

BARUNG

LANDCARE NEWS

October -
November
2012



Barung Resource Centre

Riverside Centre, MALENY

Mon to Fri: 9 am - 4 pm

07 5494 3151

info@barunglandcare.org.au

PO Box 1074 Maleny Q 4552

Barung Nurseries

0429 943 152

nursery@barunglandcare.org.au

Porters Lane NORTH MALENY

WED to FRI: 9 am to 3 pm

Forestry Road LANDBOROUGH

Opening 3 November 2012



WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

www.barunglandcare.org.au

TREES, BIRDS & OTHER CRITTURS - Landcare Week 2012

by Jonathan Waites

Barung celebrated Landcare Week (3–9 September) with several well-attended workshops covering a range of fauna (birds, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians) and flora (rainforest tree identification, tree-planting and maintenance). Two of the workshops were made possible through the *Engaging Community Stage 2* Community Action Grant funding we received from the Federal Government's Caring for Our Country initiative.

The week kicked off with *Little Critturs in Your Backyard*, run by Susie Duncan and Tony Bright in Susie's suitably messy back (and front) yard.

After a chat about participants' personal experiences with critturs (little and not so little) and habitat creation in their own backyards (over coffee, tea and bun on the verandah), everyone strolled through the garden where Susie, Tony and Barry Traill brought pertinent aspects to our attention and introduced us to the diversity of inhabitants in their ponds and mulch piles.

One participant was so inspired she went home and created a frog pond that very afternoon which now has a frog in residence (calling desperately for a mate).

This was followed by the *Rainforest Tree ID* workshop run by well-known Sunshine Coast field botanist Ann Moran. Ann began with an introductory lesson in botany covering features particular to the identification of rainforest plants, demonstrating by using fresh plant specimens she had collected that morning.

We then moved on to deciphering the plant keys in the rainforest identification 'bible', the Red Book (*Rainforest Trees & Shrubs*, Harden, McDonald & Williams). This all seemed very straight forward until we had to identify the remaining plant specimens supplied by Wayne from the Barung Nursery.

Plants are tricky; they don't always line up just like their namesakes in the book – at least that's what I have concluded. I guess it takes practice.

A third workshop, funded by another Community Action Grant – *Maleny Community Precinct Biodiversity Monitoring and Community Engagement*, was entitled *Birding Basics*. Eric Anderson, keen birder and Barung Landcare president, took us through the basics of choosing binoculars suited to the generalist bird watcher

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Some of the crowd at the 'Little Critturs in your Backyard' workshop, as Tony Bright pointed out the benefits of the small urban backyard pond for frogs and others beasties.

MONITORING OPPORTUNITIES ON THE PRECINCT

by Matt Bateman, Barung Contracting

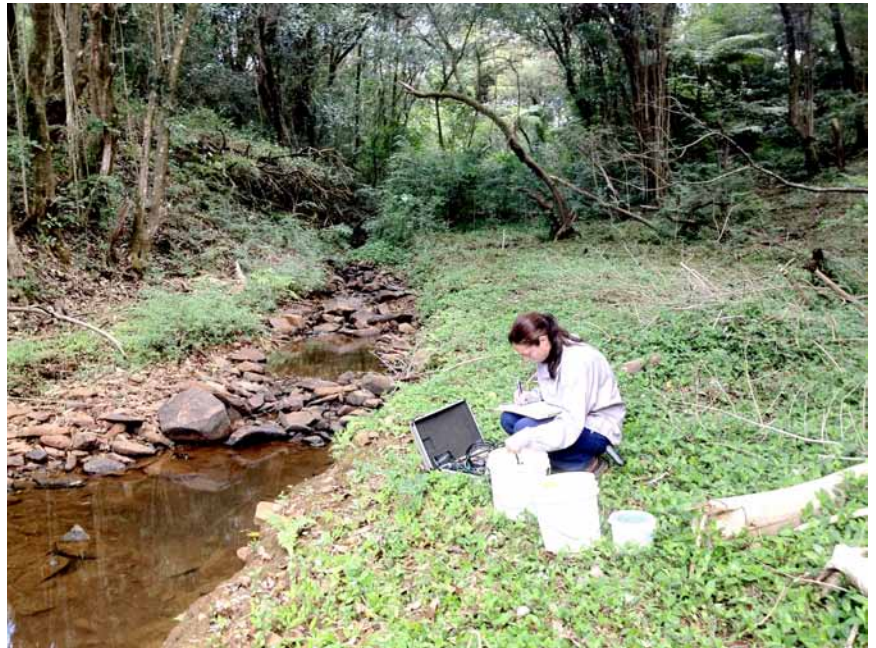
The Maleny Community Precinct Biodiversity Monitoring and Community Engagement project: What a mouthful!

