

# Ringtail Parks AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Quarterly newspaper of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service

December 1986



### **Jnique birthday**

A unique part of the Gold Coast remains in its natural state after a century of development around it.

The cutting of a cake by Gold Coast Mayor, Alderman Denis Pie, on Saturday 22 November was 100 years to the day after the proclamation of Burleigh headland as a Reserve for Public Purposes. The landmark area is now known as Burleigh Head National Park.

More than 100 people attended the public ceremony in which Alderman Pie unveiled a plaque near the northern park entrance, buried a time capsule and cut a huge centenary cake provided by McDonald's Cakes, of Brisbane. (picture at left)

A number of guests set the tone

count koalas

for the ceremony by wearing 19th century style dress.

They headed the queue for cake and received the first of a limited edition poster featuring a picture of Burleigh beach and headland in the 1920s produced for the day.

Alderman Pie and the Service's Deputy Director, Mr Herb Bonney, referred to the foresight of people in 1886 for reserving the headland.

Mr Bonney said the national park, gazetted in 1947, still offered a quiet respite among the trees, the chance of a leisurely stroll along an easy track, and inspiring views of the ocean from lookouts.

The Service as custodian hoped that over the next 100 years and beyond, these priceless gifts would remain unchanged.

# Couple win camp right

Experienced campground and caravan park operators Mr and Mrs Peter Doughty have been given the right to build and operate a campground in Moreton Island National Park near Bulwer.

Their selection for exclusive on-park rights was approved from six parties invited to submit detailed proposals to the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The Service sought expressions of commercial interest in advertisements in June.

The Doughtys are building a campground in the Noosa area after ending their lease of a popular carevan park at Scarborough on the Redcliffe Peninsula earlier this year.

The Doughtys proposed a 20-year lease for a wilderness style, environmentally sensitive campground.

They undertook to provide up to 120 sites and associated facilities over several years in return for lease payments.

Further talks will be held between Service operators and the Doughtys before a detailed agreement is completed.

Development of a campground at Kooringal at Moreton Island's southern end will not go ahead at this time.

Koalas throughout Queensland are now being counted and having their dietary preferences and health status monitored as part of the National Koala Survey.

The survey, also being made in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, is being co-ordinated by the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service with funds from the American Express Corporation.

Several Australian universities have also been provided with funds to research diseases infecting koalas.

Community concern over the apparently high incidence of disease in wild koala populations led to the

Populations in some areas are also under pressure after loss of habitat by clearing and from deaths on roads and killing by domestic dogs.

As much information as possible about koalas and their habitats is needed for government and community groups to plan for their long-term conservation.

## for future The survey seeks to assess the One area where a successful

The survey seeks to assess the current distribution and abundance of wild koala populations, what trees and habitat types they prefer, and how many are suffering from disease.

In Queensland, the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service is conducting the survey with help from the Education Department, the Koala Preservation Society, the Wildlife Preservation Society, the Scout Association, community groups and

Hundreds of survey forms have been returned but many more people need to become involved as large areas have to be covered.

Participants are asked to complete a form for each site surveyed whether koalas are sighted or not.

Contact Ross Patterson at the Southern Regional Centre, PO Box 42, Kenmore, 4069, (07) 202 0216, for information and forms. One area where a successful koala survey was conducted recently was in the Redland Shire, south-east of Brisbane.

This involved hundreds of residents who volunteered one weekend and recorded detailed observations of 369 koalas.

As a result, the Service now has important data on the shire's key koala areas and many residents have become keen enthusiasts for koala conservation.

Other community-based surveys are being held or planned for the next couple of months in many areas.

Become involved. Even a few people getting together to survey their neighbourhood or nearby bush will be worthwhile.

Survey forms are easy to complete. All it takes is a little time and a concern for the well-being of koalas.

#### Message from the Minister

I take up my challenging new appointment to the Tourism, National Parks and Sport portfolio as one who is committed to what I call sensible conservation.

I am determined to preserve our unique flora and fauna that sets

Australia — and Queensland — apart from the rest of the world.

Our environment is an asset we must protect. It offers the key to our future.

As Member for Whitsunday, one of the most beautiful parts of the world, I am acutely aware that the expansion of the tourist industry depends so much

on protecting what we have and preserving it for future generations.

I am no stranger to the goals and aspirations of the Service.

Protection does not mean we have to hide away our unique attractions; noone would benefit from that.

We must encourage as many people as we can to appreciate what nature offers here in Queensland.

A delicate balance of development and conservation has to be achieved.

We need international standard

accommodation, night life and a variety of man-made attractions in close proximity to the wonders of nature if we are to benefit from the world-wide boom in tourism.

However, on the other side of the coin, we must not lose sight of the fact the wonders of our natural environment attract the money-spenders and create job opportunities.

They have to be protected and preserved, at all costs.

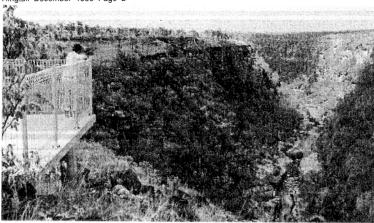
Geoff Muntz Minister for Tourism, National Parks and Sport



Mr Muntz

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

Q.NPWS goal



Porcupine Gorge as seen from the new Gorge Lookout built with Flinders Shire Council help. The creek is a deceptive 300 m plus below the edge at this spot.

