



# News and views

SIMO: PROTECTING OUR NATURAL ASSETS SINCE 1978



## Welcome to 2018! Celebrating 40 years of SIMO.

SIMO is your island-based community organisation championing environmental, social and educational causes since 1978. We value your membership and encourage your feedback.



### SIMO celebrates 40 years!

A time for reflection, and to pay tribute to past committees and members. We are looking for your photos and memories... do you recognise the people above? Details on page 2.



### Toondah Harbour update

Redlands 2030 gives us the latest news on polls, petition, community meetings and events against the proposed Toondah Harbour development. An interview with Steve MacDonald is on page 3.



### Quandamooka Country & Culture

The Queen's Baton was given a huge Yura! at Mooloomba as part of the lead up to the 2018 Commonwealth Games. See the photos and learn more Jandai language on page 5 and 6.



# Celebrating 40 years of SIMO

What an achievement! Four decades of fighting to protect the island is an accomplishment worth celebrating!

SIMO was formed in 1978 from a grassroots community campaign to stop a proposed bridge from the mainland. The island would be a very different place today if this group of determined environmental stalwarts hadn't banded together, and the current management committee is eternally grateful that they did!

The first President was the late Jurek Grodecki, and the first committee members included Mary Maher, Hal Davis, Gail Bell and the late Jeanette Covacevich, Kath Walker (Oodgeroo Noonuccal) and Ellie Durbidge. In that first year, there were 70 paid members in the group.

Gail Bell, who remains on the SIMO management committee to this day, reminisces that they thought the group would disband as soon as the bridge fight was over!

Since then, there have been ups and downs, but for 40 years, SIMO members have shared a common concern for the island's future and wish to see it developed wisely and sustainably.

We hope that, with your support, we can continue to protect the island's fragile, unique and significant ecology, community and culture.



SIMO on safari, circa 1980s.



Where it all began. The Bridge March, 1978.



A helicopter company cordoned off a part of Home Beach to run joy flights. SIMO organised a sit-in on the landing pad.



Former Qld Labour Minister for the Environment, Pat Comben, addressing a SIMO AGM. He was lured over to the island with the promise of a sighting of a pair of Beach Stone Curlews - he had not sighted any in a life-long quest.

## *We want your memories!*

Over the last 40 years, many committed and talented people have contributed through SIMO to make the island what it is today. We'd love to capture your memories and photographs in a publication later this year. But we need your help to do this.

Please email [membership@simo.org.au](mailto:membership@simo.org.au) to submit your memories, or to arrange a chat over a cup of tea for us to document your recollections. A huge thank you to those members who have already started sharing with us!

# Toondah Harbour update

There was a great turnout for the Toondah Harbour Rally in September last year. Redlands 2030 was also recently at the Point Lookout markets collecting signatures calling for the Redlands City Council to withdraw their support of the Toondah Harbour PDA and the proposed Walker Corporation development.

The proposed development scheme raises serious environmental concerns. It would impact on a critical koala habitat as well as an internationally protected Ramsar Wetland site, with dredging destroying sea grass, mangroves and mudflats, and threatening vulnerable and endangered species such as dugongs, turtles and migratory shorebirds.

The economic arguments that the development will help Straddie and the Cleveland CBD are based on unsupported rhetoric and clichés.

Redlands 2030's Steve MacDonald provides an update:

'We started Redlands 2030 almost four years ago, concerned about the decision making and consultation process associated with the Toondah Harbour Priority Development Area (PDA) scheme', Steve explained.

'While Toondah Harbour was our genesis, we are questioning a number of issues around the Redlands and pushing for greater transparency from State and Local governments. Our web site contains hundreds of articles about Redlands and issues affecting the Redlands.

'The community consultation process for the Toondah development was an absolute scam, with Council avoiding their responsibility of acting in the public interest and, we believe, withholding public submissions, critical documents and information about the proposed development.

'There is an overwhelming number of public submissions and petitions not in favour of the development. Locally, an opinion poll by the Redland City Bulletin showed 85% of people did not want the project to proceed. The Federal Government's referral process attracted 1419 submissions with 1411 opposed and 8 supportive of the project. Interestingly, the Council did not even make a submission to the Commonwealth Government during the process.



