

SUBURBS WITHIN
THE CURRIMUNDI
LAKE CATCHMENT
INCLUDE:

Aroona, Battery Hill,
Birtinya, Bokarina,
Currimundi, Little
Mountain, Meridan
Plains, Wurtulla.

Points of Interest:

- Planting day Noel Burns Park
- National Tree Day Report
- Weedbusting day at Sunjewel Park
- Save our Sand Dunes
- Wildflower walks
- Waterbug workshop
- Involvement with local schools

Coming up:

- World Habitat Day - **1 October**
- Riversweep - **14 October**
- National Recycling Week - (reduce, reuse, recycle) **12 - 18 November**
- 6 Knots, No Wash campaign - **3 - 9 December**
- Lights on the Lake - **9 December**

To report wildlife emergencies, including sick, injured or distressed marine life, phone:

1300 130 372

or

1300 264 625



This is a community newsletter voluntarily produced by Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc.

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CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT NEWS

SPRING 2012

CCCG Inc ABN 77 276 084 162

RIVERSWEEP – CLEAN UP THE CURRIMUNDI



Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG) are once again organising this fun and rewarding morning. So bring your kayaks and canoes on **Sunday 14 October from 9 – 11 am** to help clean up Currimundi Lake and creeks and along the waters' edge. There will also be land based activities if you don't have access to your own water craft. Please **meet near the pontoon at the western end of Noel Burns Park, Mulloka Esp, Wurtulla.**

CCCG president Tony said "Although the local residents are very good at keeping our major parks and natural areas free of litter, it is amazing what ends up in the Lake. Litter is washed off roads and footpaths and sadly, there are still some irresponsible people who dump rubbish in the Lake or leave plastic bags, fishing line and cigarette butts behind after they leave. We are inviting locals to come along and put in just two hours to keep our beautiful neighbourhood clean - and there'll be a BBQ afterwards in the Park opposite Warloo Street."

LIGHTS ON THE LAKE

We are pleased to announce there will be a free community festival in the Currimundi Catchment for the festive season - **Lights on the Lake**. The event will be held on **Sunday 9 December 2012 from 4 to 8 pm at Crummunda Park, Coongarra Esp, Wurtulla**. Last year's event was cancelled due to severe weather but the local community still came to support it, so we're confident this year will be a huge success.

The festival is a chance for local families and residents to get together and celebrate the festive season and our natural environment on the shores of beautiful Currimundi Lake. There will be music, entertainment, food stalls, arts and crafts stalls, supervised children's activities and community group information. A parade of decorated canoes and kayaks will paddle on the Lake as darkness falls, accompanied by carols and festive music.



You can join in the fun by decorating your own canoe or kayak and there will be prizes for best decorated watercraft so be creative. For safety reasons, candles and open flames are not permitted.

The event is being organised by a group of local volunteers. We are still in the early stages of planning, so as details become available we will update the Lights on the Lake Page on the Currimundi Catchment website www.currimundicatchment.org.au. There will also be an update in the next edition of this newsletter.

SOS – NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED



Once again we are asking for your help to deliver this Newsletter. If you can spare a couple of hours 4 times a year we would appreciate it. This could be your way of helping the environment. The areas most in need are **Currimundi West** and **Wurtulla East**. Other areas could also use some extra deliverers, so if you can help please call Joan on 5493 2698.

Visit www.currimundicatchment.org.au for the Currimundi Lake Catchment Website

PLANTING DAY IN NOEL BURNS PARK

Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG) and Council organised a planting day in Noel Burns Park, Wurtulla on 23 June. About 30 people including several families with young children came along to help plant bank stabilising native plants at the western end of the park. Thanks to everyone who helped out. This was one of the last remaining patches needing riparian planting in Noel Burns Park.



CCCG has been planting, weeding, cleaning up and building coir log walls to stabilise the banks from erosion in this park for many years now and it is a real pleasure to wander through the heavily treed, natural looking park in the midst of urban Wurtulla.



NATIONAL TREE DAY REPORT

From little trees, big trees grow. That is what 66 volunteers were thinking when they planted 3,000 plants on council land adjoining Kawana Way Link Rd on Sunday 29 July. Ably assisted by the Council team, the group planted, laid weed mats and watered the small plants. Caloundra Lions Club provided a lovely sausage sizzle. 'Geckos' gave a display of local animals that may inhabit our planted area when it has grown. It was a bright sunny day, with both adults and children having a great morning. A good job, well done everyone!



WEEDBUSTERS DAY



Singapore daisy (*Spagneticola trilobata*)

It may look like a pretty addition to your rockery but this little plant is highly invasive and in the natural environment it forms a dense carpet, thus smothering native regeneration. Our final weeding and planting project for the year was to attack and remove a large area of Singapore daisy from the banks of Currimundi Creek South Arm, near the Sunjewel playground park.

