

A vibrant Wompoo Fruit Dove is perched on a branch of green fruit. The bird has a white head with a red eye, a red beak, and a body with iridescent green and blue feathers. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a natural habitat. The title text is overlaid in a white, serif font.

SEQ
BACKYARDS
FOR
BIODIVERSITY

WOMPPOO FRUIT DOVE
GAZNEB QUIRK!

We are an organisation that promotes both the importance and potential of urban areas for biodiversity in south-east Queensland.

Across urban areas of south-east Queensland, our objective is to improve and expand native biodiversity.

Backyards for Biodiversity SEQ Inc



- **Our aim is to educate residents as to the beauty and environmental value of our plants and wildlife and to the ways that nature can enrich their lives.**
- **We will actively support and encourage residents and businesses to implement practical strategies to encourage biodiversity; especially, to plant locally indigenous flora to support our local fauna.**
- **We also hope to collaborate with local government to increase their awareness of the importance of biodiversity within the lands that they manage and to implement management practices that protect and enhance biodiversity.**

We hope to achieve this by the following 20 strategies:

1. Encourage residents to recognise and enjoy the existing biodiversity in their backyards.
2. Assist residents to increase and improve the potential habitat within their backyards and on verges, by specifically planting more local native plant species, controlling exotic plant species, and reducing and replacing lawn.
3. Educate residents in a variety of strategies to improve their backyard biodiversity.
4. Encourage residents to join or support the Backyard for Biodiversity community.
5. Promote projects within local communities in their local areas for the purpose of enhancing biodiversity, for example, streets or suburbs plantings.
6. Promote Backyards for Biodiversity to local councils so they may join, promote and support our aims; both within the delivery of their services and to their residents.
7. Encourage local councils to participate in the enhancing of biodiversity by dedicating at least 50% of parks and gardens for the construction of habitat gardens (Ecological Restoration Areas) and through the use of predominantly local plant species in public areas such as nature strips, traffic islands etc.
8. Encourage local councils to recognise in their planning schemes the importance of maintaining biodiversity including the incorporation of strategies to protect and enhance biodiversity in all new estates and to design [or to redesign] suburbs that cater for nature.
9. Encourage Local Councils to actively manage feral species within their area, including educating and helping their community to reduce the impacts of domestic animals such as dogs and cats on wildlife.
10. Encourage private parks and gardens to develop biodiversity policies that contributes to growth in local fauna and flora.



Backyards for Biodiversity SEQ Inc

Nature Starts Here!

11. Support Bushcare/Landcare Groups [and their nurseries] plus specialist native plant nurseries and landscapers by promoting their activities and products. Support other community organisations, for example, Pollinator Link as their aims broadly align with ours.
12. Educate and encourage local landscapers, nurseries, and garden centres to support Backyards for Biodiversity and its aims.
13. Collaborate with gardening / landscaping firms to develop, promote and sell biodiversity 'makeovers' for backyards and verge gardens and to support such business through promotion.
14. Promote our ideas to large landholders such as Schools, Retirement Villages, Industrial Areas, Shopping Centres – indeed any urban land use type – such that they support and participate in Backyards for Biodiversity.
15. Publish a range of free educational and promotional materials including online through websites and social media, such as Youtube.
16. Celebrate and share stories and examples of success to motivate and inspire our community.
17. Build a coalition of contributing individuals and organisations sympathetic to our aims.
18. Facilitate working groups of volunteers, like Urban Wildlife Gardeners, who can engage in urban revegetation and plantings – especially of verge gardens for businesses etc. In a similar vein, encourage men's sheds to construct nesting boxes, bee hotels, bat boxes etc for local parks, gardens, and schools.
19. Promote strategies to reduce adverse impacts of development on wildlife such as fauna friendly lighting, windows, and roads.
20. Protect existing biodiversity by actively lobbying federal and state governments.

WHY?

We are in the midst of a global biodiversity crisis. Nature, both locally and globally, is suffering a death of a thousand cuts. Every citizen on our planet receives the life-giving gifts from nature; fresh air, filtered water, functioning ecologies and yet few consider that they 'owe' nature anything. We all owe our planet a great deal and it should start where we live – our backyards.

According to a recent, Science for Policy paper from the Threatened Species Recovery Hub, ***"Restoring and maintaining diverse urban nature with a wide range of animals and plants is beneficial to both people and the environment. Exposure to nature in cities has been found to deliver a remarkable range of health and well being benefits, including stress reduction, reduced mortality, and improved cognitive development in children."***



Backyards for Biodiversity SEQ

Inc

In addition to health benefits for people the same report notes, “[Wildlife] Habitat can be enhanced or created in existing urban areas by using native plant species and increasing vegetation complexity,” in addition to recognising, “Residential gardens can be significant habitat [snip] resident -led wildlife gardening programs can make a valuable contribution to biodiversity.”

