



# BIEPA News

The Bribie Island Environmental Protection Association came into being in 1978: *to promote the concept of Bribie Island as a fauna sanctuary and the protection of its native flora; and while recognising the pressures for development on the Island, to ensure that as far as possible such development is in harmony with the natural environment, rather than destructive of it.*

See BIEPA Constitution: <http://www.biepa.org/content/biepa%20constitution.pdf>



### *Crinia tinnula* Wallum Froglet (listed as “threatened”)

The Wallum Froglet is a ground-dwelling frog native to the east coast of Australia from SE Queensland to Kurnell in NSW and lives in Wallum Wetland. It is a small species of frog, up to 15mm in length and can be distinguished by a white stripe on the throat that goes to the tip of its snout. The Wallum Froglet is confined to acid paperbark wetlands in wallum country such as is found on Bribie Island. Their call is like a myriad of tinkles and can be heard, when raining, at Freshwater Creek, Woorim, on 3rd Ave. It breeds during autumn and winter with eggs laid singly on twigs and leaves in still water. **Their wallum wetland habitat is coming under increasing threat by urban development.** BIEPA members volunteered in a University of Queensland research project on Bribie Island studying these little vulnerable frogs and their habitat. Members have also been involved in collecting data for an SEQ Catchment water monitoring project in Bribie’s wetlands and creeks.

## REMINDER

**Annual General Meeting - 25th May 2015**

**Membership Renewals due**

**Nominations for Management Committee**

**Forms on Page 8**

## BRIBIE ISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATION INC

*Caring for our special habitat and its residents*

[www.biepa.org](http://www.biepa.org)  
 Email: [biepa.mail@gmail.com](mailto:biepa.mail@gmail.com)  
 PO Box 350  
 Bribie Island Q 4507



**NEXT MEETING AGM**  
**7pm Monday 25th May at**  
**Bribie Island Library**

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# EDITORIAL

Dear BIEPA Members and Readers

It's that time of year again, when we need to **renew our BIEPA Membership** and **elect a new Management Committee** at this year's Annual General Meeting on 25th May. Those who are honoured to be nominated and accept a volunteer position on the Management Committee come with enthusiasm and a commitment to work towards BIEPA's constitutional mandate and objectives. (You can read the Constitution on the BIEPA web site.) It is definitely an interesting and satisfying learning curve to become more engaged in our local issues and link up with so many other supportive like-minded communities. We discover the importance of what we do at a grass roots level, as we interact with other Local, State, National and International environmental organizations in the quest to take care of our natural assets and environment which provide the ecosystem services upon which all species depend for survival. It is a constant challenge for the environmental community to improve awareness of the need to protect and conserve clean air, water and soil. Self interest profiteers often consider polluting and using the environment for free as a cost externality - that is the unseen, long term cost to our health and well being. Uninformed political decision makers sanction this abuse in the name of economic growth. A sometimes apathetic public doesn't seem to care.

As David Suzuki says, ***"Air is a matrix that joins all life together, past and future as well as present. We inhale our ancestors and exhale into the lungs of our children. Furthermore, by befouling the air - and the water, and the earth - we very literally befool ourselves"***.

In *Slow Death by Rubber Duck*, Bruce Lourie and Rick Smith make precisely the same point. We

*Busy at the BIEPA Stall - Rotary Markets*



think of pollution as "out there," in the environment, separate from us. It is not. ***"Every human body, Suzuki notes, now contains two or three pounds of plastic as well as innumerable chemicals and toxins. We are the environment. The environment is us."*** <http://www.thegreeninterview.com/blog/most-important-idea-world-sunday-column-march-20-2011>

We hope you have enjoyed our Guest Speakers this past year. There are more to come.

Thank you for the positive feedback on our BIEPA News. We look forward to receiving more ideas for articles from you. The BIEPA News and Meeting Reminders go out, not only to our membership, but to other groups, organizations and businesses, as well as to our elected representatives in government.

