



## FRIDAY ENVIRONMENT FORUM

**NPA Environment Centre**

**24 August 2018**

### Central Australia is a stargazer's paradise

Stargazing conditions are ideal in outback Australia given the low humidity, lack of light pollution, and no general pollution from cars and industry. Australia has arguably some of the best sky in the world, and here on the Sunshine Coast, the night sky in Maleny is a treat.

Eighty percent of the world's population live under light polluted skies. In the USA and Europe, this figure is estimated to be ninety nine percent. Not only does this limit our ability to enjoy the beautiful night sky, inappropriate lighting at night is associated with negative health effects, including circadian rhythm disruption, increases in cancer rates, heart disease, diabetes and obesity. Numerous animal species are also negatively affected by artificial light at night.



**Ken Wishaw** who is the guest speaker at **Noosa Parks Association Friday Environment Forum** on August 24, 2018 is undertaking post-graduate work in Astronomy looking at the causes of light pollution. Ken explains "with the recent advent of LED lighting technology, there is now a once in a lifetime opportunity to correct all the light pollution problems we have created to date, but overseas experience has shown if it is done incorrectly it can make matters far worse."



Join the audience at the **Noosa Parks Association Environment Centre**, 5 Wallace Drive, Noosaville from 10 am for coffee with the forum commencing at 10.30am. Ken's presentation will outline how we can

still provide quality lighting and simultaneously reduce the harmful effects on our environment, and ourselves.

To enjoy the birds of Wallace Park before the forum, join Valda and the other bird observers at 8.30am in the Environment Centre carpark.