

1 May 2023

Help restore the Melaleuca Wetlands this Saturday



Join us working alongside contractors *Bushtekniq* as we edge out to the weedy fringe of the Wetlands. Be motivated by tales of success, learn more about the Bradley Method of bush regeneration and how to use new tools to your advantage.

Enjoy a satisfying morning followed by refreshments, including a light lunch and update on the Wetlands Weed Control Project.

We'll meet where the Coastcare flags fly at the southern (James Street) entrance to the wetlands next **Saturday 6 May** for the working bee from **9 - 11am**.

Newcomers are warmly welcomed.

Please BYO water, wear covered shoes and long pants, hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.

Tools and gloves provided however feel free to bring your own. RSVP for catering

to coochiecoastcare@gmail.com or phone Jane on 0479139527.

The [project supported by Healthy Land and Water](#) through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare program has enabled weed reduction and habitat rehabilitation as part of an effort to protect threatened species and Ramsar values.

If you'd like to stay on for the afternoon you can join us with volunteers from Conservation Volunteers Australia from 2 – 4pm to continue wetland restoration works.

Managing shared shorelines on Coochiemudlo Island



Foreshore clean-up by Council

The popularity of island beaches for recreational use has been highlighted in recent weeks as locals and visitors vie for a slice of this prize environment amid increasing visitation.

The pending removal of dinghy racks by Redland City Council and impoundment of any vessel left on island foreshores after today has caused concern. <https://yoursay.redland.qld.gov.au/removal-of-vessel-storage-racks-main-beach-coochiemudlo-island>

Although meant for dinghy/tender storage when first installed in 2018, the racks were taken over by kayakers and the surrounding foreshore became littered with a multitude of working and derelict craft, trailers and other equipment. Council has advised the racks aren't fit for purpose for kayakers.

A Council investigation determined vessels strewn over 60 metres of the Main Beach foreshore west of the barge ramp were contributing to adverse foreshore erosion and impacting dune vegetation.

Council has also advised the racks aren't fit for purpose for kayakers.

Coastcare advocated strongly for dinghy racks in 2016 as they'd been recommended in the island's 2004 Land Management Plan which detailed a practical action plan for conserving the values of Reserve land.

[Land Management Plan – Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare](#)

Although it needed updating to include recommendations from the Cultural Heritage Management and Shoreline Erosion Management Plans, as well as outcomes of the Heritage listing of the Emerald Fringe, the Plan was quietly removed from the corporate register in July 2021.

Meanwhile, on Flinders Beach, the Outrigger Canoe group who had been operating on a verbal agreement with Council for 15-years was also told to pack-up. We understand they have requested a permit to occupy for one vessel and are awaiting a formal response.

We support the continued presence of an outrigger here as the vessel is stored to the side of the emergency vehicle access. This is our biggest conservation work-zone and we're reliant on Outrigger members who are also Coastcarers undertaking regular environmental works including weeding and planting..

Hundreds of jet skis, Norfolk, 29/4



Coastcare's Outrigger members at work recently.

Perhaps the answer for increased kayak storage could lie in a system that was born out of similar need in Sydney.

The scheme, offering participants a kayak-share facility, seems to be working well -

<https://kayakshareclub.org/history-1>

Vale Diane Gillham



Sincere condolences to family and friends of Diane Gillham on her passing in Brisbane last Thursday after a long illness.

Diane's love of life, thirst for knowledge of the natural world and artistic talent helped share Coochie's unique environmental values far beyond the island.

Her images of fungi, trees, spiders and erosion captured through the lens of a true artist continue to be featured and acknowledged in Coastcare publications.

Diane was a great supporter of Coastcare and never missed a social gathering. Above is the last happy snap we took at the 2022 Christmas Party.

Date Claimers

Saturday 3 June, 2 – 4 pm Dunecare at venue to be decided.

Sunday 25 June at 11am Please save the date for our Annual General Meeting on at the Community Hall. The meeting will be followed by a guest speaker and lunch.

Nominations for all positions will be invited next month. Please don't hesitate to call President, Vivienne

Roberts-Thomson on 0411226363 if you would like further information.

Saturday 1 July, 2- 4pm Dunecare at Norfolk Beach in preparation for Flinders Day

Coastcarers update First Aid qualifications

Five Coastcarers renewed their First Aid certificates during the month, thanks to local resident Janelle Andrews (True Blue First Aid).

The afternoon and early evening training passed comfortably along with testing, thanks to the Coochie Golf Club for allowing us to use their clubhouse.

Congratulations to Chris Leonard, Helen Pickford, Graeme Roberts-Thomson, Andrew Ross and Vivienne Roberts-Thomson.

A reminder - annual memberships now due

Membership fees

- Single annual membership \$2
- Family annual membership \$5
- Life Membership Single \$50
- Life Membership Family \$100

If your details have changed please fill out a [membership form](#).

Choose your membership level and Direct Deposit to Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc –
Commonwealth Bank BSB 064-149 Account 10096929.

You can:

- Return your form with payment to 94 Victoria Parade, Coochiemudlo Island; or
- Email your form and a copy of your payment receipt to coochiecoastcare@gmail.com.
(If paying electronically, please include your full name as the reference.)

Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare - Caring for your Island

www.coochiemudloislandcoastcare.org.au

Coastcare Management Committee

Vivienne Roberts-Thomson, President Mob 0411226363

Bryan Dyball, Vice-President Mob 0487054127

Jane Caldwell, Secretary Mob 0479139527

Betty-Ann Bellette, Treasurer

Committee, Nici Buirski, Jay Lima, Helen Pickford, Tom Lima,

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