



Matt Cecil Project Manager for WPSQ is our next guest speaker.

Come and hear the latest news about Wildlife Queensland's many important [Conservation projects](#) that are making a positive contribution to the survival of Platypus, Quolls, Richmond Birdwing and Gliders and more. Unique wildlife camera trapping photos, stories, be amazed.

General Public Welcome, booking required for entry.

When: **Friday 30th June 2023 at 7.00 pm**

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

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 | June 2023

The Branch had early celebration of World Environment Day at the Indigiscapes Environment and Community Fair at the beginning of June. It was a well-attended event we had a constant stream of visitors to our display, sold out of [Richmond Birdwing Butterfly](#) plants, distributed plenty of material on wildlife projects and talked constantly about environmental issues in the shire. We heard from many people of their apprehension that proposed developments at Toondah Harbour and the Birkdale land will be to the detriment of our wildlife, green space and marine environment. One would hope that this growing groundswell of opposition may eventually make our elected representatives see the folly of some of their planning ideas.

We held our AGM at our May meeting the resigning committee was re-elected, there are still two vacant positions on the committee, any member out there who interested please contact me. I have attached a copy of my Branch report to the AGM.

Our May speaker Simon gave us a fabulous photographic insight into the plants, wildlife, rugged coastlines and magnificent vistas found around the unfrequented Nullarbor coast. A few of our more intrepid members will surely make it out there on a special road trip.

WPSQ head office has many on-the-ground conservation [projects](#) in operation, Quolls, Richmond Birdwing Butterfly, Rock tail Wallaby, Platypus and more. Matt our project Officer is our speaker Friday June 30th. Great positive stories and film and photos from wildlife monitoring cameras. Do not miss out on this presentation.

Date claimer WPSQ AGM Saturday 9th September at Currimundi Sunshine Coast

"Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you."

~ Frank Lloyd Wright

**BEAT
PLASTIC
POLLUTION**



**WORLD
ENVIRONMENT
DAY**

UN 
environment
programme



Republic of
Côte d'Ivoire

World Environment Day 2023 was a reminder that people's actions on plastic pollution matters. The steps governments and businesses are taking to tackle plastic pollution are the consequence of this action.

It is time to accelerate this action and transition to a circular economy.

[It is time to #BeatPlasticPollution.](#)

Out and About

Redlands

<https://oldschoolhousegallery.org.au/> Exhibition of landscapes Free Entry

<https://artgallery.redland.qld.gov.au/> Tidal Connection exhibition Free Entry

Queensland Museum: -

Coral Reefs of Australia Free Entry

<https://www.museum.qld.gov.au/queensland-museum/whats-on/making-waves>

Wild State fabulous exhibition of all our wildlife Free Entry

<https://www.museum.qld.gov.au/queensland-museum/whats-on/wild-state>

Dinosaurs ticketed exhibition

<https://www.museum.qld.gov.au/queensland-museum/whats-on/dinosaurs-of-patagonia>



Bayside member John on a Snakecatcher course full story in July Newsletter.



