

# Newsletter

## March 2015

### The Month Ahead.....

#### Next Meeting.

**Andrew Franks – The wonderful world of Bryophytes**

**Friday 27th March at 7:30 PM**

**Redlands Indigiscapes Centre – 17 Runnymede Rd, Capalaba**

The bryophytes, a collective term for moss and moss-like plants, are the second most speciose group of land plants in the world often forming a conspicuous component of many ecosystems. However, they are rarely included in floristic assessments of sites and not treated with the same regard as the other groups of land plants. This is particularly true in Queensland where collectively the bryophytes are 2.5 times more diverse than the gymnosperms and ferns together and represent 10% of the non-algae plant diversity of the State. This presentation is designed as an introduction to the wonderful world of bryophytes and to increase awareness of this forgotten 10% of our flora.

Andrew Franks is a principal botanist and Brisbane manager of O2 Ecology, an environmental consultancy. He is also an adjunct senior research fellow with the University of Queensland where he assists students studying bryophytes. Andrew also curates the Queensland Herbarium's bryophyte collection. He recently coordinated the 12<sup>th</sup> Australian Bryophyte Workshop held in the Mackay/Whitsunday region and hopes to one day, when he has some spare time, to undertake a revision of the leafy liverwort genus *Frullania* of Queensland.

**Notice of Annual General Meeting . The 2015 Annual General Meeting will be held at Redlands Indigiscapes Centre at 7.30 pm on the 24th April.**

All members are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to attend please fill out a proxy vote form to enable another member to vote for you. The nomination form for the executive team is below, we would like more of our members to nominate, it is not onerous, the team meets monthly for a couple of hours. Please return complete forms to  
[bayside@wildlife.org.au](mailto:bayside@wildlife.org.au)

PO BOX 427 Capalaba QLD 4157 or in person at the next meeting.

### GOING DIGIT@L

Have you considered receiving your newsletter by email?  
If you would like to see the full colour version of the newsletter each month, please let us know by emailing [wildlifebb@bigpond.com](mailto:wildlifebb@bigpond.com)  
It will save paper, envelopes and postage.

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**STEVE**

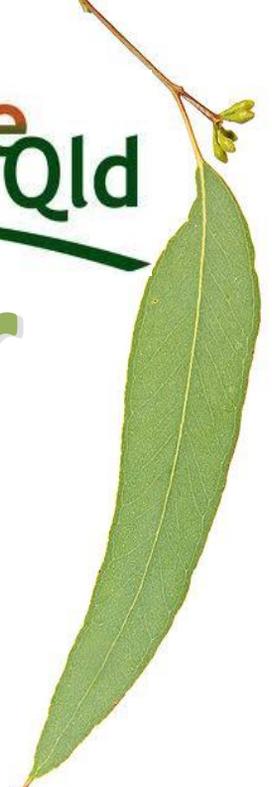
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# From the Executive Team...

## Presidents Report

At the beginning of March, the branch participated in Clean up Australia Day and revisited a site on the Redland Bay foreshore that we have cleaned up on previous occasions. There were 28 participants on the day that filled some 19 bags with assorted rubbish, removed 3 abandoned crab pots, a pallet and a car tyre. A well fed carpet snake across the path completed the entertainment. The number of helpers enabled us to cover nearly 2.5 kilometres of foreshore at low tide and we thank Mount Cotton Scout group for their assistance and enthusiasm.

In Queensland, with the change of Government, WPSQ has joined with the Boomerang Alliance and Clean up Australia to jointly call for a ban on plastic bags and container deposits for cans and bottles in QLD. Nearly 37 % of waste collected on Clean-up day is containers; we would all welcome any positive steps that reduce this pollution that is killing our wildlife.

Bayside branch first meeting of the month with Martin Fingland attracted a large crowd who were rewarded by an excellent presentation that featured snakes and gave everyone present a better understanding of the commitment needed for their protection and that they need to be treated with respect and caution.

