BARUNG LANDCARE NEWS

Barung

April - May 2008

WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

MALENY WOOD EXPO - SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Barung Landcare will host the Maleny Wood Expo *From Chainsaw to Fine Furniture* for the twelfth time, on May 3 and 4 in 2008.

The award-winning eco-event promotes the economic and environmental opportunities for farm forestry, alternative land-uses and eco-lifestyle.

An annual celebration of Australian native timbers, the Wood Expo is held at the beautiful Maleny Showgrounds and showcases the region's finest wood artisans. From rustic bush furniture to contemporary design, there is something to suit every taste and budget.

However the Expo is about more than just the finished product! It highlights all aspects of wood from this region's timber heritage to growing and farming trees, and the production of the milled timber.

The mobile millers will again thrill visitors with their action displays – among the most popular every year! Able to mill fallen timber on the spot, or utilise timber from nuisance trees, the mobile mill is the ideal solution for landowners who want to use their timber resources while avoiding the destruction caused by heavy harvesting and log-transporting machinery.

Looking at reducing our footprints – not just through our choice of timber, but in how we build our houses, power our homes and conserve water – are top-of-the-mind issues for most new homeowners and renovators. The 2008 Expo will again showcase ecofriendly building products, from solar energy to waste systems.

This event is truly holistic in its approach, demonstrating triple bottom line in practice.

Economically, the Wood Expo benefits Barung, local artisans and others involved in the timber industry, and offers fund-raising opportunities for other community groups. Blackall Range businesses benefit from the influx of thousands of visitors to the area throughout the weekend.

Environmentally, the Expo is the ideal opportunity to introduce people from a broad demographic and social background to the ethics of natural resource management. Sowing the seeds of concern for our isolated remnants, our threatened flora and fauna, and showcasing the repair work underway in the region has far-reaching ripple effects for the environment. The promotion of farm forestry as an economic and environmentally responsible solution to land degradation issues encourages diversity of farming practises while ensuring a supply of our beautiful native timbers for future generations.

Socially, the Expo continues to involve more and more of the local community. Local businesses support the event through

... Continued on Page 3

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

So – it is all underway – many thanks to the efforts of President Heather Spring, Expo Coordinator Steve McLeish, our volunteers coordinator Jane Williamson and Barung Manager Darryl Ebenezer.

What we do need to firm up in the next few weeks are the Volunteer Area Coordinators and of course plenty of volunteers. We need help to organise and run the following aspects of the Expo:

- **Volunteer Coordinators** to phone members and the local community to fill rosters prior to Expo pleasant phone manner required!
- **Pre-Expo Raffle Sales Coordinator** to coordinate volunteers and oversee ticket sales and raise funds for local landcare prior to and during the Expo. Also responsible for counting and tracking raffle monies as volunteers finish their shifts, and ensuring the raffle is running smoothly.
- Landcare Bar & BBQ volunteers to help with food preparation and bar loads of fun and free sausages!
- **Country Café volunteers** to prepare and serve food in the café during Expo.



Please make sure you fill out the volunteer form included in this newsletter and return it to the Barung Office as soon as possible. This can save our Volunteer Coordinator hours of work and many phone calls!

All volunteers receive free entry into the Expo, coffee voucher and a native tree as a token of our thanks.

Please ring
Expo Coordinator
Steve McLeish on
07 3103 2421 or
0428 674 335

with your suggestions or queries about any aspects of the Expo.



IN THIS ISSUE

DEADLINE - Wed 21th May

for June-July 2008 **Barung News contributions**

Barung Landcare...



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

THANK YOU

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

(Compiled by Val Phillips)

Lee Norton Lindsay Thomas Beulah O'Shea R Harding Bernie & Fran Adett Jane Kennedy Mike & Shona Pipper Lynne Betts Rod Wilkins & Beth Baills Andrew Small Susanne Devereux Jemma Edwards B & J Humphries Claire Watkins G & V Stevens Laura Cronin Paul & Clare Russell Steve Eaton Kim Gibson & Ilona Paschen Steve Perdrian Zac Gill Cliff Green Mark Bonner David Anderson Terese Humbler Chris Jackson Phil & Kirsty Holmes Kim Creamer **Bob Burns** Kelly Fogg Jan & Mariska Postma Joe Kirkpatrick Vitauts & AP Briedis

WELCOME BACK

Peter Dallimor Graham & Monique Bond Les & Marji Nicholls

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LANDCARE SUPPORT

Opening Hours

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8.30 am - 4.00 pm Barung Nursery & Resource Centre/Office

> **SATURDAY** 9.00 am - 12.00 pm Barung Nursery only

Barung gratefully acknowleges funding & sponsorships from:

















An Initiative of the Maleny Credit Union



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry National Landcare Programme





Community Water Grants







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



Maleny Wood Expo

3 and 4 May 2008 / Maleny showground malenywoodexpo.com.au

Continued from Page 1 ...

sponsorship, hundreds of volunteer shifts are filled by both Barung and community members, and the organising team become firm friends despite the pressure! The benefits of the Expo to the whole community become more apparent each successive year.

Other popular attractions for 2008 include a wide range of Natural Resource Management information, environmental displays and woodworking demonstrations. The young and the 'young at heart' will be entertained by the amazing 'Sprocket'! Children will also be enchanted by the magical musical garden.

So pull up a hay bale and enjoy great food and entertainment! Whether you're looking for a slab for that DIY project or want to try and buy local gourmet produce to take home for the pantry, 2008 Maleny Wood Expo visitors can relax and celebrate this amazing event.

Thanks to the new Sunshine Coast Regional Council, Burnett Mary Regional Group and SEQ Catchments for their generous support. Without our sponsors, the event simply would not be possible this year!









WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

2nd BREEDING SITE FOUND FOR RARE LARGE MOTH

by Eve Witney Pink Underwing Moth Project Officer

A second breeding site for the Pink Underwing Moth has been located. The site was discovered by Nick Clancy, Land for Wildlife Officer with the Sunshine Coast Regional Council, and confirmed by entomologist Don Sands.

This is very exciting news, as previously the sole confirmed breeding site for this remarkable moth in south-east Queensland was Mary Cairneross Scenic Reserve. This moth species, *Phyllodes* imperialis (southern subsp.), breeds on the vine Carronia multisepalea, but only on collapsed forms of the vine which require the dark conditions of undisturbed rainforest.

Surveying for further breeding sites is being conducted as a component of Barung's Threatened Species Network-funded Pink Underwing Moth project.

