

SUBURBS WITHIN
THE CURRIMUNDI
LAKE CATCHMENT
INCLUDE:

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

Points of Interest:

- Flying High for World Environment Day
- Clean Up Australia Day 2012 reports
- Coir log walls to be extended
- No more balloons for Sunshine Toyota
- Earth hour 2012
- Join the Picitup Campaign
- Community spirit makes a difference

Coming Up:

- Earth hour - 8.30pm, 31 March
- Coir Log Wall Extension - 16 & 17 April
- International Day for Biological Diversity - 22 May
- World Turtle Day - 23 May
- Flying High - 2 June
- World Environment Day - 5 June

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

1300 130 372
or
1300 264 625



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7,500.

CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT NEWS

AUTUMN 2012

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FLYING HIGH FOR WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - 2 JUNE

To celebrate World Environment Day, Currimundi Catchment Care Group will again host an enjoyable afternoon of kite decorating and flying. We hope this will renew our message that litter, particularly balloons, can cause widespread and unseen damage to wild life especially marine life. This is particularly relevant for this area as endangered loggerhead turtles nest on nearby Currimundi and Wurtulla Beaches.



Join us on Saturday 2 June and register for your FREE kite from 1.30pm – 3.30pm opposite Coco's Beach Café, Westaway Parade, Currimundi. To send a strong anti-litter message, we encourage you to collect a bag of litter on your walk to this event in exchange for your kite, or alternatively, you can register for a free 'Picitup' bag and agree to use it on your walks. For further details please contact Tony on 5438 8267.

We urge the community to consider environmentally safer alternatives to balloons and to support our message that 'kites are colourful, kites fly high, but kites go home with their owners'. If you have a kite from our previous World Environment Day events, please bring it along and join in the kite flying fun on the Currimundi sand dunes.

NO MORE BALLOONS



Good news for wildlife, the environment and for the many concerned community members – **Sunshine Toyota is not using balloons outdoors any more.** General Manager, Darren Venning, told Eloise from Currimundi Catchment Care Group, pictured, that they are no longer using balloons for environmental reasons and are updating their marketing displays. He commented that Toyota is moving towards environmental friendly vehicles, is involved in National Tree Day and this change fits in.

Congratulations to Sunshine Toyota for making the change. We encourage all businesses in the Currimundi Catchment to do the same and think of wildlife and the environment in their everyday activities.

COIR LOG RETENTION WALL TO BE EXTENDED

Coir logs, made from rolled coconut fibre, have proved to be excellent for stabilizing the fragile banks along Currimundi Lake where serious erosion has occurred. Other environmental groups have shown a great deal of interest in this project.

Since April 2009, Currimundi Catchment Care Group and Council Officers have constructed 105 metres of coir log walls along the banks of Noel Burns Park, Wurtulla. This strip has been planted with native binding plants and has resisted king tides and numerous floods, with the banks staying solid and not one tree falling into the water. The vegetation has flourished so that the coir logs have been completely covered by plants in many places.

On 16th and 17th April, we will build another 45 metres of coir logs continuing eastward from the end of last year's wall and for this we need many helpers. There will be jobs for all ages and fitness levels. If you can help, please contact David on 5493 9695. This is a project that makes a real difference to the health of the waterway and the environment.

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

COMMUNITY SPIRIT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



From May to December 2011, Currimundi Catchment Care Group, Lions Club of Lake Currimundi-Kawana and Friends of Currimundi Lake pooled their resources to organise the festive event *Lights on the Lake* at Crummunda Park, Wurtulla. Unfortunately this event was cancelled due to severe weather conditions.

It would be easy to end the story here but that would overlook the community spirit that galvanized the organising group, that thrived among the 50 volunteers who turned up on the day to make it a success and that was clearly evident among residents and visitors who arrived in drizzling rain after the event had been cancelled.

The community spirit was unstoppable. Many more families arrived with their wonderfully decorated watercraft and paddled in their own parade encouraged by 70 onlookers applauding them for their efforts and spirit. **Clearly the concept of *Lights on the Lake* captured the interest, imagination and support of the community.**

The volunteers for *Lights on the Lake* represented nine community groups including five Neighbourhood Watch groups and Kawana Scouts. Their actions and the support from performers and local businesses and productive partnerships with Council highlighted how community interest, teamwork and goodwill can generate a strong sense of community.

A sincere thank you to all the local businesses who donated prizes: Club Kawana, Contours Hair and Beauty Currimundi, Mitre 10 Wurtulla, Foodworks Wurtulla, Wurtulla Hair Design, Kawana Waters Vet Surgery Wurtulla, Wurtulla Village Pharmacy, Currimundi News, Wurtulla Takeaway and the Chicken Spot Currimundi.

Special thanks to the performers who so generously offered to donate their time: Queensland Academy of Vocal Arts members Isabelle, Keeley, Hannah, Jessica, Jordon, Lynsey and Cassie; Catherine Matheson; Trevor Mitchell; Sunshine Coast Ukulele Masters Band; Ken O'Shea; Dave Stygall; Bev Gourlay and MC Luke Allan.

Thanks also to Queensland Healthy Waterways, Council's Waterways Team and Caloundra Coastguard.

EARTH HOUR – 8.30pm SATURDAY 31 MARCH



Earth Hour's moto is 'Uniting people to protect the planet' and with more than 5,200 cities and towns in 135 countries worldwide switching off their lights for last year's Earth Hour, the moto seems appropriate. Each year hundreds of millions of people, businesses and governments around the world unite to send a powerful message for action on climate change. It all began in Sydney in 2006, organised by World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Australia. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the Earth's natural environment and build a future where people live in harmony with nature.

So be aware of sustainability issues and for those who can, **turn off the lights for 1 hour on Saturday 31 March at 8.30pm.**

Ref. Earth Hour

CONCEPT PLAN FOR NOEL BURNS PARK

Noel Burns Park, Wurtulla, is a relatively narrow community park along Currimundi Lake which is mostly used for passive recreation such as picnics, walking, children's play, dog walking, bird watching, fishing and launching kayaks.

Due to changing demographics and increased population in the area, the number of users of the park has increased. A new Concept Plan produced by Council listed future improvements to the park, including both a play trail and a natural play area, designated fishing and viewing points, improved natural areas and signage. The toilet facilities will also need to be upgraded in the near future.



At the invitation of Cr Jones, last December, Currimundi Catchment Care Group members joined residents to meet and discuss the plan and issues relating to the park.

DID YOU KNOW:

The results of the Currimundi Catchment Water Monitoring Programme indicate swimming in the Lake, Creeks and Canals should be avoided for 3 days after a heavy rain event due to poor water quality.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY REPORT

Currimundi Catchment Care Group:

Thank you to the 49 volunteers ranging in age from 4 to 81 including 12 children and a couple of kayakers who signed up to clean up our areas and waterways. After meeting in Crummunda Park, teams went out in all directions. Most of the nearby parks were fairly clean due to the thoughtful locals who regularly pick up rubbish, however we found quite a lot of rubbish along both sides of Nicklin Way from Currimundi Marketplace to Tokara Canal, Wurtulla. The favourite fishing spots were blatantly obvious from the amount of rubbish (plastic bait bags, drink containers, etc).



In total, we collected around 30 big bags of rubbish. About 10 bags were recyclable. Unusual items were a broken surfboard, a bicycle helmet, a wheelie bin covered in barnacles and a hammer. We finished the morning off with a sausage sizzle. It was great to see the people who are becoming regulars and to welcome newcomers. The rain held off and it turned into a wonderful morning as we worked together to improve the local environment.

Kaye, Co-ordinator



Friends of Currimundi Lake: 23 volunteers lent a hand to clean up our area which included the southern bank of Currimundi Lake (east of the Nicklin Way), the fore dunes as far south as Coondibah Creek and along Currimundi Rd. 4 large bags of non-recyclable rubbish and 8 large bags of recyclable rubbish were collected.

A large proportion of the recyclable rubbish was aluminium cans, glass bottles and plastics of varying grades. More obscure items collected this year included a bunk bed, large timber pallet, large television and a recliner chair in Coondibah Creek. All larger items and full bags were collected with the aid of Cliff and his trusty buggy.

A big thank you to Peter and Jo from Coco's Resort Beach Store for their ongoing support by providing chilled water and lunch for everyone in the form of a sausage sizzle and hot chips. Thank you also to everyone who participated in the clean up this year as it is simply not possible without your support. See you next year.

Paxton, Co-ordinator

Parklands Community Group: Thank you to everyone who assisted in our Clean Up Australia Day. Family, friends and neighbours met at Wallum Gardens Park off Peony Circuit to clean up our area. It was wonderful to see everyone take pride in their community. This volunteer work is invaluable to our area.

Ron, Co-ordinator

JOIN THE 'PICITUP' CAMPAIGN



Local resident, Sam Halvorsen had an idea... If whilst out walking everyone could pick up litter, the Sunshine Coast would be cleaner and marine life would be protected from the scourge of the plastic bag. The problem most people faced when out walking was they didn't have a bag to put litter in.

The environmentally friendly re-usable jute bag with the 'PICITUP' logo on it was the result, which is available FREE of charge locally from Council Customer Service Centre; Kawana and Caloundra Libraries; Kawana, Dicky & Kings Beach Surf Life Saving Clubs; Mooloolah Waterwatch & Landcare and Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG) by contacting Tony on 5438 8267.

Congratulations to the locals who have already registered with CCCG and received their FREE 'PICITUP' bag. So get on the bandwagon and join the ever growing band of walkers proudly using the 'PICITUP' bags – just remember to dispose of the litter correctly!

