

WARRINGAH

matters

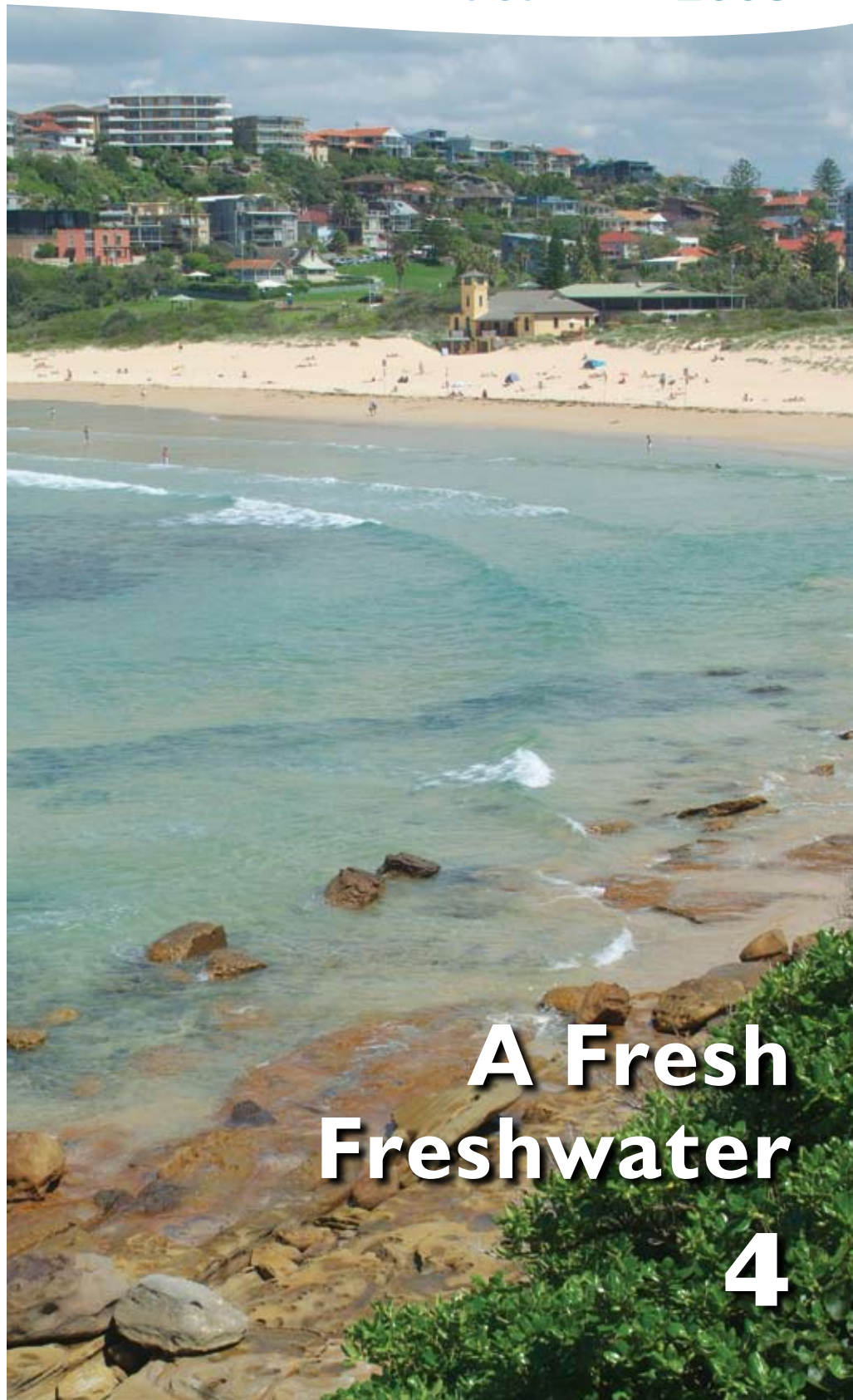
Warringah Council Newsletter
Autumn ■ 2008



Going Green
10



Glen Street
9



A Fresh
Freshwater
4

newsletter contents

- 3 GM's Message
- 3 Seniors Week
- 4 Certification Services
- 4 Swimming Pool Safety
- 5 Internal Ombudsman
- 6 Narrabeen Lagoon
- 8 Youth in Warringah
- 9 Glen Street Theatre
- 10 Greening Warringah
- 11 What's on this Autumn

Warringah Matters is printed on
100% recycled fibre including
90% post consumer waste.



