



What's On

Keep our Sea Plastic Free



FEBRUARY
2017

A WAR MEMORIAL PARK UNDER SIEGE

There will be a rally at Rob Stokes electoral office & would love any interested people to come along to Fight for the Manly Dam... again!!

Tuesday 14th February, 2017

1725 Pittwater Rd, Mona Vale. 10am.

The NSW State Government & Department of Education's plans to bulldoze sensitive bushland at Manly Vale Public School have been approved ...without even meeting concerned citizen representatives.

When endangered species habitat was cleared for the Ardel (now Madison) housing estate in Allambie Heights at the turn of the century, thousands marched in protest. We were told "it could never happen again".

Now, it seems, yet more land will be lost in the War Memorial Park and the incremental degradation of a much treasured reserve continues. At the top of the catchment we've seen major ecological destruction for the new Northern Beaches Hospital and, if proposals to build on/or around Warringah Aquatic Centre materialise, many more hectares of rare bushland will have to be cleared for fire breaks.

Manly Dam Reserve continues to be sacrificed because it doesn't have the conservation zoning status of a National Park.

How sad when our city is bursting at the seams and bad environmental news abounds, that this precious green space is so under-valued by our politicians.

Manly Vale school could easily have "state of the art" new premises AND retain its historic nature area if new buildings were realigned and new student numbers capped to less ambitious numbers. Instead, the community (and school students) will be faced with losing hundreds of trees and pushing the eastern pygmy possum to local extinction. Everyone loses.

More info: Helen Kvelde,
Chair Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee
0412 222 674

1 - 12 February **Mother Ocean Art Exhibition Jackie Sherwood Artist**
Mother Ocean is wise, beautiful & powerful. We depend on her for our survival. An exhibition of paintings & photographs by (mother and son duo) Jackie & James Sherwood celebrating their love of the ocean.
Warringah Creative Space, 105 Abbott Rd, North Curl Curl. 10.00am – 4.00pm.
More info please contact Jackie Sherwood. Phone: 0414 263 085
Email: jackie@jackiesherwood.com
Website: <http://www.jackiesherwood.com/web/>
<http://www.warringah.nsw.gov.au/play/whats/warringah-council-events/mother-ocean-art-exhibition>

1 February - 17 April **Demolished Sydney**
The Museum of Sydney will host Demolished Sydney, an exhibition exploring the buildings that once shaped the city's skyline, from the convict built Commissariat Stores to the city's last island of industry, the Kent Brewery. Sydney has been in a constant state of building, unbuilding & rebuilding as it has grown into the metropolis of today. The mix of Georgian, Victorian, Art Deco & modernist buildings that have formed the character of Sydney also tell the story of its changing fortunes, attitudes & needs. Demolished Sydney reveals this process of urban evolution through key buildings that have been demolished & replaced. Through fragments salvaged from theatres, hotels & office blocks, alongside stunning photography, artworks & film, Demolished Sydney brings back to life the heritage of a Sydney that is gone but not forgotten. Museum of Sydney, Cnr Phillip & Bridge Streets, Sydney. 10am – 5pm. Adult \$12; Concession \$8; Family \$30; Children Under 5 Free.
Website: <http://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/exhibitions/demolished-sydney>

1 February - 1 July **Spiders - Alive & Deadly**
Get closer to over 400 real spider specimens including live tarantulas, giant water spiders & deadly funnel-webs. See live spider milking at the Venom Lab, enter a cave crawling with spiders, test your strength against spider silk & dare yourself to try other creepy crawly immersive experiences.
Venom Lab at the Australian Museum - Watch live venom milking at the Venom Lab, daily at 10.30am & 1.30pm. Our professional spider wranglers are collecting venom for the University of Queensland's venom library.
Dome Spider at the Australian Museum - Be completely surrounded by live Dome Tent-web Spiders & their large dome-shaped webs in a viewing sphere. These spiders are common in north & north-eastern Australia & can grow as large as a child's hand.
Tasmanian Cave Spiders at the Australian Museum - Enter into the rarely seen world of the Tasmanian Cave Spider. Grab a virtual torch to shed light on their mysterious home. As your shadow is cast on the cave walls, interact with these web weavers!
Australian Museum, 1 William St, Sydney. 9.30am – 5.00pm. Cost: \$24.00 Adult; \$14 Child; \$16 Conc. (Includes General Admission)
<http://australianmuseum.net.au/landing/spiders-alive-and-deadly/>

1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18, 22, 24, 25 February **Aboriginal Heritage Tours**
Learn the richly diverse history & culture of the Aboriginal people of the Sydney region with an Aboriginal guide in the heart of the city. Uncover the Royal Botanic Garden's rich Aboriginal heritage by exploring plant uses, culture, artefacts & tasting some bush foods.
Location: Tours depart from the Information Booth outside the Garden Shop at the Palm Grove Centre Every Wed, Fri and Sat. 10.00 am Price: \$39 per person, Foundation & Friends members \$31.20 per person. Bookings essential. Private group bookings please contact aboriginal. Contact: programs@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
Bookings online at:
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/aboriginal-heritage-tour-tickets-19814460585>
More info: <https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/Aboriginal-heritage-tours>

2 February **Night Talk: Weird Dinosaurs with John Pickrell**
John Pickrell guides us through recent fossil discoveries: Dinosaurs were weirder than we can ever have imagined. Why are we finding so many new dinosaurs? We're in a golden age of discovery & the fossils coming to light show dinosaurs were stranger, bigger, scarier & more diverse than we ever imagined. Join us for an evening of discovery with John Pickrell, amateur palaeo-sleuth, award-winning journalist, the editor of Australian Geographic & the author of Flying Dinosaurs, as he takes us on a journey through some of this fascinating new science.
Location: Theatre, Australian Museum, entry via College Street, Sydney.
Time: 6.30pm - 8.00pm. Admission: \$19 Members, \$28 General public (includes welcome drink on arrival). Facebook: www.facebook.com/weirddinosaurs
Website: www.flyingdinosaurs.net
<https://australianmuseum.net.au/event/night-talk-weird-dinosaurs-with-john-pickrell>

