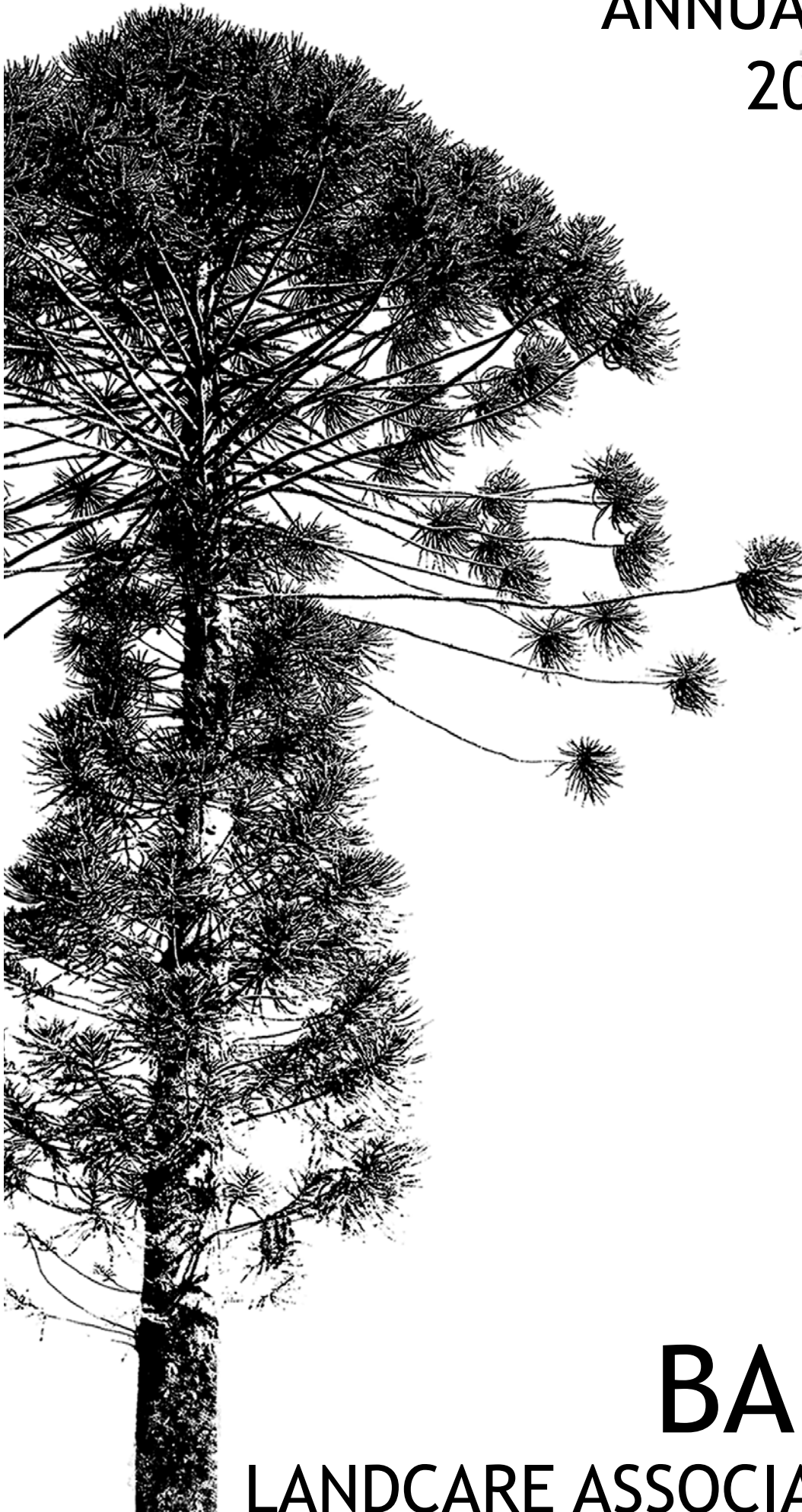


ANNUAL REPORT 2008 - 2009



BARUNG

LANDCARE ASSOCIATION INC.



WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

2008/09 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	<i>Heather Spring</i>
Vice President	<i>Peter Stevens</i>
Secretary	<i>Lin Fairlie</i>
	<i>Eric Anderson</i>
Treasurer	<i>David Binstead</i>
Committee Members	<i>Eric Anderson</i>
	<i>Lin Fairlie</i>
	<i>Kate Fraser</i>
	<i>Pat Fuller</i>
	<i>Bev Hand</i>
	<i>Dianna O'Connor</i>
	<i>Steve Swayne</i>

2008/09 STAFF

Manager	<i>Darryl Ebenezer</i>
Administration Officer	<i>Fuschia Collard</i>
Nursery Manager	<i>Wayne Webb</i>
Assistant Nursery Manager	<i>Dawn Worthington</i>
Contracting Services	<i>Matthew Bateman</i>
	<i>Ed Surman</i>
Sustainable Land-use Officer	<i>Jonathan Waites</i>
Barung Events	<i>Steve McLeish</i>
Editor, <i>Barung News</i> and the <i>CodLine</i>	<i>Eve Witney</i>

BARUNG LIFE MEMBERS

<i>Barry Beale</i>	<i>Denise Irons</i>
<i>Patricia Jacobs</i>	<i>John Muir</i>
<i>Marc Russell</i>	<i>Ashley Sewell</i>
<i>John & Joan Dillon</i>	<i>Jan Tilden</i>
<i>Mal & Margaret Thomson</i>	
<i>Daryl Reinke & Craig Hosmer</i>	

Cover photograph by Penny Smith

*Internal photographs by Fuschia Collard, Mim Coulstock,
Darryl Ebenezer, John Muir, Steve Swayne, Eve Witney and Dawn Worthington*

Pink Underwing Moth illustration by Jane Thompson

BARUNG LANDCARE ASSOCIATION INC.

Annual Report 2008-2009

President's Report	<i>Heather Spring</i>
Treasurer's Report	<i>David Binstead</i>
Manager's Report	<i>Darryl Ebenezer</i>
Barung Nursery	<i>Dawn Worthington</i>
Barung Resource Centre	<i>Fuschia Collard</i>
Sustainable Landcare	<i>Jonathan Waites</i>
Walks and Workshops	<i>Susie Duncan</i>
Barung Sponsors and Supporters	
Auditor's Report to Members	

B
U
N
Y
A

D
R
E
A
M
I
N
G
&

M
A
L
E
N
Y

W
O
O
D
E
X
P
O



2009



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*Heather Spring
President*

This last twelve months has seen major change occur within Barung Landcare, some of it undertaken with great enthusiasm and some resulting in frustration.

We moved from our home in Bicentenary Lane, closing our Nursery just before Christmas in 2008. There were two main reasons for the move:

1. to enable the Neighbourhood Centre to be built on the block
2. to give Barung much-needed space at our new home in Porters Lane.

It was envisaged that our temporary move to this current Nursery site would only be for a few short months while we sorted out the Material Change of Use required before we could move onto our permanent site. Little did we know the work and time that this seemingly small change would take...

As you are aware, we have completed all the necessary steps for this MCU to occur and are awaiting the decision of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council. With constant delays and red tape, and without solid ongoing financial support for administrative and core positions, Barung has struggled to maintain its current staffing. In many ways we have been treading water while awaiting the go-ahead from Council to move to our permanent site on the Precinct. However, as always, our remarkable staff have risen to the challenge, and I would like to thank them all for their commitment to Barung and the Maleny community.

So in December we moved our Nursery to the new but temporary site, with a plan to be trading again by the end of January 2009. Once again our schedule was delayed; road works made it impossible to access the site for some time, and thus we did not commence trading again until June. This has, of course, affected our income for this year. Thanks to Wayne Webb and Dawn Worthington and their team of volunteers for their efforts in maintaining the Nursery, I know it has not been an easy six months.

While our Nursery moved to Porters Lane, the Barung Resource Centre and office moved to the shopfront at the Riverside Centre. This move has proved to be successful on a number of levels:

- It gives Barung a very public profile
- More people are dropping in to seek information
- It has provided staff with a home base.

It is envisaged that we will remain at this site until we have developed our research/resource centre at Porters Lane. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work done by Fuschia Collard and our team of volunteers in ensuring our office runs smoothly.

Our contracting arm – Barung Contracting Services – has been forced to base itself out of the Coun-



cil depot in Palm Street. Contracting continues to develop, assisting numerous landholders with revegetation, and has contributed substantially to the general funding of the organisation – so thank you to Matthew Bateman and his teams.

So Barung has been running in three different sites, not an ideal situation and contributing to some frustrations! However as we work together with Council on the Precinct master plan we will slowly develop the new Barung home.

This move has involved considerable expense for Barung and this, combined with the Nursery's inability to trade for a period, has had a significant impact on our finances.