Moth Revegetation WORKSHOP

Don Sands, an entomologist retired from CSIRO, will be addressing the Pink Underwing Moth Revegetation Workshop, to be held at Mary Cairncross on Monday 12 May. Don and his colleague Ted Edwards of the National Insect Collection in Canberra will speak about the moth, its particular ecological needs and its status as an endangered species.

Botanical and revegetation topics will be addressed by local revegetation experts Spencer Shaw of Brush Turkey Enterprises and our own Brendan Stephen of Barung Contracting Services. Nick Clancy, Land for Wildlife Officer with the Sunshine Coast Regional Council, will talk about options for safeguarding existing or potential Phyllodes imperialis breeding sites.

A key objective of the workshop is to equip participants for recognising potential breeding sites, so that survey work can be carried out later in the year to hopefully identify further breeding locations.

This workshop promises to be very informative and practical for landholders, natural resource managers and revegetation workers in particular. The workshop will be conducted during the morning and will include lunch.

To book in or for more information, contact Barung on 5494 3151 or Eve Witney on eve-eden@bigpond.net.au or 5494 4005.

Meet the Pink Underwing Moth

The Pink Underwing Moth is a large and colourful moth (in flight) that can have a wingspan up to 14 cm. As with most moths, the adult of this species is nocturnal, and a lucky spotter may encounter one in the evening in dense rainforest. The caterpillars are also very eyecatching and large, reaching a similar length to the moth's wingspan.

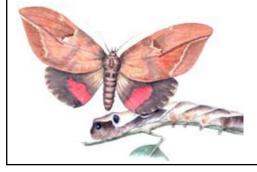


Illustration of Pink Underwing moth and caterpillar by Jane Thompson

Rainforest Climbing Plants

BOOK REVIEW by Lin Fairlie

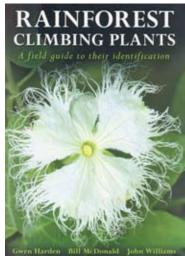
Rainforest Climbing Plants – a field guide to their identification is the successor to the 'Green Book' and is the companion volume to the Rainforest Trees and Shrubs produced in 2006 to replace the 'Red Book'. The format is the same, as are the authors who are to be congratulated on another comprehensive and valuable volume.

Of the 265 species described, 93% are found in Queensland and 48 are confined to Queensland. The authors note, 'Surprisingly 57 species (21.5%) have been introduced to Australia and have become naturalised'. This compares with 53 species (6%) of rainforest trees and shrubs in the new 'Red Book'.

The weed species included are those considered to be truly naturalised. This large percentage of climbing weed species is partly due, I would suggest, to the introduced legumes such as glycine and the desmodiums, and to the raspberry species and passionfruit species which are so readily distributed by birds.

On the other hand garden escapees such as *Passiflora coccinea* and *Allamanda cathartica* are not included as they have yet to become widespread from points of escape. Plants which trail or sprawl in the littoral rainforest are not included.

Plants with overseas origins are marked with an * in front of the scientific name e.g. *Asparagus asparagoides (Florist's Smilax, Bridal Creeper). There even is a fern from Japan which is



widely cultivated in fern houses.

As with *Rainforest Trees and Shrubs* this new book covers all the rainforests of eastern Australia from Rockhampton to southern Victoria, as well as the vine thickets which are the drier inland extensions of rainforest.

'What is a rainforest climbing plant?' is a section which explains the term liana or vine. Another paragraph explains differences between herbaceous subshrubs or herbs and climbing plants. The important point is made that it is best to use a mature plant when attempting identification because immature ones can have different features.

Under the heading 'Special Features of Climbing Plants' excellent diagrams now accompany the comprehensive descriptions. These are great additions as diagrams add considerably to understanding distinguishing features. Vines often have tendrils which lend themselves to these detailed diagrams and in this volume add considerably to the already excellent leaf and flower drawings that are vital in the identification process.

This new book follows the same improved format as the new 'Red Book' with group outlines on light green pages, enabling you to easily turn back to that section when the identification process isn't panning out.

Many of us do not have a variety of rainforest vines in our own area but this volume will certainly make identification of any vine easier, and importantly the weedy ones. It is a great companion to *Rainforest Trees and Shrubs*, and while not everyone's bedtime reading, is great to browse through over a cup of tea or coffee.

Pademelons

WILDLIFE WANDERINGS by Susie Duncan

We were wandering along the track in Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve when a small child called out 'there's a watermelon'. It was clearly a small wallaby but the word confusion was understandable, particularly since a weed relative of the Watermelon is commonly referred to as Paddy Melon.

In Mary Cairncross you can readily observe the Red-legged Pademelon (*Thylogale stigmatica*) feeding or hopping casually through the forest. We recently observed two separate individuals, one with offspring at foot, near Booloumba Creek on the Barung Wildlife Walk.

These pademelons live in the depths of rainforest, vine thickets or moist eucalypt forest. Their head–body length is a compact 40–55 cm which allows them to move easily through a sometimes tangled rainforest understorey. Their grey-brown fur provides good camouflage in the shadows and the distinctive characteristic of this pademelon is its reddish hind legs.

Red-legged pademelons occur in rainforests from Papua New Guinea down the east coast of Australia to northern NSW. In the south of their range they feed mainly on fruit and leaves of rainforest trees whereas in the north they eat more grass at the fringes of rainforest. In our region, the Moreton Bay Fig is a key food resource.

These wallabies are generally solitary and spread themselves fairly evenly through suitable habitat, each individual controlling its feeding area. They communicate by vocalizations and thumping their heels on the ground. Young are born year-round and stay in the pouch for about seven months, but continue to stick their head in the pouch for an occasional feed for a couple of months after exiting.

The Red-legged Pademelon is not regarded as threatened in Queensland although vegetation clearance has undoubtedly reduced available habitat. In NSW it is listed as Vulnerable and the key threats are loss of habitat due to clearing and predation by feral cats and foxes.

The Red-necked Pademelon (*Thylogale thetis*) looks similar to the Red-legged except that it has grey hind legs and a rufous neck. It shelters in dense forest during the day but at night it emerges on the fringes of rainforest and wet eucalypt forest to eat soft grasses and shrubs. In the late afternoon and early morning they can readily be seen feeding around the guest house and campground at O'Reillys in Lamington National Park.

This pademelon occurs from Biloela in Queensland to the Illawarra country south of Sydney. It appears to be more abundant than the Red-legged, possibly because its food resources have been less affected by landclearing.

The third pademelon in Australia is the Rufous-bellied Pademelon (*Thylogale billardieri*) which now occurs only in Tasmania and on some surrounding islands. Like the Queensland pademelons it spends the daylight hours in rainforest or dense eucalypt forest, emerging at night to feed at the forest edge on herbs and grass.

