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Welcome to the Winter edition of the FINIA newsletter for 2017, keeping FINIA members up to date with Fraser Island news and current FINIA projects.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22 August upstairs in the Town Hall Reception Room from 10am to 2pm. There will also be a special session with Sue Paul on the Council operated transfer stations on Fraser Island.

Please email any agenda items to contactFINIA@gmail.com

Thanks to our contributors and look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

World Heritage Lessons from Overseas: Sri Lanka

One of the exciting things about travelling, is the opportunity to visit the 'best of the best' – World Heritage properties, overseas. I was privileged to spend two weeks in Sri Lanka last month and visited a number of world heritage and other sites representing both natural and cultural heritage.

So, what were the key lessons that could be applied to an Australian model?

Firstly, all the properties visited were branded as World Heritage. Although the level of this promotion varied from site to site, properties were usually badged with either a UNESCO logo or signage. The logo was also incorporated into some of the promotional materials.

Entrance fees, with a different rate for tourists, were applied all managed sites such as the Temple of the Sacred Tooth, Kandy (LKR1000/\$8.20), Dambulla Caves (LKR1500/\$12.30) and the Ancient City of Sigiriya (LKR4620/\$37.85). Entry fees appeared to be used by local site managers for either the management of the site, or, in the case of some Buddhist temples, for educational purposes.

World Heritage properties are very important for tourism and the local economy, attracting significantly higher visitation than their unlisted counterparts. This was



Prominent UNESCO signage at Dambulla Caves

particularly noticeable at Galle Fort, a site built in 1588 by the Portuguese and then extensively fortified by the Dutch during the 17th century.



Entry fee with an optional guide to the Citadel of Sigiriya cost over \$40 per person, but was well worth the visit

Speaking to Semanthe, our guide at Sigiriya, I asked him about the value of World Heritage. He responded that it supported 170 registered guides, as well as staff, souvenir sellers and other concession holders. When I asked whether he felt that it would be better for the site not to be listed i.e. would it be better protected from the high level of tourism visitation, his answer was a definite 'no,' with funding used to manage the site and the World Heritage listing attracting international interest from researchers and archaeologists.

Official guides at sites are able to secure around LKR2000 (\$16.40) per group and usually significantly more with an expectation of a 10% tip on top of this. Guides are well trained, multi-lingual and highly knowledgeable.

There's a high level of recognition and local pride in the World Heritage brand. Other than the guides, World Heritage is valued by everyone, from tuk tuk and taxi drivers to the broader local community, who will quickly name their local World Heritage sites for visitors.

Finally, by way of comparison on costs, although I have applied a direct conversion, I should also provide some context. On average, Sri Lankan wages for a field worker are around LKR18,000 (\$150) a month and a teacher LKR35,000 (\$290) a month.

And if you ever get the chance to visit? My recommendation, would be don't miss the Citadel of Sigiriya otherwise known as Lion Rock. Described by some guides as the eighth wonder of the world, it's like Ayers Rock meets Machu Picchu and was well worth the entry fees.

*Article submitted by Sue Sargent, Chair
Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee*

NAIDOC – celebrated K'gari style

Eurong (place of rain) was the gathering place for recent NAIDOC celebrations hosted by QPWS Butchulla rangers who proudly organised an informative session and displayed an array of traditional hunting tools, beautifully painted implements, artefacts and local bush tucker for participants to enjoy.



A display of artefacts, tools and implements explained by traditional owners Conway and Darren. Photos courtesy of Darren Blake.

Discussions about culture and traditional way of life on K'gari was enthusiastically shared including sampling traditionally cooked delicacies of Mi'bira, meaning shell (mud whelks), eugaries/Wah wongs (pipies) and fruits.

Ranger Conway Burns took the opportunity to discuss this years' NAIDOC theme – *Our Languages Matter* and the importance, resilience and richness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.



Rangers Russ and Malcom sharing traditional way of life with colleagues. Photos courtesy of Darren Blake.

NAIDOC Week is held annually in the first full week of July. NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920's which sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians.