Warringah
Council

“Have your **SAY**”

Warringah Council has been operating under an Administrator since July 2003 following the dismissal of the Council by the State Government. This year sees the return of Council elections on Saturday September 13.

What qualities are you looking for in your new Councillors and what will get your vote?



“I want true representatives of the people and I don't think we should have any previous Councillors.”

Bruce, Narrabeen

“Councillors need to have empathy with the needs of the elderly and children and be conscious of environmental issues.”

Joanne, Allambie Heights



“I want Councillors with some longevity to get things done. I am interested in environmental issues - especially the beaches. Also the provision of recreation and community facilities is important.”

Peter, Collaroy

“I am concerned about overdevelopment, particularly encroaching into National Parks as well as traffic congestion as a result of more people in the area.”

Maggie, Terrey Hills



A message from The Administrator



In late February the NSW Minister for Local Government, The Hon Paul Lynch, announced the dismissal of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council for financial mismanagement. The Minister also announced my appointment as the Administrator for the north coast Council.

In considering the offer I thought long and hard about the extra workload and about whether I could effectively do both jobs until September (when my Warringah role comes to an end). After consulting my family and senior management at Warringah Council I decided I would accept.

Most jobs involve a far greater workload at the beginning. The demands on my time at Warringah Council are far less than they were for the first three years. I believe I have completed much of the task of rebuilding the public's confidence in the Council through improved performance and customer service across the full range of Council programs.

I still have a number of major tasks to complete before September, but my role is largely driving the projects from the top. The actual doing role is with the very capable management team now in place.

It is clear that the new role will require more of my time, but I will be working on both roles full-time and I will not let any issues be neglected because of my extra workload.

As a Director General of three large Government departments over the 14 years prior to coming to Warringah Council I was very used to managing large workloads. This new situation is nothing new for me in that regard.

I am also confident the experience I have gained as Administrator for Warringah Council will mean the Port Macquarie role will not be as demanding as it would be if I had not had this experience. I have learned a great deal about the community and how it interacts with Council. I expect while there will be differences, there will be more that is similar. There may also be things that are done well in Port Macquarie that are worth adopting in Warringah.

With today's technologies I will never be more than a minute away from any local issue that presents itself. I would not have taken on the extra role if I had doubts. I am well supported by talented staff at Warringah and I expect the same will happen in Port Macquarie.

Dick Persson AM

Celebrating Seniors Week

NSW Seniors Week runs from 6-13 April this year, however Warringah Council's Seniors' program is so jam-packed it will run for almost a month, from 8-30 April.

There are almost 34,000 seniors living in Warringah and this year's diverse program offers something for everyone.

Warringah's Seniors' Week begins with the presentation of the Frank McAskill Awards for people or groups who have helped improve the quality of life of seniors on the northern beaches and continues with cultural and sporting activities, tours, lunches and workshops.

Cultural activities include a Glen St Theatre concert, trash and treasure valuations, writing workshops, dancing, and an Aboriginal reconciliation seminar.

For sporty seniors there is aquaerobics, indoor bowls, Lifeball, bushwalks and a 'Getting Back on Your Bike' workshop.

Other activities include a computer club, driving refresher course, tour of Kimbriki and eco-garden, CHEERS lunch, Men's Shed Open Day and a CPR refresher course.

