

Next Meeting Friday 30th April 2010 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands IndigiSapes Centre

Our guest presenter this month is Dr John Glazebrook. John has recently been investigating the causes of floating and stranded sea turtles in south east Queensland.



Sick and injured turtles presented to the Australian Wildlife Hospital at Beerwah and which failed to make it through rehabilitation were examined internally for pathological changes. Alarming a new infectious condition (disseminative mycosis) was diagnosed in 80% (33 out of 41) of these turtles. John will discuss the possible significance of these findings.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Steve Homewood

A big disappointment this month was our annual Seaweek Cruise being cancelled due to inclement weather, we were fully booked. The committee will be trying to reschedule the event for later in the year.

Our AGM will be held in conjunction with our general meeting on the 30th April. As members you all have the opportunity to nominate for any of the vacant executive committee positions. If you are interested please contact me for information on how the branch functions, details of what is expected of the committee members and minor administrative duties that are involved.

There does not seem any let up to threats to our flora and fauna by not only population growth but also the huge expansion in coal mining.

New Hope coal admits that their new Acland mine may harm a number of endangered and vulnerable animal and plant species and they also need to divert 8.2kms of Lagoon Creek. Their "*plan*" is to relocate animals up or downstream of the project site. The threatened grasses and Brigalow, will be saved by

rehabilitating land through tree vegetation schemes and "*biodiversity offset*" on previous agricultural land. There will be a "*net conservation benefit at the ecological community, regional ecosystem and species level*" So that's all right then ?

In the Central Queensland town of North Eton a permit has been given to disperse a colony of 10,000 flying foxes, the local council has waited until the breeding season is over, they will use a combination bright lights, fake gunfire and loud noise. Officers from DERM and RSPCA will be on hand to ensure everything is done humanely. So that's all right then ?

No it is not. We all need to be ever vigilant against issues that affect our wildlife; locally we have intense developments at Mary Street Birkdale and Aramac Court Capalaba that are causing concern. Mining at North Stradbroke and the proposed expansion of quarrying at Mount Cotton continue to threaten our fragile ecosystems. Intense lobbying and protests by community groups should achieve a better outcome for these issues, in the near future.



Thank you

Many thanks to our band of willing volunteers who helped with the market day in March.



The market was a success on several fronts.

It brought in funds for the branch which will allow us to continue to be advocates and educators for wildlife.

It allowed us to talk to people from many walks of life about what the society does. Best of all it allowed the volunteers to spend time together in a relaxed environment and have fun.

Thanks to Maureen, Doreen, Steve, Colleen, Charmaine, Kathy, Maree, Sarah and Gwynne.



Our stand at the market

Tingalpa Creek Paddle 2010

On the Sunday the 18th of April - celebrate Earth Day 2010.

Come along on a canoe paddle and see the wildlife of Tingalpa Creek. Travel from the road bridge at Capalaba Park to the Leslie Harrison dam wall and back. There is a variety of scenery and wildlife to be observed. This is a trip of 2 km each way. To see an even greater variety of fauna and flora participants may opt to also travel one km down stream and back to the mangrove areas.

Arrive at Capalaba 7.45am for 8am departure. Two persons per canoe and life jackets provided. Both trips expected to be completed by 11am.

It is recommended that you wear long sleeves, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses with strap, sand shoes or deck shoes. Also please bring one litre of water & insect repellent.

Cost of the excursion is \$10.00 per person. Discount for anyone bringing their own canoe and equipment.



Bookings can be made through Don on 3822 9604.

Morning tea will be provided.

World Environment Day

Wildlife Bayside will hold its annual World Environment Day Annual Dinner on Saturday 29th May 2010 at Redland IndigiScapes Centre Runneymede Rd Capalaba.

An event not to be missed. Guest presenter on the night will be Professor Darryl Jones who is Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Environmental Futures Centre and Griffith School of Environment. Darryl has titled his presentation 'Nature and Us: Human-Wildlife Interactions in an Urban World'. Darryl is a researcher, teacher and author. One of his recent projects was a pioneering study on the impact of birdbaths on backyard wildlife. His work with birds such as magpies and scrub turkeys is legendary but there is much more.

Cost of the dinner is just \$30.00 for WPSQ financial Member and \$35.00 for non-Members. We have not increased our prices for a number of years but continue to deliver a quality dinner.

