

Abstract Submission Form and Speaker Profile

Complete your details by typing in the **green** sections of the digital form below. If there are multiple presenters, please include their details where applicable (name, organisation, personal bio)
 Save your completed form in PDF format and submit via the [submission form on the website](#).

Title	Ms	First Name	Robyn	Family Name	Bickell
Position/Role	Position / Role				
Organisation you will represent	Estuary Guardians				
Personal Bio Max. 100 words	<p>Barbara Sing is a Science teacher at John Tonkin College. She is an active member of many local environment groups and cofounded Estuary Guardians. She has involved her students in a range of initiatives such as Fishing Line Bins, Estuary Guardians and the Bream Project.</p> <p>Robyn Bickell is an active member of the Mandurah Volunteer Dolphin Rescue Group and Estuary Guardians. She is passionate about protecting Mandurah's marine environment and the wildlife that call it home and is very involved in engaging with the community to bring more awareness about the area and why it is so special.</p>				
Title of Presentation	Guardians of the Peel-Harvey Estuary: engaging, educating and empowering the community to make a positive difference to the waterways and wildlife				
Format of Presentation (please select)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation (20 minutes) <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop - 60 minutes (eg interactive indoor session) <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop - 120 minutes (eg outdoor activity) Indicate your preferred presentation types (you may select more than one) NB: We may not be able to offer your preferred option				
Which theme would you prefer to present under? (please select)	<input type="checkbox"/> Theme 1: Listen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 2: Learn <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 3: Transform				
Introduction	Estuary Guardians is a non for profit volunteer group In Mandurah, Western Australia. Established by John Tonkin College students, it is now a community driven group educating the community, monitoring the local dolphin population, assisting the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) with any injured, stranded or deceased dolphins and advocating for the protection of the dolphins.				
Presentation Abstract: max. 300 words	Mandurah has a population of 85 Indo Pacific bottlenose dolphins that reside in the Peel-Harvey Estuary year round, as well as a coastal community of 40 dolphins at the Dawesville Cut. These are wild dolphins that frequent this area due to the abundance of fish, the calm waters and the absence of predators. This population is very unique, as there is no immigration from the ocean which means every dolphin birth is important for				

	<p>the population longterm.</p> <p>Estuary Guardians was established in 2015 by John Tonkin College students and teachers - working with rescue, research, business and schools to encourage people to look after Mandurah's dolphins and environment.</p> <p>The students in collaboration with Mandurah Dolphin Research Project, Mandurah Volunteer Dolphin Rescue Group and Mandurah Cruises produced the first FinBook for dolphins in the Peel-Harvey Estuary in 2016. The FinBook helps to identify the dolphins, through their unique markings and contributes to the monitoring by recording dolphin sightings through the Marine Fauna sightings mobile app. The fifth edition of the FinBook was released in 2023.</p> <p>Estuary Guardians has evolved over the years to become a community driven group, incorporating the Mandurah Volunteer Dolphin Rescue Group, connecting the public, government and other local environmental groups to not only monitor the dolphins but the whole Peel-Harvey ecosystem.</p> <p>Estuary Guardians aims to educate the community about Mandurah's waterways, the diverse wildlife that call it home and the threats they face (the major threat to the dolphins is stranding in the shallows as 50% of the estuary is less than 50 cm deep), inspiring more people to want to become guardians of the Peel-Harvey Estuary. This is done through social media, education sessions for schools, dolphin forums and community event stalls.</p>
<p>Key Message: A short summary of presentation</p>	<p>Estuary Guardians was established by local students and is now a community driven group incorporating the Mandurah Volunteer Dolphin Rescue Group, public, government and other local environment groups to not only monitor the dolphins but the whole Peel-Harvey ecosystem as well as educating and engaging the community.</p>

All abstracts must be received by 5pm **Friday 26 May 2023** (AEST).

We expect to notify speakers by mid June

Note: confirmed presenters will be required to register for the conference and pay the relevant registration fees.