

Next Meeting Friday 31 March 2023

Dinosaurs



Doug is a keen dinosaur enthusiast. He is a dinosaur hunter, digger and an Honorary Fossil Technician with the Australian Age of Dinosaurs in Winton. Doug was bitten by the dinosaur bug nearly 17 years ago. He spends as much time as he can at various sites around Winton, digging, sifting and cleaning fossils for us to enjoy. In recent years his travels have taken him to Mongolia where in 2022 he joined a team in the Gobi Desert to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the first dinosaur fossils there by the Roy Chapman Andrews expedition in 1922. This story and others nearer home will give a fascinating insight into a prehistoric world.

General Public Welcome, booking required for entry.

When: Friday 31st March 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](#).

Entry by gold coin donation

For more information
phone Steve 0423 036 676 or
email bayside@willdlife.org.au

In this edition

- 2 Presidents Report
- 4 Out and About
- 5 Wildlife Diary
- 6 Tangaroa
- 7 Positive headlines
- 8 Carving up Australia's arid zone
- 9 Death Adder
- 10 Climate
- 12 Contacts, Links and Membership Form

President's Report

Bayside Branch | March 2023

Steve Homewood

My second report for the year and we are already supposedly into Autumn but the high temperatures keep coming, I suspect we are into a period of extreme fire danger after the heavy growth from the rains early last year. Our wildlife is already under considerable pressure from climate change, land clearing, urbanisation, plastic ingestion and feral animals, hopefully we can have a year without too many devastating hot fires.

Our first meeting of the year with Martin Finland was a great success our audience of 64 entranced by rare animals from most states of Australia, topped off by the appearance of "Bumpy" the Wombat coming in at around 20 kilos, a fantastic night, a night of education for many, with all these unusual creatures and their stories.

SBS currently has a fantastic program on Wednesday nights called "[Wildlife ER](#) " It is a behind the scenes look at RSPCA Queensland, inside Australia's busiest *Wildlife* Hospital at Wacol. Martin has apparently made a few short appearances. It also highlights the invaluable contribution carers make to rehabilitate their charges back to the wild.

Selection of Photos from February meeting more can be found at: -

[WPSQ Bayside Branch](#) | [Capalaba QLD](#) | [Facebook](#)



On Sunday we had our usual Clean up Australia Day event at Redland Bay foreshore we had 34 participants including a great team from Mount Cotton Scouts it was a full tide so we concentrated on area around the island ferry terminal and car parks, a small team checked the footpath area down as far as the golf club and behind the Redland Bay Hotel.

There was a horrendous amount of rubbish in the carparks around the ferry terminal, mostly fast-food packaging and 138 redeemable drink containers we managed to fill the equivalent of 11 wheelie bins. We had not checked this area for two years because of covid restrictions, the ferry car park should be maintained to a better standard. Businesses should be mindful of the harm that they are causing to their local environment.

Bayside Branch recently reached a milestone of 60,000 containers recycled in just over 4 years, all funds helping out our group. Thanks to every-one who participates in this great scheme, if you want to aid the Branch full details are attached in this newsletter.

I recently attended an all-day seminar at Deception Bay hosted by Healthy Land and Water to celebrate the Moreton Bay Ramsar Wetland project in its 5th and final year.

Incredible line up of speakers, subjects included weed treatment and management, polymer erosion control on pineapple farms. The use of artificial intelligence and robots for monitoring systems including species identification was a revelation, habitat restoration, pioneering artificial shellfish reefs, (we hope to have a speaker on this subject soon) and artificial roost trials.

There was barely a delegate who did not comment adversely on the proposal to obliterate part of the Ramsar site at Tonopah Harbour with all its "downstream" effects on our Marine Park. A great networking event a celebration of what can be achieved by those who have a passion for Moreton Bay and its long-term sustainability.

It is hoped that Healthy Land and Water continue to receive federal and state funding to consolidate the excellent work that has been done.

Community groups are continuing in their efforts to highlight to those responsible for the Brisbane 2032 Olympics, as they have committed them to be "carbon neutral and climate positive". We cannot see that phrase is compatible with destroying habitat and building a concrete edifice, Birkdale Whitewater Centre; Manly harbour being used for Olympic sailing possibly affecting the bird roost and the reported loss of green space in inner Brisbane.

