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News Update

June 29th 2021

Thank-you to members who attended our Annual General Meeting at the Community Hall on Friday 18 June

The formalities went smoothly thanks to Keith Stebbins J.P. who officiated over the election of officer-bearers. David O'Hagan and Graeme Roberts-Thomson stood down from the committee and we welcomed Stephen Nuske and Jane Caldwell aboard.

The new management committee is:-

President: Vivienne Roberts-Thomson Mob 0411226363

Secretary: Jane Caldwell Mob 0479139527

Treasurer: Betty-Ann Bellette Mob 0448802545

Committee: Bryan Dyball Mob 0487054127, Gaye Richardson Mob 0420881764, Stephen Nuske Mob 0410896446, Helen Pickford and Peter Richardson Mob 0403089508

Minutes of the AGM and Reports are available through the following links:

[AGM Minutes and Treasurer's Report](#)

[President's Report](#)

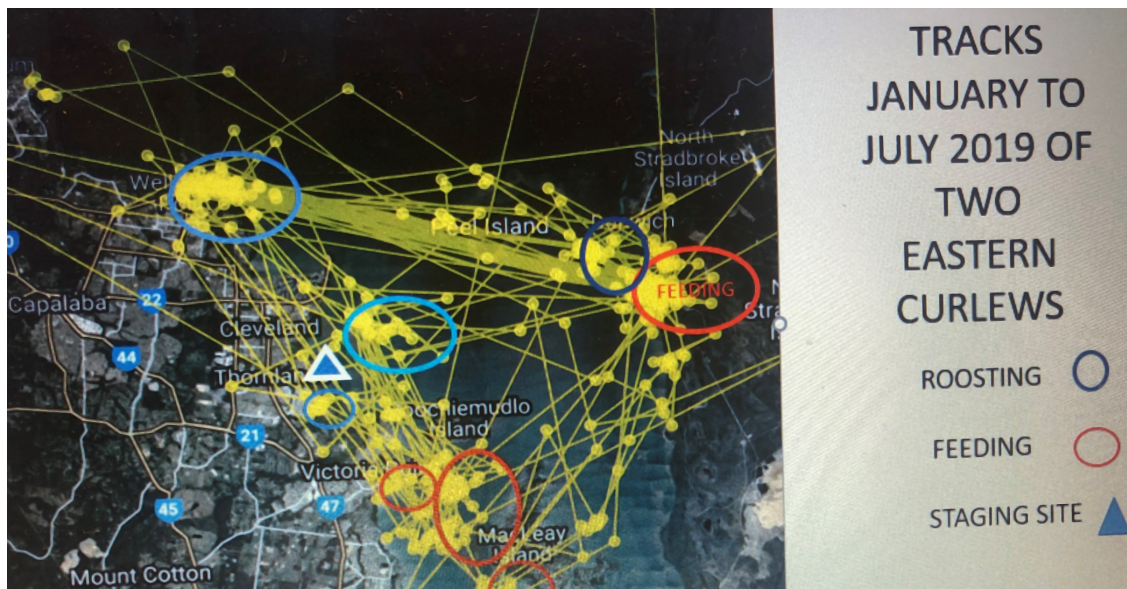


During the evening, Honorary Life Membership was bestowed on renowned coastal engineer, Dr Michael Gourlay in recognition of his significant contribution to the understanding of shoreline processes on Coochiemudlo. For over 30 years Michael has monitored sand movement around the island and more recently shared his findings as a member of the Community Reference Group for the island's Shoreline Erosion Management Plan endorsed by Council in February.



Another local hero, Olive Walters was presented with the inaugural “Coastcarer of the Year award” for her outstanding contribution to bush regeneration on Coochiemudlo. Olive, a recognised island authority on all things botanical, gives generously to the care of the island’s environment.

Guest speaker, Dr Robert Bush, member of the Australasian Wader Study Group Board, Queensland Wader Study Group Management Committee and recent past secretary of the Queensland Ornithological Society shared fascinating tracking data on the movement of migratory shorebirds around the Bay and Coochie, in particular. Coastcare will provide a link to his presentation in the next week; “Tracking Shorebirds tells us how they live and survive in Moreton Bay: There has never been a more important time to use this information to support conservation of the Bay”.