3 February **Community Food Swap**
Are you a keen gardener who has excess produce & you don't know what to do with it? How about donating it at a community food swap & picking up some other produce in return? You may end up with tasty ideas to expand your patch by taking away a delicious fruit or vegetable you haven't tried before.
The Food Swap is also a great opportunity to swap tips with other local backyard green thumbs. Blend Café will be open on the day, with delicious fair trade coffee & nutritious snacks available for purchase.
The Food Swap will run on the first Friday of every month.
Address: Blend Cafe, Dougherty Centre, 7 Victor Street, Chatswood.
9.30am - 11.30am. Cost: Free. Contact: Willoughby Council on 9777 7730 or email Tejinder.Gill@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

3, 10, 17, 24 February **Planting, Pruning, Weeding! @ North Head Sanctuary Foundation – Native Plant Nursery** - every Friday - If you have a spare two hours from 8.30am - 12noon, to help with planting or weeding & special projects - please come & join us. Please wear a hat, insect repellent & closed in shoes. For more information, please email Jenny at northhead@fastmail.fm

3, 10, 17, 24 February **Aboriginal heritage tours - Uncover the Royal Botanic Garden's rich Aboriginal heritage**, by exploring plant uses, culture, artefacts & taste some bush foods. Learn the richly diverse history & culture of the Aboriginal people of the Sydney region with an Aboriginal guide in the heart of the city. An important ceremonial site for many of the Sydney Aboriginal clans & home to the Cadigal clan. Wogganmagule (Farm Cove) & its surrounds offered an impressive & carefree existence. With a diverse array of bush foods, ample fresh water & a plentiful supply of seafood from the harbour, it was paradise for the local Aboriginal people for thousands of years.
Where: Tours depart from the Information Booth outside the Garden Shop at the Palm Grove Centre in the Gardens. When: 10am Fridays - 1.5 hours.
Bookings essential. Cost: \$38 Adult, \$18 Student/Child.
Bookings & enquiries: 9231 8134.

4 February The restoration of the Mermaid Pool (& bushland surrounds) begins again on Saturday. We will be continuing to remove exotic weeds & rubbish. Supervision & tools provided by Northern Beaches Council "Friends of the Bush" program.
Where: Meet at the western corner of King St, Manly Vale (outside NSW Water Lab gates)
When: From 9am - 1pm (or any time in between). Cake break at 11am.
All Volunteers are very welcome. Register your interest here:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/326015754462504/>
And check this Facebook Page for more updates
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/224958938606/>

4 February **Aboriginal Art Class**
Experience the oldest living culture through Aboriginal Art
Join an Aboriginal Guide for an art class inspired by traditional Aboriginal art concepts & the environment around you. Using materials provided – including echidna quills, sticks, ochre & bark as well as paints & brushes, you will create a unique piece of art to take home with you.
Location: The Learning Centre, The Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney. Time: 1.00pm – 3.00pm.
Suitable for all ages. Price: \$39 per person, \$35 member. Bookings essential. Upcoming Dates: 4 February, 4 March, 1 April. Aboriginal Art Class as part of Garden Art Month: Each Saturday in May - 6, 13, 20, 27.
Contact: aboriginal.programs@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
Bookings essential online at:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aboriginal-art-class-tickets-24983331818>
[https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/Aboriginal-Art-Class-\(6\)](https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/Aboriginal-Art-Class-(6))

4 February **Ocean Film Fundraiser (The Map to Paradise)**
Mother Ocean is beautiful, wise & powerful. We depend on her for our survival.
Join James Sherwood (Co-Director of The Map to Paradise) & his very talented mother, Jackie Sherwood, for this fun night to celebrate Mother Ocean, and to join a movement to ensure she stays in good health for generations to come.
This film fundraiser is being held to help James finish his feature documentary, The Map to Paradise, about the quest to protect our oceans around the world. By attending, you are supporting the arts & independent grassroots filmmaking & are helping to give the ocean a voice. This special night is a part of a week long art exhibition by the mother and son duo called Mother Ocean.
Warringah Creative Space, 105 Abbott Road, North Curl Curl. 5.00pm to 9.00pm.
Tickets include: On the night, enjoy some drinks (beer, a wine tasting by Tamburlaine Organic Wine & Brookies Dry Gin cocktails). Plus, enjoy a delicious dinner of tacos by the locally hand-made hot sauce company, Marysol. You will also be surrounded by some beautiful ocean art, film, music & an opportunity to win a lucky door prize. Plus, you will hear from some local speakers. Event co-hosts: SO Manly, Sea Life Trust. Event sponsors: Tamburlaine Organic Wines, Cape Byron Distillery. Tamburlaine will donate \$50 from every case sold to the Sea Life Trust for The Map to Paradise (film).
General Admission - Your ticket includes food & drink by local producers. Please make sure you bring your ticket on the night. \$60.00. Bluebottle Films - Danielle Ryan
Email: hello@themaptoparadise.com Website: <http://www.themaptoparadise.com/>
<http://www.warringah.nsw.gov.au/play/whats/warringah-council-events/ocean-film-fundraiser-map-paradise>