*Article contributed by Linda Behrendorff (RIC NRM)
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Great Sandy National Park*

A Whole lot of Rubbish

The Queensland Government is currently considering the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Bill 2017*. While strongly supporting the Bill for what it may do for waste reduction generally, its implications for Fraser Island were not immediately apparent until I began working on a submission to the Parliamentary Committee reviewing it. Two key features of the proposed legislation are a ban on lightweight plastic shopping bags and the introduction of a container refund scheme for Queensland.

The bulk of K'gari's waste and rubbish is left at waste transfer stations from where it is removed for mainland disposal. There are Waste Transfer stations at the villages, Central Station and along the beach. The substantial costs of this waste management strategy are shared between the Fraser Coast Regional Council and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.

Until recently, each station had a recycling component with bulk bins for general waste and yellow-topped bulk bins for recyclable material (paper, cans and bottles). Last year, the recycling component scheme abandoned because there was so much extraneous general rubbish was being mixed with the beverage containers in the bins that had been designated for recycling that continuation with this scheme couldn't be justified. Now, all unseparated rubbish, including recyclable beverage containers, are all dumped in the same bulk-bins and delivered to a mainland landfill.



K'gari's Waste Transfer Stations have undergone a significant tidy-up, but the failure to separate recyclables remains a problem as does the unsightliness of the Happy Valley station from the well-used cross island road. Photo: John Sinclair

There has been a long tradition for Fraser Island (K'gari) fishers and campers to be accompanied by generous supplies of beer and other beverages all in small containers. The container refund scheme will provide an incentive for at least some Fraser Island visitors, campers and residents to retain their beverage containers and take them back to the mainland to cash them in and retrieve their deposits. This might help offset some of the costs of their K'gari holiday. This would also significantly reduce the bulk deposited at Fraser Island's waste transfer stations on thus reducing the cost of waste removal. There is also an incentive for kids or some "bower birds," to mop up containers of those unwilling to take them back to the mainland.

The issue of plastic shopping bags entering the marine environment is well documented, so while not as obvious on K'gari, the new legislation will improve the health of the marine environment that surrounds it.

It is interesting to consider just how relevant the new legislation is for K'gari and its immediate environs; and it will be more interesting to see just how much the volume of rubbish is reduced by. While litter from discarded containers into the bush on Fraser Island isn't as serious a problem as elsewhere, it does exist. FIDO is constantly picking up improperly disposed containers while working on weed management. We believe that container refund scheme would reduce this.

Another aspect of the general waste management problem on K'gari is the visual impact of the waste transfer stations. This is especially true for the Happy Valley dump which is beside one of the only roads leading in and out of the village. It is a shameful visual eyesore unbefitting a World Heritage island inscribed for its great aesthetic value.

FIDO has proposed a landscaping scheme to screen the dump from the road. FIDO has the plant stock, labour and materials to do this, without disturbing the functioning of the dump. FIDO's offer to do this work, at no cost to the ratepayers, awaits Council approval before FIDO can proceed.

Submitted by John Sinclair AO, FIDO

The Legacy of Past Dumping

Eurong has a long history of illegal dumping, from the time the village began to take shape from 1965 onwards. During FIDO's July Working Bee, I was reminded of the problems that area in the past resulting from unauthorised dumping and thought he should record the history and legacy the legacy of the various dumps around Eurong that preceded the establishment of the formal Waste Transfer Stations.



Eurong's Problem Corner. Photo: John Sinclair

Problem Corner got its name because it was a dumping ground for all sorts of building materials and discarded domestic waste. That, combined with the casually discarded garden waste, made it a haven for a plethora of weeds. The problems were that it was too dangerous to work amongst the rubbish to clean up the weeds.

Thanks to collaborations with later Eurong Resort management and the QPWS, most of the rubbish has been buried on the site and the weeds have been progressively brought under control, although there are still a few problems there.

The scale of Problem Corner though is dwarfed by the size of the dump established just south of the Eurong Village in the old "Horse Paddock." The Horse Paddock was a clean open grassy area when FIDO safaris regularly camped there in the early 1970s. It had formerly been a large fenced in part of Aldridge's Yarong Run. However, once the dumping started, it seemed unstoppable spreading like a cancer and consuming the whole area. When the wind blew from the west, plastic bags blew across the beach and out to sea.



