



03 Jul 2018
Cairns Post, Cairns

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Page 1 of 3

SUPPORT FOR CULL



It's time to shrink croc population

Queensland Legislative Assembly	
Number:	56197514
	2 APR 2019
MP: MR KNUTH	Tabled <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clerk's Signature: 	By Leave <input type="checkbox"/>



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Page 2 of 3



DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

MOST Far North Queenslanders support a cull of crocodiles, but the State Government says such drastic action could give the public a false sense of security and increase the risk of attacks.

An overwhelming 77 per cent of respondents to the *Cairns Post's* Your Say on the Far North Reader Survey were in favour of a cull of saltwater crocodiles under a croc-management plan.

It follows a month in which salties were spotted in freshwater swimming areas such as Babinda and Kuranda, prompting removal action by the Department of Environment and Science.

Division 1 Councillor Brett Moller said the results from the *Post's* survey reflected growing community angst about a perceived lack of croc management in the region.

"The grassroots feedback I'm getting is that the community want a more proactive response, which in terms of the current (croc) numbers and the interface between crocodiles and residents – there's a belief that we're getting to that stage where a controlled cull may be the next step," he said.

Environment Minister Leeanne Enoch, however, said a

cull was not a solution to the risks posed by crocs.

"It would give the public a false sense of security, leading to complacency and an increased risk of attacks," she said. "It does not matter how many crocodiles are removed, no waterway in crocodile country can ever be considered to be crocodile-free."

The Palaszczuk government has committed \$5.8 million over three years for major improvements to crocodile management, including employing 12 extra wildlife officers, and continuing the three-year long croc survey and monitoring program – the most comprehensive survey into Queensland's croc populations in more than a decade.

"The government will rely on this scientific study carried out by professionals to determine crocodile-management policies into the future," Ms Enoch said.

Daintree River Cruise Centre operator Kianna Laffery agreed there needed to be scientific data to back up any statewide croc-management decisions.

But she said the survey showed the current program was failing residents.

She said culling was not the answer, but perhaps greater exclusion zones were needed for the animals near human habitat.

"The biggest problem we've got is we've gone from an endangered species to a recov-

ered species," she said.

"The government has failed to address the differential that is required between managing that population level.

"And that's where people are getting desperate.

"They're seeing that the population has recovered, but we haven't made adequate legislation and management around that recovered population."

Tourism Tropical North Queensland has urged the State Government to balance the absolute need for human safety with the conservation of crocodiles as part of a submission to Katter's Australian Party's Safer Waterways Bill 2018.

TTNQ's executive officer Pip Close said crocodiles in the wild were part of the attraction of the region and a vital part of the environment that visitors come to see.

"Management of crocodiles needs to take this into account while ensuring crocodiles are removed from waterways where they pose a threat to humans," she said.





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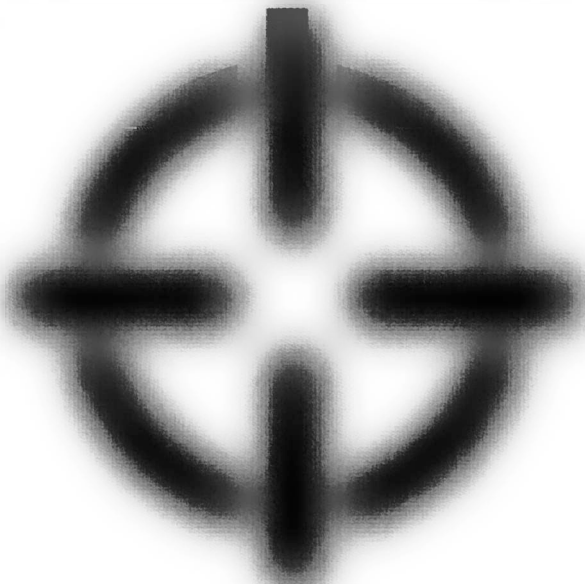
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FNQ tells Brisbane croc risk is too high





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A crackdown on croc culling

Public hearing hits Mackay next month

PETER MICHAEL

news@dailymercury.com.au

CROC catcher Errol Copley is at the centre of a landmark legal test case in a crackdown on crocodile culling in north Queensland.

As estimates put Queensland's wild crocodile population as high as 80,000, officials want to deter any vigilante croc hunters targeting the protected predator.

Cape York identity and commercial fisherman Mr Copley, 69, was fined \$500 after he caught a 3m saltie on a baited mackerel hook he'd left in waters behind his Deeral tropical fruit farm.

But prosecutors have appealed the decision and want him slugged \$7000.

Fisheries officers, who have the power to impose a \$1200 on-the-spot fine for interfering with wildlife, caught him in an elaborate sting using spy cameras hidden in trees.

Mr Copley, who found the dead croc on the end of his fishing line, was captured in video footage dragging away the reptile with his ute on January 18. He pleaded guilty to one count of taking a protected animal.

But now, in the landmark test case, Mr Copley is awaiting a decision by Cairns District Court Judge Dean Morzone, who has been asked to set new penalty guidelines.

The move has outraged the

Katter Australia Party, who have put up the Safer Waterways Bill, as a News Corp survey revealed 77% of far northerners support a cull under a new crocodile management plan. The Katter Party will chair public hearings on the Safer Waterways Bill in Cairns, Port Douglas, Townsville and Mackay next month.

"Up north, it has come down to kill or be killed," KAP State MP Shane Knuth said. "There are lives at stake and also an entire multi-billion dollar tourism industry."

Peak tourism bodies warn the north's \$3 billion industry is under the crunch from negative publicity about increased croc attacks.

"Crocodiles represent a significant and increasing threat to our tourism industry," Tourism Tropical North Queensland said, in a submission to the Bill. TTNQ suggest a targeted cull, safe swimming enclosures, crocodile-spotting drones and research into tagging and tracking possibilities.

They urge a balance between the "absolute need for human safety and the conservation of crocodiles".

They estimate the state's crocodile numbers, based on Northern Territory figures, would now be in the vicinity of 80,000, up from 4000 when

crocodile hunting was outlawed in 1974. In 2017, the State Government launched a three year, \$5.8 million survey of crocodile numbers and have so far surveyed 1200km of the state's waterways.

But those survey results will not be made public until 2020.

But the Environment Department, which opposes the new Bill, says more people die each year from snake bite, bee sting or dog attack, on average, than a croc attack.

The Katter Party are due to table a report in Parliament on September 24.

“THERE ARE LIVES AT STAKE AND ALSO AN ENTIRE MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR TOURISM INDUSTRY



09 Jun 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

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Babinda croc would be 'miserable' in the cold

Elisabeth Champion

THE man who put Innisfail on the crocodile tourism map has pleaded with authorities to remove a 3m specimen from Babinda Creek for humanitarian reasons.

The large saltie was spotted sunning itself at Wonga Park area last week, about 300m from the Rotary Park swimming hole, sparking fears for Babinda's tourism appeal.

Former owner of the Johnstone River Crocodile Farm, Mick Tabone, said the sighting in Babinda indicated a bigger problem and one that was detrimental to crocs, not just humans.

"Crocs prefer a temperature of about 30 to 32 degrees, under 28 is too cold," he said.

"The water where that croc was found is colder than most of the waters.

"That crocodile is not at home – it's living in misery up there, because it is just too cold for it.

"Other crocodiles have obviously kicked it out and that forces crocs to go up where they have never been before."

The current crocodile management plan means that the Department of Environment will only remove crocodiles over 2m or crocs that have shown aggression.

However, the scheme has come under fire, with many people saying it is ineffective.

"With all the complaining we've done, we've actually gotten nowhere with the crocodile problem," said Mr Tabone.

"That crocodile was chased up there by other, dominant crocodiles, which proves there are far too many in the lower

reaches of the river.

"I've had people from overseas who have said they won't come up here because there are too many crocodiles so the message has already spread overseas."

He said the only answer to the problem is a cull.

"We have to do something," he said.

"It's their territory, yes, but we have to have something for us. There are plenty of places for crocodiles to live where they won't mix with humans.

"When we were kids, we swam in the river – there must

have been some crocs there, but they saw humans as a threat to them.

"When we used to trap them, you'd see the mudslide on the bank, but you'd rarely see a croc because he'd hear the outboard motor coming and hide."

"People always say 'Well, how many people are killed with cars, and how many are killed by crocs?' – well to that I ask how many people are swimming compared to how many are driving?"

"The last school holidays there were no kids fishing on the wharf, no kids in little boats. There used to be kids everywhere, but now parents won't let their kids in the water, so they go up the street and get up to mischief.

"We have to take our waterways back from crocs."

SNAPSHOT

RANGERS have not been able to find any trace of the saltwater crocodile in Babinda Creek, despite a new photo emerging of the animal (above).

Department of Environment staff have surveyed the Wonga Park area, where the 3m saltie was seen Thursday week ago. However, a department spokeswoman said there were no signs of a croc in the area.

"Wildlife officers will carry out another site assessment in the coming days," she said.



Former owner of the Johnstone River Crocodile Farm, Mick Tabone, now lives in Mareeba.



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Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

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A large crocodile in Babinda Creek was spotted again during the week on a Clyde Rd private property.

02 NEWS

TUESDAY JANUARY 30 2018 TOWNSVILLEBULLETIN.COM.AU

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* The 2 divisions reserved for two weeks after draw

Protection in place for citizen's arrests

ANDREW BACKHOUSE

CITIZEN'S arrests happen in Townsville more often than people think, a leading criminologist says.

Dr Mark David Chong, who teaches criminology and criminal justice studies at James Cook University, said security officers and bouncers routinely made "arrests" in their work.

"In fact, arrests of such nature also occur in department stores when shopkeepers or store detectives prevent and detain shoplifters," he said.

Dr Chong made the com-

ments after the citizen's arrest of a man in Deeragon on Saturday. The would-be car thief faced court yesterday and was remanded until March 6.

Tyson John's footage of the drama made national news.

Dr Chong said citizen's arrests by passers-by seeing crimes were far less frequent.

"This is not surprising given that there are three significant problems with citizens exercising this right," he said.

"Firstly, the issue of how much force to use to apprehend the suspected offender can be quite tricky, and if the

police and/or courts do not consider it to be reasonable, then the citizen may find themselves vulnerable to being prosecuted as a criminal even though they were acting to prevent crime in the first place.

"Secondly, there is also the danger that when effecting a citizen's arrest, they may be badly assaulted by the suspected offender.

"Citizens may potentially find themselves vulnerable to actions in court for civil compensation because of unlawful detention, false imprisonment or even assault and battery."

Dr Chong said someone who saw a crime could use reasonable force to prevent and detain a suspect.

"Examples of breaches of peace could include assaults, affrays, riots, unlawful assemblies or other disturbances," he said.

"These types of crimes, if of a more serious nature, can be prosecuted under more serious charges that carry heavier penalties than a breach of peace."

Dr Chong said Queensland law extended power to citizens to make arrests if they were called on, for example, to help police to make an arrest.



BABY SALTIE IN KIRWAN POOL

ANDREW BACKHOUSE

A KIRWAN resident was shocked after finding a saltwater crocodile in his swimming pool.

Willows Pool Shop owner Craig Promnitz said a customer came into his shop on Saturday and showed him a stunning photo.

"He said 'Craig, you've never seen this before,'" Mr Promnitz said. "And no I hadn't."

The photo showed a baby saltwater crocodile in a residential pool in Kirwan.

Mr Promnitz said the customer, who asked to remain unnamed, was a regular at the shop.

The home is in Kirwan close to the Bohle River and Willows Golf Club.

Mr Promnitz said the man had been about to have a swim when he noticed the crocodile hatching, which was about 30cm long.

It is understood the Department of Environment and Science removed the crocodile, whose fate is not known.

Mr Promnitz said he posted a photo on social media and it instantly went viral.

"The reaction has been crazy. There's been a huge response from it," he said.

"It's all been positive and lighthearted. People said things like 'I've always told the kids to check the pool before you go for a swim' and 'you definitely know we live in North Queensland'."



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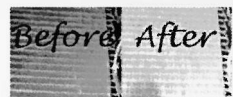


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Beaches lost to the croc invasion

SHANE NICHOLS

FAR Northern surf lifesaving clubs are worried about their long-term sustainability as parents pull their children out of the water due to a fear of crocodiles.

The vice-president of Port Douglas Surf Lifesaving Club, Michael Bolt, told a media briefing on Four Mile Beach yesterday clubs in the region were being badly affected.

"As a longstanding member of the Port Douglas Surf Lifesaving Club we've noticed in the last five years a significant increase in the crocodile sightings on this beach and we are very concerned about the safety of nippers and the safety of the public," he said.

Mr Bolt said Four Mile Beach had been closed seven times in the past year.

"The concerning thing is that the sightings have occurred in our tourism season, our peak season. Historically, we'd never seen them at that time."

It was getting worse each

year, Mr Bolt said.

Last year the club's membership was down about 20 per cent (about 40 members). Other clubs in the region are in a similar situation.

"We're worried that if the trend continues we'll be wiped out," Mr Bolt said.

Di Knight, whose family is one of the stalwarts of the club,

said her two daughters loved their involvement in the club but other parents were saying to her "how could you let them go into the water?"

State MP Robbie Katter said, if KAP was in a position of powerbroker, one of its central demands "of anyone forming government would be to do something about crocodiles".

"We put forward a management plan, a sensible plan, to deal with this issue and address the cries for help that are coming from people of Port Douglas."

"We're the party that does things, not just talk about it, and we've had the bill in Parliament with Shane Knuth and in-

tend on doing something when we take the seat of Cook."

Mr Knuth, the candidate for Hill, said the KAP's Safer Waterways Bill had been languishing in parliament. "They've used their numbers to debate it out to next year. So it's probably the longest ever bill in history to be debated."



CRISIS: Di Knight, Michael Bolt and KAP's Gordon Rasmussen, Shane Knuth and Robbie Katter.

PORT ON PARADE

CARNIVALE IN PICTURES: P10-11



NEWS PLUS TABLET

FULL DETAILS PAGE 22



WEEKEND IN SPORT

EIGHT-PAGE LIFTOUT: P17-24



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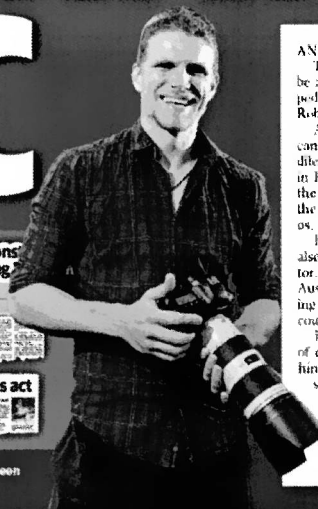
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PHOTO COURTESY OF CROCODILES AND SIMON ROBERTS



He's got a lot of hide and it shows we breed 'em big up here

NOW THAT'S A CROC



AND this is a croc off.

This monster, estimated to be about 5m long, was snapped on camera by Simon Roberts at Kacumba.

An ecologist believes you can find the biggest crocodiles in the country right here in Far North Queensland — the kind of reptiles that make the NT's crocs look like geckos.

Brian Ross (left), who is also a Cape York tour operator, has issued a challenge to Aussies to assist him in finding the biggest crocs in the country.

He believes with the days of culling well and truly behind us, there ought to be some monster-sized specimens inhabiting local waterways these days, and we just need to (safely) find them.

FULL STORY PAGE 5



CROC AND AWE: The Cairns Post's hall of fame over the past six months illustrates what a big year it has been for the ancient reptiles in the Far North.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT FOR GLOBAL TOURISM HUB IN CAIRNS P3

CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU MONDAY MAY 28 2018

NEWS 05

Tourism operator believes Cape home to 'monster'



IT'S ON: Brian Ross is putting out a call to all adventurers to find, and document, Australia's biggest croc.

Picture: BRENDAN RADKE

Challenge on to find North's biggest croc

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

A CAPE York tour operator has thrown down a challenge for Far North Queenslanders to prove they have the largest crocodiles in Australia.

Ecologist Brian Ross, the new owner of tour company Cockatours, believes the wilds of Cape York are home to monster-sized crocs that easily overshadow their famed NT cousins.

"I reckon it's about the time we should be seeing the growth of real monsters again," he said.

"The cutting stopped in the 70s and back then, all the big

GET DETAILS

To enter Cockatour's big croc competition, find them on social media.



ones would have been hunted out.

"Now we should be seeing these big buggers that are coming back in."

Cape York Peninsula is renowned for its large crocodiles, with an 8.63m long croc shot by skin trader Krystina Pawl-

oski on the Norman River's MacArthur Bank in 1957.

There have also been reports of a 9.1m long croc believed to be the biggest crocodile in the world - stalking waters near Normanton in recent years.

Mr Ross, who worked for

Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation, is no stranger to saltwater crocodiles, encountering the reptiles regularly in his work with the region's rangers.

This included a 4.1m saltie that graced the front page of the Cairns Post in November 2015, after Mr Ross found it "bogged" in a mudhole on the Southern Wik Homelands, about 100km south of Aurukun.

"These crocs should be back in our river and creek systems again," he said.

"Now that they can hide safely and not be shot, we should start seeing the big buggers back in our systems."

He urged Far North Queenslanders to send in photos and footage of large crocs they safely encountered in the wild, offering a \$200 BCF gift voucher who can prove they have spied the largest animal.

So far, he has been sent pics of 4m plus predators from the tip of Cape York, through to 14ft (4.2m) reptiles south of Tully.

"I reckon there are a lot of big crocs around the top end of Cape York that people aren't photographing," he said.

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Reprieve after drug runner's guilty plea

ANDREA FALVO

A CAIRNS man who crashed his motorcycle following an attempt to evade police because he had a "significant amount" of methamphetamine in his backpack has been handed a suspended prison sentence.

The Cairns Supreme Court recently heard that Lucas John Burnett, 36, came to the attention of authorities following several drug-related busts in 2015 and 2016, which included him being a "runner" for a drug syndicate.

Crown prosecutor Eddie Coker told the court Burnett's role was receiving drugs from couriers from Sydney to North Queensland.

The court heard he became involved in the operation to fuel his own addiction.

Burnett was found in possession of various quantities of methamphetamine on separate occasions, one on January 14, 2016, after he crashed his motorcycle when trying to flee from police who had tried to intercept him for riding an unregistered motorcycle.

Police searched Burnett's backpack and found "three significant quantities" of methamphetamine, which had a total combined gross weight of 67.13g with a total pure weight of 50.783g.

"It's obviously a commercial possession," Mr Coker told the court.

Appearing in the Cairns Supreme Court on Thursday, Burnett pleaded guilty to trafficking and two counts of possessing dangerous drugs.

Defence barrister Michael Dalton said after losing his job as a sheet metal worker in 2014, Burnett turned to drugs and "was injecting frequently".

Justice James Henry sentenced Burnett to four years in prison for trafficking, six months in prison for one possessing charge and a conviction with no further punishment for the final charge.

He suspended the sentence for an operational period of four years due to time already served.

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12 May 2018
Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

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Call for more croc hearings

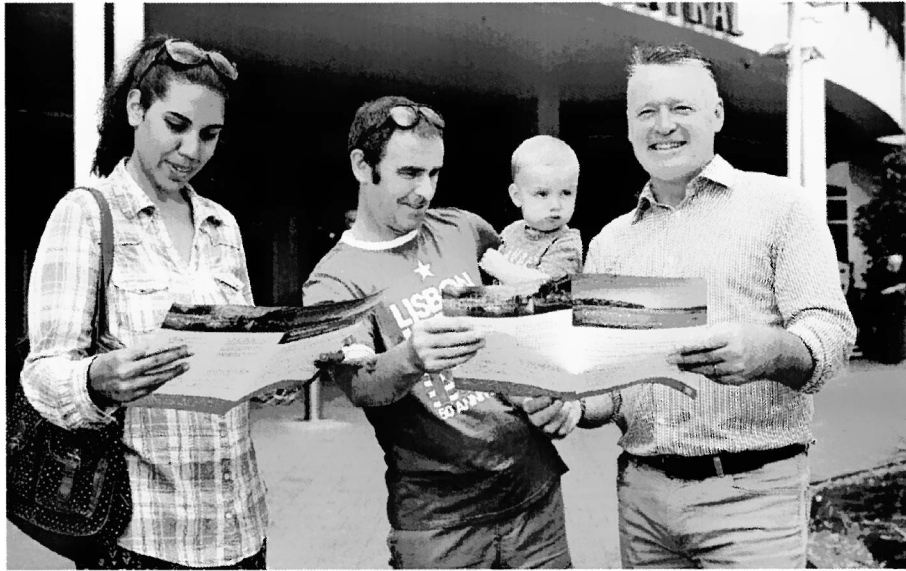
KATTER'S Australian Party is demanding more public hearings for their proposed crocodile culling laws.

A report on the party's Safer Waterways Bill 2018 is due to be tabled in State Parliament on September 24. However KAP's Member for Hill, Shane Knuth, said a parliamentary committee was yet to determine where public hearings on the draft legislation would take place.

The Bill was originally in the committee process prior to last year's election but had to be reintroduced once the new parliament was formed. Submissions can be emailed to itdec@parliament.qld.gov.au.

04 NEWS

MONDAY JANUARY 15 2018 CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU



EYECATCHER: Cairns MP Michael Healy looks over details of the proposed Global Tourism Hub with Cairns residents Narelle, Brian and Rudy Mullen. Picture: BRIGDAN RADICE

More to tourism hub than second casino

NICK DALTON

THE State Government has hinted that a proposed \$1 billion "Global Tourism Hub" on the Cairns waterfront could be integrated with the planned \$120 million expansion of the Cairns Convention Centre.

Today the government's pop-up stall opens at Cairns Central shopping centre for residents to have their say.

The government has already indicated the preferred site is in the Cairns City Port precinct which encompasses the Ports North headquarters next to the convention centre as well as vacant land and car parking on Wharf Street between the Hilton Cairns hotel

THE GTH CRITERIA INCLUDES:

- Significant capital investment to create a development that attracts international tourists, where construction starts within 18 months of contractual close
- Located close to a major population centre with a catchment of at least 150,000 people within a 70km radius near an international airport or an airport
- Have well-established transport networks and significant tourism facilities with identified growth potential.

and the Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal.

Cairns MP, Michael Healy, said the hub, including a second casino, needed to be within 70km of Cairns, but the port precinct was preferred.

"A Cairns Global Tourism Hub could integrate with the state's expansion of the Cairns

Convention Centre," he said. Mr Healy said residents' input was wanted on plan, the first under the government's Global Tourism Hub policy.

He said a similar example was in Brisbane where the existing casino operator had partnered with others to build the \$3 billion Queen's Wharf

Brisbane integrated resort which is expected to attract an extra 1.4 million visitors a year after opening in 2022.

Mr Healy said government staff at the pop-up stall would help people fill out a questionnaire designed to help the state shape what would go to market.

The questionnaire asks if the hub should include five and six-star hotels, an "iconic world-class design", gaming operations, restaurants and bars, open public space, retailing, the maintenance and enhancement of existing heritage links, indigenous opportunities and a leisure and entertainment precinct.

It also asks what benefits it

should offer including new tourism ventures, jobs, improved patronage of existing restaurants and businesses, marine infrastructure, new public open spaces and "a more activated waterfront".

The questionnaire is online at www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/major-projects.

The government started the GTH process with the release of a Registration of Interest (ROI) process in October last year which is still open and will be followed by an Expressions of Interest (EOI) process.

editor@ CairnsPost.com.au
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Cardwell's croc video goes viral

HAYDEN SMITH

A RENOWNED Far North crocodile has gained even more notoriety after a video of it sinking its teeth into a dead grouper sent social media into overdrive.

Kate Rogers was enjoying an early morning walk along Cardwell's foreshore when she noticed a large dead fish on the beach.

"I went to have a look, and there were a few people standing around watching," she said.

"They told me a croc was coming, so I stepped back a bit."

The video shows the large predator, well known among Cardwell locals, slowly swimming towards the fish.

Ms Rogers spent about 10 minutes filming the reptile which, after biting the grouper several times, eventually turned and swam off into the distance.

Although she hails from Darwin, where there are crocs aplenty, the bank worker said it was by far the most memorable encounter she'd ever had with a saltie.

"I think they are just incredible creatures," she said.

She posted a short video of the experience on social media, but Ms Rogers had no idea about how far-reaching her footage would become.

As of Saturday afternoon, the clip - captioned "morning feed in Cardwell" - had been "shared" more than 4000 times.

"I'm pretty amazed. I didn't put it up there expecting anything like this," Ms Rogers said.

Comments have been posted from across the country.

Janet Robinson described the footage as "just frightening".

"I had school mates that used to swim off the end of the jetty in the 70s and it was perfectly safe. Now, no way!" she wrote on Facebook.



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TOWNSVILLEBULLETIN.COM.AU THURSDAY FEBRUARY 1 2018

OPINION 15



JULIAN TOMLINSON

julian.tomlinson@news.com.au

“IT'S CLEAR TO SEE THAT GOVERNMENTS CONTINUALLY GO AFTER EASY TARGETS WHILE IGNORING TOUGHER PROBLEMS THAT REQUIRE SOME AGILITY OF THOUGHT AND COURAGE IN THE FACE OF THE GREEN, DO-GOODER AND HEALTH MAFIA

CASE OF PRIORITIES

PRIOITISING tasks is the most basic action for an efficient life or business, but if you're in government, the rules clearly don't apply.

Last week, State Government officers and police crowded about catching a bloke they claimed had illegally trapped a 3m crocodile at Deeral, south of Cairns.

Fisheries officers found the carcass and swung into overdrive, setting up hidden cameras to catch whoever was responsible.

Then police got involved and the alleged culprit is facing court.

Meanwhile, 45 cars were stolen in Cairns by January 29, and what's the Government's response?

It continues to blame the victims by saying they have to be more mindful of security; it defies the Queensland Police Union's call to scrap the "no pursuit" policy, and decrees that 17-year-olds will now be treated as children.

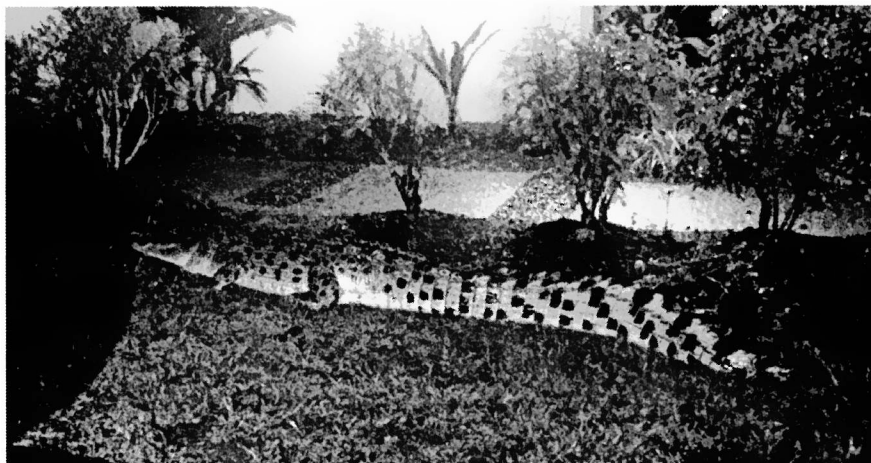
These car thieves have been running amok for years, making people's lives a misery and our elected leaders not only do nothing, they do the exact opposite of what people want.

But if you clear a few trees on your own land or kill one of the plentiful crocs around the place, you will have every available resource in the state's power brought to bear on you.

Drones, satellites and hidden cameras will be deployed to make sure you face the full brunt of the law - except if you do something to another person, and then you just have to hope the culprit gets caught.

Publicans have also reported government spooks hiding across the road with telephoto lenses trying to catch them breaching liquor laws.

In one case, a licensee was "breached" because the spooks produced a photo of the bottom third of a sign promoting a drink special that was visible from the street.



UNWELCOME GUEST: This 3m croc was in a suburban front yard in Port Douglas.

How petty can you get?

People have been booked for smoking too close to doorways, parking in their own driveways and because the tip of their lipstick unknowingly fell on the ground.

We also have covert speed cameras raking in millions of dollars each year, even though drink and drug driving consistently causes the most road fatalities.

Why does the Government insist on lowering speed limit tolerances and booking people for minor breaches instead of prioritising attacking the biggest problem?

Of course we should not turn a blind eye to breaches of any laws, but we certainly have a right to

demand that the Government's limited resources be committed to the most serious issues.

At the moment, it's clear to see that governments continually go after easy targets while ignoring tougher problems that require some agility of thought and courage in the face of the green, do-gooder and health mafia.

It's fair to say that society would be better off getting the people who pore over satellite imagery and drone footage trying to catch farmers clearing trees and putting them to work addressing car theft.

Similarly with the resources spent on catching the people who kill crocodiles.

It's obvious that crocodiles don't need to be on the "protected" list.

Just this week, alone we have had a crocodile in a Townsville suburban swimming pool, Clifton Beach north of Cairns was closed because a croc was inside the stinger net (again), a large croc has been seen close to homes in the Cairns suburb of White Rock, and there are unconfirmed reports that a 4m croc was seen cruising along Mission Beach.

In January, a Port Douglas man found a decent-sized croc sitting in his suburban front yard and a monster was filmed eating a grasper on Cardwell's main beach.

The Government insists on conducting an audit of crocodile

numbers that will only confirm what we already know - that the animals' numbers are robust enough to be hunted again.

While North Queenslanders beat their heads against a wall complaining about car thefts, juvenile crime and crocodiles impinging on their enjoyment of life, governments pay lip service while kowtowing to special interest groups and crusading against the wrong issues.

We deserve far better than what's being offered by both the major parties, and we would be far happier with fewer cars being stolen and homes being broken into than cracking down on a few trees and crocs going missing.

With kids heading back and starting school it's important they are fully ready to tackle the academic year ahead.

A 2016 study showed that almost a quarter of Queensland school aged children are likely to suffer from some form of hearing issue. And if kids can't hear properly, their learning and development progress can suffer.

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Page 1 of 2

Clamping down on crocodile numbers

MP wants public hearing

"MASSIVE" numbers of crocodiles are being seen from Ingham to Rockhampton, with a Katter's Australian Party MP calling for public hearings in Mackay over the issue.

Member for Hill Shane Knuth spoke about the issue during a public briefing this week into the party's proposed Safer Waterways Bill.

The Bill would make it mandatory for "rogue" crocodiles to be removed from Queensland's populated waterways if the reptiles posed a threat to human safety.

Mr Knuth said there had been no public hearing on the Bill in Townsville but he believed it would be a good idea as part of the Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee.

"With regard to consultation with Townsville, we have heard reports of crocodiles in Townsville," he said.

"And I believe that is increasing because it is spreading down."

Under questioning from Member for Whitsunday Jason Costigan, Mr Knuth said people were starting to get "massive amounts" of crocodile reports in Ingham through to Mackay and even Rockhampton.

"Would I like public hearings in Townsville and would I like public hearings in Mackay?" Absolutely," Mr Knuth said.

"If you are prepared as a

committee to

go to Mackay and go to Cairns and Innisfail and Tully, which are the areas where we receive most of those reported sightings, I would be happy for you to do so."

Mr Knuth said during the March floods many crocodiles were sighted in the Ingham and Innisfail areas.

"While I have the floor, Mr

Chair, I really encourage you to have these public hearings in Ingham (because even the mayor had one in his yard), Innisfail and in Cairns, where most of the beach closures are around Port Douglas," he said.

The Bill plans to establish a Queensland crocodile authority, which would have the right to issue permits to relocate or kill crocodiles.

"As well as protecting human life, the Safer Waterways Bill 2018 aims to create a significant and sustainable crocodile industry in Queensland through controlled egg harvesting," Mr Knuth said.

A report on the Bill is due on September 24.

CHRIS LEES



16 Jun 2018
Daily Mercury, Mackay QLD

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Page 2 of 2



04 NEWS

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14 2017 CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU

QUEENSLAND ELECTION

Be part of local political forum feedback

THE pollsters are picking it will be one of the closest Queensland elections in recent history. And the Cairns Post wants you to have your chance to tell the leaders why it is so tough to choose between them.

The biggest political debate of the campaign so far is on Sky News this Thursday night, when Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk, LNP leader Tim Nicholls and One Nation head Steve Dickson will take part in the Sky News/The Courier-Mail People's Forum.

We want 20 Cairns residents to watch the debate with us, be part of live crossfires to Sky News, including Paul Murray LIVE, and give us your feedback on the leaders' performance. Who was convincing, who has a plan to take the Far North forward, who did you want to?

And as a bonus, we'll even supply the drinks and nibbles at the venue, the Red Barret Hotel.

Sky and the Cairns Post will have reporters at the Red Barret, talking to locals before and after the forum, hosted by David Speers.

