

News from

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

November 2008



www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au

Year of action planned

2009 will be a decisive year in *Friends'* efforts to ensure the long term protection of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. Our main focus will be on ensuring the 446ha of Crown Land at the western end of the Lagoon is secured for future generations.



Paspalum spraying is well underway on Middle Creek as part of the \$1.9m regeneration process

We want to see a regional park established on the land absorbed into Garigal National Park. At our September Forum Andrew Cox, Executive Officer of National Parks Association, and other speakers provided clear focus on where we should concentrate our efforts. We will continue to engage Warringah and Pittwater Councils, the Department of Lands and National Parks & Wildlife in an effort to ensure permanent protection.

We know how important it is to engage the community in this process. There will be four public forums, on February 23, May 25, August 24 and November 23 and more of our popular educational bush walks, eco-paddles and tag-along tours.

The \$1.9m Sustainability grant expires in 2011. Our former Treasurer Ian Hehir has agreed to return to the committee to look at funding options so this excellent work can continue beyond 2011. Contact us now if you can help us seek funding.

Forum 7 – Monday February 23 Lagoon Under Threat - Town houses replacing trees?

Warringah Deputy Mayor Conny Harris and *Friends* Committee Member Jacqui Marlow will examine the ecology of the catchment and explain what needs to happen to ensure the retention of essential flora and fauna - based on a paper they recently prepared for the *Zoological Society*. Representatives from the Coastal Environment Centre will amaze you with the diversity of the catchment ecology and you'll understand why any further residential development must be resisted.



Fiona van Dort (right) from the Coastal Environment Centre uses a scale model of the catchment to explain its ecology to visiting Eco-Paddlers

Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment Education Officer Blayne Petrowicz will give an update on the Sustainability program. The meeting starts at 7pm and is free to members – we ask non members for a donation to help cover hall hire (\$5 suggested). Venue is again The Tramshed.

Aboriginal Land Council Claim

At the Warringah Council meeting this month it was confirmed that the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council is claiming the floor of Narrabeen Lagoon.

Belrose Tip - not for mountain bikers

Friends joined *Belrose Rural Community Association* in campaigning for the conversion of Belrose Tip to an area for mountain bikers and horse riders to avoid further degradation of Garigal National Park in the Lagoon catchment.

Davidson MP Jonathan O'Dea, *Friends* President, Tony Carr, and committee members were at the tip on November 10 to hear that its life will be extended and the site sold to raise funds for State Government. As Mary Armstrong, President of the *Belrose Rural Community Association*, put it – "After years of planning we're back to square one!"



Belrose Tip - 180,000 tonnes of landfill is headed its way

Explore!

There's no better way to explore the beautiful Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment than on a *Friends* Bush walk, Eco-Paddle or Tag along tour. Bushwalk with Warringah Deputy Mayor Conny Harris - Sat Feb 28. To register email conny.harris_1@bigpond.com Eco-Paddle with *Friends* President Tony Carr – Sun Jan 18 or Sun Feb 15. *Autumn Event*, combined guided Birdwalk & Eco-Paddle, on Sun March 8. Discounted hire kayaks available, no previous paddling experience necessary. Email tonycarr@ozemail.com.au Tag along tour with *Friends* committee member Jacqui Marlow (cars provided by Bill Buckle Toyota) on Sun Feb 22. jacqui.marlow@optusnet.com.au

Lagoon Restoration Project

Angus Gordon has resigned from this project. Pittwater Council will now manage the project and appoint a new Chairman soon.

Good News!

Dept of Lands has commissioned a team to clear weeds from the firebreak on their land in Wheeler Creek Valley behind the houses in Maybrook Ave.

Dept of Lands is due to start preparing the Plan of Management for the Oxford Falls Regional Crown Reserve. Be ready to become involved in workshops on this issue.

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
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National Parks Association.
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