

News from

# Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

August 2009



[www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au](http://www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au)

**6.30pm Monday August 24  
upstairs at the Tramshed:**

## Forum: Meeting the Sustainable Living Challenge

Looking for ways to live sustainably? At this special evening, local school children, their teachers and parents, business people and residents will show us examples of how to achieve this in the catchment. We've invited students from Narrabeen Lakes Public School, Cromer Public School, Frenchs Forest Primary School and Narrabeen Sports High School to tell us about projects they are undertaking, such as regenerating bushland, education programmes, vegetable gardens with an emphasis on practical advice we can all use. Sustainability Grant Officer Blayne Petrowicz is assisting with the evening.



"This is a terrific initiative. It will help focus our young people on the value of this unique catchment." - Jim Delaney, Principal, Narrabeen Lakes Public.

*Kids and the  
environment:  
perfect partners!*

Three local residents from Warringah Council's Sustainability Champions programme will speak and Jim Boyle from Netstrategy Pty Ltd will show how his company has reduced its carbon footprint. The evening is being supported by Bunnings Warehouses. Store manager Ben Taylor will give each participating school \$300 worth of products and services.

**Please note the special starting time of 6.30pm.**

We expect a big crowd so secure your place by registering now with Jenny Wilson on 0414 735 350 or email [sydney.educ@npsnw.org.au](mailto:sydney.educ@npsnw.org.au) Refreshments will be served and entry is free. A donation to cover hall hire would be appreciated.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held after the supper break. Voting papers are being distributed to members. Please consider standing for election to our executive for 2009/10.

## Future Forums:

"**Bushfire Threat – Protecting your Patch**" on November 23, 2009

"**Mountain Bikers and Bush Tracks**" on February 22, 2010

## Good progress on \$1.9m grant restoration

Three years ago *Friends* was instrumental in securing a \$1.9m Heritage Trust grant to restore the creeks leading into the lagoon. Since August of last year, both Warringah and Pittwater Councils have had bush regeneration contractors working at sites along Middle Creek, the Nareen Creek wetlands, Kundibah Reserve, the middle reaches of Mullet Creek and Irrawong Reserve.

Project Officer James Brisebois reports that work for the last 12 months has been focused on severing exotic vines, clearing lantana from native canopy trees and maintaining buffer zones to allow natives to revegetate. All *Ludwigia peruviana* (Primrose Willow) and Pampas Grass growing in the creek lines and swamp areas have been removed. Areas of resilient bush and good bushland core areas are being maintained and expanded. Sections of good bush are being linked to others by revegetating and regenerating. Areas which prove to be the most resilient or less prone to weed reinfestation are being identified.



*Weed free and healthy*

Maintenance work will continue and additional funds will be allocated to bush regeneration in the upper portions of Middle Creek and the Nareen Wetlands, Oxford Creek and Deep Creek. A Project Review Group monitors progress. *Friends* has three representatives on that committee – Judith Bennett, David Palmer and Tony Carr.

## Behind the scenes ...

Our mission is to see the remaining bushland in the catchment of Narrabeen Lagoon permanently protected. The problem is that there are constant pressures to replace bushland with urban development.

So far this year your committee has written submissions or lobbied decision makers on 15 issues – that's two a month on average!

The issues include proposals for three different retirement villages, including the \$100m Sid Londish resort proposal for Oxford Falls, various plans of management, the misallocation of funds from Crown Land sales, water quality degradation, the Koi fish farm proposal, various issues relating to planning, biodiversity and climate change, adverse recreational impacts in Garigal National Park and the urgent need for the State Government to make good on Bob Debus' 2005 promise to protect forever the 446ha of Crown Land in the Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment.

Friends thanks Committee member Ann Sharp, who works tirelessly behind the scenes on many of these issues.

## Spring – the best time to explore the catchment

**Spring Awakening on Narrabeen Lagoon** – Sun Sept 6 at 7am. Guided bird walk through the Deep Creek area with expert commentary, followed by breakfast courtesy of Warringah Council, then tour the lagoon by kayak to the Coastal Environment Centre for morning tea and a brief presentation on the ecology of the area. Paddle back to Bilarong Reserve by noon. Hire kayaks available. No previous kayaking experience required. To register email [tonycarr@ozemail.com.au](mailto:tonycarr@ozemail.com.au) or phone 0417 502 056.



Be driven to the most significant sites on a Tag Along Tour

**Tag Along Tour with Jacqui Marlow** – Sun Aug 30. This is the ideal way to experience the catchment if you are less mobile. Prius cars provided by Bill Buckle Toyota. Group meets at the Tramshed and proceeds from there. Email [jacqui.marlow@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jacqui.marlow@optusnet.com.au)

**Bushwalk with Warringah Deputy Mayor Conny Harris** – Sat Sept 12 at 9am. Catchment traverse from Oxford Falls to Deep Creek Reserve at the western end of the lagoon. Spectacular views, great exercise and interesting commentary by Conny. Email [conny.harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au](mailto:conny.harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au)

**Eco-Paddle with Friends President Tony Carr** – Sun Oct 11. Focus will be on the \$1.9m remediation programme. Departs Bilarong Reserve to both Deep and Middle Creeks. An expert speaker will talk about the ecology of the area. Hire kayaks available. No previous kayaking experience required. To register email [tonycarr@ozemail.com.au](mailto:tonycarr@ozemail.com.au) or phone 0417 502 056.

**If your postal or email address has changed, please advise us.**

## Trees or townhouses? Your support makes a difference!

To: Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment  
P.O. Box 845, Narrabeen, NSW 2101

[ ] YES! I enclose \$20 (unwaged \$10). Please enrol me as a member. My membership cheque is made payable to **Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment**. All applications for membership are subject to the approval of the committee.

I also wish to make a tax deductible donation of  
[ ] \$250 [ ] \$100 [ ] \$50  
[ ] other amount \$..... to the campaign.  
My donation cheque is made payable to **NPA-Narrabeen**.

Please print - Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone:

Email:

It will be most helpful to have your email as we often use email to communicate with members.

  
[www.npansw.org.au](http://www.npansw.org.au)

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Inc is a sub-committee of National Parks Association. Enquiries: Judith Bennett Phone: 9905 2135 Email: [sydney.educ@npansw.org.au](mailto:sydney.educ@npansw.org.au)