



Newsletter
**Moreton Island Protection
Committee Inc.**

PO Box 2182
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Phone 07 3321 1463

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July to Sept 2005

AGM at North Point 12.30 am
Day trip to North Point and Cape Moreton
Exhibition Wednesday 17th August

Cost \$35 MIPC members; \$45 others; children \$20

Includes ferry fare, any transport costs

MICat departs 8.30am ~ arrive at 8am for ticketing

Howard Smith Drive Lytton - Parking \$5 for day

Bookings on 3321 1463 are required, so we can plan bus transport.

Tea and coffee with scone will be provided at North Point.

Bring your own picnic lunch.

In response to MIPC's call for a vehicle free beach in front of the new North Point campground, Brian Osborne, representing Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort suggested an on site discussion with MIPC members regarding vehicle management options at North Point. To enable an on site discussion for our members Brian offered a bus to transport members to the site. By combining this offer with our AGM we can provide an opportunity for a great day out on Moreton, for our members and their friends, and involve members in MIPC policy development.

The bus will travel north along the Bayside beach from The Wrecks to Bulwer then travel along the north shore to North Point campsite.

We have invited National Parks and Wildlife Service to attend to brief us on the new campground. NP&WS have also been invited to brief us on their management of Moreton over the next 12 months at the AGM.

Many visitors to the Cape have found the fencing and people management negatively impacting on their Cape experience. If time permits we will visit the Cape on our return and have invited National Parks and Wildlife Service to brief us on management issues at the Cape. Representatives of other interest groups are especially invited to participate in these on site discussions, so that they can be better informed about Park management options.

AGM Agenda Yet another constitutional change is required to complete the requirements for MIPC to be able to receive tax deductible donations.

Nomination forms for executive positions can be obtained by ringing 3321 1463 or on the MICat on the way to Moreton.

~ Whales can be seen from Moreton until the end of October! ~

Moreton Island Protection Committee Inc.

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Executive Members

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Executive Committee

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Nanette Kempel

Dennis Maher 3369 1681

Philip Squire 3366 1292

Statement of Aims

1. To promote the preservation of Moreton Island as a natural area to be managed for public recreation and enjoyment, provided always that the recreational uses are consistent with conservation aims.

2. To foster the conservation of the vegetation, fauna and natural features of Moreton.

3. To facilitate public awareness and appreciation of Moreton Island as a natural area and encourage support for its preservation and management in accordance with these objects.

4. To co-operate with, or promote co-operation by any means with and among persons, trusts, corporations, firms, associations, institutions, governments, instrumentalities or government, municipal authorities and other bodies in the Commonwealth or its Territories or elsewhere for the purpose of carrying out any object of the organisation.

5. To oppose any development or usage of Moreton Island which is contrary to the preservation and good management of the island in accordance with these objects.

6. Generally, to take such lawful action as it considers necessary or appropriate in the interests of promoting the preservation and good management of Moreton Island in accordance with these objects.

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Moreton Island Protection Committee or its members.

Contributions to this newsletter are welcome, but the editors accept no responsibility for alterations made to articles.

Printed by Rex Leo ph. 3878 5248

Editor Alan Gennings

Printed 15 th July 2005

Lynngbya and turtles

Karen Arthur, a University of Queensland PhD student, has found that although green sea turtles avoid Lynngbya, they do ingest small amounts of Lungbya toxin, which is known to promote tumours.

“The presence of this toxin in turtle meat raises questions about the health of other herbivores, such as dugongs and fish stocks” Ms Arthur said.

“The findings also have implications for local communities who consume turtle meat as part of their traditional foods, or those who rely on the bay for their livelihood”.

Source Westside News 13 April 05.

Members comments

Best wishes for your work *Jenny Fox*
April to June 05 great newsletter – congratulations on Fish Cage result, *Jill Thorsborne*

Keep up with the good work for Moreton Island *Barbara. Henderson*

Proposed constitutional change. Addition to Clause 28 Funds and Accounts;

(11) (a) A public fund called *The MIPC Public Fund* will be established and maintained for the specific purpose of supporting the environmental objectives/purposes of the Moreton Island Protection Committee. The Fund is established to receive all gifts of money or property for this purpose and any money received because of such gifts must be credited to its bank account. The fund must not receive any other money or property into its account and it must comply with subdivision 30-E of the Income Assessment Act 1997.

