

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 9,500 households and businesses within the Currimundi Catchment. If you can help with distribution please phone Tony on 5438 8267



Spring 2018

CONTAINER REFUND SCHEME TO START 1 NOVEMBER



A sample of the drink containers collected at the Clean Up Australia Day event at Little Mountain in March 2018

The ban on single use plastic bags is now in place and the Queensland Government Container Refund Scheme will commence on 1 November. Under the scheme anyone who returns an approved drink container to an approved container refund point will receive 10 cents. This will cover most aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard beverage containers between 150ml and 3 litres.

More information will be provided closer to the time of where the container refund points are located across the Sunshine Coast. We hope this will be the end of widespread littering of drink containers witnessed at clean up days over recent years.

THE LAST STRAW AT CURRIMUNDI LAKESIDE CAFES

Recently, the two Currimundi Lakeside businesses joined with Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL) to remove plastic straws from their businesses. Rhondda Alexander (FOCL) and Councillor Peter Cox approached Peter and Eka from thrillspresso and Debbie from Coco's to join with Friends of Currimundi Lake to help stop the use of plastic straws by not providing them to the public.

Both Peter and Eka, and Debbie were happy to support the 'Straw No More' campaign. It is exciting to see that both businesses had already started on the war against PLASTICS and had moved to eco-friendly and paper straws.

We can all help by using businesses like these who take the lead, and for others, by refusing straws and drink stirrers, or taking your own straw (made of metal, bamboo, silicone, paper or cardboard).



PADDLE AGAINST PLASTIC ON 28 OCTOBER

Ocean Crusaders will host a clean up at event at Currimundi Lake on 28 October departing from Frank McIvor Park, between 8 and 11 am, as part of the hugely successful Paddle against Plastic campaign.

This program involves a systematic approach to cataloguing litter so that strategies can be developed to prevent littering in future. Every clean up event includes a data sheet for every waterway throughout the year.



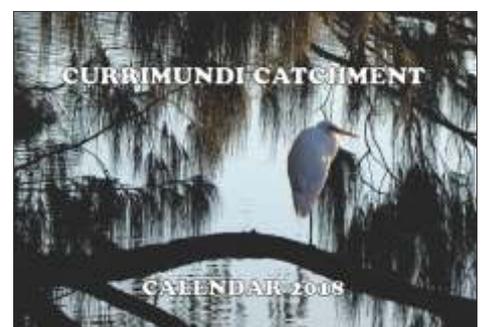
Data is essential to understand what is being removed and where it is coming from.

CCCG and FOCL are proud to support this work and will join in co-hosting the event.

TIME TO SUBMIT PHOTOGRAPHS FOR 2019 CURRIMUNDI CALENDAR

Don't forget to send in your photograph/s for consideration for our 2019 wall calendar by 30 September to: calendar@currimundicatchment.org.au.

Technical requirements are set out on the Currimundi Catchment Care Group website. Calendars will be for sale for \$10 and successful photographers will receive a free calendar.

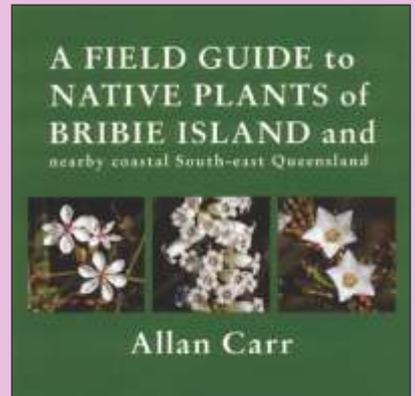


2018 WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL

Although the prolonged dry threatened to limit the show of blooms this year, we were at least hoping for fine weather for the walk through Leacy's Reserve, but as luck would have it, Sunday August 26 was one of the wettest days for months. Just a few intrepid souls of the many who had braved the showers, but we were still able to show them a few treasures in this patch of remnant bushland along the South Arm of Currimundi Creek. On the previous weekend, prior to the start of the Festival, a larger group from Barung Landcare were also shown through the reserve, following up on a recent walk along the North Arm and through Kawana Forest.

After last year's walk through the wallum heath of Kathleen McArthur Conservation Park at Currimundi Lake was over-subscribed, the Wildlife Preservation Society hosted two walks this year, and both were fully booked. A highlight was the attendance of Allan Carr from the Caboolture branch of Native Plants Qld and the Wallum Study Group, with his new book *A Field guide to the Native Plants of Bribie Island and nearby coastal South-east Queensland*.

Beautifully illustrated with 572 photographs which are accompanied by descriptions of 235 species, it is an excellent introduction to our coastal vegetation. It should soon be available in local bookshops, or contact Jude on 5491 4153 with enquiries.