We once again held the annual Maleny Wood Expo, which proved to be as popular as always. This event produces much-needed funds to support our Resource Centre. I would like to pay tribute to Steve McLeish for his superb running of the event. Steve is now employed full-time with Barung as an events organiser, and we have been involved in a number of events through the course of the year including World Environment Day, Woodford Folk Festival, Bunya Dreaming, and so on.

I would also like to acknowledge the work done by Jonathan Waites and the strong links he develops between Barung and the local landholders, allowing us to develop grassroots projects that promote a balance between nurturing the natural environment and needing to work the land – the very essence of Landcare.

As President, I could not have done this job without the support and assistance Darryl Ebenezer has provided me over the last 12 months of often difficult and frustrating times. Darryl's commitment to working together with Council to ensure Barung can move to its new home has been amazing. I am aware that although he is employed part-time with Barung his commitment is that of a full-time person as he volunteers his time to work for Barung every day and many weekends. Thank you, Darryl, for your support and assistance over the last 12 months. Barung is lucky to have you working for us.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow Management Committee members. This year, with so much going on, members of the committee have had to step up and take a more hands-on role. Thank you for assistance and commitment; I am especially grateful for the strong level of support you have given me in the last 12 months and the strong focus we had held on ensuring Barung moves successfully to its new home.

It is this vision and commitment that will ensure Barung continues to play a vital part in the environmental future of Maleny and its surrounds.

After three years I am stepping down from the President's position. I would like to thank the Barung family for your support; it has been my privilege to be involved with this wonderful organisation. It is not the work that Barung engages in within the community that makes it a remarkable organisation, but rather the people who take on these tasks and how the work done affects the broader community. Barung is a remarkable organisation and one that stands tall in caring for the environment and the people who live within, an organisation that is much loved by this community.



TREASURER'S REPORT

David Binstead
Treasurer

The year of shifting site was always going to be a difficult cash-flow year. Indeed, it was the reason for holding cash reserves. The actual result would have been significantly better, had there not been continuous delays in target dates beyond the control of Barung. The loss for the year of \$51 833 is creditable in the circumstances, considering the long disruption in sales from the Barung Nursery and a significant fall in grant income. This was offset by a successful Maleny Wood Expo and a considerable increase in income from the Barung Contracting Services group.

Around the end of the financial year, we experienced a sharp drop in demand for our contracting services and almost complete cessation of grant opportunities. We believe this relates to uncertainty in the face of global recession and have taken steps to cut costs to ensure we retain the core of our expertise until these circumstances ease.

I believe I have collected a reputation of being optimistic in my financial responsibilities. Whether



or not this is warranted, I have to say that I genuinely see big opportunities ahead. We now have the space for a much enlarged nursery which will enable Barung Landcare to take advantage of the significant unmet need for rainforest plants. 2010 is likely to be a challenging year financially, but the longer term outlook is rosy.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Darryl Ebenezer
Manager

*'Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
Nothing is going to get better. It's not.'*

Dr. Seuss, from *The Lorax*

Just before Christmas 2008 the time came to close down the old Barung site and move into a new era of community Landcare in the Hinterland. This year not only did we move, we moved to two sites.

As you will read in Dawn and Wayne's Nursery report, the closing and moving of the Nursery at Bicentenary Land and the establishing of our new temporary Nursery at Porters Lane was a momentous achievement and a credit to all the volunteers, staff and other helpers who assisted with the move.

While all this was going on, we also opened our shopfront resource centre next to Australia Post at the Riverside Centre, Maleny. Fuschia summarises this aspect of the move in her report.

Our move was timely because it looks like the new Maleny Neighbourhood Centre will open on the Bicentenary Lane site by Christmas 2009. A practical and good example of community groups working together. We look forward to helping through re-planting our old site over the next year so that many thousands of people can continue to enjoy the shade and natural surrounds of the new centre for the next twenty years – community space for all community members.

Establishing our new permanent Nursery hasn't happened as quickly as we would have liked. The Material Change of Use process with the Sunshine Coast Regional Council is continuing, as are the many meetings with other community groups and interested individuals involved in the process. We anticipate further positive decisions in the near future.

Many of the activities Barung engages in over a year are not focused on short-term goals or narrow outcomes. These are activities or projects with a strategic or long-term view and are undertaken for the benefit of future generations and community members. Our organisational sustainability underpins all these environmental aspirations. Revegetation, regeneration, and community education processes all take time to produce visible, tangible results. As you will see in this report, Barung has been involved in many and varied activities, projects and events that contribute to the environment and community life over the past year.

Barung Management Committee

Our committee continues to set the agenda and provide good governance for the organisation. We are very lucky to have such a committed and diverse management committee.

