



NEWSLETTER

A P R I L, 1989

HERITAGE WEEK ACTIVITY. To mark Heritage Week, STEP will be conducting a bushwalk on the STEP Track, looking at areas under threat from road proposals. It is a pretty walk, suitable for children. Afternoon tea will be served at the end of the walk. Meet at the end of Kingsford Avenue, Turramurra.

Enquiries: 449-1541.

Date: Sunday, April 16.

Time: 2.00 p.m.

BUSHWALK. STEP is providing leadership for a bushwalk arranged by St. Andrew's Uniting Church. All STEP members and friends are cordially invited to join in. Meet at St. Andrew's, Chisholm and Vernon Streets, and return there for a "cuppa" about 4.00 p.m.

Enquiries: 449-1541.

Date: Saturday, June 17.

Time: 2.00 p.m.

NORTH WEST SECTOR ROAD NEEDS STUDY. This topic has used a great deal of the time and energy of the STEP committee and STEP members during the last few weeks. The STEP committee made a detailed, carefully reasoned submission to the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) of N.S.W. This was drafted by John Burke, and we are grateful to him for his leadership on this matter.

Committee members have undertaken the following activities on behalf of STEP--

Attended public meetings at Thornleigh and Wahroonga.

Attended the public meeting organised by the Kissing Point Progress Association (KPPA).

Liaised with P.A.V.E. (People Against Valley Expressways.)

Organised a STEP petition, with the help of P.A.V.E. This resulted in the collection of 1633 signatures, which were forwarded to the RTA.

Attended meetings of CUTS (Coalition for Urban Transport Sanity).

Attended meetings of the Union of Lane Cove Valley Conservationists. Consulted with Ku-ring-gai Councillors.

Attended meetings of a new group (as yet unnamed) sponsored by KPPA to bring together all local groups concerned with the Road Needs Study issue.

Spoke on local radio RRR in an hour-long discussion on freeways and road needs.

Wrote individual letters to the RTA.

Liaised with the Ku-ring-gai Ratepayers Association.

Took numerous phone calls from concerned STEP members and other residents.

Began a letterboxing campaign for a wider membership.

Prepared a brief position statement for members.
Circulated a copy of the North West Sector Road Needs Study and the position paper to every STEP member.
Offered for sale the STEP position paper on "The Lane Cove Valley Freeway" at appropriate venues.
Sought an interview with the Premier.
Supplied information to journalists.
Wrote to the "Northern Herald" congratulating it on a full and balanced coverage of the issues.
Co-operated with KUBES (Ku-ring-gai Bushland and Environmental Society) on a press release.
Accompanied a press photographer to bushland areas under threat of road building.
Held discussions with RTA officers.

A "preferred option" from the RTA may be announced at any moment. Following this, an environmental impact statement will be prepared and issued for public comment.

MAP. The STEP map of walking tracks in the Upper Lane Cove Valley is proceeding well. Mr. Graeme Aplin, geographer, has prepared a high quality draft for us, with guidance from Margaret Booth. The cost of cartographic and printing services is now being investigated/

BI-CENTENNIAL PARK. STEP was pleased to see that (following our representations) native plants have been used in the landscaping of this park. We wrote to congratulate Ku-ring-gai Council.

BUSHLAND MANGEMENT WORKING PARTY. STEP congratulates John Burke for his re-election to the Chair of this Committee. Dr. Robyn Tuft, Vice-President of STEP, has also joined this committee.

STEP COMMITTEE WORKLOAD. During the last 3 months, STEP has received approximately 50 items of correspondence, and has sent out approximately 15 letters on environmental conservation matters, in addition to work on the roads/freeways issue.

BUSH REGENERATION. The committee has decided to persevere with the Cooper Crescent site in 1989. Help is always welcome. Come just once to lend a hand and see what we're doing, or come on a regular basis. We usually hold a working bee on the fourth Sunday in the month, but occasionally this needs to be varied.

Enquiries: 449-1541.

Next Meeting: Sunday April 23.

Time: 2.00 p.m.

RESTORATION OF WATER BOARD SITE. STEP has been instrumental in getting action with respect to the river bed area reached from Morona Avenue, Wahroonga. This area will now receive some attention, as Ku-ring-gai Council has voted \$6,000 to restore the area. STEP has written to Council to congratulate it.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS. These are open to financial members of STEP. Next meeting Thursday April 13. Enquiries 449-8945.

STEP PUBLICATIONS. Members are reminded that we have for sale copies of "A Plan of Management for South Turrumurra Bushland" at \$10-00. It is a handsome, large format publication of 54 pages. It contains beautiful photographs, flora and fauna lists, geological, vegetation and other maps, a sketch map of walking trails as well as a plan of management.

The other important STEP publication "The Lane Cove Valley Freeway STEP Position Paper" was circulated free of charge to members; new members who do not have a copy may acquire one on request (449-1541). Copies are on sale to the public at \$4-00.

MEMBERSHIP. No newsletter would be complete without a word on the subject of membership. Remember--all members are welcome, whether active or passive. If you support the work of the Committee--keep up your membership. Copies of the membership application form (green) are available on request (449-8945) or may be picked up at Turramurra Library.

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