Coast Oyster  
 North Gosford Learning Centre  
 Bouddi Bushcare  
 Floating Landcare Central Coast  
 Scuba Gym Volunteers Lauren  
 Sea Shelters  
 The Glen  
 Loreto College Normanhurst  
 Cherrybrook Technology College  
 Asquith Boys High  
 Rouse Hill Christian College  
 ET Australia Gosford  
 Scuba Gym  
 MAA Surveyors

## Executive Summary

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Completion of the Environment Restoration Grant in late January 2023, and the unsuccessful State and Federal Government grant applications submitted in 2022, placed the Clean4shore program in an immediate state of closure on the Central Coast as we entered our thirteenth year of operation. The Hornsby Shire Council grant was still financial with Asquith, Cherrybrook and Loreto schools immediately engaging in the program on the Hawkesbury River. Adam Crouch, the State Member of Parliament for Terrigal, responded to Clean4shore request for funding with a successful grant through the Regional Landcare Program. Central Coast Council contributed matching funding and ongoing support which permitted the commencement of school and community groups on the Central Coast waterways to July 2023.

Funding was also available to continue the Hunter River program supported by Hunter Local Land Services and coordinated by Lauren Bullard from HLLS. Schools from St Piux College, Maitland and Kurri TAFE and Port Stephens Council staff participated with local volunteers under this funding agreement to July 2023. Hunter Local Land Service continued the funding for an additional twenty field trips in the 2023/24 financial year with an additional seven field trips completed. Severe weather caused the cancellation of several more planned trips. Port Stephens group Sea Shelters and the Worimi Aboriginal Land Council were involved in these programs.

Victory in the State Government Elections, by the Labor Party, had Clean4shore engage with local Labor politicians to support the program, however with an uncertain financial position for direct Government support, this could not be assured, yet a letter of recognition from Environment Minister, Penny Sharpe, was supplied for future grant applications.

Central Coast Council continued their supported for Clean4shore with direct funding and Estuary Staff support for the balance of 2023. Central Coast Council grants provide barge operation for the Floating Landcare program utilizing TAFE and community members in monthly revegetation tasks on Crown and National Parks Land. Sixteen field trips were completed in 2023 under the Floating Landcare program.

The Lower Lake Macquarie and Tuggerah Lakes program continued with fourteen field trips on these waterways featuring the Lakes College “Youth off the Streets” program, Wadalbahs and St Brigids, College. Central Coast Council secured a small grant for funding on the Tuggerah program.

The “Scuba Gym” under water diving program, coordinated by Lyndi Leggett achieved outstanding results in removing debris from beneath Council jetties and busy waterways within Brisbane Waters, Patonga, Budgewoi Lake and The Entrance Channel. In total 5.90 tonne was removed improving the native underwater environment plus the safety of aquatic recreational boat owners and the public. Seventy-nine volunteers were involved in this program on eleven field trips funded through the combined Clean4shore 2023 grants.

Clean4shore’s experience and ability to respond to flooding events was tested again during 2023. Warragamba Dam’s water levels remained very high, and larger rainfall events produced several low-level flooding events along the Hawkesbury Catchment. Debris from the previous two years continued to wash downstream and all field trips on the Hawkesbury River produced flood debris. Bulk polystyrene from dismantled caravans and cool rooms flowed downstream, breaking up into smaller pieces, with sensitive foreshore including Lion Island heavily effected by polystyrene.

Derelict vessels continue to be a major issue of concern as indicated by the 39 fiberglass vessels

removed by our team. The replacement car trailer was utilized to remove most of these vessels, plus some ‘student muscle’ to lift the vessels into the barge. Compliance from Maritime is very restrictive with contractor requirements and funding often delayed as these craft sink or fall apart. Clean4shore also moved twelve large concrete/polystyrene pontoons, washed downstream in the Hawkesbury River, and stored from the 2021 floods. Further pontoons are secured in the mangroves, falling apart with polystyrene emptying into this waterway. Stakeholder intervention is required to remove these pontoons.

Following secured funding for all waterways, 2023 quickly filled with schools and community groups allowing 122 trips to be completed by a diverse range of student and community groups. The Clean4shore program can easily adapt to provide challenging, education and self-achievement to support units, disengaged youth, mainstream and indigenous groups. The dedicated teachers and support staff endure the hardships of a tough day on the water, providing positive mentoring towards the students. Many thanks to the Department of Education for providing continued support to the Clean4shore program.

Collected litter data suggested soft (16,378) and hard plastics (10,078) have changed very little from 2022 with the plastic bottle count of 12,604 down from the previous year as is polystyrene. These products are referred as “gutter rubbish” and can be greatly reduced further through sensible disposal options from the public and industry, plus improved storm water management from drains and gutters. Car tyres (255) are difficult to manage with stricter EPA control on their disposal.

Clean4shore maintained compliance regulations through Landcare NSW with audited financial reports from accountants JP Smith & Co forwarded to the Department of Consumer Affairs and all joint stakeholders. Barge and trailer registrations remain compliant with Services NSW. The risk assessments are updated and forwarded to Schools, Councils, National Parks and Local Land Services.

Overall, the 2023 program delivered a wide range of field trip on waterways including the Hawkesbury River, Brisbane Waters and Coastal Lagoon, Tuggerah lakes, Lower Lake Macquarie, Hunter River and Port Stephens. Field trips also addressed underwater debris through the Scuba Gym program and bushcare weed eradication through the Floating Landcare program.

With 122 field trips removing 60.14 tonne of rubbish collected by 761 volunteers completing 2625 hours 2023 was indeed a busy year.





## Awards

It is always good to be recognised by the Peak industry groups governing our operations. Clean4shore won the “Coast Care” category at the Greater Sydney Landcare Awards and then runner-up at the NSW Landcare Awards. This is huge recognition for the volunteers involved in our unique program.



## Clean4shore’s big healthy lunches!!!

With our students arriving early for a field trip, generally rushed from school, and not having the usual ‘recess’ break, rushed into PPE, then a hard morning’s work, it is very enjoyable to arrive back to base, get changed, then get hassled to prepare lunch. That’s what happens on most trips: the students prepare lunch. The thought of grating a carrot, cutting tomatoes, lettuce, cucumber, and avocados and making healthy lunches can be challenging. It is always a pleasure to see the group complete this task, and the food is good, with plenty of it. It’s a good time to debrief, have a laugh, and say thanks for a big morning.



## Background

Clean4Shore is a small not for profit community-based organization located at MacMasters Beach on the Central Coast of NSW. The program utilises schools, youth, disability, community and corporate groups to clean litter and general rubbish along the foreshores of the Hawkesbury River, Brisbane Waters, Tuggerah Lakes System and more recently Lower Lake Macquarie and the Hunter River.

The clean-ups commenced during a MacMasters Beach Surf Club Duke of Edinburgh's Award kayaking expedition of the Hawkesbury River in 2010. Large volumes of litter were collected on this trip with the Surf Club returning as a social activity for members to address the litter issue. This program quickly expanded to engage school and community organisations, moving into the adjoining waterways of Brisbane Waters and Tuggerah Lakes.

The program utilised surf rescue vessels (IRB's) from the MacMasters Beach Club to transport volunteers and collected rubbish. Great fun and excitement for the young volunteers but hardly the craft for litter collection especially oyster product! Large oyster barges replaced the IRB's in 2014 allowing greater volumes of litter to be collected and improved risk management procedures and guidelines.

The program is reliant on grant funding to engage our community groups, employ subcontracting vessels and transport and dispose of all collected litter. The Federal and State Government joined major stakeholders Greater Sydney and Hunter Local Land Services, Hornsby Shire and Central Coast Councils to provide and secure these grants, keeping the volunteers and subcontractors on the water.

The removal of litter particularly plastics and polystyrene from waterways improves the visual appearance of the estuaries but more importantly greatly improves the estuarine and the marine environment. The volunteers receive an educational challenge and adventure whilst contributing to the global issue of litter in our waterways.



