

BARUNG

LANDCARE NEWS

April - May 2012



WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

Barung Landcare

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WOOD WORKSHOPS RETURN IN 2012

by Mim Coulstock

At the Showground's new Wood Shed, the 2012 Maleny Wood Expo welcomes the return of the popular workshop series.

Two of Maleny's leading furniture-makers, Richard Knight and Randy DeGraw, will be holding workshops over the Expo weekend.

Richard's workshop is suitable for beginners of any age. He will be teaching the age-old technique of mortice and tenon joints. These one and half hour workshops are guaranteed to be fun as participants use very simple tools to

MALENY WOOD EXPO 2012

5 & 6 MAY

produce a mallet, walking stick or paper towel holder. (Some of Richard's furniture is shown at left, photo by Steve Swayne.)



Randy (right) will share his love and knowledge of patinas and gilding, introducing workshop participants to the basics of gilding on timber. Sessions will include preparing blanks, applying glues and leaf, using chemicals to create patinas, incorporating different mediums to add texture, and finishing and stabilising the gilding.

Places in these two workshops are limited and participants must book prior to the Expo weekend. Further information on these and other workshops will be available soon at www.malenywoodexpo.org.au

If you would like to receive the full workshop program, please contact Steve McLeish on 0428 674 335 or steve@malenywoodexpo.org.au

Calling for Volunteers! Calling for Volunteers!

Calling for Volunteers!

Maleny Wood Expo - 5th and 6th May 2012

If you are wondering how to meet new people and be part of the iconic Maleny Wood Expo, how about joining the team of dynamic volunteers that helps keep this event alive and well. We still have some spots waiting for you to fill - from selling raffle tickets to helping on the Landcare BBQ to directing traffic and more... We would love to hear from you sooner rather than later!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Register online at

www.barunglandcare.org.au/volunteer.html

OR

2. Pop into the Barung Office at the Riverside Centre in person

OR

3. Contact Jono Waites on 5494 3151 for further information.

PHASCOGALE SEEKS LETTERBOX HOME

WILDLIFE WANDERINGS by Susie Duncan

Chris Lee went out to his letterbox one day and inside was a cute little mammal with a very fluffy black tail. There were also some chewed letters which the animal had shredded to make some bedding. Putting aside any angst about the fate of his mail, Chris was delighted to recognise that a Brush-tailed Phascogale had set up home in the box. The 'nest' box is in Booloumba Creek Road, just opposite the site where Hinterland Bush Links was launched.

Phascogales are marsupials about three times the size of *Antechinus*, their closely related cousins. They find their insect food such as spiders and cockroaches by tearing off the bark of large eucalypts. They also use stringy eucalypt bark to make a spherical nest inside a tree hollow, hence the letter-shredding behaviour of Chris's visitor. Most eucalypts don't form substantial hollows until they are well over 100 years old, so in common with possums, gliders, owls and many other hollow-nesters, these animals have been affected by the clearing of old-growth forests. This is a particular issue for phascogales because they can use up to 20 different nest hollows in the course of ranging around their large hunting grounds. Even letter-boxes can do the job.

Chris's visitor is a young male who would have left the maternal nest during the summer. This winter, after a testosterone-fuelled mating frenzy, all the males of this species will die off. This is a common pattern with many carnivorous marsupials, including *Antechinus*. The females, of course, will live longer to raise the young.

Depending on how much tucker is around, females range over a forest area of 20–70 ha whilst males utilise up to 140 ha, so they need a lot of country to support a population. Fortunately



Phascogale taking up residence in a letterbox [above] and in his new 'box within a box' [below left].

[Photos: Christopher Lee]

the Conondale National Park provides the extensive hollow-rich forest habitat required, but many fragmented blocks of bush are just too small or short on hollows. That's where connecting the bush with broad wildlife corridors is so important, especially for an animal that is readily predated upon by cats if it ventures into cleared country.

Chris wanted his visiting phascogale to feel more at home and to deter it from chewing up his mail so he placed a cardboard box with shredded newspaper inside the letterbox. He will also build a nest-box to place in a nearby tree and hopefully this will be used by the phascogale in the course of its short life or by a breeding female. If you would like to provide more accommodation for potential phascogale residents in your neighbourhood, the specifications for a maternal nest box are 30 cm x 30 cm x 30 cm with an entrance hole of 7 cm diameter. The entrance size is critical because it is just big enough to let the phascogale squeeze in but keep the predators out.

The Brush-tailed Phascogale occurs in forests along the east coast of Australia but populations have diminished because of forest clearing, particularly in the more fertile areas. Restoring and connecting forests in the Hinterland will play an important role in the recovery of this beautiful animal.



STATE OF THE CLIMATE REPORT

A very clear report by CSIRO and BoM looking at trends in temperature, rainfall, sea level, ocean acidification, and carbon dioxide and methane levels in the atmosphere over the last 5 decades and what this means for the next 50 years.

www.bom.gov.au/inside/eiab/State-of-climate-2010-updated.pdf

IDEAS AND PERSPECTIVES

Crisis of Capitalism, an entertaining and thought-provoking animation on capitalism and its part in the Global Financial Crisis:

www.zcommunications.org/crises-of-capitalism-by-david-harvey

Finding Balance: People, Plants, and Culture in the Amazon by Maria Fadiman, a TEDxBerkeley lecture. The most important aspect of caring for the environment – people:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=wY2UWUa5j7Y&feature=relmfu

The art of the eco-mindshift by Natalie Jeremijenko, a TED Partner series lecture. Art meets science meets activism – using a creative perspective to get people to rethink their relationship with their environment, and environmental and personal health:

www.ted.com/talks/natalie_jeremijenko_the_art_of_the_eco_mindshift.html

ABUZZ ABOUT BEES

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Eric Anderson

Work, although severely impacted by the continuing wet weather, proceeds at our Landsborough Nursery as we move towards producing plants. Most of the infrastructure is now in place. The propagation tunnel and the shade house are up and fitted with appropriate irrigation systems. Building the numerous plant benches that are required is underway, thanks to Bob Philpot who has volunteered to help with welding. We are also now able to maintain the areas around our buildings, thanks to the donation of a ride-on mower by Richard Dent.