This species once occurred in coastal Victoria and south-east South Australia but became extinct due to predation by foxes and large-scale landclearing. Foxes have been kept out of Tasmania until recently, which has probably contributed to this pademelon's healthy abundance there.

The conservation message for pademelons, and so many other species that have diminished, is to look after our remnant forests and to link them with broad revegetated connections across the landscape. And, of course, to control foxes and cats.

HEARTFELT THANKS

by Lin Fairlie

I am sure that many Barung members and present and former staff would like to join with the Barung Management Committee in saying a very sad farewell to Mim Coulstock as she leaves the Barung 'tin shed'.

Mim has decided that after ten years at Barung other aspects of life are beckoning.

We are very sorry that Mim will not be returning to the staff after her long service leave so we can only thank her for the wonderful contributions she made to education within Barung, to the newsletter as editor for a number of years, to a number of very successful NHT projects and most recently to Expo.

The Barung Maleny Wood Expo, previously known as 'From Chainsaw to Fine Furniture Wood Expo', blossomed under her direction and evolved into a major community event.

Barung is like a very large family where members leave, often returning later in a different capacity.

It is always great to see 'family members' even if for a brief visit so we expect that Mim will make occasional visits, even if initially only to buy plants. Maybe later she will join in as a volunteer.

Our heartfelt thanks, and good wishes for the future, Mim.

LANDCARING IN ACTION



Mim Coulstock, Joel Bolzenius (BMRG) and Brendan Stephen at Mim's property. [Photo courtesy of Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee]

Joel Bolzenius, Projects Coordinator (BMRG), recently visited Mim Coulstock's Curramore property with Brendan Stephen, Barung Contracting Services, to review work on the koala corridor connecting with adjacent properties.

Work has been undertaken along this corridor by a Barung-hosted Green Corp team in 2007, Barung Contracting Services, and of course, with great energy and enthusiasm by Mim herself.

SO LONG FROM MIM

Dear Darryl and the Barung Family,

As you know, my employment with Barung Landcare will officially end this coming Thursday 27th March 2008.

I would like you to please tell the staff and Management Committee that the past 10 years have been a wonderful time for me, but that after almost 11 years in the Barung tin shed, it is time for me to move on.

Barung and friends have taught me a huge amount about working and living in a community, about the natural environment in which we are lucky enough to find ourselves



and about respecting and valuing all the little qualities that each and every person associated with Barung brings to the organisation. Above all it has taught me that acting locally should never be underestimated.

Barung and friends have also taught me a lot about myself – about addressing and overcoming some of my personal shortcomings, and about learning to apply my more positive qualities to encourage others within the organisation to reach beyond their perceived capacities. You have helped me develop many talents of which I was totally unaware.

It has been a wonderful journey that has made me a better person and I thank everyone – from my early days to the present – staff, committee members, volunteers, customers and the wider Barung family. It has been a pleasure and an honour to be a part of such a fine group.

I will continue to be involved at some level in the future – in ways that will become clearer as we all move forward. Please remain friends and keep in touch – I know that I will miss you all. I will especially miss the planning and dreaming for a better local environment and the scheming that went into bringing it to reality. And I will definitely miss the close companionship of the fine Barung staff.

We all have our shortcomings, but I urge you all to make sure that the open and equitable atmosphere that has served the organisation so well in the past is carried on into the future. To me Barung always was, and should be, a level playing field where everyone's opinions are valued and listened to.

So folks – please ring me if you need to or want to. I'll be a regular drop-in for coffees and the stimulation of environmental discussions, and remember that my door is always open to all of you.

Mim Coulstock.



RIGHT PLANTS IN THE RIGHT PLACES

BARUNG CONTRACTING by Brendan Stephen

A shout-out to the great custodians of this land, the Gubbi Gubbi, those who looked over this place for countless generations, who have been here since time immemorial. Acknowledgement given to the dedication and commitment of the Barung Contracting Services crew; without you amazing people the local ecology would be less functional and my existence less rewarding.

Although species diversity is an essential component of any revegetation project, the long-term structural integrity of plantings is often not considered in detail in the initial project planning stage. It is often assumed that the random placement of species within a site will eventually sort themselves out and form some type of forest community without proactive human intervention.

In a natural context, successional processes allow the eventual mature-phase species composition and strata layers to develop. This is exactly what we are attempting to re-create with revegetation plantings, but we are just accelerating the process. But when you throw a suite of aggressive weed species into the matrix, these successional processes are arrested at best, if not reversed.

In the right places

Put simply, if the right species are not put in the right place, community structure will not develop and the result can be substantial gaps within the overstorey and along the edge of the site. Ecologically this can result in:

- limited cover for sensitive mature-phase species
- lack of essential microclimate development
- need for constant management of 'edge effects'
- decreased resilience of the system to disturbance, and
- limited niche development for local wildlife.

Financially, the maintenance bill for continual weed control can go on indefinitely and into the tens of thousands of dollars.

When Barung Contracting undertakes revegetation and regeneration work, we are attempting to emulate the natural dynamics of a forest where species perform specific functions for the overall functioning of the community. If species are placed randomly around a site, these roles are not fulfilled and this can result in project failure, impacting on the general public's 'acceptance' of ecological restoration in general and the availability of future funding for this valuable work.



Effectively sealed edges create a dark cool interior core. [Photos by Brendan Stephen]



A sealed edge from outside the plot.

Pioneer species protect and build

When suitable species are placed in appropriate positions, pioneer stock with their accelerated growth rates can provide a canopy within 2-3 years. Pioneer species usually deposit excessive amounts of organic matter, enriching the soil biota with their leaf litter and encouraging wildlife through the provision of shelter and resources. Pioneer species provide protection from solar radiation and wind exposure for the slower-growing late secondary and tertiary species. Once a canopy has developed, lower strata components can eventually become established, further enhancing the structural integrity and functional capacity of the system.

Once these pioneer species reach the stage of over-maturity (senescence), they are replaced in the canopy by the late secondary and tertiary species they have been protecting, ensuring that the canopy remains intact.

Margins

The margins of plantings can be continually troublesome and present constant management problems due to levels of solar radiation, temperature fluctuations and wind exposure. These factors not only limit the growth rates of planted stock but can also provide the opportunity for weed growth. In natural rainforest, 'edge effects' do not exist due to the occupation of this niche by specific species which perform the role of mitigating

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Barung Contracting

revegetation
bush regeneration
landscape rehabilitation
environmental weed control
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indigenous tubestock
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coordinator 0429 943 156 barung landcare 07 5494 3151 www.barunglandcare.org.au contracting@barunglandcare.org.au

WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

Right Plants in the Right Places

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View Road, take a look at the edge of the forest and you will see a wall of leaves at every stratum, from the ground layer up to the canopy. This edge allows the development of an inner core area away from such edges where soil moisture levels, humidity and temperatures are relatively constant, promoting the luxurious growth associated with subtropical rainforest communities.

