



SABAH WETLANDS NEWSLETTER

Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society (SWCS) / Pertubuhan Pemuliharaan Tanah Lembap Sabah was established on 22 August 2005.

Our Objectives:

1. To promote the conservation of wetlands in Sabah and the variety of plants, birds and other kinds of organisms found in them.
2. To raise public awareness and appreciation of wetlands and public involvement in protecting wetlands.
3. To manage Kota Kinabalu Wetlands as a model wetlands centre for the purpose of conservation, education, recreation, tourism and research.

Kota Kinabalu Wetlands,
Off Jln Bukit Bendera Upper,
88400 Likas, Kota Kinabalu,
Sabah, Malaysia.
Tel: +60 88 246 955
Fax: +60 88 247 955
www.sabahwetlands.org

If you have any enquiries,
please e-mail us at
swcs@sabahwetlands.org

WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2014



World Wetlands Day 2014 was celebrated at KK Wetlands on 26 February, with the theme 'Wetlands and Agriculture: Partners for Growth'. This year, we joined hands with other members of the Sabah Environmental Education Network (SEEN) to co-organise the 2nd Tanak Wetlands Camp, launched during the celebration.



Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Panglima Hj. Yahya Hussain launched the event; flanked here by SWCS committee members and teachers from participating schools.



A group photo together with the students and teachers from schools in and around Kota Kinabalu.



Left: Participants being led into the heart of the 24-hectare protected area that is KK Wetlands.
Middle: Nature board games being carried out at the outdoor activity classroom.
Right: One of the activities held outside of KK Wetlands was a visit to Lok Kawi Zoo.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME AT KK WETLANDS

On 18 March, fifteen students from All Saints visited Kota Kinabalu Wetlands, participating in our environmental education programme. After a video presentation, the students were taken on a guided tour of our mangrove forest.



Our Environment Education Officer, Jane Joimin, explains the importance of the mangrove forest not only to our community, but also its value as an ecosystem.

MANGROVE RESTORATION IN TUARAN WITH JAPANESE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS



On 22 February, a group of twelve students from two Japanese universities—Yokohama University and Rakuno University - got their hands and legs wet and muddy, planting seedlings at our mangrove restoration project site in Sulaman Lake Forest Reserve. Efforts at this site are in collaboration with the Sabah Forestry Department.

ON TOUR WITH VOGUE INTERNATIONAL (ITALY)

On 5 March, Federico Chiara from Vogue International (Italy) with his friends ventured to our mangrove planting site in Tuaran, approximately 45 minutes drive from Kota Kinabalu. Federico said next time he will come and bring more of his friends to help out with our restoration project.



Adorning gum boots, Federico smiles with satisfaction from helping preserve our nature (and also, for not being stuck in the mud!).

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL GROUP FROM BRUNEI



On 16th April, students from Panaga International School came to KK Wetlands through local adventure organisers, Ability Expeditions. Aged between 7 and 12 years old, the boys and girls excitedly learned about the flora and fauna found in mangrove forests. They even developed some interesting posters to spread the word on wetlands conservation (some of these are now on display in our exhibition hall).



OUTREACH TO KAMPUNG MENGKABONG TUARAN



An outreach programme was held in Mengkabong Village on 20 April to inform and educate local communities on the importance of wetlands conservation and to understand their needs as well as to build rapport. This activity is part of our new project under the UNDP Small Grants Programme to empower communities with enhanced capacity for conserving wetlands that links wetlands conservation goals and addressing the needs of local communities for better and sustainable livelihoods.

One thing that we are blessed with is all the help we get from our volunteers. People of all ages, from students groups to adults from private organisations, continue to enter our gates with the purpose to help out. With only a few full time members of staff at KK Wetlands, this help is invaluable, and we are extremely grateful to those who help out; be it for an hour or two, half a day, or even a period of a few days. Thank you!

On 12 April, sixteen secondary students from SM Bahang in Penampang worked hard for half a day, cleaning our main office building and exhibition centre, collecting leaves and working on our compost heap.



As one of the activities to earn their environment badge, the Girls' Brigade organised a voluntary session here on 22 March.

On 21 February, 81 registered guides volunteered at our centre, in conjunction with the International Tourist Guide Day. This event, incorporated into a training carried out also at our venue, was organised by the Sabah Tourist Guide Association.



On 12 April, 10 volunteers from Lions Club Tanjung Aru ventured deep into our mangrove forest to collect trash. Rubbish is a big issue at KK Wetlands due to the daily change in tide levels.



A SPECIAL THANKS TO PEMBINAAN KEKAL MEWAH FOR SENDING A TEAM TO REPAIR OUR ROAD



Road condition before (left) and after (right) the repair work was carried out.



A FAREWELL TO JOCELYN



After 10 years of service with SWCS, we bid farewell to Jocelyn Maluda in February this year. During her time at KK Wetlands, Jocelyn groomed thousands of young (and not so young) minds about the importance of wetlands. We wish her all the best in her new challenges.

JOB VACANCY: MANAGER / EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

We are seeking a candidate with a passion for conservation who likes being outdoors to fill the above position. The key function of the post is to oversee the management of the 24 hectare protected wetlands area (KK Wetlands), including leading a small team at the Centre, monitoring accounts, and operations. The Manager is also required to carry out duties as Executive Secretary for Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society. Tertiary education with at least 5 years working experience is required. Must be willing to work on weekends. Please share the word.

Those interested in applying should submit their CV stating current and expected salary to swcs@sabahwetlands.org. Immediate vacancy.

PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT: THREE-IN-ONE FUNDRAISING EVENT

In a bid to raise much needed funds to manage KK Wetlands, and to continue with efforts to achieve our Society's objectives, we are holding a three-in-one fundraising event in September:

Fundraising Dinner (5th September 2014)
Golf Tournament at Sabah Golf & Country Club on (6th September 2014)
International Symposium on Conservation & Management of Wetlands (5-6 Sept 2014)

PLEASE DO SUPPORT OUR CAUSE. MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON.

Support us by taking part in our educational programmes:

- KK Wetlands Mangrove Experience programme
- Mangrove Conservation Experience programme (includes tree planting in Tuaran).

For information, call 088-246955, or write to swcs@sabahwetlands.org