



**The Friends of Federation Walk Committee and Gold Coast City Council would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your valuable contribution to the Federation Walk Coastal Reserve project.**

**The gift of time and commitment that our volunteers contribute is the key to the ongoing success of this community project and will only ensure that we continue to develop as a group.**

**Many happy returns to you and your families for the festive season. Hope to see you at Federation Walk in 2011!**



**Summer 2010**

[www.federationwalk.org](http://www.federationwalk.org)

# Federation Flyer

## 2010 - What a Year!

2010 has been another busy year at Federation Walk . Can you believe the time has gone by so quickly? We have had another productive year with a variety of enthusiastic groups contributing to the health of our fantastic coastal environment. Thanks to everyone who has been involved with Federation Walk—your ongoing support for the project continues to have positive impacts! Whether you can spare an hour or a day—you can make a difference!

## 2010 Highlights

- Friends of Federation Walk again hosts a full suite of Community Activity Days—9 days, over 200 volunteers, 1,000 tubestock planted—plant growth is phenomenal with the best wet season we have had for years!
- Green Army teams (\*3) - 4,000 + Tubestock installed, 3 kms of pathway maintenance and minor upgrades, 20 hectares weed management, 800 m access fencing installed. Thanks to all participants and supervisors Wendy lamp and Boe Thomason for their fantastic effort at Federation Walk.
- Thanks to Allconnex Water for their ongoing support in providing Recycled Water Usage training for the Green Army team—this has enabled the team to water existing planting sites as required and maintain new plant installations with our recycled water system.
- National Green Jobs program has begun on site—welcome to the team—they will be led by supervisor Sally Grove and will be at Federation Walk for the next 6 mths. This project is a joint initiative between Job Futures funded by the Federal Government, Gold Coast City Council and Friends of Federation Walk.
- FoFW have launched their new tourism brochure highlighting the natural attractions of the Federation Walk Coastal Reserve—watch this space for a sneak peek!
- Burleigh and Nerang Scouts returned to Federation Walk and undertook a fantastic planting day!
- SCISCO Career pathways regularly attended Federation Walk undertaking work experience in their preparation for securing employment.
- Young and Deadly—young Kombumerri ladies and elders visited Federation Walk and got in touch with their culture by planting native plants and exploring bush tucker.



- Federation Walk again hosted a range of school groups undertaking some fantastic Coastal Activities facilitated by the great team from Griffith Centre for Coastal Management.
- Schools on-site included The Southport School ( TSS ) - Planted dune plants and collected litter as part of their community services week, The activity included dune planting, watering, weeding, clearing and litter collection. TSS spend an entire day collecting litter from the northern end of The Spit.
- Coomera Anglican College also participated in litter collection and dune planting as part of their community services week in September. They spent a few hours each day conducting a range of activities including collecting litter, planting 150 cuttings, weeding and fertilizing.
- Suncorp returned again on-site for the 3rd yr in a row to assist with weed management of 3 sites, foredune cuttings and a tubestock planting. They were very pleased to see the growth on their previous year ' s planting sites.
- Friends of Federation Walk submitted a response in regards the management of The Spit to the Gold Coast City Council Planning Scheme Review Program ( check out the full response at federationwalk.org )



## Federation Walk Volunteers on Holidays!

*What do our irreplaceable volunteers get up to when they aren't at Federation Walk? Check out the amazing adventures our intrepid volunteers attended over the past few months!*

Grant Duthie—Polar Bears International—Teen Leadership Camp 2010—Canada—What an incredible experience—Grant visited Canada to undertake a research and education project involving the conservation of Polar Bears. Below is an extract from his bio—check out more on

<http://www.polarbearsinternational.org/programs/pbi-leadership-camps/groups/teen-leadership-camp/grant-duthie>

*To study the polar bear and its environment is very important because it is the heart of all subsequent environmental issues and world sustainability. We need to learn more about the polar bear so we can educate our communities and make change happen. If we can save the polar bear, we save many more threatened species around the world. The polar bear is like an ambassador to all creatures great and small. Also, I want my kids to grow up with the experience of one day seeing these magnificent creatures in the wild and not just learn about them in a textbook. I want to try and correct the harm humans have done to the environment and encourage a sense of connection with our natural world. I do believe that from little things big things happen and we all need to play our part.*