Point Lookout market-goers sign a petition to RCC asking it to withdraw its support for Walker Group's proposed Toondah Harbour development. January 2018.



At the September 2017 rally, the Toondah Action Group told the crowd the residential development will generate more commuters, not jobs - an estimated eight additional trainloads each morning.

'Locally, we have been collecting signatures for a petition to Council to withdraw its support for the Toondah PDA. We started in September 2017, getting 600 signatures on that first day - showing just how concerned the community is about the development.

'We lodged the petition with Council on 22 November 2017, with 1,136 signatures. Since then we've received another 200 signatures, which we have also submitted.

'In light of the petition, Council has resolved to have a report prepared and present at a future meeting - we are waiting for this date to be confirmed.'

## Stay informed

Join Redlands 2030 at their next public meeting - 6.30pm, 22 February 2018 at the Birkdale Multi-Sports Club, with guest speaker QYAC CEO, Cameron Costello.

## Get involved

The Toondah Action Group is looking for volunteers. Email [thereporter@redlands2030.net](mailto:thereporter@redlands2030.net) to express your interest if you can help out in any way.

## Learn more

Click below to visit the impressive website [www.redlands2030.net](http://www.redlands2030.net)



# Wildlife Rescue Minjerribah needs you

It's been a busy summer on the island, which means a lot more people and cars. Great for the tourism businesses, but the hazards for our wildlife are greatest during this time of year.

SIMO would like to thank the team from Wildlife Rescue Minjerribah / NSI (WRM), headed by Dr Jade Patterson (Veterinary Surgeon). The team responds to hundreds of calls each year to rescue injured wildlife on the island.

They provide an essential - and at times an emotionally challenging - service, assumed in all our names as a wildlife-caring community.

This vital organisation is run solely by volunteers and it receives no regular source of funding. The volunteers pay for medicines, tests, transportation, equipment and the phone expenses required to run a wildlife rescue service.

Please help support this vital operation in any way you can. Every cent donated goes directly to WRM for the work with island wildlife, and you can donate to:

Wildlife Rescue Minjerribah  
BSB: 124 025 / Account number: 22627861

# Moreton Bay Research Station Open Day

SIMO was lucky enough to be part of the UQ Moreton Bay Research Station Open day on 25 November 2017.

We met lots of interesting land and sea creatures, some of them with only two legs! A day filled with informative and educational talks and activities for all ages.



**This is the current Wildlife Rescue number for North Stradbroke Island. Keep it in your phone and share it with friends and family visiting the island.**

You may also be in a position to donate your time to help WRM with transport of injured animals. Call Kirstie Elliott on 0402 234 815 if you can help.

Thank you for helping to protect our precious island wildlife.





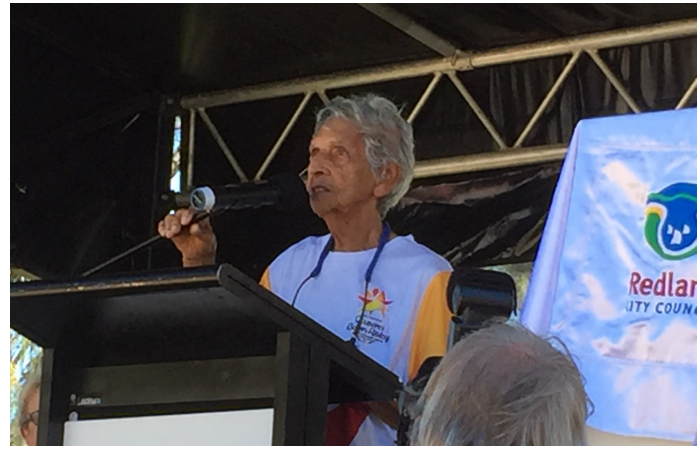
# Yura! The Queen's Baton gets a huge Quandamooka Country welcome

Quandamooka Country, Culture and People were celebrated as part of the lead up to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games last month.

