

## A chance to get close to native wildlife.

### **Martin Fingland** from **Geckos Wildlife Presentations**

gives you the chance to see a fascinating display of live native animals combined with an informative talk on our unique and wonderful Australian wildlife. Hosted in Martin's own easy and educational style.

Both children and older folk will all be enchanted. General Public Welcome, booking required for entry.

When: Friday 25th February 2022 at 7.00 pm

Where: [Alexandra Hills Community Hall](#),

131-155 Finucane Road, near "Aldi". Entry & car parking just around corner in Windemere Road.

Please [click here](#) to register for event, limited to 50 attendees.

For more information

phone Steve 0423 036 676 or email [bayside@willdlife.org.au](mailto:bayside@willdlife.org.au)

## In this edition

- 2 Presidents Report
- 4 Carbon bomb – tree clearing in QLD
- 5 Bribie Island breached
- 7 Biodiversity – Sunshine Coast – tree clearing
- 8 Books to read
- 9 Curramore Wildlife Sanctuary
- 10 Wildlife Diary
- 11 Social Networks
- 13 Contacts, Links and Membership Form

# President's Report

Bayside Branch | February 2022

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2022, a year starting with the advent of a La Nina influence, with its low-pressure rain systems, has certainly caused our natural environment to be re-invigorated and show off its true colours, it portends well for our wildlife. Our street curlews have bred again and I seem to have an abundance of tadpoles, wildlife is returning to areas where it has not been seen for some time.

This year we intend to have a full schedule of monthly speakers as some restrictions have eased, bookings can be made on line, with numbers limited to 50 so that we ensure adequate distancing.

As usual, Martin Fingland with his native animals will be our first speaker on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 7.00 pm at our new venue Alexandra Hills Community Hall, Finucane Road below ALDI, parking entrance round the corner in Windemere Road. A general theme will be whether climate changes are causing our wildlife to noticeably change their habits and location.

The 25th Annual Curlew Count on Coochiemudlo Island organised through RCC has been postponed from February to a date to be advised.

Bayside Branch Clean up Australia Day is Sunday March 6th from 8.00 am at Sel Outridge Park Redland Bay, even if you cannot come along, maybe just rubbish check your local streets and reserves. Mount Cotton scouts will be supporting us as usual.

To register for the event, [click link](#).

Qld banned single use plastic on the 1st September and is looking to ban more items cups, including coffee cups and lids, plastic cups and lids, heavyweight and produce bags, plastic balloon and cotton bud sticks, plastic newspaper wraps, all oxo-degradable plastics and polystyrene meat and fruit trays, all items with ready alternatives.



*Parent standing guard*



*Latest Curlew chicks hard to see*



*3 Tawny frogmouths Golden Beach Caloundra*

They should add face-masks as they are littered everywhere It is noted that despite many breaches of the Act, QLD has yet to issue any fines preferring verbal warnings, not really a deterrent.

Woolworths have just started recycling batteries and mobiles with depots at all stores.

It is frustrating that so many laws critical to the protecting our environment, enforcement is patchy or non-existent. Dogs are a particular problem, off lead areas are created, but go to King Island any weekend or here on the beach area at Beth Boyd Park, dogs are roaming with impunity and chasing our wader birds.

This year community groups need to continue their vehement opposition to the madness of the Toondah Harbour development with its potential destruction of mangroves, sea grass, wetlands and Koala habitat in a “protected” Marine Park and Ramsar site. The community is still waiting after many months, for a finalised EIS from the proponent.

We also have the spectre of a “White elephant water park” that maybe created on the Birkdale Community Land as part of 2032 Olympic preparations.



*“The earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations.”*

Pope John Paul II

# 'Carbon bomb': Queensland reveals big jump in land clearing

## Landholders in QLD cleared 680,688 hectares of woody vegetation in 2018-19, primarily for beef.

Queensland landholders are clearing the equivalent of about 1,000 MCGs a day, including endangered ecological regions, according to state government data that raises new doubts about the accuracy of Australia's carbon emissions claims.

