

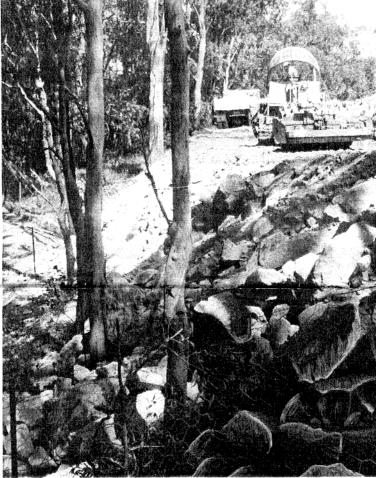
# RINGTAIL QUEENSLAND NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Winter issue

Quarterly newspaper of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service

June 1985

# Tallebudgera project



Main Roads Department workmen preparing a base before rolling boulders to form a rocky cliff face at the western end of Fleay's Fauna Centre. In the redevelopment, rock wallabies will soon take up residence in their artificially contrived but naturally appearing habitat.

Work has started on Tallebudgera Greenspace, the largest project undertaken by the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The first stage, costing about \$1 million, includes a remodelled Fleay's Fauna Centre.

The Gold Coast project provides for walking tracks and boardwalks, wildlife enclosures, visitor facilities and displays integrated for nature conservation, outdoor recreation and education.

Forty people will soon be on the job planned to allow many thousands of visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of the estuary area between Burleigh Head National Park information centre and Fleay's, West Burleigh.

The go-ahead was signalled recently by the Federal Government's approval of a \$700,000 grant under the Community Employment Program.

The Gold Coast City Council initiated the project and is joint sponsor with the Service. Each is contributing \$150,000.

The project means jobs for a year for 31 people considered long-term unemployed.

The 16 women and 15 men now being taken on through the Commonwealth Employment Service, Mermaid Beach, will be supervised in tasks such as bush carpentry,

landscaping, weed control and animal care.

Wages will take more than half of the total budget with materials, equipment purchase and hire, contracting and administrative charges taking almost \$400,000.

The remainder will be used for wages of existing Service staff and payroll tax.

The land involved comprises national park, environmental park and land being given for environmental park with the Gold Coast City Council as donor and trustee

Fleay's has taken much Service planning attention since the area was transferred to the Service in 1983.

Re-development so far this year has included creating a rocky cliff face as one of a series of habitats.

Over a short distance, these will a range through rainforest and open forest to fresh and saltwater swamps and mangrove flats.

People will be confined to boardwalks and walking tracks to see animals associated with these artificially contrived but naturally appearing habitats.

### Happy birthday

The Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service was 10 years old on June 5.

Its achievements over that time include a vast increase in the national park estate from 1 127 714 hectares to the present 3 346 530 hectares.

Significant research in relevant fields has been undertaken and wildlife management problems tackled.

Organisation, staffing and budget levels have been increased accordingly.

The public is now better informed about our purpose and the Service symbol and logo are widely recognized.

As leisure patterns change, more and more people are visiting our national parks.

They leave with pleasant memories of nature and her ways content in the knowledge that our natural heritage is in good hands.

The Service's challenge in the next 10 years will be to manage all of its enlarged estate and wildlife with authority to meet a range of pressures.

From experience, I believe the Service will not be found wanting.

Peter McKechnie Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts

### Fraser's 'new era

Administrative procedures leading to a new era in recreation on Fraser Island have begun.

Relevant sections of the Fraser Island Public Access Act came into operation on 27 May.

The Act, providing for the authorisation and control of vehicle access to and the use by the public of the Fraser Island Recreation Area for recreation and related purposes, was passed in the autumn session of Parliament.

Proclamation allowed the

## set in motion

two-man Fraser Island Recreation Board to be set up, to meet, formulate policy, a budget, by-laws and regulations and to decide on appropriate fees.

The National Parks Minister, Mr McKechnie, and the Forestry Minister, Mr Glasson, said only the necessary sections had been proclaimed. Creating an administration unit and making important wide-ranging decisions and arrangements could not be done in a few days.

Fraser Island visitors would be given adequate notice of when the balance of the Act provisions would be proclaimed and when the issue of permits and collection of fees would start.

The Ministers comprise the Fraser Island Recreation Authority. The Under Secretary, Department of the Arts, National Parks and Sport, and the Conservator of Forests comprise the Fraser Island Recreation Board.

To foster harmony between man and his environment, thereby facilitating the well-being of man, and safeguarding the integrity of nature.

### Woomera advice



Anthropologist Professor Norman Tindale showing Service site recorder Grahame Walsh how Princess Charlotte Bay Aboriginals held their spear thrower.

The woomera was collected by Professor Tindale during his 1926 expedition to the Flinders Islands, the area gazetted national park in 1939.

The woomera's owner was one of the last of the Walmbaria people who inhabited Flinders Island.

Together with many interesting specimens from the historic expedition, the woomera is housed in the South Australian Museum.

Professor Tindale visited Adelaide recently. He lives in retirement in the United States Information he gave and detail of specimens will assist in future historical interpretation of the far northern national parks.

Professor Tindale has agreed to let the Service copy a silent movie made by the expedition of Princess Charlotte Bay Aboriginals and their traditional lifestyle.

Only two copies are known to exist.

The Service will use its copy for interpretation and archival reference.

### Many ducks choose

The usefulness of manmade water storages in supporting native waterfowl populations is confirmed in a Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service survey.

Survey findings based on returns for the 1984 season show that in southern Queensland 52 percent of shooters used artificial dams or lakes.

A different pattern occurred in less developed areas so that 41 percent of duck shooters in the Service's northern region relied on swamps for their take.

State-wide, black ducks represented 52 percent of the take, wood ducks 23 percent, grey teal 12 percent, white-eyeds 6 percent grass whistlers 5 percent and water whistlers 2 percent.

Proportions varied by region generally in accordance with this though wood ducks com-

### dams

prised 46 percent of the take in the southern region and grey teal and white-eyeds both 21 percent in the northern region.

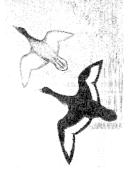
A summary of the findings is available on request to shooters seeking permits for 1985

A permit condition is that each shooter completes a return and submit this to the Service at season's end.

This is to provide information for Service management decisions and to give duck shooters an opportnity to suggest how their interests can be improved.

