

What's on at TIN each week

Tuesday & Thursday

Coastcaring along Newcastle beaches and bushland areas

Wednesday

Nursery Know How at the Uni site .

**Inductions for new volunteers are held every 2nd Wednesday at 10am.

Friday:

Seed Collecting and Bushland Awareness

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

Nursery propagation activities at Parry Street.

2nd Sunday of the Month

Landcaring at Merewether Beach. 10am till noon.

Meet near Merewether Surf Club. If it's too hot or wet it's off.

You can check the details of the events by phoning TIN or looking at the website

www.treesinnewcastle.org.au

Clean Up Australia Day

Sunday March 1st at Young Street Reserve Carrington.

Start time: 9.30am End time: 12.30pm

We're cleaning up the banks of Throsby creek because the mangroves catch a lot of rubbish that finds its way into the creek through the storm water drains. We'll be supplying bags and inspiration, please bring water, snack, gloves and wear sensible shoes a hat and long sleeves.

"Throsby Creek catchment covers an area of around 3000ha and is home to 67,500 people. More than 70% of the catchment is built up area, 14% is parks and recreational areas and 9% is bushland." http://www.hcr.cma.nsw.gov.au/pubs/throsby_creek.pdf

Meeting Point: We will be meeting at the intersection of McCann Court and Hargrave Streets Carrington. The entrance to Young Street Reserve is here, the boardwalk access is also close by. There is lots of parking but it is also very accessible by foot or pushbike. UBD Map 133 J13



TINformation

252 Parry St, Newcastle West
Ph 4969 1500, Fax 4927 6821

enquiries@treesinnewcastle.org.au

Autumn 2009

TIN turns twenty this year and it is something to celebrate. From modest beginnings, TIN has managed to retain humble surrounds whilst being hugely committed to protecting and nurturing the local environment and providing a focus for people who are passionate about their plants.

A special reunion event is being organised for Saturday 12th September from noon till night at the Parry Street site. We are inviting anyone who we can get hold of who has been involved with TIN over the past 20 years. So spread the word and RSVP, this will help with organising the logistics of the event.

During the afternoon the bus will be taking tours that tell the tale of 20 years of TIN targeted sites.

There'll be a BBQ and photos galore to gaze upon, music to make you move and some very educational displays but best of all the people who you grew with.

If you would like to assist in organising the reunion please feel free to contact Suzanne at TIN.

To enhance the festive feeling throughout the year the minibus will be getting a makeover, beautiful banners will be made and the buildings will be artistically decorated.

TIN acknowledges and thanks Australia Post and Landcare Australia for their support of the 20th Anniversary Celebration



T-Shirt embroidery

Great growing Gums

We have 12 Spotted Gums in 8"pots that are in need of a place to branch out. At only \$4 each these 0.5-1m high lovelies will eventually make good hollows for nesting birds and possums. They thrive in poor dry soils, can capture carbon and are an investment if you want floorboards in the future.



Wear it loud and proud!

Want to get in the celebratory mood? TIN has commissioned some embroidery (p.1) on some very stylish and highly functional T-shirts. If you would like to wear your TIN support, an order for shirts will go in at the end of March.

The shirts come in a green and light, mid or navy blue, with and without a pocket and body hugging, loose or shapely and are only \$25. If you're near TIN we can show you examples otherwise give us a call or email with your details.



Fashionista Bush Regen buddies Nicola & Ben

Congratulations to the new Committee



A highly competent Committee was installed at the December AGM. They bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Committee. The Office Bearers are Chair: Ian McKenzie, Vice Chair: Meredith Laing, Treasurer: Andrew Griffiths, Secretary: Ann Ross. Committee positions were also filled by Diane Lenham, Jane Watt and staff members Adam Cavallaro, Trish Barker and Jenny Robinson.

Sincerest thanks to the outgoing Committee, Adrian Hill, Mim Buchhorn, Cath Eather, Sharryn Ryan-Hancock, Barb Nanshe and Tasman Willis for their enthusiasm, contributions to TIN's ongoing governance and commitment to strengthening TIN's foundations.



