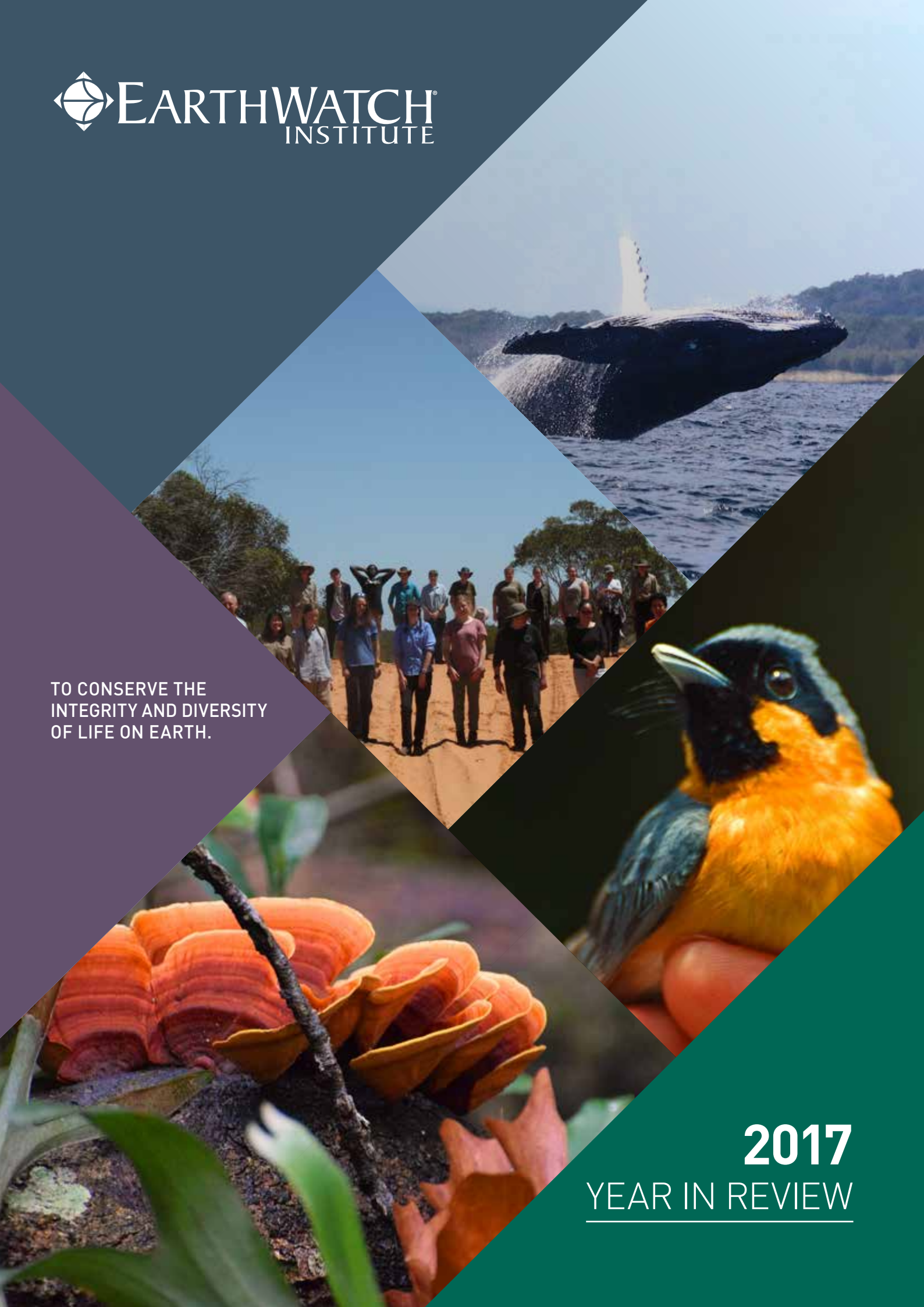
EARTHWATCH INSTITUTE



TO CONSERVE THE INTEGRITY AND DIVERSITY OF LIFE ON EARTH.

2017
YEAR IN REVIEW

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"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature - the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter."

- **Rachel Carson**

WELCOME: FROM OUR CEO

Let me start by saying thank you to all our supporters and volunteers. Our society is continually placing more and more pressure on the environment, but thanks to people such as you, we are able to work towards changing this.

This year's report showcases the great work you have supported and what Earthwatch has achieved on the environmental, education and behaviour change front. In particular, I'd like to highlight the great success of ClimateWatch, a free nation-wide citizen science program which is helping shape Australia's biological response to climate change. Supported by the Australian Government, Helen MacPherson Trust and the Victorian Department of Education and Training, we are integrating ClimateWatch into the curriculum of primary and secondary schools across Victoria, bringing a greater understanding to students about the world's greatest environmental threat – the changing of our climate.

2017 was a critical year for laying positive foundations for the future. We have been working towards many large multi-year partnerships, which have now been secured and will provide financial security for 2018 and beyond. We will be taking advantage of this and using the next years to explore a new business model for Earthwatch that will generate our own independent income stream.

Partnerships are an integral role of what we do. All sectors must work together if we are to achieve the change needed to ensure longevity of our existence on Earth. We can achieve so much more through collaboration and I am thrilled to welcome our new community delivery and business partnerships with the Helen MacPherson Trust, Cool Australia, Geography Teachers Association of Victoria, Inspiring Australia, Vollie, Engineers without Borders and Parks Victoria.

This is an exciting time for Earthwatch, both here in Australia and globally. Citizen science is the nexus between community, science and action and plays a crucial role in shaping our future. With over 46 years of experience in engaging people with our environment, we will continue to lead the field and work with you to shape stronger relationships and respect for our natural world that future generations will be proud of.

And finally, I extend my gratitude and say farewell to Charles Macek the Chair and significant member of the Earthwatch Board for seven years and also to Colin Gomm, Chair of our Finance & Risk Committee over the course of nine years. Thank you both for your many years of support and commitment to the Earthwatch mission.

Cassandra Nichols
Chief Executive Officer
Earthwatch Institute
Australia

VISION AND MISSION

OUR VISION IS TO EMPOWER PEOPLE TO SAVE THE NATURAL WORLD, LIVING WITHIN OUR MEANS AND IN BALANCE WITH NATURE.

Earthwatch engages all people worldwide in scientific research and education to promote the understanding of and action necessary for a sustainable environment.

Earthwatch Institute is an international environmental not-for-profit established in Boston, USA in 1971. We work from several offices, located in the United States, United Kingdom, India, Hong Kong, Japan and have been here in Australia from 1982. Since our journey began, Earthwatch has supported over 1400 world-class research projects utilizing the citizen science model.

By definition citizen science is engaging un-trained citizens in the collection of scientific data to solve real world issues. It is an extremely powerful tool that enables us to:

» 1 - undertake scientific research that informs policy and management strategy
» 2 - educate and increase knowledge within society and
» 3 - empower people and business to take positive action toward the environment.

OUR VALUES

OBJECTIVE

We assure that independent research is at the core of our work and that its outcomes determine our goals and priorities.

EMPOWERING

We seek to inspire people, businesses, and communities with experiences, knowledge, and tools that enable them to take action.

INCLUSIVE

We believe it is essential that people participate in solving the environmental challenges we face.

PASSIONATE

We are passionate about the opportunity we have to make a meaningful impact on people and the planet.

RESPONSIBLE

We act in a manner that respects and protects the well-being of people and the environment, including our staff, researchers, volunteers, and the places we work.

HIGH LEVEL GOALS	MEASURES OF SUCCESS
1 Increasing scientific knowledge	» People and person hours dedicated to collecting scientific data » Peer reviewed publications » Popular publications and outreach events
2 Developing environmental leaders	» Education: individuals engaged and developing increased capacity
3 Enabling organisations to become more sustainable	» Partnerships: organisations actively engaged
4 Informing environmental policies, agendas and management plans	» Contributions to conventions, agendas, policies and management plants » Pro-environment actions taken
5 Enhancing natural and socio-cultural capitol	» Taxa of conservation significance enhanced » Natural habitats enhanced » Ecosystem services enhanced » Cultural heritage enhanced » Livelihood assets enhanced » Sustainable organisation

EARTHWATCH PROGRAMS

Together with leading scientists, Earthwatch Australia creates impactful field research experiences that facilitate and disseminate world-class scientific research. We work with the general public, scientists, communities, educators, students, and corporate fellows. Our projects take place in twenty five countries around the globe where we work alongside renowned scientists gathering data that will help solve real-world issues.

In the year of 2016-2017, Earthwatch Australia supported a total of 10 national (6 public expeditions) and 46 international research projects engaging thousands of members of society. The projects span across our four priority research areas: Climate Change, Wildlife and Ecosystems, Ocean Health and Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.

AUSTRALIAN PROJECTS

» **Healthy Humpbacks** Dr Olaf Meynecke, Griffith University - North Stradbroke Island, QLD

» **Australia's Changing Islands** Dr Alistair Melzer, Central Queensland University - St. Bees Island, QLD

» **Recovery of the Great Barrier Reef** Dr David Bourne, Australian Institute of Marine Science - Orpheus Island, QLD

» **Wildlife of Australia's Rainforest** Prof Stephen Williams James Cook University - Wet Tropics Heritage Area, North QLD

» **Project Manta** Dr Frazer McGregor & Dr Mike van Keulen Murdoch University - Coral Bay, WA

» **Snorkelling Australia's Underwater Meadows** Dr. James Udy, Science Under Sail Healthy Water Ways - Moreton Bay, QLD

Ranging from 1 day to 2 weeks, Australian expeditions provide opportunities for participants from all walks of life to immerse themselves in nature within Australia's profound landscapes.

