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BUSHRANGER

Newsletter of the
Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

MAY – JUNE 2022

Go to [our Facebook](#) or [Website](#)
to keep up to date!

Next Meeting Tuesday 14 June 2022

7pm – 8.40pm

**Lane Cove Library Meeting Room
Longueville Rd**

Winter meetings (Tuesday 14 June, 12 July and 9 August) will be held in the warmer venue of the Lane Cove Library, starting earlier at 7pm and finishing earlier too.

As the library's IT facilities allow visuals to be shown to accompany the issues we discuss, it has been booked for all meetings this year. All welcome, we need your input!

Diary Dates

Gai-mariagal Festival 2022

The Festival starts on **Sorry Day, 26 May** and ends the second week in **July**, with **NAIDOC Week**. It aims to raise awareness of First Nations People living in the Northern Sydney region, with 11 councils participating.

Animals of the Dreaming: Saturday 25 June,
10:00am – 11:00am, Lane Cove Plaza

Meet native animals. Dreamtime stories and songs by Brewarrina Aboriginal Elder Col Hardy OAM.

Council's Plans, Budget, Fees & Charges

Have your say by [Completing the online survey](#). Alternatively, you can make a submission to the General Manager quoting the reference 'SU8775', by Post: PO Box 20, Lane Cove 1595 OR Email: service@lanecove.nsw.gov.au. **Consultation finishes on Tuesday 7 June**

Content

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Sediment damaging bushland – report
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State capture by development industry – talk
A win for trees at St Leonards – update
Repair Café is back! 5 and 12 June – book first

North Head Scenic Guided Bushwalk Sunday 14 August



The LCBCS Walks Committee is planning a walk at North Head in August with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy and National Parks and Wildlife Service as possible leaders.

The regeneration and flowering following the fires there a while ago is of interest. Look out for any earlier walks on [our Facebook](#), Website and Bushranger newsletter

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SEDIMENT DAMAGING BUSHLAND

The Society has contacted the Council, including the General Manager and Mayor, about environmental damage from the development of 'Pathways Aged Care Facility' at Blaxlands Corner (River Rd).

The developers have already received numerous fines from Council for breaches of their consent conditions, impacting the bushland corridor below, including a \$6,000 fine for breaching the property boundary and an \$8,000 fine for polluting waters in breach of an Act.

Our concern about sediment and run off from development sites extends to 266 Longueville Road, land owned by Lane Cove Council and once a women's bowling green, then the music and cultural centre.

It was leased to Australian Unity who have re assigned the 99-year lease to the Pathways organisation, who have indicated they intend to build a seniors community facility on the site, which similarly sits above the bushland corridor and Golf Course.



Council has received \$32.5 million approx. in rent which has been earmarked to fund the Sport and Recreation facility. We can only hope greater care will be taken about excavation, run off and sediment than at the Blaxlands Corner site.



Alice with Kerrie McKenzie, 1998

VALE ALICE BEAUCHAMP

It is with regret that we mark the passing of Alice Beauchamp, a member of the Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society since the early 1970s and who, with her husband Herbert, was a tireless campaigner for the environment and social justice.

Alice and her family arrived in Australia as refugees from Nazi Germany, and Alice was an active supporter of refugee causes and of human rights groups such as Amnesty International. She built a new life in Australia, running a successful business of colourful Indian hand-crafted clothes and accessories that were a new fashion.

Alice was a founding member of the Lane Cove Residents for Reconciliation (1997), much appreciated for her dedication, also voluntarily tutoring young Aboriginal students in literacy. Together with Herbert, she advised LCB&CS on tactics and strategies in local elections for many years, was active in supporting LCBCS members in Lane Cove Council campaigns, and maintained an interest in politics all her life.

Condolences from us to her two children, Toni and David. Alice was one of a kind!

SPORT & RECREATION FACILITY LOCATIONS AND BUSINESS CASE UPDATE

Three members of the Society spoke at the Public Forum, on Thursday 19 May (7pm), the new Ordinary Council meeting day, about various aspects of the Officers Report 'update' regarding the 'Location and Business Case' for the Sport and Recreation Facility on the site of the current Lane Cove Golf Clubhouse.

A big thank you to member Catherine Briggs who, for the first time, represented the Society in the Public Forum. Most speakers addressed this issue, including Jacky Barker, publisher of 'In the Cove'.