'Edge effects' in revegetation projects can be managed through a variety of strategies at different scales. The site should be sufficiently large and appropriately shaped to ensure the margins provide a sufficient buffer for the development of a core area. The outer two rows of the planting should be comprised of 'edge' species which exhibit characteristics that effectively 'seal' the edge, again to support the development of the essential core area.

If an effective edge isn't established, the excessive light levels will allow a wide range of weed species to continue to grow within the outer margins. These weeds compete with planted stock for nutrients and moisture and can smother and result in stock losses, further increasing project costs which are ALWAYS stretched anyway.

Structural integrity is an essential component of revegetation projects. If the appropriate species aren't strategically placed in the initial planting phase, it is unlikely that the community will be functional in the long term.

Next time you are choosing species for your projects, remember that species diversity is not the only important factor. Where those species are placed within the planting is also critical.

Crew News

Barung Contracting Services have hit the ground running this year with a substantial increase in the workload, both on the ground and in the office. The development of a two-team work crew has allowed the progression of the skills base of our core staff to include various avenues of project management, a role that Jake and Michael have excelled in so far. They should be commended for their efforts: thank you guys for performing your roles above and beyond your required duties.

Our onground crew has expanded to include a range of fulltime and part-time casuals working as the RIBBONWOOD and CUDGERIE crews, managed by Jake and Michael respectively. The levels of ecological knowledge and onground experience are



New Barung Contracting Services crew member Bob Burns.

well balanced in both crews. On special days both teams combine in the creation a synergistic energy wielding infinite regeneration and revegetation power!

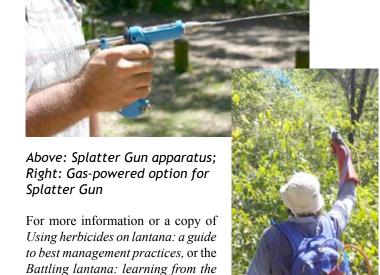
A big welcome to Matt Bateman, Bob Burns and Gordon Jones who have joined the Barung Contracting Services Crew. All three have extensive experience in ecological restoration and an inherent motivation for rehabilitating our fragmented landscape. Welcome also to Kennedy Webb.

I look forward to working with you in the field when I can escape the clutches of the paperwork demons.

SPLATTER GUN CONTROL FOR LANTANA



Splatter-gunned lantana - 2 months after herbicide application



Email: lantanaWoNS@dpi.qld.gov.au

Website: www.weeds.org.au

experiences of others DVD, contact

the Lantana Weeds of National Sig-

nificance (WoNS) team on

MAPPING CAMPHORS

To support the Sunshine Coast Camphor Laurel Timber Initiative's Cooroy mill with its removal of older camphor laurel trees, SEQ Catchments has been working with local community groups, Spatial 3i Pty Ltd, the University of the Sunshine Coast, local councils and the Cooroy mill to compare colour bands captured by the SPOT satellite with community mapping during the spring flush.

Together they are steadily building up a picture of where the camphors are in the Sunshine Coast landscape, what soil types they are found on, and how best they can be removed to avoid regrowth. This year the mapping project will be extended beyond the trial areas of Maroochy, Mooloolah and Kin Kin.

For more information contact Susie Chapman at SChapman@ seqcatchments.com.au or 0400 910 682.

STUFF:

Where it comes from, where it goes, & why it matters

According to Brian Swimme, mathematical cosmologist, consumerism has become the dominant world faith, and through our adoption of this new religion of the modern age we have lost any real sense of cosmology, that is, our basic grasp of the world's meaning and our place in it. We are unable to appreciate the interconnected web of which we are inextricably a part (*The Hidden Heart of the Cosmos* 1996, Brian Swimme).

Is it any wonder then that we are blind to the effects our current modes of consumption are having on sustainability (defined by one commentator as 'the long-term vitality of human societies and the natural world'): environmental, social and economic.

A good short film (20 minutes), aptly named *The Story of Stuff*, is available for viewing on the internet at

www.storyofstuff.com

Not overly exciting animation but the simplicity adds to, rather than detracts from, the points being made. Although focussed on the US and citing mainly US statistics, its general premise is applicable world-wide, particularly to us in the 'west'.



The film begins by recognising the elements of a material economy - extraction, production, distribution, consumption and disposal, and points out that this model of resource exploitation is a linear system that is inherently unsustainable in a finite natural world based on cyclic systems. It takes a holistic view of these inter-connected elements and explores each in terms of their physical, social and financial effects on our world, that is, in terms of sustainability. In

fact the film's strength lies in concisely describing each of these disparate elements, demonstrating their inter-connectedness and succinctly presenting the holistic effect their summation has on society and the environment.

To begin with, *Extraction*: the mining of natural resources such as fossil fuel, water, minerals, soil, etc. According to *Stuff* the problem here is that we are using too much stuff, employing extraction processes that cause too much degradation and we don't share the stuff equitably.

Production: the consumption of energy to add toxic chemicals to natural resources to produce toxic products; toxic to workers, consumers and the environment.

Distribution: transporting and selling all the stuff quickly and cheaply; often this is achieved by externalising the costs associated with production and distribution.

Consumption: some of us are consuming far too much while others are unable to consume enough to survive – 'live simply that others may simply live'.

Disposal: high rates of consumption are producing so much waste that disposal systems can't keep up and large amounts of energy are consumed attempting to do so.

Our culture's love affair with the modern consumerist lifestyle could well be the root cause of all our environmental and social woes. The complexity of the problem means that there is no simple solution. However the Australian organisation Fair Share International has come up with a multi-faceted approach which some may find inspiring. Take a look at their website, where they suggest a model to live by that redistributes monetary wealth while preserving the natural wealth upon which we all depend:

www.fairshareinternational.org

Or as they suggest, 'closing the gap between our comfort and other people's misery'.

An Australian commentator with a similar bent is Ted Trainer, author of *The Simpler Way*, a website with a wealth of information, views and commentary on the why and how of reducing consumption. It is definitely worth a look:

http://ssis.arts.unsw.edu.au/tsw/

The important thing is to recognise how we are all contributing to the dilemma, then deciding what choices we will make in our 'backyards' to enhance 'the long-tem vitality of human societies and the natural world'.

BARUNG WORKSHOPS

Fencing

Still no date set because the fencing contractor is still waiting for Council to establish the property boundary line. We are hoping for April. Thank you to all who have expressed interest for your patience. I will contact you as soon as I have a date confirmed.

