



News Update

25 February 2024

Coastcare's environmental hub edges closer to reality

The dream of creating a homebase for our volunteer organisation on a discretely set-back block in bushland facing Elizabeth Street is finally gaining traction.

In September 2022, Redland City Council approved a five-year Trustee lease, preceded by a three-year Licence to Occupy for Coastcare to develop an Environmental Hub and storage facility. The 340 square metre site includes an existing concrete slab, the original base of the old fire-brigade then gymnasium, adjacent to the gravel track opposite Energex.



Looking West to Elizabeth Street.

Over the past two months we've undertaken site surveys, soil tests, concrete slab X-rays, engineering assessments and liaised with architect, Greg Tollis, all thanks to a \$5,000 Council Infrastructure grant. The Hub will provide storage for work equipment, including the saturated steam weeder and a storage trailer, as well as space, both indoors and outdoors for training and meetings.

With investigative works almost complete, Coastcare is now actively seeking grant funding to cover the construction of a new Colourbond shed, 9.7 metres long x 8 metre wide plus a 3 metre verandah. Due to the instability of the soils the engineer has advised we can't rely on the old slab, and a new one is needed with two-metre deep footings around the perimeter of the existing footprint.

We'll keep you posted on progress in next month's newsletter and provide a detailed update at the General Meeting on Saturday, 6 April.



Redland City Council is proud to provide funding for the *“Site development and Stage One Construction of an Environmental Hub for Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare”* as part of the Community Infrastructure grant program to assist the Redlands community.

Save these Dates!

March is shaping up to be a busy month judging by the calendar of Coastcare events, starting next weekend.

Saturday, 2 March – working bee from 2-30-4.30pm.

We'll meet at the southern (James Street) entrance to the Melaleuca Wetlands where the Coastcare flags fly then head into the wetlands to tackle a resurgence of Gloriosa lily and guinea grass, courtesy of summer rains.

Please wear a hat, long pants, long-sleeved shirt, closed shoes and BYO water.

Afterwards enjoy a relaxing cuppa and chat. For further detail please contact Graeme Mob 0413352511

Friday 8 March from 10am - International Women's Day, Norfolk Beach

Join Quandamooka's Elisha Kissick and our partners, Conservation Volunteers Australia as we celebrate International Women's Day on Coochiemudlo Island. We'll gather at the barbeques at Norfolk Beach

Participants will be treated to a wander through the Melaleuca Wetlands and introduction to culture followed by a barbeque lunch.

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

To secure your place at this popular free event please register by emailing Secretary Jane at

coochiecoastcare@gmail.com

Friday 15 March at 10am - Working Visit to Oysterworld, Port of Brisbane

This visit is facilitated by Robbie Porter from OzFish Australia who addressed a Coastcare meeting last year. Robbie is a passionate advocate for restoring Moreton Bay's fish habitat and has successfully diverted hundreds of cubic metres of oyster shell from landfill to restore shellfish reefs in Pumicestone Passage and has now turned his attention south.

It was a shock for many to hear that 96 percent of the bay's shellfish reefs have been lost through harvesting for limestone for the building industry and human consumption. However, the tide has turned, reversed through community working with First Nations People, scientists and universities. Shellfish are recognised as "ecosystem engineers" due to their remarkable capacity to enhance marine environments as prodigious filter feeders, removing impurities and excess nutrients.

Did you Know - One oyster filters 120 litres of water per day, helping to improve water clarity and quality?

Attendees will not only better understand the background to shellfish reef restoration in Moreton Bay but also help make a reef!

Car-pooling is available. Please register your interest with Jane, coochiecoatcare@gmail.com

Tuesday 19 March from 10am-midday working bee – Melaleuca Wetlands

Conservation Volunteers Australia will return with a corporate group from Brisbane to lend a helping hand in our Wetland work-zones.

Join us to welcome the crew of 25 to the island at Norfolk Beach barbeques where the flags fly. It's rewarding to work with folk who give up a day of their time, at their employer's expense, to Care for our Island.



Thanks to corporates like international communications agency, VMLY&R who donated a recent day of environmental effort on Coochiemudlo Island with CVA.

Work starts on environmental project “Ours to Protect”

Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare has been awarded a Community Project Support grant from Redland City Council to develop a publication to create greater awareness of the responsibilities of living in our unique environment surrounded by Ramsar wetlands, Marine Park and Heritage-listed Emerald Fringe.

It's recognised, that as a small island, Coochiemudlo offers daily challenge for inhabitants striving to live in harmony with nature amid population pressure and authorities overseeing this delicate balancing act.

The eight-page booklet, “Ours to Protect” will also be available as an online resource and developed in liaison with the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation, government agencies, Council, Queensland Wader Study Group and community.

The project aims to preserve foreshore values and ensure the needs of both marine and terrestrial wildlife are better understood. It will offer information on a range of topics from our Quandamooka heritage, the Ramsar, bush-stone curlews and shorebirds, sustainable fishing and crabbing, the importance of wildlife linkages and healthy bush beaches.

Councillor Lance Hewlett said “Ours to Protect” would be a welcome resource as the island continues to come under pressure with growing visitation and population increase.

“I hope the project will also create better understanding of the reasoning behind laws relating to protection of wildlife and the environment including vegetation clearance, fires and animal management,” he said.



L-R Chair of Coastcare's "Ours to Protect" sub-committee, Nici Buirski, discusses progress with web designer, Angela Hoskins; Secretary, Denise Johnston and Artist, Cathy Money.



Redland City Council is proud to provide funding for ***"Ours to Protect, a guide for residents of Coochiemudlo Island"*** as part of the Community Project Support program to assist the Redlands Community.

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

Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare - Caring for your Island

www.coochiemudloislandcoastcare.org.au

Vivienne Roberts-Thomson, President Mob 0411226363

Bryan Dyball, Vice President 0487054127

Jane Caldwell, Secretary 0479139527

Betty-Ann Bellette, Treasurer,0448802545

Bruce Stevens, Nici Buirski, John Fletcher and Denise Johnston.

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc · Where the Coastcare Flags fly! · Coochiemudlo Island, Queensland 4184 · Australia