Bulk polystyrene, Sandbrook Inlet 2012



IRB's and Oysters Brisbane Waters 2013

## Clean4shore Project Summary 2023 (122 field trips)

Field Trip Location	Field Trips	Collected Items	Weight Tonne	Volunteers	Hours
Hawkesbury River	34		24.760	215	678
Brisbane Waters	40		19.930	151	477
Tuggerah Lakes	11		4.100	56	197
Lower Lake Macquarie	3		.780	23	62
Hunter River	10		5.490	89	331
Port Stephens	3		1.180	11	33
Floating Landcare Bush Regen	10		N/A	165	660
Scuba Gym Divers	11		5.900	51	187
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>99,559</b>	<b>62.140</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>2625</b>

## Clean4shore Project Summary 2022 (139 field trips)

Field trip Location	Field Trips Completed	Collected Items	Weight Tonne	Volunteer Numbers	Volunteer Hours
Hawkesbury River	69	84,904	46.060	352	1224
Brisbane Waters	38	50,398	15.100	291	999
Tuggerah Lakes / Lake Macquarie	10	4,922	3.600	58	188
Hunter River	4	15,818	3.196	42	126
Floating Landcare	15	N/A		90	593
Scuba Divers (Inc Brisbane waters)	3		.840	13	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>156,042</b>	<b>68.796</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>3169</b>

## Clean4shore Project Summary 2021 (79 field trips)

Field trip Location	Field Trips Completed	Collected Items	Weight Tonne	Volunteer Numbers	Volunteer Hours
Hawkesbury River	30	20,521	39.670	196	565
Brisbane Waters	33	49,895	11.790	291	1061
Tuggerah Lakes / Lower Lake Macquarie	8	6,428	3.540	80	258
Hunter River	8	13,844	4.410	68	238
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>90,839</b>	<b>59.410</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>2,122</b>

## Clean4shore Summary 2020 (104 field trips)

Field trip Location	Field Trips Completed	Collected Items	Weight Tonne	Volunteer Numbers	Volunteer Hours
Hawkesbury River	28	14,359	17.058	153	643
Brisbane Waters	48	50,785	24.330	274	985
Tuggerah Lakes / Lower Lake Macquarie	11	13,644	3.350	72	227
Hunter River	17	204,790	19.930	199	736
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>282,964</b>	<b>64.668</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>2,581</b>

## Clean4shore Total Summary from 2014 - 2023

Clean4shore Statistical Year	Field Trips	Collected items	Total Weight Tonne	Volunteer Numbers	Volunteer Hours
2014	81	131,631	71.4	691	2,847
2015	39	193,243	34.9	465	1,774
2016	67	182,636	52.2	554	2,160
2017	76	106,636	56.9	434	1,603
2018	114	137,286	62.6	600	2,101
2019	116	111,307	59.6	710	2,239
2020	104	282,964	64.6	698	2,581
2021	79	90,839	59.4	635	2122
2022	139	156,042	68.796	846	3169
2023	122	99,559	62.140	761	2625
<b>Total</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>1,492,143</b>	<b>591.84</b>	<b>6,084</b>	<b>23,221</b>



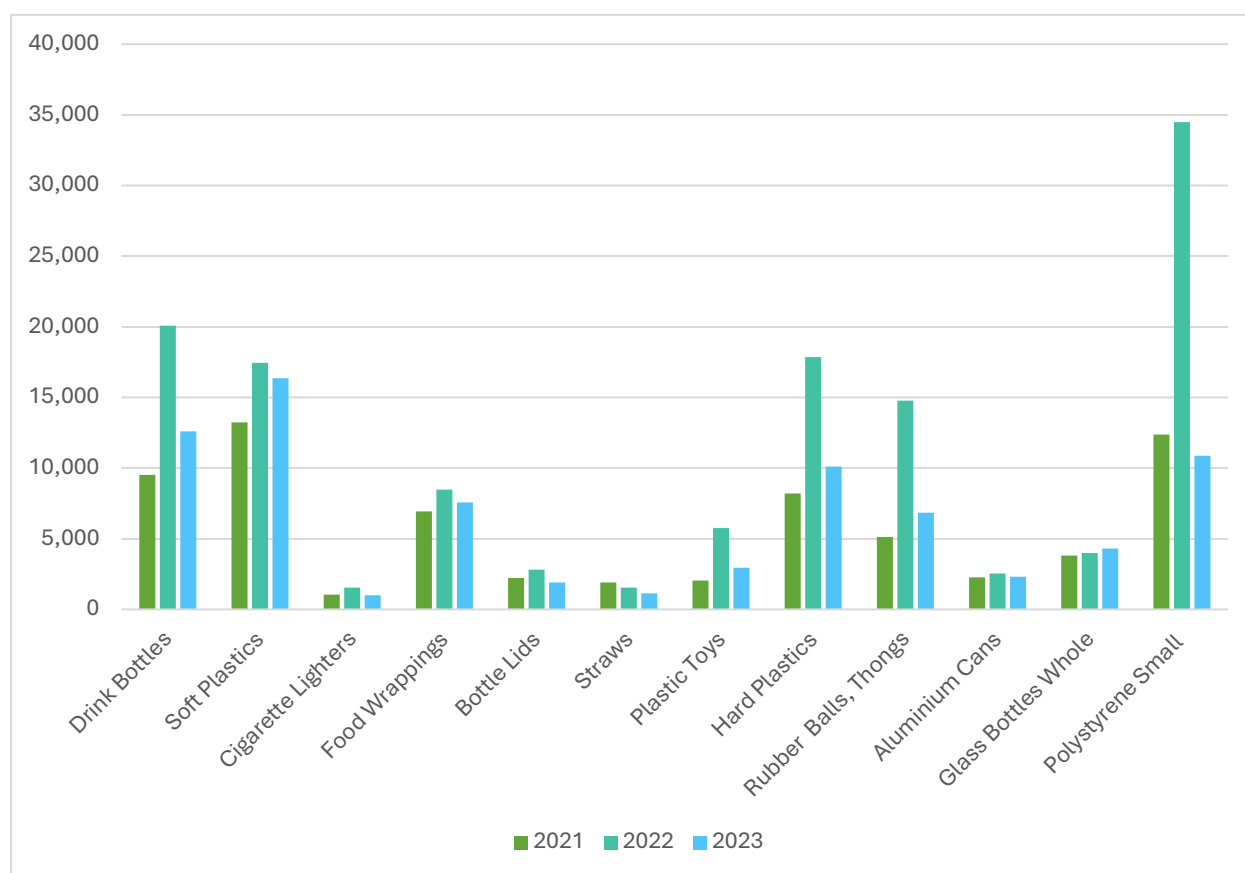
## Statistics

Top Twelve Small Items Collected in 2021, 2022 & 2023							
Plastic Item	2021	2022	2023	Item	2021	2022	2023
Drink Bottles	9,501	20,071	12,604	Plastic Toys	2,028	5,769	2,939
Soft Plastics	13,244	17,448	16,378	Hard Plastics	8,221	17,851	10,098
Cigarette Lighters	1,028	1,533	1,020	Rubber Balls, Thongs	5,104	14,769	6,852
Food Wrappings	6,957	8,496	7,589	Aluminium Cans	2,261	2,555	2,314
Bottle Lids	2,218	2,825	1,911	Glass Bottles Whole	3,798	3,996	4,320
Straws	1,921	1,559	1,131	Polystyrene Small	12,394	34,506	10,873

Note: The 2021 statistics reflects COVID 19 community and school based restrictions in field trips.

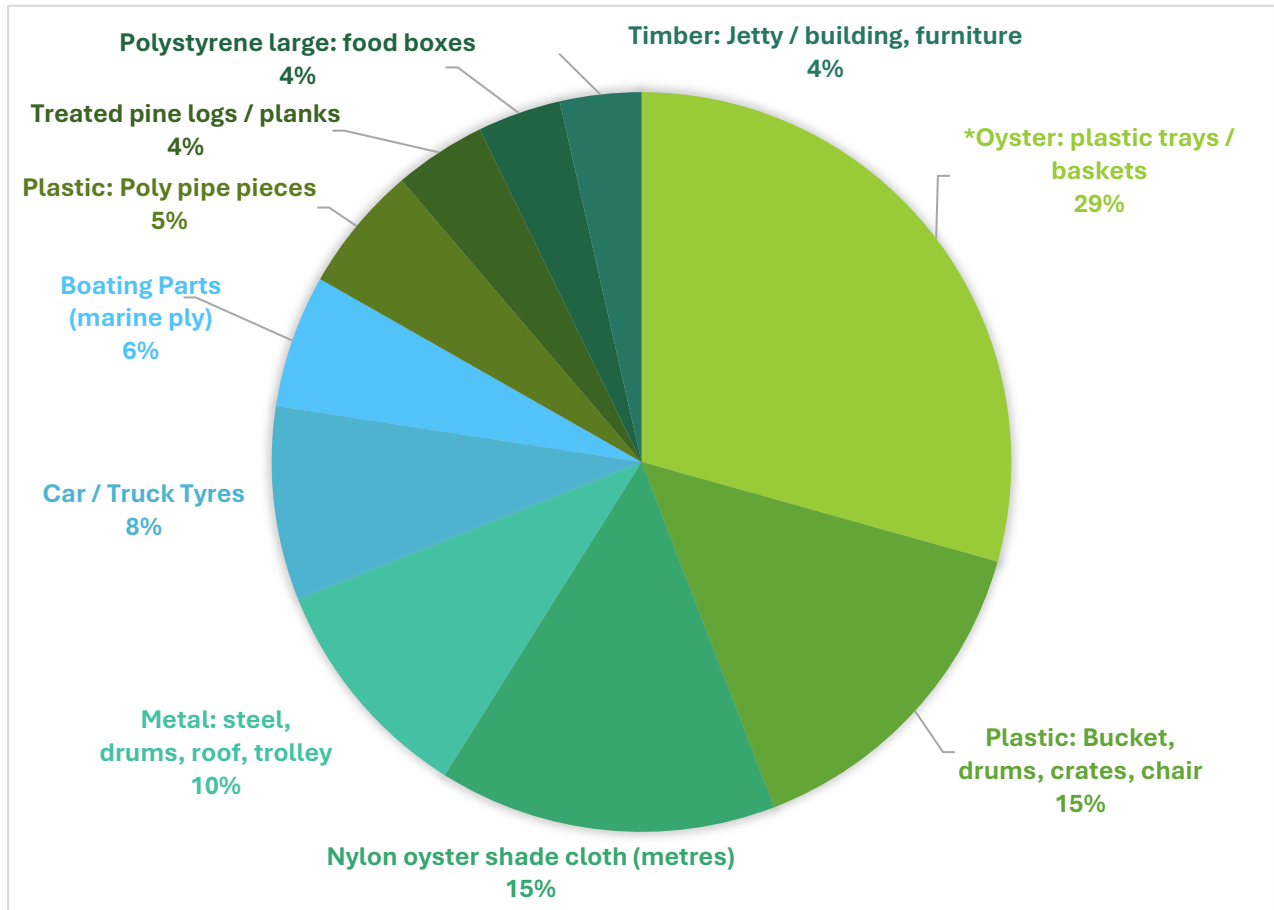
Note: The 2022 statistics reflect on the Hawkesbury flood especially the presence of polystyrene

Note: The 2023 statistics reflects “gutter rubbish” deposited from continual heavy rain events.



