



# Potoroo Postings

Issue # 2021/3



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## CALENDAR

**NOTE: All volunteers undertaking field work require a DBCA Dieback Green Card. See details on page 4.**

**Members will be emailed with more details on upcoming events and volunteering opportunities as dates etc firm up. Events will also be advertised on social media, community calendars etc.**

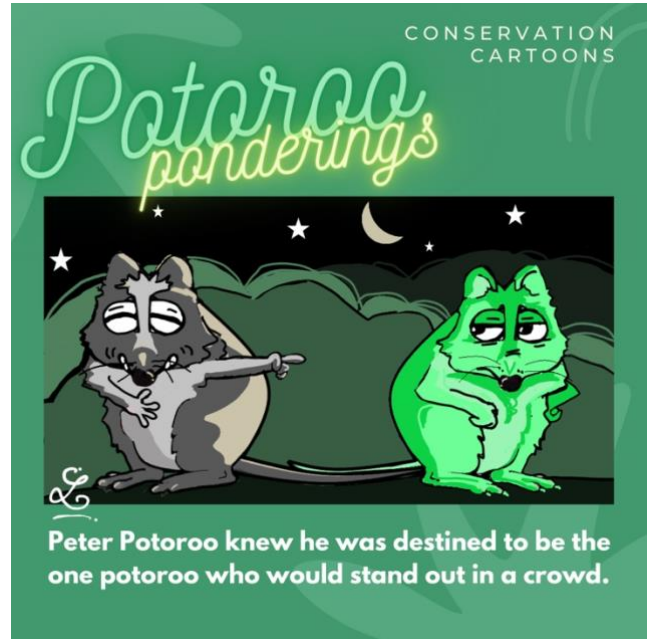
**October/November (exact dates to be confirmed):** Vegetation surveys at Two Peoples Bay. Volunteers will be needed so if you are interested ensure you have your Green Card! See page 4 for details

**October 23, 2:30 pm:** Perth launch of *One Potoroo: A story of survival* by Penny Jaye and Alicia Rogerson to be held at Moerlina School, Mt Claremont. More details on page 11. Bookings at <https://www.trybooking.com/BUTZG>

**Spring (dates to be confirmed):** Assisting DBCA with servicing motion sensing cameras at Two Peoples Bay. Exact dates to be advised, depending on the availability of DBCA staff.

**December 4-5:** South Coast Threatened Species Forum 2021 to celebrate 20 years since the formation of GPAG and 60 years since the rediscovery of the Noisy Scrub-bird. Post conference afternoon tea cruise on Sunday Dec 5. Theme: Volunteering in Threatened Species Conservation. Bookings at <https://www.trybooking.com/BUWJR>.

## Potoroo Ponderings



## Help us find our missing Glow Potoroo!!

On October 5 GPAG hosted a Story Walk around Lake Seppings in Albany as one of the Albany Library's Story Playground school holiday activities (see page 8). We put out 6 life sized "Glow Potoroos" close to the track which glowed in the dark after they had had

a torch shone on them. But somehow we only ended up with 5 at the end!! We are offering a small prize (a personally signed, framed copy of the above Potoroo Ponderings cartoon by Marnie Giroud) for anyone who can find the missing Glow Potoroo and return it to GPAG! Please search safely and if you find it take a photo of it in place, carefully pick it up and email [mail@potoroo.org](mailto:mail@potoroo.org) to organise return of the potoroo and to claim your prize!



Contact us: Email: [mail@potoroo.org](mailto:mail@potoroo.org), Mail: PO Box 654, Albany, WA 6331

Visit us: [www.potoroo.org](http://www.potoroo.org)

Follow us:  @gilbertspotoroo  @GilbertsPotorooActionGroup

## FROM THE CHAIR

### There's heaps of them out there...

“Ah Gilbert’s Potoroo! Yeah, I know all about them. There’s heaps of them out there. You see them on the side of the road.”

This little gem of misinformation came from an older gentleman who popped into the children’s section of the Albany library on 5<sup>th</sup> October to see what was going on. Marnie Giroud had organised some wonderful activities for the 26 children who attended the reading and creative conservation event associated with the launch of the new CSIRO publication *One Potoroo*, as you will see later in this issue. It was a great morning of hands-on fun and engagement with potoroo activities and was followed that evening by an equally successful spotlight bushwalk attended by more than 40 children and adults.