Open season for six species came into effect in southern Queensland on 1 June and ends on 31 August.

The season for the remaining



White-eyed ducks . . . from the new waterfowl information brochure.

mainland districts starts on 29 June and ends on 28 September.

Permits and details are available at Q.NPWS offices in Brisbane, Maryborough, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns, Mt Isa and Charleville.

### By the tail.

'Birds are as vital to our heritage as rainforests, historic buildings and works of art.' — Recent Brisbane Telegraph editorial.

Services site recorder Grahame Walsh was honoured by the Royal Geographical Society of Australiasia recently for his recording of geographical knowledge through photography and publication.

He was awarded a bronze medal in the RGS centenary honours joining a select group of Thompson Medal recipients honouring the society's founder John Park.

Service officers faced with designing a form recently had to allow for the maximum letters and spaces of a national park name. They came up with Mungum-gnackum Island. a 2ha national park near Dunk Island.

Pity they forgot Cape Hillsborough. Wedge Island National Park, the full official name of the popular area north of Mackay.

Catch renowned environment awareness lecturer Steve Van Matre at an Earth Education workshop on 9-11 August. Ring the Lamington National History Association's environmental study centre at Binna Burra (075) 33 3574 for details.

Experience the Great Outdoors' is the theme for Recreation Week this year 21-28 July. Activities arranged by the Oueensland Recreation Council will focus on the many superb natural and cutdoor recreation opportunities readily available to Queenslanders.

Major re-development of the picnic ground area of Maiala National Park, Mt Glorious, has started and visitors will see changes progressively this year.

In the meantime, Service honorary protectors and volunteers have been one jump ahead and completed a complementary work project in 21 weekend days.

They wheeled 200 barrow loads of gravel, dug 100 rocks into

place and built four culverts to redirect run-off.

Disabled people and those confined to wheelchairs may now leave their vehicles and reach the rainforest walking track, widened, levelled and drained for their benefit.

Sporting Wheelies were among the first group to roll 1km out towards Brown's Road.

Brisbane Forest Park has produced a Go Bush poster to publicize its regular activities programs. In a short time, it's proved to be very popular.

Ask for one through the BFP park headquarters, Mt Nebo Road, The Gap. Go Bush — Winter starts 21 June.

Educators with a special interest in the environment as well as Scouting and Guiding people are looking forward to the 1st Asia/Pacific Enviromental Conservation Seminar at Eprapah, Victoria Point, on 21-28 September, Late bookings are being taken. Phone (07) 854-1800.

Lamington Natural History Association has organised two seven day walks on Fraser Island in early September.

The walks are a delightful fundraising activity to support the continuing program of school camps run by the Environmental Education Centre at Binna Burra.

Phone (075) 33 3574 or write c/ Binna Burra Lodge, Beechmont, via Nerang 4211 for details.

Wildlife officers are dreading the thought of magpie season due to start in late June in some areas.

Pertinent points from the Q.NPWS wildlife information brochure include: most 'attacks' are merely scare tactics — carry a stick or wear a broad brimmed hat to cover your above-head air space; parents should insist children avoid riding bicycles in problem areas — walk; trapping and removal of certain feathers can be most effective.

A reminder that the Fauna Conservation Act requires any person taking or keeping sick, emaciated or orphaned fauna must notify a wildlife officer within 24 hours.

He can issue a permit for the animal or bird to be held and specify conditions leading to its release back to the wild.

Caring for wild creatures is often a task for experts, not simply well-meaning people who might tend to adopt animals as pets later unable to fend for themselves.

The Lower Portals area of Mt Barney National Park is now accessible legally.

Signposts direct visitors to the right off the Upper Logan road and 2km into the Magun (rock wallaby) picnic area and carpark.

The 3.7km walking track through open eucalypt forest to Barney Creek is the effort of four Queensland Agricultural College students during the last Christmas holidays.

Recall the magpie nest of manmade objects on the cover of the last Ringtail?

Darling Downs reader Mr H. Nichols told Toowoomba staff he had a similar nest a massive 50cm high and 35cm across.

The Service is surveying fauna on selected Whitsunday group islands. Data will be used in the management plan being prepared for the area.

Feral fauna (including introduced native fauna such as wallabies) on certain islands has been documented recently.

However, very little is known about introduction dates. Readers are asked to pass on any feral animal information they may have. Pictures taken in the 1930s to 1960s especially of Whitehaven Beach, North Molle, Hazelwood and Long Islands would help ascertain habitat changes.

Write or call Keith McDonald at the Northern Regional centre.

### 'Solid' sand



Boarding of the 1.2km Leisha track over the Double Island Point sand isthmus in Cooloola National Park in progress using the crane mounted on the Service's 6WD M.A.N. diesel truck.

The vehicle will be used to re-place pallets quickly should sand blow over parts of the track which is almost complete.

The most difficult soft sections were finished recently and regular users have praised the practical result.

Revegetating some blown areas has started and several cuttings supported by logs are being filled and planted Some large stumps have been erected as bollards to prevent unthinking visitors from using old tracks or creating new detours.

Much of the work was carried out by workers under the Community Employment Program.

Three women given jobs under the program were largely responsible for the new track between the park's Freshwater campsite and Freshwater Lake.

### All smile for the croc, please



All hands to work at the Q.NPWS Northern Regional Centre, Townsville, recently to help relocate this 3m female saltwater crocodile caught on the city outskirts. Taking the weight were (from left) Andrew Haffenden, Dr Laurie Taplin, Tim Pulsford and Mike Pople. The saltie was passed to a new wildlife park.

## To meet interest

Continuing interest in crocodiles is one reason for production of the Service's latest wildlife information brochure.

The brochure, Crocodiles in Queensland, seeks to overcome ignorance about crocodiles while still stressing the danger posed by estuarine crocodiles.

Distribution of the two species in Queensland is indicated though Service research continues into this and into population trends.

Crocodile biology and nesting patterns are detailed, and advice is given on how and where to see crocodiles.

The brochure confirms that the two species are protected nationally and internationally, and makes the point that removal of all crocodiles from natural habitat is an unrealistic approach to crocodile management.

Copies are available from Service district and regional offices.

Other publications in the last quarter have included visitor information sheets on Southern Cooloola, Hann Crossing and 12-Mile Hole, both Lakefield National Park, Townsville Town Common Environmental Park wildlife information sheet, and a bird list for Lawn Hill National Park.



