



**SOUTH TURRAMURRA
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
(S.T.E.P.)**

NEWSLETTER --- SEPTEMBER, 1985.

ANNUAL SPRING BUSHWALK.

This year we offer you something a little different, a walk utilising the new CEP Track (CEP = Community Employment Program), along the section between the end of Kissing Point Road and De Burghs Bridge. This track enables you to walk almost entirely through bushland between Sydney City and Thornleigh, where you can connect with the Benowie Track which leads quite a way North through bushland.

The track passes through a variety of bush vegetation, and we hope that the masses of creamy-yellow Phebalium dentatum flowers, resplendent at the time of producing this newsletter, are still in their full glory when we pass through. Certainly many other flowering species will be.

Afternoon tea will reward and revive you at the walk's end near De Burghs Bridge. A few cars, parked there in advance, will convey drivers back to South Turrumurra to collect their vehicles. (Don't worry fellers, we'll save you some goodies.) We don't insist, but a small donation would be appreciated to help offset the cost of the afternoon tea.

DATE: Saturday, 21st September.

TIME: 2.00 p.m.

PLACE: End of Kissing Point Road (near the Lane Cove River)

DURATION OF WALK: about 2 hours.

GRADE OF WALK: Easy, no steep climbs, but track is not graded or levelled, so wear sensible shoes. Could be a few wet spots after rain.

CLOTHING: There is no bush-bashing, so please yourself.

CONGRATULATIONS to Helen Petersen, S.T.E.P.'s Vice President on her appointment to the Lane Cove River State Recreation Area Trust. Helen, a dedicated conservationist with a strong background in bush regeneration will be a real asset on the Trust.

Helen is also on the Staff of Ku-ring-gai Council as a Bush Regenerator advising on the management and regeneration of bushland reserves in the Municipality. This is a very significant advance in the recognition by Council of the value of our urban bushland.

HANGING ROCK, Lady Game Drive. It was reported in the S.M.H. Northern Herald of 15/8/85, that Ku-ring-gai Council intends to "blast out of existence" this significant historical landmark and symbol of Ku-ring-gai. The Municipality acknowledges the importance of its links with Aboriginal culture in that the lizard was chosen as its totemic symbol and the Municipal logo portrays two men of the Ku-ring-gai tribe performing the lizard dance. Hanging Rock is the symbolic lizard and the lizard dreaming site. It would be tragic if this magnificent rock was destroyed. S.T.E.P. members are urged to write to the Minister for Planning and Environment, to Council and to local Aldermen and to phone the Mayor's Secretary, 498-0700 to express support for preservation of this valuable historic and symbolic site.

RYDE SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE is considering introducing a course in urban bushland management if there is sufficient support for it. This would be a valuable course not available elsewhere and if you would like to support this idea please write to the Director of Rural Studies, Ryde School of Horticulture, 59 Parkes Street, Ryde, 2112.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

- * FUEL REDUCTION. It is time some areas received a little attention to keep bushfire fuel down to the level required by Council. This means, as in previous years, citizens of goodwill and noble purpose working with hand tools to pull out and burn mainly dead vegetation--sticks, leaves, bark, etc. which has accumulated on the bush floor since the last time we were there, but leaving a couple of inches of leaf and mulchy covering on the soil and avoiding allowing the rakehoe to score into the soil.

Sunday 15th September: 9.00 - 12.00 Saddington Street plateau. Meet at end of Saddington Street. Normal maintenance up to 100 feet from back boundaries of houses.

Sunday 22nd September: 9.00 - 12.00 Bush track (fire trail) between end of Kissing Point Road and Koombalah Avenue. A comparatively easy job, raking out cut vegetation from the sides of the track (pushed into bush during recent track widening) and burning on track to reduce fire hazard in this old bush of very tall heath, habitat for countless birds.

- * BUSH REGENERATION. Sunday 22nd September (fourth Sunday) at 2.30 p.m. meet at end of Vernon Street, South Turramurra. (Further information Y. Langshaw 449-1541.)

- * SOCIETY FOR GROWING NATIVE PLANTS.

North Shore Group Meeting Friday 13th September, Willow Park Community Centre, 25 Edgeworth David Avenue, Hornsby, Speaker, Inez Armitage "Acacias, knowing and growing." 7.45 p.m.

Festival of Wildflowers, Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden, Mona Vale Road, St. Ives, September 20th, 21st and 22nd.

N.S.W. Region Wildflower Exhibition, Castle Hill Showground, September, 27th, 28th and 29th.

- * DAINTREE RALLY, Hyde Park, 12th October, 1985.

Yvonne Langshaw, President.
449-1541.

Margaret Booth, Secretary.
449-3746.

S.T.E.P. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 1985-6.

NAME: Family Membership \$6.
 ADDRESS: Single Membership \$5.
 PHONE: Concession \$3.
 TO: Geoff Suggate, Treasurer,
 43 Bowen Avenue,
 TURRAMURRA. 2074.