Heather Spring is standing down as the president



of Barung this year. Once again I must thank her for her support, leadership and vision in pursuing a sustainable future for the next twenty years of community Landcare on the Sunshine Coast. It is great to have Heather continue as a member of the Barung Committee. This will ensure we keep our 'institutional memory' and new committee members be mentored.

Steve Swayne went on a trip around Australia and was unable to continue on the committee. Steve has continued to provide expertise in GIS and mapping.

It was a shock to everyone who knows Lin Fairlie when she became ill on the first day of the Wood Expo in May. Lin has made a remarkable recovery and we have welcomed her return to community activities; it is wonderful to have her back on the committee. Thanks again to Lin in her role as Secretary for the first part of the year and her continued efforts on behalf of Barung and the wider community.

It was another year of interesting discussion and debate with Peter Stevens in his role as Vice President. Peter has stepped in when Heather has been away, and this has been valuable for the organisation and me. Peter is also standing down as Vice President but will continue on the committee.

Thanks to David Binstead in his role as Treasurer for his generous contribution of time and expertise in assisting Fuschia and myself with managing the finances.

Beverly Hand has continued to educate, challenge and represent Barung in her many community activities.

Our other committee members have continued to volunteer their time and contribute from their areas of expertise toward the work of Barung.

Barung Contracting Services

Throughout the year, under the leadership of Matthew Bateman, Barung Contracting Services has continued to provide a range of revegetation, regeneration, weed control and consultation services to landholders in the district. It has been a productive year for Contracting with many thousands of trees

planted and thousands of square meters of environmental weeds removed. The team have worked with local councils, Department of Main Roads, Queensland Parks & Wildlife, local schools, other NRM groups and, of course, our local landholders and members to achieve great environmental and community outcomes. In this challenging and ever-changing environment, the team gains great pleasure and reward from what they do and look forward to the opportunities and challenges of the coming year.

The Barung Contracting Services staff would also like to thank the volunteers in the Nursery who grow our plants, the volunteers in the Resource Centre who help with our admin, Heather and the committee for their tireless work, the other Barung staff who keep things going, and of course all Barung Members for their support and dedication in achieving on-ground results.

Barung Staff

It was a difficult time in June this year as the world economic crisis and the lack of rain impacted on all our activities. The committee made the difficult decision to reduce all staff hours and to also reduce the numbers of staff. Despite these challenges Barung still contributed back to the community through wages, devolved landholder grants and purchases to the tune of more than \$1 million.

An important part of our organisation's life is keeping in touch with our 700+ membership. I would like to thank Dennis Lalor (a volunteer) who manages our membership list. Eve Witney has continued to edit our newsletter and has been able to produce a readable and high quality product for members to read. This has been despite our reluctance sometimes to adhere to timeframes for our contributions. Eve has also continued to produce the CodLine which is supported by ongoing funding from the Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee.

This year we've made a concerted effort to involve our members in our many activities. I'd like to particularly thank the members who have responded to our call to help our stall at the Witta Growers Market each month. This is a great fundraiser for us and we are very grateful. We could not grow as many trees as we do without the support of all of our dedicated volunteers. Thank you all.

Our current part-time staff, Fuschia Collard, Wayne Webb, Dawn Worthington, Jonathan Waites, Matthew Bateman, Steve McLeish and our casual staff who do important work in our community on a daily basis. I acknowledge and thank each of them for the passion and expertise they bring to our environmental activities and for their commitment to Barung and the wider community.

2008/09 Happenings

We moved. We went to the Woodford Folk Festival. We put in tanks.

We held the third Bunya Dreaming Celebration in January 2009. More than 300 invited guests partici-

pated in a day of celebration of culture and heritage with Aboriginal and non-indigenous people. This could not have happened without Beverley and Michael Hand and the many volunteers who worked to bring the Bunya Dreaming to Lake Baroon.

In May 2009 we held the 13th Barung Maleny Wood Expo at the showgrounds. More than 7500 people visited the expo over two days. Many thanks to Steve McLeish, the event coordinator. This big public event continues to be a great vehicle for education around the Landcare ethic and, again, would not have been possible without the support of the 130+ volunteers who staffed the event.

Barung has also participated in the wider community with stalls at: World Environment Day; the Blackall Range Growers Market (monthly) at Witta; Caloundra Music Festival; Utribe; Landcare and Threatened Species weeks, and the Woodford Folk Festival.

We also regularly undertake community education and community engagement activities. This year these have included monthly educational 'Walks' to different sites around the district. Many thanks to Susie Duncan for conducting these activities and for her report later in this document. Fuschia Collard, Matt Bateman and Jonathan Waites attended a number of schools to plant trees and talk with students about the environment.

