



COOLOOLA NATURE ABN 60 815 005 948

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The “Cooloola Festival of Birds”
(Held over the 11th – 12th February 2012, Tin Can Bay Foreshore)

The Following Provides Information regarding the “Cooloola Festival of Birds”, held on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore over the Weekend of the 11th – 12th of February, 2012, sponsored by the Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee Incorporated, and funded through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund –

The “Cooloola Festival of Birds” highlighted the Influence that Birds have had on our Culture, Beliefs, and Daily Lives since earliest times through Dance, Song, Art, and Story Telling, while Promoting the Diversity of Birds, their Habitats and requirements throughout Cooloola.

COOLOOLA NATURE believes such an all-inclusive approach to Environmental Education nurtures a greater understanding and feel for our Natural Environment as a whole among the General Public, an essential prerequisite to the re-awakening of our innate Bond with the Natural World.

This Unique Environmental & Educational Event, being promoted through our Website “Birding Cooloola Mountains to Shore” and other Media Outlets, served to promote Birds and their Habitats throughout Cooloola, including the Mary River Catchment, to the Bird Watching Public.

We believe such an Eco-tourism Initiative will assist the Renewal of the Mary Valley with monetary benefits arising for local economies through “Birdwatching Tourism”, and highlight the importance & vulnerability of Cooloola Coast shorebird habitats in the face of growing development pressures.

In addition to providing educational opportunities for groups such as Queensland Wader Studies, Birds Queensland and other relevant organisations who attended, we hope that it may have provided for the General Public a re-awakening of their innate Bond with our Avian Fauna, and through this, a greater understanding and feel for our Natural Environment as a whole.

Regards Kelvin & Amelia Nielsen
COOLOOLA NATURE

“COOLOOLA NATURE is a “Not for Profit” Entity operating in the Field of Environmental Education”

COOLOOLA NATURE Educating youth & the general public in the care and appreciation of our environment, instilling in them a community awareness and appreciation of our natural world!



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The “Cooloola Festival of Birds” **(Held over the 11th – 12th February 2012 Tin Can Bay Foreshore)**

Promoting the diversity of “Bushbird” species inhabiting the Cooloola Coast and adjacent inland regions; highlighting the importance & vulnerability of Cooloola Coast shorebird habitats in the face of growing development

Providing a re-awakening of our innate Bond with Avian Fauna, and through this, a greater understanding and feel for our Natural Environment as a whole

Acknowledgements

COOLOOLA NATURE has received many very favourable & enthusiastic comments regarding the Festival, and would sincerely like to thank all those in attendance who made it all possible -

Dr Norm Duke (James Cook University & Mangrove Watch) - Tara Nielsen (University of the Sunshine Coast) - Rob Clemens (Queensland Wader Study Group) - Mike West & Members of Birds Queensland - Valda Mclean (Noosa Parks Bird Observers) - Clive Allan (Birds Australia), Raoul Slater & Mark Russell

In addition the Artists - Jolian Solomon - Melinda Hine - Judi Donald - Sandra Ross, & Multicultural Groups - Cook Islands Cultural Group - The Armenians - Gubbi Gubbi Dance Troupe - Butchulla Dance Group - Maori Dance Group.

Not forgetting The “Angel” of the “Grotto” & Rainbow Eco shows for providing on-going entertainment for Adults & Children alike over the weekend, & Motoyuki Niwa with “Batari Taiko” Music for providing a spectacular finale to Saturday evening proceedings along with “Phoenix Fire & “Flight of the Phoenix”.

COOLOOLA NATURE would particularly wish to thank Ms Sherry Obrien, Wetland Care Australia’s senior Project Officer, & BMRG for incorporating their World Wetland Day activities into the Festival, and of course our Sponsors & Supporters –

The State Government Gambling Community Benefit Fund, Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee Incorporated, BMRG, Great Sandy Man & The Biosphere Queensland, Nestle, Gympie & District Community Bank, & Lee Fishing Company Pty Ltd., in addition to our many Volunteers who ably assisted with the Catering and smooth running of Festival proceedings.

COOLOOLA NATURE looks forward to a future time when we may all gather on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore to once again “Celebrate the Birds of Cooloola”!

Regards Kelvin & Amelia Nielsen
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