The [Statewide Landcover and Trees Study \(Slats\) for 2018-19](#) showed landholders cleared 680,688 hectares of woody vegetation, or about 0.7% of Queensland's total.

In its 2021 projections update, the federal government predicted Australia's carbon emissions in 2030 would be 30% below 2005 levels, beating the 26-28% reduction pledged at the 2015 Paris climate summit.

Australia's emissions from land clearing likely far higher than claimed, analysis indicates.

That estimate, though, included recent years when the land sector was deemed to have absorbed more carbon dioxide than it released. In 2019, for instance, the sector contributed a net negative 25m tonnes of CO2 equivalent, that report said.

WWF said Queensland's new dataset, which assessed changes in vegetation down to 10 sq metre satellite imagery, were three times more accurate than that used to compile the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory figures.

In 2018, for instance, the federal government estimated 2018 national land clearing to be just under 370,000 hectares, well shy of the 680,000-plus hectares reported by Queensland alone in 2018-19.



**All in the name of a  
beef steak?**

# Bribie Island – breached – climate change ?

Just before Christmas and we took this picture of the narrowing part of Bribie Island from the Golden Beach area that had the potential for a breakthrough. Little did we know that within a few weeks due to a remnant cyclone and very high tides. The island would be split in two!



# North and South Bribie Island

The breakthrough had been foreseen for many years and general consensus was to let nature take its course.

There are many changes that may happen due to increase in tide heights of approximately 15 cm. There may be more foreshore erosion from the tides, storms have more potential to cause damage. There will be a loss of dune habitat. The Caloundra Bar may shallow, impacting the Northern entrance, new sandbars may be created.

There are also concerns that bigger waves may impact Golden Beach and maybe Pelican waters canal estate.



Source: Blueys Photography

| Year | Scenario 1 (B1) | Scenario 2 (A1FI) | Scenario 3 (High end) |
|------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 2030 | 0.132           | 0.146             | 0.200                 |
| 2070 | 0.333           | 0.471             | 0.700                 |
| 2100 | 0.496           | 0.819             | 1.100                 |

CSIRO has developed three simple scenarios for sea-level rise (relative to 1990), at three time-steps across the 21st century. See the above table.

Climate change may lead to changes in the frequency and intensity of the meteorological drivers of storm surge, such as cyclones and mid-latitude storms, and to riverine flooding.

Currently, the baseline of mean sea level is generally considered to be constant in planning terms, but in fact it is already changing. The most important co-events are storm surge occurring on a high tide, and where storm surge occurs during a high rainfall event, which can lead to a combined effect of riverine flooding and storm surge magnifying the spatial exposure.

# Biodiversity – Piece by piece

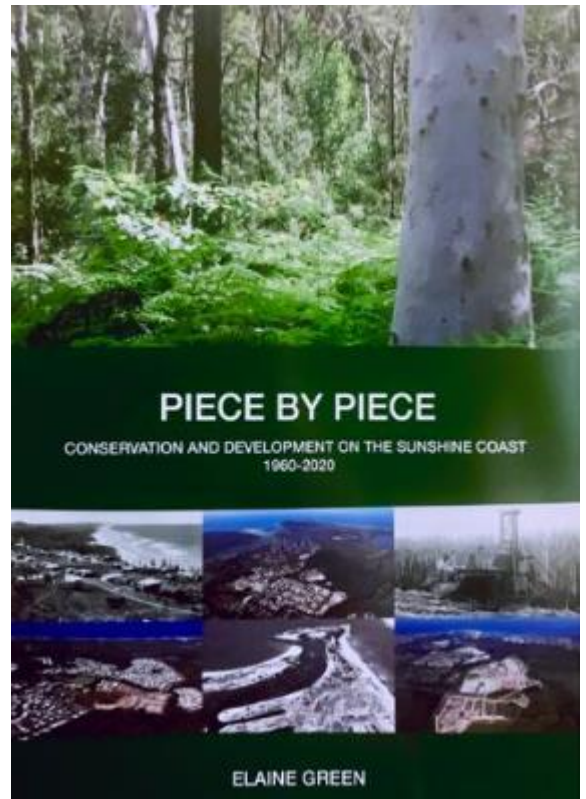
## Integrating Climate and Biodiversity Action

Coincidentally I am reading an excellent book on the history of the Sunshine coast by WPSQ Sunshine Coast & Hinterland member Elaine Green it is available only from WPSQ.

