

CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT NEWS

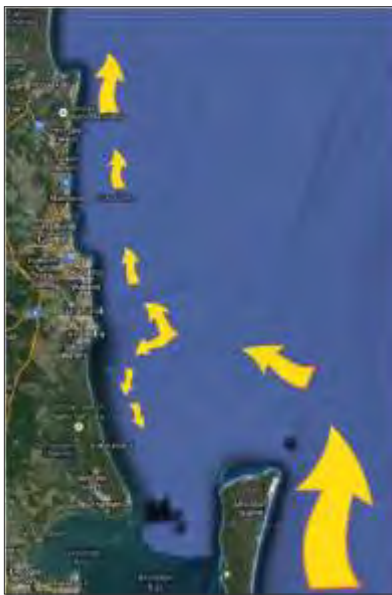
This is a community newsletter voluntarily produced by Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc. ABN 77 276 084 162. It is printed on sustainable forest paper and distributed by volunteers to 9,500 households and businesses within the Currimundi Catchment. If you can help with distribution please phone Tony on 5438 8267.



Winter 2020

THE CHANGING FACE OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

“Last year we had a big lake for swimming and paddling and now it’s full of sand. Where’s it gone?”



East coast longshore drift. Image from Sunshine Coast Council Fact Sheet

Local residents often question how changes occur that make the Currimundi Lake more or less safe or pleasant, sandy or muddy, deep or shallow.

The changing profile of Currimundi Lake stems largely from the fact that it is an ICOL – ie an Intermittently Closing or Opening Lagoon or Lake. And it is sand moving north along the coast that is responsible for closing the mouth of the lake and for filling up the swimming pools.



Currimundi Lake looking east past the sand berm
Photograph by Alison Hedley

Where is the sand from? Well like many residents in the Sunshine Coast, the sand has migrated north from New South Wales. The sand is carried along on the east coast longshore drift, which has been going on for many thousands of years and has created entire sand islands, including Bribie Island, Moreton Island and Fraser Island.

As well as the northern moving currents there are other influences, predominantly winds and the direction of waves breaking on the shore. Every few years we experience a significant rain event that causes a massive volume of fresh water to flow towards the ocean and this moves huge amounts of sand out of the lake and back into the ocean.



Large earth moving equipment used from time to time to open the mouth

Left to itself this pattern would continue over and over, however the development of a residential community in the area means that Council undertakes active management of the lake’s entrance to ensure safety.

Over recent years the predominant strategy has been the use of a sand berm. This is the high sand hill at the mouth with its steep slope facing the sea. This berm ensures that the entrance to the lake will remain at the northern end of the lake and thus provide protection for the housing, parks and roads at the southern end.

On some occasions Council has chosen to open the mouth to release water. And at the northern end of the canal system that flows into Currimundi Lake there are pumps that can be turned on or off to regulate water levels.

So when you see large earth moving equipment shifting sand at Currimundi, be assured this is to maintain and protect the area for the enjoyment of residents and tourists alike. And don’t be disappointed if a swimming pool has disappeared this year. It’ll be back sometime. It all depends on the weather!

COUNCIL RESEARCH KEEPING OUR WILDLIFE SAFER

I came across this scene (pictured right) of a group of four kangaroos happily munching on healthy footpath grass, when delivering the Currimundi Catchment newsletter in Little Mountain about a year ago. I felt so excited that we still have kangaroos living side by side with humans.

On the other hand it's not so great when you come across a kangaroo corpse on the side of the road – yet another victim of speeding vehicles.



Kangaroos in suburban Carisbrook, Little Mountain

So I was intrigued recently to walk past a green post in a footpath near Sunset Drive with a label indicating it was associated with some Council “research”. The post was in front of a block where another group of kangaroos was relaxing on the grass.

It seems this unassuming green post is in fact part of a Virtual Fence, and includes a device that is activated by approaching headlights. The time between dusk and dawn is high risk time for accidents between vehicles and kangaroos. Once activated by headlights the device emits a combination of sound and light stimuli that alert and repel animals from the road side. The posts are placed along the roadside in a way that forms a virtual fence that kangaroos are hesitant to cross.