- 4 February Streamwatch Training Day**
A Streamwatch Citizen Science Program supported by Northern Beaches Council & the Australian Museum. Come & join Cecil Ellis local freshwater ecologist for an inspiring workshop learning about how to protect our local streams and creeks. Learn about how we can test creek health & work with motivated volunteers in monitoring & improving river system health. Where: Coastal Environment Centre, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen. Time: 10am - 1pm. Phone: 1300 000 232. Bookings essential online at: [http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/all_events/coastal_environment_centre/Streamwatch Training Day](http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/all_events/coastal_environment_centre/Streamwatch_Training_Day)
- 4 February Streamwatch Skills Day - Registered Volunteers**
A Streamwatch Citizen Science Program supported by Northern Beaches Council & the Australian Museum. Streamwatch volunteers will have the opportunity to hone their skills in water quality analysis. This is a fantastic opportunity for all existing volunteers to improve their skills & test the equipment. Snacks & refreshments provided. Where: Coastal Environment Centre, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen. Time: 2pm – 4.30pm. Registered Streamwatch Volunteers Only. Bookings Essential Online at: [http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/all_events/coastal_environment_centre/Streamwatch Skills Day](http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/all_events/coastal_environment_centre/Streamwatch_Skills_Day) Phone: 1300 000 232.
- 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 February** Every Sat & Sun - Birdlife Discovery Centre - The BirdLife Discovery Centre provides opportunities for people to learn about & engage with birds in their natural habitat. It is located in the Newington Armory - formerly the Royal Australian Navy Armaments Depot in the Parklands at Sydney Olympic Park. Learn about the beautiful birds that inhabit the Park. Watch EagleCam live to learn the secrets of the resident white bellied sea eagles. Visitor Information: Travelling by car: park at the end of Jamieson Street & follow the signs. Birdlife Discovery Centre, Newington Armory, Building 133, 1 Jamieson Street, Sydney Olympic Park. Opening hours: Saturday & Sunday 10am-4pm. Note: The BirdLife Discovery Centre is not open on weekdays. Phone: 9647 1033 or email: southernsw@birdlife.org.au website: <http://birdlife.org.au/visit-us/discovery-centre>
- 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 February** North Fort Tunnel Tours - Every Sunday - Want to get the underground story on Sydney's defence history? Take a 90 minute guided tour through WWII tunnels, gun emplacements & hear how North Fort contributed to the Defence of Sydney & enjoy magnificent views of the harbour. Tour includes bush tracks, stairs & underground tunnels. Enjoy a snack at the on-site cafe. Where – North Head Visitor Centre at North Fort - enter through main gate on North Fort Rd, from North Head Scenic Drive, Manly (parking available) or walk from Manly through North Head Sanctuary. Times – 10.30am, 11.30am, 1.00pm & 2.00pm. Cost - Adult \$7, Child/Conc. \$5, Family \$20. Bookings - Sundays on site for that day only. More info phone 8969 2100. <http://www.harbourtrust.gov.au/visit/north-head-sanctuary-manly/tours>
In addition to Sundays, North Fort Tunnel Tours are run every Saturday at 10.30am & 1.00pm from December to February for our summer series. Other information as above. <http://www.harbourtrust.gov.au/visit/north-head-sanctuary-manly/tours>
3rd Quarantine Cemetery tours – 2nd Saturday of the month from Nov – Feb (Saturday 14 January; 11 February)
- 7, 14, 21, 28 February** Planting, Pruning, Weeding! @ North Head Sanctuary Foundation – Native Plant Nursery - every Tuesday - If you have a spare two hours from 8.30am - 12noon, to help with planting or weeding & special projects - please come & join us. Please wear a hat, insect repellent & closed in shoes. For more information, please email Jenny at northhead@fastmail.fm

4 – 28 February Sustainable Living Festival 2017 Melbourne
Including Big Weekend 10-12 February
More info please visit: <http://www.slf.org.au>

7 February – 25 June The Scott Sisters - As part of the Australian Museum's 190th anniversary, see the work of two of 19th-century Australia's most prominent natural history illustrators. From the 1850's, sisters Helena & Harriet Scott collected, studied & drew the butterflies & botany of New South Wales in precise detail. Together they produced an archive of more than 600 intricate & beautiful paintings & drawings. As part of the AM's 190th anniversary & to celebrate the launch of a new range of merchandise inspired by the drawings, see the Scott Sisters' extraordinary work & watch their art come to life through animated projections.
Location: Australian Museum Entrance, 1 William Street, Sydney. Level 1. Time: 9.30am - 5.00pm. Admission: Free after Museum admission (Adult \$15, Children under 16 Free).
<https://australianmuseum.net.au/event/scott-sisters-exhibition>

8 February Pre-schoolers Bush Scrambles
Who's hiding in the Park? Come & discover the animals that share the park with people. Enjoy a fun walk followed by morning tea, games & story time. Wear closed shoes, hats & bring your child's snack & drink.
Address: Location given upon booking - Willoughby North.
10.00am – 11.30am. Cost: Free. Tickets Available. Bookings essential.
Contact: Willoughby Council on 9777 7755 or email Emma.Hayes@Willoughby.nsw.gov.au

9 February Night Talk: Exploring the Solar System with Dr Helen Maynard-Casely
Celebrate the United Nations International Day of Women & Girls in Science with this fascinating talk about exploring our solar system.
What do Mars & Iceland have in common & could you really grow potatoes there? What have Australian facilities such as ANSTO's Australian Synchrotron taught us about Titan or Europa? Dr Helen Maynard-Casely is an instrument scientist for the WOMBAT High-Intensity Powder Diffractometer at ANSTO. Her expertise is in the study of small molecules & ices under pressure. She is as passionate about understanding the planetary bodies in our Solar System as she is about promoting science to a wide audience, for example, in her column 'The Shores of Titan' for The Conversation. Join us for a wonderful evening introduced by Dr Rebecca Johnson, Head of the Australian Museum Research Institute. Presented with the support of ANSTO.
Location: Hallstrom Theatre, Australian Museum, William St, Sydney. Time: 6.30pm.
Admission: \$19 Members, \$28 General (includes welcome drink). Bookings essential.
<https://australianmuseum.net.au/event/night-talk-exploring-the-solar-system-with-dr-helen-maynard-casely>

