

A voice
for koalas
in the Redlands

www.koalagroup.asn.au
email: admin@koalagroup.asn.au

KAG Newsletter

October–December 2024

YOU ARE INVITED

**KAG
Christmas Party
December 7
at 5pm
Lions Hall -
122 Shore St N,
Cleveland**

Please RSVP to 0407094799
or email
admin@koalagroup.asn.au
by 2/12/24 for catering purposes

**WE HOPE TO
SEE YOU THERE!**



Redlands IndigiScapes Nursery

Opening hours: 10am-3pm Monday-Friday and 9am-12 noon on the first Saturday of each month. All plants are only \$3.00 each. Redland City Council residents can obtain 5 free koala food trees to plant on Redland properties to provide habitat.

Your garden is bound to be a naturally wonderful oasis for you and the wildlife we share our neighbourhoods with!

A Better Plan for Toondah

A draft Toondah Harbour Concept Plan has been unveiled showing a 'Community Vision for Toondah Harbour' and is receiving extremely positive feedback.

Member groups of the Toondah Alliance (of which KAG is a member) engaged landscape architect John Mongard, along with his team of colleagues who have expertise in planning and urban design to develop a draft Community Concept Plan for the Toondah Harbour precinct area.

The draft plan has been on display at the Cleveland markets over several weekends and responses from the public have been overwhelmingly positive.

Comments and feedback have been recorded and will be passed onto Redland City Council and the State Government.

KAG hopes that common sense will prevail and a decision will be made to move forward on developing the Toondah Harbour precinct in a sensitive manner.

The essential requirements are upgrades to the ferry terminal, parking problem solutions, and

promotion of eco tourism opportunities, without impacting on the natural environment, including migratory shorebirds and the local koala population.

We believe the draft Community Concept Plan would achieve all of these things.

KAG understands that following the Federal Environment Minister's preliminary decision to refuse Walker Corporation's development proposal in April this year, the developer has 12 months to put forward an alternative proposal that would not include any development on the Ramsar wetlands.



This newsletter is produced by
The Koala Action Group Qld Inc
Address: PO Box 660
Capalaba Qld 4157
ABN: 85 618 891 610
Phone: 3823 5575
email: admin@koalagroup.asn.au
web : www.koalagroup.asn.au

Patrons Helen Murray
Councillor Lance Hewlett
Councillor Wendy Boglary
President Debbie Pointing
V/President & Policy Advisor
Lynn Roberts
Secretary Jenny Niall
Treasurer Jennifer Hoskin
Newsletter Debbie Pointing
Executive Members
Chris Bray
Carmel Rackemann
Tanya Golitschenko

Koala Sightings September – November 2024

Birkdale: Byng Rd, Pitt Rd. **Cleveland:** Channel St, Island St, Middle St, Shore St E, Woodrow Pl. **NSI:** Ballow St, Barton St, Brown Lake Dr, Clayton Rd, Cumming Pde, Dickson Way, Dugong St, Furness Av, Kindara St, Llewelyn St, Oxley Pde, Sovereign Rd, Wallum Ck Dr, Yabby St. **Ormiston:** Dundas St W, Sturgeon St, Wellington St. **Redland Bay:** German Church Rd. **Thorneside:** Beatty Rd. **Thorlands:** Boundary Rd, Congreve Cr, Pinecone Pl. **Victoria Pt:** Nottingham Dr, Pt O'Halloran Rd. **Wellington Pt:** Archer Pl, Bligh St, Hilliard Pk Dr, Leonard St.

Other LGA's: **BCC:** MT Gravatt E. **SRRC:** Canungra. **CCC NSW:** Macquarie Fields.

Primary data sources:

<https://biocollect.ala.org.au/project/index/edad0555-32a6-473e-8956-c70cf80329c4>
<https://biocollect.ala.org.au/acsa/project/index/f3d0ad81-135d-40bb-baec-50db553df6d0>
[https://biocache.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?q=text:koala&fq=c1959:%22Redland%20\(C\)%22&pageSize=100](https://biocache.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?q=text:koala&fq=c1959:%22Redland%20(C)%22&pageSize=100)

Council Grant for new laptops

KAG has purchased two new laptops with grant funding we successfully obtained from Redland City Council's Mayor and Councillors' Community Benefit Fund.

We sincerely thank Mayor Jos Mitchell, and councillors Wendy Boglary, Lance Hewlett and Paul Golle for their support.

Grill'd 'Local Matters'

KAG has been advised that we won first prize of \$300.00 for receiving the most tokens in our 'local matters' jar during the month of September.

Thank you to members and supporters who visited the Victoria Pt restaurant and also to Grill'd for their support.

[Grill'd Burgers Victoria Point - Healthy Burger Restaurant \(https://grilld.com.au/restaurants/queensland/victoria-point\)](https://grilld.com.au/restaurants/queensland/victoria-point)



Containers for Change

Thank you to everyone who has made the effort to return their recyclables to one of the local centres.

