

# BARUNG LANDCARE NEWS

October-November 2006



## Patrol for weed seedlings

*WEED WATCH by Lin Fairlie*

What a great time to plant trees! While you're out doing this, it is also a good time to check for weed seedlings, especially along forest edges and in reveg areas, because 'aggressive' weeds can threaten your trees as they grow.

### *Quick hints:*

- Seedlings from two 'weed' trees commonly grown in this area – Himalayan ash and tabebuia (or trumpet tree) – should be removed before they become established. Tabebuia is flowering the moment – you can see the yellow bells in the Community Centre carpark.
- Checking for weeds can be tricky because the juvenile plants of some species do not look at all like the adults. The juvenile Himalayan ash looks nothing like the adult tree.
- Other 'weed' species seedlings worth looking for are the 'bird' dispersed ones, which include camphor laurel, ochna, privet, Chinese elm and lantana. When small, seedlings of these species can be pulled out easily.
- Seedlings from wind-blown seeds are often found where they come to ground along the 'edges' of established tree plots; these include moth vine and cat's claw creeper. These vines can easily be missed once their stems merge with taller tree trunks.
- Any area where Maderia vine has been removed should be checked for new plants. These are easily identified and may just be lying in the leaf litter.
- The first step in controlling morning glory vine is to throw all the new runners back onto themselves. This contains the spread and makes spraying more effective.



### **ROGUES GALLERY**

Moth Vine *Araujia sericifera* (below)

Maderia Vine *Anredera cordifolia* (left, shooting from tubule)

Morning Glory *Ipomoea indica*

Cat's Claw Creeper *Macfadyena unguis-cati*

Tabebuia *Tabebuia argentea* (Page 2, bottom)

Chinese Elm *Celtis sinensis* (lower right)

Himalayan Ash *Fraxinus griffithii* (Page 2, middle row)

Ochna *Ochna serrulata* (Page 2, top)

Camphor Laurel *Cinnamomum camphora*

Broad-leaf Privet *Ligustrum lucidum* (lower left)

Small-leaf Privet *Ligustrum sinense*



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*Rogue's  
Gallery  
continues ...*



## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

*(Compiled by Barry Liddell)*

Merril Gassman	Justin Dunham
Bev Cavanagh	David Lapsley
Carol Low	David & Joanne Johnston
Ross & Lois Longland	Sue Simpson & David Griffiths
Charles Roff	Julie Duncan
Ann & Maurice Hutson	K Fizelle
Pioneer Permanent	Peter Richardson
Vince Balcombe & Andrea Hosier	Shelly Smith
Nathan Mahony	R & C King
Terry Murphy	Ian & Annette Hamilton
Bea Rogan	Val & John Oliver
Graeme Quick	Peter Cook
Karel Huiskamp	Heather Johnston
Kate Gimblett	Gordon Halliday
Adrian Hansen	Greg Dawes
Lyn & Bruce MacRae	Peter Robson & Rika Tsuchida
Lauretta & Geoff McNabb	Kamala & Paul Alister
Col & Jenny Perryman	Jan Duffield & Jon Woodlands
Margaret Garson	Sapphire McMullan-Fisher
Denise Heelan	Mark Gerrard
Nigel & Sylvia Prout	Liz Mellish
Lyn De Silva	Mrs Richy Lynch
Peter Illingworth	Carmel Reilly
Scott Dunbar	Judith Lang
Geoff Holmes	Peter Jackson
Doug & Linda Robinson	Peter & Rhonda Seadon
Trees for Earth	Ian Kean
Glenn Newell	Linda Blackwell
Chris Mason	Ole Hebert
	Denis & Diana O'Connor

## WELCOME BACK

Tony Richings & Sandy Hudd	John & Janet Drewe
Anje & Dan Schimpf	Paula & Steve Miller
David & Karen Binstead	Jeanne Lang
George & Betty Diefenbach	Paul & Fern Veit
Richard & Frances Snell	Jane Brouet & Paul Williamson
Warwick & Antonia Deacock	Ali Darmansjah
Roz & Peter Pagliarino	Mim Coulstock & Ward Brisick
Melanie Buschor	Graham & Jan Williams
Laura Adler & Robin Branch	

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR LANDCARE SUPPORT**

## BARUNG MEMBERSHIP RATES

Individual / family membership	\$ 20 pa
Business membership	\$ 55 pa
Business sponsorship	\$275 pa

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

When your BUSINESS supports Barung Landcare, you will be acknowledged in the bimonthly *Barung Landcare News* (750 distribution) and at Barung displays, and you are entitled to three free trees and discounts on plant purchases at the Nursery.

