

News from

# Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

February 2010



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

7pm Monday February 22

Upstairs at Narrabeen Tramshed:

## Forum - 3 exciting segments:

1. Catchment DVD - world premiere
2. Can Bush and Bikes co-exist?
3. Update on Lagoon dredging



## Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment DVD

This is a really spectacular DVD concerning Narrabeen Lagoon and its catchment that was filmed during 2009. Don't miss it.



*Erosion caused by irresponsible biking activities*

## Can bush and bikes co-exist?

Speakers:

David Yonge - representing Mountain Bikers  
Ken Higgs - discussing Environmental concerns  
Mike Baird, M.P. Manly - biking in National Parks?

What do you think about providing access for mountain bikes or trail bikes in the bush?

## Dredging plans

Hear the latest developments in the ongoing saga of "to dredge or not to dredge" Narrabeen Lagoon with Warringah mayor Michael Regan and Angus Gordon.

We expect a big crowd on Feb 22 so put it in your diary and register now with Jenny Wilson on 0414 735 350 or email [sydney.educ@npansw.org.au](mailto:sydney.educ@npansw.org.au). Refreshments will be served and entry is free. A donation to cover hall hire would be appreciated.

Our next Forum will be on Monday May 24 and will focus on our major objective of protecting the remaining bushland around the lagoon.

## Beacon Hill Retirement complex gets thumbs down

Following submissions from *Friends* and other interested parties, Commissioner Hussey in the Land & Environment Court refused a development application for a 66 dwelling retirement village at 70A Willandra Road.

He did so primarily on the grounds that the proposal represented an overdevelopment of the site due to its scale, height, the extent of the proposed modification of the landform, environmental impact and visual impact. However, the Commissioner indicated that a smaller proposal might be successful. The land contains good bushland and rock outcrops and is habitat for threatened species.

The owners of an adjoining piece of bushland are now seeking approval for a development. *Friends* sent a written submission against this proposal because of the proposal's impact on bushland.

## Ongoing maintenance needed

*Friends* is concerned about the need for continuing maintenance of the remediated areas around the lagoon when the \$1.9m Urban Sustainability Grant runs out in April 2011 and is pressing Warringah Council for a commitment.

In response to a submission from *Friends*, Gareth Curtis, Manager of Natural Environment, says Council will "consider funding ongoing bush regeneration works and education through the annual Environmental and Stormwater Rate". The catchment works will be considered alongside Warringah's overall bush regeneration projects, "ensuring priority areas are dealt with first with \$1.5m available each year for the next 3 years".

*Friends* call for Council to commit now to adequately fund maintenance and extend the current works.

Bush regeneration is progressing well at Middle Creek but will need years of continuing effort.



Friends committee members inspect the work being done along the Wakehurst Parkway

## Autumn at Narrabeen Lagoon

Two big events are planned for Sunday March 21 and you are invited to attend. Councillors Conny Harris and David James will lead a walk entitled **Around Narrabeen Lagoon**, which will start at Pro-Kayaks, near the Tramshed. Historical information will be provided by Cr James and you'll have the opportunity to practice plant identification. You may have to take your shoes off and wade through shallow water, but there will be no slopes. Starts at 9am and takes 4 hours. Grade medium. Register: [conny.harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au](mailto:conny.harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au)

At 7am on the same day, *Friends* President Tony Carr will host a combined **walk, paddle and presentation**. First a guided birdwalk through Deep Creek, led by Field Ornithologist Ricki Coughlan then breakfast courtesy Warringah Council and a paddle to the Coastal Environment Centre for morning tea and a talk about the area. Back to Deep Creek by noon. Kayak hire is \$48 (\$43 for *Friends* members). No previous kayaking experience required. Email [tonycarr@ozemail.com.au](mailto:tonycarr@ozemail.com.au)

## More exploring opportunities

Sunday February 21 at 9am Cr Conny Harris offers a new walk, **Cromer Heights Circle**. Starting at Cromer Rd, the walk will traverse the high cliffs overlooking the Wakehurst Parkway. Some blossom will be out and you'll experience our most precious vegetation community, containing the heart-leaved stringybark.

Email [conny.harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au](mailto:conny.harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au)

**Eco-Paddle with Tony Carr** on Sunday March 28. Focus will be on the \$1.9m remediation programme. Departs Bilarong Reserve to both Deep and Middle Creeks. Louise Egerton, author of the newly published book **Wildlife of Australia** will talk about the birds and animals that make the catchment their home. Hire kayaks available – no previous paddling experience required. Great fun! Phone Tony on 0417 502 056 or email [tonycarr@ozemail.com.au](mailto:tonycarr@ozemail.com.au)



Natural History Writer Louise Egerton (centre, in green) kept kayakers enthralled at Friends Jan 24 Eco-Paddle  
Kayaks supplied by a company independent of *Friends*.

You don't have to live in the catchment to be a member.  
If your postal or email address has changed, please tell 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 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.



Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Inc is a sub-committee of National Parks Association.  
 Enquiries: Judith Bennett  
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