10 February Australian Plants Society North Shore Group – Talk by Clare Bell - Topic: 'Choosing & finding native plants for your Garden'. You want to replant a section of your garden with natives. You want groundcovers at the front, medium shrubs behind them & tall shrubs & a few small trees against the fence. You read books & magazines & talk to others & finally develop a list of plants to buy. You go to all the local nurseries & are dismayed to find only a few of the plants on your list are available. What do you do?
Clare will lead a discussion, with most of the information coming from you, the audience, on how the retail nursery industry works, how do they choose what plants to stock, can they get other plants, how can you find out what is available, what other sources of plants are out there?
7.45pm at "Willow Park Community Centre" 25 Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby. Further information www.blandfordia.org.au

10
February

RBG Gardening Workshops - The Inside Dig

The Inside Dig is an innovative new workshop where you can share stories & insights on gardening with experts from the Yates Garden Company & the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney in a relaxed & friendly setting.

Each workshop includes: Expert presentation from leading horticulturalist, Angie Thomas from Yates; Hands on, practical gardening workshop, Specialist tour of the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, Questions, discussions & sharing of gardening stories, Goodie bag to take home, Refreshments - a light meal & a glass of wine.

Next workshop: Growing Native Plants

Come along to this special twilight workshop to get all the tips & tricks for growing beautiful native plants. Expert Angie Thomas will share her expertise on planting & growing native plants, including the best things to grow in Sydney & the versatility of native plants including fantastic new varieties for smaller spaces - with larger flowers & compact growth.

We'll be getting our hands dirty - with a rare opportunity to actually take part in planting in the Royal Botanic Garden. We'll join the Garden's Horticulturists to plant out some natives in the iconic Australian Rockery, in sight of the Opera House & Harbour Bridge!

The Garden tour will be led by one of our Aboriginal Educators, who will guide you through the Cadi Jam Ora Garden, featuring plants of the Sydney Sandstone Basin. The tour will focus on the connections between Aboriginal people, local plants & culture.

The Workshop Calendar:

Friday 10 February - Growing Native Plants (5.00 - 9.00 pm)

Friday 10 March - Growing Delicious Citrus (5.00 - 9.00 pm)

Saturday 29 April - Growing Winter Veggies and Herbs

Saturday 24 June - Growing Flowers for Winter Colour

Friday 11 August - Growing Gorgeous Succulents

Friday 22 September - Growing the Best Lawn

Location: Maiden Theatre, Royal Botanic Garden Sydney. Time: 10.00am - 2.00pm (except evening workshops on 10 February & 10 March, 5.00pm - 9.00pm). Who: Suitable for all ages - no experience required. Cost: Members \$85.50, Non-members \$95 - Gift Certificates available (details on booking page). Price includes: All plant materials, glass of wine, a light meal and a Yates 'starter pack' goodie bag.

Bookings essential online at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-inside-dig-tickets-26290665087>

More info: community.programs@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

11
February

Indigenous Walking Tours of Dharawal National Park

The number of Indigenous walking tours of the wild & untouched Dharawal National Park, just one hour from the Sydney CBD, will double this year & also include new tours for young children & nature-lovers in wheelchairs & mobility scooters.

The easy 90-minute walks, which are led by an Aboriginal Discovery Ranger & cost only \$10 a person, will run on **the second Saturday of every month** from 11 February - 11 November 2017, with double the number of sessions being offered this year, compared to 2016, to cope with rising demand. The guided walks highlight bush tucker, native flora & fauna, Dreamtime stories & information on how Indigenous people used to live in the area.

Location: The Park is located in the Macarthur region near Campbelltown. It boasts dramatic sandstone gorges, waterfalls, spectacular lookouts, waterholes & rock shelters featuring Indigenous heritage. Seventy years of restricted public access has kept the area largely undisturbed, allowing visitors to see pristine surroundings. Walks depart at 9am & 11am & cost \$10 for each adult & child. Advance bookings are required.

For more information and to book, visit the Macarthur Tourism website.

Dharawal Guided Indigenous Tours, Victoria Rd, Wedderburn. Ph: (02) 4645 4921

Email: info@macarthur.com.au Bookings essential online at:

More info at: <http://www.macarthur.com.au/dharawal-guided-indigenous-tours>

11 February **Spicy Salsa Gardening**
Add some spice to your garden & grow your own salsa ingredients. Learn about the herbs & vegetables used in tasty salsas & plant some seeds to take home to your own kitchen garden. Materials provided - please wear gardening clothes.
This workshop is part of our Time to Grow Garden Sharing Program.
Address: Dougherty Community Centre, 7 Victor Street, Chatswood.
2.00pm – 4.00pm. Cost: Free. Tickets Available.
Contact: Willoughby Council on 97777974 or email Jenny.Beer@Willoughby.nsw.gov.au

11 February **Soap Making**
Natural, home-made soap is safe for your skin & whole body & what's more, it is also very cheap.
Learn how to make soap by choosing an oil, natural colouring, clay & fragrances.
Venue: Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability, 2 Balls Head Drive, Waverton.
10.30am – 12.30pm. Cost: Free. For more information please contact Sustainability Education Officer. Telephone: 9936 8100.
Email: sustainabilityeducation@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
[https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Waste Environment/Get Involved/Green Events/Soap Making](https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Waste_Environment/Get_Involved/Green_Events/Soap_Making)
<https://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=248606>

