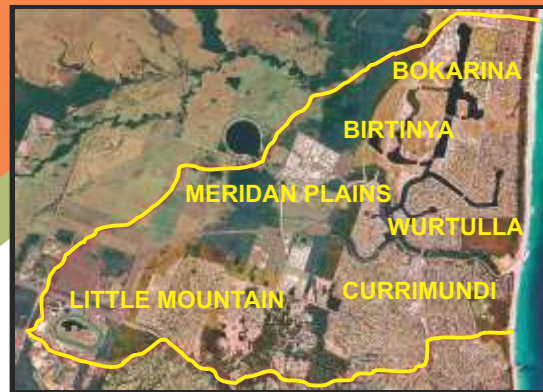


CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT NEWS

This is a community newsletter voluntarily produced by Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc. ABN 77 276 084 162. It is printed on sustainable forest paper and distributed by volunteers to 8,500 households and businesses within the Currimundi Catchment. If you can help with distribution please phone Joan on 5493 2698.



Autumn 2014

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG) in partnership with Council is conducting another two coir log wall projects along the banks of Currimundi Lake to help stabilise the bank, limit erosion and filter water run off. CCCG began using this erosion control method in 2009.

These are large projects and we need the community to help with some environmental restoration work on either or both projects for as much time as you can give. The projects require installing the coir logs, laying geofabric matting, shovelling backfill and planting 600 tube stock.

PROJECT 1: 8, 9 and 10 April from 8.30am to 3.00pm each day. Meet in Noel Burns Park, Mulloka Esplanade, Wurtulla to add another 100 metres to the existing 240 metres of coir log wall.

PROJECT 2: 21 and 22 May from 8.30am to 3.00pm each day. Meet half way down Crummunda Park, Coongarra Esplanade, Wurtulla to install 100 metres of coir log wall. This project is part of the Healthy Waterways' state wide programme 'Connect to Your Creek Week 2014', which aims to improve waterway health by increasing community stewardship of local waterways so people value, love and care for their local creek.

Please wear covered footwear, suitable clothing, hat and sunscreen. Gloves will be provided as well as a barbecue lunch. Your help will be greatly appreciated and it is hoped you will enjoy the community spirit whilst learning a little more about our waterways and meeting new acquaintances. For further information contact David on 5493 9695.

KEEPING AN EYE ON WATER QUALITY

Water monitoring has been carried out each month by community volunteers for over 10 years. The monitors are trained and use a calibrated water tester to test pH (acidity/alkalinity), Turbidity (clarity of water), Dissolved Oxygen, Temperature, Salinity and Conductivity at 20 sites in the Currimundi Lake Catchment. Of these sites 17 are tidal estuarine waters in Currimundi Lake, two creeks, four canals and Lake Kawana and 3 sites are in shallow fresh water in the west of the catchment. At times some sites many not be tested due to monitor unavailability or insufficient water. Due to a range of factors results for each site may vary from month to month, day to day or even hour to hour and some factors such as rainfall, temperature or sediment inflow can impact greatly. To date the results have been passed onto Council and more recently the Bureau of Meteorology. The results are compared to standards set by the Queensland Government for primary use or swimming and fishing.

The graph (right), using the three colour traffic light system, has been developed by Currimundi Catchment Care Group to easily identify how many of the 17 tidal sites were suitable for swimming (primary contact) using the results for 3 indicators – pH, Turbidity and Dissolved Oxygen. If the results are within the target range they are green, if they are marginally outside the range they are amber and if they are further outside the range they are red. Overall this gives us a picture of the health of our waterways on a monthly basis. These results and more detailed information will be posted on our website in the future.

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to your new look newsletter. After 10 years in its previous format we thought it was time for an update. You will still find news about the Currimundi Catchment along with environmental information to help make our beautiful world a better place. There are some added features like the Water Quality Results Graph, which will allow you to follow the health of our waterways. Enjoy!

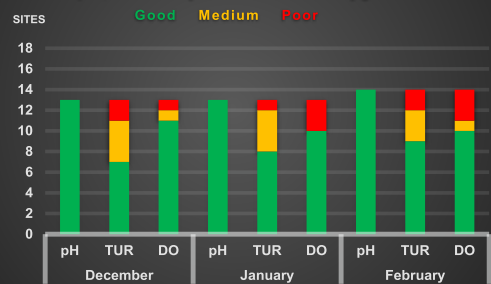
Eloise

DATES TO REMEMBER

World Water Day - 22 March
Earth Hour - 8.30pm 23 March
Coir Log Wall Project - 8 - 10 April
International Mother Earth Day - 22 April
Coir Log Wall Project - 21 - 22 May
International Day for Biological Diversity - 22 May
World Turtle Day - 23 May

WATER QUALITY RESULTS

(Primary Contact)
pH, Turbidity & Dissolved Oxygen



Currimundi Catchment Care Group provides no warranty and makes no forecast as to the condition of the waters within Currimundi Lake Catchment.