In simpler terms, this is a program to work out what plants and animals are on the Maleny Community Precinct and how these change over time. It's also a program to train and educate people how to carry out this monitoring and have a lot of fun in doing so.

The Maleny Community Precinct is 126 ha of ex-dairy farmland that is being transformed into a multi-use community area. The area will incorporate the Unity water treatment wetlands and forest. This situation presents a great opportunity for monitoring and managing the interactions between the existing environment and the proposed land uses and also the rehabilitation works that will be taking place on the Precinct.

To this end, Barung Landcare has gained some funding from the Federal Caring for Country Community Action Grants 2012–13. In collaboration with Maleny Green Hills, Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee and Sunshine Coast Council, we are currently designing a program to survey the existing fauna, flora and water on the precinct; set up permanent monitoring sites; and compile information that will be useful in managing these elements in the future. One of the key aims of the program is to engage and train volunteers to participate in the monitoring.

We have already started looking at water quality, macro-invertebrates, frogs, fish and birds. Over the next few months Barung will be running workshops on some of these topics, so keep your eye on the Barung website for upcoming dates.



Kate Brooks monitoring water on the Maleny Community Precinct.

*Stoney Creek
frogs Litoria wilcoxi
mating; the smaller
male is on top.*

*Photographed during
the first frog survey
on the Maleny
Community Precinct
in mid-October
2012.*



Barung Landcare ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 3rd November 2012

at Barung's Landsborough Nursery
135 Forestry Rd, Landsborough

10.30 am - Registration
11.00 am - Nursery Opening
& Inspection
12 noon - Sausage Sizzle
1:00 pm - Barung AGM

Landcare Week 2012

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and then, most importantly, focusing said binoculars. It turned out that several participants, who had owned binoculars for a number of years, had not previously discovered this feature.

Further discussion covered various methodologies for spotting birds (some are notoriously reticent about being seen) and identifying them by their calls.

For those technologically up to date, there is an App for your smart phone matching bird calls with their owner's names. For those of us who still rely on the written word and pictures, Eric suggested several field guides as well as some weightier tomes as worthy references.

I would like to thank all our presenters for taking the time to share their passions with us.

If you would like to attend any of these workshops in the future or other workshops you would like to see run, please contact me on **0429 943 151** or the Barung office on **5494 3151** with your suggestions and we'll see what we can do.



LAUGHING KOOKABURRA

BIRDS OF THE BLACKALL RANGE by Eric Anderson

The Laughing Kookaburra is perhaps Australia's best known bird, famed for its 'laughing' call. The Kookaburra's laugh is actually a territorial call to warn other birds to stay away. It can be heard at any time of day, but most frequently around dawn and dusk. Kookaburras are sometimes known as the 'bushman's clock'.

The Laughing Kookaburra is recognised as the world's largest kingfisher. Measuring up to 46 cm from beak-tip to tail-tip, it is a stocky bird with a large head, a prominent brown eye, and a very large bill. The sexes are very similar, although the female is slightly larger and has less blue to the rump than the male. The immatures are similar to adult females, while fledglings have shorter tails and bills and their bills are black throughout.

The body is white or cream-coloured and the head has a dark brown stripe running through each eye and more faintly over the top of the head. The wings and back are brown with blue spots on the wings. The tail is rusty reddish-orange with dark brown bars and white tips on the feathers. The heavy bill is black on top and bone-coloured on the bottom. The legs and feet are green grey.

In eastern Queensland the distribution of the Laughing Kookaburra (right) overlaps that of the Blue-winged Kookaburra (below). This other species has a lightly streaked whitish head, lacks the dark band through the eye, and has more blue in the wings.

The Laughing Kookaburra is endemic to Australia. Its distribution at the time of European settlement in Australia included only the eastern part of the mainland. Since then it has been introduced to south-west Western Australia, Tasmania, Kangaroo Island and Flinders Island. It also has been introduced to New Zealand.

These birds live in woodlands and open forests, but also survive well in cleared farmland, parks and suburbia, provided there are



suitable tree hollows for nesting. They are carnivorous; their diet consists mainly of various insects and other invertebrates, but also includes snakes, lizards, rodents, the odd small bird and nestlings. Kookaburras pounce from suitable perches to seize their prey. Small prey is eaten whole, but larger prey items like lizards and snakes are bashed against a tree or a rock, to kill them and soften them up before they are eaten.