Currently we are endeavouring to install our communication and computer systems at the Landsborough Nursery office. Telstra advises that we cannot be connected with ADSL because our line is 'inadequate' – we are investigating options to overcome this challenge.

'Green Nomad' volunteering

We are always looking for new volunteers particularly to assist with activities at our nurseries. To this end we have registered for the Green Nomads program (www.greennomads.com.au) being introduced by Queensland Water & Land Carers (QWaLC).

Green Nomads is an exciting new casual volunteering program that links Australia's large travelling population (such as Grey Nomads) with community natural resource management groups who need extra volunteers to help undertake conservation works in their local communities.

Range Bees

The Barung Management Committee has recently decided to auspice the Range Bees. This is the working name for a cluster of people concerned with the future pollination of our food crops and the natural environment. Their focus is on the nurturing and management of bees, and embraces honeybees, native social stingless bees and native solitary bees. Their concerns include how loss of habitat, natural and introduced pests and diseases, and chemical and industrial pollution of the environment will affect bees into the future.

Wood Expo volunteering

You will see elsewhere in this *Barung News* that we are gearing up for our biggest event of the year – the Maleny Wood Expo. We cannot run this event without the help of many volunteers and encourage you to give us some time over the weekend of 5th and 6th of May. Help is especially needed with parking and at the Barung barbeque, amongst various other jobs. See you there.

SLOPES AND TERRACES

THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN by Joan Dillon

I've recently visited the Arts and Ecology Centre at the Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden and everyone who has been faced with steep slopes or has decided to create terraces should pay a visit too.

A combination of grasses, sedges, groundcovers and shrubs has created a beautiful garden which showcases species less commonly seen in our gardens but native to our area. Some are, of course, selections appropriate to a formal setting.

Clumping species with a weeping habit cascade down slopes, protecting and holding the soil with their fibrous root systems. These are not unusual species. Barbed Wire Grass *Cymbopogon refractus*, Tussock Grass *Poa labillardieri*, Creek Mat-rush *Lomandra hystrix*, Knobby Club Rush *Isolepis nodosa*, and Tall Sedge *Carex appressa* are just a few.

Goodenia ovata, a vigorous groundcover which does not appear to set seed, has been used extensively. Unfortunately it won't out-compete Singapore Daisy but does bear attractive yellow flowers over a long period. There is a shrub with the same name and narrower leaves which is featured in *Mangroves to Mountains*. The ground cover is available in nurseries but I have not seen the shrub. The shrub version of *Hardenbergia violacea* softens the edge of a concrete block wall and will be spectacular in spring. *Melastoma affine* provides colour in late summer and autumn.

For those who are keen on vertical and horizontal lines, as in for example a courtyard, have a look at the vertical garden based mainly on local ferns. The prolonged wet weather pattern has undoubtedly suited it but it is effective, very healthy and at a garden scale. Hori-

zontal lines are provided by a formal lawn, a pool, paved areas (it is after all, a public space) and walkways. The embankment behind the pool features our local *Alocasia*, Piccabeen or Bangalow Palms *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*, local gingers, *Gahnia* saw-sedges, and the very common sedge *Juncus usitatus*.

Paving blocks are separated by native violet, a vast improvement on the exotic Mondo Grass usually employed to separate and soften pavers. An innovative piece of planting is the use of a single row of Barbed Wire Grass to separate parking bays from the lawn. Some extra space has been allowed for the long weeping seed heads, which will need to be cut back when finished, but the arrangement is extraordinarily effective.

We can't all afford to import huge rocks or metres of large pebbles for waterways but public gardens such as this one are about the effective use of our native flora and gaining ideas for developing our own gardens. No doubt the local wildlife is also impressed.

Slopes and terraces at the Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden.
[Photo: John Dillon]



OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

NURSERY NOTES by Fuschia

We are all very busy at the nursery: sowing, tubing, weeding and fertilising in preparation for the Maleny Wood Expo. We would be very grateful for any tubes and trays you may have lying around. We have almost filled what we have here!

Being back at the Barung Nursery reminds me how amazing our volunteers truly are. They work so hard and often in very uncomfortable conditions. Every day they walk up and down steep gravel paths, lifting, pulling and pushing stock, pine bark and whatever else needs moving. Some of them walk over hill and dale, through long grass and red belly black snakes, to start the pump that provides our precious water. Others get drenched clothes and soggy shoes and spend hours cleaning and disinfecting recycled tubes and trays. All this to provide our local community with quality tubestock.

So much effort goes into every little plant you see in our nursery. If everyone could see how hard this team works, I am sure no one would ever mind paying the pittance we ask for our beautiful plants and perhaps they might even donate a lot more to this fantastic organisation. Thank you to all of our volunteers – you are deeply appreciated.

Speaking of volunteers, this week we said goodbye to Cheryl Underwood (although we had such a great morning tea for her she might come back for more.) Cheryl is retiring and off to enjoy quality time with family, a little wine sampling and a trip to New Zealand (and that's just for starters). All the best, Cheryl. We hope to see you again soon.

We would like to wish a warm welcome to Brian Boon, who brings many skills including welding to assist Wayne and Jono at the Landsborough Nursery. He is replacing Mark Milne from the latest Green Army, who was offered a position with the National Parks Green Army after Blair O'Connor was appointed Ranger of Currawinya National Park. Awesome work Blair! Congratulations!

A big 'thanks' also goes out to our new volunteers, John Arias and Ken Brownlow. Welcome fellas. You have already made a difference around here.

I can't go any further without saying a huge 'thank you' to Wayne Webb. I am constantly amazed at how much knowledge and patience Wayne has. He is so busy getting Landsborough ready, training me and supervising the overall running of the nurseries, but he still makes time to patiently answer every customer's



Our latest dedicated volunteer who comes every day at morning tea and lunch time! [Photo by Wayne Webb]

question and provide excellent advice to all sorts of callers to his mobile phone. It's great to be a part of this team!

