



# News Update

**21 October 2024**

Thanks to members who turned out for a marathon weekend at the start of the month with Saturday's regular working bee followed by a Bunnings sausage sizzle the following day.

It's always gratifying to welcome mainlanders who help tend our conservation foreshores and especially rewarding to see three generations of family working alongside each other. Congratulations to the Walters! Also to Conservation Volunteers Australia who joined us on the day



It was a productive afternoon at the "Trees Graveyard" on the island's north-east with a truckful of weeds collected and 150 lomandras and dianellas from the native nursery planted before solid rain followed the next week.





An offer from the Coochie Choristers to take over their Bunnings sausage sizzle when they were unable, was welcomed with trepidation, as it was our first foray at Victoria Point. We'd attended a couple of inductions but hadn't take up the offer.





We were so appreciative of those who raised their hands at short-notice to help with rotating two-hour shifts on the day. Shout out to Dean Brough, Greg Mouy, Jane Caldwell, Michael Walker, Bruce Stevens, Ben and Erin Simpson, Bryan and Jane Dyball, Graeme and Vivienne Roberts-Thomson. Great effort and we'll be back! Thanks also to the Bunnings staff who made it a breeze for all.



# SHOREBIRDS OF COOCHIEMUDLO RESCHEDULED

World Shorebird Day was September 6th so lets keep the celebration going on Saturday October 26th on Coochiemudlo Island.

Tap into your inner bird enthusiast and join us for a morning of birdwatching on Coochiemudlo Island, complete with a BBQ lunch.

August marked the beginning of the annual shorebird migration! We'll explore the mangroves, mudflats, and wetlands to discover and identify the species around the shoreline!

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER  
26TH  
9.30 AM  
12.30 PM  
Morwong  
Beach**



To register follow the QR code or go to <https://conservationvolunteers.com.au/>



## SAVE THESE DATES

Saturday 26 October	Shorebird event 9.30-12.30, meet at Morwong Beach rotunda
Saturday 2 November	Dunecare 2 – 4pm at Outriggers Beach & General Meeting 4.15pm
Sunday 1 December	Christmas Markets Coochiemudlo Island
Friday 6 December	Coastcare's Christmas Party will be held at Mudlo from 5.30pm
Saturday 7 December	Dunecare 2- 4pm at Norfolk Beach

## Building to start on Coastcare's Environmental Hub in early 2025

If all goes according to plan, Coastcare will have an official home base on the island next year. The announcement in June of a \$35,000 grant from Queensland's Gambling Community Benefit Fund will help us realise the dream of creating an Environmental Hub to meet the growing demand for island works.

The Hub will be centrally located adjacent to the island's community precinct in the Laurie Burns Recreation Reserve, corner of Elizabeth Street and the gravel track to the Mens Shed, next door to the Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre

There's still much to be done and we'll be calling on your support with an end-of-year fundraising drive



### Coastcarers test the carrying capacity & manoeuvrability for specialist trailers onsite

We've shared plans at the Markets and in previous newsletters and look forward to updating members with developments at our next general meeting on **Saturday 2 November at 4.15pm after Dunecare** at the Outriggers beach, beside the bollards where the Coastcare flags fly.



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 grant community.

*"With funding support from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund"*

## News Round-up

Coastcare took advantage of the Community Cabinet held in the Redlands late August to book a meeting with a couple of Ministers and senior departmental officers.

It was pleasing to spot another Coochie face in the crowd, Peter Rankin, pursuing his mission to legalise golf carts on island.

First appointment was with the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation, the Hon Leanne Linard. Committee members, Vivienne Roberts-Thomson, Bryan Dyball and Jenny Adermann welcomed the opportunity to discuss the need to improve protected area management on Coochiemudlo Island, in particular, endangered species and endangered ecological communities of **Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and SE Queensland**.

We discussed the state government's investment in the expansion of the Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre on island, the growth of this new industry and the collective responsibility we all share to preserve Ramsar values. Co-incidentally, Minister Linard had detoured by the Wynnum headquarters of the MBEC that afternoon to meet Principal Di Aylward, inspected the campus and boat.

A couple of weeks later we were invited to a further meeting in Brisbane with Kim Richards MP and departmental officers. We look forward to news of potential grant funding opportunities early next year and detail on the review of the Moreton Bay Marine Park.

We also enjoyed a speed chat with Education Minister, Di Farmer and a couple of senior officers who assured us the MBEC lodge had already been used for a couple of programs and the future looked bright for this million-dollar investment.

Thanks to Kim Richards for her efforts over the past five years to promote the transition of the old Lodge into an environmental educational centre to meet the needs of not only local feeder schools but the greater south-east.





**Above - The Moreton Bay Environmental Education refurbished Lodge, cnr Shirley & Elizabeth Sts**

## Environmental update at island meeting

At our general meeting on Saturday 2 November we look forward to discussing a number of environmental issues central to island life.

The recent 50-cent ferry fares announced by Premier Stephen Miles and Kim Richards MP has seen a dramatic increase in tourist visitation highlighting the need for proactive management of our wetlands, conservation foreshores of the Heritage-listed Emerald Fringe and open areas.

We'll bring you up to date on latest developments to have a Land Management Plan re-instated for Coochie and report on advocacy progress since April's meeting.

You might have seen the LNP Shadow Minister for the Environment and Great Barrier Reef, Sam O'Connor and Redlands Candidate Rebecca Young announce a pre-election commitment of \$100,000 for a Conservation Management Plan for the Fringe. No doubt this could be incorporated into a re-invigorated whole-of-island Land Management Plan.

Many islanders recall the original 2004 Plan which contained agreed principles for use of Reserve land, the result of many months of detailed planning work and consultation. However, the Plan was quietly removed from Council's corporate register in June 2021 without community consultation.

Ever since, Coastcare has been calling for re-instatement of an updated Land Management Plan that incorporates the recommendations of the 2020 Shoreline Erosion Management Plan, the Cultural Heritage Management Plan and local Heritage listing of the Emerald Fringe.

## Latest on the campaign for Personal Transport Vehicles (Golf Carts)

“The most recent part of this long-running campaign was a direct appeal by phone and email to the Police Minister, however this fell on deaf ears.

I am very grateful to all those who phoned and emailed.

The next step is applying to the Police Minister for a trial and/or a thorough analysis of the safety data. The reason being that safety seems to be the main reason for refusal which in my opinion is based on preconceived thoughts not real-world data.

The most positive development to report is the commitment from the LNP candidate Rebecca Young to progress the legalisation of Personal Transport Vehicles on Coochie.” **Peter Rankin**



### Annual memberships are 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](mailto: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](http://www.coochiemudloislandcoastcare.org.au)

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