

Next Meeting Friday 27 May 2011 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands IndigiScapes Centre

Guest speaker at our meeting in May will be Norm Duke who is a mangrove ecologist, specialising in mangroves, climate change, vegetation mapping, pollution and coastal habitat condition assessment. Norm's prior experience was at James Cook University, the Australian Institute of Marine Science, and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. Currently leads an active research and teaching group on marine tidal wetlands at the University of Queensland.

Norm researches and advises on effective management and mitigation of disturbed and damaged ecosystems. He has published 170 plus articles and technical reports, including his authoritative book, 'Australia's mangroves'. He leads the UQ Mangrove Hub, a scientific support group for Mangrove Watch, delivering an exciting community-supported initiative for effective monitoring of healthy mangroves and saltmarsh in tidal wetlands (www.mangrovetwatch.org.au).

Norm is a great speaker and has successfully engaged many communities to become involved in marine science research projects, who now successfully contribute to our knowledge on the health of our coastal systems.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Steve Homewood

The last 12 months has passed very quickly for most of us culminating in the ferocious weather early this year that caused such damage and loss of life. From all reports our wildlife has also suffered but is resilient and should recover, but there are grave concerns for Cassowary habitat after the cyclone damage. Our annual cruise had to be cancelled but it will be back next year.

As usual we have had a host of quality speakers on such varied subjects as floating turtles, yellow footed antechinus and birds of Logan. Simon launched a new project a survey of Redland and Brisbane creeks to discover if we still had Ornate Rainbow fish. To our delight some were found despite the presence of exotics and the degradation of our waterways.

Many thanks to those volunteers who turned out to the surveys often in difficult conditions, they were also in force for Mangrove watch which continues to provide important data on the health of the Bay. We

were happy to report that our survey site at Cleveland avoided any major disturbance by floodwaters and pollution that surged from the various catchments. Seagrass watch continues to monitor habitat for our marine life, funding the project is difficult as economic conditions deteriorate. We are grateful for funds received from various bodies that aid our surveys and hope they continue for many years.

We have seen some good news with Stradbroke Island being given the protection status it deserves, even though it will take many years. Plus:

- Simon Baltais "Redland City Citizen of the year 2011"
- The Wenlock River has been protected as a wild river
- Locally efforts continue to protect Koala Habitat

Heritage Success

The heavy rain in the days prior to 30 April made it seem that the holding of the Heritage Festival was doomed. Weeks of sporadic rain before that added to the uncertainty.

However the day of the Festival dawned with a clear blue sky and mild temperatures. Just perfect!

Of course the ground was very wet under foot and as a result many displays and trade stalls had to be repositioned. Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch was moved from the very wet oval to the pavilion. Due to the location change the display we had intended to set up was not possible so hasty changes had to be made.

The consequent result was not as robust as intended however we were there to celebrate our Silver anniversary so had to demonstrate we were adaptable. Back in 1986 the branch began and it was time for us to share some of our history with the community.

A selection of newspaper articles and photographs back to 1988 were put together as a snapshot of the work done by those who have volunteered for Bayside Branch over the years. There were lots of laughs by anyone who recognised some of the people in the photographs.

My, how we have changed.



Photo by D Payne

Raffle

During the Festival we talked to people about the society and sold tickets in our raffle. The raffle prize was a painting by local artist, Narelle Renn, which she had painted in a mix of mediums and creating a vivid and unusually vibrant work of art. The subject of the painting was a Cassowary and the funds we raised from this raffle will be going to Cassowary projects in north Queensland



Photo by M Tottenham

to assist with work being done to rehabilitate Cassowaries and their habitat which was badly affected by cyclone Yasi.

Bayside Branch will add to the funds being sent for Cassowary protection from the money we have raised by our recycling endeavours.

The raffle was drawn at the end of the Festival. Many thanks to Mayor, Melva Hobson, for agreeing to perform this task for us. The winner of the raffle was Doreen Payne who was absolutely delighted with her win.

Thank you

We thank all those who contributed to the success of the day. Steve looked after the entry paper work and negotiations with organisers. Doreen created the display. Doreen and Maureen provided all the necessary materials and equipment for the event, setting it up, staying at the event all day and packing it all up again at the end of the day. Maureen organised the raffle.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM was held on April 29th. Thank you to all who attended and lent their support to the process.

