

# PATROLLING



Volume 45 Number 5  
October 2023



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# Nissan Patrol Club of South Australia Inc

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Fundraiser **Carmen Riddle**

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**The Nissan Patrol Club of South Australia** was founded in 1979, to provide a meeting place for individuals and families with an interests in four wheel driving and associated activities. From the beginning we have promoted safe and environmentally responsible, four-wheel driving as a way to enjoy our great country.

The club welcomes all makes of vehicles, and has drivers with all skill levels. For the novice there is a wealth of experience to draw upon. Some members have had formal training, many more have had years of experience.

We run many trips each year, offering members a chance to learn new skills or practise old ones. We also have events that range from the extreme to the sedate, with a social program throughout the year

We participate in a volunteer program of environmental care work in one of our national parks, allowing us to give something back to the bush we enjoy so much.

**Club Meetings** are held at Challa Gardens Primary School, Humphries Terrace (off Torrens Road), Kilkenny, on the first Thursday of every month except January. They commence at 7:30pm

The Nissan Patrol Club is a member of Four Wheel Drive SA Inc, which is a member of Four Wheel Drive Australia Pty Ltd.

# A busy winter turns to spring

It has been quiet a busy winter with trips to Peake and the Gold Escort Route, together with a very well attended Mid-Year Lunch. Also, spring has sprung to life with the first spring trip to the Regional Profile Cutters at Tailem Bend.

The rest of the year is looking positive, with two trips over the long weekend, Deep Creek and Theatre Night in October, Morgan in November and Breakfast in the Park in December.

2024 is also looking very positive with three trips already "on the table" and the 45<sup>th</sup> mid-year lunch. Exciting times ahead.

It was good to see our Membership grow with Thomas Ratcliffe joining the Club. Aileen Kitto has safely returned from her travels so he will receive his Membership pack and Membership number at the next Meeting he attends.

I am looking forward to the photo competition at the November General Meeting. It's always a very entertaining evening. Good luck to all who enter.

A reminder that the AGM is looming on Thursday 7 December. Please consider supporting your Club and nominate for a position within the Committee. If you require a list of the Committee positions, please contact the Club Secretary, Helen Richards.

Please keep reading the General and Committee Meeting minutes for details of up-coming trips, events, and what is happening within the Club.

It has been a great year for the Club so far. Let's continue to make the rest of 2023 a fun year. Enjoy life, make new friends, and travel as far and as often as possible.

Happy Travels, and stay safe out there.

Your Club President

**John Day NPC 407**



## From the Editor's Desk

# Between our busy trip schedules

A slimmer magazine this time as publication dates fell between busier trip schedules, so just one covered here – the Regional Profile Cutters visit (Page 6) plus an account of a trip to Arnhem Land by Marie and Geoff Dalitz (Page 10), which sounds a lot of fun. Next issue we will cover the trips happened as this went to press – the Yorke Peninsula and the Gammon Ranges.

But there are still other goodies in this issue. Patrolapart, one of our most stewart advertisers, has provided a feature about their business and services (Page 13). I know many in the club already source spare parts there but if you don't please check them out

and think about supporting them as they have supported us.

On Page 14 we delve into the archives to revisit a past club trip to the Bendelby Ranges. It's worth have a look at as I hear another club adventure in that part of the world may be planned.

On Page 16 looks at how the heavy-lifting of conservation work now falls to NGOs such as The Nature Conservancy. That's fine, as long as people keep supporting them.

Finally we take a more detailed look at our sponsored bird, the Black-Tailed Cockatoo (Page 18).

**Theatre Night – 42nd Street, The Metropolitan Musical Theatre Company of SA 27 October 7:30pm**

The 1980 stage musical with a book by Michael Stewart and Mark Bramble, lyrics by Al Dubin and Johnny Mercer and music by Harry Warren. **Contact: Jeff Schapel**

**Deep Creek Working Bee**

**20-23 October**

The second working bee weekend for the year at Deep Creek. Five campsites have been booked at Trig campground but more can be arranged if people are keen.