Contact the office at Barung Landcare on 5494 3151 or email [\\_barungadmin@big.net.au](mailto:_barungadmin@big.net.au) for a form.



# The Ancient Art of Composting

*SUSTAINABLE LANDUSE by Jonathan Waites*

Composting – a biological process that uses one of several methods to speed up the natural decomposition of raw organic matter to produce humus. A bit of a mouthful, but basically it means that we can use all sorts of organic wastes (grass clippings, prunings, kitchen scraps, manure), in fact just about anything that has been alive (or is the waste product of a living organism) and recycle them (more quickly than nature) thus making the nutrients they contain available for soil critters, your plants and, in the case of edible plants, ultimately us! Composting is practised on several scales varying from backyard to farm to industrial.

The practice of composting has been around for a very long time. From the ancient Akkadian Empire in the Mesopotamian Valley come clay tablets (which pre-date Moses by about 1000 years) with references to the use of manure in agriculture. There is evidence that the Greeks, Romans and the Tribes of Israel knew a thing or two about compost too. There has been reference to the noble art in 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Century Arab writings, medieval texts and Renaissance literature. Such notables as William Shakespeare (recall the bard's line from Hamlet, 'spread the compost on the weeds, to make them ranker!'), Sir Francis Bacon and Walter Raleigh have all mentioned the use of compost. That locally famous (infamous) bird, the Brush Turkey, builds a compost heap to incubate his mate's eggs!

On September 6<sup>th</sup> a dozen keen 'compostors' gathered at David

Bull's farm on Bridge Creek to create a compost heap under the tutelage of Rob Birse, a biodynamic gardener from Montville. Rob's method involves thoroughly soaking all the main ingredients (cow manure, lucerne and cane mulch) in water and then mixing them together on the ground before building the heap. This results in a very well mixed and moist heap which Rob says rarely needs to be turned again. If you would like some composting information please contact me and I will email a copy of the handout that was available on the day. It goes through a similar process to Rob's step by step and also lists some other sources of composting information (books and web sites).

I intend to hold more workshops of a practical nature and am considering a **basic fencing workshop** soon. It will be 'a hands on' demonstration day including some discussion about choosing

the right type of fencing (electric, conventional, etc.) to suit the job. Other topics I thought you may find useful include **farm diversification** (including small property enterprises) and possibly a **series of property planning workshops**.

If you think any of these may interest you then please let me know by registering an Expression of Interest with Barung (5494 3151) or by contacting me directly at [kendabooka@doggy.com.au](mailto:kendabooka@doggy.com.au)



*A farm-sized compost heap (windrow)*



*I've just arrived back from a week out west scouting for potential seed sites. Check out the state of our country in the grip of this current drought.*

**Clayton Stokoe**  
*Native Seeds and Land Repair*

## Hollow Log Homes

*for sale at Barung*



Small parrot (\$71)    Small bat (\$71)  
Glider (\$71)        Possum (\$85)



# Sharing my view

CARING FOR COUNTRY by Beverly Hand

Hi there, how are you all going? My name is Beverly Hand and I am the nursery trainee here at Barung. I am sure that you all have heard of me by now. I was honoured to be asked to share some of myself with you via the newsletter.

For those of you who are unaware I am a descendent of the Djala people, who amalgamated with their neighbouring states and are known today as Gubbi Gubbi. I was delighted to be placed on a traineeship with Barung as it provides me with the opportunity to proactively “care for country”. This region lies within my traditional homelands and it always fills my heart with joy and pride when I collect seed, raise seed, propagate plants, plant plants, and most importantly eradicate weeds.

I have had a long relationship with Barung Landcare starting with an invitation from Marc Russell to participate in a tree plant at Bridge Creek. So began a wonderful friendship with a group of people who share a common desire to “care for country”. It is apparent that I am a member of a distinguished Landcare group that has acquired a prestigious reputation through the efforts of its past, present and future members, staff and volunteers, all “working for our future”.

Over many years I have acquired a deep knowledge of my country and its historical influences. I have conducted many workshops on Indigenous environmental relationships and I cannot control the desire to share what I know and have learned.

Most can see the excitement in my face when I know I am going on a bushwalk through my country. Not to mention the peace I feel sitting on a rock formation by a waterfall, or the excitement when I see a Big Bunya tree. I love my country, and I love sharing my country through my eyes with others.

I would like to take groups of women on walks on the last Wednesday of the month to different places on the Blackall Range. These walks will be known as **WWW (Walking With Women)**. 'ey you. Com' on.