In Brisbane, 100 undecided voters, sourced independently by Galaxy Research, will put questions to the leaders. The event will be on Channel 601 on Foxtel from 7pm. If you want to be part of the Cairns Post's viewing party, email editor@cairnspost.com.au and tell us why, with contact phone number. Put Cairns Post Election Party in the subject line. Entries close tomorrow at noon.

Control of crocs seen as crucial

DANIEL BATEMAN AND BRENDAN RADKE

CROCODILE management and disproportionate funding of the Far North compared to Queensland's south east were among the key issues voters kept in mind at pre-polling in Cairns yesterday.

A significant number of early voters turned up at the 96-98 Mulgrave Rd at Parramatta Park yesterday to vote in the State Election.

Among the voters was Gordonvale resident John Goessling, who wanted to avoid the long lines on election day on November 25.

He said he voted for the party he thought would best manage crocodiles.

"I think the major parties have lost the plot," he said.

"I grew up in North Queensland and learned to swim in Green Patch.

"I wouldn't dare dip my toe in there now."

He believed there needed to be stronger action taken to control crocs south of the Daintree River.

"You can't just keep catching crocs and sticking them in farms," he said.

"What's it going to take before the government really takes action, as far as human lives are concerned?"

Whitfield residents Irene and John Macfarlane chose to

"WHAT'S IT GOING TO TAKE BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT REALLY TAKES ACTION, AS FAR AS HUMAN LIVES ARE CONCERNED"

JOHN GOESSLING OF GORDONVALE

pre-poll so they could avoid lining up on election day.

"We know who we want to vote for. There's no point listening to the rest of the campaign," Mrs Macfarlane said.

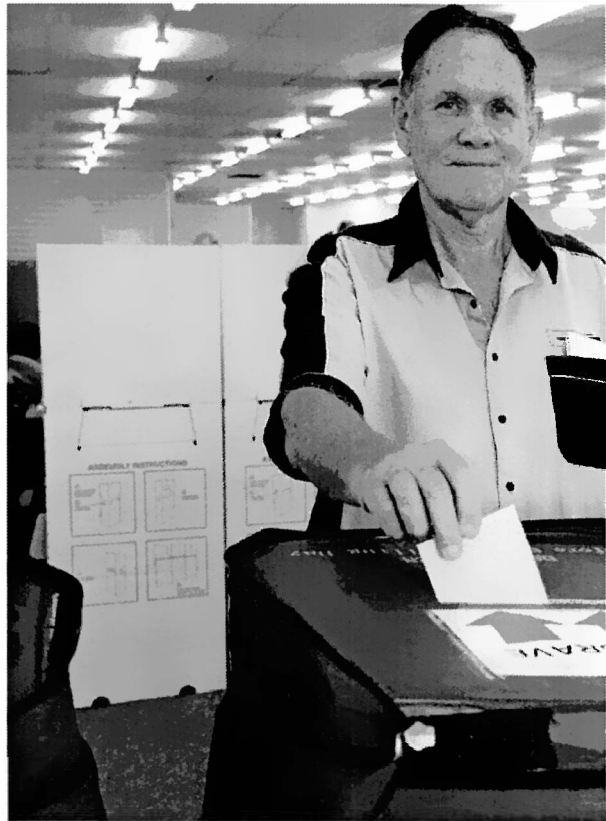
The couple, who have lived in Cairns for more than 20 years, said they believed more government funds should be spent in the Far North, compared to the southeast.

This year has been the first time that the Electoral Commission Queensland has shifted pre-polling away from the Cairns showgrounds.

John from Cash City Cairns, who did not want to use his surname, said the change had resulted in retail sales at his Mulgrave Rd business halving in just one day.

"From the moment I got in, there was no parking, as everyone had taken up all of the parking bays," he said.

"Adding insult to injury, even the promo vans the parties use, were parked in the 'no parking' areas."



\$100,000 PROMISE TO RELOCATE SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

ELLIS Beach Surf Life Saving Club would receive funding to shift its clubhouse to the safe side of the Captain Cook Highway, if the LNP is elected.

LNP candidate for Barron River Michael Trout (right) said the party would invest \$100,000 to prepare submissions for a development approval to relocate the club's rooms to the beach side of the highway.

Mr Trout said the project would eliminate the risk associated with junior Surf Life Saving Club members crossing the highway.

"The project is vital for the safety of the members, especially the Nippers, who have been negotiating the busy Captain Cook Highway traffic for too long," he said. "After consulting closely with the committee we feel this project will be of great benefit to the club and also the local community."



READER'S CHOICE

PRIME VOTE For Your Favourite Artwork

The winning Primary Schools Artwork will receive \$500.00 thanks to Crystalbrook Collection and will have their artwork take pride of place in the public walkway at the Crystalbrook Collection's 85 The Esplanade, hotel construction site for all to see.

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CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14 2017

NEWS 05

QUEENSLAND ELECTION



DONE John Goessling, of Gordonvale, decided to vote early.
Picture: BRENDAN RAEKE



TIME SAVER: Irene and John Macfarlane of Whitfield cast their votes early.



GET IN LINE: There was a queue at the pre-polling centre on Mulgrave Rd when the doors opened at 9am.



MANY CHOICES: Volunteers hand out how-to-vote cards outside the centre on Mulgrave Rd.

LNP fires up issue of rising cost of energy

THE Liberal National Party will today confirm a new coal-fired power station would be built in North Queensland under their leadership.

LNP deputy leader Deb Frecklington last night confirmed Collinsville would be the preferred location for the station because it was near existing coal mines and transmission lines and could service demand from Townsville and Mackay.

Queensland's energy future has been a key flashpoint throughout the election campaign, with Labor promising to continue pursuing renewable energy while scotching the idea of new coal-fired power stations.

Collinsville is in the LNP-held seat of Burdekin. A poll put the LNP ahead of Labor 51 per cent to 49 per cent on a two-party preferred basis.

Ms Frecklington said Labor had ruled out a new power station despite a report commissioned by the Department of Energy and Water finding it would create hundreds of jobs.

"More supply and cheaper electricity is a central plank of the LNP's economic plan to create 500,000 jobs over the next decade," she said.

"Only the LNP has a plan to deliver cheaper electricity prices, saving a typical household \$780 over the next three years."

"Every North Queensland leader is paying record electricity bills because of Annastacia Palaszczuk's ideological obsession with green energy and she expects North Queenslanders to pick up the tab."

Cops pledged but no word on our share

FRONT PAGE 1

LNP leader Tim Nicholls will announce today the extra officers would be deployed between Cairns and the Gold Coast.

Although unable to specify numbers, he acknowledged that youth crime was "out of control" in North Queensland and action was needed.

"These additional frontline

officers form part of the LNP's commitment to provide police with the resources they need to keep Queenslanders safe," he said.

An LNP spokesman confirmed the extra officers would come in addition to the 20 extra police the party had pledged to Cairns to form a Rapid Action Patrol squad.

The Cairns-based squad has

been a top priority of Police Commissioner Ian Stewart for months.

The Cairns Post understands Mr Nicholls will also announce today a separate fund which will be used to equip the extra officers including vehicles, body worn cameras and protective clothing.

LNP police spokesman Tim Mander said police had been

"crying out for" more resources to deal with crime rates.

"Queenslanders want a government that will keep their streets and communities safe, not one that favours criminals over victims and families," he said.

"These extra resources, together with stronger laws, helped dramatically reduce crime rates across the state."

A community group, which included Mulgrave One Nation candidate Sue Bertuch, asked pre-poll voters in Stratford yesterday to sign a petition entitled "Stop Juvenile Crime in Cairns".

The petition calls for changes to the justice system including switching the onus of proof to the defendant and defence and parenting classes.

ONE NATION

Premier's chaos fear

ANNASTACIA Palaszczuk (right) will use the shock resignation of a One Nation senator to mount a fight back against the resurgence of the rogue right-wing party in Queensland and resurrect her battered election campaign.

The Premier seized on the chaos in Canberra, warning of the same instability in Queensland if the LNP won government with the help of One Nation.

Ms Palaszczuk reminded voters of the ructions that beset the far-right party when it first burst on to Queensland's political scene at the 1998 election.

V1 - CDE012.01.MA



winning a surprise 11 seats before things fell apart.

"This is what we saw previously and it could all happen again," she said.

"If you want chaos, vote for One Nation and Tim Nicholls. If you want stability, you are looking at it."

But One Nation matriarch Pauline Hanson insisted Senator Anning's defection was no reflection on her party's state campaign.

One Nation pointed to the defections and dumping of Labor MPs Rob Pyne, Billy Gordon and Rick Williams as proof such issues also affected the major parties.

APPRENTICESHIPS

High cost of dropouts

APPRENTICESHIP dropouts in regional Queensland are not only hurting our youth - they are impacting local businesses.

As part of the Fair Go For Our Kids campaign, the Cairns Post has called on Labor and the LNP to take action to reduce dropouts.

New research from youth training group Skillsroad and Apprenticeship Support Australia shows an employee leaving can cost a business up to four times that person's salary.

ASA managing director Darren Cocks said losing an employee could set a business back



significantly.

"The fact that young people are ranking pay as the most important consideration when applying for a job shows that young people are likely to

prioritise money over career paths that they're genuinely passionate about, increasing the chances of them ending up in a career they don't enjoy and impacting their confidence and resilience," he said.

The Skillsroad 2017 Youth Census surveyed 13,273 Australians aged 15-24 and found young people rated pay as most important in job hunting.

ADANI

Greens will back ALP

GREENS candidate Amy MacMahon (right) says she'll back a Labor government in exchange for the death of the Adani mine if she's able to boot Deputy Premier Jackie Trad from her South Brisbane seat.

The promise to provide supply to a potential Labor minority government came as Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk continued to deny she'd accept it.

"I said that there would be no deals," Ms Palaszczuk said, echoing a broken commitment made at the 2015 election not to form a minority government.

But Ms MacMahon said there



was no way she would back a Nicholls LNP Government.

"We've said that we won't enter into negotiations with the LNP or One Nation," she said.

A Galaxy poll Brisbane seat showed Ms MacMahon had edged ahead of Deputy Premier Jackie Trad in South Brisbane due to shrinking support for both major parties and expected preference flows from LNP voters to the Greens. The Greens would demand a royalties deal for Adani's Carmichael coal mine be killed off and its mining lease and environmental approvals be revoked.

CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU MONDAY FEBRUARY 5 2018

NEWS 03

Councillor wants White Rock croc gone

GRACE MASON

A LARGE crocodile lurking in a suburban Cairns creek has drawn the ire of Division 3 councillor Cathy Zeiger.

Rangers are trying to catch the croc, which is believed to

be at least four metres long, in an area of Chinaman's Creek near homes in White Rock.

Resident Jamie Charlton, 34, has been charged with allegedly using wallaby carcasses to feed it, although he claims he was trying to bait a

hook and catch it amid concerns for local children who like to play near the creek.

Division 3 councillor Cathy Zeiger said it was a "no brainer" crocodiles should not be around children and it "absolutely" needed to be caught.

"It needs to be captured and taken somewhere, whether it's a croc farm or somewhere else," she said.

"It definitely needs to be relocated."

A spokesman for Environment Minister Leeanne Enoch

confirmed yesterday there had been no update in attempts to trap the animal, which has been christened "Ralph" by some local residents.

"Efforts to remove the crocodile are continuing," she said.

Briefs

Gas bottle injuries

A TEENAGE girl has had a lucky escape after suffering only minor injuries when a small camping gas cylinder exploded in her face at Innisfail. Emergency services were called to the community gardens near Innisfail State College about 11.30am following reports of the blast. The 16-year-old was treated at the scene for facial injuries caused by debris before being taken to Innisfail Hospital in a stable condition.

Five face charges

A TOTAL of five teenagers have now been charged over a bag snatch at a Manunda shopping centre on Monday. Detectives have laid 17 charges against a 15-year-old White Rock boy and an 18-year-old Manunda woman allegedly involved in the incident. They also arrested a 19-year-old Woree man and charged him with burglary and stealing in relation to alleged offences in Earlville and Woree over the past two months. He is scheduled to appear in the Cairns Magistrates Court on February 16 while the woman is scheduled to appear in the Cairns Magistrates Court on February 19.

Plant pots stolen

POLICE are investigating the theft of 30 black Plantlogic hydroponic 25 litre round pots from a property at Beantree Rd, Atherton. An unknown person has removed blueberry plants from the pots between 6pm on January 31 and 9am February 1 and stolen the pots. Anyone with information is urged to contact PoliceLink on 131 444 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 and quote reference number QP1800204038.

Teen girl missing

FAR Northern police were last night searching for a 15-year-old girl missing in Cairns. The teen girl is believed to have been at a party in Freshwater Saturday night, but may have also been in the vicinity of Larsen Rd in Redlynch. She is described as caucasian in appearance, of a slim build, about 165 centimetres tall with shoulder-length reddish-brown hair and blue eyes. It is not known what she was last wearing. Anyone who may have seen the girl or knows of her whereabouts should contact PoliceLink on 131 444.

Big rain event a worry for cops

GRACE MASON

grace.mason@news.com.au

RESIDENTS are being urged to heed warnings and stay away from swollen waterways as a major weather event impacts the Far North over the next two days.

Falls of up to 300mm have been predicted to occur in some spots and flood watches have been issued for every river between the Cassowary Coast and Mossman.

Bureau of Meteorology duty forecaster Rick Threlfall said a slow-moving southeasterly change was behind the predicted downpour, which is expected to soak the region today and tomorrow.

He said the Cassowary Coast would cop the brunt of it but rainy conditions would extend between Cardwell and Cooktown.

Cairns police Senior Sergeant James Coote pleaded with residents to stay safe while reiterating the "if it's flooded, forget it" message.

"We are in the wet season and these types of weather

FLOOD WATCH

Daintree River, Mossman River, Barron River, Mulgrave and Russell Rivers, Johnstone River, Tully River, Murray River, Herbert River

Forecast — Cairns
Monday: Possible storm, heavy falls 30C
Tuesday: Possible storm, heavy falls 29C

events do regularly occur, but we would just ask people not to take unnecessary risks and put themselves, their families or emergency services in danger," he said.

Last night the flood watch included the Mossman, Daintree, Mulgrave, Russell, Johnstone, Tully, Murray and Herbert rivers.

A strong wind warning was also in place for the Cairns coast today.

A storm warning had also been issued for the Tablelands including Mareeba, Atherton and Millaa Millaa, with concerns over flash flooding.



BE PREPARED: Rosal Postler covers herself from the threat of heavy rain, which is forecast for the Far North starting tonight and through to Tuesday. Picture: JUSTIN BREWSTER

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The Australian, Australia

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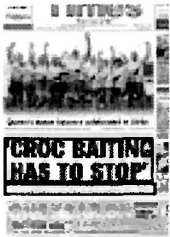
Page 1 of 1



Croc and awe

Obviously you are by now completely across every detail of the wedding or else completely over it, not needing to read another word, in which case consider this column to be not so much about the ceremony as the commentary. Clearly I'm not talking about those who were paid to have their say. They've been reviewed elsewhere in the paper. I'm talking about those in the cheap seats, by which I mean the punters at home, on the couch, with a box of tissues (the wife) and Deliveroo pizza (the husband) who let loose on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram with their pithy observations. There were so many good ones from which to choose, but top of the class surely goes to the Tweeter, @AnthonyCole68, who said: "Very hard to watch this wedding while one person a week in north Queensland is torn apart by a crocodile." If you don't get it, well, it's a play on the funniest line

uttered by an Australian politician this year, and if you still don't get it, Google Bob Katter, and John Oliver, and same-sex marriage, then fall about laughing.



22 Mar 2018
Whitsunday Times, Airlie Beach QLD

Author: Peter Carruthers • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 6,177 • Page: 1 • Printed size: 556.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
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Page 1 of 2

'CROC BAITING HAS TO STOP'

With new proposed croc culling laws being introduced, the manager of a local safari business says baiting is a huge problem. Story: Page 7

'Sick and tired' of croc baiting

Protected species targeted in Prossie River

Peter Carruthers
peter.carruthers@whitsundaytimes.com.au

THE managing director of Whitsunday Crocodile Safari says he is "sick and tired" of seeing crocs fall victim to baiting in the Proserpine River.

Last week, for the fourth time in 12 months, Steve Watson found a crocodile – given the affectionate moniker Fatguts – with rope hanging out of his mouth.

Operating tours on the Proserpine River for more than 18 years, Mr Watson said it had been a consistent problem for a long time.

He said often kangaroo carcasses were tied to a rope and then to a four-wheel-drive and used to lure the

animal out of the river.

When asked if perhaps young blokes playing the fool after a few riverside beers were responsible, Mr Watson said he had heard from a witness this was not the case.

"It's just d--head behaviour really," he said.

The baiting is regularly reported to the Department

of Environment and Heritage Protection as saltwater crocodiles are protected under Queensland law, but Mr Watson said little action was taken.

"We keep reporting it to the authorities but nothing ever seems to happen."

In compliance with the permit required to operate on the river, Mr Watson said he submitted six-monthly reports to the department which regularly mentioned crocodile baiting.

"I never, never hear back about those comments. I put them in there to see if anyone is actually reading them," he said.

Luring crocs to the bank of the river with fresh meat endangered the animals as they ingested the rope and it could end up tangling the animal and causing it to drown.

"The other problem is if the rope is laying in their

stomach, and last time Fatguts managed to dislodge it, but there was plastic bag tied to it, there was a dead kangaroo tied to it.

"The rope lays across a valve on their tongue called a palatal valve which is used to seal off the throat when they are under water so they don't drown."

Mr Watson said a stronger presence from the DEHP was needed on the river and better education was needed to inform the public about the value of the protected species.

"Protected species doesn't seem to mean much most of the perpetrators are let off



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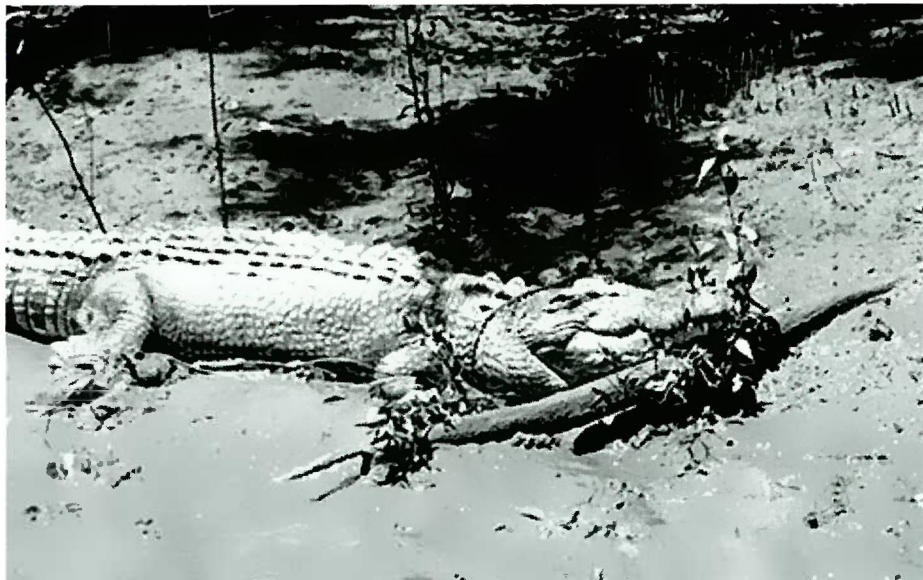
Page 2 of 2

with a slap on the wrist,
which is a bit disappointing,”
Mr Watson said.

Last month, a 4.1m
crocodile was found dead
with a rope attached to its
tail. It drowned on a rising
tide while trying to free
itself from the rope.

Katter's Australia Party
yesterday reintroduced
proposed legislation in
Queensland parliament to
manage the state's crocodile
population.

A department
spokesperson confirmed it
has received reports of crocs
being “fed” in the area and
stated it is an offence to bait
a protected animal.



RISING TO THE BAIT: A large crocodile on the banks of Proserpine River with a rope around its neck.

PHOTO: WHITSUNDAY CROCODILE SAFARI

06 NEWS

MONDAY NOVEMBER 6 2017 CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU

Croc chased from shore

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

A FISHERMAN who claims to have scared a small crocodile away from the Cairns Esplanade says people need to be wary of the reptiles, as croc breeding season commences.

Rangers have been monitoring the northern end of the foreshore, near the Pirate Ship Playground, after two crocodiles were spotted there by several people on Friday morning.

One of the crocodiles was estimated to be about 4m long, while the other – which swam along the shoreline – was less than 2m long.

Cairns fisher Dan Hammersley, who was in the area at the time, claimed he chased the smaller croc away.

"I charged at it from a distance several times to scare it away from the beach," he said.

"It had just been hanging around. As soon as it saw me, it just took off. It clearly didn't want to be anywhere near humans."

The Cairns Esplanade is regarded as croc territory but it is unusual to see the reptiles



DANGER: The Weekend Post report about two crocodiles being sighted near an Esplanade playground.

close to the city, especially during daylight.

Mr Hammersley, who is the administrator of the social media-based FNQ and Cairns Fishing Group, believes the smaller crocodile had been displaced from its regular home by a bigger croc.

"Being breeding season, I'm presuming that these crocodiles have been chased out of those creeks by a bigger male that's looking for a female to breed with," he said.

"So we'll probably see more

increased (croc) activity over the coming months."

He advised water users to be croc-wise and "be smarter with their actions".

The department's wildlife officers surveyed the area on Friday but its spokeswoman said the rangers had not seen the two animals again.

Crocodile warning signs have recently been erected near the playground.

Dalrymple MP Shane Knuth said the presence of the crocodiles so close to a children's playground was "unacceptable".

"It is a clear threat and danger to not only human life but to the entire tourism industry in North Queensland," he said.

He said he was astounded to hear EHP's wildlife officers had only monitored the site and erected warning signs.

"How much more of a danger can there be than a croc 50m away from a children's playground?" he said.

"A zero tolerance policy and immediate removal should apply for any crocodiles sighted in populated, residential areas."



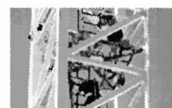
FOOLISH ACT: Two teenagers are caught after climbing up a crane in the city. Pictures: BRENDAN RACKE

Crane stunt is height of stupidity

TWO teenagers who climbed a construction crane in Cairns CBD have escaped police prosecution – but the mother of one of the boys will hand out her own punishment.

The Cairns boys, aged 14 and 15, broke into the building site of the twin towers hotel on the corner of Aplin and Abbott streets on Saturday, about 3.40pm. The teens were seen climbing up the crane and out on to the hoist.

They posed for photos before climbing down and were



CLIMB: The site on the corner of Aplin and Abbott streets.

met by police and arrested.

A Queensland Police Service spokeswoman said they were cautioned for several offences at Cairns Police Station.

A mother of one of the boys

told the Cairns Post she would punish her son with a "karmic debt" of community service.

"Believe me, he is trouble – I can assure you of that," she said.

It was the second time in four months people were arrested for climbing up a construction crane in Cairns CBD.

In late July, two French backpackers escaped punishment for a drunken climb up the 45m-tall crane at the Cairns Performing Arts Complex on Sheridan St.

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CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU MONDAY NOVEMBER 6 2017

NEWS 07

Glitz and glamour aplenty as our venues gear up for Melbourne Cup excitement

City has its racy claims on style

ALICIA NALLY AND
DANAELLA WIVELL

RACE lovers who cannot make it to Melbourne tomorrow will not miss out on all the glitz and glamour of the race that stops the nation here in Cairns.

Cairns Jockey Club general manager John Cameron said the Cannon Park Melbourne Cup events were always popular.

"The cocktail party has sold out and we have a large group of 90 in for a private function," he said.

"The main luncheon will welcome more than 250 people. There has been a good response from the public and members, as well."

"You'll probably have 1000 people there, which is an exceptional outcome for an on-course event."

"It's where you get to experience the atmosphere of the races and really, the Melbourne Cup just becomes part of our race day."

Lulabelle's Clothing owner Beck Child said far Northern punters didn't have

to stick to Melbourne's style options when styling

"For Melbourne Cup in Cairns almost anything goes," she said.

"We're still seeing a lot of lace, that's really huge this season. There's a lot of leather and nude."

"Florals just keep rocking every year in different prints and styles; you'll see a lot of that around."

She said flared sleeves were also a fashion favourite that would be seen trackside this year and probably well into summer.

"Colour's always huge in Cairns so you can't go too wrong whether you're going to the track or a hotel," she said.

Cannon Park's Melbourne Cup Race Day will include live horse racing and the race that stops the nation on the big screen.

The event kicks off at 11am and costs \$10 at the gate. Tickets for the Melbourne Cup Lunch cost \$110 and can be bought online from cairnsmjockeyclub.com.au

Fashions on the field will be held after Race 3.



EYES ON PRIZE: Judges for this year's Melbourne Cup Fashion on the Field Festival at Cannon Park, Natalie Taylor and Darren Walker.

Photo: JUSTIN GREIGY

EVENTS GUIDE

SHANGRI-LA HOTEL
Where: Pier Point Rd, Cairns
When: 11.30am-3pm
What: Glass of bubbles on arrival, gourmet food bars and three-hour beverage package.
How much: \$129 per person
Golden Circle Members \$122
Tickets: Phone 4052 7634

PULLMAN CAIRNS INTERNATIONAL
Where: Abbott St, Cairns
When: 11.30am-3pm
What: Live entertainment, fashions on the field, sweepstakes and raffles.
How much: \$142 per person
Tickets: eventbrite.com.au

CAIRNS NORTH TAPE
Where: Garton St, Marunda
When: 11am-3pm
What: Includes a five-course lunch with a complimentary glass of sparkling wine.
How much: \$65 per person
Tickets: Phone 4042 2601

CAZALYS
Where: Mulgrave Rd, Westcourt
When: 12pm-4pm
What: Glass of bubbly, buffets, high tea, entertainment and fashion parade.
How much: \$59 per person
Tickets: cazals.com.au

BROTHERS LEAGUES CLUB
Where: Anderson St, Marunda
When: 11.30am-3pm
What: Live entertainment, seafood buffet, glass of bubbly on arrival and prize for best dressed.
How much: \$45
Tickets: brothersleagues.com.au

REEF HOTEL CASINO
Where: Abbott St, Cairns
When: 12pm-3pm
What: A glass of Mumm Champagne on arrival, seafood buffet, three-hour beverage package.
How much: \$110 for Reef Rewards Members, \$125 for non members.
Tickets: Phone 4030 8888



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NEWS 03

Croc creates a big stink

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

Smelly beast on prowl near Newell Beach

RANGERS have set a trap to capture a large "stinky" crocodile that stalked two people sitting on the sand at Newell Beach, north of Mossman.

Mossman resident Uki Burchill, 20, visited the beach with a friend about 11.30pm on Monday and before they went to sit down near the water's edge, smelled an odour that she likened to roadkill.

"We sat there for about 10

minutes before it started to get stronger," she said.

"I said to my mate 'maybe we should move along the beach a bit further'.

"We moved about 5-6m back towards the car and went to sit down."

About 10 minutes later, Ms Burchill spotted a large, dark shape slowly moving out of the water.

"We jumped up and we

must have startled it," she said.

"We hopped into the car, shone the headlights and saw it was a croc.

"It was massive, and it was just sitting in the water, about 5m away from us."

She said it was too dark to estimate the reptile's size but said its head was very broad, suggesting the animal may have been more than 4m long.

The incident was reported

to the Department of Environment and Science, which has confirmed it has received numerous reports of a large crocodile in the mouth of the Mossman River and at Newell Beach.

A department spokeswoman said wildlife officers later confirmed the presence of a large crocodile in the area.

DES wildlife officers have placed a crocodile trap in the

river to remove the animal," she said. "Members of the public are asking to stay away from the trap to increase the chances of the animal being caught."

"Temporary recent crocodile sighting warning signs have also been installed in the area."

She said reports of the crocodile approaching people on beaches at boat ramps were consistent with behav-

iour of a croc that had been fed.

"Fed crocodiles can come to associate humans with food, become emboldened, and start stalking people near the water's edge," she said.

Ms Burchill acknowledged she should have been more careful being so close to the water's edge in crocodile territory late at night.

She believed the croc was hungry and looking for an easy meal.

"I'm so thankful my time wasn't up," she said.

Gecko has them scratching their heads

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

TWO heads may be better than one, but a freshly hatched mutant gecko found inside a Cairns home has not been given much chance of survival.

Clifton Beach resident Philip Chapman found the double-headed, five-legged lizard inside his lounge room earlier this week while he and his wife were moving furniture.

"A couple of gecko eggs fell out of the furniture," he said.

"I think an egg must have cracked open when we moved it and then this little gecko came out.

"The missus called me over and said it's got two heads".

"I had a look at it and took a picture."

He said the baby gecko, identified as an Asian house gecko, appeared to have a little bit of difficulty scurrying along the table, stopping on a plate when he took the photo.

"I wouldn't say it was moving very well, but it was definitely alive," he said.

Queensland Museum reptile curator Patrick Couper said he had never seen a live two-headed gecko in his more than 30 years at the museum.

"It's really unusual. Something's gone very wrong in the embryological development of that animal," he said.

"Normally you'd look at something like that dying during its development and never actually hatching.

"It would be extremely rare to find an animal like this running around."

Mr Couper said the hatching's chances of survival were slim, as it may encounter difficulties feeding and would be prone to predators such as birds or spiders.



FREAK OF NATURE: A baby two-headed, five-legged Asian house gecko photographed in the home of Philip Chapman at Clifton Beach.

Briefs

Rape trial testimony

A WOMAN who says she was raped on a Cairns street in December 2014 had been at a dinner party with her alleged attacker the night it happened, the Cairns District Court was told. Takashi Maruko has pleaded not guilty to four counts of rape. Juri Maeda, who organised the party, told the court she had last seen Mr Maruko with the alleged victim at the corner of Shields and Sheridan streets after the party had ended about 11pm. It is alleged Mr Maruko pushed the woman, who was on a bike, to the ground and raped her. The trial continues today.

Money owner sought

INNISFAIR, police are looking for the owner of a sum of money that was handed into the police station. The money was found outside a business on the corner of Ernest and Lily streets, around 11am on December 18. Proof of ownership will be required. Call the property officer at Innisfail police station 8am-4pm Monday to Friday on 4061 5777.

Fast lover pays toll

A 24-year-old man was slapped with a \$588 infringement notice for allegedly speeding at 7pm on Valentine's Day. He was stopped on Tully Mission Beach Rd for allegedly travelling 112km/h in an 80km/h zone.

Heat warning

WITH hot, steamy temperatures returning to the Far North, the Heart Foundation is urging residents with heart conditions to take extra care. Heart Foundation Queensland CEO Stephen Vines said it was important to know the warning signs of a heart attack. For more information hone 13 11 12 or visit the website www.heartfoundation.org.au

PORT

Two cruise ships arrive

CAIRNS Cruise Liner Terminal will be a hive of activity today when two cruise ships are due to dock at the port.

The Arania is expected to be the first to arrive at 6.30am with about 1400 passengers and crew on board, before departing at 7pm bound for Townsville.

The Viking Sun is due for its first visit at about 8.45am and departing at 11pm bound for Thursday Island. Carrying about 115 passengers and crew, the ship was built last year.

V1 - CCPEG12018A



VISITING: Arania.

APPEAL

Search for missing man

POLICE are continuing their appeal for public assistance to help find a 26-year-old man reported missing from Julatten.

Reece Kearney was last seen at an address on Highland Drive on December 15 and has not been seen by family since.

Police and SES personnel conducted an extensive search over the weekend. Anyone with information can contact Crime Stoppers anonymously on 1800 333 000 or via crimestoppersqld.com.au



Reece Kearney.

TOURISM

Barefoot steps ahead

BAREFOOT Tours in Cairns have topped the list as one of Australia's Best Adventure Experiences for 2018 as ranked by Australian global online travel website FlightNetwork.com.au.

As part of the company's list of Ultimate Adventure Tours for 2018, Barefoot Tours was named as one of the top adventure experiences on the water. Barefoot Tours visits locations such as Millaa Millaa and Josephine falls as well as exploring the Daintree.



Millaa Millaa Falls.



08 Jul 2018
Sunday Mail Brisbane, Brisbane

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Test case to protect predator

Croc cull laws divide far north

PETER MICHAEL

CROC catcher Errol Copley is at the centre of a landmark legal test case in a crackdown on crocodile culling in north Queensland.

As estimates put Queensland's wild crocodile population as high as 80,000, officials want to deter any vigilante croc hunters targeting the protected predator.

Cape York identity and commercial fisherman Mr Copley, 69, was fined \$500 after he caught a 3m saltie on a baited mackerel hook he'd left in waters behind his Deeral tropical fruit farm.

