



STEP Inc. Newsletter

Community Based Environmental Conservation Since 1978. No. 104 October 2000

MAP LAUNCH

On Thursday 9th November, 2000, we will celebrate another milestone for STEP.

The **new map** will be launched on this special occasion by our guest speaker, **Peter Duncan, Director of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust**, but whom some of us will remember in his younger years as a member of Ku-ring-gai Council's Parks and Reserves Committee. (See also Peter's resume in the box below)

A full programme is planned to give this map a fitting lift-off into the bushwalking, bushcare and bushloving community, and to acknowledge the tremendous efforts made by John Martyn and his team of tracking volunteers.

Maps will be on sale on the evening, but we would encourage members to take advantage of the early ordering arrangement together with the membership renewal, the reminder form being enclosed with this Newsletter.

An invitation is also enclosed for members to attend the launch and your early RSVP would be appreciated to allow Neroli to finalise the numbers for catering purposes.

Champagne and finger food will be served throughout the evening to ensure a suitably festive atmosphere for this major occasion in the history of STEP.

As noted on the invitation, proceedings will start at 7.30pm and are expected to finish at 9.00pm. The venue will be Jenkins Hall in the Lane Cove National Park at Lady Game Drive (near Fullers Bridge).

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of STEP Incorporated will be held on Wednesday, **18th October, 2000, at 7.45pm** at St. Andrews Uniting Church Hall at the corner of **Chisholm St. and Vernon St., South Turramurra.**

The business of the meeting will include the President's and Treasurer's reports and the election of office bearers, and will be kept as brief as possible.

Jennifer Schwarz recently resigned from the Committee and the Committee members have expressed their unanimous appreciation of Jennifer's contribution, and the hope that she will be able to rejoin at some time in the future. Members will be able to record their thanks to Jennifer at the AGM. Bruno Krockenberger will retire from the Presidency at the meeting, but other members have declared themselves available for re-election.

Although the Committee has been functioning well, there is always room for 'new blood'.

Our guest speaker will be **Dr. Lesley Hughes**, Lecturer in Biological Sciences at Macquarie University, who will talk about "Climate Change -- Is It Upon Us?", looking at the evidence in biological terms, ie. the responses by plants and animals to climate change being observed.

We look forward to your attendance to express your views about the STEP activities, Committee and future projects, and trust that will also enjoy the talk.

EPA Stormwater Grant

STEP in conjunction with Ku-ring-gai Council and the Northern Region of National Parks and Wildlife Service has been successful in attracting a grant from the Environment Protection Authority. The grant is for an amount of \$65,000 and will provide the resources for a project of stormwater and weed infestation control at the residential and bushland interface in the Fox Valley area.

The need for the project was

identified by STEP and the application coordinated by STEP, in the person of Neroli Lock, assisted by Michelle Leishman.

The grant will pay for the resources, to be provided by NPWS, to design and instal the stormwater control devices, with the assistance of Ku-ring-gai Council's Drainage Engineer.

The local Bushcare group will then be involved with ongoing weed removal, rehabilitation and regeneration work, with support

from National Parks and Wildlife Service.

STEP will play a continuing role of dissemination of information and educational material relating to the project via the STEP website, and will also be involved in ecological and water monitoring throughout the project.

STEP will be responsible for the implementation of a public education program as a condition of the grant.

PETER DUNCAN, our guest speaker at the map launch.

Before being appointed to his current position of Director of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, Peter was intensively involved in the Olympics Sydney 2000 project as Director of Estate Management for the Olympic Coordination Authority.

He has been responsible for providing the services and management of the Public Domain and Millennium Parklands open space at Homebush Bay, the Sydney International Regatta Centre (Penrith), and for providing supervision services to the Sydney International Shooting Centre and Equestrian Centre projects in Western Sydney.

For the greater part of his career Peter has been active in the Parks industry for various employers, including Ku-ring-gai Council, UTS and TAFE community and industry panels, NSW Public Works, DMR and DUAP, and has worked in London on the Docklands Redevelopment Project.

Peter's qualifications are:

Grad. Dip. Leisure Management (UTS)

Ass. Dip. Applied Science - Landscape Studies (Ryde School of Hort.)

Grad. Cert. Traffic Planning and Management (UNSW)

Cert. Land and Engineering Survey Drafting (Sydney Tech.Coll.)

obtained over a period between 1978 and 1996.

His professional appointments include UTS Sports Management Industry Advisory Committee, and membership of the International Federation of Park and Recreation Administration and of the Australian Institute of Horticulture.

He has kept himself up to date in his fields of interest by a series of short courses and intensive training programs.



Hall Decorations

For the map launch at Jenkins Hall we wanted to add some floral decorations. The preference was for wildflowers, and Neroli Lock would like to hear from anyone who could provide some cut wildflowers and help with their arrangement and placement.

Would you please contact Neroli on phone/fax 9489 5794.

Olympic Snippets

* Compared to conventional stadiums, Stadium Australia uses 30 percent less energy, creates 37 percent less greenhouse gas emissions and uses 13 percent less water.

* The NSW Tennis Centre is believed to be the first tennis stadium in the world to feature a passive ventilation system for both players and spectators.

* Boundary Creek beside the Tennis Centre has been remediated and its water flow is now supplemented with rainwater collected and filtered from the Tennis Centre.

