



# News Update

**22 January 2026**

Dear Members and Friends,

Happy New Year!

We embrace 2026 with optimism and look forward to working with all levels of government and network partners to preserve the unique environment we share on Coochiemudlo Island.

To those who've made resolutions to become more active in the environmental care of the island and Marine Park surrounds, Coastcare offers a myriad of opportunity. Whether participating in vital weeding and rehabilitation works across 1 ½ kilometres of conservation shoreline and Melaleuca Wetlands, addressing sustainability issues, collaborating on special projects or joining the turtle monitoring team.

There's a role for everyone, even those who enjoy working quietly behind the scenes.

Drop by our stall at the Australia Day markets on Monday 26 January from 9am for a chat, catch-up on the latest developments for 2026, and discuss the near-finished Environmental Hub or simply renew membership dues. We'll have merchandise on sale including caps, T-shirts and stickers as well as plenty of information on vegetation management.

Sincere thanks everyone who has contributed in so many ways to help Coastcare navigate 2025. It proved to be the most challenging year faced since the devastating storm surge from ex-TC Oswald in 2013 – juggling the aftermath of damage from Tropical Cyclone Alfred while progressing the build of our Hub, affectionately known as "Ramsar Place". The Committee is pleased to report, however, that our new homebase on Elizabeth Street is almost complete and should be open next month.

As always, we're grateful for your continued support, and we look forward to working alongside you to make 2026 a year of positive action and growth.

Best Wishes,

Vivienne Robert-Thomson, President

**Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc**



Drop by for a chat at the Australia Day markets on Monday 26 January between 9am-1pm

## Date Claimers - February promises a busy start to 2026



### Friday 6 February 9.30am-12.30pm – World Wetlands Day event

Our partners, Conservation Volunteers Australia will bring a group of corporate volunteers to the island and Coastcarers are invited to join them. Please email [coochiecoastcare@gmail.com](mailto:coochiecoastcare@gmail.com) if you'd like to participate.

**“Event description :-** Come and experience the beauty of Coochiemudlo Island and help protect the stunning RAMSAR-listed Melaleuca Wetlands. These wetlands are part of the internationally recognised Moreton Bay ecosystem and provide crucial habitat for a range of wildlife - including migratory shorebirds who rely on the island as a resting and feeding sanctuary.

You'll be supporting the ongoing conservation efforts of Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare, a passionate local volunteer group dedicated to preserving the health of this special environment. The Melaleuca Wetlands are an incredibly unique pocket of the island, regularly tended by volunteers who help protect native flora and fauna. Coochiemudlo Island is just a short 10-minute ferry ride from Victoria Point. Once

you arrive, we'll head to the southern end of the island for a morning of light environmental work, followed by a relaxing break where you can enjoy the peaceful surroundings and explore the natural beauty of the island.

Put on your sun-smart clothes and enclosed shoes, grab a pair of gloves, and join us from 9:30am to 12:30pm on Friday, February 6th, as we care for the Melaleuca Wetlands together. Your involvement truly makes a difference, and we appreciate every contribution towards protecting this special place”.



### **Saturday 7 February 8.30am - Working Bee**

Join us for a belated celebration of World Wetlands Day, a special time of the year in the Coastcare calendar. The official day, (Monday 2 February) is marked around the world to highlight the anniversary of the Convention on Wetlands which was adopted as an international treaty in 1971 to protect wetlands of importance including the Moreton Bay Ramsar site & our Melaleuca Wetlands

**Meet where the flags fly near the southern (James Street) entrance to the wetlands** for a morning of weeding in great company followed by refreshments.

Volunteers are reminded to wear a hat, covered shoes, long pants, sunscreen, insect repellent and BYO water. All equipment will be provided however if you have a favourite tool or gloves please bring along.


Any queries please contact Bryan on 0487054127.

### **Saturday 7 February 4pm - Curlew Count**

Coastcare is pleased to support Redland City Council's annual **Curlew Count** for another year. The importance of this long-standing study to monitor our breeding population of resident Bush stone curlews was a record last year with 264 birds, including chicks and adults counted. The highest previous count was 232 in 2020.

Island volunteers are particularly useful during this count they can assist teams locate the favoured sites of neighbourhood birds.

Last year's count started at 4.30pm and it was finished by 6.00pm with time for a barbecue. Please book your place via the QR code.



**Redland**  
CITY COUNCIL

# Coochie Curlew Count 2026

Calling all bird lovers!

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


**Saturday  
7 February 2026, 4pm**

**Location:** Pioneer Park, Coochiemudlo Island  
**Bring:** Drinks, snacks, torch and insect repellent.  
**Wear:** Comfy shoes, hat, sunscreen and your curlew spotting eyes!  
**We supply:** Sausage sizzle afterwards.


**RSVP by Monday 2 February 2026**

Bookings via Eventbrite are essential to take part in the survey. Please include the number and names of all people in your party attending.

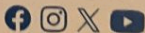
<https://redlnd.cc/coochie-curlew-count>



Scan to register



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## Christmas raffle was well-supported



Thanks to the generosity of donors and community support Coastcare's Christmas multi-draw raffle again proved highly successful.

Congratulations to Desley Grundy who won the popular Bunnings red wheelbarrow loaded with festive cheer, including a dozen of the Australian Wine's best, Coles groceries, vouchers from Curlew Cafe and a gift pack from Rebecca Young MP.

Remax on Point's Rita Suters who donated the popular Weber Baby Q, Bottle of Piper Heidsieck and carton of Stone Wood Pacific Ale drew the winning tickets and saw the weber won by Greg Barratt while Kylie Hayes won the lino print donated by Jen Adermann and a magnum of wine.

Fourth draw of a gift pack of Candles by Amazing Grace and two bottles of wine from Dan Murphy's went to Simon Fleury.

Hayley Lake won the fifth draw and a \$50 Harvest Cafe voucher while Joanne and Francis Ferguson won the sixth draw and \$50 voucher to Coochiemudlo Island Beach Bar & Grill.

Kelly Buckell won a \$50 voucher to Elysium restaurant and Nige Goos took home a \$50 Skippy's fresh fruit voucher.



## Christmas Party was a popular night

Members celebrated the end of the working year with another memorable Christmas party at "Mudlo" Congratulations to catering supervisor, Jane Caldwell for her culinary skills and her assistants who contributed to the night's success. Thanks again goes to Carolyn Brammer, Coastcare's founding president who generously opens her verandah to us each year. Also to Mr Music, Damon Riley for his contribution to the night's success.

Perhaps our only mistake was timing the last working bee of the year the very next day!





**2026 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](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)

Vivienne Roberts-Thomson, President Mob 0411226363

Bryan Dyball, Vice President Mob 0487054127

Jane Caldwell, Secretary Mob 0479139527

Committee: Bruce Stevens, Jenny Adermann, Dean Brough, Michael des David

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