



There will be no meeting in September

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Photos from Martin Fingland's August presentation



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President's Report

Bayside Branch | September 2022

Steve Homewood

Martin Fingland was our August speaker he gave us a great insight into his thoughts on how climate change is and will affect our native wildlife, temperature that will affect the male/female balance of crocodiles and turtles, wildfires that can devastate already isolated pockets of endangered species especially in rainforest areas that never normally burn.

Drought and flooding rains that are occurring so regularly our fauna has no chance of adapting to this rapid change to their environment. He brought many animals, frogs, snakes, along so we could discuss, touch and photograph. There is an ethical dilemma, what should we protect when managing and conserving wildlife, with no clear answer, there are competing values and different priorities but in the end with climate change, many more species will need human intervention to ensure their survival.

There will not be a September meeting as the following day will be the WPSQBB 60th anniversary cruise around the bay islands including a stop at St. Helena. Many years ago, the Branch had a regular "sea week" cruise, here we will be celebrating Wildlife Queensland's 60 years of wildlife conservation, this cruise will also highlight "World Migratory Bird Day" and its theme a focus on light pollution and the need to reduce it.

WPSQ AGM was held over the weekend at Cedar Lake Country Resort in the Gold Coast Hinterland, what a great venue, speakers, attendees also enjoyed a celebratory long lunch.

We will have a marquee at "Welcome Back Shorebirds 2022 Event" being held at GJ Walter Park 17th September 8.30am organised by Australian Conservation Foundation celebrating the annual return of Redland's Migratory Shorebirds, including the critically endangered Eastern Curlew.

View some of the birds in the Moreton Bay Ramsar wetlands next to Toondah Harbour in Cleveland, on Brisbane's bayside. Help complete the Welcome Back Shorebirds painting.

It is a massive Community Art Banner to be created on-site. A family-friendly event that includes children's face painting, book readings by local authors, environmental speakers, Beako the Giant Eastern Curlew, food, raffles, petitions, informative marquees from local conservation groups, guided shorebird watching through telescopes, koala spotting and more!

GJ. Walter Park is on the foreshores of Moreton Bay and has BBQs, toilets, picnic tables, a small sandy beach and one of the best off-leash dog parks in SEQ. Koalas can often be spotted in the park and nearby suburban streets.

There are plans for 3,600 apartments to be built in the waters of Moreton Bay. The Bay, the koalas and the migratory shorebirds are at risk.

Put this not to be missed event, in your diary!!!!

You have probably noticed more items in our local press commenting on some of the long-term projects (20 years+) that will ultimately change the character of the Redlands. Do we want a "South Bank" at Birkdale, a new town in Toondah Harbour, the massive development proposed called "Shoreline" out past Redland Bay, a new sporting complex at Heinemann Road Mount Cotton where 530 trees could be lost.

Community groups are working together to try and temper the gross excesses of these projects which have the potential to decrease the environmental values of our region by lobbying and informing media outlets.

<https://yoursay.redland.qld.gov.au/> has information on some of these projects.

Wildlife of the Texas region QLD/NSW border



Mob of Emus



Red Rumped parrot



Pale Headed Rosella



Echidna

Steve Homewood

Photos from a visit we made recently to Texas on the QLD/NSW border, wildlife was in abundance



Silo art at Yelarbon between Goondiwindi and Texas

Birds in Backyards Spring Survey Time

Holly | 24 August 2022

The spring is sprung, the grass is rizz, I wonder where the birdies is. I bet they're in the garden. Conduct a survey this September & October and find out.

Head over to [Birdata](https://birdata.birdlife.org.au/) and get your **Birds in Backyards Spring Survey** in today. (<https://birdata.birdlife.org.au/>)

Getting started is easy. If you don't have a Birdata account, register for one, read the instructions for the web or app or watch our new animated video. If you download the Birdata app (search for BirdLife in your app store) you can take your device with you to do your count. Otherwise, go to the Birdata portal to get started on your computer.

