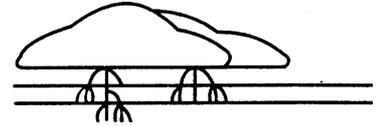




Wildlife Qld

Preservation Society of

celebrating 25 years in the community



Bayside 1986 - 2011



BAYSIDE NEWSLETTER

November - December 2011.

Next Meeting Friday 25 November 2011 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands IndigiScapes Centre. Please don't forget if you are planning to attend you need to RSVP by 18 November.

Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch celebrates the 25th anniversary of the formation of the branch on this night. For 25 years members have been campaigning for a better deal for wildlife, taking environmental education to the community as well as doing on the ground work. This will be a night to meet old friends, celebrate our achievements and reminisce.

We are very fortunate to have long time member Dr Glen Ingram as our special guest. Glen will present a somewhat controversial look at the exploitation of nature. Dr Glen Ingram is a past president of WPSQ and an honorary life member of the Society. He is a former Senior Scientist with the Queensland Museum. He is now a semi-retiring environmental consultant who mainly works within the court systems. He is presently a committee member of the Animal Ethics Committee of Queensland's Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Steve Homewood

This is our final newsletter for the year, which started with flood and devastation which as well as causing loss of human life and property, has also greatly affected our wildlife and degraded our waterways. One would have expected that we would now have a better respect for nature and the forces that can be unleashed to wreak havoc on our man-made environment.

Unfortunately in many areas the environment is not being allowed recover but is being treated with contempt by our politicians, we are witnessing destruction of habitat and pollution of groundwater by poorly regulated mining and coal gas exploration. In Gladstone Harbour it is only the politicians that cannot see that dredging is killing turtles and dugong, causing diseases amongst fish stocks and irreparable harm to the Great Barrier Reef marine park. This dredging is set to continue for 20 years - unbelievable.

Wild rivers legislation could be repealed allowing the pristine Wenlock River to be

impacted by Bauxite mining. Moreton Bay fish stocks could be affected by future plans to scale back green zones. Environment minister Tony Burke cannot even make a decision on listing the Koala as a threatened species despite numerous enquiries, overwhelming evidence of its decline, so developers can continue their clearing until a February review.

We are fortunate to live in area where there is some regard and respect for flora and fauna which is due to the foresight and tenacity of many of the community who have lobbied hard for the protection and conservation values that we now enjoy. For 25 years Bayside Branch of WPSQ has been at the forefront of conservation in the Redlands, I hope you, members past and present, friends and associates can join us at our meeting on the 25th November, it will be a memorable night.

"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."
Chief Seattle.

Christmas cards

Wildlife Christmas cards available. These cards have a true Australian flavour that will help wildlife.

There are 5 designs using images from the front cover of Wildlife Australia magazine (WAM) and they are designed as a promotion for our society, WAM and a fundraiser for branches. Printed on hi gloss recycled art card they are selling in packs of 10 cards, 2 of each design, and with 10 recycled envelopes.

A pack of 10 beautiful cards sell for \$10.

Bayside branch will have a number of these packs of cards available for purchase at the next meeting. It is possible that other arrangements could also be made. If you can't make it to the November meeting please contact Maureen on 0418 197 160 to discuss purchase.



Thanks to Brisbane branch of Wildlife Queensland (WQ) and head office for creating these great Wildlife Queensland Christmas cards.



Koala Count Straddie

Thank you to all those members who participated in the RCC North Stradbroke Island urban koala survey on 15 October.

WPSQ members made up nearly half of the volunteers showing how important we believe this survey to be to the islands koala population.

Mangrove Watch Cleveland

Mangrove Watch survey teams help to monitor the health of mangroves in Moreton Bay. Why not join the Bayside Branch Mangrove Watch on their next monitoring session at Cleveland.

When Sunday 13 th November

Start time 3.30pm

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.



Your reward is checking on the health of the mangroves in good company and you are supplied with refreshments at the end.

Contact Steve on 38240522



Frog talk

Steve Homewood

Earlier this month I was a guest speaker at the Redland Organic Growers Inc meeting. I was representing not only the WPSQ but also the Queensland Frog Society. My presentation was about "Frogs in your back yard".

The aim of these talks is to promote the idea of a native, chemical free garden that with the help of a frog pond, will entice frogs to breed and populate the surrounding area.