**Contact: Wayne Dunn**



**Morgan**

**3-5 November**

4WDiving, social

**Contact: Dave & Helen**

Now in its second decade!

Test your skills, drive the tracks, catch up with your friends on the Murray.

Site bookings can be made now at the Morgan Caravan Park – phone 8540 2207. Quote the reservation under Helen Richards (Nissan Patrol Club).

**Breakfast in the Park, December**

Our usual get-together in Rymill Park

**Contact: Helen Richards**

**Bendelby Ranges**

**7-12 March 2024**

A joint trip with the Mitsubishi Club. “Bendelby is an Adventure and Eco Tourism destination, offering incredible 4WDing, and the ability for people to get away from it all.”

**Contact: Trips Officer Rod Kitto.**



**Peake**

**16-18 June**

4WDiving, Sand driving, social

Back on the sand. Peake doesn’t need much introduction. As usual We are sharing this weekend with the Mitsubishi Club for this longstanding and popular mid-winter outing with a chance to get the Dutch ovens fired up.

**Contact: Dave & Helen Richards**



# A trip with a difference

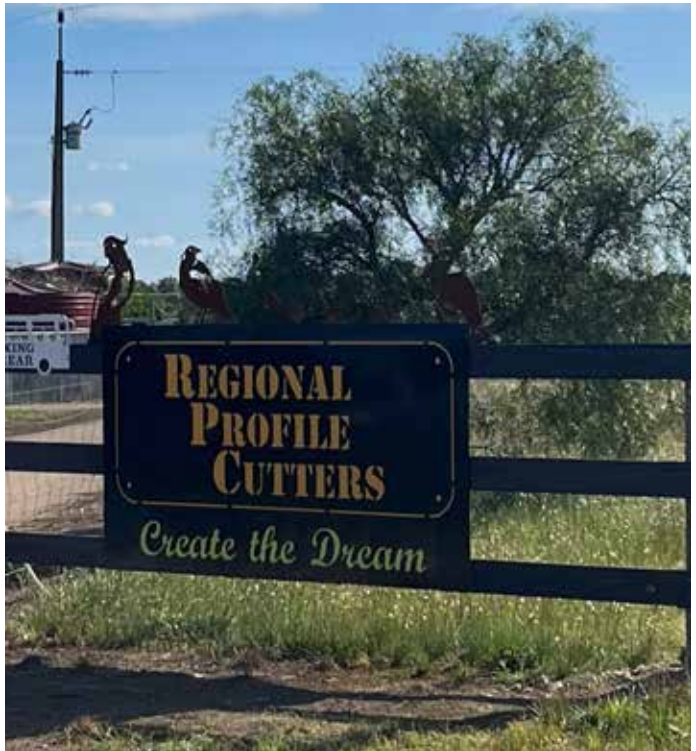
9 September 2023.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September saw 18 Nissan Club Members converging on the Regional Profile Cutters business in Tailem Bend. On arrival we were served tea, coffee and homemade biscuits and a friendly visit by their black cat who took a shine to both Dave and Rod.

John Wicker, who was an experienced welder/boiler maker explained that in 2011 he had the idea to venture into precision profile plasma cutting of both Mild Steel and Aluminium to create unique products. The mild steel is heavier and will rust whereas Aluminium is lighter and will stay shiny. To fulfill this idea meant he needed to purchase an appropriate machine from America. His daughter Katherine who enjoyed art work and being creative was enlisted to be the designer.

The introductory talk was followed by an invitation to view the plasma cutter in operation, son David brushing the steel, Katherine showing her many skills in designing and lastly visiting the shop where a myriad of items were on sale.