OUR AWARD WINNERS

Several of our local volunteers have been awarded and rewarded in recent months.

Tony Moorhead, President of Currimundi Catchment Care Group was recognised in the Kawana Electorate Community Awards. Tony has been President of the Currimundi Catchment Care Group since 2012. During that period he has led the Group in undertaking many activities focussed on improving the environment of the Currimundi catchment, as reported regularly in this newsletter.

Tony is also Co-Chair of the Lights on the Lake Organising Group which has brought an amazingly successful and much loved Christmas event to Currimundi each year since 2012. In fact the entire Lights on the Lake Organising Group received a Kawana Electorate Community Award this year.



The Hon Jarrod Bleijie, MP, left, presenting awards to representatives of the Lights on the Lake Organising Group: Joyce Peters, Rhondda Alexander, Ruth Brangwin, Tony Moorhead and Aileen Lowe, with the Hon Dr Christian Rowen, MP, Shadow Minister for Communities

LIGHTS ON THE LAKE 2018

Lights on the Lake will be back on the shores of Currimundi Lake on Sunday 9 December 2018, 4 pm to 8 pm. All your favourites will be there again, including Santa, Bendigo Bank's Piggy, and various furry friends.

So get your kayaks and canoes decorated for the lighting competition and water parade, get involved in the many kids activities or pack your picnic rug and settle in for an afternoon of free entertainment on the grass at Crummunda Park. Check our Facebook page for updates: www/facebook.com/lightsonthelakefestival.



BOOMERANG BAGS GRANT

Boomerang Bags Caloundra was successful in receiving a grant of \$1380 from Councillor Peter Cox's discretionary funds.

This enabled the group to purchase an Overlocker, Sewing Machine, Trolley, Stamping Ink and Cottons. Kimz Sewing Centre in Warana were very generous with discounts and also gave 120 reels of cotton for \$6.80. Looks like they'll be sewing for a while!

Stay up-to-date with news and events.
www.currimundicatchment.org.au/cccg
or: [facebook.com/currimundicatchmentcaregroup](https://www.facebook.com/currimundicatchmentcaregroup)

WORKING BEES HELP OUR NEIGHBOURS

One of the goals of our working bees is to remove invasive, smothering weeds and allow the local native vegetation to thrive. By this, we hope to not only enhance the appearance of our bushland, but also help our local fauna, especially the small birds who are really struggling.

On our last working bee, we removed 8 bags of coral creeper (*barleria repens*) from bushland, and a local family helped us remove 4 bags from their yard which backs onto bushland. We are so grateful to this family as without their support we would never be able to prevent this creeper taking hold. This year we have had the opportunity to work with many families who have properties backing onto bushland. It has been a vital partnership for us, and we thank all for their support.

If you would like to join one of our working bees, please check the CCCG website for details. They are held monthly on Sunday afternoon.

PEOPLE POWER REGENERATES BUSHLAND

Content provided by Sunshine Coast Council



Bancrofts Red Gum Reserve and adjacent areas in 2007

National Tree Day (NTD) was held in the Currimundi Catchment over a nine-year period from 2009 - 2017. The site was originally chosen by Sunshine Coast Council (SCC) to increase the size of Bancrofts Red Gum Environmental Reserve at Little Mountain, and to increase the food supply and habitat for native wildlife such as possums, squirrel gliders, and a multitude of insect and bird species, who live in the reserve. The plan was to find an area that could be used as a National Tree Day site for a five-year period, but the site continued to grow each year and overtook those expectations.

Approximately 1,500 – 2,000 plants were at each NTD which resulted in 15 – 18,000 native plants being planted by volunteers in the community over that nine-year period. All holes were pre-dug to make it as easy as possible for those doing the planting. Weed mats were put around each plant, and they were given a good water as well.



All sites are typically wet areas and plant species were chosen accordingly to cope with the conditions. The dominant species planted throughout the site was *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Paper bark tree). The flowers on this tree are a rich source of nectar for fruit bats and the scaly breasted lorikeet. Other animals such as the grey headed flying fox and little red flying fox also feed on the flowers.



Map of NTD sites for each year 2009 - 2017

A large range of other native plant species were also planted. The first area to be planted was directly adjacent to the reserve, and adjacent blocks were planted after that. Some of the trees that were planted in the early days look like they have been there forever now. SCC was planning on having the 2018 event in the area adjacent to the 2017 site but as the area was naturally regenerating it was decided there was no need to do additional planting.