THANK YOU NEWSLETTER DELIVERERS

On the evening of 15 December 2013, Currimundi Catchment Care Group and a large number of our volunteer newsletter deliverers gathered in Crummunda Park, Wurtulla to celebrate Christmas and another successful year.

There are 142 volunteers who deliver *Currimundi Lake Catchment News* to 8,500 homes and businesses in the Catchment. It's a brilliant effort and one to be recognised. The evening allowed us to meet the volunteers and to show our appreciation for their continued support. We enjoyed good food, a couple of lucky door prizes and great conversation and company.

Thank you to all our newsletter deliverers, we appreciate your efforts and encourage anyone else who would like to assist us to call Joan on 5493 2698.

PHOTOS WANTED FOR CALENDAR

Many people reflect the beauty of the Currimundi Lake Catchment in photography. If you're one of these people, please submit your photo/s for consideration in Currimundi Catchment Care Group's 2015 Wall Calendar.

Twelve photos will be chosen. We'll be looking for photos that highlight the natural beauty and diversity of the catchment and encourage protection of the catchment and its inhabitants. They could be landscapes or close-ups or feature native wildlife and plants. The options are endless.

Technical requirements:

Please provide details of the location and anything relevant to your photo such as the name of plants or animals.

Take photos using high resolution and image size.

Don't crop photos as they may not reproduce into a larger format.

If there are people in a photo obtain their permission for the photo to be reproduced and published.

Photos are to be submitted by 30 September and emailed to: cccinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au



A free calendar will be given to photographers whose photos are chosen and photographers will be acknowledged in the calendar. For more information contact Glenys on 5491 2601.

CURRIMUNDI LAKE DYNAMICS STUDY

The Currimundi Lake Dynamics Study Committee is endorsed by Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL) and was formed to address the lack of progress made by Council regarding the Currimundi Lake Dynamics Study.

The Study was first prepared by Professor Tomlinson (2006-2010) for Caloundra City Council and was finally endorsed by the Sunshine Coast Council in January 2010. A reference group was formed as one of Prof. Tomlinson's 27 recommendations but unfortunately was prematurely disbanded in September 2012. Both FOCL and Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG) contributed to the Study's formulation and we hope CCCG and other interested members of the wider community will participate further.

The committee has produced a detailed document outlining the way forward so a robust and professional view of the Study can be formulated. Overall we would like to develop a Management Strategy Document which addresses the community's visions, values, aims, goals and funding wishes. We will request that Council urgently form and empower a properly funded Currimundi Lake Dynamics Study Steering Committee with skills based community representatives and appropriate technical support and we will be urging the steering committee to form partnerships with external expertise such as the Sunshine Coast University.

The steering committee will ensure Council instigate appropriate policies and procedures to address: biting midge, gross pollutants, dredging, sand replenishment, natural erosion control, major incidents affecting the public and the Lake's health, disaster management plans, climate change, upper catchment issues and other matters which arise through the process.

Our delegation met with Council recently and strongly urged Council to carefully consider our document of concerns and provide a detailed response. We now eagerly await reply. If you require any further information or would like to become involved please ring me on 5493 7314. **Committee Leader, Don Smith** (Former Deputy Mayor and Councillor)

ARE YOU A GOOD BUSHLAND NEIGHBOUR?

You may have read about the destruction of valuable bushland along the banks of Currimundi Creek recently. Deliberately cutting down 20 trees to build a shelter and clearing 50 other shrubs and trees to make way for a BMX bike track is clearly unacceptable behaviour. Not to mention the fire pit full of bottles, cans and rubbish. On the spot fines can be issued for such activities.

Whilst young people need areas for their activities – it shouldn't be at the expense of this fragile creek side environment. If people realised how important this vegetation is for bank stabilisation, water quality and wildlife surely they wouldn't have destroyed it. Some community members plant and protect the environment, whilst others destroy it. These areas are sensitive environmentally and need to be cared for.

Are you a good bushland neighbour? Please report any damage to our bushland to Sunshine Coast Council on 5475 7272 or 1300 007 272.



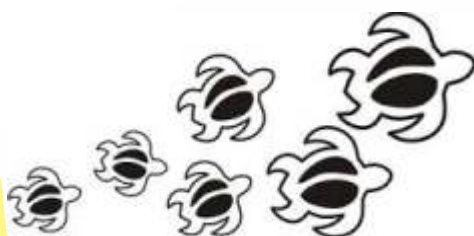
CARING FOR OUR TURTLES

Loggerhead and Green Turtles nest on our beaches from Shelly Beach to Buddina Beach and this season there were 26 nests. Both species are listed as endangered. Each nest produces on average 127 eggs and most develop into hatchlings. Once they emerge however hatchlings have a 1 in 1000 chance of survival through to adulthood (30 years).

