

SAVE FRASER ISLAND DINGOES Inc.



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NEWSLETTER



Deppel, Parkhurst



EASTER 2019

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SFID Committee..



Administration Team

President	Malcom Kilpatrick
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Assistant Secretary	Patricia Wilton
Treasurer	Karin Kilpatrick
Publicity Officer	Cheryl Bryant
Events Co-ordinator	Robert Heathcote
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Scientific and Research Team

Dingo Advisor/Wildlife Photographer	Jennifer Parkhurst
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SFID Inc 1A37577. ABN: 15 369 628 753. Member of the ACNC (non for profit organisation, recognised by Federal Government as an Environmental Organisation with Tax Deductible Recipients Status)



President's Report.



2019 is moving rapidly and I had hoped that by our first Newsletter for the year would start off with a progress report on the DNA testing we wish to commence, but unfortunately we are still waiting for a decision from the Butchulla Committee which we hope will be forthcoming after their Board Meeting, we will update you as soon as we receive notification of a decision.

We were very saddened to receive word that 2 dingoes had to be put down last month unfortunately due to negative interaction with tourists. Easter and School holidays brings concerns for the dingoes as thousands of holiday makers converge on to the Island, we urge that people stay safe, observe all warnings verbally and written. The dingoes are now looking for suitable places to establish their dens as it is mating season.

It is heart-warming to see National Parks overseas actually go to the extent of providing human contact free zones and safe passage for migratory animals, we surely could learn from this.

Once again our Newsletter holds informative and interesting information which we hope you will enjoy. Good to see that Barbara Lynch our JP is up and about again after a long bout in hospital.

Congratulations to Fred Wright on attaining 100 years of age!

I would also like to thank our loyal supporters for their encouragement, information renewing their memberships and more recently for purchasing our Commemorative 10 year Calendar and book the 'K'gari Dingo Legacy.'

On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish you all a safe and Happy Easter.

Best wishes,

Malcom.



Publicity Officer's Report.



I'm sure that most members would be aware that there has been a very sad and distressing start to the year. We have lost two vital and vibrant K'gari dingoes, unfortunately we will never know their potential and the consequences of losing these animals from the gene pool is also unknown, but it would certainly disrupt the dingo group dynamics.

We hope that the publicity generated by the death of these animals motivates the decision makers to find long term solution to prevent negative interactions from occurring in the future. Destroying dingoes is a short term solution and wont prevent further incidents.



*Green Tag. 18 month
Juvenile destroyed.*

We can blame the family involved in the incident, we can blame the QPWS, we can blame the government and we can claim the QPWS don't have the authority to destroy dingoes, but at the end of the day we have lost two animals and two people were badly injured. If the animals involved had gone on to harm another person even more seriously, or worse, there would then be calls for a cull which could jeopardise the whole population.

Therefore researchers, local community and policy makers need to come together and lay on the table all options and recommendations for discussion. What is needed are new and innovative ideas to protect both visitors and dingoes and this can only be achieved by open and constructive dialogue with all parties.

SFID has made representation and suggestions from our perspective to the Minister and QPWS, the proposals are outlined on another page in the Newsletter.

Change happens by listening and then starting a dialogue with the people who are doing something you don't believe is right. Jane Goodall.

At the same time we must be careful and not go back to the dark old days of hazing and shock collars. Apart from the obvious cruelty they were also ineffective.

SHOCK COLLARS. In a report conducted on dogs regarding the effectiveness of shock collars it was 'concluded that shocks received during training (were) not only unpleasant but painful and frightening and that shocked dogs were more stressful. Apart from the acute pain and fear, the collars may influence the dog's well being and in the long term in a negative way'

Studies have shown that for some dogs the trauma associated with electrical shock can be

lasting. 'Shock collars can quickly make an animal territorial and in some cases reactive towards humans.'

Another problem is that the unit can malfunction. 'The result could be electrical burns, creating holes in the affected dog's neck causing serious physical and emotional damage.'

I think it is clear that we would not support the use of shock collars or any deterrent that would cause physical pain and distress.

We have had reports of visitors now getting out of vehicles and deliberately trying to chase and harm animals, this is not acceptable..if you are on the Island and see something of this nature, speak up if you can and get the driver's license.

There is contact info on the Island or alternatively phone (07) 4127 9150 or email dingo.ranger@des.qld.gov.au or contact SFID and we can pass the info on..

Since the inception of SFID our goal has not changed, we continue to lobby government, raise awareness and support non-invasive research in order to develop strategies to maintain a viable and healthy dingo population and ensure dingo management remains transparent and open to public scrutiny. It's important we engage with the community at events such as festivals, markets, displays and sausage sizzles. This provides an opportunity to inform the public of the issues facing the Island dingoes and raise funds to support research and obtain RTI (Right to Information) which has enabled us to expose practices detrimental to the dingo population.

At a meeting in December with QPWS management we strongly advocated that a health assessment scoring system be considered as recommended in the Strategic Research Program, and a Dingo Health Monitoring Program be implemented to determine the prevalence of disease and the general health of the dingo population. We will be following this up in the coming months.

EASTER WARNING. As Easter is on our doorstep it is a timely reminder to those visiting the Island to adhere to the rules and remember that the lives of our K'gari dingoes could depend on your actions. If you are fortunate enough to see an animal, enjoy the experience from a distance and don't get out of a vehicle or encourage them to approach.

The holiday period is a crucial time, we don't want any more negative incidents in the headlines and we don't want to lose any more animals.

Wishing everyone a very Happy and fun-filled Easter..

Cheryl..



Encounters of the Human Kind.

By Jennifer Parkhurst

As you all know, I had many wonderful, happy encounters with dingoes over the years on Fraser Island. But I also had positive encounters with tourists. These interactions make up some of the happy memories I have of my time on K'gari.

