

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 2018

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 4 MARCH 2018

There were two clean-up locations in the catchment on Clean up Australia Day.

Currimundi Catchment Care Group based their clean-up at Stockyard Park, Little Mountain, again this year.

There were 23 volunteers who collected about **five hundred** plastic and glass bottles and drink cans plus over two wheelie bins full of general rubbish. The Queensland drink container deposit scheme is due to commence 1 November, and it can't come soon enough!

It was hot work on the day, but worth it and everyone had fun doing their bit. We really earned our sausage sizzle and cold drink to finish up. Thanks everyone who joined us for the community clean up.



Some of the 500 plastic and glass bottles collected at Little Mountain



Nothing like a sausage sizzle to wrap up the day's clean up

41 helpers registered to help at the Friends of Currimundi Lake site at Cliff Hargreaves Park from 8.30am. The volunteers were able to cover the open ground as well as the bush, sand dunes, beach, creek banks and roadside. It was encouraging to see young families involved as children joined their parents to comb the high water line to pick up all the very small pieces of litter that are most dangerous to marine life. The Dunes were reasonably clean this year and the general feeling was that our whole area is in good shape.

The morning concluded with a convivial BBQ luncheon. Goodies provided by Sandie from Envirocom were handed out to all helpers. Children received certificates for their efforts and learned the importance of a clean environment. We thank our willing workers very much for their participation.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR SHOPPING BAGS READY?

Lightweight plastic shopping bags will be banned from 1 July. Retailers will no longer provide plastic shopping bags less than 35 microns in thickness (a single-use or lightweight plastic shopping bag). This includes compostable, degradable and biodegradable plastic shopping bags, as these can still harm wildlife if littered.

There are innumerable alternatives to lightweight plastic bags, including calico, cotton, paper, straw, hessian, recycled plastic, reused cartons. There are many sources of alternatives bags – some are free or for a gold coin donation, eg Boomerang Bags, and some are available for purchase where proceeds go to the environment or further research into reducing litter, eg Onya Bags and Wildlife Queensland.

There is an active Boomerang Bags group in Caloundra. They make bags from repurposed donated fabrics and distribute them via selected outlets.

As the label says, Boomerang Bags are to be reused (as many times as possible). If you'd like to get involved in making bags, or donating fabric or equipment to Boomerang Bags Caloundra, contact Lynne on 5491 9957 or lynnebaker4@bigpond.com



A sample of Boomerang Bags made by the Caloundra group

LIGHTS ON THE LAKE 2017 BRIGHTER THAN EVER



The winning boat - Michael Boucher and helpers

The 2017 festival was a shining example of community spirit, with thousands of people of all ages at Crummunda Park on the shores of Currimundi Lake.

Thanks go to our generous sponsors Sunshine Coast Council, Caloundra Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank, IGA Wurtulla, State Member for Kawana, Jarrod Belijie MP, and Jo Mollinger Real Estate. Thanks also to MC Tonie Prasser, Council representative, Cr Peter Cox, entertainers – Ken O'Shea, Nyssa Raye, Pineapple Crush, Dave Stygall, The Offbeat One and No Sound Playground. Also to all the local organisations who provided support or donated goods, services or prizes: Bill Alexander, Bunnings Caloundra, Caloundra Coastguard, Caloundra SES Unit, Club Kawana, Currimundi Catchment Care Group, Dicky Beach Surf Lifesaving club, Gillett Electrical, Ken O'Shea, Kentucky Fried Chicken Wurtulla, Lions Club of Lake Currimundi –Kawana, McDonalds Currimundi, Neighbourhood Watch Groups of Currimundi East and Wurtulla West, Pharmacy for Life Wurtulla, University of Sunshine Coast Paramedic Students, and Zarraffa's Coffee Currimundi.

And to the water parade entrants and the 100 plus volunteers who helped make the event such an outstanding success, thank you and we'll see you again at Lights on the Lake 2018.

ELECTRONIC TURTLE TRACKING

Sunshine Coast Council has embarked on a once-off tracking project in collaboration with Dr Col Limpus from the Queensland Government to gain insight into the habitat use of two loggerhead turtles between visits to our beaches to lay eggs.