### By the tail

Bush Beat, a 26 half-hour episode series about nature, premieres on TV this month.

The series is produced by the Service, the Education Department and QTQ Channel 9 providing adventure activity with science and technology 1980s style.

Featured are five common habitats and their animals arid lands, bush, wetlands, rainforest and the reef.

Bush Beat's slot is 4pm on most week days on Channel 9, Brisbane, from 17 December

Demand is certain for the Service's new Lakefield National Park map coming off the press this month. A \$4.50 bargain for peninsula visitors.

A number of animals and staff at Fleay's Fauna Centre have new homes.

The new office block, feed rooms, theatrette, garage and toilets passed to the Service on 25 November.

The man-made ring dam had wood ducks and chestnut teal as its first inhabitants. Then came spangled perch and freshwater prawns.

The continuing generally dry spell on the Gold Coast is limiting the number of animals which can be released into the feature habitats, and a delaying a decision on a reopening date.

The sustenance feeding program for cassowaries after cyclone Winifred in the Mission Beach area has ended.

The Service thanks all those who donated food and services.

Holiday programs are planned for Carnarvon, Blackdown, Eungella, Cape Hillsborough, Lamington (Green Mountains and Binna Burra) and Bunya Mountains plus others. Check the park notice boards.

Burleigh Head National Park information centre building costing some \$320,000 is nearing completion and should be occupied early in the new year.



Mrs Jessie Leadbetter, of Redcliffe, who with her family was a guest of the Service on St Helena Island National Park recently.

As a child, she lived on the island when it was a prison. Her father and her grandfather were prison officers there.

She was taken on a tour of the ruins which included the house she used to live in.

Her recollections and comments about the park's prison days were recorded.

An estimated 500 people ignored rainy weather to attend the Service's open day on St Helena on 28 September.

They were taken on conducted tours and saw displays about the past and planned future of the island as a major historic park.



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By now, fishermen in the Boult Reef area east of Gladstone should have caught some of the 2000 fish (560 coral trout) tagged in the vicinity in November before the area was re-eopened to fishing after three-and-a-half

Private Cania Gorge caravan park and campground opened on 22 November. The old camp area adjacent to the national park, will be used as a day picnic area.

\* \* \* \*
The Service's Desert to Reef series posters are available at regional centres at \$3.95 each, plus \$1 postage for up to six when ordered only through Head Office.

Would-be visitors to the Mon Repos Environmental Park near Bundaberg to see turtle nesting and hatching should seek advice from any Service office before they go, particularly about time, suitable clothing, and conditions.

Thirty nature-based excuses to escape the heat are offered in Brisbane Forest Park's Go Bush summer season from 12 January. Phone 300 4855.

One hundred people, mostly property owners, attended a Rural Nature Conservation program field day on Kelvin and Colleen Turner's Millmerran property recently.

Charleville meeting to discuss RNC in the south-west had an enthusiastic response resulting in some invaluable guidelines.

Talks have been held since with local government authorities, landholders, and other government departments.

The Service's full calendar is on sale for the first time. BTQ Channel 7, its coproducer, has exlusive rights to sell a limited number though its Queen Street Mall shop and Botanic Gardens kiosk for \$9.99.

Friends of the Service are receiving the calendar as a gift. Single page calendars are available free to the public at Service offices.

The calendar's theme is Queensland Naturally Wild north to south. Places featured include Iron Range, Lakefield, Lizard Island, Palmerston, Cape Tribulation, Eungella, Blackdown Tableland and Isla Gorge National Parks.

# Take a pause at Porcupine

The next time you travel west from Townsville on the Flinders Highway, take time to pause for a while at Hughenden.

Travel about 50 km north, along the Kennedy Development Road, and you will be pleasantly surprised.

Porcupine Gorge National Park of about 2940 hectares is situated astride a most impressive and, in sections, precipitous gorge.

This spectacular canyon reveals strata of sedimentary rocks, capped by basalt, spanning hundreds of millions of years of geological history.

The excavator, Porcupine Creek, leaves the extensive basalt-capped plateau north of Hughenden and is a tributary of the Flinders River.

It was known as Galah Creek but Porcupine has crept into more common use as a result of the 'porcupine grass' or spinifex which covers clifftops adjacent to the gorge.

An almost continuous chain of relatively clear emerald-linged waterholes extends along the central gorge floor creating a spectacular vista.

The skyline is frequently occupied by wedge-tailed eagles sliding on thermal air currents.

Close encounters with other birds of prey add to the area's excitement.

Peregrine falcons are often seen swooping at great speed onto unsuspecting rainbow lorikeets or grey teal.

Wallaroos are seen frequently taking refuge from the heat under shady trees on the basalt rubble on the gorge edge.

An outstanding example of cooperation between the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service, the local authority and landholders has resulted in initial visitor facilities at Porcupine Gorge.

With Service funds, and manpower, machinery and additional funds from the Flinders Shire Council, substantial improvements to an access road to Pyramid Lookout have been made.