Ref. www.picitup.com.au

CAN YOU HELP?

We urgently need 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! Areas most in need are **Currimundi West, Creekside** and **Currimundi Villas**. Other areas could also use extra deliverers, so if you can help please call Joan on 5493 2698.

NEW COMMITTEES FOR 2012

Thanks to all the outgoing committee members for their efforts and good luck to the new committees of **Currimundi Catchment Care Group** (Tony, David, David, Kym, Tony, Glenys, Eloise, Joan, Lorraine, Marion, Kaye and Jenny) and **Friends of Currimundi Lake** (Rhondda, Cliff, Bill, Gail, Graham, Don and Paxton).

Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc (CCCG) covers Currimundi Lake, Creeks and Canal Catchments.
Meetings: 7.00pm at Caloundra Community Centre, Buderim St, Currimundi on the 2nd Monday of every odd month.
Next Meeting: 14 May
Contact: Secretary Kym 5493 4398

Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL) covers 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: 3 April
Contact: President Rhonda 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

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in "Currimundi Lake Catchment News" are not necessarily those of CCCG Inc

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP REPORT



As I write my first report as President of Currimundi Catchment Care Group I think back over the 3 years that I have been a member of the group and the opportunities and experiences I have had during that time. I have discovered so much about the Currimundi Lake catchment, its wonderful yet fragile environment, the local flora and fauna, the beauty of its waterways, parks and natural areas. I have cleaned up rubbish from parks and waterways, planted trees to rehabilitate degraded natural areas, built coir log walls to protect eroding creek banks, pulled weeds, joined wildflower walks, helped design artworks and flown a kite with hundreds of others on our beautiful Currimundi Beach. But most of all, I have enjoyed the company of so many volunteers from the community pitching in with a few hours of their time and effort to make a difference to their community and local environment. Young children, teenagers, mums and dads, workers and pensioners all getting together to do something important and having fun while they do it.

I am looking forward to working with the new committee over the next year and hope to continue the great work and leadership of former President David. I would also like to thank hard-working Secretary Jenny who steps down from the position after 8 years in the role. You both deserved to receive the Community Volunteer Award 2012 from the Rotary Club of Caloundra Pacific.
Tony, President

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE REPORT



This summer saw two marine turtle nests on Currimundi Beach. Working bees have begun for Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL). Also, working bees with the Rangers in Kathleen McArthur Park will start in March. We have responded to two separate requests from students in year 12 and year 7 for information on the Lake and for information on starting a native fruit garden at their school.

Clean Up Australia Day was well attended and working with school children will commence in second term. FOCL will once again support Currimundi Catchment Care Group with 'Flying High' on the Lake in June. Some erosion control work will be done on the dunes this year as well as finishing the revegetation site at Beach Access 254.

The Tidy Towns National Titles will be announced on the 8th May in Canberra. Colin and I will be attending and hopefully bring back the trophy for Caloundra. We look forward to another busy and constructive year.
Rhonda, President

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP REPORT

The Parklands Community Group is a small team who volunteer their time to work with Council to protect and enhance our environment for future generations. We were formed in 2007 and in the past 5 years over 8,000 trees and shrubs have been planted in the area.

In 2011, projects the group was involved in included Clean Up Australia Day with a small tree planting afterwards; 2 maintenance days where plants and trees were planted in the gardens along the drain; mulching of Wallum Park Gardens; National Tree Day where over 2,000 plants were planted in Bancroft Red Gum Reserve; extra tree plantings to replace and enhance the area; and meetings with Council in regard to the maintenance of pond, drains, gardens, etc which has led to a Maintenance & Management Plan for the Wallum Garden Park being passed by Council.

Thank you to everyone who assisted in our past projects. Our Clean Up Australia Day is to be followed with mulching the newly planted area along the top side of the drain from Wallum Garden Park to Parklands Blvd. Being part of our informal meetings and projects creates a great opportunity to meet and get to know your neighbours. For more information please contact Ron on 5491 7905 or Dot on 5491 1863.
Ron, President

KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Kawana Forest Residents Association (KaFRA) held its AGM for 2012 on Sunday 4th March, which conflicted with Clean Up Australia Day. However we intend having our own Clean Up Day later in the year, possibly when it is a little cooler. During 2011, KaFRA organised a clean-up day (20 participants) and a weedbusters day (25 participants), both intended to create community involvement and an awareness of the environment.

One of our major expectations is the commencement of construction of the Kawana Forest Community Centre. We have been involved in the design of the centre with the environment a major consideration in all issues. Progress with the Palmview Greenlink and Energex power line locations will be constantly monitored. The recent decision by Council to locate the Greenlink immediately adjacent to Kawana Forest (and possibly through the suburb), will likely be the subject of a petition in the near future.
Greg, President

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