



Pine Rivers Koala Care Association Inc.

Monthly Newsletter – Jan 2017 Volume 12 Edition 1



Upcoming Events

January 14th 2017

0900 start
Rescue Team Meeting
Mumfords Barn
Old Petrie Town
Dayboro Rd, Petrie

January 19th 2017

1900 – 2100
Monthly Association Meeting
Pendicup Community Centre
Samsonvale Rd, Warner

January 26th 2017

Multicultural Day and
Markets
Pine Rivers Showgrounds

February 4th 2017

Mango Hill Tavern
Raffle fundraiser

March 26th 2017

Bunnings North Lakes BBQ

May 6th 2017

PRKCAI Community
Appreciation Day
Venue and times TBC

AGM 22/09/2016

Firstly, thank you to all who attended our AGM on Thursday 22nd September.

Thank you to the outgoing members of the Executive, David and Annie for their dedication to Pine Rivers Koala Care over many years and through some very tough times.

Our executive for 2016/17 is be composed of Glenn Adie, President; Sue Laird, Vice President; Valerie Orr, Treasurer and Sally Elliott, Secretary.

Val and Coral will continue as Rescue Coordinators for both day and night time rescue activities. Mike has now taken over the daytime rescue functions that had previously been conducted by Gary.

Lynne has agreed to continue her role as Events Coordinator, we look forward to many more events and activities. As I have stated, previously I believe it is incumbent on us to provide an education aspect for our community.

Linda has advised that she will not be continuing in her role as Merchandise Coordinator as of December 2016, I would like to thank Linda for her dedication to the role and for establishing contacts for PRKC to continue to work with.

There was a motion passed at the AGM to increase Annual Membership fees to \$10 per individual or family, there will be no separate costings for family memberships. This increase will take effect for the 2017/18 financial year.

We do still have Coordinator positions to be filled. The first of these would be the Merchandise Coordinator position and I would like to look at our potential for completing an annual census of our koala population, specifically within the Pine Rivers

Recent Events



Pine Rivers Koala Care Association Inc.

Monthly Newsletter – Jan 2017 Volume 12 Edition 1

2015/16 President's Report

2015/16 proved to be another difficult year for our native wildlife with continued development and the failure of the promised reforms to the Vegetation Management Act.

Construction on the Redcliffe Peninsula Line has been completed with signal and track testing currently underway.

The Amcor Mill has been consigned to history with all significant buildings demolished to make way for University of Sunshine Coast (USC). There is hope that USC will utilise the area for environmental courses, though we know they are not highly profitable for the universities we are hoping that the significance of the habitat can help persuade them. It is also hoped that Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC) will take the opportunity to develop an environmentally conscious site and use the development to improve their environmental credentials.

The release by the State Government of figures showing a likely 54% decrease in Pine Rivers Koala population and an 80% decrease along the entire Koala Coast created a lot of media coverage and a lukewarm response from the government. Additional funding was allocated to 3 commercial koala facilities while the public facility at Moggill and the groups on the ground got nothing further. We have also heard nothing at this stage from the "expert" panel set up by the minister.

The great hope for Pine Rivers Koala Care Association Inc. is the dwarf fodder tree program where we are partnering with USC and MBRC to evaluate *E.kabiana* as a viable dwarf tree for use in peri-urban areas. The significance of this species cannot be understated; if we can demonstrate the retention of dwarf characteristics to MBRC and Department of Environment and Heritage Protection we will have a genuine opportunity to push for these trees to be used to join isolated habitat areas where the corridors have been disturbed as well as their use in streetscaping.

We continue to face challenges in maintaining a 24 hour rescue line as the number of koala calls decrease along with the koala population. We are likely to continue seeing a rise in the proportion of calls for other native wildlife, this is a challenge we have to prepare for and continue to adapt.

Our last 12 months has seen an increase in our community activities and involvement in community events. Whilst they are not always great for fundraising they are an important part of our ongoing role within the Moreton Bay region. With limited assistance from different levels of government it is incumbent on community groups such as ours to educate the public on the importance of fighting for our native wildlife. We still have many people come to us at events stating that they don't know who to contact if they see a native animal in distress, people that don't understand the devastating effects of dogs and cats and people that are frustrated by the inaction of government.

I would like to thank fellow members of the executive David and Anne for their work through the year as well as Sally for her tireless work for the Association and Val for taking on the Treasurer position when Anne had to move on. Thank you also to Gary and David for their assistance in getting me up to speed on the Association and operational matters.

I would also like to thank Val and Coral for their work as rescue coordinators, Lynne for taking on, and excelling, at the event coordinator role and Linda for her work on sourcing and purchasing merchandise.

Our greatest success of the last 12 months, the dwarf tree program, would not have been possible without Sally maintaining contact with USC and Sue coordinating school plantings and sourcing additional opportunities. A huge thank you also to Richard and Carole and Keith and Helen for all their work in nurturing and repotting so many trees for distribution.

I would like to thank all of our active members who have worked to rescue and/or rehabilitate native animals, assisted at community events throughout the year and that have attended our monthly meetings. Active volunteers are our lifeblood, we would not be able to get this vitally important message to so many without your assistance.

Rescue Team Update

As Mike has now taken on the daytime rescue on a full-time basis there will be some changes in the things we have operated previously. As such, we will be preparing a set of Standard Operating Procedures to be distributed to all current and prospective rescuers. This will ensure that rescue and public information provision will be consistent and will provide all of our rescuers with the information required to complete rescues in a professional and structured manner. Allowing of course for the vagaries that will always come into play when we are working with wild animals



Pine Rivers Koala Care Association Inc.

Monthly Newsletter – Jan 2017 Volume 12 Edition 1



PRKCAI are still working on a more professional presentation of our “giveaway” material.

If you know of any community or corporate grants where we can access funds for printing please let us know.

We are also on the lookout for an illustrator willing to donate time and talent to assist with completion of the new material.

Rescue Division Statistics

PRKCAI Apparel

Event & Rescue Teams

It was agreed at the final Association meeting in November that the Association would supply one shirt and hat to permanent rescue team members and regular event volunteers. The event team apparel will be available to non-active Association members for purchase and are a great way for you to show your support for the activities of the Association and our local wildlife.



Event Apparel
Shirt; \$30 incl. logo
Hat; \$15 incl. logo



Rescue Apparel
Shirt; \$45 incl. logo
Hat; \$15 incl. logo

The event shirts are available in men's and ladies sizes, a pocket can be added to the male sizes for an additional \$4.50 per shirt. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt or are eligible to have one supplied as a permanent rescue team member or regular event volunteer please respond to this email with size required. If you are uncertain of your eligibility to have a shirt supplied please discuss directly with the appropriate co-ordinator. We would like to place a bulk order with the supplier as soon as possible.

Humans may be the biggest threat to the survival of the koala, but we can be their greatest hope.