



## SPECIAL EDITION

Mission Beach Community

# CASSOWARY FESTIVAL

Celebrating Nature

30th April  
2022

9am - 4pm

Ulysses Park  
Porter Promenade  
Mission Beach

(A dog free event  
Thank you for your understanding and  
Cooperation)

[www.cassowaryfestival.com](http://www.cassowaryfestival.com)

A community voice for an eco sustainable future  
Keeping 'the magic' of Mission Beach



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The Mission Beach Cassowary Festival is a marvellous opportunity to celebrate what is unique to Mission Beach - a significant population of cassowaries.

This density of the bird is only possible because of the biodiversity of the environment which provides the variety of food to sustain them year round.

The community of Mission Beach has long worked to protect this biodiversity and continues to do so through Mission Beach Cassowaries, Wildlife Queensland, Friends of Ninney Rise and C4. It is important to remember the successes while struggling against the ever present threats.

Congratulations to all working for the Cassowary Festival this year.

Suzanne Smith  
President



**Friends of Ninney Rise**

[www.ninneyrise.com](http://www.ninneyrise.com)

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# Mission Beach is Djiru Country



"The Djiru people's sense of identity as 'rainforest people' is very strong and is demonstrated by their relations with their rainforest neighbours and their affinity with the rainforest environment.

Clump Point is universally seen by the Djiru people, both young and old, as a core place in their homeland, a hub of traditional life in pre-European times and a place today that they enjoy for its beauty, for its natural benefits and for the sense of connection to tradition and country that it brings to them. The cultural components within the Clump Point area are seen as tangible expressions of connection. The fish traps on either side of Clump Point and the ceremony ground are seen to be very significant as they invoke potent images of traditional life.

The natural estate of the Mission Beach area is extremely significant to the Djiru people. There is a unique affinity between the people and the rainforest that provided food, shelter and spiritual regeneration to their people.



An integral part of this relationship is the highly visible and ubiquitous gunduy (cassowary) which is important to the health of both the people and the rainforest).

(INDIGENOUS CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT MISSION BEACH  
An initiative of FNQ NRM Ltd 2007)

(Reproduced with permission from The Djiru Traditional Owners in conjunction with Giringun Aboriginal Corp)

## The festival has a purpose

***"We are grassroots and community driven—of the community for the community"***

***Our vision is for an ecologically sustainable future, supporting low impact activities and development at Mission Beach.***

### **Festival objectives**

- Celebrate the Djiru cultural heritage of Mission Beach
- Raise awareness of the importance of the cassowary to the environment, community and economy.
- Bring conservation groups and individuals from the Wet Tropics region together to celebrate nature through art science and music.
- Develop a strong community identity/sense of place through connection with nature
- Support and promote ecologically sustainable tourism and development through 'Mission Beach Naturally'.
- Showcase innovative environmentally sustainable projects and ideas.
- Connect with local, state and federal politicians and other decision makers
- Have fun!

### **Guiding principles**

- Community based and inclusive; supporting local talent and locally owned and operated businesses
- Educational and creative
- Includes purpose/ask to influence positive change toward an environmentally sustainable future



Artwork by Adria

"Cassowaries  
are people too"  
say the

Mission Beach State School Kids



Aleya, Ayla, Lila- Year 5

The students at the Mission Beach State School were excited to be given the chance to help protect the cassowaries by creating colourful road signs.

'Slow Down', 'Take Care' and 'Be Aware'. These are just some of the messages on the bright colourful artworks they have been creating for the Cassowary Festival.

The artworks are being turned into road signs to alert drivers there could be a cassowary around the curve or over the crest on roads through cassowary habitat.

Their message is clear, they love having cassowaries in their local area and really want to help others understand them.

The students contribute towards caring for the environment in many ways. This was recognised by achieving the Wet tropics Young Cassowary award recently.

Both the Mission Beach State School under the guidance of art teacher Carmen Pedroni and the Rainforest School students being tutored by artist Nina Dawson are busy making cassowary costumes to wear in the 'Drumming of the Cassowaries' grand parade".

"The parade is shaping up to be a even more spectacular this year" said festival coordinator Liz Gallie "Schools, community groups and individuals are keen to participate and show their passion for cassowaries at this fun family and educational event".



Bhu- Year 3 Photo Carmen Pedroni



From left: Koa, Shaun, Luke, Ella, Kelly- Year 4 Photo Carmen Pedroni



# BLACK RED & BLUE

Entertainers, stall holders and festival goers are all encouraged to get into the festival spirit by creating costumes or sculptures for the parade or simply using cassowary colours, red black and blue.