But prosecutors have appealed the decision and want him slugged \$7000.

Fisheries officers, who have the power to impose a \$1200 on-the-spot fine for interfering with wildlife, caught him in an elaborate sting using spy cameras hidden in trees.

Mr Copley, who found the dead croc on the end of his fishing line, was

captured in video footage dragging away the reptile with his ute on January 18. He

pleaded guilty to one count of taking a protected animal.

But now, in the landmark test case, Mr Copley is awaiting a decision by Cairns District Court Judge Dean Morzone, who has been asked to set new penalty guidelines.

The move has outraged the Katter Australia Party, who have put up the Safer Waterways Bill.

"Up north, it has come down to kill or be killed," KAP State MP Shane Knuth said. "There are lives at stake and also an entire multi-billion dollar tourism industry."

Peak tourism bodies warn the north's \$3 billion industry is under the crunch from negative publicity about increased croc attacks.

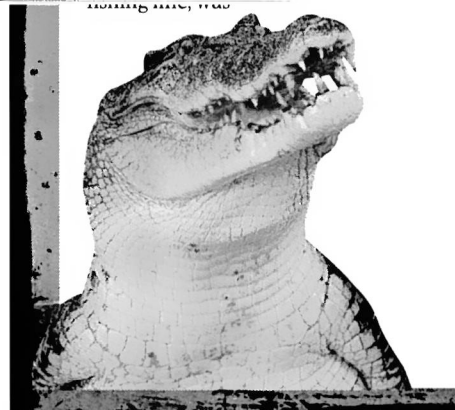
"Crocodiles represent a significant and increasing threat to our tourism industry," Tourism Tropical North Queensland said.

They urge a balance between the "absolute need for human safety and the conservation of crocodiles".

But the Environment De-

partment, which opposes the Bill, says more people die each year from snake bite, bee sting or dog attack, on average, than a croc attack.

The Katter Party will chair public hearings next month, and are due to table a report in Parliament in September.





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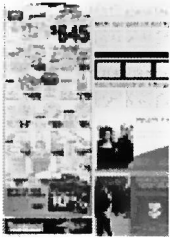
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21 Jun 2018

Northern Territory News, Darwin

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Croc cull needed to save lives, party argues

IT'S "only a matter of time" before a person is killed by a crocodile in Katherine Gorge or Darwin Harbour, according to political party I Territory.

In a statement released yesterday, the party said the recent death of Goat Island dog

Pippa the Dumb Blonde in the jaws of a crocodile was proof of "just how quick and brutal crocodiles can be".

"Crocodiles are ambush hunters, learning and waiting unseen for animals to reuse the same spot on a river to

drink or cross," the statement read.

"What I Territory party will ensure is saltwater crocodile numbers be reduced so they are no longer pushed up into our freshwater rivers and small creeks."



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Weekend Post, Cairns

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Croc cull off the table

Reptile population far less than in NT

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

CULLING of crocodiles is unlikely to be allowed in the Far North after a statewide survey shows there is less than one of the reptiles per kilometre in Queensland's waterways.

The Department of Environment and Science has completed the first stage of its major survey of the state's croc population – the most comprehensive in 10 years – which will dictate how the Palaszczuk government manages the dangerous animals.

The monitoring program, which is expected to conclude in late 2019, has so far found one croc per kilometre in waterways between Gladstone and Cape York Peninsula.

Northern wildlife operations manager for the department Dr Matt Brien yesterday said this was far less than the average in the Northern Territory, where there was between five and 10 crocs per kilometre.

"The preliminary data does not suggest a (population) explosion, no," he said.

"If you compare it to a population that is quite large

and incredibly healthy, like (in the) Territory, the average density is actually quite low."

While the department's current management strategy does allow for shooting of crocs under specific circumstances, Dr Brien said the issue was "less about the removal" of the animals and more about how many and from where they were taken.

"You only get that from a monitoring program, to know how many you've got and where, and where they move between – that's when you can target those efforts," he said.

"The end game is to keep people safe."

The government has given \$105,000 to Surf Life Saving Queensland for a croc-spotting drone program at Far Northern beaches.

Hill MP Shane Knuth, from Katter's Australian Party, said the funding was welcome, but was not the solution to croc management or reducing sightings and beach closures.

"A zero-tolerance policy regarding crocodiles on our beaches and in surrounding waterways will drastically reduce the threat," he said.



14 Jul 2018
Weekend Post, Cairns

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SAFER: Environment Minister Leeanne Enoch, Cairns lifeguard Gene Dunnett and SLSQ NQ regional manager Rob Davidson check out a croc drone at Palm Cove.

Picture: STEWART McLEAN



11 Feb 2018

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Brisbane

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CROC CULL WITH STYLE

TRADE Minister Steve Ciobo chimed in behind crocodile (pictured) culling up north. Ciobo was touting croc leather and handbags from luxury saddler Hermes last week.





16 Nov 2017
Port Douglas & Mossman Gazette, Port Douglas QLD

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Page 1 of 2

Croc fears: Nippers are getting out of water

WILDLIFE | Shane Nichols

SURF lifesaving clubs in FNQ are worried about their long-term sustainability as parents pull their kids out of the water due to fears of crocodiles.

The vice-president of Port Douglas Surf Lifesaving Club, Michael Bolt, told a media briefing on Four Mile Beach yesterday that clubs in the region were being badly affected.

"As a longstanding member of the Port Douglas Surf Lifesaving Club we've noticed in the last five years a significant increase in the crocodile sightings on this beach and we are very concerned about the safety of Nippers and the safety of the public," he said.

Mr Bolt said Four Mile Beach had been closed around seven times in the past year due to crocodile sightings.

CONTINUED PAGE 3



Summit of all fears: Di Knight (far left) a stalwart of the Port Douglas Lifesaving Club, vice president Michael Bolt, KAP candidate for Cook Gordon Rasmussen, KAP candidate for Hill Shane Knuth, and KAP state MP Robbie Katter on Four Mile Beach yesterday

Picture: SHANE NICHOLS



Why Nippers are leaving

FROM PAGE 1

"The concerning thing is that the sightings have occurred in our tourism season, our peak season. Historically we'd never seen them at that time."

It was getting worse each year, Mr Bolt said.

Last year the club's membership was down about 20 per cent (about 40 members).

Other clubs in the region were experiencing the same thing.

"We're worried that if the trend continues we'll be wiped out," Mr Bolt said.

"Feedback from parents who have taken their kids out is that they are concerned about crocodile issues. It's 100 per cent related to the crocodile issue."

"Our club is based upon the Nippers. Without the Nippers the parents will leave and we won't have enough people to man the patrols."

Di Knight, whose family is one of the stalwarts of the club, said she was concerned about the situation.

Her two daughters loved their involvement in the club but other parents were saying to her "how could you let them go into the water?"

State MP Robbie Katter vowed that if KAP was in a position of powerbroker then one of its central demands "of anyone forming government would be to do something about crocodiles".

"We put forward a management plan, a sensible plan, to

deal with this issue and address the cries for help that are coming from people of Port Douglas."

"We don't want to learn how to kiss and cuddle them through education, we need the issues resolved so that people can enjoy these lovely surroundings."

"We're the party that does things, not just talk about it, and we've had the bill in Parliament with Shane Knuth and intend on doing something when we take the seat of Cook."

Shane Knuth, candidate for Hill, remarked that the KAP's Safer Waterways Bill had been languishing in parliament, which was not the fault of the KAP.

"They've used their numbers to debate it out to next year."

"So it's probably the longest ever bill in history to be debated – and it's about safer waterways!"

Gordon Rasmussen, candidate for Cook, said KAP wanted to protect the safety of lifesavers in the area who were "putting their lives on the line" to look after the public.

"We put people's lives before crocodiles," Mr Rasmussen said.

Feedback from parents who have taken their kids out is they are concerned about crocodile issues

Michael Bolt



Surf club training off Four Mile Beach.

Picture: SHANE NICHOLS



15 Nov 2017
Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

Author: Rachel Riley • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Audience : 17,228 • Page: 9 • Printed Size: 239.00cm² • Market: QLD
Country: Australia • Words: 321 • Item ID: 874022473

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Page 1 of 1

Croc in port spurs debate

KAP hitching cull plan to sighting

**RACHEL
RILEY**

rachel.riley@news.com.au



A LARGE saltwater crocodile has been caught on camera at the Port of Townsville.

The sighting has reignited the political debate about the management of crocodiles, with Katter's Australia Party using it to push its controversial culling policy.

The curious crocodile was spotted about 7am yesterday by the port operations team, who then alerted management and workers in a nearby boat.

The croc (pictured), believed to be at least 4m long, floated on the surface of the water alongside berth four for about 20 minutes before disappearing.

Port spokeswoman Sharon Hoops said it was the largest crocodile seen in the facility's waters in some time.

"We have a few crocodile sightings at the port every year because of the nice calm water," she said.



"It's not uncommon for us to see other wildlife like big fish and dolphins."

KAP candidate for Hinchinbrook Nick Dametto, director of Townsville WaterSports, which operates from the Breakwater Marina, said he cancelled tours due to safety concerns after the sighting.

"We had two people ring up to book tours but we decided not to send the jetskis out, so we have lost business," he said.

Mr Dametto said waterways around Townsville and the Hinchinbrook region were overpopulated with crocodiles and damaging the region's tourism potential. "Without proper control of crocodiles living in natural habitats we

can't provide a safe area to come and swim," he said.

Mr Dametto said he was pushing for a controlled cull of crocodiles in North Queensland rivers and creeks, as well as the establishment of an egg harvesting industry.

A Department of Environment and Heritage Protection spokesman said wildlife officers were working to relocate the crocodile. They conducted a land-based inspection yesterday and installed warning signs.

"Video footage of the animal provided by the Port of Townsville will be reviewed," the spokesman said.

Wildlife officers last night planned shore-based spotlight surveillance of the area.



30 Jun 2018
Weekend Post, Cairns

Author: Janessa Ekert • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 23,389 • Page: 5 • Printed size: 254.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
ASR: AUD 1,652 • words: 449 • Item ID: 976142624

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Page 1 of 1

Croc kill fine 'too low'

Appeal aims at stiffer penalty for Copley

JANESSA EKERT

janessa.ekert@news.com.au

PROSECUTORS wanting to make an example of Far Northern crocodile killer Errol Copley have argued to increase his \$500 fine to about \$7000.

Mr Copley baited a 4m-long line, attaching it to a tree at his Deeral farm, and hooked and killed a 3m-long crocodile. He was busted by wildlife officers who spotted the carcass and put up hidden cameras, which captured Mr Copley dragging the corpse away.

The test case was heard by Cairns District Court Judge Dean Morzone, who has been asked to set penalty guidelines for killing a crocodile as part of the appeal against Mr Copley's original sentence.

He was fined \$500, which police have deemed too lenient to be a deterrent.

Elizabeth Kennedy, for Queensland Police Service, said there was very little "judicial consideration" in relation to Mr Copley's case.

"The ... purpose in bringing this appeal is really to obtain guidance from this court in relation to the appropriate sentences for this type of offending," she said.

She told the court that a fine was appropriate and submitted it should be about \$7000.

The factors to be considered were the nature and conduct of the offence, deliberateness, commerciality and any traditional or cultural matters.

Solicitor Martin Wright, for

Mr Copley, said principles were in place to stop prosecutors "having a second bite of the cherry". He argued Mr Copley's actions were not commercial and there was no evidence of cruelty.

"My client owns a hobby farm ... he makes no profit from the farm," he said.

He said Mr Copley had needed to clear out the area and wanted to see if there were any crocodiles. He wasn't there when the animal died.

"If you link a hook to an animal and it subsequently dies, the inference is that it was cruel," Judge Morzone said. "What do you think it died of, a heart attack or something?"

Ms Kennedy said there was an indirect commercial purpose because it was to protect his orchid and that the inference of cruelty was also there.

Mr Copley outside court thanked the community "for giving me so much support".

"I believe it's the commun-

ity's perception that something should be done about the current management," he said.

Katter's Australian Party candidate for Leichhardt, Daniel McCarthy, blamed the government.

"Are they throwing the dummy out of the cot because they didn't get what they wanted, which was to vilify ... for taking action to protect himself and his family from being attacked by a man-eating crocodile?" he said.

Judge Morzone has reserved his decision for at least a month.



06 Jun 2018
Courier Mail, Brisbane

Section: General News • Article Type: News Item • Audience : 135,007 • Page: 14
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Item ID: 964849518

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Page 1 of 1

Croc killer's plan to cull One Nation

FORMER One Nation senator Fraser Anning, a one-time crocodile hunter, has set his sights on poaching fellow senators Brian Burston and Peter Georgiou to leave Pauline Hanson with a party of one.

Senator Anning, a north-west Queensland cattleman and publican, quit One Nation in November to become an independent, and has joined forces with maverick federal MP Bob Katter's party in Federal Parliament.

"He (Senator Burston) is out on a limb pretty much right now," Senator Anning said in Cairns yesterday.

"Brian has not been endorsed for his party, so he'll be looking for a home.

"He would be a good fit (for Katter's Australian Party).

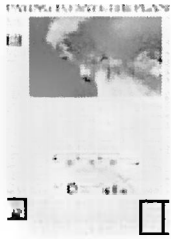
"He's a good conservative. He's a good, honourable man. He sticks to what he believes."

Senator Anning said he had been forced out of One Nation by Senator Hanson, "not unlike Brian was forced out".

As One Nation looks to be imploding, Senator Georgiou appears to be the last man standing with founder Pauline Hanson.

Senator Anning yesterday revealed he had "shot lots of crocodiles before it was illegal" and supported of a cull of the deadly reptiles.

PETER MICHAEL



28 Nov 2017
The Australian, Australia

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Country: Australia • Words: 231 • Item ID: 879632382

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JAMES JEFFREY

Croc of gold

Strewth would like to give a shout-out to Brisbane's Low Road Cafe for its signage game. One of its latest blackboard messages channels the **Bob Katter** tone change as demonstrated in his recent, globally celebrated press conference that segued seamlessly and miraculously from same-sex marriage to crocodile-related death. Over to Low Road's blackboard: "Yes! We will be open every day except Xmas and Boxing Day ... but we ain't spending any more time on it because in the meantime, every three months a person is torn to pieces by a crocodile in North Queensland." Bravo. In passing, we would like to note that our Katter entry on *The Australian*

website's 404 error page was created early last year and was an early encapsulation of the Katter tone change. Here's the message "Bob" has for you if the link you clicked on goes wrong: "This reminds me of the time (laughs) when I was a young fella and (very high-pitched bit, not immediately clear what is being said) and (explosive laughter) so I said show me the piglet then (laughter to the point where the hat shifts) and he said (explosive giggle) you've come to the wrong place! (Wipes tear from eye.) But seriously, if we're going to talk about errors, let's talk about the supermarket duopoly that has a stranglehold on this country." We believe it captures his poetry.

strewth@theaustralian.com.au



23 Jun 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

Author: Elisabeth • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item • Audience : 2,636
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Item ID: 973099721

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Croc posts affecting business

Elisabeth Champion

A Babinda businessman is pleading with people to think twice about posting pictures of crocodiles on social media.

Business owners and Member for Hill, Shane Knuth, attended a meeting in Babinda on Wednesday night to discuss problem crocs which are becoming more common in Far North waterways.

Speaking on Thursday, Babinda Kayaking owner Paul O'Brien said a crocodile which sent social media into a spin last month after it was photographed in Babinda Creek just several hundred metres away from Rotary Park had cost him a lot of business.

"I've had 22 cancellations so far since the photo was seen on social media and in the newspapers," he said.

"For me, who's just trying to start out, I needed it like a hole in the head.

"Ninety per cent of my market are locals and they are the ones that saw the post – they have all told me that the croc is why they cancelled."

He said people had cancelled their bookings for a Paws Paddle charity day he is holding today for the Young Animal Protection Society in Cairns.

"People can bring their dogs down and all the money will go to the society but I've had a few people cancel because they're worried about their pups.

"The crocs are a problem.

"It's not just affecting me but the whole of the little township.

"If people aren't going to Rotary Park, then they aren't going into the bakery or the Spar, which has a knock-on effect."

He is now asking locals to

think twice before they post croc sightings on social media.

"If a crocodile is sighted there, tell the proper authorities, not the whole world," he said.

"Let's put it to national parks and whoever needs to be aware of it."

Mr O'Brien said he, along with many other business owners in the region, supported tougher crocodile manage-

ment to protect people's livelihoods and the waterways.

"I think it's a very good idea to remove the crocs," he said.

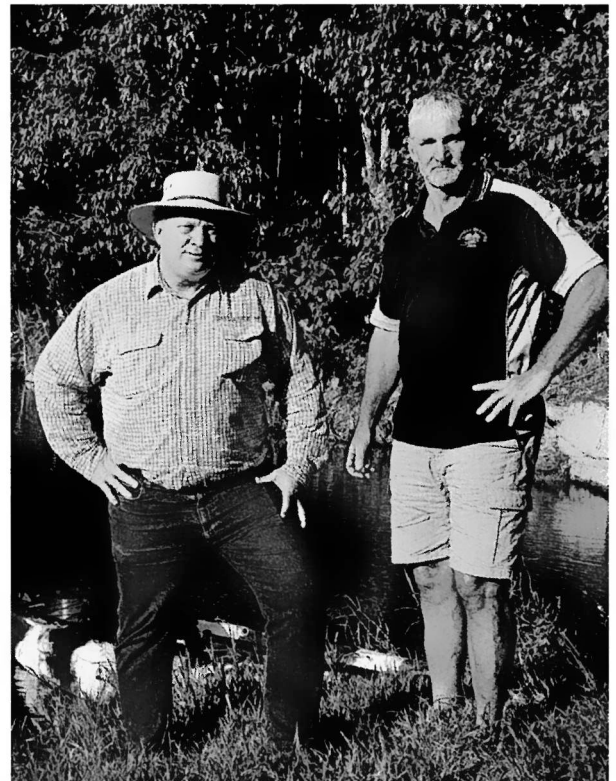
"I'm not into pillaging them but as far as swimming holes and places where there is a build-up of people, they are just going further and further up the creeks.

"People say 'oh well, they were here before us'.

"Yes, they were, but when you talk to some of the older people in the township, they used to be able to swim everywhere in the Russell River in places that they can't swim now because of the crocodiles – they're moving up upstream, we know that.

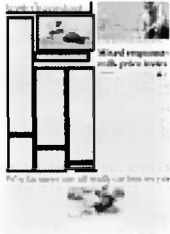
"There will soon be no swimming anywhere and suddenly the whole of Cairns and Far North Queensland will be affected by it because people won't come here because of crocodiles."

He said he would like to see any croc sighting in Babinda treated the same way as a sighting in Cairns with a trap set and the crocodile removed immediately.



Shane Knuth and Babinda Kayaking owner Paul O'Brien want a solution to problem crocs in the region.

Picture: KATJE GIBSON



19 Jul 2018

North Queensland Register, Townsville QLD

Author: Jessica Johnston • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
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ASR: AUD 1,179 • words: 564 • Item ID: 983378295

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Croc sightings rise in North Queensland

CROCODILE sightings are on the increase in North Queensland, with 684 spotted last year in comparison to 378 the year before.

The State Government has released its first update on the crocodile management program, which includes surveying waterways in croc country to determine their numbers.

Environment Minister Leeanne Enoch said it was the most comprehensive survey of Queensland's estuarine crocodile population in over a decade.

"The overall aim of the crocodile monitoring program is to determine the size, distributions and densities of estuarine crocodile population in different waterways," Ms Enoch said.

"At the end of the program, the information collected will be analysed to determine how crocodile populations vary between different areas, and what changes have occurred over time."

Specially trained wildlife officers from the Department of Environment and Science surveyed more than 2000km of waterways during 2017, the first year of the three-year crocodile monitoring program.

This work involved night time vessel-based surveys in waterways from Gladstone to Cape York Peninsula and the adjoining Gulf of Car-

pentaria, as well as daytime helicopter surveys of coastal waterways from the Hinchinbrook Channel to the Daintree River.

Ms Enoch said night and daytime surveys were also carried out in six waterways south of Rockhampton, all of which were outside normal crocodile habitat. No crocodiles were observed in these streams.

She said the department removed 84 problem crocs last year, mainly from waterways between Townsville and Port Douglas.

"On top of this important work to manage Queensland's crocodiles, our wildlife officers also assisted with investigations into the unlawful deaths of eight crocs, and three people were prosecuted for the illegal take of crocodiles in 2017."

"The Government is confident that Queensland's approach to crocodile management is sound."

The monitoring program is expected to conclude in late 2019 and a detailed report will be prepared in 2020.

But Hill MP Shane Knuth said the report reaffirmed that there is a croc issue in North Queensland and said the government needed to 'get real' on crocodile management.

"The Government is reluctant to make the tough decisions because keeping

southern votes is more important to them than protecting the life and livelihood of North Queenslanders.

He said the update showed a spike in the number of crocodile sightings, jumping to 684 in 2017 compared to 378 in 2016 and just 176 in 2010.

"This is triple the sightings reported from seven years ago and an 80% increase in sightings from 2016," he said.

"Those are extraordinary numbers and any sane person would argue it represents a large increase in crocodile numbers. Most people I speak to in the region tell me they don't even bother reporting sightings anymore as nothing gets done, so that increase is only the tip of the iceberg."

Mr Knuth said more needed to be done to control salt-water crocodiles.

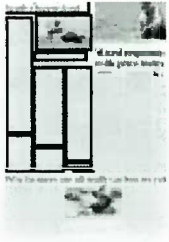
"Why isn't the Government acting?"

"We shouldn't accept the increasing number of beach closures or beach sightings, as crocs shouldn't be there in the first place. A zero tolerance policy regarding crocodiles on our beaches and in surrounding waterways, will drastically reduce the threat and allow our life savers to use this technology more effectively in patrolling stretches of beach not normally patrolled."

LNP Environment spokes-

man David Crisafulli accused the government of failing to address crocodile concerns.

— JESSICA JOHNSTON



19 Jul 2018
North Queensland Register, Townsville QLD

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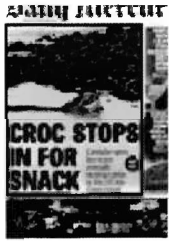
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CROC SHOCK: Saltwater crocodile numbers are on the rise in North Queensland, according to a new government report.



08 Jan 2018
Daily Mercury, Mackay QLD

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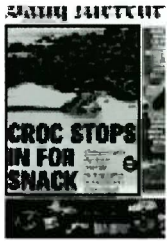
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**CROC STOPS
IN FOR
SNACK**

Caretaker spots
five-metre
crocodile
hunting turtles
in bay of Little
Green Island

PHOTO: PETER BESWICK

**PAGE
TWO**



08 Jan 2018
Daily Mercury, Mackay QLD

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Croc spotted eating a turtle

Wildlife out and about again in Mackay region

Zarisha Bradley

Zarisha.Bradley@dailymercury.com.au

Daniel McKenzie

Daniel.McKenzie@dailymercury.com.au

A MACKAY man got more than he bargained for when he saw a five-metre crocodile off Little Green Island near Shoal Point on Friday evening.

Standing on the shore, Little Green Island caretaker Peter Beswick captured an image of the large crocodile, which was swimming near to shore with a turtle in its mouth, at about 6.30pm.

"We watched him on and off all day with the outgoing tide. We watched him have a couple of grabs at a turtle, before he got one and brought it right back in to the north western point of the bay," he said.

"That turtle was one metre long and he took it in one gulp.

"I tried to get closer, but as soon as he saw me he ducked under and swam away."

Mr Beswick, a long-term caretaker on the island, said crocodile sightings in the area were more common than people think.

He said he had seen a much larger male crocodile from Reliance Creek to the west of Shoal Point five or six times.

Mr Beswick said the five-metre crocodile could be a new male that had staked its claim in the area.

"There's been a big crocodile in Reliance Creek

for many years. He's about 75 to 80 years old and the environmental protection people know all about him," Mr Beswick said.

"What's happened is another younger male has stamped his feet of authority and kicked him out, so he's now found another area in Reliance to settle down. This one could be the new

dominant male."

The sighting comes after a near four-metre crocodile was spotted by a paddler off Mackay Harbour on Thursday.

Mr Beswick said the crocodiles travel up and down the coast all the time so it's likely they will come into places like the Harbour at some point.

He slammed Bob Katter for his comments following the sighting that maintained his strong position on culling.

"Horses kill more people in Australia than crocs do," he said in disgust.

"He's [the crocodile] never attacked a tinnie or a fisherman."

Mr Beswick reminded people that Little Green Island was private property, and implored crocodile watchers to refrain from attempting to enter the island.

All crocodile sightings in Queensland should be reported to CrocWatch on 1300 130 372.

“There's been a big crocodile in Reliance Creek for many years. He's about 75 to 80 years old.

— Peter Beswick



08 Jan 2018
Daily Mercury, Mackay QLD

Author: Zarisha Bradley • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
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CHOWING DOWN: A crocodile was spotted eating a turtle in the western bay off Little Green Island just north of Shoal Point.
PHOTO: PETER BESWICK

08 NEWS

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28 2018 CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU

Dengue patient concern

Tests on local case

ANDREA FALVO
andrea.falvo@news.com.au

THE first locally-acquired dengue fever case of the year could be confirmed within a matter of days with medical staff awaiting test results of a suspected case in Edmonton.

Tropical Public Health Services Cairns yesterday announced it was responding to the possible case of dengue fever in the suburb, understood to involve a woman.

Definitive test results will be available later this week but as a precaution the Dengue Action Response Team are undertaking preventive mosquito control measures in the area.

Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service Tropical Public Health Services director Dr Richard Gair said there had already been two confirmed cases of dengue in the service's area this year.

"Both cases have been imported cases with the individuals being infected overseas and travelling back to Australia with the virus," he said.

"A locally acquired case can occur when the Aedes aegypti (dengue) mosquito bites an infected person, becomes infected with the virus, and then passes it on to other people by biting them.

"The most recent locally-acquired dengue case in the Cairns and Hinterland Hospital

PRECAUTIONS

- Make sure any mosquito breeding sites such as containers are removed from homes and workplaces.
- Use indoor surface spray around the house to kill and repel mosquitoes.
- Protect yourself and your family further by using personal insect repellent.

and Health Service region was in Innisfail in February 2017."

Dr Gair said, while the possible case at Edmonton had not yet been confirmed to be dengue fever, it was a timely reminder for residents to take the necessary precautions around their homes with dengue season now underway.

"We have seen a dramatic drop in locally-acquired dengue in Far North Queensland since the Eliminate Dengue program began releasing mosquitoes infected with bacteria that stop the mosquitoes spreading the virus," he said.

Over the past 10 years large outbreaks have occurred in the Torres Strait, Cairns, Mossman, Innisfail, Tully, Townsville and Charters Towers.

Dengue causes fever with headaches, muscle and joint pains, and may include a rash, vomiting and diarrhoea. Anyone with symptoms should see a doctor immediately.



CAUGHT: A large saltwater crocodile at Kewarra Beach yesterday afternoon.

Croc too close for comfort

ANDREA FALVO

A SALTWATER crocodile estimated to be 3m long has been captured by Department of Environment and Science (DES) wildlife officers at Kewarra Beach.

It is understood the croc was removed from the Cairns beach yesterday afternoon.

Cairns regional councillor Brett Olds said it was time for the government to put an action plan in place to protect the community from crocodiles.

"These are the kind of things that are swimming with our kids ... it's our local swimming hole," Cr Olds said.

"We also have all these people choosing to come up here

on holidays, for weddings and all different events and they see things like this on our beaches ... it's not a good look.

"There have been plenty of dogs eaten at Kewarra Beach and it's going to take someone to get eaten at a local beach for something to be done about it." Crocodile sightings can be reported to DES on 1300 130 372.

Briefs

Assault charges

A MOOROOBOOL teenager has been charged with seriously assaulting a number of people in the Cairns CBD. The 14-year-old girl was allegedly out with a group of friends near the intersection of the Esplanade and Shields St on Friday night when she began throwing things at passers-by. She allegedly got into a fight with a 25-year-old woman. An off-duty police officer intervened before the girl allegedly spat in the officer's face and bit the other victim on the hand. Other police officers called to the scene took the girl into custody and the victims were treated by ambulance officers. She was charged with one count of serious assault and assault occasioning bodily harm.

Rental fraud

A CARAVONICA woman will face court later this month charged with rental fraud. The 41-year-old allegedly rented a residential property in November last year and fell behind on payments. Investigations into the non-residential rental account revealed a number of falsified receipts. Detectives went to a Fig Tree Dr residence on Monday morning and issued the woman a notice to appear in the Cairns Magistrates Court on March 13 to face two counts of fraudulent falsification of records.

Drink-driver

FAR Northern police have charged a Kairi man with drink-driving after a traffic intercept at Kuranda. It will be alleged the 65-year-old was stopped on the Kennedy Highway with reading of 0.079. He will appear in the Mareeba Magistrates Court on March 26.

Conserve water

MAREEBA residents and businesses are urged to conserve their water use tomorrow between 9am and 1pm. Urgent electrical works will be carried out at the water plant that serves the town's water network during that time and water availability will be limited.

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18 Apr 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

Author: Andrew Gregory • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 2,636 • Page: 5 • Printed size: 123.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
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Page 1 of 1

Croc video angers Knuth

Andrew Gregory

VIDEO of a large crocodile lurking in a waterway near Tully has Member for Hill, Shane Knuth, snapping at the State Government.

Phone footage shared on Facebook shows the crocodile lying motionless in the rural waterway, before diving below the surface after a farmer throws a stick into the water.

The alarming video, posted online by Mr Knuth on Sunday, had been viewed more than 20,000 times by yesterday afternoon.

"Another large croc found in a drain on a property near Tully in Far North Queensland," Mr Knuth posted.

"The best solution the State Government can give us is a three-year study to see if we have a croc problem, fine property owners for removing the danger or 'monitor' the croc to see if it is a threat to human life??? The people of the north are sick and tired of excuses."

Mr Knuth said that, while such sightings were now becoming common, it was the crocodiles you didn't see that were the ones to worry about.

"This was unheard of, crocs in the drains of Queensland farmers, 30 years ago," he said.

"And now, in our most popular freshwater swimming holes, kids have concerns of going in there and getting ripped to pieces."

Another large crocodile was photographed at Aloomba, south of Cairns, on Friday.

Fishery Falls resident Vivian Wienert said she had walked through the area near Barbagallo Rd for 44 years.

"This is just one of many instances where people have not ventured recklessly into crocodile habitat, but where crocodiles have ventured into places where people who are going about their lawful and well-established activities find themselves in danger of attack by these predators," she said.

Ms Wienert, in a letter to the editor of the *Cairns Post* yesterday, called on politicians to acknowledge crocodiles are not endangered.



22 Mar 2018
Cairns Post, Cairns

Author: Daniel Bateman • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 13,896 • Page: 7 • Printed size: 311.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
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Page 1 of 2

'Croco-bill' snaps back into action

MP puts bite on cull opponents

DANIEL BATEMAN AND AAP

A CONTROVERSIAL plan to legalise culling of crocodiles in the Far North is officially back on the table.

Katter's Australia Party yesterday reintroduced its Safer Waterways Bill to State Parliament, seeking to reduce the risk of crocodile attacks in Queensland's waters as much as possible.

The legislation was shelved last year due to the state election, however KAP had indicated it would attempt to bring its draft laws back in the new year.

Under the proposed new laws, crocodile culling would be allowed for local indigenous rangers or people licensed by them, including big-game-style safaris.

There would also be egg-management and animal transfer programs.

KAP's Member for Traeger, Shane Knuth, said the Bill would prioritise human life over crocodiles.

"This is a response to community outrage at the lack of action taken to protect North Queensland residents and visitors from the risk of crocodiles and the negative impact this poses to our multi-billion dollar tourism industry," he said.

There have been nine crocodile attacks on humans in the past three years, including three fatalities, all in the Far North.

"North Queenslanders are sick and tired of ignorance on this issue and hearing about more studies to tell them what they already know about crocodile numbers. They want action," Mr Knuth said.

Both Labor and the LNP did not support KAP's proposed laws last year.

The two major parties favour their own croc management strategies.

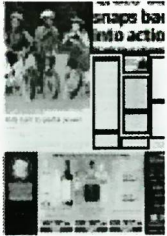
State opposition leader Deb Frecklington told reporters yesterday she hadn't seen the Bill but said her party recognised that crocs were a major issue for north Queensland.

"When I was visiting the flooding up in Ingham I saw the croc prints in the mayor's garage," she said.

"Crocs are really concerning, not only for people up in north Queensland, but the people who are travelling here as well."

