

Presidents Report

Well the AGM went off without a hitch; thanks to Jenny for organising the venue, sending out the invitations and sorting out dinner afterwards. Thanks also to all those who attended what turned out to be a good night with a very interesting, entertaining presentation by Harry Hines. This newsletter contains just a taste of what Harry presented. We have two new faces on the committee this year with Jesse Rowland and Tyrone Lavery taking up the two positions of Vice President. Jenny and Janece will continue in their current rolls as our fabulous Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, and of course given I'm still writing this I was re-elected as President. Victor and Pearl are still floating around in the background too with Pearl continuing to organise Pobbles various appearances and Victor helping out with the accounts and displays.

I also managed to get along to my first frog society camp at Goomburra with quite an impressive turn-out of people! Even with the eventful weather a good time was had by all with quite a lot of frogs seen and heard - it would be wonderful to see more keen froggers along next time. So check out the story by Jesse to see what we found and keep an eye out for the dates of the next camp!

The Qld Frog Society has also entered the popular social media realm with a newly created facebook page. Thanks Susan! It is still developing with info being added all the time so jump on-line and check it out!

Well, that's all from me for now, enjoy the warmer weather and the frogs it brings!

Dan

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CONTENTS

President's report	1
Co-ordinators	2
Diary	2
Reports	3-4
Snippets	4-7
Editor's Desk	8

FROGSHEET BY EMAIL

We can send the Frogsheet by email (pdf of about 1MB) – or send you an alert by email that the newsletter is available to download (at your leisure) from the website. Send your email address to Jenny at qldfrogspond.net.au stating your preference.

FROG HABITAT BUSHCARE

Contact us if you are doing bush-care in Frog habitat and would like your working bees listed in Diary Dates.



*The Committee
would like to thank all members
for their support through the year
and wish you all a VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW
YEAR*

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IPSWICH

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DIARY DATES

FROG HABITAT SITE WORKING BEES

Bowman Park, Bardon from 8-11am
Contact Phil for more info

Grinstead Park, Alderley (off Shand St),
Contact Debbie Dolby – ddolby@hotmail.com
Phone 3355 4134

Carseldine Bush Crew – Cabbage Tree Ck, Carseldine

First Saturday every month 8am-9.30am
Meet where creek crosses Dorville Rd. **ALL WELCOME.** Contact James Hansen for more info.

QFS MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

Third Wednesday of month 7.30pm
Contact Jenny for venue. **ALL WELCOME**

Please note:

The Diary Dates & Venues are also on the QFS web site which is constantly updated so please check between newsletters. Please let Jenny know of other suitable dates.

Feb 5th - Rescheduled Frog ID Workshop - Mooloolah. Please Phone Jan on 0407641327 to book.

FROG ID WORKSHOP

The workshop scheduled for November had to be postponed and now will be on February 5th in Mooloolah.

This is an ideal way to get to know the frogs in your area especially as the breeding season will still be around. After the workshop, Jan plans a BBQ meal before we go out looking for frogs in the evening. Usually finishes about 9pm.

FROG CAMPS:

Jan 28-29: Booloumba Ck Camp – Conondale NP

Feb 25-26: Glen Rock Pk Camp, Casuarina Camp area
South of Gatton

Mar 17-18: North Shore Beach Camp – Lake Freshwater
Lake Cooloomera – North of Noosa

Please ring Rod – 32646391 so we know you are coming and for further details (eg bring water, camp cancelled)

Most of the Co-ordinators now hold the “Frogs of Brisbane” Poster and you can pick up your FREE (to members) poster from them.

UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS PLEASE

If you have changed your email address lately, the Secretary would be delighted if you would let her know.

NEW MEMBERS

Linda Dove, Maree Brinkman, Stacey Bagnall, Shane Ross, Louise Purcell, Annette Teng, Russell Ramak, Carole Lowde. Welcome back to Neville & Rosemary Kajewski.

SPONSORS

The colour heading on the Frogsheet has been kindly printed free of charge by
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QFS PUBLIC TRUST FUND – RIC NATTRASS RESEARCH GRANT

The QFS Trust Fund was created to help save frogs through education and research. It is now open to interested applicants. The purpose of the grant is to assist research into Queensland's frogs. The form and grant conditions can be obtained on our website www.qldfrogs.asn.au.

