

BAYSIDE NEWSLETTER

October – November 2012

Next Meeting Friday 26th October 2012 starting at 7.30pm at Redlands Indgiscapes Centre.

I'm sure Bob Ashdown was born with a camera in his hand because he is a natural. His photography of our natural world is breathtaking and his ability to capture the personality of a species is certainly a hallmark of a very talented photographer.

He has photographed from Moreton Bay to far Western Queensland, he has captured floods to fires as well as broad horizons to minute detail.



Bob is an interpretative officer for Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. Come and enjoy his talk about wildlife and his kaleidoscope of natural wonders caught on film.

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Steve Homewood

Australia's youth (12 - 25 year olds) represents about 18.5% of our total population. The membership of many volunteer organisations including our own is substantially under-represented in that age group. Our community events often generate plenty of interest from our youth but this does not translate into membership. The trend nowadays is towards participation but without sustained interest in helping with the perceived mundane duties of office bearers.

Organisations will need to adapt in order to streamline their operations to react to the more instant forms of communication using social media or the internet. Change will be difficult and gradual but is needed

to ensure that groups continue to be a vital informative part of any active community.

Our speaker last month Romane spoke to us with passion and enthusiasm about the studies she has done on Stradbroke koalas and her new project training a dog to be able to find traces of koalas. It was great to see such dedication and interest in our iconic species from someone who has come here to study but clearly sees the value of protecting our wildlife for the benefit of all. It is a lesson that needs to be learned by some of our latest elected representatives.

Where the quality of life goes down for the environment, the quality of life goes down for humans. - George Holland

Batty Boat Cruises are back

The 2012-2013 season opens on 28 October so plan to take one of these popular wildlife cruises on the Brisbane River. Batty Boat Cruises are a great way to enjoy a family trip on the river - adults and kids alike love Batty Boat Cruises.

The cruises are organised by the Brisbane branch of Wildlife Queensland.

The boat leaves from Mowbray Park East Brisbane and travel to Indooroopilly Island (6 km from Brisbane CBD) in time to watch the flying foxes depart. Each cruise lasts 3.5 to 4 hours.

Cruise dates and times for the season are
Sunday 28 October 2012
Sunday 25 November 2012
Sunday 9 December 2012
Sunday 10 February 2013
Sunday 24 February 2013
Sunday 24 March 2013

Ticket prices

\$32.00 each adults
\$24.00 concession
\$16.00 children (3-15 years)
\$85 family (2 adults, 2 children)

For more information see

<http://www.wildlife.org.au/news/2012/batty.html>

Tickets may be booked on line or by calling 07 3221 0194 during office hours.

Watch the flying foxes fly out!
Photo © wpsq



Wanted

Bayside branch Newsletter editor.

After 20 years in the job our present newsletter editor (Doreen Payne) has decided its time to take a rest.

So this is the chance for any aspiring newsletter editors to take the reins from February 2013.

The Editor needs to be willing to

- follow up contributors to get copy on time
- source suitable articles or write them
- keep up to date with Wildlife events in order to publicise them
- have the newsletter finalised by the required date to allow timely distribution

If you would like to give it a try call Doreen on 3206 0368 (may need to leave message).



Science at the Grand View Hotel, Cleveland

Seminar - Saturday 17 November, 9.00am to 12.00pm

Koala conservation - proven techniques and innovative methods for tracking our iconic mammal species.

Ms Romane Christescu, PhD student, University of Queensland, will deliver a fascinating expose on koala conservation, based on her recent research on North Stradbroke Island. Assisting Romane during the later part of her thesis was Maya a highly trained dog which helped in locating koalas on the Island.

The application of the findings from Romane's may be very valuable for future koala conservation, particularly as the species was recently declared as *Vulnerable* (to extinction) by the Commonwealth Government.

For further information about the seminar, email Michael Lusis at michael.lusis@gmail.com.

Preserving wildlife:
Yesterday,
Today and
Tomorrow
ONE-DAY CONFERENCE

Preserving Wildlife: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow - This One-Day Conference is part of Wildlife Queensland's 50 year anniversary celebrations.

Where: Walkabout Creek, D'Aguilar National Park, 60 Mount Nebo Road, The Gap Qld 4061

When: Sunday 11 November 2012
8.30am to 3.15pm

Cost: Registration of \$30 or \$25 for the non-waged includes lunch and all-day tea and coffee.

Conference program includes the following but there is much more:

- John Sinclair, Fraser Island Defenders Organisation - *The battles and the heroes*
- Don Henry, Australian Conservation Foundation - *Fifty Years of Wildlife Queensland*
- Des Boyland, Wildlife Queensland - *The future of our protected areas*
- Toby Hutcheon, Queensland Conservation Council - *Biodiversity and sustainability in the future*
- Tim Sellig, Wilderness Society Queensland - *Future of our wilderness areas*
- Nick Heath, World Wildlife Fund for Nature - *The future of environmental advocacy*

Conference organised by Wildlife Queensland Brisbane North Branch
Enquiries Email: terrymar@ecn.net.au
Phone: 07 3261 1601



Bird Walk

John will be leading an exploration walk at the wonderful Kidd Road conservation reserve at Redland Bay. A recent acquisition by the last Redland City Council. It has abundant fauna and many old growth trees and pristine flora understory. Most disturbed areas are under rehabilitation.

When: Sunday 28 October 2012.

Time: 8am.

Cost: \$2.00

Bring: water, hat, sunscreen, mozzie spray, binoculars, and clothing that offers protection particularly closed footwear.

It will be an easy walk.

Morning refreshments are available at the conclusion of the walk.



Please drive along Kidd Road and park 100 metres on the right after Unwin Road.

