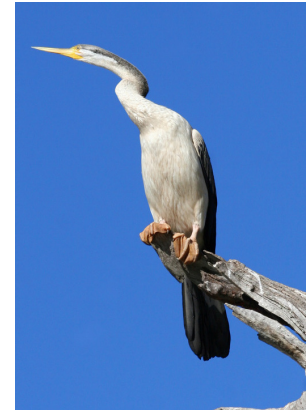


BAYSIDE NEWSLETTER **March – April 2010.**

Next Meeting Friday 26th March 2010 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands IndigiScapes Centre

Our speaker will be Rod Bloss, President and Secretary of the Brisbane and Gold Coast Branch of Bird Observation and Conservation Australia.

Rod will be talking about the Birds of Logan (which are similar to those of Redlands) and the importance of wildlife corridors and wetlands to birds and habitats. This includes the vital need to save our Stock Route Network in Queensland as migratory corridors.



This talk will give another perspective to the need to protect habitat and linkages that are so vital to the survival of global species. This will be a unique presentation and should not be missed.

~~~~~  
**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Steve Homewood

We may be tiring of the amount of rain we have received in this area recently, but it is certainly good for all our trees and bushland, everywhere is turning a lush green. It will alleviate the stress our flora and fauna have been under during prolonged dry spells.

It is good time to take a bushwalk and admire not only the spectacular foliage growth, but have a look at ground level, many fungi species are making a rare appearance, take your camera with you, our editor would appreciate photos for the newsletter.

In my area there has been a lack of frogs calling, which is disturbing as conditions are so favourable for breeding. I suspect the long dry periods we have endured over past years, have finally taken their toll.

The plight of the Koala amongst many other species is being highlighted once again by unhindered state planning laws which undermine efforts by community groups and local government who strive for their protection. Media coverage to highlight community concerns and “letters to the editor” have certainly increased awareness, our supporters have certainly been busy, well done. These issues unsettle our elected representatives, so continue to send in the letters and be vigilant.



**Wanted please**

Your assistance with our coming market day would be greatly appreciated. Wildlife Bayside will have a market stand on Sunday 28 March. If you could spare a couple of hours between 8am and noon please give us a call.

If you would like to assist that day please call Doreen on 3206 0368.



Ashton greatly enjoyed meeting the young (but heavy) wombat at our February meeting. Martin from Geckos Wildlife featured some of the larger members of the wildlife world in his presentation. Photograph by G Thake.



## CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA

*DSP*

On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March, members of Wildlife Bayside joined the Greater Glider Reserve bushcare group to clean up as part of Clean up Australia Day. Twelve adults and one small child spent a couple of pleasant hours walking the tracks of the Greater Glider Reserve at Alexandra Hills collecting an assortment of rubbish.

19 sacks of rubbish were filled, mostly wrappers, plastic bags, plastic bottles and garden hose, glass bottles and some aluminium cans. There was also some iron that was too bulky to carry so its location was noted by the bushcare extension officer for later collection by council. All portable rubbish was brought back to the park and placed in the bin provided.

The reserve was looking wonderful after the recent rains.



Photo - Some of our Clean Up Day volunteers signing on.



## Tingalpa Creek Paddle 2010

On the Sunday the 18th of April - See the wildlife of Tingalpa Creek and celebrate Earth Day 2010.

Come along on a canoe paddle 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 will be provided. It is expected that both trips would be completed by 11am.

We recommended long sleeves, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses with strap, sand shoes or deck shoes. Please bring one litre of water per person & insect repellent.

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

It is suggested that anyone wanting to have a practice before the trip should call Don on 0409 421 669. Don will endeavour to provide a training session for the cost of hiring a club boat.

Bookings for the excursion by Monday 12th April please. Bookings can be made through Don on 3822 9604 or Doreen 3206 0368. Morning tea will be provided.

## World Wetlands Day

Each year World Wetlands Day is celebrated in February. It marks the date of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands in 1971 in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea. The day is an opportunity for community groups to contribute to raising awareness of the value of wetlands to the environment. The theme for 2010 is 'Caring for wetlands - an answer to climate change'.

Wetlands are defined as areas of land where water covers the soil - all year or just at certain times of the year. They include:

- swamps, marshes
- billabongs, lakes, lagoons
- saltmarshes, mudflats
- mangroves, coral reefs
- bogs, fens, and peatlands.

Wetlands may be natural or artificial and the water within a wetland may be static or flowing, fresh, brackish or saline. There are even underground wetlands.

Wetlands are a critical part of our natural environment. They protect our shores from wave action, reduce the impacts of floods, absorb pollutants and improve water quality. They provide habitat for animals and plants and many contain a wide diversity of life, supporting plants and animals that are found nowhere else. Wetlands provide an important range of environmental, social and economic services. Many wetlands are areas of great natural beauty and many are important to Aboriginal people.

Wetlands also provide important benefits for industry. For example, they form nurseries for fish and other freshwater and marine life and are critical to Australia's commercial and recreational fishing industries.

Wetlands are the vital link between land and water.



## Society Involvement

DSP

Bayside Branch members decided to celebrate World Wetlands Day on 13 February by joining the Eprapah Enviro's Bushcare Group for one of their working bee days. This group operates along Eprapah Creek and in particular at Victoria Point. They met at 7.30am at Victoria Point Scouts car park at Eprapah (Cnr Colburn Ave & Cleveland-Redland Bay Rd, Victoria Point).

Redland City has numerous waterways with Eprapah Creek being one of the most significant. Its head waters are in Mount Cotton in a conservation area. It flows through acreage property areas of Thornlands where it is joined by a number of smaller creeks including Sandy Creek. It then flows into a large lake near a shopping and restaurant complex, under the main Cleveland - Redland Bay road and through a conservation area bordering the Eprapah Environment Training Centre which is operated by the Scout Association. The creek then makes its way past homes and a marina industry facility into Moreton Bay via the Point Halloran Conservation area.