Hope to see you at our next meeting Friday 31st March, will be an interesting journey into the prehistoric world of dinosaurs.

Recently went to the Monet and friends impressionist exhibition in Melbourne, some quotes attributed to the artists as they tried to capture instant changes in light and colour.



GOOD

Sel Outridge Park Foreshore



BAD

Rubbish Collected from going into Bay



UGLY

Open bins behind Redland Bay Hotel

People must first of all learn to look at nature, and only then may they see and understand what we are trying to do. Claude Monet

To catch the fleeting moment-anything however small, a smile, a flower, a fruit is an ambition unfulfilled. Berthe Morisot

The richness I achieve comes from nature, the source of my inspiration.

Claude Monet

Out and About



Green Tree Frog on pool gate – Photo Steve



Kangaroo and Joey on Stradbroke Island- Maureen



Blue-banded Bee- Photo Steve



World Wetland Day view from GJ Walter Park across to Cassim Island, Toondah Harbour Development will obliterate this natural Bay

Tracking mother turtle reveals secrets about the lives of the endangered loggerheads

A 50-year-old loggerhead turtle named STAR is shining new light on the behaviour of the endangered marine animals.

The nesting turtle mother has been fitted with a tracking device that is unlocking secrets about loggerheads' lives in Queensland's Wide Bay.

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Mon Repos ranger-in-charge Cathy Gatley said rangers did not know where STAR lived.

"We wanted to know where her safe home feeding ground was," she said.

Ms Gatley said after laying her fourth clutch of the season at Mon Repos in February, the mother travelled south into the Great Sandy Strait.

"Initially she was sort of at the top of the strait near the Mary River, and then she's gone right down to the bottom," she said.

"That is where her foraging or her home feeding ground is, so where she spends the majority of her life."

Ms Gatley said it was an "exciting" discovery.

"We've never recorded one of our loggerhead turtles as having that area for a feeding ground before," she said.

"By STAR giving away some secrets here, she's helping other turtles around her by giving us some information on what she's doing."

The tracker showed STAR travelled about 125 kilometres in just seven days during February.

[Click here to read the full story.](#)

Wildlife Diary

If you have recently photographed wildlife and you would like to share with others send an email to us with your photograph/s. email bayside@willdlife.org.au

Wildlife of the Eyre Sand Patch, Wonunda – the place of the great sandhills, located on the Great Australian Bight, Western Australia. Photographs by Marg and Simon Baltais.



Death Adder, *Acanthophis antarcticus* drinking at the bird bath



Death Adder, *Acanthophis antarcticus*



Carpet snake, *Morelia spilota*



Scarlet-chested parrot, *Neophema splendida*



Pink cockatoo, *Lophochroa leadbeateri*



Heath monitor, *Varanus rosenbergi*



Collared Sparrowhawk, *Accipiter cirrocephalus*



Wheatbelt frog (tadpole), *Neobatrachus kunapalari*



Great Australian Bight

Tangaroa – if you look after me, then I will look after you”

Tangaroa – helping to clean up our seas

In Maori and Polynesian mythology, Tangaroa is the god of the ocean. Tangaroa made laws to protect the ocean and its sea creatures “Tiaki mai i ahau, maku ano koe e tiaki”... If you look after me, then I will look after you...”.

One of our co-founders was a New Zealander with close family connections to a Maori Kaumatua (elder). We consulted him and his whanau (family) and a Maori artist in Wellington about why we wished to call this organisation Tangaroa Blue. This revolved around the group’s strong connection with the marine environment and the need to promote a philosophy explaining that humans can’t keep taking from our ocean environment without giving back just as much. This is our way to give back! We received their blessing to use the name, which is applied with the utmost respect and the understanding that all our oceans are connected. Across the oceans we must work together on protecting our environment for future generations. Our New Zealand co-founder sat on our Board of Directors for 10 years. Our current Board of Directors Chair is a New Zealander with a strong commitment to Indigenous people and many years’ experience working with Iwi Maori in Aotearoa.

Tangaroa Blue has previously operated in Taranaki, New Zealand and always welcomes new initiatives. We have strong connections and partnerships across the South Pacific with communities in the Cook Islands, Hawaii, Fiji, Vanuatu and PNG all using our resources, methodologies and database to work on the marine debris issue.

We work very closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who also connect with the laws and lores of Tangaroa and strive to build a relationship between healthy freshwater and saltwater country and healthy communities.