The next meeting will be the AGM, followed by a surprise activity!

We look forward to seeing you at the Bribie Island Library, 7pm, Monday 25th May for a most interesting night.....

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - 5TH JUNE 2015

### *Greening the Blue*

**Celebrate with BIEPA - 9am at Buckleys Hole. Bring Refreshments.**

It's time! Once again UNEP seeks to make the biggest global call and mobilization for action. The theme for 2015 is how the well-being of humanity, the environment and economies ultimately depends on the responsible management of the planet's natural resources. People are consuming far more natural resources than what the planet can sustainably provide. Many of the Earth's ecosystems are nearing

critical tipping points of depletion or irreversible change, pushed by high population growth and economic development. By 2050, with a rising population expected to reach 9.6 billion, we will need three planets to sustain our way of life. Living well within planetary boundaries is the most promising strategy for ensuring a healthy future. ***Celebrate World Environment Day this 5 June! Every Year. Everywhere. Everyone.***



# RAFFLE

This beautiful  
original  
watercolour  
could be yours!

Drawn 8pm at BIEPA's Monthly Meeting  
Monday 24th August 2015  
Bribie Island Library  
Cnr Welsby Parade & First Ave, Bongaree

Bribie Island Environmental  
Protection Association Inc  
PO Box 350, Bribie Island. 4507.  
ABN: 18064 697 900



Nada O'Loughlin: <http://www.nada4art.com/>

**ABOUT THE ARTIST:** Nada O'Loughlin was born in Redcliffe where she developed a love of Nature. Nada studied with some well known artists and her expertise has brought her acclaim throughout Australia and Overseas, especially the definition of colour and detail in her work. Nada now lives near Pt Stephens where she has her gallery.

**YOURS** for just \$2 ... or **3 Tickets for just \$5**

Proceeds will assist BIEPA's continuing work on Bribie Island in...

*Caring for our special habitat and its residents*

Ticket Sales: Diane, 0438111163; Kathleen, 0402 625 627; BIEPA Monthly Meetings and BIEPA stall at the Rotary Markets.



# My name is Tegan and I am wild about wildlife!

THE AMAZING YOUNG TEGAN ON HER REGULAR BEACH CLEAN-UP



More information: <http://wildlifeemergency.com.au/>

Tegan came to BIEPA's April meeting and impressed us with her passion for wildlife and fund-raising work. She would like you to come and enjoy her latest fundraiser on 30th May **Bribie Gone Wild!!** See flyers below

Tegan has set herself a goal to raise \$100,000:00 for conservation before she leaves High School and it looks like it will happen! It has been 4 years since Tegan began this bold journey and so far she has raised over \$95,500.00 with a year to go. Wildlife hospitals treat thousands of Australian native wildlife every year at no cost to the public. Most of them get no government funding, just like the many thousands of ordinary people who volunteer their time to rescue and rehabilitate all the sick and injured animals. That's why Tegan is passionate about fundraising for wildlife!



A not-for-profit Charity helping wildlife while having fun!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

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## ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS OFFICE

**Federal Government push to strip environmental organisations of tax deductibility status.....**



The federal government is secretly planning a **big new tax!** It's not on the fossil fuel industry, which over the past six years received an average yearly subsidy of \$2.9 billion. **[1]** It's not on the huge multinational companies that avoid Australian tax through offshore tax havens. **[2]** – **It's on you!** **[3]** By taking away your tax deduction on donations to non-profit environmental organisations the federal government is taxing you for trying to make the world a better place. **[4]**

The House of Representatives Environment Committee has launched an Inquiry into the official register of environmental groups that hold tax-deductible status. You can have your say addressing the terms of reference before 21 May 2015. BIEPA will be making a submission, but we urge you to make your own individual submission. See EDO website for details.

