

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

### **Call for Bushcare volunteers in the Hornsby area**

The National Trust is calling for volunteers to help rejuvenate native bushland at two properties in Hornsby.

**Ahimsa** at Cheltenham and the **Ludovic Blackwood Memorial Sanctuary** at Beecroft are both in need of volunteers to join their Bushcare program.

Brian Scarsbrick, director of Natural Heritage, said that volunteers play a vital role in controlling weeds, especially those that degrade urban bushland.

“Caring for native bushland is vital for our natural environment to be protected for the benefit of future generations,” he said.

All Bushcare groups are led by a trained supervisor who will guide volunteers through local plant and native fauna identification and basic site strategies for controlling weeds.

The main tasks of Bushcare volunteers are to weed out aggressive plants, such as Asparagus fern, Lantana and Privets, as well as updating the flora species list.

The health of the bushland and local native animals is threatened by a number of invasive weeds.

**Ahimsa** adjoins the Lane Cove National Park and comprises of two cottages and a meditation hut set in 1.3 hectares of typical Sydney sandstone bushland.

**Ludovic Blackwood Memorial Sanctuary** is a sheltered site with a small gully that contains an important remnant of the protected Blue Gum High Forest.

For more information or to join a Bushcare group, please contact the National Trust on **(02) 9258 0176**.

#### **Media Enquiries – National Trust**

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Print and online media please note: photos are also available on request.