The Bayside Branch visitors mainly opted to engage in land based activities and a short walk through this lovely bushland brought them to the area to be worked in that day. They concentrated on weeding and planting out the weeded area. The regular bushcarers however donned waders and headed into the water to hand

*Continued over*

### *Wetlands continued*

pull the Senegal Tea which was then bagged and ferried by kayak to the weeding group who in turn transported it to a collection point. The Senegal tea is a high risk weed which has to be disposed of correctly so all bags were carefully sealed. The surface of the waterway where the work was being carried out also had another weed present. The surface of the water featured a covering of Salvinia weed which fortunately showed signs of biological control. This weed is capable of completely covering the surface of a waterway reducing water quality and killing fish.



The bushcare officer, Kylie, set some fish traps and after a short time a number of small fish were pulled out and put in jars for closer examination. One was definitely identified as a native fresh water fish the Empire Gudgeon which was a positive sign that the water way was healthy in spite of the various weeds present. This was a great finding and very heartening.

The sumptuous morning tea provide by the group was heartening as well.



## **Wildlife Rescue**

If you find sick or injured wildlife in Redlands please contact Wildlife Rescue Redlands 24 hours on 07 3833 4031



## **Recycling:**

Recycling is the process by which waste materials are diverted from the waste stream. The products are sorted and either reused then used to produce new materials.

Maureen's Recycling Tip for March: 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)

And another tip found in the Courier Mail by Gwynne:

The EPA (or DERM) estimated the energy savings of recycling rather than dumping a single aluminium can. This simple act is said to be energy equivalent of using a laptop for five hours, a 60 watt incandescent light bulb for four hours or an equivalent compact fluorescent light bulb for 20 hours.



## **Please help Save Straddie**

Our society is involved in the campaign to stop sand mining on North Stradbroke Island (NSI). It appears that the stare government may be leaning to non renewal of mining leases so now is a really important time to put the pressure on. We really need you start writing letters. Recently media coverage in the Courier Mail was very good but more is needed. Please write a letter to the Premier asking her not to renew mining leases and protect NSI for its biodiversity values. For more information visit <http://www.wildlife.org.au/conservation/issues/2009/sandmining.html>.

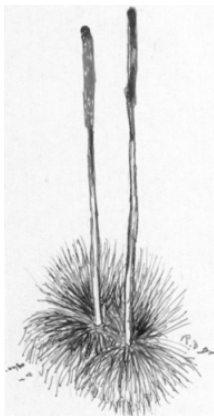
In your letters you could mention that you saw the article in the Courier Mail.

## Xanthoria does it again

DSP

I have written previously about the amazing Xanthoria and the phenomenal growth rate of their flower spikes. Interestingly these plants have other tricks in their repertoire.

The Xanthoria that grows under the clothes line puts up two flower spikes each year. For a number of years the clothes line was simply tied in place for three months and the Xanthoria allowed to do their thing. But this became a bit of an inconvenience so an alternative needed to be found.



A good possibility seemed to be just bending the flower spike as it grew so it was out of the way of the clothes on the line. So once the flower spike got close to the height of the clothes line a rope was tied around it and the spike pulled over away from the lines. The angle the flower spike was pulled down to was about 45 degrees. This needed to be done carefully as the idea was not to break the growth off.

Once again the Xanthoria showed its adaptability. Not only did it put up with having the angle of the spike changed, but it compensated for it. Tied over in the afternoon of one day by the morning of the next day it had developed a bend about 15cm from the top. This top section was rose vertically, straight up to the sky it had originally been reaching for. And from that day it continued to grow with this interesting bend ending up around mid way up the length of the mature flower spike.

Apparently it is essential for the plant to get its flowers up high where the birds and insects can easily access it. I wonder what other tricks this fascinating plant has yet to reveal.

*Illustration by Rosie Opala*

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Financial Members are reminded that the meeting on April 30<sup>th</sup> will be our Annual General Meeting.

Your participation is vital to ensure that the society meets its legal obligations. A Proxy Form has been printed here so that if you are not able to attend the meeting you can still participate by completing and return the proxy form. You may nominate any financial member of the branch as your proxy.

Financial members who would like to more involved in management of the Branch are encouraged to talk to a member of the committee about nominating for a position on the executive committee. A Nomination Form is included with this newsletter.

All forms should be sent by 16 April 2010 please to the 'Returning Officer' at WPSQ PO Box 427 Capalaba Qld 4157.



THE WILDLIFE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND BAYSIDE BRANCH (QLD) Inc

### PROXY FORM

I,.....  
of.....  
.....Postcode.....

being a financial member of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, Bayside Branch hereby appoint

.....  
as my proxy to vote on my behalf at the (Annual) General meeting to be held on (date).....

Signature :- .....

Is this proxy a general proxy? (Yes/No).  
If 'No', indicate if this form is to be used against or in favour of the following specific resolution:

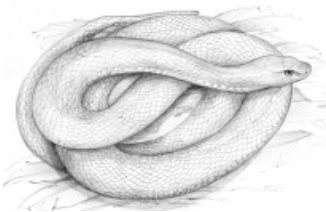
.....  
.....

Strike out whichever is not desired.

**Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch**

Email- [bayside@wildlife.org.au](mailto:bayside@wildlife.org.au)

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

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

**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 14 March<br>Seaweek Cruise * SOLD OUT*                                                   |
| Friday 26 March<br>Bayside Branch General Meeting<br>IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba       |
| Sunday 18 April<br>Earth Day canoe trip                                                         |
| Friday 30 April<br>Bayside Branch General Meeting & AGM<br>IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba |

=====

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