focus



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Emirates Natural History Group

Patron: H.E. Sheikh Nahayan bin Mubarak Al Nahayan

EDITORIAL

We would like to welcome old and new members alike to a new season of horizon-expanding natural history exploration following our summer break. This season's first three lectures reflect this Group's wide-ranging interests, as do this issue's articles, along with the stunning cover shot, gratefully included with permission.

Please note that starting this season the ENHG has a new regular lecture meeting venue: the HCT Abu Dhabi Women's College - Emirates Hall (directions on p 6).

Following in the footsteps of former Excursion Secretary, now exclusively Chairman, Dr. Andrew Bean, a tag-team of Field Trip Coordinators has now been formed to continue providing regular field trips for ENHG members. Do consider joining this team if you'd like to lead a camping trip or a day trip or two this season. In addition, the ENHG is now in need of a new Treasurer to keep the books & also new volunteers to organise book sales at meetings. Please approach a member of the Committee if you can assist us in any of these capacities.

Sadly and unexpectedly, at the very end of last season, the ENHG lost yet another stalwart: Roy Richards. This congenial, adventurous and courageous man is sorely missed by all who knew him. Farewell, Roy!

Keith Taylor

In Remembrance: Roy Richards



Photo: Liz Sowinska

Roy Richards, a long-time active participant and Life Member of the ENHG, died on 26th June at University College Hospital in London after a long struggle with cancer. He was 61. His wife Liz was by his side.

A London East-Ender from Hackney, Roy first came to the UAE in 1979 as a Haematology lab technician at the Corniche Hospital to join his boss from Barts Hospital, Professor White. There were further short-term stints at the Corniche, and a six-month trip exploring Australia, before he returned in 1985 and settled down in Abu Dhabi. His expertise and longstanding interest in IT led to a natural move to work on the team that introduced the new computer systems in the lab and then to the rest of the Corniche Hospital. He and his wife, Liz Sowinska,

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FRONT COVER PICTURE

Photograph: Nudibranch *Risbecia tryoni* and Imperator Commensal Shrimp, Wakatobi, Sulawesi, Indonesia (EDA competition macro prize-winner)

Photographer: Warren Baverstock

This month's contributors

Warren Baverstock, Pam & Allestree Fisher, Ronnie Gallagher, Drew Gardner, Dick Hornby, Hans-Juergen Laabs, Molly McQuarrie, Liz Sowinska, Keith Taylor, Vesela Todorova of The National

ENHG Membership Information

Annual membership in the Abu Dhabi chapter of the ENHG is 100 Dhs – for both individual and family membership. See Membership Sec. or Asst. at the next meeting for a membership form.

Members are entitled to join the group on all day trips and overnight camping trips. Each member is also entitled to a copy of the ENHG's normally annual peer-reviewed journal, *Tribulus*. Volume 19 is now available at meetings. Work on Volume 20 is currently under way.

a doctor at Corniche Hospital, became active in outdoor pursuits, initially as very keen BSAC divers at the Club, then enjoying the thrills of windsurfing on the Corniche. sailing in their Dufour T7, and visiting Nepal regularly for treks in remote Himalayan areas. The love of mountains extended to exploring the Hajar and finding walking and scrambling routes up some popular peaks along with their Saluki-Labrador-cross rescue dog Chirri (shown above)—named after a Nepalese Sherpa friend....What started as a love of walking soon developed into a keen interest in history, geology, flora and fauna. Over the years, the landscape changed, dunes were flattened, rocks were quarried and, in some years, high rainfall brought flash floods and the blooming of rare plants on the hillsides and in the deserts. There was so much beauty and so much to discover in the UAE and Oman, which inspired Roy, Liz and other ENHG members and friends to go exploring, and to discover the old settlements and find evidence of past cultures.

Along the way, Roy & Liz organised the ENHG's popular annual mountain hikes (commemorated on their website www.chirri2000.com), set up the AUHENHG Yahoo Group site, and edited *Focus*. In 2006, they were recipients of the Bish Brown Award (the first joint award), in acknowledgement of these contributions. And in June 2011 they were jointly presented with ENHG Life Membership. Roy is remembered, in partnership with his wife, for his dedication to the ENHG, his open friendship to all and his good humour and good sense, all of which have helped give our Group the shape it has today.