Electric Fencing

Hopefully in April if there is enough interest. An industry representative will be on hand to complement the practical aspects of the workshop. Please see the Fridge Calendar and keep an eye on the *Range News* for further advice.

Filter Strips

A workshop examining the transfer of water-borne pollutants (nutrients, pesticides, etc), both above and below ground, and the design of pollutant filter strips (native forest, pastures, widths, orientation, etc) – planned for April.

Keyline

It looks like we have funding for the Keyline workshop with Ken Yeomans flagged in the last newsletter. Please see the Fridge Calendar and *Range News* for the date and time.

Small Landholders Practical Workshop/s

Being planned for the Wood Expo weekend, these workshops will be aimed at issues of relevance to small landholders, particularly forest revegetation and regeneration. Topics so far being considered revolve around Revegetation Projects, including Planning & Designing, Preparing Your Site, and Maintaining Your Site. These will be of a practical nature and held in the field.

For all of the above workshops please indicate an expression of interest or book a place by calling Barung on 5494 3151, or for more information call Jonathan on 0429 943 151.

KEEP THAT SOIL COVERED

THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN by Joan Dillon

The change of season has certainly been welcome; cooler days, a little less rain and slowing growth. At last a chance to get to grips with all that summer weed growth! The trusty brushcutter is proving very effective in amongst the revegetation but it's not very practical in the garden, other than along edges. Hence my current problem.

A couple of years ago I decided to experiment with planting a range of colourful, open forest understorey species on a relatively dry ex-lantana slope some distance from the house. Pultanaeas, a low spiky grevillea, our local *Banksia integrifolia*, a shrubby tea tree and so on. All were initially well mulched and all did rather better than expected, providing a delightful display of flowers the following spring. The mulch layer gradually decayed and for various reasons, mostly to do with time, was not renewed. The plants were, however, spreading nicely and hand weeding wasn't a big issue despite the sunny position and absence of a canopy.

Enter our recent summer with its high rainfall and temperatures combined with a holiday absence and an otherwise busy schedule. The weeds went absolutely berserk. Bare soil, sun and rain — what weed could ask for more. The shrubs are only just visible, a couple have probably died although it's a bit hard to tell until they've been uncovered, and there's a huge hand-weeding job ahead. If the area had been mulched before the summer, there would have been some weed growth but nothing like the present disaster which, of course, now includes a renewed bank of weed seed in the soil.

Other areas of the garden, where established shrubs completely hide the ground and seal the edges, have no weeds at all.

It's been a classic demonstration of the need to keep the ground covered, not only to help retain soil moisture, but also to discourage weed seed germination. It's also a good idea to conduct experiments within easy reach of the house so that any resultant problems are highly visible, providing strong incentive to deal with them!

The experimental open forest understorey will probably require a re-think. It may have to revert to a proven species mix with dense foliage rather than colourful flowers that requires less maintenance.

Another area which was always going to be a maintenance problem because of the slope and aspect was planted with *Poa labillardieri* as an understorey to a range of regional banksias. While weeds are present there too, the native grass has regularly produced seed and steadily moved down the slope, generally outcompeted the weedy annuals, and formed a dense cover. The result has been reasonably successful and, above all, manageable.

Every gardener likes to experiment. The more space available, the greater the temptation. However, be very aware of the maintenance issues, use mulch until the ground can no longer be seen under the shrubs, and choose your species carefully. I must learn to practise what I preach!

Please keep showing your ...

Barung Community Benefit key tags

... when shopping at Maleny IGA

SEEN AN ECHIDNA LATELY?

Wildlife Queensland's EchidnaWatch project gathers information on the distribution and abundance of echidnas across the state and they'd like your help. The short-beaked echidna, one of Australia's most widespread and well-recognised animals, is officially listed as common and not under threat. Yet little is known about the current population status of this unique and iconic animal.

To contribute and for more info:

Website: www.wildlife.org.au

and search on EchidnaWatch

Logo competition

Design a logo for EchidnaWatch and send it to wpsq@wildlife. org.au. Every entry received before 30 April 2008 goes in the draw to win a BBC natural history DVD.

RARE FROGS IN OUR REGION AMONG WORLD'S MOST ENDANGERED

Two species of very rare frogs in the Mary region are now on the list of the world's most endangered amphibians. Earlier this year, the Zoological Society of London released a list of the 100 most endangered species of amphibians which it says are threatened by extinction.

Biodiversity Conservation Regional Coordinator Rachel Lyons said that she was sad to see that the region continues to be over represented with threatened species. 'I hope that the Zoological Society's list will get people interested in protecting the habitat of these species,' she said.

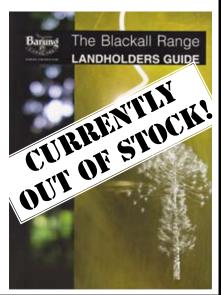
The two Mary species listed were Fleays Barred Frog which occurs in the Conondales (upper Mary catchment) down to NSW (at Number 31) and the Giant Barred Frog which occurs in the middle and upper Mary catchment and down to mid-eastern NSW, popping up in some unusual places (at Number 32).

The Kroombit Tinkerfrog, which occurs only at Kroombit Tops in 200 ha of habitat also in the Burnett Mary region, came in at number 19.

Blackall Range Landholders Guide

Written by local experts for local conditions, this guide is inspiring and informative for old residents and new, on a suburban block or large acreage.

Produced by Barung Landcare Association



JUNCUS USITATUS

Common Reed, Mat Rush, Pin Rush

PLANT PROFILE by Dawn Worthington

The Common Reed is an Australian native that commonly grows along waterways, on creekbanks and in wetland areas. Native *Juncus spp.* (from the family of Juncaceae) occur in many parts of Australia.

The Common Reed's fine, arching stems have led it to be utilised in landscaping where the blue-green tussock can be a feature in itself. An emergent, densely tufted, rhizomatous perennial with terete (cylindrical) culms (stems), it grows to 90–120 cm tall. It is often found in association with other sedges, rushes, grasses and wetland species, including Lomandra species and is often found locally in company with Swamp Foxtail Grass *Pennisetum alopecuroides*. *Juncus usitatus* is used within the wet-zone on regeneration or revegetation sites and can act as a weed retardant when used as a ground cover.

This species grows well in areas that retain water after periods of rain and are dry at other times, and is fairly drought tolerant. It is often used in wetland rehabilitation as it grows readily in open and exposed conditions. It can tolerate very damp soils and periodically wet sites, making it a very good plant for dam overflow areas where nutrient and soil traps, erosion control and filtration are required.

