



Wallaga Lake Heights community newsletter 10, 1 October 2020

Hullo neighbours. Our tenth newsletter is given over to a couple of linked opportunities to join with others in the Bermagui community. These provide an opportunity to compare experiences and have your say on the issues that first got Heights Care going in January – bushfire, its prevention and caring for the environment.

Bermagui Badja Fire Edge workshop at The Crossing, 2 to 4 pm Sunday 18 October

As raised in the last newsletter this project sets out to assist people from around Bermagui who were on or near the edges of the Badja Fire. The purpose of the workshops, drawn from The Crossing's Facebook page, is:

To assist people from the fire edge roads around Bermagui to collaboratively share experiences, monitor wellbeing, identify concerns and develop joint actions and a collective future vision to increase the community's resilience.

Project initiated by The Crossing Land Education Trust with the support of Bermagui RFS and SES

The aim is also that your road gets a useful email and phone tree list to use for future emergencies and social occasions.

The Units section of this site for Resource Documents that can help with your fire resilience.

Workshops with ten communities along Nutley's Creek Road, at Barragga Bay, Fairhaven and others have been held since July. Details of the very constructive sessions can be found on The Crossing's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/thecrossingland/>. It's worth having a look at as it covers subjects such as alerting people in the case of fire, techniques for reducing fire risk and fire-resistant planting.

Alternatively you can apply to join the group by clicking the rather lengthier (!) link:

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/bermaguibadjafireedgecommunityconnection/?_xts__\[0\]=68.ARC0pCTIV0SGYwvYSoz9q_jEymcsb-CcavURBbtBS9tBh-zT1P4AMKQaiJzcPPXmuPAR5fypMCIHQlMlXHh0red41zY1VfM7B2jWoD-ukcjXCnf0102CAAloGDeHfAeP0pwAylRo8xZWYigcJK_1RbyoPyP078sf6us2a9TxVqaNEuXPrecSlb-J-al3Lg1QzIDnfzdWI_NoFBz8dVN3brjkYkdaMXHDsgyNKOFVU16WUwvpdzcompDJOFPeUQ0ER-lbiHtuJYdMTxHl6K12Kmq4o689hqlh9yZRP0xpaGuMDrW8u2nGgfTkAjEq3PyuagMn5hn3Kollu1irQRu](https://www.facebook.com/groups/bermaguibadjafireedgecommunityconnection/?_xts__[0]=68.ARC0pCTIV0SGYwvYSoz9q_jEymcsb-CcavURBbtBS9tBh-zT1P4AMKQaiJzcPPXmuPAR5fypMCIHQlMlXHh0red41zY1VfM7B2jWoD-ukcjXCnf0102CAAloGDeHfAeP0pwAylRo8xZWYigcJK_1RbyoPyP078sf6us2a9TxVqaNEuXPrecSlb-J-al3Lg1QzIDnfzdWI_NoFBz8dVN3brjkYkdaMXHDsgyNKOFVU16WUwvpdzcompDJOFPeUQ0ER-lbiHtuJYdMTxHl6K12Kmq4o689hqlh9yZRP0xpaGuMDrW8u2nGgfTkAjEq3PyuagMn5hn3Kollu1irQRu)

Wallaga Lake Heights will combine with the Beauty Point community for a workshop at **The Crossing, 392 Nutleys Creek Road from 2 to 4 pm on 18 October**. To be Covid compliant The Crossing is limiting total attendance to twenty, with one person per household. Wallaga Lake, having about one quarter the population of Beauty Point, is likely to be allocated six or seven places. If you would like to attend please email bill.southwood@bigpond.com with the following details by **Wednesday 14 October**:

- Name(s)
- Street address
- Phone number(s)
- Questions or points you would like addressed at the workshop

Zoom meeting with RFS Bega, 4 to 5 pm Saturday 24 October

A **Zoom meeting** is being set up with **Marty Webster, Communication and Events Manager of the Bega Valley RFS, 4.00-5.00 pm on Saturday 24 October**. This arose from the Fairhaven Point Way group's workshop at The Crossing on Saturday 26 September. People at that workshop were concerned about the summer ahead and wondering about the RFS's plans for it. A Zoom information session with Marty seemed the best way to gather a large group without COVID risk.

Kai Jensen from Fairhaven has arranged a Zoom gathering, limited to 100 people, resulting in a maximum of 10 registrants from each of the 10 road groups. Participants can take part by videoconference using a computer, tablet or smartphone browser, or can join (sound only) by phoning in. Participants with an unreliable internet connection or poor bandwidth are advised to phone in.

If you would like to take part please send to bill.southwood@bigpond.com by Friday 16 October:

- your names and email
- your questions for Marty.

I'll forward the Heights Care questions to Kai who will combine similar questions into a shorter list for Marty to consider in preparing his talk. Closer to the time Kai will send those who have registered an email with the link to the session, the phone number if they want to phone in, and details of how the session will work.

Brief report on progress with Landcare and the BVSC sustainability grant!

The next newsletter will concentrate on the work under way. Up to ten of our Landcare members are getting together weekly and some of the work in progress includes:

- clearing ipomea, prickly pear, elephant grass, lantana, asparagus fern and many other weeds along the bank between Lakeview Drive and the lake edge;
- starting to cut down an enormous growth of Tecoma and preparing to do the same for nearby cotoneaster;
- burning most of the elephant grass and preparing to dispose of other waste;
- starting to purchase and plant native shrubs and grasses to take the place of the weeds.

It's exciting work and more volunteers would be welcome.

DON'T FORGET TO LET US KNOW IF YOU'D LIKE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CROSSING WORKSHOP AND ZOOM CONFERENCE

Best wishes, Heights Care steering group,

Roz, Libby, Peter, Ivana, Alison, Doug, Bill