



# Baycare News

## News from Berrinba Wetlands

Talks between various groups and officers from Logan City Council are continuing in regard to the problem with the health of birds around the Berrinba Wetlands area. We are advised by the Pelican and Seabird Rescue Group that a few dead pelicans have been found recently in the area and one, presently in care, has two gun shot wounds. The Council has recently made headlines with its efforts using stock whips, vehicles and gas guns, to reduce the number of birds, especially ibis but including pelicans that are scavenging on the tip site. We will continue to report on this important issue.

## A problem for Shearwaters

Many will have seen reports in the press and on TV on the many shearwaters that were seen dead or close to death on local beaches. While many see this as a natural occurrence that happens from time to time, others believe that with human induced changes to the habitat and food sources of these birds some effort should be made to help them reach their destination further south. The following report is from the Pelican and Seabird rescue group:

*Last month thousands of migrating Short Tailed Shearwaters were "beach washed" along the Queensland Coast. 80 birds that were still alive but in critical condition were rescued from North and South Stradbroke Islands while approx 2,000 lay dead on the beaches. Most of the debilitated birds were juveniles that were cold and emaciated, with not enough energy to complete their migration. Die-offs have been attributed to a combination of stress, a lack of food from unusual weather patterns that affect ocean upwellings, or as previously suggested from past seabird die-offs, the implication that human-induced climate change may potentially have a long-term effect. Pelican and Seabird Rescue (PaSR) with the assistance of a local government department coordinated the collection of the first group of beached washed birds. Concerned rescuers in both islands did their best to contain and warm the birds while they patiently waited for the PaSR Rescue team and the government boat. Once the birds were collected from both islands and the boat was filled with boxes of weak shearwaters, the birds were rushed back to the mainland. They were then immediately transported to the fully equipped PaSR rehabilitation facility in Beerwah to be further stabilised that night. Over the next few days, more shearwaters were rescued and successfully stabilised. It is the mission of Pelican and Seabird Rescue to ensure the most humane treatment for these birds, and with the great team effort of everyone involved and it is hoped that as many of these birds as possible will now have a second chance at life.*

## PELICAN & SEABIRD RESCUE INC.

RESCUE HOTLINE 24 HOURS-7 DAYS PER WEEK

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