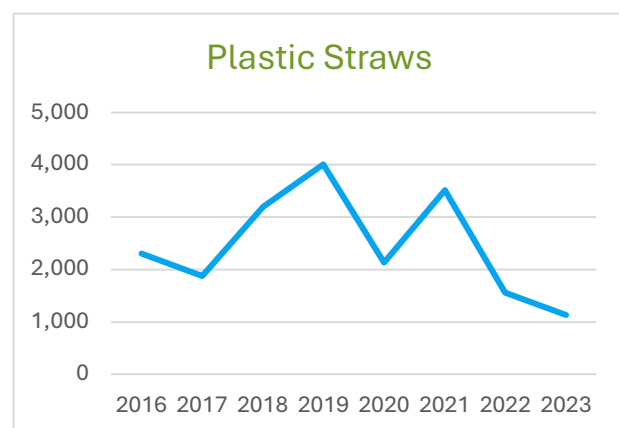
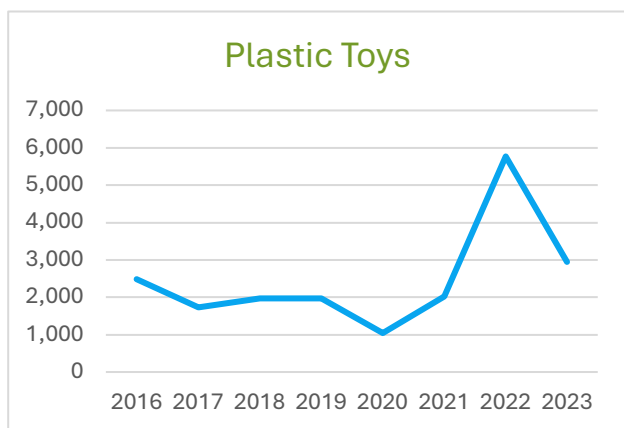
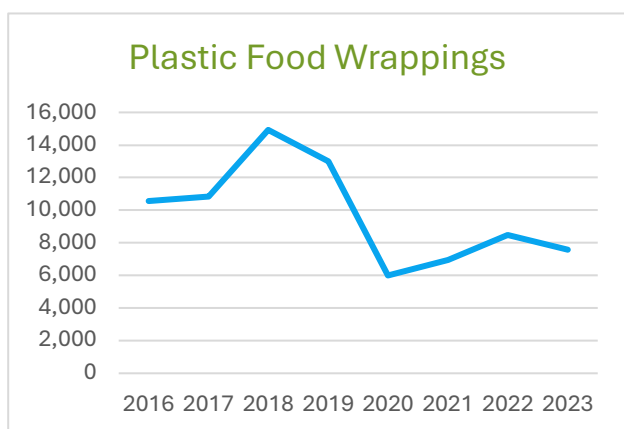
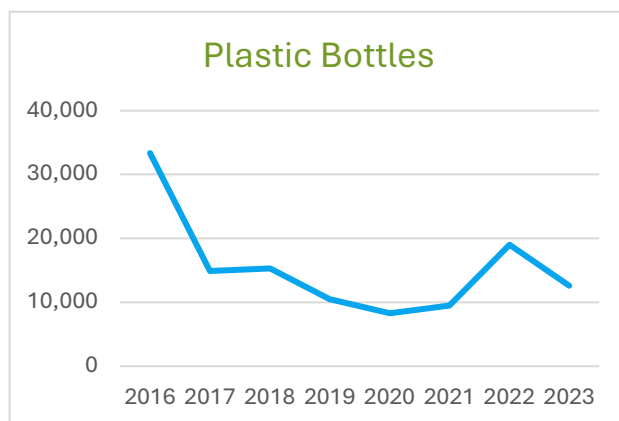
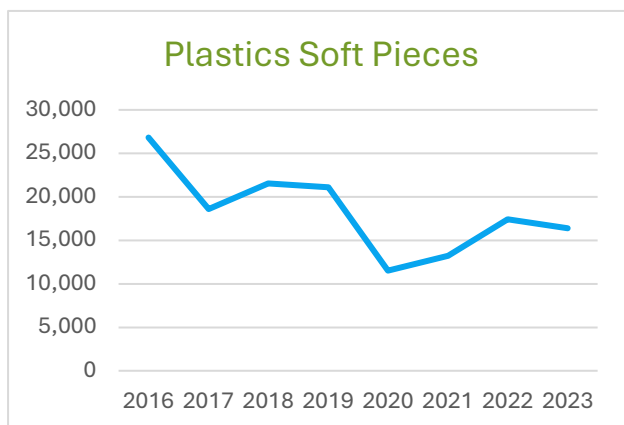
### Top Ten Larger Items Collected in 2023

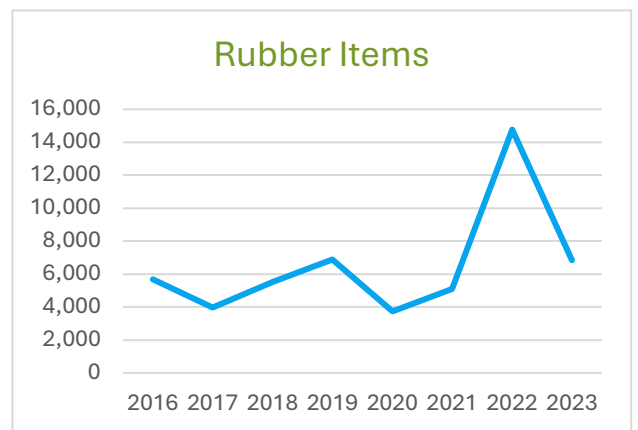
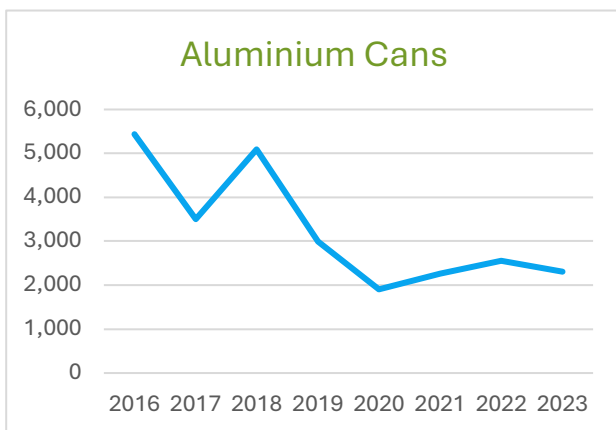
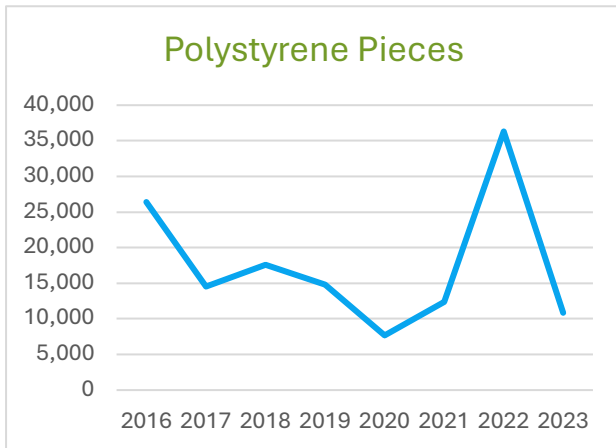
Oyster: plastic trays / baskets	884	Boating Parts (marine ply)	175
Plastic: Bucket, drums, crates, chair	446	Plastic: Poly pipe pieces	167
Nylon oyster shade cloth (metres)	445	Treated pine logs / planks	121
Metal: steel, drums, roof, trolley	302	Polystyrene large: food boxes	110
Car / Truck Tyres	255	Timber: Jetty / building, furniture	107



Note: \*Oysters – plastic trays/baskets – larger numbers through industry assistance.