Diagnosed with Mantle cell lymphoma in 1999, Roy received excellent care at UCH London, and after his first stem cell transplant (using his own harvested cells) in 2000, he had over 8 disease-free years and returned to life and work in the UAE. This is when he became so actively involved with the ENHG. Further treatment in 2008 gave a brief period of remission, but then in February 2010, it became clear that the only hope of a cure was another stem cell transplant. Search for a stem-cell donor proved lengthy. However, thanks to a wonderful donor on the Anthony Nolan Register, in October 2010, Roy received the precious gift of stemcells. He survived the transplant, spent 10 gruelling hospital and weeks was discharged in immunosuppressants, which left him very frail.

As ever, Roy was driven to regain his fitness, and when he felt stronger went on numerous outings, birding trips and camping trips including up to Scotland and the Orkneys. He was accompanied on these either by his wife Liz or by ex-Abu Dhabians living in Britain. The camping trip with Liz to the New Forest at the end of May this year was his last. A week later, he was admitted to hospital with symptoms of graft versus host disease. He had been given more donor lymphocytes as therapy to attack the remaining lymphoma. Roy knew that this treatment was risky. He accepted the risks, and never gave up hope of surviving and of once more returning to live in the UAE. Despite the best medical and nursing care at UCH his condition deteriorated suddenly, and he lost the battle on the morning of the 26th. Fortunately, Liz was able to be with him at the end after a dash back from AD, where she had just returned.

For donations in Roy's memory please go to: www.justgiving.com/roy-richards.

Keith Taylor / Drew Gardner / Pam & Allestree Fisher / Liz Sowinska

Plenty of Depth in Award-winning Shot

This article, first published in The National on 16th June, 2012, is reprinted here with permission, along with the photograph it refers to -- on the cover of this issue. –Ed.

The colourful nudibranch and the camouflaged commensal shrimp riding on its back are among the many underwater spectacles most people will never be fortunate enough to see with their own eyes.

Living at a depth of 18 metres, the creatures can only be seen by trained scuba divers.

But an underwater photography competition organised

by the Emirates Diving Association in Dubai is allowing everyone to enjoy such sights.

Warren Baverstock of Dubai took the photo of the nudibranch and its shrimp passenger in Indonesia with a professional camera.

The shot was the winner of the competition's macro category, which involves close-up images.

The British aquarium manager also won the other two professional categories, for images of fish and for photos taken with a wide-angle lens. The April 30 awards ceremony also recognised images taken with regular cameras and video work.

Nudibranchs are shell-less molluscs that live on the ocean floor.

Mr Baverstock's image also shows some interesting behaviour - of the shrimp using the nudibranch for protection.

"The commensal shrimp gets a free ride and gets camouflaged," he said.

Because of their vibrant colours, Nudibranchs have very few predators.

While the image evokes a feeling of calm, capturing it was anything but effortless.

"This shot was taken in very strong current," Mr Baverstock said. "It was very difficult to compose."

To produce a good picture, divers need to be able to remain relatively motionless in the water, neither sinking nor rising.

The skill, known as buoyancy control, can only be perfected with years of practice.

It is also important to remain perfectly still, which is challenging in a strong current.

Mr Baverstock, 43, has been scuba diving for 18 years. He took up underwater photography 17 years ago, buying equipment with money from an inheritance.

"To be able to produce something that will be remembered and admired is for me very rewarding," said Mr Baverstock, who will next year be a judge in the competition.

Jeffrey Catanjal, a scuba-diving instructor who submitted pictures shot with an ordinary underwater camera, shares the love of underwater photography.

In November last year, Mr Catanjal spent two days diving in his native Philippines, at a site where a rare Pygmy seahorse was known to live.

At just two centimetres long and perfectly blended with corals, the creatures are difficult to see.

But after four dives to a depth of 25 metres, Mr Catanjal was able to produce a dramatic image.

It did not win, but he said he was happy just to participate.

"My primary concern is to share my pictures with the public and, at the exhibition, I saw some people take a picture of my sea horse," he said, smiling.

Vesela Todorova, of The National

Transit of Venus Photos

On June 6th, 2012, the morning after our last talk of last season, a number of ENHG members gathered early in the morning on a bridge over the Al Salam St. along the Eastern Corniche and got clear views of the last transit of Venus across the face of the Sun for the next 105 years. The following remarks are adapted from a note Ronnie Gallagher sent round to fellow observers shortly after this event, with the photos below. –Ed.

I hope others managed to get as good a view of the transit as we did. It was stunning stuff, especially just after sunrise. After that, the binoculars and the telescope worked well with the welders' glass up to around 6:20, when we had to double the lenses.