Freshie or saltie? Find out in the new wildlife information brochure.

# Lakefield sets pace in the Cape

Lakefield National Park, the State's second largest national park, is setting the pace for land management in Cape York Peninsula.

The outlook is in contrast to the time when many aspects of Service management were criticised after the vast area was purchased and was gazetted national park in 1970.

A management plan has been completed and this will guide the Service and its officers over the next few years as visitation and demands grow.

Botanist Earl Saxon has developed a comprehensive fire management program and will work in close liaison with park senior overseer Ron Teece, a cattle management expert.

This will result in a grazing management policy which will ensure the optimal development of environmental diversity in this great wilderness area.

The Rural Fires Board this month and next plans to spend most of a \$5000 allocation on aerial ignited controlled burns on Lakefield to reduce fire hazards later in the year.

Officers hope this will encourage other responsible landowners on

the Cape to adopt this practice and obtain permits to burn.

New fencing will protect areas designated to remain stock free. Wildlife management proposals by Gary Rees will ensure adequate protection for all species but particularly rare species such as the golden shouldered parrot.

Dr Laurie Taplin will keep his eyes on the park's crocodiles. Visitor enjoyment of the park's many tourism values will be developed carefully under plans prepared by interpretive officer Marc Hockings.

Service attention is being given to facilities at the popular Kalpowar Crossing camping area. Visitor information sheets on Lakefield's Hann Crossing and 12-Mile Hole are now available.

Restoration of the old Laura homestead is proposed and special funds are to be sought for this project.

An extended wet season this year has curtailed many visitor plans. Park roads have become impassable. Grading will be done when conditions improve.

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## Cairns task is tackled

Staff and major equipment have come together for the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service to mobilise day-to-day management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Cairns Section.

Twelve staff are now operating from a Marine Parks office on the first floor of the State Government Offices, corner of Spence and Abbott Streets, Cairns.

Two vehicles, a 7m boat, diving equipment, a micro-computer and audio-visual and photographic equipment are among their work tools.

The new team is facing the challenge of establishing maritime estate management operations throughout the GBR Marine Park's second major section.

The watery 'estate' of 35 000 sq km from Mission Beach to Lizard Island contains more than 220 coral reefs and a dozen island national parks.

There are numerous entry points and certainly no fences nor other physical barriers to the free movement of park visitors and users.

The GBR Marine Park is being managed jointly by the Commonwealth and State Governments.

The Townsville-based park authority has overall responsibility and deals with major planning and policy work.

The Service is the principal State agency carrying out the day-to-day management operations throughout the Marine Park.

The southernmost Capricornia Section was manned by Q.NPWS in 1982. 'Marine Park' is rather a misnomer for the management system being implemented. An effort is made to accommodate all uses considered reasonable which fit in with the basic principles of conserving the reef's natural resources and minimising conflict between users.

In contrast with most other conservation areasing including Queensland national parks, the GBR Marine Park is not an area being set aside from all uses other than its passive enjoyment and study.

In the tropical marine environment where natural processes and critical factors are often poorly understood, such a management regime places an onus on the managers to maintain a close watch over the resource's condition, and to adopt a pragmatic, flexible but scientifically-sound approach to restrictions on uses.

A zoning plan subject to periodic review and a complex permits system form the twin basis for marine park management.

Cairns Section activities include commercial fishing and collecting of various marine invertebrates and fishes, traditional hunting of turtle and dugong, coastal and international shipping, major tourist programs, offshore facilities and resort operations, intensive recreational line-fishing, boating, reef-walking, and important scientific research and educational activities.

The new Service team is carrying out regular surveillance, user contact and extension work, enforcement and maintenance operations. Members will also undertake a broad range of management-related programs.

The next two to three years will be crucial to the Marine Park's successful implementation.

Critical eyes will focus as the nature, requirements and techniques of management are evolved.

Peter J. Hunnam Management officer Cairns

## Utah grant for wombats

A Utah Foundation grant will assist Q.NPWS research into the northern hairy-nosed wombat in Epping Forest National Park.

The only known population survives in the central Queensland national park

Foundation Governors recently approved a grant of \$16,200 to World Wildlife Fund Australia in response to a Service application made through WWFA.

The money will be used over a year by zoologist Doug Crossman to study the wombat's population ecology and diet Already, traps and capture techniques have been devised to take certain of the animals for identification and testing.

The population is believed to number less than 40.

By year's end, much data should have been gathered on which sound management principles can be based.

The northern hairy-nosed wombat is a permanently protected species in Queensland.

The Service is most grateful for the Utah Foundation's help in the research project.

The Foundation was established in 1975 by Utah Development Company exclusively for public charitable purposes in Australia.

The company, now a wholly-owned subsidiary of Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited, manages six coking coal mines and a major coal port owned by the Central Queensland Coal Associates Joint Venture, and one other mine owned by the Gregory Joint Venture.

The Utah Foundation is now funded by the co-venturers — BHP, Queensland Coal Trust, General Electric Company, Mitsubishi Development, AMP Society, Bell Resources and Pancontinental Mining.

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## Parks for the people

Maiala (1140ha)
This popular park on the D'Aguilar Range is manage da as part of the 25 000ha Brisbane Forest Park.
The park is ideal for day visits and picnicking, and offers scenic views of the coastal plain and walks through varied forest communities.

Mt Tempest (Moreton Is) (9360ha)
Mt Tempest (285m) crowns this large island com-posed almost entirely of sand. Park areas now cover 58 percent of the island and include wind-blown sand, health, swamp and forests. A management centre and camp areas with facilities are provided. Access is via vehicular ferries for off-road vehicles fast passenger ferries or light aircraft.

Blue Lake (501ha)

This lake is a water table window in a sand dune about 10km east of Dunwich accessible from the main coast road by a short walk. Popular for day

Tamborine Mountain (total 594ha)

On and around this distinctive plateau 70km south of Brisbane are a series of relatively small national and environmental parks preserving some of the mountain's natural forest and waterfalls. All are interesting and popular with day visitors.

St Helena Island (74ha)

St Helena Island (74ha)
An historic area off the Brisbane River mouth with restricted access. Much of the island functioned as high security proson from 1867 to 1932. Proson labour was used for all activities including building, and some sections remain.

Reached by special ferry from Manly.

