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BUSHRANGER

Newsletter of the
Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

**Next Meeting 7.30-9.30pm
Tuesday 14 May**

Lane Cove Tennis Club,
Blaxlands Corner
Kenneth St & River Rd, Longueville
All welcome

Events

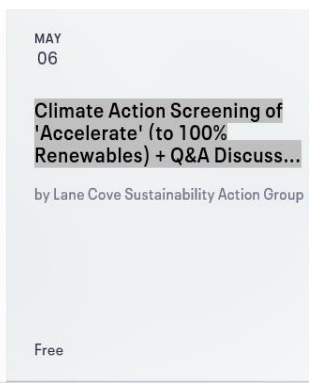
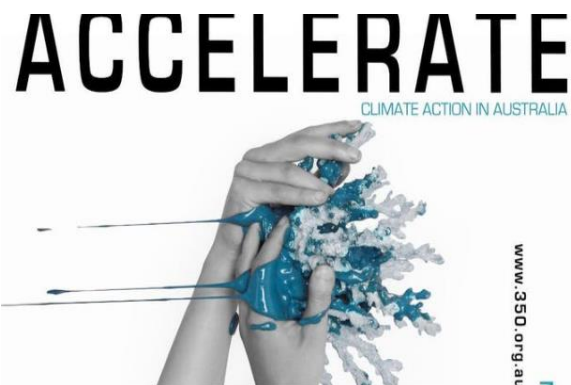
Mon. 6 May, 6:00 – 8:00pm: 'Accelerate' climate film & Q&A
with Dr. Mark Diesendorf

Sundays 5 & 12 May, 2pm to 4pm: Repair Café

Mon. 13 May: Submissions close on 1 Sirius Road
development in bushland

Wed. 15 May, 2 -7pm: Lane Cove Community Group Expo

Mon. 27 May: Reconciliation Day



Lane Cove Library,
Longueville Rd, Lane Cove

Bookings: Eventbrite:
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/climate-action-screening-of-accelerate-to-100-renewables-qa-discussion-tickets-59801544028>

Monday 6 May, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

The Lane Cove Sustainability Action Group is hosting a free screening of **'Accelerate' (a Climate Action Film)** followed by a **Q&A panel discussion with Dr. Mark Diesendorf**.

'Accelerate' follows **Bill McKibben, the founder of 350.org**, during his 2018 tour in Australia as he demands that we accelerate climate action by our government, businesses and communities. Bill is considered as one of the most acclaimed environmental activists in the US.

During his time here he visited five states in just eight days, saw the devastation caused by ocean warming on our Great Barrier Reef, visited Newcastle to meet with union and government officials in the heart of the world's biggest coal export port, and saw some of the low carbon solution projects underway in Adelaide.

Bill had three key messages: we need to stop all new fossil fuel projects, switch to 100% renewable energy, and make sure not a dollar more goes to dirty energy.

Dr. Mark Diesendorf is an Australian academic and environmentalist well known for his work in sustainable development and renewable energy. His current research is on climate mitigation, especially transitioning electricity supply systems to 100% renewable energy.

Mark was previously a principal research scientist at CSIRO and is now involved with colleagues in the Centre for Energy & Environmental Markets at UNSW in scenario development, computer simulation modelling and energy policy. He has written several books, his most recent, *'Sustainable Energy Solutions for Climate Change'*.

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URGENT! Preserve Our Wetlands and Bushland

Write a Submission before 13 May on Proposed Lane Cove West Data Centre



1 Sirius Road, Lane Cove West - State Significant Development 9741 (SSD 9741) proposes the construction and 24-hour operation of a Data Centre on existing wetlands. It includes

- a four-storey industrial building for use as a data storage facility
- ancillary office space across two levels and
- supporting infrastructure and services.

You can view the raft of documents and plans (over 1000 pages) and make a Submission at:

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/9381>

Some summary points below could be used to guide you:

The Society opposes this overdevelopment of the site because:

- The development is too large for the site and will remove 73% of the trees, with many exotics or weeds (privet, camphor laurel) left remaining.
- Massive excavation and the massive fill required for hard surfaces (parking/services) will affect surface and sub-surface water flows to, and important for, the adjoining wetland areas.

- The landscape area includes a 4 m wide fire trail and mown grass which will not provide native vegetation, and new planting is restricted due to bushfire protection requirements.
- The stormwater disposal needs to be revised to protect the bushland and wetland areas adjoining the development.

Smut to the Rescue - Biocontrol agent for Trad, Coming Soon!

Wandering Trad (*Tradescantia fluminensis*) is native to South America but it's a major environmental weed in eastern New South Wales, the moist wet forests of south east Queensland and Victoria's Dandenong Ranges region. It forms a dense cover on a forest floor, reduces native vegetation and clogs waterways and can also cause skin irritations to domestic pets.

CSIRO will soon be releasing a Brazilian leaf smut fungus (*Kordyana brasiliensis*) that kills *Tradescantia fluminensis*. We are assured that "the fungus cannot survive unless it is growing within the leaf tissue of trad". In addition, scientists have been performing experiments under quarantine conditions to verify that plants closely related to Trad are unaffected.

