



ACTHA CONTACT DETAILS

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ACTHA INC. NEWS

OCT - NOV 2011

*Newsletter of the
ACT Herpetological
Association Inc.*

YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2010 - 2011

President	Joe McAuliffe
Vice President	Ric Longmore
Secretary	Angus Kennedy
Treasurer	Margaret Ning
Newsletter Editor	Mandy Conway
Webmaster	Angus Kennedy
Public Officer	* John Wombey
Excursion Officer	* Ric Longmore
Conservation Officer	Joe McAuliffe
Committee Members	Dennis Dyer Peter Child Iris Carter Greg Flowers
Student Representatives	Jake McAuliffe Angelique Harrison

** Denotes Life Members*

**2011 - 2012 ACTHA MEMBERSHIP IS
NOW OVER-DUE - STILL ONLY \$10!**

To make sure your membership remains current
please come to our October Meeting, or see the back
page of this issue for subscription payment options.
Recently joined or renewed? thank you!

IN THIS ISSUE

Shirts for ACTHA members:
your input is urgently needed,
see page 3 for the options.

Are you artistic?

could you help make some awesome
species ID tags for our *Snakes Alive!*
enclosures? page 2 has the email
address for you!

Note from the Editor

Due to conflicting workloads and a
Modern Technology problem
(*Computer internet failure ssp.*) the
summaries of the presentations by
Jo-Anne Bauer and Juliana Lazzari at
the 16 August 2011 ACTHA meeting
have been deferred to the next bumper
edition of this Newsletter.

**CHANGE
OF VENUE!**
*see back page for
directions*

DIARY DATE

The *bi-monthly* meetings of the Association are
held on the **third Tuesday of the month** at
7.30pm,

***Belconnen Soccer Club, Hawker
cnr Belconnen Way & Springvale Drive***

UPCOMING MEETING

Tuesday, 18 October 2011

This month we will again have two speakers
and an informative talk on keeping a reptile, yet
to be named, but guaranteed to be interesting!

Dr Tom Bergin, veterinary surgeon and
ex-Curator of Mammals at Taronga Zoological
Gardens, will be speaking from his
herpetological experience with a focus on
devenomation.

Peri Bolton from the ANU will also be speaking
about her research. Peri is reconstructing the
evolutionary history of a group of Australian
burrowing elapid snakes, primarily distributed
over the Australian arid-zone. Peri will use this
evolutionary history to examine how climatic
and landform changes in the last ~15 million
years have created the Australian deserts and
influenced the evolution and distribution of
these species. She will also discuss the role of
diet specialisation in these groups in relation to
other elapid groups and its effect on species
diversity and characteristics.

Snakes Alive! Exhibition 2012

the Crosbie Morrison Building at the
Australian National Botanic Gardens has been booked.
More details and information for volunteers
in our next Newsletter.

ARE YOU ARTISTIC? DO YOU HAVE SOME SPARE TIME?

We need some help in producing enclosure tags, similar to the one below,
for the 2012 *Snakes Alive!* Exhibition.

We need help gathering species photos, species distribution maps, interesting facts and
putting these altogether to produce the enclosure tags.

Please contact this Editor at mandycnway@gmail.com

This is your chance to help your Association in a very important way, please!

Ed.

Common local species

Eastern Blue-tongue Lizard

Tiliqua scincoides



Interesting facts

- SVL 300-320mm
- omnivorous, feeding on flowers, fruits, snails, eggs & small vertebrates
- scales are smooth and overlapping, tongue is broad, flat and blue
- gives birth to 7-16 live young in February (late summer)
- found in all habitats throughout estn and nthn Aust. in suburban gardens
- hides under leaves, mulch and rubbish



Information source (unless otherwise indicated):
S. Wilson and G. Swan, A Complete Guide to Reptiles of Australia, 2008 (maps)
Harold G. Cogger, Reptiles & Amphibians of Australia, 2000

PROPOSAL FOR ACTHA MEMBER SHIRTS

Several ACTHA members have asked whether a T-shirt with our logo could be made available for use at events such as our annual *Snakes Alive!* Exhibition. The aim is to help the general public identify ACTHA volunteers at reptile displays. The proposal has been discussed at a few Committee Meetings and a tentative design has been produced.

Our talented student representative, **Angelique Harrison**, has drawn and painted a couple of beautiful images (*see below*) for possible use, along with our logo. The Red-bellied Black Snake was drawn from a photo taken by Ric Longmore and is the front-running image.

The proposal is to have the **Red-bellied Black Snake** and our logo screen printed onto a shirt.

Ideas include:

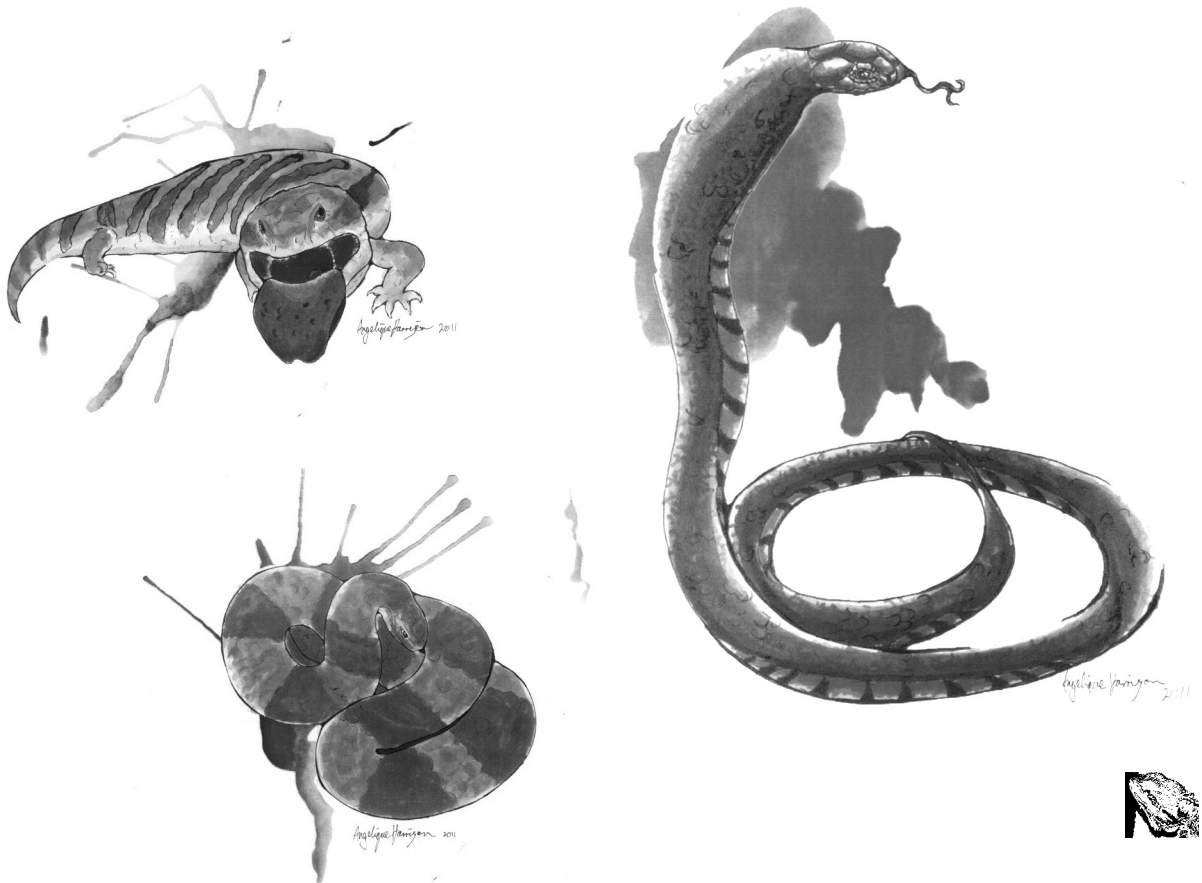
1. the use of a good quality T-shirt *or* collared polo shirt, possibly charcoal grey;
2. a large image of the Red-bellied Black Snake printed on the back, possibly surrounded by text '*Snakes Alive!*', with the ACTHA logo placed on the front pocket;
3. a large image of the snake on the front with an equally large ACTHA logo on the back, again with possible '*Snakes Alive!*' text;

The shirts will be ordered as a batch, with members purchasing them at cost. At this stage the cost will be anywhere from \$17 to \$28 depending on the shirts chosen and the quantity ordered (the more the cheaper).

The 2012 *Snakes Alive!* Exhibition is fast approaching so we need all members to register their interest asap.

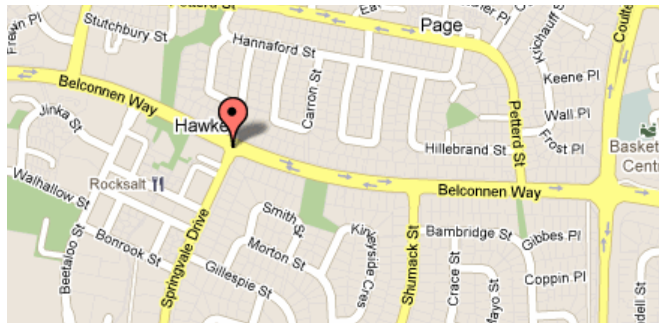
Please register your interest and an indication of your preferences by
COB Monday, 17 October 2011 to mandyncnwy@gmail.com

Printing requirements will be finalised at the meeting on 18 October and all respondents will be contacted shortly after to confirm orders.



CHANGE OF MEETING VENUE!

After 8 years of meeting at the former West's Club (now the Southern Cross Club) in Macquarie, ACTHA has investigated other suitable venues due to the lack of a permanent meeting room.



The ACT Herpetological Association Inc. has been offered a permanent conference room for our bi-monthly meetings at

the Belconnen Soccer Club, Hawker

located on the corner of Belconnen Way & Springvale Drive, Hawker

The Club has **dining** and **bar** facilities, so why not have a meal with other members where you can talk herp before our 7.30pm meeting starts.

ACTHA would like to thank the Belconnen Soccer Club for their invitation and we hope to share a long and prosperous association.

ACT HERPETOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INC. 2011 - 2012 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOW DUE

Membership renewal runs from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 and costs **\$10** for all memberships.

Herpetofauna is an additional \$12 for the two issues of Dec 2011 and June 2012.

Payment at our August meeting would be appreciated.

OR please make your cheque out to ACTHA Inc., fill in your details below and send it to the ACTHA Membership Officer, PO Box 160, Jamison ACT 2614.

Surname:

Given name(s):

Address:

State/Territory:

Postcode:

Telephone (h):

Telephone (w):

Email:

OR you could make a direct deposit to ACTHA's bank account:

St George Bank, BSB 112-908, A/c 040003311

PLEASE! Don't forget to note your name so we can identify whose payment it is on our Bank Statement.

Queries? please call Margaret on 02 6241 4065 (h).



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