




# FROGSHEET

<http://www.qldfrogs.asn.au/> |  questions [at] qldfrogs.asn.au |  /qldfrogsociety |  @qldfrogs

*A Kroombit treefrog sitting out on a fern at Kroombit Tops National Park.  
Photo courtesy of Stephen Mahony.*



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*QFS are back at the Queensland Garden Expo in July 2022!  
Read more on pg 4. Photo of QFS' 2021 stall by Jono Hooper.*



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**Public Trust Fund:** Total now stands at \$7,926.18  
Any donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible



## President's Report

**H**ELLO AGAIN TO ALL OF our QFS members. It is hard to believe that we are nearly halfway through the year already, but what is even harder to believe is the wet weather hasn't let up and it's winter! It would be great if it could be shared more evenly around the state as some areas haven't received near enough, while others have been inundated once again.

I had a feeling about 10 days prior to the latest rain event that we were in for another soaking due to the behaviour of the frogs in the area. Around the Mary Valley, where I reside, the 'summer' frogs had begun going into a state of torpor (similar to hibernation) due to the temperature and weather conditions. After several weeks of inactivity of these frogs, with no sightings, which is normal for this time of year, suddenly one night several species reappeared in larger numbers. These frogs have been active since then and are still out enjoying the wetter weather with many of them breeding in the new flood waters. It is amazing what our fauna can tell us about our weather.

On the 17th April I was lucky enough to be able to travel to Toowoomba to speak with members of the Toowoomba Bromeliad and Succulent Society at the Sacred Heart School Hall. This group invited the QFS to do a presentation at one of their general meetings. I spoke about the different frog species in the area and how to identify them, how to distinguish between cane toads and frogs and how to attract frogs to your garden. This group of keen gardeners were all very interested in these topics and asked lots of questions during and after the presentation. A big thank you to their society for making me feel so welcome for the afternoon and for the generous donation that was given to us. This donation has been put into our Public Trust Fund and will be used for our next recipient of the Ric Natrass Research Grant, which will be given out in early 2023.



*Display at the Toowoomba Bromeliad and Succulent Society at the Sacred Heart School Hall, April 17th 2022.*

The Queensland Frog Society was established to encourage and foster a public awareness of and an interest in frogs, and in 1999 the Queensland Frog Society Trust Fund was established to support the environmental aims of the society. In 2009 the first scholarships were made available, and in memory of the founder of the society, the scholarship was named "The Ric Natrass Research Grant". We have now increased the grant opportunities, so that a maximum of TWO grants of \$1,500 each are available in 2023! The purpose of the grant is to assist research into the frogs of Queensland. Applications are now open and you can download an application form from our website.

Take care of yourselves, and look out for each other and the environment.

Warm regards,

**Ashley Keune**



## QFS Public Trust Fund

**I**T IS GETTING TO THE end of the financial year so now is a great time to help support the Public Trust Fund. All donations go into the Public Trust Fund, and students and researchers from secondary and tertiary institutes can apply for grants through this trust fund. These grants fund research projects that aim to uncover valuable information to help to secure the future of many frog species, and that would not be possible without financial support from the fund.

If you want to see your money invested in the future of Queensland's frog fauna, donate to the Public Trust Fund by direct debit – details can be found on the [Ric Natrass Research Grant page](#) of our website. Remember, all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



## Kroombit Threatened Frogs Project update

**I**N LATE APRIL, A TEAM of 7 volunteers travelled to Kroombit Tops National Park for the last round of threatened frog surveys and monitoring funded by QFS's Community Sustainability Action Grant. Conditions during this survey event were cooler than expected and our target species - the critically endangered Kroombit tinker frog and Kroombit treefrog - were only recorded in low numbers at a handful of survey sites.

While at Kroombit Tops National Park, QFS volunteers were kept busy retrieving the numerous autonomous recording devices deployed on the last Frogsearch in November 2021. These devices have been recording frog calls at stream and seepage sites across Kroombit Tops on a nightly basis throughout summer and early autumn. Recordings downloaded from these devices will be analysed to determine the current distribution and abundance of threatened frog species at sites within Kroombit Tops National Park.

In addition to the aforementioned activities, volunteers also assisted with the control and removal of Lantana from the site where a pig proof fence was constructed by QFS volunteers in 2021. The fence constructed at this site has helped protect an important area of Kroombit tinker frog from pig damage as well as protecting animals from predation by pigs.

The results of surveys and monitoring undertaken by QFS volunteers in 2019–2022 will help inform management actions supporting the recovery of threatened frogs at Kroombit Tops National Park, including the proposed release of captive-bred animals to bolster numbers in the wild.