I didn’t attempt to disabuse the gentleman of his ideas – it was neither the time nor the place - but his comments brought home to me the importance of the awareness-raising aspect of our work. On this front, our Communications Co-ordinator Jackie Courtenay has been very busy organising the very successful launch of the potoroo genome by Prof Lyn Beazley at UWA in September, all the events surrounding the launch of *One Potoroo* in Albany in early October (and a repeat performance in Perth on 23<sup>rd</sup> October), and the forthcoming South Coast Threatened Species Forum coming up on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Much of this work was done remotely while she and Deputy Chair Leigh Whisson were prevented from returning to WA by Covid restrictions and the results so far are a tribute to her hard work and organising skills.

As you will see from Tony Friend’s article beginning on page 3, the news from the latest survey on Bald Island is encouraging and gives us hope that the potoroo population there is secure and may be a continuing source of animals for translocation.

We all live for the day when we need to drive carefully to avoid hitting one.

Alan



Left: The Quenda, a type of bandicoot, is one of the species that people often see and mistake for Gilbert’s Potoroo. This “mistaken identity” can even make it into official news items such as this SBS news report from 2014 <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/world-s-rarest-marsupial-fighting-back>. It is a constant effort for us to keep up with all the misidentified photos and to try to get them changed but it is an important part of our awareness raising activities. If you see any media reports that have animals clearly mislabelled as Gilbert’s Potoroo, please do let us know! Quenda photo: Courtesy Jiri Lochman

## UPDATE: BALD ISLAND POTOROO SURVEY 2021

By Tony Friend, DBCA Research Associate and Field Officer

The Gilbert's potoroo population on Bald Island was established by the transfer of 10 individuals from Two Peoples Bay in 2005-2007 by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DCBA). The new colony grew rapidly and by 2010, with over 50 animals, had well surpassed the source population in size. By 2013, 73 potoroos were known to exist on the 810-hectare island. Bald Island thus holds the world's largest Gilbert's potoroo population and has been and will likely continue as the primary source for translocations. It is vital, therefore, that up-to-date information on numbers, breeding and overall health of the population is available, achieved through an annual trapping survey of the island's potoroos.



Bald Island also supports a native population of quokkas. Photo Helena Stokes

Each winter, when the abundant King's skinks are less prone to enter traps, four nights' trapping is conducted at each of 125 trap sites distributed over 20 traplines in the best potoroo habitat, found in the southern two-thirds of the island. As walking on the island in darkness can be unsafe, trapping teams don't leave camp until dawn, and to comply with animal welfare guidelines only one-third of the traps are checked by each team to ensure traps are cleared in a timely manner. Consequently, the survey requires twelve nights' trapping. A further three traplines comprising 30 trap sites are located very close to camp and these are set in the afternoon then checked in the evening on four nights. In recent surveys, recorded potoroo numbers had decreased, from 69 in 2017 to 35 in 2020, leading to concern that the population was in decline.

The plan for the 2021 survey involved two trips of six nights, separated by a week. On each trip, a team can complete four nights on one set of traplines and two nights on another. On the next trip, the second set can be completed, and the third set run for four nights. Our intention was to run the first trip in late June and the second in early July; however, the south coastal weather did not cooperate. Through winter 2021, a succession of strong cold fronts came through rapidly and while it is reasonable to expect winter fieldwork to be conducted in cold, rainy, windy conditions, gaining access to the island is another matter.

Although the channel between Bald Island and the mainland is only 1.4 km wide, the boat trip from Cheyne Beach to the island landing closest to our camp crosses 7 km of the Southern Ocean. Bald Island is a 3 km by 5 km granite dome rising steeply from the ocean with many cliffs but no beaches, so landing involves crossing from the boat onto rocks, with all gear handed across from the boat to a person standing on the rocks amidst the breaking waves. Strong wind blowing in onto these rocks or a high swell prevents safe landing on the island.



View of Bald Island landing site from the Achilles rigid inflatable. Photo DBCA

The first trip utilised costly helicopter transport to the island, allowing resupply of stores for the winter fieldwork. On 15<sup>th</sup> June, Tony Friend and DBCA's Brooke Richards were landed safely near the campsite by pilot Brian Goodwin and after storing supplies and setting up camp, headed off down the island to set traps on the western group of traplines. Although we got very wet in a prolonged downpour on the first morning of trapping, the weather was favourable for the rest of this trapping round, resulting in the capture of 18 individual potoroos.



Looking north from The Summit over Bald Island with Mount Manypeaks to the left and Hassell Beach to the right. Photo Helena Stokes


A remarkable feature this year was the extremely high number of burrow-nesting great-winged petrels that arrived in the evenings, many remaining on the surface for the night. On 18<sup>th</sup> June, DBCA boat skipper Tim Button informed us that due to an approaching intense storm front, we would need to leave the island a day earlier than planned. We closed all the traps on the 19<sup>th</sup> and on the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> partly packed up the camp, leaving three tents erected in preparation for the next trip. As the wind and swell had already risen, we had to walk with our gear for 1½ hours to a more protected landing site on rocks near the north end of the island. We were successfully whisked off the rocks by Albany Marine Rescue volunteer Kirsty Alexander, skippering the DBCA vessel "Eclipse" with Greg Freebury as deckhand. The tempest arrived in its full fury that night, with storm force winds and extremely heavy rainfall causing widespread damage in Albany and surrounding areas.

The second trip, planned for 2<sup>nd</sup> July, was delayed for nine days, again due to unsuitable weather. This time, volunteers Jim Campbell and Dianne Carmody accompanied Tony, arriving by "Eclipse" on 11<sup>th</sup> July in fine weather with Tim Button and trainee skipper Deon Utber. On arrival at camp, we discovered that in our absence, petrels had excavated burrows under all three tents, causing some discomfort, especially for Dianne. At night a petrel was still in residence beneath her sleeping spot, complaining each time she turned over in her sleeping bag. On this trip the very tough eastern group of traplines was tackled, and a further 26 individual potoroos added to the running total. While forecast weather was not an issue, there was not enough time to run the last set of traplines, so another trip would be necessary. We left the island on 17<sup>th</sup> July, with Jon Pridham and Tim Button on "Eclipse".



Measuring head length of a Gilbert's potaroo on Bald Island. Photo: Helena Stokes

Good weather permitted a return to Bald Island from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> August. Tony and volunteer Helena Stokes were transported over by Tim and Deon, on "Eclipse". On arrival at camp, we moved the tent in which Di and Jim had suffered abuse from the petrel, ensuring that Helena was quite comfortable. By this time petrel numbers seemed to have subsided, so perhaps they had sensed the storm was coming. Although the central group of traplines was the easiest going, this was also a hard few days while we caught up on night trapping, having fallen behind on the previous trips, generally due to exhaustion. Before Tim Button and Robert Main picked us up in the dependable Achilles



rigid inflatable boat, we had recorded another 16 individuals, finishing with a total of 60 potoroos for the entire survey.

The 2021 result indicated that following good rains in the last year, the island population had made a strong recovery. We had also caught 8 individuals present in 2017 but not captured in 2020, so the apparent decline had not been as severe as feared. Breeding had also picked up: 46% of females were suckling young, compared with only 21% in 2020. The Bald Island potoroo population is doing well.

Many thanks for the hard work put in by all involved, great support from DBCA Albany and funding from the Australian Commonwealth's National Landcare Program via South Coast NRM.

## **VOLUNTEERING**

### **\*IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT VOLUNTEERING\***

#### **All volunteers require a DBCA Dieback Green Card**

Sorry to keep reiterating this but to comply with DBCA requirements, all volunteers working with GPAG on our various field projects are required to complete Dieback Green Card training. The training can be done at home and takes about an hour to complete. The card can then be either posted out or collected at the DBCA office in Albany. If you think that you might be interested in volunteering sometime in the future, even if you are not planning to immediately, it is a good idea to complete your training and get your Green Card as soon as possible so that you are able to participate at short notice when opportunities arise or you are available. Please email Jackie Courtenay on [communications@potoroo.org](mailto:communications@potoroo.org) if you want to undertake the training and she will email you the training materials.

#### **Vegetation Surveys at Two Peoples Bay**

Due to the succession of strong cold fronts sweeping through the Albany area over winter mentioned in Tony Friend's Bald Island report, our vegetation surveys have had to be delayed until we get a block of fine weather. We are hoping this will happen in late October or early November to enable us to get our remaining surveys finished as soon as possible. We will need volunteers for the vegetation surveys so if you are interested, please ensure you have completed your Dieback Green Card. If you have not yet done so and are keen to help with volunteering for GPAG please contact Jackie Courtenay as noted above.

## **FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS**

### **Ongoing Fundraisers**

#### **Containers for Change**

October 1 marked the second anniversary of the launch of the Containers for Change program which has provided a slow but steady flow of donations to Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group over the past two years as a small group of dedicated people have been directing the refunds on their drink container recycling to GPAG. If you are keen to help, you can donate your refund by entering the GPAG Scheme ID at the drop off

point. We are very grateful to all the people who have already done this (although we would of course love to see more people participating if you can).

### **GPAG Scheme ID: C10289767**

Since our last newsletter in mid-July generous supporters have donated \$125.30 in refunds (that's 1253 drink containers!!). Each donation may not seem like much, but all the small donations do add up and are much appreciated.

You can find information on drop-off point locations and on what types of containers are accepted for refunds at <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/wa>.

Thank you for any support you can give us & Gilbert's Potoroo.

## **Awareness Raising: Recent Events**

### **Launch of *One Potoroo: A Story of Survival* in Albany**

The book launch, held from 10am on October 2, was attended by 41 adults & children & involved a reading of the book by Billie-Jo Whitbread from Paperbark Merchants (Photo top right by Leigh Whisson) who volunteered her time to do the reading & manage the sales, followed by a heartfelt talk by Dr Tony Friend, Research Associate at DBCA about his experiences rescuing the surviving Potoroos after the catastrophic 2015 Two Peoples Bay fire (Photo middle right by Alan Needham). The kids read along with the story, asked some questions & then enthusiastically participated in the colouring-in while the adults continued chatting, had morning tea & between them bought an amazing 23 copies of the book!! Paperbark Merchants generously donated a share of the proceeds to GPAG (Photo bottom right: Billie-Jo with the books for sale by Alan Needham). Note that the book has now also been added to our merchandise stock with 35% of the purchase price going to GPAG.

Thanks to CSIRO Publishing for their generous donation towards the cost of the event & to Albany Public Library for all their assistance including in-kind support in the form of reduced costs for the room hire. It was a terrific event which officially launched the book in Australia and it was particularly appropriate that the launch was held in Albany, so close to the locations where the events of the book are set. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to make the event a



Hi Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group,

Great news! One of our Change Makers has returned 49 containers to [redacted] and they've donated their \$4.90 refund to you. What a legend, right?



success and to all who attended and purchased copies of the book. Additional photographs can be found on our Facebook post at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/GilbertsPotorooActionGroup/posts/1483195315376874>

## **"One Potoroo" Story Playground events**

Following on from our *One Potoroo* book launch on October 2, on October 5 GPAG hosted two events as part of the Albany Public Library's Story Playground school holiday activities. Both of these events were funded by our State NRM Large Grant in collaboration with the library & Eco Gecko Environment and Design. Thank you to everyone for your support.

### **One Potoroo: Creative Conservation Craft Activities**

The first event held at the library from 10:30am on October 5 involved a reading of *One Potoroo - A Story of Survival* (read by Dora Adeline from the Albany Public Library), followed by three craft events created & facilitated by Marnie Giroud of Eco Gecko & a "Find the Potoroos" activity developed by GPAG's Jen Merritt.

Marnie's three activities included making "Potoroo Pots" from recycled cardboard cups with a small native plant seedling for each child to take home in their pot, completion of a large wooden Gilbert's Potoroo mural using seeds, nuts & leaves glued on to the wooden potoroo and colouring of images of Potoroos in their natural habitat.



Photos: Dora Adeline reading *One Potoroo* to the children attending the event (top right). Making Potoroo Pots (above left), the Gilbert's Potoroo mural in progress (above centre) and Potoroo colouring (above right). The two "Find the Potoroo" images created by Jen Merritt hiding 10 Potoroos in each as well as a range of other species for the children to find (below left). All photographs of children are taken and included with permission. Photo credits top right Alan Needham, above from left Alan Needham, Leigh Whisson and Jackie Courtenay, below left Jackie Courtenay.



Jen's "Find the Potoroos" activity consisted of two paintings of bushland at Two Peoples Bay with ten Potoroos & various native birds, other mammals & reptiles hidden among the vegetation. Children who found all 10 Potoroos were rewarded with a "medal" made from a gold painted Marri "honky nut".

The 26 children aged 3+ were incredibly well behaved and engaged to the point that two of the older girls (Milou and Lauren Buis) stayed

back after the end of the session to complete the Potoroo mural (photo top right by Juliette van Hagen, included with permission). Judge for yourselves what a fantastic job they did (photo bottom right by Leigh Whisson)! We are now looking into getting the mural coated with resin and having feet added so that it can be protected from damage and displayed at future events. Overall 47 people (26 kids and 21 adults) attended the event which was an amazing turnout. Thank you to everyone for coming along and making the morning such a success and to Dora Adeline, Marnie Giroud & all the GPAG volunteers for their hard work organising & running the event. We had a great time and the kids seemed to as well! You can see a lot more

photographs of the event on our Facebook post at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/GilbertsPotorooActionGroup/posts/1484654961897576>



Far left: All the activities underway (photo by Alan Needham), Left: A partial group of participants with One Potoroo & their Potoroo Pots in front of the new GPAG banner (photo by Marnie Giroud). All photographs of children taken and included with permission.

### One Potoroo: Spotlight Story Walk at Lake Seppings

Our second *One Potoroo* event on October 5 hosted as part of the Albany Public Library's Story Playground school holiday activities was a Spotlight Story Walk at Lake Seppings. This event was also funded by our State NRM Large grant in collaboration with the library and Eco Gecko Environment and design. Again thank you to everyone for your support.



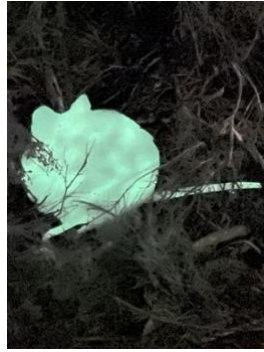
Above: A page of *One Potoroo* strategically placed along the track at Lake Seppings  
Photo by Jackie Courtenay.

The Spotlight Story Walk began at 6:30pm & involved a spotlight walk around Lake Seppings with regular stops for Dora Adeline from Albany Public Library to read a page of *One Potoroo - A Story of Survival* that had been strategically placed along the track prior to the start of the walk. Also strategically placed in the vegetation along the first part of the walk were 6 life sized wooden Gilbert's Potoroo shapes created by Marnie Giroud of Eco Gecko - Environment & Design. The wooden Potoroos were painted with glow paint so that after having a torch shone on them they continued to glow in the dark and part of the fun of the walk was the search for glowing Potoroos as well as wildlife!



Above: Participants gathering at the start of the walk. Photo by Marnie Giroud.





Above left: Dora Adeline reading a page of the book to young participants (photo by Jackie Courtenay). Above centre right: A “Glow Potoroo” in situ on the walk (photo by Alan Needham). Above right: Some of the participants near the end of the walk (photo by Jen Merritt). Below right: One of the two Western Ringtail Possums seen towards the end of the walk (photo by Jen Merritt). All photos of children taken and included with permission.

Despite threats of rain (which fortunately did not eventuate) an amazing 46 people, including a mix of kids & adults, participated in the walk. Given the number of people on the walk a surprising amount of wildlife was seen including swamp hens and a pair of Critically Endangered Western Ringtail Possums! Thank you to everyone for coming along & making the evening such a success & to Dora Adeline, Marnie Giroud & all the GPAG volunteers for their hard work organising & running the event. You can see more photographs of the event on our Facebook post here:

<https://www.facebook.com/GilbertsPotorooActionGroup/posts/1486142015082204>



### **Launch of the Gilbert’s Potoroo Genome**

Thank you to everyone who joined us to help celebrate the launch of the Gilbert’s Potoroo reference genome on Saturday, September 4. The reference genome was assembled by Associate Professor Parwinder Kaur from DNA Zoo Australia as an extremely generous \$80000 in-kind contribution to our small State NRM grant investigating the genetics of Gilbert’s Potoroo. Having the genome available will enable scientists to undertake research into a range of questions relating to genetic variability in the species as well as genes involved in disease and adaptation which may be important to help DBCA in managing the Potoroo sub-populations in the face of climate change and small population numbers.



From left: GPAG Chairperson Dr Alan Needham introducing the event to a full house (photo Leigh Whisson); Associate Professor Parwinder Kaur from DNA Zoo presenting on the importance of genome work for threatened species and her Gilbert’s Potoroo genome discoveries (photo by Elizabeth Needham) and Dr Kym Ottewell from DBCA presenting early results of her work on the genetic diversity of Gilbert’s Potoroo across the 4 sub-populations (photo by Elizabeth Needham)

It was a terrific event with three excellent, enthusiastic guest speakers (plus a great introduction by our GPAG Chairperson Alan Needham), a very engaged audience of 42 people, delicious food by UWA Guild Catering with added truffle ingredients donated by Truffle Hill (which in our busy-ness we all forgot to photograph) and lots of fun activities such as DNA Zoo jigsaws and an origami double helix for people to explore.

We were very privileged that Former WA Chief Scientist Prof Lyn Beazley agreed to officially launch the genome and gave an inspiring talk about conservation, the importance of genetic management for threatened species and the need to keep young people engaged with the natural world. It is so exciting to think that this really important scientific resource is now available in the public domain for scientists to access for their research.

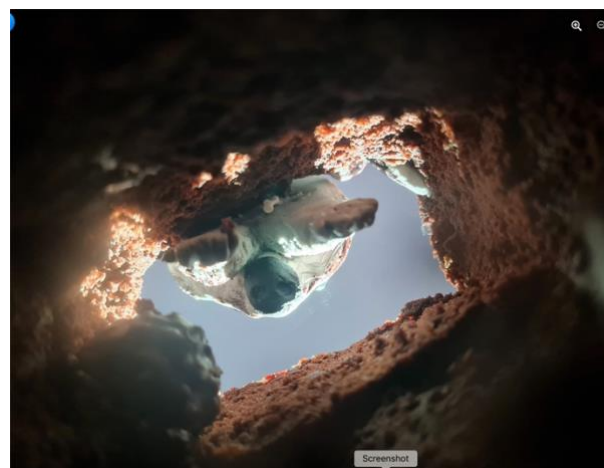
Thank you to Associate Professor Parwinder Kaur from DNA Zoo Australia & UWA for all her work assembling the genome, Dr Kym Ottewell from DBCA Science for her work on Gilbert's Potoroo population genetics and to Prof Lyn Beazley for her enthusiasm for the Potoroos and for launching the genome for us. Thanks also to State NRM for funding the event through our Large Grant and Truffle Hill for donating the truffle product for the afternoon tea. And last but not least, thanks to all the people who came early or stayed late to help with the set up before and pack up after the event - your help was greatly appreciated. More information is available at the following ABC news article <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-09-07/gilberts-potoroo-dna-mapping-breakthrough/100437168> and at the DNA Zoo blog post announcing the genome <https://www.dnazoo.org/post/potoroos-in-truffle>.



Above: Former WA Chief Scientist Prof Lyn Beazley officially launching the Gilbert's Potoroo genome. Photo by Elizabeth Needham

### **Threatened Species Bake Off**

For Threatened Species Day on September 7 the Threatened Species Commissioner again hosted a Threatened Species Bake Off competition where Australians are encouraged to bake a dessert in the form of a threatened species. The competition is judged by a panel of judges and there is also a People's Choice Award based on the number of social media Likes. This year was the fifth year of the competition and had the theme "ecosystem engineers".



The Gilbert's Potoroo "ecosystem engineer" cake created by Marnie Giroud for the Threatened Species Bake Off. Photos by Marnie Giroud.

Marnie Giroud who has baked a Gilbert's Potoroo cake for three of the five years excelled herself with her 2021 creation depicting a Gilbert's Potoroo digging for truffles – it really looks like it could move any minute (still can't imagine why it didn't win!). The only small consolation is that the competition was won by a cake depicting a Long-footed Potoroo so at least Potoroos as a group benefitted from some awareness raising. Lots more pictures and Marnie's post about Gilbert's Potoroo as an ecosystem engineer can be found on Facebook at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/GilbertsPotorooActionGroup/posts/1459445494418523>.

## Awareness Raising: Upcoming Events

### **Perth Launch of *One Potoroo: A Story of Survival*: October 23**

After the success of the Albany book launch, we decided to run a Perth launch as well as there seemed to be enough interest from Perth members and supporters.

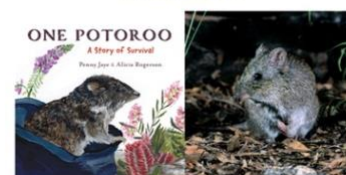
Tony Friend kindly agreed to give his presentation again at a Perth event so the format of the event will be the same as the one held in Albany on October 2. It will include a reading of the book, Tony's presentation about his experiences of the fire and its aftermath, a colouring in competition and other activities for the kids and a light afternoon tea. Books will be available for purchase at the event (cash or EFTPOS accepted). It is a gorgeous book that will make a lovely Christmas present for young kids.

Unfortunately it took a little longer than we had hoped to secure a venue and start advertising so we are hoping that enough people will be able to attend to make it worth the cost and effort. The event is being held in the Carnaby Room at Moerlina School, 16 Brockway Rd, Mt Claremont on Saturday October 23 from 2:30-3:45pm. The event is free but bookings are essential for venue capacity and catering purposes. You can book your place at <https://www.trybooking.com/BUTZG>. Would love to see you there!

### **South Coast Threatened Species Forum 2021: December 4 -5**

Planning is well underway for the South Coast Threatened Species Forum 2021 to be held in Albany at the Dog Rock Convention Centre on December 4 and 5. The Forum is celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of GPAG at a public meeting in November 2021 and so the theme of the forum is Volunteering in Threatened Species Conservation. We are very keen to hear about the experiences of community members who have been volunteering on conservation projects and scientists and community groups who have had volunteer assistance on their projects. The Forum will run all day Saturday December 4 and up to (and including) lunch on Sunday December 5. There will be a separate conference dinner on Saturday night and a heavily subsidised afternoon cruise on Sunday afternoon. Weather permitting, the cruise will go out to Gull Rock and return via Michaelmas Island and will include afternoon tea. During the cruise, Tony Friend will give a presentation on the difficulties of finding suitable "safe haven" translocation sites for the Potoroos. Options are available to book for all or part of the Forum, and for the dinner and/or cruise even

#### One Potoroo: A Story of Survival FREE EVENT



##### What's happening

Join us for the Perth launch of this beautiful children's book about Gilbert's Potoroo, the world's rarest marsupial, inspired by real life events after a catastrophic bushfire at Two Peoples Bay, near Albany.

The event includes a book reading, a talk by DBCA Research Associate Dr Tony Friend about his personal experiences rescuing surviving potoroos after the fire & a colouring competition & image search activity for kids. Books will also be available for purchase.

Light afternoon tea provided.

**When**  
Saturday October 23, 2021  
2:30-3:45 pm

**Where**  
Moerlina School  
16 Brockway Rd  
Mt Claremont, WA 6010



More information & bookings <https://www.trybooking.com/BUTZG>



This event is proudly hosted by Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group  
with support from Moerlina School



if you choose not to attend the Forum. For out-of-town attendees, Dog Rock Motel are offering a 10% discount on rooms for Forum attendees and have reserved several rooms of various types which will be held up until 10 days before the event. Details for how to book a room are available on the booking form.

Bookings for all three parts of the event are now open at the following link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BUWJR>. Please book for the Forum as soon as possible if you are planning to attend even if you are not sure about booking for the dinner or the cruise. These can always be booked separately later. If you wish to give a presentation, please email the title of your presentation to Jackie Courtenay on [communications@potoroo.org](mailto:communications@potoroo.org) as soon as possible so we can start to finalise the program. If possible, please also send a maximum 250 word abstract. If you cannot submit your abstract immediately but are planning to do so, please submit your title now and your abstract no later than November 19th.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



**SAVE THE DATES**

## South Coast Threatened Species Forum 2021

Join us in Albany on Saturday Dec 4 & Sunday Dec 5 to celebrate  
20 years since the public meeting that formed Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group &  
the 60th anniversary of the rediscovery of the Noisy Scrub-bird  
Forum Theme: Volunteering in Conservation



Photo copyright Jiri Lochman

Call for Abstracts is now Open and Registrations will be Opening Soon  
For further information including instructions for presenters or to register interest in  
attending and receive notification when registrations open, please email  
[communications@potoroo.org](mailto:communications@potoroo.org)  
[www.potoroo.org](http://www.potoroo.org)



This event is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program through a Community Stewardship Grant to Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group

# MERCHANDISE



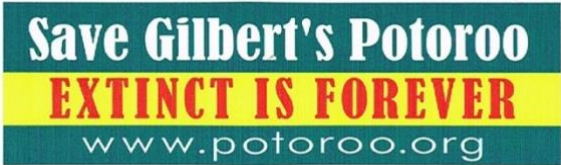
**WATERCOLOUR CARDS:** Quality hand-made cards featuring a picture of Gilbert's Potoroo from a watercolour by Jann van der Helder. Blank inside. \$4 each or 5 for \$16.



**JO HARRIS CARDS:** Quality cards featuring a painting of Gilbert's Potoroo by Jo Harris based on a photograph by Dick Walker. Printed by the Environmental Printing Company on 100% recycled paper using vegetable-based inks. Blank inside. \$5 each or 5 for \$20.



**BLACK & WHITE CARDS:** Quality cards featuring a pen and ink drawing of a Gilbert's Potoroo by Jackie Courtenay from a photograph by Katrin Witt. Printed by the Environmental Printing Company on 100% recycled paper using vegetable-based inks. Blank inside. \$5 each or 5 for \$20.



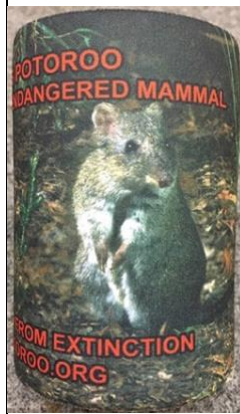
**BUMPER STICKERS \$2.50**



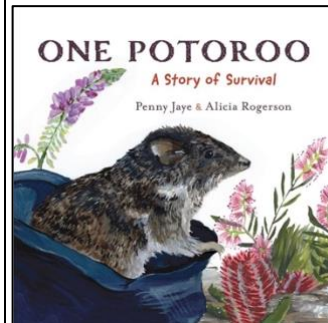
**POSTCARDS:** Featuring a photo of Gilbert's Potoroo by Dick Walker and information about the Potoroo on both the front and back \$1.00 each



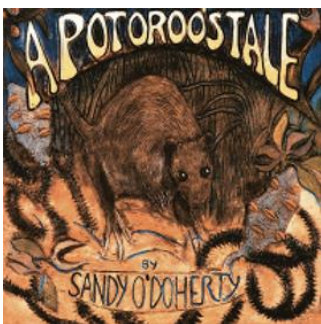
**TEATOWELS:** Printed on 100% cotton with some key facts about Gilbert's Potoroo! Tea towel design by Sandy O'Doherty \$10 each or 3 for \$25



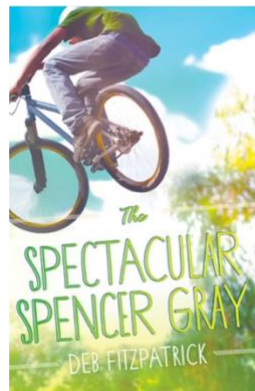
**STUBBY HOLDERS:** Designed by GPAG members featuring a photo of Gilbert's Potoroo by Dick Walker. \$10 each or 2 for \$15



**ONE POTOROO: A STORY OF SURVIVAL: \$25**



**A POTOROO'S TALE:** A delightful book written and beautifully illustrated by Albany artist Sandy O'Doherty. All profits from the sale of the book will go to the Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group. \$15 each



**THE SPECTACULAR SPENCER GRAY:** The award winning adventure story by Deb Fitzpatrick featuring Gilbert's Potoroo and the return of Spencer Gray in a spectacular adventure. 30% of the sale price of the book will go to Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group. \$15 each

## MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

ABN 75 191 68 479 (Tax Invoice when paid)

Item	Cost/item	Quantity	Total Cost
Watercolour Card (ea)	\$4.00		
Watercolour Cards (5 pk)	\$16		
Jo Harris Card	\$5		
Jo Harris Cards (5 pk)	\$20		
B&W Potoroo Card	\$5		
B&W Potoroo Cards (5 pk)	\$20		
Postcards (ea)	\$1.00		
Bumper Stickers (ea)	\$2.50		
Teatowels (ea)	\$10.00		
Teatowels (3 pk)	\$25.00		
Stubby Holders (ea)	\$10.00		
Stubby Holders (2 pk)	\$15.00		
One Potoroo	\$25.00		
A Potoroos Tale	\$15.00		
Spectacular Spencer Gray	\$15		
		<b>Product total</b>	
		<b>Postage &amp; packing (&lt;500g)*</b>	\$10.00
		<b>Add a donation?</b>	
		<b>Total Cost</b>	

\* Within Australia. Postage for larger and overseas orders will need to be costed individually depending on weight and destination. You will be contacted by the Treasurer with a final quote for postage if your order weighs more than 500g or you need the items sent overseas.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Methods

**DIRECT DEPOSIT:** Bendigo Bank BSB: 633-000; Account Number: 164 347 999  
Please include your surname and "Merchandise" in the Reference line and email order form to [treasurer@potoroo.org](mailto:treasurer@potoroo.org)

**CHEQUE:** Please make cheques payable to **Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group Inc**

Send To:     The Treasurer  
              Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group Inc  
              PO Box 654  
              Albany, WA 6331

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

To become a member of GILBERT'S POTOROO ACTION GROUP INC, fill out the form below and either pay your subscription by direct deposit and email the form to [treasurer@potoroo.org](mailto:treasurer@potoroo.org) or print out and return by mail with a cheque enclosed.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth if Under 15 Years \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Tax Invoice

**Subscription \$22 per year**

Includes GST

### Payment Methods

**DIRECT DEPOSIT:** Bendigo Bank; BSB: 633-000; Account Number: 164 347 999

Please include your surname and "Membership" in the Reference line.

**CHEQUE:** Please make cheques payable to **Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group Inc**

Send To: The Treasurer  
Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group Inc  
PO Box 654  
Albany, WA 6331

**Privacy Policy:** The information you have disclosed other than your name and contact details is restricted to committee members. No one outside the association is given access to your personal details without your permission.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Nominated By: _____	Receipt No _____
	Membership Accepted: YES/NO	Date Paid ____/____/____
		Register _____

## DONATIONS

As a Nationally Registered Environmental Organisation the Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group Inc. offers tax deductible donation facilities. To claim **tax benefits**, your donation must be a **minimum of \$2** and made payable to the **GPAG Public Tax Deductible Donation Fund**. Tax deductible donations can also be made through our website [www.potoroo.org](http://www.potoroo.org).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Methods

**DIRECT DEPOSIT:** Bendigo Bank; BSB: 633-000; Account Number: 178 804 555

Please include your surname and Donation in the Reference line and email this form to [treasurer@potoroo.org](mailto:treasurer@potoroo.org)

**CHEQUE:** Please make cheques payable to **Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group Inc Public Tax Deductible Donation Fund**

Send To: The Treasurer  
Gilbert's Potoroo Action Group Inc  
PO Box 654  
Albany, WA 6331