

CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT NEWS

This is a community newsletter voluntarily produced by Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc ABN 77 276 084 092. 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.



Summer 2019

LIGHTS ON THE LAKE

Roll on festive season when there are so many fun things to look forward to. It's that special time of year when many of you are decorating your boats and paddle boards to light up the night sky for the legendary Lights on the Lake festival. Now in its ninth year, Currimundi's largest outdoor community event is opening up even further to invite owners of watercraft with electric motors to join in the parade. Only electric motors are permitted.

There will be prizes for the best decorated boats, but the water procession is not the only attraction. Kids will be looking forward to the amazing array of kids activities including Suzy the Face Painter and Jembe Johnno's drum circle. There's 4 hours of music, there's food markets, hand-made arts and crafts and glow lights for sale. Santa has his boat arrival down to a fine art with the help of his Coast Guard buddies about 6pm and later he'll be helping to award prizes to the winning decorated boats. After the boats have returned from their beautiful water procession, the night will conclude with a pulsating laser light show.



As usual Bendigo Bank's Piggy will be lending a helping paw along with the Caloundra Bank Branch Team who are our valuable major sponsors, doing a great job for us along with Sunshine Coast Council.

You can register decorated boats for the water procession in advance via the website or at the Registration Marquee before 6pm on the day. A safety briefing for all participants will be held at 6.30pm. All children under the age of 13 years must wear a flotation device.

Don't forget our usual reminders:

- There's limited parking so plan your arrival, park nearby and walk the last bit, or catch a bus and get off on Nicklin Way right near the event.
- If you live close by, why not walk, cycle or paddle.
- There are no ATMs so bring CASH.
- Keep children supervised particularly when night falls.
- Leave pets at home if they don't cope well with crowds.

For further information or to register for the water procession, see the website:

www.currimundicatchment.org.au/lights-on-lake
call Tony on 5438 8267, or email:
cccinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au.

When: 4pm to 8pm, Sunday 8 December 2019
Where: Crummunda Park, Coongarra Esplanade, Wurtulla
Facebook: www.facebook.com/lightsonthelakefestival

OUR INSECT EATING PLANTS ARE OUT AGAIN

Drosera, commonly known as sundews, is one of the largest genera of carnivorous plants, with at least 194 species. These plants capture and digest insects using mucilaginous glands on their leaves that produce sticky gluey mucilage.

At the moment sundews are appearing in a most unusual place - in Kathleen McArthur Conservation Park on the steep banks of Currimundi Lake. Somehow they've managed to withstand the dry weather followed by heavy rain. These unusual plants look like red flowers lying flat on the ground, but what appear to be petals are actually spoon shaped leaves covered with drops of mucilage, loaded with a sugary substance. Once an insect is stuck to the leaves, the tentacles curl around it and the plant uses enzymes to dissolve the insect, and extract nutrients from the insect's body. Spooky!!

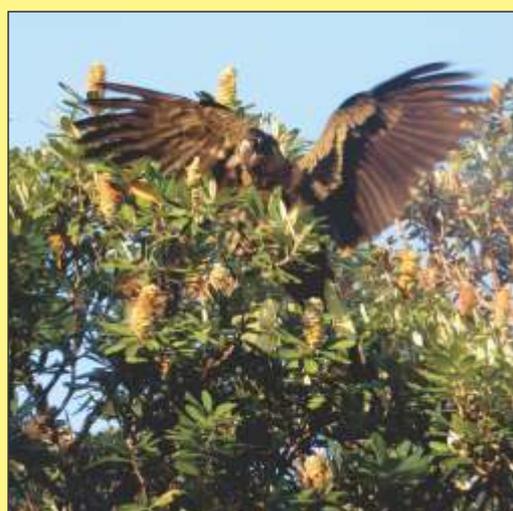




HAPPY TREES IN LEACY'S RESERVE

An incredible “thank you” to all who have assisted in CCCG working bees this year. So far, for 2019, our working bee volunteers have undertaken 174 hours of work and filled 131 weed bags. And we still have one more working bee to go. An impressive effort everyone.