(b) The objective of the fund is to support the organisation's environmental purposes.

(c) Members of the public are to be invited to make gifts of money or property to the fund for the environmental purposes of the organisation.

(d) Money from interest on donations, income derived from donated property, and money from the realisation of such property is to be deposited in the fund.

(e) A separate bank account is to be opened to deposit money donated to the fund

including interest accruing thereon, and gifts to it are to be kept separate from other funds of the organisation.

(f) Receipts are to be issued in the name of the fund and proper accounting records and procedures are to be kept and used for the fund.

(g) The fund will operate in a not for profit basis.

(h) A committee of management of no fewer than three persons will administer the fund. The committee will be appointed by the organisation. A majority of the members of the committee are required to be 'responsible persons' as defined by the Guidelines to the Register of Environmental Organisations.

(i) The fund is subject to the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 and the resolutions of the management committee of the Association.

(12) The Association will comply with any rules made by the (Assistant) Treasurer and the Environment Minister, including Ministerial Rules 1 and 2, to ensure that gifts made to The MIPC Public Fund will only be used for the environmental objectives/purposes of the Moreton Island Protection Committee.

Ministerial Rule 1 – The Association will answer all questions required by the Department stated on the annual statistical return form, and will provide an audited financial statement for itself and The MIPC Public Fund which contains information on the expenditure of public fund monies and the management of public fund assets.

Ministerial Rule 2 – The Association will inform the Department as soon as possible:

- if it changes its name or the name of the public fund; or
- if there is any change to the membership of the management committee of the public fund; or
- if there has been any departure from the model rules of the public fund.

(13) If The MIPC Public Fund is wound up, any surplus assets of the fund will be transferred to another fund which is on the Register of Environmental Organisations.

(14) Within a reasonable period after the end of each financial year the Association will provide the Department with statistical information about the gifts and donations made to The MIPC Public Fund.

Cape volunteer weekend 28 - 29 May

It was a nice change, for Janet, Bronwyn, Leonie, Helmut and Marissa, to cross the Bay on a clear Saturday morning. As we approached Moreton, the water becoming clearer and cleaner, we again appreciated how important the victory over the fish cages had been, and how important it is now to get the both sides of politics to commit to banning such projects forever.

Our priority was prickly pear. Our huge effort of digging them out around the Cape area, in late 2004, has paid off with only a few small plants regenerating. The experiments in injecting glyphosate at the Cape were evident injecting all paddles and the top paddles had killed the paddles, which shriveled and didn't seem to regenerate. Armed with this knowledge we tackled the prickly pear on the slopes above Boulder Beach with a knife and glyphosate. A few, which had been injected on the last trip, were regenerating from big roots so these were treated again. A huge outbreak of vinca was found on the track up from Boulder Beach so we worked on this on Sunday after conferring with Chris, the Head Ranger. Another concern in this area is the amount of destruction of vegetation that the dodder is causing. This has to be the best work site! We then freshened up with a swim, sharing the beach with surfers. The depressing news was that all our hard work at North Point has come to nothing as Mossman River grass is now rampant over the site and up the track. The Rangers have proposed steam treatment to the Department. *Janet Dovers*

Oyster Catcher T Shirts reprinted.

T Shirt Supply has just completed a reprint of our Pied Oyster Catcher T Shirt. In an effort to recapture the detail in Mandy's original drawings, T Shirt Supply prepared artwork from a very old screen. We carefully selected colors, – yellow and a red which we thought best represents the color of the oyster catcher's beak.

Obtain your T Shirt by mail or on the AGM trip on Exhibition Day.

ORDER FORM– *please circle required shirt*

T Shirt are Australian made unbleached cotton

Mens printed on front S; M; L; XL Cost \$16

Ladies printed on front 10; 12; 14 Cost \$16

Men Polos printed on front M; L; XL Cost \$25

Men Polos printed on back M; L; XL Cost \$25

Postage \$1.50 per shirt. Send to MIPC with payment or order, then collect and pay at AGM.

Name;

Address

Cape volunteer weekend 22 - 24 June

With forecasts for clearing, fine weather, Janet and Bronwyn and two new members, Linda and Sally, rushed to the Friday night barge and a smiley pie and huge golden moon rise trip across the Bay. Rain had improved the tracks and Keith filled us in on Island news, including a dead newborn humpback washing up two days before on the beach below the Lighthouse.