The last couple of weeks have seen some comings and goings on the Unity Water site. We can even see several white pegs marking out future walking tracks. It will be amazing to watch the transformation of their site. Thank you to those who have held the vision so patiently.

Well that's about it from me. It is great to be back serving all of you wonderful landcarers who are out there making a difference to our world. It is also good to know that finally all those strange botanical names are starting to make sense to me! (And to think for all those years I thought Wayne was swearing at me in Latin).

See you at the Wood Expo.

BARUNG RESOURCE CENTRE

Shop 3, Riverside Centre, Maleny

MON to FRI 9 am - 4 pm

5494 3151

info@barunglandcare.org.au

BARUNG NURSERIES

at Maleny & Landsborough

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

Under construction

***Would you like to help run a
Barung stall at the***

Maleny Handicraft Market (RSL Hall)?

One person has already volunteered and a couple more people are needed for this to work.

You'd need to help with transporting plants (using your vehicle), attending the stall, answering people's questions and selling plants.

If you'd like to explore this further, please contact Fuschia at the Barung Nursery on 0429 943 152.

MALENY WOOD EXPO'S MONSTER RAFFLE

Organisers of the 2012 Maleny Wood Expo are wowed yet again by the generosity of raffle sponsors for this year's Monster Expo Raffle, to be drawn on the final day of the Expo – Sunday 6th May – at 2 pm in the Main Pavilion.

Tickets are \$2 each and are on sale at the Barung Office in the Riverside Centre until Expo, at various locations around town leading up to the event and, of course, at the Wood Expo itself.

If you purchase a book of five tickets you also go into the draw for the Book Buyers Prize – one night's accommodation in a luxury villa at **Spicers Tamarind Retreat**. Books of tickets can also be purchased through Barung's online shop – just visit www.barunglandcare.org.au

Many thanks to:

- **Bamboo Retreat** B&B for donating two nights' accommodation
- **Stihl Shop Nambour** for sponsoring a chainsaw
- **King Ludwigs Restaurant** for their lunch/dinner vouchers for you and a friend
- **Blessed Earth** for donating two organic wool pillows
- **Maple Street Co-op** for giving an organic wine and food hamper
- **Richard Knight** for offering a hand-crafted bush milking stool
- **Reserve Restaurant** for donating a lunch degustation
- **The Terrace of Maleny Restaurant** for offering two lunch/dinner vouchers
- **Reid Pottery** for sponsoring a pottery platter
- **Elaine Ricketts** for her gift of four local books
- **2Sisters Restaurant** for offering a dinner for two, and
- **Maleny Jewellers** for donating a gift voucher.

Any surplus raised by the Maleny Wood Expo helps to keep the Barung Landcare office open to the wider community, and contributes to Barung's ongoing landholder education programs.

Thank you to all of the local businesses who show their appreciation of Barung's efforts by supporting the Maleny Wood Expo.



Heritage woodcrafter Stan Ceglinski demonstrates the techniques of yesteryear to Maleny Wood Expo visitors.



*from chainsaw
to fine furniture*

The organisers of the Maleny Wood Expo acknowledge and express appreciation for the contributions of the organisations whose logos are shown here.



Regional Development Program



The Maleny Wood Expo is benefiting from funding received under the Events Queensland Regional Development Program (EQRDP), a state-wide investment program designed to extend the flow of economic and social benefits from events to regional Queensland. To find out more about great events throughout Queensland, visit www.eventsqld.com.au

AUTUMN HUNTING

SEED MATTERS by Diana O'Connor

Autumn is here, but the monsoonal type weather still persists as I write. **Hoop Pines**, **Bunyas** and **Piccabeen Palms** have fruited richly, but **Yellow Carabeen** *Sloanea woolsii* has nothing on – so quite a contrast.

What is up ahead? **Native Ginger** *Alpinia caerulea* is ripening now. You can shell the blue casing off the seed and then put it in water to drown invaders.

Some others due are:

Blush Walnut *Beilschmiedia obtusifolia*, the fruit of which is an oval drupe, black and about 25 mm long.

Three-veined Laurel *Cryptocarya triplinervis* which, like other *Cryptocaryas*, is much loved by birds. The fruit is black, shiny, oval and 10 mm long.

Blueberry Ash *Elaeocarpus reticulatus* [below] is fruiting well. You will find this species in more open forests, with lovely small blue fruits, approximately 8 mm long. I have noticed it fruiting in Flaxton Forest and down by the billabongs at Spring Falls walk at Flaxton. Wait till the fruits are dark blue before collecting, and then soak.



White Bolly Gum *Neolitsea dealbata* [below], with its large lighter green leaves, will ripen soon. The fruit is black, shiny and round, and about 8 mm long.



You can see photos of all of these plants in **Mangroves to Mountains**, an outstanding reference book for those wishing to identify our south-east Queensland flora, available for sale from the **Barung Bookshop**.



Banana Bush *Tabernaemontana pandacaqui* [above] is due. It has elongated, tapered yellow fruits in pairs. This plant can be seen along the front fence of Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve at the eastern end, although there are no fruits on these plants this year. Perhaps it is a poor year for them.

Oliver's Sassafras *Cinnamomum oliveri* is a large tree, also found at Mary Cairncross, and is a favourite with birds. Its fruit sits in a small cup with ribs (reminiscent of a small English acorn). The fruit is black, oval and about 10 mm long.

In late May expect to find fruits of **Red Apple** *Acmena ingens*, **Bolwarra** *Eupomatia laurina* and **Pencil Cedar** *Polyscias murrayi*.



Last year **Large-leaved Wilkiea** *Wilkiea macrophylla* [above] was ripe in April. It is fruiting well again this year. It clearly prefers wetter years. Please collect when seeds are black. There is also the hairy **Veiny Wilkiea** *Wilkiea huegeliana* – so please check the leaves as we'd love some of the former species, which is less common.