Barung Partnerships

Barung Landcare cannot successfully operate without establishing and maintaining partnerships with landholders, other organisations and government agencies. Many of our partners assist us financially and it has been important to receive funds from our Natural Resource Management partners – South East Queensland Catchments and Burnett Mary Regional Group. Again a special thanks to Bruce Lord and Susie Chapman from SEQ Catchments for continuing to provide much needed funds for on-ground activities.

Other significant partners that have provided funds or with whom we have collaborated in 2008/09 include: Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts; Interactive Community Planning; Maleny Credit Union; Maleny Community Trust; Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group; Sunshine Coast Regional Council; Moreton Bay Regional Council; Conservation Volunteers Australia; SEQ Water; Hinterland Business Centre; Maleny Town and Country; Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee; Landcare Qld; Sunshine Coast Environment Council; Maleny Supa IGA; Montville Coffee; Montville Mist; Maleny Dairies; Maleny Show Society; and the Maleny and District Green Hills Fund.

The staff and I look forward to working with the new committee over the coming year and continuing to assist the organisation in bringing about positive changes in the environment of the Sunshine Coast.

*'We won't have a society
if we destroy the environment.'*

Margaret Mead

BARUNG NURSERY

*Dawn Worthington
Assistant Nursery Manager*

The Big Move

Since the last AGM, it's been about the move. In early November last year, we were boxing up tubestock ready for relocation, sorting through seeds and sheds, and determining what was to go to the new site, what was to go to the shipping containers for storage, and what was to stay. A few big decisions were required considering the length of time that Barung was at Bicentenary Lane; what a situation to be in!

In December, we were downsizing our retail section, doing more and more sorting; tubing and propagation stopped completely. The last species propagated was the Bunya Pine, which we thought rather fitting given the majestic nature of the tree and its association with Barung Landcare.

After the Christmas break, it was flat out again until February when we actually relocated. Fittings were removed from the Bicentenary Lane office, including timber beams, windows, framework and other essentials. Lots of these materials have been totally recycled at the new site at Porters Lane. Tubestock was boxed up so that we had the minimum of trays to relocate, but that didn't seem to make any actual difference on the moving day when the number of trays seemed to be never ending. What a day, what an effort! Wayne and I would like to thank everyone involved, a truly amazing effort.

The new home

It was on Friday February 26th 2009 that Porters Lane became the official home of the temporary Nursery. Since that day truly amazing progress has been achieved.

Irrigation piping has been laid and the benches in the hardening-off area have been set up. We even have a 'critter-proof Bunya growing cage' fully operational. Hopefully this has put a stop to the critters eating the lovely juicy shoots of both the Hoop and Bunya Pines. Windy weather has posed many challenges for Wayne; trying to keep water up to wind-blown plants is a tricky business! It will be good when all the water plans for the new nursery are put into place. This will enable us to be fully self sufficient in our water use and be completely off the town water supply.

The igloo and shadehouses have been 'sorted' and the 'sea of trays' that had extended from the front of the igloo to the back of the shadehouse is no more.

The carport was constructed during appalling weather conditions; the wind was blowing, the rain was pouring, but the job gone done! This is now our potting/propagation area where all our 'babies' are looked after. We also have a small sales area.



The Nursery is currently open Wednesday to Friday from 9.00 am until 3.00 pm. We welcome new members and encourage current members to come and look at our view and ask us all your questions about identifying and growing local native plant species. Wholesale customers can also access the Nursery on Tuesdays in addition to the other three days. Wayne and I can prepack large orders for you.

In the community

During the 2008/2009 year, Barung Landcare Nursery donated over \$1600 worth of plants to various fund-raising efforts, individuals and other groups. Contributing to the community in this way is an ongoing aspect of the Nursery's operations and we take pride on our ability to assist those who are in need.

Nursery volunteers

Of course, we could never have achieved all of this without the Nursery's most important resource, our vollies. They are an amazing group of individuals, whom we asked to:

- build walls – and it was done
- sort tubestock – done
- erect shadehouses – done
- put up shadecloth for windbreaks in force nine gales – done
- make benches out of whatever was at hand – done
- keep a positive and humorous attitude – done

and so so much more.

So a huge heartfelt 'thank you' to all our vollies, both current and past. An organisation such as Barung Landcare is totally indebted to you all and to what you individually bring to the Nursery.

