Pittwater Online News

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June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition - Guringai Festival 2013

Artist Tom Allen from Avalon Public School with James Allen. Photo by Michael Mannington.

Two wonderful community events involving thirteen schools and including artworks from children in Kindergarten up to year 6 occurred this week as part of the Guringai Festival and our local school's celebration of NAIDOC Week (7-14 July, 2013) occurred this week, the Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition and Indigenous Performance Festival featuring Indigenous Art, Dance, Bushtucker garden Planting, Storytelling and camping out under the stars at Wheeler Heights Public School. More here

Northside Aboriginal Art and Craft Exhibition - on Today

Exhibition Curator Clair Jackson, Bob Walker with Cr Jacqueline Townsend, Mayor #Pittwater. Photo by Michael Mannington.

There's a wonderful exhibition and workshop activities happening at the Mona Vale Memorial Hall today. The Inaugural Northside Aboriginal Art and Craft Exhibition opened on Friday evening. Details to 5 Elvers and pictures by Michael Mannington here

Soibada Priests Visit Pittwater

Father Abel Soares Alves at K J Small Lookout, Bilgola/Avalon headland 29-5-2013. Photo by Tamara Sloper-Harding.

Two wonderful gentlemen, Father Abel Soares Alves and Father Tiago Soares da Costa, are visiting from Pittwater's sister village in Timor Leste at present. This week they have been visiting schools in Pittwater and engaging with community members on a range of subjects. Report by Tamara Sloper Harding. Chairlady of Pittwater Friends of Soibada, here

Week Long Storms Bring Australian Fur Seal to Rest at Bilgola

Australian Fur seal resting at Bilgola Saturday afternoon(29.5.2013). Pitn by Tamara Sloper-Harding.

This Australian fur seal, photographed by Tamara Sloper Harding on Saturday afternoon sheltering and resting at Bilgola, is a sure sign of how rough our weather has been this week. Huge swells and incessant downpours are taking their toll on our wildlife, so please be careful if you have little birds coming to shelter under your roof eaves or find those who are normally safe in the sea coming to land for shelter. Should you find any animal in distress, please don't distress it further by approaching it too closely (less then 40 metres) and call the National Parks and Wildlife Service (9695 7129), Sydney Wildlife (9413 4300) or WIRES (1300 094 737) to report a critter in need or your local vet for advice.

Please don't all rush down to Bilgola beach and scare this darling, enjoy Tamara's pictures here instead and let her rest.

Seals are protected in New South Wales. It is an offence to interfere with or approach within 40 metres of an adult and 80 metres of a pup seal or sea lion. Maximum penalties for individuals include fines of up to $110, 000. 00 and imprisonment for two years.

More pictures and a bit about Australian Fur Seals here

Mona Vale Hospital Becomes A Constructions Site

Photo by Andrew Johnston.

Since the NSW Liberal Government came to office over $20 million has been invested in capital improvements at Mona Vale Hospital. The latest stage of these works is well underway at present. An update and overview from Hon. Rob Stokes office is here this week.

Updates on Amalgamation Discussion and White Paper Presentation by BPN at Mona Vale this Week

View over Pittwater to Barrenjoey Lighthouse. Photo by A J Guesdon, 2013.

During the recent months the *White Paper – A new planning system for NSW*, the *Draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney* and *Future Directions for NSW Local Government – Twenty Essential Steps* as well as preceding papers and drafts relating to these have been discussed in our community. On Friday 28th of June the end date to have our say via a submission ended. This week in Pittwater our Mayor Jacqueline Townsend and Cr Kylie Ferguson, Cr Ian Hoban, Cr Julie Hegarty and Cr Rik Hart attended a meeting in Mona Vale and People for Pittwater met with Hon. Rob Stokes to discuss the amalgamation of Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Councils proposed. *In Future Directions for NSW Local Government – Twenty Essential Steps* paper and local concerns about this.

Pittwater Council has also adopted two long range plans this week, *Pittwater 2025 – Our Community Strategic Plan* and *2013-2017 Delivery Program & Budget*. See Council Meeting June 24th, 2013 documents (C11.1 and C11.3 here

These all form part of this week's issue via the links below. We will be keeping a focus on all these elements outlined in these documents

Pittwater Council submissions on the White Paper – *A new planning system for NSW* and the *Draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney and Future Directions for NSW Local Government – Twenty Essential Steps*

Hon Rob Stokes Hosts Roundtable Discussion On Council Mergers

Presentation by Better Planning Network at Mona Vale Memorial Hall on the NSW Government's White Paper

Wet Winter School Holidays Forecast - Some Alternative Songs for Those Who Sing "I'm Bored"!!

Rainbow Lorikeet Family Sheltering in Bird House. Saturday 29th of June, 2013. Photo by A J Guesdon.

This family of lorikeets that frequents our yard were sheltering from yesterdays deluge, young ones pestering mum and dad incessantly. Since more rain has been forecast for the next few days, the first week of the Winter school holidays, we have stacked full length movies, a couple of board games and a few craft projects in the offing. There's also a few activities on offer to turn their creative talents to. See our Children's and Youth pages for details.

Past Features

Archives

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Pittwater Online News

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Articles This Week:

Front Page Issue 117

Australian Fur Seal Resting at Bilgola - Stormy Weather Taking its Toll on our Wildlife

Hon Rob Stokes Hosts Roundtable Discussion On Council Mergers from Hon. Rob Stokes and People for Pittwater

Soibada Priests Visit Pittwater by Tamara Sloper Harding

Pittwater Council submissions on the *White Paper – A new planning system for NSW* and the *Draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney* and *Future Directions for NSW Local Government – Twenty Essential Steps* from Pittwater Council- Mayor Townsend says community consultation on the Strategy has been 'skimpy at best.'

Presentation by Better Planning Network at Mona Vale Memorial Hall on the NSW Government's White Paper - **are your water and power bills rising so developers don't have to contribute to infrastructure??**

Barrenjoey High School Concert Band to Tour Northern Territory in 2013 - Youth Page and Community News page

Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition

Northside Aboriginal Art and Craft Exhibition by S Evers and Michael Mannington

Mona Vale Hospital Becomes A Construction Site

Katandra Bushland Sanctuary by David Seymour - Katandra Bushland Sanctuary begins its 2013 Season on Sunday, July 7th.

RMYC 2013 Unique Car Show - report by Sally Bacon, photos by Mark Farrell and Andrew Towner

Pictures: This week we are privileged to share Flora, Fauna and melodious views photographed in Katandra Bushland Sanctuary to celebrate the 2013 season opening of this beautiful place

Reflections by George Repin: **King Island Kelp**

Artist of the Month for July 2013: **Tracy Ponich-** photographic artist living on Scotland Island

All Previous Articles

Profile: July 2013 - Pittwater Gentlemen- Robert Romer is the owner and inventor of the TankPro water sterilizing unit and is generously offering his products and services to Pittwater Friends of Soibada to benefit the people in Timor Leste's village of Soibada

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Previous Profiles:

Barton Lynch Shane Withington Commodore Sloper Herminie Swainston Teresa Cutter Joanne Brigden-Jones Tamara Sloper Harding Katie Spithill Chris Salisbury Doug Crane Henry MacPhillamy Aim for the Stars Foundation Broken Bay Marine Rescue Pittwater Environmental Foundation Rotary Club of Pittwater Sophie Haythornthwaite Joan Fisher Mark Ferguson Veteran Carolyn McKay Christine Hopton Ian White Jack Elsegood Robert Grace Colin Casey Bob Waterer The Surfers Group The Palm Beach Yacht Club Pittwater Natural Heritage Association Pittwater Friends of Soibada Pam Bayfield Denise Casey Lynda Hill Belinda Grundy Paul Christie Neil Evers Andrew Holder Ian Curlewis Lange Theory Phil Colman-Peter Mitchell and Exploring tidal waters on Australia's temperate coast Geoff Clarke Palm Beach Sailing Club The Bopulaters Pittwater Camera Club Dragonfly Environmental Pittwater Community Hub Pittwater Community Arts Hayley Turner Samantha Shaw Danielle DuBois Mumpreneurs Neil Johnston Simon Hyland Paul Wheeler Ian McGiffen Brian Friend Pittwater Council Zonta Club of Northern Beaches Sydney Northern Beaches Symphonic Wind Ensemble Bei Loon Dragon Boat Club Margaret Molloy OAM Patricia Giles OAM Doreen Cherry Cindy Goode Milman Stephen Marr Bob Hamilton Simon Abbott Peter Rumble Graham Spong Sailability Pittwater Mona Vale Hospital Auxiliary Avalon Active Seniors Group Northern Beaches Orchestra Sonja Elwood June Lahm Valerie Vickers Karen Draddy Betty King David Hanley Les Ball Paul Webb Malo Legardinier E G Constructions Integrity Candles Monatones The Narrabeen Lakes Ladies Probus Club Inc. Nina Curtis Robyn McWilliam Gretel Pinniger Ted Blackall Edwin Barnard Doug Elliott Anthony Patrick Chandler Walter 'Wal' Wardle Avalon Beach RSL Fishing Club Avalon Voices Surfing Mums Inc. Northern Beaches Social Riders Stephanie Brown Judith Bennett Gemma Rasdall Gwynneth Ross Peter Verrills Tom Gilbert Tony Carr Gwenyth Sneesby Bobbie Squire Philip Bond Save Mona Vale Hospital Committee Southern Cross Wildlife Care Wingala Lapidary Club Surfers Against Suicide Tracy Ponich Katerina Cosgrove Christina Stewart Mermaids of Palm Beach

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History: July 2013 - Pittwater Ferries Round II - Ena I, II and II – Steam Yachts - Sir Thomas Dibbs like naming his steam yachts after his beloved wife - one of these versions lingered longer then the others in Pittwater - eventually running as the *Swanhilda* on the Palm Beach to Mackeral run

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Previous History Pages:

Marie Byles Lucy Gullett Kookoomgiligai Frank Hurley Archpriest JJ Therry Sir Patrick Gordon Taylor Bowen Bungaree W. Bradley 1788 Journal Midholme Loggan Rock Cabin La Corniche La Corniche II Lion Island Bungan Beach Botham Beach Scarred Trees Castles in the Sand Dame Nellie Melba lunches at Bilgola Spring, 1914 First to Fly in Australia at North Narrabeen Mona Vale Golf Club's Annual Balls Governor Phillip camps on Resolute Beach Ruth Bedford Jean Curlewis Mollie Horseman Charlotte Boutin May Moore Neville W Cayley Leon Houreux Frederick Wymark Sir Adrian Curlewis Bilgola Heron Cove Mullet Creek Shark Point Woodley's Cottage A Tent at The Basin Collin's Retreat-Bay View House-Scott's Hotel Bilgola Cottage and House The First Pittwater Regatta Women Cricketers Picnic Filmed In Pittwater Governor Phillip's Barrenjoey Cairn Waradiel Season The Church at Church Point Governor Phillip's Exploration of Broken Bay, 2 – 9 March 1788 Petroglyths: Aboriginal Rock Art on the Northern Beaches Avalon Headland Landmarks Steamers Part I Pittwater Aquatic Club Part I Woody Point Yacht Club Royal Motor Yacht Club Part I Dorothea Mackellar Elaine Haxton Neva Carr Glynn Margaret Mulvey Jean Mary Daly Walter Oswald Watt Wilfrid Kingsford Smith John William Cherry George Scotty Allan McCarrs Creek Narrabeen Creek Careel Creek Currawong Beach Creek Bushrangers at Pittwater Smuggling at Broken Bay An Illicit Still at McCarr's Creek The Murder of David Foley Mona Vale Outrages Avalon Camping Ground Bayview Koala Sanctuary Ingleside Powder Works Palm Beach Golf Course Avalon Sailing Club Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club Palm Beach SLSC Part I - The Sheds Warriewood SLSC Whale Beach SLSC Flagstaff Hill Mount Loftus Pill Hill Sheep Station Hill SS Florrie SS Phoenix and General Gordon Paddlewheeler MV Reliance The Elvina Florida House Careel House Ocean House and Billabong Melrose -The Green Frog The Small Yacht Cruising Club of Pittwater Canoe and I Go With The Mosquito Fleet - 1896 Pittwater Regattas Part I - Dates and Flagships to 1950 Shark Incidents In Pittwater The Kalori Church Point Wharf Bayview Wharf Newport Wharf Palm Beach Jetty - Gow's Wharf Max Watt Sir Francis Anderson Mark Foy John Roche Albert Verrills Broken Bay Customs Station At Barrenjoey Broken Bay Water Police Broken Bay Marine Rescue - Volunteer Coastal Patrol Pittwater Fire-Boats Prospector Powder Hulk at Towler's Bay Naval Visits to Pittwater 1788-1952 Pittwater's Torpedo Wharf and Range Naval Sea Cadets in Pittwater S.S. Charlotte Fenwick S.S. Erringhi P.S. Namoi

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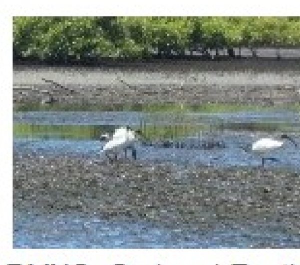
Park Bench Philosopher: Our Profile of the Week Rob Romer, reminds us that many nations still have problems with having a supply of clean water. Australia too once had this problem. This week we bring you **Water Poetics by Australian Poets** that remind of those times and also celebrate the wonder that is WATER: ***It is bright and blessed thing, A Joy-giver to earth, It bursts from many a hidden spring. In many a cave has birth; It reaches from the mountain peaks. It glitters in the sun. And where the torrent bounds and leaps, Its course is never done***

News From Our Inbox **Seagull**, Chimps or Humans: Who's the Better Baseball Pitcher?, Astronomers spy on galaxies in the raw, Averting Worse Economic Collapses, Trove Now 10 Million Pages, Efficient Production Process for Coveted Nanocrystals, The Genome's 3-D Structure Shapes How Genes Are Expressed, Resourceful Microbes Reign in World's Oceans, Peach, Health papers published this week: Flu Shot Effective Regardless of Circulating Flu Strain, Research Finds; Researchers Identify Novel Therapy to Treat Muscular Dystrophy; Autism in Children Affects Not Only Social Abilities, but Also a Broad Range of Sensory and Motor Skills; Heart Failure Survivors at Greater Risk for Cancer; Addiction Relapse Might Be Thwarted by Turning Off Brain Trigger; Breastfeeding Boosts Ability to Climb Social Ladder;



Events: Unique Car Show at RMYC TODAY!!, Aurora Australia Photo Festival, Better Planning Network on White Paper, RPAYC - Crusing Around the World, Zonta Fundraiser, Despararte and Botaless ? - RMYC Can Help!, AvPals Term 3 2013, State of Origin, Cool Jazz Fundraiser at RMYC, Guringai Festival, AFTS 2013 Fundraiser, Sly Dogs @ Church Point, MITCHELL ANDERSON 2 PB, Paddling-Walking, ANMM Exhibitions and Kids Events, Pittwater Camera Club, FoNLC Activities: if it's happening here it's probably listed HERE.

Food: **Winter Pear - Packham's Triumph - the Australian Pear:** some history, facts, recipes and a little about our Marie Byles speaking up for the Woody Pear

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Community News: **Predator Lurking – BEWARE!!,** Barrenjoey HS NT Band Tour 2013, Katandra Bushland Sanctuary, WATER IN TIMOR LESTE, Pretty In Pink - A Very Glam Affair, NSW IRB Premiership 2013 - wrap Up and Newport SLSC Wins Coach of the Year, Royal Motor Yacht Club Broken Bay - Unique Vehicle Show the Vid.!, Pittwater Residents 'Have Your Say' - Submissions Closing Soon, Avalon Sailing Club commemorating 75 years, Thank You! from Avalon Craft Cottage, PNHA Planting & African Olive Awareness, Save Beeby Park - Committee Update, Deposit Day in Martin Place, Report on the film screening by Avalon Group, Applications Open For 2013 Community Building Partnership Program, art in odd places - Call for Project Proposals, Australian Sailing Team Kiel 2013 Highlights, Aurora from Blackmans Bay - Tasmania, Kangaroos Not Footwear, CSIRO and DSTO join to strengthen research capability, LONG RANGE PLANS FOR PITTWATER ADOPTED, WARRIEWOOD VALLEY REVIEW ADOPTED, VANDALS STRIKE AT KITCHENER PARK, Tasmania's incredible World Heritage values realised!, Scientists Discover Thriving Colonies of Microbes in Ocean 'Plastisphere', Lifelines Stress Down Day, Avalon Dunes Bushcare, Monorail Farewell, Warriewood Valley Plan Adopted, 21st Annual Pub2PUb, MONA VALE HOSPITAL AUXILIARY STALLS FOR JUNE TO DECEMBER 2013, **BUSINESSES CAN CONNECT AT JOBSHED**, Our Councils Notices and more

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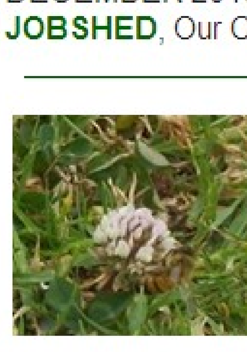
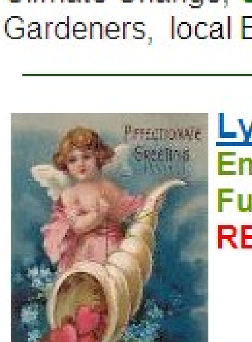


Environment; Climate Tug of War Disrupting Australian Atmospheric Circulation Patterns, Avalon Dunes Bushcare, Looking for a sea change? – Work on the Investigator, Where Caribbean Meets Atlantic, Hiding in Plain Sight: New Species of Bird Discovered in Cambodia, KOOROOWALL FLORA & FAUNA RESERVE by PittwaterPathways, Australia extends water management expertise to Asia, Biological Arithmetic: Plants Do Sums to Get Through the Night, Migrating Animals Add New Depth to How the Ocean 'Breathes', Surprise Species at Risk from Climate Change, **COOEE JUNE 2013**, **FishMap**, New App for Gardeners, local Environment groups, and organisations.



Lynda Hill: **Update 21.6.13: Manifesting And Embodying Our True Selves: June's Capricorn Full Moon - GREAT WINTER SPECIAL ON READINGS AND BOOK**

Pictures: This week we are privileged to share Flora, Fauna and melodious views photographed in Katandra Bushland Sanctuary to celebrate the **Sunday July 7th 2013 season opening** of this beautiful place

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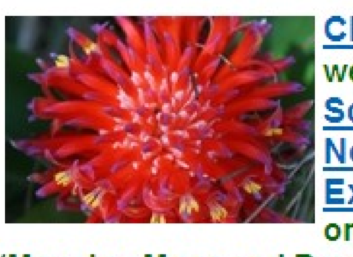
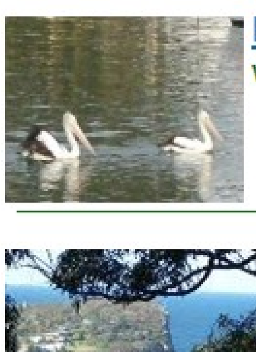


Children: For you this week: Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition and Northside Aboriginal Art and Craft Exhibition, Toddlers on ipads and online games for you this week (Mapping Maps and Dress Up Time); Happy Holidays!!!, HOLIDAY FUN AT MONA VALE LIBRARY, July School Holiday T Ball Clinic + Softball Registration, FUN WINTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS from Council, Teach Kids (no, not baby goats), Kids Art Holiday Workshops, what happens when you let primary school kids vote on the name of an animal, MANLY WARRINGAH BASKETBALL CAMP, Baby Owls, That's enough cuddling of my kitten, Aboriginal Cultural Performance for Children, Super Mario Brothers: The Movie [Full Length] [3D]; The Cat In The Hat Full Movie; Happy Feet Two 2011 Full Movie HD; The Nanny Diaries (Full Movie) Boys and Girls Day on Brookvale Oval, Aboriginal Cultural Performance for Children, Logo Design Competition Aboriginal Heritage Office, OUT LOUD for Children, Sydney Youth Cup, Nutty Story and Rhyme Time at May Gibbs' Nutcote, LET'S READ NATIONAL EARLY LITERACY CAMPAIGN, **Picture Books Online, Children's Storytime at Mona Vale Library**

Youth: **Happy School Holidays !, Barrenjoey High School Concert Band to Tour NT, Whale Shark Research - Ningaloo Reef, Romybeats, July School Holiday T Ball Clinic, 2013 Solar Challenge – Australia, MANLY WARRINGAH BASKETBALL CAMP, Sunswift Crowdfunding, ABC3 YouTubeChannel, JobShed, 7 Things, Fire needs oxygen to maintain itself, TS Condamine, Spinning, Rolling and Hula Hooping, Paint!, Spiral Galaxies Like Milky Way Bigger Than Thought, Superb Lyrebirds Move to the Music, Pareiasaur: Bumpy Beast Was a Desert Dweller, 24/7 Youth Film Fest. 2013, Quantum clusters, Seeing Stars SKA Art Prize 2013, Flight Radar 24.com, How Ben Lapps plays basketball, Year 13: have questions? Get answers, The ECO. Clean Beach Initiative is looking for Australia's most passionate ECO. Warrior to be the face of its movement! Interested? New Facebook Page for young bands on the Northern Beaches, The Line, Mona Vale Library - Duke of Edinburgh Awards.**

Seniors; More Respite for Carers of Older Australians, Positive Aging Projects Funded, Better Care for Older LBGTI Australians, Self-funded retirees get more help with household bills, **2013 Solar Challenge In Australia; Volunteers Wanted**, How to make your boomerang come back, Budget Rest Areas Around Australia, Seniors Are Not Just Wrinkly Adults, Steam Powered Box Factory, Are we that old??!, Hero of the Day, Grandma Drifts A Guy's BMW M3!, Smart Farm of the Future, Never Too Young, Inspirational, Depending on Weather, Health papers published this week: Memory Improves for Older Adults Using Computerized Brain -Fitness Program; 'Singing' Rats Show Hope for Older Humans With Age-Related Voice Problems; Robo-Pets May Contribute to Quality of Life for Those With Dementia; Overweight Causes Heart Failure: Large Study With New Method Clarifies the Association; **2013 COTA NSW Survey**, **Term 3 2013 - Computer Classes for Seniors at Newport**, How to make symbols using your keyboard, National Seniors Literary Prize 2013, local Support and Education Activities.

Community Clubs: Updates on Activities and links to sites.



