

News from

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

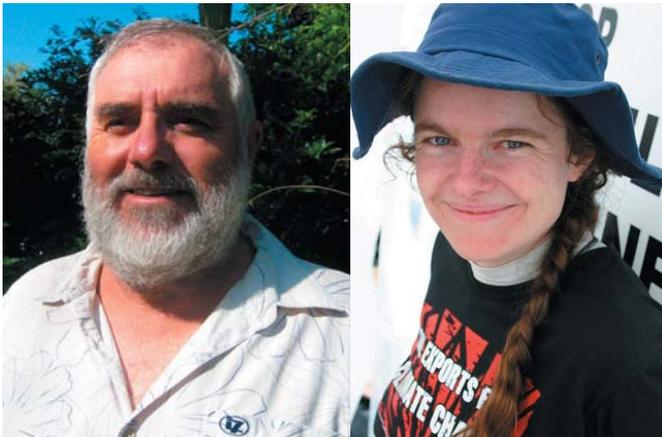
December 2007



Forum 3: February 28 from 7-9pm
upstairs at the Tramshed

The Keys to Crown Land Conservation

We're committed to achieving total bushland protection for the Narrabeen Lagoon catchment and at our next Forum, we'll look at how it's done. Guest speaker Georgina Woods, Crown Lease Project Officer for the National Parks Association, will review successful Crown Land conservation elsewhere in NSW. You'll hear how the Hunter Community Environment Centre got substantial areas transferred to National Parks last year.



Guest speakers Angus Gordon and Georgina Woods

On the same evening, Angus Gordon, Chairman of the Narrabeen Lagoon Restoration Project, will present the approved plans for the essential dredging and other remediation works on the waterway itself. Blayne Petrowicz, Warringah and Pittwater Council Project Officer, will detail a new programme of catchment events for 2008. The Forum will be held at the Tramshed and admission will be by donation (\$5 suggested). Light refreshments will be served and to help us cater we'd ask you to let us know you're coming – call Ian Hehir on 0412 460 565 or email Judith Bennett – sydney.educ@npansw.org.au

At Forum 2 on October 16, Blayne Petrowicz and James Brisebois outlined the components of the new Urban Sustainability Project. Angus Gordon talked about the science behind the Narrabeen Lagoon Restoration Project and Susan Moylen-Coombs inspired us by explaining how together we are "caring for country".

Lots more Eco-Paddles, Bushwalks and Tag-Along Tours coming your way

The best way to appreciate the beauty and uniqueness of Narrabeen Lagoon catchment is to get out and experience it first hand. Tours organised by *Friends* over the last 6 months have been hugely popular – and as mentioned, a vastly expanded programme will be offered in 2008, thanks to a joint programme being developed by *Friends* and Warringah and Pittwater Councils.

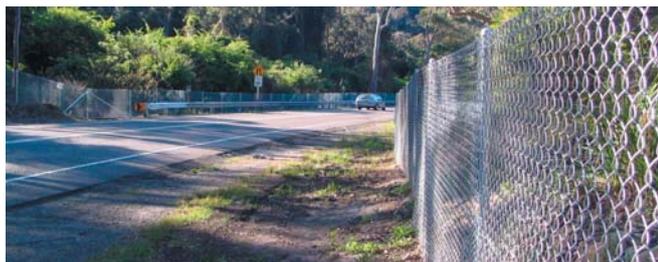


On Saturday December 22, the Tag-along Tour postponed from earlier this month because of bad weather will be held, starting at 9am. Car-pooling will be arranged. This will be led by Friends committee member Jacqui Marlow – Jacqui.marlow@optusnet.com.au or call 9913-8031 to register. Three more Eco-Paddles have been scheduled, the first focusing on Mullet Creek and the other two on Deep and Middle Creeks. On the January 20 paddle, Marita Macrae, President of the Pittwater Heritage Association will briefly discuss the ecology of the area and on March 8 and April 13 paddles to Middle and Deep Creeks, Fiona van Dort from the Coastal Environment Centre will give a short talk. Hire kayaks \$40pp (members \$35). Friends President Tony Carr is leading the paddles. You must register, don't just turn up on the day. Please contact Tony at – tonycarr@ozemail.com.au or call 0417 502 056.

Fence reduces roadkill to zero!

The wildlife protection fence erected on the Wakehurst Parkway near the Lagoon two months ago is doing the job, according to *Friends* Jacqui Marlow, who monitors the area: "There have been no animal fatalities in the fenced section since it was installed – in marked contrast to the situation on Mona Vale Road." Monitoring is continuing. At the Middle

Creek bridges checks are being carried out to see if animals are being funnelled by the fence to the underpasses and away from the road.



Crown Land Questions in Parliament

In response to questions raised in Parliament concerning the Crown Lands in this catchment, Minister Kelly stated that the Plan of Management process for Oxford Falls Crown Reserve would officially begin in early 2008. Meanwhile, we have established a subcommittee to work with the Department of Lands and Warringah Council in the preparation of this Plan of Management. The minutes of our first meeting have been sent to both authorities whose staff members have also met with each other concerning this process. For a copy of the minutes email sydney.educ@npansw.org.au

We are grateful to Rob Stokes, MP for Pittwater and one of our most active supporters, who has organised to table a petition on our behalf in State Parliament calling for an extension to Garigal National Park to provide environmental protection for bushland in Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. Our thanks also to the 200+ people who have signed the petition. If you would like to, email tonycarr@ozemail.com.au.

Warringah Council initiatives

Every council in NSW is required to rewrite their LEPs using a template supplied by Planning NSW. Warringah Council is halfway through this process and want Planning NSW to examine their draft and approve it for public comment. As this was an item at a recent Warringah Council meeting, the draft is available on the Council's website, where you can access it. On your behalf, we expressed concerns about some items, in particular lands in Oxford Falls Crown Reserve that have been gazetted by the Department of Lands for environmental protection are proposed to be rated E3 – Environmental Management, rather than E2 or E1, which guarantee higher levels of environmental protection.

The recommendations from the South Creek Flood Risk Study have been written into a Flood Risk Plan and were available for public comment in November. Your committee submitted some comments in favour of what was being proposed but asking a few extra questions. The cost/benefit analysis judged modifications to Lidwina Place Reserve not justifiable on economic grounds, so in Autumn we will probably resume bush regeneration along South Creek banks in that Reserve.

We need your help ...

Website Content Editor – we are continually grateful to Radek Cerny who has created, hosts and maintains our website. We need someone to help collating information for the website, ensuring it is up to date and writing the copy for Radek to present. The person needs to be able to use email and word processing, work in a team environment and have an eye for public relations and promotion. Ability to prepare web pages would be a plus but not essential.

Video Production – we'd like to assemble a production team to make a video reflecting the natural and cultural values of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. If you have skills in this area, please contact us.

We Need Your Support! Join Friends of the Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

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 cheque is
made payable to
Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment.

I wish to make a tax deductible donation of:
 \$250 \$100 \$50
 other amount – \$to the campaign.
My cheque is made payable to
NPA-Narrabeen.

All applications for membership are subject
to the approval of the committee.

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone _____

Email: _____

It will be most helpful to have your email address as we are increasingly using emails to communicate with members

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon
Catchment is supported by
National Parks Association



National Parks Association
www.npansw.org.au/narrabeen
Enquiries: Judith Bennett,
Phone: 9905 2135 Email: sydney.educ@npansw.org.au