

July 2014



Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment



www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au

Next Forum Bugs and Beetles

7pm Monday Aug 25, 2014
Narrabeen Tramshed.
1935a Pittwater Rd, Narrabeen

Martyn Robinson from the Australian Museum will explain the roles of various invertebrates in the ecology of Narrabeen Lagoon catchment.

Learn from Neil Evers the meanings of local Aboriginal place names.

Our 2014 Annual General Meeting will be after supper.

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



Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment - unique



This new genus of Cicada was found by the Insect Society in 2009 at Red Hill in Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. Photo: Dr Ross Perry

Thank you Tony

At last year's AGM, Tony Carr told us this would be his last term as president. Tony has been a dynamic leader of Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment since 2006, taking the size of the organisation from 25 members to the current level of 347 members and 936 supporters.

Under his positive leadership, we have lobbied in various ways for the protection of the environment and it was a delight to see Narrabeen State Park declared in April 2014. His focus on providing outdoors activities to engender an appreciation of what we are trying to protect continues to be an outstanding success.

Thank you Tony, and we are glad you are willing to serve as a member of our 2014/15 committee.

Catchment protection - where to now?

The declaration of Narrabeen State Park takes us an important step closer to achieving total environmental protection for the remaining bushland around the lagoon. *Friends* is expecting to serve on a Steering Committee that will determine the make up and function of a Trust that will manage the new 470 hectare park, which includes the lagoon itself.

Friends is now lobbying on two fronts for protection of the remaining pristine bushland in the catchment and to keep it out of the hands of developers. A year ago the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council announced its intention to create a new Aboriginal owned National Park called Gai-mariagal, that would include lands currently under claim. *Friends* has actively supported the proposal as it would immediately secure a further 1,000 hectares. In mid July we had an introductory meeting with Nathan Moran, the new CEO of the Council and we will continue to press for this solution at both State and local government level. There is also the opportunity to enlarge Narrabeen State Park to include Crown lands not currently part of it and discussions with Rob Stokes, the new state Minister for the Environment and our local member, are progressing that concept as well as the Gai-mariagal Aboriginal-owned National Park.

Last month we decided to form an Alliance of community groups supportive of the Gai-mariagal proposal and we are delighted that so far several significant groups have signed on. This now operates as a sub-committee of *Friends*, under the chairmanship of Ron Patton and will strengthen our lobbying efforts. Meantime, we've had assurance from Rob Stokes that government remains committed to the permanent protection of the remaining bushland in the catchment. But much work has still to be done to get us across the line and you can help by writing in support of these proposals to

**The Premier of NSW,
PO Box 5341, Sydney 2001**

and copy

**Rob Stokes MP,
1725 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale 2103**



Free bushwalks and kayak tours

Celebrate the declaration of Narrabeen State Park by joining Conny Harris on one of her catchment walks or Tony Carr on an eco-paddle to see the more than 50 Black Swan now on the lagoon. These activities are free and open to everyone, but you must register in advance.

[Cromer Circle Bushwalk – Sat Aug 2](#)

This walk circles around the high ground of the catchment on the southern side, with beautiful views and surprisingly different vegetation in comparison to the northern section. Cross Warringah's most endangered vegetation – the "Heart-leaved Stringybark Community". Meet at 10am on the bend of Cromer Road, up from the golf course. Allow 4-hours.

[Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Traverse – Sun Aug 31 or Sun Sept 21](#)

This 4-hour bushwalk will start at 10am from 27 Morgan Rd on the Slippery Dip Track in Belrose and proceed 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. Sept 21 walk starts 8am and finishes at 1pm with lunch at Deep Creek.

[Threatened Species Day Mini Walk - Sun Sept 7](#)

There are records of an astonishing 39 Commonwealth-listed Threatened Species in the catchment, including 16 plants, 6 birds, 5 frogs, 2 fish, 8 mammals and 1 reptile. On this walk plants will be identified – bring your camera. Meet next to 27 Morgan Rd in Belrose at 10am. Concludes at 12.30pm.

[Eco Paddle on Narrabeen Lagoon – Sun Sept 28, or Sun Nov 23](#)

Black Swan have returned to the lagoon after 20 years – come and see these majestic creatures! This paddle will visit the Western Basin, Deep and Middle Creeks. Beautiful Deep Creek attracts migratory birds from as far away as Russia and Middle Creek has been the subject of a substantial remediation program. A relaxing 2 to 3 hour paddle starting at 1pm. No previous kayaking experience required, tuition given. BYO boat or a hire kayak can be arranged.

[Cromer to Oxford Falls Bushwalk - Sat Oct 4](#)

On this 4-hour walk you'll see the most endangered vegetation community in Warringah. Focus will be on *Rutaceae*. See heart leaved stringybark and other spring flowers, still hopefully about. Meet at Cromer Rd, where the track starts, at 10am. One way so carpool will be organised. Grade medium with some ups and downs.

[Oxford Falls Triangle Bushwalk – Sun Nov 16](#)

This walk is slightly shorter than most we do and suitable for the family. So if you prefer an easier walk, join us at 4.30pm next to 27 Morgan Rd on the Slippery Dip Track, Belrose for a lovely wander through this pretty area. With the agreement of National Parks & Wildlife Service, we will pull out a few weeds, to express our appreciation of this gorgeous environment.

Bushwalks: Call 0432 643 295 or email conny.harris@gmail.com

Kayaking: Call 0417 502 056 or email tonycarr@ozemail.com.au

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.

Your committee at work ...

In the last financial year, since June 2013, we have written many formal letters and submissions under the leadership of Ann Sharp and Jenny Harris.

The issues about which letters and submissions were written are proposals for Changes to NSW Planning Laws, Horse-riding in Garigal National Park, Deferred land in WLEP in Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North, Gai-mariagal Aboriginal-owned National Park, Mona Vale Road widening and wildlife corridor, Willandra Rd hostel, EIS for Northern Beaches Hospital site, Lantana Rd subdivision, Cromer Golf Club rezoning of land, Narrabeen Lagoon dredging, Kimbriki Rd development and Aboriginal signage around Narrabeen Lagoon.



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 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:

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..... Postcode:

Phone:

Email:

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



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