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### **BioQuest To Find New Species at The Planting**

[The Planting](#) has partnered with [QuestaGame](#) to provide a real-world nature gaming adventure that also contributes to science. [QuestaGame](#) is a mobile app designed to connect people with nature and bio-experts. Users can join the Woodfordia Clan to clock up points in an engaging biodiversity-themed quest, while learning to identify species from participating bio-experts.

The BioQuest will take place at [The Planting](#) – formerly a humble tree-planting weekend held at Woodfordia, the home of the [Woodford Folk Festival](#). Once a cleared and degraded dairy farm, the beloved festival site has been revegetated through community efforts on an ongoing basis since the first Planting Festival in 1997.

“It is remarkable to see what happens when people come together to restore the landscape,” said Dr. Sandra Tuszynska, Woodfordia’s Environmental Projects Officer. “With community efforts we have created bio-diverse rainforest habitats in less than twenty years!” said Sandra, adding that, “Woodfordia is home to bioluminescent fungi, the vulnerable Richmond Birdwing Butterfly and the threatened Glossy Black Cockatoo.”

Bio-experts specialising in insects, spiders, frogs, fungi, birds and plants will be supporting citizen-scientists (BioQuesters) in finding and documenting creatures that call Woodfordia home. The QuestaGame team, headed by co-founder David Haynes, will be assisting BioQuesters with using the free app.

David describes QuestaGame as, “a global social enterprise that believes in working (and playing) together to make this planet more healthy and sustainable. At QuestaGame, we think technology should enhance human collaboration and our engagement with nature, rather than distance us from it.”

This one of a kind, real-world nature mapping game, allows anyone with a smartphone to contribute to biodiversity research world-wide.

Spider expert Robert Whyte, the co-author of CSIRO publication, *A Field Guide to Spiders of Australia* said, “It is very likely that we will find a new spider species at Woodfordia.”

BioQuesters will learn how to find, photograph and identify wildlife, and to submit their findings through the QuestaGame app, for further identification by biologists. All findings will contribute to mapping Australia’s biodiversity.

The Planting takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> of May at Woodfordia. QuestaGame will feature at The Planting thanks to the Advance Queensland fund provided by the Queensland Government.

To participate in The Planting’s BioQuest and for more information on workshops, entertainment and tickets click [here](#).



**Queensland  
Government**

Tickets to The Planting are on sale now from: <https://theplantingfestival.com/tickets/>

Explore the Programme [here](#)

[Click here for digital and high resolution photos](#)

*Woodfordia Inc is a not-for-profit, community driven organisation with our 500-acre headquarters at Woodfordia, approximately five minutes drive from Woodford in SE Queensland, Australia. Our passionate pursuits include producing the [Woodford Folk Festival](#), [The Planting](#), [Festival of Small Halls](#) and [Woodfordia’s Artisan Camp](#).*