The Pyramid is an isolated monolith of multi-coloured sandstone rising from the gorge floor and shaped as its name suggests.

This feature is just outside the park's northern boundary but is one of the few places where walker access to the gorge floor is possible.

The park shares a boundary with

Owner Mr John Honnery consented to construction of a new road to a previously inaccessible section where some of the most breath-taking views of the gorge can be had.

At this site, known as the Gorge Lookout, a suspended concrete lookout platform has been built with help of Flinders Shire Council.

Additional visitor facilities are planned. These will be limited and designed to retain a bush or wilderness experience.

The spectacular scenery, diverse geological strata, vegetation and faunal communities, combined with recreational values of this semi-arid environment, provide an interesting and highly recommended diversion for the national park visitor.

#### Army bridges Daintree



#### creek

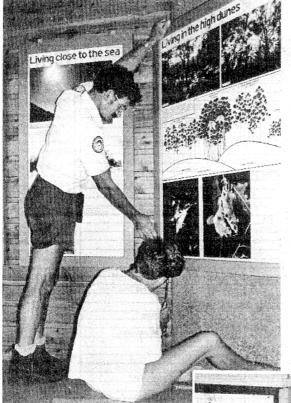
Soldiers fix the last planks of the walkway over a suspension bridge over Rex Creek in Daintree National Park recently.

The bridge extends the scope for walking in the Mossman Gorge area, very popular with tourists since it is only a few kilometres from Mossman.

The site is 30 m upstream of the confluence of the creek at the Mossman River.

This is one of several national park projects undertaken by the Army this year.

They help the Service with difficult jobs which provide new challenges for soldiers in many fields.



Picture, diagram and text panels for a new display at the Sir Thomas Hiley Centre, Kinaba, Cooloola National Park, being fitted by Service staff Stan Power and Lenore

The display featuring information about the area's flora, fauna, history, geology and nature-based recreation opportunities should be finished in January.

Picture at right shows staff at the Marine Parks display at the Heron Island Information Centre completed recently, already a 'must' with resort

Work is continuing re-developing an extensive display near the Gorge campsite in Carnarvon National Park.

Changes at Kinaba Chances for park comment

> People and organizations interested in the future management of two major conservation and recreation areas in south-east Queensland have opportunities this month to put their views.

and the Scenic Rim to the west and south of Brisbane

The Fraser Island Recreation Authority comprising the National Parks Minister, Mr Muntz, and the Forestry Minister, Mr Glasson, announced the calling of public submissions for a recreation management plan for the island.

The plan is to be prepared by consultants Environment Science and Services for the Fraser Island Recreation Board by next June.

The management plan will provide a basis for future orderly development and coordinated management of outdoor recreation on Fraser Island.

Submissions on any aspect of recreation on Fraser will be

welcome. But the board is particularly interested in comments and suggestions on particular issues.

These include the characteristics which attract visitors, aspects which might discourage potential visitors, what extra public or private facilities and services might be provided, and what if any additional management should be exercised.

Submissions in writing should reach the Fraser Island Recreation Board secretary at PO Box 190, North Quay, 4000, by 2 February 1987.

The Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service is preparing a management plan for the national and environmental park estate in the Scenic Rim region (Mt Mistake, south of Laidley, in

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an arc around Brisbane to Burleigh Head).

The plan will identify the resources and values of the parks and set guidelines for the long-term protection and use of the area.

Written submissions are invited from any person or organization.

They should be brief and reach the Southern Regional Director, Q.NPWS, PO Box 42, Kenmore, 4059, no later than 1 January 1987.

#### Fee change

The new \$40 annual multi-visit permit fee for people who visit Fraser Island regularly came into effect on 1 December.

The standard single visit fee of \$10 is unchanged, and covers a visitor for any nominated period of up to one month from the date of issue.

Permits for less than one month can be extended up to a month simply by application to a ranger on the island.

Visitor permits are not transferable. The person named on the permit must be on Fraser Island at any time the nominated vehicle is on the island.

Visitor permits are separate from camping permits which are required for overnight stays on the island other than at private campgrounds or in private accommodation.

This fee is \$5 a night for a site for up to six people, rising to a weekly maximum of \$25.

### Projects finish on

Holiday visitors to many national and environmental parks in Queensland will notice and be able to enjoy many new or redeveloped facilities completed this year.

A score of Community Employment Program projects involving more than 100 people in recent months have come to an end

A number of Queensland Government funded Service projects are due to be completed by Christmas.

The new park office and information centre at Bunya Mountains is a prime example

This has cost \$95,000 in materials, contracts and labour, and will be a central base for park operations and public contact.

The building is a showcase of Queensland architecture with wide verandas on three sides, and silky oak doors, windows and ceilings for great effect.

Landscaping and parking will complement the building

many parks

The old office has been relocated for retention as a bat observatory

The Bunya Mountains design was the base for a new ranger's office and information centre at Broken River Eungella National Park

Just 500 m past is the Fern Flat campground opening this month also. Thirteen sites range from small three-person sites to a large communal site with total capacity for 85.

This is a tent camp area only with great privacy and high standard toilet and showers.

A walking track meanders through the area and eventually will link with the swimming hole 300 m away.

