

News from

# Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

October 2007



## How the \$1.9m Remediation Grant will be spent – Forum 2, Tuesday October 16 from 7-9pm at the Tramshed

Full details of the planned restoration of the lagoon and catchment will be revealed at our next Forum, to be held at the Tramshed on Tuesday October 16. Recently appointed Warringah and Pittwater Council Project Officers, Blayne Petrowicz and James Brisebois will present the 3-year Business Plan for the Sustainability Grant. We'll find out what's to be done and when. At the same meeting Angus Gordon, Chairman of the Narrabeen Lagoon Restoration Project, will review progress on plans for the dredging of the waterway. Angus gave a very enlightening presentation at our first Forum in February. There will be ample opportunity for questions throughout the evening. If you share our concern for the health and wellbeing of the lagoon and catchment make sure you are at this important meeting. To help us cater please let us know you are coming - phone Ian Hehir on 0412 460 565 or email Judith Bennett: [sydney.educ@npsnw.org.au](mailto:sydney.educ@npsnw.org.au).



More Eco-Paddles – Nov 11th and Jan 20th

## Catchment tours a sell-out so more are planned – and you can register now!

Responses to our Tag-along Tour, bushwalk and Eco-Paddles in recent weeks have been overwhelmingly positive - so we are running more. Participants have been taken to areas to be remediated as part of State government grants awarded in the last year. We had fun, too. Friends objective in organising these activities is to help people appreciate the unique value of the area and the threats posed by inappropriate residential development or lack of maintenance.

Registrations are now being taken for two additional Eco-Paddles, on November 11 at 1pm and January 20 at 9.30am. The first will visit Middle and Deep Creeks, the second Nareen Creek. Hire kayaks are \$35 per person (email [tonycarr@ozemail.com.au](mailto:tonycarr@ozemail.com.au) or phone 0417 502 056 to book). Another Tag-along Tour will take place on December 1. Car pooling will be arranged. Email [Jacqui.marlow@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Jacqui.marlow@optusnet.com.au) or call 9913-8031.



## Bushwalking

In spite of early rain, an intrepid bunch set off on 9th Sept for what proved to be a spectacular bushwalk led by Conny Harris and Ken Higgs from Belrose to Deep Creek providing panoramic views over bushland in the catchment and scenic gems along Deep Creek – such as the waterfall in the photo. The Spring wildflowers were stunning.

There are some lovely bush tracks in the Narrabeen catchment and we'll walk some of them again on December 9. Please register by emailing [conny.harris\\_1@bigpond.com](mailto:conny.harris_1@bigpond.com) or call 9451-3231. Be sure to register for these events – don't just turn up on the day.

## August River Red Gum Dinner

This enjoyable Dinner Dance organised by Conny Harris and the Save the Styx Committee raised a substantial amount towards the NPA campaign, which, through court action, has resulted in the cessation of logging red gums along the Murray River until an Environmental Impact Statement is prepared. An additional local focus from the Dinner resulted in a contribution of \$1500 to the Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. Thank you Conny!

## Walkway round the Lagoon

For many years various people and groups including Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment have been lobbying for a formalised walkway to circumnavigate the lagoon. Presently it is possible to walk around the southern side through Jamieson Park, but the route through the golf course, Academy of Sport and particularly along the Wakehurst Parkway where walkers have to walk on the road, can be dangerous.

Jim Somerville raised the subject at our recent 2nd Anniversary function stating that finding a route past the Academy that ensures the safety of children and the retention of its boatshed is the main stumbling block. Negotiations are underway between Warringah Council and that organisation.

## 2nd Birthday and our 100th member

We had a great night on September 18. Rob Stokes, MP for Pittwater, gave us valuable pointers on how to achieve environmental protection for Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment. We'll be following his advice. Rob has prepared a petition asking that the government act on the commitments made by the former Environment Minister Debus regarding the protection of land in the catchment. You will have the opportunity to sign the petition at Forum 2.

Mark Edwards presented highlights from the impressive early days of the Narrabeen Lagoon Committee – 1977/8. Friends appreciate the support from members of the original group. We elected a new executive – Tony Carr President, Conny Harris Vice President, Ian Hehir Treasurer, Mary Armstrong, secretary and committee members Judith Bennett, Ann Sharp, David Palmer, Barry Morris, Jacqui Marlow and Rosemary McCulloch. We enrolled our 100th member – congratulations Kevin Yeats.

## Oxford Falls Crown Reserve

We met with Dept of Lands staff members and have discovered that the environmental assessment promised by Ministers Debus and Kelly in April 2005 for the Oxford Falls Crown Reserve has not yet begun. The recently completed Don Fox Planning Report turns out to be an assessment of building entitlements for this land, not an environmental assessment. We object to any selling or lease of this public land for housing. A Plan of Management for the Oxford Falls Crown Reserve needs to be written involving public comment and all our members need to think about the elements the plan should cover. Contact Judith Bennett at [sydney.educ@npansw.org.au](mailto:sydney.educ@npansw.org.au) with your ideas.

## NE Subregional Metropolitan Strategy

We have recently assembled a comprehensive submission calling for "whole of government" support for this Metro Strategy that states that there is no need for non-urban land

to be used for residential purposes for the next 25 years. We want the Department of Lands to cancel their plans to sell or lease non-urban crown land for dwellings in accordance with the Metro Strategy.

## Roadkill Mitigation – a win!

The wildlife protection fence between the two culverts is in place. Jacqui Marlow is monitoring whether more animals are now going through the culverts under the Wakehurst Parkway and whether or not there is a reduction in roadkill at this part of the Parkway.

## 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](http://www.npansw.org.au/narrabeen)  
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