Burleigh Head (24ha)
This complex of vegetation types including rainforest, open euclayly forest, tussock grassland and
pandanus in a fandmark area in the sweep of the
highly urbanised Gold Coast. Walking tracks lead to
lookouts and pleasant places of retreat.

Springbrook (total 2084ha)

Springbrook (total 2084ha) Four parks comprise a green mountain backdrop to the Gold Coast. Warrie offers extensive walks past waterfalls and through forest to lookouts. Geognognoral has tall eucalypts with rainforest guilles. Wunburra, an area of wet eucalypt forest, and Mt Cougal are undeveloped areas for adventure bushwalking and spectacular views along the

Natural Arch (212ha)
This interesting natural formation caused by cascading waters is set in an area of dense forest high in the Numinbah Valley. The parapopular for day visits but only the night time sees glow-worms in the cave under the arch

Lamington (20 100ha)

Lamington (20 100ma) Rainforest, eucalypt forest and heathland, magnifi-cent views and waterfalls are features of this major park some 100km south of Brisbane, Extensive walking tracks and picnic facilities are provided in areas but other are reached only on bushwalking excursions. Access is was Binna Burra in the north-east, Green Mountains — O Perliy's in the northwest, and several roads and tracks in the west and

Pine Ridge (109ha)
An environmental park, the last major area of natural costal lowlands on the Gold Coast. Vegeta lion of health, swamp and woodland 8km north of Southport. Boardwalked track suitable for wheelchairs.

Mt Barney (11400ha)
This landmark peak (1360m) with nearby Mt Lindesay (1191m) and Mt Maroon (9965m) are undeveloped areas of eucalypts and rainforest among a variety of natural features exciting bushwalkers and climbers.

Mt French (63ha)
This 468m peak near Boonah has a road to the lop to picnic areas, walking tracks and lookouts. Several rock faces are used to learn and test climbing techniques.

Cunningham's Gap
Part of the 10 500ha Main Range National Park with
Mt Mitchell and Mt Cordeaux bounding the gap
through which runs the busy Cunningham Highway.
Walking tracks pass through eucalypt forest and
raniforest and there are several picnic areas and
lookouts. Day visits and camping.

Queen Mary Falls (78ha)
This waterfall in tall open eucalypt woodland with rainforest gullies is not large but is a pleasant spot for family picnics 10km east of Killarney.

Massive granite fors and outcrops tower over a diverse and often dense vegetation of eucalypts. Howering shrubs and herbs in this park 30km south of Stanthorpe. Camping facilities allow for long days walking particularly to see birds and wildflowers in season. At elevations about 1000m, temperatures are often much lower than expected

Sundown (6680ha)
Rugged gorges leading to the Severn River are a leature of this park reached via Stanthorpe or via Ballandean. Dense forests or cypress prine and eucalypts cover hill slopes.

Lake Broadwater (1220ha) An environmental park near Dalby important as a waterfowl habitat and as an example of natural Darl-ing Downs country. Popular recreation spot.

Bunya Mountains (11 700ha)
An expanse of conferous rainforest and grassy baids on the Great Dividing Range crest between Oalby and Kingaroy. This popular area has two developed campgrounds and a network of tracks. Winter nights at about 1000m elevation can be cold.

Crows Nest Falls (949ha)

Crows Nest Fails (949na)
The waterfall in the north tumbles into a steep
granite gorge with interesting mixed vegetation. A
picnic area and swimming holes make the park

Conondate (2126ha)
This two-part park separated by state forest west of Conondate township preserves wet eucalypt forest and rainforest and associated fauna.

Glasshouse Mountains

Glasshouse Mountains
Remnant volcanic plugs of rhyolite and trachyte with
forest and health vegetation, Mt Coonoowrin
(Crookneck) (113ha) al \$25m is for climbers, Mt
Beerwah (245ha) 556m. Mt Tibrogargan (291ha)
393m and Mt Ngungin (48ha) 236m are suitable for
bushwalkers and families taking care.

Kondalilla (75ha) Kondalilla Falls is a leature of this rainforest part off the Maleny-Magleton road. Tracks lead from the pic-nic area to the falls and swimming hole.

Mapleton Falls (26ha) A small park off the Mapleton-Kenilworth road offer-

ing scenic views, a waterfall, rainforest and eycalypt forest walks.

A popular scenic coastal park, preserving dune vegetation heath and rainforest. Walking tracks and picnic areas.

Cooloola (39 400ha)

Coolools (39 400ha)
A coastal sand park leaturing ocean beaches, freshwater lakes, coloured sands and vegetation from healthland to rainforest. Access by boat from Tewaniin and Boreen Point, four-wheel-drive from Rainbow Beach and Noosa or by conventional vehice from Rainbow Beach. Camping areas at Ocuble Island Point, freshwater and along Noosa. River

Great Sandy (Fraser Island) (52 400ha)
The park preserves most of the northern end of it largest sand island in the world. Included are eucalypt woodland, heath and swamp vegetation. Two developed campsites. Access by boat, four-wheel-drive and barge from Urangan or Rainbow Beach and by light aircraft.

Woodgate (5490ha) Pleasant beach scenery backed by sand dunes and coastal vegetation make this park an attractive holi-day spot. Wallum health wildflower displays in season. Access via Goodwood.

Mon Repos (23.5ha)

Mon Repos (23.5ha). This small pervironmental park preserves a turtle rookery on the coast 14km east of Bundaberg. At night from November to January loggerhead turtles nest here. Occasionally lithraback and green turtles are seen. From January to March turtle hatchlings can be observed.

Auburn River (389ha)
The scenic Auburn River Gorge is the main attraction of this park. Road access Mundubbera via Hakwood road (27km).

Cania Gorge (1020ha)
The sandstone gorge, its luch vegetation and dripping water are features of this popular park. Road access Monto via Moonlord road (26km).

North Keppel Island (580ha)

Most popular of a group of continental island parks off Yeppoun. Open eucalypt forest, pandanus along the coast and tussock grassland on exposed wind-ward sides. Popular for fishing and camping holidays.

Heron Island (Capricorn Group) (12ha) Greater part of this corcal cay is national park with total protection for animal and plant life marine and terrestrial. Rookery for turtles and nesting area for seahirds.

North-West Island (Capricorn Group) (94ha) Typical coral cay with pisonia pandanus and casuarina vegetation. Seabird nesting site and turtle rookery. Popular camping spot for self-sufficient groups. Minimum facilities. Reached by charter boat.