So girls, keep your day free and your eyes on the calendar to see where we will be going from month to month.

Upcoming dates are:

- \* October 25
- \* November 29
- \* December 27



## *Austromyrtus dulcis*

PLANT PROFILE By Beverly Hand



‘Where’s Wayne?’ is a common call around the nursery. Well, he’s away on a much-needed holiday at the moment so I am providing the plant profile in this issue of *Barung News*. I would like to focus on a bushfood plant, specifically *Austromyrtus dulcis*.

*Austromyrtus dulcis* is commonly called midyim berry. It is a semi-prostrate small shrub to about 1.5 metres, sometimes with mat-like growth. The young shoots are covered with long hairs. The leaves are ovate and opposite; dull to shiny green above, paler with white to grey hairs below. New leaves are often bronze-green with oil dots visible below. The midyim flowers are solitary and white.

It’s the fruit that I’m interested in. These fruits are often speckled white to grey. When ripe, the fruit is soft, with a creamy translucent flesh. The plant’s drooping habit makes it ideal for banks or along a raised wall, and the coppery sheen of its leaves places it in the feature plant category. For good fruiting, *A. dulcis* prefers a very sunny location and a light soil.

During fruiting season the wonderful specimens we have growing along the driveway at Barung are fought over by staff, volunteers, and Mary and John King from Rainforest Liqueurs. John and Mary make a delightful liqueur out of this berry. The midyim berry is pleasant tasting and my indigenous ancestors gathered the fruit as a popular food for children – the berries are one of the nicest bush snacks around.

Just as an added note, this plant was fairly prolific around Mudjimba shores, hence the name “Midyim-bah”, place of midyim.

October is the Rates ‘Free Trees’ month and I have a selection of bushfoods that you may want to purchase.

Look out for the **Bushfoods** section in the Nursery.



# The Rewarding Results of Revegetation

## *CONTRACTING SERVICES by Jolyon Froude*

When I visit a site that I've helped to successfully revegetate, I find myself thinking I have the most rewarding job possible. Watching previously weed-dominated areas evolve into young forests is always greatly satisfying. These photos show some sites Barung Contracting Services has successfully revegetated in the last two years.

### *Regeneration/revegetation project at Hunchy (right)*

The Contracting team has been working on this site for almost two years. The site consists of steep gully lines and creek banks previously covered in a dense layer of lantana, yellowberry, glycine and cockspur. Following a combination of manual and chemical control, *Macaranga*, *Trema*, *Homalanthus* and *Pipturus* have regenerated prolifically. We have supplemented this regeneration with some planting. This 18-month-old macaranga regeneration is providing an initial cover beneath which slower-growing species are establishing.



### *Woodford Folk Festival site (below left)*

The Contracting team has planted more than 5000 trees at the WFF site over the last two years. This 18-month-old mixed *Eucalypt* planting is being established as a visual screen on the boundary of the property.



### *Daryl Reinke and Craig Hosmer's at Flaxton (below)*

Contracting Services undertook this planting in February this year to further expand the extensive revegetation works undertaken by Daryl and Craig over the last decade. These trees have grown significantly in only eight months, demonstrating the benefits of planting early in the year to make the most of the growing season.

**BARUNG  
CONTRACTING  
SERVICES**

for landholders

- ✓ reveg, regen & farm forestry
- ✓ project management - planning, site prep, planting, maintenance
- ✓ weed identification & control
- ✓ property planning & consultancy
- ✓ environmental landscaping



ring Jolyon - 0429 943 156  
or Barung Office - 5494 3151





# Regional Roundup

John Muir and Darryl Ebenezer

These opportunities and arrangements are presently being negotiated and/or finalised between Barung and our Regional NRM partners:

- BMRG has provided additional funds for the SEQ Catchments video on landslips; these funds mean the case studies of three Gympie landslip sites, which were successfully revegetated and repaired several years ago, can be developed in greater detail.
- SEQ Catchments are presently drawing up contracts with Barung for the delivery of a combined Rainforest Recovery and Devolved Grants on-ground works project in the Stanley and Mooloolah River headwater areas, following several Expressions of Interest received by Barung from landholders in those areas.
- Barung has sent an Expression of Interest to BMRG to locate one of the newly announced Regional Liaison Positions at Barung in Maleny, to continue developing closer links between local stakeholders and BMRG initiatives.
- A new round of the National Landcare Program Sustainable Agriculture projects with BMRG, for both education and on-ground works, will enable workshops to be continued and some riparian works to be undertaken.
- SEQ Catchments and University of the Sunshine Coast are providing training to staff at Barung and other local catchment/landcare groups in ARC GIS mapping programs and using GPS in the field. With this training, Barung will be able to provide more detailed Property Management Planning Mapping services and products to members, partners and clients.
- BMRG has agreed to provide additional funding for the chemical analysis of bore water samples collected through the Upper Obi Catchment Groundwater Investigation project.



## BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS

James & Suzanne Davidson  
Maleny Motor Trimmers  
Lilyponds Holiday Park  
Frasers Selection  
Mulchmakers  
Taman Sari  
Earthcarer



# Volunteering

VOLLIE'S VIEW by Max Smith

Barung are a great friendly group of people, all with the common purpose of doing something beneficial for our area.

I come from an electronics background originally. I volunteered with the Green Reserves expecting to work with plants and revegetation and hence help out with the environment.

Once my Green Reserve period of work was completed, I decided to continue my association with Barung, potting on plant stock, collecting seed, clearing and planting on revegetation sites, and assisting generally with any work associated with the nursery and odd jobs required around the office.

It gives me a great sense of achievement, keeps me out from under my wife's feet for a few hours a week, and gives me something meaningful to do knowing that every little bit helps towards the community's common good.

Come along and give volunteering a go; you will be surprised how fulfilling and friendly it is. The great thing about volunteering is that there are no time frames or work pressures bought to bear on you.

Working with a great and varied range of people can bring a smile to anyone's face. I highly recommend it to pass the time. I have been with Barung as a Volunteer for 5 years and am still going strong.

You too could become a 'Volunteer of the Year', an award I was fortunate to receive at the recent Barung AGM. My heartfelt thanks go out to Barung for this generous award.



## Support Barung Landcare through your Business

**Business Sponsors** (\$275/year) are entitled to

- a business card size advert in Barung's bimonthly Newsletter (1000 distribution) x 6 issues
- acknowledgement of your support at Barung displays
- three (3) free trees, and
- membership discounts on plant purchases in the Nursery.

**Business Contributors** (\$55/year) are entitled to

- listing in the Barung News as a business contributor
- acknowledgement of your support at Barung displays
- three (3) free trees, and
- membership discounts on plant purchases in the Nursery.

Forms are available from  
the Barung Landcare Office.

# Wallum - an endangered ecosystem with ornamental potential

*THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN by Joan Dillon*

No-one could deny that the vast majority of our gardens contain a mix of plants from various regions and often other parts of the world. Locally endemic plants are obviously desirable and well adapted to local conditions but will probably share space with a few exotics, a clump of kangaroo paw and quite possibly some north Queensland natives.

Representatives of a seriously endangered ecosystem within our own region are less common. This of course is the coastal wallum. The Sunshine Coast Wildflower Festival in August provided an opportunity to visit a few remnants showcasing the beauty that has been lost to development. The Marcus high dunes, the Kathleen Macarthur reserve at Currimundi and the Beerwah scientific area all displayed a range of species in their natural setting, many of which would be a welcome addition to any garden.

Several of these plants do have very specific cultural requirements due to the acidic, sandy soils in which they grow and others have proved difficult to propagate. There are some which we can, however, get to know. The more people are aware of what is being lost, in some cases forever, the more hope there is of retaining what is left. Just remember to make a fuss! Some species are more widely distributed across our region and may be periodically available at Barung.

*Banksia aemula*, called wallum by the Aboriginal people and giving the name to these lowland coastal heaths, is a worthwhile bird-attracting addition to any garden. *Daviesia umbellulata*, *Aotus lanigera* and several *Pultenaea* species are colourful members of the pea family for those who like a bright splash of yellow in late winter or spring. Don't forget *Hibbertia* species either.

*Phebalium woombye* is a neat low shrub/ground cover in cultivation, sporting clusters of brown woolly buds which open to small creamy flowers. There is also a pink form. *Lomatia silaifolia* (crinkle bush or parsley bush) is a member of the Proteaceae family with creamy spikes of grevillea-like flowers.

If you like irises, try *Patersonia sericea* with its many stems of open, deep blue, three-petalled flowers. It's much, much smaller than the exotic iris but very lovely. *Sowerbaea juncea*, the vanilla or chocolate lily (depending on your sense of smell!) is often found in wet areas in association with the native iris, and used to form carpets of pink in spring. Look for it along a wet, sandy track.

The wallum is at its most colourful in spring but worth a visit at any time. Get to know it and grow a few of its plants, even if you have to do it in a tub on a sunny patio.