Shrubs are always in demand by people who want natives but who have smaller areas. They are also sought after for the understorey in revegetation areas. If you have the **Native Lasiandra** *Melastoma melabathricum* still with seed on, please collect it – we receive many requests for it at the nursery. Also for the white-flowered **River Lily** *Crinum pedunculatum*. These are more coastal plants of open forests. However they can do well on the Range in a well-drained position, as can **Crinkle Bush** *Lomatia silaifolia*, a pretty open shrub with white flowers like a Grevillea, which I have seen in Mapleton Forest.

Some members have indicated they would like to collect seed. If you would like to discuss this further, please do contact me on 5445 7965 or at plainswanderer@powerup.com.au

[All photos this page by Eric Anderson]

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

HINTERLAND BUSH LINKS by Susie Duncan

The 'Connecting Our Bush' presentation in Maleny attracted an enthusiastic crowd of 70 people keen to be involved with connecting wildlife habitat in the Hinterland.

Professor Henry Nix provided a fascinating overview of animal movements in eastern Australia and the implications for connecting up the landscape. This was followed by a discussion on how we can connect the Hinterland bush through the energy of our local communities.

The night was filmed but due to various technical glitches only the second half is available for viewing on the Barung website at <http://barunglandcare.org.au/videos.html>

A transcript of Susie Duncan's talk is available – email wilderness@hotmail.net.au if you would like a copy.

We invite you to attend one of the exciting upcoming *Hinterland Bush Links* events, listed on this page.

If you are keen to set up a local Bushlinks group to connect habitat with your neighbours, we would be happy to assist (contact Susie on 5429 6622). Remember to check out our website: www.hinterlandbushlinks.org



Mary-Ann Law holding Madeira Vine (with many nobby tubers ready to fall off and grow into new plants) retrieved during a Little Yabba Park Bushcare Group get-together.



Roving Restorers following up at the Booloumba Creek Hinterland Links launch site.



Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting

ALL EVENTS

Please register at Barung on 5494 3151. For more info, contact Susie Duncan at 5429 6622 or wilderness@hotmail.net.au

ROVING RESTORERS

Wednesday 16 May - Dilkusha, Balmoral Ridge

Join us for a couple of hours' weeding at this scenic property followed by an exploratory walk through magnificent rainforest along the Obi Creek. Car pool at back of IGA carpark in Maleny at 8.30 am or travel independently (call 5429 6622 for directions) for a 9 am start. Bring gloves and secateurs or small loppers if you have them, water, lunch, boots, long-sleeved protective clothing, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent and togs if you wish to swim.

Sunday 10 June - Lyola, Wootha

Join us for a couple of hours weeding at this Voluntary Conservation Agreement property followed by a walk through rainforest along Geraghty Creek. The walk will involve steep slippery grades but there is alternative easier walk close to the weeding site. Car pool at back of IGA carpark in Maleny at 8.30 am or travel independently (call 5429 6622 for directions) for a 9 am start. Bring gloves & weeding tools if you have them, water, lunch, boots, long-sleeved protective clothing, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent and togs if you wish to swim.

HBL WORKSHOPS

Sunday 29 April - Bush Restoration workshop at Laughing Waters, Flaxton

Learn more about restoration, weed management and creating wildlife corridors at a beautiful property on Baxter Creek. The workshop runs from 8.30 am – 12.30 pm. Cost: \$10. Morning tea provided. Bring gloves, water, boots, long-sleeved protective clothing, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent. If you want to explore the property further after the workshop, bring lunch and togs if you wish to swim.

Sunday 13 May - Creating wildlife habitat in your backyard at Treehaven Way, Maleny

Find out how to attract a diverse array of wildlife to a suburban back-yard, from Rose Robins to the rare Three-toed Snake-tooth Skink. The workshop runs from 9 am to 12 pm. Cost: \$5. Morning tea provided. Bring gloves, water, boots, long-sleeved protective clothing, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent.

LITTLE YABBA PARK BUSHCARE GROUP

Friday 4 May, Friday 1 June at Little Yabba Park, Cambrook in the Mary Valley

This group meets on the first Friday of the month at 8 am. Members are actively restoring vegetation along the banks of Little Yabba Creek with Sunshine Coast Council support. We are seeking new members so feel welcome to come along.

RANGE BEES UNDERWAY

by Dianne Clarke

Do you know:

- 80% of our food production depends on bees for pollination?
- between 1500 and 2000 species of native bees occur in Australia and many of them are found in south-east Queensland?

Bees in Australia are enduring loss of habitat, natural and introduced pests and diseases, and chemical and industrial pollution of the environment.

Range Bees is a new group on the Blackall Range for people interested in bees and concerned for the future of pollination of our food crops and the natural environment. Our focus is on the nurturing and management of bees, embracing honeybees, native social stingless bees and native solitary bees, and on providing information, discussion and practical support for people who wish to nurture honeybees and/or native bees on their properties.

We will be holding regular meetings, with themes nominated for discussion at each meeting. We are planning a number of workshops, demonstrations and field trips, including visits to members' bee set-ups, a demonstration of a native social stingless bee hive split, a workshop on building native solitary bee nests and a botanical information field workshop.



*Blue-banded bee
Amegilla pulchra.*



Jim's condominium for solitary bees and wasps.

At our meeting on 25 March, Chingwei Chen, Jim Straker, Peter McMahon and Dianne Clarke were elected as the executive group.

Range Bees is being auspiced by Barung Landcare, as per a Memorandum of Understanding, which is fantastic news. Our groups have a common interest in promoting sustainable land practices.

If you are interested in joining Range Bees, want to be on the email list for upcoming events or want further information, please email rangebees@hotmail.com or contact Dianne on 5478 6706.

THE ART OF BECOMING A 'REVEG GURU'

by Ian Webster, BGuru DipReveg
(Revegging at Flaxton for 9 years)

We have all been through it. The initial euphoria of buying a property with the intention of painting the landscape green (ie revegetating). Experience? None. Knowledge? Even less. Enthusiasm? Bags of it.

And before you can say 'privet', the advice comes in thick and fast from every direction – do this, don't do that, this is the best way, put this here, don't put that there, you're going to do what?!

