



W: [www.qldfrogs.asn.au](http://www.qldfrogs.asn.au) | E: [questions@qldfrogs.asn.au](mailto:questions@qldfrogs.asn.au) |

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## President's Report

Following the recent AGM, the committee for this frog year remains unchanged. I was re-elected as President while Jesse and Tyrone fill the Vice President roles. The most important roles will continue to be done by Jenny (Secretary) and Janice (Treasurer). I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for their hard work over the year gone and look forward to the coming year and implementing some new projects. I'd like to welcome and thank Jono for joining us as our new *Frogsheet* editor; I look forward to seeing this new edition! Thankyou Naomi for doing such a stellar job for so many years! If you'd like to get involved in any aspect of the society or if you have any suggestions drop me a line, we'd love to have some new ideas!

The *Frogsheet* provides the frog society with a means of keeping you, our members, informed of what is happening in the frog world and what events the frog society has coming up. As with other organisations we are planning to move towards providing the *Frogsheet* electronically to reduce our environmental impacts, redirect funds towards frog conservation and allow for a more detailed, informative newsletter. Please see the notice in this *Frogsheet* for further information, such as still receiving a hard copy if you don't have an email account.

To make contacting the committee much easier we've set up some new generic e-mail addresses – thanks Jono!! This will make committee transitions in the future much easier with the e-mail address remaining with the position. These have been updated in the contacts section and will shortly be updated on the website. There is also a new address to send froggy questions to, so if you have any frog identification questions or other froggy related queries this is the place to send them! (See top of page for email address).

We've had two frog camps already since it has started warming up - one in Conondale National Park and the other further north at Burrum Coast National Park. It was great to see some of you at the Burrum Coast camp and Jesse has written a camp report for the Conondale camp, which I'm looking forward to reading in this *Frogsheet* since I couldn't make it. I encourage all members to think about attending a camp; they are a good opportunity to get involved and learn more about frogs in a relaxed environ-

## Area Coordinators

### ASHGROVE

Jenny Holdway – Ph: 3366 1868  
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### ROCKHAMPTON & CENTRAL QLD

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### SUNSHINE COAST - VACANT (SEE TOP PAGE)

### TOOWOOMBA/LOCKYER

Tim Kane - Email: [timmykane@hotmail.com](mailto:timmykane@hotmail.com)

### UPPER BROOKFIELD

Phil Bird - Email: [frogphil@gmail.com](mailto:frogphil@gmail.com)

ment. So join us on one next year!

I wish you all a happy and safe Christmas – enjoy the break!

Dan

## SUNSHINE COAST AREA COORDINATOR POSITION VACANCY

We are looking for an Area Coordinator for this area! Please contact Jenny. H for more info if you're interested.

## Diary Dates

### Backyard Frog Habitat Meeting

4pm, Sunday 13th January, 2013

If you live in the Rockhampton area and would be happy to host us at your place, we're looking for another venue - please contact Bethlea.

### QFS Management Meetings

7:30pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month

All welcome! Phone/email Jenny. H for location.

### Frog Habitat Site Working Bees

#### Bowman Park, Bardon

8-11am - Contact Phil for more info

#### Grinstead Park, Alderley (off Short Street)

Contact Debbie Dolby for more info  
[ddolby@hotmail.com](mailto:ddolby@hotmail.com), Ph: 3355 4134

#### Carseldine Bush Crew

Cabbage Tree Creek, Carseldine

8-9:30am, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month

Meet where creek crosses Dorville Road -  
All welcome!

Contact James Hansen for more info.

## Updated Diary Dates

Please visit the QFS website for updated and new events that arise between *Frogsheet* newsletters.

## Working bees in frog habitat

If you are undertaking bush-care in frog habitat and would like your working bee dates included above. please email Jono  
[editor@qldfrogs.asn.au](mailto:editor@qldfrogs.asn.au).



## Ashgrove Report

**B**eside some activity from the striped marsh and tusked frogs in the area it still is very quite but I am hoping when I go out to look at some known habitats that that has changed now we have had some rain. I am keeping my fingers crossed that more rain is on the way and the night temperature rises a bit.

