

BAYSIDE NEWSLETTER

June - July 2012

Next Meeting Friday 29 June 2012 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands Indigiscapes Centre

Special guest will be Kevin Casey, a.k.a. the Remote River Man. Kevin has been exploring the world's most isolated and pristine river systems, often alone and with minimal gear, for a quarter of a century. He will show videos of his most amazing river adventures and happily answer your questions afterwards. Kevin self-films his month-long expeditions and produces television-quality DVDs of the journeys. His solo trek through the Kimberley in 2004 (Remote and Wild) has appeared on Foxtel, and Remote River Man adventures recently received glowing reviews. Kevin is also a skilled animal tracker and the author of Australian Bush Survival Skills.

From sharing dubious meals with pygmies in West Africa and dodging black bears in Canada, to packrafting alone in the Top End and filming tapirs and giant otters in Guyana, Kevin has a wealth of amazing experiences to share on the night. If tales of huge black piranhas, donkey stew and parasite-riddled elephant dung are your sort of thing, you won't want to miss this one!

Honour for Bob

When Robert Raven attended our World Environment Day dinner recently he mentioned that a new spider had been found in Redlands and that they were seeking a suitable name for it.

A number of people immediately thought that having a creature named after one of our local heroes would be a great idea and who better to name it after than Bob Douglas?



"In the " Etymology: The specific name is a patronym in honour of the environmentalist Bob Douglas who devoted his life to nature projects in the Redland Shire." The spider's name is Opopaea Douglassi.

Bob's family were thrilled to have him thus honoured.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Steve Homewood

I recently attended a branch forum organised by WPSQ head office to try and formulate an action plan for the future. Part of the day was spent discussing our achievements over the last 50 years, which has created a such strong foundation and community presence. We then moved on to funding, branch membership, difficulties of attracting some younger members and filling committee positions, the need to continue to lobby for the environment. There were plenty of frank discussions and an initial roadmap for the future was outlined for discussion by WPSQ council.

What was clear is that all volunteer organisations are finding it increasingly hard to attract new members that can commit time to their respective group. I

Continued over page

believe it is part due to the growth of the internet, the rise of social networks, face book and twitter, which are sucking the free time out the day. It would appear that users spend an average of 18 hours a month on the internet, some 35 % of the world population now has on line access. People are happy to commit in to a short term project, tree planting, seagrass monitoring etc., but are time poor and appear uninterested in the more permanent commitments in the management of the organisations. Eventually this may lead to streamlining of regulatory conditions put on groups like ours which would be to everyone's advantage.

The last two weekends have been particularly busy with displays at a Wetland Festival at Cannon Hill Anglican College and Indigiscapes Open Day. We also held our 10th World Environmental Day Dinner, our regular Science at the Grand View talk and our usual monthly speaker. Thanks to all those who organised, volunteered and attended, despite some very ordinary weather at times, it made the events such a success and continued to get out our positive messages for the environment.

There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before. ~Robert Lynd, The Blue Lion and Other Essays



Frog Day

29th April was Frog Day at IndigiScapes. We were there to give information on frogs and their habits and habitats.



Steve's 'how to set-up a frog pond' talks were very well received.

The branch's new leaflet on frogs was unveiled on the day and distributed to all those seeking more information.

Learn that Weed

Moon flower (Ipomoea alba)



Moon Flower completely dominates all vegetation along the immediate banks of the brook, for at least 500 m or so, north of Mercer Park, Kedron, near Keith Boden Constructed Wetlands.

Moon Flower is a glabrous annual or perennial twiner with prickly stems up to 5 m long. The bright green leaves are entire or three-lobed, 5-15 cm long with 5-20 cm long stems. The flowers are large, trumpet-shaped white, blooming only at night, withering in the dawn or early morning. Stamens and style project out from the tube of the corolla.

From the same genus, both species, Mile a Minute (*I. cairica*) and Morning Glory (*I. purpurea*) are declared National and State environmental weeds and are clearly shown as such in weed identification systems.

However, Moon Flower is not ranked amongst the 200 species listed in the Qld Herbarium's 'Invasive Naturalised Plants in SE Queensland'. Nor is it listed in the Queensland State and BCC lists as a Class R environmental weed. Some say a weed is a plant that is not wanted in that spot.

(CI)

*From The Kedron Brook Babbler October 2011
published by WPSQ Kedron Brook Branch*

NOTE: Anyone who is aware of an infestation of Moon flower in Redlands please advise the branch of the location so the information can be relayed to the appropriate persons.