The Gympie Information Centre on the Bruce Highway on the city's southern outskirts is a great improvement on a one-roomed office.

Display space and much natural lighting in an extensive parkland setting will encourage tourists to stop a while for information.

The Cunningham's Gap campground in Main Range National Park re-opened this month after considerable development and an improved water supply.

Recent heavy rains have restored the area's green landscape. A start on new toilets at the crest carpark is planned for the new year.

Toilets, 150 m of boardwalk, jetties, landings, roadwork, picnic tables, barbecues, low key camping areas, and a workshed and office at Elanda are features of Southern Cooloola's work program.

Carparks, re-developed picnic areas and track hardening give a new face to Tamborine

Sealing and stablization work has made walking safer at Kondalilla. A rock wall will allow levelling for future

An estimated five-and-a-half million Australians over 15 are concerned over problems with the environment in Australia.

This is a finding this month of an Australian Bureau of Statistics survey conducted with its monthly population survey in April last.

The survey found slightly more women than men concerned in the 47 per cent estimate. The percentages were higher than average for men and women aged

Nation wide, pollution was considered the greatest problem (30 per cent) followed by nature conservation of flora and fauna (21 per cent) then tree defoliation (19 per cent)

In Queensland, nature conservation was considered the greatest problem (27.2 per cent) ahead of pollution, deforestation nuclear issues, development issues, soil erosion, preserving buildings, water salinity and others in that order.

About 790 000 people (7 per cent) visited world heritage areas in Australia in the year, mostly the Great Barrier Reef, with 216 000 from Queensland.

In the same time, about 35 per cent of the population over 15 is estimated to have visited a national park other than a world heritage area

### Who cares?

Queenslanders (36 per cent) had made visits.

Several opportunities for involvement encompassing the environment occur in the next few

The Department of Arts, Heritage and Environment is seeking young people 12-25 or groups who have completed or who are engaged in a project which shows concern for the environment.

Write to the Director. Environmental Education Section, GPO Box 1252, Canberra City, ACT, 2601.

The Lake Broadwater Natural History Association will conduct Queensland's National Parks Day observance at the Darling Downs lake on the weekend of 28-29

Write to the association, PO Box 737, Dalby, 4405, for details.

The theme for World Environment Day, 5 June 1987, is Urban Spaces, People Places. Kits of material will be available. The Queensland Conservation Council, Brisbane, has details

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### Parks for the people

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

Moreton Island (15 400ha)

Moreton Island (15 400na) Milliamper island com-posed almost entirely of sand. Park areas now cov 89 per cent of the Island and include wind-bloi sand, heath, swamp and lorests. A management centre and camp areas with facilities are provided. Access is via vehicular ferries for off-road vehicles fast passenger boat 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.

teresting and popular with day visitors.

St Helena Island (74ha)
An historic area off the Brisbane River mouth with restricted access. Much of the Island functioned as high security prison from 1867 to 1932. Prison labour was used for all activities including building, and some sections remain. Reached by special ferry from Manly. Schools must contact the Darling Point Special Education Centre.

Burleigh Head (24ha)

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

Springbrook (total 2084ha)

Springprook (total 2084ha)
Four parks comprise a green mountain backdrop to
the Gold Coast. Warrie offers extensive walks past
waterfalls and through forests to lookcuts
Gwongorella has fall eucalypts with rainforest
gulles. Wunburra, an area of wat eucalypt forest,
and MI 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 rainforest high in the Numinbah Valley. The park is popular for day visits but only the night lime visitous sees glowavorms in the cave under the arch.

Lamington (20 100ha)
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 via Binna Burra in the northeast, Green Mountains — O'Reilly's in the northwest, and several roads and tracks in the west and

Pine Ridge (199ha)
An environmental park, the last major area of natural costal lowlands on the Gold Coast. Vegeta tion of heath, swamp and woodland 8km north of Southport. Boardwalked track suitable for wheelchairs.

Mt Barney (11 400ha)

mt barney (11 Journa)
This landmark peak (1360m) with nearby Mt Lindesay
(1191m) and Mt Marcon (965m) are undeveloped
areas of eucalypts and rainforest among a variety of
natural features exciting bushwalkers and climbers.

natural features exciting bushwalkers and climbers.

Mt French (68ha)
This 468m peak near Boonah has a road to the too
to picnic areas, walking tracks and lookouts. Several
rock faces are used to learn and test climbing
techniques.

Main Range (11 443ha)

Main Hange (11 44) main western part of the Scenic Rim system. At Cunningham's Gap, walking tracks pass through, eucalyot forest and rainforest. Popular area for picnics and camping. Spicer's Gap to the south has an interesting history. Bushwalkers revel in many areas in this diverse park.

Queen Mary Falls (339ha)
This waterfall in tall open eucalpypt woodland with rainforest gullies is not large but is a pleasant spot for families 10km east of Killarney. A second part includes Blackfellow Knob to the north.

Girraween (11 400ha)

Massive granite tors and outcrops tower over a diverse and often dense vegetation of eucalypts, flowering 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 (11 200 ha)
Rugged gorges leading to the Severn River are a
feature of this park reached via Stanthorpe or via
Ballandean. Dense forests or cypress pine and
eucalypts cover hill slopes.