Away from the Coast this species is used as a dryland salinity indicator as it is also salt tolerant.

Juncus usitatus provides frog-friendly habitat and is a useful household frog or fish pond plant. Plant the Common Reed at water level so that it sits on the water's edge, remembering it will tolerate sitting in water for some time after heavy rains. Common Rush stems are commonly found as part of Satin Bowerbird bowers and the species is common at Black Duck nest sites.

Two methods are commonly used to propagate Juncus usitatus

 division and seed. Here in the Nursery we propagate the species by seed.

The seed head is ripe when it is turning brown and a light dust appears when it is shaken. Don't shake too much, because the dust is the seed itself! Place the seed head in a paper-bag to completely dry out. Then use a kitchen sieve to 'strain' the seed – the seed will actually fall through the sieve so have a container ready to collect it. Fresh seed germinates fairly reliably and the seed can also be stored, so long as it is dry, in an air-tight container in a cool place.

To germinate the seed, combine it with some very fine sand and use a salt-n-pepper shaker to sprinkle it very lightly over propagation mix. Don't cover with any more mix. Take care at this stage – we always sow a lot more than we intend! Watering the seed can be a bit tricky because it's easy to 'water' the seed out of the tray.



Juncus usitatus at the Barung Nursery. [Photo by Dawn]

NEW PRODUCTS?

NURSERY NOTES by Dawn Worthington

As some of you would know, we've been extremely busy. Wayne and I are once again indebted to our vollies, both nursery and admin, who assist us in what we do on a day-to-day basis. Thank you all very much. Just think: if you guys didn't do the work you do here in the nursery, we wouldn't – no, couldn't – survive! It's very true, especially so as Wayne is on holidays as we speak.

The nursery vollies have 'brush-turkey' proofed the propagation igloo, so hopefully all sown seed will now be safe from turkey attack. We have potted up lots of varieties of plants to be available for sale soon, so come in and see what stock can be planted out before winter sets in. With all this lovely rain, the 'normal planting' season has been somewhat extended.

Speaking of these wonderful contributors, Barung is in need of your assistance at the Barung Maleny Wood Expo. We need help setting up and pulling down the display in the 'Barung Tent' as well as 'manning the stall' so that we can all have a breather every now and then. Even an hour's assistance would greatly be appreciated. So please call me or drop us an email to register your interest on:

Phone: **07 5494 3151** or

Email: dawn@barunglandcare.org.au

Calling our VOLLIES

PUT

TUESDAY 8TH or THURSDAY 10TH APRIL
IN YOUR DIARY OR
ON YOUR CALENDAR

We will be celebrating National Volunteers Week a little early this year as May is absolutely and completely booked out.

Wayne and I would like to invite all volunteers, whether nursery, admin, seed collector, walking and talking guide or Management committee member, to a treeplant of understorey and edge species along the Obi Boardwalk. We have allocated two days, a Tuesday and a Thursday, so we should be able to accommodate everyone for a tree plant and of course a sausage sizzle afterwards. Please RSVP to Jane or contact the Nursery so we have numbers for catering and no one misses out.

Calling for IDEAS

I am seeking ideas for 'other products' that people would like to buy or see sold in the 'retail section' of the nursery. Plant stakes, potting media, fertilizers and so forth have been suggested. Please make your views known to me and we will see what can be organised. Yes, we know Jane wants gnomes!

Cat's away...

Wayne is on holidays, and I hope he is enjoying his break. Word is he's laying timber floor boards at home, so be patient with me whilst I do some plant ID.

We had some very interesting seed brought in the other day: Turnipwood *Akania bidwillii*. We haven't propagated this species before. Two different seed collectors from two different sites brought the seed in on the same day so we will see how it turns out. Apparently it takes up to 200 days to germinate, so the countdown has started.

CJP TEAM JOINS BARUNG



Tony Ullman, Peter Boundy and Lindsay Thomas join Barung as CJP participants. [Photo by Dawn Worthington]

Congratulations to the three new CJP (Community Jobs Plan) participants being hosted by Barung. The three men have been kept busy assisting us in all those 'extra' activities that just do not get done, as well as completing their Senior First Aid and Level 1 Chainsaw courses. They have been mostly working in the Nursery as well as helping out with other aspects of Barung's activities such as the Maleny Wood Expo and Barung Contracting Services. Tony has been working on our plant database and has set up our new printer so we can now print out our 'own' labels!

BARUNG TREES TO WOODFORD



Troy Baxter, Property Manager at the Woodford Folk Federation site, and Dawn Worthington with the first 1000 of 5000 Barung plants on their way to Forest Woodford.

The Barung plants are provided as sponsorship matching the tree sponsorships sold at the 07/08 Woodford Folk Festival.

RUSSELL FAMILY PARK

A number of Barung members are working closely with the Montville Village Association and the Sunshine Coast Regional Council to make a difference in Russell Family Park.

Barung Landcare Nursery, with the help of a donation from Rainforest Rescue, is pleased to be able to make an initial contribution of 200 rainforest tubestock to this important revegetation project in Montville.

To find out about Rainforest Rescue and to make donations: www.rainforestrescue.org.au

Hollow Log Homes for sale at Barung



Small parrot \$71

Small bat \$71

> Glider \$71

Possum \$85

Richmond Birdwing message goes out

Ray Seddon, Coordinator of the Richmond Birdwing Recovery Network, and Barung's own Fuschia recently addressed students at Chancellor Park State School as part of their Wildlife Warriors Programme.

Ray expressed appreciation to the staff and pupils of that school for their action in participating in this programme to recover threatened species.

If you or your group are interested in a presentation on the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly and the Recovery Network's activities, call Fuschia on 5494 3151.

Threatened Species Network COMMUNITY GRANTS

Community groups are invited to apply for up to \$50,000 to conduct on-ground conservation work for the ongoing health of our natural environment, specifically targeting the needs of nationally threatened species and ecological communities.

Round 11 funding is available for activities such as habitat restoration, weeding, feral animal control, population surveys and monitoring, fencing, and fire management.

Project ideas must be discussed with the TSN Coordinator for your region prior to submitting an application.

Due date: 5 pm Friday 30 May (hardcopy originals required) Guidelines and form:

www.wwf.org.au/tsn

Qld Coordinator:

Rebecca Richardson rrichardson@wwf.org.au 07 3012 7574







OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES ...

Tropical Vegetable Workshop Sat 5 April or Sat 24 May, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm Maroochy Community Permaculture Gardens

Tropical vegetables such as cassava, aibika, Tahitian spinach, pitpit and sweet potato are amongst the vegetables explored on the day. The community gardens demonstrate these vegetables with their support species. The vegetables will be harvested for the workshop lunch where all the participants will be assigned a simple recipe to create a very unusual but delicious lunch!