A rewarding sight - healthy thriving paper bark trees planted by volunteers



A recent aerial photo showing extent of regeneration

The Lions Club of Caloundra have been very supportive of the event and have kindly cooked a bbq for the hungry volunteers every year. Currimundi Catchment Care Group coordinated sign-on of volunteers. Entertainment was provided over the years such as face painting, music, and Geckoes Wildlife did wildlife presentations to show volunteers what animals live in the reserve. A big thank you goes out to everyone who has been involved in the event.

FAUNA SURVEYS

Currimundi Catchment Care Group are investigating the feasibility of conducting fauna surveys in one or more environmentally significant areas in our catchment. A fauna survey involves a systematic cataloguing of animals, birds, reptiles and amphibians within a specified area. Some of the priority areas we have identified are Bancrofts Redgum Environmental Reserve, Little Mountain; Leacy's Bushland Conservation Reserve, Meridan Plains; and Kathleen McArthur Conservation Reserve, Currimundi.

We hope to work closely with the Faunawatch project team from Queensland Wildlife Preservation Society. We believe the results will prove a valuable asset for the local community and will help us to monitor the health of the region into the future. More details in future newsletters.



Group Reports

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Isn't spring a wonderful time to live in this neighbourhood? Beautiful days, wildflowers popping out all over the place, people out and about walking, cycling, relaxing by the beach, lake and in our beautiful parks. Have you seen the Hovea bushes around the place - purple bush pea - little purple flowers? They are flourishing this year, my favourite wildflower.

We have just had our Annual General Meeting, the second this calendar year as we transition to a new end date for our financial year. I welcome the volunteers who have joined the management committee. There is not a lot of work or time involved but without these volunteers, none of our activities like clean-ups, weeding, planting and of course Lights on the Lake could happen. I ask all of you to consider whether you can spare a few hours a month to give something back to your community by joining us. It's not too late and actually, it's fun and rewarding.

CCCG will be joining with other local and Sunshine Coast community groups at the Clean Up the Currimundi event 28 October (see story on page 1). Come and help - bring the family and friends. We are looking forward to another exciting Lights on the Lake community festival on 9 December.

President, Tony

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

The Friends of Currimundi Lake working bee group has been quite busy this year having planted 650 plants and collected 144 bags of weeds. The weeds don't seem to go away even though there is not a lot of moisture in the ground. It is always lovely to have Kym from CCCG attend some of our weeding bees and Ruth, our coordinator, attends some CCCG weeding days. It has been lovely to see the Hoveas flowering very well this year. Work has been completed by the Council on a retaining wall opposite residences in Gamban Esplanade.

The World Ocean's Day cleanup at Currimundi went well. I was able to help out with the sorting of the litter. Plastic straws were very prominent and sad to say so were various types of plastic bags and food containers.

There is a new sign at the Boat Ramp regarding Currimundi Lake waterways usage. Also the work near the parking area at the Lake is underway. This includes a sandstone wall, grassed area and more trees, and a general beautification of the area. The next FOCL meeting will be on the 2nd October and anyone is welcome to attend.

President, Rhondda

KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

After the success of our family fun day for Kawana Forest residents on 2 June, we're doing it again - only bigger and better - on Saturday, 13 October, from 3-6pm in Kurrajong Park. Our annual Christmas party, also for Kawana Forest residents, will be held on Saturday afternoon, 24 November, from 3-6pm at the Kawana Forest Meeting Place.

Results of AGM: **President** - Glenn Smith; **Secretary** - Kelly Smith; **Treasurer**: Coralie Williamson. **Committee**: Jackie Dawid, Alana McEwen, Darren Meredith, Barbara Allain.

President, Glenn

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

Things are rolling along at their normal pace. The recent rains have helped flush some debris through the water system and help nourish the gardens, and the Dam Doctor has pulled some plants from the pond.

Projects in the area are moving along, especially the gated Palm Lake Resort Caloundra Cay (pronounced Key), advertising 270 house plus a future Aged Care facility. Phase 1 of 9 has 51 units, some occupied now with a total of 8 future Phases. The Mon Terre residential area is nearing completion and the Churches of Christ Aged Care facility across from Meridan College is also getting ready.

If you as a resident have any special project and would like to involve the Parklands community, please give me a call at 0448 517 905 or send me an email at rburnett@bigpond.net.au.

President, Ron



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: 8 November

Contact: President Tony, 5438 8267

Email: cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au

Website: www.currimundicatchment.org.au/cccg

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: 2 October, 4 December

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

Email: gsmith@gideons.org.au

Website: www.kafra.org.au

Meeting Place bookings: 5443 7281

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