Congratulation to the incoming committee.

Returning to the committee are:

Steve Homewood - President
John Payne - Vice president
Simon Baltais - Secretary
Maureen Tottenham - Treasurer
Doreen Payne - executive member
Don Baxter - executive member

New to the committee this year is executive member Michael Lusic. Welcome Michael.

Thank you to retiring committee member Donna Edwards for all her valuable assistance.



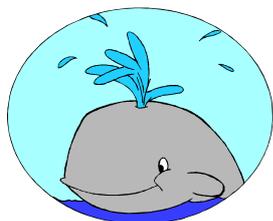
World Environment Day Dinner

Wildlife Bayside will hold its annual World Environment Day Dinner with guest speaker Paul Hodda, president of the Australian Whale Conservation Society (AWCS) a locally based but internationally active group that is *dedicated to cetacean conservation, education and research*

When On Saturday 28th May 2011
Time Arrive at 6.30pm for 7pm
Where Redlands IndigiScapes Centre
Runneymede Rd Capalaba
Cost: WPSQ financial Member: \$35.00
Non-Member: \$40.00

As this is our Silver Anniversary year (25 years) we are asking people to dress with a silver theme (yes silver buttons will do).

Book now - Numbers are limited. Call Doreen on 3206 0368 . Flyer and payment form included with the last newsletter.



Kinross Road Draft Structure Plan

The state government expanded the area of the Kinross Road Structure Plan area & that required Redland City Council to prepare a new plan which has now released for public comment. Details of the plan were published in a brochure distributed recently or can be viewed at RCC offices or on the RCC website www.redland.qld.gov.au. Bayside Secretary, Simon Baltais has prepared submissions on behalf of the branch but more are needed.

Closing date for comments is 22 July 2011.

When submitting your comments please consider

- The plan will fragment riparian habitat, reducing the size of current patches and therefore significantly threaten the biodiversity in this area.
- The proposed transport corridor across the greenspace along Wellington Ponds will pollute this waterway.
- The proposed roads would represent a significant threat to the local native bird populations.
- This plan places an urban environment into a rural landscape that has in the past given koalas a safe environment to move across. Urbanising this area will increase the likelihood of koalas being severely impacted by vehicles and dogs and in the long term disease.



National Volunteer Week, 9-15 May 2011

National Volunteer Week is the largest celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia, and provides an opportunity to highlight the role of volunteers in our communities and to say thank you to the more than 5 million Australians who volunteer.

Australian volunteers are essential to society, and many organisations would struggle to survive without the support of their volunteers. Australian volunteers contribute more than 700 million hours of community service to so many areas of society.

We thank all volunteers but in particular those who volunteer for Wildlife donating both their time and energy.

A slice of history from

Bayside Branch newsletter May 1998

1) Notes on the President's report to the head office AGM
DSP Editor

At the AGM on 24th April the President of Bayside Branch, Debra Henry, reported on the past twelve months activities of the Branch. Debra mentioned the wonderful people who gave their time to give presentations at our meetings. This was a diverse and fascinating group of people who covered topics such as Platypus, Glossy Black Cockatoos, Marine habitat enhancement, Snakes, Musselbrook National Park, Local Wildlife and Dolphins.

We have continued to produce our monthly newsletter as well as a number of educational leaflets.

Our activities included a trip to Boondall Wetlands, displays at shopping centres and participation in projects with other groups including the nestbox program and Adopt a Wetland. A huge effort went into World Environment Day which included a colour competition, wildlife sessions for children and a slide night. And members of the executive represented us at Society functions such as the southern Branches get together and the Water for Wildlife Festival.

The Branch was involved in numerous Community activities including Seniors Week, Newcastle Disease awareness, Weedbusters (Dept of Natural Resources), Enviromania (Scout Assoc), Down by the River Festival (Brisbane City Council), Bushweek (BCC), Strawberry Festival and Clean Up Australia Day.