One of these turtles has been named Gandugan meaning Giant Crane in Gubbi Gubbi language. This is named after CCCG and Turtlecare member Dot Crane and her late husband Errol. Dot and Errol first came across the turtle about ten years ago and have watched it with special interest. Gandugan has a very easily identifiable track in the sand so there is a history from photographic records of her visits to Sunshine Coast beaches to lay her eggs.

Gandugan's new electronic track device indicates she has reached her foraging grounds, an unnamed coral reef in the Swains Reef, approximately 650km (straight line) from the Sunshine Coast. She will likely remain at this location for the next 3 - 4 years before undertaking another breeding migration to Sunshine Coast beaches.

Content provided by Sunshine Coast Council and image by Adriana Watson Photography.



Dot and Gandugan at Wurtulla Beach

RHONDDA TO CARRY THE BATON FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Rhondda Alexander, President of Friends of Currimundi Lake, has been chosen to participate in the baton run for the Commonwealth Games being hosted by the Gold Coast City. Unfortunately, owing to recently fracturing her leg in three places, Rhondda will be doing her run in a wheel chair.

Rhondda is well known as a tireless worker for the environment, not only in the Currimundi catchment, but also as a key participant in Turtlecare and Landcare and she is also Chair of her local Neighbourhood Watch group.

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay will arrive in Caloundra on Tuesday 27 March. The baton is expected to arrive at Kings Beach Amphitheatre at 10.09am and depart at 10.19am.

During the Relay, there will be a community celebration at Kings Beach Amphitheatre from 9.15am-11am, where people can come together and share the spirit of the Relay and the Games.

Stay up-to-date with news and events.
www.currimundi-catchment.org.au/cccc
or: facebook.com/currimundicatchmentcaregroup

You can check out the participants and the route on Council's website, and come out to support Rhondda and the other 24 local baton bearers who have been selected to carry the Queen's Baton in Caloundra. The website also provides details of road closures on the day.

Rhondda's 'leg' of the relay (no pun intended) will be from the Amphitheatre to 5 Ormunde Terrace, Kings Beach.



Rhondda, centre, pictured with other members of Turtlecare

CLIFF HARGREAVES MEMORIAL

By Rhondda Alexander

After some waiting, on 6 March 2018 the plaque in honour of Cliff Hargreaves was placed on the new deck at the top of the dunes at Currimundi Beach Access 254, opposite the Life Guards tower.

This plaque was a joint undertaking from The Amputee Support Group, Currimundi Neighbourhood Watch Group, Friends of Currimundi Lake, Currimundi Catchment Care Group and the Sunshine Coast Council.



Cliff's was rarely seen without his favourite gardening hat



Councillor Peter Cox, pictured above, and his office did a special unveiling with Cliff's daughters, Gail and Alison, cutting the ribbon to unveil the plaque.

It held off raining while everyone looked and told stories of Cliff which was great, and we all agreed that Cliff was looking down and holding back the rain for everyone.

I am sure he had a smile on his face as I sat there in a wheelchair as this deck is specially convenient for people with mobility problems.

WORKING BEES MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE TO THE CATCHMENT

What a great start to the year for Currimundi Catchment Care Group Working Bees! Thanks to our wonderful gang of helpers we have removed a massive amount of corky passionflower vine that was destroying shrubs and trees, and a massive amount of garden escapees creating space for local native grasses to shine.

Corky passionflower, pictured right, is native to South America but has become very widely established in Queensland. It is an aggressive perennial vine with many long tendrils. In forests, it can out-compete ground cover species and climb and smother shrubs and small trees.

Corky passionflower is not a prohibited or restricted invasive plant in Queensland, however, by law, everyone has a general biosecurity obligation to take reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive plants under their control.

The most reliable method of control of this weed is hand pulling when the soil is moist. Care must be taken not to break the stem above the roots, or the plant will regenerate.

This weeding makes a big difference for the native animals and birds in our catchment, increasing the availability of food and shelter as they struggle with loss of habitat in an urban world.