Early bookings are being taken now. Call Steve on 3824 0522. Flyer and payment form will be included with May newsletter.



Frogs and traffic noise

Ecos magazine recently reported on research that has found traffic noise is drowning out the mating call of some frogs and could be one of the reasons for the large scale decline of frog populations in Melbourne.

The distance at which the mating call of the male frogs can be heard by the females is severely reduced by traffic noise which is likely interfering with their social life. Frogs with low frequency calls are particularly affected

Maureen's Recycling Tips :

Did you knowswitching off your computer after office hours can save approximately 65 kilograms of CO2 emission per year?? So be sure to switch off your monitor and computer at the end of the day, and encourage others to do the same. (Source Green Office Guide)



Did you knowa single dripping tap can waste more than 24,000 litres per year?? Excessive flows and leaking taps in toilet areas, kitchens and cleaner' sinks can be a significant source of water wastage. So be sure to reduce water flows when washing up and the fasten tap after uses! (Source Water Efficiency Guide, 2006)

Did you know ... paper costs can be almost halved simply by printing double-sided and you save on toner and ink by refilling your printer and toner cartridges. You can also save on waste disposal costs because the amount of waste you generate is reduced. (Source Green Office Guide)



DID YOU KNOW?

Jack Jackson

Baby birds can be returned to their parents successfully even after quite a lengthy period of time.

Young Rory Graham from Dunwich found 2 juvenile Blackfaced Cuckoo Shrikes on a Friday. I received the birds the next day but had no info on EXACTLY where they came from.

I didn't get to talk to him till the next Tuesday at which time he showed me where he found them. I put them back up the tree they came from and 2 hours later the parents returned and started feeding them straight away!

IF YOU FIND A BABY BIRD, MAKE SURE YOU REMEMBER EXACTLY WHERE IT CAME FROM AND TELL WHOEVER YOU HAND IT IN TO.

Sea Cucumber

By Simon Baltais

A number of large Curry Sea cucumbers, *Stichopus hermannii* were recently found on Amity Banks.

The Curry Sea Cucumber is a tropical sea cucumber species that is commercially harvested in many countries. It is a member of the echinoderm family Stichopodidae. Its distribution covers the Indo-Pacific region.

Recognised by its length, growing to 50cm, its body has a rectangular cross section and the underside is smooth. It is yellow in colour and covered in small black spots. It lives in seagrass beds, sandy and rubble bottoms ranging from a depth of low tide to 25 metres.

Deposit-feeding sea cucumbers are important processors of surface sediments in many coastal marine systems. Sea cucumber grazing results in a reduction in total organic carbon, chlorophyll and phaeopigment (Non-photosynthetic pigment). These 50cm guys would certainly do a lot of cleaning up.



Annual General Meeting.

Financial Members are reminded that the meeting on April 30th is our Annual General Meeting.

Unusual and unexpected visitor to our birdbath

DSP



This young Lace monitor was the last thing I expected to see when gazing out the window at the bird bath. Fortunately he or she stayed there just long enough for me to get one shot of the event. What next ?



Seaweek cruise

Our Seaweek cruise was sold out but sadly did not proceed. On the Friday prior to the cruise Moreton Bay was experiencing strong winds and high waves due to a cyclone further out in the Pacific. The owners of our boat decided that the weather would not be conducive to a pleasant or safe trip so they decided to cancel.

We were of course very disappointed but had no control over the circumstances.

Many thanks to those members who worked so hard to organise the cruise and those who had to deal with the cancellation.



Library move

Wildlife Bayside has relocated its specialist library to Moreton TAFE. The collection was previously housed within the Redland City Library at Cleveland but we were asked to remove it due to space considerations. More details on access hours next month.



SECONDS FROM DISASTER!

Jack Jackson

Late one afternoon I received a phone call from the local police, saying that they have sent a visitor to the island to my place as they have reported an injured koala on the side of the road near my house. As I was talking to the officer, a car pulled up on the footpath outside.

The driver was already out of the car and at the entrance to my flat. My first question to him was where the koala is right now? "We have it in the car". Immediately my heart rate started to climb as we headed out to the car. My first thoughts were all the horror stories I have heard from other rescuers of how well meaning people have picked an injured koala up and placed it in their car only to find the koala wakes up starts destroying the upholstery and rips any human in their way to shreds!