I have been visiting some schools and the four classes of year 2's at John Paul College who decided to have a "Bring a coin" day for the society which totalled \$86.00. Our display at the BCC Green Heart Fair, Carindale was a bit limited to what we could show as the day was quite over

cast and windy but we still had some interesting enquires.

I hope all our members have a Happy Christmas with family and friends and look forward to hearing the joyful chorus of the frogs in this area.

Jenny Holdway

## Rockhampton and Central Queensland Report

**H**i to all members and friends of the Queensland Frog Society in Central Queensland. Many frogs are out and about already but some are still waiting for some decent rain before they

Continued...

### Frogsheet is going electronic!

Printing and mailing of our quarterly *Frogsheet* has come to be a large financial and administrative strain on our small society. For this reason we will be phasing out printed *Frogsheets* (**by Winter 2013 edition**) and moving to electronic format. Benefits of this new format will enable inclusion of more *Frogsheet* content and colour, whilst saving on print and postage costs with membership and donations being re-directed to the purchase of new displays, equipment and funds. We request that all members please ensure we have your current email address by emailing our secretary Jenny Holdway at [secretary@qldfrogs.asn.au](mailto:secretary@qldfrogs.asn.au) so that we don't miss you with future editions. For any members that do not have email, could you please notify Jenny on 3366 1868 or write to

Queensland Frog Society Inc.  
PO Box 7017  
East Brisbane 4169

and we will ensure that you still receive your hard copy.

### Welcome and thanks to our New Members

Kurtis Lindsay, Christian Hofmann, Aaron Organ, Suellen Coombe, Jeffrey Salmon, Karma Hodgson, Brigitte Blakeway, Jane Orme, Alina Zwar, Amanda Dawson-Evenhuis, Ray and Wendy Benfer.

### QFS Public Trust Fund - Ric Natrass Research Grant

The QFS Trust Fund was created with the purpose to help save Queensland frogs through education and research and now stands at **\$6,349.05**. It is now open to interested applicants for 2013. The form and grant conditions can be obtained on our website

[www.qldfrogs.asn.au](http://www.qldfrogs.asn.au) Closes 15<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2013.

### Changed your email address?

Please notify the Secretary of your current email address to avoid the risk of missing out on future *Frogsheet* newsletters. Thanks!

### Want to help spread the word?

If you're a coordinator and have a fair or community event in your area, why not set up the QFS display and raise awareness of our awesome frogs? No expert knowledge is necessary, just a passion for frogs. Contact Jenny to arrange display and brochure pick-up.

### Thanks

The colour *Frogsheet* heading and footer cover has been kindly printed free of charge by **ASCOT PRINT & DESIGN Pty Ltd.**



## Give a Greeeeaaaaat Gift this Christmas - to Someone Special and a Frog!

We now offer gift cards for all occasions! For a donation of over \$5 to the Queensland Frog Society you can choose from four frog photos to have on your own printed card which we will send to you. There is a space for your own personal message to the person you are gifting it to. Below is an example of one of the photos, with the words on the reverse reading:



*'This card represents a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Queensland Frog Society (QFS) that has been made on your behalf. QFS is a non-profit community organisation that promotes the conservation and appreciation of all of Queensland's fantastic frogs. The money donated to QFS will be put to one of our many conservation activities including our research scholarship grants.'*

Words on front of card reads: *'Someone has made a contribution to frog conservation on your behalf!'*

The frog photos to choose from are:

Southern red-eyed treefrog (*Litoria chloris*); Holy cross frog (*Notaden bennetti*); Fleay's Barred-frog (*Mixophyes fleayi*) and Orange-thighed frog (*Litoria xanthomera*). You can donate by either a direct deposit to our account or by sending a cheque/money order to our postal address (address on page 1).

Account details are: Westpac Bank - Annerley Branch; BSB: 034 046; Account No. 13 43 4. Please send an email to [secretary@qldfrogs.asn.au](mailto:secretary@qldfrogs.asn.au) to inform the Secretary of the deposit.

climb up out of the soil to feed and breed.

### On-going Frog Education

QFS members have recently been out and about educating the community about our indigenous native frogs at various locations and events, including Rockhampton Zoo, Ergon Energy, the Small Landholders Day, Bunnings Ladies Night and Lighthouse Christian School.