The Floraville Rainforest Project Concludes .. For Now.

Winsome Lambkin: Coordinator for Floraville Ridge and Rainforest Landcare
The Envirofund Grant (Round 9) for "The Preservation of Threatened Species in a Sub-Tropical Rainforest Gully" (Floraville) is coming to an end. The project's aim to restore and extend the rainforest by stabilizing the existing canopy cover and the diversity of indigenous plants has been successful.

Since July last year, a two-man team from Trees In Newcastle has, over 16 work days, worked intently to remove Privet, Lantana and Honeysuckle from an otherwise healthy rainforest site. Most of this work has been on hands and knees, at most times exceedingly slow due to dense weeds or thick native vines.

Another outcome of the project has been the collating of a bird species list which also notes how often a species frequented the site. This has been an exciting aspect of the project and a valuable resource even though no unexpected birds were recorded. A Powerful Owl, listed as a 'vulnerable species' was photographed during the time of the project as was a Barking Owl.

Other interesting things of note are a 'significant' Blueberry Ash, a large Magenta Lillypilly (formerly used as a cubby house), a female Orchid Butterfly and a Whip Snake. As well, a pile of peach seeds, another long abandoned cubby house and interesting rock piles were all found at great distances from any visible tracks!

Until more funding for professional Bush Regenerators is available, this beautiful and amazing area, a haven for wildlife, will just keep on 'keeping on'.

Thanks from Gordon

Sincerest thanks to all for your continued support of TIN as a local institution. Having been involved with TIN over the past 16 years, this 20th anniversary year is a sign of how TIN has grown and continues to grow.

What stands out is the commitment of the community as a whole and all those personally involved with TIN with the broader community becoming more aware of the role of native plants and our staff and volunteers leading the way and providing invaluable support

TIN's 20th anniversary is a celebration of a change in attitude towards the environment. Doing what we do now was once considered fringe, but now it's definitely mainstream. This shift in attitude can give us all hope for the future.

I'm looking forward to sharing TIN's historic journey with as many TIN supporters and members as we can find in this 20th Anniversary year. If you know of a past member invite them along on 12th September to share in a bit of local history.

Thoughts for the The Year Ahead by Ian McKenzie, TIN Chair

Despite the efforts of people planting trees in urban areas around the world, the extent of tree cover in urban areas is decreasing.

Less space is available for trees. Urban consolidation objectives combined with people's need for more individual space is resulting in larger building footprints on smaller lots, leaving little space for trees in private property. Driveway crossovers are commonly double-width limiting space for trees in the streets.

In addition to the diminishing space, risk and litigation are challenging the continuance of large trees in our cities. Fewer and fewer large species trees are being planted.

A significant proportion of trees planted never reach maturity. They generally die from lack of care or vandalism.

"A city without trees isn't fit for a dog" is a slogan of TREENET, the national street tree symposium held in Adelaide every year in September. A city bereft of trees is unhealthy – ecologically, environmentally, psychologically, socially and economically.

We need to work to ensure a sustainable population of trees in our cities. Planting trees alone is not enough. The maintenance provided during the first few years of a tree's life is fundamental to its ongoing health and longevity.

To this end, my desire is to broaden the focus of TIN.

TIN succeeds well in propagation, planting, bush regeneration, coastal projects and education.

Over this year I hope to see TIN develop its role in post planting care and 'whole of life' maintenance of trees.

I also hope that TIN will become active in engaging with Newcastle City Council and other relevant agencies to pursue a future urban landscape that comprises a sustainable, healthy and adequate cover of trees in Newcastle.

I look forward to working with the Committee, the Management and everybody involved with TIN in pursuing these ideas.



Glenrock State Conservation Area (SCA)

The draft Plan of Management (PoM) for Glenrock SCA has just been released for comment and can be viewed at www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au. TIN has some extracts of the document for distribution too.

The PoM is a legal document that outlines how the area will be managed by National Parks & Wildlife Service.