*It's all about having fun and being creative.*



Visitors and locals are inspired to dress up for the day



The spectacular Drumming of Cassowaries Grand Parade

Mission Beach  
Community Cassowary Festival  
2022

PROGRAM

**6am—8.30am**

Market Stalls and displays set up

**9.00am – 9.45am** Main Stage

**Doc of Bingil Bay**

**9.00am Drumming of the Cassowary Parade;** - Assembly at the Village Green

**9.00am—12.00pm Rachael Bradley Face Painting**

**9am—2pm roving entertainer Lara the Clown**

**9.00am—2.00pm**

**Gunday Midga** Djiru Traditional owners share their culture and stories

**9am—all day**

**Art and Craft workshops** Stripeys Tent

**Living With Cassowaries workshop with Kirsten Wehner**

Pentanque Play area. (near stage) (See page 9)

**Artist Colony Mission Arts artists**

**9.30am;** Parade leaves Village Green and heads to park

**9.45am;** Parade enters Festival Park does a loop

**10.05;** Parade assembles at stage with 'We live in a magic place' 'song playing. Sculptures are placed around the stage area.

**10.10am**

**Welcome to Country with Leonard Andy of Djiru**

**10.15am**

**Mission Beach State School Marimba Group**

**10.30m**

**Gypsy Hips Belly Dancing Group**

**10.40am**

**Best Costume**

**11.00—11.30am**

**Tully State High School Jazz Band [Karen of Ju Ju Moon)**

**11am—1pm**  
**Weaving with Aunty Viv**

**11.45am**  
**(Dangiang Sunda (Spirit of Sunda)** 2 performances and 3 workshops throughout the day

**11.45am**  
**John Brown**  
**12.00pm**

**Dave Johnson**  
playing acoustically at various times in workshop space

**12.15pm Forum – ‘Cassowaries are people too’ Chat**  
(See page 9)

**1.00pm**  
**Audio Messages from politicians**  
Environment Minister  
TMR Minister  
Threatened Species Commissioner  
Peter Garrett  
Larissa Waters

**1.15pm – 2.00pm**  
Pauly P

**2.00pm**  
**Drawing of raffles-** get your tickets in where you see them sold and be in to win the prizes

**2.15pm– 3pm**  
**3.15 til 4pm**  
**Ju Ju Moon**

The Festival Committee is committed to 'community first'  
Please make sure to sign in using the Covid app at any of the  
four check points shown on the site map on the back page

Please note

The festival is a dog free event  
Thank-you for your understanding and Cooperation





# What's happening - who will be there?

## Entertainment - on the stage and in the park



**Doc of Bingil Bay**  
To start our musical program of the day we welcome Doc. A local songwriter playing originals with an open minded, environmentally observational, questioning style of song in the folk, rock, blues groove genre.



**Mission Beach State School Marimba Group** perform world music inspired songs and grooves on a range of percussion instruments featuring 2 HUGE wooden marimbas. The marimba is a tuned percussion instrument originating in Africa, similar to a xylophone. Our students rehearse once a week at lunchtime and just love playing music together.

### Gypsy Hips

This festival comes alive with our local belly dancing group adding their vibrancy to the parade and then gracing us at the main stage for some belly shaking fun. Gypsy Hips Belly Dancing display – with Gamelan – bird and environmental songs.



**Dangiang Sunda (Spirit of Sunda)** is a gamelan degung group from Mission Beach, Queensland performing mesmerising, and meditative melodies on a traditional Sundanese bronze gamelan orchestra from West Java, Indonesia.

### Gamelan Workshop

The group will hold workshops where you can try the gamelan for yourself. You will learn a simple song which will cater to all musical abilities. Even musical beginners can experience total immersion in gamelan. 3 X 20 minute workshops



### John Brown

Local Muso playing some of his fave songs that touch on the environment and social justice including a few original tunes along the same



**The Drumming of Cassowaries parade** is defined by the costumes and sculptures created for festival day as a community celebration of the cassowary and our beautiful natural environment. There will be prizes for all those who participate in decorations or costumes making the festival a spectacular expression of community pride and identity.

### Tully High School Brass Band



### JuJu Moon

Don't miss your chance to dance and sing along with Mission Beach's own Ju Ju Moon. Playing festivals all over north Queensland and livening up our day of cassowary awareness with an array of songs that truly reflect and are born in the heart of our Wet Tropics environment. "Appreciate what we have now if you can ... because what we reap is what we sow !"



### Dave Johnson DidgeEra

Live performance with the slide didge, soprano sax, keyboard, percussion and Electro Sax. Dave will be sharing space with the Gamelan group

### Pauly P

Imagine blurring the lines between Reggae, Dub, Funk, Rock and Hip Hop! One man Army looping wizard Pauly P is setting the world on fire with his signature blend of live looping.







# We are Cassowary People - workshop

**Do you see cassowaries where you live? At your home, your work or on your way to work? Have you seen a cassowary within their natural habitat? What are your experiences? How important are cassowaries to your community identity? What are we doing to help them survive and thrive in their Mission Beach rainforest home? What can we do better?**

An eight metre ground map of Mission Beach will be created as part of the 'We are Cassowary People' workshop. The map will show the natural and built landscape from Bingil Bay in the north to South Mission Beach to the south. Festival goers will be invited to write their stories about living with cassowaries onto a cassowary cut out, then place it onto a corresponding place on the map. Your stories will be recorded for a book being planned by Dr Kirsten Wehner and Dr Cameron Muir and be part of the chat about cassowaries on stage at midday.

## A chat about cassowaries

### Prof Iain McCalman



Author, historian and social scientist, Iain McCalman is a highly respected and award-winning professor of history and the humanities at the University of Sydney.

