



Glossy Black Conservancy News

No. 14 April 2015

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2015 Glossy Black-Cockatoo Birding Day

The Glossy Black Conservancy is holding its 7th Annual Birding Day across SE Qld and Northern NSW on **Sunday May 3rd**. We would love for you to be involved!

As well as the chance of seeing wild Glossy Black-Cockatoos, everyone who participates goes into the draw to win some fantastic prizes, including:

- [Spicers Retreats](#) "Scenic Rim Trail" voucher (2 nights accommodation at Spicers Canopy, 1 night at Spicers Peak Lodge, guided walks, all meals and some beverages for two people)
- [Mt Barney Lodge](#) "Homestead Haven" voucher (2 nights midweek accommodation in a Queenslander homestead for up to 4 guests, winter firewood supplied)
- [Australia Zoo](#) 2 Adult Passes
- [Hollow Log Homes](#) parrot nest box
- "Parrots of the World", book courtesy of [Griffith University](#)

To participate please register with the regional Birding Day coordinator for the area you wish to survey:

- **Tweed Shire** (NSW) – Marama Hopkins (Ph: 02 6670 2787, Email: mhopkins@tweed.nsw.gov.au)
- **Gold Coast** (SEQ) – Guy Castley (Ph: 07 5552 8918, Email: g.castley@griffith.edu.au)
- **Scenic Rim** (SEQ) – Tracey Larkin (Ph: 07 5544 3233, Email: tracey@mtbarneylodge.com.au)
- **Redland City** (SEQ) – Lisa Bailey (Ph: 07 3820 1105, Email: lisa.bailey@redland.qld.gov.au)
- **Brisbane City** (SEQ) – Lyn Cole (Ph: 07 3378 3763, Email: lyncole99@gmail.com)
- **Logan City** (SEQ) – Trevor Kanapi (Ph: 07 3412 4821, Email: environment@logan.qld.gov.au)
- **Moreton Bay** (SEQ) – Andrew Evans (Ph: 07 5433 2256, Email: andrew.evans@moretonbay.qld.gov.au)
- **Sunshine Coast** (SEQ) – Conor Jenkins (Ph: 07 5499 5142, Email: conor.jenkins@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au)

- **Noosa** (SEQ) – Peter Milne (Ph: 07 5329 6328, Email: peter.milne@noosa.qld.gov.au)
- **Western Regions** (SEQ) – Liz Gould (Ph: 0400 748 157, Email: LGould@seqcatchments.com.au)

We look forward to hearing from you and making the 2015 Birding Day the most successful ever!

Nesting Glossies on Russell Island

Many thanks to Conservancy member Lisa Bailey (Extension Officer – Wildlife – Redland City Council) for sharing this story and photos:

In 2014, a pair of Glossy Black-Cockatoos nested in a tree on Russell Island in southern Moreton Bay. Residents Holly And Luke Keddie kept a close eye on them and reported to the Conservancy as soon as the chick (called Muse) was heard and then sighted. There was much excitement and celebration within the Glossy community.



Russell Island residents Luke and Holly Keddie

As Muse grew, he/she started to use a small hole in the hollow as a window to look through. Unfortunately, the chick eventually grew too big and got wedged tightly in the hole and was unable to get in or out.

I received a phone call from a very distressed Holly and we tried everything we could to get someone with a



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cherry picker there to assist getting Muse out of the hole. This was made harder by the fact it was a Sunday night and on a Bay Island. We exhausted all our available options and kyboshed a few ideas that were particularly unsafe! Holly spent a long and uncomfortable night under the nest to keep predators away.

Local company Lop, Chop and Chip arrived on Russell Island the next morning and (with our heartfelt thanks) gently removed Muse from the hole. Holly checked Muse for injuries and kept him/her as comfortable, warm and quiet as she could until we and the Conservancy could organise where to go next. Sadly, before we could even get the barge times, Muse passed away.

Dr Ian Gynther (Snr Conservation Officer – Threatened Species, EHP) arranged to pick up Muse for necropsy at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. It was determined that Muse had succumbed to capture myopathy but it was also noted that he/she had a condition called metabolic bone disease, which is ultimately due to calcium deficiency. This may be something the Glossy Black Conservancy could investigate further.



Original Tree hollow with hole

Muse is now at the Queensland Museum where he/she will be on display for everyone.

In March 2015, Holly informed us that the pair were back checking out the hollow. So obviously we had to urgently get that hole in the hollow fixed!



Wood section for tree hollow

Wallace Christian and his crew from Treescape offered their assistance, again with our heartfelt thanks. Luke, who is also a wood turner, was able to check out the hole, measure it and make a section that would fit securely to ensure no further mishaps.



Treescape installing wood section



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I have heard that since this has occurred, the birds have been back to the tree and have actually perched on the new piece and had a chew! Fingers crossed for a new chick in 2015.