Artist of the Month: July 2013 - Tracy Ponich- Scotland Island Photographic Artist

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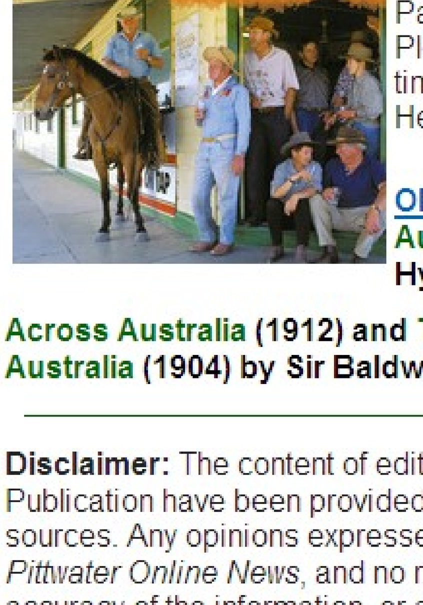
Reflections: by George Repin. **This week; KING ISLAND KELP**

DIY Hints: Basic DIY Tools - the list for those just beginning.

Collector's Corner: **Chinese Ginger Jars** – ancient storage receptacle, the customs of giving as gifts, decorative art after you've eaten the ginger!!



Books: **Into the Sea,** The Aboriginal Story of Burke and Wills; Forgotten Narratives, The Small Kitchen, The First Lions of Rugby, A Book About Scary, There Was an Old Man Who Swallowed a Chook, Hey Jack! The Circus Lesson, A Cook's Tour of France, Great Australian Stories: Outback Towns and Pubs, Bold Palates - Australia's gastronomic, Plein Airs and Graces - The life and times of George Collingridge, The Heaven I Swallowed

Old Books: **- July 2013: The Australia directory (1830) by Hydrographical Office, Admiralty.**

Across Australia (1912) and The northern tribes of central Australia (1904) by Sir Baldwin Spencer

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Pittwater Online News

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Week Long Storms Bring Australian Fur Seal to Rest at Bilgola

Australian Fur Seal Resting at Bilgola – 29th of June, 2013

This Australian fur seal, photographed by Tamara Sloper Harding on Saturday afternoon sheltering and resting at Bilgola, is a sure sign of how rough our weather has been this week. Huge swells and incessant downpours are taking their toll on our wildlife, so please be careful if you have little birds coming to shelter under your roof eaves or find those who are normally safe in the sea coming to land for shelter. Should you find any animal in distress, please don't distress it further by approaching it too closely (less then 40 metres) and call the National Parks and Wildlife Service (9895 7128), Sydney Wildlife (9413 4300) or WIRES (1300 094 737) to report a critter in need or your local vet for advice.

Please don't all rush down to Bilgola beach and scare this darling; enjoy Tamara's pictures here instead and let her rest.

Seals are protected in New South Wales. It is an offence to interfere with or approach within 40 metres of an adult and 80 metres of a pup seal or sea lion. Maximum penalties for indiviudlas include fines of up to $110, 000. 00 and imprisonment for two years.

Australian Fur Seal

The Australian fur seal (*Arctocephalus pusillus*), also known as the Cape fur seal, South African fur seal and the Brown Fur Seal is a species of fur seal. Fur seals are any of nine species of pinnipeds in the Otariidae family. One species, the northern fur seal (Callorhinus ursinus) inhabits the North Pacific, while seven species in the Arctocephalus genus are found primarily in the Southern Hemisphere. They are much more closely related to sea lions than true seals, and share with them external ears (pinnae), relatively long and muscular foreflippers, and the ability to walk on all fours.

The fur seal is the largest and most robust fur seal. It has a large and broad head with a pointed snout that may be flat or upturned slightly. They have external ear flaps (pinnae) and their whiskers (vibrissae) are long, and may extend backward past the pinnae, especially in adult males. The foreflippers are covered with sparse hair over about three-quarters of their length. The hindflippers are short relative to the large body, with short, fleshy tips on the digits. The size and weight of a fur seal depends on the subspecies. The Southern African subspecies is on average slightly larger than the Australian subspecies. Males of the African subspecies (A. p. pusillus) are 2.3 metres (7.5 ft) in length on average and weigh from 200–300 kilograms (440–660 lb). Females are smaller, averaging 1.8 metres (5.9 ft) in length and weighing an average of 120 kilograms (260 lb). Males of the Australian subspecies (A. p. doriferus) are 2–2.2 metres (6.6–7.2 ft) in length and weigh 190–280 kilograms (420–620 lb). Females are 1.2–1.8 metres (3.9–5.9 ft) length and weigh 36–110 kilograms (79–240 lb).

Adult male brown fur seals are dark gray to brown, with a darker mane of short, coarse hairs and a light belly, while adult females are light brown to gray, with a light throat and darker back and belly. The foreflippers of the fur seal are dark brown to black. Pups are born black and molt to gray with a pale throat within three to five months. The skull of the African subspecies has a larger crest between the mastoid process and the jugular process of the exoccipital.

The Australian fur seal lives in Bass Strait, at four islands off Victoria in southeastern Australia and five islands off Tasmania. Clearly this one has drifted or swam a long way from home for some reason and now needs to rest before it can return. Hopefully conditions will lessen from the storm fronts we have seen all this week

Fur seals prefer to haul out and breed on rocky islands, rock ledges and reefs, and pebble and boulder beaches. However, some large colonies can be found on sandy beaches. Fur seals spend most of the year at sea, but are never too far from land. They have been recorded 160 km from land, but this is not common.

The gentle and beautiful Australian fur seals were hunted intensively between 1798 and 1825 for commercial reasons. Seal hunting stopped in Australia in 1923, and their population is still recovering.

Reference

Brown fur seal. (2013, June 22). In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Brown_fur_seal&oldid=561002943

Sydney Wildlife www.sydneywildlife.org.au/

Pictures by Tamara Sloper Harding, Text by Alison Guesdon, 2013.

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Pittwater Online News

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Hon Rob Stokes Hosts Roundtable Discussion On Council Mergers

Roundtable Discussion On Voluntary Council Mergers – MEDIA RELEASE - 28th of June, 2013

Member for Pittwater Rob Stokes today met with key Pittwater community groups opposed to the consideration of voluntary council amalgamations.

In April this year the Independent Local Government Review Panel, established following a direct request from the Local Government and Shires Association, released its recommendations on how the effectiveness of local government in NSW could be improved.

Included in these recommendations were potential options for voluntary amalgamations which local councils have been invited to consult with their communities on and provide feedback.

The People for Pittwater group, headed by former Pittwater Mayor Harvey Rose, was the lead organisation at today's meeting and is strongly opposed to any amalgamation proposals being pursued.

"The message being conveyed throughout our community is that Pittwater should remain exactly how it is," Rob Stokes said today.

"Nothing has been produced to demonstrate how the public interest would be better served by amalgamating three councils on the northern beaches into one.

"Whilst the consideration of amalgamations is completely voluntary and up to local councils to determine - the message from the Pittwater community has been a loud and clear no," Rob Stokes said.

People for Pittwater delegation to Rob Stokes

"The meeting of community group leaders led by People for Pittwater presenting their submission to Mr Stokes demonstrated the unity of the Pittwater community against amalgamation." **Harvey Rose**

The strength of opposition from Pittwater residents to a recommendation from the Local Government Review Panel to a recommendation for the Local Government Review Panel that Pittwater, Warringah and Manly councils should be amalgamated into one super council, was demonstrated at both the rally outside Warringah Council Chambers and submissions to a hearing by the panel on 4th June 2013.

The rally, organised by People for Pittwater committee was attended by many concerned residents who chanted the themes of "No amalgamation" and "Hands off Pittwater." The rally was addressed by People for Pittwater executive members Shane Withington (Friends of Currawong) and Eunice Raymond (Chair, Save Mona Vale Hospital Committee) and was MC'd by Co-Convenor of People for Pittwater Harvey Rose.

The rally was attended by many prominent members of community organisations who passionately voiced the opposition to amalgamation proposals. The rally unanimously passed a motion which stated total opposition to amalgamation of Pittwater with Warringah and Manly.

People for Pittwater Co-convenor Harvey Rose stated "The passionate connection of so many residents with Pittwater and their willingness to fight for Pittwater's independence was demonstrated at the rally." "People for Pittwater will continue to campaign for as long as it takes to ensure the view of the overwhelming majority of Pittwater residents prevails." "We must not be steamrolled by the bureaucrats" Mr Rose concluded.

The hearing of community submissions to the Review Panel was held inside the Warringah Council chambers. Around 150 people attended the hearing - 95% of these appeared to be Pittwater residents who were there to support submissions against amalgamation. People for Pittwater Executive members Harvey Rose, Shane Withington and Eunice Raymond presented to the panel as did former Pittwater mayor Robert Dunn. Thirteen people in total made submissions opposed to amalgamation. Nearly all submissions opposed amalgamation - in fact no submission supported amalgamation.

People for Pittwater's Harvey Rose commented "The quality of the submissions was of the highest level and must have impressed the Panel chair." "Let us hope the Panel heeds the view of our community." "People for Pittwater will continue our campaign until this matter of amalgamation is entirely defeated."

Mr Rose further commented "The panel chair Prof. Graham Sansom admitted all three councils on the Northern Beaches were financially strong and sustainable." "We must ask then why the panel would suggest amalgamation." "Amalgamation would disturb our communities and be very costly." "What would likely follow , as in Queensland, would de-amalgamation with more disturbance and unnecessary financial burdens." Mr Rose continued "We have the ideal organisation now with agreement on regional issues, cost savings through bulk buying and shared services to come, through the regional organisation SHOROC". "Significant cost savings have already been made." " Keeping our local councils means we ensure our communities have access to sufficient councillors." "The Panel should let us get on with the business of serving our council well and withdraw their baseless recommendation about amalgamation" Mr Rose concluded.

People for Pittwater - MEDIA RELEASE - Thursday 27 June 2103

Stokes supports position that a large majority of concerned Pittwater residents are opposed to amalgamation - Friday 28th June was the final day for submissions to the Panel which had suggested amalgamation of Northern Beaches Councils.

The People for Pittwater submission which stresses the Pittwater community at all levels is opposed to amalgamation was presented to local member Rob Stokes. Executive representatives of twelve community groups attended the presentation of the submission to Mr Stokes.

Mr Stokes has stated that in his view a large majority of concerned residents in Pittwater are in favour of an independent Pittwater and opposed to amalgamation.

The submission stressed the peer review of the amalgamation proposed by Professor Brian Dollery concluded there is no evidence to support the amalgamation proposal.

The People for Pittwater submission noted Manly Council is opposed to amalgamation; Warringah Council is opposed to compulsory amalgamation.

Co-convener of People for Pittwater Harvey Rose stated "People for Pittwater will continue to campaign against amalgamation for as long as it takes."

Mr Rose concluded "**The local Government Review Panel should remove the recommendation to amalgamate Pittwater Warringah and Manly councils from its final report.**"

Documents Relating to:

Bigger Is Not Always Better: An Assessment of the Independent Local Government Review Recommendation that Pittwater Council Be Amalgamated by Professor Brian Dollery - 27th of May, 2013

PFP Submission to Independent Local Government Review Panel - 11th of February 2013

Pittwater Council's Submissions on the *White Paper – A new planning system for NSW*, the *Draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney* and *Future Directions for NSW Local Government – Twenty Essential Steps*

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Pittwater Online News

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Soibada Priests Visit Pittwater

by Tamara Sloper Harding

This week we have two very special guests in Pittwater. Father Abel Soares Alves and Father Tiago Soares da Costa are visiting from Pittwater's sister village in Timor Leste, Soibada. Father Abel has been the parish Priest in Soibada for over 7 years. He is in the process of handing over to Father Tiago. The purpose of this visit is to conduct meetings in regard to the partnership agreement between Pittwater Community and Soibada Community.

The Catholic Church continues to play an important role in Timor Leste as it did during the Indonesian occupation. 98% of the population are Catholic. When Timor Leste was closed off from the International Community the Church was the main source of communication. Information regarding details of the human rights abuses filtered through Church channels. There were many nuns and priests who died trying to protect their people. A Parish Priest holds a position of great respect and authority within a village community. In Soibada, village life centres around the Church. Who better to liaise with in our attempts to help the people than the Parish Priest?

During their time in Sydney Fathers Abel and Tiago have visited several local schools and been on a round of speaking engagements. On Thursday they visited every class of Sacred Heart School in Mona Vale. Sacred Heart has recently partnered with the small school of Tasi Fatin an outlying sub village (suco) of Soibada. On Friday they joined students at Mater Maria Catholic College for discussions on the ways in which the youth of both nations could work together to make a difference in the world. Representatives of the Maria Regina Primary School Social Justice Team provided examples of their school's involvement with the schools in Soibada and devised several very original fundraising and awareness plans with the older students!

Saturday night provided a welcome opportunity for relaxation and some wonderful Asian food at Char No. 9 in North Avalon. A hidden gem of a restaurant, it has an extensive menu based on popular authentic Asian street dishes. It is a comfortable venue, with friendly staff. Our visitors from Timor Leste felt truly welcome there.

Next week the Priests will meet with possible donor and sponsors for Pittwater Friends of Soibada Inc. development projects in the village.

Further details about our projects in Soibada can be found at the following links.

Video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_1fPJdFpKM

Website www.pittwaterfriendsofsoibada.org

Face Book https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pittwater-Friends-OfSoibada/162612300466694

Schoolchildren of Sacred Heart School, Mona Vale.

Vaughan and Ethan Heyes of Maria Regina Primary School with Seniors of Mater Maria Catholic College.

Back row; Louise Heyes,(Maria Regina Outreach team and Pittwater Parish Social Justice Team), Fr Tiago, Fr Abel and Vaughan, Front row; Xavier, Isabeau, Yasmin Heyes, Anna Lamb, Armelle, Ethan Heyes.

Report and Pictures by Tamara Sloper Harding, 2013.

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June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

PITTWATER CONSIDERS METRO STRATEGY

Pittwater's submission on the NSW Government's Metropolitan Strategy has been endorsed by the Council at its meeting this week.

The Strategy is on exhibition for comment until 28 June. It sets out a 20 year plan for Sydney's growth and management of housing, employment, transport and infrastructure needs to the year 2031.

The Strategy takes account of expected population growth in Sydney of around 1.3 million over the next twenty years.

Pittwater, along with Warringah, Manly, Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby are grouped together in an area known as the 'North Sub-region', which will be expected to provide 37,000 new homes and 39,000 extra jobs by 2031.

Pittwater's individual target for housing and employment is yet to be determined.

Mayor Jacqui Townsend said the Council's submission to the state government highlighted some key omissions in the Strategy.

"For example, we're concerned that the Strategy does not provide solutions to the problems experienced on Mona Vale Road, which will become even more congested if a land release in Ingleside proceeds and Mona Vale is designated as the centre for employment growth."

Mayor Townsend said community consultation on the Strategy had been 'skimpy at best.'

"There was one public meeting in Hornsby last Saturday for the whole northern Sydney region, less than a week before the closing date for comments. This is frankly inadequate, given the importance of the Strategy for Sydney's long-term planning."

"There is also uncertainty about how this Strategy will integrate with the proposed changes to planning law that the government intends to bring in by the end of this year."

To see Pittwater's submission on the Metro Strategy visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/council and view the agenda for the 24 June Council meeting.

Direct Link: HERE

Mayoral Minute May 6th, 2013: HERE

Future Directions for NSW Local Government - **C11.4 Pittwater Council's Submission**

A new planning system for NSW - White Paper - **C12.1 Pittwater Council Submission**

Submission on the New Local Government Act

Mayoral Minute - NSW Planning and Local Government Reforms

Meeting: Council Date: 6 May 2013

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government is currently in the middle of two major reforms that will have significant impacts on the Pittwater Community. The first is to planning; the State will shortly move to repeal the Environmental Planning & Assessment Acts and enact a new planning regime set out in the draft exposure Planning Bill 2013. The *White Paper* is now on exhibition.

The second is Local Government; the State has commissioned an independent report on Local Government reform. The report *Future Directions for NSW Local Government – Twenty Essential Steps was released on 24 April 2013.*

The impact of these two reforms on Pittwater could change the face of our community. The proposed changes may see increased densities in our built environment with a loss to our natural environment. The Pittwater community has protected its environment, built and natural for the past 20 years. The Pittwater community has fought hard to keep its much loved Mona Vale Hospital, it saved Currawong from private ownership, purchased and swapped land to create Warriewood Wetlands and the Ingleside Escarpment and created a unique recreational area at Winnereremy Bay.

The Community should be informed that whilst there are some positive aspects of the white paper relating to a more strategic approach to planning, it does propose a growing power of the Minister of Planning in local issues. It appears to give more powers to unilaterally change strategic plans, regional plans and local plans without council and the community's input. These aspects, if enacted into the new planning regime, will change the face of our coastline, our villages and our community.

The second major reform is to Local Government. *The Future Directions for NSW Local Government*, published by the Independent Local Government Review Panel in April, proposes a range of options for NSW Local Councils. The report proposes a number of options to create stronger councils in NSW. For Pittwater, the panel proposes it merge with Warringah and Manly councils.

The report is Stage 3 of the Panel's local government reform process and outlines the need for amalgamations. Unfortunately, the most recent report of the Panel in many areas lacks rigour and balance on the perceived benefits of amalgamation of Pittwater Council. I believe it is important that many of the apparently unsupported assumptions conferred in the report be peer reviewed by a suitably qualified and experienced academic.

As the elected representatives of Pittwater Council we have a duty to our residents to inform them of these 2 major changes and what the impact will be on Pittwater if the Planning bill is adopted and the State Government moves away from its current position of no forced amalgamations.

CONCLUSION

To inform our community of these changes we need to start a conversation with them to outline the impacts the reforms will have on Pittwater. We need to inform each and every resident on the proposed reforms so we know their views and those views can be heard by the State Government.

We have gone to great lengths to consult with our community to draft the Pittwater Community Strategic Plan 2025. We know what the community's vision is for Pittwater. It is clear that many of the proposed planning reforms coupled with a possible future amalgamation of Pittwater will not support our Community's vision for Pittwater in 2025.

Council, with the assistance of the peer review detailed under 'Background' and with feedback from the community, will prepare submissions to both reforms proposed in the White Paper – A new planning system for NSW and the Future Directions for NSW Local Government – Twenty Essential Steps.

Motions

1. That Council remains committed to a strong independent Pittwater Council providing local representation and delivering local services to the people of Pittwater.

2. That Council is opposed to the Panel option of either amalgamating with Manly and Warringah Councils or combining as a strong County Council as outlined in the Future Directions paper.

3. That Council brief an expert to peer review the recent report of the Independent Local Government Review Panel, *Future Directions for NSW Local Government – Twenty Essential Steps*, April 2013.

4. That Council coordinate an extensive community engagement process to inform the community of the proposals contained in the report of the Independent Local Government Review Panel and the *White Paper – A new planning system for NSW*

5. That Council prepare submissions to both of the papers outlined at Recommendation 4, having taken account of the views of the community and the findings of the peer review as outlined at Recommendation 3.

6. That the General Manager allocate the necessary resources to undertake these tasks and any budget implications be addressed in the June budget review.

Cr Jacqueline Townsend

MAYOR

All Information from Pittwater Council Media Releases and from Pittwater Council Website, 2013.

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June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Better Planning Network Presentation at Mona Vale, Tuesday 25th of June, 2013

About 80 attended the **Better Planning Network**'s Presentation hosted by community group People for Pittwater on Tuesday evening. Those attending heard illuminating insights into the NSW Government's Department of Planning and Infrastructure's - White Paper – A new planning system for NSW and associated documents from BPN's Corinne Fisher and Pittwater Council's former General Manager Angus Gordon (between 1996 and 2005), a Civil Engineer, was also on hand and spoke equally eloquently.

Corrine Fisher spoke to our Michael Mannington prior to the meeting commencement and stated that "*people living locally were very worried about many aspects of the new planning system being proposed by the NSW Government and the impacts it is going to have on local democracy, residents rights, the impact on local development decisions, and the impacts on our environment and heritage.*"

MM: what do you think the Better Planning network can do for the people of Pittwater?

CF: the Better Planning Network is an affiliation of over 410 community groups across the state, many of these groups are in the Pittwater area. By working together we are building a very strong campaign to raise community awareness of what is being proposed by government and to show government that we will fight for our rights.

People should feel empowered to both make a submission by the 28th of June and **beyond the 28th of June we will encourage people to contact their local representative for NSW Government and also the Minister Brad Hazzard, the Premier and Treasurer and all others in government who are making the decisions to reiterate their own views.**

Corrine Fisher BPN

Angus Gordon addressed a range of issues the proposed planning system raises outlining in particular the new proposals addressing developments in already developed areas and those proposed for undeveloped areas. Mr Gordon empathised that most of choose to live in the areas we live in because these areas have a living strategic plan; if someone wants to build in green fields they've got to pay the whole amount of government levies for a new development where if they build at ground fields then they don't. if they did have to pay to increase the infrastructure it would amount to four times their costs.

Mr Gordon: It is much cheaper for developers to build in brown or ground fields than green fields; they can make greater profits; the only problem with this is the assumption that you can crowd more into brown fields is that it is based on the assumption that all of the services or infrastructure is in fact capable of taking the extras on.

This style of development stems from the 1970's; that if we look at Sydney Water and their water supply system was designed for the sorts of projections for populations of the 1970's and going into the 1980's; certainly not for the operations needed today. If you live in an area like mine you may keep wondering why the pipes keep blowing up; the reason is that they have to pressurise them all because they were never designed for what they have to provide today. You may wonder why our sewerage plants have to discharge poorly treated sewerage when it rains; because it was never designed for what has happened, for the amount of people here now. This is not just in this area, this is across Sydney that this is happening. I'm not even going to start on the roads; you all understand what is happening with our roads.

So who's paying for this; who's paying to fix this? Well, **what's happening to your power bills, what's happening to your water bills and sewerage bills; yes; you are paying what the developers should be paying. That's why I stress we don't want them going into ground field areas because we are the ones picking up the tab.**

The State Government, through what it's doing here, without separating this, and they could easily separate this Act into two parts, the finances into two parts, what they have done **is inflict on all of those in developed areas to pay for the developers profits.**

How many times have you heard that NSW's is broke? How many times have you heard about all this new infrastructure that's going to be built, not to service new green fields but to overcome the problems of the past?

What they're really saying is that because of the incompetence of the Department of Planning in the past N.S.W.'s is broke and everybody has got to pay for it.