Conservationists and Daintree tour operators have opposed the laws.

They say it will have significant impact upon the environment and the local tourism industry.



22 Mar 2018
Cairns Post, Cairns

Author: Daniel Bateman • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 13,896 • Page: 7 • Printed size: 311.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
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Page 2 of 2

Love them or loathe them, crocodiles were a major election issue late last year, and the reintroduction of KAP's Safer Waterways Bill will only ensure the debate over croc management will rage on for several more months. The party's proposed laws have Buckley's chance of being passed without support from the LNP, but there are some aspects of the legislation that do warrant further exploration. This includes wild egg harvesting, which local croc farmers have been wanting for decades. However it is important first to know how such a scheme would impact native populations of crocs in Queensland — for which we do not yet have any concrete data.
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

PROPOSAL WORTH A NEW LOOK

COMMENT
DANIEL BATEMAN



CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 8 2017

NEWS 05

Tip-off spurred cannabis discovery

A TIP-OFF from Crime Stoppers led Innisfail police to a crop of cannabis at a Mena Creek Rd home on October 31.

After executing a search warrant, officers found a cache of dangerous drugs including cannabis, as well as cannabis seeds.

Police also allegedly found an air rifle, ammunition and fireworks.

A 48-year-old Mena Creek man was charged with eight weapons and drug charges including two counts each of producing dangerous drugs.

He was also charged with one count each of producing dangerous drugs, producing anything used in the commission of a crime, possessing drug utensils, unlawful possession of a weapon and possession of explosives.

The man is scheduled to appear at the Innisfail Magistrates Court on December 11.

Constable Lachlan Ogilvie said the operation was the direct result of information provided by the public through Crime Stoppers.

"I would encourage members of the public to contact Crime Stoppers if they have any information relating to drug offences in the Cassowary Coast area," Constable Ogilvie said.

Cassowary Coast residents are urged to do a dealer and can do so by contacting Crime Stoppers anonymously on 1800 333 00 or via their website at crimestoppers.com.au 24 hours a day.

Violence focus put on victims

SILHOUETTES of domestic violence victims will be installed by Cairns' White Ribbon committee on Ray Jones Dr on the approach to Draper Street, Gatton St near Cairns TAFE and Sheridan St near Tobruk Memorial Pool this morning between 6-9.30am. White Ribbon Day, which pledges an end to violence, is held on November 25.

Crocodile overload pains Tully farmer

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

CROCODILES are plaguing a farm owner who has lost 10 head of cattle in the past year to the large predators lurking in a freshwater lagoon at his Cassowary Coast property.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) wildlife officers have removed a 4m saltwater crocodile from Boar Creek, about 15km west of Tully, after it exhibited "concerning behaviour".

An EHP spokesman said the officers set a trap to catch the large reptile after it killed two dogs and a calf.

The croc was trapped on Monday morning. It is expected the animal will be taken to a crocodile farm or zoo.

John Porta said the croc was one of four inhabiting the lagoon on his 566ha property, about 30km from the coast.

He claimed the reptiles had taken about 10 head of cattle from his herd of 138 in the past year, alongside the two working dogs - border collies - belonging to his property manager.

One of the dogs was worth an estimated \$3000.

"What's happened is we've ended up with an overload of crocodiles at Boar Creek," Mr Porta said.

"We don't really want every croc destroyed, but when they start taking cattle and dogs and everything else, this has come as a bit of a shock.



LOCKED UP: A 4m crocodile is removed from Tully by Department of Environment and Heritage Protection wildlife officers.

"The stock is one thing - it's just money, but to be honest, we're worried about people."

He said the EHP wildlife officers were quick to respond when contacted after the calf and dogs were taken by the crocs.

But he did not understand why they did not remove the

other reptiles from the 2ha-wide waterway, when they too clearly posed a danger.

"There were four crocs eating the (calf) the other day, but as soon as another one goes, I'll have to ring them again," he said.

Canegrower Mario Racca-nello, whose farm borders Boar

Creek, said removing one large croc from the creek would not make much difference in making it safer for humans in the area.

"It's just a matter of domination. The biggest one is the boss until someone comes along and gets rid of him," he said.

"Then another big one comes and takes his place."

There was a report of a crocodile mauling two horses at the creek in 1999.

EHP advises people to expect crocodiles in all North Queensland waterways, even if there is no warning sign.

Croc lizard on golf course - page 56

Night fisherman is ringside for reptile rumble

A FISHERMAN who saw two large crocodiles brawling in Cairns' Trinity Inlet believes the reptiles were fighting for dominance of estuarine territory close to the city.

Patrick Manthey was night fishing with mates in China-

man Creek, opposite Cairns Marina, on Thursday about 8.30pm when he heard a strange growling noise coming from the mangroves.

"I've got a big (spotlight) on my boat, and we turned it on, and there it was: these two big

crocs and they were coming up next to each other, raising their tails up, and it was on," he said.

Mr Manthey and his friends filmed the affray, believing the two apex predators - both at least 3.5m long - were fighting for dominance in the area.

"They were grabbing each other, and slamming each other in the water. It was pretty full on," he said.

"I'm originally from Weipa, so I've seen heaps of crocs. I've seen them fight before, but not as vicious as that."



See video of the croc fight www.cairnspost.com.au

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04 NEWS

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 8 2017 CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU

No jail for lewd photos

JANESSA EKERT
AND GRACE MASON

WA man fined, placed on two-year bond

AN elderly man who took sneaky lewd photos of women's genitalia around Cairns must be on his best behaviour for the next two years. Nicholas Michael Nicholas, from Western Australia, had been holidaying in Cairns visiting friends when he was busted with 74 images on his phone. The Cairns Magistrates

Court was told that Nicholas had been taking photographs of adult women's genital region while wandering up and down the Cairns Esplanade.

He was found out after one of his victims spotted what he was up to and reported it to police.

The 71-year-old pleaded guilty to 74 counts of making a

recording in breach of privacy in court on Monday.

The court was told that the offending had occurred while Nicholas, who had been unemployed for decades due to mental health issues, had been left on his own.

Police were told about a man taking photos and when they approached Nicholas, he

admitted to everything and was cooperative.

The court heard he has no criminal history and was remorseful.

Nicholas was placed on a \$1000 two-year good behaviour bond and convictions were recorded.

Speaking outside court, Far North police Det Acting Insp

Mick Goolker said this type of behaviour was particularly concerning and should not be tolerated.

"Police take these matters extremely seriously," he said.

"It is something we would encourage people to report if they have concerns about people using cameras.

"Young girls and women

should not have to tolerate this type of behaviour in public places."

He said they had been unable to identify many of the subjects of the photos which were taken over a number of days during Nicholas' stay in Cairns.

@editorial@ CairnsPost.com.au
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ROAD WORK: A determined bush turkey industriously toils away with a big pile of mulch it intends to use to build a nest on Flindersia Rd, Redlynch.

Picture: JAKE PERRY

Busy bush turkey has mulch on his mind

DANIELLA WIVELL

JAKE Perry's drive to the worksite seemed like any other until a strange encounter.

The Edge Hill chippie, who is working at Redlynch, was driving along Flindersia St when he was stopped by a bush

turkey building a nest in the middle of the road.

"I think the owner of the house that was on my left had just mulched their lawn and the turkey has taken it upon himself to move it across to the other side of the road," he said.

Mr Perry said he didn't

want to hurt the bird, so he hopped out of his car and "tried to shoo him away, but he didn't want to move."

"I waited for about five minutes while he moved the mulch across and then drove past."

"He was a pretty smart looking bird. A few other peo-

ple drove past but didn't seem too fazed by him."

Mr Perry said it was the first time he had seen a bush turkey attempt to build a nest on a residential street.

"I've seen a few bush turkeys around before, but I've not seen that kind of behaviour

from a bush turkey before," he said. "He wasn't even in the bush, he's in Redlynch right behind a pub."

If you've seen this bush turkey, email your photos to editorial@ CairnsPost.com.au or send them to the Cairns Post Facebook page.

Briefs

Stolen property

MISSION Beach officers are seeking public assistance to help locate a stolen outboard motor. Between October 15 and 17 the black Mercury two stroke outboard motor was stolen from a boat at a Pacific View address. Anyone with any information is asked to contact PoliceLink on 131 444 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 and quote reference number Q#701823259.

Breakfast with Santa

COOKTOWN residents have until Friday to register for Breakfast with Santa. Only a limited number of places remain. The event will be held at the Cooktown Pool on Sunday, December 3, and includes free swimming, free breakfast and a visit from Santa. Bookings can be made at the pool or Cook Shire Council's office. For more information phone 4069 5444.

Farm accident

A 59-YEAR-OLD Innisfail farmer was flown to Cairns Hospital yesterday after falling off a tractor. The man was dragged by the machine through barbed wire on a property at Vasa Views about 11am. He was initially taken to Innisfail Hospital.

Art exhibition

AN exhibition by renowned botanical illustrator, the late Vera Scarth-Johnson, will be opened at Cairns Art Gallery this weekend. The free event is being held on Saturday from 2-3pm. Book via cairnsartgallery.com.au.

FREE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL & SAND BAGS GIVEAWAY

Saturday 4 – Sunday 12 November 2017

Take the opportunity to clean up your yard and drop off your domestic green waste, while also collecting and filling sand bags for FREE at Council's Transfer Stations:

Portsmith or Gordonvale Transfer Stations	7 days	8.30am – 5.15pm
Smithfield Transfer Station	Monday – Saturday	7.00am – 5.15pm
	Sunday	9.00am – 5.15pm
Babinda Transfer Station* (*No Sandbags Available)	Sun, Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri	8.30am – 4.45pm

Call 1300 69 22 47 or visit www.cairns.qld.gov.au

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Conditions apply Domestic cars, utilities and/or trailers and light trucks (up to GVM 4 tonnes) only. Sand, unfilled bags and shovels available for self-filling. Normal charges apply for disposal of any other waste. Note: For enquiries regarding electric or noisy air conditioning units please contact Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) on 13 25 23. Remember illegal dumping can incur a fine, it affects the environment and the safety of individuals. Please report any illegal dumping to 4944 3044.



16 May 2018
Courier Mail, Brisbane

Author: Peter Michael • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 135,007 • Page: 3 • Printed size: 512.00cm² • Market: QLD
Country: Australia • words: 337 • Item ID: 954504344

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Page 1 of 2

CROCODILE SMILE IS JAWS FOR CONCERN

PETER MICHAEL

IT IS the ultimate man vs monster trophy photo.

The 4m-plus saltwater crocodile, apparently shot dead and strung up by the jaws, towers over an unidentified farm worker near Innisfail's South Johnstone River, in far north Queensland.

He holds a rear claw of the giant predator in a throwback to trophy-hunting days.

The young man appears to be dwarfed by the size and scale of the beast.

Environment officials last night launched an investigation to confirm if the crocodile was the latest to be illegally killed – or if it was one of four crocs known to have been shot or caught on baited steel hooks two weeks ago.

Federal MP Bob Katter, whose vast bush electorate covers Innisfail, is vocally behind culling the “explosion” in crocodile numbers.

“For us, it has come down to kill or be killed,” he said.

There have been three fatal attacks in three years, and six deaths in Queensland since 2008.

The new image, posted on social media, came with the caption “pulled from the

South Johnstone River”.

It was shared more than 2000 times with 580 comments before it was deleted from Facebook last night.

It is believed to show workers disposing of a dead crocodile at a local dump site, near Wangan, where a 4m croc was found shot on April 29.

In March last year, rangers caught the 4m crocodile that mauled Innisfail teen Lee Dee Paaui in the heart of the sugar town on the Johnstone River.

One local crocodile-spotting tour guide told *The Courier-Mail* about 35 large resident crocodiles had been counted in the last survey in the Johnstone River system.

But as many as five a year had since been shot by farmers or removed as problem crocodiles by rangers, the guide said.

Under Queensland law, it is illegal to deliberately interfere with, harm or kill crocodiles without prior authorisation, including attempting to bait.

The maximum penalty is \$28,383.75.



16 May 2018
Courier Mail, Brisbane

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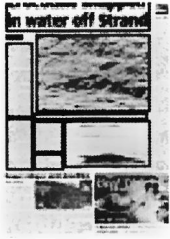
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CROC SHOCK: Images of a massive saltwater crocodile in the far north have gone viral.



11 Dec 2017

Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

Author: Kelsie Iorio Andrew Falvo • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Audience : 16,484 • Page: 7 • Printed Size: 550.00cm² • Market: QLD
Country: Australia • Words: 363 • Item ID: 885724076

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Crocodile snapped in water off Strand

**KELSIE IORIO
ANDREW FALVO**

A CROCODILE was photographed swimming in water off The Strand late yesterday.

Hughenden visitor Melanie Pensini photographed the croc from Mariner's North Holiday Apartments.

"We've been watching it and it's swimming along the beach between us and Longboards (Bar and Grill)," she said.

"The kids wanted to go to the beach this afternoon. I'm so glad we didn't go."

Ms Pensini estimated the croc was about 2.5m-3m and was swimming about 100m from the shore.

"It was floating there for a little while, it looked like a log," she said.

A 4m crocodile was caught by a surveillance camera floating on the surface of the Port of Townsville channel on November 14.

It was immediately declared a "problem crocodile" by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. After no further sightings were reported, the

declaration was rescinded late last month.

"It is likely that the animal was just moving through the area," a department spokeswoman told the *Bulletin*.

Meanwhile, Kennedy MP Bob Katter has called on the State Government to take urgent action on managing crocodiles.

He was commenting after a crocodile, believed to be between 1.5m and 2m, swam on to Kewarra Beach, north of Cairns, on Friday night.

Witnesses said the crocodile came out of the water just metres away from people and stayed on the beach for about half an hour.

"In the last 10 to 12 days,

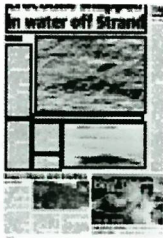
we have had a croc in the swimming enclosure at Machans Beach, in the swimming enclosure at Palm Cove, a sighting at the beach at Port Douglas, an attack upon a tourist in the Daintree and now a sighting at Kewarra," Mr Katter said.

"The fact is that the croc numbers have exploded over the last 10 years ... and the crocs need to be removed.

"We will be moving again

for the removal of crocs in populated areas from Mackay to Port Douglas."

Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk's office was contacted for a comment but did not respond by deadline.



11 Dec 2017
Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

Author: Kelsie Iorio Andrew Falvo • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
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Page 2 of 2



SNAPPY DAYS: A crocodile photographed swimming off The Strand about 6pm yesterday by Hughenden visitor Melanie Pensini and (below) the croc that wandered on to Kewarra Beach, north of Cairns, on Friday.



16 May 2018
Mareeba Express, Mareeba

Section: General News • Article Type: News Item • Audience : 13,000 • Page: 8
Printed size: 100.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • words: 233
Item ID: 954975881

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Page 1 of 1

Crocodiles back on the agenda

KAP State Member for Hill Shane Knuth is demanding public hearings on KAP's Safer Waterways Bill 2018 be held in Northern Queensland.

The Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee will oversee the Bill that was introduced into Parliament by Shane Knuth on the 21st March, with a report due to be tabled to Parliament on September 24 this

year.

"The Bill is designed to take back our populated waterways from the threat of crocodiles, particularly in North Queensland and to provide egg harvesting and other opportunities to indigenous and other land holders throughout the north, particularly the Cape," Mr Knuth said.

"It is an important issue which affects North Queenslanders, so I have

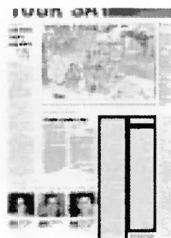
written to the committee demanding public hearings be conducted in Ingham, Innisfail, Cairns, Port Douglas and Cape York. I will be again enforcing this when I appear before the committee in Brisbane this Monday."

The Bill was originally in the committee process prior to last year's election but had to be reintroduced once the new parliament was formed.

"It has been a long process, which is disappointing," Mr Knuth said.

"We saw recently the Government push through their vegetation bill in six weeks, yet a bill that is designed to protect life and livelihood will take six months to table in parliament.

"It is a stark reminder of how the State Government treats those outside of the south-east corner."



13 Jan 2018
Gympie Times, Gympie QLD

Section: Letters • Article Type: Letter • Audience : 5,017 • Page: 10
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Item ID: 898429178

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Crocodiles do not make good presents

REPORTS, real or imagined, of crocodile sightings in the Mary River near Gympie are disconcerting but pale into insignificance if the utter stupidity witnessed in the Northern Territory over Christmas is allowed to continue.

A crocodile farm there has been selling "pet" crocodiles, to people who have to register their "ownership" and return the animal when it reaches 60cm in length.

My time in the Northern Territory showed me nothing if not that there's more truly "redneck" and irresponsible people there than anywhere else I've lived and I'm more convinced that not all crocs will end up being returned than I can muster hope that they will be.

Locally we have wild dogs to contend with.

Our wildlife is being lost in wholesale numbers due to wild cats across the entire country.

It's not uncommon for those who keep feral turtles, fish and snakes to cause headaches for authorities by "disposing" of their supposed pets simply by releasing them into the wild. A small croc was recently found in suburban Melbourne.

It's one thing to come across a wild dog or cat, both of which can be frightening and dangerous but it'll be quite another to be faced with a croc in a place where one assumes one is safe from them.

I consider myself lucky to have worked with all sorts of folk in my life and I've known some who would think it the biggest joke possible to let a croc loose

in a place where it could cause harm.

These aren't people who respect the law to any degree, are often transient and very mobile.

We don't live in a perfect world, as is evidenced by creation of new laws virtually every day to control us all, because of actions of the lowest denominator.

And yet, when it comes to something as obviously fraught with potential dangers as letting "anybody" have a pet crocodile our forever law making governments are nowhere to be seen.

For once I'm with Bob Katter, on crocs, and believe we need to start culling, before we get them in numbers in our area.

But even that won't come to much if we're stupid enough to let people "own" any animal which they have no hope whatsoever of controlling, is known to grown, can move location rapidly, and is a proven killer.

Where is our federal government, with all the fear it uses for electoral purposes, when it comes to something as dangerous as potentially letting crocodiles be taken to places they don't belong?

— **Dave Freeman,**
Cedar Pocket



19 Nov 2017
Sunday Mail Brisbane, Brisbane

Author: Peter Cameron • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Audience : 308,339 • Page: 66 • Printed Size: 455.00cm² • Market: QLD
Country: Australia • Words: 251 • Item ID: 876051573

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TRAPS

WITH PETER CAMERON

allezpete@hotmail.com



CROCS AND ROCKS STAPLES FOR KAP

BALANCE of Power federal MP Bob Katter is ready to rock state governance amid the betting shocks and finish with three crucial seats.

Bookies believe KAP's Robbie Katter (Traeger) and Shane Knuth (Hill) can return to Parliament and seats of Cook (\$6) and Warrego (\$3) are within reach. Crocodiles and mining are KAP staples as Premier Stacia tests deeper waters.

Port Douglas is the latest under crocodile attack and KAP's crocodile cull plan won't cost the party any votes from Sarina north.

"We lose one person to crocs every three months. Torn to pieces while still alive," Bob Katter told Traps, while joining Knuth for steak sandwiches in Innisfail.

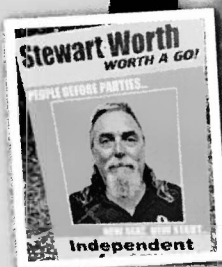
Knuth has both eyes on the polling booth across Rankin St in the centre of the new seat of Hill. Starting south of Gordonvale and pulling up short of Cardwell, the Hill seat includes Slaughter Yard Creek.

Knuth, an ex-Redcliffe and NQ Marlins rugby player who likes to tackle hard, is ready to move fast from his current home 500km away in Charters Towers.

Introducing nine bills, Knuth championed child safety and sugar marketing from his seat of Dalrymple.

He also claims credit for the new hospital at Dimbulah and upgrades at Atherton Hospital. Colourful rivals in Hill, include Stewart Worth (inset).

"This is the second time a seat's been redrawn on me," said Knuth, writing in his giant exercise book to be wary at Slaughter Yard Creek.



NO CERTAINTY: Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk and Tourism Minister Kate Jones test northern waters.



30 Jun 2018
Herbert River Express, Ingham QLD

Author: Olivia Grace Curran • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 2,157 • Page: 10 • Printed size: 675.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
ASR: AUD 1,209 • words: 556 • Item ID: 976232532

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'Every single person that comes ... want to see these animals' — John Schmidt

Crocs can be a drawcard

TOURISM | Olivia Grace Curran

A HINCHINBROOK tourism operator believes North Queensland should embrace crocodiles as a money-making attraction instead of culling the reptiles as suggested by Katter's Australian Party.

John Schmidt of Absolute North Charters said tourists on his Hinchinbrook tours are always requesting to see a croc.

"Every single person that comes from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Europe, Canada and the Americas all want to see these animals," he said.

"There's money to be made in an area like this."

He believes croc tourism in the Hinchinbrook region would add to what North Queensland already offers.

"There is definitely an industry there that could be promoted," Mr Schmidt said.

"There are many, many places that you can drive around and look at crocs within the district that you don't even have to go in a boat."

However, when Mr Schmidt was growing up, he said it was rare to see a crocodile in the region.

"Twenty to thirty years ago there were no crocodiles compared to what there are now," he said.

"We swam in the Herbert River 25 and 30 years ago

when we were kids, going up and down that river on a windsurfer at 2am in the morning," he recalled

Saltwater crocodiles were hunted for their skins until near extinction until they became a protected species by the Bjelke-Petersen govern-

ment in 1974.

"Everyone that saw a croc had a gun in the '60s and '70s and everyone shot them," Mr Schmidt said.

"I didn't see my first croc until I was 12 years old."

He also said he didn't see the point of KAP's proposal to cull crocodiles.

"We're talking about the electorate that voted 65 per

cent against marriage equality, we're 30 years behind here and we're holding on to traditions the rest of the nation have moved on from," he said.

"It's time we moved on and started using the resources and promoting the area for what it is."

Katter's Australian Party Member for Hinchinbrook Nick Dametto said that the Safer Waterways Bill focused on removing smaller problem crocodiles from populated areas such as creeks, swimming holes and boat ramps where the reptiles have the potential to kill humans.

"Larger crocodiles are territorial and will take up residence in a waterhole, the smaller crocodiles need somewhere to go."

"They're crossing drains, turning up in creeks and places where we've never seen crocs before," Mr Dametto said.

"We're not nuking every croc out of every creek."

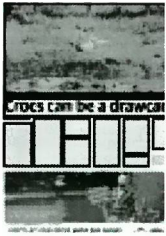
"I believe some of those bigger crocs could be left there to satisfy tourism."

However, the MP said Katter's Australia Party received a submission to the Safer Waterways Bill from a North

Queensland tourism operation that stated crocodiles are affecting operators offering water-sport activities to tourists in the region.

"(Croc tours) is a great tourism idea but how does those extra crocodiles being in and around our waterways impact the already existing tourism businesses that require people to get in the water?" Mr Dametto said.

"One gentleman thinks it's great to start croc tours but what about the 10 businesses that are suffering because people don't want to get in the water."



30 Jun 2018
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Norwegian visitor Joshua Bates took this photo of a crocodile sunning itself on the banks of a waterway near Lucinda last week.

Picture: SUPPLIED



27 Jun 2018
Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

Author: Olivia Grace-Curran • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 16,484 • Page: 14 • Printed size: 660.00cm² • Market: QLD
Country: Australia • words: 549 • Item ID: 974550476

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ATTRACTION: John Schmidt from Absolute North Charters believes North Queensland should embrace crocodiles in the region.

**OLIVIA
GRACE-CURRAN**



olivia.grace-curran@news.com.au

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27 Jun 2018
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**THERE IS DEFINITELY
AN INDUSTRY THERE
THAT COULD BE
PROMOTED.**

JOHN SCHMIDT



14 Feb 2018
Cape York News, Queensland

Section: General News • Article Type: News Item • Audience : 0 • Page: 3
Printed size: 203.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • words: 236
Item ID: 914933864

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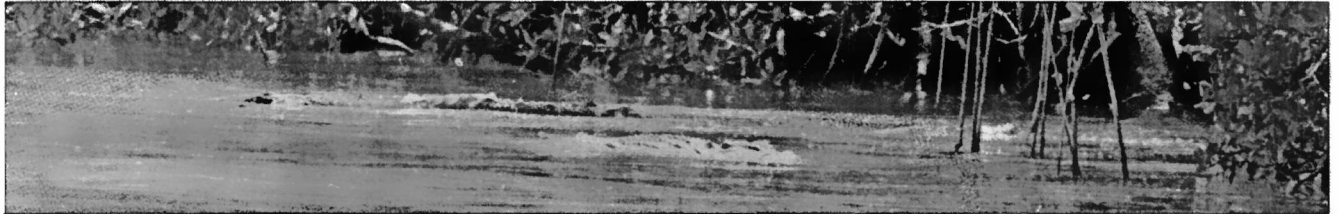
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Crocs given a reprieve

THERE are no immediate plans to capture or cull crocodiles lurking near Cooktown.

Instead, wildlife officers have urged locals to report all crocodile sightings to the CrocWatch hotline.

Officials met at a crocodile management meeting organised by Cook Shire Council on February 7.

The meeting, called after increased sightings of large

crocodiles close to shore around Cooktown over the past weeks, was attended by the Department of Environment and Science, Cook Shire councillors, local police, Yuku Baja Muliku rangers, the SES and Cape York Natural Resource Management.

"We need to get people on side and get them to start ringing and reporting every croc sighting to CrocWatch," Cook Shire mayor Peter Scott said.

"DES has very limited resources, and those resources are deployed where the need is strongest.

"The only way we will get more action is to show that we do have an increase in croc sightings and incidents, and the only way we can do that is by everybody reporting all sightings to CrocWatch."

DES officers also attended schools in the area to raise

awareness about being croc wise with students, and were supportive of the formation of a local crocodile reporting Facebook page, Cr Scott said.

"SES controller Dan Hodgson has started a Facebook group called Cooktown Croc Watch, which I would encourage people to join."

Crocodile sightings and incidents can be reported to CrocWatch on 1300 130 372.



18 Nov 2017
North West Star, Mount Isa QLD

Author: Derek Barry • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Audience : 1,082 • Page: 6 • Printed Size: 230.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
Words: 370 • Item ID: 875771692

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Crocs, health, bubs and jobs

BY DEREK BARRY

A WEEK out from the election KAP state leader Robbie Katter is down on the coast helping some of his other candidates.

In the seat of Whitsunday Mr Katter welcomed his candidate and Whitsunday mayor Jenny Whitney while further north crocodiles were on his mind.

Mr Katter said the number of life savers available to patrol Port Douglas beaches was falling because parents are no longer enrolling their children in Nipper programs for fear they will become victims of a crocodile attack.

"This is the tip of the iceberg of the unforeseen repercussions due to the expanding territories crocs are claiming which are impacting on North Queensland communities," Mr Katter said.

"Less life savers patrolling beaches, tourism numbers dropping, loss of lifestyle and water sports operators suffering business downturns,

all due to government inaction on removing crocodiles.

He wants support for a cull in their Safer Waterways Bill which has been put out for debate in 2018.

Meanwhile Labor candidate for Traeger Danielle Slade was campaigning on remote community health care.

"Doomadgee and Mornington Island need local dialysis treatment at their hospitals," Ms Slade said. "Patients have to travel to Mount Isa and at times Townsville for treatment. This means having to leave their family and friends for long periods of time whilst they are receiving this treatment."

Ms Slade said the high cost of this was leading to patients ending their treatment.

"I have written to the Minister for Health, Cameron Dick in October and appealed to the Minister to consider making it a priority for these communities to have this treatment available locally," she said.

The LNP seized on the news Queensland's unemployment rate has jumped to 6.0 per cent – the highest rate of any mainland Australian state.

LNP Leader Tim Nicholls said Queensland was the only state in Australia to see its unemployment rate go backwards over the past 12 months.

"While the rest of Australia is powering ahead, Queenslanders are falling behind," Mr Nicholls said.

Independent candidate Craig Scriven is in Charters Towers where he was surprised to find the local hospital's maternity unit is closed.

"The expecting mother is expected to travel to Townsville weeks before the due date, and wait," he said.



06 Jun 2018
Cairns Post, Cairns

Author: Daniel Bateman • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
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Country: Australia • words: 316 • Item ID: 964994932

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Crocs in the crosshairs

New KAP recruit aims to restart culling

DANIEL BATEMAN

daniel.bateman@news.com.au

THE newest recruit of Katter's Australian Party has confessed to shooting countless crocodiles and wants to restart culling of the reptiles in the Far North.

Former independent Queensland senator Fraser Anning joined fellow KAP politicians Bob Katter, Robbie Katter, Shane Knuth, and Nick Dametto yesterday to announce he had formally signed up to the renegade conserva-

tive party. The Brisbane-based Senator replaced Malcolm Roberts as a One Nation senator in November last year, after Mr Roberts was disqualified for being a dual citizen.

He publicly split from the party and its leader within hours after Senator Hanson demanded he step aside to allow Mr Roberts to return to parliament.

Speaking to reporters on the Cairns Esplanade yesterday, Mr Anning – who grew up near Charters Towers – acknowledged that his stance on crocodile management was a good fit with KAP's.

"The culling that used to go on was fine," he said.

"It may have gone on a little too far, but we really need to get it going again, now."

When quizzed about shooting the reptiles, the former grazier turned publican said he had never kept count over the years.

"This was in North Queensland, where I came from, originally, and up in the Gulf – before it was illegal," he said.

There are now five members of KAP across the Senate, federal and state parliaments.

Traeger MP Robbie Katter revealed plans for further expansion, including creating a new parliamentary seat in the Far North that would be reserved solely for First Australians, similar to Maori seats in

the New Zealand Parliament.

"We believe that (indigenous people) are under-represented here in Queensland," he said. "We think it's the right thing to do."

He could not say, however, who would be eligible for running for the seat.

@editorial@cairnspost.com.au

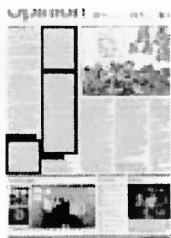
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SWITCH: Senator Fraser Anning has joined KAP. Pic: BRENDAN RADKE



18 Nov 2017
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

Section: Letters • Article type : Letter • Audience : 2,636 • Page: 8
Printed Size: 135.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • Words: 476
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CROCS - LET'S BE REALISTIC

I'm going to describe a probable scenario here for all you "let's save the crocs" people out there. Before I do, let me go over a few facts: • Firstly, Queensland crocodile sightings have soared in recent years - 477 croc sightings as of October this year. In 2015 there were 345 sightings for the same period. These are only the sightings reported to the Environmental Department. • There were a record number of crocodiles removed from Queensland's waterways last year with almost seven out of every 10 crocodiles captured in Cairns alone. • Figures from Surf Life Saving Queensland

show the number of beach closures in the Far North as a result of crocodiles has been on a steady rise since 2012. • Only three beaches were shut down due to dangers posed by the reptiles in 2012, compared to nine last year. • There are reports crocodiles are acting out of character. They are swimming near public areas more frequently and are not afraid of people like they used to be.

Now, back to describing a future if nothing changes and these figures keep on rising, and they will.

We can't go to our beautiful beaches for a day out with the family, we can't go for a causal afternoon stroll along the sand without fear of being attacked or losing our dogs, no more swimming in lakes or rivers. As if that is not bad

enough, tourism is one of the main economical drives in our region - well you can kiss that goodbye as well.

In a nutshell - North Queensland becomes a place with no tourism industry and locals terrified to make use of our beaches, lakes and rivers. Yes, this is a political letter because quite honestly there is no other way. Katter's Australian Party are the only ones actually prepared to do something about this. They have introduced legislation into State Parliament that will enable culling of crocodiles by landholders and indigenous groups, as well as the establishment of an egg harvesting program and other local industries that make use of crocodile carcasses.

So let us recap on a future scenario of a different kind if MP for Dalrymple and candidate for Hill Shane Knuth is elected and the KAP croc policy is implemented. Crocs are still around but they are in the areas they used to populate - not the public swimming grounds they've been moving into due to overpopulation. We can all start to enjoy our great outdoors again without fear of crocs attacking and killing. We can continue to enjoy a tourism industry and gain a potential new industry with crocodile products. Honestly, vote for Shane Knuth MP in the seat of Hill. If we don't have our great outdoors lifestyle in North Queensland, what do we have? Thank goodness for KAP is all I can say.

Anthony Lagana, Innisfail



15 Jun 2018
Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

Author: Chris Lees • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 16,484 • Page: 2 • Printed size: 244.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
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Knuth warns of predators 'from Ingham to Rockhampton'

Crocs moving south

CHRIS LEES



christopher.lees@news.com.au

"MASSIVE" numbers of crocodiles are being seen from Ingham to Rockhampton, Katter's Australian Party MP Shane Knuth says.