According to Council information, they have been working with University of the Sunshine Coast and the community on a project to better understand and ultimately improve animal safety and movement across the region. The virtual safety system is made by Wildlife Safety Solutions in NSW and has been used in other states with success over recent years. It has been introduced in other parts of the Sunshine Coast in recent years and is now installed on large sections of Sugarbag Road and Sunset Drive where we know there are frequent movements of kangaroos.

We look forward to the results of this research and hope we can continue to live with our kangaroo neighbours on a continuing basis.

VANDALS HIT CURRIMUNDI SPORT AND RECREATION HALL

In our last newsletter we showcased the amazing makeover of this small community hall with a new paint job plus a beautiful mural depicting the story of the flying fox and a meeting place for our original aboriginal people.

Sadly our community hall seems to have become a venting point for some very uncaring and destructive people. There have been holes put in walls, trees broken off at ground level, littering almost every day, graffiti across one wall, parking signs and bollards either broken off at ground level or pulled out completely, and the fence between the hall and the playground was broken.

Apart from needing to fix these items to ensure safety, the cost is mounting. The police are patrolling but cannot be everywhere at once. Please everyone who cares, if you see something that you do not feel is relevant to the hall usage please ring the police.

Rhonda
President, Currimundi Sports and recreation Assoc Inc.

LOOK OUT WEEDS! WORKING BEES ARE BACK

Like everywhere else, Covid19 restrictions are lifting with a staged and gradual return our community volunteer working bees. To ensure participant safety, a Council officer needs to be present to undertake disinfection activities and supervision. We are incredibly fortunate that Council's Rhonda Bordonaro has offered her time for Currimundi Catchment Care Group and Friends of Currimundi Lake.

CCCG working bees have moved to the second Saturday of the month with the first being held on 13 June where we tackled Singapore Daisy, Corky Vine and Mile a Minute in Crummunda Park. Such a beautiful location and the Lake was stunning. A glorious setting for our working bee return.



Friends of Currimundi Lake Bushcare Group will continue to have Working Bees on the second Wednesday of the month with 7 July being the first return date. Meet at Cliff Hargreaves Park from 8 am. Everyone is welcome. Look forward to renewing friendships and meeting new locals.

Again, many thanks to Sunshine Council and staff for their incredibly generous support. Greatly, greatly appreciated.

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

BOOMERANG BAGS HELP LOCAL HEALTH WORKERS

Caloundra's Boomerang Bags group is still active in making cloth shopping bags from repurposed fabric as an alternative to plastic shopping bags. But the recent Covid19 restrictions have generated another use for their bags.

Healthcare workers were required to change out of their scrubs/uniforms at the end of each shift and found the Boomerang Bags perfect for transporting their uniforms home. The uniforms and bags could then be thrown into the washing machine without further handling.

Boomerang Bags Coordinator, Lynne Baker, delivered 177 bags to 14 different healthcare workers' homes and also donated 300 bags to Wishlist for them to distribute to healthcare workers at Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) and the other hospitals in the region.



Healthcare workers at SCUH Maternity Services snapped up the Boomerang Bags

Healthcare workers were touched to know that people were thinking of them and wanting to help, and posted several messages of appreciation.

The Caloundra Boomerang Bags group recently reached a significant milestone in manufacturing their 10,000th bag since their foundation in 2016. All have been distributed through local services.

Boomerang Bags estimates that the production of 10 cloth bags will replace over 5500 plastic bags from being used each year, so that means millions of plastic bags have been prevented from being used in this one region alone.

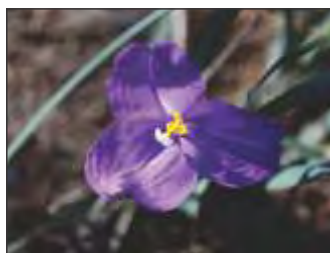
If you'd like to become involved by joining the group, making bags at home, or donating goods, please contact Lynne on 5491 9957 or lynnebaker4@bigpond.com.

2020 SUNSHINE COAST WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL

The Sunshine Coast Wildflower Festival will run from 15 - 30 August 2020. The program will be released in early July 2020 and details will be available on the Sunshine Coast Council website and will also be circulated in our Currimundi Catchment Care Group e-Newsletter.