I demonstrated how to build a pond followed by a slide show of frogs native to the Redlands. It was an enjoyable evening with a very receptive audience whose ideals would be certain to provide the right environment for success.

The organic supper that followed complemented the spirit of the evening.

Mudflat spotlight

Simon conducted a spotlight in October for the Bayside Creeks catchment Group.

Science in the Pub

The next session of Science in the Pub to be held at the Grand View hotel will be about the impacts of the floods on our bay and creeks and also the impact our changing climate is having on our local rainforests.

Science in the Pub - Guest speakers will be **Chief Scientist for Healthy Waterways Dr. James Udy** and **Senior Ecologist Dr Melinda Laidlaw** from the Queensland Herbarium

Dr. James Udy will give an updated assessment of the health of our waterways. Given our creeks and rivers have experienced some of the heaviest rainfall and biggest floods in living memory the results from Healthy Waterways will be interesting to hear. The impacts of these events have been severe on our environment however it is surprising to hear how the pre-flood health of those effected systems determined the severity of the long-term effects of those floods. James will provide us with the latest information on the impact the 2011 flood has had on our Bay.

Dr Melinda Laidlaw is researching the impacts of climate on our rainforests, looking at the changing vegetation and in particular the changing plant species. Climate change is potentially causing a turn-over and change in vegetation in our forests and is impacting upon the availability of water as the predominant cloud base moves further up the slope. Melinda's work is focused on the rainforests of SEQ and northern NSW, which are highly diverse, and their flora and structure very complex.

Science in the Pub will be held at the **Grand View Hotel (Cleveland) on the 19th November from 9am - 12pm**. Both the talks and Morning Tea on the day are provided free.

For more information contact Wildlife Queensland Bayside Branch by email bayside@wildlife.org.au or Michael Lusic mb: 0448 761 114 for more details.

25 Years Young – Thank you

Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch celebrates the 25th anniversary of its formation this month. As mentioned on the front page members have been campaigning for a better deal for wildlife, taking environmental education to the community as well as doing on the ground work for all of those years.

Campaigning has included submissions and protests; education has included workshops, guest speakers at meetings, displays at events, distribution of informative leaflets and newsletters etc plus website and response to enquiries while on ground action has included weed eradication, rubbish cleanups, fauna surveys

The branch was formed at a special meeting in November 1986 convened to bring together people concerned about the destruction of wildlife and their habitat in Redlands.

Did you notice the modified banner on our newsletter? We thank our webmaster Ian for creating this for us.

There are a lot of people to thank for our ongoing success. There are those who have served on the committee who deserve a big thankyou for looking after this important aspect of the society. As well there are those who have organised events, meetings or displays or just helped on these occasions. Then there are those who have written articles for newsletters or the web or produced newsletters, diaries, leaflets, or other publications. Also there were grants to apply for, fund raising to be done and of course submissions to be prepared and enquiries to be attended to.

Yes it is a lot of work but all of you who have helped in any way over the years have shouldered part of the load and made it a rewarding experience for all.

Look around and see what you have helped to achieve.

RIP Redneck

Through the lens of the binoculars - a flicking ear - blood on the fur.

It can be an immense pleasure to live where we do as we are able to observe wildlife fairly closely.



From the first time the semi bald and pink head appeared from her mother's pouch the little red neck wallaby was a delight. She also inspired hope that this new off spring

would eventually add 'new blood' to the apparently aging local wallaby population.



We watched her grow; first gaining more fur then slowly being allowed out of the pouch for short intervals. She was so gangly and thin it was comical to watch her efforts at hopping. After several months she was spending more time out of the pouch, playing with mum and practicing the skills she would need in live but still being suckled.



Photos & story
J & D Payne

Months passed and suddenly male wallabies started coming around to visit mum and our young wallaby was weaned and on her own.

Then on a recent fine morning we watched our young wallaby with grave concern and felt both an overwhelming sadness and anger. It was hard to deal with after all the pleasure she had brought to our lives. The way she was lying and the blood around the throat area indicated her she had serious injuries. It was obvious she was in a bad way.

She was easily caught (another bad sign) Wrapped in a blanket the little furry bundle was rushed to the veterinarian where she was declared a hopeless case as the damage to the throat and loss of blood was too extensive.