Lady Musgrave Island (Bunker Group) (20ha) True Coral cay with a large surrounding reef. Popular sale anchorage with camping except bird nesting season 1 October to 28 February, Ideal for diving and snorkeling. Access by charter boat.

Carnarvon (217 000ha)
A combination of four areas. Carnarvon Gorge, Mt Moffatt, Salvator Rosa and Ka Ka Mundi, in the Central Highlands sandstone belt. Features include a variety of vegetation, spectacular escarpments and gorges, and relics of Aboriginal culture. Gorge campground is very popular. Wilderness experience offered in may other parts.

Double Head and Bluff Point (107ha) are coastal features for day picnickers 8km south of Yeppoon.

Eurimbula (7270ha)
A biologically important area where tropical and sub-tropical environments overlap. Rainforest and swamps on deep sand backed by grassy eucalypt open forest.

Blackdown Tableland (23 800ha)

Sandstone plateau at the junction of three ranges near Dingo. Height above the surrounding plains, vegetation, waterfalls and walking tracks makes the park a popular day picnic and camping spot.

issa corge (rounna). This park preserves a deeply dissected sandstone range vegetated with eucalypts and wildflowers with stands of softwood scrub and some brigation on the lower flats. Suitable for self-contained bushwalking

Sandstone scenery and deep gorges. Contrasting vegetation from that of dry plateaus to moist ever-shaded gorges.

Simpson Desert (555 000ha)
The State's targest national park west of Birdsville complementary to an even larger conservation park in South Australia, Preserves dunefields and spinifex open-humonck grassland with some shrubt and a distinctive widdlife habitat. For the well-equipped, careful and adventurous.

ark Quarry (374ha) nviromental park south-west of Winton preserving vidence of a dinosaur stampede 100 million years

Cape Hillsborough (816ha)
Coastal park of hoop pine rainforest and open eucalypt forest with fringing mangrove areas.
Popular for nature study and recreation.

Eungella (49 610ha)

Eungella (49 610ha)
Large area of tropical rainforest with some grassy
eucalypt woodland west of Mackay. Most is inaccessible except to experienced bushwaikers. Traci
at Broken River and Finch Hatton Gorge pass
through rainforest and lead to points of interest.
Ideal for day picnics and limited camping.

Brampton Island (464ha)

Brampton Island (49-91a) One of a group of scattered islands at the southern end of the Whitsunday-Cumberland chain. Tracks lead to viewpoints for densely vegetated islands nearby and fringing cural reefs.

Cape Palmerston (7160ha)

Undeveloped beachfront land of sand dunes, mangroves and swampland with two campsiles for self-sufficient visitors.

Conway (23 800ha)
This park of tall lowland rainforest, tall eucalypt torest and coastal scenery forms the mainland of Whitsunday Passage. Walking tracks are limit to the northern end around the camping area or Airlie Beach-Shute Harbour road.

Whitsunday Passage Islands
A large group of continental islands some of which
are developed extensively for fourist activities. Fringing reels, rocky outcrops and rainforest make the
going difficult even for bushwalkers. Whitsunday (10
930ha) is by far the largest. North Molle (259ha) and
Hook (5180ha) are also popular. Access is by
launch from Shute Harbour.

Bowling Green Bay (Mt Elliot) (55.300ha)
Area of extensive lowlands of relatively low aninfall.
The upper slopes of Mt Elliot include the southern limit of the tropical rainforest belf. Peach the camp-ing and picnic area from the Bruce Highway 25km south of Townsville.

Magnetic Island (2709ha)
A major part of this continental Island off Towns
is national park. It leatures boulder strewn hillsik
with hoop pine and eucalypt forest with 22km of
walking track. Hebiat for koalas. No camping.
Regular lerry service.

Townsville Town Common (3248ha) An outstanding enviromental park adjacent to a large city leaturing coastal wetland habital. Popular day visit area.

Crystal Creek — Mt Spec (7224ha) This park along part of the Paluma Range near Townsville includes rainforest and eucalypt forest. Picnic areas and walking tracks are reached from

Jourama Falls (1070ha) Series of cascades over salmon coloured granite amid lush greenery with eucalypt forest surrounds Popular picnic area off the Bruce Highway 35km south of Ingham.

Wallaman Falls (602ha)
One of a number of parks featuring gorge scenery
and lalls on the Herbert River and its tributaries inland from Ingham. Wallaman (278m) is the largest
single drop waterfall in Australia. Popular camping
and pronic area.

Porcupine Gorge (2938ha)

Relatively inaccessible area north-east of Hughenden challenging the adventurous.

Hinchinbrook Island (39.350ha) Largest of the island national parks separated from the mainland by a drowned river valley. Rugged rocky mountains, waterfalls, beaches, rainforest. mangroves and tall eucalypt forest. Launches from Cardwell and Lucinda Point.

Edmund Kennedy (6200ha)
Explorer Edmund Kennedy traversed this area on his ill-lated 1848 expedition. Mangroves, dense rainforest, tea-tree—sedge associations, Ian palm and sword grass swamps make up an outstanding park between the Bruce Highway and the coast. Suitable for picnics and camping.

Dunk Island (730ha) Most of this island named by Captain Cook is na-

tional park. A holiday resort immortalized by author E.J. Banfield. Access by launch and plane. Suitable

Bellenden Ker (31 000ha)
Undeveloped park covering the eastern slopes of the Bellenden Ker Range and Including Ocueensland's highest mountain, Mt Bartle Frere (1657m). Numerous waterfalls and streams flow through dense upland rainforest, the habitat of many mammals, including the tree kangaroo, birds and reptites endemic to Queensland. Josephine Falls in the south is a popular day picnic spot.

nangee Swamp (1520ha) ) boardwalk helps visitors see this last natural il swamp area between Townsville and Cairns

Barron Gorge (2784ha)
The Barron River drops 260m into the rainforest covered gorge seen by travelling on the Cairns-Kuranda railway. Most water is held for irrigation or diverted for power generation before the falls.

Michaelmas Cay (3ha) With nearby Upolo Cay, one of Queensland's most important seabird nesting areas.

Paimerston (2556ha)
Walking tracks from the Palmerston Highway between Innistal and Ravenshoe lead to many water-talls set in Luxriant rainforest on the Johnstone River. Suitable for camping and picnics.