<http://www.edoqld.org.au/whats-happening/>

**[1] Mining the age of entitlement**

*State governments are more usually associated with the provision of health, education and law enforcement than industry assistance. So it might surprise taxpayers to learn that state government assistance for mineral and fossil fuel industries consumes millions of taxpayer dollars every year, with the big mining states of Queensland and Western Australia routinely spending > one billion dollars in assistance.*



**[2] A Senate Inquiry has been initiated by The Greens, supported by the Federal Opposition, for the Senate Economics References Committee to carry out. The Committee will examine the adequacy of Australia's current tax laws, the Australian Tax Office and will take evidence on corporate tax avoidance. Some of Australia's biggest companies - Google, Apple, Microsoft, BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto, Fortescue Metals and subsidiaries - will be scrutinized for transparency, profit shifting and tax avoidance.**

**[3] ABC 7.30 Report: Environment groups feel under siege. The Federal Government's already cut campaign funds and environmental lawyers. The Inquiry is an attempt to silence the environment movement and lawyers have no doubt that this is more about politics than about facts. Read full reports by clicking on the numbers [1] [2] [3] [4] above.**

**Public objection rights have been removed and EDOs have been defunded. Difficulties obtaining information, expensive court filing fees, exorbitant transcript costs (\$1,000+ p/day) and the risk of massive court costs if you lose, would discourage even the bravest public interest citizen. RESTORE YOUR RIGHTS AND SIGN THE PETITION to the Attorney General.**

<http://edoqld.nationbuilder.com/>

## ARE INTERNATIONAL MINING CORPORATIONS CONSPIRING TO DELIST THE WORLD HERITAGE GREAT BARRIER REEF?

The latest assault comes from the self confessed questionable ("moot") project, as reported in the Sydney Morning Herald, proposed to be a joint venture between Brisbane-based, Duncan Mackenzie of Casper Energy (which has key personnel located in India) and US Eagle Ford Oil and Gas (which has links to Adani through shale oil projects). Aside from those connections, has the Math been done on this? It appears Gladstone's local decision makers are not cognizant of the real economics of the project which plans to refine only 46,000 barrels a day, when, to be profitable, it would need to refine in the order of a million barrels a day. At 100,000 barrels/day other Australian refineries are closing because they are uneconomic. Why then is this project even being put on the table? Is there a plan to milk the share market? Or is it to keep the environmentalists busy?



# We Remember

## VALE John Johnson

We are sad to advise our membership that one of Nature's Gentlemen has passed away. Long time members, John Johnson and his wife Enid, were a very active team in BIEPA for many years and achieved much for Bribie's precious environment during that time. Members recall John loading rubbish bags on an NPQ barge at Lighthouse Reach. John served as President and a meticulous Treasurer over a period of 7 years. BIEPA was a huge part of their lives and even after they were no longer able to be active, they continued to support and mentor members who continued their work in caring for Bribie Island's natural environment. John's wisdom and kindness will be sorely missed and BIEPA sends deepest sympathies to Enid and the Johnson family.



*Full Moon Risen*

## VALE Mary Green

Another of BIEPA's long time stalwarts recently passed away. Mary's life was one devoted to caring for others and the natural environment from which she drew inspiration and solace. Many in BIEPA referred to her as "Wee Mary" alluding to her diminutive size. However, no one could ever underestimate her feisty, fiercely determined and most principled character. Mary's "green" thumb transformed a barren patch of land into a native plant mecca for Bribie's birds to feast on. It also provided a visual treat for neighbours and passers by. Her beloved Butcherbird family visited her daily on her small balcony. She knew them and their personalities individually. Mary not only loved music and art, she played violin and painted. Mary's 83 years were filled to the brim!! Our memories of Mary will endure.