Sadly last year's joey from the same mother had not survived. It had been found dead in the yard of our neighbour, an apparent victim of a fox. The fox was trapped and dispatched but obviously it had been replaced by another fox. Two years in a row the same mother wallaby has raised offspring only to have them cruelly killed by a fox.

From reports it is obvious that foxes are a serious threat to our wildlife in Redlands. Anyone who sights a fox or believes that animals have been killed by one is urged to contact Redland City Council (RCC) to ensure the fox is dealt with. I am aware that RCC is addressing the problem but they need us to pinpoint where the foxes are so they can concentrate their efforts.

The death of our young wallaby was reported so we sincerely hope that action will be taken to ensure there is not another death of our struggling wildlife.

If you see a fox or believe one is in your area please report it to the Redland City Council. Ask for the animal management section.

Maureen's tips for chemical free gardens

Native trees

Planting native trees supports wildlife populations in your area by providing food, shelter, nesting sites and green corridors for animals passing through urban areas. For a list of the best native plants and trees for your area, contact your local city council or nursery.

Nest boxes

Nest boxes provide an alternative site for possums, gliders and birds. It takes over 100 years for trees to form natural hollows suitable for possum habitation whereas it can take us 30 minutes to craft a wooden nest box. Keep in mind not all wildlife will make the transition from hollow to wooden nest box and different species require different designs. It's best to follow 'nest box' instructions to craft instant hollows for our native backyard trees.

Chemical free backyards

A chemical free backyard is a safe garden for pets, humans and wildlife, however this does not have to mean your beautiful garden will become over-run with weeds and pests. Here are a few ideas to help nurture a happy, healthy garden, free from chemical fertilisers and pesticides: Select hardy, native plants: Many native plants are more disease-resistant, less attractive to pests and are often low-maintenance.

Plant your natives close together and according to watering needs: This leaves little to no room for weeds to grow. Select natives that encourage natural pest predators: Lots of native birds, reptiles,

amphibians and insects predate upon snails, aphids, grasshoppers and caterpillars that love to feast on your garden. A chemical free garden will also ensure these natural predators will be around to do their job.



Don't forget to compost: Compost reduces your kitchen waste, it's the best organic fertiliser available and it's free!

Change of date

Please be aware that there is a change of night for our first meeting in February 2012. Instead of being on the last Friday it is on Friday 17th February.

WEED OF THE MONTH

Mother of Millions

Mother-of-millions are escaped ornamental plants originating in Madagascar and one of the worse bushland pests. There are 5 species are in Queensland. The plants vary in form from narrow purple spotted leaves to quite broad fleshy leaves and produce either green orange or red bell type flowers. Being a succulent it can withstand long dry spells.

Mother-of-millions are erect, smooth, fleshy succulent plants growing to 1 m or more in height. All species form tall flower spikes in winter with clusters of bell-shaped flowers. Each species has a distinctive leaf shape, but all produce small plantlets along the edges of the leaves. These plantlets drop readily, develop roots and establish quickly to form a new colony. The only effective way of dealing with them is to pull them out by hand and bag them after laying down tarps to catch all leaflets that fall off.

Plants, especially their flowers, are poisonous to stock



Wildlife Rescue

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

For Marine Strandings please report to 1300 130 372

Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch

Email- bayside@wildlife.org.au

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

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| <p>Meeting Information</p> <p>When <u>Last Friday</u> 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 R Opala</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 | |
| | Doreen Payne | |
| | Michael Lusic | |
| Bayside Newsletter Editor | | |
| | Doreen Payne | |
| Wildlife Diary Editor | | |
| | Simon Baltais | |
| Koala News Editor | | |
| | Paulette Jones | |
| Librarian | | |
| | Pat Comer | |

Wildlife Diary Dates

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| Saturday 19 November Science in the Pub |
| Friday 25 November Bayside Branch 25 th Anniversary IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba |
| <i>Enjoy the festive season and have a safe holiday break. We will be back in 2012.</i> |
| Friday 17 February (Note change) Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba Note this is not the usual night for our meeting |

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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> | |
| Card type- | Visa__ Mastercard __ |
| Card No | _____ |
| Expiry Date | ____/____ |
| Name on the Card | _____ |
| Signature | _____ |