

Environmental Field Trip Report

Goodman FOUNDATION

Philanthropy Australia

Thank you, Moreton Bay

To Philanthropy Australia, thank you for the platform and the trust that made this trip possible in the first place, and for the opportunity to bring this small corner of the world to your delegates.

To our partner organisations, The Moreton Bay Foundation, Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre, QYAC, The Centre for Marine Science at UQ, and BirdLife Australia, thank you for the generosity, expertise and warmth you brought to every showcase. You made the science and the storytelling equally unforgettable.

To the Quandamooka People, Traditional Owners of Moreton Bay and Minjerribah, thank you for welcoming us onto Country and sharing your knowledge, culture and Country so openly and generously.

To our delegates, thank you for bringing curiosity and genuine care for the Bay's future, and for being such wonderful company along the way.



Introduction

This report has been prepared by the Goodman Foundation, reflecting on the Environmental Field Trip to Minjerribah held from 11 to 13 September 2026. It sets out the trip's outcomes and the voices of those who took part.

Summary

Over three days on Quandamooka Country, delegates were welcomed by QYAC, walked the Gorge at sunrise with Ayla & Cameron Costello swam at Cylinder Beach, watched whales pass close by the boat, and heard directly from the researchers and advocates shaping the future of Moreton Bay. What began as a logistical undertaking became, by every account gathered since, something considerably more moving than any of us had planned for.

The Goodman Foundation extends its sincere gratitude to each partner organisation for the generosity it demonstrated throughout the weekend. The Foundation is confident that meaningful new partnerships will emerge from the field trip, and the early outcomes documented in this report indicate that this is already beginning to occur.

Dates:	11 - 13th Sept
Location:	Moreton Bay and Minjerribah
Delegates:	13
Showcase Partners:	The Moreton Bay Foundation, Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre, QYAC, The Centre for Marine Science at UQ, BirdLife Australia
Early outcomes logged:	6 donations or pledges in progress, 5 non financial connections facilitated and 17 delegate and partner feedback and testimonials received.





6

Donations and Pledges

5

Non Financial Connections

80%

Plan to change how they give

Minjerribah Trip at a glance





The trip opened on Friday morning with an Acknowledgement of Country from Dianne Aylward aboard Inspiration, MBEEC's floating classroom and a hands-on citizen science session. Followed by a showcase from The Moreton Bay Foundation who provided our delegates with an understanding of their work being the “connective tissue” of stakeholders in Moreton Bay and how they engage with the community around the bay. TMBF provided our delegates with handcrafted passports which encouraged them to look at the extraordinary environment around them over the weekend.

Once ashore QYAC provided a Welcome to Country and cultural presentation, before the group settled in for dinner and conversation at Six Beaches.

Saturday began before dawn with a sunrise Gorge Walk (Goori) led by Ayla Costello, her father Cameron joining the group, providing Quandamooka storytelling with a sunrise backdrop.

Continuing the journey

The day continued with a swim at Cylinder Beach where delegates were encouraged to take 3 for the sea. A tour of QUAMPI Arts and Culture Centre, and a VIP experience at the Quadamooka Festival.

Sunday brought an incredible whale watching and First Nations song experience with QYAC, close enough to nearly clear the boat. Followed by a tour of UQ's Moreton Bay Research Station and an understanding of their Healthy Moreton Bay Initiative. BirdLife Australia's account of how Toondah Harbour was won, and a final showcase from The Moreton Bay Foundation before the group made its way back to the mainland.

Delegates were provided with a funding prospects, click here to download.





What made the trip distinctive was the way these elements were woven together: the natural environment, science, Traditional Owner community and family, and hands-on experience of the Bay itself, delivered by the people doing the work rather than reading about it secondhand.

Despite the ambition of the itinerary, delegates and partners alike described the weekend as seamless and warm, and, as more than one person put it, considerably more moving than they had expected. That combination of substance and feeling is, we think, exactly what makes a field trip worth doing.

FROM DELEGATES

"It really was a trip of a lifetime, which could only have been pieced together through your decades of personal connections, dedication and detailed planning."

"It is powerful to expand your understanding of issues, in all its joyous complexity. Broadening your world view means your giving can both do more good and will likely also build a better connection to the work you are passionate about."

"This was really what I needed to recharge my batteries, and be inspired again."

"It opened my eyes and ears to both the beauty of Moreton Bay and also the sobering truths that we face for the health of Moreton Bay."

"A perfect mix of informal and formal, an impressive design which meant we got incredible access and connection, as well as more formal opportunities."

"Spiritual, Practical, Educational, Inspiring"

"For us, it was a powerful reminder that philanthropy is not just about funding solutions. It is also about building understanding, connecting people and creating opportunities to see challenges and possibilities firsthand."

