Every caper movie has the scene: the objective is set and the team is assembled. Hands are shaken, backs are slapped and after reminiscing on past escapades, the gang settles down for business. That’s the feeling around the AHO headquarters at the moment. The details and methodology regarding a few new projects are being finalised while regular duties are well underway for the year. We’re lucky enough to have Geoff back around the traps. Phil and Geoff are going to be kept very busy with ongoing rock engraving surveys. Additional to this, Dave will be working closely with the pair to develop and fine tune a methodology for our foreshore study. This project is looking closely at the impacts of sea level rise and swell wash on our fragile harbour-side midden sites. Karen is also being kept very busy putting the final touches on this years competition which is asking entrants to redesign ‘The Office Logo’. Very exciting. A new addition to the AHO, Gareth will be maintaining the long standing volunteer program. Busy times @ the AHO.

The AHO needs your help in designing its new logo. Learn a bit about our region’s Aboriginal heritage, come up with a new logo design and you could win a Nikon Coolpix digital camera.

The logo can be of any shape yet the design should not be bigger than A5 (half an A4 page). The logo will be used for the AHO’s letter heads, reports and event posters as well as our shirt sleeve badge with interchangeable labels for our Rangers, Officers, Volunteers and Interns. Remember, we are looking for bold, creative designs.

There are three categories. The winner of each will be awarded a brand new Nikon Coolpix waterproof camera. The categories are:

- Primary School: Years 3-6;
- High School: Years 7-12;
- Community: Council area residents.

The competition is open to students and residents within Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Manly, North Sydney, Pittwater, City of Ryde, Warringah and Willoughby Council areas.

The competition opens on the 1st of April. Please submit entries to PO BOX 12 North Sydney 2059 with a completed application form before close of the competition at 5pm, Wednesday 13th of July. Winners will be judged by the Aboriginal Heritage Office Steering Committee and the prizes will be announced on the 31st July 2013.

Application forms and conditions of entry can be found at www.aboriginalheritage.org or contact the Aboriginal Heritage Office on 9949 9882/info@aboriginalheritage.org for further information.
Hello from Hobart. It’s hard to believe but it’s been nearly 14 years since I left Sydney to come down here. It’s quite literally starting to feel like it’s for the term of my natural life….

Prior to the move, I was at North Sydney Council and worked closely with Dave and Phil in the mid to late 1990s on a whole range of projects and initiatives primarily focussed on improving the care of Aboriginal heritage sites. Raising community awareness was key to this, and included development of the Gadyan Track, conducting Site Awareness Training and presentations to Reconciliation Groups. A move to develop a formalised approach to managing sites in North Sydney saw a role for Dave, and you know what they say… the rest is history!

My small involvement in those early days remains a career highlight. To follow the development and growth of the AHO from afar continues to be inspirational. Dave’s energy, determination and (a perhaps a little) cunning, as well as the development of a great team, are obviously what’s made the AHO such a success. So well done!

My role at the Hobart City Council has evolved from managing its bushland to being responsible for Hobart’s broader network of open space. There’s probably few other places that can offer the diversity and challenges as Hobart. Sixty per cent of Hobart is bushland, with forty per cent managed by Council. The network of reserves spans from the shores of the River Derwent to the alpine summit of Mount Wellington (1270m). Contained within this are an incredible range of Aboriginal and early European heritage sites, plant communities and an abundance of wildlife (the Wellington Range is really an extension of the expansive South West World Heritage Area).

Aside from the usual urban fringe impacts, a range of threats are looming – things such as the Devil Facial Tumour Disease, establishment of foxes (almost as hotly debated as forestry here) and, of course, climate change, are but a few of the issues being felt. Added to this is the fun of managing a mountain on a city’s door step – snow and ice clearing, a constant debate on whether we should have a cable car and some extreme recreation – downhill mountain biking, paragliding and even a bit of base jumping…..

Like in Sydney, the shores of the Derwent contain an almost unbroken chain of Aboriginal sites (or perhaps it’s just one big site…) with few sites known about in the hills and mountain beyond. During my time we’ve had some wins – protecting foreshore sites, interpretation and it looks promising that Mountain Wellington will soon be co-named Kunanyi

Much of this, though, has been piecemeal, lacking deeper ties between land manager and the indigenous community. We’re hoping to get Dave down sometime soon to demonstrate what’s been achieved by the AHO in tackling this problem.

There is some local hope emerging though. The Nedwonnee Walk at Melaleuca in the remote South West has recently been developed by Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service in conjunction with the Aboriginal community. As a cooperative project, it offers promising signs that trust is building. To understand more about the issue and this innovative interpretation project, I highly recommend watching the mini-doco on the Nedwonnee Walk available by simply searching ‘The Needwonnee Walk’ on YouTube.