Over the past 12 months almost \$300.00 has been donated to KAG via the scheme.

Our ID code is **C10146563** and for more information visit: [Containers for Change \(https://www.containersforchange.com.au/qld/how-it-works\)](https://www.containersforchange.com.au/qld/how-it-works)

Straddie Koala Count Results

In October, volunteers assisted Council Officers and koala researchers to survey urban koala populations in the townships on North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah).

The survey recorded 48 koalas, including 2 juveniles and 7 backriders.

The survey is a snapshot of the population on the island. Although it can't capture every koala in urban areas, it helps identify trends, provides information regarding joeys and assists in decision making. (Source: Redland City Council)

Council's new Koala Awareness Program

A series of billboard displays and social media ads have been launched by Council as part of their Koala Conservation initiatives. KAG commends the important research work that Council is undertaking in partnership with Griffith University and the University of the Sunshine Coast.

Other new initiatives underway are; investigation of two koala trails (community education and ecotourism), annual koala surveys (using koala detection dogs and drones) on selected sites in the Redlands, early disease intervention program, habitat connectivity, digital data platform and Bluetooth koala tagging system.

For further info: https://www.redland.qld.gov.au/info/20301/koala_conservation/913/koala_conservation_plan



Billboard at Wellington St, Ormiston (Photo: Una Sandeman)

KAG's Planting History

After 36 years of planting habitat to connect linkages and strengthen fauna corridors, KAG Bushcare group did their final planting last month. With the absence of a Bushcare Convenor to continue, a decision was made to disband the Bushcare Koala planting group.

Over those years KAG has undertaken extensive revegetation work across much of the Redlands planting an estimated 80,000 koala food trees and other native flora.

The adjacent map shows many of the areas KAG has transformed from mowed grass into lush habitat providing much needed movement corridors for koalas and other wildlife. Many existing linkages were also widened with new habitat.

The majority of KAG's revegetation work focussed on the northern parts of Redland City, as this is where urbanisation has resulted in rapid massive habitat losses.

The incremental loss of patches of urban bushland as well as individual trees in backyards has made it increasingly difficult for koalas to move easily and safely across the urban landscape.

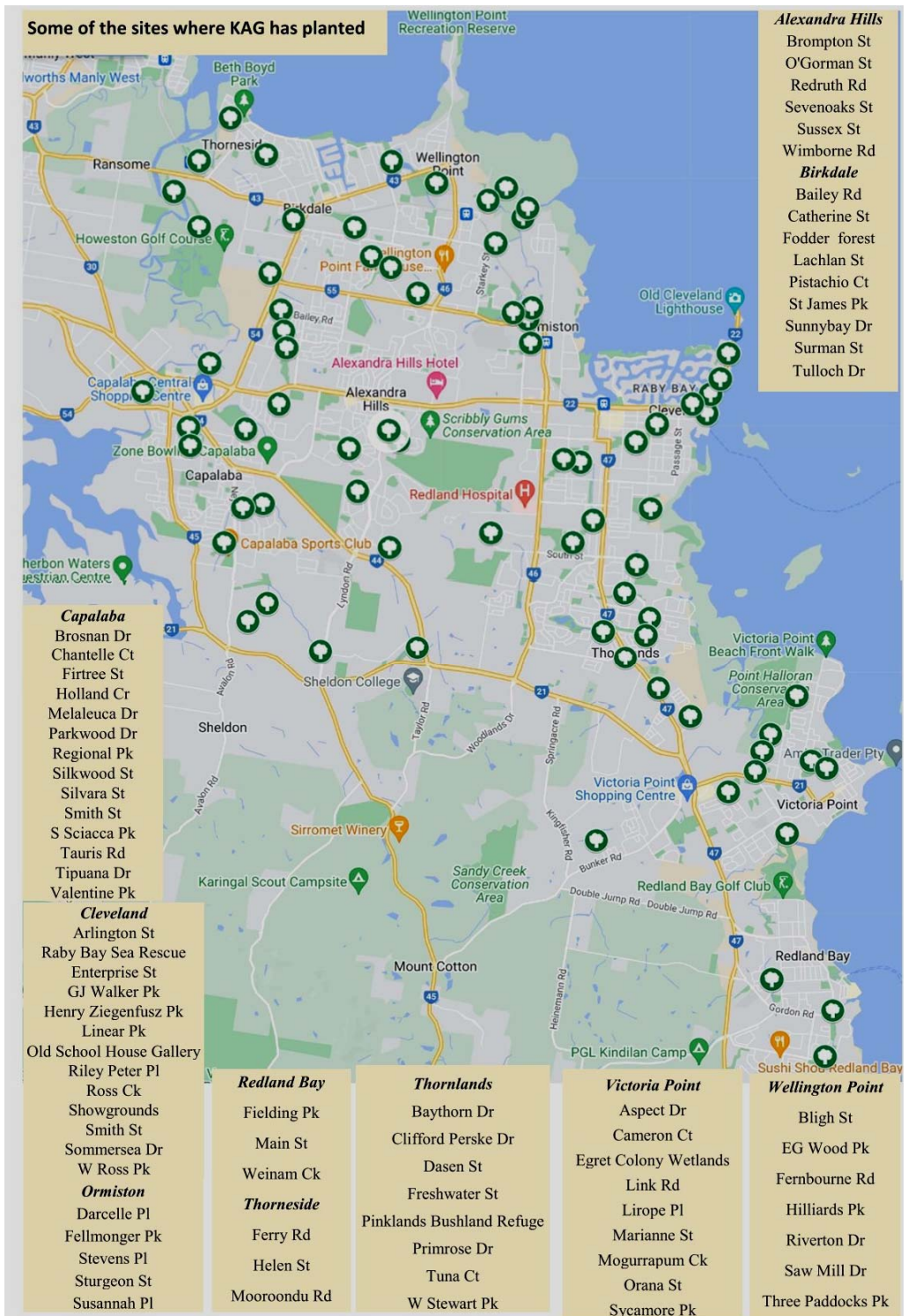
KAG has a proud record of their plantings having a high plant survival rate due to the care and expertise of the planting team. Even during times of drought, the loss of plants has been minimal.