## Eight year analysis and trends of smaller items - excluding Hunter River

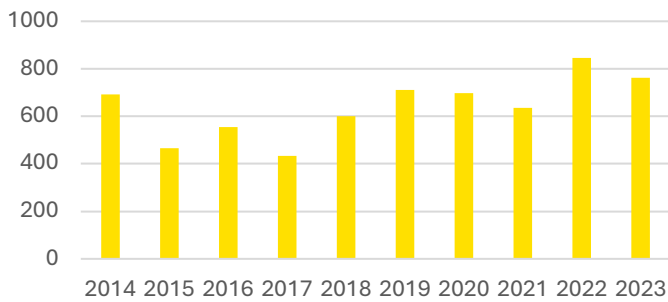




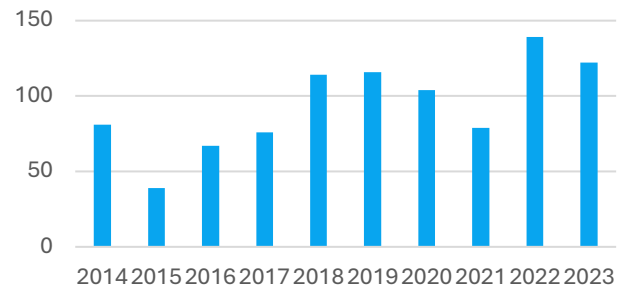


## Analysis of Clean4Shore – Ten Years Data

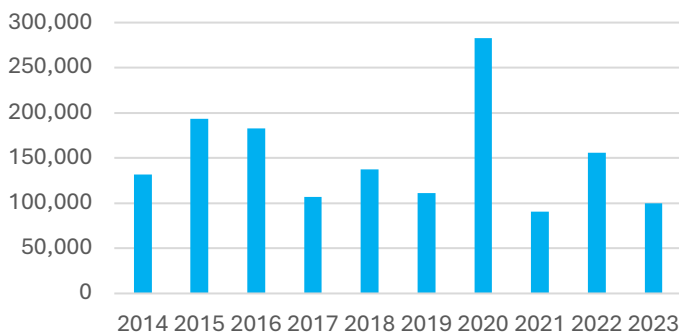
### Volunteer Numbers



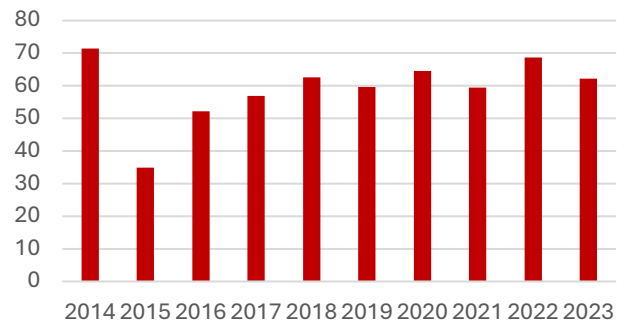
### Field Trip



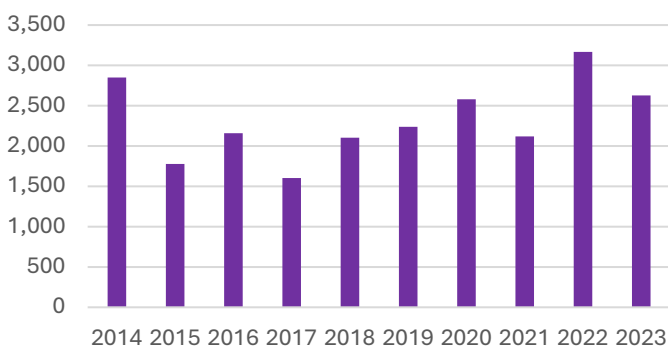
### Collected Items



### Total Weight in Tonnes



### Volunteer Hours



## Case Study – Homeless Campsites

Narara Creek's location, close to the Gosford CBD and Railway Station, attracts the unfortunate 'homeless people' searching for safe accommodation close to amenities and health services. Tent squatter sites are set up with many of these residents suffering major mental illnesses and 'hoarding' items considered valuable.

Students from Narara Valley High and North Gosford Learning Centre were confronted with the sight of mattresses and toys floating in Narara Creek, indicating a homeless site as the source of this rubbish. Heavy rain and waterlogged mangroves during 2023 caused the squatters to leave these sites with bulk rubbish, personal items, and camping equipment and gather hoarded items left behind to decay or wash into Narara Creek.

This was a very confronting site for the students. The Central Coast Council was alerted, and a clean-up plan was adopted. The students completely cleaned three sites, with a Central Coast Council work crew removing the larger site close to the Gosford Tennis Courts.

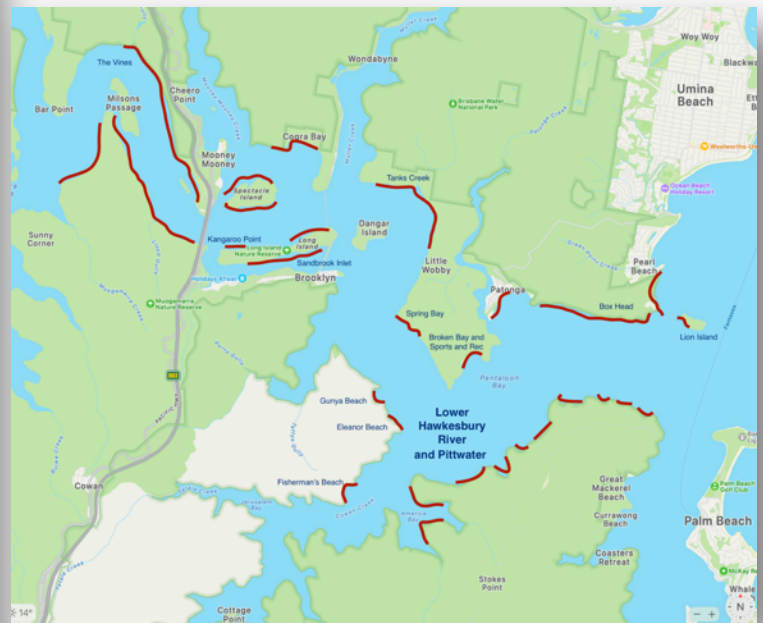
Further concern was raised when a resident houseboat, well established in Narara Creek, was occupied by a homeless group. This vessel partially sunk during winter storms, and the occupants abandoned it, leaving clothing and gathered possessions wedged on the banks of Narara Creek. Students again removed most items with Clean4shore. This vessel remains on the banks of Narara Creek in 2024.

Compassion must be expressed towards these people, who are isolated from the general community. Yet, the consistent wet conditions did not suit camping in mangroves near Narara Creek.

ABC radio and local television followed this story, praising the students' and Clean4shore's efforts to take action on these sites.



## Hawkesbury River Summary



Flooding was again the major issue with the Hawkesbury River as Warragamba Dam remained very high throughout the year. On three occasions, this dam spilled, sending floodwater over farmland in the upper Nepean and Hawkesbury Catchments. Debris from previous flooding events from 2020 was sent downstream with bulk polystyrene highlighted in 2022, reduced in size and more volume.

Hornsby Shire Council provided funding and estuary staffing for schools within their boundaries to attend field trips. David Bolton was proactive with information forums prior to commencement and advice on estuary and environmental strategies during each field trip.

Central Coast schools completed field trips from Patonga to address bulk litter at the mouth of the Hawkesbury River and into Cowan Creek. Described as the “milk run,” these foreshores have many scattered deserted beaches, are popular with the recreational boating public, and attract debris from further upstream.

Sandbrook Inlet, the focal point for commercial marinas and secured moorings, locally called “The Gut”, attracts litter and debris from floods, roadside, locally generated and tidal rubbish, with 3.5 tonnes of small litter collected by school students during 2023. More concerning is the vast number of sunken, partially sunken, in danger of sinking and forgotten derelict vessels within Sandbrook Inlet. Clean4shore has raised consistent issues of concern with very little response from governing stakeholders, State and or Federal politicians. “The Gut” and its rubbish appear to be part of living in Brooklyn.

Further upstream, residents from Dangar Island, Bar Point and Cobar Bay assist with collecting and identifying flood debris and litter issues. Clean4shore invested in removing twelve large polystyrene concrete pontoons from Cobar Bay. It was an expensive exercise, with fourteen tonnes delivered on the car trailer intact to Woy Woy Tip. These pontoons were in very poor condition, collected from previous floods and with exposed polystyrene. Many more of these exist along the Hawkesbury River.

Local oyster growers, barge operators Rob Moxham, crew, and Adam Millard assist with additional barges when needed. Corporate groups from ING Direct and MAA Surveyors completed field trips through the Corporate Landcare program with tax-deductible donations to Clean4shore through Landcare NSW.

Collected statistical data forwarded to the Australian Marine Data Institute through the Tangaroa Blue Foundation suggests a decline in overall small litter due to the bulk litter collected from 2020 following the commencement of the regular Hawkesbury River flooding events.

