

BAYSIDE NEWSLETTER August - September 2010.

Next Meeting Friday 27th August 2010 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands IndigiScapes Centre

Our guest presenter this month is Jessica Gorring. Who will introduce us to the antechinus a member of the same family of animals as the quoll and just as fierce though not quite as large.

Antechinus in urban reserves face many threats to their survival and could even face local extinction in the greater Brisbane area. In 2009 Jessica conducted her honours project to identify if the yellow-footed Antechinus still occurred in some of the urban reserves in the greater Brisbane area. Along with finding which reserves Antechinus still persisted at she also identified a few key habitat elements that are required by the Antechinus.

With the identification of both the locations of Antechinus and the key habitat elements there is the possibility to improve reserve management to ensure the continued survival of Antechinus within these reserves.

Join us to hear about Jessica research and findings and hear about some of her encounters with these fierce critters.

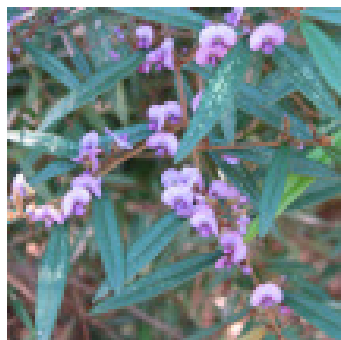
PRESIDENTS REPORT

Steve Homewood

We were pleased to welcome Mayor of Redland City, Melva Hobson to our monthly meeting in July.

Our guest presenter spoke on the subject of trying to create a corridor for wildlife from Flinders Creek near Ipswich to Moreton Bay and she mentioned how lucky we were to have so much green space in the Redlands. Some of us laughed. Yet on reflection, within the Redlands, there are now some reasonable tracts of bushland and open space for protection of our wildlife and our enjoyment.

There will never be enough and fragmentation of these spaces and encroachment puts pressure on these green resources.



Hovea is flowering now

As we come into spring it is a great time to revisit these areas, one would expect wildflowers to be emerging in the Greater Glider and Scribbly Gum reserves. Stretch the legs on the Eddie Santagiuliana Way or the low tide jaunt to King Island, longer excursions to Venmans and koala bushland in Avalon Road, check out more great walks in editions of the Wildlife Diary.

I am sure we all have our favourites, the warmer weather is not far away, the crowds will be back and wildlife will not be so evident and so varied.

“We never know the worth of water until the well is dry”. Thomas Fuller 1732



Act Now

For Moreton Bay Marine Park.
 See page 3 for details.

National Tree Day walk

On a slightly cloudy day, 11 participants gathered for our walk from the Willard-Weber Reserve at Thorneside to Birkdale. We were greeted by a cacophony of sound from dozens of lorikeets feeding on trays of food hanging from trees at a nearby house; the neighbours must have been very tolerant.

Our walk took us through the park and along the entrance of Tingalpa Creek thick with mangroves and onto the bay foreshore. An incoming tide had kept the wader birds feeding close in, which allowed easy identification.

The amble continued along this wide vista there were views towards Manly, Stradbroke and out to Wellington Point. Plenty of walkers were out at this time in the morning. It was interesting to see how many dog owners, as we approached with some authority, scrambled to put their dog on a leash. After nearly an hour we arrived at the park entrance to Aquatic Paradise with its BBQ, s and picnic areas.



We were utterly dismayed at the amount of debris left by fisherman at this point and spent some time clearing up discarded fishing line, gang hooks, bait packets and cans; four bags of rubbish were collected.

The walk back was hurried by the threat of rain and the thought of morning tea. We had seen 25 species of birds, maybe saved some from entanglement, enjoyed expert company and breathed some decent air.

Would you prefer to receive your Newsletter by email?

If you would please let us know by emailing - wildlifebb@bigpond.com

Thank you for your assistance

Thank you to those who helped to person our stall and to put the trees in the ground at the tree planting to remember Pan Da the koala.

Sunday 1 August was a beautiful day and Clifton Place Redland Bay was the perfect location for this activity organised by Redland City Council. A variety of plants were put in including eucalypts and other trees, shrubs, ground covers and grasses. The event was well attended with many family groups in evidence. The enhancement of this important corridor will benefit much of our wildlife.



Steve Homewood planting

Photo: @ Doreen Payne



Dog's Day Out



Come along and visit our display at the Dog's Day Out being held on Sunday 22 August at Capalaba Regional Park Pitwin Road North.



Reminder

Wildlife in Your Community
WPSQ AGM and members
get together
17 to 19 September 2010
Check your recently received 'Wildlife
News' for lift out details and registration
form.