KAG was founded in 1987 by Helen Murray and several other Birkdale residents.

The group started their own koala food tree nursery the following year in the backyard of the late Harold Brown and then later moved to KAG members Chris and David Moriarty's property at Wellington Pt.

KAG members collected seed from eucalyptus trees known to be favourites of koalas, propagated and grew various species of eucalypts which were sold to the public, developers and Redlands Council. The KAG nursery ran for 22 years and officially closed at the end of 2010, once the IndigiScapes Nursery had become fully established.

Note: The map above was created using Google My Map.



Fauna Escape Hatches Proving A Success

Endeavour Veterinary Ecology (EVE) has teamed up with City of Moreton Bay and Qld Department of Transport and Main Roads to create an innovative solution to reduce koala fatalities on Qld roads. Over the 12-month trial, three pairs of koala escape solutions were installed at the trial site at EVE's HQ in Toorbul, City of Moreton Bay: traditional escape poles, an escape valve, and the Fauna Escape Hatch.



The Fauna Escape Hatch is a gravitational hinged device that allows koalas one-way passage, preventing them from returning across roads.

The trial results were compelling, with koalas successfully navigating their way through the Fauna Escape Hatch 100% of the time whenever it was encountered.

Sixteen of the devices have been installed on sites across Moreton Bay City Council and will be monitored by wildlife cameras.

EVE are hoping to roll out the Fauna Escape Hatches across Australia to lessen the risk of vehicle and train strikes to koalas.

An action shot of a koala using the fauna escape hatch at EVE headquarters in Toorbul Qld (Photo: Dr Deidre de Villiers EVE)

**To report a sick or injured koala contact
Redlands Wildlife Rescue Service (24 hours) on 3833 4031**

Report koala sightings to -

Redlands Koala Watch www.redland.qld.gov.au/info/

OR

[Report a Koala Sighting – Koala Action Group Qld Inc \(www.koalagroup.asn.au\)](http://www.koalagroup.asn.au)

KAG HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT FROM FEBRUARY 2025, SUNCORP BANK WILL NO LONGER ACCEPT CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER DEPOSITS TO ANY SUNCORP BANK ACCOUNT. WE APOLOGISE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS MAY CAUSE AND IF YOU WISH TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO PAY MEMBERSHIP FEES, PLEASE CALL US ON 0407 094 799

KAG Membership: Application/Renewal Please complete the following and forward to: KAG: PO Box 660, Capalaba Qld 4157 or email admin@koalagroup.asn.au
Fees can now be made via direct debit to: Koala Action Group Qld Inc. Suncorp Bank BSB: 484-799 Account No: 001748631 and include your name in the reference line.

Name -----
Address -----
Phone/email -----

Please specify membership type. Annual membership rates:
Single:\$15; Family:\$25; Pensioner:\$10; Under 18:\$10 Donation(optional)

Please indicate if you are interested in any of the following.
Tree planting { } Help with displays { } Letterbox drops { } Wildlife Rescue { }
I apply for membership of the Koala Action Group Qld Inc and enclose my membership fee.

Signature:Date:.....

All membership renewals are due in June unless otherwise stated on newsletter envelope's address label. Email recipients will receive an email renewal advice.

Note: KAG has a Public Liability Policy with a limit for any one occurrence of \$ 30,000,000