

WETLANDS

This is a diverse estuarine and freshwater wetland comprising billabongs, saline areas, a tidal channel, tidal mud flats, mangroves and saltmarsh. These wetlands provide a final filter for the town storm water and floodplain runoff before entering the Pambula Lake, and at times are dry. They provide important breeding and nursery areas for a large range of animals including birds, fish and invertebrates.

HERITAGE

The floodplain has a wealth of history. For thousands of years it was frequented by Aborigines of the Thaua clan of the Yuin nation. Its first white settlers arrived in 1835. Since then these fertile river flats have provided valuable farming land for dairying and grain production. It was here the original township of Pambula was devastated by flood. Syms Covington, Charles Darwin's assistant, owned cultivation blocks on the flats. Tallow and hides processed on the floodplain were shipped down the river. Chinese market gardeners grew vegetables for gold miners, and for one hundred years keen racegoers attended meetings of the Imlay Racing Club, until 1997.

DOGS

This is a conservation area and no dogs are permitted within the fenced areas, including the racecourse.

Panboola aims to:

RESTORE the Pambula floodplain as a significant natural wetland.

CONSERVE fauna and flora native to the area.

PROTECT Aboriginal and cultural values attached to the land.

MAINTAIN the floodplain for passive enjoyment and educational use.

ENCOURAGE public participation in the management of the wetland.

Something for everyone...

- Listen to nature • Have a picnic
- Explore the walking tracks • Ride a bike
- Discover the river • Admire the birdlife



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- Cover photo courtesy of Max Sutcliffe
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Panboola

OWNED AND MANAGED BY THE COMMUNITY



• Purple Swamphen

Enriching people's lives by providing a unique place to experience Panboola's culture and diverse natural wetland systems

What is Panboola?

Extending from the bottom of Pambula township to the Pambula River, Panboola (the Aboriginal name for the area) consists of 82 hectares of land.

Local benefactors to the community donated 55 hectares which is managed by the Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Project Inc.

The Old Pambula Racecourse has 27 hectares of Crown Land and is managed by the Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Reserve Trust.

These two areas are jointly administered by community volunteers.

What does the management of Panboola involve?

Panboola is being rehabilitated with community support as a wetland for the purpose of nature conservation by protecting and restoring habitat for native wildlife.

A system of walking tracks continues to be extended leading visitors to destinations such as saltmarsh, the Pambula River, Old Pambula Racecourse and opportunities for nature watching.

An area of farmland is managed in an environmentally sustainable way to assist with recurring costs.

Funding grants are sourced and community volunteers, business and professional people, schools and government agencies provide energy, guidance and assistance.

We invite your interest and help to restore, revive and respect the site for all to enjoy.

The 'Friends of Panboola' meet at Robs Shed each Thursday morning from 9am to 12 noon to undertake maintenance and development. Everyone is welcome!



We would like to acknowledge that Panboola sits on the ancestral lands of the Thaua, and pay our respects to the Elders, past and present.

Become a friend of Panboola.

The annual fee is \$10 per individual or household and assists greatly in the conservation and protection of our community asset ensuring Panboola continues to grow as a special place to visit.

Friends receive our quarterly newsletter, invitations to special events and free entry to activities conducted by Panboola.

You may wish to consider an additional contribution. The 'Panboola Fund' has been established to accept tax deductible donations.

If you are interested in becoming a friend or making a donation visit our website at www.panboola.com. You can also call in at the Panboola Centre at 48 Bullara Street (behind Idlewild Motel) or contact us via email.

Join us on this amazing journey!



• Gippsland Water Dragon