Davies Creek (468ha)

This park preserves an area of eucalypt forest grow-ing on granite soils, the creek tumbles over a 100m waterfall into a deep valley. Wildflowers in spring, Reached from the Kennedy Highway.

Daintree (56 450ha)

Dammee (56 abuna) Extensive undeveloped national park drained by many tributaries of the Daintree River. Variety of vegetation types but broad areas of tropical rain-lorest. For the self-sufficient bushwalker out of Mossman or Daintree.

Cape Tribulation (16 965ha) A vehicle ferry at the Daintree River crossing provides access to this important area of coastal

Cedar Bay (5650ha) Northern extremity of the wet tropical rainforest region south of Cooktown still relatively inaccessible.

Most of this coral cay and surrounding reef is na-tional park with total protection of all features. A walking track passes through rainforest. Launches make regular trips from Cairns. Overnight accommodation is available

An open eucalypt area crossed by a bottlebrush bordered stream and featuring one of the widest falls in Australia (65m). A small camping area nearby, Reached 1km off the Ravenshoe-Mf Garnet road.

Mt Hypipamee (The Crater) (364ha)

min hypipamee (The Crater) (364ha) Geological curiosity similar to a volcanic crater and while solidified volcanic ash is present, the sides are of granite, a rock not directly associated with eruptive volcanic activity. Rainforest and eucalypt forest too, By the Kennedy Highway between Atherton and Ravenshine.

Lake Barrine (491ha)

Lake Barrine (491ha) Another crater lake just off the Gillies Highway 6km from Lake Eacham. A 5km track circles the lake giv ing excellent opportunities for nature study in the Lake Eacham (490ha) This is a maar, a lake in the cone of an extinct

volcano, surrounded by rainforest in which might be seen the musk rat kangaroo, carpet python, water dragon and Ulysses blue butterfly. For picnics, swimming and walking. Near Yungaburra.

Chillagoe-Mungana Caves Chinagoe-Wungana Caves
A series of reserves for limestone caves. Regular
guided walks are offered through Royal Arch and
Donna. Donna Cave is lit to highlight cave

Lizard Island (1012ha)

This continental island almost surrounded by tring-ing reefs is north-north-east of Cooktown. A walking track leads to the peak where Captain Cook stood to seek a passage through the outer Barrier Reel

Lakefield (537 000ha) Lakefield (537 000ha)
Extensive example of poninsula country with vegetation ranging from fringing rainforest, stringbybark
forest and paperback woodland to mangroves,
mudflafs and open grassy plains and swamps.
Natural habitat for many species of birds and also
freshwater and estuarithe crocodiles.

Iron Range (34 600ha)
True wilderness area of world significance containing the largest area of lowland rainforest remaining in Australia as well as mangroves, heathlands and open lorest. The Janet and Tozer Ranges, coastal scenery and the variety of forest and wildlife im press visitors.

Archer Bend (166 000ha)

Archer Bend (196 000ha)
The Archer River and tall vine forests which line it are features of this park on the western side of the peninsula. Swamps and lagoons are home to many ducks, pelicans and other waterlowl. Freshwater crocodiles are common in the river.

Rokeby (291 000ha)
An extensive area stretching from the McIlwraith
Range to the Archer River flood plain preserving
variety of peninsula vegetation types and hosting
some rare and beautiful bridlife and freshwater crocodiles. Visit in the Dry only

Jardine River (253 000ha)

Jardine Hiver (253 000ha)
This park covers most catchments of the largest perennial stream in Oucensland, a true wilderness with a variety of vegetation types including rain-forest, open forest, heath and shrubland with a corresponding variety of fauna not fully recorded. For the adventuous in the Dry.

Lawn Hill (12 200ha)

Lawn Hill (12 200na)
Remote oass-like area between Burketown
and Camooweal in the far north-west.
Permanent waters of Lawn Hill Creek are
contained by rich red sandstone walls forming
a gorge which protects remnant rainforest
species, some endemic.

#### Gazettals, actions

### Mount Chinghee enlarged

Two areas added to Mt Chinghee National Park recently bring the total area of Queensland's 313 national parks to 3 346 530 hectares.

The areas of just over 138 hectares were bought by the Crown for the park, north of the interstate rail loop about 35km south of Beaudesert and part of the Scenic Rim crescent.

Both are steep, covered with dense rainforest on heavy red volcanic soil, and consolidate the park which now coveys more than 853 hectares.

Mt Chinghee can be reached by walking from Drynan Park, a recreation area on the Running Creek-Lions interstate road link.

In other gazettal action recently, pockets of rainforest beside the Gold Coast Highway at Currumbin were reserved as environmental nark

The land, more than 4.2 ha, was mostly a reserve for scenic purposes.

Also on the Gold Coast, almost 4400 sq.m adjoining Burleigh Knoll Environmental Park about 2km north-west of Burleigh Heads was gazetted environmental park.

Cabinet recently decided to buy about 23.8 ha of land known as Nicholls Scrub in the Currumbin Valley for national park purposes.

This is a rare and diverse remnant of lowland rainforest of sub-tropical Queensland.

An un-named island of about 111 ha near the Kolan River mouth north-west of Bundaberg was gazetted environmental park to preserve mostly mangroves of several species and to preserve the river mouth natural skyline.

Another 78 ha was added to the 138 ha Allambee fauna sanctuary at the foot of the Main Range near Toowoomba at the land-

Wildlife offices have details for applicants and agents seeking permits to take red and fallow deer in the culling period from 1 April to 31 August. A tag fee of \$60 applies with a limit of

From July 1, State maps covering national parks will cost \$5, and Service maps such as Sundown \$4.

### Guide to campsite booking

Each edition of the Service quarterly newspaper Ringtail carries an up-to-date listing of the attractions and facilities of the most popular national and environmental parks.

Features of many of the parks are outlined, a map locates major parks and office postal addresses and telephone numbers are given.

Many thousands of visitors each year get added enjoyment from national parks by camping for one or more

A written permit to camp is required for camping on any national park in Ouegastand

A site booking system operates to ensure the visitor a site is available before he travels to his destination.

An application for a site should reach the relevant booking office listed not earlier than 12 weeks or less than six weeks before the proposed date of arrival.