11 February **Native Bees of Sydney**
Discover the fascinating world of Sydney's native solitary & social bees, their habitat, behaviour & role in the environment. Get some great ideas about making your own simple 'bee house' for solitary bees & take a short walk to see native bees in action.
9.30am – 12.00noon. Bookings essential, phone 9911 3583 or book online
<http://survey.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/survey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=IIKHn625>
<http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/Environment/NaturalEnvironment/Pages/WalksandTalks.as>

12 February **Waratah Park Working Bee - Volunteers are needed to help at our next Working Bee at Waratah Park, Home of the 1960s TV show Skippy the Bush Kangaroo. It is 12 hectares of bushland, environment, culture & rare flora & fauna species. Weed removal is well underway & the park now looking in great shape but we still need help to maintain the existing work & continue the battle against the weeds!! What to bring: Hat, Gloves, a bottle of Water, if available please bring along small hand tools such as weeders & mattocks. What to wear: Protective Clothing that covers your arms & legs & a strong pair of Shoes/Boots. Venue: Waratah Park, 13 Namba Road, Duffy's Forest. 9am - 1pm. Contact: DFRA Jenny Harris Ph: 0408 512 060 or email jennyh05@optusnet.com.au All details are on DFRA website: www.Duffysforest.com**

12 February **Snork & Talk - A Northern Beaches Summerama Event**
Join volunteers from Eco Divers, a local marine conservation group, for a snorkeling expedition at Fairy Bower beach & in the waters of Cabbage Tree Bay for an amazing underwater exploration! This event is only suitable for swimmers aged 16 years & over. All participants MUST provide their own mask, snorkel, fins & wetsuit.
Where: Manly. Meeting point provided upon booking. Time: 9am – 10.30am.
Bookings essential online at:
http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/all_events/coastal_environment_centre/Snork_and_Talk
Phone: 1300 000 232.

15 February **Introduction to Solar Power & Battery Storage for Small Businesses**
Together with the Better Business Partnership we will be explaining the benefits of solar for small businesses & how to invest in the right system for your business needs. Our speaker will discuss sizing the system for your business, panel technologies, payment & leasing options, as well as integrating batteries to make the most of your solar and for critical system back-up.
Where: Ku-ring-gai Council Depot, 5 Suakin Street, Pymble. 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Cost: Free.
Contact Person: Sustainability team. Telephone: 9424 0893.
Email: sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au
Website: Ku-ring-gai Council Sustainability
http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Things_to_do/Events_activities/Whats_on/
Bookings essential online at:
<http://bookings.kmc.nsw.gov.au/CoursesAndEvents/StandardBookingProcess/ViewEventD>

16 February **Behind the Scenes Glasshouse Tour**
Join Dr Dale Dixon, Curator Manager of the Royal Botanic Garden for a behind-the-scenes tour of the new tropical display house, known as Latitude 23. Closed to the general public it is home to an amazing collection of ferns, orchids, aroids, tillandsias, bromeliads, lilies, begonias, palms & cycads – many of the plants that were kept in the Pyramid & the Arc. Location: Foundation & Friends' Terrace, Royal Botanic Garden. Time: 9.45am for 10am - 11am. All ages. Price: \$25 (Foundation & Friends Member \$20) Contact: 9231 8182 or Foundation.friends@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
[https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/Behind-the-Scenes-Glasshouse-Tour-\(1\)](https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/Behind-the-Scenes-Glasshouse-Tour-(1))
Bookings essential online at:
<http://www.thankq.net.au/event/V307/EventDetail.aspx?ref=5617662807&Event=217SU%2009>

16 February **Bicycle Maintenance Made Easy (15+yrs)**
Learn to take care of your bike & make repairs out on the road at this bicycle maintenance seminar. It's informal & informative! In this three hour seminar you'll learn how to maintain your bike, from changing tubes to adjusting gears & brakes to caring for your bike train. You'll learn plenty of valuable tips to keep your equipment in top shape & tackle emergency repairs. No need to bring your bike, but we do recommend that you leave your best clothes at home. Many aspects of the seminar are hands-on.
Please note: While our activities are FREE to attend, they do cost money to run. If you have booked & can no longer come, please let us know as soon as you can. We often have a wait list for events & can fill your place with advanced notice. We try to run our program sustainably, keeping catering & materials wastage to a minimum. Thank you.
Address: To be advised upon booking, Lane Cove. 6.00pm – 9.00pm. Cost: Free. Contact: Willoughby Council on 9777 1000 or email env.educators@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

16 February **The Beginner's Guide to Cycling**
Ever wondered about cycling or need a refresher on riding & road rules?
This introductory session for all ages will cover the essentials of how to get into cycling & its benefits, necessary equipment, road rules, cycling with kids, local bike routes & other cycling sessions available to further your skills.
Address: Council Chambers, 31 Victor Street, Chatswood. 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Cost: Free.
Please note: While our activities are FREE to attend, they do cost money to run. If you have booked & can no longer come, please let us know as soon as you can. We try to run our program sustainably, keeping catering & materials wastage to a minimum. Thank you.
Contact: Sustainable Transport Officer on 9777 1000 or email env.educators@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

**16 or 19
February**

Kimbriki Eco House & Garden

The Art of Composting & Worm Farms Eco Workshops

Composting & worm farming are great alternatives to disposing of your food waste in the rubbish bin while creating natural fertiliser for your garden. By recycling food scraps in a compost bin or worm farm you can help reduce organic waste disposed in landfill, in turn reducing the production of leachate & greenhouse gases from landfills. Compost & worm 'castings' are both ideal natural fertiliser for your garden.