For a copy of the program contact Aged Services ph 9942 2560 or visit www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

Certification Services

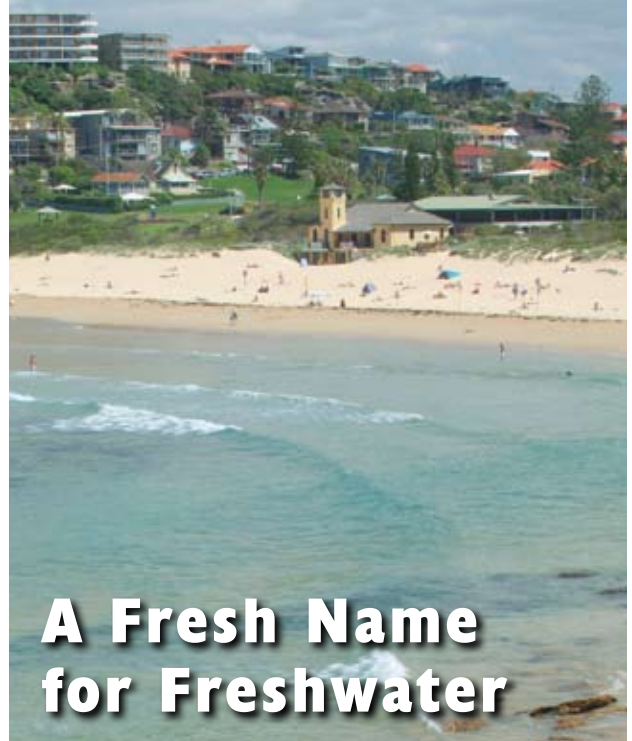
Warringah Council's Building and Compliance team offers a quality building certification service to the community.

The service includes the role of an accredited certifier for the assessment of Construction Certificates, once a Development Application has been approved, and the assessment of I49D Building Certificates for pre-sale inspection of residential and commercial premises.

It also provides the role of Principle Certifying Authority (PCA) of Developments, which is required by legislation to inspect premises under construction to ensure that they comply with the Development Consent and Building Code of Australia.

After three years of systems reviews, the Building and Compliance team can guarantee to maintain competitive turnaround times to ensure quality development and positive outcomes.

Fees and charges are currently being reviewed to ensure that the service provided is competitive for all certification work. For further information or to access these services contact Building and Compliance on 9942 2111.



A Fresh Name for Freshwater

Harbord has started 2008 with a fresh name - Freshwater. The suburb officially reverted to its original name of Freshwater when the NSW Minister for Lands accepted a recommendation from the Geographical Names Board.

Council supported the community's push for a name change following extensive community consultation by the Harbord Chamber of Commerce and 2,200 public submissions to the board.

In an attempt to revitalise Freshwater's image, the suburb was renamed Harbord in 1923 after former NSW Governor Lord Carrington's sister-in-law Judith Harbord.

The name Harbord will live on in the community through its local park, school and businesses in the area who choose to retain the name as part of their identity.



Earth Hour 08

At 8pm on Saturday March 29 people in cities around the world will turn off their lights for an hour to show it is possible to take action on global warming on a global scale. Warringah Council is supporting Earth Hour and you can sign up as well by going to www.earthhour.org

Swimming Pool Safety

Each year ten Australian children under five drown in backyard pools and many more suffer serious injuries from near-drowning experiences.

A few simple safety measures could help save a life:

- Fence your pools with a secure magnetic self-latching gate and never leave it open
- Ensure the gate self closes and latches in every position
- Check nothing leans against the fence that a child could climb over to get into the water

The NSW Water Safety Taskforce and local councils have developed checklists on fencing requirements depending on when and where pools have been installed. The checklists can help pool owners determine whether their fences comply with legislation.

For further information on swimming pool safety and the checklists go to www.safewaters.nsw.gov.au or contact Warringah's Environmental Health Team on 9942 2111.

