

Stew & the Zoo

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A number of Society members have recorded with Stewart Havill over the years. He's always affable and generous with his time. I personally have recorded three albums, with another on the way, as well as Velvet Road's releases. Stew also used to be on the Society Committee and was the soundman/engineer for our Society Concerts, so has had a lot to do with the Society over the years.

We were working on the current album, "*To Travel On*", when Stew mentioned that he'd done some work for Taronga Zoo as we were talking about Jocelin and my recent adventures at the Gosford Retile Park. We were stunned when Stew told us he'd done the music for a number of their new exhibits as well as for the Botanical Gardens:



Taronga Zoo Sydney

Nura Diya Precinct

Soundscape / Music

<https://www.taronga.org.au/news/2023-04-13/nura-diya-australia-opens-taronga-zoo>

Taronga Zoo Sydney

ARC (Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Centre)

Soundscape / Music

[https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-](https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=taronga+zoo+arc#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:8517e900,vid:6RqJF4ouya0,st:0)

[d&q=taronga+zoo+arc#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:8517e900,vid:6RqJF4ouya0,st:0](https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=taronga+zoo+arc#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:8517e900,vid:6RqJF4ouya0,st:0)

Botanic Gardens Sydney

Calyx - Alchemy Of A Rainforest - due to open 07-Sep-2024

Soundscape / Music

<https://www.botanicgardens.org.au/venues-and-lawns/all-venues-and-lawns/calyx>

So, we all congratulate Stew on this amazing achievement. I know he has won many awards for his work with different genres, and this is another feather in his cap.

Next time you visit any of these exhibits particularly listen out for the music, although Stew did say they have some of it turned down so low so all you hear are the clap sticks.

While looking for some images for this article I found out that Stew had done sound on the Australian horror movie "*Blur*" which came out in 2022. He was interviewed about the process and it's on YouTube. The interview can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FFD2z-dBrfs>

Ed: Stew is currently working on the sound for The Seal Show at Taronga Zoo.

