News from

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

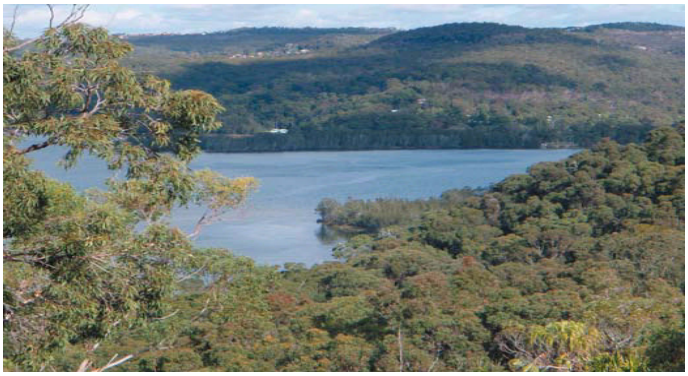
February 2010

www.narrabeenlagoon.org.au

7pm Monday February 22
Upstairs at Narrabeen Tramshed:

Forum - 3 exciting segments:

1. Catchment DVD - world premiere
2. Can Bush and Bikes co-exist?
3. Update on Lagoon dredging



Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment DVD

This is a really spectacular DVD concerning Narrabeen Lagoon and its catchment that was ýlmed during 2009. Donût miss it.

Erosion caused by irresponsible biking activities

Can bush and bikes co-exist?

Speakers:
David Yonge - representing Mountain Bikers
Ken Higgs - discussing Environmental concerns
Mike Baird, M.P. Manly - biking in National Parks?

What do you think about providing access for mountain bikes or trail bikes in the bush?

Dredging plans

Hear the latest developments in the ongoing saga of "to dredge or not to dredge" Narrabeen Lagoon with Warringah mayor Michael Regan and Angus Gordon.

We expect a big crowd on Feb 22 so put it in your diary and register now with Jenny Wilson on 0414 735 350 or email **sydney.educ@npansw.org.au** Refreshments will be served and entry is free. A donation to cover hall hire would be appreciated.

Our next Forum will be on Monday May 24 and will focus on our major objective of protecting the remaining bushland around the lagoon.

Beacon Hill Retirement complex gets thumbs down

Following submissions from *Friends* and other interested parties, Commissioner Hussey in the Land & Environment Court refused a development application for a 66 dwelling retirement village at 70A Willandra Road.

He did so primarily on the grounds that the proposal represented an overdevelopment of the site due to its scale, height, the extent of the proposed modiýcation of the landform, environmental impact and visual impact. However, the Commissioner indicated that a smaller proposal might be successful. The land contains good bushland and rock outcrops and is habitat for threatened species.

The owners of an adjoining piece of bushland are now seeking approval for a development. *Friends* sent a written submission against this proposal because of the proposalûs impact on bushland.

Ongoing maintenance needed

Friends is concerned about the need for continuing maintenance of the remediated areas around the lagoon when the $1.9m Urban Sustainability Grant runs out in April 2011 and is pressing Warringah Council for a commitment.

In response to a submission from *Friends*, Gareth Curtis, Manager of Natural Environment, says Council will "consider funding ongoing bush regeneration works and education through the annual Environmental and Stormwater Rateò. The catchment works will be considered alongside Warringahûs overall bush regeneration projects, ñensuring priority areas are dealt with ýrst with $1.5m available each year for the next 3 yearsò.

Friends call for Council to commit now to adequately fund maintenance and extend the current works.