*Lomatia silaifolia* (top)  
*Patersonia sericea* (right)



*For Barung Members*

## Nursery Plant Credit Program

As a Barung member, with \$250 you can set up a Plant Credit that gives you a discount of 25% on tubestock, megatubes and some more advanced stock. No need to pick up all the plants at once - you can take them as needed in whatever quantity you require, subject to availability.

*If you are interested in this program, talk to Wayne or Cali next time you're in the Nursery.*

## Opening Hours

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

*Barung Nursery & Resource Centre/Office*

8.30 am - 4.00 pm

**SATURDAY**

*Barung Nursery only*

9.00 am - 12.00 pm



## OPPORTUNITIES and EVENTS

### *Asbestos Awareness & Info Day*

**When:** 7 October 2006

**Where:** Griffith University's Gold Coast Campus

The day is aimed at answering all questions from homeowners, renovators, consultants, builders, Class A&B License holders, asbestos contractors, real estate agents and basically anyone with an asbestos-related question.

**More info:** 1300 308 929

### *2006 Queensland Rural Womens Network Conference*

**When:** 11-13 October

**Where:** Noosa

With speakers such as pioneering Toowoomba Mayor and advocate for water reuse and workshops on rural depression, mentoring, rural population decline, agribusiness and succession planning, the 2006 Queensland Rural Womens Network Conference will conclude with a session to identify issues facing women and their families in rural and remote Queensland.

**Register by:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2006!

**More info:** [www.qrwn.org.au](http://www.qrwn.org.au) or Wendy Thorsborne on 5480 4420

### *Queensland Pest Animal Symposium*

**When:** 24-26 October 2006

**Where:** Highfields, near Toowoomba

Showcasing pest animal research for both urban and rural environments, this symposium should be a valuable source of information for people and groups involved in land management, environmental management and rehabilitation.

**Flyer:** [www.invasiveanimals.com](http://www.invasiveanimals.com)

**More info:** Kym Johnson (07) 4688 1264 or 0428 584 908 or [Kym.Johnson@nrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:Kym.Johnson@nrm.qld.gov.au)

### *2006 State of the Region Conference: What if ... Scenarios for the Sunshine Coast*

**When:** Tuesday 31 October

**Where:** University of the Sunshine Coast

An opportunity for key decision makers to discuss the region's future. Sometimes the experts get it wrong! This conference explores best and worst case scenarios for the future of the Sunshine Coast. A wide range of perspectives will be brought to bear on our Triple Bottom Line potentials: Environmental futures—Upstreaming; the politics of water; Economic futures—Where the Bl..dy hell are we; new markets for local business; Social futures—Dreams or nightmares.

**More Info:** [www.usc.edu.au/events](http://www.usc.edu.au/events) or phone Rachel on 3229 9955

Renew your Barung membership  
over the phone  
with your credit card.

## WEBSITES

### *Climate Change info*

[www.cana.net.au/socialimpacts](http://www.cana.net.au/socialimpacts)

Climate Action Network Australia and Friends of the Earth Australia have developed a web-based summary of the expected effect of climate change on how we source food, harvest water, sustain employment and build our houses and cities. The website is a compilation of major national and international research on a range of topics.

### *Wet and dry of SEQ dams*

[www.stoppress.com.au/damtour/](http://www.stoppress.com.au/damtour/)

Take a pictorial tour around SEQ Dams (or once were dams). From Friends of South East Queensland courtesy of Qld Conservation Council, and Ian Mackay from Conondale Ranges Committee (one of the longest established conservation groups in Queensland).

### *Charitable trust for environment*

[www.qt4n.org.au](http://www.qt4n.org.au)

The Queensland Trust for Nature is a charitable non-government organisation established as an initiative of the Queensland Government. The Trust for Nature is structured to accept donations of land or money and in-kind or pro-bono support from public and private agencies to ensure the conservation of private land with high environmental values. Donations to the Trust are managed through a unique revolving fund, whereby properties are located, purchased, covenanted and resold with the proceeds of sales reinvested into the Trust fund. Hence the Trust will, in most cases, return land to private ownership once conservation values are protected through a covenant, usually creating a nature refuge.

### *Salinity mapping guides*

[www.nrm.gov.au/publications/salinity-mapping](http://www.nrm.gov.au/publications/salinity-mapping)

Australian Government have released two new salinity mapping publications that help to decide how to map, predict and monitor salinity in the Australian landscape.

### *More effective meetings*

[www.effectivemeetings.com](http://www.effectivemeetings.com)

This straightforward, plain-English website on holding more effective meetings provides tips on everything from basic meeting structure to the types of technology you can use to make your meeting easier.