Kookaburras tend to live in family units. The offspring help the parents hunt and care for the next generation. The nesting season is mainly September to December when around three 46 x 36 mm faintly lustrous white eggs are laid. The nest is a bare chamber in a naturally occurring tree hollow or a burrow excavated in a tree-dwelling termite mound. Kookaburras are believed to pair for life.

Laughing Kookaburras are a common sight in suburban gardens and urban settings, even in built-up areas, and are so accustomed to humans that they will often eat out of their hands. It is not uncommon for Kookaburras to snatch food out of people's hands without warning, by swooping in from a distance. Like the Butcher Bird, the Kookaburra will also prey on the young of other birds, and will occasionally raid farmyards for ducklings and baby chicks.



Laughing Kookaburra [above] with the brown streak running through the eye, and Blue-winged Kookaburra [left].
[Photos: Eric Anderson]

HOW DOES YOUR BACKYARD GROW?

*Yates and Junior Landcare launch
a kids' environmental photo and video challenge*

Whether it's a farm, a suburban veggie patch or an apartment balcony herb garden, Yates and Junior Landcare are asking kids around Australia, 'How does your backyard grow?'

The 2012 Yates Junior Landcare Backyard Challenge is getting kids to answer this question with a short film or series of photos, allowing them to showcase the unique aspects of their local environment. The challenge is a fantastic opportunity for young people to explore and discover the amazing natural wonders in their own backyards.

The challenge is open to all kids living in Australia, 8 to 16 years, who can enter as individuals, or as part of a family, school group or any other community group that involves young people.

Entries close: **Friday 16 November**

More info: www.juniorlandcarechallenge.com.au



TRANSITION SEASON

THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN by Joan Dillon

Traditional seasonal starting dates do not apply here. For us, this is the season when the major spring flowering is just about over but buds are appearing on the syzygiums, ground cover scaevolas are starting to flower, the faithful spreading *Goodenia ovata* keeps on going (I don't think it ever stops) and some melaleucas and leptospermums are still in flower or just starting. *Lomandras* are promising to flower heavily so I am looking forward to their perfume wafting through the garden. Native bees seem to be attracted to them too.

Given our prolonged dry spell, the ornamental garden has been a much needed standby food source for the birds. The less said about bandicoots the better, but they will disperse once we get enough rain to moisten the soil beyond the garden. It has to be admitted they have not dug too many holes in the dense established garden but they have certainly been active in the vegetable patch.

The birds have been wonderful. Our entire local population appears to have been taking advantage of a ready supply of nectar and insects with constant 'fly-by' traffic and regular splashing in the water baths. Water is such an important feature of any garden. A range of honey-eaters, whip birds, varied trillers, assorted members of the fly catching fraternity, pigeons and many others seem to have taken up at least temporary residence. The dry gully which connects the garden to the revegetation and remnant forest has been an important safe corridor for the birds and has brought home to the human population the paramount importance of connections.

Further planting has been put on hold for the time being as the water supply is monitored and temperatures rise. Established plants are,

however, putting on new growth in response to higher humidity and overnight temperatures. The hardy crow's nest or basket ferns, the aspleniums, are looking particularly good and the beautiful *Phaius* ground orchid has started to flower. This one can be seen in its natural habitat (a rather rare occurrence these days) in the ephemeral wetland at the Maroochy Regional Botanic Gardens. Plants are periodically available from commercial outlets but it is easy to propagate and well worth establishing in a pot for future distribution to the garden in a free draining soil or mix.

As has previously been suggested, if we don't grow these plants, we will lose them and some have already become extinct in the wild, or the populations are so low in numbers that the genetic diversity to enable adaptation to climate change is no longer there.

And on that note, does anyone have viable seed of *Lomandra multiflora*? It's not considered at risk but is a beautiful species not in general cultivation and therefore not easy to source.

Lomandra hystrix.

[Photo: John Dillon]



SPRING CLEANING

NURSERY NOTES by Fuschia Collard

This is the time of year when we can catch up on some nursery maintenance. There are no events to plan for, so that means more time for WEEDING! ('Yippee' I hear the volunteers say!) We have a fabulous bunch of volunteers at the moment which means we can do more hand weeding and less spraying. Thanks gang! There are a few of us with chemical sensitivity who are very grateful.