Correct pronunciation is an important way of conveying respect for other languages. The vowel sounds in Maori are long, so that Tangaroa is pronounced more like “tongue-a-roar-ah” as the Tangaroa is an or/aw sound as opposed to an ‘oh’ sound that you get with the word ‘row’.

Tangaroa Blue Foundation is an Australia-wide not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the removal and prevention of marine debris: one of the major environmental issues worldwide.

To successfully solve the problem, we created the Australian Marine Debris Initiative (AMDI), an on-ground network of volunteers, communities and organisations that contribute data to the AMDI Database, and then work on solutions to stop the flow of litter at the source. The AMDI helps communities look after their coastal environment by providing resources and support programs, and collaborates with industry and government to create change on a large scale.



Bayside members Marg and Simon collecting marine debris off Wader Beach at Twilight Cove, a very remote beach located on the Australian Bight in Western Australia. Much of the debris they collected was commercial fishing equipment (ropes, nets), discards from vessels and plastic drinking bottles. Marine debris reaches into every corner of our coastline.



Positive Headlines

By Elise Catterall March 2nd, 2023

When I am writing my articles for Planet Ark, I'm often inspired by things I come across day to day, but other times, I look around for inspiration in the media. There are several websites I regularly go to in order to keep on top of my environmental awareness and these sites are usually my first stop.

Visiting these sites recently, I thought a roundup of my favourite consumer-oriented resources (as opposed to academic or industry/business oriented) might make a good article. So here we go. (Quick caveat, this list is not exhaustive, just the sites I use the most.)

[Planet Ark](#)

No bias here of course, but the [Planet Ark website](#) should be everyone's first stop for news! A highlight is that so much of the news and articles take a positive approach.

[Climate Council](#)

The [climate council website](#) is a good resource for global news from an Australian site. News and story topics are accessible, typically 'real world' and cover a broad range. For example, from [How do you take care of your pets during a heatwave?](#) through to [Renewable energy storage target is critical to deliver reliable and affordable clean energy for Australians](#).

[Grist](#)

[Grist](#) describes itself as a not-for-profit, independent media organisation, dedicated to telling stories of climate solutions and a just future. Its solution-focused reporting is my favourite part, with stories like: [From fiction to reality: Could airships be the key to greener travel?](#). It makes a nice change from reading reportage that is focused on the problem-only issues.

[Sustainability](#)

No surprise that the focus of this news site is sustainability. It presents daily news and positive articles on all things sustainability, including renewable energy, net zero, and ESG.

From net-zero to renewable energy, ESG to sustainable sourcing, they've got your sustainability news covered - and always with a positive angle.

[Treehugger](#)

[Treehugger](#) is one of my favourite sites because it is just so accessible and real world. It presents news stories but also talks about how to bring ecofriendly behaviours into your life and home (for example, how to find the most ecofriendly doona). It also has sections on eco-

design and animals, which is right up my alley.

[New Scientist](#) and [Scientific American](#)

These are both science-focused magazines (digital and print) that also have great articles on their website. Being science related, they cover much more than just environment. I usually access the digital magazines through my library account and never fail to learn or be inspired by something in the columns.

[NY Times](#) and [The Guardian](#)

Much like the magazines mentioned above, the [NY Times](#) and [The Guardian](#) are newspapers that also have websites and that cover much more than the environment, but their environmental reportage is excellent – broad, unbiased, very accessible and informative to the layperson.

[EcoWatch](#)

[Ecowatch](#) is a really comprehensive environmental news site, chock full of articles, that also presents product reviews, solutions, and guides. They state that their goal is to inspire and educate everyone from the layperson through to the veteran environmental activist.

[National Geographic](#)

For most of us [National Geographic](#) is an institution and a household name. If you were like me, it gave you your first glimpse of some of the most beautiful, remote parts and people of our world. In all the decades it has been around it has never lost its purpose: to educate, inspire and inform. It covers travel, history, culture as well as the environment but all its stories make you love the planet we live on even more. The only caveat with National Geographic is that a lot of its content is available through subscription – just like it used to be.

Other notable mentions . . .

[Environmental news network](#) – icon, strongly research based.

[Science Daily](#) – science-based research news.

[RealClimate](#) – climate science from climate scientists.

