

PO Box 427 Capalaba 4157  
 bayside@wildlife.org.au

**BAYSIDE NEWSLETTER** **February – March 2011.**

Next Meeting Friday 25 February 2011 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands IndigiSapes Centre

Our speaker will be Darryl Jones from the Environmental Futures Centre, Griffith University. Darryl has titled his presentation “What can Australia learn from Europe about mitigating road impacts”.

Recently Darryl travel through parts of Europe to discover why things are so different there in terms of attention to the impacts of roads on biodiversity. He was astounded at the scale at which fauna crossing structures are included in all roads, at the attention paid to the possibility of impacts on very small sites, and the general 'maturity' of the field. He met road engineers in France & Hungary who were passionate about how 'their' roads had solved a major connectivity challenge. He returned to Australia convinced that there is much we can learn from this situation. Obviously there are many differences between Europe & Australia but the fundamental problems of roads and fragmentation are global - and the key approaches applicable anywhere.

Join us & find out about this and work done locally giving hopeful signs for our wildlife.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Steve Homewood

A welcome back to all our readers after such volatile weather over the last few months, although the Redlands was not too impacted, I am sure we all have friends or family that have been affected in some way. Our wildlife has also seen major inundation of their habitats but their resilience to the excesses of our climate should ensure that it reinvigorates stronger than ever.

The repercussions of bad planning will be with us for years to come and there should now be a change in attitude to the idea of a 1% annual chance of flood.

Conservation groups have been lobbying for years against the draining of wetlands and construction on these flooding plains that would normally absorb and mitigate these events. These areas should be reclaimed from the planners and councils and protected. The consequences of

draining, diverting, concreting our waterways can be seen by the concentrated, destructive volumes of water our remaining rivers are now expected to carry. This unfiltered, unfettered water is now impacting on Moreton Bay, one can just imagine the effect this may be having on the marine environment.

Due to uncertainty with weather patterns and the destruction of infrastructure in the Brisbane River we have postponed our annual cruise until June, there is a substituted excursion to Coochiemudlo.

The newsletter has details of coming events, make sure your diary is clear for our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event on the 25<sup>th</sup> November.

*“In nature there are neither rewards nor punishments; there are consequences.”  
 Robert Green Ingersoll*

## Citizen of the Year Award

Congratulations go to our Bayside Secretary, Simon Baltais, who was named Citizen of the Year in the Australia Day 2011 awards.

On Monday 18 January at a ceremony hosted by Redland City Council this prestigious award was presented to Simon by Mayor Melva Hobson.

Simon was nominated for the award based on his extensive work for and dedication to, the environment.

His family were present at the ceremony to congratulate him.



*Marg, Simon and Alix Baltais at the awards ceremony.  
Photo by Doreen Payne*

### Date Claim

Wildlife in Your Community  
WPSQ AGM and members get together  
9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Plan to attend and enter it in your diary now. The event is to be held at Koonjewarre Accommodation and Activity Centre Springbrook.

## Australia Day Awards

There were a number of different categories of awards given by Redland City Council.



These awards recognise the achievements of people in all walks of life.

In the Local Hero Award category two of our Wildlife members were nominated. These were Jan Smith and Don Baxter.

Congratulate to all the nominees and category winners.



## Bayside Branch Annual Cruise

Due to the damage and disruption to people and property caused by the recent flooding of the Brisbane River and the likelihood of unsettled weather over the summer months, the Bayside branch committee has decided it is prudent to postpone our annual SeaWeek cruise until Sunday 19th June.

The exact details and destination will appear in the Newsletter at a later date, but please mark your calendar now.



## Batty Boat Cruises back

You can catch the cruise on Sunday 6 March. If you haven't yet had this experience then it is time to try it.



The February Batty Boat Cruise had to be cancelled due to flood debris in the Brisbane River so 6 March is the last chance this season.

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

For full details see the website [www.wildlife.org.au](http://www.wildlife.org.au) Book and pay on line or by telephoning 3221 0194

## SeaWeek Walk

On the date our cruise was originally planned for and to celebrate SeaWeek we will now be visiting Coochiemudlo for an island walk around its perimeter followed by a morning tea on the foreshore.

Join us for a local adventure. Register with Steve 38240522 or email [bhomewoo@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bhomewoo@bigpond.net.au)

**Where** Meet at Victoria Point ferry terminal end of Colburn Avenue Victoria Point.

**When** Sunday March 13th

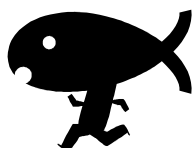
**Time** 7.45 am for 8.00 am ferry. Ferry fare for an adult is \$6.80 return

**Cost** \$2.00 to cover morning tea

**Scope** Clockwise walk around the island at our leisure, collect any rubbish found on foreshore.

**Bring** Hat, binoculars, sunscreen, water, mozzie spray, closed in footwear, bags for rubbish

Contact phone number on the day 3323 4801 diverts to mobile



## Did you Know

The once popular African Tulip (*Spathodea campanulata*) besides being an invasive weed tree is now proven to be deadly to native bees who attempt to pollinate its flowers.