We last worked in Leacy's Reserve. It is a stunning place and we all left feeling uplifted and rejuvenated. One volunteer commented “all the trees are now having a chat – wondering who are all those wonderful people who have freed us from our enemies”. I just love the thought that the trees will invite us back.



THE YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO

by Rhonda Alexander

I was so lucky to have a yellow-tailed black cockatoo land in my garden on the bird water bath but it did sound like a mini helicopter coming in to land!

The yellow-tailed black cockatoo (*calyptorhynchus funereus*) is a large cockatoo native to south-

east Australia measuring from 55-65 cm in length. It has a short crest on the top of the head. The plumage is mostly brownish black and it has prominent yellow cheek patches and a yellow tail band.

They feed in small to large groups and they range over a mixture of habitats but prefer open eucalypt woodland and pine plantations. Their favourite foods are seeds from native trees and pinecones. This beautiful bird, which can sound quite mournful, is in decline due to loss of habitat. The female nests in hollows mainly eucalypt trees high up in the canopy.



SLOW DOWN!

Time for our annual reminder to all boaties out on Currimundi Lake and Creeks. Slow down!! Keep to 6 knots or below and make sure your boat is not creating a wash. Wash from speeding boats is dangerous and causes damage to fragile banks.

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CALENDAR 2020

Many thanks to our photographers who just get better and better! The 2020 Calendar showcases our wonderful catchment in all its glory and we love receiving photographs from all over the catchment.

The Calendar is available for \$10. You can purchase one at the Bendigo Bank stall at Lights on the Lake on 8 December. Or you can order one by phone 5438 8267 or email: cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au.

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



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS CLEANED UP



Currimundi Catchment Care Group and Friends of Currimundi Lake were pleased to be part of another amazing Community Clean Up at Currimundi Lake on 20 October coordinated by Ocean Crusaders. There were 93 volunteers paddling the lake or walking the paths to remove just over 500kg of debris, including a park bench!

Council staff analyse the litter to assist in future campaigns and found approximately 11,520 individual pieces were collected! This included almost 2,000 pieces of plastic food packaging, 1600 pieces of hard plastic pieces, and over 1700 small pieces of soft plastic broken up from larger bags etc.

It was pleasing to note that there were very few lightweight plastic bags and drink containers suggesting the State government bans are working. However there were still a lot of straws, lollipop sticks and single use plastic cups.

There is further good news that single-use plastic straws, cutlery and plates could be banned by the Queensland Government as early as 2020.

Do you see the surfboard in the middle of the photo above? And that's a larger version of it to the right. It's another fantastic work by local resident Marion Coleman who uses art to illustrate the amount of litter in our community. She collects litter on her regular walks, sometimes with her young grandsons helping, from Currimundi Lake, Currimundi Beach, Dicky Beach and Shelley Beach. After sorting and cleaning it, she lets her creative mind come up with an artwork that relates directly to the area. This one is titled "Waves of Waste".

Have a look at the close-up picture and you'll see exactly what we're up against. You'll recognise common small plastic items that are in every day use. They get discarded, possibly in the catchment, but it could happen hundreds of kilometres away, and they end up on our beach or in our lake.

Council staff plan to use the surfboard in increasing awareness in school age children on what happens to litter.



HOW TO REDUCE EMISSIONS BY CHANGING BINS (and it only costs 42 cents a week)

Litter and greenhouse gas emissions are very topical issues at the moment. Here's another way individuals can reduce emissions simply by changing their Council bins.

Garden waste bins are available from Council to dispose of all your garden waste and lawn clippings but many people don't take up this option as it is an additional expense. Instead they dispose of garden waste in their general waste bin. Apparently this behaviour leads to higher emissions and here's why.

When garden waste goes to landfill along with general waste it is buried and decomposes under anaerobic conditions (absence of oxygen) and produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

However garden waste bin contents are composted using an oxygenated process to produce mulch. This mulch is then available for residents and businesses to purchase.