The infographic is a vertical comparison of two bird survey programs. It features a central column with three main sections: 'What is it?', 'What to do?', and 'Why participate?'. The left side is light yellow and focuses on 'Birds in Backyards Surveys', while the right side is orange and focuses on 'Aussie Bird Count'. The BirdLife Australia logo is in the top right corner. At the bottom, there are two call-to-action buttons for downloading apps, with website links below them.

Birds in Backyards Surveys	Aussie Bird Count
What is it? <p>Ongoing program across the year, seasonal surveys in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Autumn (March & April)Winter (June & July)Spring (September & October)Summer (December & January)	What is it? <p>Annual Event during Bird Week each October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">October 17-23 2022
What to do? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Survey anywhere (e.g. home, parks, schools, etc)Include information on habitat, bird interactions, breeding and even how you manage spaceTrack and review your local bird communities	What to do? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Count anywhere for 20 mins, as many times as you like
Why participate? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Broadens our understanding of ecology and behaviour of birds and people: how birds use urban landscapes and how people affect themHelps us inform management of urban birds and spacesData is fed into guides – planting and urban design for councils, land managers, the public, etc!	Why participate? <ul style="list-style-type: none">Snapshot of birds across Australia at the same time each yearLong-term trends locally and nationally
Get the Birdata app <p>Or go to www.birdata.birdlife.org.au</p>	Get the Aussie Bird Count app <p>Or go to www.aussiebirdcount.org.au</p>

Island hoppers: mob of marooned kangaroos and wallabies living the beach life

Steele Taylor | 25 August 2022

A mob of macropods has been living the island life and proving their survival skills after being marooned by a tidal breakthrough.

At least four eastern grey kangaroos and two swamp wallabies have been spotted on the beach on the new and isolated northern section of Bribie Island.

They got stranded eight months ago when rough weather essentially [caused a split in Bribie Island](#). Photographer Damien Lange, of Moffat Beach, was stunned to capture amazing drone footage of some of the natives on the isle's sandy tip, opposite Happy Valley at Caloundra.

"I first noticed them a couple of weeks ago and I initially thought they were wild dogs," he said.

"So, I took some footage and saw three kangaroos. Then I took some more footage and saw six of them on the edge of the island."

"I've seen them on the long strip of sand that juts

out into the sea.

"They've been halfway out on the sand bank and on the water's edge. They're certainly not hiding."

It was the perfect scenario for Mr Lange.

"I've been droning for about three years and I've been after kangaroo shots, travelling up and down the coast hoping to get some so I could sell them online and overseas.

"Then I suddenly came across these ones and I was like 'You are kidding ... what a great shot'.

"In the footage, you can see Bulcock Beach and the apartments and the blue water behind the kangaroos."

The first stranded roo was spotted in January, which wildlife officers began to monitor.



SOURCE: Image Credit: Damien Lange

<https://www.sunshinecoastnews.com.au/2022/08/25/bribie-island-north-kangaroos/>

Island hoppers cont.

Conservationist Brian Coulter, of Saltwater Ecology, has seen four eastern greys and two swamp wallabies on the isle.

He said he expected there would “be quite a number of them” that were essentially stranded.

Kangaroos can swim and they could traverse the Pumicestone Passage to the mainland, potentially at low tide and via huge sand banks that have emerged between the island and Happy Valley and between the island and Golden Beach. But Mr Coulter said they would be unlikely to do so. “There’s not a great deal for them there as it’s developed with roads and cars,” he said. They can’t go south to Bribie Island proper, due to the widening breakthrough, which Mr Coulter estimated was about 700m and had a strong current.

Mr Coulter said the animals should be able to survive, at least for a while, on the northern island. “There is plenty of food for them,” he said. “There is marine couch behind the dunes and there are some weeds on the beach they will nibble on. “When it rains, there is fresh water in the casuarina forest, so they have enough food and water for now. “But we’ll have to keep an eye on them just to make sure their condition doesn’t deteriorate too much.”