We have also been preparing for storm season. This is a windy site at the best of times so all the more reason to clean up around the entrance and secure what we can for our impending summer storms. We decided to give a small tank we recently received as a donation on to the Australia Koala Foundation (AKF) who were really in need of it. Jonathan Bateman kindly delivered it to the AKF property at Oakey Creek, Gheerulla, where it has been patched up and connected and is waiting for rain.

Jono B says, 'AKF are slowly turning the 100 acre property into an educational resource where people can come and engage in a range of sustainable experiences, from bush tucker cooking to flora and fauna surveys, creative arts workshops, and practical landcare volunteering (pulling out lantana).' We are glad the tank has been put to such good use where it will be supplying water to AKF's hard-working volunteers.

Special thanks to some of our newer hard-working volunteers:

... thanks **Dylan** for mowing and whipper-snipping our site and making it look wonderful

... thanks **Brett** for always being there to help when we ask

... and a big thanks to **John** who has been going out of his way (on his days off) to walk down and start the pump for me while Wayne has been on holidays.



Also:

... a big thank you and farewell to **Ray Seddon** of the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Conservation Network. Ray has graciously donated some vines to the nursery as a thank you for our support over the years. **Ray** and **Pam Seddon** are taking a well-deserved rest and going exploring our beautiful country by caravan. We wish them all the best. It has been an honour to work with you, Ray. Thank you for all you have done for the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly. Happy travels!

... and thank you also to our wonderful **seed collectors**, as well as to **Lynden Druitt** for his donation of plants to the nursery.

FRESH SURROUNDINGS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Eric Anderson

The Barung Resource Centre and Office in Maleny has recently had a make-over! Thanks to our admin staff, Kellie and Den, for making the Resource Centre more attractive and accessible. This also allows us to present better displays in our shop front window as evidenced by our special feature on the Glossy Black-Cockatoo for Endangered Species Day on 6th September.

Barung was again a sponsor at the Lions Welcome Dinner for new residents to the Blackall Range. Barung and many other Community Groups set up small information stands to let new residents know about the services available in our community. Additionally Barung provided a decoration of native plants, as tube stock, on each table and donated these plants to the new residents. We thank the Lions for this great service they provide to the community on the Range.

Engaging Barung members

In the coming year we are hoping to run a regular monthly event, such as a workshop or information session of some kind, to increase our engagement with members. This will be in addition to the workshops we currently run under our various projects.

This leads me into thanking Jonathan Waites for organising, and the conveners for running, a number of successful 'workshops' during Landcare week in early September, on which Jonathan reports on page 1 of this *Barung News*.

Barung's Annual General Meeting

Please note that our AGM is on Saturday 3rd November. The AGM will be held at our new Landsborough Nursery and will be preceded by the opening of the Nursery and a sausage sizzle, so do come along and check it out.

I will be standing again for President and hope to twist the arms of the current Committee members Lin Fairlie (Vice President), Pat Fuller (Secretary), David Binstead (Treasurer), Glen Donoghoe, Diana O'Connor and Raine See to stand again.

However there is room for some new faces so please consider joining the Committee during this exciting time in Barung's development. Please contact me (5445 7965) if you are interested in joining and need more information about what is involved, or would like to suggest someone who might be approached to be a Committee member.

Nomination Forms are available at the Barung Office and should be returned by Friday 19th October.

THE FLIGHT OF THE GLOSSY BLACK-COCKATOO

by Raine See

Imagine 190 glossy black cockatoos soaring down a green bank searching for a grove of she-oaks to munch on! This was the scene local artist and filmmaker, Christine Elcoate, presented to the children at Mapleton State School recently as she immersed them in the culture of the glossy black cockatoo for her latest film, 'The Flight of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo'.

Local bird specialist and Barung president, Eric Anderson, talked about the plight of the Glossy Black and its endangered status.

As part of the Creating Community 'art4place' initiative, Christine also took the plight of the glossy black to the community during the school holidays. Local and visiting children made masks and painted wings and flew off in search of she-oaks in Russell Park at Montville. They found the perfect grove of she-oaks which had been planted three years ago by children from Montville State School.

Keep an eye out for Christine's film. The beautiful painting of the juvenile, the male and the female Glossy Blacks was painted by Jim Cox, who assisted Christine in Russell Park. Jim kindly donated the painting to Eric who will use it to spread the word about the plight of the Glossy Black-cockatoo to the community.





Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting the Sunshine Coast Hinterland



EVENTS

Friday 2 November

LITTLE YABBA PARK BUSHCARE

Little Yabba Park, Cambroon, 8am-11am

On the first Friday of each month, these bushcare group members are restoring vegetation along the banks of Little Yabba Creek. Work activities are followed by a cuppa and a short bushwalk. New members very welcome. Contact Susie on 5429 6622.

Sunday 4 November

CAMBROON WEED VINE WORKSHOP (Cambroon landholders only)

Little Yabba Park, Cambroon 9am-noon

An opportunity for local landholders to learn more about the diverse wildlife and forests in the Cambroon area and the threats posed by weed vines such as Madeira Vine, Cat's Claw and Dutchman's Pipe. Barung's project to control these vines locally and funding opportunities for landholders to undertake work on their properties will be discussed. Geckoes Wildlife Presentations will introduce some of the local animals. Free morning tea and Birdwing Butterfly vine for all participants. Please register with Susie on 5429 6622 or wilderness@hotmail.net.au

Sunday 11 November

ROVING RESTORERS

Burgum Rd, North Maleny, 9am-12.30pm

Join us for some hand weeding, planting and a picnic by the creek at this property on a beautiful stretch of Obi Obi Ck. Morning tea provided. See below for booking and travel arrangements and what to bring.

Saturday 1 December

ROVING RESTORERS

***Broken Bridge Ck, Bellthorpe National Park
8.30am-3pm***

Join us for a 7 km walk in Bellthorpe National Park through magnificent rainforest on Broken Bridge Ck. A small infestation of Crofton Weed on the track will require about an hour's hand weeding. The rest of the time can be spent enjoying the birds and forest as well as swimming at a beautiful rock hole. One steep grade on the track of about 300 m. A great end-of-year celebration for all you dedicated bush regenerators.

More info for ROVING RESTORERS:

Car pool in the public carpark at the back of the Maleny IGA carpark at 8.30 am, or travel independently or arrange to be picked up on the way (call 5429 6622 for arrangements). Bring gloves, weeding/planting tools, water, lunch, boots, long-sleeved shirt and trousers, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent and togs if you wish to swim.

***Please register at Barung Landcare on 5494 3151 or
www.barunglandcare.org.au***

CONNECTING THE CONONDALES

HINTERLAND BUSH LINKS by Susie Duncan

The forests of the Conondale and Blackall ranges share an amazing diversity of native plants and animals.

But if you look at a satellite image on Google maps you will see that the vegetation of the Blackall Range is much more fragmented. This has a big influence on wildlife such as bandicoots and gliding possums that do not readily cross cleared country. Even birds such as fruit doves won't fly to isolated rainforest patches so they are unable to spread rainforest seed there.

For this reason Hinterland Bush Links is focused on restoring key vegetation linkages between the Blackall and Conondale ranges. That way the many plant and animal species in this region will have access to more habitat, and the decline of some species will hopefully be reversed.

One such link is the Cambroon wildlife corridor between the Conondale National Park and Maleny National Park. Several landholders in this wildlife corridor are already enhancing existing vegetation along creeks, often with the assistance of Sunshine Coast Council landholder grants.

Restoring vegetation often means getting on top of the weeds, particularly canopy-smothering vine weeds such as Madeira Vine and Cat's Claw which damage remnant and regenerating bush.

Another weed vine of major concern is Dutchman's Pipe which mimics the caterpillar food plant of the threatened Richmond Birdwing Butterfly. Dutchman's Pipe contains a toxic chemical which kills the caterpillars, limiting the recovery of the butterfly population.

Barung Landcare is currently undertaking a project to control these weed vines on private and public land at Cambroon.

A workshop for local landholders will be held at Little Yabba Park on 4 November.

This will be an opportunity to learn more about the diverse wildlife and forests of the area and how to control weed vines.

Information will also be available on funding support for landholders undertaking this work.

The project has been funded by Burnett Mary Regional Group through Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee.

Connecting the landscape in the Hinterland is not just about getting vegetation back. Managing weeds is critical to creating healthy habitat that will support our wonderful biodiversity.



Cat's Claw Creeper, currently in flower, has caused environmental devastation further north in the Mary River catchment and is on the march in the Cambroon area.

SUNSHINE COAST KIDS IN ACTION CONFERENCE 2012

by Jonathan Waites

The Kids in Action program promotes Kids Teaching Kids as a way of learning that supports cultural change in the way we interact with our local environment.

The inaugural 2012 Kids in Action conference included engaging, hands-on environmental activities for students in grades 5–9. Two hundred and seventy students from 18 schools across the region participated in the event on 29th – 30th August during Australia Post Kids Teaching Kids Week.

