

August 2012



Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment



www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au

Next Forum

Meet the candidates

Narrabeen Tramshed
Pittwater Road, Narrabeen
7pm Monday August 27, 2012

Book your tickets now. Phone: 9905 2135
Email: Judith Bennett <email@narrabeenlagoon.org.au>

This is your opportunity to ask questions of the people who are standing for election in the councils that have jurisdiction over Narrabeen Lagoon and its catchment. Dr Judy Lambert will chair the meeting. Send your questions to the email address above to be collated before the evening. We have extended the time for lodging questions through to Aug 9.

Annual General Meeting

After the coffee break on August 27 we will hold our Annual General Meeting at which we elect a new committee. We would be interested to hear from any of our members who are willing to be nominated to help with research, writing letters, maintaining membership database, preparing submissions or organising forums. Use the email above to notify us if you could help with one of those tasks. Thank you in anticipation.

November 26 Forum Narrabeen 2050

This is a most important forum—we need to understand what is coming our way and what we can do about it. Bring your questions and comments and be ready to contribute to the discussion.

Come and hear Brad Hazzard, MP, and Angus Gordon elaborate on what Narrabeen Lagoon and catchment could look like by the year 2050, what needs to be done now to meet the known challenges and bring about the best outcomes.

Land claims delay State Park

Aboriginal land claims on the lagoon and surrounding areas have brought planning for Narrabeen State Park to a halt. Pittwater MP Rob Stokes told us: "Whilst the delay is regrettable it's bitter sweet, as the pending claims help prevent any unwarranted development to the lagoon and its surrounds. It's essential we follow the correct procedures and respect the claims to enable the smoothest possible transition towards a State Park." In the meantime *Friends* supports the concept of creating a Narrabeen State Park Steering Committee.

A tale of two bridges



Bridge over Narrabeen Lagoon being repaired but not widened

Mike Baird, MP has proposed three solutions to Northern Beaches road chaos. All involve widening the Pittwater Rd Bridge at Narrabeen to three lanes in each direction. The bridge is currently being strengthened and repaired - but not widened. *Friends* believes none of the proposals will make much difference to those who live north of Manly and have to travel into the city regularly. It will still be a long, hard haul at peak. We call on the Treasurer to be bold - to build a bridge at Spit like the one across the Woronora River in Sutherland Shire or construct the long discussed tunnel connecting Seaforth with the Warringah Expressway. Now these initiatives **would** make a difference!



Why not rebuild Spit Bridge in the style of the Woronora Bridge? Warringah Council will shortly place on public exhibition designs for the new bridges over Middle and South Creeks for the multi-purpose trail.

Warringah drags chain on dredging

Warringah Council has adopted a three part plan that could see the lagoon dredged in 2014. *Friends* supports the plan but believes the timing could be cut by as much as 12 months, given that a good deal of the information now sought has been collected before and is in council's possession. Stage 1 - community consultation, has been completed, showing that 51% of the broader community supports dredging while 22% oppose. 81% believe it important there be no environmental impacts. *Friends* position is consistent with this finding - that dredging should only occur if safeguards are in place to protect the environment. Stage 2 will identify the areas to be dredged and Stage 3 design and implementation. A budget of \$150,000 is available for Stage 2; funding has yet to be allocated for Stage 3.

Narrabeen Lagoon catchment activities

– bushwalks, a kayak trip, cycle session or tag along tour

Friends has organised a series of spectacular events to celebrate the wonders of this beautiful part of Sydney. These activities are FREE but you must register in advance. All participants will receive a free DVD – “Caring for our Catchment” and a map.

Cromer to Oxford Falls Bushwalk – Sun Aug 5

On this 4-hour walk, Councillor Conny Harris will take you to the most endangered vegetation community in Warringah. Focus will be on *Rutaceae*. See heart leaved stringybark and other flowers. Meet at Cromer Rd, where the track starts. Meet at 10am. One way so carpool will be organised. Grade Medium, with some ups and downs. Phone 0432 643 295.