That’s it for now. All the best with continuing the great work of the AHO.

“It corresponds to the behavior of the prisoner who loves his cell because he has been left nothing else to love. The sacrifice of individuality, which accommodates itself to the regularity of the successful, the doing of what everybody does, follows from the basic fact that in broad areas the same thing is offered to everybody by the standardized production of consumption goods. But the commercial necessity of concealing this identity leads to the manipulation of taste and the official culture’s pretense of individualism, which necessarily increases in proportion to the liquidation of the individual.”

Theodor W. Adorno
Our long-time running Volunteer Program is still going strong. We are very grateful for our volunteers’ support in helping us look after the hundreds of sites in the region. There is an up-and-coming training session for our new volunteers taking place in April where we will provide training in all the necessary skills and hand out a complimentary field kit. If you are interested in joining the program, please feel free to get in touch with us. The session is also open to any current volunteers who would like to ‘refresh’ their skills, give feedback or simply mooch off the tasty treats provided for attendees. All current volunteers are also able to collect their free field hat.

This year we’ve received funding to help run the Program. Our new staff member, Gareth, will be taking care of this, while also helping out with other projects that the office is involved with. If any volunteers have any queries, Gareth is here to assist.

Movie Review

There seems to be a bit of a drought in the realm of comedy movies these days. If Will Ferrell’s “Make-it-up-on-the-day-and-get-a-lot-of-money-for-it” style of improvisation isn’t for you then you will be well and truly parched for a good laugh by now. A good time to revisit the classics! Cool Runnings is the light hearted tale of the Jamaican BobSled Team and their heart warming journey to the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics. A movie that’ll get the whole family laughing. Save it as a memo in your phone to avoid the indecision-induced anxiety attack common after half an hour spent at the video shop ...

Track of the Month

The Duck Holes Track-Terrey Hills to McCarrs Creek Rd

Starting on the west side of McCarrs Creek Rd, you should be able to find a fire trail north of block 301. Follow this around to the trail head from which point it’s roughly 3km along a picturesque and solitary fire trail to McCarrs Creek Rd. Do be aware of mountain bikers as it is one of the few trails they’re allowed on. If you’re in the mood for a refreshing dip, carefully cross the road and only 15m down the hill you will find a short trail that opens up to the solace of Glenhill Falls. If you intend to return to Terrey Hills, allow at least 2-2.5hr for the entire journey.

Medium difficulty walk.
Always take water, hat, swimmers and sun screen.
ashamed of his Aboriginality, this up-and-comer seems to struggle against tokenistic media coverage. Such approaches in the media that place a huge emphasis on an individual’s Aboriginality as a point of difference may often do so at the cost of the subject’s individuality. While this article arguably, and somewhat ironically, falls prey to the same pattern, it also brings to light the difficulty of, on the one hand, recognising and appreciating indigenous success while on the other hand, avoiding depicting such stories as being something different or outside common perspectives. While this storm of popular discourse rages overhead, we’re sure Dale Richards, and most surfers for that matter, would rather spend their time thinking about the waves.

Indigenous Surfers:
A proud legacy alive and well.

When it comes to the topic of indigeneity in the surfing world, much attention is paid to the history of the great Hawaiian surfers. Yet unbeknown to most, Australia has a rich pool of talented Aboriginal surfers, and it has been this way for some time now. Just last year a commemoration was held to mark the twenty year anniversary for the passing of Mark ‘Sanga’ Sainsbury. Mark lived in Darginung country, calling Avoca his home break. This man was at the cusp of progressive modern surfing. He is widely regarded as the first surfer to develop the trick called a ‘floater’, which is not quite what it sounds like. Tragically, Sanga’s promising future was cut short when he was found floating, face down, at his home break after a suspected aneurism. The turnout of current pros, old friends and family at his commemoration is a testament to the legacy left by this highly influential indigenous surfer.

Numerous indigenous surfers have since carried the torch. The most recent being Dale Richards. The recent limelight that has been shone on Dale has uncovered an all too common paradox faced by indigenous stars. Early interviews have revealed his occasional discomfort at being pigeonholed as ‘The Aboriginal Surfer’. While by no means...
Numerous surveys that have aimed to record and map the location of Sydney’s Aboriginal heritage sites have been conducted since European settlement. The result of such efforts have been recorded and stored using a variety of different mapping systems. These records have been translated onto one, state wide mapping layer. However one result of the digital amalgamation of past records has been a detrimental loss in the reliability of site location. One of the main tasks of the AHO has been to re-find sites, verify their location and update the coordinates of those that are incorrectly located. We have also endeavoured to provide a range of location references to reduce the likelihood of future erroneous records. The AHO has been working to provide AMG and GDA readings, physical references, road and satellite map locations and photos for every site. This is because, as everybody knows, the most important thing is “location, location, location”.