### *Community group management*

[www.ourcommunity.com.au](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au)

One-stop-gateway for practical resources, support and linkages between community networks and the general public, business and government.

*Just a reminder ...*

*Please keep showing your ...*

**Barung Community Benefit key tags**

*... when shopping at Maleny IGA. Every dollar is a great help. If you don't yet have a key tag, it's simple to register and even easier to use – just ask at the IGA. Thanks for showing your support.*



# 2006 Caloundra City Council Rates Trees GIVE AWAY!

*Proudly supported  
by Councillor Dick Newman  
and Barung Landcare Association Inc.*

**When:** October 2<sup>nd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>

**Where:** Pick up your free trees/shrubs  
from Barung Landcare Nursery  
17 Bicentenary Lane, Maleny

**How many?**

Two free trees per rates  
notice. (Last year's rates  
notice is still valid if you  
missed out, so bring it in too.)

**Plus: Lucky Prize Draw  
for Rates Trees!**

When you pick up your free rates  
trees, fill in an entry form to enter  
our lucky draw for your chance to win  
one of 4 weekly prize packages valued  
at \$70.00 each from Barung Landcare.

## CHAINSAW COURSES LEVELS 1 & 2

**When:** 2nd and 3rd December 2006

**Level one:**

\$172, members \$162, Concession card  
holders (not Employment agencies) \$152

**Level two:**

\$166, members \$156, Concession card  
holders (not Employment agencies) \$146

**Register your expression of interest  
at Barung on 5494 3151.**

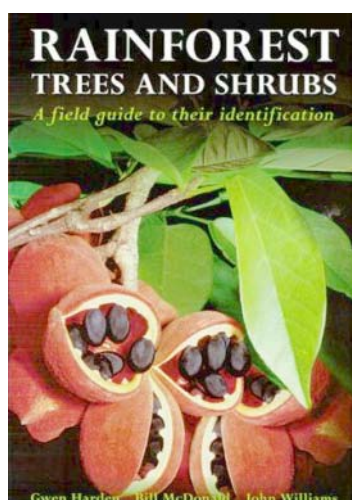
## BOOKS FOR SALE AT BARUNG

### *The Blackall Range Landholders Guide*

The essential guide to  
living on the  
Blackall Range

Available from  
Barung Landcare  
\$15 (plus \$3 if posted)

Also available at  
Rosetta Books  
Maple Street Co-Op  
Mary Cairncross Scenic  
Reserve



### *Rainforest Trees and Shrubs: A field guide to their identification.*

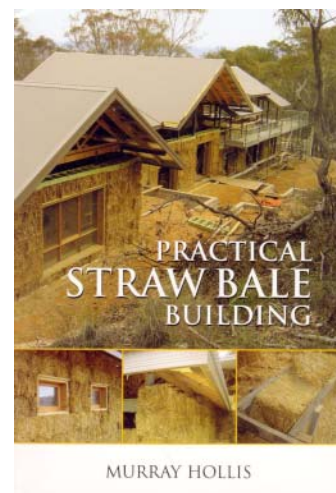
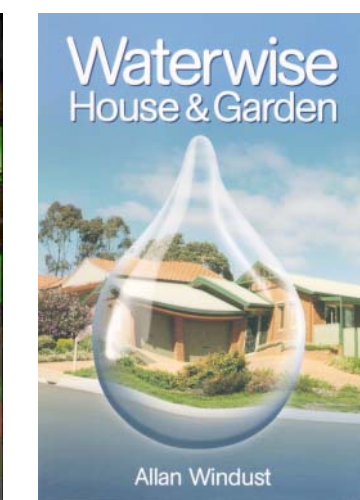
By Gwen Harden, Bill McDonald and John Williams.  
Descriptions of 850 species found from Rockhampton to  
Victoria, with illustrations for all species, covering all major  
rainforest types including vine thickets. Price: approx. \$42

### *Waterwise House & Garden*

By Allan Windust. Takes a planned approach to saving water  
in the home using various household reticulation options  
including rainwater tanks and recycling greywater. Shows  
how to work with nature to  
create a garden that is both  
enjoyable and sensitive to the  
environment. Price: \$29.95

### *Practical Strawbale Building*

By Murray Hollis. Describes  
the best of current practices  
and introduces new ideas in a  
practical step-by-step  
approach, supported by  
technical data and analysis.