On Sunday 9 September, 20 volunteers armed with picks and trowels, removed 16 bags of Singapore daisy. The stony dry soil made progress difficult but was a good illustration of just how tenacious this weed can be – surviving in dry difficult conditions and then proliferating in times of good rainfall. An ongoing management plan was established, between local residents and Council staff.

If you are attempting to remove this weed in your garden, Council's suggested replacement plants are Twining guinea flower, Australian bugle flower, Fan flower and Beach flax lily.

We also planted bank stabilising seedlings along the creek bank and of course finished with our trademark sausage sizzle and group photo shot. Currimundi Catchment Care Group thanks all concerned - in particular Josh from Council - and we hope to see you all again next time!



CREEKSIDE WILDFLOWER WALK



Native sarsparilla (*Hardenbergia violacea*)

Sunday 26 August was a beautiful winter's day – perfect for the Creekside Wildflower Walk organised by Currimundi Catchment Care Group.

The 78 walkers were divided into two groups guided by Phil, Dot, Jenny and David. Many of the tiny local wildflowers were in bloom and everyone came away with a greater understanding of our native flora and fauna. It was a very enjoyable morning.

STUDENTS SAVING OUR SAND DUNES

Three Year 9 students from Mountain Creek State High School are doing an assignment to raise awareness on an environmental topic and they chose the protection of sand dunes on the Sunshine Coast.

Go to [sos-save-our-sand-dunes.tumblr](https://www.sos-save-our-sand-dunes.tumblr.com) and watch the YouTube video to get their message loud and clear. It depicts what is happening to our sand dunes (erosion, litter, destruction of turtle nests) and how you can help (don't walk or drive on sand dunes, don't litter, use designated pathways). Go on spread the word!

Thanks.....



Thank You to Suncoast Printing. This newsletter has been printed by Suncoast Printing of Caloundra for 8 years. They have provided excellent service, helpful and friendly advice and a cheerful welcome each time we visit with a new edition. Pictured are Currimundi Catchment Care Group President Tony, Bronwyn and Janet from Suncoast Printing and Newsletter Editor Eloise, with a Certificate of Appreciation.

and Congratulations!!



Congratulations Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland on celebrating the 50th anniversary of the society's formation this year. Pictured is Jill, President of the Sunshine Coast and Hinterland Branch, after the 50th Anniversary Wildflower Walk at Kathleen McArthur Conservation Park on 1 September. The Currimundi Catchment Care Group is especially appreciative of Jill's input on the activities of the Society.

WATER BUGS ARE GREAT DETECTIVES



On a beautiful day in August a group of 12 adults lead by Maroochy Waterwatch and armed with butterfly nets, magnifying glasses, a microscope, plastic tweezers and sundry flat dishes descended on the quiet water of Currimundi Creek South Arm to check the water for aquatic macro invertebrates or water bugs. The purpose of the workshop was to search for water bugs, identify them and take a count of the various species and using this information, calculate a health index for the waterway.

We identified water mite, whirligig beetle larva, freshwater shrimp, water boatman, water spider and others. We learnt that some water bugs can tolerate various levels of water quality and others may not. Water

temperature, pH, clarity and dissolved oxygen are important factors for water bugs to thrive.

Water bugs are more plentiful in fresh water than saline water and healthy waterways have an abundance of water bugs and a diversity of species. **The site that we tested indicated a poor pollution index and a very poor environment for aquatic macro invertebrates.**

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water monitors who conduct monthly water monitoring in the Currimundi Catchment were introduced to an annual water quality report at the 7th Annual Training and Discussion Day held in July. The annual report uses the red, green and amber traffic light system to report whether water quality, as measured by pH, turbidity (clarity) and dissolved oxygen, complies with government guidelines. Red light means the water quality does not comply, green indicates compliance and amber indicates that water quality is changing from previous levels. The annual report includes a map showing all monitoring sites presenting a colour grading for ph, turbidity and dissolved oxygen for each site.

INVOLVEMENT WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS

Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG) is continuing its involvement with local schools. Three members of the group made a presentation to the Earth Smart Sustainable School's Professional Development Workshop at Meridan College in May. Teachers attending the workshop were hopeful that issues impacting on the catchment could be incorporated into parts of the school curriculum.

Also in May, CCCG members and nine Year 12 marine science students from Unity College, Caloundra and their teacher conducted a water quality monitoring workshop and inspection of the coir log wall erosion control work in Noel Burns Park, Wurtulla. The students said they appreciated the opportunity to see first-hand how a local community group can contribute to protecting their local environment. They showed a genuine interest in the environment and judging by the standard of questions and discussion there may be some environmental leaders amongst their ranks.

Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc (CCCG)

Coveres the catchments of Currimundi Lake, Creeks and Canals and Lake Kawana.

Meetings: 7.00pm at Caloundra Community Centre, 78 Buderim St, Currimundi on the 2nd Monday of every odd month.

Next Meeting:
10 November 2012

Contact: Secretary
Kym 5493 4398

Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL)

Coveres the area south of the Lake from the beach to Nicklin Way bridge.

Meetings: 7.30pm at Currimundi Recreation Hall cnr Currimundi Rd & Ilya St, Currimundi on the 1st Tuesday of every even month.

Next Meeting: 2 October

Contact: President
Rhondda 5437 6481

Parklands Community Group: 5491 7905

Kawana Forest Residents' Association (KaFRA): 0419 822 663

Other Contacts:

Sunshine Coast Council Caloundra:
5420 8200 for reporting issues about Currimundi Lake and its Catchment.

Kawana Police:
5413 8700

Queensland Boating & Fisheries Patrol:
5444 4599 to report speeding boats.

TurtleCare:
0437 559067 to report turtle tracks or nests.

Department of Environment & Resource Management (DERM): 1300 130 372
to report spills, dumping or anything suspicious in our waterways.

Wilvos: 5441 6200
24 hour hotline for injured wildlife.

Fishwatch Hotline:
1800 017 116 to report unlawful fishing activities.
Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital: 1800 334 350

Please pass on or recycle

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP REPORT



The last few months have been both busy and rewarding for Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG). We have had several events well supported by members of the local community – reports elsewhere in the newsletter.

I am pleased and proud to say that local organisations, events and individuals now recognise us as leaders in the local environmental scene and have been contacting me for assistance from CCCG. Council have once again asked us to lead the Lights on the Lake 2012 organising committee. We have agreed to take this on with the assistance of Lake Kawana/Currimundi Lions Club, local Neighbourhood Watch groups and individuals from the community. We have been approached by a local school and Queensland Environmentally Sustainable Schools Initiative to provide our expertise and local knowledge. The Caloundra Fringe Festival and Music Festival both approached us to help by staging environmentally themed activities for their events and we agreed to run a Kite Decorating Workshop at the Fringe Festival to demonstrate to young people (and their parents) that kites are a fun and environmentally safe alternative to balloons near waterways and the beach. I look forward to meeting many of you at our future events and especially Lights on the Lake on 9 December.

Tony, President

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE REPORT



Our working bees are going to plan. The working bees in Kathleen McArthur Park had been cancelled due to the heavy work load of Parks and Wildlife, but they will be continued in October. We had a successful Weedbusters Day on 12 September.

We will be meeting with Council in early October to look at setting up a monitoring site on the northern shore of Currimundi Lake. This has come through from the Currimundi Dynamics meetings. Also some money has been allocated for weed removal and revegetation on the dunes leading up to the Lifeguards Tower at the mouth of Currimundi Lake.

The Lake was opened twice earlier in the month after it had closed itself each time. This was an ideal opportunity for our regular midge control programme.

We are upgrading the new website with extra information and updated photos. Helen, a long time member, has passed all her photos of the Currimundi area to us. These will be put into albums for anyone wishing to peruse. They show a lot of history and some of these photos will be used in the above project for monitoring purposes.

Our weeding and revegetation sites are starting to look great. Thank you to all our volunteers.

Rhondda, President

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP REPORT

Hello everyone! Things are quiet around the neighbourhood at present. However, a **planting and mulch spreading morning will be held on Sunday 7 October**. If you would like to participate, please **meet at the BBQ at Wallum Garden**. **Registration is at 8.30 am** and a sausage sizzle for the volunteers will wrap up the morning. Please wear covered shoes, hat and gloves. Your help would be most appreciated.

Also come and meet your local Councillor, Peter Cox on Tuesday 11 December from 9 to 10 am on our patio, 31 Peony Circuit. Bring your questions and comments. You can contact Dot on 5491 1863 or myself on 5491 7905.

Ron, President

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT ONLINE

The Currimundi Catchment website and associated websites for Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG) and Friends of Currimundi Lake have recently been upgraded to provide an exciting fresh new look. The new sites are easier and cheaper to maintain and allow us to post news, photos and items of interest more quickly to keep you up to date with all that's happening in the catchment and our respective groups. The upgrade was made possible by funding from Council under CCCG's community partnership agreement. The web address has not changed. So why not visit www.currimundicatchment.org.au and take a look around. We're sure you will like the new look.

CCCG now also has a Facebook page. This will allow us to post lots of photos after each event and provides another way to keep you informed of our upcoming events and news and to hear your views and thoughts. If you have a Facebook account, Like our page at: www.facebook.com/currimundicatchmentcaregroup