

BARUNG

LANDCARE NEWS

February -
April 2011



WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

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Wootha Prize returns at 2011 MALENY WOOD EXPO

Barung Landcare is delighted to announce that the fourth Wootha Prize will be the feature exhibition at the 2011 Maleny Wood Expo on the 30th April and 1st May at the Maleny Showgrounds. The Expo's aim of promoting sustainable timber use by showcasing the work of the region's finest wood artisans flows over into the Wootha Prize – a woodworking competition with a conscience – with all entries created from sustainably harvested native timbers or recycled timber.

The Expo gives local artisans and producers the opportunity to showcase their products – whether timber slabs, furniture, food products or sustainable lifestyle choices – to thousands of visitors over the Expo weekend. Visitors can see the whole 'wood story' – from purchasing native timber plants and talking farm forestry to mobile milling and the end product, the finished furniture.

But there's more to the Expo than displays ... The Taste Maleny Stage offers time-out and entertainment by a great line-up including that maestro of weird and wonderful instruments, Linsey Pollak, local band Hayden Hack Infusion and many more. New-to-Maleny Russell Anderson is set to wow and delight crowds with his outrageous space-age driveable bubble machine.

And for kids there are jugglers, face-painters, the hay bale maze and loads of other fun stuff.

The Event also offers our local community groups the opportunity to raise much-needed funds through running food outlets.

Steve McLeish, 2011 Expo Coordinator, is still accepting **exhibitor applications** for woodwork, milling, farm forestry and associated timber exhibits, Taste Maleny Produce Store, and Sustainable Living and Natural Resource Management displays. If you or anyone you know is interested in exhibiting, contact Steve on 0428 674 335 or via steve@malenywoodexpo.org.au for an exhibitor application form.

Or if you want to support local landcare and Barung by filling one of the many **volunteer jobs** over the weekend, volunteer forms can be downloaded from www.malenywoodexpo.org.au or talk to Jono Waites on 5494 3151 or jonathan@barunglandcare.org.au

The Expo is Barung's major fundraiser for the year with the surplus going toward keeping the Resource Centre open for our community.



[Photos by Steve Swyane]

IT'S NEARLY WOOD EXPO TIME AND THE CALL IS OUT FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Maleny Wood Expo, organised by Barung Landcare, is on again and to make it happen we need the help of our fantastic members who volunteer each year for the numerous tasks required to get this show on the road.

The Wood Expo is the biggest event of the year for Barung and has continued to grow over the last fourteen years. We are anticipating a twenty percent increase on ticket sales this year as well as an increase in the number of businesses and organisations that will be exhibiting over the May Labour Day weekend (30th April and 1st May 2011).

The main task currently at hand is to recruit and co-ordinate the volunteers that are critical to the event. There are various areas that require your valuable contribution, including supervising parking, cooking the BBQ, selling raffle tickets and more.

Any contribution you can make to your organisation's premier event for the year will (as always) be greatly appreciated. If you are a new member of Barung or a new arrival to the Maleny area, this is a great opportunity for you to get involved in landcare and the local community.

So don't be shy! If you are interested in helping out leading up to the event, on the weekend or packing up afterwards, please contact **Jonathan Waites**, Expo Volunteer Coordinator, at Barung on jonathan@barunglandcare.org.au or **5494 3151**.

Please come in and pick up a **Volunteer Registration form** from the Barung office next to Australia Post or we can email, fax or send one out to you. Encourage a friend/s to volunteer with you for company and support if you need it!



BARUNG COFFEE CART at WOODFORD

by Amelia Ross

After all the stock ordering, site preparation and roster coordination for the 12 hour days, Barung's presence at the 2010/2011 Woodford Folk Festival (WFF) again concluded successfully. More than 2000 cups of coffee were sold with all profits to Barung.

While it was the wettest WFF in years, the Coffee Cart location was relatively dry and well established in Penny Arcade, the only tiled laneway on site! The paved area allowed for camphor laurel tables to be set up under a tarp, providing dry space for customers who could enjoy the security of sitting on a chair that was not about to slip away beneath you, and free from the stench of fermenting mud that pervaded the rest of the festival site.

As the weather improved, more happy coffee customers discovered the Cart

and stayed to enjoy the music talents of Hayden Hack and Wayne Reid.

All this is possible because of the dedication and time Darryl invests in the coffee cart as an avenue for raising funds for Barung. Endless thanks to Darryl and his committed family of volunteers. Tina, Ashleigh, Ben and Alana's help in setting up, operating and packing up the site was critical to our success. Of course, we also greatly appreciate the support of Penny Smith, who co-ordinates the Arti-Arti area and generously includes us there.

Thanks also to the new baristas, Cara, Twilight and Shakti, who turned their hand to our equipment to produce coffees that were, for the second year, reported to be among the best available at WFF.

Even though the last two years of the Coffee Cart stall have proven to be profitable ventures, the Woodford Folk Festival



has yet again proven to be an exhausting and testing event.

Only time will tell if we will invest in being present at the WFF for the third time at the 2011/2012 event.

BARUNG'S MOVES

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Eric Anderson

Welcome to the wet New Year. I thought December was wet at our place at Flaxton with 766 mm but along came January with 866 mm. Fortunately most of us were not greatly affected by flooding although some have experienced damage to land and infrastructure from landslips. Our own complaints are minor, being excessive weed growth in the yard and mould growth in the house. Our thoughts are with everyone affected by these recent weather extremes.

Commonwealth Grant concerns

Midway through last year we at Barung were very excited to have been successful with our Commonwealth Government Jobs Fund 'Sunshine Coast Native Plant and Job Growth Project' application. This project has provided 14 green jobs for local people as well as support for increasing native plant stock and enhancing services from our native plant nursery in Maleny. One of the key milestones in the project was the setting up of our new native plant production nursery on the Maleny Community Precinct (MCP).

By November it became apparent that we had not gained access to our proposed site or commenced work on our new nursery. Consequently the Commonwealth Government became concerned as we were unable to meet milestones specified in the contract. Without further funds we would not have been able to continue the project and provide valued employment in the region.