One day I was photographing a juvenile dingo named Jazzy, when some people approached me. They were astounded at how comfortable I was with this wild dingo coming so close to me. It was often the case that people saw me with the dingoes and were fascinated. It was a young couple who had camped overnight in Jazzy's territory with their baby. They explained that as they prepared dinner, they had laid the baby on the picnic rug near them. Jazzy approached and they said they weren't frightened because they had a big dog at home. They just moved closer to the baby as Jazzy explored the camp site, and eventually sat down at a distance from them. They didn't feel intimidated, and remained calm when they went to bed, knowing she was still out there. One mistake they did make was to leave their shoes outside the tent. Jazzy, being a thief like all Fraser Island dingoes, stole one each of their shoes. They were nonplussed and said it was their own fault. I asked if they had been concerned about the welfare of their baby, and they said not at all – they were more concerned at home with their big dog. They thoroughly enjoyed Jazzy's company, and after they left to travel north I found their shoes, and took them to the barge for them to retrieve on their homeward journey.



calm people = calm dingo



Take pictures from a distance.

Many of you would have seen my YouTube video 'NOT a dingo attack'. For those who haven't, I was in the bush when I heard a commotion out on the beach. I raced out with my video camera recording, to discover a man near the water screaming and throwing things at a 'pack' of dingoes. The pack was really just five juvenile dingoes having a game with him. But he didn't know that. He was terrified. I emerged and yelled out 'Just stand still mate, just stand still!' He immediately stopped moving, put his arms to his sides and waited for me to approach. Instantly, the dingoes moved away. 'Am I okay?' He asked. I assured him he

was okay. I explained that shouting and moving about excited dingoes, especially juveniles. His reaction to my vocal command had been fantastic – it showed a lot of trust in someone he didn't know. After he had calmed down, the dingoes came back and all sniffed him. We then spent two hours talking while the dingoes played around us. He was from South Australia and had never had a dingo encounter before. He left the Island very happy, saying he had thoroughly enjoyed his experience. Two years later he came back specifically to find me. When we met again, he said his day on Fraser Island with the dingoes was the best day of his life, and he had specifically come back to tell me that. I was very gratified that what could have been a negative experience for him turned into a positive one.

One last story: I was out on the beach at Coolooloi one day when some people pulled up in a tender. The dingoes were around of course, and they got out to take photos. They approached me and asked if I was the 'dingo woman'. I laughed and said 'probably'. They explained that friends of theirs had pulled up at the same spot several months previously and had had a long chat with a woman about dingoes. I remembered them. We then spent the afternoon talking.

They had just come from Gary's Anchorage and had seen some dingoes there. They said the dingoes were emaciated, so skinny they could barely move. The people were going to call the RSPCA that night and make a complaint. Talking to people was always a god opportunity to find out about the condition of dingoes in places on the Island I couldn't get to myself.

Surprisingly they were pastoralists with a big sheep property. They said they had a dingo pack that roamed around their property. They did not bait the dingoes, because for the most part the dingoes were protecting the property from wild dogs. (A stable dingo pack will only take what food is necessary, and rarely take stock animals – they don't like the taste. If the pack is allowed to remain intact, it will protect the property because it is part of their territory. In most cases, it is the wild dogs that are causing the problems with stock predation. I was thrilled to know there were pastoralists who knew the benefits of keeping a dingo pack in their area and who refused to use bait.) There was one wild dog trying to infiltrate the dingo pack and they were in the process of trying to eradicate it. They refused to use poison and instead shot whatever wild dogs came near.

I spent many hours enjoying encounters like this, and whenever I was out on the beach and people saw my reactions to dingoes, they always calmed down and enjoyed the dingo's presence rather than being scared. Whenever I could I educated people about dingo behaviour, and hoped they would pass the information on. My oft bemoaned cry was: if only the rangers had the time and resources to just stand around and talk to people – especially at busy tourist times when people and dingoes tend to encounter one another more often! Having one calm person in a group can make a significant difference to the way a dingo responds to people, and vice-versa.

This was the first Media Release of the year, unfortunately it was the beginning of the end for this dingo family group.



SFID MEDIA STATEMENT.

25 Jan 2019

Incident on K'Gari (Fraser Island.)

There has been a very unfortunate start to the New Year with a young child being bitten by a dingo on K'Gari. The incident occurred Saturday 19 Jan. around 6PM near the Govi campsite north of Dilli Village..

Reports suggest the 6 year old boy ran up a sand dune out of sight of parents and straight into a family of four animals. The dingoes were obviously startled and acted instinctively, we believe it was a female with juvenile pups, one animal bit the child on the leg and he was taken to Hervey Bay hospital with puncture wounds where he is recovering.

This incident could have been far worse if the dingoes had actually been intent on attacking the child. It is a reminder to all who visit the Island that parents must be vigilant at all times.

QPWS have indicated that the dingoes involved in the incident are currently being monitored and to date no decision has been made to destroy any animal. We hope that reason prevails and the animals are not held culpable.

Since 2013 the protocol for euthanasia has changed considerably and animals cannot be arbitrarily destroyed, there must be due process and evidence presented that the animal poses a risk to human safety. We certainly hope this wont be the case, but since the long weekend is upon us we have concerns for the dingoes involved as hordes of tourists will again descend on the Island.

The campground has been closed and visitors advised to camp further north, we remind people that the lives of these animals could be in your hands. If you do see them or any dingo, enjoy the experience from a distance and don't get out of a vehicle or encourage them to approach. This weekend will be a crucial time, **we don't want to see any more negative incidents making headline news.**

For those visiting the Island please be observant, if you do see anyone acting inappropriately take a photo or video if possible and report to QPWS. There is contact info on the Island, or alternatively phone (07) 4127 9150 or email dingo.ranger@des.qld.gov.au

Cheryl Bryant. Publicity Officer (Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc.)

The dingo is a true-blue, native Australian species.

Article from 'THE CONVERSATION.'

Authors. [Bradley Smith](#) [Corey J. A. Bradshaw](#) [Euan Ritchie](#) [Justin W. Adams](#) [Kylie M Cairns](#) [Mathew Crowther](#)

Of all Australia's wildlife, one stands out as having an identity crisis: the dingo. But [our recent article](#) in the journal *Zootaxa* argues that dingoes should be regarded as a *bona fide* species on multiple fronts. This isn't just an issue of semantics. How someone refers to dingoes may reflect their values and interests, as much as the science.

How scientists refer to dingoes in print reflects their [background and place of employment](#), and the Western Australian government recently made a controversial attempt to classify the dingo as "[non-native fauna](#)".