More info: Elisabeth Fekonia at elisabeth@permacultureproduce.info

Web: www.permacultureproduce.info

'A Green Future? Biodiversity under Climate Change' Forum

Sat 12 April, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm, Pullenvale

To explore the impacts of climate change on the biodiversity of south-east Queensland, and strategies for mitigation.

More info: Rachel Griffiths on 3878 5088 or

theca@hotkey.net.au

Web: www.theca.asn.au

FUTURE READY – Think Global Act Local

18-19 April 2008, Lake Kawana Community Ctre

Two day festival of practical information and strategies for the future challenges in our daily lives Find some answers to how you can take steps in your daily life to enable a sustainable future.

More info: 5442 1555 or

admin@futureready.org.au Web: www.futureready.org.au

The Future of Farming Wed 23 April, Brisbane

Experts and rural industry leaders will discuss major global and sectoral economic and environmental trends, their impact on agriculture and challenges and opportunities farmers will face over the next decade. Organised by Qld Farmers' Federation.

More info: Jamie O'Brien at

jamie@qff.org.au or 07 3837 4747

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* (700 distribution) 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.

Climate Change Boot Camp

Wed 30 April, 8.30 am - 4 pm, Breakfast Creek

Skills-based professional development forum to help environmental practitioners address climate change impacts using new knowledge, tools and case studies.

More info: Danielle Bolton at

seq@eianz.org or 07 5429 8480

Web: www.eianzseq.org

Sustainability Fair

Sat 17 May, 10 am - 3 pm, Caboolture Region Environment Education Centre (CREEC)

Recycling, water conservation, energy efficiency and caring for the catchment are just a handful of the topics to be addressed by 100 exhibitors of products, services and information, along with activities on a variety of sustainability and green living topics. Expo attractions will include talks, displays, food, entertainment, demonstrations and activities for children.

More info: www.creec.org.au

19th Annual Queensland Landcare Conference

21-24 September, Monto

This year's conference, themed Infinity Sustainability by Design and hosted by North Burnett Landcare Group, will include keynote speakers, interactive workshops, lively plenary sessions, regional field trips and a trade exhibition with more than 20 exhibitors.

More info: www.landcare.org.au /Conference.htm

Grants

Small Grants for Small Rural Communities

www.frrr.org.au

Norman Wettenhall Foundation Grants

www.nwf.org.au/grants/index.html

Landcare Australia Ltd Grants

www.landcareonline.com

Carbon Offset Guide

The Carbon Offset Guide Australia, developed through a partnership between EPA Victoria and Global Sustainability RMIT, is intended to be a resource that provides an independent directory of Australian carbon offset providers:

www.carbonoffsetguide.com.au

What does your garden grow?

Tools and techniques to reduce the impact of weeds in our gardens and on the unique Australian environment. Includes trainer resource material. Developed by the Weeds CRC. Look under Education & Training at:

www.weeds.crc.org.au

TO MARKET TO MARKET

by Pat Fuller

Barung Landcare is proud to auspice the recently started **Blackall Range Growers' Market**.

Farmers' markets have been rapidly appearing all over the country in the last ten years, indicating how many of us would really like to take a little more time to chew over the good things in life!

It has been proven that these markets, full of the food and other produce of the local region, help to foster community spirit and strengthen the local economy, creating respect within the community for their local area.

Farmers' markets connect customers with growers to say that this is food you can trust. These markets allow buyers to take home something fresh that's been grown and sold with pride.

The Blackall Range Growers' Market provides a good choice of locally grown produce and value added goods (based on a high locally grown content), as well as native plants, vegetable seedlings, flowers, seafood, and bread. We expect even more choice will develop as time passes.

Held in the leafy grounds of the Old Witta School on Witta Road, this site was chosen for its historical connections with the area, its rural atmosphere and parking facilities. It was also felt this site would help connect towns on the Blackall Range and build bridges between farmers, small producers, backyard growers and home gardeners.

The **Blackall Range Growers Market** is held every third Saturday in the month from 7:30 am to 12:30 pm.

EXCEPT APRIL: The April Market will be on the 4th Saturday, **April 26th**.

Market dates for 2008 are listed on the Market flyer, which you can pick up from Barung Landcare.

Enquiries: Pat Fuller Phone: 5499 9924

email: fullmarks@digisurf.com.au



Adrian Anderson has the café lattés all udder control for Barung at the Blackall Range Growers' Market, using coffee donated by Montville Coffee and the donated coffee machine. [Photo by Darryl Ebenezer]

SULPHUR-CRESTED HELPERS

by Lin Fairlie

I used to think that the African Tulip tree (Spathodea campanulata) was lovely with its large redorange flowers. Quite a useful middle-sized tree, in fact. But that was before 'environmental weeds' entered my consciousness, especially ones with wind-blown seeds.



Recently I observed, day after day, a flock of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos doing a fine job breaking open the long green, pointed pods and eating the immature seeds.

It is a pity that not all immature wind-blown weed seeds in pod, such as Moth Vine (*Araujia sericifera*) and Yellow Bells (*Tecoma stans*), are attractive to birds.

BARUNG ENVIRONMENTAL GIFT FUND NEWS

After much deliberation and research, the Gift Fund committee have agreed to fund an upgrade to the Barung Landcare membership database.

'I am looking forward to the opportunity to enhance the services offered and the information provided to our members. This new membership database covers all the areas we need as well as giving me plenty to learn,' commented Val, our volunteer membership coordinator.

Over the next few months you will see a change in the membership services offered. As well, we will be sending you a request to update your information.

Claire Booth and Marek Malter, convenors of the Gift Fund, said, 'The Gift Fund Committee looks forward to meeting Barung members and prospective Gift Fund donors at our stand at the Maleny Wood Expo this year.'

NHT1 projects on CD

This CD shares valuable information on approximately 1000 NHT1 projects funded in Queensland, and provides a searchable summary and a catalogue of materials produced under these projects and available for loan, including reports, CDs, photos, maps, field guides etc.

For a copy of the CD, contact Claire Carter at Community Partnerships in the Department of Natural Resources and Water on claire.carter@nrw.qld.gov.au or 07 3224 2323.

Renew your Barung membership or buy books from Barung's Bookshop over the phone with your credit card

Thank you to...