Opportunity at Landsborough

About this time we became aware of some land at Forestry Road, Landsborough. Ten years ago it was an ostrich farm that had ceased operation and been purchased by Council. On inspection we found sheds and other useful infrastructure that, although somewhat run down, were still structurally sound. The site had the advantages of being nearly flat, having more than enough space to meet Barung's present and future needs for a production nursery and, most importantly, having a land use appropriate for our needs such that the site could potentially be occupied immediately.

The Commonwealth Government was consulted about our intentions and an expression of interest to lease the area was made to Council. Approval to lease the area was passed at the last Council meeting of the year on the 8th of December 2010. The Commonwealth approved the new location for our production nursery and released much needed funds, enabling us to continue.

Where to from here?

Work has begun on developing the new native plant production nursery at Landsborough. It will take some two to three months to prepare the site before we can start to establish the nursery infrastructure, and likely another two to three months before the nursery can be considered operational.

In the medium term (up to 5 years) we hope to transition the existing nursery at the Maleny Community Precinct to a Community Nursery by carrying out nursery functions at both sites while gradually transferring production capacity to the Landsborough site. Once the Landsborough site is fully operational, the MCP site will become a Community Nursery.

Our long term objective (around 5 years) is to be at the MCP on the area provided for us. We still plan to establish an Education & Resource Centre which will include an office for Barung and a plant sales area. Surrounding the Centre we will establish demonstration 'gardens' highlighting significant plant species of the Blackall Range, including those with timber value, bush tucker and medicinal use, and native fauna food species.

Support appreciated

I thank the Barung Committee and Barung staff for their assistance with moving through the last few difficult months. Also thanks to the Council and Commonwealth officers who were always sympathetic to our plight, and willing to explore options that will allow us to continue to provide valued employment for local people and increase our capacity to respond to the demands of Natural Resource Management on the Sunshine Coast.



We're happy to start our vollies young at Barung!

It'll seem no time at all before this little chappy is helping with weeding around the nursery ...

Not willing to wait, he/she has, at this stage, decided to call the Nursery home.



POLYPORUS ARCULARIUS

FUNGAL FORAY by Gretchen Evans

Before all the recent deluges there were not many fungi around, but this polypore was noticeable in eucalypt forests and wilderness gardens growing on small twigs and logs.

Even though it is a delicate-looking fungus it is actually quite tough and leathery when handled. It persists for some time and seems to dry out in dry weather. It looks like a mushroom but instead of gills it has relatively large coffin-shaped pores. The cap, which is up to 5 cm in diameter, has a central depression and appears creamy, like parchment. It is covered with concentric rings of tiny scales and there are fine hairs around the margin. It has a central stalk which is also tough.

It is common and found throughout the world. Most Polypores are saprophytes and use dead wood as their food source. They are extremely important in recycling carbon throughout ecosystems. This particular polypore causes a white rot in wood and will eventually decay the wood completely.

Polypore means many pores (Greek) and *arcularius* comes from the Latin – *arcula* – casket or small box.



Polyporus arcularius.

[Photo by Fran Guard]

MYRTLE RUST ALERT

[Photos courtesy of Biosecurity Queensland]

Myrtle Rust, a serious fungal disease caused by *Uredo rangelii*, affects plants in the Myrtaceae family. This disease can cause deformation of leaves, heavy defoliation of branches, dieback, stunted growth, and plant death.

WE ALL HAVE MYRTACEAE PLANTS on our properties.

This family includes the genres of *Acmena*, *Austromyrtus*, *Backhousia*, *Callistemon*, *Eucalyptus*, *Eugenia*, *Leptospermum*, *Melaleuca*, *Metrosideros*, *Rhodamnia*, *Rhodomyrtus*, *Syzygium*, and *Tristania*.

Myrtle Rust is a reportable plant disease under Queensland legislation. In addition to the potential impact on biodiversity, the disease has the potential to affect a number of Queensland industries including the nursery, cut flower, garden, forestry and bee industries. The rust poses no threat to human health.



What does it look like?

Myrtle Rust appears on the leaves of Myrtaceae species as egg yolk yellow pustules made up of spores. It can be spread by insects, wind, people or other animals or even possibly rain water.

Where is it?

As at 15 March 2011, Myrtle Rust had been confirmed on 51 sites across Queensland, including retail and production nurseries throughout south-east Queensland (including the Gold Coast), a parkland in Noosaville and a retail nursery in Cairns.

Myrtle Rust has been confirmed at several infected sites in and around MALENY.

Myrtle Rust was first discovered in Australia in April 2010 at a cut-flower nursery in New South Wales, and has since been confirmed on more than 140 properties, including in bushland, in that state.

How will Myrtle Rust be managed?

It has been nationally agreed that it is not possible to eradicate Myrtle Rust from Australia.

However, due to the potentially serious impacts of Myrtle Rust, Biosecurity Queensland is taking action to slow the spread of the disease. This includes removing infected and highly susceptible plants, and applying fungicide treatments and other control measures as appropriate.

What to do?

- Periodically inspect Myrtaceae species on your property for signs of the rust.
- IF YOU FIND THE RUST, contact Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 and you will be advised of the appropriate actions to take.
- DO NOT touch or attempt to move infected material or carry it around to show other people, and DEFINITELY do NOT take it to a nursery for identification!

More information on Myrtle Rust and Biosecurity Queensland's response is available at

http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/4790_19788.htm



VOLUNTEERS needed to SELL RAFFLE TICKETS, please

by Amelia Ross

The Maleny Wood Expo is approaching and organising the details is well underway. Every year, a dedicated team of volunteers has co-ordinated the Raffle in the lead up to the Expo weekend.

I am seeking volunteers to assist with selling tickets during the months leading up to the Wood Expo. The Resource Centre, being located next to the Post Office, proved to be a great spot for selling raffle tickets last year.

The magnificent four poster bed, hand crafted by Richard Knight, in Barung's front window is the first prize in the raffle. This eye-catching prize will certainly help to sell tickets.

If any members are available to volunteer to sell tickets out the front of the Resource Centre during March and April, please contact Amelia on 0457 285 460 or in the office on 5494 3151.

Thank you to Raine See for co-ordinating the raffle last year. Our thoughts are with Raine at this time as she assists family in Toowoomba affected by the floods.



A Richard Knight bed.