How we define species – called taxonomy – affects [our attitudes](#), and long-term goals for [their conservation](#).

What is a dog?

Over many years, dingoes have been called many scientific names: *Canis lupus dingo* (a subspecies of the wolf), *Canis familiaris* (a domestic dog), and *Canis dingo* (its own species within the genus *Canis*). But these names have been applied inconsistently in both academic literature and government policy.

This inconsistency partially reflects the global arguments regarding the naming of canids. For those who adhere to the traditional "biological" species concept (in which a "species" is a group of organisms that can interbreed), one might [consider](#) the dingo (and all other canids that can interbreed, like wolves, coyotes, and black-backed jackals) to be part of a single, highly variable and widely distributed species.

But the "biological" species concept used to name species came about long before modern genetic tools, or even before many hybrid species were identified by their DNA (such as the "red wolf," an ancient [hybrid](#) of grey wolves and coyotes found in the southeastern United States).

Few people would really argue that a chihuahua, a wolf, and a coyote are the same species. In reality there are many more [comprehensive and logical ways to classify a species](#). In our latest paper we argue that a holistic approach to defining species is essential in the case of the dingo and other canids.

Our work shows conclusively that dingoes are distinct from wild canids and domestic dogs based on many different criteria.

Truly wild.

The first criterion is that dingoes are wild animals, and live completely independent from humans. This is fundamentally different to domestic, feral, or wild dogs, which must live near human settlements and rely on humans for food and water in some way to survive.

Yes, the dingo might have arrived in [Australia with humans](#), and we know that Aboriginal Australians have had [a close relationship](#) with dingoes following the latter's arrival. But neither of these observations excludes dingoes from being wild.

For example, a relationship with humans does not constitute the rigorous [definitions of domestication](#). Consider the [red fox](#) (*Vulpes vulpes*), which was also introduced to Australia by people and are now free-ranging: they are

also not considered to be domesticated. Neither are wild animals such as birds that we feed in our backyards domesticated simply because they are sometimes fed by us.

Ecological role.

In fact, dingoes have been living wild and independently of humans for a very long time — they have a [distinct and unique evolutionary past](#) that diverged some 5 to 10 thousand years ago from other canids. This is more than enough time for the dingo to have evolved into a naturalised predator now integral to maintaining the health of many Australian ecosystems.

Dogs do not have the brain power or body adaptations to survive in the wild, and they cannot play the same [ecological role](#) as dingoes. From this ecological perspective alone, the two species are not interchangeable. Dingoes are Australia's only large (between 15–20 kg), land-based predator, and as such play a [vital role in Australia's environment](#).

Shape and size.

Viewed alone, the overall shape of the body and skull does not easily distinguish wild canids from dogs, mainly because of the sheer diversity among different breeds of domestic dogs.

But there are some important body differences between free-ranging dogs and dingoes, mainly in the skull region

Behaviour.

Dingoes (and other truly wild canids) have some fundamentally unique behaviours that set them apart from dogs (although like shape, there are often exceptions among the artificial dog breeds). For example, dingoes have significantly different [reproductive biology and care-giving strategies](#).

There are also differences in brain function, such as in the way the two species [solve problems](#), and dingoes and dogs [communicate differently with humans](#).

Genetics.

While dingoes and dogs obviously share an ancestral relationship, there is a lot of [genetic data](#) to support the distinction between dingoes and dogs.

While dingoes share ancestry with ancient Asian dogs from 10,000 years ago, the dingo has been geographically isolated from all other canids for many thousands of years, and genetic mixing has only been occurring recently, most probably driven by human intervention.

Since the 1990s, genetic markers have been in widespread use by land managers, conservation groups, and researchers to [differentiate dingoes from domestic dogs](#).

What's at stake?

Even acknowledging the dingo's uncertain and distant past, [lumping dingoes and dogs together](#) is unjustified.

Labelling dingoes as "feral domestic dogs" or some other misnomer ignores their unique, long, and quintessentially wild history in Australia.

Inappropriate naming also has serious implications for their treatment. Any label less than "dingo" can be used to justify their legal persecution.

Further loss of dingoes could have serious, [negative ecological consequences](#), including potentially placing other Australian native animals at [increased risk of extinction](#).



Dingoes destroyed on K'Gari (Fraser Island) after incident with tourists.

It has been disappointing and disturbing to again see the K'Gari dingoes in the media for all the wrong reasons and again we see visitors not following the rules and recommendations regarding dingo safety.

In January a 6 year old boy was bitten when he ran over a sand dune and into a family group and now a child and mother have been bitten because they panicked and ran.. One of the fundamental rules is 'do not run'. The unfortunate consequences when people panic is that someone is injured and another animal or animals are destroyed.. Fortunately the boy and mother will recover but the fate of the dingoes responsible is now sealed.

It has been a long time since we have even seen a dingo family group on the Island and now that family has been destroyed. Already one animal has been killed.

When one or more animals are destroyed the social dynamics of the family group is changed and the overall destabilising effect on the population can be long term. "Removing potentially reproductive animals, male or female, may exacerbate genetic instability of the population." (A. O'Neill et al 2016) and this is without considering the simple fact that more healthy, vibrant animals will die unnecessarily.

Killing dingoes is a stop gap solution to an ongoing problem involving negative dingo/human interactions. The Island is a great money spinner for the government and the government now needs to re-invest that money into investigating long term solutions rather than accepting lethal control as the only option.

With Easter approaching we have even more concerns for the dingo population.

Cheryl Bryant.



(Green tag) One of the Juvenile destroyed.

The recent incidents on K'gari have attracted both National and International media attention.

Excerpts from the FRASER COAST CHRONICLE...



Novel solutions to dingo attack risk

by Peter Michael March 2019

DINGO experts believe repellent – similar to bear spray – could prevent future attacks by rogue packs of native wild dogs on Fraser Island.

Shock collars, electric fencing, sturdy umbrellas and water pistols filled with lemon or onion juice are other options for a trial of non-lethal controls

However some of the nation's top dingo researchers have also suggested fines for bite victims and people who feed dingoes.

"If you get bitten, then it's your fault, and you should be fined," Central Queensland University expert Brad Smith said yesterday.

"We need to stop culling 'problem' dingoes, place the burden of responsibility on the human, and respect dingoes."...