The Horse Paddock Dump a kilometre south of Eurong village back in the late 1970s. Photo: John Sinclair

In July, I had to go 'search and destroy' a Camphor Laurel tree that was probably a legacy of the dump that operated through the late 70's until about 1986. What had once been a clean open grassy area has now been overtaken with Lantana so thick, one has to cut a track to get through it. Underneath the cover of the lantana lies a bed of broken glass, bottles and rusting steel, as well as arrange of other hazards for unprotected feet. This is the ugly legacy of the dump that was.

Submitted by John Sinclair AO, FIDO

Council Seeks Feedback on Fraser Island Waste Transfer Stations

Council is seeking community interest in how we can better manage the Council operated transfer stations on Fraser Island. As part of their community engagement, they have recently conducted a mail out to local residents, ratepayers, and businesses.

Fraser Island waste facilities are now cleaner and safer for residents and tourists. New facility features include directional signage, designated areas for separation of waste types; and increased waste removal from the sites. Bulk bins are provided for household waste and small amounts of bulk household items, with designated areas for green waste, steel, small amounts of construction and demolition waste.

Recycling collection is currently not available on the island, however Council encourages recyclables to be brought back to the mainland and disposed of correctly. Under no circumstances should asbestos, waste oil (cooking/motor) or large amounts of construction and demolition waste be disposed of at Fraser Island waste facilities. Waste oil (cooking/motor - 20L max) can be disposed of at Hervey Bay and Maryborough waste facilities.

Asbestos must be securely wrapped in accordance with Asbestos Disposal guidelines and transported to the Maryborough Waste Facility for more information

<http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/asbestos/general/legislation-and-codes-of-practice.htm>.

If you are planning a renovation or demolition project please ensure arrangements are made for removal of construction and demolition waste from the Island to a mainland waste facility.

Council is seeking feedback from all of the key stakeholders and will be attending the upcoming FINIA meeting to discuss this matter further. For more information or to discuss the issue further, please contact Sue Paul, Manager Waste Operations, on (07) 4190 5806 or email sue.paul@frasercoast.qld.gov.au.

Contributed by Sue Paul, Wide Bay Water and Waste Services

Walking Track Upgrade for Northern Champagne Pools Access

Track maintenance is an ongoing process throughout all National Parks, and with K'gari boasting over 100 kilometres of walking tracks, maintenance and upgrade works are a regular occurrence. QPWS rangers recently upgraded the northern section of the Champagne Pools access track to prevent erosive processes and reduce maintenance by installing recycled plastic trail pads.

The honeycombed-shaped pads allow for directional flexibility and are easily assembled in the field. Applied directly to the ground surface, they are then covered with sand reducing the visual impact and keeping the natural aesthetic.

Rangers completed the initial stages of the project, a 180 metre section, with the final section to the car park scheduled for upgrade in the coming months.

Walking tracks throughout the island are regularly maintained by QPWS and provide visitors with a unique opportunity to experience K'gari by foot.

*Article contributed by Linda Behrendorff (RIC NRM)
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Great Sandy National Park*



Photo courtesy of QPWS

Eyes All Around – ‘SNAP’ gotcha!

Trail cameras are an integral part of protected area management throughout the world and a useful tool where resources for field observations are limited. Within the Great Sandy National Park, cameras are utilised and applied to the management of threatened fauna species, feral animal activity, compliance and dingo conservation. The process of going through the images can be long and at times surprising, but the rewards are worth it.

Recently, QPWS staff were excited to ‘capture’ for the first time, two elusive and rarely recorded fauna species on K'gari. Firstly, the back end of an adult Australian brush-turkey (*Alectura lathamii*) at Urang Creek. The only record available was an unverified record from 2005. The second surprise was a juvenile eastern grey kangaroo (*Macropus giganteus*) ‘captured’ bounding along Ungowa Road. Eastern grey kangaroos have been previously identified in dingo scat diet studies conducted on the island and from limited anecdotal sightings by long-term residents and QPWS staff suggesting the island has a small population.