### QFS Meetings

We held a very successful meeting at Rockhampton Botanic Gardens and Zoo in early September, with nearly 20 attendees! Resident zoo keeper, herpetologist and QFS member David Flack enthralled us all with his presentation about the Cave dwelling frogs (*Litoria cavernicola*) the zoo has on display and photos of other frogs seen around the grounds. We then viewed wildlife at nearby Murray Lagoon, thanks to John McCabe's high-powered binoculars.

In early November, a smaller group toured Sandy Paton's gorgeous property near Yeppoon. Sandy is a wonderful example of environmentalism, which is clearly reflected in her garden, filled with native trees and habitat for numerous animal species. Frogs are well catered for in the garden

and the two in-ground ponds. The Northern laughing tree frogs (*Litoria rothii*) were out in force and gave a demonstration of their unique laughing call right on cue!

Our next meeting is Sunday 13 January 4pm. If you live in the Rockhampton area and would be happy to host us at your place, we're looking for another Backyard Frog Habitat venue.

### Future events

25 November – Heritage Village Christmas Markets frog education display stall – please let me know if you can help for an hour or so between 8am and 1pm.

### Duck Ponds Nature Reserve frog survey

Once the rains begin, QFS will assist Wildlife Queensland with frog surveying of Duck Ponds Nature Reserve. If you'd like to assist or can lend some sound recording equipment or an all-weather camera, please contact me. Ergon Energy recently raised around \$100 for us for this project, which was wonderful. This will go towards the purchase of a set of headlights for QFS use.

Until next time, happy frogging.

Bethlea Bell, Rockhampton & Central Qld  
Coordinator  
Ph. 4933 1591 / 0428 394 525  
Email: [john\\_bethlea@bigpond.com](mailto:john_bethlea@bigpond.com)

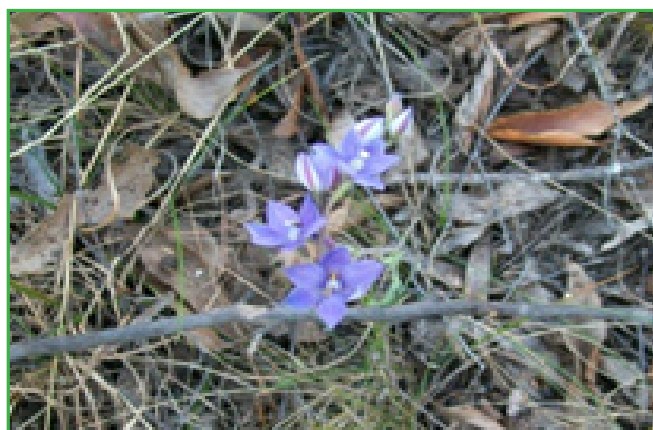
## New Editor

**T**hank you very much Naomi for being the *Frogsheet* Editor for the last few years and we hope you will still send in little snippets of what is happening in your area to the new editor, Jono. The *Frogsheet* is an important tool for the society to keep everyone up to date in the frog world and Naomi has done a valuable job to have it ready for the deadlines. No doubt Jono will put his stamp on the presentation for this and other editions which will keep us excited and interested about amphibians not only in this country but around the world.

## Trip to Tenterfield

**I** have been trying to visit Janet White since she and Neil moved from Brisbane to Tenterfield at least a couple of years ago and finally we were able to come up with a date that both of us were free on. It is a long drive but as I hadn't been out that way for quite a while I enjoyed seeing the countryside, the improvements being made at Cunningham's Gap and a bird I didn't know at one of the rest spots.

During the days there, Janet took me to some of Tenterfield's highlight spots to see native plants in flower (Boronias, Hakeas, ground orchids, to name a few), at least 2 platypus playing in a large river pond at dusk, some historic houses and the view from Mt. McKenzie.



Blue Sun Orchid

Source: Jenny Holdway

In the large garden around the house, there is a

small pond which is home to *Litoria dentata* and they live in a teapot that Janet made and I have included a photo of. Just goes to show that they will move into anything as long as it wet, dark and cool.