[Photo by Steve Swayne]

FERAL FRUIT TREES

THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN by Joan Dillon

I grow a wide range of sub-tropical fruit trees and have suspected that some have the potential to become feral. The Acerola or Barbados cherry *Malpighia glabra* is a rather stiff but dense shrub with small pink flowers and bright red cherry-sized fruit which is eaten raw. Fortunately it lends itself to hedging so can be grown under netting to prevent birds from spreading the seed. The same applies to the Brazilian or Surinam cherry *Eugenia uniflora* which has bright to dark red ribbed fruit. This one has become naturalised in many sub-tropical and tropical countries and is regarded as a weed.

Grumichama *Eugenia brasiliensis* is a small tree and member of the Myrtaceae family with very attractive white flowers. These are followed by delicious cherry-size black fruit, also eaten raw and usually containing more than one seed. The fruit are popular with birds which also of course spread the seeds. Grumichama seeds germinate readily. My trees are still young and will have to be pruned to keep them to a manageable size so that all fruit can be picked. The birds will inevitably get some but at least the potential damage can be limited.

The common names of the above three are confusing as they all come from the same part of the world. Googling by botanical name will sort them out.

Another on my list is the Black Sapote or Chocolate Pudding Fruit *Diospyros digyna*. This is a large tree which drops the ripe fruit if you don't get there first. These should be collected and disposed of safely as each generally contains five to six large and very viable seeds. A whole clump of seedlings was spotted recently in the shade of a fig. They had possibly been carried there by turkeys or something small and furry.

Guavas have always been a problem both because of their feral tendencies and because they harbour fruit fly. The common guava is found in bushland throughout our region. Grow cherry (strawberry) guavas instead as they are smaller and therefore more easily netted. Very pleasant raw or as a conserve.

Other trees are being monitored and so far all is well. A large jackfruit has become too tall for harvesting but no seedlings have been detected and the fruit falls in a large heap thus allowing the seed to be collected.

Anything in the blackberry family e.g. boysenberries, will spread by suckering so make sure all shoots other than those you wish to bear fruit are regularly brush-cut, slashed, and generally not allowed to get away. Arching canes root from the tips so keep them off the ground.

There's plenty of fruit to be enjoyed. Just be vigilant in keeping a watch for feral seedlings. We have more than enough weeds already!



Grumichama.

[Photo by John Dillon]

Bunya Dreaming 2011

by Bev Hand

Constance Petrie wrote in her book, *Tom Petrie's Reminiscences of Early Queensland...*

"These gatherings were really like huge picnics..."

Due to the weather I didn't get all my message sticks out like I usually do, and some were sent out by snail mail. This worried me ... Would people think they weren't invited? Too, I had my doubting Thomases thinking it would be a wash out ... Well, the weather was just right all day ... a little overcast and windy in the middle of the day with a mildly sunny afternoon.

I did it, I held the Bunya Dreaming for the fifth year and I think I can say Bunya Dreaming 2011 was the most successful yet with over 500 people attending throughout the day. **SEQ Water** were happy to provide the venue and helped out a lot on the day. Bunya Dreaming received funding from the **Sunshine Coast Regional Council**, the **Kabi Kabi Peoples Trust** and **Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group**.

Thanks to **Amanda**, **Terri-Anne** and **Karin**, everyone was welcomed with broad smiles when they signed in to the event. These women had some relief throughout the day but most of their time was in the Welcome Tent. Their helpful, happy nature set a good tone for the rest of the event. Once again the Maleny Neighbourhood Centre took care of the catering for us; they are always there to provide catering for the day and I can't thank them enough.

Clare Cox, **Gretchen Evans** and **Tracy Adams** were great with the challenge coordination. They were organised and diligent workers catching a break here and there where possible. My husband, Michael, didn't make it along this year to help coordinate the challenges so eldest son **Daniel Hand** stepped up to the plate with any help I needed. He became chief time keeper.

Dale Chapman from **The Dilly Bag** held some workshops to demonstrate the versatility of the bushfood industry. When judging the Cooking Challenge, Dale was accompanied by **Aunty Lurlene Henderson** and guest **Peter Wolfe**. There were so many delicious entries in challenge this year it was hard for them to choose a winner but in the end the winner was **Alana Mason**. The cooking challenge keeps getting bigger and better each year ... hmmm ... I might have to extend their area.

Bunya Dreaming friends **Rhonda Wauchope** and **Rosemary Bower** manned the First Aid stand. Rhonda brought some of her **Queensland Health** team along. It was comforting to know they were there all day. The First Aid team kindly accepted the invitation to judge the Story Telling Challenge. It is good to have started a relationship with Queensland Health and I hope that with their assistance we can develop a bush medicine knowledge bank.

On the music side, last year I worked with the **'Women Out Front'** and some female **Indigenous students from Nambour State High School**. Together we learnt a song my great grandfather wrote down, 'Springtime in the Rockies' but in our language, Kabi Kabi. We had some of the girls come along on the day to sing with me and the 'Women Out Front'. They got shy and only two joined us but other audience members got up and sang with us. It was fantastic for me to share that song with all present.

Last year's winner of the Maton Bunya guitar brought it back this year. **Eliza** showed us that she had been a good custodian and performed some of the songs that she created on the Bunya guitar. Bunya Dreaming friends **Dave Kirby** and De Greer helped Eliza judge the play off and handed the guitar over to this year's winner **Lilly Delmas**. I am so proud of the journey that Eliza took with the guitar. She went to the Maton factory and worked with a luthier. As well Eliza has been composing and recording songs and recording her journey throughout the year. This is all being put together under the mentorship of **De Greer Yindimincarlie** ... (Google her). So we will be having a launch of the documentary and the CD they have made.

All the challenges were hotly contested this year and sponsorship for the prizes came from **Barung Landcare**, **Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group**, **University of the Sunshine Coast**, **Interactive Community Planning**, **Sunshine Coast Regional Council**, **Hand E Seeds**, **Kabi Kabi Peoples Trust**, **De Greer Yindimincarlie**, and **The Dilly Bag**. This year all the teams were ready to take on **Brush Turkey** and take out the Bunya Dream Team Trophy. There were only a couple of points between first second, third, and fourth. In the end it was visiting team **Goanna** who won.

Continued on next page...