Recycling

The Gold Coast & Hinterland branch of
WPSQ has reported that Energex has made
a big step forward.

"Retired" timber poles are finding a new
lease of life thanks to the efforts of
Kennedy's Aged Timbers on the Sunshine
coast. The timber recycled from poles has
helped form the Bell Tower of St John's
Cathedral in Brisbane City, polished
flooring for the Federal Attorney Generals
office in Canberra plus others.

"Recycling this magnificent timber is the
natural alternative that helps preserve
our remaining forests" said the manager
of Kennedy's.

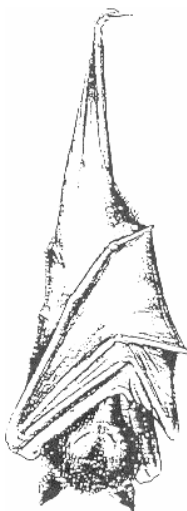
Batty Boat Cruises are back

The new season of Batty
Boat Cruises starts in
October 2010. If you
haven't yet had this
experience then it is time
to try it.

This is a 3 to 4 hour cruise
on the Brisbane River
starting at Mowbray Park.

Seasons dates are

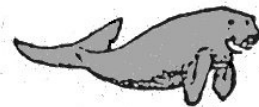
- Sunday 24 October
- Sunday 21 November
- Sunday 5 December



For full details see the website
www.wildlife.org.au Book and pay on line
or by telephoning 3221 0194

Act Now

An application from the Australian Power
Boat Association Offshore Council
(APBAOC) has been submitted to the
Department of Environment and Resource
Management (DERM) for a
high speed power boat
race to be held within
Moreton Bay Marine Park.



The race of approximately 25-30 boats is
to be held offshore from Redcliffe and
within close proximity to Scotts Point a
marine national park zone (green zone).
Doesn't sound quite right, does it? Here is
your chance to have your say - make a
submission to Queensland Parks and
Wildlife Service by **5pm 16 August 2010**.

We do not have much time. Check out our
website for more information
[http://www.wildlife.org.au/news/2010/p
owerboats.html](http://www.wildlife.org.au/news/2010/powerboats.html) or contact Fiona in the
office on 3221 0194



Win in court appeal !

Unimin Australia Limited today lost its
second Court of Appeal case this month.
Again the Court decided against Unimin
three to nil.

On 2 July, the Court held that Unimin had
been unlawfully taking and selling non-
mineral sand from its silica sand mine on
North Stradbroke Island. The unlawful
business started by Unimin's predecessor
in the early 1990's, continued until shut
down by the former EPA in 2008.

The decision results in the upholding of
the Redland Council's 2008 decision to
refuse a Unimin subsidiary's application to
remove sand from
another mine on the
Island for sale to the
building industry.



TYSON'S STORY...Part 2

Kym Mulraney & Tyson the Brushtail Possum

At 70 grams, I'm now having 12.5ml of milk over 6 feeds per day. I love sitting inside my mummy's shirt, close to her heart. I cry when she puts me in the heat box. I know she'll come back and get me. She doesn't like to hear me cry, and will whisper loving words into my ears before putting me back in her shirt. I have been everywhere with her since she became my mummy, and she is my world now. She is still rubbing ointment into my skin twice a day, and I wriggle around in her hand. It feels so nice!

11 days have passed. I now weigh 91.7 grams. I have decided to go on a hunger strike. My mummy is trying everything to make me drink my milk. First there is a soft teat in place of the catheter, but I refuse to put it in my mouth. Then it's back to the catheter, but now there is sticky sweet stuff on the end of it. Again, I refuse to put it in my mouth. My mummy is getting anxious, and I'm getting kind of hungry. I lick the milk off my mummy's fingers. Eventually mummy pries my jaws open enough to put the catheter in, and I drink till I'm full. This continues every feed until I start lapping for myself. Everyone calls me a lockjaw possum.

Finally I hit 100 grams! My mummy says I should have a little possum party! I'm now having 20ml of milk over 5 feeds a day. I still won't open my mouth, but my mummy persists. She doesn't want me to have any more injections. She keeps asking me when I'm going to get fur. I look like a little pink jumping jack! I love exploring, but never let go of my mummy! I've already lost one mummy, I don't want to lose another one.

Today my mummy is very excited. She said my skin is finally getting dark, and very soon my fur will come through. She says it's about time! I weigh 133 grams. She calls me her little nude nut! I still love staying next to my mummy's heart,

but I'm starting to get used to my heat box for short periods of time.