<https://wildlife.org.au/shop/wpsq-merchandise/piecebypiece/?v=13b249c5dfa9>

Whilst the Bribie Island breakthrough may not be the result of human activity, just natural occurrences. It is evident from reading the book that coastal management, destruction of dunes, filling of land behind and canal estates in a fragile environment without understanding the repercussions will be potentially disastrous and costly for the Sunshine coast region for many decades. Book is highly recommended.

Steve Homewood WPSQ Bayside Branch



**Clearing activity in the Great Barrier Reef catchment areas accounted for 32% (217,419ha) of the state's total clearing in 2018–19.**

**The pasture landcover replacement class accounted for 93% or 633,336ha of the clearing activity mapped in the 2018–19 monitoring period.** The pasture landcover replacement class includes grazing areas and other general land management such as clearing for fence lines, property tracks and fire breaks.

**More than two-thirds (477,395ha or 70%) of the total clearing activity occurred in Category X areas** (as identified in the Regulated Vegetation Management Map). The Brigalow Belt (249,443ha) and the Mulga Lands (150,780ha) bioregions accounted for 84% of this Category X clearing activity.

[https://www.queenslandconservation.org.au/deforestation\\_doubles](https://www.queenslandconservation.org.au/deforestation_doubles)

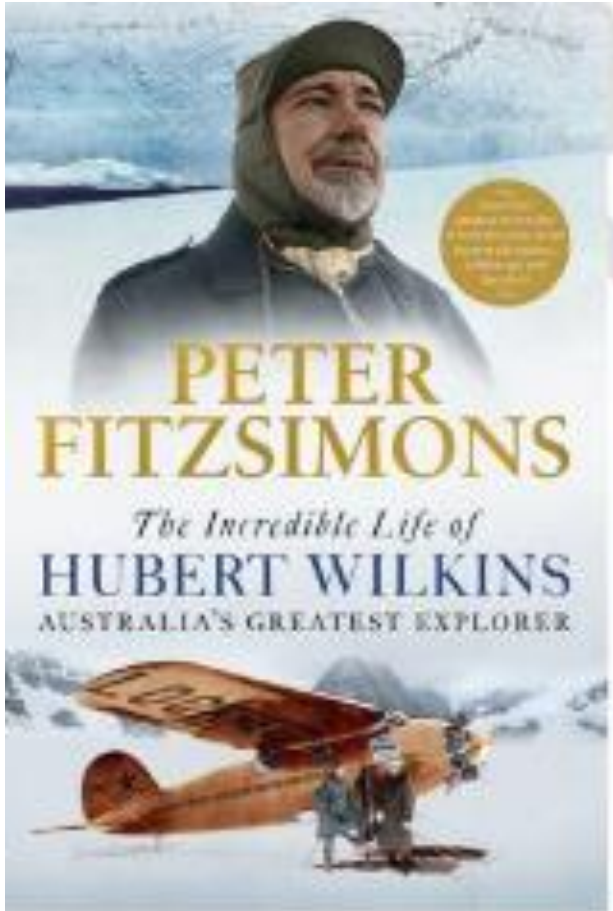
## Tree Clearing in Queensland out of control?

Double the previous report, the Queensland Government has just revealed that 680 688 hectares of Queensland's forest and woodland has been destroyed between July 2018 and June 2019 according to the latest Statewide Landcover and Tree Study (SLATS) data just released. This is over five times the size of Brisbane City Council area (134,270 hectares).

