



Killcare Wagstaffe Trust
keeping an eye on the environment

Killcare Wagstaffe Trust

Newsletter

April 2024

Annual General Meeting

The next meeting is on Sunday 19th May at 9.30 am at the Maitland Bay Centre.

It is our AGM

Guest speaker: Paula Paananen from Bouddi Wildlife

Committee report

Despite our lack of communication with members, the Committee has been active since our last letter. The Federal grant for regeneration and tree planting was completed and Dr Gordon Reid, our local Federal member unveiled the plaque near the first carpark on Beach Rd. It turned out to be his first plaque which was nice.

We have made two submissions to Council. One on the deferred zonings and another on the colourbond fence on Wards Hill Rd. The Maitland Bay Information Centre continues to be staffed with volunteers, bush regeneration continues and we have a representative on the Electrify Bouddi committee.

Accessible Trail in Bouddi NP

The Trust has been approached to help with negotiating with National Parks for the creation of an accessible trail on the Peninsula designed for people with dementia and suitable for others with mobility challenges. Bouddi Accessible Trails (BAT) committee has been formed and aims to make our community, especially the natural environment, accessible to everyone with minimal environmental impact. The group was inspired by the Ballarat Dementia Walk, Wookwookkarung Regional Park, featured on Gardening Australia .

Committee members were given a guided tour of the accessible trail, Yuelarbah, in Glenrock Conservation Area, in December last year.

Community Garden

The community garden committee is working with Central Coast council endeavouring to find a suitable site for a garden. This is proving to be very difficult. So far, we have had several onsite meetings with council officers and a meeting with Ric Hart, administrator. A suitable site is yet to be found, suggestions welcome. KWT supports the community garden project.

Maitland Bay Information Centre

The centre is open every weekend and public holidays. Volunteers deal with a myriad of enquiries including: trail distances, ease of trails, plant and bird identification, suggestions for cafes, assistance with school assignments, general NPWS information and local maps. The centre has informative displays for young and old. Local high schools use the centre as a base for excursions in Bouddi.

There have been 1300 visitors to the centre from January to March this year.

New volunteers always welcome. Contact Deb - hollodell@yahoo.com



Weeds

Senna (Cassia) is now in full yellow flower. The flower makes it a very easy target to spot. The fruit is a 10-15cm pod containing 20-40 seeds. Seed is dispersed by water, soil and garden waste.

Seedlings are easily hand removed. Larger plants can be cut or scraped and painted with glyphosate. All but the largest (and oldest) specimens can be easily cut with clippers allowing poison to be painted on the stump. If you can't remove, then be sure to remove all seed pods and place in your green bin to reduce the spread of this weed.

Over the last 10 years committee members have spent a couple of hours every couple of years removing this weed from the road verges on the peninsula. It has been an effective approach.



Senna Flowers



Senna seeds

CCC's Proposed Zoning of 'Deferred Matters' Land

Central Coast Council has decided to finalise the zoning of all the land that has been classified as a deferred matter.

Before 2006 Councils in NSW had a fair amount of discretion in how they applied land zoning in their LGA. In 2006, the Standard Instrument was legislated to implement a consistent zoning system across the State. All LGAs had to bring their zoning systems into line with new Local Environment Plans. Gosford Council complied except for a few types of zoning that covered environmental protection, almost all of which were zoned 7(a) Conservation and Scenic Protection (Conservation) and 7(c2) Conservation and Scenic Protection (Rural Small Holdings). Our COSS lands were a large part of this.

At least part of the reason for deferring the rezoning of these lands was to seek a higher level of protection for COSS lands than was available in the Standard Instrument. An extra zone was lobbied for and agreed to but never implemented. The Trust campaigned for this.

And there was the dreaded Council amalgamation. The new goal was a consolidated LEP which was passed in 2022, with the deferred matters staying deferred.

The draft proposal for incorporating the deferred matters into the consolidated LEP was exhibited last year and the Trust put in a submission. The lands on the peninsula that are deferred matters all had a 7(a) zoning. The available zonings in the Standard Instrument are C2 and C3. C2 allows eco-tourist facilities and environmental facilities and research stations and prohibits residential dwellings. C3 has a much wider range of permissible uses including veterinary hospitals, community facilities, animal boarding and training facilities.

KTW was pleased to note that many environmentally significant lots of land were scheduled to be classified as C2 under Council's proposal. However, we were concerned that six significant blocks were to be classified as C3. KTW's view is that these blocks should also be classified as C2. These are A-F in the map below.



Our reasons are:

1. Areas that are adjacent to and indistinguishable from Bouddi National Park that are currently proposed C3 should be zoned C2. It is a straightforward case of like for like. (A and B)
2. Areas that are adjacent to the National Park that contain dwellings but have largely retained their natural vegetation and provide an important buffer to the National Park. Zoning them C2 would be much more in tune with like for like. (C, E and F)
3. In some cases the distinction between proposed C2 and C3 boundaries seems to be based solely on steepness as shown by contours and has perhaps been made without ground-truthing conservation values. Just because land is more level than its adjacent C2 zoned land it does not follow that it has less environmental value. (A, B and C)

The zoning has an effect on Council's finances. Zonings that permit more uses (C3 vs C2) have a higher value which translates into higher rates. While we have no idea if this has influenced Council's decision making when allocating the zonings, we feel that financial considerations should be secondary when it comes to protecting environmentally sensitive land. Council has not announced its final assessment and zoning decisions.

Electrify Bouddi

KWT is pleased to acknowledge the emergence of Electrify Bouddi (EB) as a major environmentally focused organisation in our community. EB's prime focus is to promote unified community action to decarbonize the Bouddi Peninsular (postcode 2257). EB joins the emerging movement of regional and urban communities that are taking direct action to confront climate by reducing local greenhouse gas emissions.

See electrifybouddi.org for more information and turn up at the Electrify Bouddi Launch Party on May 4 at the Killcare Surf Club for a big day out.

Bush regeneration groups

There are several bushcare groups working in our area . New volunteers always welcome. Just turn up

<i>Dog Track</i>	Works every Monday at 1pm
<i>Killcare Beach</i>	Works every Thursday at 9am. 1st carpark on Beach Rd
<i>Putty Beach</i>	Works every Tuesday at 8:00 am Meets in dog carpark before the national park
<i>Bouddi Bushcare</i>	Works every Wednesday at 8:00 am. Working in various sites in Bouddi National Park including Putty Beach Rileys Bay , Tallow Beach. Contact NPWS

Nature Watch

<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>
Fan-tailed cuckoos calling	Echidnas mate
Xanthorea (Grass Tree) flowering -Bullimah Spur	Lyrebirds lay their one egg
Humpback whales start northward migration	Fungi are most abundant at this time
Acacia terminalis (Sunshine Wattle) flowering	Snakes begin hibernation