Quandamooka Elder, Aunty Rose Borey carried the Queen's Baton to Mooloomba (Point Lookout) for a traditional welcome with a smoking ceremony. The Yulu Burri-Ba dancers, Matthew Burns and Josh Walker helped welcome the baton and Uncle Bob Andersen delivered the Welcome to Country on behalf of the Traditional Owners.

Local artist and designer of the Commonwealth Games medals, Delvene Cockatoo-Collins, was also at the celebration, which was featured cultural demonstrations, sand art, bush tucker and workshops and activities.

The Baton will make its way through the hands of 3,800 baton bearers in every state and territory, before arriving back at the Gold Coast for the XXI Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony on 4 April 2018, where the Prince of Wales will read the royal message to declare the Games open.



Quandamooka traditional owner and respected Elder Aunty Rose Borey, carried the baton to Headland Park. The artwork on the 2018 Commonwealth Games medals has been designed by local artist Delvene Cockatoo-Collins (pictured with Aunty Rose below).



Hundreds lined the path for Aunty Rose to deliver the baton. The word 'Yura' drawn in the sand - meaning 'welcome' in Jandai language. Local artist, Craig Tapp, designed the sand art, using 69 hands to represent Australia welcoming the competing Commonwealth countries.

## Join the Clean Up Australia crew on March 4, 2018

Get involved with the Clean Up Australia Day event at Point Lookout this year. Even if you can only spare an hour, every little bit helps.

- Date:** Sunday 4 March 2018
- Time:** 7 am until 10am
- Place:** Meet at South Gorge Beach stairs, Kennedy Drive, Point Lookout
- Register:** via Facebook page or email [membership@simo.org.au](mailto:membership@simo.org.au)
- More information:** Contact Emma Meyer on 0417781325 OR [www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au](http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au)

# Jandai Language

As North Stradbroke Island is being more commonly known as Minjerribah (in accordance with the wishes of the Quandamooka peoples) we thought you might be interested in some of the traditional Jandai language names for places on and around the island\*.

Most words were gathered by early European authors (and current family groups) and differ according to families and the way that the spoken language was heard and documented.

<b>Amity Point</b>	<i>pullan pullan, budlan</i>
<b>Bird Island</b>	<i>mubanbila, moopanbila</i>
<b>Blue Lake</b>	<i>gabura, budlaram</i>
<b>Brisbane</b>	<i>miginjin</i>
<b>Brown Lake</b>	<i>bamira, bummel, gambara</i>
<b>Cape Moreton</b>	<i>gunemba</i>
<b>Coochiemudlo Island</b>	<i>coochiemudlo, gujimudlo</i>
<b>Creek at Myora Springs</b>	<i>capemba, gabemba</i>
<b>Dunwich</b>	<i>dumba</i>
<b>Goat Island</b>	<i>guwawenewa</i>
<b>Moreton Island</b>	<i>moorgumpin, murgambin, ngugi</i>
<b>Moreton Island lagoon</b>	<i>tangaluma</i>
<b>North Stradbroke Island</b>	<i>minjerribah, minjeriba</i>
<b>Peel Island</b>	<i>jakurba</i>
<b>Point Lookout</b>	<i>mooloomba, mulumba</i>
<b>Southern point of North Stradbroke Island</b>	<i>jambinbin</i>

Please keep your binungs (ears) and mils (eyes) open for more in successive newsletters.



**Yulu-Burri-Ba dancers, keeping culture and community strong on Minjerribah.**

\*Source: "Jandai Language Dictionary: A dictionary of language spoken on Stradbroke and Moreton Islands based on words remembered by all Elders and recorded by interested visitors to our shores", Minjerribah Moorgumpin Elders-in-Council, Dunwich, North Stradbroke Island, Qld., 2011.

## We need you!

Sign up now to help us protect this beautiful and fragile island. We have a lot to look forward to this year, and your membership is invaluable. Please consider telling family and friends who may be interested in helping us protect North Stradbroke Island's natural beauty.

Membership fees:

Individual: \$12

Family discount (2 adults from same household): \$18

Student / Concession: \$6

Email [membership@simo.org.au](mailto:membership@simo.org.au) to secure your membership today.