Photo: Ronnie Gallagher

Molly captured some good images through the telescope, though I wonder if the the 'sun dimple' below is an optical aberration.



Photo: Molly McQuarrie

Ronnie Gallagher

Upcoming Speakers



Dipl. -Ing. Hans-Juergen Laabs, a native of Berlin, Germany, completed his studies in Civil Engineering at

TU Berlin and has been engaged for the past thirtyseven years in Project and Site Management of various projects worldwide, including the construction of industrial plants, roads, bridges, subways and buildings.

Since 2005 he has specialised in Solar Power Projects, supervising constructions in Spain and in the UAE. Now living with his wife in Abu Dhabi, Mr Laabs is responsible for the Solar Field and Civil Works of the Shams 1 Project near Madinat Zayed.

Mr Laabs joined the ENHG with his wife Monika in 2010, and he has kept us informed of the development of this project for the past year or so. We welcome him to the ENHG's 2012-2013 season-opening lecture meeting on Tuesday evening Sept 4th to give us an illustrated presentation entitled **Shams 1 – One of the world's largest Concentrated Solar Power Plants.**

A glance at Wikipedia.com provides this basic definition: "Concentrated solar power (CSP) systems use mirrors or lenses to concentrate a large area of sunlight, or solar thermal energy, onto a small area. Electrical power is produced when the concentrated light is converted to heat, which drives a heat engine (usually a steam turbine) connected to an electrical power generator." Leading the way in CSP construction are Spain and the USA, with interest growing in North Africa, the Middle East, India and China.

Wikipedia also clarifies that "CSP is **not** to be confused with concentrated photovoltaics (CPV). In CSP, the concentrated sunlight is converted to heat, and then the heat is converted to electricity. In CPV, the concentrated sunlight is converted directly to electricity via the photovoltaic effect."

Shams 1 is a 100 MW concentrated solar power (CSP) plant of the more common parabolic-trough type, located in the Western Region of Abu Dhabi Emirate. Currently under construction, it is scheduled for completion by the end of 2012. Hans-Juergen Laabs' presentation will illustrate this plant's basic mode of operation, describe the main steps of its construction, give some information about its economic features and finally conclude with an overview of the UAE government's long-term aims with regard to its energy policies.

We can certainly hope that this high-profile renewable energy project will do its part to lighten the UAE's heavy carbon footprint, thus contributing to a more sustainable environment here.



Shams 1 Power Block with Solar Field behind

Please note that this talk, as well as the following ones, will be held in the ENHG's new regular meeting venue: the HCT Abu Dhabi Women's College Emirates Hall, city campus (directions on p. 6).



ENHG Life Member **Dr Richard (Dick) Hornby** has a background in zoology, but he also has a keen interest in botany and ecology in general. After working with the Nature Conservancy Council in East Anglia and Southern England, he moved to Abu Dhabi in 1993 to set up the National Avian Research Centre (NARC), which is now part of EAD. When the organization was well established he moved to the UAE Federal Environmental Agency to advise on wildlife and land use issues. In 1996 he became an independent ecological consultant, extending his interests into marine and coastal ecology.

In 1997 Dick joined the staff of The Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems as an Academic Editor, while continuing with ecological consultancy. In 2005, jointly with Veryan Pappin. he established Nautica Environmental Associates, which has grown to about a dozen people. Dick takes the lead with all the terrestrial surveys and has carried out many surveys in UAE, Qatar and Bahrain. Dick has published in the ENHG's journal Tribulus on the following topics: A Red List of Birds of UAE, Red List of Mammals of UAE, Checklist of Reptiles of UAE, gazelles in UAE, coastal biodiversity, intertidal molluscs, clam shrimps, spoon worms and dragonflies. He was Chairman of the Emirates Natural History Group from 1993 to 1999.

On September 18th, Dick Hornby will orient ENHG members old and new to the features of the UAE that still make it a rewarding place for both professional and hobby naturalists to explore, in an illustrated presentation entitled *An Introduction to the Natural History of the UAE*.

Here is one creature that will be featured in this talk:



Toad-headed Agama, Phrynocephalus maculatus

ENHG member Ronnie Gallagher started his working life as a biology teacher in Glasgow and moved to the Shetland Isles in '78 to get away from city life and enjoy the wild outdoors. Diving, marine biology, underwater photography and bird watching were main pastimes and opened the door to a terrific job as BP's Environmental Officer at Sullom Voe Terminal. This provided important training for career development in environmental monitoring and management. Highlights from Shetland were the development of an oil spill wildlife response plan and then successfully putting it to the test with the stranding of the Braer oil tanker in 1993, which released around 85,000 tonnes of crude into Shetlands pristine environment. His secondment into UKOOA, to successfully manage the Braer wildlife response, soon led to Ronnie being seconded by BP into Kuwait, where he assisted the Kuwait Oil Company establish an environmental department and assisted in studies of oil spill damage resulting from the first Gulf War.