Both species can now be added to state-wide WILDNET data as verified by image. QPWS welcomes contributions of images and location data for plants and animals to add to the WILDNET database.



Photos courtesy of QPWS

*Article contributed by Linda Behrendorff (RIC NRM)
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Great Sandy National Park*

Where Have the Birds Gone?

In the last FINIA newsletter, FIDO's John Sinclair raised concerns about the apparent diminishing number of birds on Fraser Island. He points to the evidence provided by a group of bird watchers who recorded 65 species of birds in a trip across the island in a 24-hour period in November 1968. John said that over five days at Easter on the island this year he managed to see or hear only 20 species through the bush and on the beach.



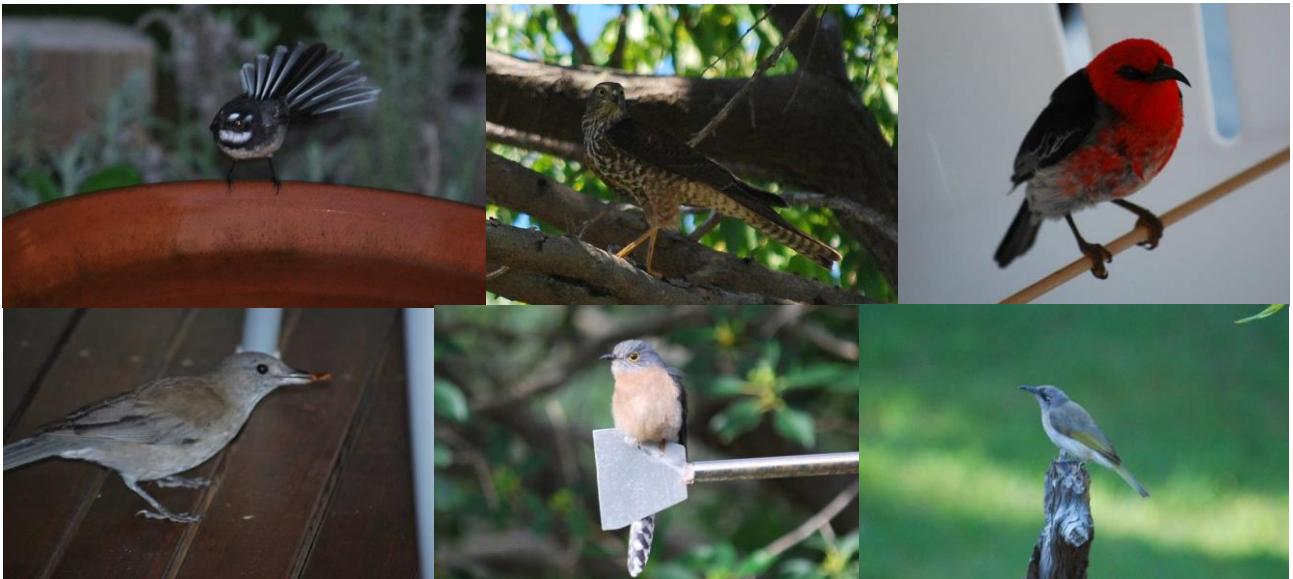
Red-backed fairy wren – photo David Anderson, FIA.

John asked the question: where have the island's birds gone? Without being too smart, I could say ... to the Anderson bird baths at Eurong.

John wrote that in 1968, white-cheeked and brown honeyeaters were commonly seen, but absent in Easter this year.

These are two of the honeyeaters which are regular visitors at our bird baths along with Lewin's, dusky, blue-faced and white-nape honeyeaters. Seasonally, they are joined by scarlet honeyeaters and once, after heavy weather, a mangrove honey eater out of its habitat came for a brief visit.

Without taking into account the birds on the beach or across the island, we have identified 61 species around our property ... admittedly, though not all in one day.



Top (L-R): Grey fantail, Collared sparrow hawk and Scarlet honeyeater Bottom (L-R): Grey shrike thrush, Fantail cuckoo and Brown honeyeater. Photos submitted by David Anderson, Fraser Island Association

We have regular feathered visitors all year round, like the eastern yellow robin, the grey fantail, and the grey and little shrike-thrushes. Many others fly in at different tree flowering times and seasons or are just passing through, like the doves, three species of cuckoo, the satin and leaden flycatchers, the bush curlew and the red-backed wren.