How can you cope, and more importantly, how can you emerge from this process as a reveg guru? Simple, just follow *my* advice. Happily, I will provide you with the necessary strategies and knowledge to succeed where many others have failed.

In reality, success all comes down to having rat cunning, a dexterous mind, someone to blame, and, most importantly, the ability to convey other people's ideas and practices as your very own! You must start early to build up the aura of potential guru.

Plant Selection: A major problem for novice reveg warriors. So much advice, so much research! To shortcut this tedious and time-consuming endeavour, plant anything and everything! The right plants in the right place are yours and the wrong plants in the wrong area were planted by 'someone else'!

Plant Mortality: You'll get plenty of advice about expected mortality – 10 to 20 per cent of planted tubestock. Wrong! A major step in becoming the respected guru is to insist that all the plants you planted survived because of your 'specialised knowledge'. And the plants that died? Well, they were all planted by 'someone else' who does not have your special gift.

Maintenance: The difference between a guru and 'also rans' is the way you approach the tiresome but very necessary chore of maintenance – watering, weeding, spraying, protecting from animals etc. To become a guru you must have a fool-proof maintenance program that will significantly raise your esteem in the eyes of fellow reveg try-hards. The secret? Proper maintenance comes down to planning – every day you must come up with a list of what has to be done (including what wasn't completed yesterday) and ensure all tools and equipment are ready to use etc. Once the comprehensive list has been completed, you hand it to your partner to carry out.

As drawing up the list has been stressful you go to the local pub for the rest of the day to relieve your stress and skite to other reveg people about how many trees you have planted and how hard you have worked. If the maintenance gets behind it is not your fault, is it? You have done your bit.

The Guru's Compendium: To truly attain the rare distinction of being a 'reveg guru' it is essential to have a 'compendium of answers' (or pearls of wisdom) which can be trotted out to authorities, other reveg enthusiasts and newcomers. Included are:

- 'They' told me to do it.
- Those feral and inappropriate trees were planted by the previous owners of the property.
- My partner wanted those plants.
- The nursery gave me crook plants.

Using these responses to awkward questions or comments with no hesitation, a straight face and forceful delivery will ensure you become the revered and respected 'Reveg Guru'.

It's worked for me. I rest my case.

ROUGH-LEAVED ELM

Aphananthe philippinensis

Family: Cannabaceae (formerly Ulmaceae)

PLANT PROFILE by Wayne Webb

Other common names include Native Elm, Grey Handlewood, Axe-handle Wood, Rough-leaved Hickory and Asbestos Tree.

Aphananthe philippinensis has a dense shapely crown of dark green foliage, and is a small to medium tree of dry and subtropical rainforests. While it may occasionally be seen to 35 m, it is more often found between 10 and 20 m in height. It occurs from the Manning River in New South Wales, north to the Iron Range in northern Queensland, and west to the Bunya Mountains. It also occurs in New Guinea and in the Philippines.

Rough-leaved Elm is a very hardy though slow growing tree. It is often seen along water courses, favouring moist alluvial soils, but is also often seen as a regrowth tree in paddocks and along fence lines, the stiff prickly foliage no doubt deterring cattle from eating it. Trees growing on drier, more elevated sites would reach the lower end of the height range given above. Seedlings are often found coming up under other trees in revegetation sites, the seeds having been brought in by birds.

Older trees have irregular fluted trunks, buttressed at the base. Bark is dark brown, scaly, and shed in irregular patches. Leaves are alternate, with sharply toothed margins (especially on younger trees), with each lateral vein terminating in a sharp thorn-like projection. Leaves are stiff and covered in short stiff hairs which give them a sandpaper-like texture, and are 3–6 cm long.

Separate male and female flowers are carried on the same plant. Small clusters of male flowers are carried in the leaf axils, while female flowers are carried singly, or rarely in pairs, on 5 mm long

stalks arising from the leaf axils. Flowers are creamy-green or pinkish in colour, and are around 5 mm in diameter. The flowering period is September to November.

The fruit, which ripen late summer to autumn, are a fleshy drupe, oval in shape and 6–10 mm long, with a persistent forked style on the apex. Immature fruit are green, turning yellowy-green to yellow as they ripen, and may blacken when fully ripe (if they aren't devoured by birds first). Many species of birds seek out the sweet fleshy fruit, including Satin Bowerbirds, Brown Cuckoo-Doves, Australian King-parrots, and Green Catbirds.

Aphananthe philippinensis is a food plant for the larva of the Common Aeroplane and Rounded Six-line Blue butterflies.

The timber from Rough-leaved Elm is close-grained, hard and creamy-white. It was used in pioneering days for tool handles and other tools and as a lining timber. The poor form and small size of remaining trees means it is rarely used these days.

Propagation of *Aphananthe philippinensis* by seed is relatively easy provided good seed can be obtained. Many trees bear a majority of fruit lacking an embryo in the seed, so it is a good idea to check a few before collecting from a tree. Cut through the seed with a sharp pair of secateurs. There should be a white embryo filling the dark grey seed coat within the fruit. Fruit on a tree will ripen over an extended period of time so a number of trips may be necessary, and remember you will be competing with the birds.



Rough-leaved Elm exhibiting dense growth habit.

Photo: Wayne Webb]

Once collected, the fruit can be mushed up in water to release the seeds. Good seeds will sink to the bottom, whereas seeds without embryos will float. Float off the broken up flesh and dud seeds and rinse the remaining good seeds until clean.

Sow in a seed tray and lightly cover. Some germination should occur in 1–2 months and these seedlings should be pricked out and tubed up as soon as they are big enough. The tray can then be held over winter; you should find another flush of germination occurs as night temperatures warm up in mid to late spring.

LETTERS

To all staff,

Thank you all for your utterly impeccable service.

I wish all staff, their families and loved ones a beautiful, gentle and inspirational New Year of 2012.

Kindest regards, Miss Amelia E Trott.

Dear Wayne,

Could Clare [Sluggett, a Barung volunteer] please have a bonus? Shopping [at the Barung Nursery] is always a great experience when she is in attendance.