Saturday morning was overcast, but with our first cup of tea came three humpbacks just under the Cape. The new members were entranced (as were the old hands). We started on clearing the last of the prickly pear at the Cape only to be driven inside by squalls of rain turning to wild winds and storms as the afternoon progressed. Books, crosswords, food and wine took over as we snuggled in.

Sunday brought more humpbacks in close to the beach below the Cape and the spectacular sight of a killer whale harassing them. Two more humpbacks came in to join the group who then moved in close formation northwards. As the weather cleared we finished the prickly pear, including a previously undetected outbreak near the helicopter pad. It is very satisfying to know that we have virtually eliminated it from the Lighthouse area.

Janet Dovers

Volunteer at Cape Information Centre

Please remember to register by the end of July if you wish to participate in staffing the Cape Information Centre on week-ends. Each person would have to commit to one or two weekends over a year. We need a pool of about 10-12 members willing to participate. Once we get sufficient numbers (10 to 12) we will arrange a training day with the QPWS. Transport and accommodation at the Cape will be provided by QPWS. To register your interest please fill in the form and mail by 7th August to;

MIPC, PO Box 2182, Ashgrove West, QLD 4060

Name: -----

Address:-----

Ph: -----

I am prepared to take part in a training day and commit to one or two weekends per year at Cape Moreton Information Centre.

Signed: -----

What's on!!! Ph 3321 1463

Aug 17 AGM on Moreton – Exhibition Day

Aug 17 to 21 Camp at Blue Lagoon after AGM

Aug 19 to 21 Weekend Camp at Blue Lagoon

Aug 26 to 28 N.P.A. catered at Blue Lagoon

Sep 30 to Oct 2 Camp at Blue Lagoon

Oct 28 to 30 Wildlife Pres Soc bus tours & BBQ

MIPC camping at Blue Lagoon

Stay after AGM (Cost \$65 includes Park fees \$31)

Return Sunday 21st.

Weekend 19 to 21 Aug

Depart Friday 8.30 am and Friday 6.30 pm

Weekend 30 Sept to 2 Oct.

Depart Friday 6.30 pm

All MIPC camps; BYO food, sleeping bag – marquee tents, stretchers and camp kitchen provided.

Cost for weekends \$80 includes Park fees \$13.50

Optional tours all camps; Sandhills \$10, Cape Moreton \$5

Book with MIPC 3321 1463

Other group trips

National Parks Association fully catered 3 full days with a long walk and bus trips. Departs Friday 8.30 am Cost \$160.

Wildlife Preservation Society Brisbane branch Bus trips, BBQ provided Sat. night –otherwise BYO food.

Departs Fri 8.30 am or 6.30pm departure Cost \$110

Book with Alan on 0428 783 781

Further Information on www.moretonexperience.com

All trips depart Howard Smith Drive, Lytton

Volunteers for cane toad search

Over the years individual cane toads have been found on Moreton. For example on the 15th March 1991 members of Wildlife Preservation Society found a cane toad that had been brought over with wood chips. During November and December 2004, 3 cane toads were found in The Wrecks and Ben Ewa camp area.

With the increase in building activity and camping on Moreton the frequency of toads arriving on Moreton appears to be increasing. There is no official checking of freight coming onto the Island. **A Toad free Moreton depends on freight contractors, builders and campers being personally vigilant.**

An intact ecosystem may be assisting in keeping Moreton toad free. The co-existence of carpet snakes with campers in campgrounds has resulted in at least one cane toad being killed by a carpet snake. The Courier Mail 16th December 2004 reported a carpet python killed trying to eat a cane toad on Moreton Island near The Wrecks campsite.

As the call of the male cane toad is distinctive it may be possible to locate any males that have gone bush on Moreton. As the male toads call after rain, we will schedule a trip following rain. Anyone interested in participating can register on 3321 1463 and we'll contact you when a hunt is organized.

Tangalooma and National Parks have offered to assist with transport and accommodation on the bayside of Moreton so costs for volunteers will be nominal.

Volunteer weekends at the Cape

If interested in conducting volunteer interpretation at the Information Centre please fill in the form on page 3 and return.