PROJECTS:	6
PARTICIPANTS:	166
PARTICIPANT DAYS:	1,059
PARTICIPANT HOURS:	10,590

EDUCATION

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION:

In 2016-17 Earthwatch education programs gave over 120 teachers and more than 3,800 students the opportunity to take part in outdoor learning and contribute to authentic scientific research – engaging pupils in hands on, real science and instilling in them wonder, interest and passion for wildlife and the environment.

STUDENT CHALLENGE

Student Challenge is a unique engagement model that places upper high school students on scientific expeditions, inspiring and empowering them to value science and conservation at a time when they are making critical decisions about their future.

For more information on Student Challenge, see page 7 & 8

TEACHLIVE

TeachLive is an innovative educational program developed by Earthwatch Australia. It gives teachers the opportunity to take part in an Earthwatch research expedition while teaching 'live' to their classrooms via the TeachLive website, **www.teachlive.org.au**

The Bush Blitz TeachLive program involves teachers in Australia's largest nature discovery project, as they join scientists on expeditions to remote parts of Australia and assist researchers to collect data that makes an extraordinary contribution to the protection of our country's natural heritage, while sharing their experience through the Bush Blitz TeachLive website **http://bushblitz.teachlive.org.au**

To find out how teachers are contributing to Bush Blitz, see page 12
For more information on TeachLive, see page 9

ENGAGING TEACHERS IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Earthwatch professional development programs provide teachers with the skills and confidence to engage their students in citizen science, and to use this knowledge to collect data that will help monitor and protect their local biodiversity.

INDIGENOUS STUDENT CHALLENGE

THE INDIGENOUS STUDENT CHALLENGE PROGRAM IS PART OF EARTHWATCH'S EDUCATION PORTFOLIO AND AIMS TO GIVE INDIGENOUS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS A TASTE OF LIFE AS A RESEARCH SCIENTIST. STUDENTS COME FROM A DIVERSITY OF SCHOOLS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA AND BENEFIT FROM THE OPPORTUNITY TO MIX WITH LIKE-MINDED YOUNG PEOPLE AND ENGAGE WITH CAREER SCIENTISTS IN GENUINE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD RESEARCH.

HSBC

THE GRAHAM (POLLY) FARMER FOUNDATION

HSBC Bank Australia generously provided funding for students to attend the Ecosystems of the Murray and Mallee expedition at Calperum Station in northern South Australia. This project, headed by Dr Peter Cale of the Australian Landscape Trust, forms part of a long-term program working to build our understanding of arid and semi-arid landscapes.Research focuses on the impact of disturbances such as fire, grazing or changes in water availability in order to develop effective on-ground management and restoration programs.

Jerry Tarpencha

Jerry is a year 12 student who grew up on a cattle station in Pormpuraaw on the western side of the Cape York Peninsula. Jerry attends boarding school in Brisbane where he shares his deep knowledge of his traditional heritage with fellow students and has mentored younger Indigenous students through their transition from remote communities to boarding school life.

Jerry was keen to take the opportunity provided by Student Challenge to further develop his practical skills and learn more about how grazing practices affect land and best practices for effectively managing the environment.

Kimberlee Blurton

Kimberlee is a year 12 student from Governor Stirling Senior High School in Perth. She has a strong sense of social responsibility and acts as a mentor and role model to guide other young Indigenous students.

Kimberlee has a genuine interest in human impacts on the environment and believes that the most important issue facing ecosystems is human ignorance and the harm it causes without people even realising. She was excited by the chance to work with professional scientists and to learn about field work and gain practical skills alongside people who have years of experience.

"It was amazing! I loved it! It helped my confidence and my goals in life have become clearer."

GEORGE ALEXANDER FOUNDATION

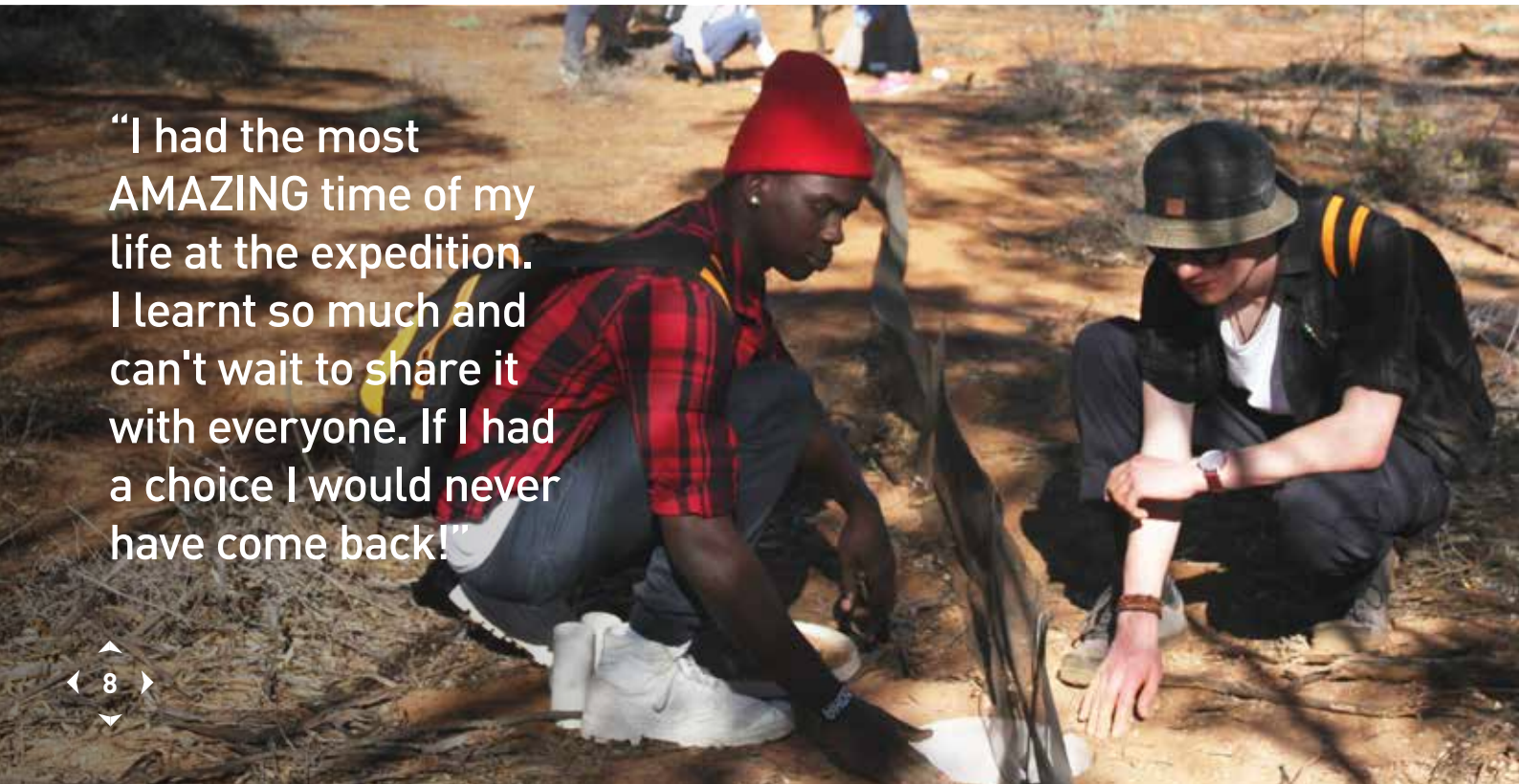
THE GEORGE ALEXANDER FOUNDATION (GAF) SUPPORTS ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR PROMISING YOUNG PEOPLE IN FINANCIAL NEED OR RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS, AND HAS SUPPORTED EARTHWATCH'S STUDENT CHALLENGE PROGRAM FOR 8 YEARS.

By providing the opportunity to experience the life of a research scientist Student Challenge aims to motivate students to enrol in science related tertiary education and to become active conservation supporters capable of addressing sustainability issues in their own communities.

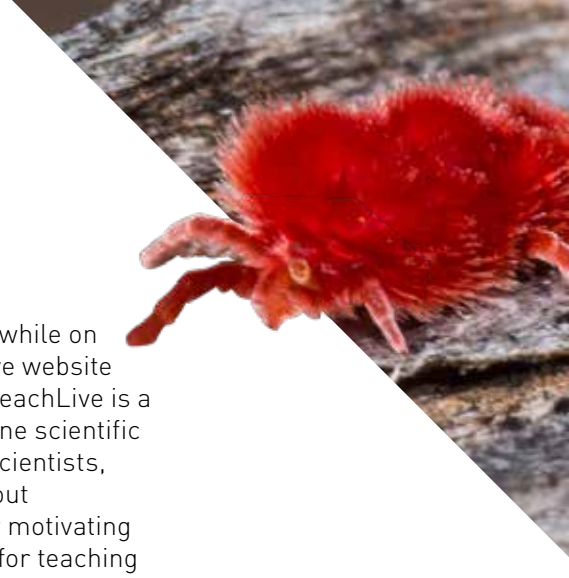
Ongoing GAF funding allows Earthwatch to build relationships with some of Australia's leading research scientists who are committed to providing career role models to students and giving them the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to genuine scientific research. Students relish the chance to meet like-minded peers, develop lasting friendships and kick-start their university studies and future careers.