Regards, Dianne.

Barung Landcare...



CHECK OUT BARUNG'S DISPLAYS

(and maybe lend a hand if you have time, please) at

SCEC World Environment Day

Sunday 3 June, Sippy Downs

Gardening on the Edge & Arts Festival

Saturday/Sunday 9 and 10 June, Maleny

Sunshine Coast Garden Expo

Friday to Sunday 6, 7, 8 July, Nambour

ANOTHER GARDEN ESCAPE CAUSING PROBLEMS

CONTRACTING NEWS by Joshua Rennie-Hynes

A big hello to all! My name is Joshua Rennie-Hynes and I run one of the Barung Contracting bush regeneration crews.

Weed of the month: Mickey Mouse Plant *Ochna serrulata*

We do a lot of our contracting work weeding alongside creeks throughout the region and this guy is one of the main offenders. The common name is derived from the bright-red sepals and black fruit which together resemble the face of Mickey Mouse. The leaves are up to 5 cm long, narrow and glossy with serrated margins. A South African native, *Ochna serrulata* was introduced into Australia in the early 1900s as a garden ornamental.

It is highly invasive/intrusive, particularly along riparian zones where it can form extremely dense thickets and out-compete native species. The seeds are mainly dispersed by birds and water flow.

Ochna is difficult to remove by hand because it has an angled tap root that snaps easily when pulled, so care must be taken because any part of the root left in the ground will re-shoot.



Red sepals, black mature fruit, and green immature fruit of Mickey Mouse Plant, a common environmental weed. [Photo courtesy of Sydney Weeds Committee]

2nd ROUND GREEN ARMY - 2nd IN NAME NOT BY NATURE

By Kate Brooks

As you may recall last year I wrote a few beaming articles about my first round Green Army team. I am very proud to say that all the participants from that round have moved into further education or permanent work including some work with Barung Contracting Services.

We are now officially half way into our second round and I am loving the progress ‘my boys’ are making! The group dynamic is very different from the first round but the quality of work is still the same. We have been busy throughout the eastern slope of the Blackall Range down into the Mooloolah Valley helping landholders in slip-prone areas to revegetate toward repairing degraded areas. The best part of what we do is seeing the team glowing with pride after finishing a job from start to finish or becoming more passionate about certain topics as they become more environmentally aware.

Here is a text message I received from a landowner whose property we have been working on:

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. You and your team have done an amazing job. Please pass on our thanks – it looks amazing! From Alisha and Mark at Mooloolah Valley.

Well done team!

Just to recap on what the Green Army is all about: The Sunshine Coast FarmFLOW Green Army project is a collaboration between Maroochy Landcare, Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI), Sunshine Coast Regional Council and SEQ Catchments funded by the Australian Government Caring for our Country program. This project is working with rural landholders on the Sunshine Coast to increase the adoption of land and water management practices to create more productive and sustainable landscapes.

The aim of the Green Army initiative is to give job seekers employment and training assistance that is customised to meet their individual needs and to meet the demands of the labour market for a skilled workforce. Over the 15 week period, participants undertake work activities such as weed identification and removal, fencing, planting native flora species, and site maintenance as well as accredited training and certification in several areas. Team members are supplied with nationally recognised training in the form of Chainsaw Handling 1&2, Chemical license (AC/DC), Apply First Aid and Construction Safety White Card.

Victor Kariz, Nathan McIntosh and Daniel Kennedy with Barung Contracting Manager Matthew Bateman after a very successful planting of 580 natives in a day!



MOWING & WELDING AWAY

LANDSBOROUGH NURSERY by Jonathan Waites

The big news at Landsborough is (like everywhere else) rain! And lots of it which makes outside construction work a bit difficult. Fortunately we have a very nice workshop space which (with Wayne's welder) means we can keep dry (fairly) and get some jobs done.

Farewell to Mark Milne, our first starter at the Landsborough nursery for this Green Army round who we've since lost to Troy's National Parks Green Army team. Thanks for your enthusiasm and help over the short time we had you and all the best with your National Parks placement.

Welcome to Brian Boon, our new Green Army participant. Brian, who has a background in building in general and cabinet making in particular, has dived right in. He came up with an easy way to level off the gravel covering the growing out area (much easier than the rake idea that Wayne and I had) and is busy working with volunteer Bob Philpott making up a mouse/rat proof cage to propagate bunyas in safely. Bob generously responded to our plea for a volunteer welding operator in the last edition of the *Barung News*.

The propagation tunnel is really starting to look like one now with 50 odd trays of native seeds on the benches. Bumpy ash *Flindersia schottiana* is already up and we'll soon have Bunya pine *Araucaria bidwillii* on the 'caged' bench.

THANK YOU TO ...

... our volunteer Committee member, volunteer President and volunteer Manager, **Eric Anderson**, for bringing his ride-on mower down to the Landsborough Nursery and mowing our wild acres (in his spare time!)

... **Wayne Webb** for the use of his trailer to transport Eric's mower and to pick up the bench tops from Beerwah

... **Richard Dent** for answering our call in the last *Barung News* for an alternative to our trusty Massey Ferguson tractor and his very generous donation of a pre-loved, modified Wheel Horse ride-on mower

... **Bob Philpott** who responded to our plea for a welder (operator that is) and has been helping us mouse- and rat-proof a bench for propagating plant species susceptible to predation by the aforementioned critters

... **Kerry Chave** for setting up the great window display at the Riverside Centre office promoting the Maleny Wood Expo raffle

... **Rod Castle** and **Wayne Reid** for building and construction help at the Landsborough nursery

... **John Arias** for nursery scales that work!

... all the marvellous people who collect seed to be grown by the Barung nurseries: **Brian and Lyn Ross, Diana O'Connor, Malcolm, Daryl Reinke** and **Craig Hosmer, Garry Johnson** and **Carol Carlisle**, and anyone whose name we didn't catch

... **Jenny Allen** for Blue Quondong *Elaeocarpus angustifolius* seedlings

... **Kate and the Green Army crew** for lots of seed too!