This is the same organisation that is projecting this forward. This is being pushed onto us to make a smoother cover up for what they've done.

Mr Gordon referred to the Strategic Plan for Warriewood Valley that the Director General signed off on a few weeks ago, a strange set of machinations or a blatant prelude of what will come that we outlined in Issue 116 in our article: *Is the White Paper: A New Planning System for NSW and the Exposure draft legislation already in place??*

Mr Gordon closed with:

I encourage all of you not just now or for our children, but also for our grandchildren, to scrutinise all that is being done at present and really make a stand on this issue.

Three last points we'd like to close this report on, the last emailed to us, the first two found on the BPN and the NSW Government's Planning and Infrastructure websites while going to Press, should provide more food for thought during the coming weeks as we head towards seeing and hearing what comes next:

Corruption Risk Remains in NSW Planning Bills Despite ICAC Warning – media release from Better Planning Network, June 27th, 2013

The NSW Government has ignored warnings from the Independent Commission Against Corruption that its new planning system is open to corruption.

Better Planning Network's Corrine Fisher said "We are deeply concerned that there will be a high risk of corruption occurring under the new laws."

In its submission on the Planning Green Paper in September 2012, the ICAC identified corruption risk in areas including:

• increased flexibility of the new system;

• the newly created merit assessment stream for non-compliant proposals;

• the wide discretion afforded decisions makers where large windfall gains are possible;

• expansion of appeal rights for proponents (developers) even when they submit a non-compliant proposal, with no similar appeal rights for objectors.

"It is surprising that the ICAC had to remind the Government of these risks when the Green Paper came out because they had already produced a report Anti-Corruption Safeguards and the NSW Planning System seven months earlier. It seems the report was ignored then and there's no evidence that the Government has acted even now," said Ms Fisher.

The Better Planning Network has produced an analysis of how the new Planning Bills fail to meet the six corruption safeguards that the ICAC recommended should be integrated into the NSW Planning System to reduce the frequency of corruption. That analysis is attached to this email.

BPN urges the Government to commission the ICAC to audit the planning Bills.

"We want an assurance that the Government will be rigorous in weeding out corruption risks from the new Planning system," said Ms Fisher. "The corruption risks should be addressed and removed before the legislation is presented to Parliament."

"The people of NSW have a right to expect that corruption risk is not an integral part of the State's planning system and the government has a responsibility to ensure that it is not."

RESPONSE GIVEN TO THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD RE HERITAGE IN THE PLANNING WHITE PAPER – June 29, 2013 from Department of Planning and Infrastructure

On 29 June 2013, an article appeared in the *Sydney Morning Herald* about heritage issues in the Government's proposed new planning system. Below is the full response the department gave to the Sydney Morning Herald:

RESPONSE

- We've told the Heritage Council there would be little change to its role deciding on development applications relating to State heritage items.
- The White Paper and supporting draft legislation proposes a far more coordinated approach in regard to decisions or advice by State authorities on development applications. This is in line with recommendations from the Council of Australian Governments to improve integration and reduce delays in this area.
- Agencies in 2011-12 took on average 50 days to comment on development applications, up from 47 days in 2010-11.
- Under the legislation, the Department of Planning and Infrastructure will have a reserve power to co-ordinate and resolve this feedback from State agencies.
- However we've made it clear when discussing this issue with the Heritage Council, that it would only be when there are delays or where the Council's decision conflicts with another agency.
- As mentioned above, this means there would be little change.
- There will be a protocol with the Heritage Council to implement this approach.
- Furthermore, the new planning system will benefit the conservation of heritage by ensuring planning controls are more regularly updated and for heritage issues to be closely scrutinised in this process.
- This means heritage will be considered upfront when the planning vision for an area is set, not as an after-thought once a development application has been lodged which is often the case at the present time.
- The listing of new State heritage items is not touched at all by the new planning system and is covered under separate NSW legislation, the Heritage Act.

Submissions close on the White Paper - 28 June 2013, (received 4.15p.m) from NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure

Thank you for your interest regarding the White Paper – A New Planning System for NSW. As you may be aware formal submissions close today. We wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended our discussion sessions and made a submission.

In April 2013 the White Paper was launched for public comment. A comprehensive consultation program has been developed in partnership with the UTS Centre for Local Government.

Our consultation has included 40 forums held for the community and practitioners across the state, with 2,160 people attending the sessions. Department representatives also attended more than 60 other meetings with stakeholders to discuss the reforms and listen to a range of views.

More than 2,000 submissions have already been received. A feedback report on the White Paper and draft legislation will be released following the exhibition period and made available at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/newplanningsystem

The feedback report will outline how the government has responded to comments and submissions, as well as any changes that have been made. We look forward to continuing the conversation as we move towards implementing the new planning system.

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Better Planning Network on the NSW planning reforms - Published on 18 Jun 2013

Report by A.J.G, Pictures by Michael Mannington, 2013.

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Pittwater Online News

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Barrenjoey High School Concert Band to Tour Northern Territory in 2013

Barrenjoey High School Concert Band to Tour Northern Territory in 2013

Barrenjoey High School (BHS) is a NSW government school located on the northern beaches of metropolitan Sydney in the suburb of Avalon (www.barrenjoey-h.schools.nsw.edu.au).

Barrenjoey has a proud history of supporting the performing arts and in particular it's program of music. This includes a variety of tastes and styles, and encouragingly, over 10% of the student population is presently involved in the extra curricula Concert Band.

The BHS Concert Band is volunteer parent committee operated, offering budding musicians the opportunity to perform as a group at a number of events during the year, including ANZAC Day, Avalon Military Tattoo, BHS functions, and some competitive performances via Yamaha concert series. Adding to the musical element, the parent community fully supports and funds a yearly out-of-area tour of the Concert Band for 1 week.

In previous years, the Band has toured New Zealand (2010), Tasmania (2011) and NSW South Coast (2012). This year the committee has organised a 10 day tour of the Northern Territory from 26 July to 4 August incorporating visits to Darwin, Katherine and Kakadu. The band will be visiting remote Aboriginal communities, public and private schools, and also taking in some of the Top End's wonderful natural attractions at Nitmiluk, Jabiru and the Darwin environs.

As part of the children's education, a cultural exchange culminating in music workshops and public performances is planned for this year's Tour. Visits to the Darwin area will include Essington School, Kormilda College and the Royal Darwin Show. Visits to Katherine area schools include Wugullar, Manyulallaluk, Jilkminngan, Katherine High and Katherine School of the Air, and in Jabiru, West Arnhem College.

Barrenjoey's band will tour with a compliment of 45 students and 8 accompanying support staff including volunteer parents, Barrenjoey school teachers and our Band Conductor – Andrew Laurich. The Tour Leader – John Stone, is a recognised musician in his own right, and has tutored and mentored many children over many years at Barrenjoey High.

Further information about our Tour can be found at http://tinyurl.com/c96gobh. Further information is available from our Tour administrator – Ray Trevisan, ray@trevisan.com.au or 0400 186 446. Photos Courtesy Sue

Copyright Barrenjoey High School Concert BAnd, 2013.

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Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition - JUne, 2013

Hau Luha, Selma, Jessie, Cherci

Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition Wednesday 26 June, 2013

On Wednesday evening the thirteen Peninsula Community of Schools, Bannerpes HS, Avalon PS, Bilgola Plateau PS, Newport PS, Mona Vale PS, Narrabeen North PS, Narrabeen Sports High, Newport HS, Pittwater House, Pittwater HS, Queens College, Collaroy Plateau PS, and Cromer PS held an Art Exhibition at Wheeler Heights Public School in celebration of the 'Gurringai Festival', showcasing student artwork from Kindergarten to Year 6 as part of our Nadcdc Week celebrations.

On Thursday night many Indigenous students and their friends returned to Wheeler Heights Public School for 'Malalauca Moonlight'. There they participated in a variety of activities; Indigenous Art, Dance, Bushtucker garden Planting, Storytelling and camping out under the stars.

We contacted Neil Ewers of the Aboriginal Support Group- Manly Warringah Pittwater, who gave the Welcome to Country, for an insight on the Art Exhibition:

The Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition on Wednesday 26th at Wheeler Heights - what a night! The collection filled the hall with many styles of art and the kids were so happy and proud to show them off.

The Aboriginal dancing by Darug man Gerard McMinn (Ged) was very energetic and the Dodgeridoo playing by one of the teachers was a great touch. Hopefully we have another younger generation being encouraged to listen and learn about the past because the more we talk about the past the better the future will be.

Thank you to all who were involved in such a wonderful art show and including it as a part of the Gurringai Festival and NADCDC week.

Neil Evers

Many local children have also contributed works to the Northside Aboriginal Arts and Crafts Exhibition currently open at Mona Vale Memorial Hall. There are a range of activities encompassed today, 30th of June, so if you're tired of being stuck indoors by all this rain, have a look at what's available in this week's arTone on Friday night's opening of this and pop down from 9am.

On Wednesday 10th of June there will be an Aboriginal Cultural performance for Children at the Mona Vale Library too. Details below.

Our thanks to the children and parents who allowed our Michael Mannington to capture some of your beautiful and very wonderful works!

Extra Activities at Mona Vale Memorial Hall today:

There are a number of workshops on Sunday 30th: **Two Grass Weaving Workshops with Karleen Green: 1.00 p.m and 3.30 p.m**. All classes are $15 each.

Also on **Sunday 1.30pm and 3.30pm: 'Re-discover Bush Tucker of the First People of Australia' will be held by local Gurringai man Jess Relton and Yuin man Les McLeod.** This will include tasting some bush tucker.

The events finish with a **performance by Bangaly, a local Aboriginal band from 7pm – 9pm**

Aboriginal Cultural Performance for Children - Wednesday 10 July, 11am – 12.15pm: Mona Vale Library, 1 Park Street, Mona Vale

Admission: $10. Come along and enjoy the didgeridoo, face painting, song and dance, Aboriginal art and storytelling. For children aged 5 to 12 years. Under 5 will require parental supervision. Bookings essential. Granville Ravenscroft: 9970 1500

www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/library

Neil Evers, Sharon Smithers and Ged Watkins

Honey Matthew and Helen Piper admiring Honey's owl

Mimi Quaiss

Toby Smith Narrabeen North PS

Heidi Wiseman

Athol Tom Allen from Avalon PS with James Allen

Thane Penney and Ged Watkins

Pictures by Michael Mannington, Text by A.J.G, 2013.

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Inaugural Northside Aboriginal Art and Craft Exhibition

Exhibition Curator Clair Jackson, Bob Walaker, Mayor Jacqueline Townsend

Northside Aboriginal Art and Craft Exhibition - Friday 28th of June, 2013 at Mona Vale Memorial Hall

The Gurringai Festival 2013 **Live Life Locally** is definitely very much alive, giving all wonderful insights into life that are being heard loudly within Pittwater and on the Northern Beaches this week. The wonderful children of Newport Public School Art Exhibition and "Melaleuca Moonlight" held at Wheeler Heights Public school photos will bring a smile to your face just looking.

On Friday evening the inaugural Northside Aboriginal Art & Craft Exhibition officially opened at Mona Vale Memorial Hall and this too is a feast for the eyes, mind and heart.

Curated by Clair Jackson, the exhibition is part of the 2013 Gurringai Festival – celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture in the Northern Sydney region. The artists represented are local Aboriginal people with a variety of skills; painting, photography, jewellery making, pottery and quilting. Also showing are works by imaginative and creative Aboriginal students of local primary and high schools who are within the Peninsula Community of Schools. The children's art is just beautiful and we look forward to see their art in years to come.

Uncle Bob Walaker, a Guringai man welcomed everyone to country. Pittwater Mayor Jacqueline Townsend officially opened the exhibition.

Clair told us that about 2,000 people of Aboriginal descent live in the Northern Sydney area. "They live in urban and suburban surroundings, holding two cultures often between the two cultures. And our art expresses this – sometimes expressing the two, sometimes emphasising one or the other. A combination of urban themes alongside the teachings, preoccupations and knowledge we carry with us into this techno-age of suburban and coastal living."

The exhibition is well displayed and easy to follow with help of the catalogue.

One of the exhibition artists is well- known local artist Jessica Birk. She explained how many artists reconcile the fact that they can create art on land that is not their traditional land.

"Belonging on the northern beaches is something I've grown into. Belonging up there [in the Clarence Valley] was something I was born into - a gift from my ancestors and my family."

"To Aboriginal people land is what makes us who we are, what sustains us. As a Yaegl descendant of Northern NSW, born and raised upon Gurringai land. This allows me an opportunity to bring my own artistic interpretation to this place, a unique connection I have as a local living Aboriginal person, to the Northern Beaches, it's water, it's land, and it's story."

Like many artists, she uses her work to express her mixed heritage. Unlike many, she finds it easy to reconcile the two halves of her upbringing.

"You can belong to more than one place and more than one culture," she says.

The Exhibition is open today, Sunday 30th of June with a number of workshops:

Two Grass Weaving Workshops are being conducted with Kareen Green 1:00pm and 3.30pm. All classes are $15 each.

Also on Sunday, 1.00pm and 3.30pm, 'Re-discover Bush Tucker of the First People of Australia' will be held by local Gurringai man Jess Rafton and Yuin man Les McLeod. This will include tasting some bush tucker.

The events finish with a performance by Bangaly, a local Aboriginal band from 7pm – 9pm.

Michael Mannington has placed a Volunteer Photography Public Gallery here

Elley Cousins Narrabeen Lakes PS makes a presentation to Mayor Townsend

Kim Cameron with one of her works.

Author Lorraine McGee-Sippel with her book 'Hey Mum, What's a Half Caste?'

WINNER Deadly Award Outstanding Achievement in Literature - SHORTLISTED Australian Book Industry Association Biography of the Year - SHORTLISTED Victorian Premier's Literary Award

Lorraine McGee-Sippel was a small girl when she asked her parents what a half caste was. It was the 1950s and the first step on a search for her birth family that would span decades. In the historic climate of the Rudd Government's Apology, McGee-Sippel aligns herself with the Stolen Generations as she exposes a government policy that saw her adoptive parents being told she was of Afro-American descent. This is an honest telling that explores the fragility of reconnection, cultural identity and the triumphs of acceptance. Available from Magabala Books here.

Pat and Keith Brack

Elley Cousins Narrabeen Lakes PS and her work.

Kaide Cousins Narrabeen Lakes PS and his work.

Report by S Evers, Pictures by Michael Mannington, 2013.

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Pittwater Online News

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Mona Vale Hospital Becomes A Construction Site

Mona Vale Hospital Becomes A Construction Site - 26 June 2013

Member for Pittwater Rob Stokes today said it's fantastic to see major construction works underway at Mona Vale Hospital for the first time in decades.

Excavation and ground works are now well progressed on the $12 million expansion of Mona Vale Hospital's rehabilitation and assessment unit and building works are in advanced stages on the hospital's new palliative care building.

Construction of the new rehabilitation and assessment wing is expected to be completed mid next year whilst the palliative care building is expected to be finished within weeks.

In less than 3 years since the NSW Liberal Government came to office, over $20 million has been invested in capital improvements at Mona Vale Hospital.

"These projects form part of a huge leap forward in the modernisation of our local health facilities," Rob Stokes said today.

"Seeing the entire eastern section of Mona Vale Hospital transformed into a construction zone is a sight to be celebrated.

"Both these projects form part of the vision for Mona Vale Hospital and help secure its clear and permanent future as the centre for sub-acute inpatient care on the northern beaches.

"It's been decades since we've seen works of this scale at Mona Vale Hospital and the scene is now set for other exciting projects to follow," Rob Stokes said.

Overview of works:

Rehabilitation Unit Expansion

Major works are currently underway on the eastern side of the hospital as part of a $12m expansion of Mona Vale Hospital's rehabilitation unit. Once completed, the new unit will accommodate an additional 26 patients and see a welcome improvement in the quality of services available to local residents.

Palliative Care Unit Upgrade

Construction is underway on substantial extensions to Mona Vale Hospital's palliative care unit, on the far eastern perimeter of the hospital, which enjoys expansive ocean views. This upgrade will provide a huge boost to our local health services and help provide improved support to the most vulnerable members of our community.

Helipad Upgrade

The upgrade of Mona Vale Hospital's rehabilitation and palliative care units has been augmented by the provision of a new and enlarged helipad to enable modern helicopters to receive and transfer patients to specialised care. This project has recently been completed and provides a welcome addition to Mona Vale Hospital's facilities.

Emergency Department Expansion

Work is scheduled to commence shortly on a significant upgrade to Mona Vale Hospital's Emergency Department that will increase its capacity by 8-10 beds. $1.8 million has been provided to construct a new Short Stay Unit, within the existing Emergency Department, that will improve options for emergency staff and better accommodate patients who may need to be monitored for an extended period, but do not require admission into the hospital's general wards.

Maternity Services

In July 2009 maternity services were temporarily re-located to Manly Hospital whilst asbestos removal renovations were carried out on the maternity ward. Following a substantial allocation of funds by the NSW Liberal Government in the 2011/12 State Budget, Mona Vale Hospital's maternity ward has now been comprehensively upgraded and birthing recommenced in July 2012.

Pictures by Andrew Johnston, 2013.

Tweet Like +1

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Katandra Bushland Sanctuary

by David Seymour

Katandra Bushland Sanctuary will begin its 2013 open season on **Sunday 7th July** with a new bridge along its walking track replacing the bridge destroyed by a fallen tree last year. The bridge is one of two that spans the gully across Katandra Creek. The walking track remained closed at this point for much of last year while the task of removing the twisted remains of the old bridge and building the replacement was organised and carried out.

Built in 1992, these bridges were officially named the "Villani – Polglase Bridges" in recognition of the funding support provided by long-time supporters of Katandra Jeanne Villani and Pamela Polglase. Jeanne and Pamela had opened their home gardens to the public with funds raised being passed on to Katandra to help with the cost of materials. The construction was done by volunteers from the "Friends of Katandra" with help from the West Killara Venturer Scouts. The work on the new replacement bridge was done by a local company "The Gardenmakers" as the overall task, which included cutting away the fallen tree, was considered too dangerous and difficult to be attempted by volunteers.

This gully is one of the most beautiful and peaceful sections of the Sanctuary where the creek winds its way down the gully, fringed by rainforest trees, cabbage tree palms and ferns. It is an area where echidnas have been seen and where the lyrebirds can be regularly spotted scratching their way through the leaf litter looking for food.

The mass of branches and logs that remains behind in the gully serves as a reminder of the event which saw a giant rough-barked eucalyptus tree fall, also bringing down a large casuarina tree. Both trees fell across the first section of the bridge, totally destroying it and damaging the handrails of the second section. This occurred at a time when the Sanctuary was closed so no visitors were in any danger. The tree appears to have been healthy so it is possible that the fall was due to the waterlogged state of the ground due to heavy rain at the time.

Katandra Bushland Sanctuary occupies much of the escarpment overlooking Mona Vale between Mona Vale Road and Cabbage Tree Road, an area of approximately 12 hectares. It originated from a gift of land by the late Harold Seymour who had purchased the land just after the Second World War. The beauty of the area and the encroaching development led Harold to approach the NSW Lands Department with the offer of the gift of land so that it could remain in its natural state for the enjoyment of future generations for all time. In 1967 it became gazetted as a bushland sanctuary dedicated to the preservation and study of the native flora and fauna of the area. There is a plaque in the Sanctuary with the inscription "Katandra Bushland Sanctuary – a bounteous gift to naturalists from Harold Seymour".

Katandra is now owned by the NSW Lands Department and administered by a voluntary Trust. A small but active group of volunteers maintain the sanctuary, removing weeds and keeping the walking track cleared. This 2.5 km track winds its way through a remarkable range of habitats, from moist rainforest to tall open forest, open woodlands and wet heathland, while also passing an ironstone cave with centuries-old stalactites and stalagmites. A shortcut cut track can reduce this to about 1.5 km for those not up to making the full distance. Surveys have identified over 350 species of flora and fauna within the Sanctuary which also acts as an important corridor linking bushland areas to along the Warriewood Escarpment to the south with Bayview and Ku-ring-gai National Park to the north. Eucalypts, casuarinas, turpentines and angophoras form the canopy whilst the understorey houses a wealth of flora. During the spring months, Katandra bursts into colour with a display of wildflowers.

Katandra, an aboriginal word meaning "the song of birds", is **open to the public every Sunday from July to October, 10am to 4pm** Entry is by donation of $3. Located on Foley's Hill, it is accessed from Lane Cove Road, Ingleside, off Mona Vale Road.

Further information can be obtained from Katandra's website – www.katandra.org.

Reconstruction

The new bridge

To Celebrate this beautiful Sanctuary's 2013 Season Opening we have images taken at Katandra to share as this week's Pictorial

Copyright Katandra Bushland Sanctuary, 2013.

Tweet Like +1

Katandra Bushland Sanctuary

Katandra Bushland Sanctuary **will begin its 2013 open season on Sunday 7th July**. To celebrate we are privileged this week to share with you Katandra's history, as told by Harold Stanhope, who with his late wife Ruth, established the sanctuary. Harold's progress from a gift of land by the late Harold Stanhope to this place could remain a no natural state for the enjoyment of future generations for all time.

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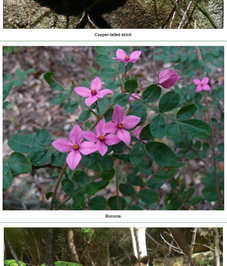
Powerful Owl

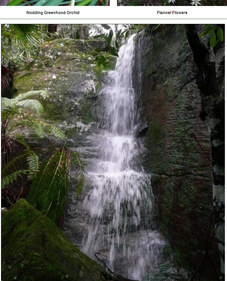
Native Fuchsia

Diamond Python



Epacris Longiflora

Glossy Black Cockatoo



Grey Spider Flower

Copper-tailed skink

Boronia

Swamp Wallaby

Nodding Greenhood Orchid

Flannel Flowers

Copyright Katandra Bushland Sanctuary, 2013.

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Sixth Annual RMYC Unique Vehicle Show for Bear Cottage - June 2013

Royal Motor Yacht Club – Broken Bay- Unique Vehicle Show 2013

The Royal Motor Yacht Club Broken Bay (at Newport) held its 6th Annual "UNIQUE VEHICLE SHOW" on Sunday 23rd June 2013. Although it was raining prior to the opening, a half hour before the skies above the RMYC cleared and the chamois came out to dry off and re-gleam these beautiful vehicles prior to the public strolling in.