SEQ Backyards for Biodiversity believes that promoting backyard biodiversity will make a positive difference to people, nature, and nature conservation more broadly. As stated, quality of human life and health will improve with increased nature in and around our homes. Creating more natural habitat within our urban backyards will provide both homes for wildlife and corridors between natural reserves allowing species to move throughout the environment. Inviting nature into our yards will allow us to more easily understand and value our unique flora and fauna, thus motivating us to protect it across our entire landscape.

Lastly but importantly, we certainly do not see this project as a total response to our biodiversity crisis. It is merely one important strategy.

We support efforts that

- protects existing natural habitat and threatened and endangered species,
- promote native revegetation on private lands
- encourages regenerative agriculture, which respects biodiversity and replenishes soils, & water tables.
- promotes sustainable energy use by utilising renewable resources as all are important to solve our biodiversity crisis.

PLEASE consider joining SEQ Biodiversity for Backyards.



Backyards for Biodiversity SEQ

Inc

Nature Starts Here!



APPENDICES

KOEL
GAZNDEB QUIRK

APPENDICES

- I.Plant Nurseries specialising in locally native and / or native species. p159
- II.Organisations, Clubs related p161
- iii.Plant Lists P163
- iv Selected Bibliography P164
- v acknowledgments p165
- VI.Checklist for SEQ Backyards for Biodiversity p166

SELECTED PLANT NURSERIES

All Natives online nursery - <https://www.allnatives.com.au/>

B4C Nursery, Bulimba Creek - bulimbacreek.org.au/nursery/

Barung Landcare Porters Lane Nursery, Maleny - www.barunglandcare.org.au/nursery

Bribie Island community nursery -

<https://www.facebook.com/bribieislandcommunitynursery/>

Bundaberg Landcare - <https://www.facebook.com/LandcareBundy/>

Cedar Groves Landcare - <https://cedargrovelandcare.org.au/>

Cooloola City Farm Nursery, Tin Can Bay - <http://www.cooloolacityfarm.org/index.php>

Coolum Community Native Nursery - columnatives.com

CREEC Nursery, Burpengary - <http://creecnursery.com/>

Crows Nest Community Nursery, Crows Nest -

<https://www.tr.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/parks-gardens/plant-nurseries/12314-crows-nest-community-nursery>

Ecotone Local Native Plant Nursery, West End - ecotonenursery.wordpress.com

Fairhill Native Nursery, Yandina - <https://www.fairhill.com.au/>

Florabunda Bushcare Nursery, Woombye - florabundabushcare.org.au

Forest Heart Eco Nursery, Maleny - <https://www.forestheart.com.au/>

Fraser Coast Community Nursery - <https://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/fraser-coast-community-nursery>

Friends of Gold Coast Regional Botanical Gardens - <https://friendsgcrbg.org.au/plants-sales/>

Friends of Lagoon Creek community nursery -

<https://lagooncreekcommunitygroup.wordpress.com/>

Gold Coast Council information about what to plant -

<https://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/Council-region/About-our-city/Environment-sustainability/Sustainable-living/My-sustainable-backyard/Green-your-backyard>

Greenstock nursery wholesale nurseries for revegetation only

<https://www.greenstocknurseries.com.au/>

Gympie Landcare - <https://gympielandcare.org.au/>

Kumbartcho - Pine Rivers Community Nursery - kumbartcho.org.au

Mooloolah River Landcare <https://mrl.org.au/native-plant-nursery/>

Natives R Us, Traveston - <https://nativesrus.com.au/>

Newera Natives, Rosewood - <https://www.newerahnatives.com.au/>

Nielson's Native Nursery, Loganholme - <https://nielsensnativenursery.com.au/>

Nindethana On-line seller of Australian native plant seed - <https://www.nindethana.net.au/>

Noosa & District Landcare Nursery, Pomona - noosalandcare.org/plant-sales.php

OCCA Community Native Plant Nursery

<http://www.oxleycreekcatchment.org.au/community-native-plant-nursery/>

Paten Park Native Nursery - patenparknativenursery.org.au

SELECTED PLANT NURSERIES

Peacehaven Botanic Garden [and nursery], Highfields -

<https://www.peacehavenpark.org.au/>

Pete's Hobby Nursery Lowood - <https://www.peteshobbynursery.com.au/>

Queens Park Nursery Ipswich -

https://www.ipswich.qld.gov.au/about_council/initiatives/free-plant-program

RBG Nursery, Redcliffe - Redcliffe Botanic Gardens

Redlands Indigiscapes Centre Nursery - indigiscapes.redland.qld.gov.au

Scenic Rim Council Nursery -

<https://www.scenicrim.qld.gov.au/our-environment/environmental-initiatives/council-nursery>