Movement between foraging and roosting sites of critically-endangered Eastern Curlews around Coochiemudlo Island. The importance of the banks adjacent-to, and, south of the island can't be underestimated.

Funding grant for survey and valuation of significant trees

Coastcare is pleased to confirm a \$2,500 funding grant from Healthy Land and Water to engage a specialist consultant arborist to survey and value significant foreshore trees around the Emerald Fringe.

Priority work includes at-risk veteran trees along the eastern foreshore that will augment the recommendations of the Shoreline Erosion Management Plan for immediate beach replenishment “to repair remnant existing erosion on Norfolk Beach and return the beaches to functional units.”

Join us for Dunecare on Norfolk Beach, Saturday 3 July

It's that time of the year to return to Norfolk Beach in readiness for next month's Flinders Day. If you can spare a couple of hours, please join us from 8.30 – 10.30am where the Coastcare flags fly near the barbeques.

We'll be tending the dunes, weeding and planting before enjoying a chat over a cuppa. It's a great opportunity to make new friends & contribute to the environmental care of the island.

Volunteers are reminded to wear hat, covered shoes, comfortable clothes, sunscreen, insect repellent and bring water.

New members are always welcomed. Annual membership which includes insurance is \$2

for singles and \$5 for families. Please call **Vivienne** on **0411226363** or **Jane** on **0479139527** with any query.



Council “retires” Coochiemudlo Island’s Land Management Plan

Redland City Council voted to remove Coochiemudlo's 2004 Land Management Plan from its Corporate Register at its General Meeting on Wednesday 16 June.

The Plan, which detailed practical actions for conserving and enhancing the values of the island’s reserve land was developed in close consultation with community and official stakeholders over many months, then ratified by Council and the Minister for Natural Resources. Fondly referred to as “The Bible”, by many, the Plan was removed because Council officers deemed it no longer current. This time there was no community consultation, nor response to Coastcare calls for a review.

Sincere thanks to Councillors Lance Hewlett and Paul Bishop who spoke against the motion while other Councillors sought assurance 29 plans and strategies to be retired would be retained as background reports. Further detail is available on Page 27 [Minutes of General Meeting - Wednesday, 16 June 2021 \(infocouncil.biz\)](#). A video of the proceedings can be found. [Archive | Redland City Council Meetings](#) see 12.1 at 20.08 mins.

Cr Hewlett said no officer had ever discussed with him how the 2010 Conservation Management Strategy could replace such a detailed island Plan, as Coochiemudlo’s which he still referenced.

<http://coochiemudloislandcoastcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2004/02/Coochiemudlo-Island-Land-Management-Plan->

[2004.pdf](#)

Long-term residents will recall the meetings, discussions and televised rally that saw the Emerald Fringe saved from a lifesavers' clubhouse. According to Council newsletters, the Plan was all about "Managing Island Values"
"Why does Coochiemudlo Island need a LMP? To protect the existing environmental, recreation, sporting, physical, social, indigenous and European heritage values of reserve land. Council and community are working together to see the Emerald Fringe protected and to ensure public open space around the entire perimeter of the island." **RCC Newsletter June 2004**

The same Council meeting later endorsed a new Land Management Plan for the city facilitating the use of Main Beach East as a site for **Temporary Commercial Use of Public Open Space**. Council's original proposal was scaled down due to public response with Foreshore West removed and Foreshore East amended to allow only one secondary use, seeing continuation of the existing boat hire business. [Agenda of General Meeting - Wednesday, 16 June 2021 \(infocouncil.biz\)](#) Page 790

In November 2020, Coastcare lodged feedback with Redland City Council on the proposed Draft Land Management plan for the Temporary Commercial Use of Public Open Space. We objected to the proposal as we believed it was environmentally unsustainable to site four commercial operations between Flinders (Outriggers Beach) to west of the barge ramp.

[Coastcare Submission](#)



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