This may be thought an 'unusual' event for a Yacht Club, but "boaties" do have many other interests, and an enthusiasm for all things mechanical is certainly one of them! People keen to display their vehicles, and in particular members of the Pittwater Motor Enthusiasts who help with the day's planning, gathered to share stories, enjoy each other's vehicles, despite the frigid sunshine/ quality of the day. The focus again this year, besides enjoying these great vehicles, was raising funds for Bear Cottage at Manly with visitors placing gold coins in money boxes in front of Vehicles they liked.

This year over 60 vehicles were on display including everything from beautifully restored Vintage cars, Classics and Sports Cars, Hot Rods, and Motorcycles. In the forecourt of the Quarterdeck Brasserie scale models of well-known Sydney Ferries like the 'South Steyne', 'Lady Woodward' and 'Collaroy' were on display. Wonderful stuff for a community that not only has a historical heritage based on ferry or packet transportation but maintains its love for all vessels that move on the water, especially its ferries.

The displays were located in the lower waterfront car park at the Royal Motor Yacht Club, with the Alan Ward Jazz Band providing great music to stroll among the vehicles to.

A great day out for the whole family was experienced by all, and this year the historic *MV Reliance* ferry ran a shuttle service from Rowland Reserve Boat Ramp and Newport Public Wharf providing a great way of getting to and from the Yacht Club and enjoying a boat trip at the same!

Overall, the day raised $1,477 and the Royal Motor Yacht Club will round this up to $1,500 and organise for the donation cheque to be sent to Bear Cottage.

"We were very happy with Sunday considering the weather and forecast, I did not dream that the turnout of vehicles would have been so good. Many of our club members have rung me and they all thought it was a really good day, which pleased me greatly."

Brian Jackett, PITTWATER MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS ASSOCIATION INC.

2013 Unique Car Show – Winners

Bob Radridge Perpetual Trophy winner: Harry Carr with his 1928 Ford AA Tow Truck

People's Choice Award: Ken Noble with his 2007 Ford Mustang GT500 – (money box had $223.50!!!)

Category 1 – Pre 1934: David Rundle with his 1927 Franklin

Category 2 – 1934-1954: Neil Freeman with his 1948 Ford Coupe

Category 3 – 1944-1980: Bill Buckle with his 1958 Buckle Coupe

Category 4 – 1981 – current: Lloyd Thompson with his 1984 Alfa Romeo

Category 5 – Hot Rods: Paul Kempton with his 1934 Ford Sedan

Category 6 – Motor Bikes: George Morton with his 1961 Norton Dominator

Royal Motor Yacht Club Broken Bay - Unique Vehicle Show 2013 - Published on 27 Jun 2013

Report by Sally Bacon, Pictures by Mark Farrell of MV Reliance and Andrew Towner of RMYC, 2013.

Tweet Like +1

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

SPARKLING WATER.

Come, let us sing of fount and spring,
Of brooklet, stream and river,
And tune out praise to Him always
The great and gracious Giver.'

What drink with water can compare,
That nature loves so dearly ?
The sweetest draught that can be quaffed
Is water sparkling clearly.

Down fall the showers to feed the flowers,
And in: the summer, nightly,
The blossom's sip, with rosy lip,
The dewdrops gleaming brightly.

What drink with water can compare,
That flower and bud love dearly ?
The sweetest draught that' can be quaffed,
Is water sparkling clearly.

Each little bird, whose song is heard.
Through grove and meadow ringing,
At streamlet's brink, will blithely drink,
To tune its voice to singing.

What drink with water can compare,
That every bird loves dearly?
The sweetest draught that can be quaffed
Is water sparkling clearly.

The sheep and kine in fallow fields,
The deer on mountains lonely,
The neighing steed, in sorest need,
Will drink of water only.

What drink with water can compare,
All animals love dearly?
The sweetest draught that can be quaffed
Is water sparkling-clearly.

Away all drink that man distils,
So fraught with sin and sadness
We'll drain the cup that brings no ills,
The draught of health and gladness.

Then welcome water everywhere
In fountain, well, or river;
And as we drink, still let us think,
Upon its gracious Giver.
SELECT POETRY. (**1883, April 13**). *Kerang Times and Swan Hill Gazette* (Vic. : 1877 - 1889), p. 4. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article65694085

PURE WATER.

Respectfully dedicated to the Heathcote Water Trust.
Water, water, everywhere,
And not a drop to drink I-Coleridge

The other night I had a dream,
A dream of vivid horror.

I had to drink the flowing stream
From then until to-morrow
It is not that I so distrust
Pure water's quenching power.

But I saw plainly--speak I must,
Huge microbes in the shower
That water freely shed around
An ancient, earthy, fishy smell.

'Twas good to water garden ground,
'Twas food and drink as well,
But I saw typhoid in the cup,
And each disease zymotic,
The active microbes filled me up,
And made me feel neurotic.

MORAL.
As K-r-n-y, P-m-n-t-r and f-T-s
Sell beer that's sound and wholesome.
We needn't have to hold our noses,
While drinking such a potion,
As water from the water trust,
I only hope those gentry must
Drink their own vile solution.
Unfiltered, feverish, rank pollution.

Original Poetry. (**1897, December 2**). *The McIvor Times and Rodney Advertiser* (Heathcote, Vic. : 1863 - 1918), p. 2 Edition: EVENING. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article91922701

Blue Water.

There's a wind along the seaway,
Aye, a new wind, a clean wind,
A wind t lint treads like sea rain with the thresh of homing ships
Beating back across the world —
A proud wind, a keen wind,
That stirs t the laggard heartbeat like a kiss upon the lips !

Home across the sea rim —
Tack and veer and tack —
Troopship, warship, merchantman and smack,
Home from all the ends of Earth
The winds have brought them back —
Back across the Seven Seas from BlueWater!

Home again from their christening —
And when so red the wine —
Troopship, warship, armored ship'o'the-line,
Beating back like curlews,
Across the windy brine —
Our ships that have gone down at last to Blue Water!
—Dorothy Paul,
— In " *The Saturday Evening Post*."
POETRY. (**1919, July 5**). *The Byron Bay Record* (NSW : 1902 - 1924), p. 4. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article108141378

THE WATER.
By J. E. Carpenter.

It is bright and blessed thing,
A Joy-giver to earth,
It bursts from many a hidden spring.
In many a cave has birth;
It reaches from the mountain peaks.
It glitters in the sun.
And where the torrent bounds and leaps
Its course is never done.

It whispers in the grassy dell.
Where happy childhood plays;
The sweet wild flower knows it well,
The herb its law obeys.
It sparkles in the dews of night
A gem, a ray, a star,
And In the fountains' liquid light
How bright Its glories are !

It sleeps within its frozen home,
Where men may never be.
Then grandly marches o'er the foam,
When God has set it free.
It echoes back the thunder's crash,
When mighty tempests blow,
And giant waves the breakers lash,
Where the seaman fears to go.

It sings when falls the gentle shower,
It dances in the ball.
And when the snow-flake hides the flower
Tis sweet to see it sail,
Calm as a sleeping child it lies.
It wakes majestic-grand;
It paints the rainbow in the skies.
And beautifies the land.

Tis held in every fuzzy cloud
That's silvered by the sun.
It flows for all alike,-endowed
With health for every one ;
It fills the rich and clustering vine,
It makes the fruit to grow;
The fleecy flocks, the lowing kine,
Its countless blessings know.

Oh! is it not a holy thing.
And sanctified for all !
That pure and everlasting spring,
From whence such blessings fall -
The water ! Water ! see and say.
Proclaim its Wondrous worth;
The type of immortality!
Life-giver to the earth!

Warne's Christmas Annual
Poetry. (**1868, May 6**). *Warwick Argus and Tenterfield Chronicle* (Qld. : 1866 - 1879), p. 4. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75669108

Park Bench Philosophers

We welcome contributions from all Pittwater residents in the form of anecdotes, memories, stories, poems or even matters you'd like to see addressed or changed in our area.

If you have something you'd like to share, something you'd like to start a discussion about, or even just a poem or story from yesterday or today we want to hear from you.

Contact us at: pittwateronlinenews@live.com.au

Please note that Pittwater Online News does not endorse any of the content of works contributed. Articles which contain swearing or may offend others will not be accepted. Please note that all works are posted unedited; you are the author, this is your page. Word Limit: 2000.

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Pittwater Online News

Pittwater's Community Newspaper

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Sunday, 1 March 2015 Vol 12 No 9

Whale Tale Boat

Whale Tale Boat

Whale Tale Boat

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Robert Romer – TankPro

Pittwater gentleman Robert Romer is the owner and inventor of the TankPro water sterilizing unit. He specialises in development design applications and provisions for clean, safe, sanitised water in countries throughout the world.

I have an extensive background of over 25 years experience in water treatment by electro-chlorination, combined with a sound knowledge of electrical sanitising applications, water treatment equipment technology and techniques.

I specialize in 'electro chlorination' (water treatment applications) for all bodies of water including collected rainwater, grey water, waste water treatment and Emergency water aid relief. I have an extensive knowledge of water sterilisation and water purification by electro-chlorination, as well as further knowledge and experience in various fields of water treatment technologies.

My experience and knowledge also extends to co-inventor of two developed, patented water treatment products and the inventor of TankPro products. TankPro Units are seen as foundational in environment friendly, portable, easy to use sterilising units.

TankPro aids and benefits ongoing sustainable water choices for developing nations and communities across the world.

TankPro won an award last year, Building Product New's 'Sustainability Award, Product Innovation of the Year 2012' See: http://tinyurl.com/cz6fdqf

The TankPro TP250 Water Sterilizing unit.

TankPro is committed to manufacturing, designing and developing high quality water sterilization unitsproducing an optimal result in recycling, treating and sterilising collected and stored water in portable water containers, rainwater tanks, grey water storage tanks, and waste water treatment systems.

TankPro is also committed to community aid based activities, for the treatment of recycled drinking water in developing countries and making provisions for clean, safe, sterile water available to communities that are most effected by water borne disease.

TankPro manufactures to the highest quality, functional and easy to use water sterilisation units that are economical to operate and easy to maintain. Website Address: www.tankpro.com.au

You are making a substantial contribution to the people of Soibada through Pittwater Friends of Soibada. Please tell us about that.

I met Tamara through Nick Halkyard of Avalon who suggested I contact the Pittwater Friends of Soibada Chairlady and see if I could be of assistance.

What TankPro hopes to achieve whilst in Soibada is to give the community access to clean, safe, sterile water. At present there is no clean, running or stored water and any water that is collected is diseased.

I will be hopefully setting up a Rainwater / Water Collection Tank, at the school and installing TankPro to sterilise this water. The water will be used for Drinking, Washing Food and Vegetables, Cooking, washing hands (after toilet use) etc.

The clean, sterile water will help eliminate waterborne diseases, bacteria and viruses and help to improve the health of the people, which suffer from vomiting and diarrhoea and sometimes death from drinking contaminated water.

Another project whilst there will be at a Medical Centre where there is already a water tank installed. At present, the water is in very poor condition, containing waterborne diseases and laden with mosquito larvae. This will not only sterilise the water but also eliminate the mosquito larvae (which are Malaria Hazard).

Again its uses will be of those listed above, however it will also help provide a sterile environment at the medical centre when the water is used to wash down areas.

What is your favourite place in Pittwater and why?

Bilgola Lookout – Watching the whales go by. Awesome.

What is your 'motto for life' or a favourite phrase you try to live by?

It is more blessed to give than to receive.

TankPro TP250

The TankPro TP250 unit has been designed to suit the growing needs of water sanitation within home rainwater and grey water tanks. It simply sits in the water, eliminating water borne disease and bacteria commonly found in these tanks such as debris and catchment load, fecal coliforms (bird droppings) and Tannin staining.

The TankPro TP250 water recycling sterilising unit has been developed to provide assistance for the eco-friendly reuse of stored water. It is a stand alone sterilising unit that will decisively kill all human harmful micro-organisms, bacteria and viruses commonly found in stored or collected water. With the ability to provide a sanitised collected water environment as a stand alone product that can run on mains power, car or motorbike battery, solar or wind turbine power.

INITIATIVES

•The TankPro TP250 water recycling sterilising unit has been developed to provide assistance for the eco-friendly reuse of stored water. It is a stand alone sterilising unit that will decisively kill all human harmful micro-organisms, bacteria and viruses commonly found in stored or collected water. With the ability to provide a sanitised collected water environment as a stand alone product that can run on mains power, car or motorbike battery, solar or wind turbine power.

•TankPro is a first, one of a kind, patent pending product designed to eliminate the need to sanitise collected water with additional chemicals which effectively harm the environment.

•TankPro sanitises grey water also by killing off the dangerous bacteria found in collection tanks, grey water must be treated within 24 hours and always before use in the garden and around homes. Also important is the decontamination of grey water prior to any possible leak into estuaries or creeks.

•TankPro uses the minerals within these tanks to sanitise the environments, rainwater for consumption and grey water for safe cross over and interaction, as well no environmental impact issues.

•Environmentally friendly, portable, easy to maintain, can be used all over the world and is capable of running off mains power (via the small TP250 PowerPack), solar power wind turbine and car or motorbike battery power in times of emergency.

•TankPro is committed to manufacturing, designing and developing high quality sanitation units that produce a Sterilising Biocide manufactured by the low voltage emission using electrolysis, converting the mineral salts within the actual stored water, sanitising the stored water environment onsite.

•The production of sodium hypochlorite (NaOCL) by the TankPro TP250 unit produces an optimal result in recycling, treating, sterilising, disinfecting water stored in rainwater tanks, grey water storage tanks, portable water containers and aerated waste water treatment systems. With the reuse of already available minerals within the collected water TankPro is totally environmentally friendly, portable, easy to use and maintain with world wide electrical approvals.

www.tankpro.com.au

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Eva I, II and II – Steam Yachts

Eva I, II and II – Steam Yachts

Eva I

Eva II

Eva II

Eva III

Eva III

Eva III

Issue 30 - July 21, 2013, Issue 227

Happy School Holidays - Hope you all have a great few weeks off!!

Toddlers on ipads and online games

After watching, no not yet two years old twice play games on my iPad, I thought I'd better look into what's out there for them and you too will want to know how to do it! It is easy once you've probably be playing mostly. So this week, and next week, we're going to look at some of the best apps for toddlers.

Young Pre-school have the best of the best listed for free and gold at HERE. They are all free but the gold have no ads and you get a few extra that will keep you busy for hours.

We've also running some lessons over in our Youth section, check out the Computer Classes for Kids and Teens.

Our last article about Alcest and our pick for the best Christmas gift, Feminine Guard HAPPY at Schools Act Endorsed, as many you took part in the Australia Wide Toothbrush Survey. Over 2,000 people took part in the survey and the results were fantastic pictures. There is no good thing deserves a place on Mother's Day. Check out the Mother's Day Gift Guide for some great ideas. Tell us, click on the Why to Mum Day Gift Guide for Mother's Day. Reveal your to Graduate Projects Visit Pittwater by Tamara Stower Tamara is a 17 year old student from Mona Vale who has been appointed with the lovely village of Graduate to Torres Land and began at Mona Regina Primary School in August.

We hope you have a great time these holidays and you know by now we'll be dancing along in the office here too! Al Ed.)

Mapping Hero

Description: Come and accept the challenge of Mapping Maps, experts at geography! Each player is the guide of the great Explorer Guardians with their names. At each level, you will be given 3 maps. Each map will have a different scale and you will have to find out what is the number of each map and then replace the letters and then respective names, and when you have completed the task your Explorer will be given a star. Each level will have a map with the corresponding letters and numbers and you will have to find the correct matches in order to proceed. To find to finish the game without losing a life.

Dress Up Time - *Created by PrimaryGames*

Description: "All dressed up and no place to go." now you can snap on a fun outfit and head out on the town! Dress Up Time is the perfect game for girls who love to choose the most beautiful makeup, fashion clothes and accessories for the model. First of it's all you need to select the model you want to dress up and then click on the Next button. Click the symbols on the palette to view the effects, then click the Continue button at the bottom left of the screen. Choose the clothes you want to put on the model, then click on the model's face, and you need to choose the right makeup for the model. Click on the Next button to continue. Choose the accessories you want to put on the model. Click the Continue button at the bottom right of the screen. Click the Continue button at the bottom left of the screen. Choose the clothes you want to put on the model, then click on the model's face, and you need to choose the right makeup for the model. Click on the Next button to continue. Choose the accessories you want to put on the model. Click the Continue button at the bottom right of the screen. Click the suitable clothes and shoes for the model, then click the Next button to continue. Choose the right hair for the model and by adding texture to select the perfect hairstyle for the model. Choose from the jewelry box. The better your results in the tasks, the higher your score. Put on the model shine with a stylish and glamorous look on the stage!

This is what happens when you let primary school kids vote on the name of an island

BANLY WARRINGAH BASKETBALL CAMP

Tues 9th, Wed 10th & Thurs 11th July 2013
Belrose Stages 5.15.10am Noon Session 2
ages 11 to 14 years 1.30pm

Venue: NBSC, Jackson Rd, Warriewood
Cost: $60 per player (Includes lunch & drinks)
Competitions with great prizes. Cost: $70. This is 3 day camp ONLY. Payments must be made prior to camp
Enquiries: Coach Mick Banly 0411 111 111 or Coach Ben Banly 0404 0101 (Head Coach)
Email: camp@banlybasketball.com.au Enquiries 99133622
Web: www.banlybasketball.com.au
BANLY BASKETBALL CAMP

Seeing Stars SKA Art Prize 2013

Seeing Stars is a celebration of art and astronomy inspired by the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), the world's largest radio telescope which will be constructed in Australia.

Using the inspiration of the SKA, artists and visual/audio artists are invited to create original pieces of art that encompass the excitement and mystery of the SKA and its potential for discovery. Artists can work in any medium, including painting, drawing, sculpture, textiles, jewellery and digital media. Audio/visual artists can include photographic, installations or other craft.

The winner will receive the boxed artwork in one of the five 'themes' and a Residency Workshop with the five research areas for the SKA.

The themes are:
• The birth of stars and galaxies
• The evolution of galaxies
• Alien life
• The genius of Einstein
• The mysterious life cycle of space

For the full Terms & Conditions please see Rules. Entry details can be found here. Entries close at 11:59 PM AEST, Friday 5 July 2013. Entry is restricted to a maximum of Seven (7) entries.

Lego Design Competition Aboriginal Heritage Office

Create a new sign for the Aboriginal Heritage Office and you could win a new Nikon camera! Include text, photographs and/or drawings in your design. Entry is free. Competition is open to Year 5 and 6 Community Centres – Aboriginal Central, Lane Cove Council, North Sydney Council, Pittwater Council, City of Ryde, Warringah Council and Willoughby Council.

There will be one first place prize awarded in each of the following two categories:

1 – 4 Primary Years
7 – 12 Primary Years

• Residents within the Council Areas #3 entries must be accompanied by an application form available at www.aboriginalheritage.org

Entries open on 1 April and **close on 12 July**

Send your original design to The Aboriginal Heritage Office, c/o Lane Cove Council, PO Box 20, Lane Cove NSW 1595

For further details please contact the Aboriginal Heritage Office:

Phone: 99499883 Email: info@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

Winners will be judged by a panel of Aboriginal Elders, Steering Committee Members and prizes will be announced on 31 July 2013.

This year we have teams in the Boys and Girls Under 13 and Under 15 teams (up to 4 of each) with two mixed grounds suitable for the event. The Boys Under 13 will be split into 4 pools of 4 teams, with the top 2 teams in each pool progressing to the Boys Cup and the bottom 2 teams in each pool will play off for the Boys Plate. The Boys Under 15 will be split into 4 pools of 4 teams, with the top 2 teams in each pool progressing to the Boys Cup and the bottom 2 teams in each pool will play off for the Boys Plate. The Girls Cup will be split into 4 pools of 4 teams, with the top 2 teams in each pool progressing to the Girls Cup and the bottom 2 teams in each pool will play off for the Girls Plate.

To register for the SYC or SUC please download our information pack. For more information about the tournament please contact us on 8754 6371.

Aboriginal Cultural Performance for Children

Wednesday 10 July, 11am - 12.15pm
Lane Cove Library, Level 1, Lane Cove Mall
Admission: $10
Come along and enjoy the didgeridoo, face painting, song and dance with Aboriginal performer Guringai Dreaming. Suitable for children aged 3 and above. Bookings essential.
Phone: 99499883 Email: info@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

Winners will be announced in the Aboriginal Heritage Steering Committee Members and prizes will be announced on 31 July 2013.

Love Food, Hate Waste Education Program

Dig Deep! Pittwater Council has joined with Kids in the Kitchen to create a fun, interactive and delicious program for children to learn how to grow, cook and eat their own food. Kids in the Kitchen will teach children how to grow leafy vegetables in their own garden, how to cook them and how to enjoy them. Kids in the Kitchen will also show children how to grow herbs and vegetables in pots and small spaces.

Kids in the Kitchen Cup is aimed at ages U8 – U11, these teams will play 4 a side on a half field. The Sydney Youth Cup is aimed at ages U12 - U15 (Boys and girls), each age group will be split up into boys and girls competitions.

To register for the SYC or SUC please download our information pack. For more information about the tournament please contact us on 8754 6371.

LET'S READ NATIONAL EARLY LITERACY INITIATIVE

The Federal Government's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations has funded the Let's Read National Early Literacy Initiative over 12 months to implement a Let's Read National Early Literacy Program to support parents and carers to read regularly and sing to their children. The Let's Read Program encourages families, professionals and

communities to promote reading and singing to children. Let's Read aims to work from helpful children develop a life-long love of reading and will need when it's time to start school. Let's Read anywhere, anytime is the message behind the Let's Read Program. Let's Read is a national initiative which is the 50th June and runs for 6 days ending on 30 June. Reading, singing, rhyme and stories and books every day. The campaign uses a multi-tiered approach to reach parents and carers, including a website, a wide range of messages released in different languages and a DVD/video from birth to five years.

The Let's Read Program is coordinated by the Royal Children's Hospitals Centre for Community Child Health, Melbourne.

DOWNLOAD A FREE READING PACK!

These reading tips and activities support families to share themes, songs and stories with children anywhere, anytime from birth to five years.

Mona Vale Library - Young Rumaroundo'

Mona Vale Library has expanded the books available through the Young Rumaroundo' collection to cater for children aged 0 to 5 years. The collection is housed in the Children's Section. To search the wide range of titles available there is a PC.