I am looking forward to a positive year for the environment, the "worm has turned", the environment has been treated badly for some time, now is the time to fight back and regain momentum. Community groups are already aligning to ensure that promises are kept, regulations are repealed and standards are raised.

*The packaging for a microwavable "microwave" dinner is programmed for a shelf life of maybe six months, a cook time of two minutes and a landfill dead-time of centuries.*

*~ David Wann, Buzzworm, November 1990*



## Annual General Meeting Nomination Form

Name of Person Being Nominated for a Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Position nominated for: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominated By

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a financial member of WPSQ BB

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

### Nomination Seconded By

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a financial member of WPSQ BB

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

### Acceptance of Person Being Nominated

I am a financial member of WPSQBB and am willing to accept the nomination.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Positions that may be nominated for

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Executive Member

# The Climate Report

## Extracts from the Bureau of Meteorology

### 'State of the Climate Report'

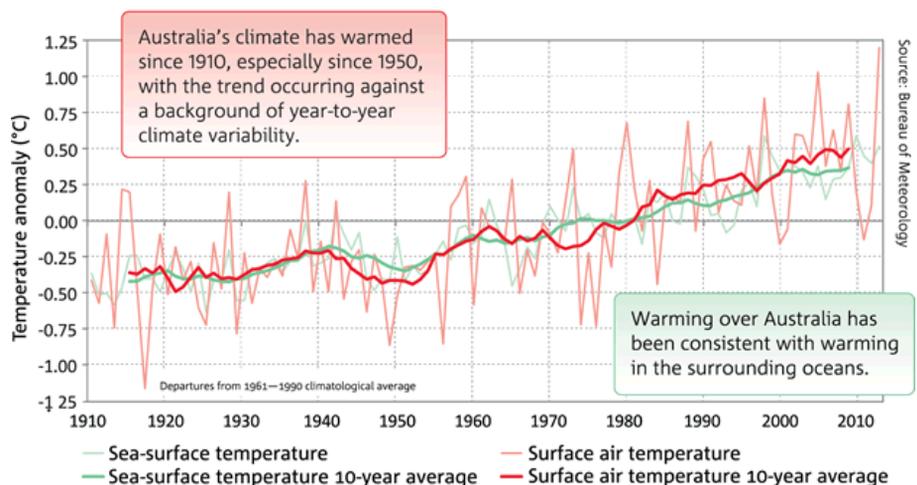
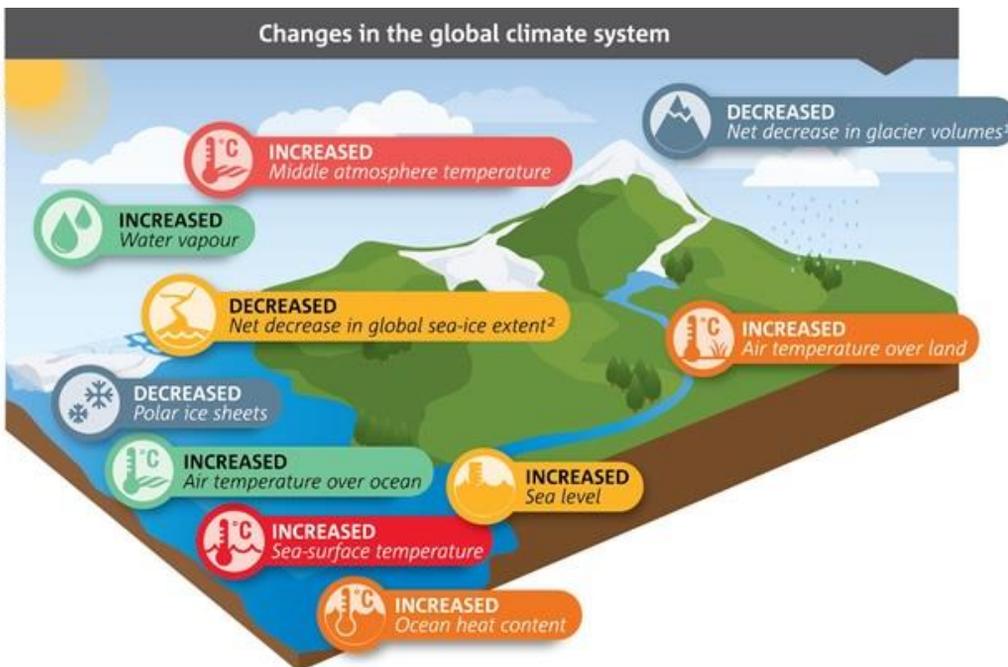
Data and analysis from the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO show further warming of the atmosphere and oceans in the Australian region, as is happening globally. This change is occurring against the background of high climate variability, but the signal is clear.