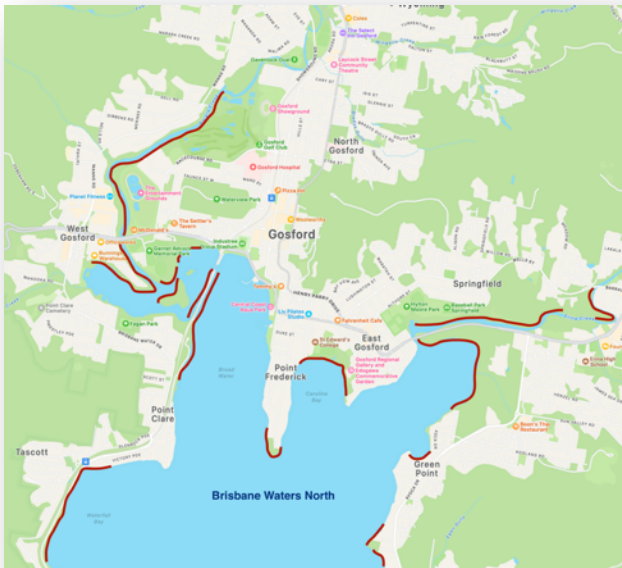
Continual monitoring and regular field trips will enable the Hawkesbury River foreshores to remain in excellent conditions, with future flooding and a very full Warragamba Dam a constant concern.

Well done to all schools, community groups, and corporates that participated in the Hawkesbury River program, completing 34 field trips, removing 24.7 tonnes by 215 volunteers, and 678 hours of voluntary service.

<b>Hawkesbury River 2023</b>						
<b>Date</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Vol No</b>	<b>Vol Hours</b>
03/02/23	The Glen	Pumpkin Point	ERF	600	4	12
20/02/23	Community	Patonga Headlands	CCC	200	1	4
02/03/23	Asquith Boys High	Gunyah & Eleanor	HSC	620	11	40
05/03/23	Gosford Guides	Cobar Bay	CCC	480	3	12
19/03/23	Loreto Normanhurst	Flint & Steel	HSC	260	5	20
21/03/23	Cherrybrook High	Sandbrook Inlet	HSC	780	13	52
23/03/23	Erina High	Patonga Juno Point	RLC	280	7	18
18/04/23	Community	Marlows	CCC	680	6	24
27/04/23	MAA Surveyors	The Vines	TBG	740	5	20
16/05/23	St Leos College Hornsby	Sandbrook Inlet	HSC	700	14	42
30/05/23	Dangar Island Tank	Dangar Island	CCC	340	1	3
01/06/23	Erina High Kick Start	Hawkesbury Patonga	CCC	320	5	15
30/07/23	Kariong High	The Vines	CCC	240	4	12
19/09/23	Clean4shore Community	Sandbrook Inlet	Council	600	1	4
05/10/23	The Glen	Mooney Mooney Creek	Council	300	4	12
10/10/23	Kariong High School	Milson Island / Passage	Council	520	22	66
15/10/23	Loreto Girls College	Lion island / Flint & Steel	Hornsby	240	10	30
18/10/23	ET Australia	Berowra / Cobar Point	Council	800	5	15
19/10/23	Rouse Hill	Mooney / Kangaroo Point	Council	600	17	51
21/10/23	Clean4shore	Cobar Bay pontoons	Council	380	3	21
24/10/23	Clean4shore	Cobar Bay pontoons	Council	3.260	1	1
25/10/23	Clean4shore	Cobar Bay pontoons	Council	1.120	1	1
26/10/23	Clean4shore	Cobar Bay pontoons	Council	2.980	1	1
27/10/23	Clean4shore	Cobar Bay pontoons	Council	2.400	1	1
28/10/23	Clean4shore	Cobar bay pontoons	Council	3.000	1	1
30/10/23	Clean4shore	Cobar Bay pontoons	Council	3.000	1	1
31/10/23	Corporate Landcare ING	Hawkesbury River	Council	.320	9	27
11/11/23	Clean4shore	Mooney Creek Vessel	Council	760	1	2
14/11/23	ET Australia College	Cobar Point	Council	780	8	24
20/11/23	Gosford High School	Gunyah Eleanor	Council	140	22	66
21/11/23	Clean4shore vessel/fab	Mooney Club vesselk	Council	1.980	1	4
05/12/23	St Leo's Normanhurst	Berowra Creek Bar Point	Hornsby		12	36
06/12/23	St Leo's Normanhurst	Long Island Kangaroo Pt	Hornsby	540	9	27
14/12/23	Clean4shore	Bar Point Vessel	Council	800	1	1
<b>34 Trips</b>				<b>24.760</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>678</b>



## Brisbane Water Summary



The final funding from the Environment Restoration Grant was utilised in January in Brisbane Waters, and derelict sunken vessels at Gosford Waterfront were removed to allow the Central Coast Council to commence redevelopment of this site.

Oceanwatch Australia, the Peak Governing body of the NSW Aquaculture Industry, combined with Clean4shore and local oyster producers for a clean-up within Brisbane Waters, produced bulk rubbish delivered to Woy Woy Tip.

Central Coast schools were on “standby” as depleted funding was addressed by Local State Liberal Party Member for Terrigal Adam Crouch, who supplied a grant through the Regional Landcare Program to get Clean4shore operational. Central Coast Council matched this grant to enable field trips until June 2023.

Narara, Erina, and Kincumber Creeks deliver storm, industrial, and “gutter” litter directly into Brisbane Waters. Eight local schools immediately began field trips in term one, and this was backed up by consistent school field trips into term two.

Bulk car tyres utilised as a retaining wall on a Green Point property were removed, cleaned, and delivered to Tyre Cycle. They were still on the Clean4shore barge, an interesting site in Southwest Sydney. Tangaroa Blue Foundation provided funding for the removal and delivery of these tyres.

Field trips into Woy Woy Bay revealed eleven derelict or abandoned vessels, either sunken or on the foreshores. Residents from Phegans Bay and the Central Coast Rural Fire Service assisted Clean4shore in removing four of these craft from the mangroves within Phegans Bay. The recently donated car trailer was tested as the craft were pulled from the mangroves and delivered to Woy Woy Tip. In total, twenty-five vessels were removed by Clean4shore during 2023 within Brisbane Waters.

The completion of the Regional Landcare and Central Coast Council funding once again left Clean4shore struggling with financial options to continue the program into the new financial year. Flooding and a huge response from the schools prompted the Central Coast Council to provide further funding, ensuring Clean4shore’s survival into 2024. Once again, the schools recommenced bookings, and a heavy schedule of field trips completed the year.

The serious issue of “homeless people” was highlighted on a field trip into Narara Creek with tents and bulk “horded” rubbish on a narrow lane behind the Gosford Tennis Courts. The students removed smaller items close to and in Narara Creek, with local ABC Radio and Television highlighting the event on two occasions, as well as interviewing the students and supervising teachers. Central Coast Council completed the clean-up with a work crew, tractors and loaders, completely removing all rubbish. A second smaller site further up Narara Creek has similar rubbish from a homeless group, with North Gosford Learning Centre students completing this difficult task.

Avoca Lake was again cleaned by a large group of students and staff from Central Coast Grammar. Central Coast Estuary Field officers Warren Brown and Ben Cuerel coordinated the event, utilising kayaks from “Aqua Fun” at Avoca. The lagoons at Wamberal and Terrigal will need monitoring in 2024.

Statistical data collected during 2023 and delivered to the Australian Marine Data Institute through the Tangaroa Blue Foundation suggests that in Brisbane Waters, plastic bottles remain consistent with 2022 figures with strong indications that the “return and earn scheme”, although successful, is not restricting the volume of plastic bottles entering the waterway. The consumer demand for these plastic bottles has greatly increased, and further promotion of recycling is required. Food wrappings and soft plastics are also consistent with 2022 figures, mainly due to the poor drainage options available for litter laying in our gutters and washing into the waterways following a rain event. Stakeholders' compliance with the bulk waste containers behind industrial complexes adjoining the feeder creeks that overflow plastics and polystyrene into the waterway requires stronger control measures.

Overall, 317 volunteers completed 40 field trips in Brisbane Waters, removing 20 tonnes of rubbish and completing 935 hours of voluntary service. Many thanks to those students, dedicated supervising teachers, and community volunteers for their efforts during 2023.