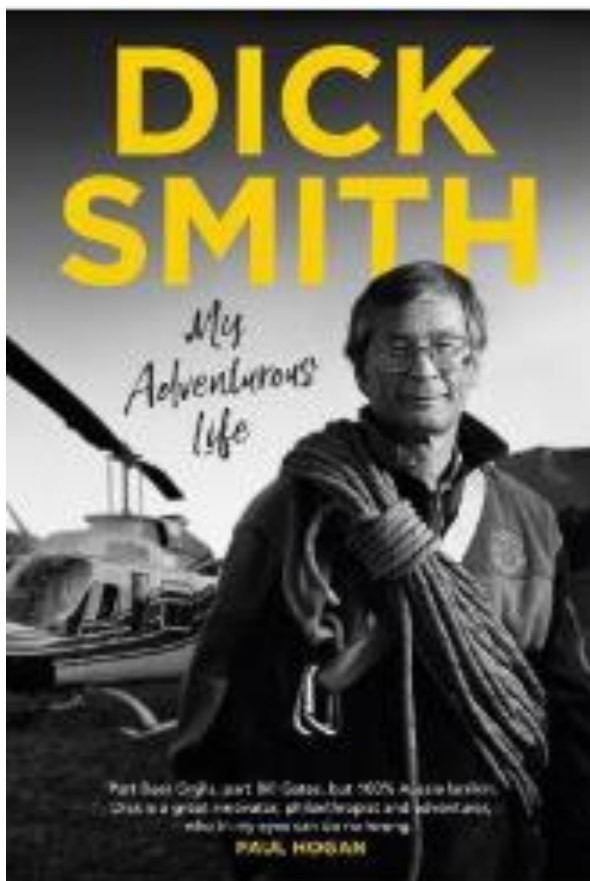
"This data reveals that deforestation in Queensland is still out of control and is a serious risk to vulnerable wildlife and turbo-charging carbon release and climate change" said Dave Copeman, Director of the Queensland Conservation Council.

"The huge area of destruction reported means we have probably been underestimating clearing throughout Queensland for years. This time they have used higher resolution imagery and analysis, it is far worse than we had been led to believe."

[https://www.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0031/91876/landcover-change-in-queensland-2016-17-and-2017-18.pdf](https://www.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0031/91876/landcover-change-in-queensland-2016-17-and-2017-18.pdf)



The extraordinary and thrilling story of Hubert Wilkins - Australia's most adventurous explorer, photographer, war hero, spy and daredevil Sir Hubert Wilkins is truly one of the most remarkable Australians who ever lived. His life was so jam-packed with adventure and achievement it's as though he crammed several lifetimes into one. The son of pioneer pastoralists in South Australia, Hubert studied engineering before moving on to photography. In 1908 he sailed for England and a job producing films with the Gaumont Film Co. The world was now Hubert's stage - he became a polar expeditioner, a brilliant war photographer, a spy in the Soviet Union, a pioneering aviator-navigator, a death-defying submariner - all while being an explorer and chronicler of the planet and its life forms that would do Vasco da Gama and Sir David Attenborough proud. As a WW1 photographer he was twice awarded the Military Cross for bravery under fire, the only Australian photographer in any war to be decorated. He explored the Antarctic with Sir Ernest Shackleton, led a ground breaking ornithological study in Australia and was knighted in 1928 for his aviation exploits, but many more astounding achievements would follow. Wilkins' quest for knowledge and polar explorations were lifelong passions and his missions to polar regions aboard the submarine Nautilus the stuff of legend. With masterful storytelling skill, Peter FitzSimons illuminates the life of Hubert Wilkins and his incredible achievements.



Dick Smith is a remarkable and proud Australian. He has been part of our national consciousness for over fifty years as an innovative and astute businessman, a ground-breaking adventurer, a generous philanthropist and a provocateur for the causes he feels deeply about. Yet, despite his great successes and achievements, Dick has remained down to earth and close to his roots. So how did the young boy who was one of the most academically hopeless in class become the national living treasure he is today? And what was it within that kid with a speech impediment that allowed him to create three successful businesses, and take on some of the world's greatest and most dangerous aviation challenges? In *My Adventurous Life*, Dick shares his inspiring story and the lessons he's learned about staying true to yourself. He has welcomed the freedoms that wealth brings but has found the simple life more fulfilling. His responsibility is to the world and the people we share it with.