South Burnett Council planting guidelines -

<https://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/758/planting-guidelines>

Tanglewood Natives, Lockyer Valley - <https://tanglewoodnatives.com.au/>

Wallum nursery wholesale nurseries for revegetation only -

<https://www.wallumnurseries.com/>

Witjuti Grub Bushfood Nursery - <http://www.witjutigrub.com.au/>

ALSO

Gympie Sunday Markets - native plant grower **Marc Russell**

Yandina Saturday Markets - native plant grower **Phil Jobson**

SELECTED CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Aussie Bee	https://www.aussiebee.com.au/ Australian Native Bee Research Centre PO Box 74, North Richmond NSW 2754, Australia
Australian Caterpillars and their Butterflies and Moths	http://lepidoptera.butterflyhouse.com.au/
Australian Conservation Foundation	https://www.acf.org.au/
Australian Native Bee Association	https://australiannativebee.org.au/ sec@australiannativebee.org.au
Australian Wildlife Conservancy	https://www.australianwildlife.org/
Birdata	https://birdata.birdlife.org.au/
Birdlife Australia	https://birdlife.org.au/
Birds in Backyards	https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/
Birds Queensland	http://www.birdsqueensland.org.au/
Bush Heritage	https://www.bushheritage.org.au/who-we-are/about
Brisbane Insects and Spiders	http://www.brisbaneinsects.com/ pchew_brisbane@yahoo.com.au
Butterfly and other Invertebrate Club Inc	http://www.boic.org.au/ P.O.Box 2113, Runcorn, Queensland 4113 EMAIL ADDRESS - secretaryboic@gmail.com
Community Gardens Australia	https://www.communitygarden.org.au/
Conservation Volunteers Australia	https://conservationvolunteers.com.au/
Ebird	https://ebird.org/australia/home
Entomological Society of Queensland	http://www.esq.org.au/ secretary@esq.org.au
FAME – Foundation for Australia’s Most Endangered species	https://www.fame.org.au/projects
Gardens for Wildlife - Barung	https://barunglandcare.org.au/gardens-for-wildlife/
Greening Australia	https://www.greeningaustralia.org.au/
Green the Street	https://greenthestreet.org/
Home Grown National Park [USA]	https://homegrownnationalpark.org/
Landcare Australia	https://landcareaustralia.org.au/
Land for Wildlife	https://www.lfwseq.org.au/

SELECTED CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Native Plants Queensland	https://npq.org.au/
Nature Conservancy Australia	https://www.natureaustralia.org.au/
Noosa Parks Association	https://noosaparks.org.au/
Pollinator Link	https://pollinatorlink.org/ Project Director: Michael Fox Project Manager: Sandra Tuszynska pollinatorlinke@gmail.com
Queensland Frog Society Inc.	http://www.qldfrogs.asn.au/
The Queensland Gardening Pages	https://www.queenslandgardening.com/
RBCN - Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network	http://www.richmondbirdwing.org.au/
The Shady Lanes Project	https://shadylanes.com.au/
SCEC - Sunshine Coast Environmental Council	https://www.scec.org.au/
Sustainable Gardening Australia	https://www.sgaonline.org.au/
Wilderness Society Australia	https://www.wilderness.org.au/
WILDLIFE FRIENDLY FENCING PROJECT	http://www.wildlifefriendlyfencing.com/WFF/ Home.html
Wildlife Rescue	https://www.wires.org.au/
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland	https://wildlife.org.au/?v=13b249c5dfa9
World Wildlife Fund Australia	https://www.wwf.org.au/

If there are any clubs or organisations that you feel could or should be added to this list please email me, Ken Cross, at friarbird43@bigpond.com

PLANT LISTS FOR SEQ GARDENS

There are far too many plant species to provide a comprehensive list. So we have provided some sample lists from some selected native plant nurseries, again, to illustrate what is available.

Paten Park Nursery Brisbane - <https://ppnn.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Website-Stock-List.pdf>

Also from Paten Park a wonderful document: A Suburb by Suburb list of plant species - <https://ppnn.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Brisbane-Plants-by-Suburb-Fix.pdf>

[If you are a Brisbane resident this is an essential document to guide your plant choices.]