An application in writing should include the group leader's name, address and vehicle/boat registration number, the number in the party, the date of expected arrival and proposed duration of stay, the number and type of camping structures and/or vehicles, the proposed campand type with the proposed campand type of camping structures.

ing area, whether the group is from a club or organization and if so, which one, and whether an alternate date or area in the park would be acceptable.

You must include a self-addressed envelope for the notification of whether a campsite is available.

This will be sent at least four weeks before the visit.

Late applications for sites in writing, by telephone or in person will be considered only if a site is available within the camping area.

Visitors should be aware that the more popular national park camping areas like Freshwater and Double Island Point, Green Mountains, Bunya Mountains, Girraween, Carnarvon Gorge and North West Island are often fully booked at peak holiday times.

Whether you book ahead or make a late application, you require a camping permit from the ranger on the

Where the park is unstaffed, your permit will be forwarded to you with your site notification.

If you change your plans or find you have double booked, please notify the booking office to allow reallocation of the site.

There is no fee for site booking or a camping permit.

If you reach a camping ground in the late afternoon or at night when no ranger is on duty, set up your camp in a vacant space.

Your booked space can be determined next day. If you have not booked a site, and all have been taken, be prepared to move on perhaps to another park.

Service rangers are praised often for their ingenuity in making arrangements satisfactory to all visitors.

Please appreciate that some national parks, because of their size, location, use or environmental importance are not available for camping.

In some areas, road access for vehicles is provided and facilities developed

In others, the park has been left undeveloped to provide a more primitive camping experience.

Backpack camping is prohibited within 2km of developed camping grounds, graded tracks and roads.

Park rangers have details of other conditions of the privilege to camp designed to protect the natural environment.

#### Post this form to request a campsite. Party leader..... (please print) ..... Postcode..... Vehicle/boat registration no..... Space requested for (insert number) large tent/s. small tent/s, caravan/s, vehicle/s. bus/es, Or hire vehicle/charter boat?.... trailer/s. campervan/s. other/s (specify)<sup>6</sup> National park..... Will you be visiting as part of an organized group, club Camparound sought..... etc? No. in party including leader..... Anticipated arrival date, time ..... Possible alternate date/s Departure date Alternate campsite Additional details?.... Any questions?. Only on certain sites are generators allowed. Indicate proposed use Ensure you include a self addressed envelope for a reply.

### Junior Ranger corner

It's easy to spot a spider

Hello Junior Rangers

Do you have spiders in or around your house? Most people don't have them for very long as mothers remove them rapidly.

My house is full of cobwebs (underneath) and spiders though I do clean them up several times a year. I know spiders are my friends. I have never been bitten or even menaced.

I often have orbweb spider webs. These are large, strong webs (up to 1m) with angular outer sections and round inner parts.

The webs of the St Andrew's Cross spiders sometimes catch small birds. Like all spiders, they eat by liquefying their prey and drinking the result. They eat insects, cockroaches, and sometimes small frogs and lizards but not the birds.

The St Andrew's Cross spider

stays in its web by day and shakes it when a predator like a bird of reptile comes near. This vibration makes the spiders hard to see

The orbweb spiders that live at my house hide during the day near their webs. You may find them with their legs tucked by looking like bumps. Several spiders may live close to each other.

In my house, I often have huntsman spiders living. They shelter behind pictures and furniture during the day. They can flatten their legs and bodies and fit into small spaces.

The female huntsman lays her eggs in a nursery chamber where she guards them. When the young spiders hatch she may allow them to feed on her prey for a while.

The last spider I want to tell you about is venomous but shy. Their homes are in banks in rainforests,

though they can live elsewhere

They are a species of trapdoor spider which make a burrow which they line with silk (web). They make a door of mud and saliva too.

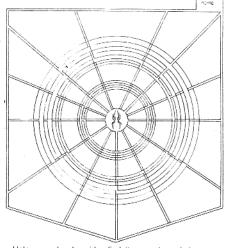
When the spider is inside, the door is shut. At night it sits near the open door and leaps out on passing insects. If you are careful and use a stick you can open the door for a look.

Don't tease them or poke things (especially fingers) down their burrows or you will get bitten.

A female trapdoor spider may live to be 20 and spend all their life in or near the same burrow. Male trapdoor spiders make burrows too but when they become adults and mate they often die.

Hurray for spiders.

Ranger Frances



Help our orbweb spider find its way through its wet maze, catch a moth for its tea and get home under shelter before light and its predators start hunting.



l Where to find us

Minister for Tourism, National Parks Sport and The Arts 6th floor Comalco House onr George and Ann Sts Brisbane PO Box 155 North Quay, Qld 4000 (07) 227 6181

Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service 5th, 6th and 7th floors MLC Centre 239 George Street, Brisbane PO Box 190 North Quay, Old 4000 (07) 224 0414

Southern Region Southern Regional Centre 55 Priors Pocket Road PO 8ov 42 Kenmore, Old 4069 (07) 202 7000

Moreton Sub-Regional Office c/- Regional Superintendent see Regional Centre

Eastern and Central Scenic Rim District Office c/- District Range See Regional Centre

Tamborine Mountain Knoll Boad North Tamborine, Old 4272 (075) 45 1171

Burleigh Head 6 Peggs Road Burleigh Heads, Old 4220 (075) 35 3183

Fleav's Fauna Centre Kabool Street West Burleigh, Old 4219 (075) 56 2194

Springbrook via Mudgeeraba, Qld 4215 (075) 33 5147

Natural Arch via Nerang, Old 4211 (075) 33 6156

Lamington Binna Burra Beechmont via Nerang, Old 4211 (075) 33 3584 Green Mountains via Canungra, Old 4275 (075) 45 1734

Mt French Road MS 161 Boonah, Qld 4310 (075) 63 1579 (after 6pm) Maryborough, Old 4650 (071) 22 2455

Canning District Office Roys Road Beerwah, Qld 4519 (071) 94 6630

Mt Glorious c/- Post Office Mt Nebo, Old, 4520 (07) 289 0200

Moreton Bay District Centre c/. District Banger 41 Byron Street Bulimba, Old 4171 Moreton Island

via Tangalogma Moreton Island, Qld 4004 (075) 48 2710 Downs-South West Sub-

Regional Office 4 Aiderley Street PO Box 7054 Foowoomba Mail Centre Old 4352 (076) 35 0688