Air and ocean temperatures across Australia are now, on average, almost a degree Celsius warmer than they were in 1910, with most of the warming occurring since 1950. This warming has seen Australia experiencing more warm weather and extreme heat, and fewer cool extremes. There has been an increase in extreme fire weather, and a longer fire season, across large parts of Australia.

Rainfall averaged across all of Australia has slightly increased since 1900. Since 1970, there have been large increases in annual rainfall in the northwest and decreases in the southwest. Autumn and early winter rainfall has mostly been below average in the southeast since 1990.

Atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations continue to rise and continued emissions will cause further warming over this century. Limiting the magnitude of future climate change requires large and sustained net global reductions in greenhouse gases.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO



# Future climate scenarios for Australia

Australian temperatures are projected to continue to warm, rising by 0.6 to 1.5°C by 2030 compared with the climate of 1980 to 1999; noting that 1910 to 1990 warmed by 0.6°C. Warming by 2070, compared to 1980 to 1999, is projected to be 1.0 to 2.5°C for low greenhouse gas emissions and 2.2 to 5.0°C for high emissions. The high-emissions scenario assumes a continuation into the future of the global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions growth seen over the past decade, whereas the low-emissions scenario assumes a significant reduction in global emissions over the coming decades. These projected changes in temperature will be felt through an increase in the number of hot days and warm nights and a decline in cool days and cold nights.

Further decreases in average rainfall are expected over southern Australia compared with the climate of 1980 to 1999: a zero to 20 per cent decrease by 2070 for low emissions; and a 30 per cent decrease to 5 per cent increase by 2070 for high emissions, with largest decreases in winter and spring. For northern Australia the projected changes in rainfall range from a 20 per cent decrease to 10 per cent increase by 2070 for low emissions, and a 30 per cent decrease to 20 per cent increase for high emissions. Droughts are expected to become more frequent and severe in southern Australia.

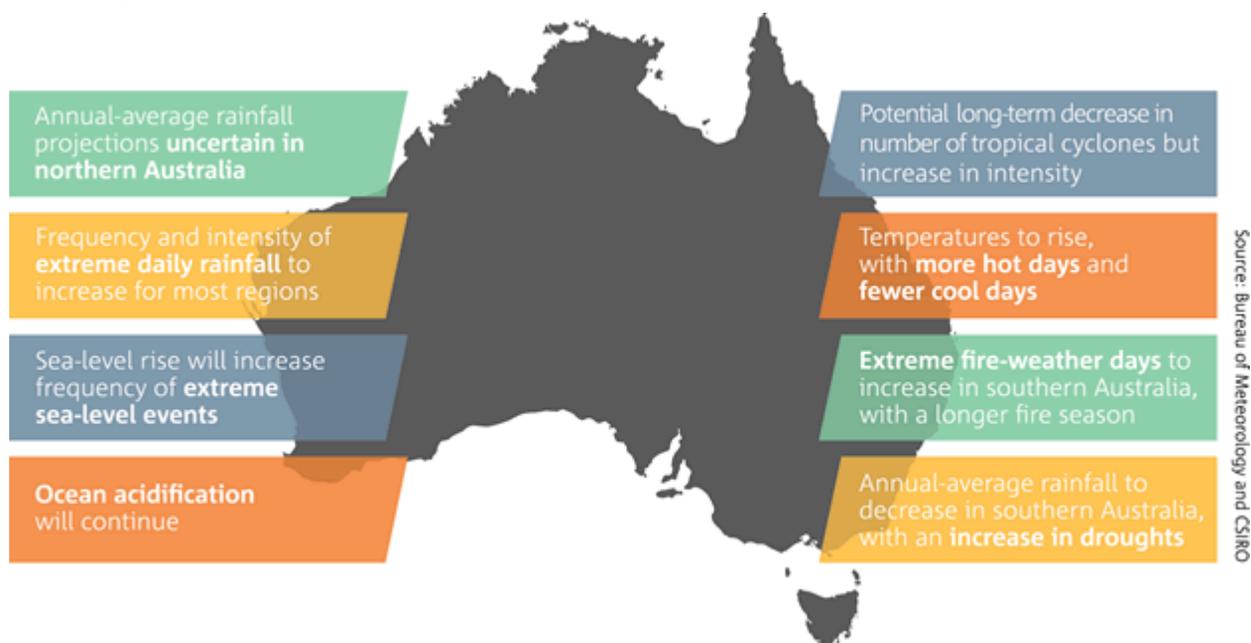
An increase in the number and intensity of extreme rainfall events is projected for most regions.