Lake Broadwater (1220ha)
An environmental park near Dalby important as a waterfowl habitat and as an example of natural Dalby important as a power of the property of the prop

Bunya Mountains (11 700ha)

Bunya Mountains (11 7/00ha)
An expanse of coniferous rainforest and grassy balds on the Great Dividing Range crest between Dalby 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)
The waterfall in the north tumbles into a steep granite gorge with interesting mixed vegetation, plonic area and swimming holes make the park ideal for day trips.

Conondale (2126ba)

Conondate (2126na)
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 heath vegetation. Mt Coonoowrin (Crookneck) (113ha) als 52m is for climbers. Mt Beerwah (245ha) 558m. Mt Tibrogargan (281ha) 393m and Mt Ngungun (49ha) 238m are suitable for bushwalkers and families taking care.

Kondalilla (128ha) Kondalilla Falls is a feature of this rainforest part off the Maleny-Mapleton road. Tracks lead from the pic-nic area to the falls and swimming hole.

Mapleton Falls (26ha)

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

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

Coologia (40 900 ha)

Cooloola (40 900 na)
A coastal sand park leaturing ocean beaches,
freshwater lakes, coloured sands and vegetation
from healthland to rainforest. Access by boat from
Tewantin and Boreen Point, four-wheel-drive from
Rainbow Beach and Noosa or by conventional veh cle from Rainbow Beach. Camping areas at Double Island Point, Freshwater, and along Noosa River

Great Sandy (Fraser Island) (52 400ha)
The park preserves most of the northern end of the argest sand Island in the world. Included are eucalypt woodland, heath and swamp vagetation. 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 holiday spot. Wallum health wildflower displays in season. Access via Goodwood

Mon Repos (23.5ha)

mon nepos (23.5ha)
This small environmental park preserves a turtle rookery on the coast 14km east of Bundaborg, At night from November to January loggerhead turtles nest here. Occasionally flatback 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 Hawkwood road (27km).

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

North Keppel Island (580ha)

Most popular of a group of continental island parks off Yeppoon. 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 coreal cay is national park with total protection for animal and plant life marine and terrestrial. Rookery for turtles and nesting area for eachiging.

Tryon, Masthead is (Capricorn Group) Typical coral cays with pisonia, pandanus and casuarina vegetation. Seabird nesting sites and turtle rookeries. Popular camping spots for sell sufficient groups. Reached by charter boat. No engine driven equipment permitted.

North West (Capricorn Group) (94ha) and Lady Musgrave Is (Bunker Group) (20 ha) Coral cays with large surrounding reets. Popular safe anchorages with camping, Ideal for driving and snorkelling. Access by charter boat.

Carnarvon (223 000ha)
A combination of four are camaryon (223 000ha)
A combination of four areas, Carnarvon Gorge, MI
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
campoground 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.

A biologically important area where tropical and sub-tropical environments overlap. Rainforest and swamps on deep sand backed by grassy eucalypt

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.

Isla donge (Younna)
This park preserves a deeply dissected sandstone range vegetated with eucalypts and wildflowers with stands of softwood scrub and some brigalow on the lower flats. Suitable for self-contained bushwalking

Robinson Gorge (8903ha) Sandstone scenery and deep gorges. Contrasting vegetation from that of dry plateaus to moist ever-shaded gorges.

Simpson Desert (555 000ha)
The State's largest national park west of Birdsville complementary to an even larger conservation park in South Australia. Preserves dunefields and spiniles open-hummock grassland with some shrubs and a distinctive wildlife habitat. For the well-

Lark Quarry (374ha) Environmental park so:

Environmental park south-west of Winton preserving evidence 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)
Large area of tropical rainforest with some grassy
eucalypt woodland west of Mackay. Most is inaccessible except to experienced bushwalkers. Tracks
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) 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 coral reels.

Cape Palmerston (7160ha)
Undeveloped beachfront land of sand dunes,
mangroves and swampland with two campsites for
self-sufficient visitors.

Conway (23 800ha)
This park of tail lowland rainforest, tail eucalypt
lorest and coastal scenery forms the mainland edge
of Whitsunday Passage, Walking tracks are limited
to the northern end around the camping area on the
Arria Beach-Shute Harbour road.

Whitsunday Passage Islands

whitsunday Passage Islantios
A large group of continental islands some of which
are developed extensively for tourist activities. Fringing reefs, 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 rainfall.
The upper slopes of Mt Elliot include the southern limit of the tropical rainforest belt. Reach the camping and picnic area from the Bruce Highway 25km south of Townsville.

Magnetic Island (2709ha)
A major part of this continental island off Townsville
is national park. It features boulder strewn hillsides
with hoop pine and oucatypt forest with 22km of
walking track. Habitat for koalas. No camping.
Regular lerry service.

Townsville Town Common (3272ha)

An outstanding environmental park adjacent to a large city featuring coastal wetland habitat. 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 surround
Popular picnic area off the Bruce Highway 35km
south of Ingham.