Children's Storytime at Mona Vale Library

Mona Vale Library offers storytime for pre-school children every week. Storytime is a fun way to share books with your child and is available in the Mona Vale Library with our storytellers and is also open to several stories in each session. Storytime is free and no bookings are required. Please see below for storytime times:

Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.00am
Wednesdays 10.00am - 11.00am
Thursdays 10.00am - 11.00am

Nutty Story and Rhyme Time at Mac Gillies Reticle - Friday 14 June to Friday 12 July 2013

Nutty Story and Rhyme Time is a time to read a Get-Nutty story by May Gibbs, sing songs and rhymes and play with the Australian children's author's well-known nursery rhymes and say as they are read. Nutty Story and Rhyme Time is a time to read a Get-Nutty story by May Gibbs, sing songs and rhymes and play with the Australian children's author's well-known nursery rhymes and say as they are read. Nutty Story and Rhyme Time is the most part this event appeals to pre-school children and their parents. Nutty Story and Rhyme Time is a time to read a Get-Nutty story by May Gibbs, sing songs and rhymes and play with the Australian children's author's well-known nursery rhymes and say as they are read.

Pittwater Online News

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Propeller Project and Philosophy by Thomas Hudson Harding

2013 Solar Challenge – Australia

Turning up the heat - new cars and new drivers

Australia's premier solar car race, the Australian Solar Challenge, will be run for the fifth time in October 2013. The Australian Solar Challenge is a 3,000 km race from Darwin to Adelaide, through the Northern Territory and South Australia. Solar cars are the fastest growing motorsport in the world and the Australian Solar Challenge is the premier solar car race in Australia. Solar cars are powered entirely by the sun and have the same basic design principles as conventional cars. Solar cars are the fastest growing motorsport in the world and the Australian Solar Challenge is the premier solar car race in Australia. Solar cars are powered entirely by the sun and have the same basic design principles as conventional cars.

The race tests the leading car of current competitors from over 12 countries around the world

PittwaterOnline News

Pittwater's Independent Community Newspaper

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Issue 39 - July 31, 2013, Score: 227

Connect with Us Next Year at
Animals of Kruger and Chobe National Parks
The Leisure & Wings Conservation Group is proud to present Australia's Conservation Ambassador, Dr Chris Walcot-Gray AM
Tuesday 4th March 2014
Time: 6 pm for 6.30 pm
Venue: Mona Vale Golf Club
Cost: $50 per person
Bookings: Ph 9970 1111 or email info@mvgc.com.au
Proceeds to Australian Wildlife Conservancy
BUDGET TRAVEL AREAS
Sydney Travel Centre Kings Langley NSW 2147 Ph 9624 2000
We guide the most important decisions in your travel journey, planning, booking, saving money & more. Expert advice, Sydney Australia's Happy Agency

How to make your boomerang come back

SPECIAL POEM FOR OLDER FOLKS - Or Jane and John Remember

A love of clothes is not vital
Caused me to wonder myself
One yellow print have to pair
Or a matching purse and shoes
A little white new hat to dress
Goes to me heels to fancy self shades
The blue dress that I use to
Tell me I'm happy when I'm not
Or a pleasant smile when I'm sad
And make me look have a new plan
The cupcakes felt he red is wherein
Or rough or shake or wear dresses
The red ones, shades of them all
Or a pleasant smile when I'm sad
The orange ones, very big and bright
Present to hay a simple in the night
Such as one of Brilliant pink
Helping to cure all kinds of ills
Or a pleasant smile when I'm sad
And who really can shake it up?

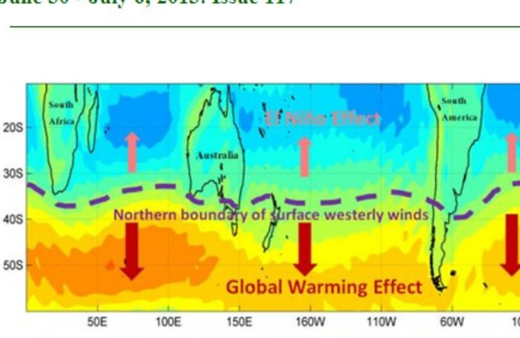
Steam Powered Box Factory © - Brian Friend

Philips Brothers of Glen Innes Limited was founded in 1887 and is still operating today.

Service link Not Just Simply Adults

June 27, 2013 - Service link Not Just Simply Adults Service link Not Just Simply Adults Service link Not Just Simply Adults

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117



Climate Tug of War Disrupting Australian Atmospheric Circulation Patterns

June 26, 2013 — Further evidence of climate change shifting atmospheric circulation in the southern Australian-New Zealand region has been identified in a new study. The study, in the Nature journal *Scientific Reports*, demonstrates that mid-latitude high pressure zones (30oS-45oS) are being pushed further into the Southern Ocean by rising global temperatures associated with greenhouse warming. This is despite more frequent occurrences of strong El Niños in recent decades, which should have drawn the high pressure zones in the opposite direction toward the equator.

"What we are seeing," says study lead author, Mr Guojian Wang "is a 'tug of war' between stronger El Niños driving the winds north and the greenhouse gas-warming effect driving the winds south."

Mr Wang, said the result confirms the robustness of the Southern Hemisphere circulation changes over the past three to four decades as the global temperature rose, "so much so that it overode the influence from strong El Niños during this period."

Study co-author, Dr Wenju Cai said the most conspicuous change is a rising sea level pressure in the mid-latitude bands and a decreasing sea level pressure over the Southern high latitudes (55o -70oS), a pattern referred to as the Southern Annular Mode. The changing pressures indicate a poleward or southward expansion of the tropical and subtropical atmospheric zones.

In turn, this indicates that over the long-term, there is a relationship between a rising global mean temperature and an upward trend of the Southern Annular Mode.

"The research reinforces our past work that climate change is altering Southern Hemisphere circulation and increases our confidence in this conclusion," Dr Cai said.

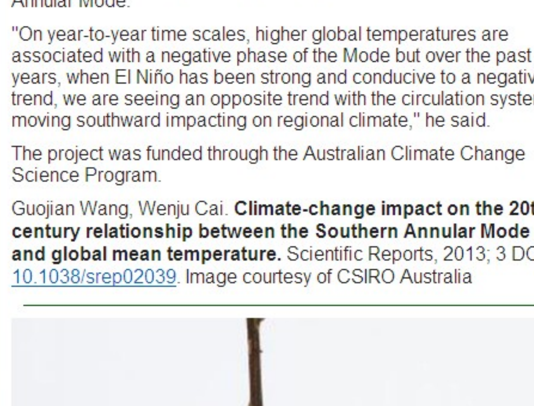
Dr Cai has previously reported on changes in atmospheric circulation that have been shifting and strengthening the Pacific Ocean winds poleward and in turn strengthening the ocean circulation, pushing the East Australian Current further south down the Australian coast.

He said during El Niño, the warmer ocean releases heat to the atmosphere and global average temperatures increase. At the same time, warm ocean surface temperatures along the equator cause the tropical and subtropical atmospheric belts to move toward the equator, generating a 'negative' phase of the Southern Annular Mode.

"On year-to-year time scales, higher global temperatures are associated with a negative phase of the Mode but over the past 35 years, when El Niño has been strong and conducive to a negative trend, we are seeing an opposite trend with the circulation systems moving southward impacting on regional climate," he said.

The project was funded through the Australian Climate Change Science Program.

Guojian Wang, Wenju Cai. **Climate-change impact on the 20th-century relationship between the Southern Annular Mode and global mean temperature.** Scientific Reports, 2013; 3 DOI: 10.1038/srep02039. Image courtesy of CSIRO Australia



Hiding in Plain Sight: New Species of Bird Discovered in Cambodia's Capitol Phnom Penh

June 25, 2013 — A team of scientists with the Wildlife Conservation Society, BirdLife International, and other groups have discovered a new species of bird with distinct plumage and a loud call living not in some remote jungle, but in a capital city of 1.5 million people.

Called the Cambodian tailorbird (*Orthotomus chaktomuk*), the previously undescribed species was found in Cambodia's urbanized capitol Phnom Penh and several other locations just outside of the city including a construction site. It is one of only two bird species found solely in Cambodia. The other, the Cambodian laughingthrush, is restricted to the remote Cardamom Mountains.

Scientists describe the new bird in a special online early-view issue of the Oriental Bird Club's journalForktail. Authors include: Simon Mahood, Ashish John, Hong Chamnan, and Colin Poole of the Wildlife Conservation Society; Jonathan Eames of BirdLife International; Carl Oliveros and Robert Moyle of University of Kansas; Fred Sheldon of Louisiana State University; and Howie Nielsen of the Sam Veasna Centre.

The wren-sized gray bird with a rufous cap and black throat lives in dense, humid lowland scrub in Phnom Penh and other sites in the floodplain. Its scientific name 'chaktomuk' is an old Khmer word meaning four-faces, perfectly describing where the bird is found: the area centered in Phnom Penh where the Tonle Sap, Mekong and Bassac Rivers come together.

Only tiny fragments of floodplain scrub remain in Phnom Penh, but larger areas persist just outside the city limits where the Cambodian Tailorbird is abundant. The authors say that the bird's habitat is declining and recommend that the species is classified as Near Threatened under the IUCN's Red List. Agricultural and urban expansion could further affect the bird and its habitat. However, the bird occurs in Baray Bengal Florican Conservation Area, where WCS is working with local communities and the Forestry Administration to protect the Bengal florican and other threatened birds.

This same dense habitat is what kept the bird hidden for so long. Lead author Simon Mahood of WCS began investigating the new species when co-author Ashish John, also of WCS, took photographs of what was first thought to be a similar, coastal species of tailorbird at a construction site on the edge of Phnom Penh. The bird in the photographs initially defied identification. Further investigation revealed that it was an entirely unknown species.

"The modern discovery of an un-described bird species within the limits of a large populous city – not to mention 30 minutes from my home – is extraordinary," said Mahood. "The discovery indicates that new species of birds may still be found in familiar and unexpected locations."

The last two decades have seen a sharp increase in the number of new bird species emerging from Indochina, mostly due to exploration of remote areas. Newly described birds include various babbler species from isolated mountains in Vietnam, the bizarre bare-faced bulbul from Lao PDR and the Mekong wagtail, first described in 2001 by WCS and other partners.

Colin Poole, Director of WCS Singapore and a co-author of the Forktail study said, "This discovery is one of several from Indochina in recent years, underscoring the region's global importance for bird conservation."

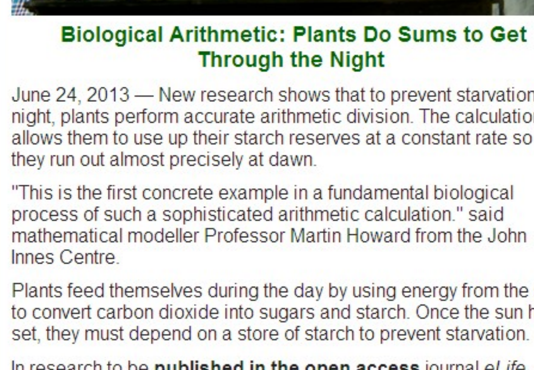
Co-Author Jonathan C. Eames of BirdLife International's OBE said: "Most newly discovered bird species in recent years have proved to be threatened with extinction or of conservation concern, highlighting the crisis facing the planet's biodiversity."

Steve Zack, WCS Coordinator of Bird Conservation, said, "Asia contains a spectacular concentration of bird life, but is also under sharply increasing threats ranging from large scale development projects to illegal hunting. Further work is needed to better understand the distribution and ecology of this exciting newly described species to determine its conservation needs."

Above: A male Cambodian tailorbird, a bird only recently discovered by scientists withing the city limits of Phnom Penh. (Credit: Ashish John/WCS)

Mahood, Simon P., Ashish J. I. John, Jonathan C. Eames, Carl H. Oliveros, Robert G. Moyle, Hong Chamnan, Colin Poole, Howie Nielsen & Frederick H. Sheldon. **A new species of lowland tailorbird (Passeriformes: Cisticolidae: Orthotomus) from the Mekong floodplain of Cambodia.** Forktail, 2013; [link]

Where Caribbean Meets Atlantic



Biological Arithmetic: Plants Do Sums to Get Through the Night

June 24, 2013 — New research shows that to prevent starvation at night, plants perform accurate arithmetic division. The calculation allows them to use up their starch reserves at a constant rate so that they run out almost precisely at dawn.

"This is the first concrete example in a fundamental biological process of such a sophisticated arithmetic calculation," said mathematical modeller Professor Martin Howard from the John Innes Centre.

Plants feed themselves during the day by using energy from the sun to convert carbon dioxide into sugars and starch. Once the sun has set, they must depend on a store of starch to prevent starvation.

In research to be **published in the open access** journal *eLife*, scientists at the John Innes Centre show that plants make precise adjustments to their rate of starch consumption. These adjustments ensure that the starch store lasts until dawn even if the night comes unexpectedly early or the size of the starch store varies.

The John Innes Centre scientists show that to adjust their starch consumption so precisely they must be performing a mathematical calculation - arithmetic division.

"The capacity to perform arithmetic calculation is vital for plant growth and productivity," said metabolic biologist Professor Alison Smith.

"Understanding how plants continue to grow in the dark could help unlock new ways to boost crop yield."

During the night, mechanisms inside the leaf measure the size of the starch store and estimate the length of time until dawn. Information about time comes from an internal clock, similar to our own body clock. The size of the starch store is then divided by the length of time until dawn to set the correct rate of starch consumption, so that, by dawn, around 95% of starch is used up.

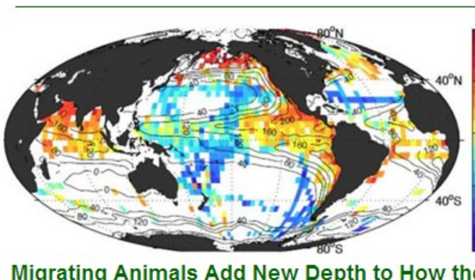
"The calculations are precise so that plants prevent starvation but also make the most efficient use of their food," said Professor Smith.

"If the starch store is used too fast, plants will starve and stop growing during the night. If the store is used too slowly, some of it will be wasted."

The scientists used mathematical modelling to investigate how such a division calculation can be carried out inside a plant. They proposed that information about the size of the starch store and the time until dawn is encoded in the concentrations of two kinds of molecules (called S for starch and T for time). If the S molecules stimulate starch consumption, while the T molecules prevent this from happening, then the rate of starch consumption is set by the ratio of S molecules to T molecules, in other words S divided by T.

Scialdone et al. **Arabidopsis plants perform arithmetic division to prevent starvation at night.** eLife, 2013 DOI:10.7554/eLife.00669

Professors Martin Howard and Alison Smith. (Credit: Image courtesy of Norwich BioScience Institutes)



Migrating Animals Add New Depth to How the Ocean 'Breathes'

June 24, 2013 — The oxygen content of the ocean may be subject to frequent ups and downs in a very literal sense - that is, in the form of the numerous sea creatures that dine near the surface at night then submerge into the safety of deeper, darker waters at daybreak.

Research begun at Princeton University and recently reported in the journal *Nature Geoscience* found that animals ranging from plankton to small fish consume vast amounts of what little oxygen is available in the ocean's aptly named "oxygen minimum zone" daily. The sheer number of organisms that seek refuge in water roughly 200- to 650-meters deep (650 to 2,000 feet) every day result in the global consumption of between 10 and 40 percent of the oxygen available at these depths.

The findings reveal a crucial and underappreciated role that animals have in ocean chemistry on a global scale, explained first author Daniele Bianchi, a postdoctoral researcher at McGill University who began the project as a doctoral student of atmospheric and oceanic sciences at Princeton.

"In a sense, this research should change how we think of the ocean's metabolism," Bianchi said. "Scientists know that there is this massive migration, but no one has really tried to estimate how it impacts the chemistry of the ocean.

"Generally, scientists have thought that microbes and bacteria primarily consume oxygen in the deeper ocean," Bianchi said. "What we're saying here is that animals that migrate during the day are a big source of oxygen depletion. We provide the first global data set to say that."

Much of the deep ocean can replenish (often just barely) the oxygen consumed during these mass migrations, which are known as diel vertical migrations (DVMs).

But the balance between DVMs and the limited deep-water oxygen supply could be easily upset, Bianchi said - particularly by climate change, which is predicted to further decrease levels of oxygen in the ocean. That could mean these animals would not be able to descend as deep, putting them at the mercy of predators and inflicting their oxygen-sucking ways on a new ocean zone.

"If the ocean oxygen changes, then the depth of these migrations also will change. We can expect potential changes in the interactions between larger guys and little guys," Bianchi said. "What complicates this story is that if these animals are responsible for a chunk of the oxygen depletion in general, then a change in their habits might have a feedback in terms of oxygen levels in other parts of the deeper ocean."

The researchers produced a global model of DVM depths and oxygen depletion by mining acoustic oceanic data collected by 389 American and British research cruises between 1990 and 2011. Using the background readings caused by the sound of animals as they ascended and descended, the researchers identified more than 4,000 DVM events.

They then chemically analyzed samples from DVM-event locations to create a model that could correlate DVM depth with oxygen depletion. With that data, the researchers concluded that DVMs indeed intensify the oxygen deficit within oxygen minimum zones.

"You can say that the whole ecosystem does this migration - chances are that if it swims, it does this kind of migration," Bianchi said. "Before, scientists tended to ignore this big chunk of the ecosystem when thinking of ocean chemistry. We are saying that they are quite important and can't be ignored."

Daniele Bianchi, Eric D. Galbraith, David A. Carozza, K. A. S. Mislan, Charles A. Stock. **Intensification of open-ocean oxygen depletion by vertically migrating animals.** Nature Geoscience, 2013; DOI: 10.1038/ngeo1837. Image; Credit: Courtesy of Daniele Bianchi

PITTWATER NATURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION INC.

What Does PNHA do?

On-ground bush regeneration. eg: Asparagus Fern Out Days
Activities: guided walks, bird-watching
Quaterly informative newsletter, online or paper
Members email group for leaset environmental news and events
AGM with Guest Speaker
Free advice for members on managing gardens for Native Vegetation and fauna habitat
Lobbies Pittwater Council and State Government on inappropriate management practices and development
Provides support to Council for PNHA-approved grant applications for environmental projects
Publications: Introductory Field Guide to Birds of Warriewood Wetlands & Irrawong Reserve, $20.00rrp, attractive cards with photos of Pittwater scenes, flora and fauna $2.00

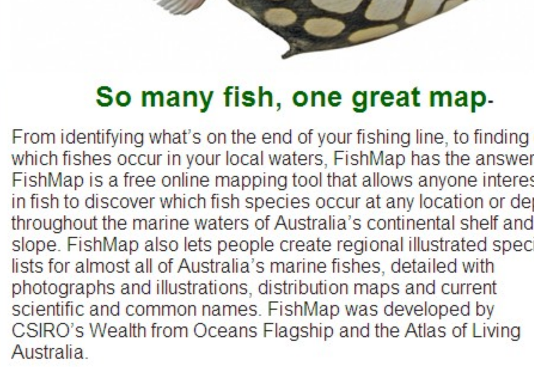
Email: pnhainfo@gmail.com Or click on Logo to visit website. PROFILE

Community Gardens bring people together and enrich communities. They build a sense of place and shared connection.

Pittwater Community Gardens is a community led initiative to create accessible food gardens in public places throughout the Pittwater area. Our aim is to share skills and knowledge in creating fabulous local, organic food. But it's not just about great food. We also aim to foster community connection, stimulate creative ideas for community resilience and celebrate our abundance. Open to all ages and skills, our first garden is on the grounds of Barrenjoey High School (off Tasman Road). Become part of this exciting initiative to change the world locally.

www.pcga.org.au Contact us info@pcg.org.au or Visit us at facebook.com/pcga.org; image artwork: www.gravey.com

Australian Native Foods website: http://www.anfil.org.au/



So many fish, one great map.

From identifying what's on the end of your fishing line, to finding out which fishes occur in your local waters, FishMap has the answers. FishMap is a free online mapping tool that allows anyone interested in fish to discover which fish species occur at any location or depth throughout the marine waters of Australia's continental shelf and slope. FishMap also lets people create regional illustrated species lists for almost all of Australia's marine fishes, detailed with photographs and illustrations, distribution maps and current scientific and common names. FishMap was developed by CSIRO's Wealth from Oceans Flagship and the Atlas of Living Australia.

FishMap was officially launched on Tuesday 26 February 2013 and is available on the Atlas of Living Australia website: http://fish.ala.org.au

Top: FishMap on the Atlas of Living Australia provides the geographical and depth ranges of some 4500 Australian marine fishes, including the Clown Triggerfish (Balistoides conspicillum).

Tweet | Like | +1

Think before you print ; A kilo of recycled paper creates around 1.8 kilograms of carbon emissions, without taking into account the emissions produced from transporting the paper. So, before you send a document to print, think about how many kilograms of carbon emissions you could save by reading it on screen.

Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority Carbon Footprints Document

PITTWATER COUNCIL

ONLINE BIODIVERSITY CALENDAR A FIRST

Pittwater Council has launched a unique online calendar designed to educate the community about the coastal environment, based on traditional Aboriginal knowledge. The calendar, which is web-based, works through hundreds of images of coastal native birds, animals and plants. Many of the images were provided by local residents and collated by staff from the Council's Coastal Environment Centre at North Narrabeen.

The calendar has been coordinated by Pittwater Council on behalf of the Pittwater, Hornsby and Gosford communities and was funded by a $50,000 grant from the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority, through the federal government's Caring for Country grant program. Representatives of the D'harawal people have provided their knowledge for descriptions of some of the images and the Guringai, Darkinyung and Darug people are also providing input into the calendar. Other information in the calendar includes details of environmental events and community groups, weather patterns and hazards to the environment, such as weed species. The calendar can be viewed at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/environment/biocalendar

To submit photos for the biodiversity calendar email cec@pittwater.nsw.gov.au

Birdlife Australia - New Website and Quarterly Magazine

Birdlife Australia has begun a quarterly magazine which is available online at: www.birdlife.org.au/australian-birdlife

This organisation, which has been going for over a century now, has been a leading authority and advocate for the protection of Australia's birds, achieved by combining scientific research, nationwide surveys, targeted actions and other activities to create real and positive outcomes. They state that over 200 species of birds in Australia are considered threatened at present. Visit their new website, have a look at all the information collated, and see if you could help them out as a volunteer or donor.

Katandra Bushland Sanctuary

Avalon Dunes Bushcare

Avalon Dunes bushcarers are back in action. After working on the dunes for 20 years, they took a break. But the weeds came back.

