

The Shellfish Revolution Project

With about 96 per cent considered already functionally extinct in Australia, shellfish reefs are now critically endangered. Sediment runoff and the impact of human activities caused their massive decline. Shellfish reef not only improves the water quality but also improves fishing and seagrass habitat.

Basically, restoring the Moreton Bay that we used to know, Robbie Porter from Ozfish will give us an insight into this project spearheaded by fisherman and volunteers, the initiative aims to restore 100 hectares of shellfish reef in the bay over the next ten years.



General Public Welcome, booking required for entry.

When: Friday 28th April 2023 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

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President's Report

Bayside Branch | April 2023

It is not good to see the demise of the Redland City Bulletin, the final edition is out now. Whilst some of us may have felt that it was too aligned to the real estate industry and over the years had lost its investigative interest in difficult community issues, it did at least offer a chance for Redlanders to express their thoughts through the letters page and promote their events. The void left maybe impossible to fill even using other electronic media as it will not receive the city-wide exposure that paper versions get, time will tell.

Since the last Newsletter my wife and I had a tourist trip to Borneo our aim was to see the Proboscis monkey and visit an Orangutang sanctuary, whilst taking in the culture and following the grim Sandakan March war story visiting various sites. Borneo is politically divided among three countries, Brunei Indonesia and Malaysia, it used to have vast rainforests but extensive logging and now vast palm oil plantations have dramatically changed the landscape and put pressure on many of the endemic species, the Borneo Pygmy Elephant, Orangutan and unfortunately, the eastern Sumatran Rhinoceros is now locally extinct. We did some river trips for the bird life, crocodiles and hoping to see some elephants, they eluded us.

Borneo is a challenging but worthwhile country to visit, culturally diverse, rich in indigenous culture, it has some magnificent rivers, wildlife a plenty and great landscapes, economic and population pressures need to be resolved so that country can retain its remnant rainforest, protect its wildlife and continue to attract visitors.

The Toondah Harbour EIS is still with the proponent who needs to respond, with an updated version, to the federal government on the thousands of submissions that were received, it could still be many months before we see a conclusion to this debacle.

Our next meeting is Friday 28th April on a project that is using oyster shells to restore reefs in Moreton Bay, the project was featured on ABC landline on 2nd April, that episode can be watched on ABCiView. Meeting details can be found in the Newsletter.

Our AGM this year will be held on Friday 26th May during our monthly speaker meeting, proxy and nomination forms are in this Newsletter.

As always, we would love to see some new faces and ideas on the committee, all positions are vacant, we have about six committee meetings a year for planning and organisation, not too onerous. If your interested give me a ring or just fill out the nomination form.

Walk for Toondah: Sunday May 14 9am-11am, Raby Bay Park,
Cleveland -

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10159594466733063&set=gm.766060141442871>

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Out and About

Pictures from Borneo

Photographs by Steve Homewood



Proboscis Monkey endangered



Bornean Orangutan critically endangered



Spot the Chameleon



Rhinoceros Hornbill



Long-tailed Macaque



Stork Billed Kingfisher

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 Sundown National Park –

Sundown is a rugged wilderness area of spectacular sharp ridges and steep-sided gorges. The Severn River and its tributaries, woodland birds and remains of pastoral and mining heritage can be discovered via maintained walking tracks, challenging remote walks or the four-wheel-drive (4WD) track.

Location

On the Queensland–New South Wales border, 250km south-west of Brisbane via Stanthorpe and 70km north-west of Tenterfield.