Before I finish though I would like to thank **Steve McLeish** and **Jonathan Waites** for all their assistance and support all day. Three cheers for these jolly good men: Hooray! Hooray! Hooray!

Finally the day ended with a corroboree with **Gubbi Gubbi Lyndon** and **Brent** and other **Kabi Kabi family and friends**. It was a particularly special occasion for me as it was the first time my eldest son danced. I felt so proud of him and my eldest daughter dancing together for an important event. Local artist **Kris Martin** brought back the emu and kangaroo this year. With the help of Lyndon and Brent, **Kris and James Muller** put a digital display on sails at the end of the event.

SEEDING IN EARLY 2011

SEED NOTES by Diana O'Connor

This dramatically unusual season with consistently high rainfall over many months has led to some interesting responses in the flowering and fruiting of some of our rainforest species.

In 2010, a **Black Booyong** *Argyrodendron actinophyllum* along the Montville-Flaxton road was in heavy flower in February and March. This is a high altitude species, common at O'Reilly's/ Green Mountains area. The tree seeded prolifically in October – more than 3000 seeds were collected from it. In contrast, a **White Booyong** *Argyrodendron trifoliatum* (one of the main emergent species in Mary Cairncross Reserve) that grows a kilometre up the road failed to seed at all, even though it had fruited well in the previous year. Likewise, specimens of **Native Tamarind** *Diploglottis australis* and **Red Apple** *Acmena ingens* that fruited heavily in the 2009–2010 season had virtually no fruit this season despite the good rain.

Guioa *Guioa semiglauc*, a useful, fairly fast growing, sun-tolerant species, flowered prolifically this spring and set good fruits. However, the very wet December has caused most of the trees up on the Range to abort their fruit. Those lower down the Range that got less rain and had good drainage held their fruit and have matured some weeks later than last year.



There is a lovely strong-green, glossy-leaved tree at the beginning of the Flaxton Walkers' Camp section of The Great Walk; Bill McDonald identified it as **Rose Maple** *Cryptocarya onoprienkoana*, here at its southern-most limit. It had not flowered since at least 2004, but this spring it flowered beautifully and set some fruit. However, like the Guioa, it has aborted many of its fruit. Whether this is due to insect predation or the very wet weather is unknown.

When the ground is water-logged, it holds very little oxygen for the roots of plants. Most rainforest species have superficial root systems and are of course adapted to wet conditions. However this very wet time may have stimulated many trees to abort fruit to save themselves. Young plants with less well developed roots may be more at risk of water-logging.

In the coming period, the prickly-covered capsules of **Yellow Carabeen** *Sloanea woollsii* will mature and split open, revealing the red and black fruits inside (see photo below left). At the Barung Nursery we value this if you find it.

Bumpy Ash *Flindersia schottiana* (used in the main street of Nambour as it flowers beautifully) is ripening about now, as is **Bleeding Heart** *Homolanthus populifolius* syn. *nutans* (photo below). Later in this quarter **Red Bean** *Dysoxylum mollissimum* will open its fruits. **White Ash** *Alphitonia petriei* also fruits about February.

[Photos by Eric Anderson]



BROWN THORNBILL

RAINFOREST BIRDS by Eric Anderson

Brown Thornbills are characteristically restless, active and noisy, often first attracting attention by their buzzing contact calls and brief musical warbling song as they move from tree to tree in short jerky undulating flights. Predominantly insectivorous, although occasionally eating seeds, fruit and nectar, Brown Thornbills forage mainly in the dense understorey and mid-storey, and less often in the canopy or on the ground.

These birds are accomplished mimics, mixing calls of many species with their own calls, and uttering the whole in a very soft and more or less continuous song. The Brown Thornbill is known to mimic Eastern Yellow Robin, Superb Fairy-wren, Eastern Rosella, Brown Treecreeper, Golden Whistler, Grey Fantail, Grey Shrike-thrush, Rufous Whistler and Crimson Rosella.

The Brown Thornbill is a small 10 cm long bird that is warm brown to olive-brown above and with olive-buff to yellowish-white flanks. It has a fine 'thorn-like' black or grey-black bill and distinctive rufous scallops on the forehead, a large dark red to reddish-brown eye and dark arrow-streaks on a grey throat and breast. Its rump and tail-base is chestnut and the tail is grey-brown with a blackish subterminal band and paler tips. Its legs and feet are grey-black to flesh-brown or purple-brown. The sexes are alike. Juveniles are very similar to adults, differing in that newly fledged birds have softer, looser and fluffier plumage.



Brown Thornbills occupy a wide variety of habitats from the coast to high elevations, including wet and dry sclerophyll forests, woodlands, shrublands, heathlands and rainforests, and dense riparian vegetation, mainly in temperate and subtropical zones, but extending into tropical zones. They are endemic to south-east and southern Australia from about Proserpine in north Queensland to Yorke Peninsula and Kangaroo Island in South Australia.

Breeding occurs from June/July to December/January. The small rounded-oval domed nest has a partly hooded entrance near the top. The outside is made of coarse grasses, shreds and strips of bark, leaves, lichen, moss, pieces of bracken, wool, spider web, all matted together and lined with feathers, hair, fur, and wool. The nest is located on or near the ground and mostly in or near shrubs, grass tussocks, sedges or ferns. Two to four, usually three, oval eggs are laid. They are glossy white and are finely freckled with dull red and pale reddish-brown, mainly at the large end.

Pair bonds among Brown Thornbills are long term and divorce is rare. Only the female incubates the eggs (17–20 days) and she alone broods the nestlings for up to 6 days after hatching. However both sexes contribute equally to feeding the nestlings and fledglings. The young, who fly at 15–16 days, are dependent on their parents for about six weeks after fledging but continue to beg sporadically and to be fed infrequently for at least eight weeks.

The nests of the Brown Thornbills are known to be parasitised by Horsfield's, Shining Bronze and Fan-tailed Cuckoos.

THE BIRDS AND THE BEES...AND THE FLYING FOXES

Reprinted from BMRG Natural Matters Edition 25

For eons it has been believed that the 'birds and the bees' were responsible for keeping our productive eucalypt dominated forests healthy. However, a PhD thesis that is finally seeing the light of day is turning this long held belief on its head.