[Sierra Club Magazine](#) – The magazine/website of stalwart environmental group The Sierra Club, it has a heavy US focus.

[Green Matters/Plant Based News/VegNews](#) - These are high on my list because I am vegan, but they often have climate based news as the two issues are so interrelated.

Carving up Australia's arid zone: a review of the bioregionalisation of the Eremaean and Eyrean biogeographic regions

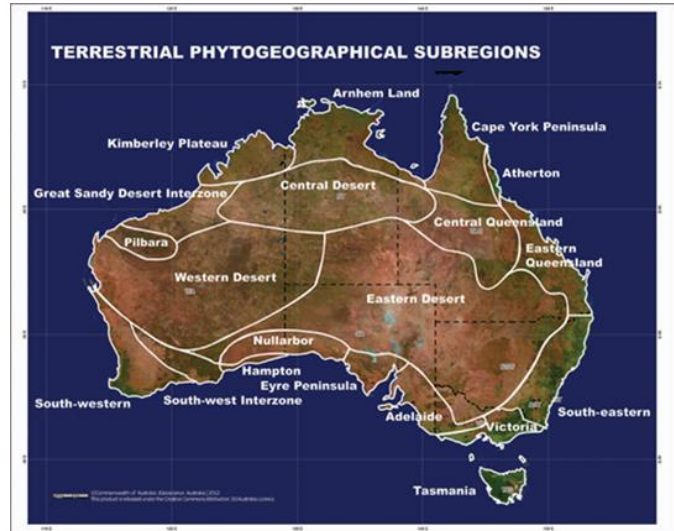
source: <https://www.publish.csiro.au/bt/fulltext/bt19077> (2020)

Over the past 130 years, few biogeographers were able to agree on the exact boundaries of the Eremaean and Eyrean region and even fewer could decide upon its subregions. Later in the 20th and 21st centuries there was debate over whether these regions were a result of recent climatic events (e.g. biomes) or of older historical events (e.g. biogeographic areas). Other areas such as Tate's Autochthonian subregion or the south-west has, with greater sampling over time, appeared in the bioregionalisations of both botanists and zoologists, but yet the arid inland region still eludes biogeographers, probably because it isn't a monophyletic, that is, a natural biogeographic area.

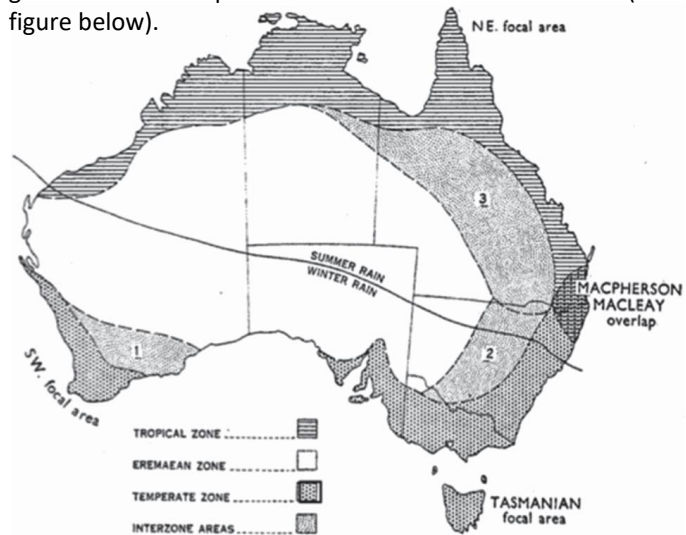


Main areas of distribution of Australian Faunas – modified from Baldwin Spencer. The approximate boundary of most of the Bassian elements in South-Western Australia is shown by the interrupted line (Serventy and Whittell 1976, p. 47, caption of fig. 1). The map of Serventy and Whittell is identical to Main et al. (1958, fig. 4).

Results clearly shows that there is no relationship between the western and eastern arid subregion once widespread taxa have been removed. Moreover, the Eastern Desert subregion is more closely related to the temperate eastern regions than it is to any other desert region. Perhaps earlier theories of range expansion of coastal taxa into arid regions made by naturalists such as Sloane (1915), Tate (1889) and Nicholls (1933), and later by Burbidge (1960) and Schodde (1989), may explain the east–west disparity of the arid region? The range expansion of arid taxa into arid areas may explain the arid biome, however, phylogenetic evidence points to two distinct and phylogenetically unrelated arid zones: the higher and drier western plateau, and the lower and wetter eastern lowland. The western arid areas are more closely related to the western coastal areas than to any other arid area and the eastern arid region is more closely related to the eastern and south-eastern coastal areas (sensu Murphy et al. 2019).



If Burbidge's Interzones 2 and 3 are fuzzy barriers that are not 'adequate for a comparable treatment' and, Interzone 1 is an actual area of overlap, then the authors hypothesise that: (1) the South-west subregion has been isolated for a long time, either by an arid or semi-arid subregion to the east and north-east and; (2) Interzones 2 and 3 are younger ecological boundaries that shift with climate changes into the temperate zone. These two hypotheses may be corroborated using the comparative biogeographic approach used in Murphy et al. (2019) to see if smaller areas (e.g. provinces) in the Victoria, South-eastern and Atherton subregions share greater relationship with those in the Eastern Desert (See figure below).



Once biogeographers come to accept that the boundaries between regions and subregions are areas in which taxa intermingle, and perhaps over time evolve into overlap zones, then further progress in bioregionalisation may be made. This progress would manifest itself in defining and dating the evolution of smaller arid subregions of Australia, discovering whether geographical overlap also includes temporal overlap (sensu King and Ebach 2017) and whether these subregions share a relationship with regions elsewhere in the Austral realm, including New Zealand, the Sahul or the Andean region.

Common Death Adder, *Acanthophis antarcticus*

Like other members of the genus, the **common death adder** is characterised by a broad triangular head, narrow neck, short thick body and thin tail with a soft curved tip. Body colouration varies from grey to rich reddish-brown, usually with irregular dark crossbands and dark bars on the lips. The underside is whitish with black or brown flecks, while the tail-tip is cream or black. The eyes are small and inconspicuous, with a vertical pupil. Head shields are smooth to slightly rough, with the dorsal scales smooth to slightly keeled in 21 (rarely 23) midbody rows. There are 110-135 ventral scales, a single anal scale, and 35-60 subcaudal scales which are mostly single, with a few near the tip divided. This species is sexually dimorphic, with males averaging 44cm and females 58cm, but may grow up to 100cm. (Shine 1991; Wilson & Swan 2003; Cogger 2014).

This species occurs from central Queensland through New South Wales to the southern parts of South Australia and Western Australia. (Wuster et al., 2005; Cogger, 2014).

This species is found in a wide variety of well-drained habitats, including rainforests and wet sclerophyll forests, woodland, shrublands, grasslands and coastal heathlands, preferring sites with deep fixed leaf litter. The importance of these habitats to this species is not known. (Gow 1976; Cogger et al. 1983; Wilson & Knowles 1988; Covacevich & Wilson 1995; QPWS 2001; Morgan et al. 2002).

Individuals burrow into sand or leaf litter, or hide under overhanging foliage.



Photograph by M, Baltais

This species will eat a wide variety of prey, including insects, frogs, lizards, birds and small mammals. The diet changes with age, juveniles feeding on lizards and frogs, while adults mostly take mammals and birds. The common death adder is capable of inflicting a fatal bite. (Rose 1974; Gow 1976; Shine 1980; Webb & Rose 1984; Covacevich & Wilson 1995).



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_death_adder

A sedentary terrestrial snake, the common death adder spends much of its time lying concealed under loose sand, leaf litter or low foliage. The species may be active by day (diurnal), but is most commonly encountered at night (nocturnal) when moving between shelter sites. It is an ambush predator, waiting for prey to come to it rather than actively searching as do most Australian elapids. When lying in wait, the body is coiled with the tail tip near the mouth while the segmented tail tip is wriggled like a worm or caterpillar to lure prey within range. If threatened this species adopts a defensive posture which involves flattening its entire body in a rigid, curved coil from which short, rapid strikes are made. (Rose 1974; Gow 1976; Shine 1980; Cogger et al. 1983; Webb & Rose 1984; Covacevich & Wilson 1995; QPWS 2001)

Males reach sexual maturity at 24 months and females at 42 months. Mating usually occurs in spring however females reproduce only every second year. They produce live young, typically born in February or March, with litter size varying between two and forty-two. (Mirtschin 1976; Hudson 1979; Shine 1980; Covacevich & Wilson 1995; Covacevich et al. 2000; Fearn 2001; QPWS 2001; Cogger 2014).

Source: <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/species-search/details/?id=511>

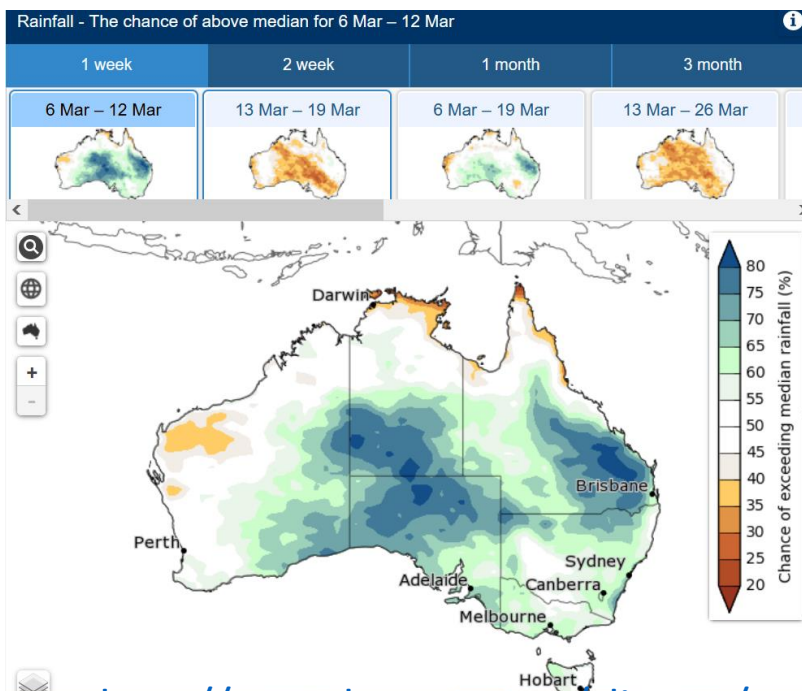


Issued Thursday 2 March 2023

The latest [Climate Outlooks](#) are now available on our website.

Overview

- For March to May, below median rainfall is likely (60 to 80% chance) for most of Australia away from the south-east coast.
- Maximum temperatures are likely to very likely (60% to greater than 80% chance) to be warmer than median for most of Australia except central parts of the New South Wales coast and eastern Victoria.
- Minimum temperatures are likely to very likely (60% to greater than 80% chance) to be warmer than median for south-western, far south-eastern, and far northern parts of Australia, while below median temperatures are likely (60 to 70% chance) for areas of central Australia, the central and eastern interior of South Australia and the Kimberley.
- This forecast reflects the status and outlook for several climate drivers, including a La Niña nearing its end and ENSO likely being neutral during autumn.



We are all living together on a single planet, which is threatened by our own actions. And if you don't have some kind of global cooperation, nationalism is just not on the right level to tackle the problems, whether it's climate change or whether it's technological disruption.

Yuval Noah Harari

Hey Wildlife Queensland Bayside Supporters

At the end of 2022 your efforts over 4 years have saved

60,027 CONTAINERS FROM LANDFILL

\$6002.70 DONATED TO BRANCH FUNDS

LET'S KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK USE OUR SCHEME ID BELOW
AT ANY AUTHORISED REFUND POINT IN QLD



Local container depots

Containers For Change
Authorised Refund Point
53 Enterprise Street
Cleveland 4163

Containers for Change
Authorised Refund Point
Cnr Smith & Hook Street
Capalaba 4157

Containers for Change
Authorised Refund Point
12-16 Jones Road
Capalaba 4157

Trading Hours

Monday to Friday: 8am to 4.15pm

Saturday: 8am to 3pm, only until 12pm, Jones Road

Sunday: Closed, open Capalaba 9.00am to 3pm.

Contacts and Important Links

Committee & Contacts

President	Steve Homewood	0423036676
V President	Don Baxter	
Secretary	Simon Baltais	baltais@bigpond.net.au
Treasurer	Maureen Tottenham	0418 197 160
Executive	Tracey Mann Janelle Devery	
Bayside Newsletter Editor	Alix Baltais/Simon Baltais	



Bayside Branch

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



Head office

Facebook [LINK](#)



Coastal Citizen Science

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

Email: bayside@wildlife.org.au

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

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

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 _____