Internal Ombudsman

Warringah Council appointed an Internal Ombudsman in 2003 to ensure Council's administration is transparent, accountable and fair in its dealings with the community. The Office of the Internal Ombudsman manages complaints about maladministration, misconduct, alleged corruption or otherwise unlawful behaviour by Council's management and staff. The Internal Auditor is also part of the Office of the Internal Ombudsman.

Complaints may arise if a person feels the organisation has been unfair or unjust in applying or enforcing any procedures or regulations that Council must operate by. This may include a decision that they believe is legally wrong or unjust. Complaints can be taken from the community and from staff.

The Internal Ombudsman's role is to ensure that Council Officers have discharged their duties fairly and impartially according to their duty as public officials and the rules governing their behaviour. However, the Internal Ombudsman cannot act as a community advocate or influence Council's operational or planning decisions.

Standard requests are not classed as serious complaints. Council's normal business processes will handle residents' concerns about Council's day-to-day service delivery. Anyone considering complaining to the Internal Ombudsman is encouraged to use all other avenues within Council to resolve their problem before making a formal complaint. A call to the Customer Service Centre on 9942 2111 can often resolve problems quickly.

Complaints to the Internal Ombudsman can be lodged in person, in writing, via email at internalombudsman@warringah.nsw.gov.au or by calling the Complaints Hotline on 9942 2105 at any time.



Left to right: Cathie O'Donnell, Ann Manewell - Internal Auditor, Jane Coulter - Internal Ombudsman, Richard Bowron - Deputy Internal Ombudsman and Kimberley Aquilina



Community Art Classes

Term 2 Courses at Tramshed Arts & Community Centre, Narrabeen and North Balgowlah Community Centres commence 5 May. Courses include painting, life drawing, pottery and children's art and craft classes. Both centres, as well as other Council community centres, also have classes in yoga, Pilates, tai chi, tap, ballet.

To book or for more information call 9913 3231 or 9452 1065.

Narrabeen Lagoon



Creating a Sustainable

A Narrabeen Lagoon Community Forum will be held in May to provide residents with an update on the steps being taken in the 'Narrabeen Lagoon Creating a Sustainable Catchment' project.

Warringah Council, Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment and Pittwater Council are hosting the forum to detail how some of the \$1.9million NSW Environment Trust grant will be spent.

The state government grant was awarded to Warringah and Pittwater Councils as joint managers of the lagoon for a program over the next three years.

A catchment-wide sustainable living education program will be developed along with creek bank remediation works, bush regeneration, and existing restoration programs at Middle, Mullet and Nareen Creeks.

Narrabeen Lagoon is valued for its peace and tranquillity, natural beauty and habitats, parks, fishing and recreation.

The area supports a variety of animal life including birds, mammals, fish and reptiles and it has a number of special plant species, some of which are rare in many parts of Australia.

Almost half of the Narrabeen Lagoon catchment is comprised of bushland that supports biodiversity on its foreshores and creeks, and includes Garigal National Park, Warriewood Wetlands, crown land and Aboriginal heritage sites.

The area accommodates residential premises, industry, nurseries, schools, shopping centres, retirement villages and golf courses and is visited by more than 1,000 people every day for recreational purposes. This high degree of urbanisation has led to increased weed invasion, nutrients and other pollutants such as litter frequently entering waterways.



Catchment

You can help protect the future of this important catchment by attending the community forum or reducing your impact on the lagoon with the following tips.

For more information about the project visit our website at www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

**Narrabeen Lagoon
Community Forum**

Thursday 29 May @ 7pm
Tramshed Community Centre
1395 Pittwater Rd, Narrabeen

What you can do

- Plant local natives in your garden
- Use native grasses for your lawn
- Dispose of garden waste by composting, mulching or recycling
- Avoid using chemical-based pesticides and fertilisers
- Use a broom to sweep leaves from paved areas and guttering
- Clean up after your dog when taking it for a walk
- Install a rainwater tank
- Dispose of oil and chemicals responsibly
- Wash your car responsibly
- Keep rubbish out of the drain
- Check that water on your driveway drains to the garden

Outback Youth visit Warringah

Six youth ambassadors from the remote NSW town of Brewarrina visited Warringah in January as part of our Sister Cities Exchange Program. This is the eighth year that the two regions have run the annual exchange program, which has been pivotal in building close ties between the two very different areas.

