



News Update

28 February 2023

Celebrating a decade of Caring for Our Island



What a night it was on Saturday 4 February as we celebrated our 10th anniversary on the same verandah at “Mudlo” where 13 people gathered on 13 January 2013 to form a Coastcare

organisation.

Blessed by a stunning red sunset, attendees were also served a spectacular blue lightshow of uplit eucalypts, thanks to our host and Coastcare's founding President, Carolyn Brammer.

It was wonderful to catch-up with long-time and newer members, and also welcome Kim Richards MP, Sheena Hewlett, deputising for an injured Cr Lance Hewlett and Naomi Edwards, Board Member of Landcare Australia. Naomi had played a pivotal role after the devastating storm surge from ex-TC Oswald when we'd reached out to Griffith University and Gold Coast City Council for help. Redlands mayoral candidate, Jos Mitchell also joined us on the night.

Apologies flowed from those unable to attend and were acknowledged by MC and Vice-President, Bryan Dyball.

We're indebted to folk who have served on management committees as well as our incredible volunteers who continue to tend the one and half kilometres of eastern shoreline under Council permit.

Highlight of the evening was the cutting of the anniversary cake by 2021 Coastcarer of the Year, Olive Walters, an absolute font of knowledge for all things botanical on island.

Best wishes were conveyed to a hospitalized, Diane Gilham whose staunch support over the years was acknowledged along with her photographs, observations, and regular presence at Coastcare gatherings.

Thanks to Tom Lima who spent countless hours compiling a photographic montage over the years that was enjoyed by many in the living room and Nici Buirski for the delicious cake.

After formalities and a sumptuous feast provided by Joseph Alhalaby, Curlew Café, the signature music by Damon and dancing completed a memorable night.

Winner of Coastcare's raffle, a hand-crafted bowl, generously donated by island wood-turner, Cliff Smith, was the late Ian Rowland with Grey ticket KO1. Sadly, Ian a long-time member passed away before we could deliver his prize. Ian will be remembered for his generous contribution of countless videos of special occasions which remain treasured records in Coastcare archives. Arrangements are being made for the family to receive the bowl.

Second prize of a Krosno decanter went to Erin and Ben Simpson with Grey ticket 17 and third prize for a Wright's Pottery platter went to Helen Pickford with Grey ticket 37.



Join us for Dunecare Saturday 4 March on the island's north-east



We'll be tackling foreshore weeds and planting a few grasses in one of the most picturesque spots overlooking the "Trees Graveyard." Newcomers, especially families are always welcome and there are jobs to match all abilities.

WHERE Meet where the Coastcare flags fly at the intersection of Victoria Parade North & East by the bollards.

WHEN From 2 - 4pm followed by a cuppa and chat.

BRING BYO water and just a reminder to wear covered shoes, long pants, hat, sunscreen & insect repellent.

Please don't hesitate to ring Jane on 0479139527 or Bryan on 0487054127 with any query.

Celebrate International Women's Day with Quandamooka's Elisha Kissick
Saturday 11 March 9.30 am – 1pm



Quandamooka woman, Elisha Kissick will be back on island for a belated celebration of International Womens' Day on Saturday 11 March. She'll be sharing stories of her forebears as we wander the shoreline and pathways of the Melaleuca Wetlands.

Those who participated in Elisha's visit last year enjoyed her informative introduction to the medicinal and beneficial qualities of bush foods.

There will be a light weeding session beforehand from 9.30 -10.30am followed by refreshments and Elisha's presentation.

Please BYO water and just a reminder to wear covered shoes, long pants, hat, sunscreen & insect repellent. This is a popular activity so we'd appreciate an rsvp by emailing coochiecoastcare@gmail.com or contacting Jane Caldwell on 0479139527 or Vivienne Roberts-Thomson on 0411226363 for further detail.

Strong focus on World Wetlands Day and rehabilitation works on Coochiemudlo Island

The importance of our Melaleuca Wetlands was highlighted this month with Coastcare's participation at the Ramsar Forum, hosted by Healthy Land and Water at Deception Bay on World Wetlands Day, Thursday 2 February. Three concentrated restoration sessions were also undertaken in the wetlands.

The forum was a wonderful opportunity to share exciting research findings and progress reports on rehabilitation projects across the Moreton Bay Ramsar site from Bribie Island to the Gold Coast.

As we move through the final months of our four-year Wetlands Weed Control Project, contractors and volunteers will become more visible, as greater time is spent around the disturbed perimeter of the wetlands where escapees from suburban gardens infiltrate the bush.

The project, "Protecting Threatened Species and Restoring Ramsar values" is supported by Healthy Land and Water through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare program



Our thanks go to Coastcarers who turned out in force on the first official working bee of the year to celebrate World Wetlands Day supported by our partners, Conservation Volunteers Australia. A Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by Quandamooka's Matt Burns set us on the path to a productive weeding session along the south-eastern edge of the Melaleuca Wetlands before a cuppa and chat about frogs with photographer and author, Mike Donavon. The event is part of the Revive our Wetlands initiative, engaging individuals and communities to care deeply for blue carbon ecosystems, in partnership with Chevron Australia, An earlier session had seen chem-free contractors, Bushtekniq prep the south-east zone for volunteers carefully reducing piles of Singapore Daisy to mulch with saturated steam.



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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