There are many different users of Glenrock and everyone has their own perspective of what they should be able to do. The PoM recognises that recreational access and use is a major issue and that it has to be sustainably managed within the context of the cultural and environmental assets of the area. All comments will be welcomed.

Submissions are due on 25th May to The Ranger, Glenrock SCA, NPWS, Locked Bag 99, Nelson Bay Delivery Centre, NSW, 2315.

Would you like to visit the best bits of Bush?

National Parks have recently launched an e-newsletter for national parks visitors, *Naturescapes*, which offers a seasonal snapshot of the exciting activities, events, experiences and places to stay in NSW's national parks. To view the first issue of *Naturescapes* online, visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/naturescapes.

You can subscribe to the newsletter by sending an email to: npwsvisitor.newsletter@environment.nsw.gov.au

Want a Wattle? 2 for the price of 1 Wattle sale!

At the moment we have an abundance of Acacias, big ones, little ones and yellow ones. We have wattles for wet areas, wattles for dry areas, for clay soils and slope stabilising. Acacias are great for gardens, they help fix nitrogen in the soil and the bees love them, this makes them a must if you want your fruit and veges pollinated. Wander in for a wattle and you'll walk out with two for the price of one.



Help Stop the Commercialisation of National Parks

The NSW Government has adopted pro-tourism industry recommendations of the Taskforce on Tourism and National Parks that now puts our national parks at risk.

Weaker national park protection laws are being developed to encourage damaging private accommodation, such as cabins, lodges and 'eco-resorts' in our national parks.

The NSW Government has not even asked the community if they want national parks developed!

Environment groups want a stronger nature tourism industry in NSW and more people enjoying our parks. This can and must be achieved without park development.

Unless we act now increased development in national parks will be allowed by law in March.

TAKE ACTION!

1. Get the message out! email your friends and colleagues who are passionate about national parks;
2. Volunteer! Help get involved in the campaign, contact nofforsale@npansw.-org.au or phone NPA on 02 9299 000;
3. Lobby! email Environment Minister, Carmel Tebbutt dp.office@tebbutt.-minister.-nsw.gov.au or the Premier, Nathan Rees thepremier@www.-nsw.gov.au and say you don't want national park laws weakened to permit private developments;
4. Lobby some more! Call, write or email your local member and let him/her know of your concerns;
5. Become informed! For more information visit the National Parks Association's website at <http://www.npansw.-org.au/web/-conservation/-tourism/-tourism.-htm>
6. Write a letter to the editor of your local paper and protest that you were not asked about these changes.



Biodiversity In Schools

TIN has been supporting landcaring in schools throughout the region since 1999 helping to educate through action by assisting with growing Learnscapes that can attract and house the local wildlife, enhance an understanding of bush tucker plants, stabilise erosion spots or turn soggy soil into wonderful wetland areas.

The Biodiversity In Schools project provides students with positive actions so they can make a difference to their local environment and develop a connection to their catchment. TIN provides this service free to any school.

TIN's Education Manager, Jenny Robinson is also a wealth of knowledge when it comes to grants getting and how to develop a School Environmental Management Plan. If you'd like TIN to support your school, have a chat with Jenny, get in quick as there are only so many schools you can service in a year.

Many thanks to Hunter Water and Newcastle City Council for their ongoing sponsorship of the Biodiversity In Schools programme.

3 4 1 Ficus and a bonus for beginner Bonsai-ers

Can you believe this Ficus friendly freebie offer! Buy one *Ficus macrophylla* or *Ficus superba* and you get another two Ficus for free, that's three fairly free Ficus. Figs are renowned around town for their size and so you maybe wondering where your spreading arbour could fit?

Problem solved... Bonsai them! Don't know how to bonsai your botany? We'll be running a bonus bonsai for beginners' session in which you get a free Ficus...yes another one.

The bonus beginners' bonsai session will be held on Thursday April 23rd, 10.00-11.30am at TIN. Bookings essential and space is limited. Bring along your bonsai tray/pot, some sphagnum moss, pebbles and a small feature rock, we will provide the fine Ficus.

If you don't know what you could possibly do with these fine Ficus features, they'd make fantastic presents for friends.