Wonga Pigeon, *Leucosarcia melanoleuca*
<https://australian.museum/learn/animals/birds/wonga-pigeon/>



Spotted Bowerbird, *Chlamydera maculata* (Gould, 1837) Source:
<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/native-animals/native-animal-facts/bowerbirds>



Platypus, *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*
Source:
<https://australian.museum/learn/animals/mammals/platypus/>



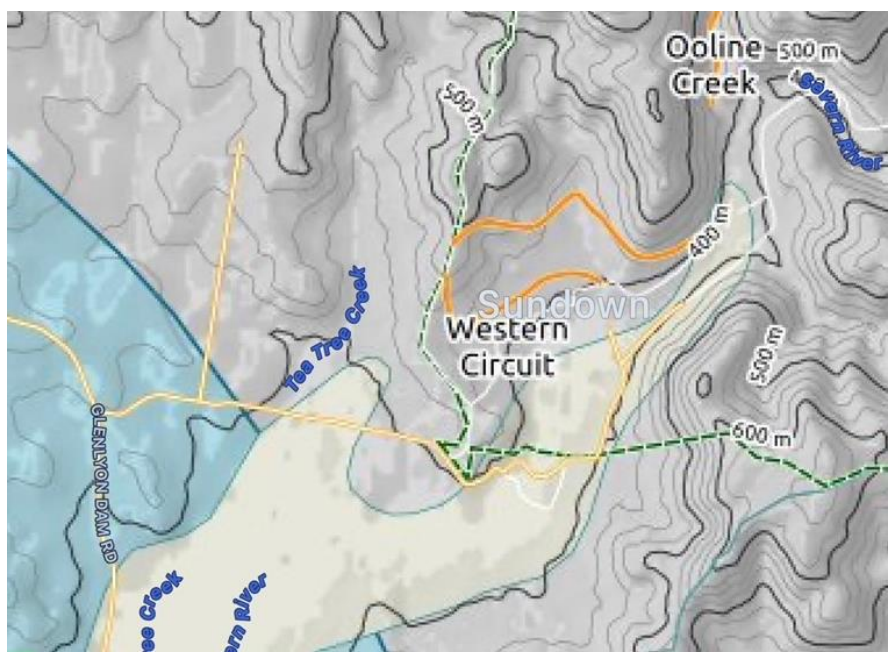
Swamp Wallaby, *Wallabia bicolor* Source:
<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/plants-and-animals/swamp-wallaby>



Crested Shrike-tit, *Falcunculus frontatus* Source: Aust. museum



Eastern Grey Kangaroo, *Macropus giganteus* Shaw, 1790



Unflappable: How pigeons helped the Allies win both World Wars

Tim Schaefer / QLD RSL News 2023 Edition 1

Each year, on 24 February, is National Day for War Animals in Australia, where we commemorate the deeds and sacrifices of animals in war.

Let's face it, pigeons in modern times get a bad rap. Even Woody Allen hates them; in 1980, he labelled pigeons 'rats with wings', and – perhaps ironically – their reputation has never quite recovered.

But in the annals of wartime history, pigeons hold a revered place on the mantle. Literally. In the 1940s, 32 homing pigeons were awarded the **Dickin Medal** – otherwise known as the '**animal's Victoria Cross**' – for their gallantry and devotion to duty while serving.

Those plucky individuals, with names like Dreadnought, Gustav, and William of Orange, ducked and weaved through exceptionally dangerous conditions to deliver their message.

A SIXTH SENSE FOR HOME BASE

It's certainly true that homing pigeons have been used to carry messages since ancient times. But in the fog of war, their skills and dedication are legendary. Long before modern technology made military communication simple, pigeons played a vital role in relaying vital information across the battlefield.

That's because homing pigeons have an innate ability to find their way home. They're also not easily distracted, and their keen sight and superior memory helps them identify landmarks. A pigeon's small stature also came in handy during conflict: pigeons were easy to transport, ate very little, and could travel long distances in often extreme circumstances.

Pigeons carried their messages either in special containers attached to their legs, or small pouches looped over their backs. When not relaying messages, the pigeons were kept in mobile or stationary lofts, and were trained and cared for by skilled handlers.

The pigeon's contribution to the Allied war effort can't be understated. Take the story of G.I. Joe, a member of the United States Army Pigeon Service. In October 1943, during the Italian campaign of World War II, British troops battled with German forces to control the village of Calvi Vecchia, Italy.

The British attacked and won back the village well ahead of schedule, but were unable to transmit a message to call off a planned American air raid on German positions, now occupied by the British.