* Sydney Olympic Park has been designed to reduce car dependence and encourage use of public transport.

* The consortium responsible for the construction of the Olympic Village has managed the disposal of building debris by collecting and recycling. For example concrete was crushed and used as road base, bricks and tiles were reprocessed as decorative pebble, and timber was mulched and used for landscaping.

Olympic 'Fallout'

90 percent of Mosman Council's boundary is foreshore to Sydney Harbour.

To control the discharge of gross pollutants to the harbour, Mosman Council recently installed two innovative stormwater filtration devices to complement existing

filters. Together the system will treat 60 percent of the total catchment prior to the discharge of stormwater. The remaining 40 percent will be treated within the next two years.

An estimated 25 tonnes of gross pollutants is expected to be captured by each device each year.

This reduction will benefit local and regional marine life since litter from Mosman has been found to drift as far as Newcastle.

The impetus for the project was, of course, the Olympics Sydney 2000.

Olympic Regeneration

Greening of Ryde Taskforce found that Mallee Reserve gully, backing onto the Ryde Aquatic Centre, an Olympic venue, was filled with building debris and covered in enormous canna lilies. It reminded them of 'The Day of the Triffids'.

It has been busy regenerating and replanting, on one embankment up to 2000 trees to replace a bamboo infestation. Although the project has been going for four years the coming Olympics gave it an extra boost.

	Unit cost	Number	Cost (\$)
Membership and gift membership			
Single (one year)	\$8		
Family (one year)	\$10		
Concession (one year)	\$5		
Life	\$100		
Publications			
Map before 1 January 2001			
Financial, renewing and new members	\$12		
Non-members	\$15		
Map after 1 January 2001	\$20		
<i>A Field Guide to the Bushland of the Upper Lane Cove Valley</i>	\$25		
<i>A Guide to Bird Habitats in New South Wales</i>	\$32		
Donation (donations of \$2 or more tax deductible)			
		Total cost	

Membership Details held by STEP

**New Members and Renewing Members
(if label inaccurate or incomplete)**

Name

Address

.....Postcode

Telephone

Email

Special talents or interests

.....

Gift Membership

Name

Address

.....Postcode

Telephone

Email

Payment Authority

As indicated above, I wish to do one or more of the following:

- renew/apply for/donate STEP membership;
- order a (some) publication(s);
- make a donation.

Total payment is \$..... (no GST chargeable)

Please complete the relevant details, **either**:

- I enclose my cheque/money order (please circle which) in payment; **or**
- please charge the total payable to my MasterCard/ Visa/Bankcard (please circle relevant card).

Credit card number:

Valid from/..... until end/.....

Name on card

Address of cardholder

.....

..... Postcode

Signature

Date

Mail this completed form and payment (or details) to:
The Membership Secretary, Step Inc,
PO Box 697, Turramurra, NSW 2074



STEP INC

Community-based Environmental Conservation since 1978
PO Box 697, Turramurra, NSW 2074
ABN 55 851 3472 043

STEP Membership 2000–01

Request for your Support

There is an ongoing need for STEP to continue its vigilance in conserving our precious urban bushland and ensuring that environmentally sound decisions are made. STEP's influence depends very much on the size of its membership.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your past membership and to request your continuing support. Your membership is very important to us irrespective of whether you become actively involved or simply wish to be kept informed.

Membership Fees Remain Unchanged

We have not increased our membership fees as we are not required to register, and have elected not to register, for GST (our ABN is unrelated to GST).

Annual membership fees are single \$8, family \$10, concession \$5 and life \$100.

Gift Membership

Whilst renewing your membership, consider giving a gift membership to a friend or relative.

Map

Place your order now for STEP's new map, *Walking Tracks of the Lane Cove Valley* which will be distributed after its launch on 9 November 2000. Our existing map has been updated and extended to include the Lower Lane Cove Valley. It's printed in full colour, and includes notes and photographs of some outstanding features of the walks.

If you're a STEP member and you order your map **before** 1 January 2001 each copy of the map that you buy will cost \$12 (non-members will be charged \$15). **After** 1 January 2001 the map will cost everyone \$20, so renew your membership and order your map now! The map also makes a great Christmas present, as do the following publications.

Field Guide to the Bushland of the Upper Lane Cove Valley

Written by John Martyn and published by STEP, this outstanding Field Guide describes fifteen bushwalks, records the flora and fauna, and contains over 300 illustrations of plants, fungi, fish, amphibians, reptiles and birds in the Upper Lane Cove Valley. Published in 1994, the Field Guide costs \$25.

A Guide to Bird Habitats in New South Wales (R.M. Cooper and J.A.W. McAllan)

You may know your birds, but what do their habitats look like? NSW Bird Atlasers Inc recently published this wonderful book which contains descriptions and photographs (over 200) of bird habitats, three of which are from South Turramurra! The Guide costs \$32.

Tax-deductible Donations

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Membership and Ordering Advice

Please complete the details overleaf, and mail the completed form (together with payment or payment details) to:

The Membership Secretary, Step Inc,
PO Box 697, Turramurra, NSW 2074

Payment may be made by:

- cheque or money order (made payable to STEP Inc); or
- credit card (MasterCard, Visa or Bankcard).

Inquiries

If you have any inquiries please contact the Membership Secretary, Hugh Roberts, on 9144 1353.