"The dingo is a wild canid, a predator," Dr Smith said.

"It is not a dog, and should not be treated as such."

Pilot studies on non-lethal controls of dingoes on Fraser Island suggest further trials of electric fences at popular beach camping areas.

The incident came a month after Michael Schipanski, 6, was attacked by four dingoes on a family camping trip on Fraser Island.

Tourism operators on Fraser Island believe a solution may be to provide more fenced-off camping grounds with toilet amenities along the popular eastern beachfront.



Anger after tourists filmed playing with Fraser Island dingo

Cartie Walker, March 13

FOOTAGE showing tourists playing with a dingo that was later euthanised has sparked an angry response from an advocacy group.

The footage was shown on Nine's news coverage this week, showing the visitors feeding and petting the dingo known as Green Tag.

[The dingo was one of two that was destroyed after an attack on a nine-year-old boy and his mother on February 28.](#)

Cheryl Bryant from Save Fraser Island dingoes Inc. said increasing ranger patrols will still not guarantee another serious incident wouldn't occur. It was up to scientists, the State Government and stakeholders to come together and address the issue.

Ms Bryant was not surprised to hear about tourists approaching dingoes.

"We hear of it all the time," she said.

"People see it and don't do anything."

Videos, photos, recording registrations numbers and reporting incidents would help to curb the behaviour, Ms Bryant said...

"We lose the Eurong pack just about every year because it's so close to Eurong Resort," Ms Bryant said.

"People start feeding them from a very young age.

"It's not often that Eurong animals survive to adulthood and that's not their fault." A spokesman from the Department of Environment and Science said the Queensland Parks and Wildlife service was making inquiries after video and photos on social media allegedly showed tourists on the island interacting with a dingo and a man encouraging the animal to lick his hand...



Dingoes 'pay high price' on Fraser Island

by Peter Gardiner
8th Mar 2019 2:00 PM

FRASER Island (K'Gari) dingoes are being destroyed because island visitors are not following basic safety rules. Cheryl Bryant of Save Fraser Island Dingoes said: "It has been disappointing and disturbing to again see the K'Gari dingoes in the media for all the wrong reasons and again we see visitors not following the rules and recommendations regarding dingo safety."

Two dingoes were put down by island rangers after the most recent dingo attack.

"In January a six-year-old boy was bitten when he ran over a sand dune and into a family group and now a child and mother have been bitten because they panicked and ran," Ms Bryant said.

"One of the fundamental rules is do not run.

"The unfortunate consequences when people panic is that someone is injured and another animal or animals are destroyed.

"Fortunately, the boy and mother will recover but the fate of the dingoes responsible is now sealed."

Ms Bryant said "it has been a long time since we have even seen a dingo family group on the island and now that family has been destroyed".

"When one or more animals are destroyed the social dynamic of the family group is changed and the overall destabilising effect on the population can be long term.

"Removing potentially reproductive animals, male or female, may exacerbate genetic instability of the population."

Ms Bryant said killing dingoes is a stop gap solution to an ongoing problem involving negative dingo-human interactions.

"The island is a great money spinner for the government and the government now needs to reinvest that money into investigating long-term solutions rather than accepting lethal control as the only option.

"With Easter approaching we have even more concerns for the dingo population," she said.





Fight for K'gari: Court case begins after historic win.

By Jessica Lamb 25 march.

ONE of the most significant court cases since Mabo.

This was how Christine Royan, Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation's secretary, described the Ngaliwurru and Nungali peoples' recent, historic victory.

In a landmark ruling, the High Court decided the Northern Territory owed the Ngaliwurru and Nungali peoples \$2.5million for the loss of their Native Title rights over about 1.26 sq km of the outback town of Timber Creek.

Now, Ms Royan, along with other members of the Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation, is taking up a similar fight over K'gari, also known as Fraser Island.

"The decision on Timber Creek was based on cultural loss, which is exactly what we have also lost here," Ms Royan said.

"A year ago we put in for a grant from the government to fight the government with their own money.

"We were the first ever group to do that."

Ms Royan said her people had lost access to significant cultural areas including those with a spiritual and dream time connection.

She said the Butchulla people were not looking for government handouts - they simply wanted recognition of what had been lost.

"We believe we could have had compensation in 2014 when we won Native Title rights but instead they gave us a photo," she said.

The BAC's claim to the Queensland Government to be compensated for cultural loss on K'gari was lodged in 2017 but was stalled, awaiting the outcome of the NT case.

Principal of Just Us Lawyers Colin Hardie, who is representing the BAC as one of three groups who have lodged similar claims, said the Butchulla people wanted payment for lost rights on the prominent tourist attraction known as Fraser Island.

"There are a number of objectives to come from this case," Mr Hardie said.

"The big issue is there are the traditional owners of K'gari have no resources to do their traditional duties in terms of conservation and looking after the island.

"We are hoping the state government sits down to negotiate over the compensation claim. The state government raised some preliminary points already.

"They have said they believe the claims should be reconstituted on technical grounds, we don't agree that is the case."

The case could go to the Federal Court of Australia if not settled beforehand.

In the Timber Creek ruling, the High Court settled on \$2.5 million in compensation, divided into economic loss, interest and non-economic loss related to the "spiritual" harm caused by disconnection.

"The compensation for loss or diminution of traditional attachment to the land or connection to country and for loss of rights to gain spiritual sustenance from the land is the amount which society would rightly regard as appropriate for the award for the loss," the majority judgement said.

Mr Hardie said his clients wanted economic opportunities for themselves and their families.

"At the moment they rely on a small grant to keep an office open for native rangers on K'gari from the state government," he said.

"There is a huge tourism market on Fraser Island and they would like financial security for their operations."

Ms Royan agreed, saying the Butchulla people wanted to be the face of K'gari.

"We want to be able to have more junior and senior rangers to address things like myrtle rust and visitor management," she said.

"We want part of the permit levy to come back to caring for our country with education programs.

"We would like some business opportunities with Kingfisher and Sea Link, to build on our existing relationships and bring a cultural aspect to the island.

"If there is no value for the cultural heritage and land management on the island, then they have no respect for the Aboriginal people.