Our Composting and Worm Farm workshop covers the following topics: Why Compost or have a worm farm? Learn why food scraps & garden waste must be taken out of our rubbish bins; Setting up your compost bin & worm farm; What goes into your compost & worm farms?; Learn different methods of composting; Maintaining your compost & worm farm; How to use compost, worm castings & 'worm juice' on your garden; The vital role of organic matter & humus in your soil; Outlining the human health problems associated with using synthetic fertilisers on your edible gardens; The real difference between organic & non-organic food; Answers to the most common problems with worm farms.

Where: Kimbriki Eco House & Garden, within Kimbriki Resource Recovery Centre, enter by stopping at the 'Cars' entry Kimbriki Rd, off Mona Vale Rd, Ingleside.

10am to 1pm. Cost: Free. Bookings essential. Participants please bring morning tea & wear gardening clothes, hats & closed shoes.

Please check www.kimbriki.com & click on the 'frog logo' or www.ecohouseandgarden.com.au or phone Mon - Fri 9486 3542.

**17
February**

Family Spotlight Walk

Join us for a foray across the open spaces & bushland remnants of Northbridge to meet some of the wildlife that are out & about in the night. This activity is suitable for adults & children over the age of 6 years.

Address: Location provided upon booking - Northbridge.

8.00pm – 9.30pm. Cost: Free. Tickets Available.

Contact: Willoughby Council on 97777871 or email liz.powell@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

**18
February**

Composting

Composting already but would like to know more or are you a beginner & would like to learn the basics? Come along to this free two hour workshop to learn all aspects of composting, including material & techniques.

Venue: Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability, 2 Balls Head Drive, Waverton.

10.30am – 12.30pm. Cost: Free. For more information please contact Sustainability Education Officer. Telephone: 9936 8100.

Email: sustainabilityeducation@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

<https://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=248584>

https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Waste_Environment/Get_Involved/Green_Events/Com

**18
February**

Repair Cafe - Woodworks and Electricals

Understand how to repair joints, replace worn out or missing parts & how to choose the right sealer to give your furniture a professional finish. You'll be taught how to use different tools – both hand & power – and how to select the right tool for the job. No prior skills are required! You can bring a small piece of woodwork, like a broken chair or small electrical appliance.

Lane Cove Council. 10.00am – 1.00pm.

Bookings essential. Register online or phone 9911 3507.

<http://survey.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/survey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=71KHI970>

<http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/Environment/GetInvolvedandGreenEvents/Pages/Events>

18 February **Introduction to Solar Power & Battery Storage for Homes**
If you are interested in solar with batteries for your home, get the latest update on options available & what you need to consider when planning your system.
Our speaker will discuss the importance of sizing your system correctly, metering issues, choosing an installer & other issues you need to consider when investing in solar to ensure you the best value system for your needs.
The speaker will also provide an update on the latest developments in battery technologies & how to work out if batteries are right for you right now.
Where: Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon. 3.00pm – 5.00pm.
Cost: Free. Contact Person: Sustainability team. Telephone: 9424 0893.
Email: sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au
Website: Ku-ring-gai Council Sustainability
http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Things_to_do/Events_activities/Whats_on/Introduction_to_solar
Bookings essential online at:
<http://bookings.kmc.nsw.gov.au/CoursesAndEvents/StandardBookingProcess/ViewEvent>

18 February **Tomato Odyssey Adventure**
Grab your sandals & your passport & go on a whirlwind adventure around the Mediterranean to enjoy fun Greek-themed activities including Herculean tomato throwing, Olympian sack races & more!
Location: Meet at the Tomato Festival Information Booth. Time: 10am – 3.30pm. Age: Recommended for children 6-12 years & their families. Price: \$10 per child. Contact: community.programs@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
Bookings not required. Please pay by card on the day.
<https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/Tomato-Odyssey-Adventure>

18 - 19 February **Tomato Festival Sydney 2017**
Royal Botanic Garden Sydney
<https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/Visit/tomato-festival>
Join us for this award-winning harbourside food Festival celebrating all things tomato! The Festival program is jam-packed with exciting, fun & delicious activities with something for everyone.
Tomatoes are enjoyed all over the world, in all manner of ways. From salads to sauces, pizza to pastas, the fabulous tomato has become a key ingredient in all our lives featuring the fragrant & diverse world of herbs!

18 & 19 February **Pizza Plants by The Royal Botanic Garden Sydney**
Hands-on pizza making at the Tomato Festival Sydney!
Let your kids take their tastebuds on a delicious adventure in the Garden!
Activities include: a treasure hunt to find pizza ingredients growing in the Garden; planting yummy Mediterranean herbs to take home; making a muncha-licious mini-pizza to eat....YUM!
Session times: 10.30am – 12.00noon, 12.00noon – 1.30pm, 12.30pm – 2.00pm, 2.00pm – 3.30pm.
Meeting Point: Information Booth, Tomato Festival Sydney Village.
Cost: Members \$18 per child. Non-members \$20 per child.
Who: Children aged 6-12 years. Bookings essential online at:
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/pizza-plants-tickets-18547360655>

23
February

The Beginner's Guide to Cycling - For Mandarin Speakers

Ever wondered about cycling or need a refresher on riding and road rules?

This introductory session for all ages will cover the essentials of how to get into cycling & its benefits, necessary equipment, road rules, cycling with kids, local bike routes & other cycling sessions available to continue improving your skills.

Please note that this workshop will be delivered in Mandarin.

Address: Council Chambers, 31 Victor Street, Chatswood.

