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What dragging of feet leads to

The laid back attitude of some University Campus students must surely have made them oblivious to the drama that unfolded over the weekend at Wied Ghollieqa nature reserve close to University, where some 150 three-year-old indigenous trees were burned down by a pyromaniac.

This comes hot on the heels of similar acts last year within University grounds and on the numerous tree-planting events held by Nature Trust in the reserve on behalf of schools and private entities.

NT has been clamouring MEPA to pull up its socks when it comes to nature reserves and release much-needed funds for the installation of security equipment like CCTV cameras, needed also for the vandalism-prone White Tower Bay.

With World Environment Day, MEPA's priority should be to preventing similar acts from happening by embarking on more decisive action. Incidentally, May 15 marks the shameful Appeals Board deferments.

The Appeals Board seems incapable of taking the Grotta discotheque bull by its horns - the appeal for a five-year-old enforcement case (00893/99 - referring to illegal additions to the nightclub) has again been deferred; this time, to September 29.

Why wasn't the case deferred to June, for example, prior to the summer season, which is highly lucrative for the nightclub operators? Incidentally, La Grotta reopened for business last May 8.

The disco's reputation is dented by a long string of enforcement notices issued in its regard, some dating back to 1994-5 and many of which have been patronisingly sanctioned.

All the forthcoming June 5 babble by our authorities is irrelevant in the face of such blatant condescending behaviour!