CASE STUDY:
Akang Akang

Akang Akang has been on a steep learning curve since arriving in Australia with his family from Africa. Everything is new to him as he considers his future and the broad range of opportunities that have opened up for him now. Akang loves learning and sees education as a way to secure the future and has stayed at school and when many of his friends have dropped out. Akang saw Student Challenge as a way to combine academic learning with practical experience outdoors and a chance to gain some independence and determine whether this type of work would suit him for a future career.



TEACHLIVE



TeachLive gives teachers the opportunity to teach live back to their students while on a scientific research expedition through blogs, videos posted on the TeachLive website (www.teachlive.org.au) and other online tools such as Skype. For teachers, TeachLive is a unique professional development opportunity. By immersing them in a genuine scientific research expedition, they are able to learn about science from world-class scientists, improve their research skills to a scientific standard and gain knowledge about Australia's unique plants, animals and ecosystems. It is also a tremendously motivating experience, and teachers return to their schools with newfound enthusiasm for teaching science, and for sharing their new knowledge and skills with their school community.

SNORKELLING QUEENSLAND'S UNDERWATER MEADOWS

In October 2016 and August 2017 two teams of teachers from schools around Victoria assisted scientists to figure out exactly how pollutants from Brisbane are affecting Moreton Bay. The teachers acted as field assistants, and helped the scientists by snorkelling, boating, and wading in the bay, while collecting vital data on the sediment, seagrass, and small fish and marine animals living there to determine how humans are changing the ecosystem.

The Snorkelling Australia's Underwater Meadows expedition is delivered in partnership with the Geography Teachers Association of Victoria, and Earthwatch acknowledges the support of the Victorian Department of Education and Training through the Strategic Partnerships Program.

"This was one of the best PD activities that I have been on. The staff were fantastic, nothing was a problem and the organisation (and food) was simply superb. The location was stunning and the mix of on water and off water activities gave us a great insight into how scientific research is conducted in the field. I cannot recommend an Earthwatch trip enough. An added bonus was being able to see so many Dugongs!"
– **Peter Gray**,
Glen Waverley Secondary College

"It was the best PD of my teaching career. There was nothing that I didn't enjoy. Even elements of it which I found difficult, were made enjoyable by the environment, staff and colleagues who were there"
- **Rebecca Anthony**, Korumburra Secondary College

TEACHLIVE: PROTECTING NSW BUSHLANDS THROUGH CITIZEN SCIENCE

From the 20 - 27 May 2017 six teachers from across New South Wales travelled to St Bees Island in north Queensland, hiking with researchers across the rugged island to better understand how climate change is impacting the landscape. The teachers are now employing their new scientific research skills, as Earthwatch has fostered connections between their schools and local land managers, and helped them to plan how they can work together to monitor and protect wildlife and ecosystems in their communities.

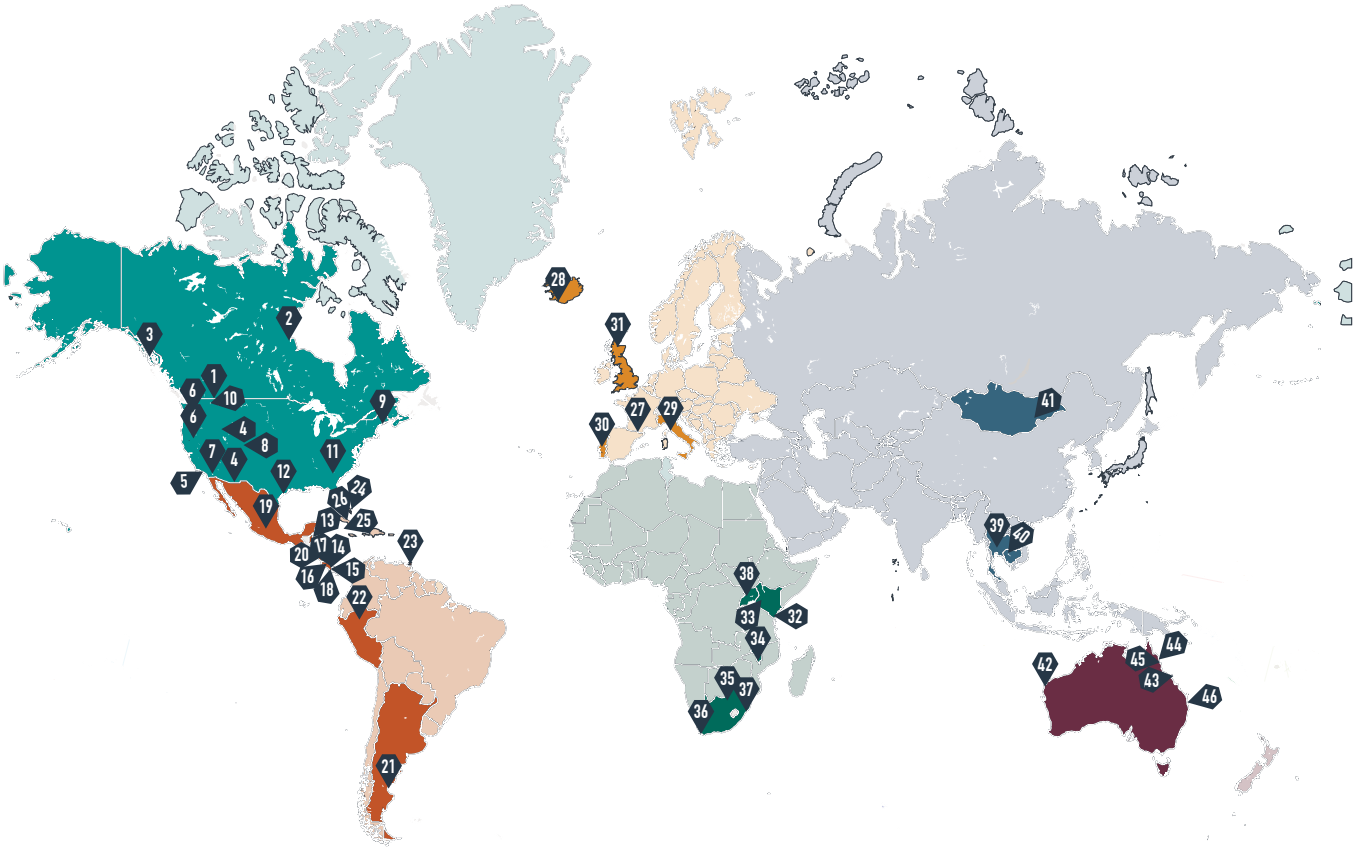
The TeachLive: Protecting NSW Bushlands Through Citizen Science program is funded by the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation [Eldon & Anne Foote Trust Donor Advised Program 2016].

"Simply put it provided the kind of experience we try and create for students - real world learning."
– **Andre Chadzynski**,
Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School

INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONS

Through offering over 46 world renowned environmental expeditions Earthwatch engages people in scientific field research and education to promote the understanding and action necessary for a sustainable environment. Together with leading scientists, we create impactful field research experiences that facilitate and disseminate world-class scientific research. We measure our success through outcomes such as peer-reviewed publications produced by our researchers and our outreach events that engage wider audiences with our work.

RESEARCH PROJECTS	46
COUNTRIES	25
AUSTRALIAN PARTICIPANTS	166
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	2,712
PARTICIPANT DAYS	3,974
PARTICIPANT HOURS	35,766



NORTH AMERICA

1 - Restoring Fire, Wolves, and Bison to the Canadian Rockies
2 - Climate Change at the Arctic's Edge
3 - Sea Otters and Seagrass in Alaska
4 - Following Forest Owls in Western U.S.
5 - Conserving Marine Life Along Catalina's Coast
6 - NEW! The Fall of Giants: Old-Growth Trees in the American West
7 - Saving Joshua Tree's Desert Species
8 - Uncovering the Mysteries of Colorado's Pueblo Communities
9 - Climate Change: Sea to Trees at Acadia National Park
10 - Climate Change, Huckleberries, and Grizzly Bears in Montana
11 - Loon Conservation in South Carolina
12 - Protecting Whooping Cranes and Coastal Habitats in Texas

CENTRAL AMERICA

13 - Shark Conservation in Belize
14 - Climate Change and Caterpillars in Costa Rica
15 - Conserving Wild Bees and Other Pollinators of Costa Rica
16 - Costa Rican Sea Turtles
17 - NEW! Monkeys, Parrots, and Other Wildlife in the Forests of Costa Rica
18 - Marine Mammals and Predators in Costa Rica
19 - Conserving Wetlands and Traditional Agriculture in Mexico
20 - Exploring an Active Volcano in Nicaragua

SOUTH AMERICA

21 - Trailing Penguins in Patagonia
22 - Amazon Riverboat Exploration
23 - Monitoring Ocelots in Trinidad

EUROPE

27 - Wildlife in the Changing Andorran Pyrenees
28 - Killer Whales and their Prey in Iceland
29 - Unearthing Ancient History in Tuscany
30 - NEW! Discovering Ancient Societies in Portugal
31 - NEW! Rewilding the Scottish Highlands

AFRICA

32 - Elephants and Sustainable Agriculture in Kenya
33 - Exploring Lions and Their Prey in Kenya
34 - Animals of Malawi in the Majete Wildlife Reserve
35 - Conserving Endangered Rhinos in South Africa
36 - South African Penguins
37 - Walking with African Wildlife
38 - Investigating Threats to Chimps in Uganda

ASIA

39 - NEW! Tracking Asiatic Wild Dogs in Thailand
40 - NEW! Unearthing the Ancient Secrets of Angkor in Cambodia
41 - Wildlife of the Mongolian Steppe