**Right:** Grant with polar bear in the background. What an adventure!

## GECKO Awards—Coastal Glory!

Hazel and Stan are long-term Federation Walk volunteers who work tirelessly for Conservation and Social projects. In December 2010 they were awarded a Silver GECKO Award in recognition of their long-term commitment to the Environment. Hazel was ecstatic and follows are her touching words in regards the award:

*It is such a privilege to be nominated by our peers, all of whom deserve awards, as we are all doing what we can to ensure that this beautiful country of ours remains that way for the future. We thank you all for your support and great comraderie at Federation Walk planting, our most precious project. I have read somewhere that "this earth is not given to us by our fathers but lent to us by our children." I want our children and grandchildren to experience the delights of this world that nature has provided for us. We are fortunate to be able to introduce them to the wonders of nature and educate them in the care of the planet and all the creatures who share this bountiful earth. As we have travelled extensively these past few years, we have met many Grey Nomads who have questioned our Emu Patrol as we pick up rubbish along beaches and roadside rest areas. I am delighted to say that we have met several people again at further sites and they have become "Emus" themselves. Our distinctive sign on our Mobile Home triggers their memory of us and they proudly come back to us to tell us of their achievements. And so we have hope for the future.....It is up to us all. Many thanks for considering us worthy of this most Prestigious award as we continue to love and share our Environment.*

*With deep gratitude.....Hazel and Stan Engdahl*



### Beachology at Federation Walk

Thanks go to the Beachology crew from Griffith University for attending our last planting day for 2011 and providing a fascinating activity collecting and identifying beach invertebrates.



Congratulations also go to Naomi Edwards from BeachCare for her Gold GECKO Award. Well done on the fantastic result—it is a fitting finish for BeachCare 2010. It is heartening to witness the next generation of volunteers and facilitators have such enthusiasm and passion for the management of our Natural Areas

### Seagrass—Watch Gold Coast

Seagrass-Watch is a global, scientific, non-destructive, community based, seagrass assessment and monitoring program. Since its genesis in 1998 in Australia, Seagrass-Watch has expanded internationally with participants in 26 countries. Monitoring efforts are vital to assist with tracking global patterns in seagrass health, and assessing the human impacts which have the potential to destroy or degrade these coastal ecosystems and decrease their yield of natural resources. Responsive management based on adequate information will help to prevent any further significant areas and species being lost.

To protect the valuable seagrass meadows along our coasts, everyone must work together.

To become involved please contact Daniela Wilken-Jones on: [goldcoastseagrasswatch@hotmail.com](mailto:goldcoastseagrasswatch@hotmail.com) or 0432988513

**Dates for your Calendar**

- **Sunday 27th February— 1st Community Planting Day for 2011** 7-10am
- **Sunday 6th March 2011 Clean Up Aus Day!** 7-10am
- **Sunday 27th March 2011 'Earth Hour' Community planting day** 7 – 10 am
- **Sunday 24th April 2011 'Earth Day' Community planting day** 7 – 10 am

**Federation Walk Coastal Reserve, Philip Carpark, SeaWorld Dve, The Spit**

**For more info:**

info@federationwalk.org or

GCCC Ranger Jodie Clifford

on 5667 3615

jclifford@goldcoast.qld.gov.au

**FRIENDS OF  
FEDERATION WALK  
Inc**

PO Box 634  
MAIN BEACH QLD 4217

Check out the website for  
more information

**federationwalk.org**

**Flax Lily- *Dianella congesta***

**Description:** The Flax Lily is a tufted plant up to 1m in height that forms colonies on coastal dune communities. The strap-like leaves are narrow, up to 45 cm long and are arranged on alternate sides of the stem. The flowers throughout spring and summer are yellow and blue and borne on spikes shorter than the leaves. Flax Lily berries are bright purple-blue to 12mm wide, fleshy and edible. Aborigines ate the raw berries, and the pounded, roasted roots. The fibrous leaves were used to make waistbands, nets, traps and baskets.

**Distribution:** Flax Lily occurs on coastal dunes from NSW to Southern QLD.

**What plant is that? Flax Lily**



Old friends catch up at Fed Walk!

**REMINDER  
WEAR STURDY SHOES,  
SUNSCREEN AND A HAT  
AT  
FEDERATION WALK COMMUNITY DAYS  
Please bring a water bottle—refreshments provided**