The number of extreme fire-weather days is projected to grow in southern and eastern Australia; by 10 to 50 per cent for low emissions and 100 to 300 per cent for high emissions, by 2050 compared with the climate of 1980 to 1999.

Fewer tropical cyclones are projected for the Australian region, on average, with an increased proportion of intense cyclones. However, confidence in tropical cyclone projections is low.

Sea-level rise around the Australian coastline by 2100 is likely to be similar to the projected global rise of 0.28 to 0.61 metres for low emissions and 0.52 to 0.98 metres for high emissions, relative to 1986–2005. Higher sea levels by 2100 are possible if there is a collapse of sectors of the Antarctic ice sheet grounded below sea level. There is medium confidence that such an additional rise would not exceed several tenths of a metre by 2100. Under all scenarios, sea level will continue to rise after 2100, with high emissions leading to a sea-level rise of 1 metre to more than 3 metres by 2300. Increases in mean sea level will increase the frequency of extreme sea-level events.

Ocean-acidity levels will continue to increase as the ocean absorbs anthropogenic carbon-dioxide emissions. Reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions would increase the chance of constraining future global warming. Nonetheless adaptation is required because some warming and associated changes are unavoidable.



# Women in Wildlife

A personal insight to celebrate International Woman's Day

Alix Baltais

As a woman in the field of wildlife conservation and environmental management, I draw my inspiration from the many role models around me. And while not all of these role models are women, a vast majority of them are.

I have always had the privilege of being surrounded by strong women who know their passions and have the dedication to achieve them. Included in these role models are a number of our own WPSQ Bayside members and executives. The first women who I can remember making a difference for the environment were those of Toni Bowler, Doreen Payne, Maureen Tottenham, Louise Saunders and Debra Henry. I have vivid childhood memories of all of these woman and wished to contribute to the environment as much as they did when I grew up.

My teachers also played a huge role in fostering a passion for the environment and for wildlife. Mrs Williams, Mrs Jarrett and Ms Haynes helped me understand what role I wanted to play in the community by helping our environment.

When I was about eight I had the privilege of reading a piece of Judith Wrights poetry at her memorial in Mt Tambourine. Sustainability was an engrained concept in a loose form for me at this stage but it was something I had not been exposed to in all its technicalities. 'Report of a Working Party' (1970) was my first "foray into the future", as it were, that portrayed that the future of the environment was going to be hard to work for.

Judith Wright and Kathleen McArthur were founding members of WPSQ. Kathleen was the vice president from our societies foundation in 1962 until 1965 and Judith held the presidency until 1976 .

Judith Wright was a formidable conservationist and Indigenous rights activist and an amazing poet.