In the cutting area a large sheet of steel was put on a grid like platform and the cutter burnt out the shape according to the



## Support the businesses that support the club

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**caption**

computer designed image. The designs are created so as to ensure the least wastage of metal occurs. Whilst we were watching John created several beautiful lotus type flowers.

Once the designs are cut they then go to David who uses a special magnetised table to smooth the cut edges with an angle grinder. John designed the table himself as the magnets stop the cutouts sliding about and thus making the work much easier. Aluminium does not receive this type of treatment.

Katherine gave an excellent working example on the computer of how she either creates or interprets the requests from customers. It appears everything is possible. Many images have been created using photos submitted from customers.

John is proud that, with the exception of his machine, everything else is purchased within Australia and staff members are South Australian. Their work has become extremely popular with product going locally and overseas to New Zealand, England, Canada and America.

The shop area was loaded with all types of goodies as Regional Profile Cutters sell garden stakes, privacy screens, fireboxes, gates, signage, weathervanes and wall art in either mild steel or aluminium. A profile of every type of animal was on sale. With such a variety of items it was difficult to make a decision which to purchase.









**caption**

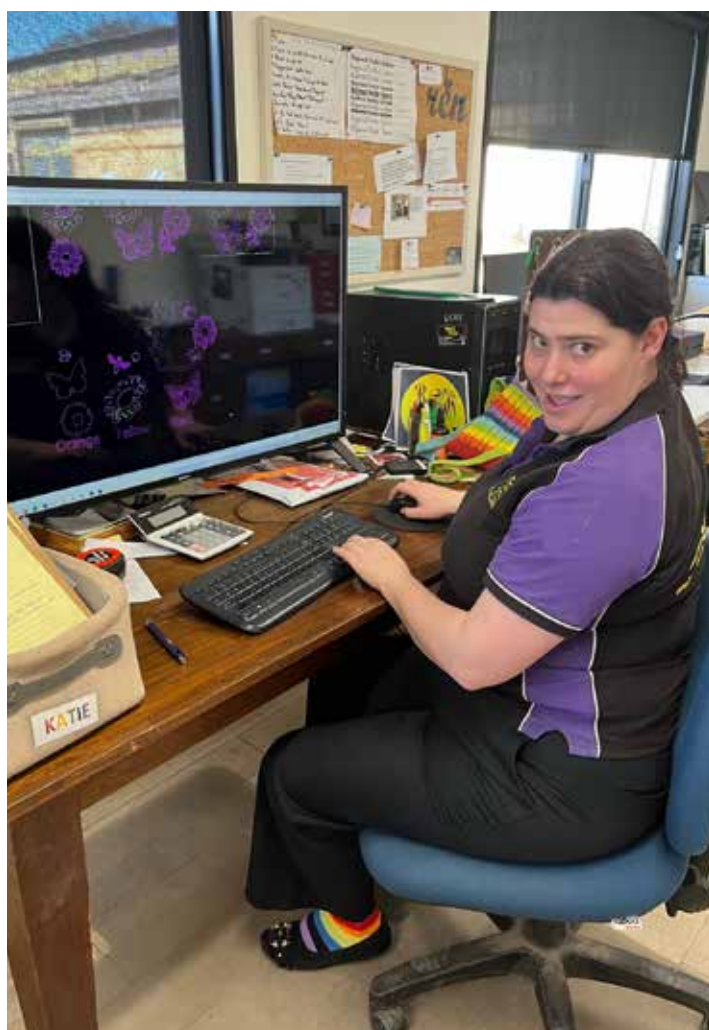
By noon it was time to head toward the Wellington Hotel for lunch.

One could tell that it was spring as dotted along the road side were huge clumps of multi-coloured Gazanias in full bloom and trees branches loaded with yellow wattle. Lunch was a very pleas-

ant affair with all meals being served in a timely manner.

Well done to Helen Richards for the inspiration of this great visit.