CSIRO expects to release the smut in NSW sometime after June this year, and has agreed to keep LCB&CS informed. Read the full article:

https://blog.csiro.au/smut-to-the-rescue/comment-page-2/?utm_source=Snapshot-April-2019&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=Snapshot#comments



Dr Louise Morin tests leaf smut on Trad. in CSIRO bio-secure facility Canberr

LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS EXPO

Wed 15 May, 2-7pm

The Terrace Function Room

Lane Cove Community Hub – 1 Pottery Lane.

The 'Getting Involved Expo' will showcase the exciting opportunities and range of activities offered by community groups for people of all abilities and ages.

LCBCS VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Society will have a stall and highlight the work it does, give away Bushwalks of Lane Cove and sell our handmade cards, encouraging others to join.

If you can spare an hour, call Ron Gornall to get on the roster. You will be guided in what to say- It's FUN & EASY!
Ron: 9427 1125 (first) or 0405 722 980

Minister Stokes! Stop Uncontrolled Development

Prohibit Complying Multi Dwelling Houses in Low Density Residential Areas

As a matter of urgency, the Society has written to the new Minister for Planning, the Hon. Rob Stokes about the Planning Proposal from Lane Cove Council (LCC) to change their LEP 2009. The Society requests the Minister endorse the Proposal from LCC to prohibit "Multi Dwelling Houses" in R2 residential zone in their LEP 2009.

We support Council in their endeavours to protect the character and amenity of the municipality. The new Complying Medium Density Housing Code's uncontrolled development would devastate the low density residential areas of Lane Cove with loss of trees, vegetation and green space.

Please write to Minister Stokes asking him to approve LC Council's application to remove Multi Dwelling Houses from their LEP. The Minister needs to know that we care for our environment.

On 12 April 2019, The Land and Environment Court dismissed a claim lodged by the City of Ryde that the NSW Government's Medium Density Code be ruled invalid.

The City of Ryde commenced proceedings in the Court on behalf of residents over the Code, alleging the government failed to consider certain environmental issues it was legally required to undertake before implementing the code.

Sadly, the last NSW Labor government was responsible for introducing the 'complying development code' (CDC for single houses), a process that has been enthusiastically continued by its successors.



Medium density development – Image from smh.com.au

This new housing code adopted by the Berejiklian government in April 2018 [will allow CDC approval of medium-density housing](#) – terraces, dual-occupancy dwellings or manor houses that contain three to four dwellings in order to increase the amount of it in Sydney.

As a regulatory process, the CDC is highly unsatisfactory. **Certifiers are private companies contracted by the developer. Supposedly independent, their first loyalty is to their client rather than to the public interest** (from SMH article below).

For background go to: *'Changes to development rules play into hands of developers - and will leave neighbours out in the cold'* by David Dixon, a professor at UNSW Law:

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/changes-to-development-rules-play-into-hands-of-developers-and-will-leave-neighbours-out-in-the-cold-20180406-p4z83u.html>

OUR NATIVE PLANT STALL 30 MARCH 2019



The Society is again so thankful for the many volunteers who made our March plant stall such a success, and to Ruth Neumann for once again organizing the selection, labelling and many other jobs that make for a successful stall. It was great to have several new members helping, bringing their horticultural knowledge that greatly assisted and engaged the community.

Despite a wet start, we still sold about 90% of the plants and engaged with a diverse range of people interested and curious about our local native plants for balconies, food and backyards. Our gift cards also attracted interest and buyers.

It was terrific to have Robbie along again with his insect hotels and able to discuss the benefits of insects in our gardens. His horticultural tips were a bonus at the stall. As well as a creator of bee/insect hotels, Robbie is also a green wall specialist, horticulturalist at Cornucopia and runs Gecko Plantscapes.

I hope that new and regular volunteers are available for our September stall – mark the date: **Saturday 7 September in the Plaza**. Thank you again for your enthusiasm and hard work in enabling our plant stall to work so smoothly.



We welcome you for **free repairs**. Donations are welcomed.

Date & Time: Sunday 5 & 12 May 2 - 4pm
(Always 1st & 2nd Sunday each month)

Place: Living and Learning Centre, 180 Longueville Road, Lane Cove.

Parking: free all day on Longueville Rd or 3 hours free in Little St Car Park

Inquiry-Contact: Wendy 94204884 or 0410280912

Email: enquiries@repaircafesydneynorth.net

Website: repaircafesydneynorth.net or visit our Facebook page



The NPA environmental book club is a place for members to discuss and gain a deeper understanding of the natural environment. Each six weeks our friendly gathering considers a book with an environmental theme and shares ideas.

If this appeals to you then we would be very pleased to have you join in. At the next meeting on Wednesday 8th May we will be discussing *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson 6:00-8:00pm at the NPA office:

Suite 1.07, 55 Miller St, Pyrmont.

RSVP President@npansw.org.au

To find out more about the benefits of joining NPA go to <https://npansw.org/npa/join/>