TurtleCare Sunshine Coast helps protect our turtle nests and has over 180 volunteers, who identify and record species, nesting locations and frequency, protect nests from fox predation and monitor the hatchling and emergence success of nests.

Turtles need our help to survive. You can help by reporting turtle tracks on the beach and by keeping our beaches litter free. If you see hatchlings emerge, turn off all torchlights and avoid flash photography, as light impacts on a hatchlings orientation and can waste their precious energy. To find out more go to www.turtlecare.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
Ref. TurtleCare Sunshine Coast

Stay up-to-date with CCCG E-Bulletins. Go to Website.



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY REPORT



Currimundi Catchment Care Group: A dedicated group of 23 residents and members cleaned up the area surrounding Lake Kawana. Although it was obvious that residents and visitors take pride in the area and clean up all year round, there was still a surprising amount of rubbish collected. Items included plastic bags and bottles, food wrappers, drink bottles and cans. The big problem seems to be the little things that may often be overlooked such as cigarette butts, lolly wrappers and sticks, small pieces of broken polystyrene foam and plastic, and bottle caps. They may be small in size but they are large in number and pose a risk to wildlife and the environment. The morning finished with a sausage sizzle. Thanks everyone for a great morning's work.

Tony

Friends of Currimundi Lake: 34 volunteers were given bottled water by Cocos and cleaned up the open ground as well as the bush, sand dunes, beach, creek banks and roadside. The tributaries of Coondibah Creek and the Coastal path were also covered. Children joined their parents to comb the high water line and picked up all the very small pieces of litter that are most dangerous to marine life. Cliff was able to use his Buggy to pick up full bags and larger items.

Rubbish collected included paper, bottles, plastic, cans, wood, a bicycle and a bathroom basin. The dunes were reasonably clean this year and the general feeling was that our whole area was in better shape. It was encouraging to see young families involved and the area is all the better for this worthwhile exercise. The morning concluded with a convivial lunch provided by our friends Peter and Jo at Cocos and certificates were presented to the children. We thank our willing workers very much for their participation.

Graham



LIGHTS ON THE LAKE 2013



Everyone enjoyed the highly successful Lights on the Lake community festival set in beautiful Crumunda Park, Wurtulla on the north bank of Currimundi Lake. The event included entertainment for young and old, children's games and activities, food stalls, music and arts and crafts stalls.

It was estimated between 3,000 and 4,000 people attended with another 500 or so watching the water parade from the southern bank of the Lake. Thanks to everyone for coming and a special thanks to those who decorated their kayaks/canoes and participated in the water parade - what a spectacle it was.

Lights on the Lake is a wonderful evening for families and friends to get together as a community. Don't miss this year's event - mark your diaries with **Lights on the Lake 2014 on Sunday 7 December**.

Lights on the Lake can only succeed with the generous contribution of many organisations and volunteers from the local community. Thank you to the 100 plus volunteers and to the **Organising Committee; Sunshine Coast Council; Council's Waterways Team** and Gordon, Josh and Kane; Rob and the volunteers from **Kawana SES**; Roger, Geoff and John from **Caloundra Coast Guard Flotilla**; Mark Jones from **Accord Electrical**, Moffat Beach; **MC Keryn Jones; Cr Peter Cox; Attorney General Jarrod Bleijie; Paramedic students** from Sunshine Coast University (SCU); the entertainers – **Sunshine Coast Ukulele Masters, Paul, Kylie and Tara Camilleri, Ken O'Shea, Catherine Matheson Zumba Dancers, Dave Stygall, Caloundra Chorale, Ayla Scanlan, John Pascua Drumming Circle; Sunshine Coast Youth Partnership** – Amy Doran & Katie Baird; Local businesses – **Aussie World, Bentleys Property Group, Blend Hair Beauty & Nails, Club Kawana, Currimundi Podiatry, Deanies Kids Cuts, Escape Hair and Beauty, Frangipani Cutting Crew Caloundra, Go-Vita Currimundi, Hairlucinate, Infinity Arts, House Effects Currimundi, Kawana Waters Vet Surgery, KFC Wurtulla, McDonalds Currimundi, Montezumas at Mooloolaba, The Organic Deli, Pizza Hut Currimundi, Wurtulla Fruit and Veg, Wurtulla Take-away, Wurtulla News** and **Wurtulla Village Pharmacy**.