The Member for Hill spoke about the issue during a public briefing on Monday into the party's proposed Safer Waterways Bill.

The Bill would make it mandatory for "rogue" crocodiles to be removed from

Queensland's populated waterways if the reptiles posed a threat to human safety.

Mr Knuth said there had been no public hearing on the Bill in Townsville but he believed it would be a good idea as part of the Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee.

"With regard to consultation with Townsville, we have heard reports of crocodiles in Townsville," he said.

"And I believe that is increasing because it is spreading down."

Under questioning from Member for Whitsunday Jason Costigan, Mr Knuth said

people were starting to get "massive amounts" of crocodile reports in Ingham through to Mackay and even Rockhampton.

"Would I like public hearings in Townsville and would I like public hearings in Mackay?" Absolutely," Mr Knuth

said.

"If you are prepared as a committee to go to Mackay and go to Cairns and Innisfail and Tully, which are the areas where we receive most of those reported sightings, I would be happy for you to do so."

Mr Knuth said during the March floods many crocodiles were sighted in the Ingham and Innisfail areas.

"While I have the floor, Mr Chair, I really encourage you

to have these public hearings in Ingham (because even the mayor had one in his yard), Innisfail and in Cairns, where most of the beach closures are around Port Douglas," he said.

The Bill plans to establish a Queensland crocodile authority, which would have the right to issue permits to relocate or kill crocodiles.

"As well as protecting human life, the Safer Waterways Bill 2018 aims to create a significant and sustainable crocodile industry in Queensland through controlled egg harvesting," Mr Knuth said.

A report on the Bill is due on September 24.



Shane Knuth.

16 NEWS

TUESDAY MARCH 6 2018 COURIERMAIL.COM.AU

Crocs put bite on Nippers

DANIEL BATEMAN

PARENTS are tearing their children away from surf life saving clubs in the far north due to a fear of crocodiles.

During the year, Surf Life Saving Queensland has experienced a 13 per cent decrease in children aged 5-13 in its regional Nippers program.

In an SLSQ survey, almost 40 per cent of parents claimed they did not feel it was safe having their kids in the water.

Since the start of last year, there have been 26 beach closures in the far north as a result of crocs.

SLSQ regional manager Rob Davidson said the organisation was concerned.

"We're not getting members in as juniors and training them up," he said. "At some stage in the near future, we might be short on lifesavers to keep our beaches patrolled."

SLSQ has been pushing for state funding for croc-spotting

drones, which were successfully trialled at Palm Cove last year. The Palaszczuk Government has to date only committed \$105,000 for a "Crocwise" education program.

"We can't change the number of crocodiles or their travelling (between beaches)," Mr Davidson said. "All we can do is put extra observation on the water and above the water."

Port Douglas Surf Life Saving Club vice-president Michael Bolt acknowledged the concern but said "a lot of kids" still came along on weekends and have a good time.

"There's been no kids down there taken by sharks or crocodiles here. But we're keeping proactive in our surveillance of beaches."

Palm Cove father-of-two, Richard Hewitson, said his family had spotted three crocodiles at the beach in the past four months. He said he had faith that surf lifesavers took proper precautions.



FEAST: Spencer Patrick, Cameron Matthews and Jake Nicolson with Queensland produce. Picture: AAP/Ric Frearson

TUCKING IN TO GIVE QUEENSLAND A FARE GO

FROM edible flowers to feijoas, barramundi to suckling pig, some of Queensland's finest food has gone under the microscope at the state judging of the Delicious Produce Awards.

The national competition showcases the best ingredients from across the country and are an indicator of what produce we can expect to see on restaurant tables.

Putting the Queensland fare through its paces yesterday were three of the state's most respected chefs - Blackbird Bar & Grill's Jake Nicolson, Spicers Retreats consultant Cameron

Matthews and Spencer Patrick from Harrisons by Spencer Patrick. They tasted more than 20 entries in dairy, earth, paddock and sea categories.

"The stuff from the paddock has been pretty outstanding, anything from pork to free-range chickens, but also the seafood has been a real highlight," Mr Nicolson said, adding that Queensland producers were putting more care and attention into their crops and creations than ever before.

The Queensland finalists will be announced next month.

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17 Nov 2017

Gold Coast Bulletin, Gold Coast QLD

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Crocs scare off nippers

PARENTS in Queensland's far north are not enrolling their children in nippers programs because of the threat of crocodile attacks, according to a surf lifesaving branch.

Port Douglas Surf Life Saving vice-president Michael Bolt said numbers had dropped 20 per cent in the past 12 months because parents didn't think it was safe for their children to be in the water.

Katter's Australian Party state leader Robbie Katter said the major parties had to agree to a croc cull.



22 Nov 2017
Cairns Post, Cairns

Author: Daniel Bateman • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Audience : 13,896 • Page: 11 • Printed Size: 412.00cm² • Market: QLD
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Page 1 of 2

Cook candidate draws bead on Greens and FNQ's apex predator Crocs take KAP-pow

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

A FAR Northern election candidate who has depicted himself as a gun-toting cowboy taking aim at crocodiles hopes a controversial billboard will help him steal a few votes from the major parties.

Katter's Australia Party candidate for Cook, Gordon Rasmussen, has had a truck-sized banner travelling the electorate since late last week.

The mobile billboard features a cartoon version of himself pulling a pair of six-shooters on a croc carrying a Greens supporter in its jaws, while chasing two women wearing LNP and Labor shirts.

The "KAP - No Croc" sign, which has been displayed at Mareeba and Craiglie, has been described on social media as "shameful" and "uneducated" by locals.

Mr Rasmussen, however, said he had not received any direct complaints about the banner.

He said he did not see anything wrong with the cartoon, as it was merely voicing the concerns of many people who were fed up with no action being taken to manage crocs in the Far North.

"If you want to shake a few votes off the major parties, of course, you need to be a little bit confrontational and put yourself out there," he said.

"You need to be proactive."

KAP has claimed that its Safer Waterways Bill, which has proposed safari hunting of crocodiles and legal wild egg harvesting of the crocodiles, will be a deal-breaker in a hung

Parliament.

The draft Bill, which has been before Parliament for six months, aims to control croc populations in the Far North.

Mr Rasmussen, who operates a cane farm and drought-master stud at Julatten, said crocs needed to be removed from areas of high density human population.

"We need to reclaim our waterways, just as they were when I was a lot younger than I am now," he said.

"You can euthanase them, you can trap them - they're the

first line. And then if that's not the answer, then some of them are shot."

Solar Whisper Daintree River Crocodile and Wildlife Cruises operator David White said many locals and visitors found the billboard offensive.

"It's just giving the wrong message, in so many ways about shooting our wildlife, using handguns. It's not the

way," he said. "We've had tourists from Germany, arriving in the shire, who are quite upset it. They say they've come here, because it's a World Heritage Area, to see wildlife that we're protecting because they've come from countries where they don't have much wildlife anymore."

"They don't expect us to shoot our apex predators."



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Page 2 of 2



SCENE STEALER: The travelling billboard for Gordon Rasmussen, Katter's Australia Party candidate for Cook.

Picture: FACEBOOK



18 Jul 2018
Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

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Page 1 of 4



CROCODILE sightings, like these two photographed in the Ingham area, are becoming more common in North Queensland, sparking criticism of the State Government's management plan.
JOHN ANDERSEN reports: pages 14-15.



RIGHT AT HOME: Hinchinbrook Shire Mayor Ramon Jayo photographed this large crocodile from the cab of his tractor. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Another croc spotted in the Seymour River on Sunday.

Pictures: RAMON JAYO, JOHN ANDERSEN

**JOHN
ANDERSEN**

john.andersen@news.com.au



THE State Government's response to Queensland's crocodile population is a non-alarmist "move along, nothing to see here".

In contrast, Mayor of Hinchinbrook Shire Council Ramon Jayo says there's "plenty to see" and what's more, he warns that the living dinosaurs have moved in and made themselves at home close to human habitats. He says he's scared for the safety of his ratepayers and their families.

Cr Jayo photographed a large estuarine crocodile from his tractor cab on his Macknade cane farm last week. Dur-

ing this year's flooding, a croc made itself at home not far from his kitchen window.

"It is clear to us local people that crocodile numbers are expanding," Cr Jayo said.

"We know they are in the mangroves. We know they are in their traditional areas. We respect that, but we also know they are in non-traditional areas. They are in our swimming holes. You can't swim in any of the freshwater swimming holes anymore."

The State Government's Stage 1 result for what will be a three-year survey showed a spike in the number of crocodile sightings, jumping to 684

in 2017 compared with 378 in 2016 and just 176 in 2010.

Cr Jayo said crocodiles were "coming to where we live".

He said farmers were now coming across crocodiles in their cane paddocks.

"We build on-farm ponds to trap sediment in order to protect the Great Barrier Reef. The crocs move into the sediment ponds. You only have to dig a hole and a croc will move in," he said.

Cr Jayo said crocodiles had "moved into town" and that one had to be trapped that was in Palm Creek next to the Ingham State High School.

Cr Jayo said he was not pro-

posing a cull. Instead the Government should look at egg harvesting licences in order to better manage the population of the animals.

"I feel my ratepayers are at risk. The State Government has to do something," he said. "The crocodiles are coming to us. We aren't going to them."

The Katter's Australian Party has built its party's political platform around the need for a crocodile cull. The party has more or less labelled the

first instalment of the State Government's first crocodile survey in 10 years, a "crock".

KAP's Hinchinbrook MP Nick Dametto said the latest



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Page 3 of 4

government report into crocodile numbers only served to reaffirm KAP's call for "better legislation" surrounding crocodile management.

He said a plan to supply surf lifesaving clubs with croc spotting drones was reactionary.

"The State Government seems to be clutching at straws to ensure public safety by providing Surf Life Saving Queensland with new drone technology in a bid to solve this major safety issue," Mr Dametto said. "My understanding of workplace health and safety regulation has taught me that when it comes to risk assessment, eliminating the risk should be the preferred option."

KAP's Hill MP Shane Knuth's response to the survey findings was to call for the State Government to "get real" on crocodile management.

"The Government is reluctant to make the tough decisions because keeping southern votes is more important to them than protecting the life and livelihood of North Queenslanders," he said.

Environment Minister Lee-ann Enoch said the overall aim of the crocodile monitoring program was to determine the size, distributions and densities of estuarine crocodile population more than 2000km of waterways.

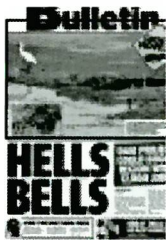
The update, released last week, covered 2000km of waterways during 2017, the first year of the three-year crocodile monitoring program.



Cr Ramon Jayo.

**“ I FEEL MY
RATEPAYERS ARE AT RISK.
THE STATE GOVERNMENT
HAS TO DO SOMETHING.**

CR RAMON JAYO



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Crocs, celebs and bulletproof hair, it's the reel Oz



Andrew Hornery

Tourism Australia spends about \$130 million a year promoting a very glamorous version of our wide brown land to the world – with a little help from Chris Hemsworth's impeccable pecs, which glisten almost as brightly as the glossy footage of Kata Tjuta in television commercials beamed across the world.

But not even Hemsworth or his Kata Tjuta are any match for 15 seconds of Bob Katter gold when it comes to shaping the world's view of our nation and people.

Katter recently had a live-to-air brain snap during which he went from "let there be a thousand blossoms bloom" for the same-sex marriage "yes" vote to "but I ain't spending any time on it", because he was too preoccupied with saving his constituents from being mauled to death by unruly crocodiles in far north Queensland.

In one fell swoop, Katter managed to reinforce every negative stereotype and cliché of Australia, a place of *Crocodile Dundee* characters with no time for extending basic human rights when man-eating reptiles are on the loose in one of our biggest international tourist attractions.

American television host Stephen Colbert was quick to pounce on the Katter video, adding it to his sizeable file of Australian

content broadcast with considerably frequency on his program, watched by millions of middle Americans.

Colbert commented: "That's not a wife, this is a wife", to which he enjoyed a hearty laugh from his studio audience. But in doing so he dredged up one of the most hackneyed lines from Paul Hogan's time at the mantle of national pride. And this week, we as a nation cringed in unison.

Meanwhile up on the Gold Coast, another batch of B-grade British celebrities have turned up in the "jungles" of the hinterland, about a 30-minute limo drive from the champagne bar at the Palazzo Versace, for another season of *I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here*.

For a decade, the British have tuned in to this show in their millions, titillated by the prospect of watching former FA Cup heroes, out of work *Coronation Street* actors and long-forgotten pop stars roughing it with Australia's creepy crawlies.

Part of the spectacle are the regular "bush tucker" challenges, where contestants win food and treats for camp.

Some of them are "eating trials" and require contestants to eat crickets, spiders and other insects.

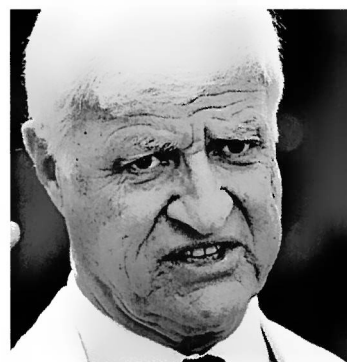
Then there are the physical and mental tasks that have included working through almost impossible obstacle courses and suf-

focating tunnels, which for many British viewers is now considered pretty much average Aussie fare.

And in coming months, millions more viewers around the world will have *The Real Housewives of Melbourne* screech, slap and swear their way into their living rooms, with the fourth season of the hugely successful Foxtel series expected to once again be picked up in foreign markets.

For many global viewers, the likes of Gina Liano and her bulletproof hair and Janet Roach's wild party tricks have become ambassadors of Australian womanhood in all its sequinned and siliconed glory.

The *RHOM* are broadcast in prime time in the US on the Bravo network. In Britain, the series premiered on ITV and then spread to Canada, New Zealand and – of all places – Sweden. Germaine Greer must be apoplectic.



Blossoms bloom for Bob Katter.



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Weekend Post, Cairns

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'Cruelty' sparks call to cull jam-packed crocs

ELISABETH CHAMPION

THE man who put Innisfail on the crocodile tourism map has pleaded with authorities to remove a 3m specimen from Babinda Creek for humanitarian reasons.

The large saltie was spotted sunning itself at Wonga Park area last week, about 300m from the Rotary Park swimming hole, sparking fears for Babinda's tourism appeal.

Former owner of the Johnstone River Crocodile Farm, Mick Tabone, said the sighting at Babinda indicated a bigger problem and one that was detrimental to crocs, not just humans.

"Crocs prefer a temperature of about 30 to 32 degrees – under 28 is too cold," he said. "The water where that croc was found is colder than most of the waters."

"That crocodile is not at home – it's living in misery up there, because it is just too cold for it."

"Other crocodiles have obviously kicked it out and that forces crocs to go up where they have never been before."

The current crocodile management plan means that the Department of Environment and Science will only remove crocodiles over 2m or crocs that have shown aggression.

However, the scheme has come under fire, with many people saying it is ineffective.

"With all the complaining we've done, we've actually gotten nowhere with the crocodile

problem," said Mr Tabone. "That crocodile was chased up there by other, dominant crocodiles, which proves there are far too many in the lower reaches of the river."

"I've had people from overseas who have said they won't come up here because there are too many crocodiles so the message has already spread overseas."

He said the only answer to the problem is a cull.

"We have to do something," he said.

"It's their territory, yes, but we have to have something for us. There are plenty of places for crocodiles to live where they won't mix with humans."

"When we were kids, we swam in the river – there must

have been some crocs there, but they saw humans as a threat to them."

"When we used to trap them, you'd see the mudslide on the bank, but you'd rarely see a croc because he'd hear the outboard motor coming and hide."

"People always say 'Well, how many people are killed with cars, and how many are killed by crocs?' – well to that I ask how many people are swimming compared to how many are driving?"

"The last school holidays there were no kids fishing on the wharf, no kids in little boats. There used to be kids everywhere."

"We have to take our waterways back from crocs."

SNAPSHOT

RANGERS have not been able to find any trace of the saltwater crocodile in Babinda Creek, despite a new photo emerging of the animal (above).

Department of Environment staff have surveyed the Wonga

Park area, where the 3m saltie was seen Thursday week ago. But a DES spokeswoman said there were no signs of a croc in the area. "Officers will carry out another site assessment in the coming days," she said.



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SALTIE OUTCAST: A large crocodile in Babinda Creek was spotted again during the week on a Clyde Rd private property.

Picture: FACEBOOK

TOWNSVILLEBULLETIN.COM.AU WEDNESDAY JANUARY 3 2018

NEWS 03

Formula for outcry at \$85

AN \$85 tin of baby formula has sparked calls for an investigation into price gouging in remote areas of Far North Queensland.

A photo of a 900g tin of S-26 Gold Newborn formula has been shared almost 2000 times on social media after it was snapped on sale for \$85 - more than three times its original value - at See Hop General Store at Thursday Island in the Torres Strait on Christmas Day.

The product retails on the mainland for between \$20-25.

Marsat Bin Doraho, who posted the photo, said some shops on Thursday Island needed to be investigated.

"I don't think freight is that much that you have to triple your prices," Mr Doraho said.

Cook MP Cynthia Lu said the high price of many goods in the region was unacceptable.

The new Labor MP, the first Torres Strait Islander elected to office in Australia, said she would speak to Indigenous Affairs Minister Jackie Trad about the pricing of basic goods in the region.

Mango glut hurts growers

MANGO growers in the Far North have been hit with one of the worst seasons in about four years, walking away with little to no profit due to an oversupply of fruit.

Australian Mango Industry Association Far North Queensland director and Mareeba grower, John Nucifora said the 2017-18 mango season had been a "wasted year" for many growers. He said the oversupply was due to a season overlap with the Burdekin region, which flooded the domestic market.

Mr Nucifora said export also didn't go as planned this year, which had put more pressure on the domestic market.

He said most growers would move on to the late variety mangoes, Honey Gold, Keitt and Brooks within the next two weeks. The late varieties are expected to take growers through until late February.

"We're hoping the late varieties will pick up for some of what we've missed out on this year," he said.

Cruising croc spells trouble at Strand

SEE THE VIDEO
townsvillebulletin.com.au
Townsville Bulletin



ON THE SPOT: Cordelia Hough, of Belgian Gardens, filmed the croc swimming off Kissing Point (inset) yesterday.

Main picture: SCOTT RADFORD-CHISHOLM

RACHEL RILEY

rachel.riley@townsvillebulletin.com.au

A TRAP will be set to catch a crocodile swimming off The Strand if it continues to linger as authorities search the area for any other problem animals.

Wildlife officers from the Department of Environment and Science are monitoring the movements of a saltwater crocodile, estimated to be 3m long, which was seen yesterday in the area of The Strand and the Townsville marina.

Belgian Gardens resident Cordelia Hough was the first to spot the croc during her morning walk about 10am when it was swimming in Cleveland Bay just north of Kissing Point. She filmed a short video and posted it to social media, where it has been shared more than 1200 times.

"I went over to one of the viewing areas at Jezzine Barracks and just saw it swimming along the surface," she said.

"I got out my phone and took a video, then another lady came over with her dog and she said it was a decent size, so I should report it. There was a green sea turtle only a few metres away so I'm not sure if the croc was following it."

Ms Hough said she had been in Townsville for almost two years and had never seen a croc in the wild before.

She posted the video to warn others about going swimming or taking pets near the water.

"When you live locally, you can get a bit complacent, so it's nice to get a reminder every now and again," she said.

"I think it's such an awesome thing to see a crocodile in its natural habitat."

Wildlife officers attended the area immediately after Ms Hough's report and watched the animal move in south towards The Strand and Port of Townsville.

Warning signs were erected, lifeguards were notified and beaches temporarily closed.

A Department of Environment and Science (DES) spokeswoman said wildlife officers would monitor the crocodile's movements with a spotlight patrol planned last night.

"If the animal does not move on of its own accord, a trap will be deployed for its removal," she said.

"The spotlight survey will also determine if any other crocodiles are present for targeting for removal."

Under the Queensland Crocodile Management Plan, The Strand is within Zone D, meaning any crocodile greater than 2m long, or any smaller animal displaying dangerous behaviour, would automatically be targeted for removal.

On November 14, another large saltwater crocodile was seen on security cameras at the Port of Townsville and was immediately declared a "problem crocodile".

There were no further sightings reported in the port area in the following two weeks so the declaration was rescinded.

There was another croc sighting at The Strand on November 10.

The DES spokeswoman would not confirm whether the crocodile yesterday would likely be the same animal.

Crocodile sightings can be reported by calling 1300 130 372 and the department investigates all crocodile reports it receives.

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02 NEWS

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* Div 1 drawends promotional but term service after draw



ARREST: Nathaniel James Murray, 19, is accused of murdering his father Roy Murray on Palm Island.

Picture: 9 NEWS NORTH QUEENSLAND

TEEN ACCUSED OF KILLING DAD



A PALM Island man who allegedly killed his father by stabbing him in the neck will face Townsville Magistrates Court today.

Nathaniel James Murray, 19, is accused of murdering his father, Roy Murray, 52, by stabbing him with what is believed to be a pair of scissors.

Police will allege the father and son got into a violent fight about 4pm on New Year's Day at a family gathering on an acreage property on Farm Rd, Palm Island.

Acting detective Inspector Leonie Steyger said police were the first emergency services to the scene and managed to keep Roy Murray alive until paramedics arrived.

The man was transported to

Townsville Hospital for emergency surgery but died about 8pm.

Insp Steyger said the suspect had run away from the alleged murder scene, which was outside on grassland at the property, before police arrived but was arrested nearby.

Police have not yet found the weapon that inflicted the wounds.

"We believe the murder weapon may be a pair of scissors," Insp Steyger said.

"Detectives were transported to the island last night along with scenes of crime officers.

"They are conducting searches for the implement or weapon used.

"We have quite an extensive area to search."

The Townsville Bulletin understands a pair of scissors was discovered late yesterday afternoon but police investigators have not indicated whether they believe it to be the murder weapon.

Insp Steyger said police would in-

“ ANY INVESTIGATION WHERE FAMILY OR CLOSE ASSOCIATES ARE INVOLVED DOES MAKE IT VERY EMOTIVE AND DIFFICULT BUT ALL WITNESSES AND FAMILY MEMBERS ARE BEING QUITE CO-OPERATIVE

ACTING DETECTIVE INSPECTOR
LEONIE STEYGER

investigate whether drugs or alcohol were a factor in the incident.

She said witnesses, mainly family

members of the deceased and accused, were co-operating with police.

"Any investigation where family or close associates are involved does make it very emotive and difficult but all witnesses and family members are being quite co-operative at this time," she said.

"Obviously they are quite devastated by the incident.

"They've lost a father, husband, and also have their son or brother who may be responsible for that, so they are quite emotional and upset at this time."

Insp Steyger said the address where the alleged murder occurred was known to police.

She praised the work of emergency services, who responded quickly to such a "severe" incident.

Insp Steyger said the alleged murder had been a tragic and devastating start to 2018.

Townsville had no recorded murders in 2017.

Hot cross buns hit shelves already

LESS than a fortnight has passed since Christmas, but that has not stopped supermarkets from already stocking their shelves with hot cross buns.

Coles has already sold more than a million buns across the country since Saturday, and Woolworths was just getting started yesterday.

The return of the tasty treat is sure to put a smile on the faces of those who can't wait the three months until Easter.

Customers will also be offered an expanded selection to choose from, with the introduction of brioche hot cross buns at both major supermarkets.

Woolworths' bakery manager Ben Thompson said the bun countdown started as soon as Christmas was over. John Haggart, who is Coles' general bakery manager, said their bakers began making buns last weekend because "they're more popular than ever".

Outlook for chocolate looks dark

CHOCOLATE could run out in the next three decades because cacao crops will be harder to grow in a warming climate, experts have warned.

The cacao tree, from which we get cocoa beans which are used to make chocolate, thrives only in humid rainforest-like conditions close to the equator.

But the fragile plant is under threat from diseases and a changing climate

that will suck moisture from the soil and make it impossible to produce a good crop in many regions around the world by 2050, some experts claim.

Currently two West African countries, Ivory Coast and Ghana, produce more than half the world's cocoa but this region is forecast to be hit by rising temperatures and droughts.

Demand for cocoa outstrips supply and stockpiles of cocoa are already low.

BUL02101MA-V1



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Deal with crocs, Katter urges



PHOTO: DEAN LEWINS/AAP


FEDERAL Member for Kennedy Bob Katter has called on the Queensland Government to take urgent action on managing crocodiles in the Far North after another sighting. The croc, about 1.5-2m long, walked out of the water and stayed on Kewarra Beach for about half an hour on Friday night just metres away from people. "In the last 10 to 12 days we've had a croc in the swimming enclosure at Machans Beach, in the swimming enclosure at Palm Cove, a sighting at the beach at Port Douglas, an attack upon a tourist in the Daintree and now a sighting at Kewarra," Mr Katter said. – **Cairns Post**

ESPLANADE LEWD SNAPPER SLAPPED WITH A FINE AND TOLD TO BEHAVE P4

Cairns Post

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017 - CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU - \$1.60

CUP DAY
TROPICAL STYLE



Hot on and off track
HORSES thundered along Palm Cove's beautiful beach as fashionistas like Lady Of The Day Veronica Beckham (right) shone at Cannon Park celebrating Melbourne Cup in a distinctly Far Northern way. FULL STORY, PHOTOS P20-23 AND SPORT


CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY AT WWW.CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU

Farmer fears croc menace after attacks on cattle and dogs

HIGH-STEAKS LOSSES

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

A TULLY farmer has lost 10 head of cattle plus two working dogs in the past year to crocodiles, including a 4m monster (right) trapped by wildlife rangers at Boar Creek about 15km west of the town.



FULL STORY PAGE 5



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21 Jun 2018
Cairns Post, Cairns

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Page 1 of 1

Forums to help steer croc laws

DANIEL BATEMAN

A PUBLIC hearing to help direct Katter's Australian Party's controversial crocodile culling legislation will be held in Cairns in August.

Hearings for KAP's Safer Waterways Bill have been set down for Cairns and Port Douglas on Monday, August 27.

Forums are also being held in Townsville on August 28 and Mackay on August 29.

Hill state KAP MP Shane Knuth reintroduced the Bill into Parliament on March 21, after it was shelved due to the state election.

He said he was disappointed a forum had not been set down for Cape York.

"I understand the time constraints and the forums cannot be held everywhere, but I believe this is a missed opportunity," Mr Knuth said.

He said the hearings have been a long time coming.

"Finally North Queenslanders have the opportunity to address the committee," he said.

"It is critical that we have our say as we are the ones experiencing the problems first-hand – not those organisations based in the southeast corner."

06 NEWS

MONDAY JANUARY 22 2018 CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU

Plea to restore island's luxury

DANAELLA WRELL
danaella.wrell@news.com.au

PEOPLE living in the Far North are the ones being disadvantaged by the deterioration of former luxury destination Double Island.

That is the message from Cairns councillor Brett Olds and Palm Cove real estate agent Tony Richards.

The luxury resort island was once touted as one of the region's most high-end destinations, but it has fallen into disarray with weeds across the island and a lack of public toilets or a jetty.

Cairns Regional Council has given Chinese property tycoon owner Benny Wu 12 months to remedy the issues.

Division 9 councillor Brett Olds said it was disappointing after all of the hype surrounding the development in the last two years.

"If you come in and make grandiose promises and don't deliver them, you get the public off-side," he said.

"There were advertisements in Qantas magazine and on billboards in New York, and there's not a lot to show for it." He said most Cairns residents he had spoken with wanted access to the island's public beach and to public amenities.

"The island is supposed to

have a public part of the beach, that's everyone's perception," he said.

Palm Cove-based real estate agent Tony Richards is working on the Palm Cove Harbour Project.

He said it would be mutually beneficial for both parties to have the island back up and running efficiently.

"It's a significant aspect to tourism," he said.

"There seems to be a lot of smoke and mirrors with what's happening on the island, but if a tourist destination was being treated like that the council would be on them like a tonne of bricks."

He said he had doubts the island could be turned around in the 12-month time frame Cairns Regional Council has given the developers.

Cr Olds said he was hopeful Mr Wu took the remediation period seriously.

"It's an ideal location. Lots of people have owned it and it's been really popular in the past," he said.

"Hopefully someone comes around and does something great with it, because most locals would like to be able to visit again."

editorial@cairnspost.com.au
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ISLAND: The former luxury destination.

Picture: DANIEL SATEMAN



OPEN SPACE: New concept art for Crystalbrook Collection's Flynn hotel development. Picture: SUPPLIED

Perfect mix in grand reveal

CHRIS CALCINO AND
SHERIDAN IRELAND

CRYSTALBROOK Collection's plan to bring an inner-city outdoor dining precinct to the Cairns Esplanade has been unveiled in full colour.

The Cairns Post has received new concept art for the \$120 million Flynn hotel's finished product, already under construction on the site of the former Belview Hotel.

The vision includes a large alfresco dining area allowing residents and tourists to interact with the waterfront devel-



ATMOSPHERE: The outdoor dining precinct at the hotel.

opment, regardless of whether they are guests of the hotel. Glass-sided swimming pools

will overlook outdoor bars and eateries, all tied together under a modern tiered shade and lush green vegetation.

The hotel will have access points from both Abbott St and the Esplanade, as well as 66 off-street parking spaces - seven of which will be mechanical car lifts or "car stackers" to maximise the use of space.

Crystalbrook erected a crane on the Flynn site last week, bringing the number of cranes on the city's skyline to six, including Cairns Regional Council's site for the new Cairns Performing Arts Centre.

Frenzy as crocodile hits street

A NORMALLY quiet Port Douglas street experienced an eventful Saturday with a croc sighting and a car crash keeping residents on their toes.

Police were called to Ulysses Ave about 1am after a resident discovered a 3m crocodile lying on the road.

"It took itself into a front-yard of a house here," officer in charge of Port Douglas station Sergeant Damian Meadows told the Port Douglas and Mossman Gazette.

"It was up around the door, and here and there, obviously trying to find a way out."

"I told the man to get indoors right away. Then I phoned him to tell him what was going on."

The croc found an easement between two properties and disappeared into the drain system leading to Ferndale Lake.

On Saturday evening, a small car crashed into another parked on the street. The driver was the only occupant and it was believed to be uninjured.

Watch the video online at cairnspost.com.au

School's \$4.5m hall on track

WORK on Caravonica State School's new \$4.5 million hall remains on track for completion in the second half of this year.

Principal Michelle Davis said the progress on the building, being completed by Bryant Queensland and to include a multipurpose sports court, audio visual room, equipment storage spaces, kitchen area, multipurpose room, and office space, had added to the usual back to school excitement.

"We get our hall this year and the carpark will be finished. We had cranes in last week for work on the hall," she said.

"You can't miss the columns at the moment, they look amazing."

"There's all that nervous energy going around. There's nothing like the first day of school, I love it."

The first sod was turned on the hall project in November last year.

The construction project has provided 15 local full-time jobs.

Sex crim exposed ex-girlfriend during assault

JANESSA EKERT
janessa.ekert@news.com.au

A REGISTERED sex offender has been jailed for humiliating his ex-girlfriend by exposing her genitalia during a violent assault in Cairns.

The young woman had gone to Samuel Gaulat Misi's Murray St home on June 11 last year after accusing him of stealing her bank card.

Police prosecutor Sergeant Matt Rose labelled the ensuing assault as a "callous and persistent and degrading attack on a young woman."

The Cairns Magistrates Court was told the pair had been in a relationship for about six months before she ended it.

After dragging the woman from a car by her collar, Misi then punched her multiple times. Sgt Rose said during the

"HIS CONDUCT CAN BE DESCRIBED AS NOTHING LESS THAN DEPLORABLE"

PROSECUTOR SGT MATT ROSE

onslaught Misi pulled the woman's jeans and underwear down exposing her genitalia, and kicked her in the face.

"His conduct can be de-

scribed as nothing less than deplorable," Sgt Rose said, arguing that it would not be inappropriate for Misi to spend at least 50 per cent of a jail term behind bars.

The 27-year-old has a seven-page criminal history and has already spent 157 days in custody. He pleaded guilty to nine charges including assault occasioning bodily harm, burglary and failing to comply

with reporting under the Child Protection (Offender Reporting) Act.

Defence lawyer Natalie Keys said if her client was made to serve 50 per cent of the term it would "almost deem no point for him to plead guilty."

Ms Keys told the court that her client had grown up in an environment where he thought drugs and committing

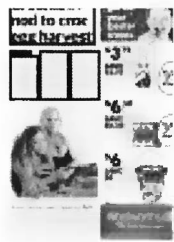
crime was the norm.