Bayside member Peter has a regular winter sunshine visitor



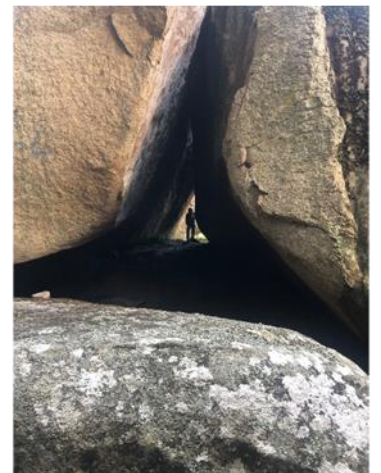
Indigiscapes Display



Koala ambassador at Indigiscapes



Spiny leaf stick insect at Indigiscapes



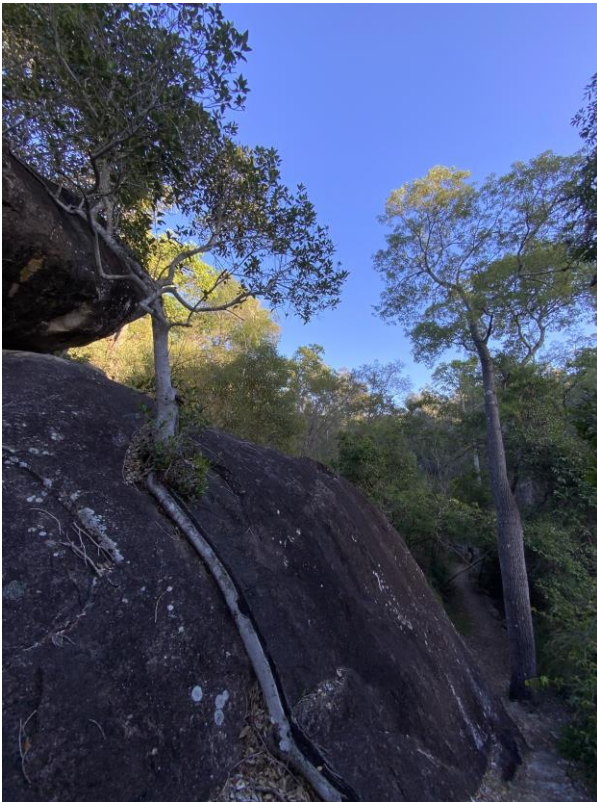
Donnelly's Castle Bushwalk Stanthorpe Photo Steve

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 Auburn River National Park—

The scenic Auburn River flows through a steep-sided gorge, tumbling over massive, water-sculpted, salmon-coloured granite boulders. The gorge and river are the park's most striking landscape features. The 405ha park protects three significant ecosystems, open blue gum forest, vine scrub (dry rainforest) and open ironbark woodland with grasstrees dotting the understorey. Silver-leaved ironbark and forest red gum dominate the grassy open forests. Queensland bottle trees *Brachychiton rupestris* and broad-leaved bottle trees *Brachychiton australis*, thrive in the dry vine thicket on the northern bank of the river near the camping area. About 255km west of Maryborough or 40km south-west of Mundubbera and just over 400 km from Brisbane.



Herbert Rock Wallaby,
Petrogale herberti



Peregrine Falcon,
Falco peregrinus



Bayside Branch Report to 2023 WPSQBB AGM

The Branch has continued with its programme of monthly speakers. We had 9 general meetings last financial year, averaging around 30 in attendance. Our February meeting with Gecko's Martin Fingland, attracted over 60 participants. We are considering having an end of year event this October or November with Geckos Wildlife and we do rely on your continued support so that our speakers feel that they have managed to impart their knowledge to a wide audience.

Our monthly newsletter has a mailout list of around 240. It is also sent to all WPSQ Branches and Redland Library and is uploaded to our website - so it gets good circulation around the community with information on wildlife issues and local walks. We have an "out and about page" with photos that members have taken, we also encourage our members to send in articles.

Our annual clean-up day event last March was affected by Covid and inclement weather which meant Mount Cotton Scouts couldn't attend, but Bayside Branch did a private event and so still made a positive impact on the Redland Bay foreshore. This year our container deposit scheme, driven by our treasurer Maureen along with other recycling, has contributed \$600 to branch funds. We were able to donate to the Wildlife Land Fund and support other groups because of this. So far we have recycled over 60,000 containers but the environment always need more to be recycled, so keep up the good work. The State government is inching along with recycling; banning single use plastics and now helium balloons. Our big stores are banning plastic bags.

A major event last year was our 60th Anniversary of WPSQ cruise out to St Helena Island - nearly 60 adventurers had a great day out on the Cat 'O' Nine Tails despite the rough weather on the way back. It invoked memories of our past Sea Week annual cruises, Mangrove and Seagrass watch, and our fight against sea cages in the bay. The aims of WPSQ and its followers are "Protecting Wildlife", "Influencing Choices" and "Engaging Communities".

For many of us, seeing the vistas and vast natural resources of Moreton Bay reinforces the need to protect these assets from the excesses of a growing population.