Spending days and nights over 2 years on scaffolding and up cherry pickers, PhD student Petrina Birt studied the flowers of several trees that were of economic significance to both timber and apiculture industries in south-east and central Queensland.

Tree species studied included Spotted Gum *Corymbia citriodora*, Large-leaved Spotted Gum *C. henryi*, Moreton Bay Ash *C. tessellaris*, Narrow-leaved Ironbark *Eucalyptus crebra*, and Forest Red Gum *E. tereticornis*.

Petrina focused the tree analysis aspects of her PhD on floral structure, namely temporal patterns of anthesis (flower opening), pollen shedding and nectar secretion.

She found that pollen production was far greater between 7 pm and 7 am than during the day, peaking at 1 am. Likewise the volume of nectar collected showed nectar production significantly occurring by 7 pm, peaking at 1 am and decreasing by 7 am.

In all of her surveys, the principle nocturnal mammal Petrina encountered feeding on the subject trees were the Little Red Flying Fox, the Grey-Headed Flying Fox and Black Flying Fox – all known for their love of pollen and nectar, their thick fur that pollen attaches to, and their ability to travel significant distances (up to 100 km per night) in search of food.

Given the strong preference our region's *Corymbias* and *Eucalypts* have for cross-pollination (ie genetic distance between pollen donor and recipient) and the nature of our three resident large flying foxes to move large quantities of pollen on their fur over extended distances, the study points to flying foxes being critical in maintaining the genetic health of our productive forests and being the main player in doing so.

STOCKED UP AND HEALTHY

NURSERY NOTES by Dawn Worthington

What a welcome 2011 has given us! As the poem says, 'a land of drought and flooding rain', and never a truer word has been penned. Our heartfelt thoughts go to ALL those affected by the floods from Rockhampton through to south-western Victoria. Many people in the Mary Valley have been affected and we wish them well with their recovery processes.

Despite some rumours, Barung is not moving from Maleny! The production portion of our Landcare group is looking to base ourselves at a site in Landsborough, while the Resource Centre – with a Retail Nursery – will still be situated within the Maleny Community Precinct. The Landsborough site offers us the opportunity to expand our operations. The new site is on level ground, affords us more room, and is in a great location for wholesale purposes. In the interim, we will continue to grow plants and offer farm gate sales at the existing site at Porters Lane.

With all this gorgeous rain, the stock at the nursery is looking fantastic. We have a large range of species available and ready to be placed into the ground.

- In conjunction with our George Street Nursery at Caloundra I have managed to get some **Eucalyptus** species in stock, so you can get koala-friendly plants to put into your gardens or revegetation sites.
- Our stocks of **butterfly and bird-friendly plants** are also good at the moment.
- At last we have some **Midyim Austromyrtus dulcis**, a low-growing bush tucker plant that's ideal for the home garden.
- We also have **Spear Lily Doryanthes palmeri** with its magnificent spear flower that can reach a height of 3 to 4 metres.
- Come and get a **Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Vine** to encourage Richmond Birdwing Butterflies to visit you. Last week we had the most amazing male specimen flying around the nursery; when the sun hit his wings the colours were quite breathtaking.

Remember that we always welcome seed from your properties. Without this resource one of Barung's most important objectives would not be upheld, which is to collect seed from local provenance species. (Continued next column ...)

SUPPORT Barung Landcare through YOUR BUSINESS

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

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

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

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

Forms are available from
the Barung Landcare Office.

We are chasing any seeds you may have of Bunya *Araucaria bidwillii* for propagation as our stock numbers are getting a bit low.

After the bumper crop last year, there is quite a light crop this year. We are particularly after Blue Lillypilly *Syzygium oleosum*, Python Tree *Gossia bidwillii* and Bumpy Ash *Flindersia schottiana*.

Keep safe, and continue to keep dry. We look forward to seeing you at the Barung Nursery.

THANK YOU TO ...

Firstly, a huge thanks to all those who assisted me while Wayne was away on holidays – to the people manning the till while I had to go to the office, to those who used their own cars to transport plants, foam boxes, and get the milk and so forth. Gosh, we make a great team!

Secondly, I must mention the Xmas feast that we had at the Nursery during the Christmas Eve week. We experienced culinary delights from **Clare Sluggett**, **Ruth Blanch**, **Jenny Checker** and **yours truly**. What a start to the celebrations. Sorry if I have forgotten anyone – it isn't intentional!

A special thanks to **Tina Lathouris** and **Pat Fuller** who put in a lot of effort for the end of year celebrations at the Community Centre, a job well done.

... **Kerry Sluggett** for his occasional but very important visits. Kerry always assists us with plant relocations.

... **Noel Law** and **Doug Blanch** for their foam box collections and water monitoring prowess. A special mention to Doug Blanch for his unending desire to rid the nursery of weeds and his continued efforts with keeping the grass mowed, placed raked and generally looking great.

... **Alan Bannister** for his continuing effort with the outdoor furniture. The weather has been very unkind to him during this time – have you ever tried to dry varnish in this weather!

... **Clare Sluggett** and **Ruth Blanch** for the culinary delights that they appear with at random times of the week.

... all our seed collectors who continue to do a fabulous job – **Diana O'Connor**, **Deanne Grace**, **Matthew Bateman**, **Gretchen Evans**, **Doug Blanch**, **Noel Law** and many others.

Have you found your MEMBERS AREA on the Barung Website?

At www.barunglandcare.org.au, you can:

- * pay your membership
- * make a donation
- * update your details
- * register your interest in Barung activities *

Log in with your email address or email
info@barunglandcare.org.au for more info.

PLANT CREDIT PROGRAM

As a Barung member, with \$250 you can set up a Plant Credit at the Barung Nursery that gives you a discount of 25% on tubestock, megatubes and some more advanced stock. You can take the plants as needed, subject to availability. More info from Wayne or Dawn in the Nursery.

CELERYWOOD

Polyscias elegans

Family: *Araliaceae*

PLANT PROFILE By Wayne Webb

Celerywood is a fast growing small to medium sized tree occurring in most rainforest types, and also in vine scrub, coastal dune systems and sheltered areas of rocky headlands. It ranges from Jervis Bay, NSW to Thursday Island in north Queensland.