"We would co-manage the island and have our own business which we will run alongside QPWS.

"That means we will have our rangers living on our country and caring for it."

"My thoughts are no one wins by going through a long court battle, we want to sit down and negotiate without going through the courts and we are hoping the government comes to the table."





Fred and Joan are long time members of SFID.
CONGRATULATIONS to Fred on celebrating his Centenary...

20 FRED WRIGHT'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Thursday, February 14, 2019



A LIFE WELL LIVED: Fred and Joan Wright have been married for 77 years and are looking forward to many more.
PHOTO: KERRIE ALEXANDER

Centenarian

Hervey Bay's Fred and Joan Wright have

■ Kerrie Alexander

SITTING in their lounge room having a chat about his 100th birthday milestone, Fred Wright was quick to whip out his newly renewed driver's licence.

It was evidence that the Hervey Bay resident and his wife, Joan, 98, have no plans of slowing down any time soon.

The two still live in their own home. Fred still drives to the shops and walks their beloved terrier and guard dog Roxey alongside his scooter every day.

Besides some help from their good friends at Feros Care, the two are proud to live independently.

The incredible couple have been married for 77 years and say there's still plenty more good years to come.

"It's hard to look back and remember all those things from the beginning, it's amazing," Joan said.

"It just goes by so quickly."

Frederick Harold Wright was born on February 4, 1919, on the Isle of Wight, a small island off the south coast of England.

His family was made up of parents George and Daisy

and younger brother Norman.

Fred attended Pading Council School and furthered his study at technical college to become an electrical engineer.

He met his adored Joan in 1941 and that's when the real adventure began.

Longing for some excitement outside of the small island, Fred joined the military and served with the British Army during World War II.

As part of his posting, the two were fortunate enough to see most of the world, travelling through India, Central and East Africa, and throughout Europe, including Austria and Russia.

"In Italy I was injured and spent months in hospital recovering from a leg injury," Fred said.

His work installing VHF radio with the British Telecoms also took them to India and Pakistan, Central and East Africa, with a large portion of the posting being in the midst of the Mau Mau rebellion in Kenya.

"It was definitely one of the highlights of our life," Fred said.

"It (East Africa) is 8000 feet above sea level and it

was very nice but that's where all the Molo Boys were, we were right in the middle of it and we were armed but we never had to use them.

"I think it helped to know the language."

The two then moved to Australia, where Fred started an engineering business, and say they loved the country so much they never had the desire to return to England.

"Australia has been very good to us, we love it," Fred said.

On the Gold Coast, Fred was the treasurer in the Liberal-Democrat Party, he was a long-serving Lions International member at the Camp Hill Club and was a Freemason for about 40 years, reaching the 18th Degree at the Red Lodge in Mount Gravatt.

If it wasn't for a bout of shingles at the age of 80, Fred would have kept going.

"The thing about it was I couldn't wear the regalia for the Red Lodge because of the shingles so I had to give it away," Fred said.

"I was very keen on the Freemasonry."

In his younger days, Fred dabbled in football and boxing and was a keen



COOROY FUSION FESTIVAL at Cooroy. May 11,

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY. This year's Festival is being held on Sunday the 2nd of June at Maroochydore Memorial Park, CottonTree.

NOOSA FESTIVAL OF WATER. At Botanical Gardens, Lake McDonald. June 23rd.
If anyone would like to assist contact Heather Warner on Facebook or SFID.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLES, HERVEY BAY are held throughout the year. If anyone would like to assist contact SFID

Proposals put forward to government to limit negative dingo/visitor interactions on K'gari..

22 March 2019

In light of recent events on K'gari we feel it is important to put all options and possible solutions on the table.

We believe the goal of all parties is to prevent further negative incidents occurring..Some suggestions that come to mind are listed below..some have been discussed previously but are worth re-visiting....

Every visitor to sign a disclaimer, although this is not legally binding it would help to give visitors a sense of responsibility and the gravity of entering a wilderness area.

Cultural significance of K'gari emphasised to instil more respect for the island. The world heritage values and cultural history should be displayed all over the Island and in brochures, video's etc.

As suggested by some researchers, possibly some type of personal dingo repellent with limited reach. It is a concern deterrents could be misused and visitors will go dingo 'hunting'. This has been the case after the recent incident. e.g. Reports of people taking cattle prods to the Island.
(SFID would not support any form of deterrent that would harm or cause stress to the animals.)

Families with children under 13 to camp in fenced areas, this is already a recommendation by QPWS. It is difficult to monitor children 24/7 and although this would not stop interactions on the beach it may help to limit visitors during peak periods as there are limited fenced camping areas.

More ranger patrols, especially at dawn and dusk when dingoes are active and people like to watch the sunrise and sunset from the beach, Community rangers if necessary.

Bi lingual rangers, rangers or community rangers on barges and high density areas, especially during peak periods.

More visible contact details for rangers on signs etc. to report a visitor interfering with the animals. Currently the contact info is limited and only suggests to dob in a dingo. People need to be encouraged to report bad behaviour.

Warning signs that fines apply to parents who leave children unattended.

More visible signs to encourage people to do the right thing if they encounter an animal .. e.g. STAND STILL, DON'T RUN, DON'T SHOUT.. or similar.

Hopefully with co-operation we will be able to limit negative interactions and visitors may enjoy positive experiences without the loss of any more of our K'gari dingoes.



SIGNAGE ON K'GARI..

(Response to SFID's recent discussion with QPWS (there is extensive signage but ways to improve the message are always being looked at...))

'Dingo safety information is available in French, German, Italian, Japanese and Korean and is provided to commercial tour operators and vehicle-hire companies that are known to hire vehicles to people travelling to the Island. This is also included with relevant safety videos provided to Commercial operators.

A current review of the K'gari (Fraser Island) website will also consider expanding the foreign language / risk management issues as well.

Signage is always a difficult situation in regard to other languages and that is why pictograms are often used to provide warnings rather than having signs being cluttered with a range of languages - perhaps losing effect in the process.

The QR (Quick Reference) mobile phone application may provide means to expand on information provided on signs, posters and brochures, etc.

All of the known options are under consideration, and this is significant Issue for ongoing consideration.'



RESEARCH REVISITED..