Floribunda Community Native Nursery - <https://florabundabushcare.wordpress.com/stock/>

Coolum Native Nursery - <https://coolumnatives.com/wordpress/stock-list/>

Noosa Landcare Nursery - <https://noosalandcare.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/ndlgstocklistnov2021.pdf>

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

A substantial number of references have been used to produce this booklet. Our references include the lists of websites of plant nurseries and internet sites of many of the community organisations and clubs detailed on the previous pages. Government websites, too, have provided much information. These websites have been referenced on the individual pages and/or the lists on the pages immediately prior to this one. Similarly many printed texts have been consulted and it has been our practice to refer to these books on the relevant pages to encourage people to seek that information. Below are a list of books which we feel will be advantageous or interesting to read on the subjects of biodiversity, biodiversity loss, rewilding and 'gardening to save the world'.

The Butterfly Brothers [Jim and Joel Ashton] **Wild Your Garden**

Penguin Random House London 2020

Tim Beatley **Handbook of Biophilic City Planning and Design**

Island Press 2017

Tim Beatley **The Bird Friendly City**

Island Press 2020

AB Bishop **Habitat**

Murdoch Books Sydney 2018

Dave Goulson **Silent Earth**

Random House 2022

Dave Goulson **The Garden Jungle or Gardening to Save the World**

Vintage Arrow 2020

Paul Jepson, Cain Blythe **Rewilding: the Radical new Science of Ecological Recovery**

Icon Books 2020

Benedict MacDonald **Rebirding: Rewilding Britain and its Birds**

Pelagic Publishing 2019

Oliver Milman **The Insect Crisis: The Fall of the Tiny Empires that Run the World**

Atlantic 2022

George Monbiot **Feral: Searching for Enchantment on the Frontiers of Rewilding**

Penguin 2013

Graham Pizzey **The Australian Bird Garden – Creating Havens for Native Birds**

Angus and Robertson Sydney 2000

Doug Tallamy **Nature's Best Hope – A New Approach to Conservation that starts in your Yard.**

Timber Press 2020

Isabella Tree **Wilding: The Return of Nature to a British Farm**

Picador 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge many, many people who have inspired me or helped me to create this little booklet.

First, and most diplomatically, I would like to thank my wife, Megan for supporting my interest in nature and natural history. She understood this before we were married and still agreed to go ahead with it and I am forever grateful.

I would like to thank some authors. As a child I was a reasonably avid reader and before I finished primary school I had read many books by the wonderful naturalist and conservationist Gerald Durrell. His book, 'Catch me a Colobus' first informed me about the terrible impact humans had had on the natural world and its descriptions of the demise of the Passenger Pigeon and Thylacine genuinely horrified me. I gave what little money I had at that stage to buy a membership to what was then the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust. It is now simply called Durrell and they continue with work to both save endangered species and rewild places for biodiversity. David Attenborough was, and remains, a hero. I remember riding my bike each week to my grandmother's house to watch the next episode of Life on Earth. I have watched every documentary since. In Australia Harry Butler was an inspiration also and for a while I went about catching those snake species I knew to be without venom. Most recently I have been moved by American entomologist Doug Tallamy 's books, specifically, "Nature's Best Hope" – it is a simply written but neatly argued case for the homeowner to act for biodiversity. EO Wilson, likewise, is worth a quick plug as are many others.

I would like to acknowledge many people who have helped and encouraged my interests in birds and wildlife, chief among them, Christoph Pavey, Mike Mathieson, Jo Wieneke, Dave James, but there are many others. Most recently I would acknowledge some birding friends from Birdlife Australia Southern Queensland: Greg Roberts, Judith Hoyle, Vince Lee, Steve Grainger, Steve and Carol Popple, John Kooistra, Carolyn Scott, Russell MacGregor, Russ Lamb, Ray Devine, Paul Fraser, Robyn Combes, and many others.

John Birbeck deserves a special mention. Environmentalist, Ecologist, Botanist, Birder, Planner and conservationist, he knows as much about the Sunshine Coast environment as anyone - so is an excellent colleague to have. More importantly, despite evidence that may suggest otherwise, he remains optimistic and hopeful about what can be achieved for the environment in the future. I like it, too, that he is not afraid of airing conservation plans that seem overly ambitious.

Lastly I must offer my sincere thanks to all who 'get nature and its value' especially the many wonderful photographers, most found through the new communities of of Social Media, who have generously offered images for this project, especially Eric Anderson for his many excellent images of plants. . I should thank, too, Natalie Sanderson, who was the right person with the right interest in the right place at the right time, who has proved to be a most worthy addition to our B4B team.

Ken Cross

Backyards for Biodiversity SEQ Inc



- **Grow local native plants**
- **Provide flowering & fruiting plants, preferably native**
- **Provide clean water**
- **Provide species specific shelter – mulch, rocks and logs, nesting boxes**
- **Control weed plant species and remove or limit lawn**
- **Grow some food, and some native food, for your family!**
- **Embrace some mess**
- **Enclose pets and control pests**
- **Avoid use of chemicals when controlling pests or other uses**
- **Learn about and celebrate nature!**