- ... Maleny Library for the fantastic bookshelves!
- ... **Mrs Jacobs** for her kind donation to the Environmental Gift Fund
- ... Bank of Queensland for the photocopier
- ... **Susie Duncan** for the 'Living With Nature' workshops and walks
- ... **Tony Bright** and **Wayne Webb** for their presentations at the Frog Workshop
- ... **Joan Dillon** for volunteering to speak at the Peachester Garden Club and thanks again to Joan for writing Barung's articles for the *Hinterland Times*
- ... **Pierre** for helping with the database for plant species lists
- ... **Ray Seddon** and **Fuschia** for doing a Threatened Species/ Richmond Birdwing Butterfly presentation to Chancellor Park College 'Wildlife Warriors'
- ... **All who donated** to the Maleny IGA Treeplant donations are now closed and a final treeplant will be organised soon
- ... Deanne Grace, Kerry Sluggett, Noel Denning, Faye Smith, Max Smith, Col & Val Phillips for help with the Feb-March *Barung News* mail-out. Well done team.

To the helpers at the last two Witta Markets:

- ... **Karen Barnett** and the **Montville Coffee** crew for kindly donating coffee beans to the Barung stall
- ... **Matt Burton** of Two Cups, Spring Hill (Brisbane, 3236 9226) for the VERY reasonably priced coffee machine
- ... **Lindsay**, **Peter** and **Tony** from the CJP team for building boxes to carry the coffee machine to Markets
- ... **Phil Clarke** of **Top of the Range Meats** for yummy sausages, bacon and eggs
- ... Maleny Hot Bread for great rolls and bread
- ... Darryl Ebenezer, coffee and ideas man
- ... Dawn Worthington, all-round life saver
- ... **Amber Worthington**, a great help with serving
- ... Neil Andison, technical support and cooking
- ... **Emma Butler** for her help with cooking and serving
- ... Jane Williamson for cakes and biscuits
- ... Janet Webb, Flag Wizard
- ... Adrian Anderson, Barista Extraordinaire!

And a 'thank you' to the volunteers from the Neighbourhood Centre – **Eric**, **Hanno**, **Clair** and **Meryl** – it was a pleasure working with you! You did a wonderful job with the BBQ and serving.

To the Volunteers who helped over Easter, selling Wood Expo Raffle Tickets at the Community Centre Kiosk:

Fuschia Collard	Clair Michelle	Ryan Webb
Samara Collard	John Muir	Jane
Betty Diefenbach	Bridget Sparks	Williamson
Gretchen Evans	Heather Spring	
Lin Fairlie	Jonathan Waites	
Lynne Francis	Janet Webb	

LETTERS

Support over years much appreciated

Dear Heather and friends

This just a small note to say a great thank you to Barung Landcare and its dedicated membership in assisting me over many years. Your educational programs for the community, encouraging landholders to value their natural environment and manage it well, are recognised throughout the region. The community's recognition of Barung's commitment to the community and what it stands for is well recognised and very much appreciated by myself and many others.

I sincerely wish you and your organisation the very best for the future whatever projects you take on. Your ethical and material support on a number of occasions when I was in difficult times is very much appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Contact me if I can be of assistance to you.

Kind regards

Ashley Sewell

Retired (Natural Resource Officer, Dept of Natural Resources and Water)

A Big 'Thank you'

To everyone at Barung

Congratulations on the wonderful Bunya Dreaming Festival. Our sincere thanks to all those who planned and worked hard to make this a very special day.

Ray and I had never been before, but we did so enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and the lovely friendly people, and of course the games and talks were great entertainment. Best of all was the inspiration passed onto us all, especially by Bev Hand who is in herself a great entertainer; her stories kept us captivated.

Pam & Ray Seddon



Barung's gorgeous new shelves, a much appreciated donation from the Maleny Library.

The Barung Bookshop

17 Bicentenary Lane, Maleny

More than 40 book titles, posters, CDs, cassettes & gift ideas

View titles at

www.barunglandcare.com.au/bookshop.htm

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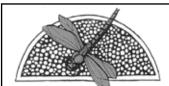
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PICTURE WHAT IT WAS LIKE

by Dianna O'Connor

When I lived in Bardon in Brisbane I met an elderly man living in my street by the name of Ernest Ewing. He told me this story about life on the Blackall Range when he was young.

His father was an English lace designer who had trained in Paris. When machines took over lace-making he lost his livelihood. As the father of six boys, he decided to emigrate to Australia.

On arriving in Brisbane, the family was met on the docks by a farmer from Maleny who was seeking labourers. The farmer discovered that Mrs Ewing was a midwife and that the father and boys were all strong-looking lads except for my neighbour Ernest, who was the youngest and a small lad. (As he told me his story in the early 1990s, Ernest was an active man of 90 years.)

The farmer took the family to Maleny to help him on his dairy farm. They cleared rainforest. As they became men his older brothers worked in logging camps with Ernest doing the cooking. Life was hard work.

Ernest told me of the birds that filled the forest. He said, 'A third of our meat was rainforest pigeons. We would imitate their calls and up they would come and we would shoot them.'

He demonstrated the call of the Wompoo Fruit-dove for me, still beautifully done some 80 years later. Then the Wonga Pigeon.

Over 90 per cent of the Range rainforests have been cleared. Small gems like Mary Cairncross remain. I can imagine, from Ernest's recount, what the area must have been like with such numbers of colourful fruit-doves roaming the forest.

When you choose what trees to plant, give a thought to the trees species that provide food for the fruit-eating bird species that are in our area.

Quite a lot is known about their diet and Barung has a list of favoured species as well as a wide variety of species that are foraged sporadically throughout the year. These include the figs, Cryptocaryas and Litseas, among others.

The Barung Family

BARUNG VOLUNTARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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Vice President

Peter Stevens

Secretary

Lin Fairlie

Treasurer

David Binstead

Committee Members

Eric Anderson

Kate Fraser

Kate Fraser
Pat Fuller
Matt McIntyre
Dianna O'Connor
Clayton Stokoe
Steve Swayne

Steve Swayne John Wightman **BARUNG STAFF**

Assistant Nursery Manager Barung Contracting Coordinator

Manager
Administration Officer
Volunteer Coordinator
BMRG Regional Liaise

Nursery Manager

BMRG Regional Liaison Officer Sustainable Landuse Officer & more Maleny Wood Expo Coordinator Pink Underwing Moth project officer Editor, *Barung News*

Editor, *Barung News* and *The CODLine*

Steve McLeish Eve Witney

Wayne Webb

Dawn Worthington

Brendan Stephen

Darryl Ebenezer

Fuschia Collard

Jane Williamson

Jonathan Waites

Eve Witney

John Muir

And our many Volunteers, Labour Team Participants, and Members

If undeliverable please return to:

Barung Landcare 17 Bicentenary Lane Maleny QLD 4552

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