Beyond his research, he has been an historical consultant and narrator for the BBC, ABC and other TV and film documentaries. Iain wrote 'The Reef—a passionate history' and has taken a particular interest in Mission Beach through the local history of saving the Great Barrier Reef.

### Terry Carmichael



Terry is a Senior Project Officer for the - Wet Tropics Management Authority. His work involves Threatened Species Recovery, Climate Change Action Advocacy, Sustainable Tourism Advocacy, Nature/Wildlife- Guide, Presenter, Naturalist and Lecturer.

### Dr Kirsten Wehner



Kirsten is Head Curator, People and the Environment, at the National Museum of Australia.

Trained as a visual anthropologist, Kirsten has produced over 30 exhibitions, digital platforms and films exploring Australian cultures and environments.

### Julia Leu



Julia has more than 30 years experience working in local council. As the former Douglas Shire council Mayor managing the world renowned Daintree, Julia understands the importance of planning instruments to protect what is special about a local area; The community are more likely to support a council that leads through education.

"If a community understands and cares they will support council and planning schemes".

### Alan Gillanders



Alan is a naturalist and tour guide specialising in tree-kangaroos, birds and nocturnal mammals on the Atherton Table-

lands, North Queensland. "The sights, sounds and smells of the Australian rainforest and bush mean more to you as you develop an understanding of their importance".

### Leonard Andy



Leonard is a Djiru Traditional Owner and recognised artist from Mission Beach whose work is largely focused on the Gundy (Cassowary).

Leonard's paintings and sculptures are exhibited through the Giringun Aboriginal Corporation, represented at the National Gallery of Australia and held in private collections.

Leonard describes his art as his 'activism'

Audio Messages will be received from; (to be confirmed)



Queensland Environment Minister; Queensland TMR Minister; Threatened Species Commissioner; Senator Larissa Waters and Cassowary ambassador, Peter Garrett;



# Environment Displays



Groups who work with threatened species, native wildlife or other environment conservation activities will be displaying the work they do.

# Market stalls



There will be a variety products sold at the market stalls set up under the trees in the park.

# Food Court



The food court will feature a selection of food for all tastes along with cakes, biscuits coffee, tea and soft drinks.





# Stripeys Tent

**Calling all Stripeys for a day of creative fun in The Stripeys Tent.**

So much to do, lots to learn, we need you to help us transform the tent into an Enchanted Rain Forest.

Animals to paint, kites to make, rocks to colour, faces to paint, plaster to mold, necklaces to do, things to weave, a sand pit too.

Come along and bring your Dad for a day of laughter and fun.

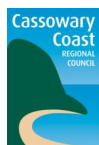


**Rachael Bradley—face painting**



## **Lara the Clown**

Meet Lara the Clown with her animal friends who will be roving through the park during the day.



**Queensland Government**

The Regional Arts Development Fund is a Queensland Government and Cassowary Coast Regional Council partnership to support local arts and culture





'Queenie' in 2019

# 'Queenie' the cassowary

Dubbed the 'Queen of the north' in a recent Sunday Mail article, Di Queen will once again bring light and laughter to the festival as 'Queenie' the cassowary.

'Queenie' will lead the 'Drumming of Cassowaries' Parade and rove the park during the day between sharing the MC role on the stage with Mel who has been the stage presenter for the festival since its beginning in 2017.



Mel Bowman Finn in 2019

This year Mel will be on the stage to mentor Ellie who is keen to learn the ropes to become a Master of Ceremonies.



AND...this is what the fuss is all about!







# Friends of Ninney Rise

## FoNR hosts Canberra writers and historians



Photo above: From left; Artist Liz Gallie, Dr Kirsten Wehner; FoNR secretary Sandal Hayes and Prof Iain McCalman;

Friends of Ninney Rise (FoNR) are proud to partner with the Mission Beach Community Festival in providing accommodation at Ninney Rise for Prof Iain McCalman and his colleagues Dr Kirsten Wehner and Dr Cameron Muir who will be travelling from Canberra to participate in the 'Living with Cassowaries' workshop and stage 'chat' for the Mission Beach Community Cassowary Festival.

It is a second trip for Iain and Kirsten who also stayed at Ninney Rise earlier in the year to lay the groundwork for their project.

FoNR wishes the festival organisers every success for their event.



# THANK YOU!

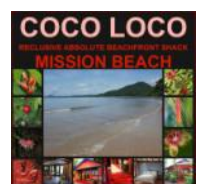
The Mission Beach Community Cassowary Festival steering committee would like to thank the following businesses, community groups and individuals for their generous support.



Prof Iain McCalman



Friends of Ninney Rise





## Ulysses Park Site layout



-  Stripeys Tent
-  We are Cassowary People workshop
-  Wasted Art Rubbish Fish
-  Djiru Gunduy Midja
-  Market Stall
-  Community/Environment display
-  Food stalls
-  First Aid
-  Art Colony
-  Gamalan workshop
-  Face Painting
-  Sand Mound
-  Power

[www.cassowaryfestival.com](http://www.cassowaryfestival.com)