

FROGSHEET

Notaden bennettii, Credit: Jono Hooper



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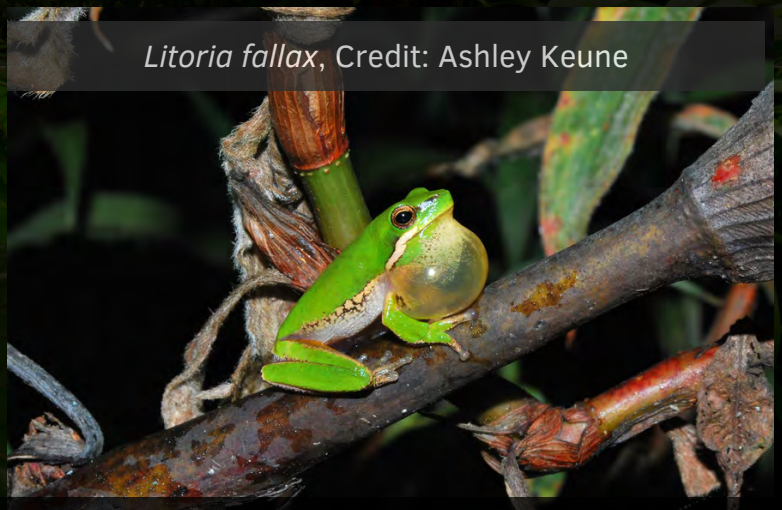
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Litoria fallax, Credit: Ashley Keune



Public Trust Fund: Total now stands at \$10,058.98

Any donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible, and all are added to our research grant fund, which is awarded annually

President's Report

Hello again to all our QFS members. I hope everybody is well. We can definitely feel the change of season starting again. With little rain for most areas in Queensland since our last newsletter it certainly is beginning to get very dry in many parts around the state. Hopefully we will start to see the start of the storm season soon (as long as they aren't damaging) so we can get some moisture in the ground and hopefully many species of frogs will become more active again.

We were lucky enough to be able to hold our inaugural webinar on Tinkerfrogs on July 26th after the initial date had to be postponed. It was a very educational and successful evening for all of those who attending via Zoom. We had approximately 45 people in attendance which was a good turnout. I know I learnt so much about the whole Kroombit Tinkerfrog project and how much work went into this project over many years. A massive thank you to Michael Vella, Harry Hines and our own Dr Ed Meyer for being our special guests to inform us about Tinkerfrogs and the Kroombit Tops project. Also a special mention to Jono who came up with this idea and organised the event for the QFS. For those members that missed the webinar you can access the whole webinar on our website on the following link:

<http://www.qldfrogs.asn.au/research-presentations/>

Once you click on the link you can choose to watch or listen to the webinar and once you click on one of those options, you will need to enter the password **LM*rdF10** to start the webinar.

Coming up in a few days we will set up our display at the Off Grid Expo which will run for the whole weekend at Goomeri on September 2nd and 3rd. We didn't attend the event last year due to several unforeseen circumstances so we are looking forward to attending this event once again at the new bigger site at Goomeri. A big thank you to our volunteers, Jono and Desley who are coming up with me to help out at this event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Also coming up in the near future is the Queensland Frog Society AGM. This year we will be holding a face to face meeting, as well as offering a Zoom link for people who can't attend the meeting at the physical venue. We have tentatively booked the AGM for the 22nd of October and the date, time and venue will be confirmed in the very near future and we will pass this information on to all of our members in an E-News. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the society, you may like to think of a role in the committee and if you are, you can nominate yourself in the coming weeks. You may just like to attend the meeting to see what has been happening in the QFS this year as well as hearing how our Ric Natrass research recipients have been progressing with their research throughout the year. Keep an eye out in your emails over the coming weeks if you are interested in attending the annual AGM.

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

Regards

Ashley Keune





Interested in Becoming QFS Treasurer?

The Queensland Frog Society is looking for a new Treasurer at our upcoming AGM. Any of our members are able to take on this position. This job can be done from the comfort of your home and done any time of day or night as it is mostly done online. Our income and expenditure is mostly recorded online and cash transactions are generally banked by the President or Secretary.

The main jobs of the Treasurer will include:

- Recording of income and expenditure on a simple spreadsheet
- Setting up payments for the QFS through online banking
- Creating a Treasurer's Report and presenting it at our Zoom meetings every 2 months
- Digital storage of receipts and claim forms from the society
- Getting records organized for the Auditor's Report

If you are wanting more information about the position or are interested in volunteering a little of your time to the Queensland Frog Society by becoming our new Treasurer, please contact Jenny (Secretary) either by email secretary@qldfrogs.asn.au or phone 0491 140 720.