Wallaman Falls (602ha)
One of a number of parks featuring gorge scenery
and falls on the Horbert River and its tributaries in
land from Ingham. Wallaman (278m) is the largest
single drop waterfall in Australia. Popular camping
and picnic 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 twaersed this area on his III-lated 1848 expedition. Mangroves, dense rainforest, lea-tree — sedge associations, fan palm and sword grass swamps make up an outstanding park between the Bruce Highway and the coast. Suitable

Dunk Island (730ha)
Most of this island named by Captain Cook is na-Dunk Island (130110) Most of this island named by Captain Cook is national 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
Oueensland'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 reptiles endemic to Queensland. Josephine
Falls in the south is a popular day picnic spot.

Eubenangee Swamp (1520ha) A long boardwalk helps visitors see this last natural coastal swamp area between Townsville and Cairns

Barron Gorge (2784ha)

Barron Gorge (2784na)
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.

Palmerston (14 200ha)
Walking tracks from the Palmerston Highway between Innistali and Ravenshoe lead to many waterfalls set in luxuriant 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.

Scenic rainforest and open forest area on the northern outskirts of Cairns with tracks, shelter sheds and views over city, sea and countryside.

Daintree (56 450ha)

Daintree (56 450ha)

Extensive undeveloped national park drained by many tributaries of the Daintree River. Variety of vegetation types but broad areas of tropical rainforest. 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.

Green Island (7ha)

Green Island (vna)
Most of this coral cay and surrounding reef is national park with total protection of all features. A
walking track passes through rainforest. Launches
make regular trips from Cairns. Overnight accom-

mousuon is available.

Millistream Fallis (372ha)
An open eucalypi area crossed by a bottlebrush bordered stream and featuring one of the widest falls in Australia (65m). A small camping area nearby. Beached 1km off the Ravenshoe-Mt Garnet

Another crater lake just off the Gillies Highway 6km from Lake Eacham. A 5km track circles the lake giving excellent opportunities for nature study in the rainforest.

Lake Eacham (489 ha)
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 Uhysses bitue butterfly. For picnics,
swimming and walking. Near Yungaburra.

Chiliagoe-Mungana 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 fringing 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 Reef

sunswired 1337 UUDNa)
Extensive example of peninsula country with veget tion ranging from fringing rainforest, stringbybark forest and paperback woodland to mangroves, mudflats and open grassy plains and swamps.

Natural habitat for many species of birds and also frestwater and estuarine crocodiles.

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

Archer Bend (166 000ha)
The Archer River and fall vine forests which line it are features of this park on the western side of the peninsuls. Swamps and lagoons are home to many ducks, pelicans and other waterflowl. Freshwater crocodiles are common in the river.

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

Jardine River (253 000ha)

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

Lawn Hill (12 200ha)

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



#### 'Green' map

A new multi-colour map produced jointly by the Service and the Forestry Department confirms the biological diversity of the Cooloola region.

Botanist Carolyn Sandercoe (pictured at left with the map) used 130 aerial photographs, more than six field trips, and descriptions of 300 sites to confirm the boundaries of 21 vegetation types defined in the map.

The 1:25 000 scale map, now available for \$4.50 from Service, Forestry and Sunmap Centres, gives a most exhaustive resource base for management and interpretation of the Womalah State Forest and part of Cooloola National Park.

Its data will be basic for fire management research, predictions of susceptibility to degradation, and also habitats of the ground

The plant associations mapped also reflect the underlying sequence of sand dune succession.

The map also has up-to-date roads, historical anecdotes, camping advice, and ridge lines, all useful for a wide range of visitors.

Field work is complete for two more maps in the series covering the North Shore area and the Noosa River western catchment. Possibly another 10 vegetation types might be added.

These will be produced by the Service alone

Gazettals, actions

### More nature protection

Extensions three national parks and declaration of two environmental parks are among recent Queensland Government decisions about nature conservation.

Seven areas covering almost 1500 hectares were added to Cooloola National Park from north of Noosa to Rainbow Beach.

All have typical beachfront, wallum or rainforest features, and range from a tiny former mining lease to a 978 ha cattle property at Elanda Point bought for conservation by the Commonwealth Government in the 1970s.

A block of 326ha to the west and south of a landing ground reserve links two sections of national park between the Noosa River and the coast north of Tewantin.

The additions and mapping recalculations bring the park's area to 40 900ha

Sundown National Park was sundown National Park was extended by almost 70 per cent to about 11 200 ha by the gazettal of three areas bought by the Queensland Government.

Gazettal of a 2580 ha block along the interstate border to the old Sundown homestead was possible following completion of mineral exploration in the Red Rock Gorge

Boundaries of a departmental and official (environmental protection) purposes reserve between the new sections were re-designed to cover 2590 ha encompassing remaining ground said to have mineral potential.

Three closed roads to the west and south of Lake Eacham National Park, Atherton Tableland, added to the park will help in its management.

Two leases central to the proposed Deepwater National Park, north of Bundaberg, were acquiried with the vendor's agreement to the Lands Department valuation

A tree considered by botanists to be 'vulnerable' is a feature of an 11.3 ha wallum block in the catchment of Bluegum Creek, north of Beerwah, now environmental park

The area carries one of the few remaining stands of swamp stringybark, confined to a few reserves in the coastal lowlands between Tewantin and Beerwah.