This year's Volunteer of the Year was a really hard choice. We could not separate these two Volunteers – why would you? – so congratulations to both Kerry and Clare Sluggett who have both done huge amounts of work in addition to what we asked of them. Both of these people decided to 'work' full-time at Barung throughout the move. Without Clare's scones and Kerry's efforts, we wouldn't have achieved so much. Your work is a credit to you and we thank you for your unwavering support.



LANDCARE PROJECTS

Jonathan Waites
Project Officer

Barung Landcare implemented two new Devolved Grant projects this year whilst winding up several others. We have been involved in a number of workshops and run a field day, with the aim of meeting the needs of a diverse membership demographic from agricultural to urban and the many shades in between.

Devolved Grant 3 - Connectivity & Biodiversity - Upper Pumicestone & Stanley

This funding, made available through the natural resource management (NRM) regional body, SEQ Catchments, has been instigated in partnership with the Caloundra section of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council and with the Moreton Bay Regional Council to support landholders in the headwaters of the Stanley River and Upper Pumicestone regions.

In the Barung area 11 property owners secured funding to carry out on-ground work which included weed control, revegetation planting (over 2600 trees) and fencing to exclude livestock from waterways (0.5 km) over 23 ha. The funding investment for on-ground work of \$31 000 has been matched by in-kind landholder support. We are also trialling the use of pink tree guards on one property, comparing survival and growth between trees that are and aren't protected by guards.

An initial Property Management Planning (PMP) workshop for the devolved grant recipients and other interested people attracted 14 participants. A follow-up workshop was run toward the end of the project, enabling participants to review the process and compare notes on the challenges and successes they had encountered. This approach received a very favourable response from participants and supported the value of follow-up workshops towards the end of projects.

Six of the 11 properties have received funding for similar work in the past; current funding will support and build on these efforts, thus highlighting the success of this approach to environmental restoration work.

Upper Mary Rainforest Recovery Devolved Grant Consortium Variation

This project is an extension of the Rainforest Recovery project we undertook last year with Gympie and Noosa Landcare Groups, and managed by the Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee (MRC-CC) with funding coming through Burnett-Mary Regional Group NRM body.



The project was aimed at enhancing, rehabilitating and protecting Regional Ecosystem 12.12.1 (Simple notophyll vine forest with abundant *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana* Piccabeen Palm, classified as Of Concern under the *Vegetation Management Act* 1999) where it occurs on five sites. Work undertaken by landholders has included revegetation (900 trees) and weed control (mainly *Lantana camara*) in the Booroobin area, with the \$20 000 of funding being matched by landholders with in-kind or cash contributions.

Pink Underwing Moth Project

This project, which begun last year with funding through the now defunct Threatened Species Network, has the aim of rehabilitating and enhancing habitat that supports the Pink Underwing Moth (*Phyllodes imperialis* southern subspecies) with a focus on areas where its food vine *Carronia multiseptata* is growing. Five local landholders have received approximately \$30 000 worth of funding to carry out weeding to enhance natural regeneration and revegetation (over 6000 trees) activities. In addition, several new sites were discovered where *Carronia* is growing, some with moth larvae feeding on them, and an adult moth was sighted at Witta.

SuperGraze Project

Our involvement in the regional SuperGraze Project funded through SEQ Catchments was short. The aim of SuperGraze was to 'maximise the adoption of sustainable grazing practices across Southern Queensland'. However in March 2009 we did run a workshop on Animal Health with Maleny Town & Country which was attended by 25 people. The workshop looked at animal health (internal parasites and Buffalo Fly), pasture seeds (legumes, pasture mixes, etc) and herbicide use (chemical types, application methods, etc). Each topic was presented by company representatives involved in the subject area.

We also hosted a successful Property Management Planning (PMP) workshop run by SEQ Catch-

ments and held at the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group's office on North Maleny Road.

Working Wetlands Healthy Farms

We have been fortunate in securing a grant of \$15 000 from Queensland Primary Industries & Fisheries through their Working Wetlands Healthy Farms project. This funding will support fencing and revegetation work on two local beef cattle properties. The aim of the program is to promote improved wetland and waterway management through the adoption of best management practices (BMP) in agricultural systems; the funding is specifically aimed at protecting and rejuvenating wetlands on grazing properties.

Bellthorpe Field Day

Barung held a Farm Forestry, Bushfoods and Sub-Tropical Fruits Field Day at Bellthorpe in April 2009, which was attended by more than 80 people. The day began at the Bellthorpe Hall, where a range of speakers spoke on the above subjects, and finished with a walk and several presentations in the field at Darryl and Lorraine Collins's property.