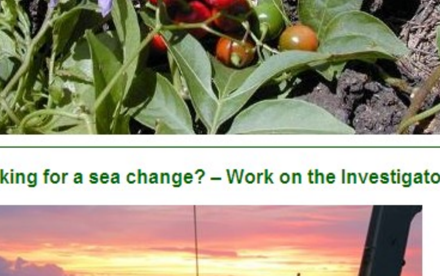
We meet on the **first Sunday of each month**, starting at **8.30 and currently meeting near the Montessori school corner**. Next meeting **Sunday July 6.**

Weeds we are tackling are: Asparagus Fern, Bitou etc and a climber that has become a recent problem, **Brazilian Nightshade, *Solanum seaforthianum.***

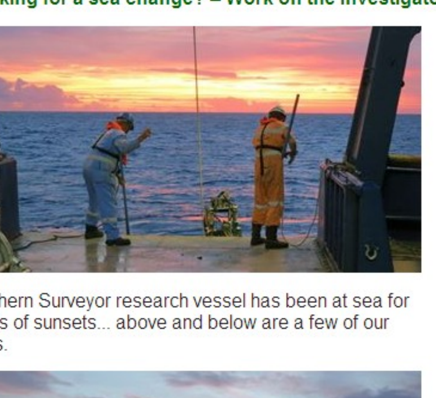
This garden plant has clusters of blue flowers followed by red berries, spread by birds or possums. If you have it in your garden please get rid of it or at least make sure the berries are removed. They are attractive, but will escape your garden and become a weed that smothers bushland.

Brazilian Nightshade Photo by and courtesy Forest & Kim Starr

Looking for a sea change? – Work on the Investigator



The Southern Surveyor research vessel has been at sea for thousands of sunsets... above and below are a few of our favourites.



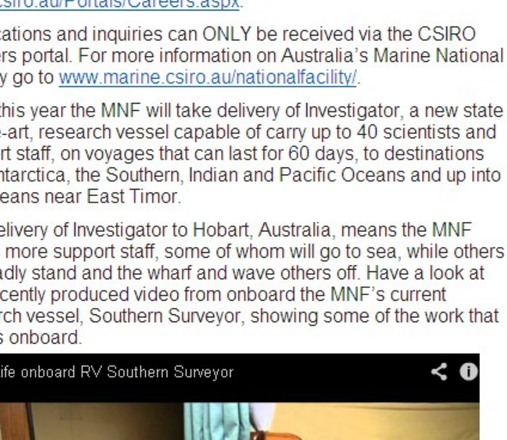
If you're looking for a sea change, the new research vessel Investigator is looking for more people to join its team. More on how to wave goodbye to your old job: http://ow.ly/mjgyl

If you can see yourself as part of this team, then check out the multiple support positions then go to the CSIRO Careers portal www.csiro.au/Portals/Careers.aspx

Applications and inquiries can ONLY be received via the CSIRO Careers portal. For more information on Australia's Marine National Facility go to www.marine.csiro.au/nationalfacility/.

Later this year the MNF will take delivery of Investigator, a new state-of-the-art, research vessel capable of carry up to 40 scientists and support staff, on voyages that can last for 60 days, to destinations like Antarctica, the Southern, Indian and Pacific Oceans and up into the oceans near East Timor.

The delivery of Investigator to Hobart, Australia, means the MNF needs more support staff, some of whom will go to sea, while others will gladly stand and the wharf and wave others off. Have a look at this recently produced video from onboard the MNF's current research vessel, Southern Surveyor, showing some of the work that occurs onboard.



KOOROOWALL FLORA & FAUNA RESERVE by PittwaterPathways April 2013

Australia extends water management expertise to Asia

25 June 2013 - Scientists from Australia's national science agency, CSIRO, are applying their knowledge in transboundary river basin management to improve the livelihoods of people living in some of the poorest parts of Asia.

CSIRO and its partners have begun work in the Koshi River Basin which stretches from China, across the Himalayas through Nepal and discharges into the Ganges River in India.

The Koshi Basin is home to millions of people who rely on its fertile floodplains for their livelihoods. There is growing pressure to address development challenges in the Basin, in particular population growth and an increasing demand for energy, whilst working within constraints of natural hazards exacerbated by a changing climate, such as floods, drought, landslides, sediment movement and debris flow.

In a collaborative four-year project, scientists from CSIRO's Water for a Healthy Country Flagship will provide technical assistance to the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development's (ICIMOD) Koshi Basin Programme. CSIRO scientists will develop an integrated basin-wide modelling system to improve management of the Koshi River Basin. This system will incorporate information on water availability, freshwater environments and the ecosystem services they provide and social considerations such as the effect of changes in water availability on livelihoods. The system will contribute to development in the Koshi Basin in a socially and environmentally sustainable manner and support national and transboundary water reforms.

"Australia has a long history of managing a scarce and variable water resource, and sharing this resource amongst competing users," said CSIRO's Water for a Healthy Country Flagship Director, Dr Carol Couch.

"There is much the Australian water experience will bring to this project to help improve sustainable development and climate resilience, reduce water stress, and inform water-related decision making and transboundary issues. We will draw on the suite of large river basin assessments undertaken across Australia in recent years, such as the Murray-Darling Basin Sustainable Yields assessment.

"Research will be undertaken as a partnership between Australian organisations and ICIMOD researchers, based in Nepal. We will also be learning from ICIMOD, particularly in relation to sediment movement, snow melt and glacial processes," said Dr Couch.

"At ICIMOD, we have taken a long-term, transboundary approach to support river basin management. This includes testing, piloting, and monitoring the innovations needed to address common issues related to climate change, cryosphere, water resources management and livelihood promotion," said Dr David Molden, Director General of ICIMOD.

"The Koshi Basin Programme will provide a platform for national and international researchers and decision makers to come together to promote transboundary cooperation and integrated water resource management practices and policies. This will also include the development of measures for risk management as well as equitable access to water for energy and food security."

Work undertaken by CSIRO this year will consist of a review and analysis of the existing knowledge base, capacity building and the development of a prototype model for the Koshi River Basin that incorporates information on water, climate, hydropower, freshwater environments, irrigation and social issues including poverty alleviation. The knowledge gained from this project will culminate in the development of a robust integrated basin-wide modelling framework, using eWater's hydrological modelling platform, Source.

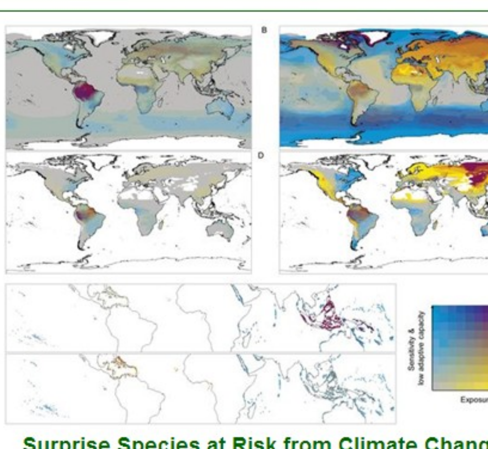
Project partners

This work is supported by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) through the Sustainable Development Investment Strategy. Through the Strategy, AusAID works with a portfolio of partners to address the challenges of water, food and energy security in South Asia.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is a regional intergovernmental learning and knowledge sharing centre serving the eight regional member countries of the Hindu Kush Himalayan region – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan.

CSIRO is working in conjunction with the International Centre of Excellence in Water Resources Management (ICE WaRM) and eWater to deliver a coordinated approach to water resource management, combining excellence in training (ICE WaRM), world class modelling software (eWater) and robust science (CSIRO). Life in the Koshi River Basin (Image: Santosh Nepal)

Save Pittwater.com People for Pittwater.com.au



Surprise Species at Risk from Climate Change

June 24, 2013 — Most species at greatest risk from climate change are not currently conservation priorities, according to an International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) study that has introduced a pioneering method to assess the vulnerability of species to climate change.

The paper, published in the journalPLOS ONE, is one of the biggest studies of its kind, assessing all of the world's birds, amphibians and corals. It draws on the work of more than 100 scientists over a period of five years, including Wits PhD student and leader of the study, Wendy Foden.

Up to 83% of birds, 66% of amphibians and 70% of corals that were identified as highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change are not currently considered threatened with extinction on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. They are therefore unlikely to be receiving focused conservation attention, according to the study.

"The findings revealed some alarming surprises," says Foden, who conducted the study while formerly working for the IUCN Global Species' Programme's Climate Change Unit, which she founded six years ago. "We hadn't expected that so many species and areas that were not previously considered to be of concern would emerge as highly vulnerable to climate change. Clearly, if we simply carry on with conservation as usual, without taking climate change into account, we'll fail to help many of the species and areas that need it most."

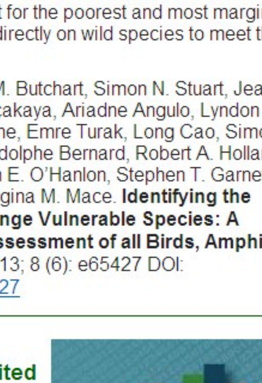
The study's novel approach looks at the unique biological and ecological characteristics that make species more or less sensitive or adaptable to climate change. Conventional methods have focussed largely on measuring the amount of change to which species are likely to be exposed.

The new approach has already been applied to the species-rich Albertine Rift region of Central and East Africa, identifying those plants and animals that are important for human use and are most likely to decline due to climate change. These include 33 plants that are used as fuel, construction materials, food and medicine, 19 species of freshwater fish that are an important source of food and income and 24 mammals used primarily as a source of food.

"The study has shown that people in the region rely heavily on wild species for their livelihoods, and that this will undoubtedly be disrupted by climate change," says Jamie Carr of IUCN Global Species Programme and lead author of the Albertine Rift study. "This is particularly important for the poorest and most marginalised communities who rely most directly on wild species to meet their basic needs."

Wendy B. Foden, Stuart H. M. Butchart, Simon N. Stuart, Jean-Christophe Vié, H. Resit Akçakaya, Ariadne Angulo, Lyndon M. DeVantier, Alexander Gutsche, Emre Turak, Long Cao, Simon D. Donner, Vineet Katariya, Rodolphe Bernard, Robert A. Holland, Adrian F. Hughes, Susannah E. O'Hanlon, Stephen T. Garnett, Çagan H. Şekercioğlu, Georgina M. Mace. **Identifying the World's Most Climate Change Vulnerable Species: A Systematic Trait-Based Assessment of all Birds, Amphibians and Corals.** PLoS ONE, 2013; 8 (6): e65427 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0065427

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)



While global crop production tripled during the last 50 years, greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture grew 1.6% per year in the last decade. Find out the latest data and trends for agriculture in the new edition of FAO Statistical Yearbook: http://bit.ly/15j0px3

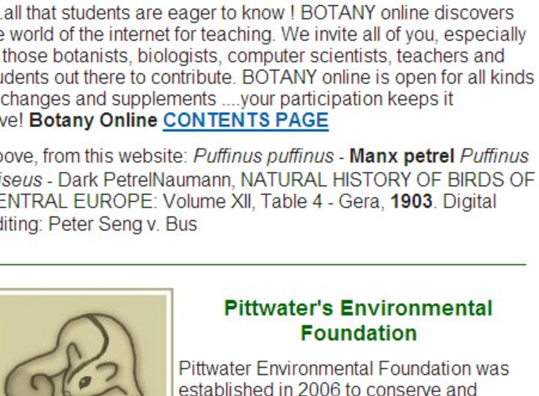
Coastal Environment Centre

The Coastal Environment Centre (CEC) is a multi-award winning regional community environmental learning centre, and Pittwater Council's environmental flagship. CEC is celebrating its 20th year this December

More at: www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cec

Monthly Cooee Newsletter below. If you would like to receive Council's environmental newsletter via email, please contact jodi_harvey@pittwater.nsw.gov.au

June 2013 Newsletter includes information on: BushCare Planting Activities (volunteers needed), Workshops and Events, and great articles HERE



Botany Online

From their 'about us' page:

BOTANY Online - The Internet Hypertextbook

.....all that students are eager to know ! BOTANY online discovers the world of the internet for teaching. We invite all of you, especially all those botanists, biologists, computer scientists, teachers and students out there to contribute. BOTANY online is open for all kinds of changes and supplements ....your participation keeps it alive! **Botany Online CONTENTS PAGE**

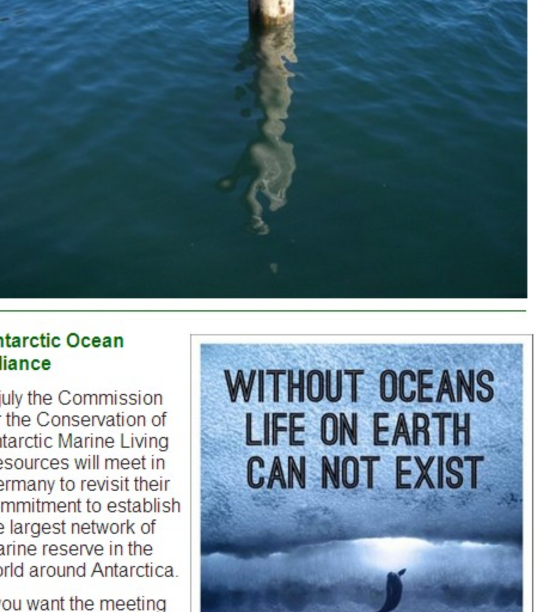
Above, from this website: *Puffinus puffinus* - **Manx petrel** *Puffinus griseus* - Dark PetrelNaumann, NATURAL HISTORY OF BIRDS OF CENTRAL EUROPE: Volume XII, Table 4 - Gera, **1903**. Digital Editing: Peter Seng v. Bus

Pittwater's Environmental Foundation

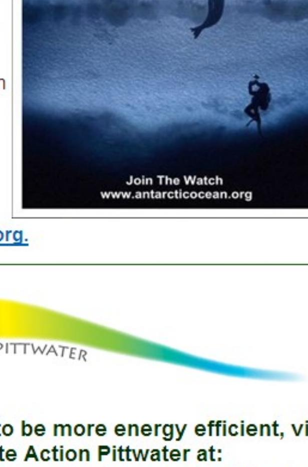
Pittwater Environmental Foundation was established in 2006 to conserve and enhance the natural environment of the Pittwater local government area through the application of tax deductible donations, gifts and bequests. The Directors were appointed by Pittwater Council. Our **PROFILE**

About 33% (about 1600 ha excluding National Parks) of the original pre-European bushland in Pittwater remains in a reasonably natural or undisturbed condition. Of this, only about 400ha remains in public ownership. All remaining natural bushland is subject to encroachment, illegal clearing, weed invasion, feral animals, altered drainage, bushfire hazard reduction requirements and other edge effects. Within Pittwater 38 species of plants or animals are listed as endangered or threatened under the Threatened Species Act. There are two endangered populations (Koala and Squirrel Glider) and eight endangered ecological communities or types of bushland. To visit their site please click on logo above.

Kimbriki Resource Recovery Centre



Antarctic Ocean Alliance



In july the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources will meet in Germany to revisit their commitment to establish the largest network of marine reserve in the world around Antarctica.

If you want the meeting in Germany to be a success, ask your friends and family to sign our petition:

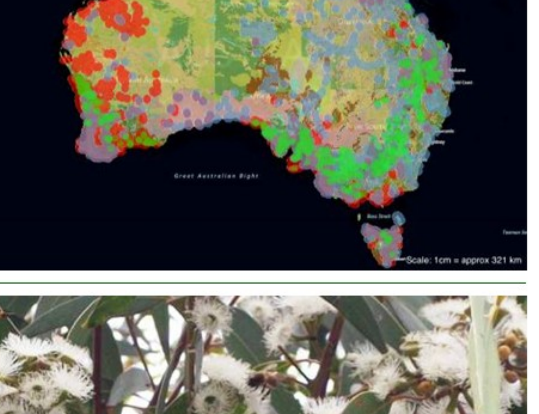
www.antarcticocean.org.

CLIMATE ACTION PITTWATER

For tips on how to be more energy efficient, visit Climate Action Pittwater at: http://www.climateactionpittwater.org.au/

CSIRO – New App for Gardeners

How does your garden grow? Find out what's under your feet with SoilMapp, our new app for iPad. More on new science apps in 2013 on our blog: http://ow.ly/hPQO2



"I bind myself today to the power of Heaven, the light of the sun, the brightness of the moon, the splendour of fire, the flashing of lightning, the swiftness of wind, the depth of the sea, the stability of the earth, the compactness of rocks." - from the Prayer of Saint Patrick

Pass 99 - July 6, 2013 to June 15th

Remember: Click on the blue words to get a lot of information from various sources each week. For Your Interest and Bemusement:

Chimps or Humans: Who's the Better Baseball Pitcher?

June 26, 2013 — Little leaguers and professional baseball players alike have our wildest arcs(sorry) in mind. But a new study in the journal Nature suggests that the real champs are chimpanzees.

Using a 3-D camera system, like those used to make video games and animated movies, they recorded the throwing motions of two collegiate baseball players, finding that the human shoulder acts much like a slingshot during a throw, storing and releasing large amounts of energy.

"When humans throw, we first rotate our arms backwards away from the target. It is during this 'arm-cocking' phase that humans stretch the muscles in the front of the shoulder, storing energy like a rubber band," Dr. Roach said. "When this energy is released, the arm accelerates the arm forward, generating the fastest motion the human body produces, resulting in a very fast throw."

Dr. Roach and colleagues also found that certain anatomical characteristics, such as the ability to rotate the shoulder, help human ancestors make this energy-storage possible. These same features also humans to throw so well first appeared in the species Homo erectus approximately 2 million years ago.

"We think that throwing was probably most important early on in terms of hunting technique, making our ancestors more effective at tackle kill big game," Dr. Roach said. "Eating more calorie-rich meat may have helped our ancestors develop some of the unique brains and bodies and expand their range out of Africa - all of which helped make us who we are today."

Dr. Roach's study may also have important modern-day implications for some athletes. Baseball pitchers, for example, throw much more frequently than our ancestors probably did.

"At the end of the day, despite the fact that we evolved to throw, when we overuse the throw it can end up injuring us," Dr. Roach said.

The next step for Dr. Roach and his colleagues is researching what humans were throwing so long ago, especially since stone projectile points don't appear in the archeological record much more recently. The likely weapons of choice? Rocks and sharpened wooden spears.

Neil T. Roach, Madhusudhan Venkadesan, Michael J. Rainbow, Daniel E. Lieberman. **Elastic energy storage in the shoulder and the evolution of high-speed throwing in Homo.** Nature, 2013; 498 (7455): 483 DOI: 10.1038/nature12267 Image courtesy of George Washington University

Health papers published this week;

Flu Shot Effective Regardless of Circulating Flu Strain, Research Finds

June 27, 2013 — New research out of Michigan Medicine has found that despite popular belief, the flu shot is effective in preventing the flu, even if the virus going around does not match well.

"We quite common for people to say they are not going to get the flu shot this year because they got it last year and still got the flu," said Arnold Monto, M.D., of the Institute.These, the lead author of the paper and a scientific advisor to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's influenza division. "However, we've found that individuals who get vaccinated are protected, even if the virus is not a perfect match."

The review of the literature and analysis of the data will appear online in the June 27 and included 47 influenza seasons and almost 85,000 healthy people.

The virus and colleagues were particularly interested in flu seasons when the flu vaccines were not matched well to circulating strains. They wanted to understand how much protection the vaccine offered in those years, and found that it was:

- vaccines work to greatly reduce the risk of non-infection in the community, finding that the body can produce antibodies. When an individual comes into contact with the virus in the future, the body can use the antibodies to protect it from the virus.

The study is limited at the two most popular vaccine formulations in Canada. Treatment with the flu shot is not 100 percent effective, Monto said, but it is the best way to protect yourself from the annual and unpredictable protection against the virus. Data from 65 per cent to 32 per cent effectiveness) and mismatched ranging from 52 per cent to 16 per cent effectiveness.

Monto is the Thomas Francis Jr. Professor of the School of Medicine's Department of Epidemiology.

Looking at matches and mismatches can be a difficult process because the risk is not just a no-vaccine. "On the other hand, the vaccine can provide protection between a flu strain and what's included in a vaccine because strains from year to year.

Dr. Torres said that the study is very important because it helps to clarify the difference between health children and adults. The study was funded by GlaxoSmithKline.

Arnold S. Monto, Andrew M. Malosh, Edward A. Belongia, Joshua G. Petrie, Emily T. Martin, Maggie H. Chen, Sherri Ticehurst, Chris T. Bautch, Grant Lloyd. **Comparing influenza vaccine efficacy against mismatched and matched strains: The importance of target-site and study analysis.** BMC Medicine, 2013; 11: 157 DOI: 10.1186/1741-7015-11-157

Researchers Identify Novel Therapy to Treat Muscular Dystrophy

June 27, 2013 — Researchers at Boston University College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College have identified a combination therapeutic approach that loses effective in treating muscular dystrophy in a mouse model. The findings, published in the June 27 issue of the journal Nature Medicine, could lead to the treatment of muscular dystrophy as well as a host of other neuromuscular and life-shortening muscle diseases.

The study was led by Maharaneda Sirgogrnath, PhD, assistant professor and director of the Muscle Disorders and Regenerative Biology Laboratory at Dr. Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences. Dr. Rita Perlingeiro, assistant professor at Harvard Stem Cell Institute, Harvard Medical School, and Children's Hospital Boston, was a collaborator on this study.

"Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) is the second most common form of congenital muscular dystrophy. Patients who have muscular dystrophy experience progressive, extreme, compromised neuromuscular function, and are rarely able to walk independently," said Professor Sirgogrnath. "Our study is significant because it is the first effective therapeutic combination to show results in a mouse model. Although significant progress has been made towards understanding the molecular and biochemical mechanisms underlying DMD, there remains no effective therapy to prevent the disease or halt its progression."

The research team, led by Sirgogrnath, hypothesized that the complex pathology caused by DMD may be the result of the degeneration of muscle cells as well as other processes, meaning that strategies which simultaneously target several of these processes may be more effective than single therapies.

"Our new studies have attacked the problem of dystrophin deficiency in skeletal muscular dystrophy," said Professor Sirgogrnath, the study's corresponding author. "Our findings demonstrate that the combination of AAV-U7 and AAV-IGF1 combinations of different therapies to target multiple pathways."