While the AHO’s Site Management Reports provide detailed information on known and recorded sites, there are still unrecorded sites being. Interestingly, the number of recorded sites is higher in areas with some development compared to undisturbed locations. This is more likely to be due to a lack of detection in bushland rather than sites actually being more common in developed areas. It is important to have an understanding of where unrecorded sites are likely to be present and incorporate this information into Council planning and assessment processes. For this reason the AHO has continued to prepare and update a Potential Area Report for each Council. These reports provide a predictive model for determining where Aboriginal sites are most likely to exist. The model is checked against the current landscape, known sites, levels of previous disturbance and so on, and then a series of potential-area categories are mapped. The associated AHO assessment framework and checklist have been designed so that it can be incorporated into daily work practices. This predictive model is intended to increase awareness of the potential of Aboriginal heritage sites.

There was twisting, turning, kicking, breaking, snapping and swearing but after a hard fought battle and several calming, deep breaths, the AHO is proud to introduce to you...OB 1, our new camera boom. He is comprised of a custom, triple-butted carbon fibre rod, a one-of-a kind stand CNC machined from a single piece of titanium and a vat of fine French wine for counter weight (or an old tripod and an extendable pool cleaning arm and a jerry-can of water, which ever one you believe). The camera is fixed to an adjustable mount which is in turn fixed to the pole. Adjustments can be made and photographs can be taken remotely with a USB cord feeding back to our laptop. Initial tests have exceeded all expectations, with the rig producing some magnificent overhead shots.

The purpose of OB 1 is to better document and record our region’s rock engraving sites. With the ability to take photos with an overhead angle from an impressive elevation, we can gain a unique perspective of these typically, photographically speaking, challenging sites. The next step is to somehow provide a lighting system to compliment the rig. Ideas so far have ranged from remote flashes, torches, fluorescent rods or even mirrors. While the rig greatly improves the angle of the photograph, lighting could prove to be even more challenging to address. Stay tuned for our up-coming progress report on OB 1 and the development of our lighting system (surely destined to be dubbed Anakin but we are open to suggestions)....

May the AHO be with you!
Recipe of the Month - Simple Compote for the Up-Coming Winter

**Ingredients:**
- 1kg pears;
- 1 orange;
- 2 cinnamon quills;
- brown sugar;
- mixed spice.

This is a really nice and versatile recipe. Pears are great but really you could use whatever is starting to look a little sad in the old fruit bowl: peaches, nectarines, apricots, even skinned apples (the latter taking a little longer to cook). Have a batch of this compote in the fridge to have for breakfast with plain yoghurt and toasted almonds or for a well deserved dessert with a nice vanilla bean ice cream.

- In a large mixing bowl, remove the stones or seeds of your fruit and cut into whatever sized chunks float your boat.
- Zest the whole orange and add to the fruit along with all the juice you can squeeze from that beast.
- Add a pinch of mixed spice and don’t forget the two cinnamon quills (or a light dusting of ground cinnamon if you’re out of quills).
- Pile in 2-3 tblsp of brown sugar, mix the lot up and simply pour into a deep sided baking dish.
- Cook the tasty goodness at 180° C until the fruit is soft and golden with a nice syrup. ENJOY!!!

Heri-scopes

Of course the AHO is primarily focused on ‘the Past’ so to speak. This month we thought we’d diversify and focus on the future. This issue of the AHO newsletter falls on the Zodiac of Aries. As such, we thought it considerate to let all you Arieses out there know of some things to expect. Not interested in the ‘flimflam’ of the meaningless things in life such as relationships, work, life and death, we thought it pertinent to focus on what everyone wants to know of their future; what Aboriginal heritage sites will I come across this month?...

Arieserarys should keep an eye out for shell material this month-those speckle of flakes on your local beach could possibly be a potential suspected site pending confirmation by a predictive model. The likelihood of Ariesites to come across engraving sites this month has also been determined to be somewhere between highly unlikely to extremely likely.

Note: This predictive model has proven extremely accurate-similar models have been used by AHO Officers as a method for locating sites.

Also Note: With our new found ability to see the future, we would also like to stress that we take no responsibility for the actions of someone who actually takes this seriously.

We would like to invite our readers to send in articles to be included in our Newsletter. Any articles relating to Aboriginal Sites, History or Cultural Heritage. Please email the Office aho@northsydney.nsw.gov.au along with your article, story and a photo. If you don't want your name published please include a note saying Shhhhhhh its a secret.