Brisbane Waters 2023						
Date	Group	Site Location	Grant Funding	Weight Kg	Vol No	Vol Hours
14/01/23	Clean4shore	Gosford Harbour Vessels	ERF	620	1	2
25/01/23	Clean4shore	Gosford Harbour Vessel	ERF	660	0	0
14/02/23	Oceanwatch Oysters	Lions Park / Pelican	ERF	1060	11	33
21/02/23	North Gosford Learning	Gosford Harbour	ERF	.400	7	28
28/02/22	St Edward College	Erina Bay/ Creek	RLC	360	11	44
03/03/23	Narara Valley High	Fagan's Bay	RLC	800	16	48
05/03/23	Clean Up Aust Day	Pelican Island	RLC	480	3	12
06/03/23	Narara Valley High	Fagans Bay	CCC	220	12	36
07/03/23	Erina High School	Erina Bay & Erina Creek	CCC	260	11	33
08/03/23	Terrigal High School	Paddy's & Riley's island	RLC	740	11	34
10/03/23	North Gosford Learning	Riley's Henderson Rd	RLC	320	7	21
29/03/23	St Edwards College	Yattalunga Saratoga	RLC	940	12	48
30/03/23	Green Point Christian	Kincumber Broadwater	RLC	380	8	24
04/04/23	Terrigal High	Fagans Bay Gosford	RLC	320	8	24
28/04/23	Clean4shore	Green Point Tyres	TBG	400	2	8
29/04/23	Clean4shore	Green Point Tyres	TBG	40	0	0
04/05/23	North Gosford Learning	Phegans Bay	RLC	440	8	24
07/05/23	Clean4shore Community	Phegans Bay Vessels	RLC	1.820	4	8
15/05/23	North Gosford Learning	Narara Fagan's Bay	RLC	660	8	28
22/05/23	Kincumber High	Kincumber Broadwater	RLC	220	10	32
02/06/23	Clean4shore	Landcare Presentation	CCC			
24/08/23	Clean4shore	Hardy's Bay	Council	600	1	7
25/08/23	Clean4shore	Hardy's Bay	Council	960	0	0
04/09/23	Narara Valley High	Narara Creek	Council	720	9	36
13/09/23	Clean4shore Whittens	Narara Creek	Council	700	1	5
14/09/23	North Gosford	Woy Woy Bay	Council	440	8	24
18/09/23	Clean4shore	Pretty Beach	Council	.080	0	0
06/10/23	Clean4shore	Boat South Kincumber	Council	440	1	3
16/10/23	Kincumber High School	Kincumber Broadwater	Council	500	15	45
01/11/23	Kincumber High School	Brisbane Creek	Council	.560	14	52
02/11/23	Green Point Christian	Empire Bay	Council	.580	7	21
07/11/23	North Gosford learn	Brisbane Waters	Council	780	6	16
08/11/23	Clean4shore	Narara Creek Dump	Council	600	1	1
09/11/23	Umina High School	Brisbane Waters	Council	280	8	20
10/11/23	Narara Valley High	Narara Creek / Fagan's	Council	180	6	18
23/11/23	St Edwards College	Erina Creek & Bay	Council	400	12	36
30/11/23	St Edwards College	Erina Creek & Bay	Council	400	11	33
01/12/23	Narara Valley High	Narara Creek / Fagan's	Council	300	10	30
04/12/23	Clean4shore Council	Dell Road Showground	Council	380	0	0
11/12/23	Central Coast Grammar	Avoca Lake	Council	250	57	180
<b>40 trips</b>				<b>19.930</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>935</b>





## Hunter River Summary



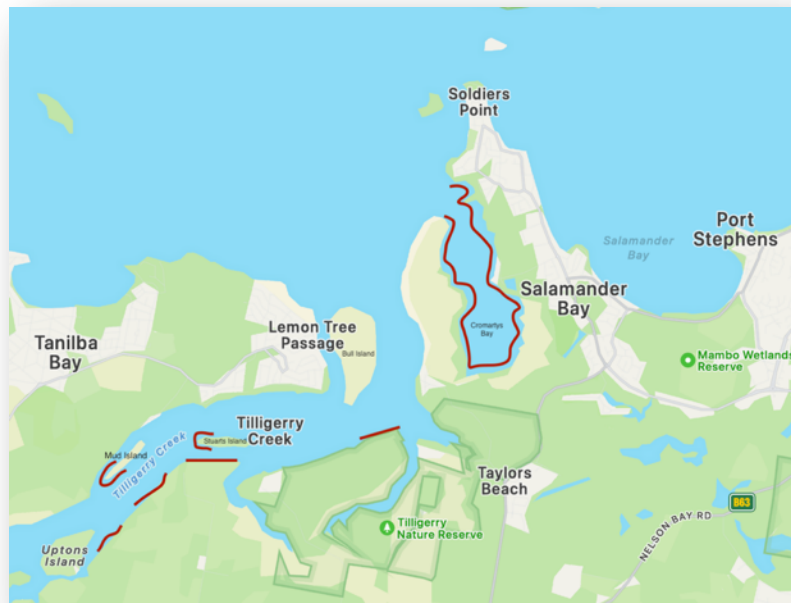
Hunter Local Land Services once again supported Clean4shore with contracted funding to address litter issues along these deep mangrove foreshores on either side of Ash Island on the North and South Channels. Field trips from 2020 and 2021 removed the bulk of the older litter, with flooding during recent years not contributing significantly, in contrast to the Hawkesbury River flooding. Several sites that were not attended in past years, mainly Smith Island and the adjoining foreshore of the lower south Channel, did have bulk small litter that filled two barges, consistent with previous years.

Kurri & Maitland TAFE, All Saints College Maitland, Maitland Christian College, St Pius College, Port Stephens Council, and Hunter Local Land Service Volunteers contributed 10 field trips, removing 5.4 tonnes of rubbish by 89 volunteers. Many thanks to Port Stephens Council for providing in-kind support with free disposal at Newline Landfill, plus logistical support by Lauren Bullard from Hunter Local Land Services.

The Hunter River program will require annual monitoring, as the deep mangroves and small Islands in the Hexham waterway tend to filter and trap litter and debris generated from much further upstream or washed into the river from the busy main roads and highways adjoining this waterway.

Hunter River 2023						
Date	Group	Site Location	Grant Funding	Weight Kg	Vol No	Vol Hours
23/02/23	HLLS Volunteers	Hexham	HLLS	350	3	12
27/02/23	Maitland TAFE	Heatherbrae Hexham	HLLS	350	16	74
16/03/23	St Pious College	Ash Island North Chanel	HLLS	350	16	64
13/04/23	Port Stephens Council	Heatherbrae Hexham	HLLS	860	13	39
02/08/23	Clean4shore	Morpeth Survey	HLLS	N/A	1	4
10/08/23	Clean4shore	Maitland Council Forum	HLLS	N/A	N/A	N/A
16/08/23	Maitland Christian College	Smith & Sandy Island	HLLS	1.540	12	48
30/08/23	KURRI TAFE	Ash Island North Channel	HLLS	700	5	20
20/10/23	Hunter LLS Volunteers	South Hunter Channel	HLLS	900	8	24
16/11/23	All Saints College Maitland	Heatherbrae Mangroves	HLLS	440	16	50
<b>10 Trips</b>				<b>5.490</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>331</b>

## Port Stephens Summary



Funding from Hunter Local Land Services supported field trips into the picturesque Port Stephens waterway. Clean4shore completed promotional field trips in this area in previous years through Irukandji Shark and Ray Encounters, with Lia and Ryan very keen for Clean4shore involvement. During 2023, Clean4shore again completed school and community promotional visits to Port Stephens with poor weather late in 2023, cancelling two of the planned school field trips.

Irukandji, combined with the local group “Sea Shelters” and the local Worimi Land Council, completed a survey field trip and cleanup during October, with substantial oyster products collected and bulk small litter sighted and collected in Tilligerry Creek. A second field trip in Cromarty’s Bay also had the same result with discarded or ‘lost’ oyster product again collected plus bulk small litter items.

Notwithstanding the low tidal mud, this waterway is a pleasure to work on and deserves further promotion and involvement from local schools and community groups. Hunter Local Land Services is assured of ongoing funding for 2024, which will allow the expansion of the Port Stephens program. Only two field trips were completed, and 11 volunteers removed 1.8 tonnes of rubbish.

Port Stephens 2023						
Date	Group	Location	Grant	Weight	Vol No	Vol Hours
23/10/23	Sea Shelters /Oyster Growers Worimi Land Council	Tilligerry Creek	HLLS	900	5	15
17/11/23	Cancelled too Wet		HLLS	N/A	N/A	
15/12/23	Sea Shelters / HLLS	Cromarty’s Bay	HLLS	280	6	18
<b>3 Field Trips</b>				<b>1.180</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>33</b>



## Floating Landcare Summary

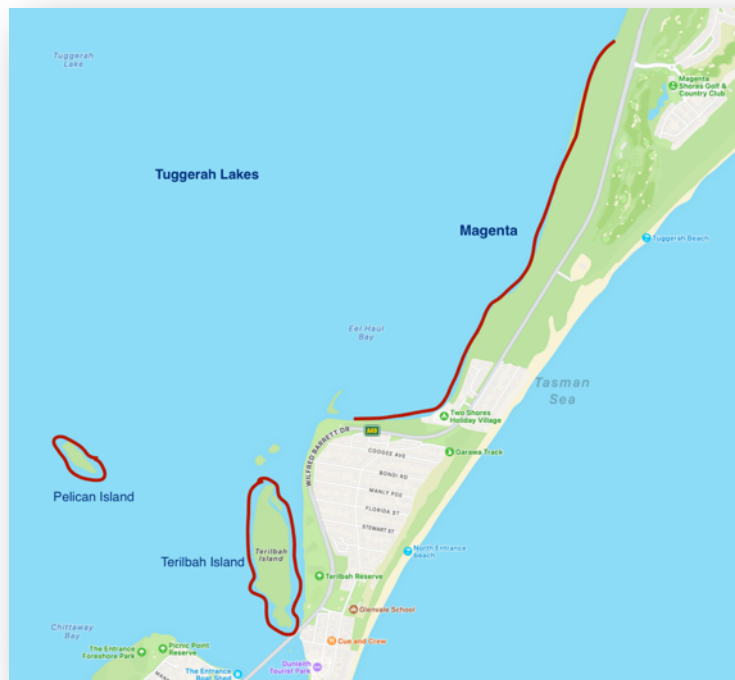
The Clean4shore barge is utilised by Central Coast Council and National Parks, with bushcare groups conducting monthly field trips into Narara Creek, Pelican and Rileys Island, plus Kincumber Broadwater to address invasive weeds and restore native vegetation. Central Coast Council also conducts “Sea Grass” surveys and data assessments with students from Ourimbah TAFE. Under the guidance of Ben Cuerel and Vikki Elliot this program delivers successful outcomes and allows further utilisation of Clean4shore barge and driver. Many thanks to Simon for safely delivering the volunteers to and from each field trip site.