The research team studied the outcome of combining the following single-mode treatments: increasing regenerative capacity by overexpressing insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1) and preventing cell death by inhibiting the expression of Bax, a protein that induces cell death. Researchers used adeno-associated virus (AAV) therapy, the recombinant virus-based delivery method used in gene therapy, to administer these therapies.

By combining these two therapies, researchers found that in addition to increased cell survival, muscle mass and muscle contractile force were improved, paving a remarkable improvement in muscle pathology. The most impressive outcome was the fact that the combination therapy was effective in the mouse model of severe DMD disease. The research team discovered that the use of this combination therapy is an effective treatment for MDC1A, highlighting a completely unguaranteed, unprecedented, and unexpected therapeutic synergism between AAV-U7 and AAV-IGF1 in the treatment of muscular dystrophy.

Sirgogrnath S, Kuntal S, Duelle T, Mahoney W, Grgenovich. **Triggering sustained therapeutic growth and maturation of host satellite cells following AAV delivery.** Nature Medicine Volume: 19 DOI: 10.1038/nm.3205

Autism in Children Affects Not Only Social Abilities, but Also Broad Range of Sensory and Motor Skills

June 25, 2013 — A group of investigators from San Diego State University's Brain Development Imaging Laboratory are the first to report that autism affects the cerebellum in the brain. The team has identified that connectivity between the thalamus, a deep brain structure, and the cerebellum is significantly reduced in children with autism. The cerebellum is a brain region that has been traditionally associated with motor control.

The study, which is published in the SDSU/UCSD Joint Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology student Cinnamon Stanfield, is the first to show that the cerebellum is also integrally involved in higher-level functions, such as social behavior and cognition, and examine connections between the cerebral cortex and the thalamus.

Team and Dr. Ralph-Axel Müller, co-director of the laboratory, used an advanced investigation of the study, examined more than 50 children, both with autism and typical development.

Brain overconnectivity

The thalamus is a crucial brain structure for many functions, such as vision, hearing, movement control and attention, in the brain with autism, the pathways connecting the cerebral cortex and thalamus were found to be affected, indicating that these two brain regions are not communicating properly.

This impaired connectivity could explain autism's wide range of symptoms, including the communication abilities, but also affects a broad range of sensory and motor systems," Müller said.

Disturbances in the development of both the structure and function of the thalamus and its connections with the cerebral cortex and cerebellum could explain why autism can among the most prominent and distressing symptoms of autism.

While the findings reported in this study are novel, they are consistent with growing evidence on sensory and motor abnormalities in autism. Müller explained that the cerebellum is involved in a wide range of functions, including sensory and motor impairment, new has to consider the broad spectrum of problems children with autism experience.

The study was supported with funding from the National Institutes of Health and Autism Speaks. Data were collected at the Autism Center of Excellence at the University. It was published in the June issue of the journal Brain.

A Nair, J. M Treiber, D. K. Shukla, P. Shih, R. A. Müller. **Impaired thalamocortical connectivity in autism spectrum disorder: a study of functional anisotropy and callosal midline crossing.** Brain, 2013; DOI: 10.1093/brain/awt079

Heart Failure Survivors at Greater Risk for Cancer, Study Shows

June 25, 2013 — Heart failure patients are surviving more often with the heart conditions that they are increasing more likely to be diagnosed with cancer, a study that could be attributed to increased surveillance, side effects of treatments, or other factors. The study was published online June 24 in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

"Heart failure patients are not only at an increased risk for developing cancer, but the opposite, of cancer survivors are also at increased risk for developing heart failure," said Dr. Paul Cheng, MD, MPH, a cardiologist at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and co-author of the study. "These findings underscore the importance of cancer surveillance in the management of heart failure patients."

Researchers conducted the study using medical records from the Rochester Epidemiology Project, which includes data on nearly all residents of Olmsted County. The records used by the population of Olmsted County, Minn. The study included 2,331 patients with heart failure paired with the same number of similar healthy subjects.

Over the course of the study, 1,000 patients developed cancer. Of those, there were 1,000 cases of cancer in the heart failure group and 1,000 in the control group. Cancer was diagnosed between 1991 and 2002 had an 84 percent increased risk. Roger and colleagues found that the risk was highest for cancers of the blood and bone marrow (leukemia), including a number of cardiovascular-related treatments, such as chemo or other mechanisms associated with the physiology of heart failure such as inflammation.

Investigators stress the importance of the findings in the treatment and management of heart failure patients, especially in light of the aging population and rising rates of heart failure.

These findings also illustrate the importance of multidisciplinary approaches to patients with chronic diseases and support the concept of providing holistic rather than disease-based care," the authors said.

The above story is reprinted from materials provided by American College of Cardiology.

Addiction Relapse Might Be Thwarted by Turning Off Brain Signal

June 24, 2013 — Researchers from the Scripps Florida Chen Institute for Biomedical Sciences have been able to identify and deactivate a brain pathway linked to relapse in addiction. The study, published in the June 24 issue of the journal Nature, could lead to new treatments for drug, alcohol and other forms of addiction. In the study, researchers were able to prevent the addicted animals from receiving alcohol and drinking it for several months.

One of the main causes of relapse is craving, triggered by the memory to certain cues, such as the sight of a bottle of beer or the smell of a cigarette. Scripps Florida Scientist Paul Thiel, PhD, led the study published in the journal Nature Neuroscience. Thiel, PhD, a Early Career Investigator and UCSF professor of neurology.

"We found that when we turned off this brain pathway in alcohol, there were almost no cues that could make the animals relapse," Thiel said. "It's as if the animal loses the memory of the craving for alcohol and its weaken or even erase the memory, and the craving has been."

The study, also supervised by co-senior author Patricia M. Janak, PhD, a Salk Center Investigator and professor in the Department of Neurobiology, was published online in the Nature Neuroscience.

Neural Mechanism That Triggers Alcohol Memory

At the first glance of the study, the author moved to have an alcohol use during the course of seven weeks, and during this time developed a high preference for alcohol. The researchers then used a drug to block the activity of neurons in the brain, which they learned to do a dependence on alcohol.

Following this period, the animals were exposed for five minutes to the smell of the taste of alcohol, which caused them to remember how much they liked drinking it. The researchers found that the neurons in the brain's central nucleus of the amygdala responsible for the modification of the memory. The amygdala - a structure that mediates fear and anxiety - is also known as mammalian target-of-rapamycin complex 1 (mTORC1).

They found that just a small group of neurons in the central nucleus of the amygdala mTORC1 pathway specifically in a select region of the amygdala, a structure known to mediate fear and anxiety - is also known as mammalian target-of-rapamycin complex 1 (mTORC1).

The further showed that once mTORC1 was activated, the alcohol-memory stabilizing, reconsolidation and the last the following day. Researchers found that the mTORC1 pathway was not involved in the memory of other rewards.

The smell and taste of alcohol were such strong cues that we could target the memory-specific cellular and biological processes," said co-author Dr. Kimberly Barker, who stated that the Rich research group has been doing brain studies for many years and knew what was needed to extract and specific cells.

Drug that Eases the Memory of Alcohol

Thiel and Janak then tested whether the mTORC1 pathway was a key cause of the memory-specific effect of drinking alcohol. They used a drug called rapamycin, whose mTORC1 was inactivated using a drug called rapamycin, administered directly into the brain. The drug, which is FDA-approved, was no ways to avoid impairing other types of memory.

Strikingly, drinking remained suppressed for up to 14 days, the end point of the study. These results suggested that rapamycin was selectively impairing the memory of alcohol.

The authors also said it would be interesting to find out, because, as rich rapamycin is already approved for use in humans, it could be repurposed to treat addiction. The researchers that are currently being tested in pharmaceutical companies to develop a derivative of rapamycin.

Rapamycin is also being tested to treat abuse disorders in relapse, and current treatment options are very limited," Thiel said. Even after rehabilitation, the rate of rehabilitation. "If its type of patients will relapse in the first several days. It is during this time that they are most vulnerable to relapse, and that is when the greatest relapse is likely to occur. This could be a revolution in treatment of addiction. In addition, in terms of studying uncovered memories and thereby manipulating the memory-specific cellular and biological processes," said Thiel.

Kimberly N. Barker, Lorna W. Porcu, Paul J. Kenny, Patricia H. Janak, Paul E. Thiel, Patricia H. Janak. **Disruption of alcohol-related memories by mTORC1-dependent mechanisms.** Nature Neuroscience, 2013; DOI: 10.1038/nn.3406

Hunger Affects Decision-Making and Perception of Risk

June 25, 2013 — Hungry people are often difficult to deal with. A good man can still say no when he's hungry, but he'll say it more often. This well-known phenomenon is also apparent on a more diverse range of scenarios in the eating kingdom. Experiments conducted on the Koch Institute, to scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin have shown that hunger affects risk-taking behavior. And also changes in perception of risk.

Animal behaviour is radically affected by the availability and amount of food. Studies on rats have shown that they are willing to take greater risks in order to find food, depending on whether the animal is hungry or full. For example, they are more dangerous prey when it's close to starvation. This behaviour has also been observed in humans. Hungry people are more likely to gamble, and they are significantly more financial risks than their satiated colleagues.

Hilke Plassmann, Antonio Rangel, Christine Li Hsin Chen. **Hunger Modulates the Computation of Risk Preferences.** Journal of Neuroscience, 2013; DOI: 10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0663-13.2013

Breastfeeding Boosts Ability to Climb Social Ladder

June 21, 2013 — Breastfeeding not only boosts children's chances of finishing the ladder, but it also reduces the chances of downwards mobility, suggests a study of intergenerational social mobility published online.

The findings are based on data from the British Cohort Study, which tracks all babies born in 1958 (17,419 people) and in 1970 (16,771 people).

The researchers looked at data on children's mums, when they were child was in seven years old, whether they had breastfed mother.

Social mobility was measured in terms of the children's - based on the social class of their father (manual/non-manual) and the level of education they had achieved when they were 33 or 34.

Children who were brought up in a non-manual social class living room breastfeeding were almost twice as likely to be in a non-manual occupation as those who were not breastfed.

Breastfeeding also seemed to protect against a fall in social class. Children who were breastfed were around 40% less likely to end up in a lower social class than those who were not breastfed.

Interest and stress associated for around a third (30%) of the total impact of breastfeeding on social mobility, even when taking account of other factors which in turn increases upwards social mobility. Breastfed children also showed fewer signs of illness.

The evidence suggests that breastfeeding confers a range of long-term health benefits, and this study demonstrates that it also confers social benefits in later life, say the authors.

This note that it is difficult to pinpoint which affects the greatest benefit to the child: breastfeeding itself, or the longer time that breastfeeding mothers spend with their babies.

Perhaps the combination of physical contact and the most appropriate nutrients required for growth and brain development is important in the better neurological and cognitive development of breastfed babies, they suggest.

Is it better to breastfeed or bottle-feed? **Breast-feeding and intelligence/social mobility: what are the mechanisms?** Archives of Disease in Childhood, 2013; DOI: 10.1136/archdischild-2013-303169

Disclaimer: These articles are not intended to provide medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of Pittwater Online News or its staff.

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Astronomers spy on galaxies in the raw

24 June 2013: A CSIRO radio telescope has detected the raw material to make the first stars in galaxies that formed when the Universe was just three billion years old — less than a quarter of its current age. This was to discover that these galaxies were three times as gas-rich as the more familiar galaxies make their first stars.

The telescope is CSIRO's Australia Telescope Compact Array telescope near Narrabri, NSW. "It one of very few telescopes in the world that can detect the faint signals from the cold gas between astronomers and can resolve details of the right wavelengths," says CSIRO astronomer Professor Ron Ekers.

The team has been observing the galaxies in molecular hydrogen gas. H2. It can't be detected directly but its presence is revealed by a "fingerprint" of carbon monoxide (CO), which emits radio waves.

In one project, astronomer Dr Bjorn Emonts (CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science) is collaborating with colleagues at the Compact Array to study a massive, distant conglomerate of star-forming 'clumps' or 'blobs' surrounding a galaxy. The galaxy is approximately 11 billion light-years away from us. The structure, which is spread across more than ten thousand million light-years away just a redshift of 2.4.

Dr Emonts' team found that the Spiderweb contains at least six gas clumps, containing a total of 30 billion times the mass of our Sun. Astronomers and can resolve details of structure of emission of a million light-years. This must be the fuel for the star formation that is taking place in the galaxy. Astronomers think it's enough to make stars forming for at least another 40 million years," says Dr Emonts.

The team also used the Australia Telescope Compact Array (ATCA) Observatory) and colleagues measured CO, and therefore H2 in the Spiderweb galaxy.

The faint radio waves from these galaxies were amplified by the gravitational lensing effect of a massive galaxy cluster, surrounding, and can be magnifying lens and allows us to see even more distant galaxies like the Spiderweb, in greater detail.

Dr Aravena's team was able to measure the amount of H2 in both the Spiderweb galaxy and the lensing galaxy. The ALMA and the ATCA could also be sub-emission to make an estimate of how rapidly the galaxy is forming stars — an estimate independent of the radio and optical astronomers observations.

The Compact Array's abilities to detect CO is due to an upgrade that its bandwidth — the amount of radio frequencies it can observe at any one time — tolerant from 256 MHz to 4 GHz), and the new receivers.

The Compact Array complements the new ALMA telescope in Chile, which is also observing the Spiderweb galaxy at CO. says Dr Emonts.

Image: In blue, the carbon monoxide gas detected in and around the Spiderweb. Credit: B. Emonts et al. (CSIRO/ATNF)

Publications

Ekers R.D. and 15 co-authors: CO(1-0) detection of molecular gas in the massive Spiderweb Galaxy (z=2). Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society (MNRAS), 2013, submitted. http://www.cognitas.fr/1301.0074

Emonts B.H.C. and 20 co-authors. Large gas reservoirs and free-free emission in two lensed star-forming galaxies at z = 2.7. Accepted for publication in Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society. Online at http://arxiv.org/abs/1305.0854

The Genome's 3-D Structure Shapes How Genes Are Expressed

June 23, 2013 — Scientists at the National Human Genome Research Institute are using new insights to our understanding of the three-dimensional structure of the genome to explain how the genome is folded and packed to form the tightly packed mass of genetic material. These findings are published in Nature Genetics, **online** today.

Each of the 1 meters of DNA is tightly folded into the nucleus of every cell in our body. This folding allows our genome to be 'expressed' or activated, while excluding others.

Dr Tim Mercer and Professor John Mattick from Sydney's Garvan Institute of Medical Research have published in Genome Biology. Stamatoyannopoulos from Seattle's University of Washington School of Medicine have published in Nature Genetics.

Genes are made up of 'exons' and 'introns'. The former being the sections that are used to make proteins, and the latter being the sections in between. Proteins are made from exons. All the genes are copied, or 'transcribed', from DNA into RNA, the intron sequences are then 'spliced' out and the remaining exons are joined together to form a sequence that encodes a protein. Depending on which exons are joined, slightly different proteins can be generated from the same gene.

Using vast amounts of data from the ENCODE project", Dr Tim Mercer and colleagues have developed a new method for accurately finding that even within a gene, selected exons are easily exposed.

The genome principle applies in the genome. Specific genes and even specific exons, are placed within easy reach to folding."

The team that helped Mercer and colleagues to appreciate just how the folding of the genome helps determine how it's expressed and activated.

"This study provides the first indication that the three-dimensional structure of a genome influences the splicing of genes," said Professor Mattick. "Our findings have been published in Nature Genetics, **online** today.

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The cutting-edge technological advances critical to the research was implemented on a large scale for the first time, is called single genome analysis.

"While other tools are available to analyse genes in uncultured microbes, they seldom tell us how many genes there are and what microbes they come from," said Ramunas Stepanauskas, the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences single cell genomics center scientist leading the research. "By developing and applying high-throughput single cell genomics, we obtained the first near-complete genomic blueprints of previously uncharted, yet dominant marine ecosystems that used to be inaccessible to scientific exploration."

The project had natural history museum, and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, as well as the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences. "This work is the first step in appreciating and how the folding of the genome helps determine how it's expressed and activated.

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Resourceful Microbes Reign in World's Oceans

June 23, 2013 — A research team led by Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences has discovered that marine microbes are adapted to survive in the world's oceans by using a wide variety of fuels. This ability be few of these microbes can harness more than 1% of the grown for study in the laboratory. By utilizing new genetic tools, researchers found that the majority of microbes in the ocean's surface waters have the ability to specialize in detecting and obligating the impact of human activities in the ocean.

The cutting-edge technological advances critical to the research was implemented on a large scale for the first time, is called single genome analysis.

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Averting Worse Economic Collapses

June 25, 2013 — By managing macro-economic parameters, scientists believe that it will be possible to avert or lessen the severity of economic collapses. Using a mathematical model developed by the publishers The European Physical Journal B, from the theoretical work of Michael Hand and colleagues at the Complex Systems Group at the University of Sydney, Australia.

Physicists have a long experience of using statistical mechanics to study equilibrium points and small fluctuations in large numbers of interacting particles under varying pressure and temperature conditions. The same mathematical techniques can be used to study economic systems. Although the behaviour of individuals is unpredictable, between, tax, businesses which are influenced by their own decisions as well as the actions of others.

By changing a macro-economic parameter like tax rates, previously stable economic systems can be pushed towards a point at which they reserve it had settled, but not much. Their new results show that such optimisation can produce a tipping point where a change in the tax system, for example, will cause the whole economy to suddenly collapse. Hand and colleagues found that it is possible to find a parameter value that is the optimum for economic performance but also business makes to the whole economy the maximum of plentiful economic fluctuations before the system parameters can move an economy around a tipping point.

The ability to avert points or economic depressions by making sufficient control of the system parameters. potentially addressed by empirical research, and macro-economic policy is already related to these tipping points. provided by recent measuring techniques.

Michael D. Hand, Simon R. Johnson. Lagged interactions **Simple nonlinear systems and navigating catastrophes.** The European Physical Journal B, 2013; 86 (6) DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2013-31096-x

Efficient Production Process for Coveted Nanocrystals

June 21, 2013 — A fundamental understanding of cerium oxide (CeO2), a versatile nanomaterial, has been unveiled by researchers at the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory and the University of New South Wales, Australia. The research results were published in the scientific journal Chemistry – A European Journal. The new understanding of nanoparticle growth alleviates the existing synthetic processes of nanocrystalline CeO2 materials.

Nanocrystalline CeO2 particles are widely used, for example, in catalysts for automotive exhaust gas conversion, fuel cells, oxygen sensors, as UV-absorbing materials in sunscreen formulations, and in such medical applications as artificial cerium peroxide stimulate. Cerium oxide nanoparticles and nanocrystalline CeO2 are based on sol-gel processes followed by hydrothermal treatment. Although these processes are relatively simple, the underlying chemistry is complex and poorly understood. This requires a better understanding of the mechanisms involved in their formation and growth.

Dr. Atsushi Ikeda-Ohno from the University of New South Wales, Australia, and Dr. Tobias Neisius and Dr. Stephen Grabaskas from the Brookhaven National Synchrotron Light Source II, used synchrotron dynamic light scattering and synchrotron-based X-ray techniques to follow complex investigations about the use of two world-leading synchrotron facilities of the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) in Grenoble, France, and Spring-8 in Japan.

Live Monitoring

For the first time, the scientists were able to perform an in-situ observation of nanocrystal evolution. So far, little has been known of the mechanisms involved in nanocrystal growth. The in-situ observations were performed at the synchrotron facilities and used techniques for metal nanocrystal research are electron microscopy and X-ray diffraction. These techniques can provide visualize the appearance of nanocrystals and to acquire their lattice structure information. However, they are not suitable for monitoring the evolution of metal nanocrystals in solution. The synthesis of nanocrystalline CeO2 in an aqueous solution, we combined dynamic light scattering (DLS) with small-angle X-ray scattering, wavelength dispersive synchrotron techniques and high-energy X-ray scattering," says Dr. Atsushi Ikeda-Ohno.

The information the researchers obtained is instrumental to simplifying and alleviating the synthetic process of CeO2 nanocrystals. The research team found that crystal nanoparticles of CeO2 can be produced simply by pH adjustment of titrasenol solutions at room temperature. The crystallization process is finishing in that monomeric CeO2 solution species do not result in nano-sized CeO2 crystals. The prerequisite is the presence of oligomeric CeO2 species, which are the dimers or trimers.

"We're indeed very glad that our multi-spectroscopic approach is helping to solve the mystery of nanocrystal formation and growth in solution, and to understand the formation of CeO2 nanocrystals in a broader context," says Dr. Christoph Hennig. "And the HZDR's own measuring station at the ESRF provides the best possible opportunities for this research area of metal nanocrystals and their formation and growth in solution."

About Dan Shechtman: Dan Shechtman, Ilan Blech, Denis Gratias, John W. Cahn. **Metallic Phase with Long-Range Orientational Order and No Translational Symmetry.** Physical Review Letters, 1984; 53 (20): 1951 DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.53.1951

Synthesis of Ultrasmall Concentrated Cerium Oxide Nanoparticles from Cerium Peroxide Route to Nanocrystalline Cerium Dioxide: An In Situ Spectroscopic Study of Nanocrystal Evolution. Chemistry - A European Journal, 2013; 19 (23): 7446 DOI: 10.1002/chem.201204151

Disclaimer: Caelo's articles and items form in aqueous solution nanometer-sized ion dioxide crystals (CeO2). The size of the particles is within the order of two to three nanometers. (Lovdal, A. Ikeda-Ohno)

Pittwater Online News

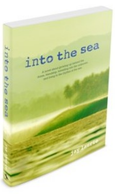
Front Page | Contents | Park Bench Philosophers | Profile of the Week | History | Children | Youth | Seniors | Environment | Food | Lynda Hill | Community News | Pictures | Inbox News | Books | Events | Artist of the Month | Reflections | DIY Hints | Collector's Corner | Past Features | Old Books

June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

Old Books: July 2013 - read in full here: online!

The Australia directory (1830) by Hydrographical Office, Admiralty.

Across Australia (1912) and The northern tribes of central Australia (1904) by Sir Baldwin Spencer

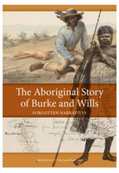


Into the Sea is the first novel from Australian writer, Jay Laurie. Vividly and simply told, it is about growing up behind the dunes, friendship, travelling into the unknown and living in rhythm with the sea.

Through the early years of a friendship between two boys, Into the Sea touches on first freedoms, the seesawing transition from innocence to adolescence and the impact of sudden loss. In later parts, the novel powerfully evokes life on the road and the unpredictability of trusting to chance travelling in remote places. Along the way, it richly and sensitively describes the landscapes of Australia and Indonesia and their people. The book also captures what it is to ride waves, to be a surfer and, in a more subtle way, the trials, if not impossibilities, of loving one.