Please register for this event by phoning Doreen on 3206 0368 (please leave message) or emailing wildlifebb@bigpond.com

We would like to send your Bayside Newsletter by email

Exchange your paper copy of the newsletter for the full colour email version.

Please let us know your email address by emailing - wildlifebb@bigpond.com

It will save paper, Staples, envelopes and the cost of postage so please consider it if you are on email.

Travel smarter

<http://www.livinggreener.gov.au/travel>

Did you know?

For every litre of petrol used in a motor vehicle, 2.3 kilograms of carbon dioxide (CO²) are emitted from the exhaust. Roof racks, spoilers and driving with your window open increases aerodynamic drag and costs you more in fuel.

Travel by private motor vehicle to their place of work or full time study was the main form of transport for 80 per cent of people.

In Australia, road transport accounts for around 12 per cent of Australia's carbon pollution.

50 per cent of all Australian households have at least one working bicycle and of these 66 per cent have 2 or more.

Most Australians rely on motor transport to travel to work or study or to go on holidays. This is convenient but relying on motor transport can have a dramatic effect on the environment.

There are a number ways to reduce our reliance on cars and give ourselves and the environment a breath of fresh air.

Motor transport

Using motor vehicles to get to work or travel around is a very convenient option for many people. Driving efficiently and choosing a fuel efficient car can minimise your travel impact and costs.

- Drive efficiently
- Use your car less
- Car pool and car share
- Buy a fuel-efficient car

Public transport

Using public transport (trains, buses or ferries) is a great alternative to driving your car and an effective way to reduce your impact on the environment.



Cycling

Using a bicycle as your main form of transport or for trips on the weekend will lower your travel costs and reduce your impact on the environment. It's also a great way to improve your health and fitness and reduce the stress of driving and parking.



Walking

Walking is a great way to improve your fitness. It also benefits your community because you reduce air and noise pollution. It makes good sense to walk instead of using your car for short journeys. The least fuel efficient car trip is a short one.



Killarney Biodiversity weekend



Microbes to Mammals

20 & 21 October 2012
Starting at 8:30am

Killarney Recreation Hall

\$10/person/day
\$15 for weekend
Pay on the day (cash only)

FREE entry for children to the live animal show.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Early registration by phone or email is encouraged to assist organisers.

Contact

For information, programs and registration.

Susan: (07) 4664 4074
Clive: 0417 641 969
Email: biodiversity@killarney.org.au
Web: www.killarney.org.au

Biodiversity and the Farm
Killarney
is a biodiversity hotspot

Program includes...

- Learn about our wildlife
- Highly acclaimed speakers
- Live animal show
- Workshops
- Field Trips
- Information tables



Specialist Coastal Raptors

by...Robyn Howard

Brahminy Kite

To the general populace, the Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur indus*) is probably one of our most recognizable raptors. The startling contrast of its rich chestnut and white plumage draws attention as it cruises just metres above a beach or riverbank, or perches on an open branch overhanging the river. The back, mantle, wings and tail are a magnificent chestnut, whilst the head and breast are white, and the bill yellow to horn coloured. The tail is short, and in flight, the wings are broad and long. Both sexes are alike, but the juvenile is a mottled brown and is most easily recognized by its shape.

With a female length of about 50 cm, and the male about 47 cm, this is the smallest of our specialist coastal raptors. The female is roughly 1.2 times the weight of the male, with little difference in the wingspan. The feet of the Brahminy Kite are not strong, nor is it an agile flier, so it is not designed to hunt and take live fish, and only occasionally does so. It is mainly a scavenger. It soars over mudflats and above the high-tide mark of beaches searching for scraps and carrion, sometimes uttering its mournful, drawn out “kyaaahhh”, but can opportunistically take insects and small vertebrates. This beautiful raptor is strictly a bird of the coastal region and inhabits beaches, islands, estuaries, mangroves and sub-coastal wetlands. It is a resident of Australia and South East Asia, extending to India where its common name originates. It was sacred to Hindus, and named for Brahma, (one of the Hindu trinity), Brahmans being the priestly caste.

Breeding may commence as early as two years of age, with the season occurring between May and October, and after preliminary flight rituals, nest construction commences. The nest is normally located in a deep multi-branched vertical fork in a large tree, but

may also be placed on a cliff. Whereas the other coastal raptors select an emergent site, Brahminy Kites will build amongst foliage.

They often create new nests annually, with the male selecting and carrying sticks and twigs, and the female doing the construction. The lining consists of finer materials such as small twigs, seaweed, grass, bark, and even beach-tossed paper or cloth. One to three eggs, about 5.5 cm in length, are laid and incubated for 31 to 35 days. Most incubation is performed by the female. The chicks fledge at about 7 or 8 weeks, and are dependent on the adults for a further 8 or 9 weeks.

Whilst this handsome bird is still relatively common, its numbers are declining due to usage of pesticides and loss of habitat. Unfortunately, humans like to live close to beaches and rivers, and we destroy our wetlands and mangroves.

Reprinted from
WPSQ Moreton
Bay Newsletter
No. 254 - March
2012



Image from
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brahminy_Kite

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>

<p>Meeting Information When Last 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>
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Bayside Newsletter Editor		
	Doreen Payne	
Wildlife Diary Editor		
	Simon Baltais	
Koala News Editor		
	Paulette Jones	
Librarian		
	Pat Comer	

Wildlife Diary Dates

Saturday 13 October NSI Urban Koala Survey
20 & 21 October Koala phone in
Friday 26 October Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba
Sunday 28 October 2012 Bird walk
Saturday 17 November Science in the Grand View
Friday 30 November Bayside Branch General Meeting IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba

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 _____

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