Frogs in teapot

Source: Jenny Holdway

Thanks goes to Janet for all her help in putting the new QFS colour brochure together (soon to be printed) so professionally as I know it has taken her quite a few hours work.

Jenny Holdway

## Global warming could help pesky fish pest

Anna Salleh 1 August, 2012

**T**he mosquitofish are better able to escape from their predators in warmer waters, the study found.


Thermal boost Global warming could advantage one pesky marine species while disadvantaging its predator, a new study suggests.

The study, of the eastern mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*) and its predator, the Australian bass (*Macquaria novemaculeata*), is published today in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*.

"Mosquitofish are very aggressive - they eat lots of tadpoles and eat or damage a lot smaller fish," says biologist Professor Frank Seebacher, of the University of Sydney.

"Once mosquitofish come in, the biodiversity decreases quite sharply. They are much more of a problem than canetoads."





Seebacher and colleagues wanted to investigate how increasing water temperatures could affect the relationship between mosquitofish and its predator.



Mosquito fish (*Gambusia holbrooki*) Source: Supplied

“Species respond really differently to the same changes in climate,” says Seebacher. “This is the first study to that looks at the thermal effects on interactions [between species].”

### Lab experiment

Seebacher and colleagues first acclimatised both mosquitofish and bass in laboratory tanks at 15°C and 25°C for several weeks, representing their winter and summer averages.

They then exposed each to 5°C increments in temperature starting at 10°C and ending at 30°C and tested how this affected their ability to swim, given their different long-term thermal background.

“Swimming is important for a fish to chase prey and escape predators, as well as to mate and reproduce,” says Seebacher.

The researchers also exposed the different fish to each other and measured how well the bass could catch mosquitofish and how well the mosquitofish could escape from the bass.

“Mosquitofish were much happier in warmer temperatures than the bass were and when we looked at their interaction we also found the mosquitofish were better able to escape from the bass at the warmer temperatures,” says Seebacher.

“It didn’t require much of an increase in water temperature for that to be apparent - only about 3 or 4 degrees above their mean.”

As well as being a fish humans like to eat, bass are currently being used by scientists to hold mosquitofish in check. But the researchers say their findings suggest as it gets warmer bass will be less able to feed themselves, because they will be less able to catch their prey and mosquitofish in return will escape predation.

The researchers now hope to look at the relationship between mosquitofish and their tadpole prey, and a three-way relationship between bass, mosquitofish and tadpoles.

“We’re increasing the complexity of the system to test the flow-on effect of what we’ve found in this paper,” says Seebacher

### Article taken from:

Salleh, A. (2012) ‘Global warming could help pesky fish pest’. *ABC Science*, 1 August, 2012, accessed 15 October 2012, <<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2012/08/01/3557368.htm>>.

## From the Campgrounds - QFS Conondale Camp Report 2012

After two cancellations of the Conondale frog camp during the (very wet!) 2011/2012 summer season, drier times allowed the camp to finally go ahead in early October. A group of eight froggers attended the camp at Conondale National Park, located in the Sunshine Coast hinterland.



Don't mess with this lot!

Source: Jesse Rowland

In stark contrast to the same time last year, conditions were very dry in the Park but the streams were still flowing well. The frogging highlights of the camp included some great views of sub-adult *Mixophyes iteratus* (Giant Barred

Frog) (pictured) and a very large female which initiated a lot of 'ooohs' and 'ahhhs' from the crowd! *Litoria pearsoniana* (Cascade Treefrog) (pictured) was also commonly encountered on the creeks, as were *Litoria wilcoxii* (Stony-creek Frog) seen perching on rocks, and a few *Adelotus brevis* (Tusked Frog) could be heard doing their distinct 'p-tuk' call.



Giant Barred Frog

Source: Jesse Rowland



Cascade Treefrog

Source: Jesse Rowland

Froggers were also excited by sightings of other wildlife inhabiting the Park, including a Water Rat, Long-nosed Bandicoot and a Rough-scaled Snake.

A big thanks to all who attended and to Rod Pattison for helping to organise the camp. Keep an eye out for upcoming camps, all welcome. Here's hoping the skies open up and we get more rain this season.

