



Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment



www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au

Narrabeen State Park is finally here!



Friends celebrate Narrabeen State Park with Rob Stokes, MP

Friends President Tony Carr paid tribute to our 1,246 members and supporters for their enthusiasm and encouragement during the campaign. "This is an important step in fulfilling the organisation's primary goal, which is to secure permanent protection for the remaining bushland in the Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. It demonstrates the State Government's willingness to legislate for environmental protection."

April 1, 2014 – a day of celebration for *Friends* as Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner announces the establishment of Narrabeen State Park. The new Park incorporates Narrabeen Lagoon and surrounding areas, which will include all of the multi-purpose trail around the lagoon foreshores. Mr Stoner said the creation of the Park reflected the significance of the lagoon and surrounding public lands to the people of NSW. A map of the park can be found on the *Friends* website.

Friends attention will now focus on the Gai-mariagal proposal for an Aboriginal owned National Park over much of the land under threat in the catchment. Last week members of the committee met with Government representatives to move this forward. *Friends* is supporting the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council proposal, which is now under consideration by the Government.

Next Forum

Guringai Heritage and Shared History

7pm Monday May 26, 2014
Narrabeen Tramshed
1935a Pittwater Rd, Narrabeen

Learn from Neil Evers and Julie Janson about proposals to erect dual signage, see examples of interpretive walks and dual signage that acknowledge Aboriginal archaeology, shared history and use of the natural environment.

Clair Jackson will show recent local Aboriginal artwork.

Jenny Harris will talk about the proposal for adaptive re-use of Waratah Park in relation to Gai-mariagal Aboriginal Owned National Park.

Free entry but book your tickets now. Phone: 9905 2135
Email: [Judith Bennett <email@narrabeenlagoon.org.au>](mailto:Judith.Bennett@narrabeenlagoon.org.au)

NSW Planning Bills

During March, the proposed Planning Bills were to have been the subject of debate in NSW Parliament. There have been wide-spread protests about these proposed changes throughout NSW led by the Better Planning Network in which over 400 community groups are affiliated. *Friends* has provided financial support for this campaign.

State Government will appoint an Advisory Committee that will include community members to set the direction for the new park.

Banner no longer needed! Rob Stokes MP, who championed the State Park concept for us and Friends President Tony Carr put the scissors through a campaign banner.



Safety Fencing installed on bridge

It is pleasing to see that safety fencing, campaigned for by *Friends* members Jim Somerville and Michael Bucknell has now been installed on both sides of the Pittwater Road bridge where it crosses Narrabeen Lagoon. The fencing protects pedestrians and cyclists from road traffic.



Make the most of Autumn outdoors!

Oxford Falls Triangle - Sat Apr 12

This walk is slightly shorter than most we do so if you prefer an easier walk, join Conny Harris at 10am next to 27 Morgan Rd on the Slippery Dip Track, Belrose, for a wander through this pretty area. With the agreement of National Parks & Wildlife Service, we will pull out a few weeds in appreciation of this gorgeous environment. Phone Conny 432 643 295

Eco Paddle on Narrabeen Lagoon – Easter Mon April 21

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 starting at 1pm. Easy - no previous kayaking experience required, tuition given. BYO boat or a hire kayak can be arranged.

This paddle is being repeated on Sunday April 27 at 1pm and Sunday June 15 at 1pm

Email tonycarr@ozemail.com.au or call 0417 502 056.

Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Traverse - Sat May 3

Conny Harris will lead this 4-hour bushwalk, starting at 10am from 27 Morgan Rd on the Slippery Dip Track in Belrose and proceeding into Garigal National Park. It will conclude at Oxford Falls. On this favourite walk, you'll explore some of the area's best bush tracks, visit the Deep Creek waterfall and identify flora and fauna. Grade Medium with some inclines and beautiful views. Carpool back. Phone Conny 0432 643 295

Guringai Festival Bushwalk to Carvings – Sun June 15

Timed to coincide with the Guringai Festival, this walk will include a visit to the best known carvings in the area. Led by Conny Harris, it will start at 10am next to 27 Morgan Road on the Slippery Dip Track at Belrose and proceed into Garigal National Park. See the Deep Creek waterfall, enjoy great views and appreciate the beautiful flora and fauna. Grade Medium with some inclines. Carpool back from Oxford Falls. Phone Conny 0432 643 295.

REGISTER TO ATTEND - DON'T JUST TURN UP ON THE DAY. NUMBERS ARE LIMITED AND TOURS GET FILLED

Kayaks provided by an organisation independent of Friends.



The stone beds on the banks of Middle Creek are where the new bridge supports will rest

Warringah Council says the multi purpose trail will reopen before the end of the year and will include bridges over both Middle and South Creeks. *Friends* plans to conduct regular walks around the lagoon once the trail re-opens.

Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment - unique



Australian Museum specimen of Brookvalia gracilis Photo by G.C.Clutton

Brookvalia gracilis is one of no fewer than twenty-eight species of fossil fishes found at the former quarry that was at the top of Beacon Hill where there is now a sports field. This site was, in ancient times, the bed of a lagoon surrounded by sand hills. Another interesting species found at Beacon Hill is *Ceratodus formosus* which is of fairly common occurrence in Triassic rocks.

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