*Mary thrilled to see turtle hatchlings on Woorim Beach*

## BRIBIE WILL SPLIT, Engineer predicts.....

One big storm surge is all it will take to create Australia's newest island off Caloundra and at the top of Bribie Island. BMT WBM senior coastal engineer Dr Matthew Barnes said a breakthrough at the northern tip of Bribie Island was a "matter of when rather than if". Modeling showed the breakthrough would be to the north of where the narrowest section would be. This meant it would not have a dramatic impact on the residents of Golden Beach or neighbouring suburbs. What it would create, for the short term at least, is an island about one kilometre long full of mangroves and some casuarinas. Dr Barnes presented his findings at the Sunshine Coast Council's second Coastal Forum at Maroochydore on 5th May 2015. "The State Government has been reluctant to intervene, and they shouldn't, other than in relatively low-cost strategies like revegetation," he said. "Any structural or engineered solutions would be likely to create bigger problems. "If there was to be any type of beach nourishment, the scale or length the structure would need to cover would really make it unviable." Dr Barnes said about 25 metres of vegetated sand was stopping Bribie Island from being split in two. "If an island was formed, it would be likely to re-form with the mainland between Kings Beach and Bulcock Beach in a decade or two," Dr Barnes said.



# PLANT OF THE MONTH

## *Grevillea Golden Lyre*

**Name:** Grevillea Golden Lyre

**Origin:** Cultivar (Grevillea 'Honey Gem' and the species Grevillea formosa)

**Description:** This grevillea has arching branches and green/yellow brush flowers in summer and autumn. The bush flowers over a long period and the flowers are highly bird attracting. In ideal conditions it may reach 2m (6') or more in height with a possible spread of 3metres.

**Cultivation:** Likes an open aspect in well drained soil in full sun. Perfect for Bribie Island. This stunning plant is featured in many gardens around Bribie Island.



# BIRDS OF THE MONTH

## *Grey and Pied Butcherbirds*

**Grey**



**The Grey Butcherbirds** range from mid-eastern Queensland, through southern Australia, including Tasmania, to northern Western Australia. There is an isolated population in the Kimberley and the northernmost parts of the Northern Territory.

**Pied**



**The Pied Butcherbird** is found throughout the Australian mainland, with the exception of most of the southern and south-eastern coastline, and the more arid areas of the inland. It is absent from Tasmania.

**Butcherbirds** inhabit drier forests, woodlands and suburbia, often heard singing from a prominent perch. All butcherbirds are aggressive feeders. They prey on small reptiles, mammals, frogs and birds & large insects. Most food is caught on the ground. The birds sit on an exposed perch and swoop down on their prey. They may hunt alone or in pairs. Butcherbirds build a bowl-shaped nest made of sticks and twigs, lined with grasses and other soft fibres. It is normally located within 10 m of the ground. The eggs are incubated by the female and the young birds are fed by both parents. The young remain in the breeding territory for ~ 1 year. In the wild their song is pure magic. In suburbia they often mimic other birds and sounds. For the sublime go to: <http://www.listeningearth.com.au/blog/a-beautiful-nature-sound-recording-pied-butcherbirds-in-the-australian-outback>



**BRIBIE ISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATION INC.**

PO Box 350 Bribie Island Qld Australia 4507 [www.biepa.org](http://www.biepa.org)

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: April 2015 to March 2016**

Name: .....Date.....

Address: .....Post Code .....

Email: ..... Phone No.....

Junior M/ship (12-16 yrs) \$2

Single M/ship \$15

Family M/ship \$20

Signature .....

If you do not have cheque facility and can not attend meetings, please have Renewal in sealed envelope and phone Diane Ph: 3410 0757 for pick up.

Caring for our special habitat and its residents



**BRIBIE ISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
PO BOX 350, BRIBIE ISLAND 4507

**NOMINATION FORM**

**BIEPA Management Committee 2015 - 2016**

I hereby nominate .....for the position of .....

Proposed by .....Seconded by .....

I agree to accept nomination .....Date .....

*(Signature of nominee)*

I do not wish to nominate for the committee but am willing to assist with BIEPA's work when possible.

.....  
\*\*\*Only paid up members can be nominated for the Management Committee.

