

OOCABOOLINA OUTSTATION

2022 The refurbishment continued during 2022, two working bees in May and July. The Friends have completed the mission to make the premises safe and secure.

Flood Damage – January 2022 saw an unprecedented rainfall event in the proximity of Oocaboolina. A small tributary creek which passing west and north of the building breached its banks as it swelled past the western gate, ripping the “farm gate” its hinged post and about 15-20 m of fencing and posts out of the ground and swept it around the long drop toilet. A further 15 m of the north fence and posts was also uprooted and dumped in the creek on the northern boundary. Vegetative debris had collected against the remainder of the north fence and also along the entire east & south fences. The repair of the fences was our first priority. Water had entered the hut leaving a film of silt in the porch, kitchen, and lounge rooms and on the southern verandah. The first major task in May of that year was to restore the fencing and clear the silt from the floors. See separate page for photos of this event.

Floor Tiling – The CMB had given approval for the Friends to lay ceramic tiles to the floors of the laundry, west porch and store rooms. The laundry was not tiled because if the building is to be occupied in the future the existing concrete slabs will need to be removed and plumbing provided for bath/shower etc.



Painting – timber for skirtings in several rooms was painted along with the ceiling of the west porch.



Bedroom 1 Doors & Screen – the French doors and security screens for bedroom one were installed.



Porch ceiling cornice - the tricky work of installing cornices on a sloping ceiling was expertly completed and then the ceiling painted.



Volunteer Engagement

Throughout the five years of the project Friends members showed strong support of the project, many of whom volunteered each year. Their many and varied skills enabled the Friends to complete the works to a professional standard.

DEW Engagement

Past District Ranger Allan Harbour, Cultural Ranger Arthur Coulthard got the project underway with both administrative & hands on support, later District Ranger Dave Phillips continued to support it. Senior Ranger Sian Johnson spent many hours throughout the period of the refurbishment assisting with the organising of purchasing of materials and delivering equipment to site.