"It just appears that he tends to fall in with the wrong crowd," Ms Keys said.

She conceded her client's actions "did lead to a very nasty, humiliating response", adding that he had issues with managing conflict.

Misi was jailed for two years and one month, to be released on parole on April 15 after about eight months in jail.

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Greenie in nod to croc egg harvest

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

A CROCODILE conservationist supports the wild harvesting of croc eggs in Queensland but only if the practice is proven to have low impact on populations of the reptiles.

Katter's Australia Party midweek reintroduced its controversial Safer Waterways Bill to State Parliament, proposing croc culling and egg-management programs be made legal.

Far Northern crocodile farmers have been wanting permission to collect croc eggs from the wild, for decades, to compete with farmers in the Northern Territory.

Queensland Crocodile Preservation Society president Broady Hunnerich, who is based in Darwin, said the proposed harvesting of wild croc eggs was worthwhile examining, as long as numbers were kept low.

"There needs to be regular counts done on the crocodiles, mainly because Queensland doesn't have the same habitats that the Northern Territory has," she said.

"Queensland doesn't have the same massive floodplains that we have (in the NT).

"I think if egg harvest goes ahead, it needs to be very low numbers to start with, and there needs to be regular surveys done, because egg harvest

does have the potential to hurt the population there."

However, she said the organisation was opposed to KAP's Bill, particularly the aspect of legalising culling of crocs.

"To implement the NT's (culling) plan into Queensland would pretty much mean the eradication of all crocodiles along the coast," she said.

"It's just not sustainable.

"If you start doing that, there's going to be no crocodiles left to breed, you're going to have all kinds of problems."

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Have a say on croc cull

MACKAY residents could soon have their say on what should be done about crocodiles in North Queensland.

The Safer Waterways Bill, that seeks to establish a crocodile authority in Cairns with the power to cull crocodiles in populated areas, was handed to a parliamentary committee for assessment on Monday.

While public meetings have not yet been organised, it's expected meetings soon will be

held in crocodile prone areas such as Mackay.

Member for Hill Shane Knuth briefed the committee on the proposed bill on Monday. He said crocodile sighting and attacks had risen significantly in the past few years because of an explosion in their numbers and "once populated waterways are now infested with crocodiles".

"In 2010 there were 176 crocodile sightings and in 2017

there were 509 crocodile sightings. In 2018, within four months, we have had 276 reported crocodile sightings. If that number continues, its going to be about 828 this year," he said.

According to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, 13 sightings have been reported to date in May. None this month have been in the Mackay-Whitsunday region.



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Daily Mercury, Mackay QLD

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Horrifying croc attack

Woman was screaming for help

TONI CALDWELL

IT was dark and a crocodile had Leeann Mitchell's childhood friend in its jaws.

After trying to punch and fight the animal with every ounce of her strength, all Ms Mitchell could do was scream for help.

The Cairns woman has recalled the horror of the attack that killed Cindy Waldron in May 2016.

"The only help I could get was by screaming Cindy's name," Ms Mitchell told Seven Network's Sunday Night program.

Ms Mitchell spoke for the first time about the terrifying night at Thornton Beach, 130km north of Cairns, where she and Ms Waldron had been celebrating.

Ms Mitchell had just finished breast cancer treatment and the mood had been high.

The pair was standing in shallow water, arm-in-arm, when the crocodile struck.

"It was really dark, Cindy's back was to the water and mine was to the beach and we were laughing," Ms Mitchell said.

"And then Cindy cried out to

me and she said it has got me – I thought it was just that fright you get when seaweed brushes you.

"I put my arms out and she took my arms and I said I've got you babe, it is ok I've got you, and she was holding me and I was holding her."

Ms Mitchell grabbed her friend's arms but said she and Ms Waldron were both pulled with *astonishing speed* and force by the 4.3m animal.

The crocodile that was thought to have killed Ms Waldron was captured and euthanised by wildlife officers in June 2016. Police recovered human remains from the crocodile believed to be those of Ms Waldron.

CONTROL OR CULL? Let us know your thoughts. Email news@dailymercury.com.au

Cindy Waldron's family travelled to Thornton Beach. Cindy's sister Anna-Lee Annett has a moment with her brother-in-law Craig Annett and Cindy's father Pat Waldron at the scene where Cindy was suspected of being taken by a crocodile. Inset: Photo from the Facebook page of Leeann Mitchell (RIGHT) with her friend Cindy Waldron (LEFT) who was taken by a crocodile





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12 May 2018
Weekend Post, Cairns

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KAP call for croc forums

KATTER'S Australia Party is demanding more public hearings for their proposed crocodile culling laws.

A report on the Safer Waterways Bill 2018 is due to be tabled in State Parliament on September 24.

But KAP Member for Hill, Shane Knuth, said a parliamentary committee was yet to determine where public hearings on the draft legislation would be held. The Bill was in train before last year's election but had to be reintroduced for the new parliament.

Submissions to the committee opened on April 30 and close on May 31 and can be emailed to itdec@parliament.qld.gov.au or contact hill@parliament.qld.gov.au



08 Nov 2017

Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

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KAP means business on crocodile removal plans

Elisabeth Champion

SHANE Knuth hopes his parliamentary track record will give him the edge when voters go to the polls on November 25.

The Katter's Australian Party Dalrymple MP, who is running for the new seat of Hill, said his 14 years in parliament had given him a good understanding of getting outcomes for his electorate.

"We've delivered big projects," he said.

"I've also delivered for this area in securing sugar marketing which gave better security and finance back to the farmers after eight years of stalling.

"I was able to secure the \$20 million breakwater in front of Clump Point Boat Ramp at Mission Beach and was able to secure funds to the bad sections of the Palmerston Highway not in my electorate.

"Right now, I am working with stakeholders to get funding for the Tully Grandstand.

"What people will have if I'm elected is a member of parliament that is 100 per cent behind the people and I will always put the people first before parties."

He said he believed no major party would win the election in its own right and a hung parliament would give KAP the chance to get its crocodile-controlling Safer Waterways Bill passed.

"They will need KAP support and we will be prioritising putting people before crocs

and claiming back our waterways," he said.

"We mean business. This is not a count, not a study, this is about removing the crocs by whatever means necessary to an acceptable level."

Also high on his agenda is lower power and insurance costs and the Tully Millstream project.

"We will look at the cost of living – some people are paying a third of their yearly wage on their insurance bill," he said.

"We will be implementing the once successful State Government Insurance Office to put multinationals insurance companies in line. We are over the high power bills where the government have used pensioners, farmers and homeowners as cash cows to prop up the treasury coffers. We'll be enforcing very strongly that more money needs to go back into the pockets of the people with a tariff reduction to give farmers incentives to revert back to power rather than generators and allow the pensioners to turn on the fan in the summer.

"We will also be strongly pursuing the Tully Millstream hydroelectric scheme and while we are supportive of coal fired energy, we are also looking at seven to nine years down the track."



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Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

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Katter's Australian Party candidate for Hill Shane Knuth and Member for Kennedy Bob Katter on the campaign trail last week.

Picture: ELISABETH CHAMPION



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North Queensland Register, Townsville QLD

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KAP renews call for croc bill

AS THE judge hearing an appeal by police against a \$500 fine imposed on Deeral farmer, Errol Copley, last week reserved his decision for one month, Katter's Australian Party candidate for Leichhardt, Daniel McCarthy, renewed the party's call for urgent action for community safety.

"I sat beside Errol Copley in the Cairns court today, who was defending an appeal in the case of a fine for killing a crocodile. This presents as a ridiculous situation, where the government is...claiming the fine isn't an adequate deterrent to stop people trying to defend themselves against being killed by a crocodile."

He said the government wanted to use Mr Copley as an example, saying the government had "failed miserably to deal with the explosion of crocodile numbers".



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Sunday Mail Brisbane, Brisbane

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Katter guns for greenies

MP trumps croc-killer reward

PETER MICHAEL

VIGILANTES have invoked bush justice, also known as "Rule .303", and taken the law into their own hands to shoot dead or decapitate monster crocodiles terrorising locals in north Queensland.

Green groups have put a \$6000 bounty on the head of rogue croc killers to help unmask the culprits to stop the spate of illegal culling during an almost 40 per cent spike in croc sightings this year.

State MP Robbie Katter, however, told *The Sunday Mail* yesterday he would up the stakes and stump up \$10,000 to publicly out anyone who "dares to dob in an illegal croc hunter" after two fatal croc attacks this year.

"We'll put \$10,000 on finding out the person who dobbed in the croc killer," Mr Katter (pictured) said.

"And we'll give out their home address to the families of victims who've been eaten or attacked by a crocodile."

He cited the line from the

film *Breaker Morant* in reference to the old high-powered Lee Enfield .303 rifle, which was popularly used by croc shooters before hunting was outlawed in Queensland four decades ago.

"Up here, we call it 'Rule .303'," Mr Katter said. "These big crocs may be protected, but they aren't bulletproof."

"For us, it comes down to kill or be killed."

He said the Labor Government's Green-Left agenda to count crocodiles rather than protect human safety was squarely to blame for the latest spate of illegal culling.

"When crocodiles are in kids' playgrounds in Cairns, outside pubs in Karumba, and popping up in irrigation ditches way inland, where is our territory?" he said.

"When they are shutting down beaches and sun baking

out the front of lifeguard huts from Gladstone to Port

Douglas, and taking over freshwater swim holes hundreds of kilometres inland, what else do we do?

"If these greenies love them so much, they can have them. We'll dump them at Southbank in Brisbane and they can be educated on how they can live with them."

One severed crocodile head adorned with a pair of sunglasses and a beer can was found on Cairns Esplanade



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after two crocs – one about 4m – stalked a children's playground in the tourist town last month.

Another "iconic" 4m salt-water croc was found shot dead with a single bullet hole in the skull on the Mulgrave River in Cairns on Thursday.

In Rockhampton, a colossal 5.2m croc – one of the biggest wild animals recorded

in recent times – was also killed with a single head shot in the Fitzroy River in Sep-

tember, while another headless 4m predator was found in a swamp near Innisfail in June.

PETA Australia told *The Sunday Mail* it had increased its reward to \$6000 for information leading to the identification and conviction of

croc shooters responsible for these "vicious attacks".

The Queensland Environment Department said in a statement 14 deceased crocodiles had been reported this

year.

"It is not always possible to establish how an animal died, particularly if the animal has been dead for some time.

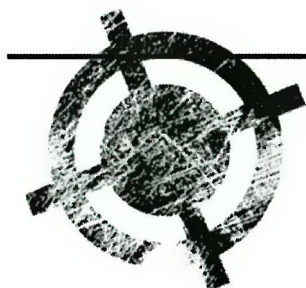
"But EHP can confirm that firearms were involved in two of these deaths. In each of these two cases, the animal was shot in the head."

It is an offence under the Nature Conservation Act 1992 to take an estuarine crocodile without authority. The maximum penalty is

\$28,383.75.

"EHP would like to remind anyone who is concerned about a crocodile not to take matters into their own hands," it said.

But it declined to reveal any preliminary findings of total crocodile population numbers along 1200km of waterways surveyed since the launch of a three-year \$5.8 million study in April this year. The results will be made public in 2020.





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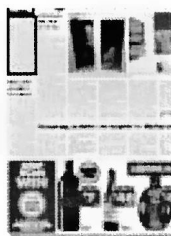
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Katter: New croc policy is a crock

A MULTIMILLION-dollar crocodile management fund that promotes public education “spits in the face” of North Queenslanders, say Katter’s Australia Party.

State leader Robbie Katter said the continuation of the Government’s three-year \$5.8 million enhanced crocodile management, which included \$919,000 for 2018-19 allocated in the budget, was a “useless” spend. “Educating people is a euphemism for telling people not to swim in the watering holes and beaches you’re used to swimming in all your life because of the explosion in croc numbers,” he said.

The government’s strategy also includes funds for population surveying. Mr Katter said the government needed to act on the data collected by the croc population surveys.



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Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

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Katter not keen on 'useless' croc fund

**CHRIS LEES
CLARE ARMSTRONG**

A MULTIMILLION-dollar crocodile management fund that promotes public education "spits in the face" of North Queenslanders, say Katter's Australia Party.

State leader Robbie Katter said the continuation of the Government's three-year \$5.8 million enhanced crocodile management, which included \$919,000 for 2018-19 allocated in Tuesday's budget, was a "useless" spend.

"Educating people is a euphemism for telling people not

to swim in the watering holes and beaches you're used to swimming in all your life because of the explosion in croc numbers," he said.

The Government's strategy also includes funds for population surveying.

Mr Katter said the Government needed to act on the data collected by the croc population surveys.

"We don't necessarily object to them collecting data, we object to them not having a management body in there to work with that data immediately and use it," he said.

But Dan Bamblett, from Hands on Wildlife, welcomed

the funding and research.

"One of things with the crocodile issue is we have people that know nothing about crocs shooting from the hip about what should be done," he said.

"The data we have now is well and truly out of date."

Mr Bamblett said the only way to make a "good decision" about management was by having all the information.



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Northern Miner, Charters Towers QLD

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Katter set to croc 'n' role

FEDERAL MP Bob Katter has made the bold declaration that any new *Crocodile Dundee* movie cannot be made without him in a starring role.

In a fun post on his official Facebook page, Mr Katter said he auditioned for the new *Crocodile Dundee* movie but was pipped for the role of PM by Hugh Jackman.

"They asked me to audition for the role of Prime Minister. I turned up and belted out an excellent rendition of *Barnacle Bill the Sailor*," the post read. "Anyone who has heard me sing knows it is similar to the sound of angels weeping.

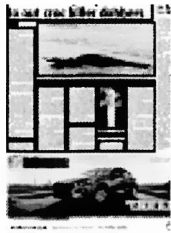
"Then some guy called Hugh Jackman showed up and started tap dancing, which is just absurd — I've never known a tap-dancing prime minister."

Mr Katter said he would still pursue a role in any new production because his pre-eminent status in Australia and overseas would draw big star power and could even intimidate Hollywood elite.

"I'm not intimidated by Chris Hemsworth," he said.

"He should speak to psychologists about working with me because I think he will feel very humbled by that."

Traeger MP Robbie Katter said he thought it would be great if there was another Dundee movie made and in the North, but wild crocodiles could pose a problem.



13 Dec 2017

Bowen Independent, Bowen QLD

Author: Peter Michael • Section: General News • Article type : News Item

Audience : 1,849 • Page: 4 • Printed Size: 515.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia

Words: 687 • Item ID: 886662004

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Katter stumps up \$10,000 to out croc killer dobbers

Peter Michael

VIGILANTES have decided to invoke bush justice on crocodiles terrorising locals in north Queensland.

Also known as "Rule .303", the group has taken the law into their own hands to shoot dead or decapitate monster crocodiles that are deemed threatening to humans.

Green groups have put a \$6000 bounty on the head of rogue croc killers to help unmask the culprits to stop the spate of illegal culling during an almost 40 per cent spike in croc sightings this year.

State MP Robbie Katter, however, told The Sunday Mail he would up the stakes and stump up \$10,000 to publicly out anyone who "dares to dob in an illegal croc hunter" after two fatal croc attacks this year.

"We'll put \$10,000 on finding out the person who dobbed in the croc killer," Mr Katter said.

"And we'll give out their home address to the families of victims who've been eaten or attacked by a crocodile."

He cited the line from the film Breaker Morant in reference to the old high-powered Lee Enfield .303 rifle popularly used by croc shooters before hunting was outlawed in Queensland four decades ago.

"Up here, we call it 'Rule .303'," Mr Katter said.

"These big crocs may be protected but they are not bullet proof."

"For us, it comes down to kill or be killed."

He said the Labor Government's Green-Left agenda to

count crocodiles rather than protect human safety was squarely to blame for the latest spate of illegal culling.

"When crocodiles are in kids playgrounds in Cairns, outside pubs in Karumba, and popping up in irrigation ditches way inland, where is our territory?" he said.

"When they are shutting down beaches and sun baking out the front of lifeguard huts from Gladstone to Port Douglas, and taking over freshwater swim holes hundreds of kilometres inland, what else do we do?"

"If these Greenies love them so much, they can have them, we'll dump them at Southbank in Brisbane, and they can be educated how they can live with them."

One severed crocodile head adorned with a pair of sunglasses and a beer can was found on Cairns Esplanade after two crocs — one about 4m-long — stalked a children's playground in the tourist town last month.

Another "iconic" 4m salt-water croc was found shot dead with a single bullet hole in the skull on the Mulgrave River in Cairns on Thursday.

In Rockhampton, a colossal 5.2m croc — one of the biggest wild animals recorded in recent times — was also killed with a single head shot in the Fitzroy River in September while another headless 4m predator was found in a swamp near Innisfail in June.

PETA Australia told The Sunday Mail they had upped its reward to \$6000 for infor-

mation leading to the identification and conviction of croc shooters responsible for these "vicious attacks".

"People who harm animals often don't stop there and are a danger to the community at large," a PETA spokeswoman said.

The Queensland Environment Department in a state-

ment said there had been 14 deceased crocodiles reported in 2017.

"It is not always possible to establish how an animal died,

particularly if the animal has been dead for some time.

"But EHP can confirm that firearms were involved in two of these deaths. In each of these two cases the animal was shot in the head."

It is an offence under the Nature Conservation Act 1992 to take an estuarine crocodile without authority where the maximum penalty for the unlawful take of a crocodile is \$28,383.75.

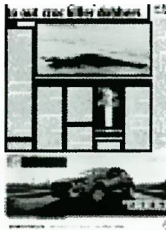
"EHP would like to remind anyone who is concerned about a crocodile not to take matters into their own hands," it said.

But they declined to reveal any preliminary findings of total crocodile population numbers on 1200km of waterways surveyed since the launch of a three-year \$5.8 million study in April this year.

Those survey results will be made public in 2020, it said.



Robbie Katter MP, (KAP state member for Mt Isa).



13 Dec 2017
Bowen Independent, Bowen QLD

Author: Peter Michael • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
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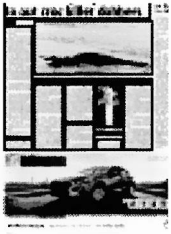
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A crocodile walked out of the water at Kewarra Beach at about 6pm on Friday, sitting just metres away from locals and tourists.

Picture: Karen Bradtberg



13 Dec 2017

Bowen Independent, Bowen QLD

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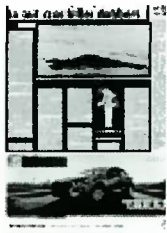
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Robbie Katter MP, (KAP state member for Mt Isa).



13 Dec 2017
Bowen Independent, Bowen QLD

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A crocodile walked out of the water at Kewarra Beach at about 6pm on Friday, sitting just metres away from locals and tourists.

Picture: Karen Bradtberg



19 May 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

Author: Elisabeth • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item • Audience : 2,636
Page: 3 • Printed size: 236.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • words: 329
Item ID: 956548823

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Katters determined to cull crocs

Elisabeth Champion

A BATTLE of crocodile ideologies shows no sign of settling as the question of a cull heads for state parliament.

The Department of Environment and Science is investigating the death of a 4.3m long saltwater crocodile that was found dead on the banks of the South Johnstone River at a Wangan property on April 29.

The reptile appeared to have been shot in "suspicious" circumstances, according to the department.

Katter's Australian Party's Hinchinbrook MP Nick Dametto said he did not condone vigilante croc killing but believes the penalty for such actions was too harsh.

In Queensland, the illegal taking of a crocodile carries a

maximum penalty of \$28,383.

"It definitely is a deterrent for most people who are law-abiding citizens, but there will always be people out there who feel their safety and the safety of their families and farm animals is more important than the law."

The big South Johnstone croc was killed after reportedly shadowing fishermen, something the KAP is using to justify its push for a controlled cull.

"We want to see the large crocs removed from areas humans use," Mr Dametto said.

"The idea of these man eaters lurking where people are fishing, putting their boats in and trying to swim is terrifying."

The party's Safer Waterways

Bill 2018 is currently before the Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Com-

mittee.

Public opinion is deeply divided on the issue.

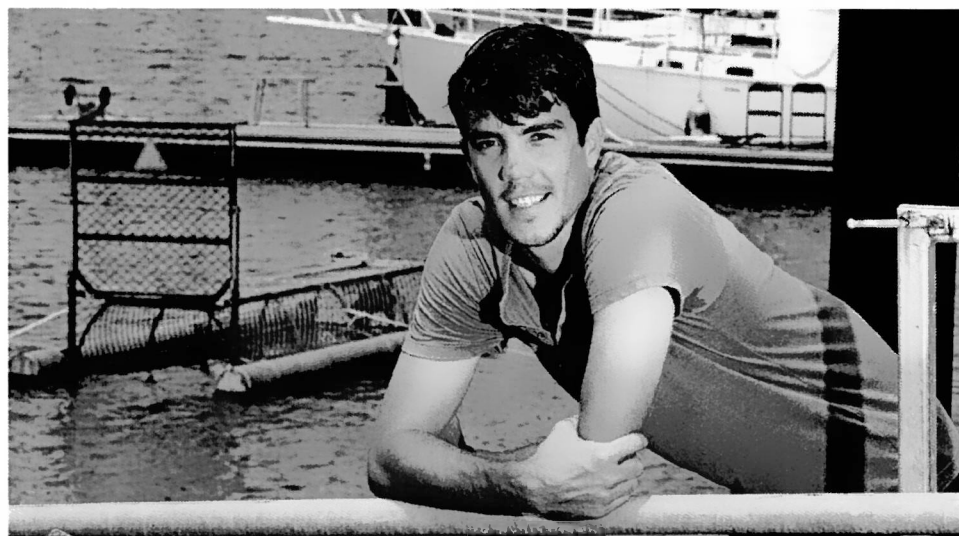
Innisfail's Snapping Tours operator Brenton Gangemi, said he believed most public opinion was in favour of leaving crocs.

"It's a waste of time – it's not going to get through," he said.

"There is no way anyone will support that, especially the tour operators."

"No tourists are going to come to the area thinking 'They've shot all the crocs there, let's go visit'."

"The way the world is going with veganism growing and people not wanting to hurt animals, I can't see it happening."



Innisfail tour guide Brenton Gangemi believes public attitudes are changing towards harming animals.



18 Nov 2017

Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

Section: General News • Article type : News Item • Audience : 2,636 • Page: 7
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Item ID: 875744059

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Knuth says 'safe' spots no longer croc safe

KAP State MP and candidate for Hill Shane Knuth blasted the state LNP and ALP for failing to address crocodile management in North Queensland after a crocodile (pictured) was seen inside the Mission Beach stinger net yesterday.

He called on the major parties to acknowledge that "safe" designated swimming areas in tourism hotspots like Mission Beach and Palm Cove are no longer safe.

"It's time the government address not-so-much the elephant in the room, but the crocodile in the net," he said. We must reclaim our waterways. KAP introduced our Safer Waterways Bill in May last year. The major parties used their numbers to extend it out to be debated next year. They are fearful of our Bill that's about protecting the people."





14 Jul 2018

Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

Author: Elisabeth • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item • Audience : 2,636
Page: 3 • Printed size: 162.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • ASR: AUD 483
words: 325 • Item ID: 981866160

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Knuth says study figures highlight FNQ's croc problem

Elisabeth Champion

DESPITE regular sightings of crocs in Cassowary Coast waterways, results of a Queensland Government study suggest that there is fewer than one crocodile per kilometre.

However, Member for Hill Shane Knuth says the figures in the Department of Environment and Science report are far from positive.

"The announcement reaffirms there is a croc issue in North Queensland," he said.

"The update showed a spike in the number of crocodile sightings, jumping to 684 in 2017 compared to 378 in 2016 and just 176 in 2010.

"This is triple the sightings reported from seven years ago and is an 80 per cent increase in sightings from 2016.

"Those are extraordinary numbers and any sane person would argue it represents a

large increase in crocodile numbers.

"Most people tell me they don't even bother reporting sightings anymore as nothing gets done, so that increase is only the tip of the iceberg."

DES has completed the first stage of the major survey of the state's croc population which will dictate how the Palaszczuk

Government manages the dangerous animals.

The monitoring program is expected to conclude in late-2019, with a final report to be prepared in 2020 and has so far found one croc per kilometre in waterways between Gladstone to Cape York Peninsula.

Wildlife officers surveyed more than 2000km of waterways in 2017, carrying out

nighttime vessel-based surveys in waterways from Gladstone to the Cape York Peninsula and the adjoining Gulf of Car-

pentaria, as well as daytime helicopter surveys of coastal waterways from the Hinchinbrook Channel to the Daintree River.

Minister for Environment Leeanne Enoch said the department had removed record numbers of problem crocodiles

over the past couple of years, with 84 removed in 2017.

"Our wildlife officers also assisted with investigations into the unlawful deaths of eight crocs, and three people were prosecuted for the illegal take of crocodiles in 2017," she said.

"The Government is confident that Queensland's approach to crocodile management is sound."



22 Jun 2018
Townsville Bulletin, Townsville QLD

Section: General News • Article Type: News Item • Audience : 16,484 • Page: 5
Printed size: 68.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • words: 161
Item ID: 972519794

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Knuth seeks feedback on crocodile plan

NORTH Queenslanders have been urged to attend public hearings on a crocodile management proposal from Katter's Australia Party.

KAP Hill MP Shane Knuth said a series of public hearings would be held across the region, including in Townsville on Tuesday, August 28.

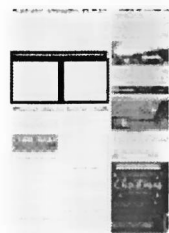
Mr Knuth reintroduced the party's Safer Waterways Bill into State Parliament on March 21 and said the hearings had been a "long time coming".

"Finally North Queenslanders have the opportunity to address the committee," he said.

"It is critical that we have our say as we are the ones experiencing the problems first-hand – not those organisations based in the southeast corner."

Mr Knuth said the Bill called for self-management of crocodiles through the establishment of the Queensland Crocodile Authority to be based in far north Queensland.

"This is a critical part of the Bill, which enables fast response and more effective management of crocodile numbers in the region, particularly in heavily populated, tourist destinations," Mr Knuth said.



23 Nov 2017
Cassowary Coast Independent, Queensland

Section: General News • Article type : News Item • Audience : 0 • Page: 7
Printed Size: 124.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • Words: 314
Item ID: 886491809

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Knuth to re-introduce croc Bill

KATTER'S Australian Party (KAP) candidate for Hill Shane Knuth has committed to re-introducing his party's Bill to tackle rising crocodile numbers in the region, if re-elected.

The Safer Waterways Bill 2017 was first tabled on May 25 after public support to take immediate action against crocodile numbers in local waterways.

Mr Knuth said the Bill was in the committee stages, however the KAP also moved a motion to bring forward urgent debate on the Bill prior to the election that was defeated by Labor and the LNP.

Once an election is called, all Bills currently in the committee stage are withdrawn.

"The only way to take action is to re-submit the Bill which I will commit to doing immediately after the election. The people of North Queensland have spoken and I have a mandate to ensure urgent action is taken," he said.

"It's about saving lives, it's about crocodile management, it's about turning crocodiles into an asset for Queensland and creating an industry out of this currently

untapped resource."

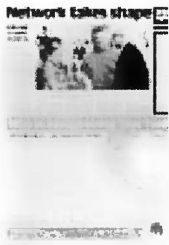
The Bill will make it mandatory for rogue crocodiles to be removed from populated waterways in Queensland.

Rogue crocodiles may be killed by an authorised person, or relocated to a crocodile farm. They cannot be re-located to another waterway to eliminate the risk of them attacking people.

The Bill will create a Queensland Crocodile Authority, to be based in Cairns, which is tasked with very specific responsibilities to ensure crocodiles are properly managed in Queensland. The authority will issue permits for crocodile egg harvesting in Queensland, and to landholders to manage crocodiles on their own land.

Mr Knuth said the Queensland Crocodile Authority will report to the parliament and receive recommendations from a newly created board.

While the Bill ensures rogue crocodiles be removed, it also has a provision to ensure that no action be taken that could endanger the species' existence in Queensland.



31 Oct 2017
Cairns Post, Cairns

Author: Chris Calcino • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Audience : 15,157 • Page: 6 • Printed Size: 69.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
Words: 163 • Item ID: 866727186

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Knuth will put crocs on agenda

CHRIS CALCINO

EXPECT a lot more talk about crocodile management as the calendar creeps ever closer to November 25.

Dalrymple MP Shane Knuth, who will stand for the new seat of Hill after his electorate was dissolved, has promised to make crocodiles the top issue informing who governs in Queensland.

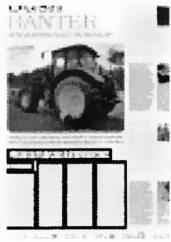
"It's obvious that no major party is going to form government in their own right," he said.

"Putting people and their lives before crocs is the KAP's highest priority.

"We already have the Safer Waterways Bill, and both parties used their numbers to push it out to be debated next year because they don't want to be talking ... during the election."

Mr Knuth will face the LNP's Mario Quagliata and Johanna Kloot for the Greens, with Labor yet to name a candidate for the new seat.

A government spokesman said Labor was in the "final stages of preselecting its candidate to be a strong voice for the communities, residents and businesses of Hill".



24 Nov 2017
Rural Weekly - Southern QLD, Toowoomba QLD

Author: Andrea Davy • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Audience : 116,368 • Page: 26 • Printed Size: 219.00cm² • Market: QLD
Country: Australia • Words: 538 • Item ID: 878146088

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Living with crocs



ANDREA
DAVY

Andrea.davy@ruralweekly.com.au

WHAT'S it like to live in croc country? That's a question I am rarely asked, even though I am prone to stick my nose into heated discussions on crocodile management.

The way crocodile populations are being handled has become a hot topic in my Brisbane office, mostly due to the Queensland election.

The Katter Party wants to give landowners the right to shoot them, the Labor party has already backed an egg harvesting program running in Cape York Peninsula and the LNP believes harvesting the eggs, and killing problem crocs (only when they can't be safely or quickly caught) is a solution.

The only thing I worry about is the people weighing in on

this issue have never thought to put themselves in the shoes of those living and working among the reptiles.

Recently my family made news headlines in North Queensland. A cow was attacked on the property they manage, about 20km outside of Tully. The cow's head was completely ripped off.

I was home for a high school friend's wedding at the time so I saw where her heavy carcass had been dragged up to a shallow bit of water.

I'm not going to lie – it was a shocking sight.

I guess it shows the awesome power of crocodiles. However, I was far from surprised.

Since Mum and Dad have managed the property (about 20 years) we have had working dogs taken, horses attacked and an unknown number of cattle eaten. Dad estimates about 10 head.

The main argument I hear about crocodiles is: "They were here first. You are in *their* territory, so when there is an attack, it's your own fault".

By golly, I find the last part of the argument incredibly heartless, especially given recent confirmed attacks on people.

It is believed crocs have been around since the dinosaur days so there is no doubt the first part of the argument is fact. But times have changed. We now have people living, fishing, checking crab pots, bush walking and swimming, or, as in my family's case, making a living in crocodile habitats.

Every time we have lost a dog to a croc it's because someone has made a mistake. Whenever it has happened, the herd has been giving us trouble and the dogs are working their hearts out and getting hot. Then, it only

takes a few seconds of inattention for a dog to sprint to the creek to cool off. If a croc is waiting, they don't stand a chance.

So that's what it's like to live in croc country.

I feel there is a belief in southern Queensland that people to the north want nothing more than to get a big gun out and blast away until every croc is blown into oblivion. That might be true for some, but from my perspective, I think all people want is the chance to have the crocodiles managed appropriately. All you can hope is those living in the south give those in the north that chance.

But not to worry, reports are that crocodiles are slowing making their way down the coast anyway. Maybe there will be a time when everyone is united on the issue of living in croc country.

02 NEWS

TUESDAY JANUARY 16 2018 TOWNSVILLEBULLETIN.COM.AU

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midday 10-10-18

45	14	43	40
28	10	37	26

Division 1: No winner. Division
2: \$9897.50. Division 3:
\$581.70. Division 4: \$32.00.
Division 5: \$17.35. Division 6:
\$14.10

* See 1 consecutive numbers for supplementary after draw

Stadium team turn to recycled water

VICTORIA
NUGENT



victoria.nugent@news.com.au

RECYCLED water could be used to irrigate Townsville's new stadium after investigations found that it would be impossible to use an on-site bore.

A feasibility study has been commissioned to find alternative water sources for the project after a test bore drilled last year found the groundwater on the site was too saline for irrigation purposes.

A Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDMIP) spokesman said

they had been working closely with the stadium project team and Townsville City Council to secure water sources.

