



# Manly Council Community News

## environment levy report

A thriving community enhanced by heritage and lifestyle

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Phone: (02) 9976 1500 Fax: (02) 9976 1400 Email: [records@manly.nsw.gov.au](mailto:records@manly.nsw.gov.au) Web: [www.manly.nsw.gov.au](http://www.manly.nsw.gov.au)

## 20 additional Environment Levy projects in 2003/4

WELCOME to this special Environment Levy edition of the Manly Council Community News.

During the last financial year, Council implemented over \$1.5 million of environmental restoration and protection projects within the Manly LGA.

This is certainly good news for the Manly community and the natural environment.

Council recently adopted its Environment Levy Program for 2003/04, which will result in more than 20 additional environmental projects for the new financial year.

### Manly Council Sydney Water Partnership

Several of our Environment Levy projects enjoy additional support under the **Sydney Water Partnership**, which involves a number of key state agencies in Total Catchment Management in our water catchment area, including the NSW Environment Protection Authority, Roads & Traffic Authority of NSW, and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources; as well as Warringah Council, the Sydney Coastal Councils Group and the Sydney Harbour Catchment Management Board.

This Sydney Water Partnership has developed a combined management approach involving all participating agencies on environmental pollution.

A current project of the Partnership is the preparation of a Manly Lagoon Integrated Catchment Management Strategy, which commits the partners to restoring Manly Lagoon. The progress report on the Strategy is covered on page three.

Active partnerships of this kind are rare in New South Wales,

and I commend and thank the Partnership's participants for assisting to combat environmental degradation in the Manly Lagoon Catchment

### Get Tanked in Manly

For over five years, Manly Council has encouraged local property owners to incorporate rainwater tanks as part of their stormwater systems, including this advice in at least two Development Control Plans.

A new project called **Get Tanked** aims to provide residents with information and access to experts to help design and install rainwater tanks.

A *Get Tanked Community Workshop* will take place on Saturday 25 October from 1 - 3pm at North Steyne Surf Club. For more information contact Dan Garlick on 9976 2842.

### Metro Pride Awards

As last year's winner of Keep Australia Beautiful's *Metro Pride Award*, Manly Council hosted the Metro Pride Awards Dinner at St Patricks College Estate on 28 August, 2003.

The evening provided an opportunity to showcase Manly's sustainability programs to many other New South Wales Councils.



**Jean Hay AM**  
Mayor of Manly

## A Sea Change in Manly's environment

**T**he State Government grant-assisted **SEA Change Manly** stormwater pollution prevention project has involved companies from Manly's Balgowlah Industrial Estate and The Corso area in identifying where improvements can be made to prevent stormwater pollution at source. It also gives companies an opportunity to become familiar with recent environmental legislation.

The program has identified stormwater pollution prevention behaviours and implemented achievable policies, procedures and programs. Through implementation of 57 Pollution Prevention Plans, the program has sought to educate, inform and bring about change in the knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and practices of businesses and council staff with significant improvements in water quality. □



**The Environment Levy - working for a sustainable future**

## Snapshots

### ● Revive the Reeds

Council's three-year *Revive the Reeds* project will see a multitude of works carried out around Manly's water catchments focusing primarily on water quality; bush regeneration and revegetation; and education programs for community, schools and businesses. The *Revive the Reeds* project has seen the appointment of Catchment Liaison Officer **Jane Murray** to work on rehabilitation of the Manly Lagoon Catchment. This position leads on from the 2001-2002 Natural Heritage Trust grant-funded rehabilitation project, *Hop In and Help Manly Lagoon*. The new project also provides continuity of all 2001/2002 projects, ensuring long-term planning and productivity within all catchment projects. □

### ● Bricks & Water

Since its launch in April 2002, the *Bricks & Water* construction site stormwater-runoff pollution prevention program has visited over 200 Manly building sites to undertake education with tradespeople. Awareness raising initiatives have included information BBQs for tradespeople at hardware stores, promotional giveaways, and the wide distribution of education kits.

**Waste education** has been introduced into the education program to assist builders reduce rubbish going to landfill. Builders are provided with a drainage map of the area in which they are working, showing the potential pathway of building site run-off pollution into Manly's waterways. □

## Youth for a sustainable future

The inaugural **Sustainability Youth Forum** was held earlier in the year, on the 4th April, 2003, at the historic Quarantine Station.

The aim of the Sustainability Youth Forum was to provide an opportunity for local young people to think about, discuss and learn how to create a sustainable future.

The Forum attracted over 150 high school students from 15 Northern Beaches High Schools.

Strong partnerships were established with NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service, Warringah Council, St Paul's Boys School and Mackellar Girls High School and the Manly Youth Council to ensure the success of the event.

Key outcomes included Manly Council's support for the Sustainability Youth Forum to become an annual event; and the establishment of a **Sustainability Youth Crew**, to encourage young people to get involved in local 'actions for a sustainable future'. For further information please contact Manly Council's Sustainability Education Officer, **Dan Garlick** on 9976 2842. □

**Sustainability Youth Forum  
delegates at Quarantine Station**



## Expenditure Review Committee

TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT of the implementation of Levy projects, the Environmental Levy Expenditure Review Committee meets quarterly to review project expenditure, and reporting annually to the community through this newsletter.

The Environment Levy Expenditure Review Committee has met four times this year and has been given progress reports on the projects and finances. The Committee acknowledges the good work done and is anxious to see major Levy projects expedited and accumulating Levy funds utilised. □



# Burnt Bridge Creek Restoration

A GREAT DEAL of **restoration work** has been recently undertaken in the **Burnt Bridge Creek** catchment. Council aims to stabilise sections of creek bank, rehabilitate erosion caused by stormwater, remove sedimentation and restore the Manly Golf Club Wetland.