Mr Coulter, who lives in Golden Beach, said he would keep a close eye on them. “If there’s any worries, we’d look at other measures,” he said. That could involve relocation of the roos and wallabies, which would likely be tranquilised and shifted to Bribie Island.

Mr Coulter said roos and wallabies had always lived on the northern end of Bribie Island. “There used to be feral pigs and foxes too. I’m not aware of them being there now but it would be easy to do a drone survey and see what is there. Drones with infrared cameras can help operators identify roos, possums, gliders, birds and more. Mr Coulter said wild dogs were also present on the outlying island.

“I heard a report from a lifeguard that a wild dog chased a kangaroo into the water, and it (the roo) ended up drowning,” he said.

Mr Coulter said the roos and wallabies were “very

visible”.

“If you come across Happy Valley to north Bribie, which only takes a couple of minutes on low tide, and you go for a walk, you will see them,” he said. “The swamp wallabies, which are darker and smaller, are closer to the dunes while the eastern greys will come on to the beaches and forage on the seaweed.”

A spokesperson for the Department of Environment and Science said they were monitoring the wildlife on the northern island. “The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service is aware of kangaroos living on the northern side of the breakthrough at north Bribie Island,” the spokesperson said.

“As the macropods have successfully survived in the area since the breakthrough occurred in January this year, QPWS plans to leave the animals in-situ and will continue to monitor the wellbeing of the animals. “Members of the public are reminded to stay clear of wild animals, including kangaroos.” The spokesperson said they were also observing the northern island itself, which was getting smaller.

“The department’s Principal Coastal Scientist has been monitoring the changes to northern Bribie Island through satellite imagery and on ground surveys.”

“Erosion of the coast, north of the new entrance, appears to be continuing slowly.

“The eroded sand is [moving south into the entrance of the Pumicestone Passage](#), where it is being deposited.

“Following storm erosion events, recovery and re-establishment of dunes and dune plants occurs naturally.

“The department continues to monitor the situation.”

Meanwhile, the department said the island does not have an official name.

But locals have come to call it any of northern Bribie Island, north Bribie Island and Bribie Island north.



Humanity has reached a pivotal moment in time. With extinction looming over one million species of plants and animals, the United Nations has declared that nature is in more trouble now than at any time in human history. In light of increasing natural disasters, polluted environments and rising sea levels, the present geological era has been described as the age of Anthropocene; the effect of humanity's now indelible, and irreversible, intersection with nature.

In this important and timely book, these seminal questions of our time are addressed by twelve of the world's most influential contemporary photographers: Joel Sartore, Paul Nicklen, Ami Vitale, Brent Stirton, Frans Lanting, Brian Skerry, Tim Laman, Cristina Mittermeier, J Henry Fair, Richard John Seymour, George Steinmetz and Steve Winter. With compassion, insight and in compelling detail they share their extraordinary images and the stories behind them, and seek to understand what really matters now for humanity and the planet.

At once shocking, illuminating and inspiring, *Human Nature: Planet Earth in Our Time* asks: 'What do we have?', 'What do we stand to lose?' and 'What must we change?', or is the Anthropocene Age to be humanity's last?

This is a confronting book, but well worth a read, it is available on loan at any Redland Library.