Crushed leaves and scrapped bark have a smell resembling celery, hence the common name of Celerywood.

It reaches its best development in secondary rainforest on volcanic soils where it may grow to 30 m with an open umbrella-shaped crown. On poorer soils it seldom reaches more than 10 m. Saplings are often unbranched with a crown of large bipinnate leaves to 1 m long. Each leaf may carry up to 55 leaflets. The rachis, or central 'stem', of the leaf has a swelling at each joint.

Flowering generally occurs around February to April. Each flower is small (approximately 6 mm diameter) with five dark purple petals and five contrasting cream stamens. Flowers are carried in racemes on large much-branched terminal panicles. The flattened purplish-brown to black fruit are succulent with two lobes, each with a persistent style at the top. Each lobe contains a single elongated seed around 5 mm long.

Fruit ripen late autumn to winter, and are sought after by many bird species including the various fruit doves, Green Catbird and Paradise Riflebird. *Polyscias elegans* is a larval food plant for the Dark Pencilled-blue butterfly.

Celerywood is one of those species often seen recolonising disturbed areas of the rainforest. Its fast growth rate allows it to reach for the sky and plug holes in the canopy caused by fallen trees; slower growing species are able to follow on in its relatively light shade. These slower species may eventually overtake the Celerywood, causing its demise. These attributes make *Polyscias elegans* an ideal species to include in rainforest revegetation projects where it can quickly provide protection for other softer, slower growing species, as well as rapidly providing tangible evidence for all your hard work. Producing fruit at a relatively young age, Celerywood attracts birds which carry in seeds of other rainforest plants, contributing to species enrichment. It is moderately frost hardy and sun tolerant.

Polyscias elegans.

[Photo by
Wayne Webb]



Polyscias elegans produces a large number of seeds but often many are not viable, having no embryo within the seed coat. This can vary from tree to tree so it is advisable to cut open a number of seeds and check before collecting for propagation – some trees just aren't worth collecting from. The fruit is carried high up in the canopy so it is usually necessary to wait for the mature fruit to fall to the ground. Sections of the flowering panicle often fall with many fruit attached, making for easy gathering. Otherwise it may be possible to rake up fallen fruit from a pathway.

The fruit should be soaked in a tub of water for two or three weeks, then strained through a fine sieve. Rinse and rub the fruit gently over the sieve to remove the flesh. Replace in a tub of water and gently pour off the floating seeds and flesh – the viable seed will sink to the bottom. Seed can then be mixed with a little dry sand or perlite (be careful of the dust), spread evenly over a seed tray, and covered lightly. Germination may start in around three months, but will continue over several months. It is best to carefully remove and tube up seedlings as soon as they are big enough to handle – about 15 mm high.

In the timber trade *Polyscias elegans* is known as Silver Basswood. Its white wood, mottled with pale brown, is soft and fine grained, and has been used for violin bridges among other things.

ECO-FIT AUSTRALIA SUPPORTS BARUNG

by Amelia Ross

Barung would like to thank Ross Smith of Eco-Fit Australia for including Barung in his Community Group Sustainability Fundraising Drives. Ross has so far donated over \$400 to Barung. Ross had an exhibitor stall at last year's Wood Expo and decided Barung is a community group he wants to help out.

Eco-Fit Australia assists local community groups in applying for federal grants that enable these groups to install solar grid-connected power or solar water at no cost to the group. Eco-Fit Australia also provides Sustainability Declarations or Checks to assist people selling or buying properties, and advises on solar hot water and solar grid-connected power installations.

Ross Smith at **Eco-Fit Australia** can be reached on **5494 7110** or **0419 669 175** or through www.eco-fit.com.au

BARUNG WELCOMES...

New Members

Liam & Sharon Batista
Rob & Chris Braun
Jenny Bryant
Patricia Cranney
Crispian Dawes
Flaxman Edward
Janene McCarthy
Paul Williamson
Rod Wilson

Rejoined Members

Laura Adler & Robin Branch
Rob & Liz Antcliff
Peter & Meg Creasy
Bob Eather
Linda Ivezic & Norman Austin
Bill & Diane Phillips
Jan & Mariska Postma
Graeme & Marlene Quick

Barung Landcare...



WHO AM I AND ...

SUSIE DUNCAN'S WILDLIFE QUIZ

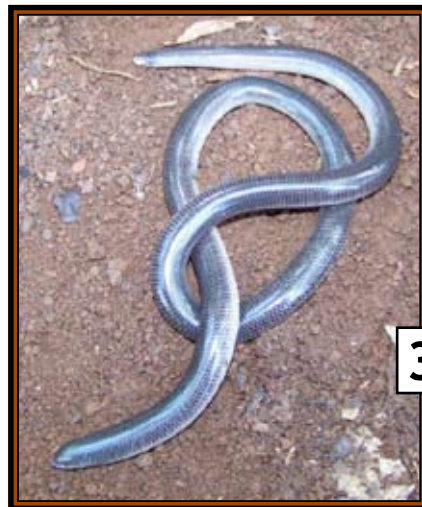
Can you identify each of these animals and answer their questions?



1. What do I eat? (I live in the Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve.)

2. Where do I find my food?

4. Where in the forest are you most likely to find me?



3. What sort of invertebrates do I eat?

5. What do I eat? (Hint: it's one of the other species in this quiz.)



6. What call do I make?



5. What do I feed on? (You may find me beside a pool along Gheerulla Creek.)

ANSWERS
are on
page 13.

Photo acknowledgements:

Susie Duncan (1, 2, 5, 7)
Tony Bright/AWC (3, 4, 6)

GREEN ARMY PROGRAM SUCCESS

by Amelia Ross

The Green Army program has once again proven a success. Benoit Levesque's three month placement at the Barung Resource Centre finished in December. The Barung team got so accustomed to having Benoit around that Matt has found him a part-time position in the contracting team. We hope that Barung Contracting Services are taking plenty of service bookings to keep all the workers busy and fully engaged...

Andrew Robertson was placed at the Nursery for the same three month period. Edith Ann, from the Hinterland Business Centre, has told me Andrew has been out and about applying for jobs with new confidence in himself as a worker. It is great to see the changes and benefits that people can enjoy after such a short period of working with the fantastic team at the Nursery. All the best to Andrew with the job hunting...

