

February 2022

**Friends of
Narrabeen
Lagoon
Catchment**



Next Forum

**Zoom Meeting
7pm February 28**

<https://www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au>

**The Pan Gnammas, Rock-gardens, Rainforests and
Conifers of the Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment**



Jayden Walsh

Ecologist and local resident Jayden Walsh will be leading us on a journey through the Narrabeen Lagoon catchment, taking us to some of the most interesting and varied places in the area.

After a decade of intensive off-track exploration within the catchment, Jayden will show many photos and talk about places, plants, animals and history rarely encountered by most due to their remoteness and difficult terrain.

From pan gnammas of the ancient sandstone escarpments to rainforests only several thousand years old, the diversity of the area's landforms and soils dictate an ever-changing and rich diversity of life.

The beauty of our Catchment will be revealed in a presentation not to be missed, so come and hear Jayden discuss some of the many reasons we fight to protect our area.

Speaker: Jayden Walsh



**Pan gnamma in
Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment**

Pan gnammas occur across Australia, mainly in granites and sandstones. They typically are water holes in rock surfaces with steep or sloping sides, flat floors, depths up to about 25 cm but more usually around 10cm.



**Sandstone overhang
in Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment**

Don't miss it! Register now. By emailing
email@narrabeenlagoon.org.au

Northern Beaches Council - Opportunities for comment

Northern Beaches Council have a number of documents currently open for public comment. Some of these have direct relevance to our mission—which is to seek environmental protection for the remaining bushland in the catchment of Narrabeen Lagoon.

We are working on submissions on your behalf but it would be good if you could make comment in your own name as well, on issues that impact the environment we so much value. If you think your comments on any of these issues could be representative of this whole group, then please email them to email@narrabeenlagoon.org.au for inclusion in our group submissions.

Environmental Study

Comments due by Feb 13

This document outlines environmental values and issues and suggested solutions for the whole of the Northern Beaches. It is an important step between the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) which was developed with community consultation recently and the preparation of the new Local Environment Plan (LEP) for the Northern Beaches. We want the LSPS included in the new LEP so that it can be directly referenced in legal cases.

We are commenting that the recommendations need to be translated into the LEP in legal language that can be upheld in the Land and Environment Court. It has cost this community dearly to have had “loopholes” in the wording of the current LEPs that the legal representatives of developers have exploited to bypass the intent of the actual LEP. If you agree, then please put in a personal submission—even a short comment can help.

Community Engagement Policy and Strategy

Comments due by Feb 10

We are working on this one but have to be honest when we say that Covid-19 issues and Christmas holidays have not been conducive to preparing submissions. If you can have a look and make comment, please do.

Active Transport

Comments due by Feb 18

This one is important for people living in the Northern Beaches area— reducing the impact of cars by providing more walking and cycling options helps the environment. This current set of plans are for areas within the built environment so is not so directly connected to our mission.

Recently, on your behalf, we prepared a submission concerning the proposal for a cycling/ walking track from Frenchs Forest to Narrabeen Lagoon and we have had a response from Northern Beaches Council assuring us that any environmental impacts will be seriously considered and minimised. (e.g. We have asked for the cycleway to be alongside the road with safety barriers installed between cars and bikes rather than going directly through bushland. Let's see what the final plans are.)

Community Strategic Plan

Comments due by March 2

This plan considers federal, state and regional strategies and plans and serves as the overarching document that guides the development of all of Council's strategies and plans, including Council's four-year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan. We have not begun to look at this on your behalf yet but we urge you to look at it and make comment if you can.

Feral Animals

There seems to have been an increase in the sightings of foxes in Narrabeen Lagoon catchment recently.

Foxes have been spotted along the banks of South Creek, along the north shore of Narrabeen Lagoon and further up in the catchment.

Northern Beaches Council needs to increase the funding allocated for control of foxes and other feral animals. It is an ongoing problem that needs continual funding.

If you see a fox, call Council's Service on 1300 434 434 or download the [Foxscan app](#), with information that helps land managers reduce the damage that foxes can cause.



Fox near Narrabeen Lagoon Photo: Stephen Baldwin



Fox with its bandicoot kill Photo : Lisa L. Wynn

Meanwhile

here are some welcome native water birds



Grebe swimming in Narrabeen Lagoon Photo: Marg Woods



Great Egret in the reeds of Narrabeen Lagoon
Photo: Marg Woods

Bushland or urban developments? Your support makes a difference!

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

- YES! Consider me for membership. I enclose
 \$85 for 5-yr membership (unwaged \$40)
 \$20 for 1-yr membership (unwaged \$10)
 \$5 for student membership

Free for students of environmental science

Name of College: _____

Please make membership fee cheques payable to
Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment or make a
transfer to BSB 512 170 Account 3043591. Thank you.

Members need to support our mission to protect
bushland in Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. Applications
for membership need to be approved by the committee.

I support FoNLC mission
Please sign here

I wish to make a donation of
 \$250 \$100 \$50
 other amount \$..... to the campaign.
Thank you.

Please print - Name:

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Address:

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Phone:

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