The young people from Brewarrina had an opportunity to take a break from the high outback temperatures and enjoy the rain on the northern beaches. They were taken on two sightseeing trips to Sydney, learnt how to scuba dive, attended an eco-gardening workshop at Kimbriki, met the Sea Eagles and the cast of *Home and Away*, and were reunited with Warringah's youth ambassadors who made the trip to Brewarrina in July last year.



Battle of the Bands

The northern beaches premier music event for young people - Northern Composure Band Competition - has attracted a record number of entries this year. Eighteen bands have been chosen to battle it out in three heats for a spot in the final on Friday 28 March at Cromer Community Centre.

Northern Composure is now in its seventh year and is organised by Council's Youth Services and the Warringah Youth Advisory Committee. Last year more than 1,600 patrons watched bands vie for the Judges' and Audience Choice Awards.

Roland, this year's major sponsor, is generously offering \$12,000 in products to place getters in the Judges' Choice category. Sony BMG will help judge the finals of the competition, as well as provide the winner consultation time with their Director of Australian Artists.

Northern Composure is proudly supported by Roland, Sony BMG, Continuumusic, Mall Music, *The Manly Daily*, Perfect Pitch, Hurley, RAWFM and Big Dog Digital.



Playfield - heat 1 winners

2008 Season at Glen Street

Glen Street breaks all records!

Warringah Council's Glen Street Theatre has broken a new record, with over 5,000 subscriptions sold to the 2008 season before it even began - beating all previous records!

It's not hard to see why northern beaches theatre-goers are flocking to Glen Street Theatre this year. The 2008 subscription season has a bumper year ahead, with eight outstanding plays still to be staged including the hilarious Helpmann Award winning musical *Keating!*

The satirical *The Wharf Revue: Beware of the Dogma* is the next play to be staged at the Belrose theatre, opening on March 25. The stage production was written and will be acted by Glen Street favourites Jonathan Biggins, Drew Forsythe and Phillip Scott.

The great stage plays and performances continue throughout the year. And with names such as Henri Szeps and Robyn Nevin taking centre stage later in the year, it's hardly surprising that Glen Street Theatre has broken all previous subscription records.



The Dusty Springfield Show
April 12



May 7 - 10

What's On @ Glen Street

**The Wharf Revue:
Beware of the Dogma**
March 25 - April 6

Leap once more to the barricades to defend free speech as the Wharf Revue team dare to go where few others can be bothered.

**Music at the Glen:
Vov Dylan and His
Orchestra**

April 8, 11am

**The Dusty Springfield
Show**

April 12 (one show only)
Starring Sheena Crouch as
Dusty Springfield

Busting Out

May 7 - 10

Following a sold-out season at the Melbourne Comedy Festival our bosom buddies, d-cuppeteers Emma Powel and Bev Killick perform in the show that has women cheering and men gasping with amazement!

Strangers In Between

May 13 - 24

A brilliant comedy from the pen of Tommy Murphy, writer of the smash hit comedy drama *Holding the Man*.

**Music at the Glen:
Sydney Symphony
2008 Fellows Concert**

May 27, 11am

Glen Street Theatre,
cnr Glen St and Blackbutts Rd,
Belrose. Phone 9975 1455 or
visit www.glenstreet.com.au

GREENING WARRINGAH

New Eco Van

Warringah Council's new Eco Van made its public debut on Australia Day at Forestville with the theme for the day 'Your recycling makes stuff'.