Already this year the Secretary has presented at the Weekend of Wildlife (Redland Shire) and at a number of other seminars and meetings. We have had a wonderfully successful 'Meeting in the Park' and launched Dugong Watch during our exciting Moreton Bay Cruise.

Debra closed by thanking all those who have helped during the year particularly Vera & Heather Robb. She mentioned our big loss during the year - the death of Sue Bryde on World Environment Day and our big win - the handing over of three priceless pieces of land (including the Glider Reserve) by the State Government to Redland Shire as administrators.

Wildlife Walk

Join us for an adventure at Empire point and walk through a variety of habitats including bushland and mangrove. Morning tea provided. Register with Doreen after hours on 3206 0368 or email wildlifebb@bigpond.com

What are we celebrating: World Ocean Day

Where: Meet at the end of Empire Vista, Ormiston

When: Sunday 26th June 2011

Time: 9.30am

Cost: \$2.00

Bring: : Hat, binoculars, sunscreen, water, mozzie spray, closed in footwear that will stand being wet such as gum boots

Koala Fun Run

Redland City Council has created a Koala fun run to be held at Norm Price Park Cleveland - Redland Show Grounds on Sunday 29 May 2011

The aim is to raise the profile of the koala and to encourage people to do their part to save our dwindling urban koala population in the Redlands.

The Council state they want people to know they can make a difference to help koalas survive and thrive. This event is to encourage people to act now to protect our koala population and help to raise funds and awareness.

By getting involved you can have fun - and give koalas a voice and a helping hand. Three circuit lengths (3.5km, 5km and 10km) to suit every fitness level. To register go to <http://www.koalacentral.com.au/koala-fun-run.php>

The Good Guys

The Good Guys at Capalaba have donated 5 vouchers to the value of \$50.00 each to Bayside Branch to help with our fund raising efforts.

The vouchers will be raffled in the coming months so make sure you secure your tickets. The raffle will officially be launched at the World Environment Day dinner.

But some issues will not go away and continue to cause concern.

- The "Super Quarry" proposal
- Kinross Road development including a bridge over Wellington Ponds
- Koala Habitat threatened by planning law changes that allow for no public consultation

Capping of infrastructure charges that will cause local councils to lower their environmental restraints on development as a way reduce their cost burden.

The Branch continues to be strong and influential, thanks to a positive committee, quality publications and comment, our volunteers, members and the backing of WPSQ head office whose submissions and influence mean something to our elected representatives.

This robust Branch is now entering its 25th year, come and join the party in November, before that we have the Koala Fun Run, Annual Dinner, Wildlife Film Competition, walks and more talks. See you along the way

"In Australia today you can murder land for private profit. You can leave the corpse for all to see, and nobody calls the cops."
Thanks to Paul Brooks



Straddie

The Queensland Government recently announced that mining on North Stradbroke Island will be phased out by 2025 and the national park areas expanded. There is also a plan to promote the island and its values, developing new economic opportunities, and plan for bushwalking opportunities.

It's a good outcome for the island. If you agree write to the Premier and congratulate her.

Address to
Hon Ms Bligh, Premier of Queensland,
PO Box 15185,
CITY EAST Qld 4002



Coochiemudlo Is Paddle

On the Sunday the 17th of April a small group of intrepid celebrated Earth Day 2011.



Starting from the ramp at Victoria Pt the group proceeded to paddle to Coochiemudlo Island and circumnavigate it. A trip of approximately 5 km. A stop was made along the way for a break with morning tea was set up at the park on the Eastern side of the island which proved very welcome (especially Belinda's muffins).

There was a variety of scenery and wildlife to be observed and although it was overcast it proved to be quite a good day for this activity.



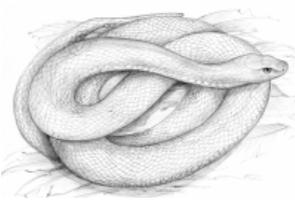
Thank you to Don for organising the outing and the necessary canoes and other equipment as well as leading the group.

Photographs by B. Homewood

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>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

Friday 27 May Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba
Saturday 28 May World Environment Day dinner
Sunday 29 May Koala Fun Run
Friday 24 June 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>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 style="text-align: right;">Signature _____</p>
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