Since the recent loss of two young dingoes it seems appropriate to revisit research articles that discuss the consequences of lethal control....

Managing dingoes on Fraser Island: culling, conflict, and an alternative.
Adam J. O'Neill, Kylie M. Cairns, Gisela Kaplan and Ernest Healy.

The paper was published December 2016 and remains relevant to dingo management on K'gari.

The debate continues as to whether habituation necessarily leads to aggression, but this is the premise on which the policy makers base their management strategy. That is, feeding → habituation → interaction = aggression. The management strategy relies on this concept without consideration that aggression may have other and varied causes.

This paper challenges the current management perspective and offers other explanations as to what drives aggressive behaviour. The authors contend that lethal control leads to social disruption → elevated breeding rates and dispersal → conspecific conflict and ecological decline which results in stress-induced aggression and ultimately human/dingo conflict and further lethal control. A never ending cycle.

Recent genetic research has identified that conditions such as anxiety, stress and depression can change Behaviour. *“Removing potentially reproductive animals, male or female, may exacerbate genetic instability of the population.”*



New insights on the history of canids in Oceania based on mitochondrial and nuclear data.

Kylie m, Cairns. Alan N Wilton September 2016.

Major concern of scientists and conservation groups is the effect of management on the dingo population given it is estimated to be only ~100-200 individuals. A recent genetic study on dingoes from the Island observed high levels of inbreeding, albeit in a small sample size of five dingoes (Cairns, 2015, Cairns et al., 2018). This is not entirely unexpected given that island populations with small population size often exhibit inbreeding or low genetic diversity.

However, inbreeding can severely inhibit the ability of a population to adapt or cope with disease, climate change etc. Given that the dingo population on the island is small (likely inbred) and puppy mortality is reported to be high there is a risk that the population could collapse. It is unknown if current management practices are having an effect on the genetic diversity of the dingo population. There is a desperate need for a more detailed genetic survey of dingoes on the Island to gather information concerning their effective population

size, inbreeding levels and evolutionary identity.
Dr. Kylie Cairns.



Spirit of the Wild Dog. The world of wolves, coyotes, foxes, jackals and dingoes....

by Lesley J Rogers and Gisela Kaplan.

Extract from the book:-

Wild dogs simply do not attack humans unless humans have set the scene for this to occur. One of the most efficient killers amongst carnivores is the African wild dog but, in Zimbabwe and on the open plains of Serengeti, there has been no single incident recorded in myth, legend or fact of a dog attacking a human. To an Ethnologist, these strategies described are all very predictable outcomes, but to this day, the importance of understanding animal behaviour, a science in itself is not fully appreciated or utilised in the overwhelming majority of conservation programs.

Ultimately it is behaviour that will make animals either survive or succumb. Unless they know and recognise their own kind and understand the etiquettes of their species, and unless they know how and what to eat, where to find it and in which season, how to spot and recognise potential enemies or predators and what techniques to use in case of an attack, there is little hope of any success.

Detailed knowledge of the behaviour of wild dogs will ultimately contribute to re-establishing them or controlling them humanely, and positively, in areas and regions where they are currently perceived as pests. Knowledge of animal behaviour means being able, after systematic study, to predict what an animal will choose to do in certain situations and under certain ecological conditions.

We may, by our unethical and inconsistent methods, give rise to far more vicious, dangerous and marauding predators. In some countries wolves are harvested annually at a very high and often indiscriminate rate. For instance, killing the dominant dog has a major impact on the group, not just in wolves but also in African wild dogs, and any other group-living dog. Leaderless groups cause much more damage than groups under the guidance of an experienced alpha animal.

Taking away a dominate dog also disrupts the means by which the social group passes on information for survival from generation to generation. In the generations following the loss of an alpha and others of the group, we may see behavioural deficiencies and anomalies, as we also see in humans when generation after generation is subjected to ongoing warfare punctuated by deaths in families.

SFID continues to lobby for the cessation of lethal control and continued studies into the genetic and physical health of the population including identifying long term solutions to dingo/human negative interactions.

VALE..



Another Iconic Fraser Island pioneer has passed. John Sinclair AO died on 3 February 2019, he is survived by his wife Su, four sons and nine grandchildren. Born in Maryborough John spent decades fighting for Fraser Island and is best remembered for stopping sand mining and logging on the Island.



His conservation work continued and in 2014 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for distinguished service to conservation and the environment. Rest in Peace.

WONGARI -WILD DINGO..

Before European settlers came to K̄gari (Fraser Island), two types of dingoes were known to the Butchulla. One was Wat'dha (the camp dingo) and the other was Wongari (the wild dingo) Wat'dha were our companions- always part of us. They helped us hunt, track and protected us from bad spirits and the Wongari. Wongari have been and always should be wild. They are a natural and important part of the ecosystems on K̄gari... their natural food includes rodents, reptiles, reptiles, wallabies, berries and other flora and the remains of marine mammals washed up on the beach.



Butchulla rangers perform smoking ceremonies for Wongari that die by fault of humans, including vehicle strikes. This sends them home to Sky Country where Biral (Supreme White Spirit) is waiting with a message through the smoke to ensure their spirit doesn't walk in limbo without an understanding of what happened to them. If they have been killed by another dingo or pack we do not interfere.

When the last of our people were taken off the Island all of the dingoes became wild, but we, the Butchulla, are still all strongly connected in our hearts, minds and spirits.

Respect Butchulla lore, "What's good for the country comes first" K̄gari is Wongari Djaa (Country), and provides everything they need. They are curious, but need you to keep your distance. So please don't feed Wongari.

Nyanga Buranga (look, listen-know)

Conway Burn, Butchulla man and QPWS ranger.



DATECLAIMER



8th Biennial K'gari (Fraser Island) Conference

Community, Culture and Collaborations

This event is a collaboration between the Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation and the Fraser Island Defenders Organisation.

Fraser Coast Campus University of the Sunshine Coast

Saturday 31st August 2019

Keynote speakers: The success of conferences is the result of a lot of promotion and that promotion needs to begin early as does the selection and engagement of a Keynote speaker/s who are good drawcards around which we can help build the promotion.