2023 Leading Science Award Winner: Dr Jodi Rowley

In the realm of frog conservation, we're thrilled to spotlight the achievements of Dr. Jodi Rowley, a distinguished herpetologist based at the Australian Museum. Dr. Rowley's remarkable journey has seen her excel as both a dedicated research scientist and curator, playing a crucial role in shaping the herpetology collection at the Australian Museum. Notably, she stands as a co-founder and lead scientist of the lauded FrogID citizen science project, a national endeavour recognised for its excellence. Even at this early juncture in her career, Dr. Rowley shines as a formidable science communicator, an inspiring mentor, and a guiding light for students. Her portfolio boasts over 135 scientific articles, a testament to her unwavering dedication. It's noteworthy that Jodi occupies the pioneering position of a joint academic appointment between the Australian Museum and UNSW Sydney, adding to her illustrious journey. Let's applaud her remarkable trajectory, crowned by her ascent to the rank of Senior Research Scientist within the NSW Research Scientist Classification.



QLD FROG SOCIETY'S INAUGURAL WEBINAR

Following the first release of captive-bred critically-endangered Kroombit Tinkerfrogs (*Taudactylus pleione*) at Kroombit Tops National Park earlier this year, it was proposed that a webinar be held with key experts involved in the captive breeding program at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. After initially having to postpone the original date, the Tinkering with Tinkerfrogs webinar was held on the evening of Wednesday 26th July. Three special guests were invited to be a part of our first webinar: Dr Ed Meyer, Harry Hines and Michael Vella, all of whom enthusiastically embraced the idea and gave generously of their time. News of this first webinar was also keenly embraced, as all 100 available places were reserved within 4 days of the webinar first being announced!

The webinar was hosted by QFS President Ashley Keune and Events Coordinator Jono Hooper, who took turns asking Ed, Harry and Michael questions about the history of their involvement and the evolution of the breeding program. Questions were then taken and answered from those who were watching the live event, which ran for 1.5 hours. A recording of the webinar is available exclusively to our members, by logging in at <http://www.qldfrogs.asn.au/research-presentations/>.

Encouraging feedback was received by those who attended and from the three special guests, and other webinars are anticipated to be held in the future.

Workshop on Frog-Friendly Gardens

Join us at our upcoming workshop, hosted by the Keep Sandgate Beautiful Association and led conducted by Queensland Frog Society. Get ready for an informative session on creating a frog-friendly garden, followed by some light refreshments. And guess what? We're taking the excitement outdoors with a frogging expedition in the adjacent park!

Where: Sandgate Scout Hall, 134 Brighton Road, Sandgate

When: Saturday, 7 October, 4.45pm

RSVP: Drop us a line at ksbainc@gmail.com or give Linda a call at 0437 735 247

Newly Discovered Frog Species in NSW Faces Immediate Endangerment

“While it is exciting that a new species of frog has been identified, it is challenging to address the conservation of this frog because it has disappearances from over two thirds of its distribution,” Professor Mahony

In the lush landscapes of New South Wales, a previously unknown frog species has come to light, named *Mixophyes australis*. This frog's identification as endangered has raised concerns.

Named the southern stuttering frog (*Mixophyes australis*), this remarkable amphibian can grow up to 7.5 centimeters, making it one of the larger frog species in NSW. It features distinct large eyes with a golden hue above and a blue crescent, as well as a coppery-bronze back with darker barring on the legs. This species thrives in wet forest habitats near small streams.

This discovery is fascinating due to its relation to the existing *Mixophyes balbus* (stuttering frog),

which shares a resemblance and a stutter-like mating call. Genetic testing, however, has confirmed their separate identities. While *Mixophyes balbus* is found in the North, the newly identified *Mixophyes australis* resides in the South, spanning from Central NSW to East Gippsland in Victoria.

Leading the research is Honorary Professor Michael Mahony from the University of Newcastle. He emphasizes the importance of conserving this newly discovered species. Unfortunately, the southern stuttering frog has already disappeared from over two-thirds of its range. Professor Mahony's thorough conservation assessment suggests it warrants an endangered status, necessitating immediate conservation efforts.

Want to read more about *Mixophyes australis*?
<https://mapress.com/zt/article/view/zootaxa.5297.3.1>



Mixophyes australis, Credit: Michael Mahoney



Mixophyes australis, Credit: Ross Knowles



Mixophyes australis, Credit: Stephen Mahoney



Executive Committee

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A WARM WELCOME TO NEW QFS MEMBERS!

Warren Eaton, Charlie Tomkins, Rhett Richards Dodd, Glenna Kirk, Malcolm Smart, Lana Prior, Ulla Cooper, Kristy Grott, Melanie Halcoop, Diane Thomas, Ruth Huckstepp.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

2 & 3 September 2023
Off-Grid Lifestyle Expo,
Goomeri

7 October 2023
Workshop on Frog-Friendly
Gardens

20-22 October 2023
Sunshine Coast Bioblitz -
Maroochy Bushland Botanic
Gardens

SUNSHINE COAST BIOBLITZ

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN FROG SURVEYS
LEAD BY QFS ON 20 & 21 OCTOBER 2023:
[CLICK HERE](#)



PLEASE EMAIL EDITOR@QLDFROGS.ASN.AU WITH ARTICLES FOR INCLUSION IN FROGSHEET!
DEADLINE FOR SPRING FROGSHEET CONTRIBUTIONS IS **27 SEPTEMBER 2023**