AUSTRALIA

42 - Project Manta Ningaloo Reef
43 - Australia's Changing Islands
44 - Wildlife of Australia's Rainforest
45 - Daintree's Hidden Coastline
46 - Healthy Humpbacks

ClimateWatch

an initiative of Earthwatch Institute

POLICY EDUCATION ACTION WELL-BEING

119,385

SIGHTINGS ACROSS AUSTRALIA SINCE 2009

74,000

RECORDS SUBMITTED TO ATLAS OF LIVING AUSTRALIA

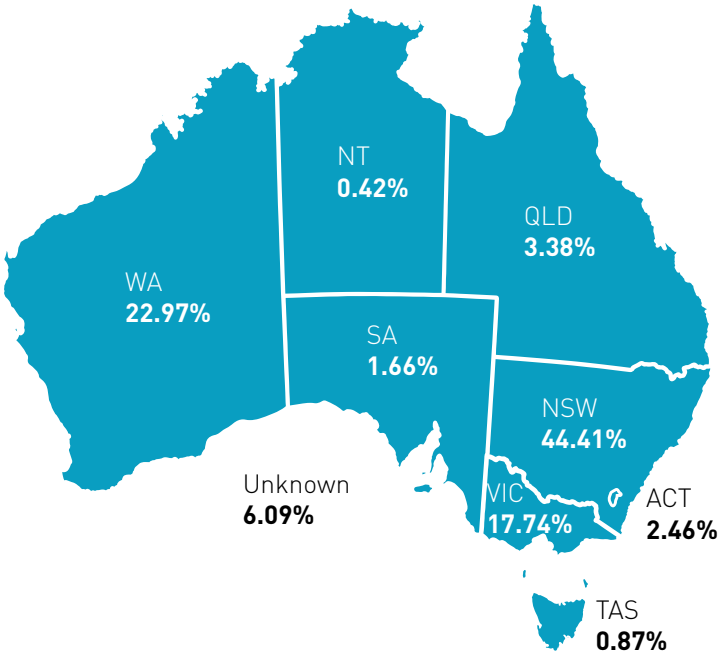
3

UNIVERSITIES USING CLIMATEWATCH IN CURRICULUM

9,000

TERTIARY STUDENTS REACHED

23,677 NEW USERS SINCE 2009



BUSH BLITZ

BUSH BLITZ IS AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST NATURE DISCOVERY PROJECT – A UNIQUE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH PARKS AUSTRALIA AND THE AUSTRALIAN BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES STUDY, BHP AND EARTHWATCH AUSTRALIA TO DOCUMENT PLANTS AND ANIMALS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.

Six Bush Blitz surveys were conducted in the last financial year:

- **Croajingalong National Park**, Victoria (western section)
- **Croajingalong National Park**, Victoria (eastern section)
- **Quinkan country**, Queensland
- **Bradshaw Military Training Area**, Northern Territory
- **Mamungari Nature Reserve**, Western Australia
- **Mungo National Park**, New South Wales

These expeditions involved **90 scientists** from **23 leading scientific institutions** from around Australia, including eight early career researchers whose participation will serve to further strengthen the science of taxonomy, as well as **16 BHP employees** and **5 teachers** who acted as research assistants for the Bush Blitz scientists – empowering them to educate their fellow employees and students about the science of taxonomy and Australia's precious biodiversity.

The scientists who participated in these expeditions continue to conduct follow-up research on the specimens they collected, many of whom have the support of Bush Blitz II taxonomy research grants. In addition to supporting ongoing investigations of the impact of Bush Blitz discoveries in science, conservation and biosecurity, this results in the number of species identified and described increasing on a continual basis – over **171 new species were discovered** by Bush Blitz expeditions in the last financial year, bringing the total number of species discovered in the 8 years of the program to over 1,600.

It was the most rewarding experience I have ever had the opportunity to partake in. I feel richer for the experience and was so proud to be able to represent my school and have them interact with me whilst I was on the journey.

- **Kate Battishall**,
teacher from Narromine High School, NSW

BushBlitz

BHP

Australian Government
Department of the Environment

RECOVERY OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

Coral reefs are incredible ecosystems; they are home to one quarter of all marine life, they sustain fishing livelihoods across the globe, and provide a myriad of ecosystem services such as coastline protection and cultural enrichment. However coral reefs are under immense threat from overfishing, coastal development, sea surface temperature rise, ocean acidification, pollution, invasive species and disease and in the past 2 years, the Great Barrier Reef has experienced the greatest bleaching event of all time causing wide-spread coral loss.

For the past 13 years Mitsubishi Corporation has been working in partnership with Earthwatch to support critical coral reef research globally. The Global Coral Reef Conservation Project (GCRCP), established by Mitsubishi Corporation, supports research in Okinawa, Japan, The Seychelles and here in Australia on the Great Barrier Reef.

Since the inception of the Great Barrier Reef project, over 6000m2 of reef substrate has been surveyed by Earthwatch volunteers with Dr David Bourne and his team from James Cook University, resulting in 6 research publication and 9 conference presentations. The project has to date uncovered the environmental drivers and etiology of black band disease (BBD), enabling predictive modelling for BBD outbreaks and also trials for a cure of this aggressive disease.

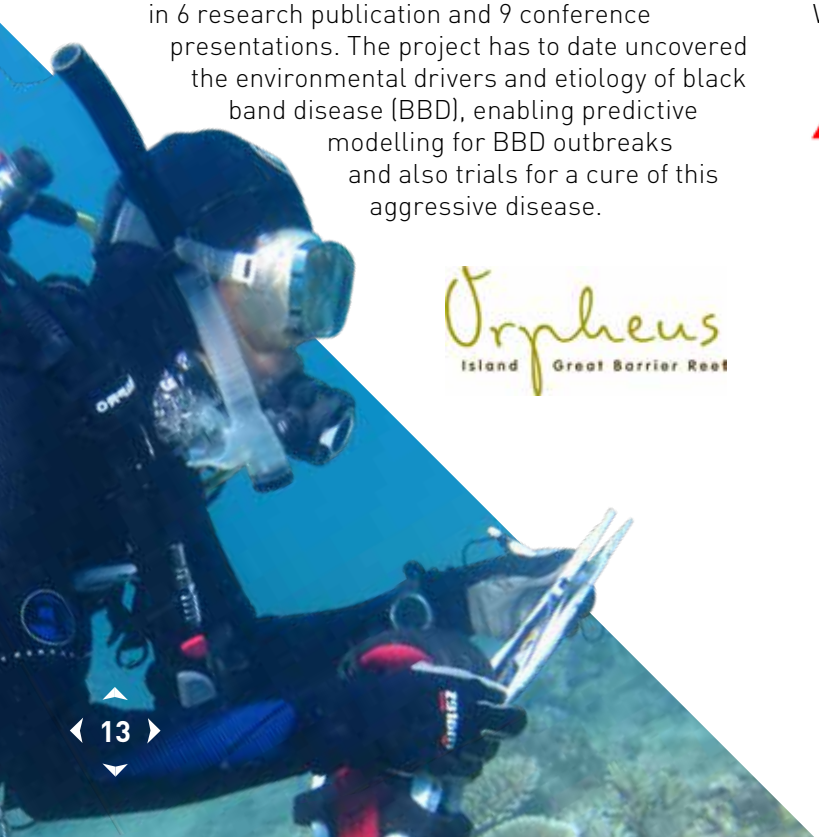
Additionally, the project has documented the recovery process of reefs after large scale disturbances (cyclones and now bleaching), which is critical knowledge for developing successful intervention strategies for reefs globally.

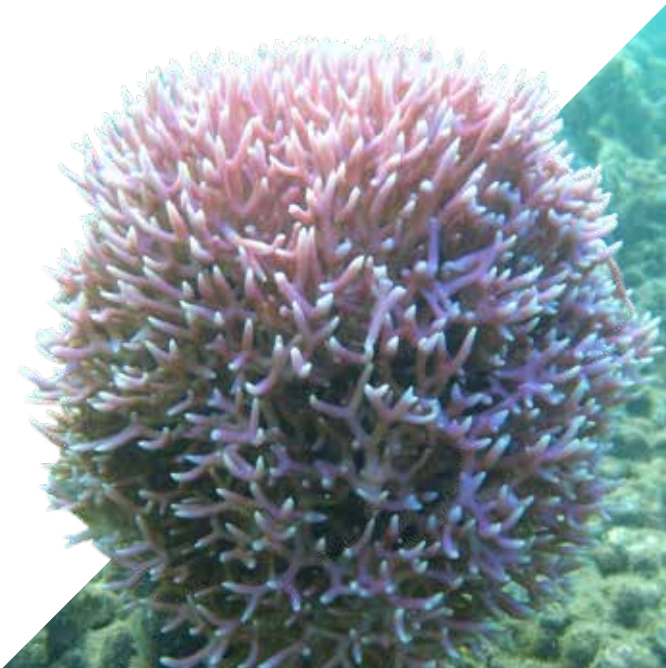
With the generous support of Mitsubishi Corporation and the Orpheus Island Resort, the Recovery of the Great Barrier Reef had another successful field season in 2017 collecting valuable data on the health and recovery process of reefs after major disturbances.

We thank them both for their generous support.

Mitsubishi Corporation

Orpheus Island Great Barrier Reef





RESEARCH AND PILLARS

WILDLIFE AND ECOSYSTEMS

Earthwatch supports research in the wildlife and ecosystems category. We help to develop conservation plans to protect our planet and its most threatened inhabitants.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Earthwatch supports research in the climate change category. We support research that improves our understanding of how climate change is affecting the environment.