"The preparation and planning that the Goodman family put into the trip was magnificent and generous. This and the other participants ... is what made this an exceptional and memorable trip to reflect on for a long time."







FROM OUR PARTNERS



"It was absolutely my pleasure to be involved. I am so grateful that this opportunity came my way, especially being able to share the Toondah story with such a wonderful group of people."
Judith Hoyle, BirdLife Australia

"It was clear everyone was enjoying themselves. Thank you for including us in this special weekend!"
Elise Flickinger, The Moreton Bay Foundation

"It was clear how much work and attention went into making the trip incredible for those who attended."

Katie Walters, The Moreton Bay Foundation

100%

gave the trip the highest rating - Very Good

100%

said nothing fell short

100%

found communication clear

What delegates valued most



Connection to Country

Time with the Quadamooka people



Learning from experts

Direct access to those caring for Moreton Bay



Connection with peers

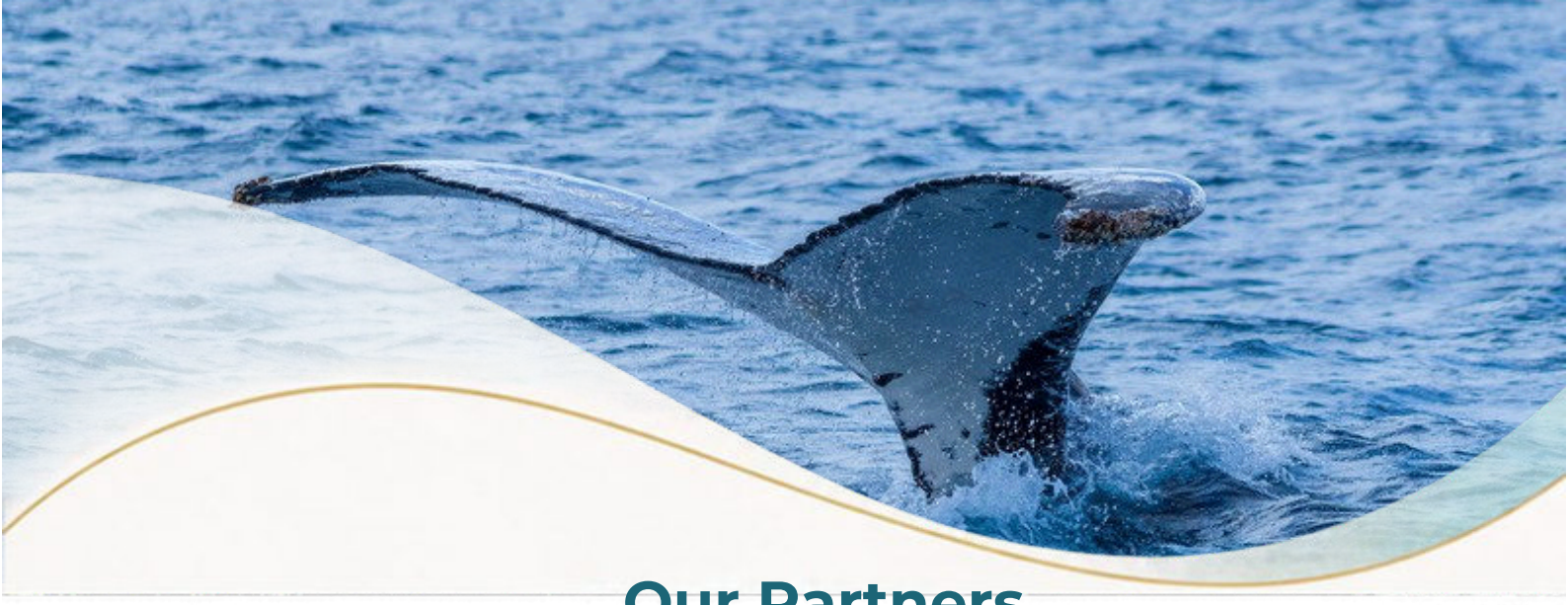
Relationships formed across the group

Whale watching



From inspiration to action

- Broadening giving across the showcased organisations
- Encouraging past grantees to reapply for funding
- Exploring support for Quadamooka's caring for Country programme and a first-time grant to The Moreton Bay Foundation



Our Partners

birdlife AUSTRALIA

THE MORETON BAY FOUNDATION

The University Of Queensland
AUSTRALIA
CREATE CHANGE

QYAC

Moreton Bay
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE

Goodman FOUNDATION

All photos contained in this report were taken on the field trip by partners and delegates.

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