
February 2016

HERPUTOPIA NEWS

*Promoting the care and enjoyment of reptiles
and amphibians through education.*

www.illawarrareptilesociety.com.au

REPTILE RAMBLINGS

by Aaron Baker.

Well Happy New Year to all our members!

Quick recap on our December meeting - we had the Australian Reptile Park come along and gave a great talk on some awesome reptiles. We had loads of prizes on the night too. Good food, great company! All in all a great night had all round.

This year is looking great also with our first speaker being Brad Walker. Brad is a very well known herpetologist who is known for his work with striped carpets and also teaches zoology at TAFE.

Our February meeting will definitely be one to attend.

Until next time happy herping!



New Members

Welcome to:

- Celeste Senior



Meetings are held on the **first Monday of the month at 6.30pm at Fairy Meadow Community Centre, Guest Park**, cnr Princes Hwy and Cambridge Ave, Fairy Meadow (opposite Woolworths)

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE at each meeting! Sausage Sizzle \$2.00; Drinks \$1.00; FREE tea and coffee

For enquires, contact 0433064460

PO Box 183

Albion Park NSW 2527

Committee Members

President:
Aaron Baker
0431526843

Vice President:
Kathy Hicks

Secretary:
Jo Payne
0433064460

Treasurer:
Nina Markwell
0433344722

Newsletter Editor:
Tina Gray
0413293170

Committee Members: Daniel Rumsey; Belinda Elms; Kieran Revell-Read; Jake Cullen

Dates for your diary

February 1

IRS Monthly Meeting; 6.30pm start Guest speaker – Brad Walker.

March 14

IRS Monthly Meeting; 6.30pm start Guest speaker - Michael McFaddin from Taronga, talking about Komodo Dragons

April 2, 2016

Annual Show Dinner at Warilla Bowling Club. Enjoy a fantastic dinner and listen to special guest speakers on the eve of the annual Illawarra Reptile Show. Tickets are 50 per person and limited so please let Jo (0433064460) know if you're interesting in coming ASAP.

April 3, 2016

Illawarra Reptile Show at Illawarra Sports Stadium, Fred Finch Park, Berkeley.

Symbio wildlife park

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- become a keeper for a day.
- walk through our world renowned reptile house
- have a behind-the-scenes close encounter experience with koala's, red panda's, meerkat's, dingo's and little monkey's.

Don't forget the Symbio Family Day on 17 May

Major sponsors of the Reptile Society

HOW TO GET HERE... WE'RE OPEN 9.30AM - 5PM 7 DAYS A WEEK

Symbio Wildlife Park is located just a short 40 minute drive South of Sydney Airport along the Pacific Freeway at Helensburgh, bordering the world famous Royal National Park

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2016 Illawarra Reptile Society Show



Illawarra Reptile Society's **REPTILE SHOW** Illawarra Sports Stadium

Live Reptile Shows Reptiles Sales & Displays Retail Shops
Photo's with Reptiles Food & Drinks Available ATM on site

Sunday 3rd April 2016, 10am—3pm



Entry: Family \$25, Adult \$10 & Child \$5

Proudly Sponsored by
Symbio Zoo Top End Pythons
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Enquires: Call Joanne 0433 064 460
Email: illawarrareptilesociety2015@gmail.com



Directions to our fantastic new show location

The date has been set for next year's Reptile Show.

It will be held on 3rd April 2016 at the Illawarra Sports Stadium at Fred Finch Park, Berkeley.

With a brand new location, more parking and the entire show undercover, the 2016 show will be bigger and better and not to be missed!

For marketplace & retail forms, please contact Jo Payne.

SHOW COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!

If you would like to volunteer as a show committee member at the 2016 Illawarra Reptile Show, please get in touch with Jo Payne on 0433064460 for further information.



Farewell Dan Rumsey!



Last week, we fare welled Daniel Rumsey as Vice President of the Society.

Dan had been working as head of reptiles at Symbio Wildlife Park but recently has taken up a position at Australia Zoo, again with reptiles.

We wish Dan all the best and he is under strict orders to organise more fantastic speakers for the society and to get back down here for the show in April.

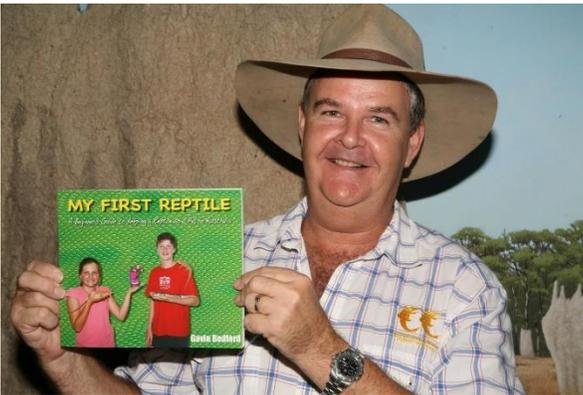
He will be missed and will remain on the committee as a general member. Kathy Hicks has been voted in as Vice President until elections.

Good luck Dan!