OCEAN HEALTH

Earthwatch supports research in the ocean health category. We help to ensure the future of our planet's largest resources. We study ways to protect coral reefs and the threatened species that inhabit our waters.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURE

Earthwatch supports research in the archaeology and culture category. We help to unearth the remains of ancient cultures to find out how our ancestors lived. We are safeguarding our future by uncovering our past.

2016 - 2017 OVERVIEW

The role of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) is to ensure that the research undertaken by Earthwatch is of value to Australia and conforms to the highest scientific standards.

Over the past year, we have reviewed a number of high quality research projects that will (if not already) become part of the Earthwatch portfolio. These include "Conserving Australian amphibians" with University of Newcastle, "Reversing the decline of koalas" with University of Queensland, "Making the case for wetland restoration and preservation" with Deakin University, "Understanding of the spatial and temporal patterns of pollinating insects in crops" with University of New England, "Monitoring reintroduced threatened species" with Arid Recovery Reserve and Adelaide University and "Impacts of climate change on Thailand's rainforest biodiversity" with James Cook University.

Earthwatch's existing projects continue to research today's most pressing issues including climate change, biodiversity loss and ocean health. In 2017, "Recovery of the Great Barrier Reef (GBR)" documented impacts of the most serious back to back bleaching events on the GBR and combined with the 2018 season will be vital in determining what effect this will have on coral recovery processes. "Healthy Humpbacks" recorded positive data for Australia's eastern humpback whale population with an increase in newborn calves and sightings as early as mid-June. We thank our dedicated scientists and their teams for their excellent work and for contributing to the vision of Earthwatch, to empower people to save the natural world.

I am very grateful to the dedicated members of the SAC who have provided such well-informed and enthusiastic support over the last year, and I look forward to their continuing assistance with developing new initiatives and expanding our partnerships, especially with research institutions and other citizen science organisations.

Professor Ian Woodrow,
Chair, Science Advisory Committee

SCIENTIST PROFILES

Dr Peter Cale
PhD in Botany & Zoology,
University of New England.
Manager and Senior Ecologist -
Calperum and Taylorville Stations:

Peter has been a practicing Ecologist for more than 30 years and has worked with CSIRO and now with the Australian Landscape Trust at Calperum Station. During his career, Peter has published more than 30 scientific papers and numerous governmental and NGO reports and is currently a coordinating editor for the scientific journal Restoration Ecology.

Dr Olaf Meynecke

PhD in 2008, Griffith University

Dr Meynecke has been working in marine science in Queensland, Australia since 2004. He completed his PhD at Griffith University. Dr Meynecke is also the CEO and co-founder of Humpbacks & High-Rises Inc, a Not for Profit research organisation dedicated to marine mammal research and protection. His passion for science communication has lead to a number of TV presentations, newspaper articles and a movie.

We asked our scientists five high priority questions:

1 What first inspired you to pursue a career in your scientific field?	I have always been interested in wildlife spending most of my young life wandering local bushland and exploring the animals found there, so there has never a time when I didn't want to pursue some role associated with ecology.	I am driven by my love and passion for animals and interest in the natural environment. I always wanted to understand how everything is connected. I always felt making a difference and creating change for the environment was something I wanted to do from an early age.
2 In your opinion, what is the most pressing issue facing the environment? What action would you take?	Apathy! The environmental problems facing Australia, and much of the world for that matter, really can be addressed and environmental improvements are possible. The action and response needed to address this problem is re-engagement of the community with nature and presenting positive stories about the environment achieving real positive outcomes.	The dramatic and devastating decline of species is the most concerning environmental issue of our times and is connected to other problems such as climate change and plastic pollution. The best strategy to tackle future decline is to support species diversity and the reduction of mass extinction. Reducing our environmental footprint and choosing the right plants for our garden can make a difference.
3 What keeps you motivated as an environmental scientist in this day and age?	Despite the serious problems we face, motivation has never been a major issue for me. My real passion is understanding what makes a complex world work, and that we never lose. Watching someone gain a new understanding or appreciation for some part of an ecological system has always maintained my love for what I do.	I receive messages from people far a way and from all ages thanking me and encouraging me to continue. I've met some wonderful and amazing people through my work. Knowing there is a community of people who care and trying to make a difference every day gives me a lot of hope.
4 How can each individual make a positive impact in regards to current environmental issues?	The biggest impact individuals can make regarding the big environmental issues is to care. Overcoming community apathy and restarting a dialogue about how we want to deal with our environment into the future is the first and most important hurdle to overcome.	We are all part of the problem but that means we are also part of the solution. While it often appears pointless to even try changing our daily life to help reduce waste, energy and improve ethical treatment of all live forms, it is extremely important that we all play our part.
5 Climate Change is inevitably going to impact human health and natural ecosystems. What are your views on the next generation's hopes, dreams and challenges in dealing with climate change and wildlife conservation?	I've often said that the biggest threat arising from climate change is our obsession with this issue, ecological systems have been facing very serious threats for many decades. We must build resilience in the system by removing those threats that can be mitigated and enhancing the system's ability to recover and adapt to change.	Earth as we know it for the past 500 years is drastically changing. The changes are happening daily and consequences have already resulted in devastating impacts on ecosystems and human societies. While climate change is one of the biggest global threats that humanity is facing, we also understand that we can only solve problems when we act together.

SDGs

EARTHWATCH AUSTRALIA HAS ALIGNED ITS OPERATIONAL GOALS TO WORK TOGETHER WITH THE UNITED NATION'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG).

Launched in September 2015, these goals call for worldwide action by governments, businesses and individuals to address significant global issues and to work towards ensuring prosperity for everyone by the year 2030.

Our strong scientific background and extensive experience of working in partnership with business has helped us develop programmes that reach across many of the SDGs.

http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html

GOAL 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems such as forests, mountains, wetlands and rivers is essential if we are to mitigate water scarcity.

GOAL 13: CLIMATE ACTION

Helping more vulnerable regions adapt to climate change must go hand in hand with efforts to integrate disaster risk measures into national strategies. It is still possible to mitigate the effects of climate change with collective political will and a wide array of technological measures.

GOAL 14: LIFE BELOW WATER

Enhancing conservation, sustainable use of ocean-based resources through international law, protecting and managing marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution, and addressing the impacts of ocean acidification will help lessen the challenges facing our oceans.

GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND

Urgent action must be taken to reduce the loss of natural habitats and biodiversity, and to conserve and restore the use of terrestrial ecosystems such as forests, wetlands, drylands and mountains.

ADDITIONAL KEY ALIGNING SDGs EARTHWATCH AUSTRALIA IS COMMITTED TO:

SOLUTIONS

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED:

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Earth's climate has changed throughout history. The current warming trend is of particular significance because it is proceeding at a rate that is unprecedented and species do not have the time to evolve and adapt to such rapid change.

It's important to remember the vital contributions can be made by private individuals in combatting climate change. We know that the power of people can influence significant change, and it's important we all take action whether that be by speaking up about the issue, powering a house with renewable energy, building energy efficient homes, carpooling to work or school, reducing water and food waste, recycling, avoiding products with excessive packaging and turning off electronic devices at the wall. Every bit counts. At Earthwatch we are proud to be offsetting our carbon emissions through the Qantas Future Planet program.

WASTE REDUCTION

Some 20 million tonnes of garbage each year makes its way to hundreds of landfill sites, mostly clustered around our capital cities. This represents about 40% of total waste generation in Australia. It's surprisingly easy to reduce your waste going into landfill each week with a few simple tips.

- **Get to know the rules of recycling**
- **Ditch the plastic bags**
- **Make a meal plan**
- **Start relying on reusable containers**
- **Start composting**
- **Learn to repair rather than discard**
- **Cancel unnecessary mail**

At Earthwatch Australia all staff utilise reusable coffee cups for their daily, and sometimes multiple trips to local cafes, thanks to our partnership with Frank Green. As an organisation of 11 staff members this has equated to in excess of 2,400 single use coffee cups being saved from going into landfill. It is estimated 1 billion single use coffee cups are used annually by Australians, however, it is an example of the simple changes that can be made in the workplace that can have an impact on what we send to landfill.

PROJECT IMPACTS AND RESEARCH PARTNERS

Below are highlights from just two Earthwatch Australia research projects for 2017.

CLIMATEWATCH

2017 was a significant year for ClimateWatch (CW), the largest phenological study in the southern hemisphere. With the generous support from Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, we will expand the network of CW trails and integrate CW into schools across Australia. The significant benefit this provides is the engagement of millions of Australians in CW, appreciably increasing the scope and data outcomes. Large data means robust scientific results and species modelling, providing strong foundations for building management and adaptation strategies. It will complete a 10 year dataset, invaluable for Australia's understanding of climate impacts.

(See page 11 for more)

PARADISE LOST?

Impact of marine debris in Bali

Recognized as a tropical paradise and premium tourist destination, Indonesia is facing an economic and environmental disaster – marine debris. Identified in 2015 as the second largest contributor to global marine debris, the country is in urgent need of solutions to help solve their waste management problems. Through our research project conducted with Southern Cross University and Amcor (see page 27) we have begun to make important headway. The work has stimulated movement within Indonesian Government on the issue, a marine debris monitoring program has been developed with the local women at Les Village and the local NGO, Sea Communities is now running sub-tidal marine debris programs for tourists. The evidence produced from our expedition has enabled further funding of 8 student scholarships to build programs in Indonesia that foster sustainability in marine debris and the knowledge has transferred to other islands whereby students from Tual State Fisheries Polytechnic Institute have now conducted 8 surveys themselves.