Email conny.harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au

Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment traverse – Sun Sept 9

Councillor Conny Harris will lead this 4-hour bushwalk, starting at 10am from outside 27 Morgan Rd, Belrose, proceeding into Garigal National Park and concluding at Oxford Falls. Explore some of the area's best bush tracks, visit the Deep Creek waterfall. Identify flora and fauna. Grade Medium with some inclines. Carpool back. Phone 0432 643 295. Email conny.harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au

Beginner Cycle Skills Session and Ride Around the Lagoon – Sat Sept 29

Sydney Bike Skills hosts this fantastic morning on wheels, suitable for anyone with a mountain bike equipped with knobby tyres (not slicks). Starting at Jamieson Park at 9am, there will be a 90 minute recreational bike skills session followed by a ride around the lagoon. The skills session will cover bike safety, gear selection, correct riding position, and controlled braking etc. The session finishes around 11.30am. Phone Lisa on 0414 517 756 to register. Email [Lisa McHarg <sydneybikeskills@gmail.com>](mailto:LisaMcHarg<sydneybikeskills@gmail.com>)

Eco Paddle on Narrabeen Lagoon – Sun Oct 14

Tony Carr, President of Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment, will lead this paddle to both Deep and Middle Creeks. The Lagoon supports a wide range of threatened flora and fauna, but is under threat of urban development. Beautiful Deep Creek attracts migratory birds from as far away as Russia and Middle Creek has recently been the subject of a substantial remediation programme. A relaxing 2 to 3 hour paddle. Grade Easy - no previous kayaking experience required, tuition given. BYO boat or hire for \$55 per person. *Kayaks provided by an organisation independent of Friends* Email tonycarr@ozemail.com.au or call 0417 502 056.

Tag Along Tour – Sat Oct 27

Here's a great way to see the catchment. You can drive or be driven to see significant areas and learn about the issues, the threatened species and the campaign for Narrabeen State Park from Friends committee member Jacqui Marlow. Meet 8.45am at the Tramshed carpark. Finishes at noon. Coffee afterwards. Phone 9913 8031. Email [Jacqui Marlow <jacqui.marlow@gmail.com>](mailto:JacquiMarlow<jacqui.marlow@gmail.com>)

REGISTER TO ATTEND - DON'T JUST TURN UP ON THE DAY.

Wildlife in the catchment

During July, 16 wallabies were killed on roads in Narrabeen Lagoon catchment—several of these were mothers with joeys. Drivers really MUST slow down. Powerful Owls are nesting in Jamieson Park. Black Swans are back on Narrabeen Lagoon.

Friends commends Warringah Council on clean up of Wimbledon Island. It is looking so much better.

Dee Why to Narrabeen Lagoon Pathway



The new shared cycle and walk way from Dee Why to Narrabeen Lagoon is complete and well sign-posted. Have you tried it out yet? It starts at Dee Why Surf Club and meets the Jamieson Park track in South Creek Road. Work on the trail around the Lagoon is continuing with revamped Middle Creek Reserve opening mid August.

Trees or townhouses?

Your support makes a difference!

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

- YES! Enrol me as a member. I enclose
 \$85 for 5-yr membership (unwaged \$40)
 \$20 for 1-yr membership (unwaged \$10)

Please make membership fee cheques payable to *Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment* or make a transfer to BSB 802 147 Account 43591. Thank you.

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.
Make donation cheque payable to **NPA-Narrabeen**.
Thank you.

Please print - Name:

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Address:

.....

..... Postcode:

Phone:

Email:

It will be most helpful to have your email address as we often use email to communicate with members. If your postal or email address has changed, please tell us.



Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Inc is associated with National Parks Association. Enquiries: Judith Bennett Phone: 9905 2135 Email: sydney.educ@npansw.org.au