\*\*\*Only paid up members can nominate and second Nominees for the Management Committee

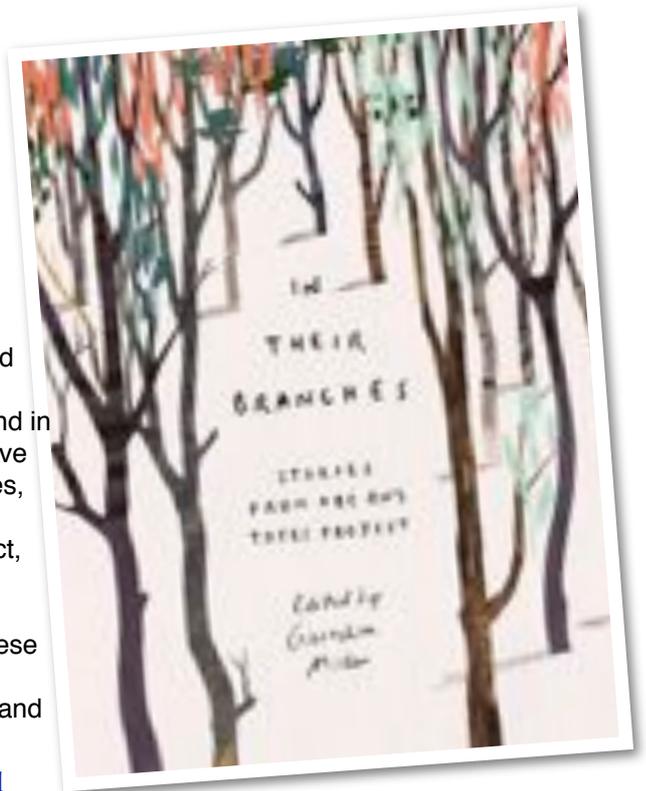
\*\*\*Management Committee Members will be expected to attend monthly Committee meetings where possible, with the understanding that these positions are accepted as voluntary.

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# BOOK OF THE MONTH

## IN THEIR BRANCHES

Stories from ABC RN's Trees Project  
Edited by Gretchen Miller



"We all have a favourite tree. We scaled their trunks in childhood, planted their saplings in memory of someone we loved, and carried their silhouettes in our hearts across lifetimes and continents. We have watched them grow and watched them burn, skylarked around in their foliage and cried into their trunks. Up in their branches we have let our imaginations soar, found a sanctuary away from our troubles, and felt connected to nature and life and the ages.

When ABC RN asked its audience for stories for their Trees Project, the response was astounding – hundreds of listeners sent in their memories and reflections on trees they've loved and trees they've lost. Gretchen Miller has lovingly gathered over one hundred of these deeply personal stories and poems into this exquisite collection.

**In Their Branches** is the perfect book for the arborist, the dreamer and the tree hugger in all of us."

The CD is also available [here](http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/projects/trees/) <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/projects/trees/>

***Carboniferous comeback***  
by Stephanie Suszko

A forest may disappear in the blink of an eye  
yet there is no sadder sound than to hear a tree die  
Some may question why speak of a thing so mundane  
any logger will tell you a tree feels no pain  
But any parrot or possum or even tiny green ant  
can relate to a loss it seems only humans can't  
That the grandest of trees suffers the humiliation  
of ending its life in a toilet paper plantation  
While others are reared just like poddy calves  
and sent to the saw mill to be slaughtered in halves  
Once they made heirlooms handed down each generation  
now they carry the ink of the latest tabloid sensation  
Traders sell them like slaves to get each carbon credit  
until more copy paper is needed and then they are shredded  
Old growth remnants of life bio diverse and eclectic  
must be drowned to make way for the hydroelectric  
Rainforest refuge of oranges left in tropical turmoil  
razed for product demand and the gluttony for palm oil  
The exponential billions must be fed, heated and housed  
as that great economic doctrine "greed is good" is espoused  
The climate grows hotter and remaining forests burn  
living green, less is more are lifestyles too hard to learn  
But the tree in all forms has lasted eons of years  
and will resurge from their dieback long after human disappears  
Perhaps time can erase a planet's treatment so cruel  
and they'll sink back in the earth and make more fossil fuel  
Then the circle of life may resume once again  
but evolution might be wiser than to give rise to men