The proposed Toondah Harbour development weighs heavily on all community groups with considerable resources going to fight this absurd proposal which goes against international conventions. It also treats climate change, our local environment and wildlife, with contempt. It is 10 years next month since this PRIORITY development was announced. Nearly 28,000 submissions were made to the 5,200 page EIS - we can only hope that the Federal Environment minister can see the folly of this proposal when it comes before her.

There are other challenges out there for the Branch with the security of bushland, and consequently our wildlife, threatened with over commercialisation through development and tourism. We have the re-branded white-water proposal - now the "Redlands Resilience Training Centre" - at Birkdale which could be an Olympic venue for Slalom and Canoeing for just 4 days of competition. Proposed Heinemann Road sports complex, with the possible loss of around 550 trees, has been referred to the EPBC act mainly due to pressure from the community.

Our elected representatives, with a few exceptions, appear to ignore community concerns from local residents who have a wealth of experience to offer and yet we are being "stonewalled".

Bayside Branch is financially strong, although our sources of income are somewhat limited as our membership has stabilised. But we continue to be involved with the community and other organisations.

As usual, I thank all our members, supporters, volunteers and committee. As per the theme of National Volunteers Week - you are THE CHANGEMAKERS. We also thank WPSQ Head Office for all their input and advice - and especially for the Anniversary Grant which subsidised the cruise. Their guidance continues to make WPSQ Bayside Branch a respected group.

We have more uncertainty ahead whilst governments appear to not yet take climate change seriously, and continue on their quest for endless growth creating an environmental crisis of their own making.

Local groups have to remain strong, vocal, relevant and alert to debilitating proposals that erode the green credentials of our city and wider boundaries.

The climate crisis is both the easiest and the hardest issue we have ever faced. The easiest because we know what we must do. We must stop the emissions of greenhouse gases. The hardest because our current economics are still totally dependent on burning fossil fuels, and thereby destroying ecosystems in order to create everlasting economic growth.
Greta Thunburg



The first 'virgin birth' in crocodiles has been discovered, but what triggers some animals to go it alone?

For 16 years, a female crocodile lived alone in a wildlife park in Costa Rica — until one day, more than a dozen eggs mysteriously appeared in her enclosure.

Without a mate, the snappy reptile cut out the middleman and reproduced by herself, in a process scientists call parthenogenesis, or "virgin birth". Watch the ABC YouTube video, [click here](#).

The phenomenon has been widely observed in animals like snakes and bees, but researchers say this is the first time the reproductive strategy has been found in a crocodilian — a group of reptiles that includes crocodiles, alligators and gharials.

The American crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*) was 18 years old when the 14 eggs were discovered in the public exhibit of her Central American enclosure, back in 2018. Of those eggs, seven appeared to be fertile and were artificially incubated. While they ultimately failed to hatch, one was found to contain a fully formed stillborn crocodile foetus, which researchers identified as female.

This wouldn't be in any way surprising if it weren't for the fact that the crocodile was captured when she was two years old and had been kept in isolation for her entire life.

Researchers have now analysed the DNA from the non-viable foetus, with the findings — published in the journal *Biology Letters* — today revealing there were no paternal alleles. In other words, it means there was no father.

Unlike mammals, some animals like reptiles, birds and sharks lack a mechanism called genomic imprinting. Genomic imprinting means "you have to have a set of genes from the mother and a specific set of genes from the father". "They need to interact in a certain way to switch on a series of mechanisms that then result in an embryo forming, but because reptiles, birds and sharks lack this, they have the ability to reproduce parthenogenetically," Dr Booth said. While sexual reproduction involves an egg cell and a sperm cell, parthenogenesis allows females to mix up their own gene. Parthenogenesis (from the Greek, parthénos, 'virgin' + génesis, 'creation') is a natural form of asexual reproduction.

An egg would usually require a second set of chromosomes to make it "feel like" it's fertilised, but when "virgin births" occur, the egg fuses with what's known as a polar body.

These polar bodies are produced at the same time as the egg and contain a set of chromosomes that are "nearly identical to the mother".