Introducing the speakers for the IRS Reptile Show dinner

The IRS are hosting 4 very special guests for this year's inaugural dinner.

This month, I will highlight 2 of the speakers that have kindly (and excitedly) donated their time to come down to the society.



The first speaker is **Dr Gavin Bedford**. Gavin has had a lifetime of experience with reptiles. At this moment, Gain has just hatched out his second season of the Oenpelli python, the holy grail for carpet breeders in Australia. I'm sure he will be updating us on how this project is progressing and what else he has been up to lately. Gavin's talks are always very informative and entertaining.

The 2nd speaker I will be highlighting this month is **Joe**

Ball. This will be Joe's first trip to the IRS. Anyone that has an interest in Bluetongue skinks will know who Joe is. As the founder of bluetonguetv, Joe is a world leader in Bluetongue morphs. If you have been following the progress, it blows me away that in such a short space of time, we have gone from just a common lizard, to all these stunning and spectacular colour morphs. From melanistic to albino to Lava, the hobby has come leaps and bounds. Joe will share his journey with us from humble beginnings and a love of an Australian icon, to the heights that he has reached now.



Book your tickets now for the inaugural IRS Reptile Show Dinner!



ILLAWARRA REPTILE SOCIETY

Annual Show Dinner with special guest speakers



Come along and mingle with fellow enthusiasts while enjoying a fantastic meal with awesome views of the stunning Illawarra coastline. Listen to special guests talk about their herp experiences. A fantastic warm up for the show to be held the next morning

Where: Warilla Bowling Club Diamond Room

When: 2nd April 2016 from 5pm to 11pm

Cost: \$50 per head

RSVP: 12th March 2015

Join us for the inaugural annual show dinner with special guest speakers, including Dr Gavin Bedford and Joe Ball.

Tickets are \$50 and that gets you a buffet style 2 course meal in the Diamond Room at Warilla Bowling Club.

Dine with fellow reptile enthusiasts with the stunning views of Little Lake and Warilla Beach.

The date is the 2nd April 2016 from 5pm to 11pm.

If you would like to come along to the dinner, contact Jo Payne on 0433064460 ASAP as tickets are selling fast.

Hope to see you there!

In the news

Snakes bite more than a dozen people across Queensland over two days

More than a dozen people have been treated for snakebites in Queensland in the past two days, with nine victims treated in just 36 hours.



One victim, Bridie Fenech, was not planning on ending her school holidays in a hospital ward.

The 13-year-old was on her family's property at Sarina, south of Mackay, when she was bitten on the foot.

"We were playing spotlight because we had a family barbecue and I found the other team, so I jumped over the fence and I was running towards them," the teenager said.

"I thought I stepped on a thorn, and then I stood back, and I saw it was a snake. I yelled out 'snake' and I ran back home."

The high school student said she still felt shaken up by the ordeal, but had some advice for others.

"Probably use a torch and keep your feet covered," she laughed.

Bridie's mother, Brigid, said they were concerned when they heard about the bite.

"We were first of all worried about what type of snake it was, and there's always experts at a barbecue that think they know what it was, but you just can't take a risk," Mrs Fenech said.

"So we got on the phone to triple-0, and they were excellent.

"We had already started wrapping it because we know a little bit and they guided us through the process, and the ambulance was there within 15 minutes."

Mrs Fenech said her three kids now had to wear shoes outside.

"We're on a farm so I don't have much choice. We've already told them all they have to wear shoes," she said. "I don't know if that's going to happen but we try."

How to treat a snake bite

- + Assume all snakes are venomous
- + Call triple-0 immediately
- + Keep calm and restrict any unnecessary movement (this will prevent the venom from spreading)
- + Do not wash around the wound (hospitals may decide to test the venom to assist with accurate snake identification)
- + Use bandages from a first aid kit
- + Start by wrapping over the bite site and then work your way up the limb
- + Use additional bandages to wrap from the extremities (fingers or toes) upward to the bite site
- + Wrap the bandages firmly, like you would for a sprained ankle
- + After bandaging, splint the limb to reduce further movement

(Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/> and Queensland Ambulance)

Classifieds

<p>For Sale: Trio of Julattens pythons, MFF yearlings. \$750 Pair of Windorahs 2 yrs \$300 Patternless childreni Male \$150 Jungle high yellow male \$300 Jo 0433064460</p>	<p>Trio of Milli MFF, largest female has bred previously... Should all be good to breed next season \$300 ONO</p>	<p>Varanus Tristis, (Blacktailed Monitors) \$350 each Matt Hicks</p>
<p>I have 6 Angleheaded dragon babies ready to go now and 4 ready in 3 weeks. They are \$140 each but I give discount if you buy more than 1. I can be contacted on email cbzsenior1@bigpond.com or mobile 0412609505 Celeste</p>	<p>*Trio of Occidentalis MFF, never bred, should all breed next season, male is stunning! \$400 ONO</p>	
	<p>*2 x Adult female N.L.Levis, both proven breeders \$400 ONO for both Danae 0434 993 117</p>	

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