The area also carries Podocarpus spinulosa, a small brown pine, one of the few Queensland populations of this species.

A 94 ha forested Y-junction of two deep creeks near Jambin, central Queensland, was declared environmental park.

The junction of Smokey and Bell Creeks features mature blue gum, ironbark and large Moreton Bay ash trees with a grassy understorey with wattles

An Order in Council under the Fauna Conservation Act allows for the taking of the four most common species of kangaroo in Queensland to be culled to licensed shooters in 1987.

Red kangaroos, eastern grevs, wallaroos and whiptail wallables are considered to be abundant in their habitats.

Details of strict conditions for culling may be obtained from Q.NPWS offices.

Parkland on the outskirts of Gatton fronting the Warrego Highway including Lake Apex was declared a fauna sanctuary.

This status was also given to Cago ha of Tyrone Station, near Langlo Crossing, and to 11 ha off Skring Street, Scotland Street and Steindl Road, East Bundaberg, at the request of the property

Slater Field Guide to Australian Birds. Peter, Pat and Raoul Slater. 1986. Rigby, \$29.95. A Field Guide to the Birds of Australia. Graham Pizzey. Collins. \$17 paperback. \$20 hardback if available.

Peter Slater's bird field guide in two volumes appeared in 1970 and led the field until edged out in 1980 by Graham Pizzey's single volume guide.

The 1986 Slater will gain the edge over Pizzey. We await a new Pizzey

Both are aimed at the generalist birder who wants a comprehensive and accurate field guide to give easy, rapid identification of anything with

Either will do the job well. Each has advantages and disadvantages.

Both contain all birds known in Australia at publication time. The new Slater has more. Both now have their birds in a single volume.

Slater's new work is a great improvement. Much attention has been given to improving layout, content and illustrations.

#### New single Slater is ruffling birders

It now has all the information on identification, lifestyle and range plus maps condensed to fit on the page facing the illustration

At the end is an index of common names only. At last we begin to see an acceptance of the RAOU official common names

something that looks like it will fit in a rather large pocket. This has required concise text and reduced print size.

The book has a water-resistant cover and stitched binding for strength but the paperback cover could reduce its useful life in the field.

Colour plates include eggs of most species and detail colour phases, breeding and nonbreeding plumage, age classes and sexual differences. The colours are more realistic than the previous edition though some still don't look We now see details of feathers in the plumage.

Pizzey has been with us since 1981 and to now has been my

He uses the older format of introduction and how-to-use section followed by descriptions and information, then all the plates, followed by more information, maps and indexes with the usual confusion over his preferred common names.

His illustrations are very good with attention to detail and realistic colours.

Slater's new layout and size probably will see it enjoy wide use despite print size and higher price.

#### Junior Ranger column

### Beware the nippers of a crayfish

Have you ever been nipped by a freshwater crayfish? You may know it as a vabbie

(The same name is given to a similar

Queensland has 26 species of freshwater crayfish, most of which live in limited areas and defined habitats.

Some cravfish live only in clear, cold running mountain streams. Some live only in warmer waters like dams, ponds and rivers

Australia has more freshwater crayfish than any other continent.

We have the three largest species of crayfish in the world. The largest of these is found in Tasmania.

Queensland is the home of the smallest species of freshwater crayfish. It has only a scientific name, adults are 2.5 cm long, and it is found only in south-east

Those of you who have been to Lamington or the parks at Springbrook

It has several relatives, also in south-east Queensland, but only three relatives north of the Mary River.

You will find it only in (or near) clear, running mountain streams

Crayfish are 'ouchy' as the front three pairs of legs have pincers on them and the first pair of these is formidable.

Besides living in crevices in rocks or burrows in the banks of streams or dams, crayfish can burrow in the ground in paddocks.

You can find the burrow, usually at least as big as your thumb around, with a mound of dirt balls nearby if you look closely

Some species of crayfish do not live just in water but are more likely to be found in damp paddocks or orchards.

Some species which live in the inland can survive dry times and even drought by digging deep burrows which have special water-containing burrows

Baby crayfish look just like the adults

and hatch from eggs ane female carries attached to her pleopods.

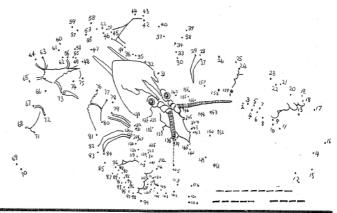
Pleopods are the flaps attached to each minal (stomach) segment

By connecting the dots from 1 to 159

on the drawing below, you will discover an animal with the initials LSC. You may wish to colour the drawing blue and cream, the true colours of the

Ranger Frances

Join the dots and name this relative of the crab.