Council's website has details of last year's program so you can see what walks were available then. There are also documents that can be downloaded to help you do your own self-guided walks and to assist in

identification of local wildflowers. Who knows - you might see a yellow wallum wedge pea, a native iris, or a bacon and egg plant or one of myriad other beautiful wildflowers in our area.



LIGHTS ON THE LAKE 10TH ANNIVERSARY 6 December

All being well the Lights on the Lake Festival will be back for our tenth anniversary event this year on Sunday 6 December from 4 – 8 pm. The organising group will monitor the situation with Covid19 public health restrictions as time goes on.

Community safety will be our top priority and we will only proceed if we believe we can conduct the event safely for everyone involved. and meet all government and council health recommendations. Fingers crossed everyone!

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CALENDAR 2021

We love receiving your photos for the annual Calendar. If you'd like to submit a photograph for the 2021 Calendar, firstly check the requirements on the CCCG website at: <http://www.currimundicatchment.org.au/cccg/portfolio-item/currimundi-calendar-2/>.

If your photograph meets the requirements contained on the CCCG website, please email a high-resolution image (at least 1 MB) by 30 September to: calendar@currimundicatchment.org.au.

Group Reports

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

We have all been through rough times for the last few months and there could be more ahead. I hope you are all safe and well. CCCG has been dormant for that time but as restrictions ease we will gradually remerge and begin volunteer work again. We are hoping to get our working bees back in operation from July and will work with Council to ensure all our activities are conducted safely for our volunteers and the community.

One unexpected side-benefit from the isolation process has been the increased opportunities for people to venture out, either individually or in family groups and experience our wonderful region on foot, bicycle, skate board and other forms of exercise. There has been a constant stream of excited kids and parents along the coastal pathway beaches and parks. I hope you have been taking the opportunity to learn a little bit more about our neighbourhood and to care for and value our paths, parks and beaches. If we all pick up rubbish we spot, make sure we dispose of doggy bags properly and use the designated beach access paths we will make this a better place.

Stay safe everyone and look after one another and our environment.

President, Tony

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

There have been mixed feelings with the Covid-19 Lockdown. For some people it has been a time to spend with family, gardening, trying out new recipes and enjoyable walks around our beautiful suburb. For others there is anxiety, loneliness, home schooling, and making ends meet.

For Friends of Currimundi Lake, with no working bees, there is the missing of morning tea and discussion around plants, friends and family. Our general meetings have come to a standstill as well, however our first meeting will be on Tuesday 7 July at 7.30 pm at the Currimundi Hall. Our first working bee will be on Wednesday 8 July in Cliffs Hargreaves Park. These working bees will be restricted to 9 people and volunteers are asked to ring Rhonda Bordonaro on 0439702160 if you would like to attend please. If you are attending please bring your own mug and spoon. Morning smoko will be provided. Ruth and I are looking forward to catching up with you. The Saturday working bees have been put off until we are advised by the Council when it will be safe to start again.

Apart from the weeds which really do not look ugly, they just compete against our beautiful native plants which affects our native animals and birds, Currimundi is looking green and bright. Our three parks have had new name signs done with the name in white. All the pathways have been trimmed back. Sadly, although it looks great, it does allow for bike riders to go even faster.

The Currimundi Dynamics Panel has been put off for a couple of months, but all members will be advised of a date when we deem it wise to meet.

Chair, Rhondda

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

Parklands Community is holding firm. Things are relatively quiet with Parklands Boulevard open but not yet complete. The rumour is that replacement of the Bridge at the pond/BBG at Dot Billingham Park and Peony Circuit will be undertaken in the 2021-22 fiscal year, as well as replacing the path behind Avondale Court.

Kudos to the "team" keeping the net on the Basketball hoop at the Creekwood tennis court and SHAME on those breaking beer and wine bottles on Hayman Lane and the same tennis court.

Our usual Winter meeting with Cr Peter Cox will not go ahead this year owing to the Covid19 restrictions.

Thanks to all for your attention and spirit in our Parkland Community.

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: TBA

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: 7 July

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 Hire: Josephine Marciniak 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