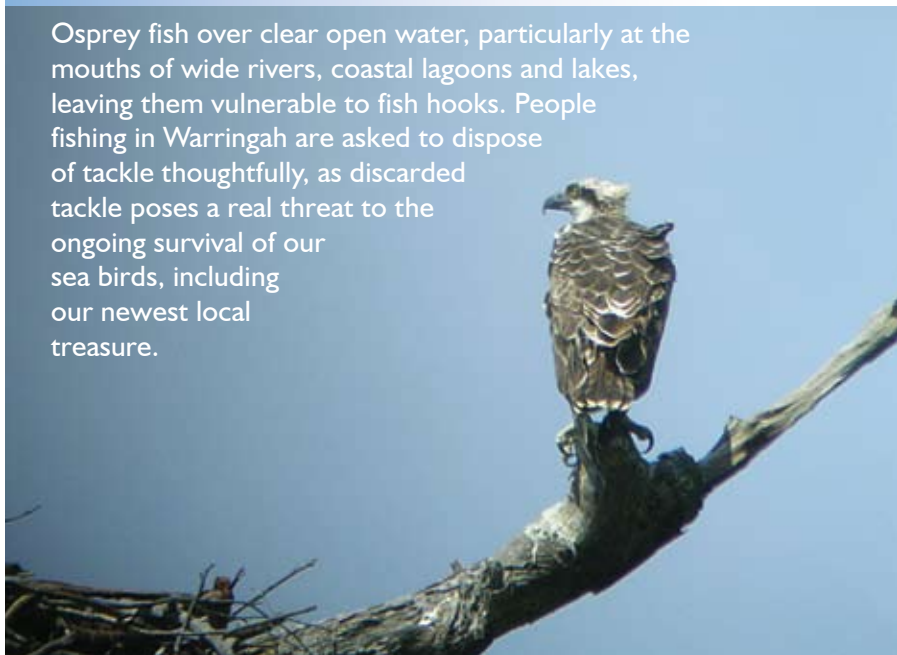
The van is used as a mobile education tool promoting what Council is doing for the environment and what the community can do to help. Look out for the Eco Van at Council events, shopping centres and beaches.



Ospreys at Home

Late last year, an osprey chick was successfully fledged in Warringah, making us the honorary custodians of NSW's most southerly breeding pair. Ospreys are large fishing hawks found around the coastline of Australia and are protected under state legislation. They are just one of the 54 threatened species of fauna found in Warringah. With continual restoration of the local habitat, it is hoped more native fauna will thrive in the area.

Osprey fish over clear open water, particularly at the mouths of wide rivers, coastal lagoons and lakes, leaving them vulnerable to fish hooks. People fishing in Warringah are asked to dispose of tackle thoughtfully, as discarded tackle poses a real threat to the ongoing survival of our sea birds, including our newest local treasure.



Eco Schools

Congratulations to the 18 Warringah Schools who shared in over \$45,000 from Council's Eco Schools Grant Program. The money will help the schools implement environmental projects such as water and energy conservation, recycling programs, bush regeneration training and environmental leadership programs. Cheques were handed out to the following schools in March:

- Brookvale Public
- Covenant Christian School
- Cromer Public
- Davidson High
- Dee Why Public
- Farmhouse Montessori
- Fisher Road
- Forestville Montessori
- Kinma
- Manly Vale Public
- Pittwater House Schools
- St John's Narrabeena
- St Lukes Grammar Schools
- St Stephens Belrose Kindergarten
- Stewart House
- Terrey Hills Public
- The Beach School

Environment Excellence at Warringah Council

Warringah Council has been awarded a Local Government Excellence in the Environment Award for sustainable purchasing initiatives. The award, sponsored by the Department of Environment and Climate Change, recognised Council's sustainable procurement strategy and commitment to reducing our carbon footprint. The award winning strategy includes reducing fleet sizes and fuel types, purchasing green stationery products, waste education for staff, businesses and schools.