Till the next camp, happy frogging!

Jesse Rowland

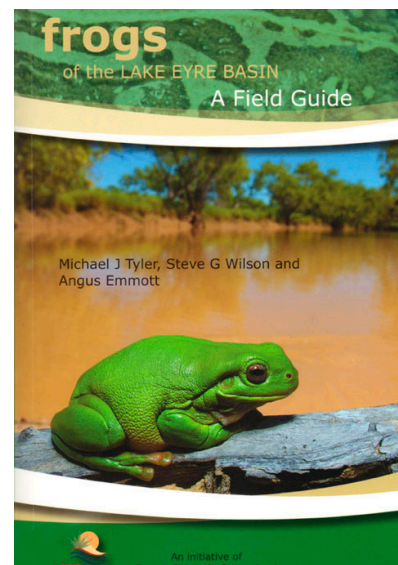
Stay tuned for early 2013 camp details!

### New Frog Camps email address

Most QFS Committee & Admin members now have qldfrogs.asn.au email addresses. There is also a new email address for all enquiries relating to frog camps, [frogcamps@qldfrogs.asn.au](mailto:frogcamps@qldfrogs.asn.au). This will ensure camp questions & matters are dealt with directly.

## Book Review - Frogs of the Lake Eyre Basin

Michael J. Tyler, Steve G. Wilson and Angus Emmott



The Lake Eyre basin covers one sixth of

Australia, a vast area that holds at least 35 species of frog. Many of these species have some of the most interesting life histories of all the world's frogs. The climate of much of the basin is extremely varia-

ble and many species have found innovative ways to wait out long dry periods until rain arrives.

This new regional field guide has been put together in a way that will be appreciated by people from a wide variety of backgrounds. It is filled with great close-up photographs and clear species descriptions that favour the use of plain English rather than scientific terms. Each species comes with a description of its distribution, call, preferred habitat and a notes section that gives interesting life history facts. A nice photo sequence of one of the burrowing frogs demonstrates how they burrow into the soil to prepare for a dry spell. I think the way this guide has been written and presented will see it well used by landholders and naturalists alike throughout the Lake Eyre basin.

Available from [www.dcq.org.au/retail-page](http://www.dcq.org.au/retail-page).

Tyrone Lavery





## From Jono

**H**i Fellow Froggers,  
I'm quite excited to have taken on the role of *Frogsheet* Editor, but first would like to thank Naomi for her hard work, season after season (since Spring, 2008) in preparing the *Frogsheet* newsletter. It's a job that I'll no doubt come to realise requires a fair amount of work, but I very much look forward to it!

Most of my time for the last two years has been spent studying a Bachelor of Science (Mjr Environmental Science) at the University of the Sunshine Coast, and at time of writing I've just realised I'll almost be finished once this newsletter is published! Wow. Anyway, I became real keen on frogs towards the end of last year (2011) and have since got to know and volunteer with frog monitoring with various people around the greater Sunshine Coast region. It's a whole lot of fun! I also became a member of the QFS around the same time and I'm privileged to be Editor of the Society's newsletter, along with helping out at displays and workshops.

I'd like to encourage all members to submit news/

photos/anything of interesting they'd like to share with fellow froggers, to make this newsletter even better! We'd love to hear from you! Please email items to me at [editor@qldfrogs.asn.au](mailto:editor@qldfrogs.asn.au). Please email photos as separate image files.

On a side note, you may like to visit my new

frog website, *Frogging Around* at [www.dogandselwyntoo.com/froggingaround](http://www.dogandselwyntoo.com/froggingaround) or alternatively, just Google 'frogging around'. I've also a blog with photos of frogs I find whilst frogging around south-east QLD.

Well, I hope you've enjoyed the new-look newsletter and I look forward to receiving more great content for the Autumn edition. I wish you all a Blessed Christmas! Remember the Reason for the Season ;)

*Jono Hooper*



**Thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter!**  
**Deadline for Autumn *Frogsheet* contributions is**  
**15<sup>th</sup> February, 2013**

If undelivered, please return to  
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**East Brisbane, QLD 4169**

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