The QFS Public Trust Fund balance now stands at \$6857.17

CO-ORDINATORS AWARENESS RAISING

Are there fairs or community events coming up in your areas? Why not put up the QFS display and do some froggy awareness raising? You don't have to be an expert on frog identification or anatomy to get people interested in frogs. Get in touch with Jenny to arrange picking up the display, brochures etc

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ASHGROVE REPORT

Well, there was a hive of activity in this area when the early rains came with Tusked and Striped Marsh frogs spawning in my ponds and the local creek but since then, it has been fairly quiet. Fingers crossed the usual rains will start soon and I will hear the treefrogs getting excited.

Our AGM was very successful with two new vice presidents being elected and hopefully injecting some new ideas into the society. Harry Hines gave a wonderful presentation on the new discovery of two frogs in the far north which is also featured in this edition. It is great to find out that Australian frog numbers is growing and not decreasing and such diversity so they survive in a fairly hostile environment. Thank heavens for people like Conrad and Kieran who traipse through isolated areas.

The committee is still working on producing a colour frog brochure which, hopefully, will be produced next year. QFS is also on Facebook now with up dates of articles being posted as they come to hand. Please join up as a "friend" and I am happy to receive any ideas to make this page get our message out to the great public.

Have a great Christmas with your family and friends and thank you all for your on going support and all the best for 2012.

Jenny Holdway

QFS Goomburra Camp Report 2011

The weekend of the 15th October saw 12 keen froggers descend on the Manna Gum campground in the Goomburra section of Main Range National Park, in anticipation of what frogs were going to be out and about. A big storm which swept through the area late on Saturday didn't do anything to dampen spirits, and we soon found out the frogs agreed too. As the sun went down, the convoy of froggers slowly meandered along the dirt track to the various swamps and dams in the local area to see what the frogs had to offer, and we weren't disappointed.

The water bodies were alive with chorusing *Uperoleia fusca* (Dusky Toadlet) and *Litoria fallax* (Eastern Sedge Frog). The creek next to the campground was also buzzing with the constant 'wark' call of *Mixophyes fasciolatus* (Great Barred Frog). Other frogs seen and/or heard during the camp included the spectacular *Litoria verreauxii* (Whistling Treefrog) (pictured), the very cryptic *Kyarranus kundagungan* (Red-and-yellow Mountainfrog) and the endangered *Mixophyes fleayi* (Fleay's Barred Frog) (pictured). Goomburra is one of only a handful of places to see this threatened amphibian in its natural habitat.

Many thanks to all who attended and to Rod Pattison for organising the camp. Keep an eye out for upcoming camps in the New Year, all welcome. Fingers crossed for a great summer season!

Till the next camp, happy frogging!

Jesse Rowland



Whistling Treefrog: photo by Eridani Mulder



Fleay's Barred Frog: photo by Harry Hines

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I have newly found appreciation for a click click here and a click click where here a click where a click, clicks click are everywhere. Years ago when I started frogging I came across a road side ditch right beside suburbia where I heard my first clicking's (*Crinia signifia*). There were dozens of them all clicking away right there in front of me. So on went the head light and I went searching for another species to add to my list. It was not quite as easy as I thought it was going to be.

Half an hour or more past before I finally found one of these perfectly camouflaged, finger nail sizes frogs. I was covered in mud and had bugs crawling all over me but I also had a smile from ear to ear. It was one of those magic moments at only another frogger could truly understand.

Now days I am much better at finding a needles in hay stack. Be patient. The next time I found them was in a swamp just behind a beach and not long after that, all along a creek up in the mountains. Clicking just kept appearing almost everywhere I went. In the end, sad as it may seem I started thinking not more bloody clicking's again. In fact I got to the stage that I would have been happy if I never seen/heard one again. Fortunately my attitude towards this species received a had much needed shake up.

