

Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare News 16.4.13



Norfolk Beach pathways were excavated last week to fill geo-textile bags with sand ensuring all-weather public access. The bags will be covered with sand in the next couple of days and according to experts only exposed during severe weather events. At a distance, the uncovered bags blend well with the sandy environs but locals are hoping we won't see them again for a long time!



It's not an easy environment to work in with heavy machinery and constant tidal and weather considerations, as well as the odd aggro beach-goer who doesn't like being cordoned-off from the foreshore. However, safety regulations need to be adhered to for everyone's benefit. The old saying "patience is a virtue" is most apt here.

Thanks to all those who continue to give a friendly wave to contractors, Tim, Bill & Tim or stop for a pleasant chat. It's most appreciated!

Appreciation also to SEQ Catchments, in particular Joel Bolzenius and Redland City Council, our partners in this collaborative arrangement to see the eastern shoreline restored.

COASTCARE MEETING – Saturday 4 May 2.30pm

Shoreline Erosion Management Plans

a SPECIAL PRESENTATION by Professor Rodger Tomlinson at
the Community Hall, Saturday 4 May 3-5pm

Two weeks after Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare was born at an understated meeting attended by 13 people, the Australia Day weekend storm surge hit. The damage and aftermath saw Coastcare quickly attract another 100 plus members.

We had no choice but to advocate strongly for the principles we'd adopted two weeks earlier - see last page.

When SEQ Catchments, then Council came to the island's rescue, Coastcare's path was clear. We have tried to do our best as a volunteer organisation to live up our ideals and were keen to start involving our members in regular meetings – but there's only so many hours in a day!

We set a date for a second ordinary meeting, 4 May and were delighted when Professor Rodger Tomlinson, Professor of Coastal Management, Gold Coast City Council & Director of the Griffith Centre for Coastal Management agreed to be our guest speaker. His topic is so important to our island's future that we've decided to keep the meeting brief to allow more time for his presentation.

Professor Tomlinson will provide an informative address on the importance of Shoreline Erosion Management Plans as one is proposed for the island soon. He will also take questions from the floor.

Redland City Councillor Lance Hewlett will Chair the session.

Please feel free to invite neighbours and friends to attend and distribute the following notice.

WHY COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND NEEDS A



SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Redland City Council has ear-marked the eastern coast of the island for the city's second SEMP and is proposing to fast-track the study from July 1, 2013

What's a Shoreline Erosion Management Plan or SEMP?

What difference will it make?

How do we prepare our community for the process?

Have your questions answered by the experts at the

Community Hall, Saturday, May 4, 3-5pm

Special Guest Speaker is Professor Rodger Tomlinson, Professor of Coastal Management, Gold Coast City Council & Director of the Griffith Centre for Coastal Management

Meeting Chaired by Councillor Lance Hewlett



Further details ring Vivienne on 0411226363 or 32077153 or email

viviennert@optusnet.com.au

Have a question but unable to attend the meeting? Just email beforehand.

Getting to know shorebirds



There are many reasons why Coochiemudlo Island is a special place. The rich variety of bird life is one. A workshop organised by Cheryl Bolzenius from Wetland Care Australia and presented by Dan Weller (Birdlife Australia's Shorebird 2020 Program Manager) attracted over 45 'birds of a feather' on Sunday 7 April.

The workshop introduced us to Moreton Bay's shorebirds and the amazing lives they lead. Some shorebirds are residential while many others travel thousands of miles to spend their summer holiday with us. There are at least 24 species of migratory shorebirds that visit Moreton Bay each year, including the whimbrel, the bar-tailed godwit and the grey-tailed tattler which were observed on the north western mud and sandflats. From a distance they may all appear to be LBJ's (little brown jobs) but on closer observation we discovered they have distinctly different behaviours and physical characteristics.

There are many theories about just how migratory birds know how to make these extraordinary journeys but technology is helping scientists understand. Besides the use of leg bands or flags, scientists now use geo-locators and satellite tracking to demystify the round the world trips these birds make. We now know there are 8 flyways around the world used by migratory birds. The EAAF (East Asian Australasian Flyway) is the longest. Birds taking this route can travel up to 30,000km from the Arctic to our shores! So when they arrive in Moreton Bay from September to March it is very important that they can rest, feed and gain weight for the long journey back to their breeding grounds.

Migratory birds lead a fragile existence all under threat from human disturbance, water pollution, invasive plants, introduced animals, as well as habitat loss and degradation. This is yet another reason why it is so important we protect our coastal areas. [Patrice Draper](#)

[For further information contact the Queensland Wader Study Group](#)

Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc Constitution

Objectives:-

1. To value, protect and enhance the natural island environment, particularly coastal and marine areas and promote best management practice.
2. To engender in the local community a sense of stewardship of the island's natural environment
3. To foster co-operation between stakeholders wherever action is required to rehabilitate degraded habitats and undertake joint projects when needed.
4. To conduct regular meetings where normal business of the Association will be transacted as well as films, local and visiting lecturers utilised and other activities associated with the development of these objects conducted
5. To promote the preservation of flora, fauna, geological and geographical features, environmental and habitat units by all lawful means including but not by way of limitation, the following-
 - 5.1 Encourage an understanding of the principles of Coastcare, Conservation, Biodiversity, Sustainable Resource Use and Preservation of the Environment
 - 5.2 By discouraging threatening processes to, or the wanton destruction of any such Flora, Fauna, Geological or Geographical features and particularly those sites known to have sacred or Cultural significance for Aboriginal people.
 - 5.3 By supporting Management Plans and Agreements that are consistent with the Association's objectives.
 - 5.4 By accepting affiliation from, or co-operating with any society or Corporation in Australia or elsewhere for the furtherance of the foregoing objects.
6. To co-operate with Local Government departments and others to ensure they are aware of environmental concerns before making major planning decisions that could affect the island.
7. To seek Government funding and corporate sponsorship to finance the publication and distribution of such information to interested parties
8. To make submissions on Coastcare matters and to take action to ensure environmentally appropriate decisions are made
9. To publish information regularly to keep members informed of the Association's activities and future events

10 By all such other acts or things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.