Wayne Webb (right) tending the Landsborough Nursery's first 'babies'.

Bob Philpott (below) assisting with metal work.



Richard Dent (below) donating 'Old Faithful', the Wheel Horse Ride-On, to help us tame our wild grass at the Landsborough Nursery.



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RAINBOW FUNGUS *Trametes versicolor*

FUNGAL FORAY by Gretchen Evans

[Photos: Fran Guard]

If you have found tiers of bracket fungi on an old fence post, it is almost certain to be a rainbow fungus. This is a thin, leathery, fan-shaped fungus. The upper surface (right) has alternating bands of velvet and smooth zones which are many coloured (versicolor). These colours vary immensely possibly due to a pigment response to different light intensities. The bands may be yellow, green, brown, purple or even black. Brackets can be up to 7 cm



wide. In section the tissue is white and the underneath of the bracket (near right) is creamy white and covered in tiny pores.

Rainbow fungus is common and is mainly found on dead wood in a variety of habitats. It is common throughout the world and used medicinally in Japan and China. Because it actively decays wood, it has the potential to be used cleaning up waste products.



NOOSA'S NATIVE PLANTS

BOOK REVIEW by Lin Fairlie

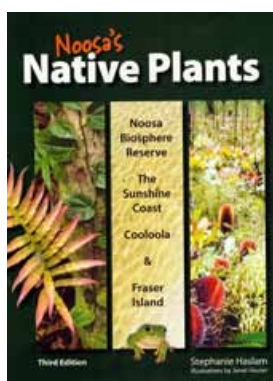
Noosa's Native Plants is an excellent reference book for this area of south-east Queensland, covering rain and eucalypt forests as well as the coastal areas. It contains many beautifully clear colour photos of plants familiar to many of us on the Sunshine Coast.

Whole tree photos, as well as illustrations of bark, leaf arrangements, flowers and seed capsules, all help with the identification of 'gum' trees. The wildflowers photos make this a helpful guide to carry on a wander through the wallum as the book isn't too big or heavy to carry in a backpack.

The book includes a good selection of common local weeds too, but not all of them. The excellent colour photos of fungi, lichens and mosses make it easy to identify specimens.

Congratulations to the Noosa Integrated Catchment Association Inc. for producing this award-winning and very useful book.

This book is quite widely available on the Sunshine Coast, including from Barung where its price is \$40.00.



DOCUMENTARIES

on Sustainable Living, Climate Change & Waste Management
created to educate and enlighten

Available from: www.roninfilms.com.au

WASTE NOT, a film by Ruth Hessey

What keeps a modern metropolis clean and sparkling? How many people think their rubbish simply disappears? Even as we hover on the brink of eco-crisis, an army of truck drivers, scientists, environmentalists, gardeners and even a famous chef are working to transform the mountains of stuff we throw away into something valuable again. The film's goal is to inspire hope, to create that light bulb moment, and motivate people to change the way they think and act.

THE INERTIA TRAP, a film by Kathryn Kelly

Internationally renowned climate scientists give a clear and easy to understand explanation of the changes happening in the world's oceans. They talk about the ocean warming at its surface and in its depths. Northern Europe, the UK and Eastern Canada could become colder rather than warmer if the overturning circulation were to slow, even while temperatures elsewhere continue to rise. The urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is clear.

PROFESSOR WILL STEFFEN

Climate change is real and presents grave dangers for societies globally. This presentation by Professor Will Steffen, Executive Director of the ANU Climate Change Institute, given at the Australian Academy of Science in Canberra on 10 March 2010, provides an easy to understand and comprehensive overview of the climate change issue.

MAGIC HARVEST, a film by Jeni Lee

A documentary about a backyard revolution. Inspired by Lolo Houbein's book, *One Magic Square*, residents in Adelaide's sprawling southern suburbs are being encouraged to create food gardens, one square metre at a time, in their backyards. It's a celebration of getting back to basics – growing, cooking and eating simple seasonal organic food.



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AUSTRALIAN KING-PARROT

RAINFOREST BIRDS OF THE BLACKALL RANGE

by Eric Anderson

The King-parrot is a large, 40–45 cm long, robust, mostly red and green parrot, with a long broad rounded tail. It has a high-pitched piping contact call and a loud penetrating flight-call. It is endemic to eastern Australia from the Atherton Tablelands in north Queensland to the Otway Ranges in Victoria.

The sexes differ markedly. The adult male is bright red on its head, neck and underbody. Its back and rump are dark blue, grading to grey-black on the upper tail feathers. The upper bill is red with a black tip and cutting edge while the lower bill is black with a red base. The eye is yellow and the legs and feet are grey.

The adult female differs from the male by having a dark green head and neck, with an indistinct dull-red wash across the chin, throat and foreneck. The rest of the upper body is the same as the male's, except for the lower rump and upper tail feathers being dark green, grading into the blue of the upper rump and lower back. The bill is grey-black tinged brown on the sides; some have a dull-orange tip on the lower bill. The female's eye is pale yellow to rufous-brown. Immature King-parrots resemble females but can be sexed soon after leaving the nest when the bills of the females quickly darken whilst those of the immature males are of a yellowish colour.

King-parrots are gregarious birds usually found in pairs or small parties. In winter immature birds tend to gather into larger flocks of up to 30 birds and may frequent picnic grounds where food is abundant. They inhabit rainforests, wetter eucalypt woodlands and adjacent open cultivated paddocks and orchards. Normally they are rather wary although they can become very tame where they are regularly provided with food.

Please keep showing your ...

**Barung Community Benefit
Key Tags**

... when shopping at Maleny IGA.

Thanks for showing your support.



*Adult male Australian King-parrot eating apples (top).
Immature male eating cherry tomatoes (above).*

[Photos: Eric Anderson]

Their flight is swift and strong, with deep rhythmic wing-beats. However, when travelling to or from their roost, they weave through trees with rapid twists and sudden turns rather than fly over the canopy.