Finally the time has come! I have a soft covering of very fine fur all over my back and head although I'm still a nude nut on my tummy! I now weigh 151 grams and have been with my new mummy for about 4 months. My mummy decides she's not fighting to open my mouth any more. She pours my milk into a little cup and puts it in front of my face. The first time I'm not sure what to do. I try to sniff it, but my whole head goes under. I come up sneezing milk! From now on I lap all my milk. My mummy says I'm very clever to be lapping at such a young age.

Two days later I wake up with a sore eye. My mummy takes me back to The Vet. He is surprised at how big I am! He says I have an infection in my eye, probably from the milk splashing while I'm feeding. I do make quite a mess! He gives my mummy special cream which she puts in my eye 3 times a day for 5 days. My eye is all better now. I'm getting much braver, and love exploring with my mummy. She takes me outside to smell the leaves and flowers. We play on the grass. She laughs at me a lot!

At 174 grams I gum my first gum leaf tip. I mangle it with my little teeth, but then spit it out! Now at every feed I taste different leaves and flowers. Eventually I start eating them. I especially love bottle



brush! I'm also eating lots of different fruit and vegetables, but mango and apple are my all time favourites! My pouch is now in a little cage in the lounge room. Every day I just sleep and sleep, but night time is play time! I love climbing, and jumping! I chase my mummy all around the house!

Before I know it I weigh a very healthy 377 grams. My mummy starts taking me to a small outdoor cage, under the pergola. Soon, I move in here. My mummy still comes and plays with me every night, but I can now go to the toilet by myself, and can also eat and drink on my own. My cage is right at the back door, and when I cry my mummy comes and gives me kisses and cuddles until I'm ready to go back and play.

At 627 grams I start going to visit the big outdoor aviary, right up the backyard. After 2 weeks, I spend my first night in the big aviary. It's full of branches and ropes to climb on, a hollow log to hide in, and lots of fresh water, foliage, fruit and vegetables. I don't have milk any more. I'm a big boy! I'm having so much fun. I still love my mummy and can't wait for her to visit me every afternoon.

It's December. I love all my foliage, but bottle brush is still my favourite. I don't have as much fruit and vegetables as I used to, but that's okay. My mummy doesn't play with me anymore, but I keep myself amused. I spend lots of time every night practicing jumping, running and climbing.

Today is a very big day for me. Mummy came out and woke me up. It was day light, my sleep time. She put me into a big pouch. I wasn't sure what was happening. Mummy took me to The Vet for a final check up. I bit The Vet, just to show him I'm now the boss. The Vet said I was very healthy, and very ready to be taken to my release site. I now weigh just

under 1.5 kilos. Mummy also stopped so I could say goodbye to the special lady. She was also surprised at how big I was. Everyone says I'm gorgeous and different from other brushtails. I have a pure white tummy and a white tip on my tail!

I spent my last night in my outdoor aviary last night.

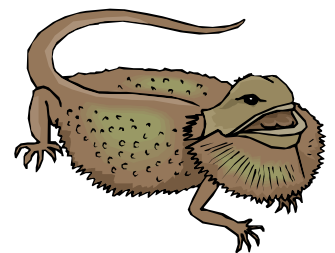
Today is Saturday, 9th January 2010. This afternoon, my mummy takes me in my possum box to a big property where the owner says I can be released, and they will keep an eye on me. My box is placed high in a large mango tree - my favourite! I poke my head out and see my mummy in the distance watching me. I climb out and sit on top of my box staring at her for a couple of minutes. Then I put all my practice into good use and run all the way to the top of the tree, out of sight. I haven't returned to my possum box, I'm much happier out on my own. Soon I will find some gorgeous girlfriends, and make beautiful possum babies. Although I will never see my mummy again, I know I will always carry a small part of her in my heart. But now I'm back where I belong and ready to take my place in the big wild world.



Watch for Lizards

The warm weather we have been having has brought some of our lizards out of hiding. Water dragons in particular seem to be moving and have been seen basking on the road.

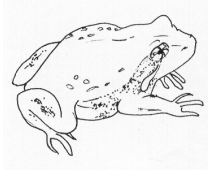
Watch for them. They are sometimes slow to move off.



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 <u>Last</u> 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

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Bayside Newsletter Editor		
	Doreen Payne	
Wildlife Diary Editor		
	Simon Baltais	
Koala News Editor		
	Paulette Jones	
Librarian		
	Pat Comer	

Wildlife Diary Dates

Sunday 22 August Dogs Day Out
Friday 27 August Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba
September 17 to 19 WPSQ AGM and members get together Check your 'Wildlife News' for details
Friday 24 September Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba

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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>	
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