And the Native Mulberry tree (*Pipturus argenteus*) is a fast growing fringing plant ideal for revegetation of disturbed or open areas and supplies edible fruit for many native species.

## Clean Up Australia

Clean up at the Greater Glider Reserve with the Glider Reserve Bushcare Group. General clean up of entrances and "Red Hills"

**When** Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 7.30am to 10.00am

**Meet** at Wimborne Park opposite Chipping Drive Alexandra Hills.

**Bring** along Sunscreen, Hat, Closed in shoes, Water and Gloves

Register your participation on line at <http://www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au/Glider+Reserve>



## Mangrove Watch Cleveland

Why not join the Bayside Branch Mangrove Watch on their next monitoring session at Cleveland?

Mangrove Watch survey teams help to monitor the magnificent mangroves of Moreton Bay and is Wildlife Queensland's new monitoring project for mangrove health - If your not afraid of mud and would be able to attend 3-4 times a year and thus contribute to the health of Queensland's coastline and marine environments, we want to hear from you.

**When** Sunday 19th February at 3.00pm - approx 2 hours

**Where** Cul-de-sac at the end of Long Street Cleveland.

**Wear** Enclosed footwear, old clothes (you could get muddy)

**Bring** Water, mosquito repellent, hat & sunscreen .

Rewards for checking on the health of the mangroves are good company and the refreshments at the end.

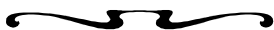
Contact Steve on 38240522

## Looking for a way to help?

There are a number of community projects that the society has been promoting for sometime. These projects gather valuable data and also provide educational material and seek to involve the wider community. If you go to our website

<http://branches.wildlife.org.au/bayside/projects.html> you will find projects that offer opportunities for members of the community to contribute to the data collection process such as

- Curlew Watch
- Echidna Watch
- Qld Glider Network
- Mangrove Watch
- Platypus Watch
- Quoll Seekers Network
- Seagrass Watch
- Sunfish Project



## 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday

A World Wetlands Day - 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration was to be held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Bayside Branch was scheduled to be at the end of Chelsea Road where in conjunction with Brisbane City Council (BCC) a number of activities were to take place.

Unfortunately BCC cancelled the event over concern that there was a possibility of harm coming to participants due to the flood deposited debris and toxins. Watch for rescheduled activities later this year.



## Butt Plan works

(Extract from Courier Mail)  
Beijing: The northern Chinese City of Xianyang is paying residents to keep the streets clean. It is paying five fen (just under 1 Australian cent) for every filthy used cigarette but they pick up.

(Thanks to Gwynne for this snippet.)



## More on Weeds

### Milkweed (*Euphorbia heterophylla*)

This weed is an erect annual herb up to 1.5 m high. Milky sap oozes from damaged stems and leaves. Leaves are ovate to rhomboid, 0.5 - 5 cm wide, paler towards the base with margins entire or slightly toothed.

Leafy bracts around the flower heads are totally green though leaves around flower clusters are paler green at base. (A similar plant, Painted spurge, *Euphorbia cyanthophora*, presents with pinkish red upper-most leaves.)

Flower heads have a characteristic cyathium form, similar to a Poinsettia. Fruits are 3-lobed and when the pods ripen, spread the seeds by explosive release.

Ranked as 182th in the Invasive Naturalised Plants in Southeast Queensland-Queensland Herbarium, the plant has a moderate invasive score of 3.4 (max 5).

Recorded as being toxic to stock.

(C I)

From *The Kedron Brook Babbler* October 2010 published by WPSQ Kedron Brook Branch



Photo from Weeds Australia



## Want an Ink Cartridge?

Is anyone out there using a Canon Pixma IP1000 printer? If yes I have a new twin pack of 24 black ink cartridges you might be able to use.

Email [wildlifebb@bigpond.com](mailto:wildlifebb@bigpond.com) if you are interested.

## World Wetlands Day 2011

World Wetlands Day was celebrated by Bayside Branch with two events. Firstly a forum was held on Saturday 5 February and then a bird walk and a mudflat spotlight were held on Sunday 6 February.

The forum was held at Redlands IndigiScapes Centre. An invitation having been issued to all sectors of the community to attend this event and hear some excellent reports about the on-ground community projects being lead by researchers and volunteers to protect South-east Queensland's (SEQ) marine & coastal wildlife habitats.

