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BUSH RANGER

Newsletter of the
Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

June 2014

Next Meeting

Tues 10 June 7.30pm

(Please note: we will NOT be meeting at the Library this winter! – so please wear warm clothing as our meeting room is chilly): -

Lane Cove Tennis Club, Blaxlands Corner,
Kenneth St & River Rd.

This is how you can represent our society to the wider Lane Cove community. We would love it if members donated a couple of hours of their time to get involved in society activities.



Tea and coffee is provided at Bush Kids activities.
Members attend free.
Non-members, \$5 per child.
Please book your attendance:
contact Alyson
alyson@lanecovebushkids.com.au.



Watch this space:

It's all happening with our society

Lane Cove Bush Kids has made the front page of the North Shore Times after it became a finalist in this year's World Environment Day Awards, in the Sustainability Education category.

The Awards are organised by the United Nations Association of Australia. The winners will be announced at a presentation ceremony in Sydney on Friday, June 13.

From a seed of an idea by three young mums in 2010, the fun and educational environment-themed activities held in nearby bushland enjoyed "unexpected popularity".

The group would like to hear from others wanting to start a similar program in their own area. For more information: enquiries@lanecovebushkids.com.au.

Calling all members to support the work of Bush Kids by attending one of their activities (see below).

Night Light 5-10 yrs Sat 7 June 4.30 - 6.30pm

After building a fire we will make lanterns to take on our night time walk through the bush. BYO picnic dinner and we will toast marshmallows by the fire. YUM!! Venue TBC.

Fantastic Fungi 3-5yrs Friday 13 June 10 - 11.30am

Lane Cove Bushland Park, Ronald St Entrance, Osbourne Park. Did you know that the LC Bushland Park is Australia's first Fungi heritage site? Let's see how many we can spot on this loop track. Includes story, walk and craft.

Damper at Dusk Sunday 22 June 3 -5pm

(NOTE \$10 per family) Activities for 3-10yrs but whole family welcome. Come and join us. There will be damper making, songs and games. Aquatic Park, Longueville. Contact alyson@lanecovebushkids.com.au

Bush Care (Adults) 1st Thurs each month 9.30am -12.30

Lovetts Reserve, Lane Cove West. This is a fun hands-on activity. No experience required. We have a supervisor from Council on site.

In other news:

Kirsten Mawby has taken up the position of Manager Open Space. The first meeting with BMAC in May was intended as a meet and greet session with Kirsten and an opportunity for the members to raise and discuss issues of importance to them.

These important issues include: wildlife protection areas, land acquisition, development and its impact on bushland and pressure on open space, stormwater and sewerage, fire management, budget and maintenance issues associated with our bushland.

Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

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Our new website manager

Welcome to our new website manager, **Bridget Kennedy**.

Fire management in urban areas

New assessment personnel in the Rural Fire Service are requiring larger areas to be treated as asset protection zones, which bring a threat to the viability of our small reserves.

At the current time any complaints to LCC are assessed by Hornsby RFS. Due to staff changes at Hornsby, LCC is encountering some recommendations which it regards as unsuitable in our limited bushland reserves. LCC intends to lodge an appeal.

World Parks Congress – Sydney 12-19 Nov

Apply to be a volunteer before 13 June, and you could attend this Congress for free. This is the world's premier gathering of people involved in parks and protected areas.

Details are provided, and applications should be submitted, via the World Parks Congress website. Organised by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW and IUCN National Committee for Australia.

Trade Agreement – Willoughby Council concern

On 26 May, Willoughby Council noted the secret national trade negotiations Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). These have the potential to restrict local government in its operations and options.

Policies which encourage local employment; support local economic and industry development and encourage good employment practices and initiatives, as well as encouraging good environmental practices and initiatives, could be vulnerable under the TPP agreement.

WEPA talk Tuesday 15 July 8pm, Glenaeon School Hall, 121 Edinburgh Road (opposite The Parapet), Castlecrag. Contact www.wepa.org.au 9438 4073. Casual visitors welcome.

Professor Lesley Hughes will speak on **Climate Change and Australia's Biodiversity: will it survive?**

Professor Hughes will outline the latest climate trends and impacts in Australia and globally and outline how our biodiversity is already being affected.

She will then consider what sort of impacts we might expect in the future, and what will be needed to help our species and ecosystems be resilient and adapt.

Community Groups: Recognition by Council (What Council wants to know, continued)

We have had some correspondence with Councillor David Karpin on this matter and include it for the information of members:

From: David Karpin date: 27 April 2014 :

Regarding the comment in your May Newsletter concerning Council requirements for Grants, etc.

do you give your money, or more importantly, other peoples money, to any organisation without

1. knowing who they are, and
2. whether they have adequate governance to manage your gift, and
3. whether they have adequate financial records?

I and my fellow Councillors think it is good practice to ensure our Ratepayers' funds are expended wisely. We believe the questions above will help ensure our responsibilities to Ratepayers are properly acquitted.

I would believe it would be appropriate for this reply to be published in the next edition of your Newsletter.

Yours sincerely,
Councillor David Karpin

In response, we have asked Councillor Karpin to clarify which information a community group needs to provide **in order to be 'formally recognised' by Council**

We would also like to know what 'formally recognised' actually means as this terminology was mentioned in Council's original motion.

Would, for example, a church group be required to be 'formally recognised' before they could comment on Age-Friendly Lane Cove Policies?