The program is funded by the Sunshine Coast Council Environment Levy and aims to inspire our future environmental leaders. At the conference young delegates taught each other about a number of conference themes including,

- local ecosystems and/or specific local species
- whole of catchment links, waterways and caring for local creeks
- biodiversity

- climate change
- engaging with the community to act local and think global
- waste, recycling and resource efficiency.

Barung partnered with the Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network to run an event at Cahill Scrub Bushland Reserve in Peachester. Around 100 students were given information about the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly *Ornithoptera richmondia* and then each planted a Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Vine *Paristolochia praevenosa*. One very keen group planted about three each!

This event builds on a two year history of Kids Teaching Kids conferences on the Sunshine Coast in which council partners with community organisations to host the environmental project days and mentors schools in preparation for conference workshops.

Kylie from the Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network discussing Richmond Birdwing Butterflies with Kids in Action participants at Cahills Scrub.



LETTERS

Dear Wayne

I am writing on behalf of the Church Council of the Maleny Uniting Church to sincerely thank you and Barung for the donation of the bales of mulch to replace those stolen prior to the last Obi Obi working bee.

As a church, we are trying to regenerate areas around our building, including our sections of the banks of the Obi Obi Creek.

Your donation was very much appreciated.

Merilyn Milton,
Maleny Uniting Church Council

Hi Matt

Thank you for the environmental weed control work undertaken by your crew as part of the ongoing maintenance of the Nature Refuge on our property.

As usual, your staff did a great job on the day (please pass on my thanks for their very careful and selective application of the weed control chemicals) and I can now report a significant reduction in weed numbers. In particular, the military fern which has proved so difficult to remove now appears to be dying. I am conscious that this area will require ongoing follow-up weed control measures but it is reassuring to see that we are at last making some headway with removing the military fern.

I'm also pleased to report that the new native food trees your crew planted on our property late last year are generally doing well (a small percentage of the trees have not taken mainly due to dry weather).

Regards, Greg Johnston

BUSHCARE IN ACTION AT THE PRECINCT

by Steve Swayne, Maleny District Green Hills Fund

The Friends of Obi Obi Parklands Bushcare Group has been busy undertaking regular working bees over the winter months. Many hundreds of trees have been planted in the riparian areas of Obi Obi Creek on the Maleny Community Precinct. The working bees have been organised by Barung, Green Hills and Sunshine Coast Council.

The working bees will continue every month. Everyone is most welcome to come along and help out with this important reveg project.

Please check the Green Hills website for dates and info:

www.greenhills.org.au



BIRD'S NEST FUNGI *Cyathus sp.*

FUNGAL FORAY by Gretchen Evans

You may have seen some tiny fungi if you have been using woody mulch around your plants. The fungi look like little cups (less than 8 mm in diameter) containing several disc-shaped objects that look just like eggs. These are the fruiting bodies of a fungus that lives on wood or dung. *Cyathus sp.* were first recorded by a Flemish botanist in 1601.

What is remarkable about this fungus is its method of spore dispersal. The 'eggs' contain the spores, and the 'nests' are actually splash cups. After rain, the 'eggs' have a sticky coiled thread attached to them which uncoils, flinging the eggs up into the air where they may latch onto a shrub or twig, after which the spores are released.

There's a fun Youtube video showing this method of splash dispersal called 'Evolutionary Masterpieces: The Bird's Nest Fungi'.



Cyathus striatus, a Birds Nest Fungi, in mulch in the car park at Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve. [Photo: Fran Guard]

BITS & PIECES

Compiled by Jono Waites

The War on Weeds – Eating your enemy. A short article by Graeme Sait from Nutri-Tech Solutions regarding some common herbaceous plants (weeds and natives) and the possible health benefits of including them in our diets:

www.ntshealth.com.au/wellness/blog/war-on-weeds.html

A book about the repercussions of coal mining in Australia – looks interesting:

www.richlandwasteland.com.au

RSAAnimate – Drive: Dan Pink on 'The surprising truth about what motivates us':

www.youtube.com/watch?v=u6XAPnuFjJc&feature=player_embedded

Leadership lessons from a dancing guy and the importance of first followers:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=fW8amMCVAJQ

A short animation that tells us what we need to keep Earth together. This is what it's all about in less than a minute! When the link opens, click on the link under The Wombat:

www.global-mindshift.org/discover/viewMeme.asp?memeid=239

TED Talks

Ideas Worth Spreading

Go to www.ted.com and search for these remarkably thought-provoking and entertaining presentations:

- Jeremy Rifkin on 'the empathic civilization'
- Nicholas Christakis: The hidden influence of social networks
- James Hansen: Why I must speak out about climate change
- Simon Sinek: How great leaders inspire action
- Jaime Lerner: sings of the city (discovering eccentric solutions to vexing urban problems)

WHITE BOOYONG

Argyrodendron trifoliolatum

Family: Sterculiaceae

PLANT PROFILE by Fuschia Collard

Because Wayne is on holidays I thought I would have a crack at a Plant Profile for this issue of the *Barung News*. So here is what I have learnt about the very first plant I tubed on my return to Barung...