Northern Brown Bandicoot facts

Isodon macrourus

Not a big animal, the Northern Brown Bandicoot has a head and body length of 30-47cm and a tail of 8-22cm. It weighs 1-2 kg. Males are larger than the females and have larger canine teeth. The animals are omnivorous preferring insects and other invertebrates; it will also eat berries, grass seeds and plant fibre such as sugar cane.

They have strong territorial behaviours, displaying aggression to intruding bandicoots. A gland behind the ear is used for marking the ground during encounters.

They establish a nest by scraping a shallow hole and lining it with grass and leaves and concealing it with debris. They also build nests in the hollows of fallen logs or under tussocks.

Males and females only come together for mating. Females become sexually mature around four to five months, and have two or three litters a year. After a short gestation period (12 days) two to seven young are born and make their way to the backward opening pouch and attach to one of eight teats. They remain here for 60 days and are fully independent at four months.

Reprinted from Wambaliman Autumn 2012 The newsletter of the Bundaberg and Fraser Coast Branches, Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland



Photo: <http://rainforest-australia.com>

I SPEAK FOR THE KOALAS

David Teh, aged 7, of Cleveland, speaks for the koalas and other wildlife of Redland City. David has actively championed their cause since three years of age, planting trees with various groups, raising awareness, fundraising and participating in the Koala Fun Run. On Sunday, 27 May 2012 he participated in the Koala Fun Run for the first time and completed the 3.5 kilometre route, saying, "Anyone can do it! It wasn't hard at all!"

Wanting to be a civil engineer when he grows up, David states that "builders should leave lots of trees so that the animals still have food and homes". He said, "If the wildlife were around first, then we need to build somewhere else." He also said, "The more trees, the more oxygen we have to breathe."

To help raise awareness, David helped his family paint a traffic signal box outside the Cleveland Fire Station. The box depicts koalas serving as local heroes in the Ambulance, Fire, Police and State Emergency Services. David said, "Koalas are important to our city because they make it a special place to live. I have a koala and wallabies living down the end of my street. Not everyone can say that."

David's fundraising efforts have helped Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital, Bat Care and WPSQ Bayside Branch. For his sixth birthday, instead of presents, David asked his friends to donate to the bats and koalas. He explained: "The koalas need the trees for food and homes," and "The trees need the bats to make them grow."

Wildlife carers of Redland City don't receive any funding to help cover the costs of food, medicine and shelter for the animals they look after. All expenses are paid out of their own pockets. Anyone who would like to help David show their appreciation for and help out our wildlife carers can donate to: David's Wish c/- WPSQ Bayside, PO Box 427, Capalaba, Q, 4157 or email bayside@wildlife.org.au (please put Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland on the cheque, money order or credit/debit card notes if you wish to receive a tax deduction).

David hopes everyone can help out today so that our wildlife will still be around when he and his friends grow up. As the saying goes, "A little child will lead them." To again adapt a line from The Lorax, we won't have to worry about whether the koala and all of his friends may come back if we look after them today.

Science at the Grand View Hotel

Another in Bayside branch series of science presentations.

Held at the Grand View Hotel in Cleveland on Saturday morning 26 May 2012

Guest speakers included:

Ms Alix Baltais and Ms Emma Watson, Environment Management University of Queensland. Their topic was 'The education of children in water conservation using interactive IT Software that is fun and educational'. A preview of this program was fascinating and clearly showed the potential of this type of environmental education for children. The program was just part of a proposed kit which will be very interesting to see developed further.



Alix Baltais & Emma Watson © D Payne

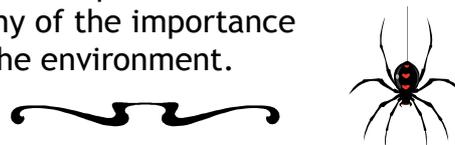
Ms Simone Maynard Ecosystems Services Project Manager SEQ Catchments Inc & PhD Student, Australian National University. Simone's topic was 'A methodology to identify, measure and value ecosystem services derived from riverine ecosystems'. Simone was well versed in her topic and provided some compelling arguments for the methods proposed.

Keep an eye out for the next Science event in a few months time.

World Environment Day dinner

The branch's 10th WED dinner was as usual very enjoyable. Held on Saturday 26th May at Redlands IndigiScapes centre the night included pre diner snacks and drinks followed by a delicious 2 course meal.

Conversation was animated and our guest presenter for the night Dr Robert J Raven Senior Curator (Arachnida) & Head, Terrestrial Biodiversity Queensland Museum, introduced us to a number of amazing spiders who share our world. After his presentation he had convinced many of the importance of spiders to the environment.