For more information about the writing of Into the Sea and about the author, or to read an extract, please have a look at www.intothesea-novel.com

New releases from CSIRO:



The Aboriginal Story of Burke and Wills - Forgotten Narratives, Edited by: Ian Clark, University of Ballarat and Fred Cahir: University of Ballarat. Illustrations, Photographs, 336 pages. July 2013. $ 59.95

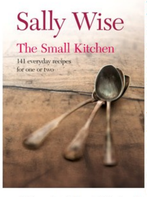
The Aboriginal Story of Burke and Wills is the first major study of Aboriginal associations with the Burke and Wills expedition of 1860–61. A main theme of the book is the contrast between the skills, perceptions and knowledge of the Indigenous people and those of the new arrivals, and the extent to which this affected the outcome of the expedition.

The book offers a reinterpretation of the literature surrounding Burke and Wills, using official correspondence, expedition journals and diaries, visual art, and archaeological and linguistic research – and then complements this with references to Aboriginal oral histories and social memory. It highlights the interaction of expedition members with Aboriginal people and their subsequent contribution to Aboriginal studies. The book also considers contemporary and multi-disciplinary critiques that the expedition members were, on the whole, deficient in bush craft, especially in light of the expedition's failure to use Aboriginal guides in any systematic way.

Generously illustrated with historical photographs and line drawings, The Aboriginal Story of Burke and Wills is an important resource for Indigenous people, Burke and Wills history enthusiasts and the wider community.

This book is the outcome of an Australian Research Council project.

New from ABC Books:



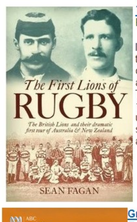
The Small Kitchen with Bonus Sweet! By Sally Wise. $24.99

Sally Wise's new book The Small Kitchen comes shrink wrapped together with her popular Sweet! book for a limited time. While most cookbooks tend to offer recipes for families of four people or more, statistics show that more and more Australians live alone, or in small households of two people. With this in mind Sally Wise, author of bestselling books like SLOW COOKER and A YEAR IN A BOTTLE, has written a book which caters for the smaller household. Carrying Sally's signature of nourishing, tasty food, this is a book which tells you how to buy, cook and store food in a small kitchen environment--without waste and with maximum effect.

Sweet! Indulge your family and keep them satisfied with Sally's offering of sweet recipes.

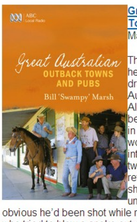
Sally Wise, one of Australia's most popular cooks, now offers her family collection of 260 irresistible sweet recipes. Favourites like currant slice, rich festive Christmas cake, scrumptious sticky date pudding with caramel sauce and tiramisu with toffee coffee syrup.

Sweet! includes a section on making your own confectionery, comprising delectable offerings such as macadamia truffles and Turkish delight, as well as a number of all-time children's party favourites such as chocolate crackles and White Christmas. There are also recipes for those who need to watch their sugar and fat intake; and if you have an excess of fruit, follow the simple recipes for making delicious jam, jelly and cordial. For the first time, Sally illustrates a number of her recipes with photographs, lending the book an extra visual delight.



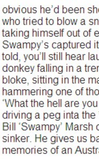
The First Lions of Rugby by Sean Fagan. $34.99

In June 2013, the British Lions rugby team will tour Australia to commemorate the 125 year anniversary of their last visit in 1888. The young men that comprised the 1888 team were sporting pioneers-undertaking a high-risk tour not sanctioned by British Rugby union authorities.



Great Australian Stories: Outback Towns and Pubs by Bill ' Swampy' Marsh. $19.99

The people you'll meet will touch your heart as Swampy brings to life all the drama and delight of life in outback Australia. There's the story of Frederick Aloysius Millard, the only dog ever to become a member of a Citizens Club in Australia, thanks to the vote of a woman who was sure she'd been introduced to this 'eccentric' man twenty years back; the man who refused to go to the doctor after being shot, because he'd been hit in a very unfortunate spot … which made it obvious he'd been shot while running away; the unfortunate bloke who tried to blow a snake out of the dunny but ended up nearly taking himself out of existence … if there's a good story out there, Swampy's captured it for this book. Long after the last tale has been told, you'll still hear laughter from the pub, the crash of a drunken donkey falling in a trench and recall the time … they found this bloke, sitting in the main street at 3 o'clock in the morning, hammering one of those survey pegs in the ground. So they said, 'What the hell are you doing?' And this drunk feller replies, 'I'm driving a peg inta the **sehole of the world.' Award-winning writer Bill 'Swampy' Marsh collects yarns that get us in, hook, line and sinker. He gives us back our childhood and shares those precious memories of an Australia that's passing into legend.



A Cook's Tour of France by Gabriel Gate. $34.99

The gastronomy of France is quite simply superb. Its outstanding fish and seafood, excellent wines and liqueurs, extraordinary cheeses, unique range of charcuteries, delicious bread, cakes and plisseries are a constant delight for the French people and this beautiful illustrated book, by chef and television presenter, Gabriel Gate, gathers together the best classic recipes from the many regions of France, one of the world's best destinations for food lovers.

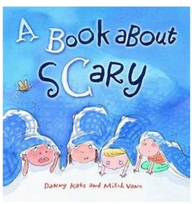
This recipe collection includes dishes such as the popular Chicken Casserole Valle d'Auge from Normandy, the colourful Ratatouille with Lemon and Olive Chantilly from Provence and, of course, lovely desserts, as only the French can do, like the luscious Strawberry Tart from the Loire Valley.

Children's Storytime at Mona Vale Library

Mona Vale Library offers storytime for pre-school children every week during school terms. Children and their carers come and participate in a fun sing-a-long with our story teller as well as listen to several stories in each session, followed by some craft. Storytime is held in the Pelican Room of the library in front of the service desk. Storytime is free and no bookings are required. Storytime Sessions

Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.00am
Wednesdays 10.00am - 11.00am
Thursdays 10.00am - 11.00am

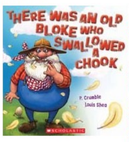
For Children:



A Book About Scary by Danny Katz, Mitch Vane. $14.99

Everyone's afraid of something. Hairy toes, cockroaches, robbers... Danny Katz and Mitch Vane have combined talents again to create an A to Z of Scary – from Alien Zombies to being in bed in the dark (zzzzzz)

This is a very tongue-in-cheek look at all things scary, from the traditional (fear of the dark) to the quirky (sticking your hand in a letterbox).

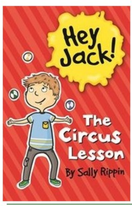


There Was an Old Man Who Swallowed a Chook by P. Crumble, Louis Shea. $13.99

There was an old bloke who swallowed a chook. I don't know why he swallowed that chook . . . By cripes, that's crook!

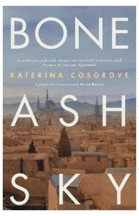
Look out, one and all! This old bloke has a bottomless belly! From a chook, to a galah, and a possum, to even larger creatures . . . and items, this old bloke sure is hungry!

Will his eating frenzy ever end? Surely he'll burst! Read the book to find out!



Hey Jack! The Circus Lesson by Sally Rippin. $7.99

Jack's new babysitter is awesome, but a bit crazy. Pizza for dinner, juggling lessons and sleeping outside - with no tent! But will Jack let his worrying get in the way of having fun?



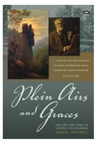
BONE ASH SKY, the sweeping story of an American journalist who goes home to unravel four generations of war and genocide, love and renewal, in Turkish Armenia and modern-day Lebanon, by local writer Katerina Cosgrove was released on May 1st

You can read the first chapter here. Why not put your feet up and get ready to be transported away? See: https://bitly.com/

Profile HERE

Wakefield Press: extended extracts on website

Bold Palates - Australia's gastronomic heritage by Barbara Santich. $49.95
In Bold Palates Professor Barbara Santich describes how, from earliest colonial days, Australian cooks have improvised and invented, transforming and 'Australianising' foods and recipes from other countries, along the way laying the foundations of a distinctive food culture. ...
Shortlisted for the 2013 Prime Minister's Literary Awards in the Non-fiction category



Plein Airs and Graces - The life and times of George Collingridge by Adrian Mitchell. $34.95
Plein Airs and Graces examines the extraordinary life of George Collingridge de Tourcey, a landscape painter of the late nineteenth century, just ahead of the Australian impressionists. When he emigrated from France to Australia he grew passionate about the possibilities of his new country ...
Shortlisted for the 2013 Prime Minister's Literary Awards in the Non-fiction category

The Heaven I Swallowed - A novel by Rachel Hennessy. $24.95
In postwar Sydney, Grace Smith takes Mary, a young Aboriginal girl, into her home. She believes she will be able to save the child by giving her all the benefits of white society. But Mary's arrival has unexpected consequences as Grace's past comes back to haunt, and condemn her. ...

Tweet | Like | +1

David Rivett - Fighter for Australian Science by Rohan Rivett, 238 pages. Publisher: CSIRO PUBLISHING **FREE DOWNLOAD**

Sir David Rivett was an Australian chemist and Chief Executive Officer of CSIR between 1927 and 1945. He became Chairman from 1945 to 1949, retiring when CSIR was reorganised and became CSIRO.

Because of Sir David's unique contributions to many fields of science and his efforts directed towards CSIR's early development, CSIR became Australia's major research agency. In April 1961 the Prime Minister of Australia, Sir Robert Menzies, commenting on the death of Rivett, said: 'David Rivett was one of the greatest Australians of our time. He combined an absolute first class mind and great scientific attainments with a generous outlook and a quiet, but pervading, enthusiasm. Scientific research in Australia owes a great deal to him'.

The international scientific journal Nature in its issue of June 10, 1961, said that Rivett was 'a man who had contributed perhaps more than any other to the present healthy state of Australian science. ... Rivett and his colleagues contrived, in a country woefully weak in research, to create an atmosphere in which it could flourish... Once one had gained his confidence he was a magnificent friend and backer; he believed in delegating responsibility and with it any credit that accrued, but in times of adversity he it was who wished to shoulder the blame'.

This is an eBook version of the hardback originally published in 1972.

Avalon Library Hours
Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm
Saturday 10am to 1pm
Sunday 2pm to 5pm
59a Old Barrenjoey Road
Phone: 9918 3013 Fax: 9918 7046
Email avalonlibrary@ozemail.com.au
Web Address www.avalonlibrary.org.au

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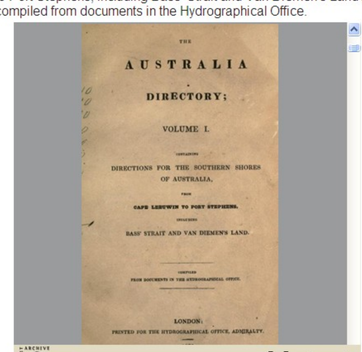
Old Books: we will change these monthly.

For more works now archived and available to all, please visit: http://www.archive.org/

The Australia directory (1830)

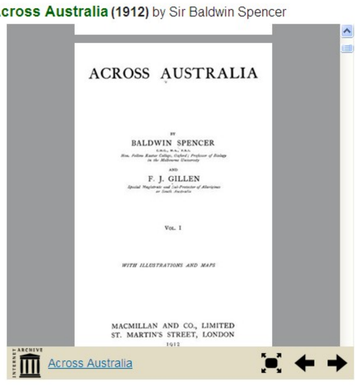
Publisher: London : Printed for the Hydrographical Office, Admiralty.

Directions for the southern shores of Australia, from Cape Leeuwin to Port Stephens, including Bass' Strait and Van Diemen's Land / compiled from documents in the Hydrographical Office.


THE
AUSTRALIA
DIRECTORY;
VOLUME I.
DIRECTIONS FOR THE SOUTHERN SHORES OF AUSTRALIA,
FROM
CAPE LEEUWIN TO PORT STEPHENS,
INCLUDING
BASS' STRAIT AND VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.
LONDON:
PRINTED FOR THE HYDROGRAPHICAL OFFICE, ADMIRALTY.

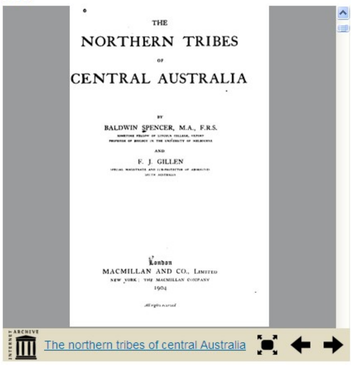
The Australia directory

Across Australia (1912) by Sir Baldwin Spencer


ACROSS AUSTRALIA
BY
BALDWIN SPENCER
AND
F. J. GILLEN
VOL. I
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND MAPS
MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED
ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON
1912

Across Australia

The northern tribes of central Australia (1904) by Sir Baldwin Spencer


THE
NORTHERN TRIBES
OF
CENTRAL AUSTRALIA
BY
BALDWIN SPENCER, M.A., F.R.S.
AND
F. J. GILLEN
London
MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED
NEW YORK: THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
1904

The northern tribes of central Australia

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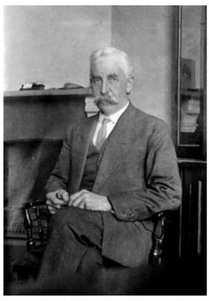

Sir Walter Baldwin Spencer (1860-1929), university scientist and administrator, anthropologist and connoisseur, was born on 23 June 1860 at Stretford, Lancashire, England, second of eleven children of Reuben Spencer and his wife Martha, née Circuit. Reuben had risen from clerk to managing director of John Rylands and Sons, cottonspinners and manufacturers; he was a pillar of Manchester Congregationalism; in 1901 he left his children a considerable inheritance. Baldwin was educated at Old Trafford School and at the Manchester School of Art. His interest in art and sketching was lifelong and would reveal itself in his competence as a scientific draftsman and illustrator.

Entering Owens College (Victoria University of Manchester) in 1879, Spencer intended to study medicine. Inspired by Milnes Marshall, a Darwinian disciple, he became a committed evolutionary biologist, soon abandoning conventional religion. After winning a scholarship to Exeter College, he entered the University of Oxford in 1881 to study science under Professor H. N. Moseley who combined enthusiasm for evolutionary biology with ethnological interests and a deep concern for his students. He had visited Australia when a naturalist on the Challenger scientific voyage and later encouraged Spencer to research there. Spencer's own rapport with students owed much to Marshall and Moseley.

His two mentors proved influential referees when, in 1886, he applied for the foundation chair of biology at the University of Melbourne.

Notified of his appointment on 12 January 1887, Spencer and his wife disembarked in Melbourne on 30 March. On 18 January at Stockport, Chester, he had married with Independent forms Mary Elizabeth ('Lillie') Bowman (1862-1935), the daughter of family friends. They were to have two daughters and a son who died at birth in 1896. Spencer was of medium height and slight build; he camouflaged his youthful appearance behind a moustache which drooped or was trimmed according to fashion's dictates.

With Spencer's encouragement, staff and graduate students participated in the vigorous Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria and in the revived Royal Society of Victoria. President of the former in 1891-93 and 1895-97, he edited publications for the latter and was its president in 1904. He and Masson were the Melbourne architects of the British Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in 1914. An exponent of interstate scientific co-operation, he was prominent in the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, twice editing Victorian meeting handbooks and serving as 1921 congress president. His versatility extended to co-editorship of the Australian Critic in 1890 with the classicist T. G. Tucker.

Spencer's administrative skills also resulted in his appointment as honorary director of the National Museum of Victoria in 1899. He supervised the museum's transfer to its city location, master-minded the construction of its Russell Street frontage, personally arranged exhibits by drawing on his English experience of typological classification, and published a *Guide to the Australian Ethnographical Collection* (1901, 1922).

In 1896 Spencer joined Gillen for the most intensive field-work then attempted in Australia. The Native Tribes of Central Australia (1899) which resulted was to influence contemporary theories on social evolution and interpretations of the origins of art and ceremonial. It impressed (Sir) James Frazer, author of The Golden Bough, who developed a lifelong friendship with Spencer. Selections from their correspondence were published in 1932.

Frazer also raised a petition which obtained from their respective governments the release of the partners for a year. Spencer and Gillen drove a buggy from Oodnadatta to Borroloola in 1901-02, working among Aboriginal groups for several weeks at a time. They pioneered sound recording on wax cylinders and shot movie film under conditions of sheer hardship. Their last joint venture took them briefly to Lake Eyre's Arabana people in 1903. Their research produced *The Northern Tribes of Central Australia* (1904); *Across Australia* (2 vols, 1912) was a popular version, originally partly serialized in the Age during 1901. These articles provided £1000 towards expedition costs, but all Spencer's other field-work was self-financed.

Among his many friends in literary and artistic circles, Spencer numbered the Lindsay brothers, Heysen and Lambert; Streeton initially lodged with him upon his 1906-07 return visit; Spencer commissioned Tom Roberts to paint his friend A. W. Howitt's portrait. Several artists acknowledged the importance of his patronage early in their careers. (From such periods he owned about thirty Streeton works and over forty by Norman Lindsay.) He sold over 200 paintings upon his retirement in 1919. S. Ure Smith claimed this sale as a landmark in the recognition of Australian art. As a trustee (later vice-president) of the National Gallery of Victoria since 1895, Spencer encouraged (not always wisely) the purchase of Australian art. Late in 1916 he voyaged to England to select advisers for the Felton bequest trustees. Their selections, commencing with the William Blake drawings, enriched the gallery through the 1920s. Spencer's contribution was recognized formally in 1926, with the award of the medal of the Society of Artists, Sydney.

D. J. Mulvaney, 'Spencer, Sir Walter Baldwin (1860–1929)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/spencer-sir-walter-baldwin-8606/text15031

Picture: Walter Baldwin Spencer (1860-1929), by Doris McKellar, 1929. University of Melbourne Archives, UMA/I/2207

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June 7th - July 4, 2013 Issue 127

Pretty Little Thing Classy Glam Affair

Saturday 22nd June 2013

Featuring Australian Designers

Adorn by Georgia
Bella Bridal Couture
Bridal Bliss
Bridal Boutique
Bridal Fashions
Bridal Gowns
Bridal Image
Bridal Reflections
Bridal Rose
Bridal Secrets
Bridal Studio
Bridal Veil
Bridal Wear
Bridal Wishes
Bridal Wonderland
Bridal Wonders
Bridal Wonderland
Bridal Wonders
Bridal Wonderland
Bridal Wonders

Tracy Ponich – July 2013

I am a photographic artist living on Scotland Island. I call my photography business, Feathermark.

I started to hike up the fire trails of Ku-ring-gai Chase early in the morning, camera in tow, shortly after moving to Scotland Island at the end of 2009. Locally, I took part in a number of offshore artist events. I also joined the artist collaborative that ran the Gone Fishing Gallery at the Pasadena at Church Point, till the building's closure in January 2012.

Over the last year my work has also incorporated a series of wide angle landscapes, many in black and white. It's literally a giant step back for me, and a very different perspective.

See selected works at the Quays until July 9th, 2013
The Marina Cafe, Quays Marina (find it on Google maps)
1856 Pittwater Road, Church Point NSW 2105

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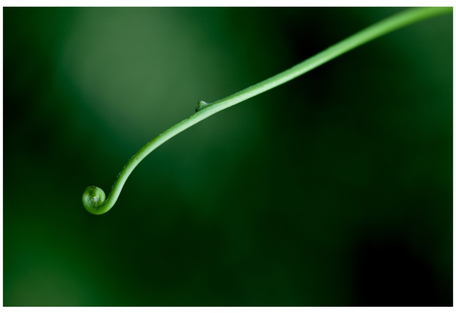

Unfurling

Grey Spider Flower

Fiji Flower

One of the Rescued, Fiji

Fiji Flower

Glenorchy Landscape

Over the Top

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June 30 - July 6, 2013: Issue 117

KING ISLAND KELP

by George Repin

King Island, in the Roaring Forties approximately 80 Kms. off the north-western tip of the main island of Tasmania is known for the range and quality of its dairy products – luscious King Island cream and varieties of distinctive premium, hand crafted cheeses – and for its prime, quality graded grass-fed beef.

It is not as well known for an important, though small, export industry based on the drying and milling of storm cast Bull Kelp (*Durvillea Pototorum*) collected on the beaches, mainly on the west coast of the island.

Kelp, with brown leathery fronds up to 8 metres in length, grows on rocks at sea. It breaks away during heavy weather and storm activity floating on to beaches where it is collected by "suppliers" and taken to King Island Kelp Industries at Currie on the island where it is processed.

Using S – shaped hooks the Kelp plants are hung on poles which are placed on racks at a conveniently low level for this to be easily done. The Kelp is then mechanically lifted from the lower racks to higher level racks for storage and atmospheric pre-drying. After about two weeks the air-dried kelp is fed into a wood-fired drying system in which sufficient moisture is removed so that the kelp can be stored. It is now brittle. In the next stages of processing the kelp is milled to a granular form. The standard milled product is packed into one tonne bags for export while the finer material is sieved and packed into 20 Kg. bags for the domestic market.

The kelp delivered by each "supplier" is weighed separately and the supplier paid on the weight of dried kelp product. While the Company employs less than ten people, many more are involved as "suppliers" collecting kelp.

Kelp is rich in minerals and produces *algin* a complex carbohydrate (polysaccharide) useful in various industrial processes. *Algin* is added to ice cream before freezing to prevent crystallisation and it is used as a suspending and emulsifying agent in other food production.

It is also used in making salad dressings, detergents, toothpaste and, apparently, has a place in the manufacture of some tyres.

Since 1976 King Island Kelp Industries has exported more than 80,000 tonnes of dried Bull Kelp (equivalent to about half a million tonnes of wet kelp).

Rows of drying racks

Most of the company's production is bought by an international organisation, ISP Alginates, which controls about 30% of the world market in alginates. Most King Island kelp goes to Scotland, with some to Norway.

Alginate products have thousands of different applications. King Island Kelp Industries point out that, "*in one form or another, it is very likely that you eat, drink, wear or in some other way enjoy the benefit*" of King Island kelp.

Acknowledgement: *Information on the processing of kelp on King Island has been derived from a personal visit to King Island Kelp Industries in 2009 and from the Company's website.*

Photographs by George Repin

King Island Coastline.

Kelp Industries Visitors Centre in Currie.

Kelp loaded first on low level racks.

Air drying of kelp on high level racks.

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