Brisbane Waters Floating Landcare & Bushcare Program			
Date	Group	Location	Grant
25/01/23	Central Coast Council Survey	Empire Bay	ERF
08/02/23	National Parks & Bouddi Bushcare	Rileys Island	ERF
15/02/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Sea Grass Survey	ERF
17/03/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Kincumber Broadwater	Fish Habitat Grant
22/03/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Kincumber Broadwater	Fish Habitat Grant
19/04/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Kincumber Broadwater	Fish Habitat Grant
17/05/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Narara Creek	Fish Habitat Grant
14/06/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Narara Creek	Fish Habitat Grant
21/06/23	National Parks & Bouddi Bushcare	Rileys Island	Central Coast Council
12/07/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Narara Creek	Fish Habitat Grant
09/08/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Narara Creek	Fish Habitat Grant
06/09/23	National Parks & Bouddi Bushcare	Pelican Island	Central Coast Council
13/09/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Narara Creek	Fish Habitat Grant
11/10/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Narara Creek	Fish Habitat Grant
08/11/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Narara Creek	Fish Habitat Grant
13/12/23	Central Coast Council & TAFE Students	Narara Creek	Fish Habitat Grant
<b>16 Field Trips</b>			



## Tuggerah Lakes and Lower Lake Macquarie Summary

### Tuggerah Lakes (Magenta)



Two years of consistent flooding within the Tuggerah catchment has delivered bulk flood debris and small litter along the Magenta foreshore from North Entrance to Canton Beach at Toukley. The rain associated with these floods has allowed dense weed and grass growth on the immediate foreshore, covering most small and hard plastic items. Managed by National Parks, this foreshore would benefit from consistent field trips by Bushcare groups to address the weed issue. Pelican and Terilbah Islands are subject to high levels of recreational fishing and boating by the general public, contributing to the litter on the foreshore and beneath the water. Flooding debris is deposited on the highest flood levels in Tuggerah Lakes, up to 1.5metres above normal tidal zones, with the bulk of the debris coming from Wyong River, Ourimbah and Wallarah Creeks, which empty into the Tuggerah Lakes system.

Schools from Lakes College, St Brigids College, Wadalbah High and community groups completed 11 field trips removing 4.1 tonnes of rubbish by 56 volunteers.

Tuggerah Lakes 2023						
Date	Group	Location	Grant	Weight	Vol No	Vol Hours
23/01/23	Community	Magenta	CCCTG	320	2	28
24/01/23	Clean4shore	Long Jetty Vessel	CCCTG	760	1	4
02/02/23	Community	Magenta	CCCTG	320	4	12
01/03/23	Lakes College	Magenta	CCCTG	260	7	28
20/03/23	Wadalbah High	Chittaway Point	CCCTG	180	7	21
05/04/23	Lakes College	Budgewoi Lake	RLC	600	8	20
02/05/23	Lakes College	Budgewoi Lake	RLC	560	7	21
17/04/23	Lakes College Budgewoi	Cancel motor failure	CCC			
02/05/23	Lakes College	Budgewoi Lake	CCC	560	3	12
31/05/23	Lakes College	Lake Munmorah	CCC	360	7	21
28/06/23	St Brigid's College	Magenta Foreshore	CCC	180	10	30
<b>11 trips</b>				<b>4.100</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>197</b>

## Lower Lake Macquarie

Sunshine, perfect weather and clear water were most welcomed by Lakes and St Brigids College, with Crangan Bay and Point Wolstencroft monitored and cleaned by the students. Far fewer items were collected than in previous years, with inappropriate recreational camping leaving most of the rubbish. Old beer bottles are consistent in the bush close to the waterfront on Point Wolstencroft, with hundreds still present. Clean4shore’s past efforts in removing illegal dumping in Crangan Bay have assisted in redeveloping this foreshore into a housing estate. Clean4shore will continue to monitor lower Lake Macquarie due to the extensive population growth within this region and the adjoining high schools engaged in our program. Three field trips removed 780 kilos of collected rubbish.

Lower Lake Macquarie 2023						
Date	Group	Site Location	Grant Funding	Weight Kg	Vol No	Vol Hours
20/09/23	St Bridgids College	Gwandalan Crangan Bay	Council	240	10	30
06/11/23	Youth off the Streets	Summerland Point	Council	180	6	14
22/11/23	St Bridgids College	Point Wolstencroft	Council	360	7	18
<b>3 Trips</b>				<b>780</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>62</b>



## Scuba Gym Underwater Diving – Lyndi Leggett

The successful removal of underwater debris by scuba divers, coordinated by Lyndi Leggett, commenced this year with the near-impossible task of removing rubbish from beneath the water at the Gosford Waterfront site. Years of neglect by the owners or occupiers of derelict vessels moored at this site have produced masses of junk thrown overboard. From pot plants to furniture, the divers were in thick sludge, with zero visibility to clear forty metres of waterfront for future development.

The Entrance bridge attracts huge crowds for events and recreational fishing, with one hundred metres of waterfront foreshore cleaned by the team during two field trips. A large crowd gathered, amazed at the volume of shopping trollies, car tyres, fishing rods and lines, furniture, bicycles, scooters, and metal signage removed by Lyndi's team.

Budgewoi Lake again produced bulk rubbish close to the Toukley Bridge and then behind the local hotel/resort, where hundreds of beer glasses were lifted from the water. This is a very poor reflection on this business's appropriate serving of alcohol.

Ettalong and surrounding public jetties within Hardies Bay all had furniture, deck chairs, fishing rods, electrical products, scooters, and bicycles pulled from the water. On a trip to Patonga public jetty, 580 kilos of debris were removed.

In total, the Scuba Gym program completed 11 field trips, removing 5.9 tonnes of debris by 79 divers and support volunteers. This is an amazing program that addresses the important issues of pollution, habitat entanglement, and safety for the recreational fishing and swimming public.

### Scuba Gym (underwater Diving Litter Removal) 2023

Date	Group	Location	Grant	Weight	Vol No	Vol Hours
13/01/23	Scuba Gym	Gosford Waterfront	ERF	660	8	32
17/02/23	Scuba Gym	North Entrance	CCTG	400	5	20
24/03/23	Scuba Gym	The Entrance	CCCTG	380	9	36
31/03/23	Scuba Gym	Budgewoi Lake	CCCTG	460	6	24
21/04/23	Scuba Gym	Ettalong Jetty	CCC	240	6	20
12/05/23	Scuba Gym/ Phegan's	Ettalong & Phegans Bay	RLC	1.000	4	16
16/06/23	Scuba Gym	Ettalong Jetty	CCC	900	8	24
30/06/23	Scuba Gym	Hardys Bay	CCC	420	5	15
11/08/23	Scuba Gym	Ettalong Jetty	Council	400	10	30
29/09/23	Scuba Gym	Hardys Bay	Council	260	10	30
08/12/23	Scuba Gym / Dave Reid	Patonga	Council	580	8	24
<b>11 Trips</b>				<b>5.900</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>271</b>





## Issues of Concern 2023 – Derelict Vessels

The presence of sunken, partially sunken, or derelict vessels maintained as “buoy keepers” has frustrated Clean4shore since our operations began in 2010. It appears to be a simple process: are they registered or owned? If not, get them off the water; if registered, are they seaworthy?

Unfortunately, it is not that simple. Maritime struggles with an overloaded daily timetable and regulations that often cause a boat to sink before it can be moved, resulting in a more expensive disposal process. Clean4shore seeks clarification from Maritime, where necessary, prior to moving a vessel, with larger vessels left for commercial salvage operators.

Local information often determines if a vessel is good for a final trip to the tip. Student and community volunteers consistently remove marine ply and floating parts from sunken vessels, especially in the Hawkesbury River near Brooklyn.

