

Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia Community Conservation Award 2009

Dr Clive Williams, Vice President, announced the Community Conservation Award for 2009 has been awarded to the **Community for Coastal and Cassowary Conservation (C4)** of Mission Beach North Queensland.

C4 is an all-volunteer organisation with over 200 members. Its aim is to protect the natural environment without affecting the local economy. It is active in campaigning against inappropriate development, but also believes in educating the community and to this end it has developed its own education centre.

C4 importantly has a strong scientific basis and liaises closely with local scientists and professionals. It has been particularly active in publicising the plight of the cassowary and is raising funds to purchase suitable cassowary habitat to help protect this endangered bird.

C4 is a true community group with valuable conservation objectives. It is a worthy recipient of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia's Community Conservation Award.

Response by Sandal Hayes of C4

On behalf of the Community for Coastal and Cassowary Conservation, I would like to thank the Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia for this honour.

We believe the short audio visual presentation today speaks for itself and highlights the plight of the endangered cassowary – the threats of habitat loss, car strike and dogs have reduced the population to a critical point.

I would also like to acknowledge Judith May for nominating C4 for this award and my colleague Liz Gallie who photographed, wrote and produced C4's cassowary book and DVD. She is more comfortable behind the lens or the keyboard than accepting awards, so I accept on her behalf and on behalf of C4.

Cassowaries need your help. C4 is raising funds to secure habitat and any contributions would be most welcome.



*Liz Gallie and Sandal Hayes accepted the Community Conservation Award for 2009
on behalf of C4 from Clive Williams*