

# Conservation Park Chronicles

*Official Newsletter of the*  
Friends of the Deception Bay Conservation Park Inc.



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**Welcome to the first edition of this newsletter.**

## Management Committee

President	Gavin Dale	07 3103 2043	gavdale@tpg.com.au
Secretary	Trish Keegan	07 3203 2717	
Treasurer	Mary Otto	07 3203 1541	
Volunteer Co-Ordinator	John Shepherd	0400 794 699	
Publicity Officer	Phil Mowbray	0400 707 709	

## From the President

It is now just gone a year since the inception of the Friends of the Deception Bay Conservation Park Inc.

In that time, the association has:

- incorporated,
- held one Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service induction course to allow volunteers to work in the Deception Bay Conservation Park,
- held two Clean Up Australia Day events,
- held a display stand and a raffle in the Deception Bay Shopping Centre, and
- attended a Community Cabinet Meeting.

Incorporation of the association meant it has a legal identity. Although there are obligations as an incorporated association, the management committee is up to the task to meet these requirements.

The induction course allowed about 30 members to be registered as volunteers with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service in order to be able to work in the Deception Bay Conservation Park. The only work done so far involving the volunteers is the Clean Up Australia, which has been held twice and a truck full of rubbish was carted away on the first occasion, and one-and-a-half skips of rubbish was carried away from the recent Clean Up Australia event.

A display stand was set for a couple of days in late December in the Deception Bay Shopping Centre, and a raffle was held. This proved a success, and the association is looking at holding similar displays in the future.

In December, 2010, three members from the committee, including myself, attended the Community Cabinet Meeting held at Wantima Country Club. The purpose of our deputation

was to deal with:

- the sale of the ex-DPI Southern Fisheries Centre on Beach Road, Deception Bay; and
- the money from the land swap and any terms of reference.

Although we came away from the Community Cabinet Meeting with more questions than answers, it gave a direction in which to steer ourselves. Consequently, the Moreton Bay Regional Council has been contacted about the acquisition of the ex-DPI Southern Fisheries Centre on Beach Road, Deception Bay. It is hoped that the Moreton Bay Regional Council will acquire the property, to go along with their other recent acquisitions.

The land swap money is harder to find and get the answers we are seeking. We finally received a contact point about the money and a letter has been sent to the person who appears to be most responsible for the money. We are of course asking about the terms the money is being used for. Is the money being used to develop and maintain the Conservation Park since its gazettal? Is the money to be used only on joint projects between this association and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service? Is the money for sole use of this association? Once we know the terms we can then organise any fund-raising to keep this association going.

A web-site for the association is being established, with it currently being hosted on a free web hosting service at yola. Being a free web hosting means that design of the web-site is done by the site's own software. This creates problems with making the site look unique. Other web hosting services are being explored.

As you can see the management committee is being kept busy, and I thank them for the efforts to date. I also wish to thank the volunteers for the work done in the park to date.

As this is the first issue of the newsletter, finding items was relatively easy. If you wish to contribute to the next newsletter please contact me as follows:

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Phone: 07 3103 2043 Mobile: 0423 091 346

Skype: gavsuedale

Gavin Dale  
President.

## **Clean Up Australia Day**

On March 6, 2011 on a damp day, 15 volunteers ventured out into the park to collect rubbish. The Moreton Bay Regional Council had allocated the site and from them and the Clean Up Australia council the association received disposable gloves white and yellow bags, first aid kit, and tongs. James Fitzpatrick from Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service also brought heavy duty gloves, gum boots, and catered for the BBQ after the clean up. Among the volunteers were Dean Wells, State Member for Murrumba, and Chris Whiting, Councillor for Division 2. The clean up was set up on the Bermuda Avenue entrance to the conservation park, with a marquee provided by the Glasshouse Bushwalkers Club Inc. giving ample shade and shelter from the showers.

The volunteers headed off to the north starting at 9.00am, after registering, and it wasn't long before it was realised just how much rubbish needed to be dealt with. After three hours and one-and-a-half skips, it was time to light up the BBQ and enjoy some much needed lunch, before packing up.

This day was a great success and inspired looking forward to other events in the park.

For next year's Clean Up Australia Day in particular, the association will set up on the new council reserve along Antigua Crescent, allowing more parking. We intend to approach the Moreton Bay Regional Council about a shelter shed being erected on this new reserve which adjoins the conservation park.

The association has acquired more personal protection equipment and first aid kits and the like, so the committee has now appointed Andrew Ryan (one of the committee members) as Equipment Officer to catalogue the items gained by the association and set up maintenance schedules for this equipment.

Other issues identified are the possible use of UHF portable radios, as the distances covered in the park prove difficult if a volunteer comes into strife.



### **Clean Up Australia Day**

**(marquee provided by the Glasshouse Bushwalkers Club Inc.)**

## **Upcoming events**

### ***Induction training***

The next induction training is being organised so think about your involvement in the Friends of the Deception Bay Conservation Park Inc. Remember to be able to volunteer to work in the conservation park; you need to have completed the induction course. This course is only a couple of hours on a Saturday morning, or a weekday evening if preferred. The last induction day saw about 30 members registered and the association is currently designing certificates to give to attendees.

