

# Newsletter Moreton Island Protection Committee Inc.

PO Box 2182  
Ashgrove West QLD 4060

Phone 07 3321 1463

Print Post Approved  
PP414772/00002

SURFACE  
MAIL

POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA

Gary Jackson  
PO Box 535  
KALLANGUR QLD 4503

Volume 33 No 1 Jan-Jun 2011

## Cane toad found at Bulwer

In March 2011 a cane toad was found at a Bulwer residence. A few days before building materials had been delivered to a house a few doors up. The cane toad was captured, and given to the Rangers on 1<sup>st</sup> March to confirm identification.

Senior Ranger Chris Hanlon arranged for Gary Jackson from Multi-National K9 to search areas around where the cane toad was found with Rusty the cane toad detecting dog. Gary volunteered his and Rusty's services. By co-incidence Rusty was in Brisbane being trained as a cane toad detecting dog for Groote Eylandt as part of the effort by the Indigenous people and the mining company to keep Groote cane toad free. As well as searching houses near where the toad was found at Bulwer, Rusty searched other likely toad refuges; rubbish transfer stations and some residences at Bulwer, Cowan Cowan and Koorinal. Tangalooma also participated with searches being conducted around water treatment ponds and the nursery. These searches were conducted by Rusty between 29 to 31<sup>st</sup> March free of charge. Fortunately no toads were located.

Over the years occasional toads have been found on Moreton, all fortunately found before being able to breed. The last previous incursion was 2 toads found

at The Wrecks campground in December 2009. Visitors are asked to check camping equipment before coming to Moreton and be on the lookout for toads on the Island. Building materials and landscaping materials are other likely ways that toads can get to Moreton.

*Through funding provided by the Australian Governments Moreton Bay Oil Spill Environment Restoration Programme MIPC arranged for Nifty the cane toad detecting dog from Western Australia to search areas of Moreton Island in the summer of 2009/10. Gary trained MIPC volunteers and assisted with Nifty's searches on Moreton.*

### **If you find a Cane Toad on Moreton.**

**Any toad seen must be caught so that it cannot breed on Moreton.** Place your hand inside a plastic bag when catching the toad. Store in a cool extremely secure place eg. esky. Contact the rangers on 3408 2710 If unsure that your catch is a cane toad, then keep it moist in a cool place until positively identified.

**NB Cane toads exude a poison which can irritate the skin, especially the eyes. After handling wash skin thoroughly with water.**

## AGM

10am Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Royal Geographical Society Rooms

237 Milton Road, Milton (opposite train station) just before brewery inbound.

An opportunity for members to meet with the executive with a view to becoming involved as a volunteer on Moreton or becoming involved with administration tasks or just catch up with Moreton friends.

**From September to December please drive carefully  
as day old Pied Oyster Catcher may be on the beaches**