His next job was in Abu Dhabi with ADCO, where he helped develop the first Field Environmental Engineers and introduced improved environmental management practices. He enjoyed outings with the Emirates Natural History Group between 1997 and 2000 and developed a fascination for archaeology: interests he took with him to his next posting in Azerbaijan.

With nine of the world's eleven climate zones and some fascinating geology, including the world's densest concentration of mud volcanoes, Azerbaijan offers amazing natural history diversity and opportunities. Megalithic remains are also abundant and provided further motivation to explore the countryside to seek out evidence of man's prehistoric past. Much was found and recorded such as stone circles, cart ruts, stranding stones, rock shelters, chambered cairns and rock art. It was there in a land of mystery and intrigue one of the cradles of civilization - that previously unasked and unanswered questions to do with Caspian Sea level changes began to intrigue him. A tradition of massive landscape images zoomorphic or anthropomorphic images - also became apparent. These testified to a deep rooted animistic culture: something that has yet to be recognized and acknowledged by archaeology.

From Azerbaijan, Ronnie then worked in Angola and on taking early retirement from BP then worked in Algeria. He has now returned to Abu Dhabi where he is working with ZADCO providing environmental support in the exciting UZ750 development, which involves the construction of artificial islands to enhance future oil production.

Back in February of this year, Ronnie gave the ENHG a well-researched and illustrated presentation on his theories regarding the rise and fall of the Ponto-Caspian: a large Mediterranean-like sea in Central Asia during the last Ice Age. This information was presented at conferences in Moscow and Baku and was subsequently published in the Azerbaijan Institute of Geology Journal and latterly summarised on Graham Hancock's website which addresses ancient mysteries. See: http://www.grahamhancock.com/forum/GallagherR1.php

It is Ronnie's hope that strandlines and raised beach observations will now lead to scientific research and

investigation into reasons for this evidence of excessive transgressions. If flood levels and timelines are confirmed, then it should lead to a reconsideration of the scientific understanding of environmental conditions both during and at the end of the Ice Age. This would confirm his contention that ancient maritime navigation was possible from the Aral Sea through to the Sea of Marmara (Aegean Sea) for millennia.

On October 2nd, Ronnie will give us a follow-up presentation entitled *Megalithic Archaeology of Azerbaijan; Mysteries and Curious Cultural Connections*. The talk will provide an overview of ancient man's handiwork including rock art, rock shelters, cart ruts, stone circles, anthropomorphic images and the enigmatic monuments of Azerbaijan's Fairy Castle and the Maiden Tower. Observations on regional similarities will be made to indicate apparent cultural connections between Transcaucasia and the Near East.



Ronnie with Qobu cup mark array

The Editor thanks the above speakers for providing autobiographical information & photos for Focus.

Directions to New Meeting Venue

Starting on Sept. 4th, 2012, the ENHG-AD has a new meeting venue: the HCT <u>Abu Dhabi Women's College - Emirates Hall</u> (no longer the Men's College Auditorium).

The main entrance to ADWC City Campus is near the corner of Street 4 ('Muroor') & Street 11 / Hazza Bin Zayed the 1st ('Defense'), back in behind Lebanese Flower Restaurant. Coming down Defense from the direction of Al Salam, turn right on Muroor, take the first right — on neighbourhood street 15 (signposted to ADWC) — and then take the second left (also signposted to ADWC). Go through the ADWC main entrance, park in the car park on the left, and then walk to the Emirates Hall: all the way back to the end of the walkway leading from the right-hand side of the car park.

IMPORTANT: ENHG lecture participants MUST NOT enter any other buildings on the ADWC campus, where evening women's classes will be in session. - Ed.

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In the Local News Media

Gulf News, June 12: Abu Dhabi steps into the future with Shams 1

The National, July 29: Wildlife centres in UAE toast births of cheetahs

The National, Aug 6: Destruction of Abu Dhabi mangroves on Al Reem Island stopped

The National, Aug 21: Not such a pretty boy then - UAE plagued by parakeets

The National, Aug 21: Nature reserve names new centre after UAE conservationist [NB: a professional tribute to the late former ENHG Chair, Simon Aspinall]

The National, Aug 22: Stargazers can find something to wonder at nearly every week this year

ITEMS ON SALE AT THE ENHG BOOK STALL

All prices are in dirhams.