**Jeanene Schapel**  
**NPC Number 31**



# Geoff and Marie head north



## Cooling off in the lagoon - the one without the jumping crocodiles

In 2016 Marie and I did a caravan trip to Darwin. From there we went east to Jabiru and stayed at the caravan park. We left the caravan there and did a day trip to Cahills Crossing on the East Alligator River, when the three meter tide comes in the river stops flowing and then runs upstream. There is a concrete causeway there for entry into Arnhem Land, with a sign saying "No Entry Authorised People Only". We saw crocodiles swimming over the causeway and sitting on the other side with their mouths open and the fish jumping over the causeway and into their mouths. I decide that one day I would go there to Arnhem Land.

Seven years later I decided to do the trip. To take your own car is very restricted as you are not allowed to stop on the side of the road or walk in the bush. I contacted Outback Spirit, as they have the authority to travel through the country in a Mercedes 4WD bus, and booked the trip. On June 30<sup>th</sup> we flew to Darwin and stayed the night at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel on the Esplanade. We had a room on the fourth floor overlooking the sea, with a good view of the shipping.

The next morning we flew to the Gove Airport, where the bus was waiting for us. The bus took us and another lady from Adelaide to Nhulunbuy about 15 kilometres away. In the afternoon he picked up the remaining 10 who flew in from Cairns.

The next day we visited the Rio Tinto Bauxite works and saw a ship being loaded. We then walked along the beach. Back at the hotel we were given a traditional aboriginal welcome to their land, we then visited an aboriginal art centre.

The next morning we left at 7.15am and had morning tea on the way. The bus has its own hot water dispenser. We stopped for a packed lunch on the Goyder River and arrived at 3.30pm at Murwangi Lodge, Barra Punta. Next morning we did a lagoon

cruise. In the afternoon we did a 4WD tour of the district and an aboriginal talk.

Next day we left at 8.45am and visited the Bolabula Art Centre at Ramingining and arrived back on the coast at Barahundi Lodge at Maningrida. In the morning we visited the Djomi Museum and the Arts and Culture Centre. In the afternoon we did a fishing trip and both caught Barramundi but were undersize so returned them to the ocean. They must be 50cm long, but this is changing to 55cm, they are all born male but change to females and then breed.

Next morning we left and had morning tea on the roadside at Onpelli Station. We then stopped for lunch at Mount Barradale Station and stayed the night. The next morning we viewed aboriginal art in caves and did a boat trip on Coopers Creek Lagoon.

Next morning we left at 7am, had morning tea on the side of the road and arrived at Black Point, where we left the bus and boarded a boat for Seven Spirits Bay.

Next day we did a boat trip to where the English Navy first landed in Australia. There are ruins of buildings and a Jetty. It was intended to be Darwin, but later was changed to its current location. We then had lunch on the boat on our way back to Seven Spirits Bay.

The next day Marie went out fishing on the boat and I did a 4WD trip to another lagoon. We all met for lunch on a beach where the chefs came out and cooked our lunch. Marie then wanted to go out fishing again and I stayed and relaxed at the hotel.

The next morning we were driven to an airport and loaded on



**Geoff admires Aboriginal rock art while, below, the fishing had Marie hooked**

to a Cessna airplane and flown to Darwin. We boarded a boat and had a harbour dinner cruise. We stayed at the same hotel in the same room and booked two extra nights, waiting for the Ghan to leave for Adelaide.

Next morning we visited Crocosaurus Cove, which is a crocodile centre in Mitchel Street in Darwin. We were then picked up by bus and taken to a Billabong to do a jumping crocs tour, where the crocs jump out of the water to grab meat on the end of a pole. The next morning a bus picked us up at 9 am and we went for a lunch cruise on a different billabong.

The next morning we were picked up at 7am and taken to the Ghan, which left Darwin at 9am. The train was 750 metres long and the trip from Darwin to Adelaide is 2,979 kilometres. The cabins are identical to the Indian Pacific's with two bunks, which change into a lounge, with an ensuite shower and toilet. That same day we stopped at Katherine and chose to do a bus trip to the Cutta Cutta Caves.