Speakers included Ashley Sewell (farm forestry), Carol Neal & Jack Mitchell (farm forestry), Sammy Ringer (bushfoods) Paul Daly (Landcare's Carbon Smart), Paul Rigden (sub-tropical fruit trees), Matt Kilby and Darryl Collins (property management) and Graham Sait (biological agriculture). Speakers were organised by John Muir who also facilitated the running of the day.

New Grants - eTrees

Unfortunately SEQ Catchments were largely unsuccessful in attracting funding for other than their operational costs under the new Federal Government *Caring for Our Country* funding arrangements. This means they have been unable to support Barung's on-ground work to the extent that they have in the past, particularly through the devolved grants schemes.

However we expect to receive \$12 250 from them in the near future through the eTrees program.



eTrees is a Computershare initiative with Landcare Australia. It is an environmental incentive scheme to encourage shareholders to register for electronic communications in return for increased reforestation activities around Australia and New Zealand. Every time a shareholder registers to receive their shareholder communications electronically, a donation of up to \$2 is made to Landcare Australia. This goes towards reforestation projects in the state or territory in which the shareholder lives. It is planned to use this funding to plant over 850 trees on public lands in the local area.

In conclusion

Once again Barung has been actively involved in on-ground work this past year, along with the opportunities for education and extension that these types of projects provide. Funding constraints due to changing government priorities will mean that it is going to be a challenge to maintain these aspects of our work in the future.

While the financial climate outlook is somewhat bleak for devolved grant funding, having received less than one third of our average rainfall over the last three months (July to September) has also made revegetation efforts that bit more challenging. However today's (20th October) Southeast Coast 28 day rainfall forecast predicts almost three weeks with a high chance of rainfall, beginning on the 28th of this month. Here's hoping for a wet AGM!

BARUNG RESOURCE CENTRE

Fuschia Collard
Administration Officer

What a year!

A momentous year to say the least! May I start by saying a huge **thank you** to all staff, volunteers, committee and members for your ongoing perseverance, dedication, tolerance and commitment to pulling Barung through all of the changes we've faced over the last year. It hasn't been easy but we've done it! Well done to all. (It's not over yet...)

New office in town

The Barung Resource Centre has landed in town with a presence like never before. At the office's temporary location, right next to the Maleny Post Office, we have been able to introduce Barung Landcare to people who may never have known it existed. Our book sales are increasing, we get more enquiries, and I enjoy lots more visits from the caring and inquisitive younger landcarers who love to wonder in.

As you may have noticed we are currently experiencing more change, with our landlord adding an ATM, air-conditioning, insulation and a ceiling. Summer seems better already!

This year we would also like to thank Karen and David from Top Notch Business Services for the use of the Lanier super copier, scanner, fax and printer! It has been an amazing asset to the Resource Centre. I'd personally like to thank David Binstead, Barung's Treasurer, for his dedication to helping more in the office over the last year.

Office volunteers

I am also very grateful that we now have **regular** office volunteers! It took a while to set up after Val left, but we now have a fabulous dedicated team keeping the Resource Centre running smoothly.

Mondays and Tuesdays we have the wonderful **Annette** whom many of you already know. She takes care of advertising Barung's walks and workshops, makes the beautiful cards we sell, and does every-



thing in between to help keep the office functioning as well as it does.

Wednesday we have a new volunteer. Come and introduce yourselves to **Sue** who is helping with input into the new Barung membership database and generally helping out with whatever needs doing.

Thursday brings another new volunteer. Come and welcome **Judith**, a keen photographer who will, over time, help compile Barung's history by photos.

Friday, last year's Office 'Volunteer of the Year', **Pam**, is dedicated to restocking our retail book supplies, coming up with new ideas for our plant display at the Maleny Library, and various other responsible duties.

A big thanks must also go to Denis Lalor who is overseeing the new Barung Membership Database and helping iron out problems with the changeover. Members can now access their membership details directly at

www.barunglandcare.org.au

You can also keep up to date with Barung events on the home page.

Please be sure to keep us up to date with your email address as we are endeavouring to send more correspondence via this medium.

Now for the fun stuff...

Some of the educational events I have been involved in for Barung in 2008/2009 have seen me...