- The Emirates A Natural History, 350
 The first complete referencing guide to the wildlife of the UAE. 580 colour photos
- Jebel Hafit A Natural History, 100
 An attractive, encyclopaedic presentation of the natural resources of this local landmark.
 (Free copies available for schools donations.)
- Wild about Mammals, 40
- Breeding Birds of the United Arab Emirates, 100
- Sandgrouse checklist of the birds of the United Arab Emirates, 25
- Emirates Bird Report, 20
- Birds of the UAE, 70
- Birdwatching guide to Oman, 2nd edition, 100 A guide to bird watching spots in Oman.
- Common Birds in Oman, 2nd ed, 120
- Butterflies of Saudi Arabia & its neighbours, 90
- Natural History of Oman, 50
- Abu Dhabi 8 Million Years ago, 15
- Arabian Wildlife Encyclopedia, 120
- Sulphur, Camels and Gunpowder, 100
- Native Plants of Oman, 80
- Little O in Oman, 25
- Marine Environment, Resource of the UAE, 140
- Socotra Calendar 2012, 15
- Bird Calendar 2012, 15

Websites of General Interest

Emirates Natural History Group – Al Ain (Archives: newsletters of 3 NHGs, *Tribulus*): http://www.enhg.org

Dubai Natural History Group: http://dnhg.org

Qatar Natural History Group: http://www.qnhg.org

Historical Association of Oman: http://www.hao.org.om/

Tommy Pedersen's UAE Birding / UAE Nature Forum: http://www.uaebirding.com

Hanne & Jens Eriksen's website: www.BirdsOman.com Emirates Soc. of Geoscience: http://www.esg-uae.org

Emirates Marine Environmental Group: www.emeg.ae

Emirates Diving Association:

http://www.emiratesdiving.com/index.php

Emirates Wildlife Society – World Wildlife Fund: http://wwf.panda.org/who_we_are/wwf_offices/united_ar

ab emirates/

Environment Agency Abu Dhabi: http://www.ead.ae/en

UAE Environmental Atlas:

http://www.environmentalatlas.ae/

Abu Dhabi Culture and Heritage Authority http://www.adach.ae/en/

UAE archaeology website: http://www.adias-uae.com

Noukhada Adventure Co.: http://noukhada.ae

NYUAD Events Calendar:

http://nyuad.nyu.edu/news.events/events.ad.html

Khalifa University Events Calendar:

http://www.kustar.ac.ae/campus/dss/schedules/default.a spx

Dubai Astronomy Group:

http://www.dubaiastronomy.com/

Sharjah Museums: http://www.sharjahmuseums.ae Wildlife Middle East News: http://www.wmenews.com Arabian Wildlife:

http://www.arabianwildlife.com/main.htm

Zoology in the Middle East (Peer-reviewed ISI Journal):

http://www.kasparek-verlag.de/ZME-allgem.htm

Gulf Turtles: www.gulfturtles.com

Sharkwatch Arabia: http://www.sharkwatcharabia.com

Foundation for the Protection of the Arabian Leopard in

Yemen: http://www.yemenileopard.org

Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund: http://www.mbzspeciesconservation.org/

EDGE: Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally En-

dangered: http://www.edgeofexistence.org
Protected Planet: IUCN & UNEP-WCMC Database:

http://www.protectedplanet.net

Wikispecies: http://species.wikimedia.org/wiki

Encyclopedia of Life: http://eol.org/

Midas Fly page: http://eol.org/pages/713241/overview

ARKive Images of Life on Earth: http://www.arkive.org

NHBS Environment Bookstore: http://www.nhbs.com/

Committee Members

Andrew Bean (Chairman) Mobile: 050-322-1327 rabean@eim.ae

Julie Bird (Secretary) Mobile: 050-615-4757 julieinad@yahoo.com

Required: Treasurer to keep track of the Group's finances this season. Can you do this?