In total, 37 fiberglass vessels and four rubber inflatable vessels were removed from Brisbane Waters and the Hawkesbury River during 2023, adding to the 31 vessels removed in 2022. Apart from the effects of decaying fibreglass in the water and marine ply on or under the tidal foreshore, the visual appearance of our waterways without these ugly crafts is much more appealing.



## Cool Shots





<b>Statistics: Clean4shore Total Items Collected 2023</b>					
<b>Collected Items</b>	<b>Hawkesbury River</b>	<b>Brisbane Waters</b>	<b>Hunter River Port Stephens</b>	<b>Tuggerah Lower Lake Macquarie</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Plastic Items</b>					
Cigarette butts & filters	44	19	0	65	128
Cigarette lighters	228	461	191	140	1020
Plastic pens, markers etc	95	228	41	53	417
Plastic straws, cups, plates	270	521	148	192	1131
Plastic Toothbrushes, combs	30	70	4	6	110
Plastic toys, ribbons, clips	581	1502	379	477	2939
Plastic bleach & cleaner bottles	104	211	195	61	571
Plastic lids & tops, pump spray	378	967	266	300	1911
Personal care & packaging	12	72	13	11	108
Plastic bags complete	20	137	66	31	254
Plastic containers: oil, chemical	112	194	105	84	495
Plastic drink bottles	2397	5045	3272	1890	12604
Plastic packaging food	1055	5188	408	938	7589
Plastic wrap non food	84	163	85	110	442
Strapping band scraps	51	138	35	24	248
Strapping band whole	3	16	4	1	24
Plastic bait & tackle bags	217	642	160	187	1206
Plastic bait containers & lids	149	365	112	90	716
Commercial fishing	13	23	38	7	81
Cylume glow sticks	9	18	0	5	32
Fishing line in metres	80	470	15	665	1230
Fishing items (lures, floats, rods)	72	194	49	64	379
Rope & net less than 1 metre	122	200	94	68	484
Rope plus metres	123	161	24	15	323
Plastic bits & pieces hard & solid	1673	5171	1808	1446	10098
Plastic soft bits bag & wrap	2612	8936	2716	2114	16378
Remnants burnt plastic	411	1120	420	319	2270
<b>Polystyrene Items</b>					
Foam Buoys	62	70	30	27	189
Foam cups, food & trays	124	301	86	88	599
Polystyrene insulation pieces	5561	2817	1695	800	10873
<b>Other Materials</b>					
Oil globules and tar balls	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary (nappies etc)	4	59	0	15	78
Shoes leather and fabric	70	145	56	51	322

<b>Glass &amp; Ceramic Items</b>					
Fluorescent tubes and bulbs	11	7	17	1	36
Glass beer bottles	370	1165	1176	756	2711
Glass jars	74	86	143	195	498
Glass or ceramic broken	734	622	377	470	2203
Glass wine spirit bottles	225	451	577	356	1609
<b>Cloth Items</b>					
Binding, string & cord normal	53	98	21	25	197
Cloth, clothing, hats towel	66	387	71	79	603
<b>Metal Items</b>					
Aerosol Cans	69	106	34	40	249
Aluminium cans	374	925	361	654	2314
Foil wrapping, bladders/ alfoil	29	68	1	9	107
Metal bottle caps	0	20	11	21	52
Metal fishing items	25	111	35	48	219
Tins (under 4 litres)	62	165	67	46	340
<b>Paper Items</b>					
Newspaper, magazines	28	28	0	5	61
Paper and cardboard packaging	9	58	0	115	182
Telstra packs and drink cartons	3	34	3	0	40
<b>Rubber Items</b>					
Rubber balloons, balls and toys	788	2751	376	5	3929
Rubber footwear and thongs	269	550	276	115	1210
Rubber remnants	482	884	337	0	1703
<b>Wood Items</b>					
Brooms, brushes	5	8	6	0	19
Processed timber, pallets	339	348	109	3	799
Wood sticks, pencils, matches	0	3	0	5	8
<b>Total Smaller Items</b>	<b>20,781</b>	<b>44,499</b>	<b>16,503</b>	<b>14,084</b>	<b>95,867</b>

<b>Plus Additional Larger &amp; Commercial Items Collected 2023</b>					
<b>Collected Item</b>	<b>Hawkesbury River</b>	<b>Brisbane Waters</b>	<b>Hunter Port Stephens</b>	<b>Tuggerah Lower Macquarie</b>	<b>Total</b>
Oyster: plastic trays / baskets	10	863		11	884
Oyster plastic mesh pieces	9	68			77
Nylon oyster shade cloth (metres)	400	23		22	445
Car / Truck Tyres	22	119	86	28	255
Boats complete fibreglass	10	25		4	39
Boat inflatable rubber		3		1	4
Boating Parts (marine ply)	56	70	36	13	175
Boating Parts: alloy, seating	1	7			8
Boating: metal outboard motor	1	9		1	11
Fibreglass: surfboard, ski, canoes,	9	10	1	2	22
Fibreglass boating pieces	9	5	4	3	21
Aluminium boat "Tinny"	2	4			6
Aluminium / polystyrene cladding	50	7			57
Metal: steel, drums, roof, trolley	79	148	19	56	302
Metal: fridges whitegoods, heater	1	10	1	1	13
Metal Crab traps	6	14	7	2	29
Metal: bikes	1	67		1	71
Metal; Generators, gas bottles/fire	5	4		2	11
Plastic: Bucket, drums, crates, chair	126	216	73	28	446
Plastic large: bouys, bins, drums, tank	6	13	20	11	50
Plastic/Foam: sailboards, canoes,	12	4			16
Plastic scooters		13		4	17
Plastic: Poly pipe pieces	35	112	11	9	167
Foam: bedding & large pieces	14	33	11	9	57
Foam: mattress, lounges, chairs	1	6	4	3	14
Polystyrene: pontoons/Concrete	12				12
Polystyrene large: food boxes	12	60	10	28	110
Carpet: marine, household		16	2	3	21
Marine/Car batteries		1		1	2
Timber: Pallets	12	10			22
Timber: Jetty / building, furniture	30	60	11	6	107
Treated pine logs / planks	55	30	14	22	121
Nylon tarpaulins / boat covers	8	7		3	18
Industrial Rubber Barrier, tubes		4	2	1	7
Outdoor: camping/bedding		11		7	18
Corflute Advertising Signage	3	40			43
<b>Larger Items Total</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>2,092</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>3,692</b>
<b>Plus Smaller Items Collected</b>	<b>20,781</b>	<b>44,499</b>	<b>16,503</b>	<b>14,084</b>	<b>95,867</b>
<b>Total Items Collected in 2023</b>	<b>21,778</b>	<b>46,591</b>	<b>16,822</b>	<b>14,368</b>	<b>99,559</b>

## Moving Forward 2024

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Clean4shore's secured funding from Hornsby Shire and Central Coast Councils plus Hunter Local Land Services will allow a continuance of student and volunteer-based field trips from the Hawkesbury River to Port Stephens to the end of June 2024. The financial viability of Clean4shore from July 2024 will require either submitting further grants, Council funding support, or intervention support from the Federal or State Governments.

Successful renewal of the EPA Exemption and disposal concessions from Port Stephens and Central Coast Councils during 2023 has created an issue free disposal process moving forward.

The "never ending" issue with derelict vessels requires a solution from governing Stakeholders as many of these craft are simply decaying in the water, sinking or falling apart for volunteers to pick up the pieces. Compliance in the removal process is very "delayed" with the past four years of consistent storms and flooding adding to the volume of "unwanted" vessels.

The ongoing viability of Clean4shore to exist and provide a service to the community requires additional support and collaboration between the existing Federal and State Governments and their representing local politician's. Secure financial programming and planning is the key to a successful community group or school and this requires Clean4shore, Councils, Local Land Service and both Governments working towards the same goal to deliver improved environmental outcomes in and beyond 2024.

Clean4shore's support for the weed eradication program through the Floating Landcare program will continue with additional funding from Central Coast Council independent grant. The success of the "Scuba Diving" program delivered by Lyndi Leggett is highly valued by funding provider Central Coast Council and requires a "stand alone" grant past July 2024.

Clean4shore response to flooding, well tested in the past three years has demonstrated how successfully our teams can provide an immediate service in the removal of flood debris. Flooding requires additional funding and recognition by the Federal and or State Government. Central Coast Council should not be solely responsible for funding the removal of flood debris washed downstream from other local government area, collected by Clean4shore.



Graham Johnston (Jono),  
Clean4shore

Continual upgrading of our current PPE will continue, plus regular ongoing servicing of all equipment, to reduce the "wear and tear" and damage caused by the thousands of kilometers of travel by road and water to manage out targeted work area from the Hawkesbury River to Port Stephens.

From Simon, myself and the entire Clean4shore committee plus supporting stakeholders 2024 is again presenting with challenges, mostly financial for the second half of the year. With hopefully more pleasant weather and no flooding we can complete our task of reducing the impact of litter and debris on our local waterways.

**Many thanks to local MP Adam Crouch, without his support 2023 would not have commenced. However, the biggest “Thank YOU” must go to the students, supervising teachers and volunteers who enable this unique program to be successful.**

