

Earth Day

...able importance to our com-
pressed the responsibility of
o do its part in order to leave a
for future generations.
...sed to see that our employees
portive of the planting exercise,
...use it was organised by the
...cause it was for a truly good
...added touch, we planted the
...er, the Bunga Raya or hibis-
...our support as Malaysians,"



...th Day was founded by the late
...aylord Nelson, who believed
...education was the key to
...ple's attitudes about the environment. The first Earth Day was
... Sunday, November 30, 1969, with the participation of 20 million
...rs and thousands of schools and local communities in the United
...pression of their rising concern about the environmental crisis.
...rld Earth Day is marked on a global scale on April 22, 2006 in
...ies across the world to help bring about awareness about the
...ironment conservation, and support for the cause. This year,
...re been organised in the USA, the United Kingdom, Ukraine,
...nesia and many more countries throughout April. Events include
...ng, Earth Day festivals, bicycle hikes, cave hikes, books launch-
...ucation, tree-planting, community clean-up etc.



General Manager Peter Sprenger leads the way in planting hibiscus seedlings



Executive Assistant Manager Fritz Klug and Financial Controller Cheah Lee Thim join in the fray

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COME VISIT

Agnes Keith House

IF you should ever be strolling along the stretch of Jalan Istana in Sandakan, the much-talked about Agnes Keith House is hard to miss. With its sprawling green lawns and colonial-style wooden walls, the residence has since been restored by the Sabah Museum in collaboration with the Federal Department of Museums and Antiquities.

This British colonial government quarters called Newlands was once occupied by famous American writer-Agnes Newton Keith, who penned *Land Below The Wind* in 1939. Two books followed her first success, namely *Three Came Home* (1946) and *White Man Returns* (1951). With the exception of the second book, *Land Below the Wind* and *White Man Returns* were written in the house on the hill where she had the best views of Sandakan Bay at the front and the Sulu Sea at the back.

Newlands was rebuilt some time in 1946/47 and was the first government permanent timber dwelling to be built after the Second World War. It was built upon the ruined foundations of the original house that was destroyed during the war.

The house became home to Agnes and her family, Henry (also referred to as Harry) George Keith, who was the Conservator of Forests and their son, George. When the Keiths left Sabah in 1952, the house was occupied by subsequent Conservators of Forests, forestry officers, volunteers and other staff. Though the Keiths never returned to Sabah, the house was always referred to as Agnes Keith's House by visitors who never stopped coming to see it.

Today the house has been restored and turned into a heritage house providing interesting insights to life during British North Borneo. It is furnished with a reproduction of colonial furniture and antiques. A gallery on the first floor tells the story of this remarkable woman, her books and her family. A Keith timeline starts in 1873 and ends in 2004 tracing the past to the present Keiths. The Agnes Keith House is open daily except Fridays from 9am to 5pm.