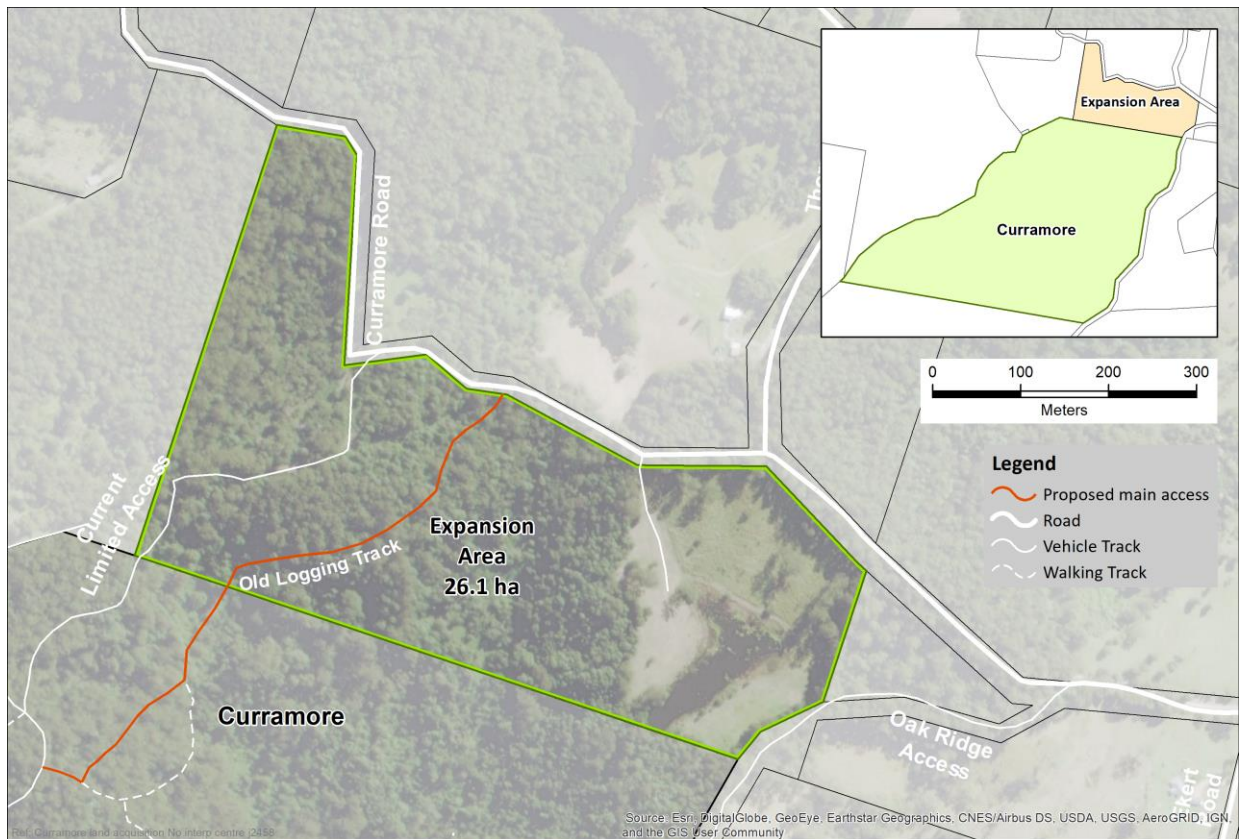


## Curramore Wildlife Sanctuary in south-east Queensland

AWC announces its Curramore Wildlife Sanctuary in south-east Queensland – home to koalas, gliders, birdwing butterflies, and birds-of-paradise – has been expanded to almost 200 hectares.