The Society has sent submissions and letters to Lane Cove's General Manager and Councillors over several years about the environmental impacts of the design and access road for the Sport & Recreation Facility, specifically due to the loss of over 100 trees, including a remnant stand of Sydney Turpentine and Ironbark trees that were to be removed for the Stevenson Street access road, an offshoot of the plan for a Northwood roundabout. **Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest is a Critically Endangered Ecological Community** with only 0.5 percent of its original extent remaining intact.

The DA was sent to the Sydney North Planning Panel (SNPP) by the previous Council in 2021, then withdrawn by the new Council in February 2022, but a new DA could come back to Council in the next few months, before going to the SNPP.

Petitioning by the Society and others concerned for bushland appears to have borne fruit with the new Council.

The community has been informed by the Mayor at public meetings that before making a final decision on the location of the Sport & Recreation Facility, if the Golf club is chosen Council is considering using the current golf course entrance on River Road for access (install traffic signals). Architects are also making changes to the design of the complex, to better accommodate the loss of the existing connected 200 person dining, bar, entertainment area, rented for functions by the community.



Improving the Sustainability of the Design

Cllr Bryla, an architect and member of the Society successfully moved an amendment that:

“moving forward with the development of the design, Council undertake a process to try and achieve the equivalent of the Green Building Council of Australia's 6 star rating system and make that available to the public for review prior to submitting the DA”.

Eight Councillors voted for the Motion. Cllr David Brooks-Horn absents himself from all Golf Course decisions (a non-pecuniary conflict of interest).



If you want Council to retain the INDOOR Community social area overlooking the greens to Bushland Park in ANY redevelopment of the Lane Cove Golf Clubhouse, hired regularly by locals (for up to 200 person gatherings), do make a NOISE- tell the GM and all Councillors with one simple email: <https://savethedancefloor.good.do>

Currently the performance/ dance floor area and comfy nightclub-like seating is connected to the bar, terrace and dining areas so that community functions, live music, and dance can thrive now and into the future.

'STATE CAPTURE BY THE DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRY?'

Elizabeth Farrelly, Rod Simpson and Tim Sneesby



Many gathered to hear three fantastic speakers at the Lane Cove Community Hub on Pottery Lane on Saturday 28 May, following the Better Planning Network AGM.

Elizabeth Farrelly, the renowned writer and former SMH columnist, **Rod Simpson** (former Greater Sydney Commission Environment Commissioner) and **Tim Sneesby** (strategic planner- Waverley Council) discussed whether the development industry has captured the State planning process.

The Society has a historical relationship with the BPN which was founded by members of the Society in 2012 in reaction to proposed state government planning legislation.

Members of the Society and others felt the legislation gave developers an open hand over the interests of the community and it seems ten years later, little has changed.

Rod began his talk by saying, "Why the question mark? There is no question that the State has been captured by the development industry." Tim was critical of what he considered a complicit media that just repeated media releases while Elizabeth, author of a new book, *Killing Sydney*, revealed she had been fired by the SMH.

She said, "We have allowed developers to convince us that high rise is the only way to provide housing affordability."

A WIN FOR TREES AND THE PACIFIC HWY, ST LEONARDS PRECINCT

Trees, or the lack thereof, also featured in the rejection of Planning Proposal No. 39, 448-456 Pacific Hwy, by all 9 Councillors. Cllrs Flood and Southwood's motion was that Council reject it in full and it not be forwarded to the Minister for a Gateway Determination, it being inconsistent with "*the importance of the precinct as a key employment centre in Greater Sydney*" and aspects of the *St Leonard's/Crows Nest 2036 Plan*:

Point 4 of the reasons for rejection specifically addressed trees and the need for jobs:

- a. **Not addressing the vision of a 'tree-lined' Oxley Street;**
- b. **Insufficient non-residential Floor Space Ratio "to meet the North District Plan high jobs target" – a key action of the 2036 Plan**



Repair Café Sydney North is open coming Sunday June 5 and June 12! We look forward to welcoming you and your broken items!

All repairs must be booked online. Go to <http://repaircafesydneynorth.net>. Scroll down the page and open BOOKING ONLINE . Or you can go to www.repaircafesydneynorth.net and open up "Book A Repair". Please read the information and follow the steps to make your booking.

There is no charge for the repairs, but donations are welcomed.

Next Openings: June 5 and June 12, 2022 (always the 2 first Sundays of the month) **Time:** 2pm to 4pm

Address: 180 Longueville Road, Lane Cove.

For more information please go to Repair café website www.repaircafesydneynorth.net or email us on enquiries@repaircafesydneynorth.net or ring Wendy on 94204884 or 0410280912.



A happy visitor had her childhood teddy fixed. Both ears were coming off and one arm torn at the top. All fixed and almost like new again!