



BAYSIDE NEWSLETTER

February – March 2012



Next Meeting Friday 17 February 2012 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands Indgiscapes Centre

Martin Finland from Geckos Wildlife Presentations will bring to us a fascinating display of live native animals combined with an informative talk on our unique and wonderful Australian wildlife and the value they bring to our lives. This presentation will allow you to get up close giving you the opportunity to see and touch.

Come along and join the fun. Both children and older folk will be enchanted. Do not miss this rare opportunity.

Please note: Gold coin entry for this meeting.

Please note the variation to usual meeting date for February.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Steve Homewood

Welcome back to what will be an interesting start to 2012, with significant changes possible to policies that could have detrimental effects to some of the environmental safeguards that we currently have in place. Unfortunately most of our elected representatives often pay lip service to the environment and pander to commercial interests who have the loudest voice.

Whatever transpires there can be no changes immediately and it will be back to community and environmental groups to lobby for some “common sense” in debates on critical issues.

The wet weather that we have received over the last month has not only protected our bushland from fire issues, accidental or deliberate but has left our green space in prime condition. There is so much colour change in the bush, the

greens are darker and the brown of the trees takes on a deeper hue. There is a riot of colour from various fungi that have magically appeared, a cacophony of frog noises greets you as come across water ponding in the hollows. It is a great time to visit your favourite piece of bushland and savour the changes that appeared because of the heavy rains.

Our first walk of the year will be to the Carbrook Wetlands, see detail in the newsletter, this will be a unique and rare chance to visit this protected wetland area so I urge you all to come along. As usual our first speaker will be Martin Finland who will be, by special request, bring a wombat and some birds along with other local wildlife for his hands on presentation, note this will be on Friday 17th February, **not** our usual last Friday in the month date.

I am sure there will be plenty of issues that will surface during the year it is essential that we continue our endeavours to protect our bushland and waterways from over exploitation which then puts extreme pressure on our flora and fauna. We need to move to a "green economy" that is socially inclusive and is harmonious with the environment against our current "brown economy" that destroys earth's assets in an unsustainable fashion and excludes whole swathes of earth's population.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt - *"A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people."*



Year of Volunteer

DSP

The 10th anniversary of the United Nations International Year of the Volunteer was celebrated in Redlands at Norm Price Park (Showgrounds) in November 2011.

The numerous volunteer organisations in Redlands were invited to send representatives to the event. Judging by the hundreds who attended there is a very strong volunteer base in our city.

It was a chance to catch up with volunteers from other organisations and share stories of our experiences.

The mayor and some of the councilors helped by distributing the platters of snacks to the 'hungry hordes'. I saw Mayor Melva and councilors Wendy, Kathy, Toni, Craig and Debra all doing their bit and taking time to greet the volunteers as they served.

The Town Crier brought the assembly to order so the Mayor could address the volunteers thanking them for their invaluable contribution to the lifestyle and wellbeing of Redlands. She then invited Citizen of the Year, Simon Baltais to address the group and add his thoughts on the value of volunteers and volunteering.



Bayside Anniversary

DSP

Bayside branch celebrated its 25th Anniversary on 25 November 2011. And oh what a night! If you missed it you really missed out.

It was such a pleasure to see many of those who have contributed to the efforts of Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch over the 25 years as well as those who are still working to protect our precious wildlife and habitat.

It was sad to see one of our long term members and supporters, Bob Douglas, had suffered a severe health problem. There were a number of young persons attending as they represent those who will take over from us one day.

We thank our guest speaker, Glen Ingram, for his presentation. Glen reminded us that he has been a member of WPSQ for 42 years. He joined as a young man keen to make a difference and served as president of the society for many years.

Thanks go to the organisers and caterers who made it all happen. These include Maureen, Doreen, Belinda, Steve and John.



50th Anniversary Wildlife Queensland

Wildlife Queensland is bringing together some of Queensland's leading wildlife researchers and campaigners to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2012.

The event, *Talking Wildlife*, will take place on Friday 7 and Saturday 8 September 2012 at Bardon Conference Centre in Brisbane and registrations will open in April. Talking Wildlife will feature topics such as Traditional wildlife knowledge, how wildlife saves the world, achieving the balance with the resource industry, urban ecology, environment and the law, conservation campaigning, biodiversity protection and wildlife interpretation and community education.

Interested in attending as a delegate? Have your name added to our mailing list by contacting Wildlife Queensland: talkingwildlife@wildlife.org.au.

Science at the Grand View Hotel

Celebrating World Wetlands Week 2012

Eminent scientists present their recently published research



Where: The Historic Grand View Hotel,
49 North Street, Cleveland

When: Saturday 11 February 2012 -
9.00am to 11.30am

SEMINAR PROGRAM 9:00am Registration

9:10am Welcome

Wetlands Tourism - International theme for World Wetlands Day 2012
Mr Michael Lusic Chair, Wildlife Queensland Research Group, Wildlife Queensland Bayside Branch

9:20am Guest Speaker

Wild Guide to Moreton Bay and adjacent coasts - The new edition of this extraordinary best seller
Dr Peter Davie, Principal Author and Curator Queensland Museum

10.00am Morning Tea

10:30am Guest Speaker

Whales, majestic visitors to Moreton Bay - an expose of their journey between Antarctica and the Coral Sea
Mr Paul Hodda, Chairman Australian Whale Conservation Society

11:10am Guest Speaker

Moreton Bay Protection Campaign - the \$80 million business case to restore the aquatic jewel of SEQ
Simon Baltais Queensland President, Wildlife Queensland

11.30pm Close

----- Invitation from Wildlife Queensland Bayside Branch -

Bring your family and friends along to hear from the people who contribute to the conservation of Moreton Bay's habitat areas. Learn more about what we may do to help our precious local wildlife.