The Friendly People from the AHO
Logo Design Competition

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE OFFICE

Open to students and residents within these Councils

There will be one first place prize awarded in each of these categories:

- 3-6 Primary Years
- 7-12 Primary Years
- Residents within the Council Areas

All entries must be accompanied by an Application Form: see reverse or our website

Entries
Open 1st April
Close 13th July

Send your original design to:
The Aboriginal Heritage Office
c/o North Sydney Council
PO Box 12
North Sydney NSW 2059

For further details please contact the Aboriginal Heritage Office ph: 99499882
email: aho@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
www.aboriginalheritage.org

Winners will be judged by the Aboriginal Heritage Office Steering Committee Members and Prizes will be announced on 31st of July 2013.

WIN A NEW NIKON CAMERA
Create a new Office Logo for us
Include Text, Photographs and/or Drawings no larger than A5
Conditions of Entry

1. Entries close 5pm, Saturday 13th July 2013. 2. Only entries meeting the Terms & Conditions stipulated herewith will be accepted. 3. To enter, entries together with the 'Applicant Entry Details' section of this form (completed in full and securely attached to the back of the entry) must be delivered to, The Aboriginal Heritage Office c/o North Sydney Council PO Box 12 North Sydney NSW 2059 by 5pm, Saturday 13 July 2013. 4. In the case where groups of students enter a combined entry, each individual student within the group must complete & attach an 'Applicant Entry Details' Section to the back of the entry. 5. Competition commences 1st of April 2013. Entry is only open to Students who attend Schools within the Warringah, Willoughby, Lane Cove, North Sydney, Ku-ring-gai, Pittwater, Manly and Ryde Local Government Areas. Community entrants must be resident with a permanent address within one of the previously listed Councils. 6. Posters must not exceed A5 in size, 210mm x 148mm. No framed works will be accepted. 7. Entries will be placed on public display within the Aboriginal Heritage Office, 39/135 Sailors Bay Road Northbridge NSW. 8. Three Prizes in Total, one for each category. 9. Where winners are groups of students note that one prize is issued per group. Division of prize is at discretion of group. 10. Prizes are not transferable, cannot be exchanged and non-cash prizes cannot be taken as cash. 11. All entries become the property of Aboriginal Heritage Office and at anytime the entries, and or reproductions of the entries, may be used as the Aboriginal Heritage Office sees fit for promotional purposes and/or public display without payment of any fee to the entrant. 12. Winners will be notified by telephone on Wednesday 31st of July. Winners will receive their prizes from the Aboriginal Heritage Office at an event or School assembly organised by the Aboriginal Heritage Office in conjunction with the winner. 14. Artwork will be judged on artistic merit and relevance to the purpose of the competition: "Design the new logo for the Aboriginal Heritage Office". 15. 1 entry will be selected per category as ‘winners’ by the panel of Judges. 16. The Promoter shall not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever which is suffered (including but not limited to indirect or consequential loss) or for personal injury which is suffered or sustained as a result of entering the promotion or taking the prize, except for any liability which cannot be excluded by law. 17. The Promoter collects entrants' personal information in order to conduct the promotion. By entering the promotion, unless otherwise advised, each entrant also agrees that the Promoter may use this information, in any media for future promotional, branding, marketing and publicity purposes without any further reference, payment or other compensation to the entrant, including sending the entrant electronic messages. A request to access, update or correct any information should be directed to the Promoter at their address set out below. 18. The Promoter accepts no responsibility for any tax implications that may arise from the prize winnings. Independent financial advice should be sought. 19. The Promoter is the Aboriginal Heritage Office 39/135 Sailors Bay Road Northbridge NSW. 20. Employees (and their immediate families) of the Promoter the Aboriginal Heritage Office and judging panel associated with this promotion are ineligible to win prizes. 21. The Judging Panel will be made up from the Aboriginal Steering Committee Members by representation from each of the Partnering Councils North Sydney, Warringah, Willoughby, Lane Cove Ku-ring-gai, Ryde, Manly and Pittwater. 

Aboriginal Heritage Office Logo Competition Entry Form

Entry Category— Tick as applicable

☐ Primary Years 3 to 6
☐ Secondary Years 7 to 12
☐ Community, Council resident*

* Will not need to fill out asterisk fields.

Entrants Full Name (Please

Entrants Address or School Address.

Entrants Age*: School Year*:

Entrants Address or School Address.

Phone .................................................................................................................. E-Mail ..................................................................................................................

Signature—Student /Resident................................................................. Signature—Parent/Guardian Full Name* (please print)

Parent/Guardian Full Name* (please print)

Cut out and attach to the back of the poster and send to

Aboriginal Heritage Office North Sydney Council PO Box 12 North Sydney NSW 2059