- melting at Woodford Folk Festival (it was 40C!),
- spinning a yarn at the Bunya Dreaming (I came second for my poem!),
- planting trees with the kids from Maleny High, Palmwoods State and Peachester State Schools (my favourite thing to do!),



- being educated at the Sunshine Coast Regional Council's Conservation Forum,
- undertaking the trip to Monto for the Qld Landcare Conference with a Barung mob,
- talking Threatened Species with the students from Conondale State School,
- going up and down the mountain to the Glasshouse Garden Expo,
- setting up displays for Gardening on the Edge and National Threatened Species Day,
- seeing another world through a hand lens with Wayne Webb at our Landcare Week workshop 'Identify Rainforest Trees and Shrubs',
- walking in Hovea Heaven at Mt Mee with Susie Duncan,
- meeting 500 year old giants with Ashley Sewell,
- speaking around a hundred words a minute (and I only had 2!) to explain Barung to the newcomers at the fabulous Lions Welcome Dinner, and
- last but not least, watching my child hurtling up Kings Beach toward the September school holiday crowd on a 'blocart' while advertising Barung and the Caloundra Music Festival. (Samara even made it onto Channel 7 news, unlike the rest of us who volunteered that day! We just weren't pretty enough, fellas!)

Even though it has been a challenging year for Barung and we sometimes had to grumble, I love the outcomes we achieve.

We really have to keep our eye on the prize... there **is** a bigger picture... we **are** working for the future... and we **are** making a difference!

Thank you everyone.



WALKS AND WORKSHOPS

Susie Duncan, Barung Volunteer

Wildlife Walks

The monthly Barung Wildlife Walks have continued through the past year. New locations have been explored and others revisited at key times for flowering or bird activity. We have visited a range of the region's ecosystems on the Blackall, Conondale and D'Aguilar ranges and on the coastal lowlands. We twice visited the Curramore Sanctuary, which is owned and managed by the Australian Wildlife Conservancy. A fauna survey undertaken there this year provided some interesting results; the survey report will soon to be available to members for reference at the Barung office.

The walks have attracted interest from a wide range of people outside Barung thanks to Annette's excellent publicity. As a result, we have recruited new members and additional interest in Barung's activities. The 'Wildlife Wanderings' column continues in the *Barung News*, providing accounts of the wildlife we've encountered and ecological stories we've explored on our walks.

'Living with Nature' workshops

The workshops continued through the first half of this financial year and then the series was put on hold due to other commitments on the part of the organiser. These workshops covered topics as diverse as the geology of our region, getting along with Brush Turkeys, and Voluntary Conservation Agreements. The workshops have been well attended and have provided an opportunity to recruit new members and make bookshop sales. We plan to continue offering these workshops on a less frequent basis in the future.

Both the walks and the workshops provide an opportunity for people to engage with the spirit of this country and hopefully be inspired to participate in its conservation.



OUR 2008-2009 SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

Barung gratefully acknowledges funding & sponsorships from:



*Lake Baroon
Catchment Care
Group*



Australian Government

**Department of the Environment,
Water, Heritage and the Arts**



**Threatened
Species
Network**



Australian Government

**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry
National Landcare Programme**



Australian Government



The Threatened Species Network is
a community-based program of the
Australian Government and
WWF-Australia.



Australian Government Water Fund

Community Water Grants



You make a difference



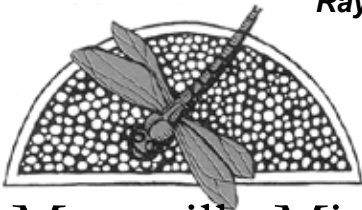
Thank you for supporting Landcare on the Blackall Range

Maleny
SUPA



the
tree canopy co.

Ray & Pam Seddon



Montville Mist

Still Spring Water



An Initiative of the Maleny Credit Union



RANGE AUTO & FUEL INJECTION CENTRE

Lapmish Pty Ltd

Bank of Queensland

Stephane Cazard of Earthcarer

Queensland Complete Printing Services

James & Suzanne Davidson of

eContent Management & Life Artistry





WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

Carbon Neutral Paper was used to print this report

It's all about ...

... fresh AIR

... clean WATER

... healthy SOIL

... native FLORA

... vital FIRE

... diverse FORESTS

... caring PEOPLE

... abundant WILDLIFE

*Barung Landcare is working
to develop ethical solutions
for a sustainable future.*

*We support regional and local empowerment
to conserve and enhance
the rich diversity of natural resources
of the Blackall Range and environs.*

BARUNG LANDCARE ASSOCIATION INC.

PO Box 1074

Maleny Qld 4552

ph 07 5494 3151

fax 07 5494 3141

info@barunglandcare.org.au

www.barunglandcare.org.au

Barung Resource Centre
Shop 3 Riverside Centre
Maleny

Barung Nursery
26 Porters Lane
North Maleny



WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