Argyrodendron trifoliolatum is pronounced ah-ghee-row-den-dron tri-foe-lee-oh-lah-tum, depending who you talk too. (However I like to pronounce it a-'gyro'-dendron because the seeds are like little 'gyro'copters.)

Argyrodendron is from the Greek words 'argyros' meaning silver (referring to the silvery underside of the leaflets) and 'dendron' meaning tree. When viewed from underneath, the large canopy can actually look coppery. *Trifoliolatum* comes from the latin roots 'tri' (three) and 'foliolus' (leaves), indicating a compound leaf made up of three leaflets.

Argyrodendron trifoliolatum is a large buttressed rainforest tree that can grow to 45 metres in a rainforest or around 15 m in a garden. (I just love a big buttress tree, don't you!) It is a commonly seen native tree growing along scrubby watercourses and in subtropical and dry rainforest from north-eastern NSW through eastern and northern Queensland up into PNG. In the warmer areas it occurs at higher altitudes.

White Booyong, as it is known to us locals, grows on basaltic or alluvial soil up to 600 m in altitude. Booyong is the aboriginal name for this tree. It is also known as Brown Crowsfoot, Brown Tulip Oak, Elm, Hickory, Red Booyong, Brown Booyong and more. (Phew! and I thought I had an identity problem!)

From July to September White Booyong can be seen covered in a mass of small cream bell-shaped flowers which often carpet the forest floor in winter. Fruit ripens October to January. The fruit develops as clusters of one to four separate 3 cm long silvery brown winged seeds, known as samaras. These seeds exude a sticky jelly when they've fallen to keep them moist. The seeds are best sewn fresh for rapid germination.

The seeds are eaten by Brush-turkeys and the leaves are food for the caterpillar of the Bronze Flat Butterfly.



White Booyong seeds (above) and buttressed trunk (below). [Photos: Peter Woodard, Wikipedia]



A little (potted) competition

On the 'Noosa Native Plants' website under 'landscaping notes' for this species, it is suggested White Booyong can be planted as a bushy ornamental and has potential as an indoor pot plant.

I am keen to hear how it goes as a pot plant. Has anyone tried it? We have plenty in stock!

***Let's try it out and
whoever grows the best one in a pot
wins two free tubestock.***

Green Nomads, A QWaLC Initiative

Green Nomads is a volunteering program that links Australia's travelling population with community natural resource management groups looking for volunteer help. Through the Green Nomads program, Grey Nomads have the opportunity to contribute to and show appreciation for the beautiful places they visit.

More info: www.greennomads.com.au/index.php/about



Barung
LANDCARE
WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

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contracting services 0429 943 156
barung landcare 07 5494 3151
contracting@barunglandcare.org.au
www.barunglandcare.org.au

EVENTS

RANGE BEES GET-TOGETHERS

Range Bees is a group of people concerned about the future of pollination of our food crops and natural environment. Our focus is the nurturing and management of bees – honeybees, native social stingless bees and native solitary bees.

Saturday 10 November, 8 am, Crystal Waters

Max and Trudi will show us how they harvest and process honey – from the hive to the jar. A chance to observe a small operation working and see equipment in action together with gaining some hands-on experience. Bring clean bee suit and sterilised tools.

Saturday 8 December, 2 pm, Maleny

Building nests for native solitary bees. Start collecting building materials – blocks of wood, dry stems, sand, clay etc.

More info: rangebees@live.com.au or 5478 6706



Saturday 10 November, noon to 8 pm
Kandanga Recreation Grounds

Come along and celebrate the environment and diverse lifestyles sustained by the Mary River!

Festival organisers are committed to empowering the communities along the Mary River by showcasing local creativity, projects, ideas, resources, and culture that enhance and protect the unique environment of the Mary River catchment.

Arts and craft stalls, a local produce market, environmental displays, food stalls, workshops, entertainment and children's activities, in a festival atmosphere.