If you wish to volunteer in the park please contact the Volunteer Co-Ordinator. Having completed the induction course then you may wish to consider the following events:

### ***Toad busting night***

A toad busting night will be held sometime in the near future. It is envisaged a BBQ will be held in conjunction.

### ***Weed removal***

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service are going to have a weed removal day. This would involve weed identification and subsequent removal.

### ***Rubbish removal***

After the Clean Up Australia Day, there was more rubbish left in the park that could not be removed that day. The committee is exploring methods to remove this rubbish, especially in the northern extremities of the park where access is very limited.

## **Communicating with members**

Some members are not in a position to receive e-mails, so have to receive correspondence, including this newsletter, by post. This can be time consuming, especially if an urgent notice has to be sent out to members, as the notices are hand delivered.

An idea that the committee wish to pursue, is that members who live close to those members who do not have e-mail access, be paired up to get this information coverage. If any member is able to assist or requires further information please contact the Volunteer Co-Ordinator.

## **Assistant secretary resignation**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Eileen Goodenough has resigned from the management committee and the position of Assistant Secretary. If any member wishes to be appointed to this position please contact the Secretary, Trish Keegan.

## **Other planned activities**

There are a number of activities that the management committee would like to instigate in the park. These activities revolve around self-education and further awareness of what the Deception Bay Conservation Park means. For example, how many members are aware of the China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (CAMBA), Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (JAMBA), and the Republic of Korea Migratory Bird Agreement (ROKAMBA)? How many members are aware of the current water quality in different sections of the park, and does the water quality need to be improved? If it needs improvement, how do we go about it?

The committee is eager to conduct its own surveys to answer these and other questions, as it would assist the association in its role as a manager of the park.

More information will be made available as it comes to hand.

## **Website**

Although the association has a web-site on Yola, it has constraints making it difficult to make documents and the like accessible. Investigations are being conducted to find a web provider that will be most advantageous to the association's needs.



## Biosecurity Queensland Alert

### Myrtle Rust

#### Current situation

Myrtle rust has now been confirmed at 104 sites in Queensland including production and retail nurseries, residential, business, government and public land locations including national parks, amenity parkland and road reserves.

To date, all of the infected sites have been in South East Queensland with the exception of one detection in the Cairns area. In recent weeks there have been significant first detections in the following local government areas:

- Ipswich City
- Logan City
- Gympie Regional Council
- Toowoomba Regional Council.

Surveillance over the coming weeks will focus on these infected areas and adjacent local government areas that are not yet infected.

To assist us in monitoring the spread of myrtle rust, Biosecurity Queensland is particularly interested in reports of potential myrtle rust in Lockyer, Somerset, Southern Downs and Fraser Coast areas. If you live in and around any of these areas please be on the look out for myrtle rust and call Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 if you think you have seen an infected plant.

The following national parks have also been confirmed to have myrtle rust infections:

- Kondalilla Falls
- Lamington
- Springbrook
- Nicholl Scrub
- David Fleay Wildlife Park.

Biosecurity Queensland continues to work closely with Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) staff in relation to these infected sites. For more information about reducing the spread of myrtle rust in bushland areas, visit the Biosecurity Queensland website [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au)

#### Current operations

Biosecurity Queensland has now conducted surveillance at 578 sites in Queensland and continues to work with the DERM Myrtle Rust Response Group. 643 public reports have been logged to date with the majority coming from South East Queensland.

There are now changed conditions for the entry of myrtaceous plants from another infected State (New South Wales only at present) in order to prevent further spread of myrtle rust in Queensland. The Inspectors Approval IA 18.4 Introduction into Queensland of myrtaceous plants replaces all previously issued Inspectors Approvals and applies to anyone bringing a myrtaceous plant from an infected State into Queensland.

Biosecurity Queensland continues to engage with markets in South East Queensland and have provided myrtle rust awareness information to various groups including environmental education centres and zoos/wildlife exhibitors.

Biosecurity Queensland has been active at recent garden and landscape expos and festivals in Brisbane and Toowoomba with an identification poster proving to be popular.

For more information about myrtle rust or to request an identification poster, contact Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

### **Research initiatives**

AgriScience Queensland has begun research into identifying resistance to myrtle rust in priority eucalypt species including spotted gum and Gympie messmate. These species are of major importance for the future development and expansion of the hardwood plantation industry in Queensland.

### **Spreading the word**

Biosecurity Queensland is on Twitter (@BiosecurityQld) and Facebook. Follow us to receive additional updates and images.

A selection of printable information documents on myrtle rust is available on the Biosecurity Queensland website. These documents provide a good overview on myrtle rust and images to help identify the disease.

We encourage you to send these documents on to people involved in your business and, where appropriate, make them available to the public.

For more information and to download these documents, visit our website.

Contact us

Biosecurity Queensland  
Phone: 13 25 23  
[www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au)