Project	Research Partners
Australia's Changing Islands	Central Queensland University
Bush Blitz	Australian Biological Resources Study (ABRS)
ClimateWatch	University of Melbourne, University of Western Australia, Monash University, University of Sydney, University of South Australia, Illawarra Environmental Education Centre, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, The Atlas of Living Australia, Biodiversity and Climate Change Virtual Laboratory
Conserving Koala Country	Deakin University
Ecosystem Services of the Murray River and Mallee	Australian Landscape Trust
Healthy Humpbacks	Griffith University
Project Manta Ningaloo Reef	Murdoch University
Recovery of The Great Barrier Reef	James Cook University
Snorkelling Australia's Underwater Landscapes	Healthy Waterways and Catchments
Little Things that Matter	Clean Air and Urban Landscapes
Paradise Lost? The Impact of Marine Debris on Bali	Southern Cross University
Sustainable Agribusiness in Tasmania	CSIRO
Wildlife of Australia's Rainforest	James Cook University

GOALS AND VISIONS 2018

PARTNERSHIPS AND CO-CREATION

We understand that the environmental problems facing the world today are beyond the scope of just one organisation. History shows that great feats are achieved when all sectors work together. Hence we welcome and will continue to partner with and co-create solutions with civil society, academia, government and business.

HIGH IMPACT RESEARCH

Scientific evidence is what influences and informs successful policy and management strategies. We will focus our research on projects that fill knowledge gaps needed by business and government to create solutions and innovate, so we can build a sustainable society.

BUILD SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

Engagement in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) is on the decline, when it is needed most. STEM subjects provide problem-solving skills and evidence-based thinking to tackle the dynamic, data-rich, and increasingly technology-driven future that our children will face. We will strive to offer more opportunities to teachers and students to engage in inspirational and real world STEM programs.

TELL OUR STORY

We will share our research outcomes and the personal experiences had by our participants (business and individuals alike) to inspire and create positive behaviour change across Australia.

SUPPORTERS AND DONORS

This year we extended our scope of fundraising activities to include an End of Year Christmas campaign in addition to our Annual Appeal mid-year. The campaign focused on wildlife on the brink of extinction.

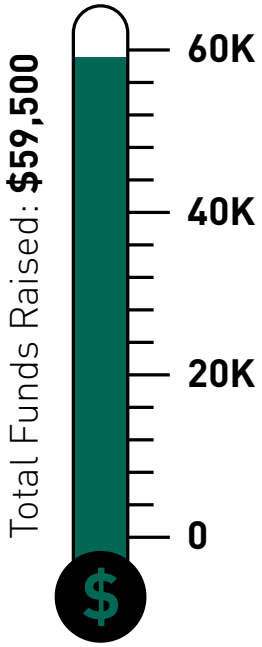
Over the last few years many animals have been on the brink of extinction. In fact, we are currently experiencing the worst case of species die-offs since the loss of the dinosaurs. In recent years we've lost the South China Tiger, the Northern White Rhino is extinct in the wild with only three remaining in captivity and the Amur Leopard only has 30 remaining in the wild.

The campaign was received very positively and raised in excess of **$22,500** this was an incredibly positive outcome especially in light of it being a new approach to donor engagement.

Similarly, our Annual Appeal which focussed on the ongoing challenge of developing solutions to combat increasing marine debris struck a chord with donors.

Every year the average Australian family produces enough rubbish to fill a three bedroom house. This is equivalent to producing about 2.25 kg of waste PER PERSON, per day.

Our rubbish is impacting our waterways, beaches, oceans and wildlife. Since 2013, Earthwatch Expeditions have continued to study debris washing up along our shore lines in both the Coral Sea and Great Barrier Reef. Subsequently this campaign raised over **$37,000**. Monies raised from these fundraising activities will support Earthwatch's ongoing programs addressing these challenges.



All donations above $2 are tax deductable

COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

EDGE PLEDGE

During 2017 Earthwatch once again participated in Edge Pledge. Edge Pledge is a challenge-based fundraising platform driven by social media which puts people 'on the edge' to raise money for wildlife on the brink of extinction. Participants supporting Earthwatch Australia had the opportunity to raise money for the critically endangered Swift Parrot, the Koala, Manta Ray or White Lemuroid Ringtail Possum all which relate to Earthwatch Australia's expeditions and programs. Edge Pledge had a significant response from the public and raised just under $15,000. Challenges undertaken included climbing Victoria's three highest mountains, travelling across Bass Strait on the Spirit of Tasmania dressed as a Swift Parrot, hosting a trivia night to raise money for communities impacted by climate change and parachuting!

An Edge Pledge supporter undertaking her challenge to raise funds for endangered species.

Community Fundraising:

This year Earthwatch Australia was thrilled to be chosen by a number of members of the public to be the recipient of their fundraising activities. None more so than that achieved by Sydneysider Wai Low. Wai ran Sydney's famous 14km City to Surf fun run and raised over $2500 for Earthwatch.

CITY2SURF

"I believe climate change is the greatest threat facing humanity within the next century. Many places around the world are already suffering the consequences, with developing nations disproportionately affected. Australia consistently ranks within the top 10 countries in the world for carbon emissions per capita. I'm a big believer in the idea that if we all do our part, however small our contributions, we can make a big difference in the long run. That's why I've chosen to fund raise for Earthwatch Australia. Earthwatch Australia is doing amazing work helping to fund crucial scientific research around the world. Earthwatch Australia also works with businesses and in the education sector in order to raise awareness and encourage sustainable practices."

- **Wai Low**

EARTHWATCH AUSTRALIA'S CHAMPION OF CITIZEN SCIENCE

TESTIMONIAL OF PAT MCKAY:

Over the course of **21 years** I have experienced the privilege and joy of working on **26 Earthwatch projects** covering six of the seven continents. During this time span I have met the most fascinating array of scientists and volunteers and, in the process, have expanded my learning exponentially.

My experiences have ranged across the spectrum of: climate change on the Arctic's edge; archaeology digs in the US, Britain, Italy and Thailand; and conservation of animals and environments in Australia, Europe, Asia, Africa and North, Central and South America.

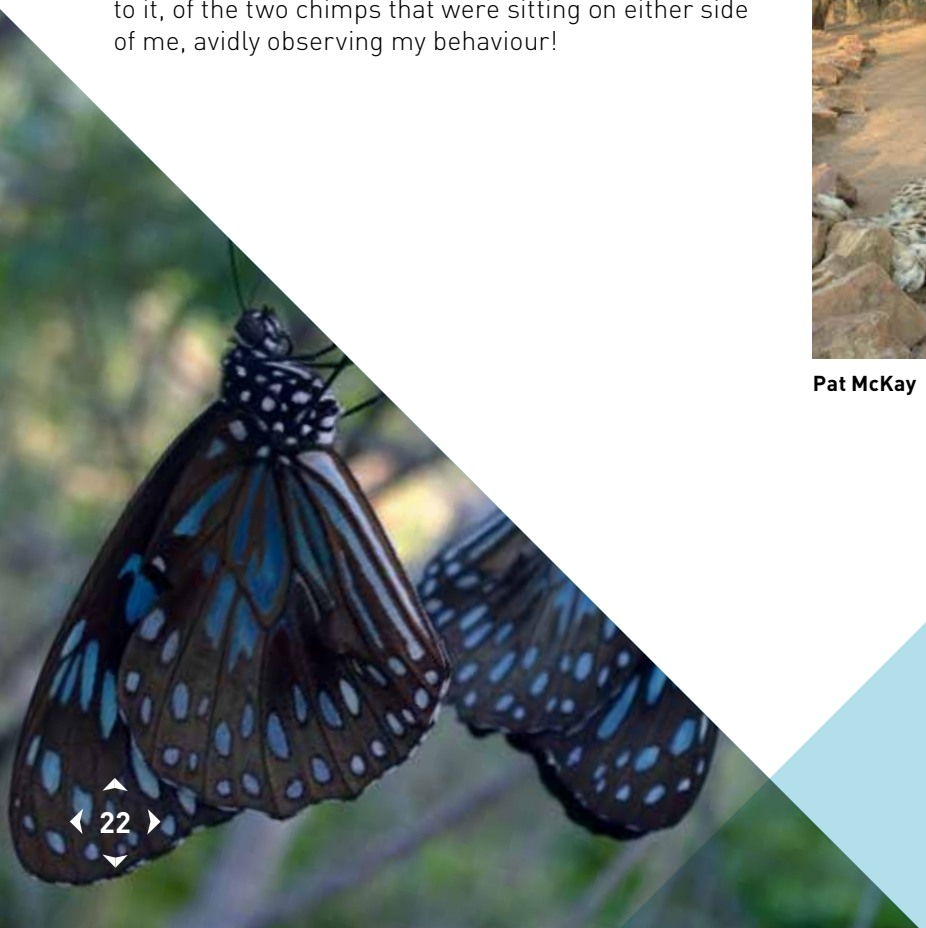
Earthwatch memories are the ones that are embedded much deeper than any of my other travel experiences. Some amusing, such as meeting up with 'Charlie' the named wolf in Brazil, who treated the trapping/ tagging process, involving food bait, as his very own 'McDonalds', managing to get himself 'trapped' every second or third day. And the time when we were observing the behaviour of chimpanzees in Uganda; so engrossed was I in ensuring that my documentation was accurate and legible, I was unaware, until alerted to it, of the two chimps that were sitting on either side of me, avidly observing my behaviour!

Some that had the adrenalin racing: the gradual unearthing of a magnificent, intact storage pot on an ancient Indian dig site in Arizona and the sight of two polar bears beside the front door of the research station as we were heading out to the tundra to begin work.