We then travelled overnight to Alice Springs and chose a trip to Desert Park where food is thrown into the air and birds of prey swoop down and catch it. That night we had dinner under the stars at the Old Telegraph Station.

We then travelled overnight to Coober Pedy and were picked up by a bus and travelled a good distance into the town. We visited the Serbian Church and Opal Centre, and walk around the town.

The last overnight was to Adelaide and arrived at Mile End at 11.50am. The train was split into two so every carriage had access to a platform. We waited a long time for our luggage to arrive, but it finally came. Our friend Richard, who drives a taxi, was waiting for us and brought us home.

**Marie & Geoff Dalitz NPC 400**






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# Patrolapart, a one-stop shop



Here at Patrolapart and Navarapart we are a family run and owned Nissan 4x4 specialist in the heart of Lilydale Victoria, at the gateway to the Victorian High Country. We pride ourselves on being your one-stop-shop for Nissan parts and accessories. Our sales office and warehouse stores one of the largest ranges of Genuine Nissan and aftermarket Nissan products in Australia, creating an extensive range of parts that continues to grow.

Our sales team are enthusiasts themselves – all with 4WD backgrounds and all passionate about Nissans and selling you the correct parts for what you need. You may even recognise a few of them from 4x4 clubs and events over the years! We stock our warehouse full of products so that we always have stock on hand, this way if it says it's available online, it really is available. We support a large variety of local Australian manufacturers and resellers and we're always looking for new products, and these products are always vetted by our team. You can see this for yourself as our whole product list is available on our websites for purchase, where we also keep you updated with new blog posts and product releases.

If you're wanting to take the family on the trip of a lifetime in your Nissan, you're going to need to make sure your 4x4 suspension is up to the task, especially if you're towing. We provide plenty of GVM upgrade options and general 4WD suspension upgrades for your Nissan Patrol and we make sure to keep up to date with the latest products, always supporting Australian businesses where we can. We provide parts suggestions and quotes for any Nissan vehicle setup and have recommended fitters and engineers.

Our product development team are focused on increasing our product range based on customer feedback and gaps in the market for GQ, GU, Y62 and Navara models. We fit and test our products on vehicles in-house to ensure we're providing quality aftermarket accessories, as we run on the theory that if we wouldn't fit it on our own car then we wouldn't fit to yours. We do our own design work and have a vast array of different manufacturing options both in Australia and overseas. Some of the most recent exciting projects we've been working on are our aftermarket GU/GQ shifter surrounds, NP300 turbo intake pipe, 6-into-1 headers exhaust system to suit the TB48 and the air compressor outlet fitting kit for the Y62 to suit ARB air compressors, just to name a few. We've got plenty more projects in the pipeline so keep an eye out on our social media and websites for more updates, there's plenty more to come.

If you're a fan of 4WDTV you might've recognised us on their recent episodes of Life Off Road on Channel 7 Mate and their YouTube channel, where our work Navara and Y62 tackled some great terrain in South East Queensland and Victoria's High Country. We love getting out in the vehicles we're passionate about and testing the products we sell to our customers.

We're very active on our websites and social media and would love to hear from you on your Nissan adventures, and our sales team are always keen to help in any way they can. We're open Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm in our sales office with our showroom full of 4x4 accessories. Make sure to get in touch at 03 9735 9099 or [sales@patrolapart.com.au](mailto:sales@patrolapart.com.au) so we can get you where you need to be.

