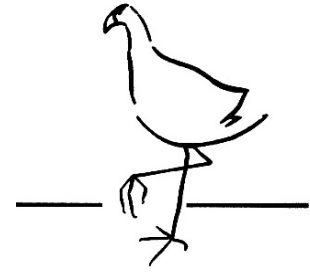


PANBOOLA

Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Project Inc



NEWSLETTER NO 17 - December 2009

The exciting development since our last newsletter has actually been off site with the completion of the cycle path along Bullara St. The Panboola recreational walking and cycling paths are now linked by a safe cycle access from Sth Pambula and to the Pambula Beach and Merimbula paths. It is wonderful to observe so many visitors to the site and to be integrated into the wider recreational environment of the area.

These public paths lead to our new stone wall which really adds to the sense of entering the unique space that is Panboola. Work will continue around this area to enhance the appeal of the entrance and access to Smith's Lookout.

With regard to the entrance, the committee, whilst being very pleased with what was done during the year by way of the stone wall and the large bollards are disappointed that we have not achieved more by way of completed work there. The overall plan calls for a footbridge over the drain behind the bollards with a walking track to link the bridge to the lookout on Smith's land, and for an architectural feature on a column behind the wall. In the future we would like to concrete the entry road from Bullara St to the end of the stone wall. Even though there is little to show, we have spent a lot of time with BVSC getting DAs and Construction Certificates approved. The Smith Family have kindly indicated through their solicitors that they will grant a License over their land to allow pedestrian access to the lookout from the proposed footbridge. Richard Moffatt has been engaged to create the feature for the column. Ted Hawkins has generously donated his time in preparing plans as has Andrew Marshman and we have things now in place to continue with construction in the New Year.

We understand Terry Radford is no longer engaged in the business of bobcat operation. The committee would like to acknowledge the amount of work Terry has done at Panboola over the years, mostly on a voluntary basis or at greatly reduced rates.

We participated in the Pambula Open Garden Day in support of the Pambula hospital held at the end of October and some intrepid souls braved the bad weather to enjoy a walk through the grounds. It was good to be able to be a part of this community fund raising effort and perhaps we can have better luck with the weather for future events. We have also participated in the Bega Valley Festival promoting sustainability and used the occasion to promote our activities and sell our fund raising **calendar**. We are receiving very good feedback on the quality of our calendar and the beautiful scenes from Panboola featured each month. However, to make it a financial success for the project we still need to sell many more copies. **Please think of our calendar when considering last minute gifts.**

We also take this opportunity to invite the submission of any photographs taken at Panboola for possible inclusion in future calendars or promotional material.

As long term supporters will be aware we have previously benefited significantly from private and government funding and this has enabled the huge number of plantings and infrastructure that has been developed on site. The other major input of course has been volunteer hours and we are pleased to have been able to continue with the regular Thursday work teams. We have attracted new members to this group and are also now working with the Workways team under the Commonwealth Government sponsored employment programme.

The other capacity in which people support the project is by joining the Committee and we are now commencing our preparations for the Annual General Meeting to be held on 15 February 2010. We have several committee vacancies available and would welcome your contribution. The Committee generally meets on a monthly basis for several hours and individual committee members may also elect to participate in a subcommittee of their choosing. These sub-committees focus on the site management, fund raising through grant applications and income generating activities respectively. The first activity for the new committee will be a planning day to be held on 22 February and this would be a good opportunity for new members to familiarise themselves with the details of the project and perhaps contribute a new perspective.

Please consider whether you can support our project by volunteering for the Committee. If you would like to discuss supporting the project by joining the committee or in other ways, please contact our President, Peter Roberts on 64951678

The membership nominations for the 2010-2011 year are attached.

The final word belongs to our Patron, Alexandra Seddon, who has sent a lovely letter which expresses some of her joy in observing the achievements of the project.

“I have been enjoying visits to Panboola so much! It is a credit to everyone who has worked there. It is magic. I particularly love the wildness inside the plantings in the waterbird sanctuary area. The sticks and leaves and grasses make a wonderful home for lizards, for which an open space of two metres is a terrifying place to cross. The litter is also benefitting all the microbes and invertebrates that make food for other insects, birds and reptiles. Perhaps some frogs will move in too, and antechinuses may come to feast on the spiders and cockroaches. Then all of these can be food for small and large birds! I love it.”

Season's Greetings to all our supporters and hopefully Panboola will receive some much needed rain to end the year.

The Annual General Meeting of Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Project Inc will be held on Monday February 15, 2010 at the Old Court House, corner of Toalla St and Monaro St, commencing at 5:00 pm. The meeting will receive the committee reports on the activities of the association during the last financial year; elect office-bearers and ordinary members of the association's committee; and receive and consider the financial statement to members.

Nominations for all positions are invited in writing, signed by two members of the association, accompanied by the written consent of the nominee and received by 4:00 pm Monday February 8, 2010. Please contact the Secretary on 6495 7168 or email robert.mccombie@bigpond.com for further information.

If you do not wish to commit to a position on the committee you might have skills or experience which you could share with us in some other capacity.

We hope you will continue to support Panboola. Your membership renewal for 2010-2011 is invited as per the form below.

PAMBULA WETLANDS AND HERITAGE PROJECT Inc.

PO Box 154 Pambula NSW 2549

Membership renewal for the year March 1, 2010 – February, 2011

Name/s.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Phone.....Email.....

Annual subscription per household \$5.00

Donations to Panboola play an important part of its continuing success and the Public Fund named "Panboola Fund" is listed on the Register of Environmental Organisations and entitled to receive **tax deductible donations**. Receipts will be issued.

Donation

Total enclosed