Then there was the celebration of Warren Stortroen's 100th expedition in 2017 at the Crow Canyon archaeology site in Colorado. It was such a delight to share that time with him. He is so inspirational. What a brilliant ambassador for the Earthwatch cause!

This year I am looking forward to returning to Colorado, and to also joining the killer whales project in Iceland. Having not been to Iceland before, I am already chafing at the bit to get going and add to the memory bank!

Pat McKay



EARTH BALL 2017

Earthwatch Australia was proud to host the 2017 Earth Ball at the magnificent RACV City Club. We were honoured to share an exciting night with 250 of our exceptional funding partners, donors, supporters and family and friends. The evening's Master of Ceremonies was hosted by the charismatic Dr Adam Bumpas, special live feature performance by Michael Cormick with our guest speakers, Dr Anne Poelina and Dr Matthew Bell sharing their deeper perspectives on our question: "How much is the Earth Worth".

Dr Adam Bumpas - MC

Dr Anne Poelina
- Guest Speaker

Dr Matthew Bell
- Guest Speaker

THE GENEROSITY OF ALL GUESTS, AND IN PARTICULAR A SPECIAL THANKS TO BEN YOUNG (OWNER OF FRANK GREEN) FOR HIS FANTASTIC DONATION OF $10,000 ON THE NIGHT CONTRIBUTED TO EARTHWATCH RAISING OVER $56,000.

The night was only possible as a result of our valued partners and sponsors. On behalf of Earthwatch Australia, we'd like to extend our appreciation to the following organisations:

MAJOR SPONSORS

Mitsubishi Australia Ltd.

RACV

QANTAS FUTURE PLANET

SUPPORTING SPONSORS

ambius

MOUNTAIN GOAT BEER

ROBERT OATLEY

TABLE SPONSORS

Bank Australia
RESPONSIBLE BANKING

VICTORIA State Government Environment, Land, Water and Planning

ecology & heritage partners

Grant Thornton
An instinct for growth™

Allens › ‹ Linklaters

QANTAS FUTURE PLANET

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Vividtechnology

EY Building a better working world


Proudly supporting Earthwatch
for a healthy future planet.
qantasfutureplanet.com.au
QANTAS
FUTURE PLANET

BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS AND SOLUTIONS

"A business solution is a concrete example of a company exploiting a global opportunity . It is a readily available solution that is financially viable, scalable, with the potential to improve the quality of life, that also demonstrates positive environmental impact. Solutions can range from a family run operation to one unit of a multi national operation and can be anywhere in the world."

- **From the Global Opportunity Report**

EARTHWATCH AIMS TO WORK WITH BUSINESSES TO DRIVE RESULTS, ENGAGE STAFF AND ENCOURAGE A POSITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE LEGACY OF SUPPORTING THE NATURAL WORLD.

We develop bespoke scientific research projects which relate to business impacts, risks and/or opportunities from environmental issues such as marine debris to fresh water or biodiversity loss. We develop transformational experiences by creating immersive learning programs with citizen science at their heart. This enables your executives, employees, clients and wider stakeholders to personally contribute to leading scientific research and in doing so connect with your sustainability strategy. Staff engagement has significant benefits for both the business and the science. It enables collection of large scale data-sets within short timeframes, whilst simultaneously increasing employee understanding and drive of sustainability practices. Beyond your direct business, the impact of the work can also inform your industry-wide guidelines, standards and policy.

Thank you to the following financial and pro-bono business partners who enable our work to take shape in the world and to maintain our ability to run our operations, expeditions and research programs.

amcor · brother at your side · Daintree EcoLodge & Spa · frank green · The George Alexander Foundation · Orpheus Island Great Barrier Reef

HSBC · Australian Government Department of the Environment · An Australian Government Initiative Inspiring Australia · Victoria State Government · The Education State

K&L GATES · KPMG · Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation · sparke HELMORE Lawyers · BHP · Grant Thornton An instinct for growth

Mitsubishi Corporation · Parks Victoria Healthy Parks Healthy People · The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation Make Your Mark · Qantas Future Planet · RACV

HSBC GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP AND WATER STORIES

FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS, NEW YORK-BASED PHOTOGRAPHER, MUSTAFAH ABDULAZIZ, HAS TRAVELLED THE WORLD CAPTURING THE STORIES OF PEOPLE AND THEIR CONNECTION TO WATER, ONE OF THE PLANET'S MOST VALUABLE RESOURCES.

As part of this project, Mustafah teamed up with Earthwatch Institute, the World Wildlife Foundation (WWF) and WaterAid to discover the impact of the HSBC Water Program, which is an USD$150 million global partnership between the three environmental organisations and HSBC.

Water Stories showcases this collaboration and the significance of water to our daily lives. Throughout August and September 2017, the collection of 70 photographs toured Australia and formed part of the International Rivers Symposium in Brisbane. The unique and mesmerising exhibition was a way to engage the broader Australian public on some of the broader challenges associated with fresh water, including the focus areas of the HSBC Water Program – access to safe water and sanitation, river basin management and environmental education.

Research commissioned by WWF showed that in terms of the biggest risk to a positive, peaceful, thriving future, Australians believed water and food to be of least concern. However, through the inspirational images visitors were able to draw parallels between the global issues and what is happening here in Australia. A good example of these parallels is The Pantanal, and the upstream and downstream effects of innappropriate management of agricultural impacts, something that is a concern in Australia too.

HSBC Australia CEO, Martin Tricaud commented on Water Stories and the HSBC Water Program, "Water Stories is a very unique project, and Mustafah's efforts to collect and document the water crisis also illustrates the goals of the HSBC Water Program.

The impact since the partnership started in 2012 has been significant. Through the HSBC Water Program, 1.5 million people now have access to clean water, and another 2.5 million have access to life-saving sanitation. Additionally more than 170,000 people have been assisted to reduce their impacts through farming and fishing, and more than 527,000ha of wetland have been protected. At HSBC, 8,000 employees globally have been trained as Citizen Science Leaders, collecting data to contribute to ongoing science research projects related to fresh water."

HSBC

AMCOR

AMCOR AND EARTHWATCH: A PARTNERSHIP OF COLLABORATION AND PROGRESS

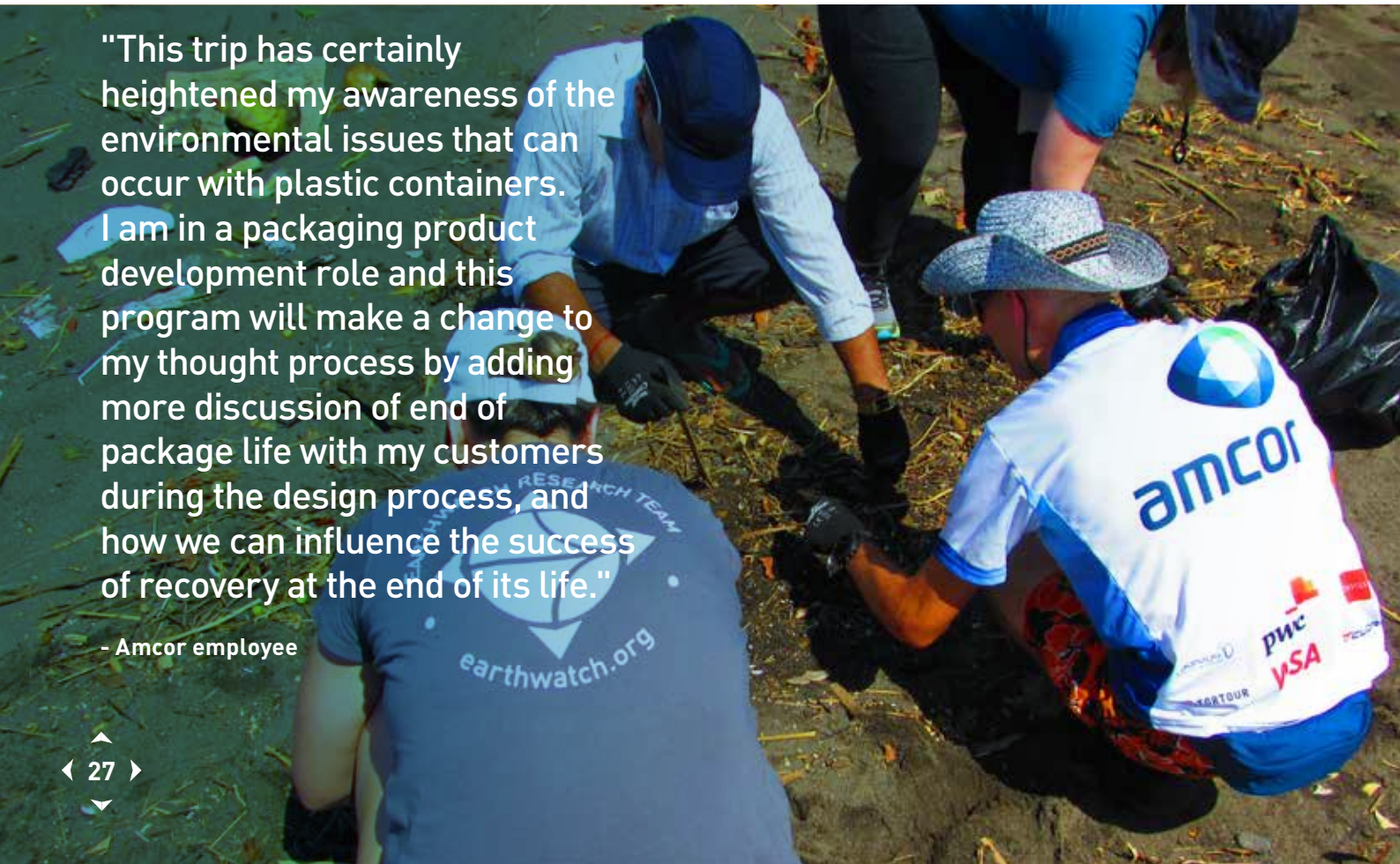
Amcor and Earthwatch have maintained a strong partnership for 16 years, working together to promote environmental stewardship of employees, improve sustainable outcomes for industry and positively impact the environment. As a leader in sustainability, Amcor takes bold steps towards tackling the challenge of marine debris head on by engaging its employees in a marine debris learning program.