Last summer and I emphasize the word summer, I walked to the summit of MT Kuscuscko. It was about two degrees, snow was still all around and horizontal rain and sleet cut visibility down to only about ten metres at times. In spite of my protective clothing the cold was cutting through me like a knife. Over the noise of the wind and my chattering teeth I heard something? I thought to myself you have got to be joking. In spite of the weather conditions, in the small creeks and sooks which had water temps that would freeze the !!!! (Better leave brass monkeys out of this) clicking were calling. I wondered how they could survive in such a hostile environment let alone be happily calling for a mate. I was truly amazed and I suddenly found a whole new appreciation for clicking. It is one tough little frog that lives from the highest mountain to the lowest swamp and everything in between.

I may not jump for joy when I hear a clicking these days but if you're out frogging with me I am sure you will see a smile creep across my face when I do.

Always good frogging to all

Rod Pattison



Hula Painted Frog Found For The First Time in 50 years

Posted by [Julio Rotella](#) on Nov 17th, 2011



The Hula painted frog that was declared extinct in 1996 has been spotted again in Northern Israel. This is the first time in 50 years that this rare frog has been seen. The Hula Painted Frog has a dark belly with small white spots with other colours of a golden yellow-brown and rust fading into dark olive-grey and grey-black. It measures 6.3 cm and weighs just at 26 grams.

Only five Hula painted frogs have been collected. In 1940 four of them were found and then another one in 1950. At that time, the swamp was drained to stop malaria.

The person who found the Hula Painted Frog told the Ha'aretz newspaper about the find. Nature and Parks Authority warden Yoram Malka said, "I saw something jump that didn't look familiar. I rushed over and caught a frog, and when I turned it over I saw that it had a black belly with white spots, the identifying mark of the painted frog. I immediately returned with it to the reserve's office and took out the animal handbook, and I saw that what I had found look exactly like the painted frog that appears in the handbook."

Omri Gal of Israel's Nature and Parks Authority said "it is an amazing find, now we have a second chance to preserve the species."

Habitat loss and fungal diseases are a blame for nearly a third of the world's amphibian species extinction. The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources believe that the frog made it back after water was brought back to the Hula Region for rehydration almost three years ago. This was to reverse the ecological damage that was cause when the swamp was drain three years ago.

<http://z6mag.com/science/hula-painted-frog-found-for-the-first-time-in-50-years-163078.html>

Cape York double frog find rocks the world of science.

IT was dark and bucketing rain in the dense, swampy rainforest on remote Cape York when biologist Conrad Hoskin heard a "squelching" croak.

It told him that he and zoologist Kieran Aland had discovered a new species of frog. Dozens of the creatures emerged from the depths of massive granite boulder stacks near Lockhart River to bask in the torrential rain. The discovery doubles the number of known boulder-dwelling frog species in Australia – two other species can also be found at Cape York.

Dr Hoskin said the new species, the Kutini Boulder-frog (*Cophixalus kulakula*) and Golden-capped Boulder-frog (*Cophixalus pakayakulangun*) were not only new to science but also were previously unknown to the local Lockhart River Aboriginal community.

The wet-season expedition led Dr Hoskin, from James Cook University, and Dr Aland, from the Queensland Museum, to discover not one but two new species of boulder-dwelling frogs. The find doubles the number of known rock frog species in Australia, and these - at 5cm long - are bigger than any previously discovered rock or rainforest frog. They're also the most northern examples to be discovered on the continent. The Kutini Boulder-frog and the Golden-capped Boulder-frog look different from your average frog, too: they eschew hopping for climbing and their arms, not their legs, do the work.

"They look quite different to your standard frogs," Dr Hoskin said. "They're plump and pear-shaped and, compared to their relatives, they're surprisingly big. "They are adapted to their rocky world in having long arms, long slender fingers and big triangular finger pads."

Dr Hoskin said the discovery highlighted the biodiversity of species in northern Australia - and the potential to continually find new creatures. "Even though it's been harsh, hot and dry, and the rainforest has contracted, these frogs have persisted through an incredible length of time," he said. "They've had to get deep in among these rocks where it's cool and wet so, even if everything is dry around, the rocks acted like a refuge."

There are now 231 species of Australian frogs, with 18 new species found in the past decade. The find has been published in internationally renowned taxonomy journal Zootaxa.

Text from The Australian & news.com.au



Habitat of *Cophixalus pakayakulangun* Stanley Hill area (photo: Conrad Hoskin)



Golden-capped boulderfrog
Cophixalus pakayakulangun
Male
Microhylidae 'Vulnerable'
Photo: Kieran Aland;



Kutini boulderfrog
Cophixalus kulakula
Female foraging on leaf
Microhylidae 'Vulnerable'
Photo: Kieran Aland

FRCC project

Shelly McArdle of Fitzroy River Coastal Catchments is launching a “Bring back the locals” project and frogs are one of the species being targeted. Together Shelly and I have written 3 articles for the Morning Bulletin about 3 local frogs and how to attract them to your garden and these should start to appear soon. We’re also setting up displays at Bunnings on Saturday 10 December, 21 January and 18 February from 9am – 12 noon. The Qld Frog Society will set up a display and talk to interested members of the public about local frogs and attracting frogs while Shelly will show them how to simply construct frog ponds for their backyards.

Xstrata Coal funded project

Recently we were given nearly \$2000 from Xstrata Coal to run a “CQ Frog Education Project”. Most of the funding will go towards new professionally produced posters and brochures featuring some of the more common local frog species. A small amount was also allocated to a large free-standing sign for displays which is now ready for use. The poster and brochure design is still in draft form, awaiting advice and assistance from the state’s frog experts to fine-tune it. I’m hoping they’ll be available late this year or early next year. They’ll then be used at any displays, events or educational opportunities throughout the region, but particularly the Rockhampton area. A few local organisations have already shown interest in being involved in some way which is wonderful.

Qld Frog Society now on Facebook

The Qld Frog Society now has its own Facebook page for you to check out and contribute to at <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Queensland-Frog-Society-Inc/148719601890329>

Local Meeting

Since I took on the voluntary Coordinator role about a year ago a lot has been achieved even though we’ve never met as a group. I’d really like to have a casual get-together before the end of the year to meet and share ideas about local frogs and the above projects. If there’s a day or time that suits you better please let me know or if there are any times or days that definitely don’t suit I’d love to know those as well. A central location in Rockhampton would probably work best for this – any ideas for free and useful space with ample parking are most welcome. I’ll bring all of my frog information and resources as well so that everyone brush up on local species if they want to.

I’d love some help with any of the above projects, whether it be with ideas or moral support or photocopying or physical assistance on the day of the event. Also, please feel free to pass this email on to anyone in your circle of friends and acquaintances who are interested in learning more about and protecting our local native frogs.

Have a hoppy day,

Bethlea Bell
Local Coordinator – Qld Frog Society
www.qldfrogs.asn.au



Cyclorana novaehollandiae: by Luke Ukkola

From the Editor's Desk:

Waiting on the rain!!! My poor old pond is now bone dry and I had to rescue some tadpoles that were stranded in the little pools left in the bottom. It does get a bit distressful at times when I see this, as tadpoles only really do well in the proper environment. Living in water from rainwater tanks in foam boxes and having to eat boring old boiled lettuce is not my idea of fun.

Nothing else happening up this way – no other rescues and no injured/sick frogs into care. Hoping the big green trees will start croaking soon then I'll know for sure that rain is on its way.

From our house to yours hope everyone has a Froggy Christmas and a Hoppy New Year.

Til next time, Cheers

Naomi

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BCC GRANT HELPED TO COVER THE PRINTING COSTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER



*Dedicated to a
better Brisbane*

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Frogsheet – Summer 2011
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SURFACE
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AUSTRALIA

Frogs!

ACROSS

5 Every frog was once a _____ (7 letter word)

6 Pobbles, our mascot is a Scarlet sided _____ frog. (10 letter word)

7 A frog makes this sound when it is rainy. (6 letter word)

8 Every frog was born from an _____ (7 letter word)

10 A frog can sit on a _____ (8 letter word)

DOWN

1 Tadpole's go through changes, that make them grow back legs and front legs, this is called _____ (13 letter word)

2 A frog's habitat. (4 letter word)

3 Mmm.. Yummy, frogs like to eat these insects. (5 letter word)

4 Every species can be classified under a group, a frog is an _____ (8 letter word)

5 One of the most well known species of frog is the Green _____ (8 letter word)

9 This scaled reptile is one of the frog's predators. (5 letter word)



Frog Sheet

30/10/2011