



**O'REILLY'S**  
RAINFOREST GUESTHOUSE



## O'REILLY'S 10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FROG WEEK 2004

Well it was a Frog Week dream come true – rain, rain and more rain! Inches of rain fell almost every day and the frogs responded accordingly with 29 species seen in total. You didn't have to go far to hear the splendour of the frog choruses as the frog pond near the Canopy Suites had five species calling there throughout the week. They included the Red-eyed Green Tree Frog *Litoria chloris*, the Emerald-spotted Tree Frog *L. peronii* and the Black-soled Frog *Lechriodus fletcheri*.

There was plenty of water lying around the night we visited the Canungra Valley as well. After a hearty meal on the verandah of the Canungra Valley Vineyards, we drove down the road for 5 minutes to where we encountered a deafening chorus of frogs on the side of the road. We saw over ten species at that one spot including the hard-to-catch Rocket Frog *Litoria nasuta* and plenty of Green Tree Frogs *L. caerulea* sitting out on the fence posts.

The ever-present downpours never dampened spirits during the week and that was most evident when the froggers embraced the Radio Tracking Challenge. Lead by Naomi Doak from Griffith University, participants were split into two teams and had to find the three transmitter-wearing Freddo Frogs in the quickest time using a radio tracker. This research technique has been used recently on Fleay's Barred Frogs in Lamington National Park and I thought the skilful placement of the activity during a heavy rain event helped people to appreciate the different challenges that wildlife research can present!

We weren't out in the rain all the time, however, and were lucky to have some excellent presentations on the latest amphibian research. Marc Hero from Griffith University spoke on global amphibian declines and Michael Cunningham from the University of the Free State in South Africa gave us an insight into the amphibians and reptiles of that stunning country.

Many thanks to our fearless leaders, Harry Hines and Ed Meyer, our excellent guest speakers and to all the participants who helped make the 10<sup>th</sup> Frog Week the best yet. I look forward to seeing you back for Frog Week 2005!

- Woo O'Reilly



Some drowned froggers enjoy the impressive sight of Cainbale Falls while looking for the Red-backed Broodfrog