"Early site geotechnical investigations and local expert advice indicated the provision of bore water suitable for stadium use on the stadium site was unlikely," he said.

"A groundwater supply feasibility study completed by local consultants in March 2017 indicated the feasibility of obtaining a viable groundwater supply was low.

"A 103m deep test bore on the stadium site in June 2017 confirmed the site's groundwater was unsuitable for irrigation purposes due to high salinity."

The spokesman said the stadium project team includes



WATER OPTION: An artist's image of the new Townsville stadium.

an environmentally sustainable design (ESD) specialist consultancy and a local hydrogeologist.

"The alternative sites currently under consideration for a potential bore are relatively close to the stadium site and are not expected to have significant water pumping cost implications," he said.

"Rainwater harvesting has been incorporated into the

project and alternative groundwater sources are being investigated. DSDMIP, the project design team and Townsville City Council are reviewing a number of stadium water strategies including roof rainwater harvesting, off-site bore water options, recycled water and potable water usage minimisation strategies for the stadium.

"One of the options being investigated is to use recycled water for the stadium site and adjoining precinct."

The spokesman said no delays to the project were expected as a result of the issue.

A council spokesman said bore water was unlikely to be used at the new North Queensland Stadium site because of high salinity levels.

"Council is investigating what water options are available on the stadium site but it's highly unlikely bore water or potable water would be used," the spokesman said.

"One of the options being investigated is to use recycled water for the stadium site and adjoining precinct."

ALERT AS CROC CALLS GROW



BEACH WATCH: A still taken from video of a crocodile moving in to feed on a dead fish at Cardwell.

VICTORIA NUGENT

A CROCODILE trap has been relocated to a different area near The Strand after fresh sightings.

A Department of Environment and Science spokeswoman said the trap placed off Breakwater Marina was relocated to the Duck Pond on Friday after a sighting reported on Thursday.

"The trap is checked daily and will

remain in place while the removal operation continues," she said.

"Crocodiles can be wary of human-related structures, including crocodile traps, and it can take time before a target animal can be tempted into a trap.

"Members of the public can assist by, as far as possible, avoiding the vicinity of the trap while a removal operation is underway."

Two further sightings have been

reported since then - one on Friday afternoon at the southern end of The Strand, and one on Saturday morning at 7.30am about 500m from the shore.

"DES is not ruling out that these multiple sighting reports relate to a single animal, or the possibility that there may be more than one crocodile," the spokeswoman said.

"At this time of year young adult males may be on the move as they try

to establish their own territories or just find an area safe from predation or attack by large adult males."

Meanwhile, three crocodile sightings have been reported in the Cardwell area in the past week, including one yesterday.

It comes after a large croc was filmed eating a dead fish on the beach. Wildlife officers are monitoring the area.

LNP leader targets 'lives at stake' Ice menace

A COMMUNITY forum will be held by the LNP in Townsville as part of its strategy to crack down on ice.

Opposition Leader Deb Frecklington said forums would be held in regional centres in coming weeks to tackle the drug issue.

"Ice has infiltrated our small towns and cities, it is destroying

families and attacking the very soul and fabric of our communities," Ms Frecklington said.

"This drug doesn't discriminate, it decimates. Everything ice touches it hurts.

"You don't need to be addicted or even use this deadly drug to be haunted by its effects. No area is immune."

Ms Frecklington called for bipartisan support for the strategy, which includes four new drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres around the state, a boosted funding program for prevention services, increased crime prevention and awareness, stronger enforcement and shutting down organised crime networks.

"People's lives are at stake," she said.

"In fact the longevity and wellbeing of whole communities, especially in regional Queensland, are at stake."

The Townsville forum will be held on February 6, with registrations being taken via Ms Frecklington's Facebook page.



Deb Frecklington.

RULE012018A - V1



06 Jun 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

Author: Elisabeth • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item • Audience : 2,636
Page: 3 • Printed size: 452.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • words: 548
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Locals want crocs gone now

Elisabeth Champion

BABINDA locals want authorities to act immediately to safeguard human life and protect the town's tourist industry by removing crocodiles from the area.

A croc believed to be up to 3m long, was photographed by a Babinda resident on Thursday afternoon, at Wonga Park, near the Babinda Creek swimming hole and Rotary Park camp grounds.

While the creek is part of the Russell River system, known territory for crocs, locals believe it is unusual to have one so far upstream, in clear, cold water.

President of the Babinda Chamber of Commerce Rod Edwards said he wanted to see the crocs go.

"We need to relocate them, at the very least," he said.

"I believe you shouldn't just go shoot them or cull them, but create an industry out of them.

"That way you'll get controlled culling where you actually will use the bodies – don't just shoot them and leave them as a dead carcass, but create an industry.

"We kill cows and eat them so what's wrong with killing a croc and eating it?"

He said the community needed to come up with a solution to deal with the crocs, without scaring away potential tourists.

"Do we lobby to put signs up, and if we do, will that scare people away?" he said.

"It's one of those fine lines things – we don't want someone being put in danger because there is no signage, but at the same time, you still don't want to scare everyone away with an overreaction."

Babinda Kayaks operator Paul O'Brien said the area where the croc was spotted was downstream of where his customers ventured.

However, he said it was still a concern the animal was close to a swimming and recreation area.

"I know crocs are downstream from where I take out the kayaks, but I haven't heard of a 3m one before," he said.

He said crocodiles tended to avoid the area, mainly due to the clarity of the water.

"There's nowhere for them to hide," he said.

A Department of Environment spokeswoman said on Friday they were not aware of the sighting, as it had not yet been reported.

The DES CrocWatch website said a croc was reported in Babinda Creek at Apex Park, about 500m away from Wonga Park, in September 2016.

To report a crocodile sighting, call CrocWatch hotline on 1300 130 372.

SHOOTING STILL BEING PROBED

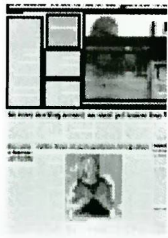
THE killer of a massive crocodile found shot near Wangan in April has not been found.

The 4.3 metre saltwater croc was found on the banks of the South Johnstone River at a farm on April 29, and was believed to have been shot dead.

A spokeswoman for the department of Environment said no one had yet been charged with the killing of the monster croc.

"Investigations are ongoing and if members of the public have any information about the incident, they are urged to call DES on 1300 130 372 or Crime Stoppers of 1800 333 000."

In Queensland, the illegal taking of a crocodile carries a maximum penalty of \$28,383.



06 Jun 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

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Babinda Creek is a favourite with locals and visitors for swimming and kayaking. It is not known if the crocodile photographed recently is the same one that was snapped in the same area in 2014 (below right)



22 Apr 2018
Sunday Territorian, Darwin

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Article Type: News Item • Audience : 12,772 • Page: 8 • Printed size: 377.00cm²
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Mayors back croc cull

Big beasts spark fears

**ISABELLA HOOD and
GREG ROBERTS**

SEVERAL Northern Territory mayors have thrown their support behind the possibility of a crocodile cull.

The calls to have crocodile numbers reduced comes after a 4.7m saltie was removed from Darwin Harbour by Parks and Wildlife exactly a week ago.

Rangers have also pulled out four large saltwater crocodiles in the Katherine area this month. Areas inhabited by crocodiles included the high level bridge for the first time in two decades and within 2km of the popular Katherine Hot Springs attraction.

Katherine Mayor Fay Miller said crocodiles were increasingly encroaching on built-up areas and action was

needed, including a cull.

She said the Northern Territory Government should start looking at a long-term plan to manage the population of crocodiles.

"It is time for some more serious steps to be taken, because very large crocodiles are starting to encroach too close to civilised built-up areas," Ms Miller told *ABC radio*.

"I will certainly have a conversation with my local MP (Sandra Nelson) and see that she actually lobbies government for that (a crocodile cull) as well.

"This is a very big wake-up call, there really doesn't seem to be anywhere that is safe to swim." Darwin Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis echoed Mayor Miller's views and said he would support a cull if it were to be monitored closely.

"We have seen situations where crocodiles can be menacing and cause problems in communities. I would be in

favour of a cull if it were carried out in a measured and controlled way," he said.

However, acting director of Northern Australian Parks, Lincoln Wilson, said crocodile management had been normal for this time of year.

"High water levels after the wet season make it easy for crocodiles to move around, and you should be Crocwise around any body of water in the Top End," he said.

The Northern Territory Government was contacted for comment.



22 Apr 2018
Sunday Territorian, Darwin

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Article Type: News Item • Audience : 12,772 • Page: 8 • Printed size: 377.00cm²
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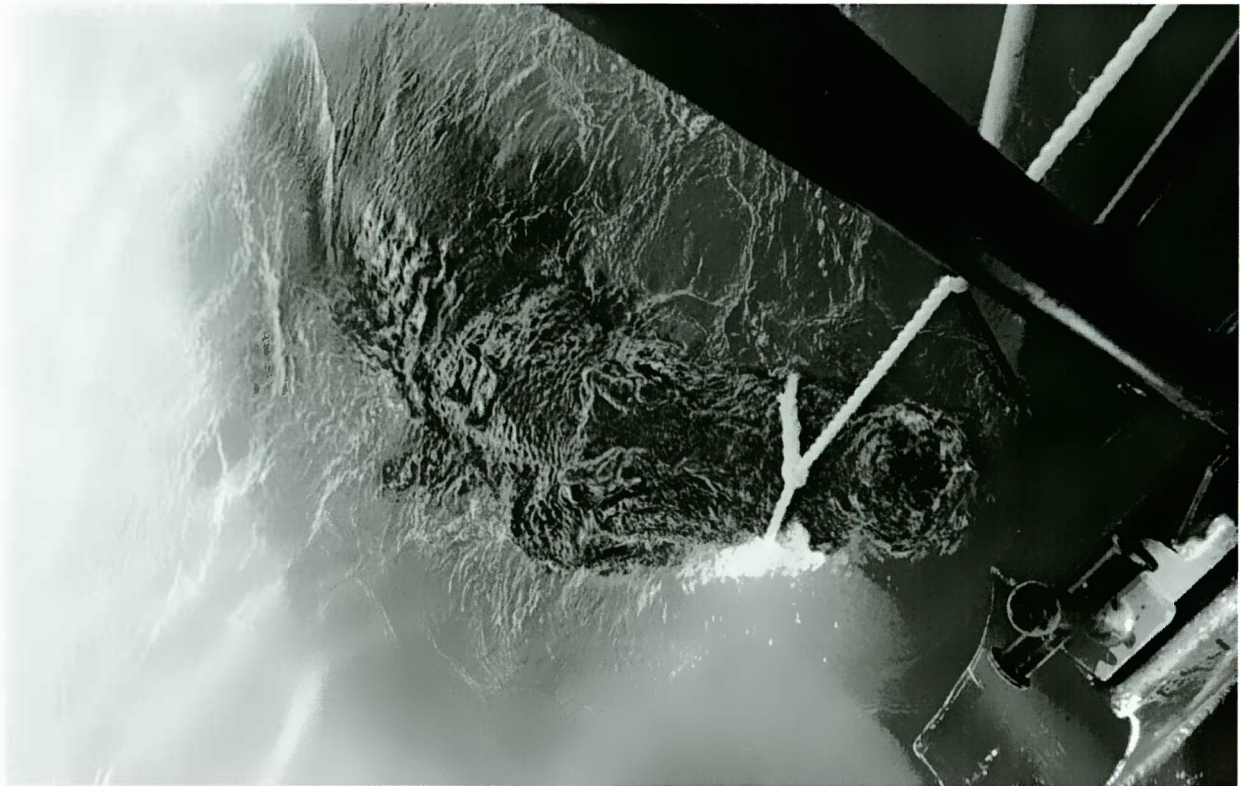
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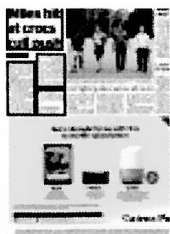
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Page 2 of 2



Parks and Wildlife pulled this almost 5m monster from Darwin Harbour a week ago

Picture: NT PARKS/WILDLIFE



10 Nov 2017
Cairns Post, Cairns

Author: Chris Calcino • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Audience : 15,157 • Page: 6 • Printed Size: 138.00cm² • Market: QLD
Country: Australia • Words: 200 • Item ID: 871702490

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Miles hit at crocs cull push

CHRIS CALCINO

chris.calcino@news.com.au

ENVIRONMENT Minister Steven Miles has shrugged off suggestions that a re-elected Labor government would be forced to yield to Katter's Australia Party demands for a crocodile cull.

Speaking from Cairns, Mr Miles labelled KAP's Safer Waterways Bill "a bit of madness" following the party's claim it would be a deal-breaker in a hung Parliament.

"We'll obviously be willing to work with crossbenchers, the same as we have in the last three years," he said.

"I think Shane Knuth and Robbie Katter are more interested in the votes that come from crocodiles than keeping people safe from crocodiles."

The *Cairns Post* yesterday

reported Treasurer Curtis Pitt said he would be happy to swim at crocodile-prone waterways like Green Patch in Gordonvale, saying the use of common sense would offset the need to fundamentally change the Far North lifestyle.

Labor Barron River MP Craig Crawford has echoed the position.

"Take advice from local people, do your research and heed the warnings," he said.

"If local intelligence is saying it's all good, then I'd be happy to swim there."

"It's no different to what we do with jellyfish and sharks in the ocean, and snakes in the forest."

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12 May 2018
Herbert River Express, Ingham QLD

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MP calls for hearings on croc bill

A STATE MP is demanding a public hearing in Ingham on the KAP's Safer Waterways Bill 2018.

The Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee will oversee the Bill that was introduced into Parliament by Member for Hill Shane Knuth on the March 21, with a report due to be tabled to Parliament in September.

"The committee is yet to determine where the public hearings will take place," Mr Knuth said.

"The Bill is designed to take back our populated waterways from the threat of crocodiles, particularly in North Queensland and to provide egg harvesting and other opportunities to indigenous and other land holders throughout the north, particu-

larly the Cape.

"It is an important issue which affects North Queenslanders, so I have written to the committee demanding public hearings be conducted in Ingham, Innisfail, Cairns, Port Douglas and Cape York. I will be again enforcing this when I appear before the committee in Brisbane this Monday."

The Bill was originally in the committee process before last year's election but had to be reintroduced once the new parliament was formed.

"It has been a long process, which is disappointing," Mr Knuth said.

"We expect and demand more from our government and North Queenslanders would be very disappointed if public hearings were not conducted in the very region the bill is designed to protect."



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Courier Mail, Brisbane

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MP gets a bit snappy over crocs

QUEENSLAND'S botched crocodile plan is to do a "head count" or "dob-in-a-croc-killer", an outraged north Queensland MP says.

State Member for Hill Shane Knuth condemned the manhunt for the killer of a monster croc (pictured strung up by the jaws), after it was shot dead in the South Johnstone River two weeks ago.

Mr Knuth slammed the "Green Gestapo" for pushing for big fines and penalties against vigilante croc hunters.

"Up North, it's become a matter of life and death," Mr Knuth, of Katter's Australian Party, said. "You know it is out of control when people can't walk in their own back yard without worrying about getting eaten by a crocodile."



CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU TUESDAY JANUARY 30 2018

NEWS 03

Killer disease warning

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

Meningococcal case reported in Cairns

FAR North Queenslanders have been warned to be on the lookout for symptoms of meningococcal disease with the dangerous illness emerging in Cairns.

The Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service has confirmed a single case of meningococcal strain Y in the Cairns region earlier this month.

Meningococcal disease is an acute bacterial infection that can cause death within hours if

not recognised and treated in time.

Dr Richard Gair, the director of Cairns Tropical Public Health Services, said the patient had since recovered and all contact tracing of the disease had been completed by health officials.

He said, while invasive meningococcal disease was relatively rare, children aged less than five years - particularly babies - had the highest incidence of the disease.

"There is no increased risk of contracting meningococcal disease in Far North Queensland at this time of year, however it can be a serious illness and the community should be vigilant," he said.

"Symptoms include vomiting, fever, headache, stiff neck, rash and joint pain and people should seek immediate treatment as early medical intervention can often prevent serious medical complications."

The number of cases of meningococcal being diagnosed in Queensland has increased by 106 per cent over the past five years. Almost 70 were reported last year.

Queensland Health data shows there were 68 people statewide affected by the illness last year, up from 45 in 2016 and 31 in 2015.

Dr Gair said nationwide, there had been a recent increase in the number of cases of meningococcal disease

caused by the W and Y strains.

He said these strains were not covered by the meningococcal C vaccine.

"For this reason, a catch-up program has been introduced to deliver ACWY vaccine to all Year 10 students throughout Queensland via the school immunisation program."

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HOW IT SPREADS

A RELATIVELY rare bacterial disease that can be fatal if not treated in time. The disease does not spread easily and outbreaks are uncommon in the Far North. It is spread by activities such as sneezing, coughing, kissing, and sharing food or drinks. Environments where people are in close contact, such as daycare centres, school camps, parties and nightclubs, make it easier for the bacteria to spread.



WILD SIDE: Canadian tourists Bill and Beth Conn and Pat Leon were surprised to find Clifton Beach closed when they arrived for a swim.

Picture: BRENDAN RASKE

Danger lurking in the creek

DANAELLA WIVELL

WILDLIFE officers from the Department of Environment and Science (DES) have confirmed a large crocodile is living in a section of Chinaman Creek near White Rock homes.

Police officers from Edmonton were called by a resident of Atlantic Close on Sunday night to report the crocodile. The animal was seen by police about 11.45pm last night and reported to DES.

The department received a similar report from a member of the public about 8pm via its 1300 130 372 number.

A DES spokeswoman said it was believed members of the public may have been feeding the animal, as a number of animal carcasses were found in the area.

White Rock is located in Zone C under the Queensland Crocodile Management Plan, a targeted management zone, in which any crocodile larger than 2m in length are targeted for removal by DES.

Operations began last night to remove the crocodile from the area.

Reports of crocodile sightings can be made to DES by ringing 1300 130 372.

Net snares stingrays but can't stop baby croc

DANIEL BATEMAN

A SMALL crocodile found inside the stinger net at Clifton Beach is back in the wild.

Surf lifesavers and Department of Environment and Science

wildlife officers helped removed the 80cm reptile after it was reported swimming inside the stinger enclosure just after 10.30am yesterday.

It was reported to the department by Division 9 Councilor Brett Olds, who was at the beach with his family.

Surf Life Saving Queensland regional manager Rob Davidson said even though the croc was less than 1m long, the beach was still closed as the

animal might have still posed a danger.

"Any croc inside the net is a hazard, as it still has the potential to bite," he said.

The beach is due to be reopened today.

animal might have still posed a danger.

"Any croc inside the net is a hazard, as it still has the potential to bite," he said.

The beach is due to be reopened today.



Watch the video online
www.cairnspost.com.au

POLITICS

Katter an open book with memoirs ready

BONA fide political veteran Bob Katter (right) has released his memoirs in a new book of personal and political revelations from a lifetime under the spotlight.

The Kennedy MP's Conversation With Katter promises a behind-the-scenes look at the life and times of the man under the hat and the hung parliament that gave independent MPs "more power than any prime minister could ever dream of". Published by New Holland Publishers, the hardback went on sale yesterday.

V1 - CCF012018A



It covers Mr Katter's childhood through to his days as a miner and cattleman and finally into politics.

There is one omission from the memoir - Mr Katter found it too overwhelming to describe the vital role

his mother played in his family.

"Even though it is over nearly 50 years since she died, I am still unable to talk of my mother even to my children," he said. "I have written about her, but... I looked myself in a room because I didn't want anyone else to see the emotions that were running there."

AVIATION

Giant of the skies to bid our city farewell

ONE of the world's biggest planes is expected to depart Cairns Airport this morning.

The Antonov An-124-100, which made a "top secret" return visit to the Far North late last week, is due to take off from the airport about 8.30am.

The airport, however, was yesterday unable to confirm which direction the massive aircraft would fly off towards.

The Ukrainian cargo plane, which last visited the city in August last year, specialises in transporting oversized cargo.



It flew into Cairns on Thursday after a short stop at the Australian Defence Force's Scherger air strip at Weipa.

Prior to flying into the Far North, it had visited Perth and Shanghai.

The strategic airlift jet was designed in the 1980s by the Antonov design bureau in the Ukrainian SSR, then part of the Soviet Union.

It has attracted huge interest from Far Northern plane-spotters due to its immense size and the rarity of its visits down under.

NAIF

Security stepped up over protest concerns

ANTI-mining activists threatening the safety of the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) have forced the Government to hire private security to protect board members at taxpayer expense.

Concerns about aggressive protest tactics have grown so serious that the NAIF has consulted the Australian Federal Police and security experts.

Queensland Resources Council boss Ian Macfarlane (above) said it was outrageous the board members could not work without



threats to their safety.

"It's outrageous that these people are now preventing law-abiding citizens making decisions about projects that will be an economic benefit to Queensland's interests," he said. "They are anarchists who don't accept the democratic process."

Private security was engaged for a board meeting and function held in Rockhampton in February, while internal government security was used for a Developing Northern Australia Conference in Cairns in June.



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Daily Telegraph, Sydney

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Nippers in a croc shock

PARENTS in Queensland's far north are not enrolling their children in nippers programs because of the threat of crocodile attacks, according to a local surf lifesaving branch.

Port Douglas Surf Life Saving vice-president Michael Bolt said numbers had declined 20 per cent in the past 12 months because parents didn't think it was safe for their children to be in the water.

Katter's Australian Party state leader Robbie Katter said the crocodile issue had reached boiling point and the major parties had to agree to a croc cull.

12 NEWS

FRIDAY JANUARY 19 2018 CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU



ON BOARD: Lucy Roods-Smith, of Karimbla, with the local half-price ticket she was able to snap up for the Kuranda Scenic Railway on Australia Day. Picture: STEWART MEEHAN

Bargain at any price, but half is better

SHERIDAN IRELAND

LOCALS can jump aboard the Kuranda Scenic Railway for just half the usual price this Australia Day.

Adults can buy a ticket from Cairns to Kuranda for \$25, while children can travel from Cairns to Kuranda for just \$12.50.

Member for Barron River Craig Crawford said it was a terrific opportunity to experience one of Australia's most

"iconic" railway journeys.

"I'd like to encourage residents of Cairns and surrounding areas to take advantage of the national holiday and experience all that the Kuranda Scenic Railway has to offer," Mr Crawford said.

Member for Cairns Michael Healy said the trip was an exciting way for people of all ages to explore and celebrate the Cairns region.

Kanimbla resident Lucy Roods-Smith said she had

been on the train once before and was looking forward to seeing the sights again.

"Being a local, there's so many tourists attractions that you just don't really get to see," she said.

"It's a different way to see Cairns."

Residents living in Cairns and the surrounding areas north to the Daintree, south to Cardwell, and west to the Tablelands can take advantage of the sale.

HIGHLIGHTS

The trip will take passengers past four waterfalls, including Stoney Creek Falls and Barron Falls, with a 15-minute stop at Barron Falls National Park. A free Australia Day sausage sizzle will also be on offer for railway passengers, along with entertainment from an Aussie bush band, temporary tattoos and lamingtons.

Officers kill croc after an attack

CHRIS CALCINO
chris.calcino@news.com.au

A CROCODILE has been shot and killed after attacking a spear fisherman diving in waters in the Torres Strait.

The Department of Environment and Science received a report on Monday that a man had been attacked a day earlier while diving for fish off Nagir Island at the tip of the Cape York Peninsula.

The 3m crocodile lunged at him, lacerating his hands and arms as he fought it off.

The man was taken to Thursday Island Hospital before being flown to Cairns Hospital for surgery, where he remained in a stable condition.

Environment Minister Leanne Enoch said the operation to find and kill the would-be man-eater began as soon as wildlife officers were notified of the attack.

She said the crocodile was found following a challenging operation including land and water-based patrols over two nights.

"DES wildlife officers, assisted by the Queensland Police Service, located the target animal near Nagir Island during a spotlight patrol on Monday night," Ms Enoch

said. "Difficult tides hampered efforts to approach the animal on the first night.

*But wildlife officers were able to remove the crocodile at around 10pm (Tuesday) night in a follow-up patrol using a smaller boat.

"This was a challenging operation and involved close co-operation between DES wildlife officers, Torres Shire Council and the Queensland Police Service, who provided invaluable support to achieve a swift outcome.

"I'd like to thank council and the police for their assistance in this operation."

Ms Enoch said wildlife officers responded quickly, despite the remote location, as they were already in the area providing crocodile management assistance to Torres Shire Council.

"Torres Shire Council holds a crocodile management authority, and wildlife officers have been working with council officers and Queensland Police to train them in contemporary crocodile management," she said.

editorial@calmispot.com.au
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07 Jul 2018

Weekend Post, Cairns

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People want croc cull

SO, the people have spoken – 77 per cent in favour of a crocodile cull and these are locals.

Yes, people who live in the area and know what it is like to have our lifestyle restricted by the increasing numbers of these killers and yet our elected representatives tell us no.

To all the Labor members: do not forget that you have been elected to represent the wishes of your electorate, not tell us what we want or don't want.

So, how dare Environment Minister Leeanne Enoch tell us that there will be no cull.

I have lived through a friend being killed by a crocodile so have a vested interest in ensuring that no-one goes through what we and his family have gone through and continue to go through.

May I remind the minister that when we moved to Cairns nearly 40 years ago you could and did swim anywhere and everywhere (except the Daintree) and it was perfectly safe to do so.

This is the tropics, people need and love to swim in both the ocean and the freshwater swimming holes.

Make them safe again for all and bring on a cull, sooner rather than later.

Listen to the people who elected you, or you won't be holding your seat come the next election.

Beth Lavington, Kanimbla



17 May 2018
Queensland Country Life, Brisbane

Author: Jessica Johnston • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 22,034 • Page: 28 • Printed size: 196.00cm² • Market: QLD
Country: Australia • words: 321 • Item ID: 954981279

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Plan to target problem crocs

BY JESSICA JOHNSTON

PROPERTY owners in North Queensland are being urged to have their say on a plan to target problem crocodiles in the North.

Katter's Australian Party members are calling for public hearings to be held to discuss their Safer Waterways bill in affected towns

Hill MP Shane Knuth reintroduced the bill in to parliament on March 21 and this week conducted the first public briefing to the Tourism Development and Environment Committee which will oversee the bill at Parliament House.

A report is due to be tabled in parliament on September 24.

Mr Knuth said the number of crocodile sightings were exploding in the North. "We have seen increases in the number of beaches being

forced to close due to the rise of crocodile numbers year on year. Surf Lifesaving Queensland reports they had four beach closures in 2015 while last year there were 21 closures. In the first four months of this year we have already seen seven closures.

"Crocodile sightings are also increasing with 509 reported sightings last year compared to 275 in the first four months of this year."

The bill was first introduced in 2017, but time lapsed before it could be considered ahead of the last state election.

He said meetings were held in Mareeba, Innisfail and Cairns to discuss the issue during the last parlia-

ment and called for these to be expanded.

"It is critical that people in these areas have their say as they experiencing the problems first hand.

"The Bill is designed to take back our populated waterways from the threat of crocodiles, particularly in North Queensland and to provide egg harvesting and other opportunities to indig-

enous and other land holders throughout the north, particularly the Cape.

"I have written to the committee demanding public hearings be conducted in Ingham, Innisfail, Cairns, Port Douglas and Cape York."

Mr Knuth encouraged North Queenslanders to lodge a submission before May 31, by emailing itdec@parliament.qld.gov.au.



17 May 2018
North Queensland Register, Townsville QLD

Author: Jessica Johnston • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 2,338 • Page: 15 • Printed size: 443.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
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"It has been a long pro-

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"We saw recently the Government push through their vegetation bill in six weeks, yet a bill that is designed to protect life and livelihood will take six months to table in parliament.

"It is a stark reminder of how the State Government treats those outside of the south-east corner of the state.

"The Labor government rush through laws that damage regional industry, but delay bills that potentially save lives and the livelihoods of people in regional Queensland."

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MENACE: Saltwater crocodiles are the target of Katter's Australian Party's safer waterways bill and property owners are being urged to have their say.



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MENACE: Saltwater crocodiles are the target of Katter's Australian Party's safer waterways bill and property owners are being urged to have their say.



Problem croc explosion

ANDREW BACKHOUSE

andrew.backhouse1@news.com.au

THE number of "problem crocodiles" removed from Queensland waterways has increased as the State Government insists its management program is working.

The Department of Environment and Science removed 84 problem reptiles in 2017, compared with 78 in 2016.

The figures, released yesterday in a Queensland Crocodile Management report, revealed there were 684 estuarine

crocodile sightings reported in 2017 compared with 378 the previous year.

The number of sightings has steadily increased from 2010, when there were 176.

There were also 11 dead crocodiles reported in 2017.

Department officials conducted 1380km of vessel-based surveys across 28 river systems in Queensland ranging from Bundaberg through to Cape York. They also surveyed eight river systems in helicopters last year.

The report said the number of sighting reports was not directly related to the number of crocodiles in the environment because some were reported

"several times". It also said the number of sighting reports had increased in recent years as the CrocWatch service had become better known.

Environment Minister Leeanne Enoch said the report highlighted the "crucial work" wildlife staff had undertaken, including the crocodile population monitoring program, in-

vestigations of sighting reports and the removal of problem crocodiles.

"The overall aim of the crocodile monitoring program is to determine the size, distributions and densities of estuarine crocodile population in different waterways," she said.

"At the end of the program,

the information collected will be analysed to determine how crocodile populations vary between different areas, and what changes have occurred over time."

Katter's Australia Party Hill MP Shane Knuth said the State Government needed to "get real" on croc management.

"Today's announcement reaffirms there is a croc issue in North Queensland," he said.

"The Government is reluctant to make the tough decisions because keeping southern votes is more important to them than protecting the life and livelihood of North Queenslanders."

Mr Knuth said the 2017 sighting numbers were "extraordinary".

"Any sane person would argue it represents a large increase in crocodile numbers," he said. "Most people I speak to in the region tell me they don't even bother reporting sightings any more as nothing gets done, so that increase is only the tip of the iceberg."

He said the provision of funding for drones to Surf Life Saving Queensland was a welcome addition to the organisation, but was not the solution to crocodile management or reducing the instances of sightings and beach closures.

"It is great for SLSQ to have access to this technology, but it

doesn't solve the root of the problem," he said.

LNP Environment spokesman David Crisafulli said the Government's update proved it was "not serious" about dealing with problem crocodiles.

"Rather than addressing the issue of more frequent sightings and aggressive behaviours, the update is nothing more than an attempt to kick the problem into the long grass for the next couple of years," he said.

"We don't need another survey, we need action on an issue that is threatening the lives of North Queensland and has the potential to damage our tourism offering."



26 Jun 2018
The Australian, Australia

Author: James Jeffrey • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
Audience : 94,448 • Page: 11 • Printed size: 55.00cm² • Market: National
Country: Australia • words: 86 • Item ID: 973963196

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JAMES JEFFREY

Sangers and crocs

Coalition MP **Warren Entsch** has made us curious about his dining habits after telling The Guardian Australia: "I think **Josh (Frydenberg)** has been delivered a shit sandwich, and he's doing a very good job of *unravelling it*." (Italics ours.) Sticking with far north Queenslanders, RMIT ABC Fact Check has won the "most absurd fact checked gong" at Global Fact 5 in Rome for vetting **Bob Katter's** claim "every three months a person is torn to pieces by a crocodile in north Queensland". (Verdict: wrong.)

strewth@theaustralian.com.au

TOWNSVILLEBULLETIN.COM.AU WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7 2018

NEWS 07

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN

#BRINGBACKDUNDEE

Shark's behind Dundee

HOLLY BYRNES

FORGET those Marvel heroes – the next big screen battle could be Australia's Great White Shark taking on Crocodile Dundee if Greg Norman has anything to do with it.

After the monster success of Tourism Australia's big screen teaser during Monday's Super Bowl, Norman (below) has thrown his weight behind the #BringBackDundee petition to revive the film franchise.

The golf star – who themed his Christmas party around the Dundee films last year – offered his services to Tourism Australia and any support they needed to "bring Australia to the big screen again".

Norman yesterday told his 92,000-plus Instagram followers to get behind the movement hot on the heels of the mock movie trailer going viral.

Tourism Australia managing director John O'Sullivan said Norman reached out after the trailer was released.

"When you start to get Australian superstars like Greg Norman getting in touch to offer their services and support the campaign, you know you must have come up with something pretty special," he said.

Adding to buzz around the movie, comedy heavyweight Judd Apatow has declared his interest in the project.

The director and producer behind *The 40 Year Old Virgin* tweeted his support of a reboot.

"Dundee came to America. Now he has a kid he didn't know about. What day do I start," he tweeted.