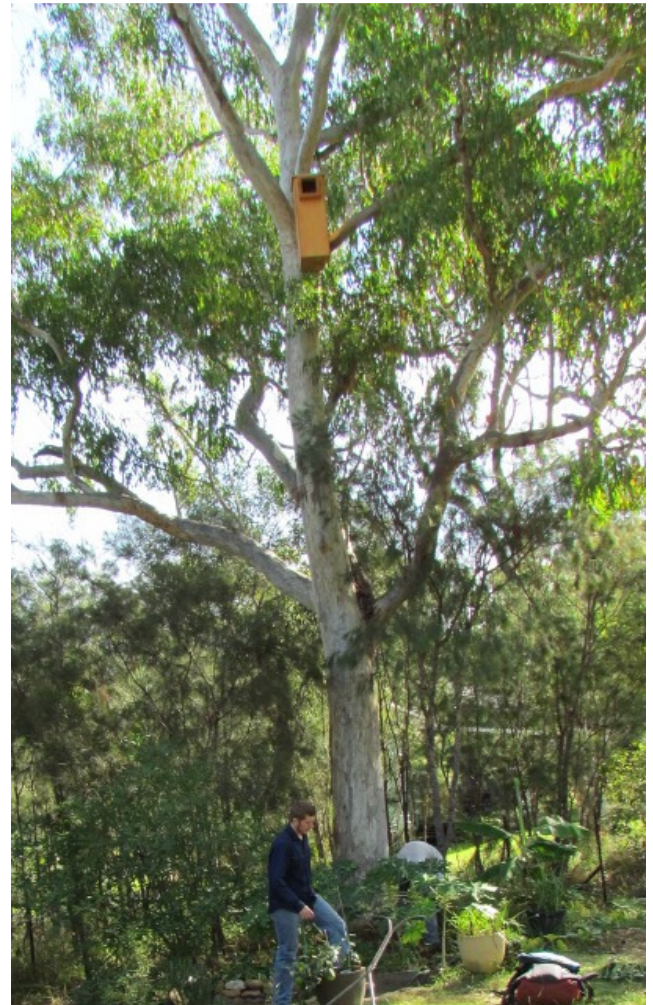
Nesting tree with wood section in place!

If you have an interesting Glossy Black-cockatoo story or photo, we would love to hear from you! Email the Conservancy at gbc@biodiversity.tv.

Nesting boxes in Southern Moreton Bay

The Glossy Black Conservancy is trialling two nesting boxes on Russell and Macleay Islands (Redland City) that have been kindly donated by Hollow Log Homes. The boxes have been placed within range of current nesting sites, feeding areas and flight paths. There has been some success with the Glossy Black-cockatoos nesting in them on Kangaroo Island.

Dr Ian Gynther (Snr Conservation Officer – Threatened Species, EHP, and accredited tree climber) with the assistance of his trusty volunteer Brendan, scaled the trees and securely installed the two boxes which will be monitored by two Glossy Black-Cockatoo volunteers on the islands...and now we wait.



Nestbox installation on Macleay Island (photo: Lisa Bailey)



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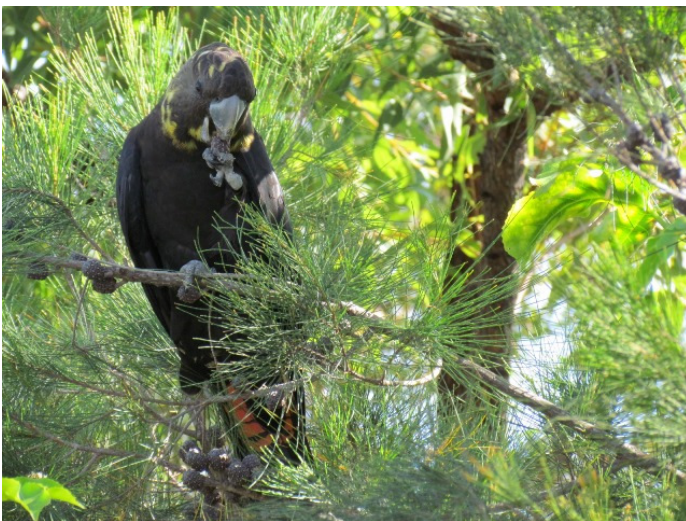


Nestbox installation on Russell Island (photo: Lisa Bailey)

A pair of glossies was also spotted on Macleay Island, feeding on a property just down the road from where the nestbox was installed!



Macleay Island male (photo: Lisa Bailey)



Macleay Island female – note yellow spots on head on barred tail feathers (photo: Lisa Bailey)



Macleay Island male and female (photo: Lisa Bailey)




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Report your GBC Sightings

The upcoming Birding Day on Sunday May 3rd provides an opportunity for a co-ordinated region-wide survey of Glossy Black-Cockatoos. However, you can still submit Glossy Black-Cockatoo sightings throughout the year via the Conservancy's online data portal at http://www.glossyblack.org.au/Submit_sightings.html.

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If you haven't already, **be sure to like us on Facebook** to be kept up to date on news, research and upcoming events related to glossies! Visit www.facebook.com and search for Glossy Black Conservancy.