# Bendelby Ranges, Easter 2008



## caption

### *A memory from 2008 -*

**Happy Campers:** Helen and Dave (Leaders) Nick and Kerrie

Gayle and Chris Tony and Pauline

Jane and John Marina and Allan

Jeanene and Jeffrey Diana and Tim

Dave and Gloria Don and Kathy

Michael and Renee Chris W and Andrew

Dave and Wendy Heather and Doug

Bob and Annie Trudy and Trevor

### **The Leaders:**

Congratulations to Helen and Dave for the idea and organising such a varied weekend. Many thanks also to Nick who volunteered to lead group 2 for the driving.

### **The Location:**

The Bendelby Ranges venue, (north East of Orroroo) actually consists of two adjoining properties *Gumdale* and *The Springs* with 8 camping areas being situated on *The Springs* property. The NPC were camped at *The Oval*. This location gave us a large cleared area, several drop toilets, a covered three sided shelter shed, fire rings and several hutches containing an abundance of chopped wood. One of the treats of the weekend was being able to drive to

the homestead where a double shower block was situated. What an experience – showering in rain water! Not having any significant rain since October last year we found the area extremely parched and fine dust seemed to penetrate everywhere.

### **The Driving:**

On arrival at the property we were given two maps; one of the Bendelby Ranges and the other of the Hungry Ranges. These maps showed the 4WD tracks and depicted the 5 levels of skill required to tackle the tracks.

Although the maps gave wonderful descriptions of what we could expect to see on the tracks and anticipated duration, it did not take long to realise that the maps did not accurately depict a couple of tracks. This caused a bit of confusion for the leaders. Each day we formed two groups for the day's driving. One led by Helen and the other by Nick.

By the end of the weekend there was hardly a track which had not been tackled. The Ridge Top and Billy Goat Track providing the most exciting and exacting driving – steep ascents and descents, and great hills and gullies.

My favourite area was the Pine Drive which took us along an old woodcutter's track. This was an easy drive, but the scenery superb. Due to earlier clearing of the trees in this valley it has now



**caption**

revegetated primarily with new pines, giving the feeling of driving through a beautiful forest of pines.

**The Weather:**

Helen must have spoken kindly to someone, as the days were pleasantly mild. However, it was impossible to believe on the Thursday evening that we not only had a camp fire but we were all wearing jumpers. Who would have thought that only a few days prior we were sweltering with the 40 degree heat-wave. Of course being Easter the moon showed us just how beautiful it could be, rising over the pine trees in the east and covering the land with a soft light.

**The Entertainment:**

Helen, the Chief Evening Entertainer, kept everyone amused by using our model Marina to check that everyone knew their body ABC. A bit of a problem was experienced with X and Y. Sunday evening Helen ran an Easter Quiz – the prize for correct answers being an Easter egg. Every one tried very hard to get a correct answer.

**Happenings:**

Easter bunny arrived unseen. On Sunday morning the camp woke to find dusty foot prints leading to an attractive bundle of Easter Eggs tied with ribbon left at each door. Possibly the foot size was either Kathy or Don's. Easter eggs seemed to appear from all directions during the day and by the time Helen ran the evening entertainment the quiz eggs were everywhere. Many thanks to all of the "Easter Bunnies". Easter ears and Easter hats seemed to be the hit of the day.

Sunday lunch time our group was fascinated to follow the antics of a nest of ants who found our lunch remnants of chips and bread a new taste delight worthy of the effort to take back to the

Queen. It was fascinating to watch how they could transport scraps much larger than themselves to their nests either by themselves or with assistance from a fellow ant.

If one was very observant Saturday lunch time they would have seen Dave, with a left-handed shovel, going up the gully to do a bit of excavation work. We didn't hear of any findings of gold nuggets, perhaps he was keeping that find to himself.

**The Walk:**

Before returning to camp on Sunday afternoon several energetic people decided to take the walk up Hidden Valley. After organising vehicles to be left at one end and driving to Sollis Well we set off down the valley and then picked our way along the rocky creek bed until we reached the Quarry Springs track and guess what? Up and over another rise there were the cars. A fine bit of navigating.