The two keynote speakers agreed upon who have provisionally accepted are prominent Butchulla actor of national standing, Wayne Blair (*"Redfern"* and other TV series and plays) and producer (the movie *"The Sapphires"*) and leading social psychologist and advocate for wilderness experiences, Steve Biddulf, author of *10 Things Girls Need Most*, *Raising Girls*, *Raising Boys*, *Complete Secrets of Happy Children*, and *The New Manhood*.

It is planned for Saturday 31st August to be held at the Fraser Coast Campus of the University of the Sunshine Coast. The plan is for the conference and cultural festival to run from 9.30 am to 9.30 pm with plenary sessions during the day, followed by a Butchulla cultural celebration from 7.30. It allows out of town guests to join a whale-watching trip before heading home on Sunday.

History of Biennial Fraser Island Conferences

Fraser Island is a World Heritage site that deserving more study because of its Outstanding Universal Value and its fragility. It is a natural laboratory for a wide range of environmental studies. The results of those studies undertaken need to be communicated to the public because better appreciation fosters better care and management. That has remained FIDO's objective in continuing to organize these conferences.

- 7th — 2017 — *Time, Tide & Tourism*, University of the Sunshine Coast
- 6th — 2015 — *Sand, Sea & Sun*, University Sunshine Coast Sippy Downs
- 5th — 2013 — *A Natural Laboratory*, Mt Coot-tha
- 4th — 2011 — *FIDO at 40*, Walkabout Creek, The Gap
- 3rd — 2009 — *Shifting Sands*, Walkabout Creek, The Gap
- 2nd — 2007 — *True Grit*, University Sunshine Coast, Sippy Downs
- 1st — 2004 — *Fraser Island 20-20 Vision*, Noosa

SFID MEDIA STATEMENT..



EASTER WARNING ON K'GARI..

The recent incidents on K'Gari (Fraser Island), the first in January when a child was bitten and then in February when a mother and child were seriously injured and two dingoes destroyed, is a reminder to all those visiting the Island over the Easter period to be mindful of the rules regarding dingo safety. Information is available in brochures, video's, online and signage.

FAMILIES with children preferably stay in fenced areas..

KEEP children within arms reach at all times.

DON'T harass the animals i.e. throw sand, sticks or chase them.

DON'T encourage or feed the dingoes or any wildlife

DON'T get out of your vehicle, observe from a distance.

We hope that tourists enjoy their holidays but respect the fact that K'gari is a wilderness and encounters with wildlife can be part of that wilderness experience, so consider it a privilege if you do see a dingo and remember any interaction with them could lead to their destruction.

If you do see anyone acting inappropriately take a photo or video if possible and report to QPWS.

Visitor safety and dingo welfare is everyone's responsibility.

Cheryl Bryant. Publicity Officer (Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc.)

STOP PRESS.. Last Friday 29th March two young Japanese students drowned in Lake McKenzie. The boys aged 16 were among 15 Japanese students visiting Queensland as part of a week-long school exchange program. It has been a terrible start to the year on our beautiful Island. People injured, 2 dingoes destroyed and 2 young people have lost their lives. The local community and residents have also been affected by these tragic events.

We offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of the young boys who died and recognise the difficult tasks faced by first responders, police and RACQ Lifeflight rescue teams.

If you are going over to the Island please be vigilant..

SFID COMMEMORATIVE BOOK..



Illustration 1: Front Cover.



Illustration 2: Back Cover



Illustration 3: Layout



Illustration 4: Layout

SFID'S 10 YEAR COMMEMORATIVE BOOK is now available.

The book covers our 10 year battle with the bureaucrats to protect the iconic K'gari dingoes with stunning pictures by Jennifer Parkhurst.

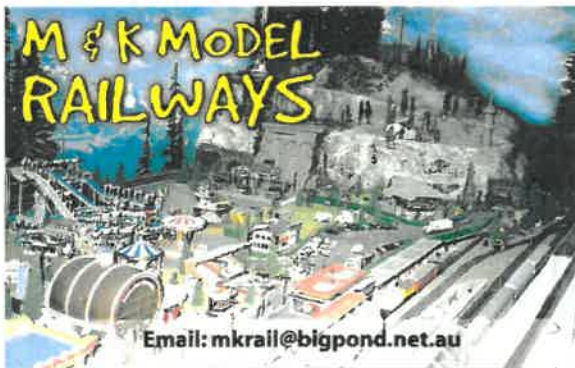
Thank you to all who have contributed and supported us along this journey.

If you would like a copy please contact Karin, this will be a limited edition.

\$35 plus a flat rate of \$11 postage Aus wide. Email: mkrail@bigpond.net.au

All proceeds from sales go towards assisting in research projects, obtaining RTI, events, public awareness campaigns etc. (Karin has a full list of expenses and our books are open to public scrutiny.)

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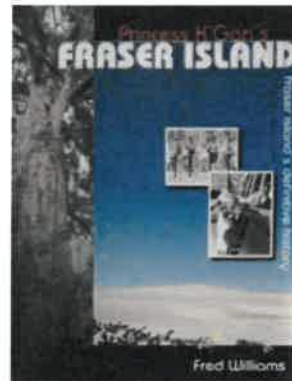
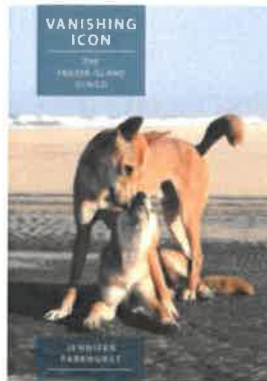
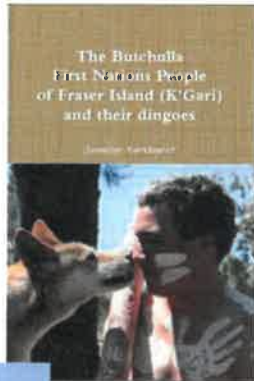
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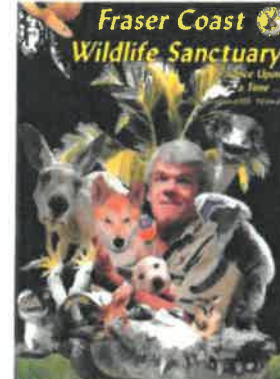
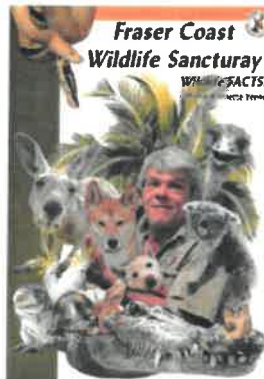
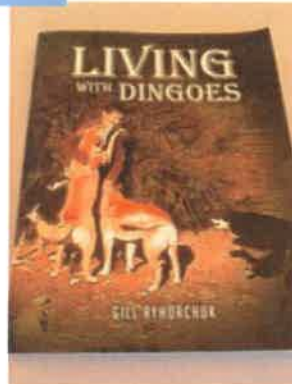
Sticker