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Northern Downs District

see Sub-Regional Office

(076) 66 1133

Bunya Mountains

(074) 68 3127

PO Box 68

Lake Broadwater PO Box 401

Dalby, Old 4405

c/ District Ranger

Charleville Old 4470

Park Street PO Box 149

Office

via Dalby Old 4405

Crows Nest, Qld 4355 (076) 98 1296

South West District Office

Wide Bay-Burnett Sub-Regional

Maryborough, Qld 4650

see Sub-Regional Office

Woodgate, Old 4660

Bundaberg, Qld 4670

Rainbow Beach Road PO Box 30

Fraser Island Base

Dundubara, Old 4570

c/ Park Oversee

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Rainbow Beech, Old 4570 (071) 86 3160

Fraser Island Recreation Board

(071) 22 2455

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Mon Renns PO Box 1735

**Bundaberg District** 

onr Wherf and Richmond Streets PO Box 101

Crows Nest Falls/Ravensbourn

Minister for Tourism National Parks and Sport 25th floor State Law Building 50 Ann Street PO Box 155 North Quay, Old 4000

(07) 227 4831

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Southern Region Southern Regional Centre 55 Priors Pocket Road Moggill PO Box 42 Kenmore, Old 4069 (07) 202 0200 202 0232 (wildlife) 202 0212 (parks)

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Pine Ridge 103 Pine Ridge Road Coombabab Old 4216 (075) 57 1203

(075) 33 5147

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Reechmont via Nerang, Old 4211 (075) 33 3584 Green Mountains section via Canungra, Qld 4275 (075) 45 1734

Mt French Boar MS 161 Boonah, Qld 4310 (075) 63 1579 (after 6pm)

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Glass House Mountains Office Roys Road Beerwah, Qld 4519 (071) 94 6630

Mt Glorious c/ Post Office Mt Nebo. Old 4520 (07) 289 0200 (3.30-4pm)

Moreton Island via Tangalooma Moraton Jeland, Old 4004 (075) 48 2710 St Helena Base PO Box 66 Manly, Old 4179

(07)398 5113 Downs-South West Sub-Regional 4 Alderley Street PO Box 7054 Toowoomba Mail Centre Old 4352

(076) 35 0688 Southern Downs District Office

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

Girraween via Ballandean, Qld 4382 (076) 84 5157

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





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Keppel Islands-Capricorn Coast Rossivn Bay Harbour PO Boy 770 Yeppoon, Old 4703 (079) 33 6608

Central Highlands District Office PO Box 906 Emerald, Old 4720 (079) 82 2246

Carnarvon National Park The Ranger Carnarvon Gorge section via Rolleston, Old 4702 (079) 84 4505 Mt Moffatt section via Mitchell, Old 4465

c/ Park Overseer PO 80x 157 Springsure, Old 4722 (079) 84 4086 PO Box 175 Taroom, Old 4420

Blackdown Tableland via Dingo, Old 4702

Mackay District Office 64 Victoria Street PO Box 623 Mackay, Old 4740 (079) 57 5292

Cape Hillsborough Seaforth, Old 4741 (079) 59 0410

Eungella c/ Post Office Dalrymple Heights, Old 4740 (079) 58 4552

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

Noose District Office Bruce Highway Proserpine District Office Corway PO Box 332 Airlie Beach, Qld 4802 Gympie Old 4570 (071) 82 4189 (079) 46 9430

Southern Cooloola via Tewantin Old 4565

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

3 Kondalilla Falls Road Flaxton via Nambour, Old 4560

Hinchinbrook District Office 2 Harbort Stront PO Box 1293 Ingham, Old 4850 (077) 76 1700

Jourage Eatle Innham, Old 4850 (077) 77 3112 Mt Spec-Crystal Creek Main Street CMB 16 Paluma, Qld 4816 Paluma 2G

Cardwell Office Cardwell, Old 4816 (070) 66 8601

Edmund Kennedy Cardwell, Qld 4816 (070) 66 8850

2nd floor Mt Isa House onr Campoweal and Mary Streets PO Box 2316 Mt Isa, Qld 4825

41 Esplanade PO Box 2066 Cairns, Old 4870 (070) 51 9811

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

Lawn Hill PMB 12 Mt Isa. Old 4825

Northern Einsleigh District Office PO Boy 38 Chillagoe, Old 4871

Trinity District Centre

Mission Beach Office Garners Beach Road PO Box 89 Mission Beach, Old 4854 (070) 68 7183

PO Box 93 Miriwinni Old 487 (070) 87 6304

PO Box 800 Innistral Old 4860 (070) 64 5115

Daintree District Office see Regional Centre

Cape Tribulation PMB 10 PS 2041 Mossman, Qld 4873 Cape York District see Regional Centre

Lakefield National Park

(070) 60 2162

(070) 60 2160

PMB 79

PMB 30

PMB 29 Cairns Mail Centre, Qld 4870

Cairns Mail Centre, Qld 4870

Cairns Mail Centre, Old 4870

Burdekin District Office see Regional Centre

c/ Post Office (077) 78 5378

Bowling Green Bay \_ Mt Elliot PO Boy 1954 Townsville, Old 4810 (077) 78 8203

Charters Towers PO Box 187 Charters Towers, Old 4820

(070) 60 2158 PMB 28 Cairns Mail Centre, Old 4870

PMB 76 Cairns Mail Centre, Old 4870

## Ringtail





Typical feeding pose of Australia's favourite animal, the koala, as you could see it though binoculars. The Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service is seeking your help in the next couple of months so that every part of Queensland can be covered in the National Koala Survey. Turn the page for details and act now for a healthy future for the creature we admire.