6.00pm – 8.00pm. Cost: Free. Tickets Available.

Please note: While our activities are FREE to attend, they do cost money to run. If you have booked & can no longer come, please let us know as soon as you can. We often have a wait list for events & can fill your place with advanced notice. We try to run our program sustainably, keeping catering & materials wastage to a minimum. Thank you.

Contact: Sustainable Transport Officer on 9777 1000 or email

env.educators@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

23
February

Permaculture Northern Beaches – John Newton – Oldest Foods on Earth

‘This is a book about Australian food, about the flora & fauna that nourished the Aboriginal peoples for over 50,000 years. It is because European Australians have hardly touched these foods for over 200 years that I am writing it.’ author John Newton.

We celebrate cultural & culinary diversity, yet shun foods that grew here before white settlers arrived. We love ‘superfoods’ from exotic locations, yet reject those that grow here. We say we revere sustainable local produce, yet ignore Australian native plants & animals that are better for the land than those European ones. John boils down these paradoxes by arguing that if you are what you eat, we need to eat different foods: foods that will help to reconcile us with the land & its first inhabitants.

But the tide is turning. European Australians are beginning to accept & relish the flavours of Australia, everything from kangaroo to quandongs, from fresh muntries to the latest addition, magpie goose.

With recipes from chefs such as Peter Gilmore, Maggie Beer & René Redzepi’s sous chef Beau Clugston, The Oldest Foods on Earth will convince you that this is one food revolution that really matters. All welcome!

Nelson Heather Centre, Banksia Room, 5 Jacksons Rd, Warriewood.

7.15pm – 9.00pm. Entry by donation: \$10 for non-members & \$8 for members

At our monthly meetings we have a Fair Share and Swap table for seedlings, seeds, relevant books, CDs, DVDs, pot plants & other items. We also bring a plate of food to share at the end of the meeting. All contributions welcomed. This month also bring any bush plants growing in your garden to share or identify or get creative with your own bush tucker recipe. Website: www.permaculturenorthernbeaches.org.au

23
February

Learn To Buy & Sell Online

Never sold online? Come along to this free workshop & learn the online tools to sell, buy & giveaway unwanted household items. Learn the ins & outs of eBay, Gumtree & other popular sites & of how to make your item stand out from the crowd. Very often it is that random item you are thinking no one would want that you are trying to get rid of that happily finds a new home the fastest!

Lane Cove Library. 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Register online or call 9911 3507

<http://survey.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/survey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=71KHII70>

<http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/Environment/GetInvolvedandGreenEvents/Pages/Events>

24
February

ACCEL Environmental Law Year in Review Conference

The Australian Centre for Climate and Environmental Law (ACCEL) at Sydney Law School invites you to its inaugural 'Year in Review Conference', at our conveniently located premises in the Sydney CBD. This conference will bring together practitioners, academics, members of the NGO sector, government officials & students to hear about the implications of key developments in Climate and Environmental Law in 2016. These developments have implications going forward including in 2017.

Leading practitioners & academics will analyse & provide insights into major developments in 2016 which are of particular interest to practitioners, policymakers & academics.

Topics include legislative reforms to the New South Wales coastal management & biodiversity regimes, recent planning initiatives for Sydney, including the Greater Sydney Commission's District Plans, the new Wind Energy Planning Framework & major cases, including challenges to the Carmichael & Shenhua Watermark coal mining projects & the role of the courts in implementing the Paris Agreement.

Venue: CBD Campus, level 18, 133 Castlereagh St, Sydney (Stockland Building). Time: 9am - 5pm (registration from 8.30am). Registration (Inc. GST): Full fee: \$175.00. Sydney Law School students & alumni: \$80 (full day registration)

Morning session: \$100 (includes morning tea)

Afternoon session: \$100 (includes afternoon tea)

Contact: Professional Learning & Community Engagement

Phone: 9351 0429

Email: law.events@sydney.edu.au

<http://sydney.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventid=11521>

ACCEL Environmental Law Year in Review Conference Program:

http://sydney.edu.au/law/events/2017/Feb/ACCEL_Yr_Review_Draft_Program.pdf

Registration: <https://events.sydney.edu.au/office1/getdemo.ei?id=384&s=4J00PZH2C>

Please note: Individual online registrations MUST be paid by Mastercard or VISA. To pay by cheque or arrange a group registration, please email law.events@sydney.edu.au for an invoice. We apologise for any inconvenience.

25
February

Aboriginal Bush Food Experience

Experience the world's oldest living culture through bush food tasting and demonstrations. Join our passionate Aboriginal guides to discover how to incorporate native Australian bush foods with everyday ingredients. Use a traditional coolamon to gather seasonal fruits, seeds, berries, native vegetables and plants from around the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney before learning about traditional food preparation methods and tasting your very own bush food infused recipes.

This is a unique opportunity in the heart of Sydney to: Gain a deeper understanding of Aboriginal heritage and culture as well as connection to country, Use traditional methods to gather and prepare food; Learn how to identify seasonal bush food; Enjoy tasting bush food inspired recipes! Not suitable for children.

Meeting point: Rathbourne Lodge, Royal Botanic Garden Sydney. Enter via Woolloomooloo Gate. Time: 1.00 – 3.00pm. Cost: Members \$72.00 per person. Non members \$80.00 per person. Who: This experience is recommended for adults only.