## Thank you to ...

... *J. Horgan* for \$100 donation to IGA Treeplant and a further \$100 to Barung Environmental Gift Fund

... *Rainforest Rescue* – a heartfelt thanks from all at Barung for a further donation of \$1000

### For Landcare Week!

... thank you to all the **fabulous** speakers at this year's Landcare Week workshops – *Tony Bright, Nick Clancy, Sapphire McMullan-Fisher, Greg Brown, Frank Jordan, Jeanette Nobes, Judy Wolski, Laurie Capill, Jolyon Froude, Beverley Hand, Scott Burnett, Roslyn Leslie, Rid Kennedy* and *Carmel Givens*

... a special thanks to *Cali* for organising such a diverse and interesting program

... a big THANK YOU to the *Green Corp team members* and *Corey Andison* who helped with the Landcare Week BBQs and the Barung Tent etc, and also to *Max* and *Cali* as well

... thanks to *Dawn* for your help with the Landcare Week paperwork, and to all the Barung Staff and volunteers involved in Landcare Week

**And**, of course, thank you to all the *participants*!

What a fantastic week!!

### In the Barung Nursery and Office!

... thank you to all the wonderful people who help in the nursery! We certainly wouldn't be able to get as much accomplished without you – *Gordon Halliday, Frank Galvin, Frank Harris, Sharon Houkamau, Corey Andison, Max Smith, Madee Sommers, Pam Owens, Noel Denning*, and *Gretchen Evans*

... thank you so much to *Barry Liddell, Val Phillips, Dawn Svensson* and *Pam Owens* for your loyalty and commitment to helping keep the admin office in order

... thanks to *Val and Colin Phillips* and *Max Smith* for the Aug-Sep *Barung News* mailout.

Ron Wilson

**HINTERLAND**

**AUTO ELECTRICS**

UNIT 2, 14 LAWYER STREET, MALENY, 4552

Phone: (07) 5494 3228

Mobile: 0438 943 228

**DEADLINE - Wed 15<sup>th</sup> November**

**for December 2006-January 2007**

**Newsletter contributions**

Barung Landcare...



Please renew your membership -  
your support is very important  
to Barung.

**THANK YOU**

## LETTERS ...

### Barung Report appreciated by High School

Dear Barung Landcare

I write to thank you for sharing your report on your 'Obi Obi Creek Revegetation and Community Co-operative Walk Project' (by Marc Russell). I was impressed by the detail and professional approach to this research.

I have passed it on to the subject areas in the school that would find the topic of greatest relevance, and if they need more information, the Heads of Department may be in touch.

I am sure that this has the potential to be a very useful resource for our students.

Paul Tarbuck

Principle, Maleny State High School

### BMRG Board enjoyed visit and tour

Dear Bob

On behalf of the Burnett Mary Regional Group for Natural Resource Management Inc (BMRG) Board of Management, I would like to take this opportunity to relay our utmost thanks for the time and effort your group put in to provide the Board with good insight into the work that your group is involved in.

We would also like to relay special thanks to Greg Smyrell for his comprehensive guided tour of the Obi Creek Partnership Project at the Pacific Plantations Macadamia Farm. It is evident that Greg and your group have spent a wealth of hours on this project and we commend you on your commitment to natural resource management.

The Board were also very interested in visiting the premises of Barung Landcare where more of the group's hard work is evident. We also thoroughly enjoyed the experience of bunya nut soup which all agreed was delicious.

Once again Bob, many thanks and we look forward to working together in the future to achieve sustainable natural resource management.

Russell Stewart, Independent Chair  
Burnett Mary Regional Group

### Coxen Fig Parrot project

Dear Mim

Enclosed is a copy of the final report to the Commonwealth about the combined Coxens Fig Parrot / SEQ Rainforest Recovery Project that you (Barung) implemented for us. Your report is included as an Appendix.

Thanks again to all the crew for the great work and cooperation during the project.

Cheers for now

Ian Gynther, Queensland Parks & Wildlife

## Barung Landcare...





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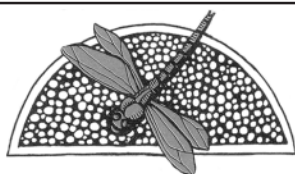
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## **Priceless ...**

... continued from page 12

watercourse home has no value. Because they have no value to our society, society does not have to compensate or even cost into our activities the damage that we wreak on the very ecosystems that support us.

Let's go back to water. With the hindsight of recorded history we have a long list of civilisations that have failed when the water ran out. You'd have thought that by now we'd acknowledge the vast body of knowledge that we have accumulated on how our catchment systems work, how climate and ecosystems contribute to the health of these ecosystems and the most fundamental principle of all – the interconnectedness of all things (sorry, quick trip back to the 60s there – man!).