*Frankly we don't think you'll ever make the top  
Hidden by cloud (or smog) we were unable to see it;  
there's vertigo in those verticals.  
So we identified a certain ceiling  
Beyond which we consider settlement will be  
impossible*

- Judith Wright 'Report of a Working Party'



Having still yet to completely grow up, I still idolise those women locally and abroad who make such amazing contributions to our world. The likes of Jane Goodall, Margaret Blakers and Christine Milne continue to give me inspiration.

In a society where we are still fighting for equality and bridging the gap I'd just like to stop for a moment and say thank you.

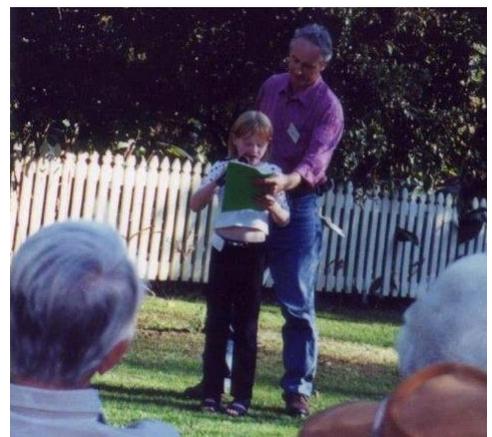
Thank you to those courageous women standing up and acting for what they believe in.

Thank you to all of our mums, *cheers Margie*, and grandmothers who instilled the values and the love in us which drives us to make a change and see a better world.

Thank you to our Teachers, who spend endless hours preparing the lessons which teach our coming generation about the environment.

Thank you to our young women who are stepping up to fill some big shoes.

Thank you to all women that taught this little girl how to love and fight for the environment.



A Baltais and S Baltais Judith Wright Memorial, Mt Tambourine, 2000

## Resources

Page 3: BOM <http://www.bom.gov.au/state-of-the-climate/>

Page 4: as page 3

## Walk at Eprapah Creek

Saturday 2nd May.

Are you interested walking through beautiful Melaleuca wetlands, open forests and mangroves. Then please contact Steve for more details. [bhomewoo@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bhomewoo@bigpond.net.au)

## Committee & Contacts

<b>President</b>	Steve Homewood	3824 0522
<b>V President</b>	Vacant	
<b>Secretary</b>	Simon Baltais	baltais@bigpond.net.au
<b>Treasurer</b>	Maureen Tottenham	0418 197 160
<b>Executive</b>	Don Baxter Doreen Payne	
<b>Bayside Newsletter Editor</b>	Alix Baltais/Simon Baltais	
<b>Wildlife Diary Editor</b>	Simon Baltais	

Email: [bayside@wildlife.org.au](mailto:bayside@wildlife.org.au)

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

## Keep Up to Date Online!

### Blogs:

#### SeagrassWatch

<http://seagrassmb.wordpress.com/>

#### Wildlife Bayside

<https://wildlifebayside.wordpress.com/>

#### Curlew Watch

<https://curlewwatch.wordpress.com/>

### Websites:

#### Wildlife Bayside

<http://branches.wildlife.org.au/bayside/>

#### MangroveWatch

<http://mgwmb.azurewebsites.net/>

#### SeagrassWatch

<http://sgwmb.azurewebsites.net/>

#### Ornate Rainbowfish

<http://rainbowfish.azurewebsites.net/>

## Membership Application

### Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland

#### Memberships Types

- \$30.00 Single
- Concession (Pensioner/Full Student)
- \$45.00 Family or Non Profit Group
- \$12.50 Junior

#### Optional Wildlife Magazine Subscription

- \$47.00 per year inc GST (Four Issues)
- \$90 for 2 years inc GST (Eight Issues)
- \$70.00 per year (International Post)
- \$135 for 2 years (International Post)

Optional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For Campaign \_\_\_\_\_

(Bayside does not tax deductible status)

Postal address: PO Box 427, Capalaba 4157

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ P/C \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Pay by Credit Card

Card Type:  VISA  Mastercard

Card No \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_