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.



Walk with Wildlife

To celebrate world Wetland day and in conjunction with Logan Branch, we have organised a guided tour by Margaret Greenway to Carbrook Wetlands. 7.30 am Sunday 26th February.

We have been granted special access, it will be hosted by some one who has undertaken significant research in this area and is a leading authority on ecology of the Wetlands.

Cost: \$2.00

Where: Carbrook - Meeting at the far end of Lagoon Rd, off Tevoit Road Carbrook

When: Sunday 26th February

Time: 7.30am.

Bring: As this a Wetland area you are advised to bring, water, hat, sunscreen, mozzie spray, binoculars, reasonable footwear and clothing that offers protection against the possibility of insect bites

This area is not normally readily accessible so we will start the walk on time, gates will be locked behind us.



Morning refreshments are available at the conclusion of the walk.

Please register for this event by phoning Steve on 3824 0522 or emailing bayside@wildlife.org.au

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

Ornate rainbowfish project

Wildlife Queensland Bayside Branch has been given a further permit to monitor the status of the **Ornate rainbowfish**, *Rhadinocentrus ornatus*.

Rhadinocentrus ornatus is a beautiful subtropical species which has a restricted distribution. Their distribution has likely contracted as a consequence of urban and rural development a result of altered hydrology and water quality. Thankfully Redlands provides a strong hold for the species. Wildlife Bayside is keeping a close eye on them and providing feedback to Councils like Redlands and Brisbane City Council.

Until recently it was difficult to find this fish in its normal haunts due to low rainfall but with the sudden deluge we will be out again soon and hoping to find their numbers improved. If you are interested to know more about this species have a look at our fact sheets and reports on our website.

See - <http://www.wildlife.org.au/projects/ornaterainbowfish/>



Some coming events for your Dairy

Saturday 11 February Science at the Grand View

Sunday 26 February Walk at Carbrook wetlands

Sunday 4 March Clean Up Australia Day

Sunday 22 April Moreton Bay cruise

Friday 27 April Annual General Meeting

Saturday 28 April WPSQ Branches forum

Friday 7 & Saturday 8 September – Talking Wildlife forum

Congratulations

Congratulations to Jan Smith. Jan was the recipient of an environmental award in the Redland City Council Australia Day Awards for 2012.

Jan has been a dedicated wildlife carer for many years and a mentor for numerous other carers as well as participating in other environmental activities.



Learn that Weed

Giant Devil's Fig
(*Solanum hispidum*)

Giant Devil's Fig is a large shrub up to 4 m tall. It grows rather like the closely related Tobacco Weed, but with larger lobed leaves and nasty-looking thorns on its stems, petioles and leaves.

The flowers and fruit are also similar to Tobacco Weed, though the petals are white compared with the lavender petals of the Tobacco Weed.

The globular fruits are yellow to yellowish-orange when mature and are not very fleshy. Birds and bats spread the seeds from the fruit assisting the plant to naturalise in disturbed habitats, creek banks, forests and riparian areas.

It is ranked 135th out of the 200 species listed in the Qld Herbarium's 'Invasive Naturalised Plants in SE Queensland', and has an invasive score of 3.6 out of 5. It is declared noxious in South-East Queensland and BCC lists it as a Class R environmental weed

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From The Kedron Brook Babbler December 2011
published by WPSQ Kedron Brook Branch

Maureen's tips for printing

THINK BEFORE YOU PRINT

- It takes 2.5 tonnes of radiata pine to make one tonne of newsprint
- Every year around 3.5 million tonnes of paper and cardboard is used in Australia, enough to fill 160,000 large semi-trailers

What can we do to help ?

- Print on both sides of the paper
- For rough versions, why not print on the blank side of paper that someone else has used
- Proof read documents on the screen before printing them out
- Send e-mails instead of distributing printed documents
- Make note pads out of used paper

The benefits of recycling

- Every tonne of paper recycled saves 2.5 barrels of oil, 4,100 kwh of electricity, 4 cubic metres of landfill and 31,780 litres of water!
- Recycling 1 tonne of paper and cardboard saves 13 trees!

THESE SMALL CHANGES COULD CUT PAPER COSTS IN HALF, SAVE TREES AND THE CREATURES THAT RELY UPON THEM AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT FOR THE FUTURE



Save the Planet

(Found on the back of an old magazine and worth repeating.)

Plant native trees to breathe more life into the air

Conserve water, our most precious resource (although after recent rains we are probably ok in this respect for a few months at least.)

Recycle household waste

Use alternative transport to reduce fossil fuel use and pollution

Support environmentally friendly products, avoiding excess packaging

Avoid overuse of electricity, to reduce energy consumption

Encourage others to think and act environmentally



Did you know

1000kg of aluminium cans recycled amounts to one ton of waste kept out of landfill.

This is what Bayside branch has achieved in the past two years with the help of a band of dedicated can collectors.

Cans collected are 'cashed in' and the money raised in this way is given back to projects helping wildlife.

If you would like to help just collect together all aluminium cans and let Maureen know they are available. Call her on 0418 197 160.

Are you on email?

Would you prefer to receive your Bayside Newsletter by email?

If you would like to exchange your paper copy of the newsletter for the full colour email version please let us know by emailing - wildlifebb@bigpond.com

It will save paper, envelopes and postage.



<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 style="text-align: right;"><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

Saturday 11 February Science in the Grand View
Friday 17 February Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba Note this is not the usual night for our meeting
Sunday 26 February Wildlife walk at Carbrook
Friday 30 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

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> <p>Card type— 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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