Perhaps, to make a fairer comparison with the sightings in 1968, we would have to engage a similar sized group of bird watchers in a November with similar conditions who can range across similar terrain. It would be valuable, as John suggests, to set up and maintain a database with assistance from the many bird watchers who live on or visit the island.

In the meantime, we will continue to spend quality time sitting on our verandah and enjoying the activity at the bird baths.

Article and photos submitted by David Anderson, Fraser Island Association

Bitou Bush Surveillance UAV trial

Bitou bush has the ability to outcompete and smother native coastal dune vegetation. Infestations within the Great Sandy National Park have been dramatically reduced since the 1980's, with only isolated plants being found in the field today.

Ground surveillance is a collaborative effort, currently carried out twice a year by Biosecurity Queensland (BQ), Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) staff and contractors, and Fraser Coast Regional Council (FCRC). Teams survey densely vegetated areas in an emu parade fashion to maximise detection of both mature plants and seedlings.



Some of the coastal vegetation on southern K'gari has become too dense, making it nearly impenetrable for ground surveillance. The risk of not detecting plants in this area has become high due to lack of visibility. Another technique of surveillance and detection is required to ensure eradication.

Aerial surveillance is expensive and arduous. BQ and QPWS in partnership with Aspect UAV Imaging are working to develop suitable UAV technology to enhance bitou bush surveillance. Test flights have been carried out to determine the required camera resolution, the flight height which provided suitable resolution and the amount of overlap using a systematic pattern over the test area.

The Queensland University of Queensland (QUT) and Aspect UAV are working on enhancement of the images post-flight to aid in the detection by using a program that can automatically detect bitou through colour enhancement. With a large collaboration through multi agencies, the development of UAV technology will soon become an annual part of bitou bush surveillance in Queensland.

Article and photo contributed by Stacy Harris, Biosecurity Queensland

Colton Mine Impacts

Q: What does the Colton Coal mine have to do with Fraser Island and Great Sandy Strait?

A: An awful lot.

That "awful" adjective is chosen deliberately. Although the Colton open-cut coalmine was approved without producing any Environmental Impact Statement, its impact on the natural integrity of the Great Sandy Strait Ramsar site and the Fraser Island World Heritage site have dribbled out since and these deserve to have alarm bells ringing loud for anyone who cares about the Fraser Coast Region's crowning jewels.

Colton Coal mine escaped producing the requisite EIS by stating in their lease application that they would be mining less than half a million tonnes coal annually (0.5 Mtpa) for ten years. If it was more than that, they would be required to submit an EIS with their application. The latest data confirms reserves at 12 million tonnes and in the proposed 10-year life span of the mine's production, that would more than double the output to 1.2Mtpa requiring an Environmental Impact Statement.

Because the mine will be a large and deep open-cut mine, the first in the Maryborough basin, groundwater from surrounding aquifers will enter the mine pit increasing the acidity and carrying a range of harmful minerals. The mine proponents admit that three of these, Cadmium, Cobalt and Manganese, will be pushed to levels considered unsafe for the environmentally sensitive ecosystem of the Great Sandy Strait.

A much larger threat though, will arise through the extent of that acid water that will be discharged into the Mary River just 8 kilometres up from the Great Sandy Strait Ramsar site.

Once the coal seam is exposed to air, the sulphur in the Pyrites begins an endless chain reaction, generating sulphuric acid and posing an environmental threat to the natural integrity of the Great Sandy Strait. Because it is necessary to keep water out of the pit, the mine will need to discharge 946 megalitres of untreated mine water annually. This means that 200 litres per second (equivalent of 10 x 20 litre containers) will be discharged directly into the Mary River. This is 5.8% of the average daily Mary River flow.