Barbara Barton Smith (Membership Secretary) Mobile: 050-761-6880 barbbartonsmith@yahoo.com

Avra Theophanous (Corporate Sponsorship Secretary & Asst. Membership Secretary) avra.theophanous@gmail.com Also: css.abudhabi@enhg.org

Stephanie Baldwin (Lecture Coordinator) stephanie.baldwin@mottmac.com

Claudia Gehre (Public Relations Secretary) Mobile: 050-526-3026 ccgehre@gmail.com

Peter Hellyer (Editor of *Tribulus* / Librarian) Mobile: 050-642-4357 peter@extinfo.gov.ae

Keith Taylor (Focus Editor / Field Trip Coordinator) Mobile: 050-820-4938 kjtaylor13@yahoo.com

Ian Townson (Field Trip Coordinator) jl_townson@hotmail.co.uk

Denis Cheng (Field Trip Coordinator) spacemandc@gmail.com

Alexander (Zander) Rupp (Member) Mobile: 050-129-7302 ruppaw@eckerd.edu

Dick Hornby (Member) Mobile: 050-662-4501 dnahornby@yahoo.co.uk

Required: Additional Field Trip Coordinators to serve on a team of 4 or 5, planning and leading 2-3 field trips each during the coming season. Assistance will gladly be provided by the Committee. Can you do this?

Required: Book Stall Volunteers to help with book sales at ENHG meetings. Can you do this?

Lectures

New Meeting Venue!!

HCT / Abu Dhabi Women's College: Emirates Hall

(See directions on p6.)

Sept 4th **7:30 PM**Shams 1 - One of the
World's Largest
Concentrated Solar
Power Plants

Hans-Juergen Laabs

Sept 18th **7:30 PM**An Introduction to the
Natural History of the
UAE

Dick Hornby

Oct 2nd 7:30 PM
Megalithic Archaeology
of Azerbaijan:
Mysteries and Curious
Cultural Connections
Ronnie Gallagher

Field Trips

Three Al Ain chapter events in Al Ain:

Aug 31st Nocturnal Survey Techniques

Sept 7th

Hands on 'Collections'

Sept 8th
Diurnal Survey
Techniques

Al Ain events leader: Brigitte Howarth

Brigitte.Howarth@zu.a c.ae

Abu Dhabi chapter:

Sept 22nd
Day trip to Sharjah
Desert Park: Natural
Hist. & Bot. Museum,
Wildlife Centre and
Children's Farm:

Keith Taylor

ENHG-AD Research & Conservation Fund Grant Application Information

For background on this fund, see <u>Dec 2009 Focus</u>, p5. For research & grant application guidelines, click **here**. For grant application form, click **here**.

(Yahoo log-in may be required to open 2 above links.) For further enquiries, contact ENHG Chairman Andrew Bean at rabean@eim.ae.

ENHG Equipment for Members' Use

The following ENHG equipment is available for members' use during field trips or on request:

- Birding Telescope
- GPS unit GARMIN GPSMAP 60CSx
- First-Aid Kit
- Sky Scout astronomical object locator/identifier
- Celestron NexStar telescope (on field trips only)
- Two satellite phones, taken on camping trips. Phone numbers: No. 1: 008821644400956

 No. 2: 008821644400965

Enquiries: Andrew Bean, rexabean@emirates.net.ae

Marine Life Rescue Contact Info.

In Abu Dhabi:

EAD Hotline for reporting environmental emergencies including pollution and injured wildlife: 8009990. Email: envirocomplaint@ead.ae

EAD Emergency response manager: Mr. Abdul Rahman. Mob: 0506674171 (contactable 24 hours/day)

EAD contact for sea turtles, dugongs and dolphins: Dr. Himansu Das, Biodiversity Management Sector. Tel: 26934654; Mob: 0504465125; Email: hsdas@ead.ae

In Dubai:

Emirates Marine Environment Group (EMEG) (Tel: 043630581/Fax:043630460; Email: info@emeg.ae)

Dubai Municipality: Main number: 800900. Marine Environment & Sanctuaries Unit (Tel: +9714 606 6818, Fax +9714 703 3532), Email: marabdulla@dm.gov.ae.

Dubai Turtle Rehabilitation Centre at the Burj al Arab Aquarium. Tel: 043017198. 24-hour email contact, Attn. Mr Warren Baverstock, Manager of Operations, BAA Aquarium: warren.baverstock@jumeirah.com To post Facebook message triggering an after-hours SMS alert: www.facebook.com/turtle.rehabilitation

Newsletter Details

Members' Items for sale

Newsletter contributions to: newsletter@chirri2000.com

Please send small ads to: newsletter@chirri2000.com

Postal Address

Yahoo Groups website

ENHG c/o Environment Agency -Abu Dhabi, PO Box 45553, Abu Dhabi http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/AUHENHG (Click Join button to sign up for ENHG info.)