

Members' Update – Spring 2012



With Spring upon us, Rottnest is lush and green after some good winter rains.

2012 Rottnest Foundation Festival of Sail

Sixty-three yachts sailed to Rottnest as part of the 2012 Rottnest Foundation Festival of Sail. One of the richest yacht racing events on the West Australian yachting calendar, the event is attracting a large amount of interest from the Perth's sailing community. The weather was perfect for the sailors and the overcast conditions allowed for some stunning aerial photographs, shot by professional photographer Peta North. Images can be viewed and purchased online at: www.petaannephotography.com. 10% of sales will be donated to the Rottnest Foundation to support the development of the Coastal Walk Trail.



2012 Rottnest Foundation Raffle

Thanks to the generosity of the Rottnest Island Business Community and the Rottnest Island Authority, the annual Rottnest Foundation Raffle now boasts three fantastic prizes. The main prize offers a weeks accommodation in the Commander's Cottage, a recently refurbished heritage cottage overlooking Thomson Bay. The Cottage sleeps six and boasts separate dining and

living areas, new furnishings throughout, flat screen TV and a sweeping verandah to enjoy the stunning vista. This prize is complemented by a selection of vouchers for food & beverage, bike hire, bus tickets and tours and a substantial pamper package from the Butterfly Dreaming Day Spa. Raffle closes mid October so don't miss your chance to win the Ultimate Week on Rottnest. All proceeds raised go towards the Coastal Walk Trail. Visit: www.rotnestfoundation.org.au/rotnest-raffle/



Members' Tree Planting Day

A small, but just as enthusiastic group ascended on Little Parakeet Bay on the 9th June to plant 500 coastal shrub species on some of the informal tracks and eroded dunes leading into the Bay. The Foundation recently funded the re-alignment of the beach access and new stairs, through a \$33,000 DEC Environmental Community Grant in an effort to halt further erosion and manage visitation to this bay. A great day, a great lunch and a great sense of achievement was had by all!

Rottnest's little Treasures

Did you know there are three species of frogs that call Rottnest home? They are the Western Green Tree frog (motorbike frog), Moaning frog and the Sandplain Froglet (squelching froglet). Foundation member, Courtney Wheatley has been studying the frogs since 2002 and has observed their numbers fluctuate with the varying weather conditions over the last 10 years. Frog monitoring was conducted twice a week after dark from the first rains in April/May and continued through to October when the fresh water seeps start to subside. So if you happen to be out walking early morning or evening after the first autumn rains, listen out for this little fellow with his strange moaning song!



Keep up to date with the Foundation at www.rotnestfoundation.org.au. Until the next news.

Jeff King,
Chairman