**Ed Meyer**

*Top: QFS volunteers assisting with the removal of Lantana from an area of Kroombit tinker frog habitat. Photo courtesy of Stephen Mahony.*

*Right: QFS volunteers with Harry Hines of QPWS at Kroombit Tops NP. Photo courtesy of Harry Hines.*





## Queensland Garden Expo 2022

**I**N THE COMING WEEKS WE will see the return of the Queensland Garden Expo. This will occur at the Nambour Showgrounds on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of July. This is a great event for anyone interested in gardening, suited to the green thumb through to the gardening novice, or even if you just want an informative, fun day out.

The Queensland Frog Society will have our stall set up once again in the Living Backyard section of the expo, which is sponsored by the Sunshine Coast Council. A big thank you to the council for offering us this opportunity once again! This event is one of our biggest and busiest for the year and we always have lots of interested people asking for advice about how to attract frogs to their gardens, how to identify different species of frogs as well as how to build frog ponds, frog hotels and general advice and information about frogs.

We are excited to announce that this year a member of the QFS will give one talk each day on one of the free live stages! This is a great opportunity for us to get the message out to the public about frog friendly gardens and general information about frogs. If you are interested in learning more about these topics we would love to see you at one of our talks or at our stall.

To help us run our stall successfully, we are looking for a few volunteers once again to help us out.



*The QFS stall at the Queensland Garden Expo 2021. Get in touch if you'd like to volunteer this year! Photo by Ashley Keune.*

Last year we have several new faces attend, which was fantastic to see. If you are interested in helping out at our QFS stall at this year's Queensland Garden Expo, please email one of us in the committee to let us know. The volunteers on the stall get a free pass to enter the garden expo, and you will get time to go have a look around other parts of the expo for part of the day as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Ashley Keune**

## New mountain frog species discovered in Southeast Queensland

**P***hyloria knowlesi*, aka the Mount Ballow Mountain Frog, was recently identified as a new species following extensive genetic analysis that distinguished it from the five other species of mountainfrog in Australia. The discovery was the result of a long-term partnership between the Queensland Department of Environment and Science (DES) and researchers from University of Newcastle, Southern Cross University, CSIRO, the Australian Museum and the South Australian Museum.

The new species, named after Australian environmentalist Ross Knowles, occurs in upland rainforests and adjoining wet eucalypt forests in Mt Barney National Park. It has already been classified as endangered according to IUCN Red List criteria. *P. knowlesi*, along with several other mountain frog species, are under threat from climate change and other factors including the spread of amphibian chytrid fungus and the presence of feral pigs. Due to current threats and the damage to their habitat in the 2019/20 bushfires, the Queensland



*Philoria knowlesi, a new species of mountain frog identified in Southeast Queensland. Photo courtesy of Stephen Mahony.*

Government are now working to protect the frogs' habitat as part of ongoing park management.

For more information about the discovery head to the [Queensland DES website](#), and for general information about the species, including photos and calls, visit [FrogID](#).

**Alice Carruthers**

## Spotted Tree Frogs released in Kosciuszko National Park, NSW

**I**N OUR LAST ISSUE WE REPORTED the release of 100 Southern Corroboree Frogs into five enclosures in Kosciuszko National Park (*Mid-Autumn Frogsheet; One hundred Southern Corroboree Frogs released in NSW, Australia*). Now, 80 critically endangered Spotted Tree Frogs have been released to boost populations of a species severely impacted by amphibian chytrid fungus. This is the first release since the 2019–20 bushfires, which had a devastating impact on the species, reducing the numbers from 250–300 to approximately 10 individuals.

Read more in the full [ABC News story](#) and on [NSW.gov.au](#).

**Alice Carruthers**

## Executive Committee

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

**8<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> July**  
QLD Garden Expo, Nambour Showgrounds

**20<sup>th</sup> August, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm**  
Presentation at Bulimba Creek Catchment  
Coordinating Committee

**3<sup>rd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> September**  
Off Grid Lifestyle Expo, Goomeri



## A warm welcome to new QFS members!

Allison Hamilton, Maeguerite Donaldson,  
Rebecca Seeto, Jennifer Shaw, Zanne  
Harvey, Axel Crossett, Emma Aquilina Moss,  
Steph Payne.



One of Queensland's winter breeding species, the Great Brown Broodfrog (*Pseudophryne major*), also known as the Large Toadlet. Photo courtesy of Ed Meyer.

PLEASE EMAIL [EDITOR@QLDFROGS.ASN.AU](mailto:EDITOR@QLDFROGS.ASN.AU)  
WITH ARTICLES FOR INCLUSION IN *FROGSHEET*

**DEADLINE FOR MID-WINTER  
FROGSHEET CONTRIBUTIONS IS  
27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**