

**MEDIA RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release – pix available*

**Galapagos—The Good, The Bad and the Unknown**

**Gecko Talks – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August at Currumbin RSL**

An Australian ladybug is an eco-superhero in the Galapagos Islands, the wildlife mecca greatly threatened by introduced species.

So why purposely bring in a non-native creature, when invaders have already wreaked havoc there? This will be just part of what Paul Revie, zoologist and ecologist, will discuss at the free Gecko Talks later this month.

After dreaming of visiting the Galapagos for much of his life, Paul finally travelled there recently as part of a small group of environmentalists. His talk will cover some of the successes, as well as the threats, to the World Heritage archipelago.

The isolated islands inspired Charles Darwin's *Theory of Evolution*. Paul will touch on how the special flora and fauna have evolved, and give his first-hand impressions of the conservation issues facing these remarkable islands with their iconic giant tortoises, unique birds and iguanas.

While Paul is currently undertaking numerous research projects, he has also spent many years working with Seaworld's penguins. Not surprisingly, he will talk about the endangered Galapagos penguin—the only equatorial penguin.

Paul is passionate about the Galapagos, which have become a flagship for conservation and scientific discovery. But the natural environment of the Galapagos faces an uncertain future—another topic close to his heart.

**When:** Wednesday August 23rd, 2017

**Time:** 6:45PM for 7:00PM Start

**Where:** 'The Cove Room', Currumbin RSL, 165 Duringan Street, Currumbin

**Cost:** FREE! Don't forget, you can have a meal there before the talk.

**Book:** Call Gecko on 07 5534 1412 or turn up on the night.

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