



## **NPQ State Conference 2023 Timetable**

### **Day 1 Thursday 14th September**

11.40am - Bus will meet Jetstar JQ930 and Virgin VA771 and take passengers to Conference Centre. Note we are not providing lunch on this day.

2.00pm – Bus departs for Cattana Wetlands Walk in north Cairns. This 80 hectare nature conservation park, home to a wealth of bird and plant life, includes toilets and a boardwalk through fern palm forest. Led by Geoff McClure one of the volunteers at the park.

4.30 pm - Return Depart time 4.30pm.

6pm - Dinner. After dinner interpretive talk by Bob Jago and Stuart Worboys. “What to expect in the area.”

### **Day 2 Friday 15th September**

Breakfast is provided to all staying at the Conference Centre on each day.

8.30 am Departure

Don Lawie will travel on the bus and give local commentary on the way south to Innisfail.

Stop 1 10.00 - 12am Josephine Falls is a tiered cascade waterfall on the Josephine Creek under Mt Bartle Frere, Qld’s highest mountain. Unfortunately, we will not have the time to climb the mountain. Toilets

Stop 2 12.30-2.30pm Lunch & Walk Warrina Lake. Toilets

Stop 3 2.45-3.30pm “Backyard Blitz” revegetation area. It has come under control of the Russell River Landcare Group, who are moving to rejuvenate it. The trees and understorey have developed well (the path was strewn with quandong fruit) and there were virtually no weeds.

3.45 pm - -Latest Return time

6pm – Dinner. After dinner talk (about 6.45pm) by Peter Radke on the introduction on many north Qld plants into horticulture.

### **Day 3 Saturday 16th September** around Cairns

8.30am - Departure

Stop 1 9-10.30am Private Garden owned by Jan and Brad McLucas. Jan was an Australian Senator for 17 years up to 2016. No Toilets. There is an article on this garden in Attachment 1.

Stop 2 11.30am Cairns Botanic Gardens. Tour led by Friends of the Botanic Gardens (normally 2 hours).

1.30pm to 2.30 pm Lunch and Free Walk. Toilets. Café. Shop

2.30pm Depart

3.00pm Crystal Cascades Stop 3. Arrive 3.00pm. Crystal Cascades is a sealed walk beside the Cascades and up to the Falls. Very pretty; no guides required. Toilets but no shop.

4.30pm Depart

6pm Dinner

7.00pm General Meeting of Native Plants Queensland. The only item on the agenda is the confirmation of Life Membership Awards to three members. There will also be time for questions and discussions about any aspect of the Society.

7.30pm After Dinner Bill Tulloch Lecture given by Darren Crayn Director, Australian Tropical Herbarium

#### **Day 4 Sunday 17th September – Atherton Tableland**

7.30am Departure for Cairns Skyrail. The bus needs to be at the Kuranda end of the Skyrail to provide tea and coffee. Toilets

Peter Radke to join the coach at Kuranda to give a background talk on the Tablelands and his garden on the way.

Stop 1 11.30 am Rocky Creek War Memorial Lunch & Toilets

Stop 2 12.20 pm Visit to Gary and Nada Sankowsky's garden, Equestrian Drive, Tolga (note no toilets). Both Gary and Nada will take you on two separate and very different walks. See Attachment 2

2.15pm Yungaburra for toilets

2.45pm Curtain Fig National Park – Please meet at the wide section of boardwalk for a short talk about this tree.

4.15pm Visit Peter Radke's Garden

5.00pm Depart

**6.30 pm** Dinner. After Dinner Free

#### **Day 5 Monday 18th September - Mossman**

8.30am Departure

Stop 1 9.30am Mossman Gorge. Our bus stops at the Interpretative Centre We will first have tea and coffee; then move into the Centre and take the shuttle bus to the Gorge. Bob Jago and Stuart Worboys will guide you through the Gorge. The plants are generally not named, the range is enormous, and you will need their help. There is a Suspension bridge on the route which has to be crossed twice. After we have finished the walk, we can get the lunch from the bus and eat it outside or in the Centre. Toilets

After Mossman Gorge we may visit Scommazons Farm Stores which has a wide range of tropical fruits, a group of large Barringtonias at Four Mile Beach or the south end of Wangetti Beach which has a raw patch of stunning and untouched coastline which has been naturally eroded leaving a quirky pebble stone covered section.

6pm Dinner