Twelve sections of the Burnt Bridge Creek have undergone restoration. Through Environmental Levy funding, this project has;

- Rehabilitated erosion from six stormwater outlets
- Stabilised approximately 110 metres of Creek bank
- Removed 206 cubic metres of sediment
- Restored water flow through Manly Golf Club Wetland.
- Planted over 1500 native plants

With the support Environmental Levy funding provides, the restoration works will continue. □



## Manly Lagoon Rehabilitation Works

Planning of major **rehabilitation works** at five sites in the Manly Lagoon area is well underway.

The preparation of environmental impact assessment is being undertaken, with two assessment documents being prepared in advance of the work.

Assessment documentation is currently being finalised for sites adjacent to Pittwater Road and Queenscliff Bridge.

It is anticipated that dredging works under **Queenscliff Bridge** will commence in October and development consent obtained for proposed dredging works under Pittwater Road by December this year.

Work on four of the five sites involves the removal of accumulated sediments from the Lagoon bed. Sediment from three of these sites will be used to rehabilitate a side-bay and for

### Hinkler Park to be returned to an island to help fix Lagoon water quality

landscaping recification works on Council reserves.

Marine sand from a fifth site will be returned to ocean beaches.

Other project work underway involves the construction of a culvert bridge under Pittwater Road to return **Hinkler Park** to an island as it was prior to major alterations to Pittwater Road in the 1950s.

Filling in of the former waterway created an artificial side-bay which now has the poorest water quality in the Lagoon due in part to poor flushing.

The project's *Statement of Environmental Effects* is expected to go on public display in September 2003. □

## Snapshots

### ● Penguin Aware in Manly

The Manly Environment Centre coordinated a successful volunteer Penguin Aware Training Course in August this year.

The objective of the course was to train Penguin Aware Educators to teach community groups, schools and individuals about Manly's endangered population of Little Penguins and ways in which we can work together to protect the colony.

Implementation of Council's Little Penguin Recovery Plan continues to progress with;

- the installation of regulatory signage,
- the distribution of informative brochures,
- the installation of Penguin nesting boxes, and
- the certification of Council Rangers. □

### ● Integrated Management Strategy for Manly Lagoon

The Manly Lagoon Catchment Integrated Catchment Management Strategy (MLCICMS) is an umbrella strategy that incorporates existing plans, strategies and water quality monitoring programs with the aim of bringing together all stakeholders and developing a collaborative and coordinated management approach to improve water quality in the Manly Lagoon catchment. The Draft MLCICMS is currently being reviewed and it is anticipated that the document will go on public exhibition in September 2003 prior to consideration by both Warringah and Manly Councils in late 2003. □

# Draft Coastline Management Plans

Council has developed draft **Coastline Management Plans** (CMPs) for the areas of **Little Manly** and **Forty Baskets** with Environment Levy funding and additional funding from the State Government's Coastal Management Program.

The draft CMPs address a variety of terrestrial and aquatic issues including management of the area's marine and terrestrial ecology, traffic, safety, landscape character, user-group conflicts and use, infrastructure, coastal hazards and more. The main aim of the CMPs is to develop a long-term strategy to guide the sustainable management of the study area.

The draft CMPs will be placed on public exhibition for six weeks (most likely from the end of September 2003).

Council is also developing draft **Landscape Masterplans** for Little Manly and Forty Baskets Reserves to address landscape issues in each of these public areas.

Development of the draft Landscape Masterplans included consultation with the community and the Little Manly and Forty Baskets Coastline Management Plan Steering Committees.

The draft Masterplans should be on public exhibition soon.

Both the CMPs and the Landscape Masterplans will continue to involve extensive community consultation, in particular with the relevant Precinct Community Forums and CMP Steering Committees, throughout their development and implementation. □



● **Forty Baskets Reserve**

## Snapshots

### ● **National Tree Day 2003**

Manly Council has held three *2003 National Tree Events* and donated 1800 endemic plants for:

- **Schools Tree Day**, held on the 24th and 25th of August, involved Balgowlah Heights Primary school.
- **National Tree Day**, held on 27th of August, Manly West Park involved Manly Environment Centre Trees were planted by over 60 volunteers, including 10 Starbucks staff. *Manly Lions Club* also volunteered a free sausage sizzle and water.
- **Tania Park** - Manly Council staff were joined by over 60 volunteers. □

### ● **Tree plantings and street furniture on Pittwater Road**

Sixty new advanced specimens of the native tree *Waterhousia floribunda* (Weeping Lillypilly) were recently planted along both sides of Pittwater Road between Raglan and Pine Streets. Environment Levy funds contributed to the costs of this planting. Also included in the project were two new Norfolk Island Pines with mass plantings to mark the entrance to the town centre, and three new seats. □

## Starboard Right & Green program

**C**OUNCIL'S STARBOARD RIGHT & GREEN **marine environmental education** program is well under way, with comprehensive environmental audits having taken place at all three commercial marinas in Manly.

Separate **Pollution Prevention Plans** have been developed for each of the marinas, tailored to their various levels of environmental awareness, which are now working closely with Council to implement these plans. Recreational Boat User education is also being undertaken, with introductory information and educational material being distributed.

A marine environmental education kit for Recreational Boat Users is being developed, the kit focusing on five key areas - **Waste Prevention, Protecting Seagrasses, Little Penguins, Caulerpa taxifolia** (an invasive marine weed) and **Pollution Prevention**.