Contact: aboriginal.programs@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

Bookings essential online at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aboriginal-bush-food-experience-tickets-27747087285>

Upcoming dates: Saturdays - 25 February, 11 March, 25 March, 8 April 2017

Questions: aboriginal.programs@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

<https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/Aboriginal-Bush-Food-Tastings>

25 February **Bush Regeneration - The "Return of the Mermaids"** is a community initiated project to restore the beautiful Mermaid Pool & surrounding bushland on Manly Creek at Manly Vale. 9.30pm – 1.00pm. Where: Mermaid Pool, western corner of King St, Manly Vale, meet outside Manly Hydraulics Lab. More info cowfish5@bigpond.com or visit our Facebook page link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/224958938606/> & “like” the Save Manly Dam Bushland Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SaveManlyDamBushland/>

25 February **Fermenting**
Fermenting is one of the oldest methods of preserving food, it also enriches it by the actions of the bacteria & fungi. It is truly a living food! From kimchi to sauerkraut, jun to beet kvass, learn to make ferments for health & beauty.
Venue: Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability, 2 Balls Head Drive, Waverton.
1.30pm – 3.30pm. Cost: Fee.
For more information please contact Sustainability Education Officer.
Telephone: 9936 8100.
Email: sustainabilityeducation@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Waste_Environment/Get_Involved/Green_Events/
<https://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=248609>

25 February **Balcony Gardening**
Learn how to grow almost anything in your small space. This free workshop will show you what potting mix to use, what pots to choose & what plants will thrive.
Venue: Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability, 2 Balls Head Drive, Waverton.
Time: 10.30am – 12.30pm. Cost: Free.
For more information please contact Sustainability Education Officer.
Telephone: 9936 8100.
Email: sustainabilityeducation@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/Waste_Environment/Get_Involved/Green_Events/
<https://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=248612>

26 February **Last Sunday of the month - Free Bird Walk.**
Birdlife Discovery Centre, Newington Armory, Building 133, 1 Jamieson Street, Sydney Olympic Park. Opening hours: Saturday & Sunday 10am-4pm. Note: The BirdLife Discovery Centre is not open on weekdays. Phone: 9647 1033 or email: southernnsw@birdlife.org.au
website: <http://birdlife.org.au/visit-us/discovery-centre>
Visitor Information: Travelling by car: park at the end of Jamieson Street & follow the signs.

26 February **Energy Expert**
Come along to meet our Energy Guru & ask for expert technical advice as you update your home.
Address: Bunnings Chatswood, Corner Smith & Gibbes Street, Chatswood.
9.30am – 12.30pm. Cost: Free.
Please note: While our activities are FREE to attend, they do cost money to run. If you have booked & can no longer come, please let us know as soon as you can. We often have a wait list for events & can fill your place with advanced notice. Thank you.
Contact: Willoughby Council on 9777 7614 or email Env.educators@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

26 February **Free Long Reef Guided Walk – 2.30pm – 4.30pm.**
 Fishcare Volunteers offer FREE guided, educational walks onto the rock platform at Long Reef where visitors will observe some of the vast marine life in the rock pools, learn about the geographical features of the area, look at trace fossils & learn why some migratory birds travel from Siberia to spend time at Long Reef.
FREE GUIDED WALKS of Long Reef Aquatic Reserve with NSW Department of Industry & Investment Fishcare Volunteers will be held on the following dates:
 Sunday, 26 February, 2017 – 2.30pm to 4.30pm.
 Sunday, 26 March, 2017 – 1.30pm to 3.30pm.
 Sunday, 9 April, 2017 – 12.30pm to 2.30pm.
 Long Reef Aquatic Reserve Guided Walks, Collaroy.
 ~ Walks are held subject to tides & weather conditions ~ Bookings essential. Email Wendy: longreefwalks@gmail.com or phone 0411 124 200. <http://reefcarelongreef.org.au/guided-reef-walks/>

26 February **Northern Beaches Clean Up Crew**
 Join the 'Northern Beaches Clean Up Crew' for our monthly clean ups. We meet the last Sunday of every month at 10am to clean up a beach/area on the northern beaches. We are a friendly bunch of people & it's a family friendly event where you'll get to know more local people & learn more about littering & ocean conservation.
 Meet at the grass area close to playground & 'Pilu Restaurant'. 10.00am - 11.30am.
 Free event. Contact Information:
<https://www.facebook.com/NorthernBeachesCleanUpCrew/>

27 February **Tick information night**
 Professor Dr Sheryl van Nunen from Royal North Shore Hospital has many years' experience & is a leading expert on tick allergies. Come along to hear her talk about allergic reactions to ticks. Tea, coffee & light refreshments provided.
 Where: Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon. 6.00pm – 8.00pm.
 Cost: Free - bookings essential. Contact Person: Sustainability Team Telephone: 94240893.
 Email: sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au
 Website: Ku-ring-gai Council Sustainability
http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Things_to_do/Events_activities/Whats_on/Tick_information
<http://bookings.kmc.nsw.gov.au/CoursesAndEvents/StandardBookingProcess/ViewEvent>

4-5 March **Date Claimer 4-5 March**
Introduction to Permaculture Course - 2 Day Intensive Course.
 This 2 day intensive permaculture course covers topics from organic gardening, sustainable housing, soil, site analysis, permaculture design & zoning. It is a great overview of what permaculture is so as to enable you to take the next steps to incorporate this into your life. You will receive an Introduction to Permaculture Certificate & a copy of the late, great Bill Mollison's book "Introduction to Permaculture."
 Teachers are: **Elle Sheather** from PNB & **Lance Lieber** from Transition Bondi & Sydney.
Venue: Manly Vale Community Garden, 4-8 Innes Road, Manly Vale. 9.30am – 5.00pm both days. For information please contact: elle232@gmail.com Bookings essential online at: <https://www.trybooking.com/250303>
 Cost: \$290 for permaculture & community garden members, \$330 for non-members, concessions available. Please note: The last 2 courses booked out so do book a place early!