Key Rings



Books



Wrist bands

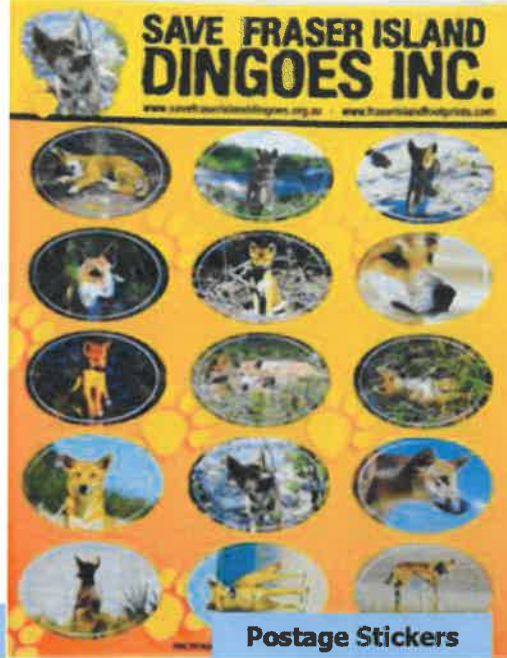


Mouse pads



T-shirts
Red or bone

SAVE FRASER ISLAND DINGOES INC



Book Mark



SAVE THE FRASER ISLAND DINGO



Magnets



A4 Posters

Postage Stickers



Drink cooler



Sew-on Patch



Greeting Cards



The Dingo Pack



Pen



Clip-on soft toy

Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc.

50 Old Maryborough Rd.

Pialba Qld. 4655

Ph: (07) 4124 1979 Fax: (07) 4124 3623

Email: mkraill@bigpond.net.au

ABN: 15369 628 753 INC.NO: 1A37577 CP 5365

ORDER FORM.

ITEM	UNIT PRICE	QTY/COLOUR	PACK/POST	SUB TOTAL
T/Shirts (Adult) Sizes M L XL 2XL	\$25.00		At cost	
T/Shirts (children) Sizes 2 4 6 8 10 12 14	\$22.00		At cost	
Cap	\$20.00		At cost	
Mug	\$12.00		At cost	
Car Sticker	\$3.00		At cost	
Magnet	\$3.50		At cost	
Bookmark	\$1.50		At cost	
Key Ring	\$3.50		At cost	
Poster (laminated)A4	\$5.00		At cost	
Poster (laminated)A3	\$10.00		At cost	
Dingo number plate	\$12.95		At cost	DISCONTINUED
Adult Wrist Band	\$3.00		At cost	
Child Wrist Band	\$2.50		At cost	
C.D. Dingo pics to music. J Parkhurst & S. Van Der Merwe	\$20.00		At cost	
Sheet of Stickers	\$2.50		At cost	
Jack's Dingo Card Pack.	\$12.00		At cost	DISCONTINUED
Cards: Thank you, Get Well, Birthday	\$1.50ea or \$12 pack of 10.		\$5.00 per pack	
Dingo Beanie Grey/black	\$20.00		At cost	
Hat (green) 'I Love dingoes.'	\$20.00		At cost	

Book: <i>'The Butchulla First Nations people of Fraser Island (K'Gari) and their dingoes.'</i>	\$25.00		At cost	
Book: <i>'Princess K'Gari's Fraser Island.'</i>	\$24.00		At cost	
Book: Jennifer Parkhurst's <i>'Vanishing Icon.'</i>	\$25.00		\$5.00 per book for P/P (orders of 10 or more free P/P)	
Sew on Patch. <i>'Working Together.'</i>	\$10.00		At cost	
Mouse Pads	\$10.00		At cost	
Gift-boxed pen set	\$6.00		At cost	DISCONTINUED
Dingo Cooler	\$9.00		At cost	
Plush dingo toy with clip.	\$8.95		At cost	DISCONTINUED
Wooden dingo necklace brown/bone	\$7.50		At cost	

T/Shirt colours: Adult: Black, Navy, Blue, Purple, Green. Children: Yellow, Green, Pink, Purple. Blue, Orange

Caps : Black, Navy, Blue, Pink.

Wrist Band Colour: Black or Brown print on Yellow band.

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Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc.

50 Old Maryborough Rd.
Pialba Qld. 4655
Ph: (07) 4124 1979 Fax: (07) 4124 3623
Email: mkral@bigpond.net.au
ABN: 15369 628 753 INC. NO: 1A37577 CP 5365

NEW/RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP.

PERSONAL DETAILS:

Title	Given name	Family name
Address		Suburb
State	Country	Post Code
Home Phone ()	Bus. Phone ()	Mobile
Email (Please Print)		

Do you have any qualifications or experience with domestic or wild animals? Animal training and behaviour? Management and care of animals in captivity or the wild? Legal/Educational qualifications? Have you personally owned a dingo? Do you have experience with animal conservation or activism? Please give details.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: Regular: \$20 Deluxe: \$42 (includes Jennifer Parkhurst's book "Vanishing Icon.") Children up to 12 years: \$5

PAYMENT DETAILS: Bank Cheque: Money Order Direct Debit: Westpac Bank Pialba, Hervey Bay BSB 034-136 A/c No. 303196. Paypal: www.savefraserislanddingoes.org.au
Do you require a receipt? Yes No

DECLARATION:
I agree to abide by the constitution and the ethics of Save Fraser Island Dingoes Inc. I agree that my personal details may be released to other members of the organisation (as required by the constitution.)

Signed _____ Date _____

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