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BUSH RANGER

Newsletter of the
Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

July 2018

CHANGE OF VENUE FOR WINTER

THIS AUGUST 2018, the Society meets at
the Lane Cove Library
Longueville rd., Lane Cove

CHANGE OF TIME FOR NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 14 August, 7pm – 9pm

Meetings held every 2nd Tuesday of the month,
except January
Anyone is welcome to attend



2018 EVENTS:

- 1st & 3rd Sundays each month 2- 4pm.
Repair Cafe
- Sunday 5th August – Lane Cove Coal & Gas
Watch stall @ Hunters Hill Moocooboola
Festival (see below).
- Sunday 19th August- 10am North Head guided
bushwalk. See abundant Spring Wildflowers!
- Sat. 8 Sept. 2018, 9 am-12. Volunteer for our
Spring Native Flower Stall - Lane Cove Plaza.

Contents:

Sydney North Planning Panel Decision
266 Longueville Road, Lane Cove - DA 117/2017

Northwood/ Blaxland Corner, Proposed
Residential Care Facility at Northwood Shops

The Regional Forest Agreements and
Integrated Forestry Operations Approval

Threatened Species Children's Art Competition -
Tell the KIDS!

North Head Sanctuary

Best Spring Wildflower Bushwalk

Sunday 19th August from 10.00am - 2.00 pm
(or leave earlier). Meet 10am at the North Fort free
carpark in North Head Sanctuary, Manly.
This can be accessed via Darley Street and North
Head Scenic Drive from Manly.

Join us for a free, guided spring bushwalk in a
beautiful native plant sanctuary at North Head. The
Society's native plant experts will guide this easy walk
where an abundance of amazing native plants are
now in bloom and the ocean and Sydney Harbour
views are most spectacular. A photographer's delight!

North Head Sanctuary is a heaven where natural
heritage and Australian history combine. Bring your
own lunch, water, hat, camera, sunscreen.

DO Please Book or inquire: Ron or Barbara Gornall
Ph: 94271125 or email rongornall@hotmail.com
Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society.

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The site for the proposed Northwood-Blaxland Cnr development is right of the intersection

Sydney North Planning Panel Decision

266 Longueville Road, Lane Cove - DA 117/2017

When the development for multi-story aged care units/facilities at 266 Longueville Rd was considered at the Sydney North Planning Panel on 11 July, Doug Stuart spoke on behalf of the Society. It was previously the Womens' Bowling Club site and recently the Lane Cove Music and Cultural Centre. The Societies letters and submissions in response to the Development Application and amendments, written by Doug, date from Sept. 2017 and detail our concerns and opposition to sections of this proposal. Yet, the Society has been concerned about this Council owned site since the Major Projects Strategic Plan of 2007.

We are primarily concerned with the cumulative effect - that the precedents set in the assessor's report can be applied to all future development applications.

Our concerns include height exceedances, tree removal and non-compliance with building set-backs and setbacks to protect E2 zoned bushland, and community access - that "the line of the proposed walking track to the golf course facilities should be defined prior to any work on the area....."

On 12 July, after four hours (5–9pm) of public submissions, the Planning Panel retired to make a determination. It was published on the web the next day that the development has been deferred with a number of conditions to be fulfilled and new plans submitted by 24th August with a new assessor's report by 21st Sept. 2018, after which there will be another public hearing.

There is no mention in the changes suggested for the extra floor to be removed, for the setbacks above the 4th floor to be made or for a setback from the bushland, although there is to be an ecological impact statement which may include these changes. The assessor is to take into consideration the points made at the public hearing in his new assessment.

We can now only wait and see what eventuates from this determination. Many people are pushing another public exhibition but, if there is one, it may be short as the assessor has only 4 weeks to complete his report and would have to see the submissions. **All Submissions can be found on our website under the 'Communications' tab:** <http://lanecovebushland.org.au/>



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BUSHRANGER

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Northwood/ Blaxland Corner Proposed Residential Care Facility at Northwood Shops

In our April 2018 Bushranger we reported on this Planning Proposal - not a DA, to build a Residential Care Facility on 'Blaxlands Corner' near the junction of River Rd and Longueville Rd. Because the site is zoned 'Neighbourhood' which allows for shop-top housing, it requires a Planning approval from Council for a rezoning to allow 'Aged-Care'.