Ratings for the telecast confirm the ad seen by 103.4 million viewers, with an additional 2.6 million people watching NBC's coverage.



KATTER AMONG PIGEONS: Kennedy MP Bob Katter says he'll fight Hugh Jackman for a singing part in the remake.

PICTURE: KYM SMITH

Set to croc 'n' role

Bob puts hand up for Dundee lead

RACHEL RILEY

rachel.riley@news.com.au

FEDERAL MP Bob Katter has made the bold declaration that any new Crocodile Dundee movie cannot be made without him in a starring role.

In a fun post on his official Facebook page yesterday, Mr Katter said he had auditioned for the new Crocodile Dundee movie but was pipped for the role of Prime Minister by Hugh Jackman.

"They asked me to audition for the role of Prime Minister. I turned up and belted out an excellent rendition of *Barnacle Bill* the Sail-

or," the post read. "Anyone who has heard me sing knows it is similar to the sound of angels weeping."

"Then some guy called Hugh Jackman showed up and started lap dancing, which is just absurd – I've never known a tap-dancing Prime Minister."

Mr Katter told the *Bulletin* he would still pursue a role in any new production because his pre-eminent status in Australia and overseas would draw big star power to any new sequel and could even intimidate Hollywood elite.

"I'm not intimidated by Chris Hemsworth," he said.

"He should speak to psychologists about working with me because I think he will feel very humbled by that. I don't want him feel out of his depth with me."

Mr Katter said he had "a lot of mates" ready to go if and when filming begins.

"I have a lot of mates from the pubs so I'll definitely be pushing to get some of them in because they are tough blokes."

Mr Katter said he would be happy to help with casting in addition to an on-screen role.

"I will volunteer my service but I don't work for nothing," he said.

"I will sign a nondisclosure agreement."

"But any money I will make will go to my charities, like the Cloncurry Tigers, where I'm a former captain."

Mr Katter said the film must be shot in Queensland.

"The Queensland Government has organised for one of us to be eaten by a crocodile every three months ... so the film can show the real thing," he said.

"We also have some pretty spectacular locations."

Mr Katter said he had already briefed his son-in-law Robert Nios, who is president of the Firearm Dealers As-

sociation Queensland, on providing another iconic knife for the film.

"He will volunteer a pig sticker and send one to Paul Hogan," he said.

Traeger MP Robbie Katter said he thought it would be great if there was another Dundee movie made and in the North, but wild crocodiles could pose a problem.

"Many Queenslanders who grew up in the northwest like I did have a special affinity with Mick Dundee," he said. "He's a knockabout bloke who doesn't pander to political correctness and possesses a strong set of Aussie values."

"At least we know Mick Dundee wouldn't pause for a headcount if he saw a croc."

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V2 - 8LAE01Z01HA



28 Mar 2018
Herbert River Express, Ingham QLD

Section: Letters • Article Type: Letter • Audience : 2,157 • Page: 8
Printed size: 86.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • words: 240
Item ID: 932256866

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SKEWED PRIORITY ON CROC ISSUE

MEDIA reports last week that a large crocodile was loose in Townsville and the totally inadequate response from Department of Environment coincided with the first reading in Parliament of a Bill to permit culling of crocodiles in Queensland.

KAP MP Shane Knuth tabled his Bill but this Bill is doomed to failure because even the MPs from Townsville will not stand up for their electorates.

In Africa game wardens are responsible for the shooting of wildlife that threatens people's livelihood. An elephant that strays into a banana plantation is shot by National Parks rangers.

In Queensland the equivalent public servants are responsible for ensuring wildlife takes precedence over human life.

This croc, however, is not just a threat to livelihood but it is a threat to human life.

It is time for people to let the North's MPs Coralee O'Rourke, Scott Stewart, Aaron Harper and Dale Last know that the electorate will not tolerate them voting to endanger the lives of residents.

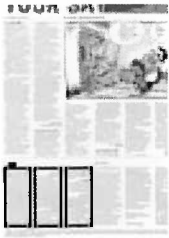
Mr Knuth's Bill is a great improvement on the current situation.

The Bill, however, should require that environment officers serve the public and the croc should have been shot before the reports were published on Thursday.

The fact that the croc is still a threat to North Queensland residents shows how little respect that ALP and LNP governments have for human life.

The major parties are both as bad as each other.

ANDREW JACKSON, Australian Country Party.



26 Feb 2018
Daily Mercury, Mackay QLD

Section: Letters • Article Type: Letter • Audience : 7,738 • Page: 16
Printed size: 120.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia • words: 365
Item ID: 917440768

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SMS

Crocodile drowns after getting its tail caught by rope in the Proserpine River (re: Daily Mercury 23/02/2018). What a great looking photo of a croc floating upside down in the drink. That's the way myself and other concerned boat owners would rather see these dangerous creatures. It's become a joke nowadays with all these crocks lurking around our creeks and beaches and it'll only be a matter of time before we see more human deaths. If the Whitsunday Fauna Rescue volunteer and the extremely concerned member of the public were so worried about the croc, why did neither person jump in the river and rescue the croc? Bob and Robbie Katter and also Shane Knuth are the only sensible politicians in QLD and are currently in the process of

trying to change legislation protecting these dangerous creatures.

— **JMD, Glenella**

Large croc drowned by piece of rope (re: Daily Mercury 23/02/2018). Come on, one tonne of croc, give us the truth. How long after the alleged demise of the croc was the photo taken? A close look at the photo and you can see the animal is bloated. And decomposing of the carcass under its left leg and anal area. Little bit of clarity is required. Perhaps some good Samaritan towed it there ...

— **GG, Mackay**

The charity The Smith Family tells us that one in seven children live in poverty. We have 200 thousand migrants/refugees arriving in Australia every year. We pay to house, clothe and feed them.

We also continue to support a large number with government support. What a difference it would make if the government supported our children in the same way?

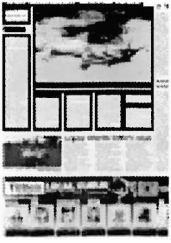
— **RZ, Andergrove**

People are that obsessed with Facebook that they can't even do a gym session or class without checking it. Makes me sick.

— **ROX, Mackay**

People want to teach their bloody kids some respect. Keep them at home. Teach them right and wrong. Not touching other peoples property. Do not enter other people's property stealing and damaging what others work hard for and stealing & damaging cars. Sick to death of hearing all this s---. Ruining the peace of the community.

— **FU, Mackay**



23 Mar 2018
Whitsunday Guardian, Whitsunday QLD

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Audience : 1,218 • Page: 5 • Printed size: 458.00cm² • Market: QLD • Country: Australia
words: 484 • Item ID: 929947494

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Stop baiting the crocs

Species targeted in Prossie River

Peter Carruthers
peter.carruthers@
whitsundaytimes.com.au

THE managing director of Whitsunday Crocodile Safari says he is "sick and tired" of seeing crocs fall victim to baiting in the Proserpine River.

Last week, for the fourth time in 12 months, Steve Watson found a crocodile – given the affectionate moniker Fatguts – with rope hanging out of his mouth.

Operating tours on the Proserpine River for more than 18 years, Mr Watson said it had been a consistent problem for a long time.

He said often kangaroo carcasses were tied to a rope and then to a four-wheel-drive and used to lure the animal out of the river.

When asked if perhaps young blokes playing the fool after a few riverside beers were responsible, Mr Watson said he had heard from a witness this was not the case.

"It's just d---head behaviour really," he said.

The baiting is regularly reported to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection as saltwater crocodiles are protected under Queensland law, but Mr Watson said little action was taken.

"We keep reporting it to the authorities but nothing ever seems to happen."

In compliance with the permit required to operate on the river, Mr Watson said he submitted six-monthly reports to the department which regularly mentioned crocodile baiting.

"I never, never hear back about those comments. I put them in there to see if anyone is actually reading them," he said.

Luring crocs to the bank of the river with fresh meat endangered the animals as

they ingested the rope and it could end up tangling the animal and causing it to drown.

"The other problem is if the rope is laying in their stomach, and last time Fatguts managed to dislodge it, but there was plastic bag tied to it, there was a dead kangaroo tied to it.

"The rope lays across a valve on their tongue called a palatal valve which is used to seal off the throat when they are under water so they don't drown."

Mr Watson said a stronger presence from the DEHP was needed on the river and better education was needed to inform the public about the value of the protected species.

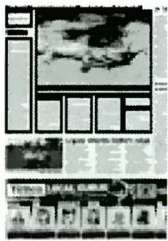
"Protected species doesn't seem to mean much, most of the perpetrators are let off with a slap on the wrist, which is a bit disappointing," Mr Watson said.

Last month, a 4.1m crocodile was found dead with a rope attached to its tail. It drowned on a rising tide while trying to free itself from the rope.

Katter's Australia Party

yesterday reintroduced proposed legislation in Queensland parliament to manage the state's crocodile population.

A department spokesperson confirmed it has received reports of crocs being "fed" in the area and stated it is an offence to bait a protected animal.



23 Mar 2018
Whitsunday Guardian, Whitsunday QLD

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RISING TO THE BAIT: A large crocodile on the banks of Proserpine River with a rope around its neck.

PHOTO: WHITSUNDAY CROCODILE SAFARI

04 NEWS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9 2017 CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU

QUEENSLAND ELECTION

Pitt willing to bet life on policy

CHRIS CALCINO AND DAN BATEMAN

TREASURER Curtis Pitt says he is so confident in Labor's crocodile management policy he would happily go swimming at Green Patch on the Mulgrave River.

The Member for Mulgrave said his party had removed more crocodiles than the previous LNP government, and that rangers had full power to use fatal force when necessary.

The issue has reached a head in recent weeks with an elderly Port Douglas woman being taken by a crocodile in a nearby creek, two predators spotted swimming near a children's playground on the Cairns Esplanade late last week and a Tully farmer revealing 10 of his cattle and two prized working dogs were eaten by crocodiles in a creek on his property.

Cairns MP Rob Pyne supports the killing of crocodiles in popular swimming areas such as Lake Placid.

KAP candidate for Cook George Rasmussen said rogue reptiles should be shot dead.

Greens candidate Aaron McDonald said the current management program was working well but wanted more public awareness education programs.

One Nation's Ian Hodge said the party wanted to introduce crocodile ranching, problem reptiles to be killed and others relocated.

Sam Marino of the LNP said there should be no crocodiles in urban areas with all targeted for removal as soon as they were spotted.

Mr Pitt disagreed that the days of kids swimming at Ross and Locke, Peets Bridge, Green Patch and parts of Bahana Gorge were a thing of the past.

"I think those days are not well and truly gone, but what it is about is community vigilance and making sure crocodiles are reported," he said.

"I've swum in those creeks and rivers my entire life. There's always been crocodiles there and if there are problem crocodiles they should be removed."

Crocodiles have been spotted at Green Patch several

times in recent years with a reptile at least 3m long photographed at the popular Gordonvale swimming hole in May 2016.

In decades past, Queensland's Education Department once sent schoolchildren from Gordonvale for swimming lessons off the riverbank.

Mr Pitt said residents had to be vigilant and be croc-wise but should not let crocodiles ruin their lifestyle.

Katter's Australian Party plans to make crocodiles its biggest priority going into the election, banking on holding the balance of power to ensure its demands are met.

KAP candidate for Cook George Rasmussen said the party's Safer Waterways Bill would ensure it was safe for the public to swim.

"Ninety-eight per cent of the people we talk to are behind it all the way," he said.

"You've got to remove the rogue crocodiles so matter where they are."

"There's only one (thing) for them - that's shoot them."

"Not even the crocodile farms want them."

SNAPSHOT WHAT THE CAIRNS



ONE NATION

"We're going to introduce crocodile ranching, so problem crocodiles are humanely euthanased, but others relocated. What we'd like to do is create indigenous or Torres Strait islander business in regards to harvesting crocodile eggs and at the same time, appoint more people in regards to national parks, to make people aware of the dangers of crocodiles."

IAN HODGE



LNP

"In urban areas, we need zero crocs. We will be working with councils for them to specify which areas they think should be 'zone 1'. Any crocodile found in that area will be removed as soon as it is sighted."

SAM MARINO



GREENS

"I'm mostly of the opinion that (crocodile management) is mostly working as it should. The one thing you can do for croc management is information awareness spreading, so people recognise croc safety in the appropriate situation."

AARON McDONALD



Inquiry after croc head discovery

ONE of two crocodiles that was spotted at the northern end of the Cairns Esplanade may have met a grisly death, after a croc head was found on the beach.

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection officers are investigating.

Police said the reptile's head had been adorned with a pair of sunglasses and a beer can.

Two crocodiles, including one measuring 2m and another about 4m, were spotted in the area on Friday morning.

It is an offence under the Nature Conservation Act 1992

to take an estuarine crocodile without authority and the maximum penalty for the unlawful killing of a crocodile is \$28,383.75.

Anyone with information is urged to contact EHP on 1300 130 372, Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or Police. Link on E14 44.

MANUFACTURING

Region's hub to focus on maritime industry

LABOR will today reveal a \$30 million election promise to build manufacturing hubs in Cairns, Rockhampton and Townsville.

It will also unveil a plan for a new Minister for Manufacturing to oversee the projects alongside the Department of State Development.

Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk (above) said the focus of the Cairns hub would be maritime industries, particularly those operating around the port.

The initial \$30 million funding, split between the three regions,



would cover land supply and the establishment of infrastructure.

Local businesses, industry, unions and universities will be consulted on the development of the manufacturing hubs.

The scheme was inspired by similar operations overseas, including in the US and China, which co-locate small to medium-sized enterprises and increase universities' collaboration.

"A Cairns hub will ensure additional jobs and opportunities are generated," Treasurer Curtis Pitt said.

PARLIAMENT

Hanson says she would lead party negotiations

PAULINE Hanson (right) says she will take a lead role in negotiations should there be a hung parliament after the November 25 Queensland election.

The Queensland Senator, whose resurgence could see One Nation play a key role in determining the next premier, said unlike her disastrous foray into the Queensland Parliament in 1998 - where she won 11 seats only to see the party capitulate and deregistered - she was the one in control.

Senator Hanson said her plan



was to build the One Nation brand to the point where she could walk away from politics and pass it to generation next.

As the party leader, Senator Hanson said it made sense for her to assist any elected One

Nation MPs in negotiations with other parties.

"I would like to be part of that, with my experience and my knowledge. ... But I do respect Steve Dickson fully and I would respect the other candidates that get elected to the position," she said.

FUNDING

Parties promise cash for show and school

THE Tully Showgrounds will receive \$5 million for a master plan and new grandstand if the LNP comes up trumps in the state election.

The party's Hill candidate Mario Quagliata said the project would be delivered through the Cassowary Coast Regional Council through Royalties for the Regions funding.

"The grandstand at the Tully Showgrounds is very old and has been closed for safety reasons by the council," he said. "This is an opportunity for the community to



look to the future." Labor has pledged that Yorkies Knob State School will get \$200,000 worth of undercover walkways if it is returned to power.

Barron River MP Craig Crawford said he had been asked by school representatives over the past 12 months to secure funding for the project which would keep kids dry in the wet season.

The project would be delivered via the Buy Queensland Policy which provides an advantage to local businesses when tendering.

CCPOL201MA-V1

CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9 2017

NEWS 05

QUEENSLAND ELECTION

CANDIDATES SAY



LABOR

“What I do know is that we've got a very strong policy, and that in reaction to any crocodile being spotted, there is a procedure. I understand that in other cases where that's happened, they have all been removed. Might have to look at cutting them so they are about the same size.”

MICHAEL HEALY



INDEPENDENT

“I support euthanasing crocodiles in freshwater swimming habitats, such as Lake Placid. In other areas, I think they need to be better resourced the existing policies and officers.”

ROB PINE



Survey tracking reptiles' growth

SHANE NICHOLS

A REPORT card on the Queensland Government's statewide survey of crocodile populations is due to be released by the end of the year.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has surveyed more than 1200km of waterways since April to determine whether croc numbers have increased in the state's many creeks and rivers.

However, an EHP spokesman said the findings of the \$27 million three-year survey would not be made public until it was completed.

“EHP is happy to provide confirmation when crocodile surveys have been completed in an area, but the results of surveys will be made public when the three-year monitoring program has been completed and the results properly analysed,” he said.

“EHP will issue a report card at the end of 2017, detailing which rivers and their associated waterways have been surveyed to date, so that communities can see the progress being made.”

The work is the most comprehensive survey of Queensland crocodile populations in more than a decade and is part of the government's \$3.8 million commitment over three years for “enhanced” crocodile management.

Specialty-trained wildlife officers are surveying waterways at night from Gladstone to Cape York Peninsula and the adjoining Gulf of Carpentaria.

The department also carried out daytime helicopter surveys of coastal waterways from the Hinchinbrook Channel to the Daintree River over three days in August.

The reason the findings will not be released for several years is that the department will replicate the survey each year across the same waterways at the same time of year.

“A snapshot at any point in time does not provide an accurate reflection of a population,” the EHP spokesman said.

“Consistency and accuracy are critical to the monitoring program and will mean that the data are statistically rigorous and comparable across river systems and between years.”

“The program has been reviewed and refined based on feedback provided by members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Crocodile Specialist Group, which includes some of the leading experts in crocodilian monitoring in the world.”

editorial@cairnspost.com.au
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WHAT YOU SAID ON FACEBOOK

Never had this issue in the 70s and 80s.

Kelly Wilmer

I'll still head up for a break and swim appropriately. Beach gets closed for stingers too.

Stacey Mander

As far as beaches go those up here are not a patch on southern surf beaches with beautiful clean water. So the fact we have crocs is awesome as an attraction.

Brett Guy

It's either kill the people or kill the crocs.

Wendy Lynam

Common sense prevails in water that is safe or in the day, not mornings, nights and breeding season.

Elenka Parkin

Just the sheer thought of one of those being in the water somewhere is enough to keep me out. If it ain't got chlorine in it, I don't swim in it.

Toni Garrett Odgers

Come on. Their breeding is getting out of control. Swimming holes/places are being taken over. Once that was an every day swimming pool is now a crocodile nest. A crocodile can walk for days looking for a place with territory they can manage on their own. Relocating to a new residence is a must.

Charline Pearson

Why do people still go swimming in crocodile habitats?

Elias Mansour

I grew up in the north. I'm 100km up in the hills from Cairns. They are up here now, not safe in our dams, farms, everywhere.

Korena Horne

I might vote for the croc.

Mieke Van Raders

Yep, that's right. Kill all the crocs all the sharks, all the dogs and cats, all the snakes, just to please a few people or it might be easier to stay out of the bloody water.

Jack Formosa

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http://regionals.smedia.com.au/cairnspost/PrintPages.aspx?doc=NCCP/2017/11/09&fro... 9/11/2017



05 Jun 2018
Cairns Post, Cairns

Section: Letters • Article Type: Letter • Audience : 13,896 • Page: 15
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Letters



Send them to PO Box 126,
Cairns 4870 or email
letters@cairnspost.com.au

Taking action on crocs

THANK you Gerry Vallianos (letters, 1/6) for highlighting one of the many issues that have deteriorated over the last 20 years due to weak political "leadership".

Crocodile numbers have exploded and taken over countless waterways North Queenslanders used to enjoy.

Crocodiles are protected as "endangered" by outdated Federal legislation so it's not merely a state issue and hence why I have long fought for serious management on crocs.

In the last parliament, KAP's Rob Katter and Shane Knuth did put up the Safer Waterways Bill and once again the LNP voted with the Labor Party to block very sensible legislation. This clearly shows both major parties give priority to the

green fringe and the feelings of crocodiles over the rights of people in NQ.

**Daniel McCarthy, KAP candidate for
Leichhardt**



04 Jul 2018
Cairns Post, Cairns

Author: Daniel Bateman • Section: General News • Article Type: News Item
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ASR: AUD 1,179 • words: 377 • Item ID: 977599503

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Page 1 of 1

Targeted cull backing

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

Focus on problem salties, scientist says

A SCIENTIST believes targeted culling of crocodiles in the Far North should be allowed to protect people from the dangerous reptiles.

Northern Territory-based zoologist Dr Adam Britton says the Queensland Government's current crocodile management program is very similar to the targeted culling program in the NT, as both resulted in saltwater crocs being permanently removed from problem areas.

While the program allowed for culling of crocs in the NT, in Queensland, relocated reptiles are kept alive and taken to overcrowded croc farms or zoos.

"If you do targeted culling, which is what I support, the idea that you go out and remove problem animals from areas where there's an elevated risk of attack on people, that's something we've been doing for a long time and it's been proven to be successful," Dr Britton said.

An overwhelming 77 per cent of respondents to the Cairns Post's Your Say on the

Far North Reader Survey were in favour of a cull of the native animals under a croc management plan. Dr Britton, however, warned widespread culling would not ensure water user safety, as it was impossible to say whether a waterway was croc-free.

"Going into the Barron River and knocking off 50 per cent of the reptiles out of that river isn't going to serve any

purpose, because most of the animals in that river aren't

actually going to be a threat to people, anyway," he said.

"So what you're basically doing is leading people into a false sense of security about removing about half the crocodiles from the Barron River.

"Of course the next question is going to be, 'can we go swimming now? Is it going to be safe?' And you can't ever say that."

The Palaszczuk government has ruled out introducing a croc cull, also saying it would

endanger lives by lulling people into a false sense of security.

Tourism Tropical North Queensland chairwoman Wendy Morris said it was time to put in place a realistic, considered plan for croc management in Queensland.

"The current approach is simply not working for our community, as indicated by the increasing frustration of many," she said.

She said a single human encounter with a croc had enormous ramifications for the region's economy.





16 May 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

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'This is why we need to cull'

South Johnstone croc stalked fishermen, then found dead

Elisabeth Champion

POLITICAL moves to cull big crocodiles from near human populations are ramping up as reports a 4.8m specimen was found dead in the South Johnstone River and had possibly been shot.

The croc had reportedly approached fishermen this month

and there have been unconfirmed reports of an even larger one stalking anglers in another part of the river. The incidents coincide with Katter's Australian Party pushing its Safer Waterways Bill to proactively take out large crocs from areas where people live and play.

FULL STORY P5



16 May 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

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By yesterday afternoon, this photograph had been shared on Facebook more than 2000 times.



16 May 2018
Innisfail Advocate, Innisfail QLD

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Page 3 of 3

Croc cull bill on Katter agenda

Elisabeth Champion

WILDLIFE officers are investigating reports a massive crocodile was found dead recently in the South Johnstone River near Innisfail and that it may have been shot.

A picture of the croc believed to be up to 4.8 metres long is circulating around local social media pages.

At time of printing, the image had been shared more than 2000 times.

A spokeswoman for the Department of Environment and Science confirmed that the picture had been taken recently and they were investigating.

The timing of the photo coincided with an announcement by Katter's Australia Party member for Hill Shane Knuth that they will be holding public hearings in Ingham, Innisfail, Cairns, Port Douglas and Cape York about the crocs.

He introduced the KAP's Safer Waterways Bill 2018 on

March 21 to the Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee, with a report due to be tabled to Parliament on September 24.

"The committee is yet to determine where the public hearings will take place," Mr Knuth said.

"The bill is designed to take back our populated waterways from the threat of crocodiles, particularly in North Queensland and to provide egg harvesting throughout the North, particularly the Cape.

"It is an important issue for North Queenslanders and needs to be addressed before a tragedy happens."

The bill was originally in the committee process prior to last year's election but had to be re-introduced once the new parliament was formed.

"It has been a long process, which is disappointing," Mr Knuth said.

"We saw recently the Government push through their

vegetation bill in six weeks, yet a bill that is designed to protect life and livelihood will take six months to table in parliament.

"It is a stark reminder of how the State Government treats those outside of the south-east corner of the state.

"We expect and demand more from our government and North Queenslanders would be very disappointed if public hearings were not conducted in the very region the bill is designed to protect.

"I would encourage as many tourism operators, property owners, surf lifesaving members, water sport enthusiast and anyone affected by the encroachment of crocodiles in populated waterways or farms to have your say and lodge a submission before the closing date," added Mr Knuth.

Submissions to the committee close on May 31 and can be emailed to itdec@parliament.qld.gov.au or contact hill@parliament.qld.gov.au



23 Apr 2018
The Australian, Australia

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View to a cull: the risk of snakes and sharks and crocodiles

GRAHAM RICHARDSON
COMMENT



“Culling” is a term with a bad name. Too many animal activists have campaigned against the culling of kangaroos with false claims about how many species of that animal are endangered by the practice. Way back in 1989, I approved the culling of two million kangaroos after a few good seasons in a row had left them competing against each other and farm animals for food and water. That decision passed with little or no outcry. Three decades on, I doubt it would go down so easily. What’s more, kangaroos are a benign animal in the sense they are vegetarians and do not go out of their way to hunt down humans.

There are three creatures with which Australians interact that can and do kill far too regularly.

First, snakes. In the past week a man was killed in Townsville by a juvenile eastern brown snake.

Deaths from snake bite occur every year in a country with nine of the 10 deadliest snakes in the world. Too many Australians die trying to kill the snake rather than ignoring it or calling for a professional to remove it. While it may be illegal to kill snakes in many places, many die from shovel disease and lead poisoning.

You can’t cull snakes because there are too many of them and if you tried, too many of us would perish to the fangs of taipans, browns, tigers, death adders, copperheads and their ilk. The argument about culling comes down to sharks and crocodiles. Their attacks are so violent and bloody that they receive much more publicity than deaths from snake bites. Everyone knows of two recent shark attacks in Western Australia

but few are aware of the Townsville death. The horror of dying by the roll of the crocodile or in the massive teeth of the great white shark capture the imagination like no other death ever could.

Calls for the culling of sharks are common in WA but the futility of it all is hard to escape. You can’t cull the sharks out of the entire Indian Ocean and we often criticise Chinese and Taiwanese fish-

ermen for killing sharks just to put

their fins in soup. Sharks are a fact of life and when you enter their domain there is a risk. We should spend money on all forms of safety in the water. Be it drones, nets, repellents or campaigns to swim between the flags, it should all be upgraded.

If you go in search of the perfect wave in the Margaret River area or on the coast between Yamba and Tweed Heads in NSW, you’re accepting a shark attack is possible and are prepared to chance your arm — or leg.

It is possible to call for a cull of really large crocs. After Gough Whitlam banned croc shooting in 1974, it didn’t take long for the animals to grow. Crocodiles don’t stay in the water, either. They can track you through the bush and muster considerable speed for the chase. Crocs can enter our domain and I doubt a cull of those over 4m would do harm to the species but it might save the lives of a few human beings.

sky NEWS

Watch Richo

WEDNESDAYS AT 8PM



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Cairns Post, Cairns

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What an absolute croc

LNP slams Enoch for 'mad' views on culling

DANIEL BATEMAN
daniel.bateman@news.com.au

THE State Environment Minister's response to whether she supports culling of crocodiles has been branded as "mad" by the Opposition.

David Crisafulli, the LNP's environment spokesman, has hit out at Leeanne Enoch's response to a question on notice in Queensland Parliament on Tuesday.

Ms Enoch was asked by Katter's Australia Party MP Nick Dametto about whether she would "act to prioritise human life in North Queensland by supporting a responsible crocodile cull?"

The minister replied that the Palaszczuk government maintained public safety as its highest priority when it came to croc management.

"The member and others

know that estuarine crocodiles are listed as vulnerable species under state legislation," Ms Enoch said.

"They are also protected nationally under Commonwealth legislation and internationally under the Convention of the International Trade of Endangered Species, so there is a great deal of protection for this particular species."

She said any further response to the question may impinge on KAP's Safer Waterways Bill, which was still before the House.

Mr Crisafulli, who was the Member for the Townsville seat of Mundingburra from 2012-2015, described the minister's response to the question as "bizarre" and "mad."

"It took me about 30 seconds to blink and then I took

stock of what I heard," Mr Crisafulli said.

"If an environment minister in the state is unaware of how big an issue crocodiles are to regional Queensland, then I suggest that minister should be doing something else with their time."

In 2013, the Newman Government frontbencher criticised scientists who did not support the removal of crocodiles from the wild.

He said: "It's ridiculous that we should kowtow to a group of over-educated people who live thousands of kilometres away telling us how we should interact with wildlife."

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Wright vows to fight a cull

BY LYDIA LYNCH

AUSTRALIA'S newest crocodile hunter is pretty chuffed to be compared with the late, great Steve Irwin.

"To be regarded in that circle, it is a bloody big privilege," Northern Territory's outback wrangler Matt Wright said.

Wright, 37, is building a reputation in the Top End of Australia much as Irwin did, a passionate advocate of one of the most feared animals in the world.

National Geographic will today release the third television series of "Outback Wrangler" in which Wright takes the path first blazed by Irwin.

Wright said he is often compared with Irwin and even Paul Hogan's Crocodile Dundee.

"Steve and I have done different stuff. We have the same purpose for conservation and looking after the environment and wildlife but we have different personalities," Wright said.

Irwin, the original crocodile hunter, was tragically killed by a sting ray in 2006.

Where Irwin conquered the small screens in a khaki shirt, Wright is monsterring social media with more than 100,000 followers.

Like his predecessor, Wright the crocodile crusader is on a mission to protect saltwater crocodiles, fighting against a vocal campaign to have them culled.

"No way there needs to be a crocodile cull, we just spent the past 40 years trying to get

the croc numbers up again. Why would we want to start culling them?

"When they shot them out there were about 4000 left. Through careful management and sustainable commercial industry with crocodile eggs we have brought the population back."

The wildlife "relocator" moves large animals like crocodiles, wild buffalo and even polar bears that find

themselves in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"People say there are too many crocodiles but you know there are too many humans too," Wright said.

Raised in the Australian bush, the dangerous animal expert and conservationist became comfortable with wildlife at a young age.

"Growing up I started catching brown snakes and moving wildlife around family and friends' properties and picking up injured animals, and it all sort of grew from there," Mr Wright said.

"I was about 20 when I caught my first crocodile but five or six when I got my first brown snake."

Since then, Wright has spent time as a horse musterer, oil rig worker, soldier in the Australian Army, and professional chopper pilot and instructor.

"When I moved north I started collecting crocodile eggs and catching crocs, mustering and running portable yards for feral cattle," he said.

Outback Wrangler is on the National Geographic from December 6.



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Katherine Times, Katherine NT

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SNAPPED UP: Season three of Matt Wright's show Outback Wrangler returns to National Geographic from December 6. Picture: supplied

CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU TUESDAY FEBRUARY 20 2018

NEWS 09

Inquest on Holly not over

JANESSA EKERT
janessa.ekert@news.com.au

TWO witnesses may be recalled to give evidence over the death of Julian teenager Holly Winta Brown after the Far Northern Coroner subpoenaed the Queensland Nurses and Midwives Union for further information.

Coroner Nerida Wilson said that the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service had attempted to file late material, which she had dismissed.

The inquest into the 17-year-old's death in June 2015 while at the Laura Races and Rodeo, and the medical response to it, was adjourned last month but not formally closed by Ms Wilson.

The matter was briefly mentioned yesterday in relation to the material that Ms Wilson had subpoenaed from the QNMU during the inquest about the Laura Primary Health Care Centre, nurses

and the response to Holly's death.

Based on that material Ms Wilson made a second request for information from QNMU, which was supplied.

The coronial court was told that Lynne Wardlaw, who was the TCHHS nursing and midwifery executive director at the time, wanted a right to reply based on the latest material supplied to the coroner.

Ms Wardlaw had been left the responsibility of organising the nursing staff at the Laura clinic during the event. She had only been in the role for about six months and did not know what a camp draft was.

TCHHS chief executive Dr Jill Newland, who wrote the root cause analysis to identify any issues, may also want to reply to the latest subpoenaed material, the court was told.

Ms Wilson allowed further cross examination of both witnesses depending on their respective replies.



SAFETY FIRST: Sisters Rachel and Melanie Phillips from Melbourne stay out of the water at Yorkeys Knob.

Picture: STEWART McLEAN

Yorkeys Knob croc just cruising by

DANAELLA WIVELL
danaella.wivell@news.com.au

A CROCODILE that closed Yorkeys Knob beach has travelled north following a sighting near stinger nets.

A Surf Life Saving Queensland spokesman said the 2m

crocodile was reported to life guards by a member of the public yesterday.

"We got the call about 8.30am for a crocodile approximately 2m long," he said.

"It was spotted along the back of the nets, about 15m away from the nets, and when

it was last seen it was heading north."

The spokesman said life guards closed the beach for four hours and continued monitoring the water during that time.

He said the crocodile was not seen again and Yorkeys

Knob beach reopened about 1pm. This is the second crocodile reported to authorities within a week.

The Cairns Post reported a crocodile stalked two Mossman residents at Newell beach last Monday. A trap has been set for the 4m animal.



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