The modern 'civilised' human requires vast quantities of water, piped into their abode to wash all those things you can't do without and of course to flush away those things you'd rather do without. Cities in particular require rivers of water to flow through their pipes to keep industry and the consumer happy. On the driest continent on earth you'd think there would be some self-moderation when it comes to using water. However, when the water in the river has no value (and will somehow always magically be there) and the water in the pipe has so little value that we can bathe our cars and backyards and fill our pools without any regard to an impact to our wallets – let alone the environment! – then why would thoughts of ecological impact even enter your head? Here's where our inability to place a value on ecosystem services magnifies our impact on the ecosystems we call home. If rivers aren't running and dams aren't filling because catchments are damaged, unfortunately the first reaction of government is to build more dams and impact more catchments and damage more ecosystems.

Ecosystems are almost an afterthought when it comes to resource extraction. Once all the land is resumed, roads rerouted and dam construction completed, the best that the ecosystem – that has provided the very product we are so eager to obtain – can expect in compensation is some token vegetation re-establishment in the immediate vicinity of the dam, where people can see it.

If an incredible fish such as the lungfish happens to be in the way of a dam that will provide the consumptive citizen of the city with water to bathe their shiny vehicles on the weekend – then farewell lungfish.

What value can we place on a lungfish or a platypus or an ecosystem? Unless we can place a value on these very things and adjust our impact accordingly, we will damage the very source of all our wealth, our priceless ecosystems.

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# Priceless

## *TURKEY TANGENTIAL*

*by Spencer Shaw, Brush Turkey Enterprises*

For the purposes of this tale, let's assume humans really are the centre of the universe – as the modern human asserts.

Let's assume everything, everywhere has a value judged by whether we can eat it, wear it, build with it, and last but not least, play with it. Given this simple philosophy, all those things named and needed by our culture have a value. These values are measured in cash; this cash is protected by law.

Unfortunately our brains are incredibly two dimensional and we tend to value only those things we call assets. We protect only the assets – not the natural processes that give rise to those assets. Herein lies the fatal flaw.

For example, if I were to ask you to put a value on your house or your car, you will have no problems in putting forward a figure. The builders and engineers who manufactured your house and car would also put a cash value on their services, the suppliers of the manufactured materials that made those items and the suppliers

of the raw materials would also put a value on their goods and services.

However, if I asked you to put a value on the ecosystems that gave rise to these products – that's where we would struggle.

We not only struggle with valuing the ecosystems that give rise to all our wealth, we almost regard them with disdain! In our naivety, our quest for wealth, for asset accumulation and for possessions, has led us to a state of mind where we could be regarded as seeing nature as an obstacle to all the things we want.

However, let's progress this argument a little further before I start to sound like some 1960s rerun and you picture me writing this with flowers in my hair and a fug of thick cannabis smoke rising from the joint hanging from the corner of my mouth. For starters I don't have the hair to support the flowers these days!

Take for example a water course, completely valueless in our consumptive society. You can dam it, drain it (build a supermarket on it), but the water has no value until it is drawn from the creek or river and becomes a consumable. The vegetation that lines the watercourse's banks has no value; the fauna that calls the

*... continued on page 11*

## *The Barung Family*

### **BARUNG VOLUNTARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

President	<i>Heather Spring</i>
Vice President	<i>Pat Fuller</i>
Secretary	<i>Lin Fairlie</i>
Treasurer	<i>David Binstead</i>
Committee Members	<i>Marion Adamson</i>
	<i>Eric Anderson</i>
	<i>Kate Fraser</i>
	<i>Bob Hall</i>
	<i>Clayton Stokoe</i>
	<i>Peter Stevens</i>
	<i>John Wightman</i>

### **BARUNG STAFF**

Nursery Manager	<i>Wayne Webb</i>
Assistant Nursery Manager	<i>Cali Salzmann</i>
Nursery Trainee	<i>Bev Hand</i>
Contracting Services Coordinator	<i>Jolyon Froude</i>
Operations Manager	<i>Darryl Ebenezer</i>
Administration Officer	<i>Fuschia Collard</i>
CSW Trainee	<i>Jane Williamson</i>
Threatened Species Project Officer	<i>Mim Coulstock</i>
Regional Arrangements Coordinator	<i>John Muir</i>
Sustainable Land-use Officer	<i>Jonathan Waites</i>
Editor, <i>Barung News</i> and <i>The CODLine</i>	<i>Eve Witney</i>

***And our many Volunteers, Labour  
Team Partipants, and Members***

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