Hermitage Research Station via Warwick, Old 4370 (076) 61 3710

Kingaroy office c/- PO Box 23 Kingarov Old 4610 (071) 62 1355

Northern Downs District see Sub-Regional Office Bunya Mountains MS501 via Dalby, Old 4405 (074) 68 3127

Crows Nest Falls/Ravensbourne PO Box 68 Crows Nest, Old 4355 (076) 98 1296

Lake Broadwater PO Box 401 Dalby, Qld 4409 (074) 63 3562

Southern Downs District c/- District Banger

Girraween via Ballandean, Old 4382 (076) 84 5157

Sundown via Glenlyon Dam Road via Stanthorpe, Old 4380 (067) 37 5235

Main Range Centre Cunninghams Gap MS 394 Warwick, Qld 4370 (076) 66 1133

Woodgate

c/- Post Office

(071) 26 8810

Woodgate, Old 4660

see Sub-Regional Office

South West District Office c/- District Range Park Street PO Box 149 Charleville, Qld 4470

Central Highlands District (074) 54 1255 Wide Bay-Burnett Sub-PO Box 906 Emerald, Old 4720 Regional Office onr Wharf and Richmond (079) 82 2246 Carnarvon PO Box 101

Carnaryon Gorge via Rolleston, Old 4702 Carnarvon Gorge 2D Bundaberg District Office Mt Moffatt (Carnaryon) see Sub-Regional Office c/- Park Overseer Mt Moffatt via Mitchell, Qld 4465

> c/- Park Overseer Springsure, Old 4722

see Sub-Regional Office

Fraser Island Base c/- Park Oversee Dundubara

Urangan Centre

Freshwater Base c/- Park Oversee Rainbow Beach (071) 86 3160

Gympie District Office Lands Office Building 27 Channon Street PO Box 350 Gympie, Qld 4570 (071) 82 4189

Sir Thomas Hiley Information Centre (Kinaba) Q.NPWS Box Boreen Point, Old 4568 (071) 49 7364

Noosa Park Road Noosa Heads, Old 4567 (071) 47 3243

Kondalilla/Mapleton Falls 3 Kondalilla Falls Road Flaxton via Nambour, Qld 4560

Central Region Central Regional Centre Royal Bank Building 194 Quay Street PO Box 1362 Bockhamoton Old 4700 (079) 27 6511

Southern Reel District including Capricornia see Regional Centre

Fitzroy District Office

see Regional Centre

Rosslyn Bay Harbour

Yeppoon. Qld 4703

Miriam Vale, Old 4677

Keppel Islands-

Capricorn Coast

PO Box 770

Miriam Vale

c/- Post Office

(079) 39 3268

Gladstone Office Roseberry Street PO Box 315 Gladstone, Qld. 4680 (079) 76 1621

(077) 78 5378

PO Box 1954 Townsville, Qld 4810

Ingham District Office 2 Herbert Street PO Box 1293

Tully District Office PO Box 74 Cardwell Old 4816 (070) 66 8601

Crystal Creek-Mt Sper c/- Post Office Paluma Old 4816

PO Box 175 c/- District Range Taroom, Old 4420 PO Box 2316 Blackdown Tableland

via Dingo, Qld 4702 Maakay District Office MLC Building 64 Victoria Street PO Box 623 Mackay, Old 4740 (079) 57 6292

Cape Hillsborough MS 895 Seaforth, Old, 4741 (079) 59 0222

c/- Post Office Dalcymple Heights, Old 4740 (079) 58 4552

Northern Region

Northern Regional Centre Marlow Street PO Box 5391 Townsville Mail Centre Old 4810 (077) 74 1411

Proserpine District Office Conway PO Box 332 Airlie Beach, Old 4802 (079) 46 9430

Burdekin District Office see Regional Centre

Magnetic Island c/- Post Office Picnic Bay, Old 4816

Bowling Green Bay -- Mt

Townsville Town Common see Regional Centre

Ingham, Old. 4850

North West District Office onr Hilary and Butler Streets Mt Isa, Old 4825 (077) 43 2528

Far Northern Region Far Northern Regional Centre Moffatt Street PO Box 2066 Cairns. Qld 4870 (070) 53 4533

Marine Parks office cnr Spence and Abbott Streets (070) 51 9811

Mission Beach Office Garners Beach Road PO Box 89 Mission Beach, Qld 4885 (070) 68 7183

Josephine Ealts PO Box 93 Miriwinni, Qld 4871 (070) 67 6304

Palmerston PO Box 800 Innisfail, Old 4860 (070) 64 5115

Daintree District Office see Regional Office

Cape Tribulation via Daintree, Old 4873

Lake Eacham District Office PO Box 21 Yungaburra, Old 4872 (070) 95 3768

Northern Einsleigh District Office PO Box 38 Chillagoe, Qld 4871 Chillagoe 13

Cape York District Office see Regional Centre

Lakefield, New Laura, Bizant PMB 29 Cairns Mail Centre, Qld 4870 (070) 60 2162, (070) 60 2160, (070) 60 2158

Rokeby PMB 28 Cairns Mail Centre, Qld 4870 Gulflands District Office

PMB 12 MS 1463 Mt Isa, Old 4825

see Regional Centre

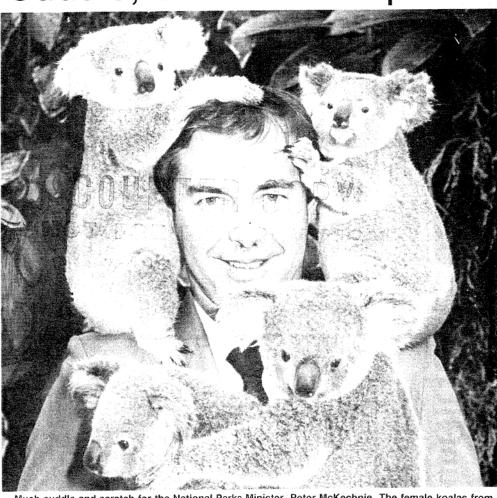


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## Ringtail @



### Cuddle, scratch in Japan



Much cuddle and scratch for the National Parks Minister, Peter McKechnie. The female koalas from Lone Pine Sanctuary, Jane, Chewy, Bimbo and Blossom, were presented to the Mayor of Kagoshima, Japan, by Mr McKechnie last month to complete the Queensland Government's gift to that city. When they leave quarantine soon, the koalas will join Cruiser and Splinter on show at Hirakawa Zoo.