If you're currently using a large 240 litre general waste bin (red lid), you can swap this for a smaller one (140 litres) and a 240 litre garden waste bin (green lid) for a net cost of \$25.10 per year, ie 42 cents a week.

Some people like to be more actively involved in their garden waste disposal, and if that describes you, you can always invest in your own mulcher or worm farm to make mulch or compost on your property.

Either way we're working to reduce greenhouse emissions.



Group Reports



CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Everyone involved in the planning of our fabulous community festival Lights on the Lake are looking forward to another spectacular event. I never tire of this wonderful evening when our community comes together to celebrate the festive season, have lots of fun and enjoy the wonderful place we live. We wish to thank Sunshine Coast Council who have made the event possible each year with a community grant to help cover some of the operational costs. We also thank our major sponsor Caloundra Community Bank Branch Bendigo Bank. Every year for the last six years the bank branch has supported us with sponsorship. Their staff come along and volunteer at the event as well. I think 'community' says it all. It is great to have a local business so committed to giving something back to the people who live in their community.

This year we are looking for a few more volunteers to help out at the event. You only need to volunteer for an hour or two so you can still enjoy the rest of the event. The whole event is run by volunteers and we all value being part of the success of the festival and giving a little back to our friends and neighbours. Contact cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au or 54388267. **President, Tony**

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

Our last working bee for 2019 will be on 11 December and we will commence next year on 12 February. We're always looking for new members. Our last meeting for the year will be on 3 December but we will be joining with Currimundi NHW on 10 December for our Christmas Dinner.

Great news is that the electoral boundary between Division 3 and Division 2 has not been changed, which means that the Currimundi catchment stays within Div 3.

Turtle season for the Sunshine Coast has officially commenced, but no turtles have come in yet to nest. I would like to ask all people using the beach and dune areas to keep your lights to the barest minimum as lights wreak havoc with incoming laying turtles and also the hatchlings when they are leaving the nest to go to the water. Our turtle population is declining due to a few man made factors so let us help them as much as possible. Keep litter and lights to a minimum please everyone which will also help all our native animals.

We have had a few plants/trees destroyed illegally this year. It only takes a few minutes to cut them down but it takes years to grow them. Each time a plant is cut the habitat of some animal has been destroyed.

Friends of Currimundi Lake wish everyone a Merry Christmas, and a happy and safe New Year. **President, Rhondda**

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

We are rolling into Summer. Our meeting with Cr Peter Cox is set for Wednesday 4 December 2019 at 29 Lakeshore Place 9:00 am, on my patio. Everyone is welcome. Bring your issues, questions and comments.

By the time you receive this newsletter the heavy construction on Parklands Blvd in front of Meridan College should be finished and we will have four lanes for vehicles.

Council has also installed a new carpet covering for the basketball court at corner of Springs Drive and Parklands Blvd. Now if they would replace the ring/hoop with one that could have a net attached, satisfaction would be enhanced. Kudos to the parents or players who keep a net on the ring at the Creekwood tennis court. A well used facility, especially the morning exercise groups. Try them if you are looking for a mid morning routine. And don't forget I'm still on the hunt for a few extra deliverers, four times a year for a short walk! Call me on 0448 517 905. **President, Ron**

KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

After a very successful community-building family Halloween activity, KaFRA is now planning its annual residents Christmas Party to be held on 1 December at 4-6pm in Kurrajong Park. The informal afternoon will focus on a range of active and relaxing games to encourage Kawana Forest residents to meet and engage with friends and neighbours, a simple, low-cost barbecue and free ice blocks for the kids. **President, Glenn**

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: January 2020

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: 4 February 2020

Contact: President Rhondda 5437 6481

Working bees: contact Ruth 0408 989 263

Email: foclinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au

Website: www.currimundicatchment.org.au/focl

Parklands Community Group

Contact: Ron 5491 7905, 0448 517 905

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