Steve

Wildlife Diary



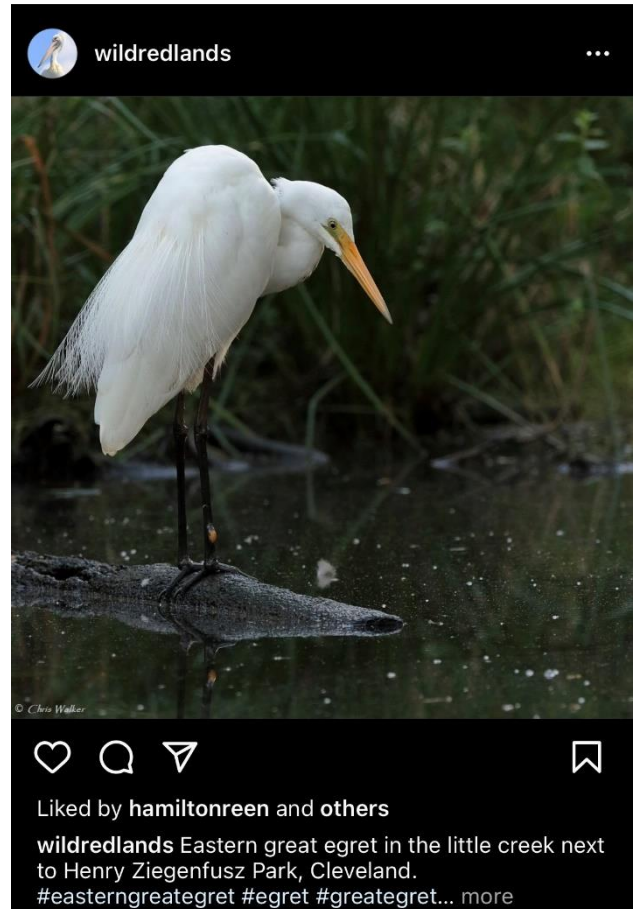
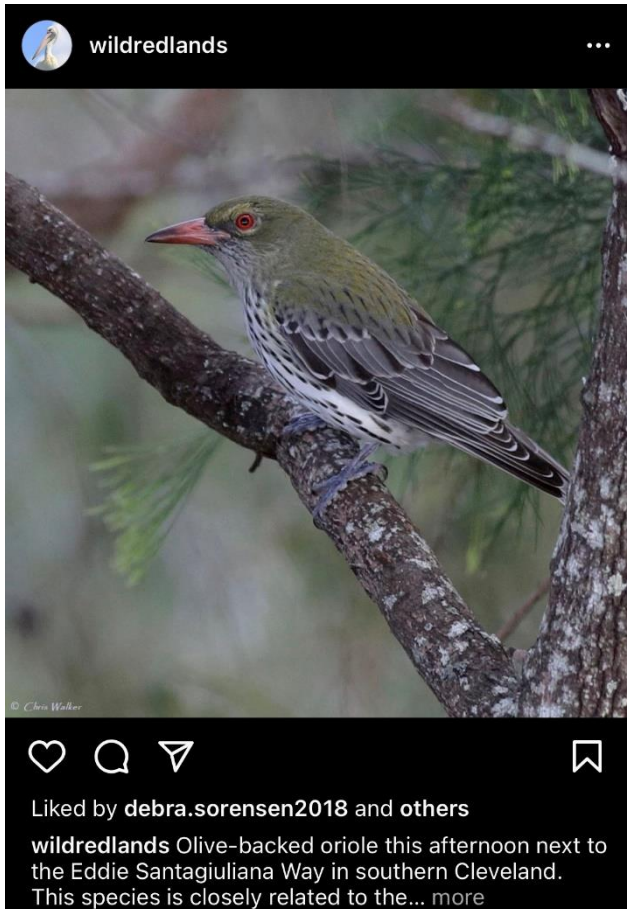
Koala's walk to School

This lovely Koala was taking a walk toward Coolnwynpin State School and stopped for a brief rest. "It was so lovely to see how all the cars just stopped and waited – it really shows just how proud we are of Koala's in the Redlands"



Sssneaky Visitor

Red-bellied black snake *Pseudechis porphyriacus* decided that a Capalaba residents house was more comfortable than the creek. The visitor has been relocated back to the creek.



Bayside Branch Report to WPSQ 2022 AGM

Steve Homewood

The Branch has continued with its monthly general meetings with speakers, averaging around 25 in attendance, which considering Covid restrictions is reasonable. We have now moved to a new quieter venue at Alexandra Hills Community Hall, wet weather caused postponement of our first meeting this year with Martin Fingland. We have had speakers on Bees, desert landscapes, Moreton Bay marine park, Tomato growing using solar power, travelled through South Australia, met polar bears in Canada.