STUDENT VOLUNTEERS HELP

Recently, 23 students from Unity College, Bellvista volunteered to help Currimundi Catchment Care Group for the school's year 10 Volunteering Day. They cleaned up the open drain at the end of Sunjewel Blvd, Currimundi collecting 12 large bags of rubbish. While it was disappointing to find so much rubbish dumped in the area, it was pleasing to see the students' enthusiasm and desire to help. They then continued through Sunjewel Environmental Park and along the southern bank of Currimundi Lake cleaning up more rubbish. The day concluded with the students helping our members with a mangrove survey, carefully counting, measuring and recording data on the growth of mangroves which are establishing themselves along the banks of many of the waterways in the Currimundi Lake catchment. Thank you volunteers – your school and parents can be proud of you.



EARTH HOUR

Join millions of people across the world who switch lights off for an hour on **29 March** at **8.30 pm** to raise awareness for our planet.
Ref. www.earthhour.org

The production of this newsletter is funded by the Sunshine Coast Council Community Partnership Funding Programme and opinions expressed are not those of Council and not necessarily those of CCCG Inc.

Group Reports

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Thank you to everyone who attended our AGM in January. I was honoured to be re-elected president for the third year. I welcome my new vice-president Glenys and the other new and returning members of the committee – Kaye, Kym, David, Tony, Eloise, Joan, Marion, Peter, Jenny, Bev, Alex, Graeme and Ron. It is good to see so many of our members willing to step up and take on a role.

Our first activity for the year was with a wonderful group of Year 10 students from Unity College, Bellvista who joined us for their Volunteering Day on 28 February, and then on 2 March we joined with the community for a clean-up around Lake Kawana. Some local residents may not realise that Lake Kawana and the Tokara, Pengali and Baroona Canals and surrounding suburbs are part of the Currimundi Lake catchment.

The new housing developments and the new hospitals will bring great social and economic benefits but will also place new pressures on water quality and the environment. We are keen to work with Council and local residents to ensure a good outcome for the environment and the community.

President, Tony

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

The year started with our AGM in February and our 2014 office bearers are: President and Working Bee Co-ordinator Rhondda, Vice President Cliff, Website Co-ordinator Graham, Notice Board Co-ordinator Gail and Leader of the Currimundi Lake Dynamics Study Sub-committee Don.

Weeding has commenced and Rhonda from Council has finalised the Working Programme for the year. The new fencing project behind the toilets is yet to be completed and a new fence near the beach in a high use area is to be erected to contain the vegetation from being eroded any further. A plan for erosion control along the foreshores of Currimundi Lake between the boat ramp and Alice Street has been completed by Council and will evolve over the year. Data has been collected with our surveying work on the north shore of Currimundi Lake and will be an ongoing project. Our work with Qld Parks and Wildlife Service in the Currimundi Conservation Park is also continuing this year.

Please note: It is a State offence to remove Brush-Turkey nests and to do so carries heavy fines. It is ineffective as the male's drive to build a mound is irrepressible.

We were lucky to have the Currimundi Day Care Group help us on Clean Up Australia Day and they would like to partner with us in other projects this year. We look forward to 2014 and welcome anyone who would like to spend a couple of hours of their time with us on our working bees. If you are interested please contact me on 5437 6481.

President, Rhondda

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

We have had a quiet summer. Council have removed some dangerous trees on the path extension and the mulch has been spread. Council have been busy with a project to build new walking and bike paths along Caloundra Road from the refurbished bus shelter to the roundabout connecting Kawana Link Road. A new sidewalk is in the works for the east side of Parklands Boulevard going up the hill to Caloundra Road.

We are waiting for Council's Waterways Team to start the Wallum Gardens pond engineering study. Also we are continuing our parks and open space study to connect the South Branch of Currimundi Creek near Halcyon to Parklands through AV Jennings and the Drinnen (end of Springs Drive) projects.

We are looking for new people to participate in our group, so please call me on 5491 7905 or email rburnett@bigpond.net.au

President, Ron

KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The proposed date for our 2014 Annual General Meeting is **4 May**, which will be held at the Kawana Forest Meeting Place - with the new sign on top of the building it is hard to miss.

We will also be conducting a combined 'Clean-up and Weed-buster day' in the cooler months of the year on a date to be set.

President, Greg



Contacts



Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc. (CCCG)

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

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

Next Meeting: 12 May

Contact: Secretary Kym 5493 4398

Website: www.currimundicatchment.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/currimundicatchment



Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL)

covers the area south of Currimundi 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: 1 April

Contact: President Rhondda 5437 6481

Website: www.currimundicatchment.org.au

Parklands Community Group

Contact: President Ron 5491 7905

Kawana Forest Residents' Association (KaFRA)

Contact: President Greg 0419 822 663

Website: www.kafra.org.au

Others:

Sunshine Coast Council: 5475 7272 for issues regarding Currimundi Lake and its Catchment.

Kawana Police: 5413 8700 or 131444

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 OR

1300 264 625 to report wildlife emergencies, including sick, injured or distressed marine life.

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