As a last resort, G.I. Joe was dispatched with a message to cancel the air raid. G.I. Joe flew about 30 kilometres in just 20 minutes, and arrived at the American air base just in time for the bombing to be called off. Hundreds of troops and villagers were saved.

ANZAC PIGEONS

The pigeon wasn't just a friend of British or American troops. In 1942, as Australia stared down the barrel of a Japanese invasion, the Australian Army were interested in developing alternative means of communication.

The idea of using pigeons was trialled and quickly proved a success, and the Australian Corps of Signals Pigeon Service was born. Everyday Australians got behind the cause, and donated over 13,500 homing pigeons to the service.

Pigeons provided a reliable communication service between the coastal defences of Australia, and they eventually joined the war effort in New Guinea as part of the Pacific War. The jungles proved a much tougher environment; mountainous topography, tropical rain, feather lice and a humid climate took its toll on the pigeons.

But pigeons were still considered an efficient tool for communication, and often a vital one. In July 1945, a boat carrying Australian troops began to sink on a beach off the coast of New Guinea. The boat was carrying valuable supplies, ammunition and equipment, and a bird by the name of Blue Bar Cock Pigeon No 139 became the hero.

Blue Bar flew about 65 kilometres to relay the rescue message, and a rescue ship was sent in time to salvage the boat and its valuable cargo. Blue Bar received the Dickins Medal for its effort, joining the list of pigeons who are now memorialised for their heroism in war.

No other animal compares to the contribution of the pigeon to the Allied war effort. In the 1940s, the Dickin Medal was awarded to 32 pigeons, 18 dogs, three horses, and a ship's cat – a cat amongst the pigeons, indeed. Source: <https://rslqld.org/news/latest-news/unflappable-how-pigeons-helped-the-allies-win-both-world-wars>

Heroic Pigeons in World War II

War Pigeons Saved Lives and Helped Us Win the War

By Susie Kearley – Pigeons aren't everyone's favorite bird. Some people consider them to be pests or even vermin, but for others, pigeons are amazing creatures. Homing pigeons can fly hundreds of miles across seas and unfamiliar landscapes to find their way home. Thousands of pigeons in World War II risked their lives delivering messages, and some won medals for their heroics.

There's a pigeon exhibition at Bletchley Park, a former WWII code-breaking center in England, that will make you see these birds in a whole new light. It tells the story of the pigeons, the biggest heroes among them, and the ones that came home injured every time but got stitched up by vets and went back out again. Some of the pigeons saved the lives of thousands of men by delivering their messages.

There were 250,000 pigeons in the National Pigeon Service during World War II. Pigeons were dispatched from the front line carrying important messages, and when they arrived home, a bell rang alerting a soldier who would retrieve the message and send it on to its destination by telegraph or private phone line. The pigeons were enemy targets, so many were killed in the line of duty. It was a risky job.

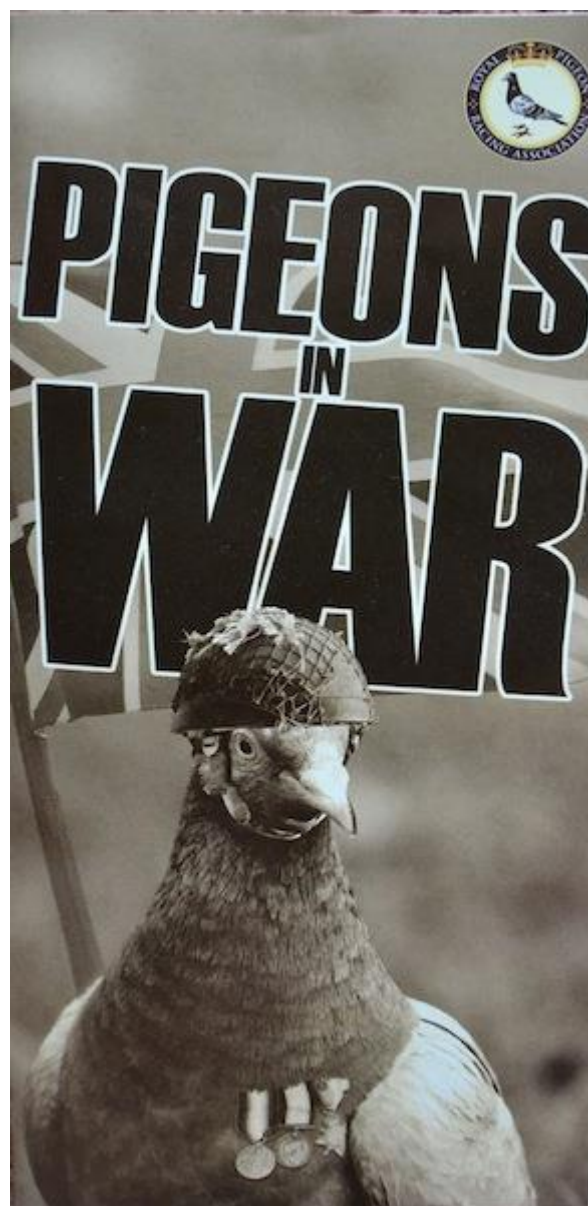
Some pigeons in World War II became well-known among the servicemen for their remarkable feats. Pigeon, 'The Mocker', completed 52 missions without a scratch before he was wounded. Pigeon, 'Cher Ami', was injured, losing her foot and one eye, but she still delivered her message, and a group of American soldiers was rescued.