We have also attended quarterly eco-markets at Indigiscapes Centre Capalaba, visitors have taken up plenty of our Flyers and information on the society.

This year we have a full programme, but we do rely on continued support so that our speakers feel that they have managed to impart their knowledge to a wide audience, we have booked this venue for the rest of the year.

We have merged Wildlife Diary with the Newsletter, our monthly newsletter has a mailout list of around 200 also goes to all WPSQ Branches, Redland Library and is on our website, so it gets good circulation around the community with information on wildlife issues and local walks, we try to get articles from members as well.

Due to continued Covid restrictions the Cicada film festival was postponed, it is much better as a live event, another

community organisation has indicated interest in taking over the concept; We have always struggled to find organisational committee members. Over the years it has entertained and promoted some great environmental causes, previous films can still be seen on YouTube under "[Cicada Film Festival](#)".

2022 Clean up Australia day was cancelled at the last moment as a national event so we lost support from the scouts and others, but members carried on regardless. Our clean-up area is along the Redland Bay foreshore, amongst the usual takeaway rubbish we are now seeing plenty of facemasks. Education is still the key, now in some states there appears to be a concentrated effort to reduce single use plastics and polystyrene packaging with target dates set. Our major stores now have depots for soft plastics, Mobile phones and batteries.

The container deposit scheme and other recycling contributed \$1392 to branch funds and we were able to donate to the Wildlife Land Fund and Geckoes wildlife. Thanks to everyone's support of the scheme to date we have recycled some 52000 containers but we always need more.

Bayside Branch Report to WPSQ 2022 AGM cont

Steve Homewood

The Branch continues to face challenges, Federal, State or Local with the security of bushland and consequently our wildlife in many areas threatened with over commercialisation through development and tourism.

In the Redlands the community has been asked for feedback on many important projects, including "Shoreline", Toondah Harbour, now the Birkdale Community (Olympic) Project are just some, I am still concerned about the apparent lack of response or acknowledgement of submissions that the Branch has made. Within the shire many of our residents have a wealth of experience they need respect from all governments, not tokenism.

The Environmental Impact Study for Toondah harbour mooted for February last year has still not been finished, this project first came to the community attention in 2014. It is unconscionable that we have waited 8 years, surely it means that is project should not proceed under any circumstances, as our original submissions maybe irrelevant. Climate change is at a tipping point, this project will be a town built on 48 hectares of dredged mudflats, the proposed debasement of wetlands, that are a carbon sink, a habitat and haven for all forms of wildlife, an oxygenator, will have a

seriously detrimental and permanent effect on our natural ecosystems, with their seagrass and mangrove beds.

Bayside Branch is financially strong, although our sources of income are somewhat limited and whilst in common with many groups our membership has declined slightly, we continue to be involved with the community and other organisations.

As usual, I thank all our members, supporters and our committee and WPSQ for all their input, help and guidance that continues makes us a respected group.

We have another year of uncertainty ahead, whilst there is now a new government that appears to be taking climate change seriously, will they stop the quest for endless growth.

We are working with many other Community groups to provide a strong, relevant commentary to proposals that affect our local and wider environment.

***"You cannot go back and change the beginning, but you can start where we are and change the ending."* C.S. Lewis**

Contacts and Important Links

Committee & Contacts

President	Steve Homewood	0423036676
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Treasurer	Maureen Tottenham	0418 197 160
Executive	Tracey Mann Janelle Devery	
Bayside Newsletter Editor	Alix Baltais/Simon Baltais	
Wildlife Diary Editor	Simon Baltais	
Email: 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 \$ _____
For Campaign _____
(Bayside does not tax deductible status)
Postal address: PO Box 427, Capalaba 4157

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Pay by Credit Card

Card Type: VISA Mastercard Card No
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Complete the form by checking boxes or typing.

Once complete, save to your computer, then return to us via email bayside@wildlife.org.au