Joel McLune, a Green Army worker placed with Parks and Wildlife, also experienced success by gaining a period of paid employment following the program.

The next round of Green Army placements were interviewed in late January to start with us in mid-February.

It is planned that the two new workers will assist with developing the nursery site at Landsborough (see the President's article). During their placement they will be learning about seed stock and propagation for the recovery of vegetation that was lost during the floods.

We look forward to welcoming these new Green Army employees!

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SATURDAY (until Xmas)

8:30 am - 12:00 pm

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9 George Street, Caloundra

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TUESDAY, THURSDAY

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

WILDLIFE IN TIMES OF FLOOD

WILDLIFE WANDERINGS by Susie Duncan

Our Australian wildlife has evolved alongside bushfires and floods, so it has some resilience to these events. For example the flooding of the Channel Country rivers of inland Queensland over the past two years has been a boon for frogs, fish and wetland birds. These animals breed prolifically in the wet years and lay low or disperse to more productive habitat in the dry years. So floods are generally viewed as favourable to the environment.

Good rains also bring prolific growth and reproduction in south-eastern Queensland, but this landscape has changed radically over the past 200 years compared with the inland. A lot of vegetation has been cleared or fragmented and big chunks of land have been urbanised. This means that many wildlife species are much rarer than in pre-European times so any losses of individuals in floods has a greater impact on the survival of a species.

Floodwaters tend to move faster in areas where there is little vegetation cover and ground litter to slow run-off, or where urban surfaces have been hardened. Both people and wildlife are more vulnerable to these fast-moving flood events. Vast quantities of sediment are washed away because the vegetation cloak has been removed in many areas.

This not only takes away precious nutrients from upland areas but it also chokes fauna living in streams, wetlands, estuaries and bays. The bottom-dwellers in these environments will suffer most as the sediment gradually drops out of suspension. Climate change may also be exacerbating both flood and fire intensities which will inevitably take a more serious toll on some of our wildlife.

So what do we do about this?

The obvious thing is to plant, plant, plant with our local indigenous species. We can also fence off creeks from livestock and provide off-stream watering points to lower the infiltration of silt into the streams. We can fence off vegetation remnants and adjacent cleared areas to encourage natural regeneration. Weed management also helps the local plants and animals to re-establish. And with a bit of planning we can create wildlife corridors as webs across the landscape to link up remnant bush.

These actions will create habitat, reduce soil loss, and slow water run-off. They will also mitigate the effects of climate change.

So don't hesitate, these are valuable contributions that you can make toward a better world for wildlife and people.



Obi Obi Creek in flood.

[Photo by Darryl Ebenezer]

IN TOUCH WITH LOCAL PLANTS

BOOK REVIEWS by Pam Watson

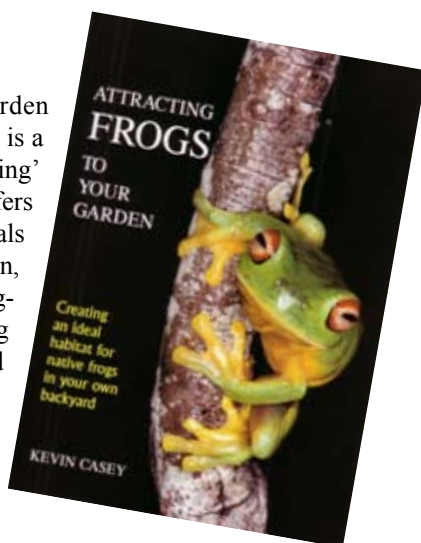
Attracting Frogs to Your Garden

By Kevin Casey

(1996, reprinted 2010)

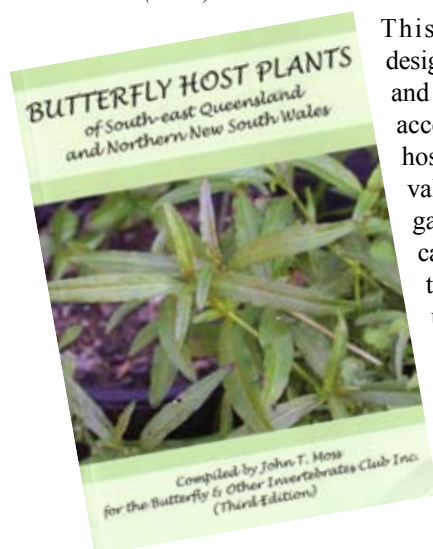
Creating a frog-friendly garden is easy and fun and this book is a complete guide to 'frog-scaping' your garden or property. It offers practical advice on the essentials of enjoying frogs in your garden, including raising tadpoles, frog-friendly plants, constructing frog ponds, handling eggs and raising tadpoles, which plants are beneficial and simple tips to assist you in frog identification. To avoid confusion when a particular species of frog is mentioned, both the scientific name and the common name have been used. Descriptions of the methods used to create frog habitats have been kept simple and straightforward so that they can be put into practice immediately by anyone. Includes advice on attracting other wildlife, a short chapter on frog photography and suggested further reading.

Black and white photos throughout. Soft, cover, 135 pages, \$25



Butterfly Host Plants of South-east Queensland and Northern NSW

Compiled by John Moss for the Butterfly and Other Invertebrates Club Inc (2002)



This publication has been designed to enable both amateurs and the more serious to quickly access information on the local host plants of butterflies. It is a valuable resource for suburban gardeners, nurserymen, land-care and revegetation workers to identify plants that will be useful for increasing general butterfly diversity or to attract specific butterflies to a site. There are no photographs; illustrations are cross-referenced to nine other publications which include popular field

guides to plants. Part A is the Plant List and

Part B is an alphabetical Butterfly List ordered by common name with their host plants.