One of the most famous war pigeons was 'GI Joe' from the United States Army Pigeon Service. He saved around 1000 British soldiers by delivering an important message, which prevented a village in Italy from being bombed. In 1946, GI Joe was awarded a medal for gallantry and was credited for the most outstanding flight made by a United States Army homing pigeon in World War II.

King George VI gave a pigeon to the National Pigeon Service, which was set up during the war. His pigeon was put on a plane which was shot down on its way to Holland — two messages were put on the pigeons sending for help. The King's bird got back to England and delivered the message, having flown 120 miles. It was a marvellous achievement for such a young pigeon, just seven months old, in the middle of a cold winter.



Pigeon wrapped for parachuting to troops on the ground.



Awarded a medal for bravery in 1945, he was one of King George VI's birds.

Source:

<https://backyardpoultry.iamcountryside.com/poultry-101/heroic-pigeons-in-world-war-ii/>

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.

White-headed Pigeon, *Columba leucomela*

The White-headed Pigeon is a large pigeon with a distinctive white head, neck and breast, which sometimes have an orange or greyish wash. The back, wings and tail are dark grey to black and the underparts are grey. The male has a metallic green or purple sheen, and the female often has a darker cap and is usually greyer. Young White-headed Pigeons resemble darker females. The eye ring is pink to dark red and the legs and feet are also pink-red.

The White-headed Pigeon is found eastern of the Great Dividing Range from far north Queensland to southern New South Wales.

The White-headed Pigeon prefers tall tropical to sub-tropical rainforests and is often seen in forest remnants. Also regularly found in Camphor Laurel trees in agricultural areas and in privet. Often seen in suburban gardens and will come to feeding trays; also at roadsides.

The White-headed Pigeon feeds on rainforest fruits and seeds, but strongly prefers laurels, such as the introduced Camphor Laurel. They feed in trees, sometimes in flocks, and will travel several kilometres to feed in open country.

The White-headed Pigeon builds a platform of sticks in dense tree foliage or in tangled vines. Both members of breeding pairs incubate and care for the single young.

Over 10 years (2001-2010), 122 nests were monitored in a rural landscape near Lismore, northern New South Wales. Nests were in a wide variety of trees and shrubs, including ornamentals, mostly <10 years old. Breeding Pigeons tolerated a high level of daily human activity, with many nests close to buildings, and with brooding birds sitting tightly in close proximity to working staff. Nests were re-used in all years, with 65% of clutches laid in previously used nests. Individual nests were re-used multiple times, both within a season, and over multiple years.

Source: <https://search.informit.org/doi/abs/10.3316/informit.314710903177450>



Source: <https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Columba-leucomela>

Facts and Figures

Research Species: No

Minimum Size: 38cm

Maximum Size: 42cm

Average size: 40cm

Average weight: 470g

Breeding season:

August to December; earlier in north.

