

Happy New Year to Members and Friends

With your continued support, Coastcare looks forward to the next decade of “Caring for our island”. The challenges of the past 10-years, including recovery from the devastating storm surge from ex-TC Oswald have provided valuable lessons for our future.

We’re excited to celebrate our 10th Anniversary on Saturday 4 February and hope you’ll join us on the verandah at "Mudlo".

Finally, after years of investigation, research and planning, recommendations from the Shoreline Erosion Management Plan, endorsed by Redland City Council in 2021 will be realized.

2023 will also see a strong focus on building our Environmental Hub, just off Elizabeth Street, south of the Energex precinct.

We’ll be completing the fourth and final year of the Melaleuca Wetlands project supported by Healthy Land and Water through funding from the Australian Government’s National Landcare program. The project, to undertake weed reduction and rehabilitation is part of a national effort to protect threatened species and Ramsar values.

We’ve been fortunate to work with skilled chem-free contractors, Bushtekniq, supported by Redland City Council and the on-going effort of our wonderful volunteers who maintain 1 ½ kilometres of designated work-zones around our foreshores and wetlands.

We’re buoyed by the ongoing support of Conservation Volunteers Australia, over the next two years who are collaborating on rehabilitation works around our Ramsar shoreline.

Here’s to 2023!

Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc Management Committee

Vivienne Roberts-Thomson, President, Mob 0411226363

Bryan Dyball, Vice President, Mob 0487054127

Jane Caldwell, Secretary, Mob 0479139527

Betty-Ann Bellette, Treasurer.

Committee - Helen Pickford; Jay Lima, Nici Buirski, and Tom Lima.

Date Claimers

Thursday 26 January 9am -2 pm - Australia Day Markets Visit the Coastcare stall at the markets to catch-up on the latest news, renew memberships or pick-up a T-shirt or cap. You can also collect tickets for Coastcare’s 10th Anniversary celebration at "Mudlo" and participate in the multi-draw raffle to support our building fund. We look forward to seeing you!

Saturday, 28 January - Anniversary of the 2013 storm surge from ex-TC Oswald - a decade of memories and a time for reflection <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SShiGFmesAI>

Thursday 2 February - World Wetlands Day -<https://www.worldwetlandsday.org/>

Moreton Bay Ramsar Network Forum at Deception Bay organised by Healthy Land and Water to celebrate five years of management outcomes through the project funded by the Australian Government’s National Landcare Program.

Thursday February 2, at 9:30 AM – 3 PM

Deception Bay Environmental Hub, 7 Joseph Crescent, Deception Bay

Saturday 4 February from 5 - 8pm - Coastcare’s 10th Birthday Celebration.

Please join us to

Celebrate

A decade of Coastcare on Coochiemudlo Island

Saturday 4 February 2023, 5 – 8 pm

“Mudlo”, corner Victoria Parade South & Elizabeth Street

Tickets: \$20 Adults - \$10 Children

BYO Drinks

Share good times ~ memories ~ live music ~ great food

RSVP by 1 February: coochiecoastcare@gmail.com

Direct Deposit: Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc
Commonwealth Bank: BSB 064-149 Acct 10096929
Ref: Party / Surname

Tickets also available at Australia Day Markets
Thursday 26 January, or contact Jane 0479 139 527



Saturday 11 February 9.30 - 12pm Wetlands Working Bee - The official start to our working year coincides with a belated celebration of World Wetlands Day hosted in partnership with Conservation Volunteers Australia.

Join us where the flags fly at the southern (James Street) entrance to the Melaleuca Wetlands. After a Welcome to Country by Quandamooka's Matt Burns we'll enjoy a couple of hours bush regeneration in the wetlands followed by refreshments and a talk by frog authority, Tim Hackwood. Volunteers are reminded to wear a hat, covered shoes, comfortable clothes, sunscreen, insect repellent and BYO water.