As we approached the car I asked the driver where exactly in the car did he have the koala? "Oh it's in the front seat with my mate Cameron".

Not good! I am thinking as I walk around to the passenger side of the car.

Sure enough my worst fears were realized as here is Cameron in shorts and a singlet with a fully grown male koala sitting on his lap facing him, with their noses so close to each other you would be forgiven in thinking they were doing a Maori greeting! The koala's massive claws were digging into his biceps just hard enough that there was a small trickle of blood running down his arm.

Cool as a cucumber Cameron says g'day to me totally oblivious to the world of s---- he was in. I tried to show him as little emotion as possible and asked him to just relax and not to tense up or even move. I grabbed the driver by the arm and led him out of earshot of Cameron as I frantically tried to get a plan together to rescue Cameron from a very nasty situation. "You have no idea how much danger your mate is in do you?"

I raced inside to grab my gloves and a cage. A cage! Isn't it fascinating how Murphy's Law always pokes his head up in the most inopportune moments! I had given my last cage to my rescue team as I was taking a break from rescues. DOHH! I ended up grabbing a plastic storage bin that was barely big enough but at this stage in events I was already having that sinking feeling that you get when are about to enter a situation where things could go horribly wrong!

I arrived back at the car expecting the worst only to be confronted Cameron and his mate the koala quietly sitting there blissfully unaware of what could be. Talking in as calm a voice as I could possibly muster, I gently unplucked each massive claw from Cameron's arms all the time saying "you're a good koala and I just want to help you".

Success! The koala was boxed .Cameron showed us his arms where there was a couple of very minor scratches; "I thought I felt a bit of a prick in my arm" says Cameron .Ha!

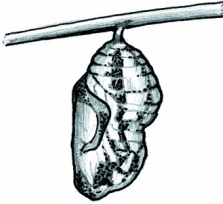
Cameron the koala (obvious reason for the name) had a broken arm and was sent to Australia zoo for treatment. After some time, Cameron was returned to the island and released in tip top shape.



Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch

Email- bayside@wildlife.org.au

Website - <http://www.branches.wildlife.org.au/bayside>

<p>Meeting Information</p> <p>When Last Friday of each month (excluding December & January)</p> <p>Where Redlands IndigiScapes Centre 17 Runnymede Road, Capalaba</p> <p>Time 7.30 pm</p>	<p><i>Illustration by L Saunders</i></p> 	<p><i>Opinions expressed , implied or inferred in this newsletter are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Society..</i></p>
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Committee & Contacts

President	Steve Homewood	3824 0522
Vice President	John Payne	3206 0368
Secretary	Simon Baltais	3822 4943
Treasurer	Maureen Tottenham	0418 197160
Executive	Don Baxter	
	Donna Edwards	
	Ian Bridge	
	Doreen Payne	
Bayside Newsletter Editor	Doreen Payne	
Wildlife Diary Editor	Simon Baltais	
Koala News Editor	Paulette Jones	
Librarian	Pat Comer	

Wildlife Diary Dates

Sunday 18 April	Earth Day canoe trip
Friday 30 April	Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba
Sunday 16 May	Proposed spotlight walk
Friday 28 May	Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba
Saturday 29 May	Dinner to celebrate World Environment Day

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Membership Application

Wildlife Preservation Society of Qld Bayside Branch

Date / /

-- New or Renewal

Membership types

- \$30.00 Single
- \$20.00 Concession
(pensioner or full student)
- \$45.00 Family or non profit group
- \$12.50 Junior (under 13 years)

Name _____

Address _____

_____ P/c _____

Phone No _____

Optional

Subscription: Wildlife Australia magazine
(Educational, informative & great photography)

- \$42.00 per year inc GST (four issues)
posted within Australia
- \$65.00 per year posted overseas airmail

Email address _____

Special Interests _____

Donation (optional) \$ _____

For campaign
(Bayside does not have tax deductible status)

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

As a member I agree to be bound by the
rules of the society

Signature _____

 <p>Payment by Credit Card</p> <p>Card type- Bankcard__ Visa__ Mastercard__</p> <p>Card No _____</p> <p>Expiry Date ____/____</p> <p>Name on the Card _____</p> <p>Signature _____</p>
