

## 'Be there for Bylong weekend guide'

The Bylong Valley Protection Alliance – together with local farmers and Lock the Gate Alliance - invites YOU to 'Be there for Bylong' on the first weekend of the school holidays, Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 July.

Stay for the whole weekend or make a day trip on Sunday 7 July to see Sara Storer live in concert.

**BYLONG EVENT OF THE DECADE!**

**Sara and Greg Storer  
LIVE IN CONCERT**

**1pm Sunday 7 July**

Hear great music AND help protect productive Bylong Valley farmland!

LOCK THE GATE

BYLONG VALLEY PROTECTION ALLIANCE

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### SARA STORER - 1PM, SUNDAY 7 JULY

Sara is recognised as one of Australia's finest singer-songwriters. In 2016 she won an ARIA for Country Album of the Year. In 2017 she was voted Female Artist of the Year at the Country Music Awards of Australia. In total, she has won 21 Golden Guitar awards to date. [Raindance](#) is her latest single on her seventh studio album (of the same name), released in April 2019. Sara and Greg Storer are traveling to Bylong for this one-off show.

## ITINERARY: WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN BYLONG ON 6/7 JULY?

Book a house in Mudgee, Rylstone and surrounds or camp\* with Lock the Gate in the Bylong Valley. Pick up an itinerary from the Bylong Hall when you arrive. Activities include:

- **Self-drive Bylong tour, departing from Bylong Hall (any time)**  
See the gorgeous valley on our self-drive tour (maps generated by local farmers). Take pictures that will make other people want to join the campaign. Best photo wins a case of wine. Pick up a map from the Bylong Hall when you arrive.
- **#SaveBylong photography prize**  
As you drive in to the valley, over the weekend and while you're enjoying the self-drive tour, why not enter the #savebylong photo prize? Details on page 5 of this guide.
- **#SaveBylong community photo, Bylong Hall (5pm, Saturday)**  
Help us spell out in candles at sunset that we need to Save Bylong!
- **Community film night in the Bylong Hall (Saturday night)**  
Living the Change is a doco about solutions to the global crises we face today – solutions any one of us can be part of – through the inspiring stories of people pioneering change in their own lives and in their communities in order to live in a sustainable and regenerative way. This film aims to generate discussion as widely and deeply as possible about how each of us views the future and our part in it. Check out the trailer [here](#).



- **Bylong briefing (10am, Sunday, Bylong Hall):** Join our workshop on Sunday morning where you can get an update on the proposed Bylong coal mine and hear directly from local farmers who have been fighting it for many years. Find out what you can do and why this place deserves protection.
- **Church service at St Stephens, Bylong (Sunday morning, TBC)**  
St Stephen's is one of the earliest stone churches in NSW. The Bylong community is hoping to announce that a service will happen on Sunday morning. Stay tuned for details.
- **Sara Storer at the Bylong campground (1pm, Sunday 7 July)**  
Kids are free. Adults can buy tickets online [here](#) or with cash at the gate on the day. If costs are covered, additional funds raised will go towards a legal fighting fund to save the Valley from coal.
- **Bylong Valley Way** - experience one of the [top-ten scenic drives in Australia](#) as part of your journey.

\* Campers should be mostly self-sufficient in food. Water is available. There is a local store which sells a limited amount of food such as pies and sandwiches. There will

also be a pizza van on Saturday night and a BBQ on Sunday. Please note also that it will be cold. So make sure you're prepared for that.

## DO I NEED TO BUY A TICKET FOR THIS EVENT?

The entire weekend of activities culminating in the live concert with the Storers does have costs which need to be recovered. Any funds raised in addition to covering the costs of the event will go towards a legal fighting fund to defend Bylong from the threat posed by KEPCO's coalmine proposal. Tickets are \$38.50 each. Kids are free. **Please buy tickets online [here](#).**

If you are not intending to stay in Bylong for the show with the Storers, you do not need to buy a ticket, but a donation would be very much appreciated. Donations can be made on the weekend in Bylong or via our website's donations page [here](#).

## WHY IS THIS EVENT HAPPENING?

The Bylong Valley and its richly productive farmland is at risk from a brand new coal mine proposed by KEPCO. But there's still hope that the NSW Independent Planning Commission will recognise the unique values of this place. The coal project would have unacceptable impacts on local agriculture, water and on rich natural and cultural heritage. It is the wrong mine, in the wrong place, at the wrong time. Join us in the Bylong Valley to see for yourself what's at stake.

## FOOD

We are encouraging everyone to be self-sufficient with food. That said, there will be some food available in Bylong over the weekend.

- **Bylong General Store:** sells basic supplies incl. milk, bread, sandwiches and coffee. It also licensed to sell a small range of wine and beer.
- **Pizza Van:** our friends Pat and Dave are bringing their Pizza Van to Bylong. They'll be knocking out some pizza classics on Saturday night and Sunday lunch.
- **Rylstone Tennis Club BBQ:** big thanks to the Rylstone Tennis Club which will be running a fundraiser BBQ on Sunday at lunchtime as part of the Bylong event.

## ACCOMMODATION

Other than camping, there isn't much accommodation in the Bylong Valley. There are some AirBNB places nearby if you get in quick, otherwise Rylstone and Mudgee are the closest major centres. As this weekend is the first weekend of the school holidays, we suggest that you make plans as soon as possible.