Saturday 11 February from 4pm, Coochiemudlo's Annual Curlew Count followed by a

barbeque and presentation by wildlife expert, Adrian Caneris who participated in the first survey of the local curlew population, 26 years ago.



Coochie Curlew Count 2023

Join us for the Coochie Curlew Count and contribute to 25 years of data on the local curlew population.

Saturday 11 February, 4pm
Pioneer Park, Coochiemudlo Island

BYO:

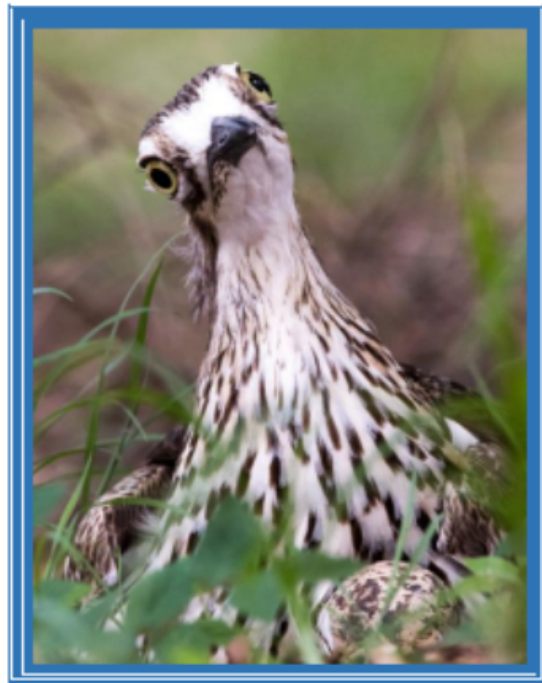
Drinks, torch, insect repellent, face mask.

Wear:

Comfy shoes, hat, sunscreen and your curlew spotting eyes!

Provided:

Sausage sizzle and a guest speaker after the survey.



To take part in the survey, you are required to register your name due Covid-19 and RCC protocols. Phone IndigiScapes to register on 3824 8611.





Turtle monitors appeal for assistance

by Chris Leonard

I recently wrote an article for the Coochie Island News concerning efforts that local responders undertake to deal with turtles both on our beaches and in the water surrounding our beautiful island. The article was mainly prompted because of a callout to a turtle that had been trapped and then drowned in a crab pot. This otherwise healthy creature, in my view, should still be swimming in the ocean.

That was back in November 2022. Since that time, we have now dealt with a total of four similar cases. All needless events if some small steps had been taken by crab pot owners to take personal responsibility for their actions.

Please help us and all marine life by taking a careful look at your own pots and then prompt any of your mates/friends to do the same. First, check that your crab pots have turtle excluders fitted to them.

I know that mine didn't and it is such a simple thing to do so. The excluder cord fitted at each opening will minimize the chance of the turtle getting into the pot but will have no effect on crabs trying to get in.

Make sure that the float rope is weighted so that it hangs vertically in the water. This reduces the possibility of a floating rope being cut by a boat propellor and the now-lost pot, becoming a ghost pot that will continue to trap and kill all sorts of marine life.

Most pots we come across have had the float ropes cut. The weight can be anything that is easily attached approximately 1.5 to 2m below the float. Check your pots regularly. Ideally, collect them on the same day. Please don't leave them unattended for days at a time.

Ensure that pots are placed in a sufficient depth of water so that they are not exposed at low tide. There have been cases where birds have also been snared trying to get at the bait parcels.

These are not onerous steps to take and I know the majority of people want to do the right thing. Generally, it is a one-time thing that then becomes second nature.

I am encouraged by the fact that since my last article, several people have contacted me wanting further advice. As a free service, we are offering to retrofit anybody's pots if they are not sure what to do.

To report any dead or injured turtles, call your turtle team,

Chris Leonard 0478176540
Andrew Ross 0400774606
Annie Jamieson 0403702451



Above- Crab pot showing the turtle excluder in yellow

A reminder is your annual membership is 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

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