Also included was an update of how our diverse Moreton Bay habitats are faring the flooding in the Brisbane River. In addition, to the three keynote presentations and update, an inter-active display about the coral-watch and seagrass-watch programs were featured.

The Speakers included naturalist Rod Bloss of the Brisbane and Gold Coast Branches of the Birds Observers and Conservation Australia who spoke about birds of prey in particular in the Logan wetland reserves.

Co-Author of the excellent publication Coral Reefs and Climate Change, Dr Diane Kleine introduced us the coral-watch program which is new to Moreton Bay in 2011 and established in more than dozen countries.

Co-Founder of the Moreton Bay seagrass-watch and mangrove-watch programs, Simon Baltais of Wildlife Queensland profiled the exceptional work by the myriad of volunteers along coastal SEQ.

## Weather

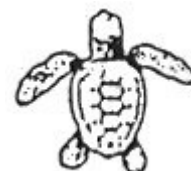
The weather we have experienced in eastern Australia in recent months has been both devastating and heart breaking.

It is great therefore to be able to report that there is actually some good news.

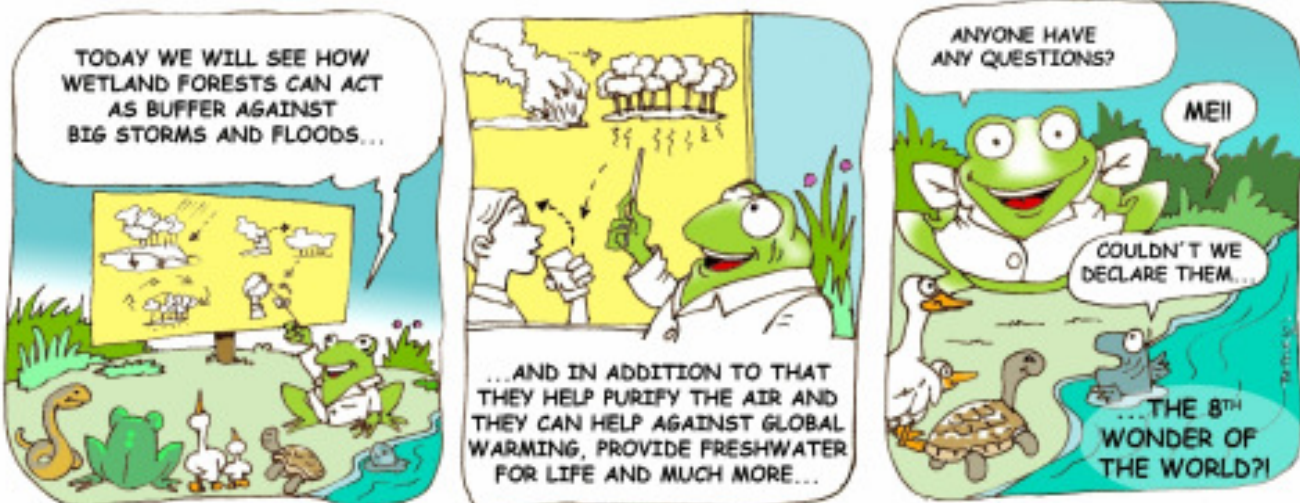
It has been reported in the Courier Mail that the loggerhead turtles nesting at Mon Repos near Bundaberg have had their best season in 32 years.

Apparently more that 430 of these endangered animals came ashore to lay eggs this season and more are expected.

Let's hope that the predicted cyclones this season don't whip up the seas and cause erosion that could affect the hatching.




*(Comic courtesy of DERM)*



**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> Last Friday of each month (excluding December &amp; January)</p> <p><b>Where</b> Redlands IndigiScapes Centre 17 Runnymede Road, Capalaba</p> <p><b>Time</b> 7.30 pm</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>	<p><i>Illustration by L Saunders</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	
	Doreen Payne	
Bayside Newsletter Editor		
	Doreen Payne	
Wildlife Diary Editor		
	Simon Baltais	
Koala News Editor		
	Paulette Jones	
Librarian		
	Pat Comer	

**Wildlife Diary Dates**

Sunday 19 February Mangrove Watch Cleveland
Friday 25 February Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba
Sunday 6 March Clean up Australia
Sunday 13 March Walk to celebrate SeaWeek
Friday 25 March 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

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Special Interests \_\_\_\_\_

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

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> <p>Card type- Bankcard__ Visa__ Mastercard__</p> <p>Card No _____</p> <p>Expiry Date ____/____</p> <p>Name on the Card _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Signature</b> _____</p>	
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