



Kingborough

Media Release

HANDPRINTS, WEAVING, SANDBAGS AND BUSHTUCKER

For immediate release

19 January 2016

Hundreds of handprints are all that is left from a fun filled event at Coningham Beach on Sunday 15 January.

The handprints were printed on the sandbags while a high tide washed around the ankles of nearly 100 participants, illustrating the reason why Kingborough Council has taken this measure to temporarily decrease erosion damage. This activity was to serve as a reminder of the importance of the area to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. Trish Hodge from mina-nina created a timeline of people stretching across the beach to share the story of the Tasmania Aboriginal community to help people understand the length of time they have been living there.

Throughout the afternoon artists Gwen Egg and Tanya Maxwell held a workshop on weaving with native plants. Many people sat and chatted while using their hands to create wonders from grasses and flax. Conversations drifted from what's happening to our coast to people's childhood memories of Coningham beach and on to threatened species, aboriginal culture and much more. John from the local community group (Coningham and Lower Snug Community Association) and Chris, coastal geomorphologist, gave presentations to stimulate the conversations.

Discovery Ranger, Jess, from the Parks and Wildlife Service delighted more than 30 children with fun and educational games, disgusted them with tales of how Starfish eat and got them all moving in an activity to show how an ecosystem works.

The Lions Club of Kingborough provided much needed sustenance in the form of a welcome BBQ.

An impromptu bush tucker walk was taken by local elder Uncle Bill, who enthusiastically shared his traditional knowledge of the uses of the local plants. About 20 people were amazed at the variety of uses of the local plants found along just 50m of track





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People agreed that it was a nice way to bring together many different people and interests and celebrate such a wonderful place.

The event was part of a program by Parks and Wildlife Service, with assistance from NRM South and the Australian Government, to deliver cultural awareness activities through their Discovery Ranger Program.

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For more information please contact Sarah Wilcox, Media & Communications Officer for Kingborough Council on 0428 033085 or 6211 8265.

Notes to Editors:

