

SUBURBS WITHIN THE CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT INCLUDE:

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

**Points of Interest:**

- FOCL Turns 25
- Midge Report
- Kayaking the Currimundi
- National Tree Day
- Wildflower Walk
- Water Monitors Training
- Weedbusters

**Coming up:**

- World Animal Day- **4 October**
- Riversweep - **13 October**
- National Recycling Week (**At Work, School & Home**) - **12 - 18 November**
- 6 Knots No Wash - **2 - 8 December**
- Lights on the Lake- **8 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.

**Distributors needed, please phone Joan on 5493 2698.**  
Current distribution 8,250

# CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT NEWS

**SPRING 2013**

CCCG Inc ABN 77 276 084 162

## RIVERSWEEP – CLEAN UP THE CURRIMUNDI

**When: Sunday 13 October from 9am – 11am**

**Meet: Pontoon at western end of Noel Burns Park, Mulloka Esp, Wurtulla**

Do you want to help keep our beautiful waterways clean of rubbish? Here's your opportunity. Bring your kayaks and canoes and we'll clean up Currimundi Lake, creeks and the waters' edge. If you don't have a watercraft there will be land based clean-up activities too.



Currimundi Catchment Care Group has organised this event for 5 years and it is always a fun and rewarding morning. Even though locals are good at keeping the natural areas litter free, litter still ends up in the water. It washes off roads and footpaths into stormwater drains which flow into the waterways and sometimes irresponsible people dump or leave their rubbish or fishing line behind. Cigarette butts still remain a litter issue. Come and help make a difference.

## LIGHTS ON THE LAKE

**Sunday 8 December** is when the FREE community festival **Lights on the Lake** will be held in **Crummunda Park, Coongarra Esp, Wurtulla** from **4pm to 8pm**. It is a chance for local families and residents to get together and celebrate the festive season and our wonderful natural environment so close to Currimundi Lake.

After the success of last years' event this year promises to be bigger and better! There will be music, entertainment, supervised children's activities, local handcrafted arts and crafts stalls and food vendors. Once again the wonderful parade of canoes/kayaks decorated with lights and Christmas themes will paddle around the Lake at dusk accompanied by festive music. Join in the fun by decorating your canoe/kayak in your own way, but for safety reasons, candles and open flames are not permitted. There will be prizes for the best decorated watercraft.



The event is in the early stages of planning and is being organised by volunteers from Currimundi Catchment Care Group, Lake Currimundi/Kawana Lions Club and Neighbourhood Watch Groups. Sunshine Coast Council has again supported the event by providing a festive season grant.

For details as they become available visit the Lights on the Lake page on the Currimundi Catchment website [www.currimundicatchment.org.au](http://www.currimundicatchment.org.au) There will also be an update in the Summer edition of this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there. For enquiries email [cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au](mailto:cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au) or call **Tony** on **5438 8267**.

## SAND MINE UPDATE from Cr Rick Baberowski, Division 1

The Development approval issued over the Meridan Plains Extractive Resource Area (Hanson Construction Materials) has yet to be acted upon. (See site indicated) Recent discussions have indicated that they propose to begin construction of Honey Farm Road (from the southern interchange - Caloundra Rd to their development site) around the second half of 2014, with extraction commencing in 2015. We are progressing with studies, with the University of the Sunshine Coast engaged to conduct groundwater monitoring within the north of the Meridan Plains Extractive Resource Area. They will commence this within the next couple of months.



Visit [www.currimundicatchment.org.au](http://www.currimundicatchment.org.au) for the Currimundi Lake Catchment Website

## FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE CELEBRATE 25 YEARS

It is 25 years since Friends of Currimundi Lake was formed in 1988 by Lesley Porter and a Councillor. Since then many tonnes of weeds have been removed from the southern foreshores of Currimundi Lake from the Nicklin Way to the beach at the Life Savers Tower, along Watson Street and in the early 2000's from the edge of Coondibah Creek.

Revegetation has been carried out as well and two years ago, the Caloundra Primary School helped over the year to clear weeds and plant vines suitable for the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly.

In this time we have won Queensland's Cleanest Beach, the Clean Beach Challenge National Award for Resource Conservation & Waste Management Award in 2006, Tidy Towns Award in 2002 and other awards. Two of our members were members of the Tidy Towns Group which won the National Tidy Towns Award for Caloundra, where Currimundi Lake was featured.

We have managed to have most of the area we work in cleared for UXO (unexploded ordinance) devices. We help Parks and Wildlife in the Currimundi Conservation Park and have become a part of the Keep Australia Beautiful Adopt-a-Road Program. There are many other projects we have been involved in as well.

**We need your help please.** We are lacking photos for the period from 1988 to 1998. We have aerial photos of Currimundi Lake from the 1950's but would like some photos (copies are fine) of the Lake area such as the foreshores, buildings, drains, roads, weeding etc. to give us a great photo history. Please phone Rhondda on 5437 6481.