"It makes it feel like [the egg] has become fertilised, and as a result that starts the process of production of an embryo." Parthenogenesis has occurred for millions of years, and it's common in small invertebrates like ants and bees, which use the reproductive strategy to build their colonies.

Parthenogenesis is considered uncommon in vertebrates, but in recent decades it has been observed in more than 80 species of animals including birds, fish and lizards, thanks to a growing awareness of the phenomenon and advances in science. It's not entirely clear why some vertebrates, which traditionally reproduce sexually, would suddenly switch to parthenogenesis. But it is thought to be a response to when all else fails and could be triggered by hormones or adverse conditions, added Professor Graves. [Click here](#) to read whole story.

Positive Headlines

Eyre Bird Observatory

Established in 1977 by BirdLife Australia, the Eyre Bird Observatory is Australia's first bird observatory, providing a base for the study and enjoyment of the birds of the area.

Nestled in the Nuytsland Nature Reserve, between the arid Nullarbor Plain to the north and the coastal waters of the Great Australian Bight to the south, the Observatory is in one of the least populated places on the continent but home to over 240 species of birds – many of them rare and endangered.

Previously, the Observatory was the first Eyre Telegraph Station on the Intercolonial Telegraph Line. It is located near the site where explorer Edward John Eyre found water during his overland journey from Adelaide to Albany in 1841.

The beautiful limestone building now houses a museum along with accommodations for visitors looking to enjoy the natural landscape and bird life.

Throughout the year, Eyre Bird Observatory hosts a number of courses designed to attract the interest of naturalists and people with a growing sense of environmental consciousness.

Discover a range of exciting activities at the Eyre Bird Observatory. These include bird watching, bush walks, beachcombing, photography, painting, stargazing, and whale watching (June to November). Visitors can also relax on the verandah and take in the views, read from the library, or participate in ongoing field work. The museum is also worth a visit for those interested in the area's history.



Eyre Bird Observatory veranda courses include [Dune Restoration](#), [Field Techniques in Bird Studies](#), [Bird Photography](#) and [Bird Appreciation](#). Led by experts working in the field, the courses are usually 6-day duration and provide an opportunity to participate in a truly unique experience. [Find a full list of our courses here](#)

The Observatory always welcomes day visitors as well as overnight guests year-round.

Visit Eyre Bird Observatory any day between 10 am to 4 pm to indulge in various activities, including bird watching, museum visits, beach exploration, bushwalks, and unwinding on one of our many verandahs.

If you're looking for accommodation, their heritage-listed 1897 telegraph station is available for booking but must be reserved in advance. Please note that camping is not permitted once you leave the highway. The daily rate includes three meals, but guests need to bring their own linen as there is a limited water supply. If you plan to stay for more than one night and don't have a 4X4, our caretakers can arrange to pick you up from the lookout. However, please remember to call the night before your arrival to confirm your pickup time.

For more details visit their website, [click here](#).

Wallum Froglet, *Crinia tinnula*

Wallum Froglets are small (to about 20mm) and extremely variable in colour and pattern. They range from light grey or brown to dark grey above and usually white or light brown below (sparsely flecked or heavily mottled with darker patches). They have a relatively pointed snout that projects beyond the lower jaw. A fine median line of white dots often occurs on the underside on the throat that may continue across the belly. They have no webbing on their feet and toe pads are absent. Pupils are horizontal. The call is a distinctive short high-pitched ringing 'tching..tching..', heard throughout the year, particularly following rain. Royo.

The Wallum is found along the coastal margin from Litabella National Park in south-east Queensland to Kurnell in Sydney, including the sand islands off the Queensland coast - Fraser, Bribie, Moreton and North Stradbroke Islands. Locally found at Coolwynpin Ck and Native Dog Creek.

The wallum froglet can be found in acidic wetlands (pH 4.3-5.2) within Melaleuca swamps, sedgeland, wet or dry heathland and wallum/woodland areas in the sandy coastal lowlands (<100m asl) of south-east Queensland. Occasionally animals occur in adjacent forests with a heathy understorey, and are known to persist in disturbed wallum habitat such as 4WD-impacted sites, roadsides, quarry site, and exotic pine plantations and partly cleared areas. (Straughan & Main 1966; QPWS 2001; Meyer et al. 2006; McFarland 2007).