Another threat to the Ramsar site comes from another direction. The Colton Coal mine is located catchment of the Susan River. In its lower reaches, the Susan also forms part of the Great Sandy Strait Ramsar site. This means that if containment dams adjacent to the mine that hold acid and metaliferous forming waste overflow or are breached in flood events more toxic compounds may end up in the Susan River estuary and the Ramsar site.

Heavy metals do not breakdown like other pollutants do and they will continue to accumulate in the sediment and potentially in the water for year after year while the mine is in operation. While they may plateau when the mine ceases operation they will persist in the sediment and continue entering the food chain long after. If mining proceeds there is no intention to backfill the void which means that leaching into the pit will continue long after mining ceases.

Whatever pollutants end up in the marine environment may never be known because currently it isn't proposed to carry out any on-going monitoring of the sediments of the Mary River or Great Sandy Strait at any point. It seems that the natural integrity of the World Heritage Fraser Island and the internationally listed Ramsar Wetland aren't worth as much as 12 million tonnes of coal.



Submitted by John Sinclair AO, FIDO

Garden Escapee from Africa and Asia: Glory Lily

The Glory Lily (*Gloriosa superba*) is a perennial herb with climbing stems up to 4m that die off over winter, with long lived underground tubers. Leaves are shiny green, narrow with 2cm long curling end tendrils. Flowers are showy yellow/orange and/or red with "petals" turned back to expose stamens. October to May. Fleshy ovoid capsules with many red seeds.

Spread by garden waste, birds and humans. Glory Lily loves coastal habitats and tolerates nutrient poor soils.



The showy flowers of the Glory Lily – African and Asian pest

Control by manual removal (using gloves for protection) seed pods and digging out tubers and rhizomes removed completely.

Chemical control in December and then February before fruiting and seasonal dieback using Glyphosate & water 1:50(20mL/L) + metsulfuron methyl @ 1.5g/10L water (with non-ionic surfactant.).

Please note glory lily is highly toxic to humans, native mammals and livestock.

Garden alternatives: Scrambling lily (*Geitnoplesium cymosum*), Wombat berry (*Eustrephus latifolius*), Christmas bells (*Blandfordia grandiflora*), False sarsparilla vine (*Hardenbergia violacea*), Dusky coral pea (*Kennedia rubicunda*).



Please be on the lookout for Indian myna birds (or if you have watched “cloudy with a chance of meatballs”- Ratbirds) as several have been sighted on Fraser Island. For further information regarding identification and what you can do, hop onto: <http://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/pest-management/pest-animals> or <https://www.feralscan.org.au/mynascan/>

Articles contributed by Juliet Musgrave, Fraser Coast Regional Council

Dates for the Diary

What: **Weed Management**

Where: Happy Valley, Fraser Island

When: 19–25 November 2017

For: Peter Shooter leads these trips to help tackle the heavy weed infestation in and around Happy Valley. A group of 8 will share one of the comfortable holiday houses in Happy Valley. The group will work to contain a particularly aggressive weed with poisonous seeds, *Abrus prectorius* var. *Africanus*, which is heavily affecting the vegetation and isn't found anywhere else on Fraser Island. Peter's groups continue their long-term battle to eradicate *Abrus* and prevent seeds being set for another crop of this virulent weed. Fitness is needed to carry heavy chemical backpack sprays across steep terrain.

Cost: \$200 (\$100 for concessions) to subsidise costs.

More info: For more information or to download an application form, please check out FIDO's website www.fido.org.au.

What: **Bush Regeneration and Monitoring**

Where: Eurong, Fraser Island

When: 22–29 October 2017

For: This program will be led by veteran bush regenerator, Maree Prior. It will be hosted at *Tallinga*, the former Sinclair family home in Eurong Village, and will focus on weeding, bush regeneration and building the capacity of the Eurong nursery as well as continuing FIDO's ongoing environmental monitoring programs. This program also includes the development of a Nature Walk within the village area. John Sinclair will be pleased to show volunteers as much of Fraser Island as is possible in the time.

Cost: \$200 (\$100 for concessions) to subsidise costs.

More info: For more information or to download an application form, please check out FIDO's website www.fido.org.au.