What's on

www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

Wednesday 26

7pm YouthLinx Speaker's Night for Parents of Teenagers – help kids deal with anxiety, stress and worry. Bookings 9942 2681

Thursday 27

10.30am Kimbriki Eco Garden Workshop – No Dig Gardening

Friday 28

7.30pm Northern Composure Band Comp Final, Cromer Community Centre. 9942 2401

Saturday 29

10am Warringah's Earth Hour Challenge – visit Council's Eco Van at Warringah Mall. 9942 2370

Friday 4

3pm YOYO's Open Day. 9942 2401

Sunday 6

10am Hilltop to Headland Workshop – Building Wildlife Friendly Gardens

Monday 7

Our Place Photo Exhibition – Warringah Then and Now. Until April 18 at Warringah Council's foyer

Friday 11

11am Trash or Treasure? Seniors bring a treasured item to be valued, Dee Why Library. Bookings 9942 2449

1.15pm Free activities for seniors, Warringah Aquatic Centre. Bookings 9451 8000

2pm Author Talk with Carol Baxter – An irresistible temptation. Warringah Mall Library. Bookings 9924 2449

Saturday 12

8.30am Community Dog Walk, Narrabeen Lagoon. Bookings 9942 2580

Sunday 13

9.30am Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Eco Paddle. Bookings 0417 502 056

Monday 14 - Thursday 24

School Holiday Vacation Care and Recreation program. 9942 2576

Wednesday 16

9am Writing workshop for seniors, Tramshed. Bookings 9938 2638

7pm Hilltop to Headland Environmental Talk – Beneath the Southern Seas

Friday 18

10am Refresher Driving Seminar for Seniors. Bookings 9942 2354

Saturday 19

9am Free Child Restraint Safety Check, Dee Why Beach. Bookings 9942 2354

Monday 21

12noon Cheerful Healthy Eating for Elderly Residents and Seniors luncheon at Long Reef. Bookings 9942 2354

Tuesday 22

1pm CPR Refresher for seniors at the Tramshed, Narrabeen. Bookings 9942 2354

Monday 28

9.30am Seniors for Reconciliation, Warringah Council Chambers. Bookings 9971 0735

Tuesday 29

9.30am Kimbriki Bus Tour for seniors. Bookings 9942 2407

Wednesday 30

Reverse Garbage Workshop and Tour for seniors. Bookings 9942 2407

2pm Lifeball for seniors, Curl Curl. 9944 0430

Friday 25

5.15am ANZAC Day dawn service with traditional piper and bugler, Manly Dam (Manly Warringah War Memorial Park). 9942 2603



Monday 5

Term 2 craft courses at Tramshed and North Balgowlah community centres. 9913 3231

Friday 9

7pm Discobility Dance Party at YOYO's for 12 to 18 year olds with special needs. 9942 2680

Sunday 18

1pm Walk and discover Narrabeen Lagoon's Aboriginal Heritage. Bookings 9942 2580

Thursday 29

7pm Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment and Warringah and Pittwater Councils host a community forum at the Tramshed, Narrabeen

Sunday 25

10am World Environment Day Expo, James Meehan Reserve, Dee Why Beach. 9942 2351



Free Kimbriki Eco Garden Workshops

Bookings essential 9486 3512
(Monday to Friday)

Hilltop to Headland environment series.

Talks at Warringah Council Civic Centre.

Workshops bookings essential on 9942 2542.

www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

australia day

2008



Useful contacts

Address

Warringah Council, Civic Centre
725 Pittwater Road Dee Why
(off Civic Drive)

Postal

725 Pittwater Road Dee Why
NSW 2099
DX 9118 Dee Why

Email

council@warringah.nsw.gov.au

Website

www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

Telephone

9942 2111

Facsimile

9971 4522

Council Meetings

2nd and 4th Tuesday monthly from 7pm.
Enquiries 9942 2444
(only May Council meeting on 6 May)

Council's Business Hours

For information and assistance
between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to
Friday contact Warringah Council's
Customer Service Centre on
9942 2111.

Outside Business Hours

For assistance contact the Council's
paging service on 9942 2111.

Or visit the Council's

website any time at
www.warringah.nsw.gov.au
for full details of all Council
services and activities.



**Warringah
Council**