Clutch Size: One.

Incubation: 20 days

Nestling Period: 21 days



Source: <https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Columba-leucomela>

Green Waste

NO ONE LIKES A THUMBS DOWN!



No one likes a thumbs down! Avoid one by only putting organic garden waste in your kerbside green bin.

Please keep these items out of your green bin:

- 🗑️ Plastic bags
- 🗑️ General waste and recyclables
- 🗑️ Food waste
- 🗑️ Animal droppings
- 🗑️ Building materials
- 🗑️ Rocks
- 🗑️ Timber
- 🗑️ Soil

THUMBS UP GREEN THUMB!



👍 Thumbs up green thumb!

Put the right garden waste in your kerbside green bin so it can be composted into new, enriched garden organics.

Only these items belong in your green bin:

- ✓ Grass clippings
- ✓ Garden pruning
- ✓ Palm fronds
- ✓ Leaves
- ✓ Weeds
- ✓ Flowers
- ✓ Loose bark

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Flyways

The untold story of migratory shorebirds.

Storyland, Antidote & Screen Australia presents in association with, Screen Queensland, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Tangled Bank Studios, ZED and PTS Taiwan, a RANDALL WOOD film.

What : World Premiere of the movie, “Flyways”,
hosted by Birdlife Southern Queensland.

Flyways will utilise the best science to address the harsh reality of the extinction crisis looming for many migratory shorebirds. However, importantly it will tell stories of the positive action we can take to stem the tide – on a local and global level.

The film showcases the very latest tracking technologies from the international space station, never-before-seen phantom footage of shorebirds in flight from a world-class wind tunnel, & innovative drone footage of extraordinary landscapes.

There will be an introduction to the movie with a glass of wine and delicious nibbles before the movie commences.

Where: Majestic Cinemas, Wynnum, 82 Berrima St, Wynnum

When: Sat 6 May, 2023, 5.00 pm - 8.30pm

How to purchase your ticket:

<https://wynnum.majesticcinemas.com.au/movie/flyways>

Cost: \$25.00 (concession)- \$35.00(adult)

Flyways will also be screened at New Farm Cinemas at 4.30pm on May 7th:

<https://fivestarcinemas.com.au/new-farm/movie/flyways>

<p><u>NAME OF PERSON BEING NOMINATED FOR A POSITION</u> </p> <p>POSITION NOMINATED FOR.....</p> <p><u>NOMINATED BY</u> NAME.....I am a financial member of WPSQBB</p> <p>SIGNATURE.....Date / /</p> <p><u>NOMINATION SECONDED BY</u> NAME.....I am a financial member of WPSQBB</p> <p>SIGNATURE.....Date / /</p> <p><u>ACCEPTANCE OF PERSON BEING NOMINATED</u> I am a financial member of WPSQBB and am willing to accept the nomination. SIGNATURE.....Date / /</p>	<p>Positions that may be nominated for</p> <p>President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Executive member</p>
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THE WILDLIFE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND BAYSIDE BRANCH (QLD) Inc

PROXY FORM AGM 26th May 2023

I,.....of.....
.....Postcode.....

being a financial member of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, Bayside Branch hereby appoint
.....
as my proxy to vote on my behalf at the (Annual) General meeting to be held on
(date).....

Signature :-

Is this proxy a general proxy? (Yes/No).
If 'No', indicate if this form is to be used against or in favour of the following specific resolution:
.....
.....

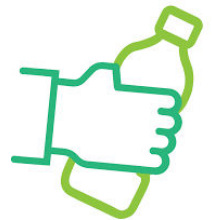
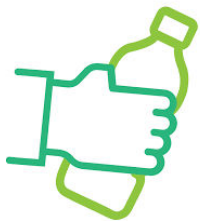
Strike out whichever is not desired.

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.



Come face-to-face with the world's biggest dinosaur - the famous titanosaur Patagotitan; the razor-sharp teeth of the giant carnivore Tyrannotitan; and one of the world's earliest dinosaurs Herrerasaurus. [Click here to learn more.](#)

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 _____