Funding Opportunities

What: Australian Geographic Society Sponsorship

For: Founded by Dick Smith, each quarter up to \$15,000 is made available for Australian Geographic Society Project Grants. Funding provided by the Society for Project Sponsorship targets all four Project Categories: Science, Community, Adventure and Environment. The society also offers seed grants between \$500 and \$3000.

When: Applications are now taken throughout the year for sponsorship rounds.

Phone: (02) 9263 9825

Email: society@ausgeo.com.au

Website: <http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/society/sponsorship/2013/11/apply-for-sponsorship>

What: Ian Potter Foundation

For: Sustainability, preservation of biodiversity and landscape-scale conservation are important and complex challenges addressed in this program area. Our Environment & Conservation program aims to support Australian urban and rural communities to better manage our natural resources and preserve biodiversity in the face of challenges such as land degradation, limited water resources and climate change.

When: Applications by invitation only in 2017.

Phone: (03) 9650 3188 – Louise Arkles

Email: admin@ianpotter.org.au

Website: <http://www.ianpotter.org.au/home>

What: Gambling Community Benefit Fund

For: One-off grants of up to \$35,000 (inc. GST) for not-for-profit organisations to help provide community services or activities that benefit the Queensland community.

When: Round 94 is now open and will close on 31 August 2017.

Email: cbf@treasury.qld.gov.au

Phone: (07) 3247 4284

Website: <http://www.justice.qld.gov.au/corporate/sponsorships-and-grants/grants/community-benefit-funding-programs>

What: Norman Wettenhall Foundation—Small Environmental Grant Scheme

For: Projects that enhance or maintain the vitality and diversity of the Australian natural living environment. Objectives of the Small Environmental Grants Scheme (up to \$10K) are to support Australian biodiversity projects that are concerned with one or more of the following: monitoring/recording data, community education, community capacity building (training) and research/science. NWF has funded projects ranging from supporting local communities to maintain or restore habitat; to the production of education kits; and the publication and dissemination of research information.

When: November 2017 round opens 19 September 2017

Phone: (03) 5472 1316 - Elizabeth (Beth) Mellick, Executive Officer

Email: beth@nwf.org.au

Website: <http://www.nwf.org.au/>

What: The Mullum Trust

For: Supports projects which have significant, ongoing or catalytic environmental outcomes. Grants are available from \$100 to \$10,000. Projects with specific localised environmental outcomes are preferred, although projects which are locally based but have far reaching impacts are also encouraged.

When: Ongoing

Phone: Mr Ryan Neoh on (03) 9671 6658

Email: rneoh@deloitte.com.au

Website: <http://thetrusteeformullumtrust.myob.net/>

What: Cheaperthanhotels Fundraising and Sponsorship Program
For: Cheaperthanhotels offer a wide range of opportunities for sponsorship and fundraising support for community groups, non-profit organisations, schools, universities and sports clubs. Each organisation will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and you could gain anything from \$250 up to \$25,000 a year in funding.
When: Ongoing
Phone: (02) 8263 5111
Website: <http://www.cheaperthanhotels.com/sponsorship/>

For those of you that like Facebook, you may want to keep an eye on the **Australian Grants and Awards** page, which keeps a watchful eye on additional funding opportunities and promotes them as they become available: <https://www.facebook.com/ausgrants>

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

As many of you would be aware, the Fraser Island Natural Integrity Alliance (FINIA) is a non-incorporated, not-for-profit, umbrella organisation for its partners. As a non-incorporated organisation, we rely on our partners to support our activities for the Fraser Island (K'gari) World Heritage site, with no dedicated funding to support our meetings, administration or even website.

Without this generosity, FINIA's activities would be far more challenging, so we would like to acknowledge the following sponsors for their generous support:



Fraser Coast Regional Council – who provide a venue for our meetings.

Burnett Mary Regional Group – who pay our website hosting fees and catering for the FINIA meetings.

WordPress – who have subsidised our website fees for the last 3 years, this year offering us a \$50 discount.

Kingfisher Bay Resort Group – who support many of our on-ground activities with subsidised barge fees.

Add to this our amazing contributors, volunteers and donors—a special place attracts special people. Thanks to you all for making FINIA work.