During this pleasant walk we passed several small camp areas which would be very pleasant for smaller groups – something to be kept in mind for another time.

Naturally there were great happy hours, camp fires where the circle actually extended to be more oval shaped than circular, and great experiences, jokes and stories shared.

**Monday:**

The lure of having another go at the Billy Goat Track was far too great for several drivers. So Monday morning saw them up early and off for a bit more driving. The remainder commenced a leisurely pack up and then headed off home. A couple of lucky campers were staying on to enjoy another night of tranquillity.

A great place to camp, great driving, great company, great weather, and great leaders. Well done, we all had a wonderful Easter."

# NGOs take the strain



**The Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby established a population on Boolcoomatta station protected by Bush Heritage**

It might surprise you to know that not-for-profit conservation organisations own, manage or influence growing chunks of Australia.

Not-for-profit NGOs such as The Nature Conservancy, Australian Wildlife Conservancy, Bush Heritage Australia and Trust for Nature contribute to management of over three million square kilometres, including owning about 50,000 square kilometres.

The land managed or owned by NGOs has grown at a staggering rate in Australia, which now has the second-largest percentage of land managed privately for conservation in the world, after the United States.

This growth has come as federal and state funding for protected areas has stagnated. Many of our national parks, for instance, are overrun with invasive mammals and weeds, while NGO-owned land tends to be better resourced and managed.

To have any chance of hitting our international commitment of 30% of land conserved by 2030, we will have to rely on fast-growing non-government conservation land alongside Indigenous Protected Areas.

Threatened species resettlement is now increasingly done by

NGOs, as in this 2021 image of an eastern pygmy possum reintroduction in Manly, Sydney. AAP

## How did we get here?

In 1954, a group of US landowners were given an ultimatum: buy the 60 acre forest next to them, or see it developed. They bought it. From that event emerged The Nature Conservancy (TNC), a land trust which has protected over 50 million hectares of land worldwide, and spawned dozens of other land trusts across the globe.

In the 1970s, Australian conservationists launched their own efforts to acquire vital land. Now, the Australian Wildlife Conservancy manages, owns or influences around 1.7% of Australia; Bush Heritage Australia accounts for another 0.5%; and the Tasmanian Land Conservancy is heavily active in that state. There are a host of smaller land trusts, like Nature Glenelg Trust and Queensland Trust for Nature.

During the 1970s and '80s, there was strong growth in government conservation. Our public protected areas grew markedly. But then, interest and funding faltered. Queensland didn't come close to its goal of protecting 17% of the state by 2020, for example.



That's why conservation NGOs have stepped up, often in close partnership with First Nations groups. The US is further along this path, partly because of strong scepticism of government intervention. In Australia, we've tended to regard the preservation of nature as the government's job. Unfortunately, our governments have never allocated sufficient funds to adequately stem the loss of species and habitat.

### The downside of protecting large areas? Ongoing costs

One reason governments are wary of expanding their protected networks are the ongoing costs. Funding for management hasn't kept pace with the growth of the reserve system. In part, that's because Australia is really big and sparsely populated.

Science-based conservation means protecting samples of all habitat types, not just tracts of cheap infertile land. To protect 30% of Queensland would mean a park system the size of Spain. Then you have to look after it.

Why does management matter? Don't you just need to find pristine bush, fence it and install a sign, a road, walking trails and an information kiosk?

NGOs are often better able to do expensive management, such as in this removal of lantana from an NGO property. AAP

No. Declaring a national park is the easy bit. In many parks, feral animals and invasive plants are all but uncontrolled. Plant diseases, cane toads, foxes, cats, blackberry, lantana – without management, the park will degrade rapidly. And then there's the complexity of ensuring the right fire and flooding regime.

A smart organisation or government will put aside two to three times the cost of buying the land for management. The problem is, management costs do not excite us in the same way as acquisition.

