



14th February 2024

Media Release

I LOVE Wallum

Day 5 of Civil Disobedience - V Day 2024

I LOVE Wallum. V Day, 14th February 2024, marks the fifth day of nonviolent direct action (NVDA) at the 30 ha property on the banks of the Simpsons Creek, in the iconic Byron Shire.

A peaceful community presence is now in full activation next to the Wallum site, which is under imminent threat of being cleared by bulldozers. The site contains many old-growth, or pre-colonial, Scribbly Gums with large hollows which are vital habitats and culturally important but the trees are earmarked for destruction.

Dozens of people are expressing their love of Country by holding vigil at Wallum to ensure this ecologically significant and vulnerable landscape is defended.

Save Wallum has a Welcome Tent, Tea Tent, Basecamp and various creative non-violent direct action (NVDA) installations on site. One of these installations is a tree sit, perched high in the branches of another Scribbly Gums earmarked for destruction by investment company, Clarence Property.

Alyssa, the young eco-warrior sleeping in the tree sit tonight, is positioned high up in a giant old **Scribbly Gum** on the proposed development site and vows to stay there until Wallum is saved. *"I will stay here as long as it takes to Save Wallum. This is such an important and precious area and we must protect it and stop destroying these rare and culturally significant coastal areas. There is less than 1% of this coastal heathland left in this shire. We have to do something now"*, she said.

The situation became critical on Thursday 8th February when Byron Shire Council decided to accept the revised reports for the Wallum development and allow their staff to issue the subdivision certificate for works to start. The vote was tied and Mayor Michael Lyon used his casting vote to allow the certificate to be issued.

Spokesperson for Save Wallum, Svea Pitman, said *"The revised reports are seriously erroneous and the effect on the environment would be catastrophic if this subdivision proceeds. We implore Minister Plibersek to refer this matter herself, immediately for assessment under the national environmental laws - the EPBC Act, today."*

"The community is now left with no choice but to defend this place with our bodies on the front line," she continued.

Come and join us at Wallum - on Thursday the 15th February, we are hosting a full day of activities, with the Knitting Nannas on site, various workshops on aspects of getting involved and performance by the Biggest Little Town Choir. Flyer attached.

For further comment, contact: Svea Pitman 0475 304 354 info@savewallum.com James Barrie 0490 530 022

www.savewallum.com



Image of Wallum proposed development site Brunswick Heads, NSW, 9am 12th February, 2024
Taken by Anonymous photographer



Selfie image of Alyssa in a tree sit at Wallum, Brunswick Heads



Wallum Well-being Day



Thursday 15th Feb

When	What	Where
6:30-8:00am	Mindful Primal Movement	Omega Cct
8:00-9:00am	BYO Picnic Breakfast	Omega Cct & Bayside Roundabout
9:00am-1:00pm	Knitting Nanas	Bayside Roundabout
◆ 9:30-10:00am	Legal Observer Training	Omega Cct
10:00-11:00am	Forest Bathing	Omega Cct
12:00-1:00pm	Choir	Bayside Roundabout
1:00-3:00pm	BYO Picnic Lunch	Omega Cct & Bayside Roundabout
3:00-5:00pm	Nature Arts	Omega Cct
4:00-4:30pm	Ecology Talk & Walk: James Barrie	Omega Cct
◆ 5:00-5:30pm	Legal Observer Training	Bayside Roundabout
5:30-7:30pm	NVDA Training	Bayside Roundabout