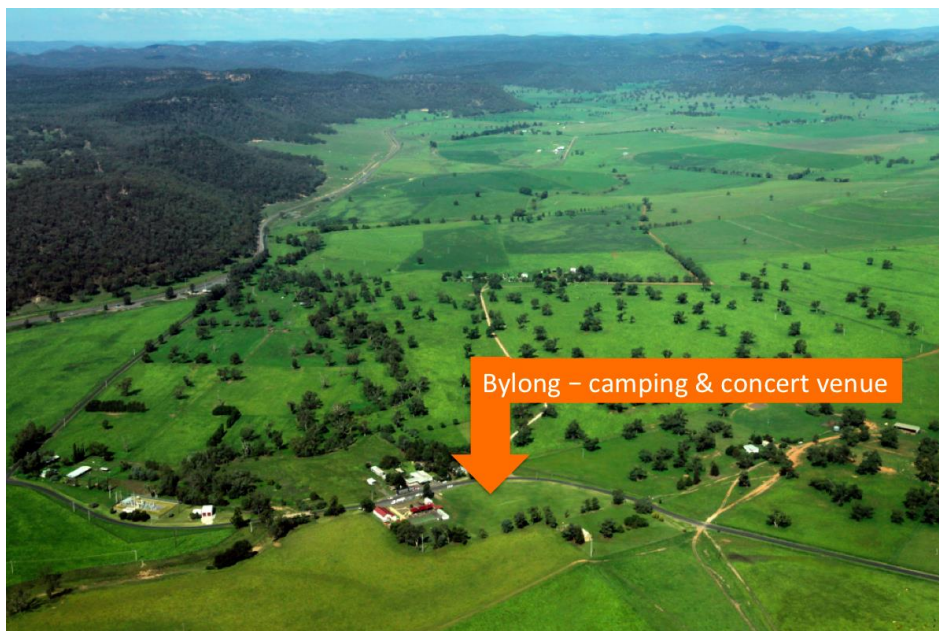
- **RYLSTONE** is 40 minutes drive from Bylong
- **MUDGE**E is an hour's drive from Bylong

## CAMPING

The Bylong campsite is right next door to the Bylong Hall in the middle of the Valley and opposite the shop. If you plan to camp the cost will be **\$10 per site payable when you arrive at the Bylong General Store.**

- **Bylong General Store:** the Store sells basic supplies incl. milk, bread, sandwiches and coffee. It also licensed to sell a small range of wine and beer. It's over the road from the campground.
- **Bring warm clothes:** temperatures will be low over night (avg night-time low for that time of the year is about 3 degrees) so make sure you have the right camping gear to stay warm.
- **Water:** drinking water is available at the campsite
- **BBQ:** the picnic shelter has two free electric BBQ's.
- **Firewood:** Locals farmers are kindly providing firewood in cut-off 44-gallon drums to keep us warm on Saturday night.
- **Power:** please note that there is only one power point in the BBQ area and none in the campground.

If you are intending to camp, please let Lock the Gate know in advance to help us ensure your stay is comfortable. Please **RSVP** for camping by emailing [nic@lockthegate.org.au](mailto:nic@lockthegate.org.au).



## WHERE IS BYLONG AND HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET THERE?

Bylong is halfway between Mudgee and Muswellbrook. All activities for the weekend will be run from the Bylong Hall, opposite the Bylong General Store. This is also where the Bylong campground and BBQ area is located. 7690 Bylong Valley Way, Bylong NSW.

- Rylstone - 40 mins (good local accommodation options)
- Mudgee - 1 hour (good local accommodation options)
- Denman (Upper Hunter) – 1 hour





- Muswellbrook – 1: 15
- Scone - 1:35
- Singleton - 1:45
- Katoomba - 2:25
- Newcastle - 2:40
- Sydney - 4 hours

## HELP US PROMOTE THIS EVENT

- Facebook event for sharing is [here](#).
- Tweet for sharing is [here](#).
- An A4 poster and A5 flyer for download is [here](#).

## BYLONG PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

### #savebylong

If you're planning on taking our self-drive scenic tour, why not enter the **'Save Bylong Photo Prize'**? Best photo wins some superb wine kindly donated by Mudgee winery Miramar (Miramar has won more than 60 trophies at regional, national and overseas Wine Shows).

Simply take the self-drive tour, enjoy the scenery and then post your best photo/s to social media using the hashtag **#savebylong**.

### HOW TO ENTER

#### 1. **Collect a map**

Visit the Bylong Hall when you arrive to collect a self-drive tour map of the Bylong Valley.

#### 2. **Take the self-drive tour**

#### 3. **Post photo/s to social media**

- **Instagram:** use the hashtag #savebylong
- **Twitter:** use the hashtag #savebylong
  - Tag the NSW Independent Planning Commission @IPC\_NSW
  - Tag NSW Minister for Planning [@RobStokesMP](#)
  - Tag NSW Deputy Premier [@JohnBarilaroMP](#)
- **Facebook:** write the text #savebylong into your Facebook post when you share your photos and make sure your post is public so we can find it!
  - Tag @IPCNSW (note this is a different tag to their Twitter)
  - Tag @robstokesmp



- Tag @JohnBarilaroMP

**4. Let them know you care**

When you post your photos, tell your online community and decision makers at the NSW Independent Planning Commission, Rob Stokes and John Barilaro why you think KEPCO's coal mine should not proceed.

**5. Submit your photos by noon on Sunday 7 July**

We'll announce the winner/s at the Sara Storer gig on Sunday lunchtime. Thanks to Miramar Wines for sponsoring the prize.



**SOMETHING MISSING FROM THIS GUIDE?**

Please email [nic@lockthegate.org.au](mailto:nic@lockthegate.org.au) or call 0438 282 409 if you need further information.