More info: www.maryriverfestival.org.au

BRUSH TURKEY ENTERPRISES

***Snake & Reptile Ecology & ID
with Martin Finland, Geckoes Wildlife***

Friday 26 October, 10 am - 3 pm

It's snake time! Snake identification, snake ecology, and some snakes to see face to face.

***Freshwater Stream Ecology & Water Quality
with Jacqui Smythe, Maroochy Waterwatch***

Friday 30 November, 10 am - 3 pm

An introduction to the river score system and general hydrology/geomorphology and habitat information. Samples of macro-invertebrates will be collected from which we will compile a biodiversity index score.

Each workshop:

Cost: \$88 incl morning tea and lunch

At: Brush Turkey Enterprises, 468 Reesville Road

To book: education@brushturkey.com.au or 5494 3642

FUNDING

BE NATURAL LANDCARE GRANTS

20 grants of up to \$2500 are available to support volunteer community environmental groups for projects such as local community gardens or edible gardens within community centres.

Applications close: **Friday 26 October**

More info: www.landcareonline.com.au/be_natural_landcare_grant

QLD GOVT BUYING KOALA HABITAT

The Queensland Government is investing \$26.5 million over the next 4 years toward strategic koala habitat purchase, research into disease and injury, and rescue and rehabilitation services.

Expressions of interest (EOI) are sought from owners of eligible properties who are interested in selling their property for use as koala habitat. Eligible properties will be assessed competitively against criteria each year.

Round 1 EOIs due: **31 October 2012**

More info: www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/koalas/strategy/koala-habitat-programs.html

BARUNG RESOURCE CENTRE

Shop 3, Riverside Centre, Maleny

MON to FRI: 9 am - 4 pm

5494 3151

info@barunglandcare.org.au

BARUNG NURSERIES

0429 943 152

nursery@barunglandcare.org.au

MALENY Nursery

Porters Lane, North Maleny

WED to FRI: 9 am - 3 pm

LANDSBOROUGH Nursery

135 Forestry Road, Landsborough

**Official opening at the Barung AGM
on Saturday 3 November**



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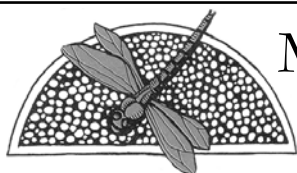
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BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS

Suncoast Hardwoods	Lions Club Maleny
Maleny Green Printery	Habitat Support
South East Land Repair	Lapmiste Pty Ltd
eContent & Life Artistry	Earthcarer
Northey Street City Farm	
Ananda Marga River School	
Range Auto & Fuel Injection Centre	

SUPPORT Barung Landcare through YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Individual/family MEMBERSHIP \$ 25 pa

This entitles you to the bimonthly *Barung News* and two free trees from the Nursery, and enables you to support Barung Landcare's work in preserving and enhancing the natural environment of the Blackall Range and its environs.

BUSINESS SPONSOR \$275 pa

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

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

BUSINESS CONTRIBUTOR \$ 55 pa

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.

Barung gratefully acknowledges these organisations for their partnerships & support:



*Lake Baroon
Catchment Care
Group*



**Hinterland
Business
Centre**



**CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY**



**Burnett Mary
Regional Group**
...for Natural Resource Management Inc.



**Gambling
Community Benefit Fund**
Queensland Government

And also the Business Sponsors and Contributors whose advertisements appear in the Barung News.

THE BARUNG FAMILY

BARUNG 2011/12 VOLUNTARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	<i>Eric Anderson</i>
Vice President	<i>Lin Fairlie</i>
Secretary	<i>Pat Fuller</i>
Treasurer	<i>David Binstead</i>
Committee Members	<i>Glen Donoghoe</i>
	<i>Diana O'Connor</i>
	<i>Raine See</i>

BARUNG STAFF

Barung Resource Centre & Projects

<i>Jonathan Waites</i>	Projects Officer
<i>Steve McLeish</i>	Barung Events
<i>Kellie Huddy</i>	Administration
<i>Den Lalor</i>	P/T Admin/Project Support Officer
<i>Eve Witney</i>	Editor, <i>Barung News</i> and <i>The CODLine</i>

Barung Nurseries

<i>Wayne Webb</i>	Nursery Manager
<i>Fuschia Collard</i>	Assistant Nursery Manager

Barung Contracting Services

<i>Matthew Bateman</i>	Team Leader
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And our many Volunteers, Labour Team Participants, and Members