King-parrots mainly eat seeds, fruits, berries, flowers and nectar. Their staple diet is eucalypt and wattle seeds. Most foraging occurs in the outer branches of fruiting or seeding trees and shrubs, or in nearby disturbed areas, such as along tracks or weedy regrowth round edges of forests. Sometimes King-parrots feed on the ground or in vineyards, orchards or fruit trees in gardens. In our garden they have taken a liking to our cherry tomatoes. They are also not averse to feeding on our apples and peaches when in season. They also feed around barns and stockyards, picking up spilt grain, and often feed at artificial sources of food. They were formerly shot in large numbers because they damaged corn crops.

Breeding occurs mostly from September to January in vertical or near-vertical hollows in the trunks of large eucalypts. The bottom of the hollow may be near ground level and the entrance more than 10 m above. Three to six smooth, white, lustreless, rounded to oval eggs are laid on decayed wood dust at the bottom of the hollow. The female incubates the eggs for only about 20 days, during which time the male feeds the female at regular intervals throughout the day. The young leave the nest about 5 weeks after hatching.

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Riverside Centre, Maleny
and online at

www.barunglandcare.org.au

*Now includes a search facility to
find articles on topics of interest!*

OPPORTUNITIES

EcoFlicks FILM FESTIVAL

Free entry to all amateur filmmakers

Films to be submitted by: 4 May, 4 pm.

Your mission: To captivate, inspire and enthuse the public to take positive action for the environment. Films not to exceed 5 minutes. Maximum of three films per entrant. Films should present an environmental story rated G or PG. Cash prizes for first prize, runner up, Year of the Farmer, student and people's choice.

More info: www.noosariver.com.au or 0417 554 905

BOTANICAL TOURS

with Ashley Sewell

Field tour and practical site-by-site guide to understanding the common regional ecosystems and geology of the Sunshine Coast region. Includes detailed hand-out/reference material. Free for community members, bring your own lunch. Tours are generally held on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Expressions of interest to: Barung Landcare on 5494 3151 – when we have enough people we'll organise a date with Ashley

More information: Ashley Sewell on 0404 859 294.

SCHOOL GARDEN GRANTS

2012 Coles Junior Landcare Grants

For schools, kindergartens, day care centres, youth groups and community looking to start a garden program. Visit www.juniorlandcare.com.au or www.coles.com.au.

Round 2: Closes Friday 4 May, 5 pm (EST)

Round 3: Closes Friday 27 July, 5 pm (EST)

FUNDRAISING BUDDY

Get the latest information on available grants and funding including Garden Grants Program, Small Environmental Grants Scheme, Biodiversity Fund, Telstra Kids Fund and more, from

www.fundraisingbuddy.com.au/html/enews/latestnews.htm

New Members

Chris Kennedy
Morag Gamble
Jody Hegarty
Kym Burnell-Jones
Linda & Greg Vale
Matthew Ryan-Sykes
Noel Gardner
Paula Bailey
Philip Hammond
Kirsten Dance
Martina Gordon
Franz Loors
Hans Erken
Evan & Kay Williams
Rosemary Turnbull
Doug & Ruth Blanch
Michele & Michael Webber

Rejoined Members

Dale Jacobsen & Doug Eaton
David & Judy Paulson
Graeme & Marlene Quick
KS Fizelle
Linda Ivezic & Norman Austin
Paul Deveson
Roger & Jill Winton
Scott Dunbar & Kylie Bell Dunbar
Roslyn Trevillian
Peter & Barbara Lavercombe
Peter Searle
Fuschia & Samara Collard
Jillian Rossiter
David Gray



EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

REVEGETATION & DUTY OF CARE

Saturday 28 April, 9 am – 1 pm (from/to Gympie Landcare)

At Gympie Landcare and on-site at **Moy Pocket**

Ernie Rider, the Gympie Landcare Team and Sally Mackay will explain and demonstrate practical methods of revegetating and of controlling weeds. Free, with morning tea, bus and lunch provided.

Bookings essential: by Friday 27 April to MRCCC on 5482 4766 or mrccc@ozwide.net.au

STATE OF OUR SEA 2012

Thursday 17 May 8.30 am - 4.30 pm, ales & fish tales to 5.30 pm

University of the Sunshine Coast, Sippy Downs

Free public seminar and forum with a range of expert speakers from industry, government and research presenting currently available data on the marine resources in Sunshine Coast waters. Of interest to fishers, divers, tourism operators, coastal managers, researchers and interested community members.

RSVP: by 11 May to Susie Chapman on 5459 4788 or Schapman@seqcatchments.com.au

WEED AND PASTURE MANAGEMENT

Saturday 19 May, 9:30 am – noon, followed by sausage sizzle.

A FarmFLOW workshop at Peachester Hall. Information session to discuss pastures and land management principles.

RSVP: by 8 May to Zane Nicholls 5453 5816 or zane.nicholls@qld.gov.au

2012 QLD LANDCARE CONFERENCE

28–30 June, Brisbane Convention Centre

Jointly hosted by Landcare Queensland and Queensland Water and Land Carers (QWaLC). Prof Tim Flannery to present in the opening sessions. Theme is 'Paddocks, Backyards and Balconies ... Together, Making a Difference'.

More info: www.qldlandcareconference.org.au

QUEENSLAND PEST ANIMAL SYMP 2012

30 July – 2 August, Caloundra

'Adapting pest animal management to a changing world'. Presentations on community initiatives, policy, innovations, research and harvesting techniques. Includes field trip.

More info: www.pestanimalsymposium.com.au

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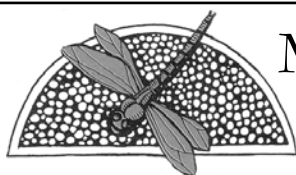
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DONATIONS of \$2 or more are TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.

LOST PROPERTY

from the Bunya Dreaming

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Barung gratefully acknowledges these organisations for their partnerships & support:



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**CARING
FOR
OUR
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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>

BARUNG STAFF

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<i>Jonathan Waites</i>	Projects Officer
<i>Kate Brooks</i>	Green Army Supervisor
<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
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Barung Contracting Services

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