The property is 26.1-hectare representing a 15% increase in AWC's conservation footprint in the Blackall Ranges. This will improve access to Curramore and provide additional protection for the diversity of wildlife that call Curramore home.

Now protecting 196.1 hectares – relatively modest by AWC standards – Curramore punches above its weight, taking in rainforest, tall eucalypt and grassy open forest habitats. The sanctuary supports more than 700 native animal species, including threatened species like the Koala, Marbled Frogmouth, Grey-headed Flying Fox, Golden-tipped Bat, and one of Australia's largest butterflies, the Richmond Birdwing.



Large-scale weed control targeting highly invasive lantana, a Weed of National Significance, is a priority action in AWC's Curramore conservation strategy, along with fire management to restore the grassy understorey and comprehensive, long-term monitoring of ecological health. In the latest Ecohealth survey conducted in October-November 2021, AWC ecologists documented three different species of gliders, as well as the threatened Tusked Frog.

# Wildlife Diary

**Bush stone-curlew**, *Burhinus grallarius* have been seen nesting throughout the Redlands, Capalaba, Birkdale and Alexandra Hills are just some of the areas you will see one bird on the nest and one not too far away on lookout during the day.

**Red-back Fairy-Wren**, *Malurus melanocephalus*, a male and female sighted in bushland within Lachlan Street Park, the first sighting in 15 years.

**Red-necked wallaby**, *Macropus rufogriseus*, seen in good numbers in Coolnwynpin Nature Refuge.

**Wallum froglet**, *Crinia tinnula*, heard in Coolnwynpin Nature Refuge.

**Carpet snake**, *Morelia spilota*, 3m + seen in Coolnwynpin Nature Refuge.

Male **Koala**, *Phascolarctos cinereus*, calling in Capalaba.

The coastal habitat along Allan Day Drive at Birkdale supports a great variety of birds, **Striated Heron**, *Butorides striata*, **Willy Wagtail**, *Rhipidura leucophrys*, **Mangrove Gerygone**, *Gerygone levigaster* and **Mangrove Honeyeater**, *Gavicalis fasciogularis* to name a few.

Climate change is a crisis that threatens our life-support systems. Humans have created the crisis and we have the skills and solutions to turn it around. We can better care for nature, each other and ourselves.

[Australian Museum](#)

**Pheasant Coucal**, *Centropus phasianinus* often heard more so than seen this large long-tailed, pheasant-like cuckoo occurs in northern and eastern Australia. Unlike most species of cuckoos, the Pheasant Coucal builds its own nest, a shallow platform of sticks and grass, into which it lays between two and five white eggs.

It has a long tail and short rounded wings. In its breeding plumage, it has a black head, neck and underbody with the upperparts and wings reddish-brown with black and cream barring and the black tail is barred orange. Out of breeding, the head and back return to a reddish chestnut colour and the underparts are cinnamon brown, with all streaked boldly white. The eye is red. Sexes are similar in plumage, but females are larger than males.



Source: <https://ebird.org/species/rebfai1>



Source: [www.frogid.net.au](http://www.frogid.net.au)



[https://media.austrsant\\_Coucal.width-alian.museum/med\\_1600.5730a7e.jpg/ia/dd/images/Phea](https://media.austrsant_Coucal.width-alian.museum/med_1600.5730a7e.jpg/ia/dd/images/Phea)

# Social Networks



## Australia's frogs need your help

Our frogs are under threat from habitat loss, disease and climate change.

Taking part in FrogID will help provide our scientists with valuable data for the protection and conservation of frogs.

Download the free app and register now.

Remember, every call counts!

[App store – click here](#)

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Until recently, we have considered extreme events as rare, which means there have been few data available to make assessments regarding changes in their frequency, intensity, and after-effects.

[Quoll Seekers Network \(QSN\)](#) was established to raise community awareness of quolls in Queensland, gather information on quoll populations, and help people enjoy living alongside quolls.