Upcoming dates for Currimundi Catchment Care Group Working Bees are Sunday 15 April, and Sunday 20 May 3-5 pm. Please check CCCG website or email CCCG for more details about location. Hope to see you soon.

Friends of Currimundi Lake Working Bees are held twice a month - on the second Wednesday and last Saturday from 8 to 11 am.

The working bees are in different locations in the lake area each time. To find out the meeting place for the next working bee please call Ruth on 549 37903.



Corky passion flower (*Passiflora Suberosa*)

Group Reports



CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

We held our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and appointment of officers on 5 February. Once again I had the honour of being appointed President, while others elected were Glenys (Vice-President and acting Secretary), Kaye (Treasurer), Joan, Ron, David and Enid as general committee members. Thanks everyone for putting up your hand to help run the group. We have made a procedural change so that our financial year will end on a more conventional 30 June rather than 31 December so we will have to hold another AGM later this year. If you have been thinking about ways to give something back to your community and can spare a few hours each month, joining our committee is a great opportunity to do that.

The recent Clean Up Australia Day had its high and low points. On the good side it's wonderful to see people of all ages from seniors to families with toddlers turning out to help clean up. On the down side, each year we continue to collect hundreds of drink containers plus lots of general rubbish from our parks and roadsides. It just goes to show we need to be vigilant throughout the year, taking care not to litter and picking rubbish up and putting it in the bin when we see it. **Tony, President**

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

It has been so great to see the rain after the very dry spell last year and early this year. Quite a few plants did not make it through this time, but it has been guaranteed that we will be kept busy with weeds from now on.

Our AGM has been put back until April 3rd because of my broken leg, and I would like to advise that Ruth Brangwin has taken on the coordination of our working bees. Ruth abounds with energy, so our weeding and planting group will be busy this year with Ruth at the helm. I will still attend working bees and will still be running Friends of Currimundi Lake. Our working bees will still be twice a month - second Wednesday and last Saturday - and we welcome anyone who would like to attend.

We still have five turtle nests to hatch out, with one of them being a Green turtle. The timing of the hatchlings emerging has been a bit unpredictable this year with the changing weather, and also some high tides that have been a worry.

There were also two adult females released this year with a GPS attached to show where these females went in their travels. Some exciting data to be seen and collected. **Rhondda, President**

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

The Parklands Community has been quiet recently, except for the Palm Village work at the end of Village Way. The servicing work looks well under way with roads outlined and services partially completed. Creekwood is moving ahead with the residential near the school and along Parklands Boulevard. The Church of Christ development across from Meridan School is on track to be completed by the end of 2018. The Seven Eleven is up and running.

The Dot Billingham pond and drain has had a clean out by Council/contractors and our grass cutters are doing a better job round the neighbourhood. Parklands Boulevard has had another cleanout as part of CCCG's Clean Up Australia Day so we are very pleased.

If you would like to deliver this newsletter in the Creekwood and Ivadale areas please call 0448 517 905. Only 4 times a year, an easy walk! **Ron, President**

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: 7 May

Contact: President Tony, 5438 8267
Email: cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au
Website: www.currimundicatchment.org.au/cccg
Facebook: www.facebook.com/currimundicatchmentcaregroup



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: AGM 3 April

Contact: President Rhondda 5437 6481
Email: foclinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au
Website: www.currimundicatchment.org.au/focl

Parklands Community Group

Contact: President Ron 5491 7905
Email: rburnett@bigpond.net.au

Kawana Forest Residents' Association (KaFRA)

Contact: President Glenn 0412 286 156
Meeting Place bookings: Josephine Marciak 5443 7281
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 & Heritage Protection: 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

KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Building on the success of our annual Christmas events, the KaFRA committee is currently planning more events and activities to involve the local community, particularly youth and children, and encourage our residents to get outside, meet their neighbours and enjoy some time in our beautiful parks and community facilities. More information will be available soon.

Street and verge parking continues to be an issue in our estate so the KaFRA committee were pleased to be invited to participate in the recent workshop conducted by the Sunshine Coast Council on this topic. We look forward to hearing what the council comes up with to deal with this problem. **Glenn, President**