Wetlands Festival

Cannon Hill Anglican College Cnr Junction & Krupp Roads Cannon Hill on Sunday 27 May 2012 was the scene for a very well organised and attended festival.

Bayside branch were pleased to have the opportunity to communicate our message to the public at this Wetlands Festival which celebrated the themes of Environment, Community and Sustainability.

Festival activities included rides, bands, art music, food, crafts, community displays, etc.



Would you prefer to receive your Bayside Newsletter by email?

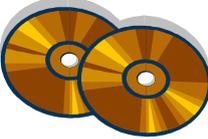
Like to exchange your paper copy for the full colour email version? Please let us know by emailing - wildlifebb@bigpond.com

Maureen's recycling tips

Lots of fun ways to re-use products and packaging at home, to help us avoid, reduce and re-use.

Australians are great at recycling packaging at home like aluminium cans, bottles, jars and newspapers, which helps keep down the amount we send to landfill. By re-using packaging and other items, we can reduce our waste even further, as well as saving money and resources by avoiding buying something new.

Here are some ways we can re-use and recycle at home.

1. Old CDs make funky coasters! Stick two together and paste felt underneath if necessary. 
2. Melt the remains of a lipstick together with a small pot of lip balm - makes a great lip gloss!
3. Create ice blocks for your esky - fill up old milk cartons with water and freeze them.
4. Use your food scraps for your compost
5. Get yourself a worm farm and feed it all of your food scraps. One kilogram of worms can eat and recycle one kilogram of food every day, giving you nutritious worm castings for your plants and vegies. 
6. Open up the bottom of a used milk carton and plant a tree seedling inside it. The carton will protect your seedling from weather and pests, and when planted it will degrade as the tree grows.
7. Going on a picnic? Squash your cans and bottles and bring them home to recycle!
8. Make your own gift wrap! Wrap your presents in the comic pages from your local Sunday newspaper, magazines or comics. Kids (and even adults) love it!
9. Save your corks. They can be used as a stamp when painting or if you don't feel like stamping, take the corks to your local Girl Guides or Body Shop for recycling. Search

RecyclingNearYou.com.au to find a drop-off location in your area.

10. Clear plastic lids can be placed under oil jars in the cupboard or aerosols in the bathroom to prevent oil or rust marks on your shelves.

Source: <http://recyclingnearyou.com.au>.



Thank you

Thank you to those members who gave up some of their time to assist with the Branch display at the IndigiScapes weekend on 2nd & 3rd June. 

This is a big undertaking for our group which requires a lot of planning and setting up so help from members is really appreciated during those two days.

The weather was tipped to be wet but apart from rain on Saturday night after we had packed up for the day and a small shower Sunday morning, we were not at all affected.



Raffle won

Denise of Cornubia was the lucky winner of the beautiful hand made quilt that the branch raffled recently.

The raffle was drawn on the Sunday of the Indigi weekend and the lucky winner was both surprised and very pleased to hear that she had been so fortunate.

A big thank you to Wilma Miller who created the beautiful quilt and donated it to us for the raffle. It was a most generous donation.



Coming events for your Dairy

Sunday 22nd July 8.00am Beveridge Road walk
Friday 7th & Saturday 8th September WPSQ 50th Anniversary "Talking Wildlife Event" at Bardon Professional Centre
Sunday 9th September 9.00am Waterloo Bay Expo at Wellington Point. Includes walk to King Island and entertainment.
Sunday 9th September 2.30pm WPSQ AGM

Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch

Email- bayside@wildlife.org.au

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

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Meeting Information When <u>Last</u> Friday of each month (excluding December & January) Where Redlands IndigiScapes Centre 17 Runnymede Road, Capalaba 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> |  <i>Illustration by R Opala</i> |
|--|---|---|

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

| |
|---|
| <p>Friday 29 June Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba Speaker - Kevin Casey</p> <p>Sunday 22 July Walk with us to celebrate National Tree Day</p> <p>Friday 27 July Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba Yvonne Webb</p> |
|---|

=====

Membership Application

Wildlife Preservation Society of Qld Bayside Branch

Date / /

-- New or Renewal

- Membership types
- \$30.00 Single
 - \$20.00 Concession
(pensioner or full time student)
 - \$45.00 Family or non profit group
 - \$12.50 Youth member (up to 18 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>  | |
| Card type— | Visa__ Mastercard __ |
| Card No | _____ |
| Expiry Date | ____/____ |
| Name on the Card | _____ |
| Signature | _____ |