And because we expect our national parks to be open to the public, budget constraints often means money goes to keeping facilities running, tracks open and little else. The money coming in from camping and ecotourism is a fraction of what's needed to properly care for the government parks.

### Why are conservation NGOs better placed?

NGOs are increasingly attracting donations and legacies from people interested in conservation action on the ground. These donors wouldn't think to donate to the parks service – but they will to an NGO. The organisations can work strategically with landowners to, say, improve feral animal management on grazing land or fence off waterways, without actually taking ownership of the land.

Conservation NGOs also don't have to open their areas to the public. Many do, but only at specific times of year. Others remain shut. By and large, they're better managed than national parks – and some are much better, with intensive management such as feral-proof fences.

The Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary in the Northern Territory, run by NGO Australian Wildlife Conservancy, has the largest mainland cat- and fox-free area at 9,450ha. Wayne Lawler/Austra-

lian Wildlife Conservancy

National park staff are often hamstrung by bureaucracy and budget, with limited resources to monitor and report successful outcomes. NGOs, by contrast, are very big on scientific reporting. A threatened species had a successful breeding season on their land? They'll tell you because reporting conservation outcomes to donors is like reporting company returns to shareholders.

So when you see big-ticket plans to protect 30% of Australian land, you should know it's not protection as you may have thought of it. It will draw very heavily on these NGOs and land protected by private individuals.

This shift towards a broader definition of conservation land is controversial.

In these newly expanded areas, there may be some environmental thinning of trees, targeted grazing and ecotourism, as well as areas closed to these activities. This is unavoidable. There are now very few areas free from our industries, cities and farms. What matters is finding ways to conserve the world's wealth of species alongside us.

What does this mean for me?

What we should take from this shift is we can no longer file environmental issues in that handy mental box we all have named "that's why I pay tax".

More and more, Australians are realising they don't have to rely on the government to secure our natural heritage.

It's not just the government's problem. It's a collective problem, which means it's also your problem. More and more of us now realise the cavalry isn't coming to the rescue. We are the cavalry.

**Hugh Possingham,**  
Professor, The University of Queensland

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**Australian Wildlife Conservancy runs Buckaringa Wildlife Sanctuary with more than 2000 hectares in the central Flinders Ranges.**

# Get to know the parrot you are helping to sponsor



## **Bird Overview**

A gregarious species, the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo is often seen in large flocks, though it also occurs in pairs and trios.

It is an active, noisy and conspicuous species that is mainly arboreal, spending much of the day feeding, sometimes in a loose association with other black-cockatoos.

At sunset, flocks of this species are often seen flying high, returning from feeding areas to roosts in large trees along the banks of rivers or streams. While the overall threatened status of the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo is listed as “Least Concern” in the EPBC act, the South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo is listed as ‘Endangered’ and the ‘Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo’ of WA is listed as ‘Vulnerable’.

## **Identification**

As its name suggests, the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo is a cockatoo with largely black plumage and scarlet panels in the tail, at least in the males.

Females have yellow spots on the head, neck and wings, and orange-yellow barring on the breast and undertail.

Both sexes have dark brown eyes and brown-grey legs and feet; males have a dark grey bill, while the bill of the female is off-

white.

## **Sounds and Calls**

Usual contact call loud rolling kree or krurr-rr, uttered in flight or when perched; also sharp krur-rak in alarm; all calls loud, harsh and far-carrying.

## **Location**

Endemic to mainland Australia, Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos are found in all mainland states, with five distinct subspecies occurring in eight discrete populations across the continent.

## **Habitat**

Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos inhabit a wide variety of habitats, especially forests and woodlands dominated by eucalypts or casuarinas.

Some subspecies prefer specific vegetation assemblages, such as Brown Stringybark forests in south-western Victoria and south-eastern SA, or Marri, Jarrah and Karri forests in south-western Australia, but others are less restricted in the habitats they occupy. They also occur in some regional towns and cities.

## **Ex Bird Life Australia**

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