Soft cover, 80 pages, \$12.50

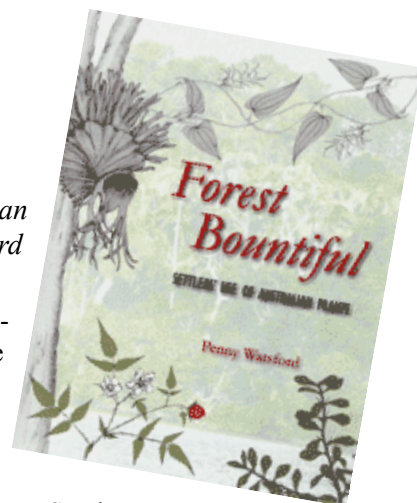
Forest Bountiful

Settlers' Use of Australian Plants by Penny Watsford (2010)

This fascinating publication documents how native shrubs, vines, ferns, wild-flowers, grasses, orchids and herbs were used by early settler families. The area covers north-eastern New South Wales (the Tweed Valley and surrounding areas) and south-eastern Queensland from the 1840s to the 1950s. Topics are diverse: household furnishings and implements (lawyer vine for baskets for laundry, shopping and fishing, stools from supple jack, mattresses from blady grass) bark shelters, remedies for humans and animals (bracken fern for ant bite), plants for fodder, tanning and walking sticks, and more.

Throughout are plant lists (Latin and common names) with uses, excellent line drawings and wonderful period black and white photographs. Well referenced, with an index and two maps, this little book would make a valuable addition to the shelves of historical societies, the local history/plant buff as well as the merely curious.

Soft cover, 130 pages, \$25.00, available by order from Barung.



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CYCLONE YASI

CASSOWARY APPEAL

In the wake of Cyclone Yasi, Rainforest Rescue with Bob Irwin, Qld National Parks and local Mission Beach conservationists have launched a campaign to save the remaining Cassowary population in Mission Beach.

The category five cyclone has destroyed the Cassowaries' essential rainforest habitat. These big rainforest birds survive on native fruit, and with the forest so severely damaged by the huge storm, their natural food supply has almost disappeared.

After Cyclone Larry, many Mission Beach Cassowaries died of starvation or were killed by cars or dogs as they came out of the cyclone-stripped forest to search for food.

Your donations will help to feed the cassowaries NOW (fruit is being distributed to feed stations within the forest) and plant trees to feed them in the future.

*To donate, and for more info on
Rainforest Rescue campaigns:*

www.rainforestrescue.org.au

The Barung Bookshop

Riverside Centre, Maleny

Books, CDs, & gift ideas

www.barunglandcare.org.au/publications1.html

Noosa Festival of Water

Noosa Botanic Gardens

Sunday 26 June, 10 am until 3 pm

The Festival will again celebrate the Noosa Biosphere and Green June on the Sunshine Coast, incorporating all of the activities from previous years and more! Additional sponsorship is being sought to increase the level of advertising with the aim of boosting attendance.

For more information or to register your interest in participating:

Deb Seal for **Lake Macdonald Catchment Care Group**

c/o MRCCC on 5482 4766 or mrccc@ozwide.net.au



Communities for a Sustainable Future Conference: A Dialogue

hosted by Noosa Biosphere

24th - 27th July 2011, Noosa

A conference to challenge community thought leaders, businesses, policy-makers and other attendees to join the dialogue to develop enduring change, enabling their community's adaptation to challenges as they arise, and to enjoy Sustainable Futures. The program will deliver renowned international and national keynote speakers, concurrent sessions, panel discussions and field trips.

For more information, to submit an abstract, or to register an interest in sponsorship or display space:

www.astmanagement.com.au/csf2011/

RESOURCES

ADVENTURE CONSERVATION AUSTRALIA on FACEBOOK

Adventure Conservation gives Australian volunteers the opportunity to try something different or a little more adventurous while visiting regional Australia as part of the Landcare family, and through their volunteering get access to places not normally open to the public.

Visit "Adventure Conservation Australia" at

www.facebook.com

DUNG BEETLE Dictionary

The Dung Beetle Dictionary is now available free online! Use this dictionary to browse through the different species of dung beetles found in Australia. Click on the name of a dung beetle in the left hand column to find more information on that beetle. Use the search options to find which beetles live in different states of Australia or how big (or small) they grow to be.

www.landcareonline.com.au/?page_id=2865

SOURCE CATCHMENTS

Water Management Model

A water quality and quantity model, Source Catchments is designed to help natural resource managers and consultants develop targets, prioritise improvement programs and measure the effectiveness of a broad range of catchment management activities. Source Catchments allows users to answer a range of management questions, such as where to place on-ground works to maximise water quality. It can also look at how climate change might affect the sediment balance in the catchment, or what might happen if plantation forestry replaces cropping in a certain subcatchment. Source Catchments modelling can be set up to handle bushfires, floods, droughts and construction, all of which can adversely affect catchments.

www.ewatercrc.com.au

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... when shopping at Maleny IGA

ANSWERS (from page 11)

SUSIE DUNCAN'S WILDLIFE QUIZ

1. Red-legged Pademelon *Thylagale stigmatica*. Fruit and leaves of rainforest trees.
2. Wonga Pigeon *Leucosaricia melanoleuca*. On the ground.
3. Bandy Bandy Snake *Vermicella annulata*. Blind Snakes.
4. Stephen's Banded Snake *Hoplocephalus stephensi*. In trees.
5. Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*. Fish, crustaceans, aquatic insects.
6. Blackish Blind Snake *Kamphohyphlops nigrescens*. Ant larvae and pupae.
7. Great Barred Frog *Mixophyes fasciolatus*. 'Wark, wark, wark'.

Barung gratefully acknowledges funding & sponsorships from:



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

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	<i>Lin Fairlie</i>
	<i>Kate Fraser</i>
	<i>Diana O'Connor</i>

And our many Volunteers, Labour Team Participants, and Members

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<i>Eve Witney</i>	Editor, <i>Barung News</i> and <i>The CODLine</i>

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<i>Dawn Worthington</i>	Assistant Nursery Manager (Porters Lane)
<i>Kate Brooks</i>	P/T Nursery Manager (George St Community Nursery, Caloundra)

Barung Contracting Services

<i>Matthew Bateman</i>	Team Leader
------------------------	-------------



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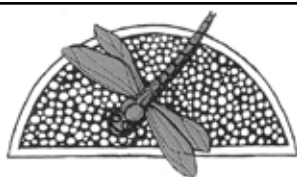
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BARUNG MEMBERSHIP RATES

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 membership \$ 55 pa

Business sponsorship \$275 pa

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

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