The network aims to be Queensland's central non-government body for collecting and disseminating information about quolls in order to achieve good conservation outcomes. Networking with other organisations is a key component of Wildlife Queensland's operations and communications strategy.



Join Wildlife Queensland's Quoll Seekers Network and Park Ridge Connect, along with expert presenter Paul Revie, to learn more about Logan's incredible and endangered quolls and how you can help find them and save them. [Book online today](#) or [find out more.](#)



**Yellow-bellied gliders looking for happy landings.**  
Call goes out to support urgent yellow-bellied and greater glider research in Logan City, near Brisbane: Mike Sullivan.

**HABITAT PROTECTION: Africa gets 'firestick' help from Indigenous Australian experts.**  
Cool burning assists African savanna: Charles Darwin Uni.

**RESEARCH | HABITAT: Wildlife crossing or roads crossing out wildlife?**  
Mitigating the wildlife road toll not easy: Christine Donkin.

**Ferocious, fatal ferals.**  
Invasive species of animals, plant and insects are causing untold damage to natural Australia: CSIRO.

<https://wildlife-australia.org.au/>



The Department of Environment and Science (DES) would like to know your views about the possible establishment of an independent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for Queensland. [Click here to go to survey.](#)

Our consultation seeks to understand the views and needs of the community about the future of environmental regulation in Queensland.

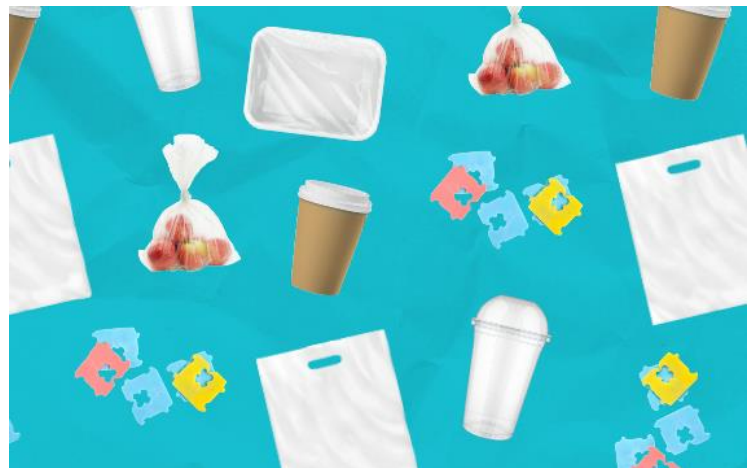
## EPA – do we need one ?

A 5-minute community consultation survey is currently open until Sunday 6 February 2022.

For more information about the consultation, and a link to the survey please visit Independent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) consultation | Environment | Department of Environment and Science, Queensland (des.qld.gov.au)

## Have your say on banning more single-use plastic items

As a part of our plan to tackle plastic pollution, we introduced a ban on some single-use plastic items on 1 September this year. Now we want to know [what you think about expanding the ban to include other items.](#)



# Contacts and Important Links

## Committee & Contacts

|                    |                               |                        |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>President</b>   | Steve Homewood                | 0423036676             |
| <b>V President</b> | Don Baxter                    |                        |
| <b>Secretary</b>   | Simon Baltais                 | baltais@bigpond.net.au |
| <b>Treasurer</b>   | Maureen Tottenham             | 0418 197 160           |
| <b>Executive</b>   | Tracey Mann<br>Janelle Devery |                        |

**Bayside Newsletter Editor**     Alix Baltais/Simon Baltais

**Wildlife Diary Editor**             Simon Baltais

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

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



### Bayside Branch

Facebook [LINK](#)  
Wordpress Blog [LINK](#)  
Website [LINK](#)  
Curlew Watch [LINK](#)



### Head office

Facebook [LINK](#)



### Coastal Citizen Science

Facebook [LINK](#)  
Wordpress Blog [LINK](#)



### Cicada Film Festival

Facebook [LINK](#)  
Website [LINK](#)

## Membership Application Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland

### Memberships Types

- \$30.00 Single
- \$20.00 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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