The property is not far from 266 Longueville Rd and also adjoins bushland, which the Society actively seeks to protect at this early stage of a development process.

The proposal was refused by Lane Cove Council and the proponent was asked to re-submit a new Planning Proposal that has to go through the Gateway system again with a reduced height and Floor Space Ratio (FSR) as well as a 10 m setback to the land zoned E2 Bushland-Environmental Conservation.

It was double the permissible FSR, and over the permissible height limit. The 10 m setback is a necessary buffer to ensure run-off from the yard or residence and light spill from windows into bushland don't degrade the remnant bushland habitat for native fauna and flora.



The Regional Forest Agreements are Driving Our Wildlife to Extinction Integrated Forestry Operations Approval

Changes to the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (IFOA) remove existing protections of ecologically sustainable forest management and increases logging of koala and threatened species habitat.

The Society registered its strong opposition to the Government's proposed changes to the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (IFOA) and support for recommendations made in Ewan Waller's report into the Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) consultation.

In June, we reported that the Coalition govt. was negotiating to extend the RFAs for another 20 years.

The proposed changes to IFOA removes existing protections of ecologically sustainable forest management by proposing the clear-felling of 140,000 hectares of coastal forests between Grafton

**Lane Cove Coal & Gas Watch
LCCGW stall at the Hunters Hill
Moocooboola Festival on Sunday 5th August.**

**Volunteers for 2 hour shifts between
9.00am - 4.00pm would be much appreciated
Email: Sallykennedy123@hotmail.com**

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and Taree; 'remapping and rezoning' old-growth for logging; reducing headwater stream buffers; permitting the logging of giant trees and approximately doubling the intensity of logging in the 'selective harvesting zone'.

The new IFOA will increase the impacts of logging on threatened species, such as the loss of hollow-bearing trees and bell-miner associated dieback. The intensive harvesting zone will destroy almost half of the mapped high-quality koala habitat in state forests.

The best use of forests is to protect the wildlife that we value and that the tourism industry depends upon; protect the water supplies that our communities rely on and store the carbon that is driving climate breakdown. Polling in the electorates of Ballina and Lismore show that 90% of people agree. Yet the new IFOA directly undermines all of these imperatives, just to meet unrealistic wood supplies for a few short years.

Our Submission called for an end to the IFOA, and an end of the Regional Forest Agreements so as to transition out of native forest logging on public land and implement positive alternatives like National Park Association's [Great Koala National Park](#) and [Forests For All](#) proposals.



Read about NPA's alternative plans and for more information on this issue go to NPA's website: <https://npansw.org/npa/campaigns/end-native-forest-logging/> Also, Consider donating to this worthy cause.

If you value nature, have writing/ editing/ web skills, an interest in environmental management, planning, architectural skills, or just helping on stalls etc., join with society members to further these interests!

Become involved in campaigns to hold the Government accountable for the environment. Our Submissions can be found under 'Communications' on our website: <http://lanecovebushland.org.au/news/>

Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals are to regulate environmental planning and assessment, protection of the environment and threatened species conservation in native forests on public land.

7 IFOAs in NSW play a key role in the daily planning and activities of the Forestry Corporation of NSW (www.epa.nsw.gov.au).



NSW Forestry Minister, Paul Toole has unveiled **changes to the Coastal IFOAs that include merging the existing four zones into one that covers the entire NSW coast**, and also starting a new mapping exercise "to gain a better understanding of key state forest sites".

Kate Smolski, chief executive of the NSW Nature Conservation Council, said "Removing old-growth classification through the remapping project could make thousands of hectares of previously protected high-quality wildlife habitat available to the timber industry" (Hannam, 16 May, SMH).

Threatened Species Children's Art Competition- **Tell the KIDS!**

The 2018 competition will be open to children 5-12 years old in NSW and the ACT with winners announced on Sept. 7, Threatened Species Day. At least fifty finalists' works will hang in a two week exhibition in September.

Ph: 0414 958 714 02 806 88805

<http://www.threatenedspeciesartcomp.net.au> Follow the competition on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/289862308022985/>