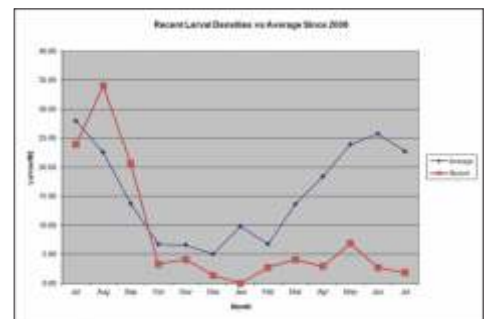
## MIDGE REPORT

Council's latest Midge Report indicates an increase of larval densities into May but since then the levels have dropped and were the lowest on record for the month of July with midge densities only about one twelfth or 8% of the long term average. In fact for every month since October 2012 monthly larval levels have been the lowest on record.

It appears a combination of environmental conditions have kept larval levels very low. Last winter and spring saw multiple natural closures of Currimundi Lake and the higher than average rainfall of the last few years continued well into winter again this year. We know the midge like it when the Lake stays open and the sky is blue for months on end.

At this point in time it is anticipated that we will not see a significant hatch of adult midge in spring. There are simply not enough of them in the ground at present to cause any significant problems for the next few months. As a result there is no need to close the Lake in the foreseeable future. Our monitoring program will continue and if nothing out of the ordinary happens the next report will be sometime in December.

*Ref. Sunshine Coast Council*



## KAYAKING CURRIMUNDI LAKE

The Currimundi Kayaking Adventure to celebrate **World Environment Day** was the best way to enjoy the waterways of Currimundi Lake and Currimundi Creek South Arm.

34 people in 26 watercraft joined Currimundi Catchment Care Group for a guided paddle. The sky was sunny with hardly a breeze on a turning tide which made it great for kayaking.



There was a fair mix of adults and children from Pelican Waters, Caloundra, Minyama and Mountain Creek as well as local areas. Amongst the kayakers were Cr Peter Cox and his son and some teachers and their families from the Lighthouse Centre of Caloundra High School with whom we have had an association.

Everyone enjoyed the two hours and learnt something about Currimundi Lake and Creek, our group's focus on education and the need to protect the unspoilt natural environment of the Currimundi catchment.

**DID YOU KNOW: World Animal Day** started in 1931 to highlight the plight of endangered species and **4 October** was chosen as it is the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. Today it has become a day for remembering and paying tribute to all animals and the people who love and respect them. The aim of World Animal Day is to increase awareness and improve animal welfare throughout the world.

*Ref. World Animal Day*

## NATIONAL TREE DAY A GREAT SUCCESS

Thanks to the 186 adults and children who planted 2,000 plants in a very boggy patch of Bancroft's Red Gum Reserve in Little Mountain on 28 July. Gum boots were certainly an advantage. Thanks also to Cr Peter Cox and Jarrod Bleijie MP who rolled up their sleeves and contributed. This effort will certainly go a long way in rehabilitating the area.

The day was developed more as a community fun day than in previous years. **Sunshine Toyota** had a marquee and two cars on display and the band '**Tea Society**' performed. There was a jumping castle, **Geckos wildlife**, thong throwing competition, sample bags and **Lions Club** sausage sizzle.

**Thank you to:** Council staff for site preparation, erecting signs and working hard on the day; **iLandscapes** for the sample bags, free **Souls** thongs and media publicity; Currimundi Catchment Care Group and Parklands Community Group members for helping the day run well.



## WILDFLOWER WALK



On a beautiful morning on Sunday 25 August, 30 walkers joined Currimundi Catchment Care Group for a guided walk along a picturesque track in Leacy's Bushland Reserve in Currimundi, where we were treated to an array of wildflowers, butterflies and birds.

This Reserve protects important coastal remnants and helps buffer Currimundi Lake from adjacent urban development. The tracks through the Reserve meander through a varied landscape - open gum woodland, melaleuca wetland, casuarina and wattles along the river banks and spectacular remnant rainforest. 93 plant species have been identified in the Reserve, demonstrating the incredible diversity.

A delightful morning was had by all. Thanks to Jessica, Bev, Phil and Julie who guided the walk. How fortunate we are to have such easy access to real bushland.

## TRAINING DAY FOR WATER MONITORS

Our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Day for water monitors involved in the Currimundi Catchment Water Monitoring Program was held on 20 June. We had two guest speakers. Emma Newton, Environmental Advisor from Unitywater spoke about the upgrade to the Kawana Sewerage Treatment Plant and environmental controls used to protect the waterways and David Logan, Senior Science Officer from Healthy Waterways spoke about the Annual Healthy Waterways Report Card and tackling marine debris.

Every month, 20 residents test the water at 20 different sites along the Currimundi catchment. They test samples from the entrance of Currimundi Lake, along the Lake body, up two Currimundi Creeks, at various sections along the three canals, in Kawana Lake just before it enters the Currimundi system, at Parklands ponds and along the small tributaries in Meridan Plains leading into Currimundi Creek.

The results are uploaded to a database which can be accessed by Councils and the Bureau of Meteorology. Over the last ten years, our constant vigilance of the waterways and our close contact with Council's Waterways Team has kept the spotlight on strategies to improve water quality.

## ALL ABOUT WEEDS

**Weedbuster Week** is a community awareness campaign which began in 1994 to educate the community on the damaging effects of weeds in the environment. Currimundi Catchment Care Group highlighted Weedbuster Week by holding a stall at the Currimundi Marketplace on Sunday 8 September.

Council provided a static display and free native plants and pamphlets were given to interested locals. Some common garden plants are weeds and are recommended to be removed from gardens and disposed of appropriately. These include Fishbone Fern, Asparagus Fern, Cocos Palm, Yellow Bells, Easter Cassia, Lantana, Umbrella Tree, Mock Orange, Mother-in-law's Tongue, Duranta (Geisha girl or Sheena's gold), Duchman's Pipe and Elephant's Ears.



## **C**urrimundi Catchment Care Group Inc (CCCCG)

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

**Meetings:** 7.00pm at Talara Primary College Library, Talara Street, Currimundi on the 2nd Monday of every odd month.

**Next Meetings:**  
**11 November**

**Contact:** Secretary  
Kym 5493 4398

## **F**riends 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 Meetings:**  
**1 October**

**Contact:** President  
Rhondda 5437 6481

## **P**arklands Community Group: 5491 7905

**K**awana Forest Residents' Association (K&FRA): 0419 822 663

## **O**ther Contacts:

**Sunshine Coast Council:** 5475 7272 for reporting issues about Currimundi Lake and its Catchment.

**Kawana Police:**  
5413 8700 or 131 444  
**Queensland Boating & Fisheries Patrol:**  
5444 4599 to report speeding boats.

**TurtleCare:**  
0437 559 067 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**



On one of the last days of winter I had the pleasure and privilege of joining the group participating in Currimundi Catchment Care Group's Wildflower Festival Walk through Leacy's Bushland Reserve at Currimundi. The weather was perfect and colourful birds were flitting between the magnificent native trees and bushes. I was reminded again how lucky we are to live in this part of the world where we still have pockets of natural bushland, almost natural waterways and beautiful beaches.

I urge you all to value and protect those treasures. Get out and walk through our beautiful parks and bush. Explore the natural areas in your neighbourhood. While you're there, take a shopping bag or Picitup bag and pick up any litter you spot. If you see evidence of illegal dumping or vandalism, report it to Council.

There are other ways you can help too. Plant native plants to encourage wildlife. Learn about invasive weeds and don't plant them in your garden. Don't dump garden waste as it spreads weeds. Enjoy and value the assets we are so lucky to have. **Tony, President**

## **FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE REPORT**



With the earlier wet weather our working bees have been very busy and fruitful with approx. 50 bags filled with weeds in August. Work will also continue in Currimundi Conservation Park until December. Hopefully next school term we will have some help from the Caloundra Special Unit children.

In September I took some Boy Scout 'Joeys' through the Currimundi Conservation Park discussing why we needed to look after the land as it was home to wildlife. Dot helped with identifying the birds we saw. Later in the year we will go to the beach to discuss the habitat and laying areas for the marine turtles, which the children are excited about.

The Growing Beaches Forum was very enlightening and members of our group will be attending the Environment Day at Kawana. Later in the year we will be collecting data on erosion of the northern side of Currimundi Lake, which is a joint project with Parks and Wildlife and Council.

All this volunteering needs people on the ground, so if anyone wishes to help, we would welcome you with open arms. Please ring me on 5437 6481. **Rhondda, President**

## **PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP REPORT**

Great turn out for National Tree Day. Thanks to everyone. Council firmed up the walkways along the previous National Tree Day sites to make it easier to walk, push a pram and generally get around, which extends our walking trails.

The owner/developer (Drinnin) of the property at the north end of Springs Drive is preparing the site for about 150 new houses and a 'community centre'. Construction access is from the AV Jennings site and will have a road link through the Creekwood development. About half the Drinnin site is developable, the rest being flood plain along the Kawana Link Road. We hope to continue the Parklands walking trails through to the AV Jennings site and eventually cross under the Meridan bridge connecting to Currimundi Creek. **Ron, President**

## **KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT**

On 18 August, we held our annual 'Weedbusters and Clean Up Day'. Council provided equipment for our use and removed the rubbish and bags of weeds our efforts produced. Thank you to those who helped.



The Kawana Forest Meeting Place is up and running and being managed by the 'Sunshine 60 and Better' group. We have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the management group to provide some services in return for free use of the facility for our monthly meetings.

Our website is now activated and more information is slowly being added. While we hope to put more information on the website, our newsletter will still be our primary means of getting information out to each household within Kawana Forest.

Congratulations to Trevor (a foundation member) on receiving a Queensland Day Award for his ongoing commitment to the Kawana Forest community and recent efforts in recoating all the park and street timberwork within the estate. **Greg, President**

*The production of 'Currimundi Lake Catchment News' is funded by the Sunshine Coast Council Community Partnership Funding Program and opinions expressed are not those of Council.*