Breeding usually occurs in autumn or early winter, but has been recorded in all seasons following rain. During the season, males call from the base of sedges near water or from matted sedge clumps. Spawning typically occurs in shallow acidic waters (pH < 6.0) where 33-118 small eggs (1.1-1.2mm in diameter) are laid singly or in clumps attached to submerged vegetation. Tadpoles may take two-six months to develop into frogs, development slowing over winter. (Straughan & Main 1966; QPWS 2001; Anstis 2002; Meyer et al. 2006; McFarland 2007).

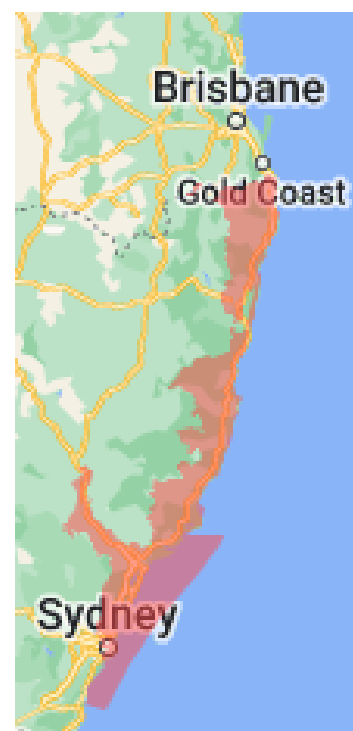
Wallum Froglets shelter under leaf litter, vegetation, other debris or in burrows of other species. Shelter sites are wet or very damp and often located near the water's edge. Males may call throughout the year and at any time of day, peaking following rain.

Adult wallum froglets eat several species of arthropods, and tadpoles have a diet of sediment and algae (Cogger et al. 1983; Anstis 2002).

Source: <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/species-search/details/?id=686>

QLD - Vulnerable
NSW - Threatened
IUCN - Vulnerable

This species has experienced localised population extinctions due to habitat loss or fragmentation (Hines et al. 1999)



The Bird Man of Brisbane



THE BIRD MAN OF BRISBANE

SILVESTER DIGGLES

and his

ORNITHOLOGY OF AUSTRALIA



LOUIS J. PIGOTT



When **Silvester Diggles** arrived in 1855 there was little artistic or scientific talent in the small frontier town of Brisbane.

By the time of his death in 1880, his paramount legacy was a large book on Australian birds, profusely illustrated with hand-coloured lithographs. Acting as his own publisher from 1865 onwards, Diggles produced the first substantial zoological work to commence publication in Australia.

The compilation and content of this rare work of art and natural history is examined here in the light of Diggles' life and times, as well as his ornithological predecessors and contemporaries. So too is his role in establishing the first scientific society and museum in Queensland.

Also presented in this illustrated publication are colour plates from his bird book, and some of his original bird paintings for the first time.



POLYTELIA ALEXANDINE
Birds of New Zealand

Hey Wildlife Queensland Bayside Supporters

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

60,027 CONTAINERS FROM LANDFILL
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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.

Six Australian cold weather frogs and their weird mating calls

[Click here to learn more](#)

Recycling station at Indigiscapes – Great Idea, Blister Packs, Toothpaste etc.,
How many blister packs do you throw away



Logging gets the axe in Victoria

In a historic decision, the Victorian Government yesterday announced the end of native forest logging in the state.

This will see Victoria transition out of native forest logging by January 2024 – years ahead of the initial 2030 deadline. It's welcome news for conservation and community groups who have been fighting for this outcome for decades – and for threatened woodland species like the Powerful Owl and Gang-gang Cockatoo, which depend on these native forests to survive.

Spanning more than 7 million hectares, Victoria's native forests are the most carbon-dense on Earth and are key in slowing the effects of climate change. Conversely, native forest logging in Victoria produces around 3 million tonnes of carbon emissions each year. [Click here](#) to read 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](#)

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

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Phone No _____

Email _____

Special Interests _____

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Card Type: VISA Mastercard

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