



MEDIA RELEASE

21 May 2017

FOKE CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAVING ITS FOREST

FOKE celebrated its final National Trust Heritage Festival with a fundraising luncheon at Gordon's heritage Pecorino Café that raised \$1400 for the Environmental Defenders Office (EDO NSW) whose funding has been cut by the NSW and Federal Governments.

“FOKE’s four heritage festival events – over four consecutive Sundays - were enormously successful and highlighted the need for urgent protection for this less than 1% Sydney Forest,” said Mrs Kathy Cowley.

Over 90 interested people attended FOKE’s National Trust Heritage Festival events.

Cr Christiane Berlioz, FOKE’s guest speaker, talked about the memories as President of the St Ives Progress Association and how working with other groups, the community successfully ensured the public acquisition of two privately owned blocks of land to add to the St Ives Blue Gum Forest (Dalrymple Hay Reserve/Brown's Forest) in 2007.

Christiane Berlioz also shared her memories about how the then Federal Environment Minister – Malcolm Turnbull – bushwalked the forest and was “blown away at just how special the forest was”.

FOKE’s next event will be its Public Meeting where renowned businessman Dick Smith will be FOKE’s guest speaker for its annual meeting and talk about *Sydney’s Population Growth—is it sustainable?* on Wednesday 24 May, 8 pm, Killara Uniting Church, cnr Arnold and Karranga Avenue, Killara. More information can be found on www.foke.org.au www.facebook.com/friendsofkuringgai

For media comment, please call Kathy Cowley on 0431 158 880 or 9416 9007