# B.I.E.P.A.

[www.biepa.org](http://www.biepa.org)

*Caring for our special habitat  
and its residents*



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Phone: 3410 0757



**Wonders of the Wallum  
Wildflower Walk  
30th August 2015**

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

David Percival	Vice President
Lia Saint-Smith	Treasurer
Diane Oxenford	Secretary
Therese Puffett	Committee
Kay McIntosh	Committee
Kathleen Catalan	Committee
Ron Watson	Committee

## WILDLIFE & GENERAL CONTACTS

Bribie & District Wildlife Rescue,  
0400 836 592

Aust Zoo Wildlife Hospital,  
1300 369 652

Turtles: Diane: 0438 111 163;  
Val: 3410 8192; Ann: 3410 1771

QPWS: marine strandings:  
1300 130 372

QPWS Rangers: Bribie Island:  
3408 8451

Wildlife Hotline: RSPCA:  
1300 ANI MAL

Snakes: Qld Wildlife Solutions, Geoff:  
0414 962 688 (Fee charged)

Bat Rescue Hotline - 24 hours:  
0488 228 134

Dept Agric, Fisheries, Forestry (DAFF)  
Fishwatch Service for reports on marine  
plant damage (eg. mangroves)  
1800 017 116 (24 hour hotline)

Pelican & Seabird Rescue (Brisbane):  
24 hour hotline: 0404 118 301 [http://  
birdrescue.com.au/](http://birdrescue.com.au/)

Twinnies Pelican & Animal Rescue  
(Sunshine Coast) Tel: 07 5439 9995 Mob:  
0421 476 561

MBRC Requests: (Ask for Reference #)  
3205 0555

Wildlife Emergency: (Tegan Lather -  
Bribie Island)  
[www.wildlifeemergency.com.au](http://www.wildlifeemergency.com.au)

Walum Action Group Phone: 34100088  
[wallumactiongroup@gmail.com](mailto:wallumactiongroup@gmail.com)

## DATE CLAIMERS

25 May BIEPA AGM

25 May 189 Days until the beginning of the COP 21 climate meetings in Paris (Global)  
The Paris climate meetings, scheduled to begin on November 30th, are seen as a significant stop on a journey that will take several years, and hopefully put the world on a trajectory that contains to avoid the worst consequences of climate change

19-23 May The Commonwealth Bank Week of Action - Info Email: [coordinator@qldconservation.org.au](mailto:coordinator@qldconservation.org.au)

30 May Support *Bribie Gone Wild* Fundraiser at BI State School

5 June World Environment Day (9am at Buckleys Hole)

7 June World Environment Day at Sunshine Coast University

8 June World Oceans Day

14 June BIEPA Stall/Rotary Markets

22 June BIEPA Monthly Meeting

QLD Parliament Sitting dates:

May 5-7 and 19-21

June 2-4

July 14-17 (Qld Budget)

August 18-21 and 25-27

September 15-17

October 13-15 and 27-29

November 10-12

December 1-3

## How to support BIEPA's ongoing work

We wish to thank all those BIEPA members who have so generously made donations to the Bribie Island Environmental Protection Association in the past.

We continue to work, lobby and advocate to prevent environmental damage to Bribie's natural assets as a result of land clearing, tree and vegetation removal, inappropriate recreational activities, ferals, litter (especially plastic & waste fishing tackle), inappropriate development.

All donations to BIEPA's Public Environment Fund are **tax deductible** and may be easily and securely made by bank transfer to:

**BIEPA Inc Public Environment Fund - BSB 064448, Account 06444810041186**

Receipts will be mailed to donors, so please remember to put your name on the transaction and follow up with an email to: BIEPA Treasurer at [biepa.mail@gmail.com](mailto:biepa.mail@gmail.com)