Not only do these employees contribute valuable skills, resources, and man-power to the marine debris surveys, the expedition provides them with awareness to tackle their own waste management challenges when they return home, and to find ways to continually improve Amcor's operations.

In October 2016, 16 Amcor fellows participated in an 11 day expedition to Bali, Indonesia, led by Professor Steve Smith of Southern Cross University. Circumnavigating the island, the team conducted 45 marine debris surveys across multiple beaches. The aim was to measure debris loads on beaches and explore relationships among factors such as population density, tourist load (including ecotourism), management regimes (both formal and informal), and the role of cultural practices in addressing the problem.

The team interacted with local groups including visiting the Green School Bali, where sustainable living is core to learning. This provided an opportunity for the fellows to meet Ted Talker and Bye Bye Plastic Bags Bali founder Melati Wisjen (16 yrs of age), who – along with her co-founder and sister Isabel (14) – have been campaigning to ban plastic bags in Bali for 4 years.

Along Bali's northern coast, the fellows had a chance to visit the local community of Les Village, and learn of and influence grassroots initiatives taking place there to tackle marine debris.



SCIENTIST FOR A DAY

BROTHER INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND CLIENTS UNDERTOOK A STAFF ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM TO UNDERSTAND HOW ALL SPECIES ON THIS PLANET ARE DELICATELY INTERLINKED TO EACH OTHER IN A BEAUTIFULLY COMPLEX NETWORK OF ECOLOGICAL INTERACTIONS.

With their help, the research being undertaken by Dr Luis Mata is trying to make visible some of the most important ecological interactions that are taking place in our cities. Through this project, the aims are to learn about Australian native pollinators and other beneficial insects that are frequently seen visiting the flowers of our cities' parks and gardens.

The Beneficial Insects App, a tool designed to record a series of targeted beneficial insects in a user-friendly, intuitive way, includes charismatic species such as the yellow admiral butterfly and blue-banded bees as well as the plants they interact with. By using the app you are directly contributing to scientific data collection and ultimately the conservation of these key species in our urban environments.

Aims of the research

- To implement a research-oriented citizen science protocol to document ecological interactions between plants and a range of beneficial insects
- Using two key urban ecosystems characterised by contrasting plant communities within the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne: (1) an ornamental bed, characterised by non-native plant species; and (2) an ornamental bed characterised by native plant species from Victoria.
- Using new technologies and cutting-edge science, the project will include protocols for engaging and training participants, best-practice approaches to data capture, display, storage and analysis via an online app, and effective ways to motivate and further empower Earthwatch

brother at your side

WORKING AT EARTHWATCH

Earthwatch Australia has a diverse team of workers that contribute to the organisation in different capacities: as employees, consultants, interns, office volunteers or staff on secondments from other Earthwatch offices around the world.

Here at Earthwatch we are mindful of the physical time our staff spend at work, in effect more than half of their waking hours. We promote as colourful an environment as possible, with an emphasis on large availability of natural light, plenty of greenery, regular staff activities and acknowledgement of individual and collective contributions that add to the success of Earthwatch.

All staff are offered flexible working arrangements which includes hours of work, patterns of work and also locations of work that enables working from home to support the responsibility of care for a pet and child or a parent.

This promotes a healthier mind and body that has the ability to sustain itself throughout the day in a safe and supportive environment.

The Earthwatch Australia Team

Earthwatch Australia is now located at:

60L GREEN BUILDING

SUSTAINABILITY

We use green energy

We source recycled materials wherever available

We support our staff cycling to work

We recycle our waste

We provide plants for the office space

We provide fruit for staff to enjoy

THE 60L GREEN BUILDING:

- **A COMMERCIALLY VIABLE, HEALTHY, LOW ENERGY, RESOURCE-EFFICIENT WORKPLACE WITH MINIMAL IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.**
- **A UNIQUE APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN, ENERGY AND WATER CONSUMPTION, USE OF RECYCLED AND RE-USED MATERIALS WITH A ROOFTOP GARDEN OASIS.**
- **AN EMPOWERED AND PARTICIPATIVE 60L BUILDING COMMUNITY ALL WORKING TOWARDS REDUCING AND SOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AND CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.**

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Effective leadership and a strong, inclusive culture which empowers our staff, stakeholders and supporters is critical to the positive impact and legacy that Earthwatch can have on the natural environment. The foundations being laid through the leadership of our CEO, Cassandra Nichols, and the team at Earthwatch are creating a stronger platform for the future, despite a couple of years of financial challenges.

Our success depends upon the support of all our partners: the Earthwatch global network, scientists, governments, corporate sponsors, our volunteers and the community. We are fortunate to have some long standing relationships with several of our partners, most notably Amcor, Brother, Mitsubishi and BHP.

As my last report to our stakeholders given my retirement from the Board in 2018, I extend my thanks to all of my Board colleagues for their dedication to the Earthwatch mission. Effective Boards are critical in supporting the management team in delivering on the organisation's goals. Our strong and diverse Board will continue to champion Earthwatch in coming years.

After nine years, Colin Gomm will be retiring at the 2018 AGM, a great contributor both as a Director and as Chairman of our Finance & Risk Committee. On behalf of my Board colleagues, I thank you Colin for your outstanding service over many years. I would also like to recognize Elena O'Brien who due to other commitments, has also had to retire. Peter Cochrane, appointed in 2017 will bring a strong understanding of government processes to our deliberations and will assume the Chair of the Finance & Risk Committee in 2018.

I am confident we now have the right leadership at Earthwatch to build on the foundations laid over the last two years. We undertook a deep-dive strategic review in the latter part of 2017 which has shaped our priorities and focus as a Board working diligently and effectively to further strengthen the positive impacts of Earthwatch.

Earthwatch has an important role to play at this time of continuing degradation of the natural environment and increasing community awareness and concern. The Board and senior management are confident in our ability to execute our strategy effectively and, deliver major benefits for research, conservation and public education in the years ahead.

Charles Macek,
Chair - Earthwatch Institute Australia

"Nature surrounds us, from parks and backyards to streets and alleyways. Next time you go out for a walk, tread gently and remember that we are both inhabitants and stewards of nature in our neighbourhoods."

- **David Suzuki**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles Macek,
Chair Appointed:
1 March 2011

Peter Cochrane
Appointment:
May 2017

Colin Gomm
Appointed:
17 November 2008

Elena O'Brien
Appointment:
November 2016

Heather Campbell
Completed Appointed:
15 December 2016

Chris Schultz
Appointed: 21
January 2011

Megan Flynn
Appointed: 13
March 2014

Prof Ian Woodrow
Appointed: 12
December 2013

Kerrie Lavey
Appointed:
6 March 2016

Aaron Organ
Appointed:
1 March 2016

Mathew Nelson
Appointed:
15 July 2016

SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prof Ian Woodrow – SAC
Chair, University of Melbourne
Head, School of Ecosystem and Forest Sciences

Prof David Booth
University of Technology, Sydney
Program Director, School of the Environment

Ms Diana Jones
Western Australian Museum
Executive Director, Collections and Research

Prof Stephen Williams
James Cook University
Director, Centre for Tropical Biodiversity and Climate Change

Prof. Ian Lilley
University of Queensland
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit

Dr Martine Maron
University of Queensland
Senior Lecturer in Environmental Management

Prof Nancy Longnecker
University of Otago, Dunedin, NZ
Professor, Science Communication

Ex-officio:

Cassandra Nichols
Earthwatch Institute (Australia)
Chief Executive Officer

Justin Foster
Earthwatch Institute (Australia)
Director, Research Programs

Chew Yue Chin
Earthwatch Institute (Australia)
Research and Programs Officer

FINANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE

Colin Gomm – Chair

Megan Flynn

Rod Jackson

Charles Macek

Peter Cochrane

Ex-officio:

Cassandra Nichols

Bonnie Lessels

Eshan Sandanayake

MARKETING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kerrie Lavey
Strategicink Pty Ltd

David Henderson
Corporate Strategy Expert

Elena O'Brien
Rockwell Management

Ex-officio:

Ari Panagiotou

Erin Leigh

EARTHWATCH STAFF

Cassandra Nichols
Chief Executive Officer

Ari Panagiotou
Director – Development and Innovation

Justin Foster
Director – Research and Programs

Chew Yue Chin
Research and Programs Officer

Julie Schilin
Administration Officer

Andrea Haas
Field Operations Manager

Erin Leigh
Marketing and Communications Manager

Bonnie Lessels
Business Operations Manager (maternity leave March 2016)

Eshan Sandanayake
Business Operations Manager

Viki Nathan
Learning and Volunteer Engagement Manager

Bruce Paton
Program Manager, Bush Blitz and TeachLive

Nadiah Roslan
ClimateWatch Manager

Eleni Rigas
Marketing and Communication Intern

Dominique Dybala
TeachLive Assistant

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Editorial:	Ari Panagiotou / Erin Leigh
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BE AN EARTHWATCHER

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ISO 14001
CERTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM