

Staff changes in the Barung Office

Mim Coulstock

2005 is off to a flying start with the re-injection of two old friends into the Barung Resource Centre.

Angela Todd has come back from a six month break to work Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the Admin Officer role. She is job-sharing with Juanita, who will be in the Barung Office on Mondays and Wednesdays. For those of you who are new to Barung, Angie has kept the Admin chair warm for the past five years and we welcome back her impeccable organisational and financial tracking skills. Her 'big picture' overview of Barung's affairs is invaluable for our day-to-day running.

Greg Smyrell, Supervisor of our last Green Corps team, has returned to Barung in the capacity of Reveg and Habitat Officer. We are delighted Greg has accepted the challenge of filling Marc Russell's shoes and are all trying hard to help him get his thoughts around this very broad job.



The difference between admin (dry hair) and reveg (all-weather hair, currently wet)! Angie Todd & Greg Smyrell.

Greg's awesome plant knowledge will be a great asset to Barung, as will be his experience in habitat rehabilitation. Greg is keen to continue on with Marc's Tree ID and Seed Collection Walks on private properties, so if you have a good patch of remnant on your property and would be keen to learn more about what's there, please give him a call. This is a great way for landholders to contribute to Barung's education program.

Katrina Shields will be continuing as Co-Coordinator of Barung until after Expo. She will be occupying the Coordinator's corner at the Resource Centre on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and I will be here on Mondays and Tuesdays.

BARUNG LANDCARE NEWS

February-March 2005



WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

Our Barung & Maleny Wood Expo win Australia Day Awards

At the 2005 Caloundra City Council Australia Day Awards, Mim Coulstock, on behalf of Barung Landcare, accepted the **Community Event of the Year Award** for the Maleny Wood Expo *Chainsaw to Fine Furniture*, for promoting the sustainable use of native and weed timbers and farm forestry as a viable alternative land-use in the region. As Mim said, 'This recognition is very timely as 2005 will be the 10th anniversary of the Expo. Thank you to the volunteers, the Maleny community and all sponsors who have supported the event over the past nine years.'

Later in the day Mim attended the Fisher Community Australia Day Awards to receive another award for **Services to the Environment** on behalf of Barung Landcare.

Our warmest congratulations to **Jan Kesby** of the Moolooloa River Waterwatch and Landcare Group who received the **Citizen of the Year Award** for the passion and initiative she has shown for the environment and her community.



Mim Coulstock receiving Australia Day awards on behalf of the Maleny Wood Expo and Barung Landcare from Caloundra Mayor Don Aldous (above) and the Hon Peter Slipper, Federal Member for Fisher (below).



Barung reviews Strategic Plans

Katrina Shields, Coordinator

The Barung team has spent one and a half valuable days in December and January reviewing our strategic and business plans. Twenty people attended both days which were expertly facilitated by Jill Jordan. It was a satisfying opportunity for staff, management committee members and a few of our many volunteers to come together to get the big picture for Barung Landcare. The past year has seen quite a lot of change leading to an increase in and a turnover of both staff and committee members, so it was also a time for new people to find out more.

The high point of the day was reflecting on our successes. How important it is to pause, recognise and celebrate them!

We also reflected on frustrations and the current major issues for Barung, which mostly relate to the constraints imposed by our current venue – leading to poor work conditions and overcrowding, limiting the resource centre, office and nursery operations – a bit like Alice in Wonderland, with arms and legs sticking out the (termite-eaten) windows! It is also a challenge relating to three regional planning bodies and multiple other funding sources. We are always looking to ways of increasing our financial self-sufficiency, while retaining the values of our community-based movement.

There was lots of good problem solving and we are now in a good position to move ahead with our members into a successful and dynamic 2005.

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

(Compiled by Barry Liddell)

Jim Hunt	Sue Lewis
Kim Elliot	IC Goodall
Jeffery Rayner	Bob Taylor
Mark & Krista Taxis	Tracey Edmonds
Reg Bolton	Mark & Ross Bowden
Jan Ward	Jude Lang
Carol Carlisle	Nev & Pat Yates
Geoff & Helen Eades	Allan Hudson
Brad Williams	Bernadette Welch
Alain & Debora Hilfiker	Dawne & Pierre Domah
Annette Heape	James Newton

WELCOME BACK

A & D Donahave	A & C Hanicek &
R & M Greig	S Schoenberger
R & J Hoare	E & M Owens
D & J Paulson	D HALL
Kathryn Blackburn	Maggie & Steve Lowe

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LANDCARE SUPPORT

BARUNG MEMBERSHIP RATES

Individual / family membership	\$ 20 pa
Business membership	\$ 55 pa
Business sponsorship	\$275 pa

When your business supports Barung Landcare, you will be acknowledged in the bimonthly *Barung Landcare News* (700 distribution) and at Barung displays, and you are entitled to three free trees and discounts on plant purchases at the Nursery.

NOTE: If your cheque is made payable to *Landcare Australia Limited*, the donation portion (\$35) is fully tax deductible.

Contact the office at Barung Landcare on 5494 3151 or email barungadmin@big.net.au for a Business Sponsor form.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Lin Fairlie

The tsunami disaster affecting so many communities in our north must make us all think how fortunate we are. As well as the huge loss of life the prospect of so much land inundated by salt water and the problems this will create for subsistence agriculture in the short to medium term is more than challenging. 2005 will provide challenges for all of us, including Barung, but they will be nothing compared with conditions in these badly affected areas.

One of our first challenges in south-east Queensland is to respond by the end of February to the *Regional Plan for South East Queensland* (released through the State Government Office of Urban Management last November). Copies of this plan are available at Barung, local libraries and on the web at www.oum.qld.gov.au

The plan has some disturbing features as far as Maleny, and some other communities of SEQld, are concerned. Some community members organised an information session in Maleny at the end of January but if you were not able to attend you will see some of the key issues at this website: www.paulsummersplanning.com.au

It is important that as many residents as possible send in submissions which back up the current Caloundra City Plan, which went through considerable community consultation. Aspects of the proposed plan directly oppose the City Plan, especially in terms of the size of the urban footprint for Maleny. While the argument can be put that the urban footprint is only the maximum and need not all be developed, once the development industry sees all the pink on a map there could be no stopping them. This does not augur well for sustainability in this area.

The issue of urban expansion within a water catchment area has not been addressed in the Regional Plan. Water supply for SEQld should be one of the limiting factors for urban expansion but the Plan doesn't take this approach. The hinterland of both the Gold and Sunshine Coasts should be preserved at their current level of development if the population of the more densely packed areas are to have some relatively unspoiled places in which to relax.

Barung will be putting in a response as a Landcare group but it is important that individuals also respond, even if only briefly.

Thinking of responses, Barung submitted quite a comprehensive response to the Burnett Mary Regional Plan which will govern the spending of both Salinity and NHT2 dollars. This was prepared by Eve Witney with assistance from Eric Anderson, Mim Coulstock and Lin Fairlie. Thank you, Eve, for a job well done. This was a more detailed response than we produced to the Regional Plans from NRMSEQ and the Western Catchments, considering the Burnett Mary covers the largest part of Barung's area.

The Expo Office has been set up at Mena and is staffed five days per week. Planning for Expo is well underway. Please keep the Expo dates of April 30th and May 1st and 2nd free to volunteer as a Barung member to the 10th EXPO, and watch the Jobs Vacant column for volunteers needed.

Preliminary steps are occurring for Barung's move to an as yet unidentified site by 2007. As there is an unfilled place on the Management Committee it is an appropriate time to call for expressions of interest from members who may see that they could contribute and feel they have the time to be part of this next exciting phase of Barung.

Please contact Mim, Katrina or me at Barung for more details. Our current team is strong and experienced but could become a little thinly spread as the year progresses.



MALENY WOOD EXPO Update

Mim Coulstock

For the first time ever, the Maleny Wood Expo will not be run from Barung. As of January, we have a dedicated **Expo Office** at 27 Coral St, Maleny. Many thanks to Mike Katsaris for helping with these arrangements.

The Expo now has a dedicated **website**. At this stage it is just a flashpage to promote the event, but it will be upgraded constantly over the next few months. Keep your eye on it for all the Expo news. Thanks to Fergus Reilly for his expertise in making the website a fast reality.

Exciting new items for the 2005 Expo include the **10th Anniversary Expo Dinner** which will be held on 16 April – put this date in your diaries as it promises to be a night to remember.

The other exciting development is that we will be running **Master Wood Classes** at the Expo. Details on both of these will be available through the Expo Office, on the Expo website and in the Range News as soon as they come available.

FACES OF EXPO

The 2005 Expo core team consists of

- * **Mim Coulstock** and **Heather Spring** as Coordinators
- * **Juanita Anderson** on Marketing
- * **Penny Smith** on Graphics.

As of 21 February we will also have a dedicated receptionist – a member of our new Community Jobs Plan team.

The broader team consists of those willing Barung and community members who are

overseeing specific aspects of the Expo as Area Volunteer Coordinators.

Many thanks to

- * **Peter Milton** (EcoTours)
- * **Bridget Sparks** (Raffle)
- * **Eve Witney** (Landcare Paddock Displays)
- * **Inga Green** (History Display)
- * **Jake Smith-Moloney** (Kids in Landcare)
- * **Kate Fraser** (Maleny Country Café)
- * **Lorraine Evans** (Taste Maleny Produce Store)
- * **Bob Hall** (Parking), and
- * **Trish Brunton** (Cash Control).

However – we do still need volunteers to oversee a number of significant areas – Volunteer Coordination, the 10th Anniversary Expo Dinner, the Expo Preview Party, the Landcare Bar & BBQ, the Music/Entertainment Venue and the Speakers Venue. For more detailed descriptions of these positions, see the Expo Positions Vacant section on page 10.

Some of these jobs require certain attributes and skills and some take more time than others.

And then we need everyone's help on the actual Expo weekend – see the Expo Volunteering insert in this Newsletter. Please fill it in and return it to the Expo or Barung Office as soon as possible. This will make the Volunteer Coordinator's job a lot easier.

See you soon!

To contact us at the Expo Office:

ADDRESS:

27 Coral St, Maleny

PHONE:

c/- Barung 5494 3151

EMAIL:

info@malenywoodexpo.com

WEBSITE:

www.malenywoodexpo.com



The Maleny Wood Expo *From Chainsaw to Fine Furniture* is supported by the Queensland Events Regional Development Program, partnered with Telstra Country Wide. The program is a State Government initiative designed to take unique and creative events to their full potential to increase local economic activity and development.

Many thanks also to Caloundra Tourism and Maleny IGA for their support, and to Bold in Gold Fine Art Gallery Maleny, Range Hardware & Hire and Hill House Timbers for their generous contributions to the 2005 Wootha Prize.

Donations to the Barung Environmental Gift Fund are Tax Deductible!

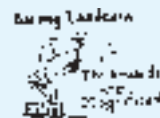
THE BARUNG WISH LIST

Just in case you have these items needing a new home!

1. Plain paper fax *for the Expo Office*
2. Brochure stand – *for the Resource Centre, free-standing & preferably rotating to hold A4, C5 and DL information brochures*

DEADLINE - Wed 16th March for April-May 2005 Newsletter contributions

Please renew your memberships and let us know any change of address - your support is very important to Barung.



THANK YOU

THE STATE OF THE REGION

Properties in the Barung area fall within one of three regions that meet in the headwaters of the Blackall Range: Natural Resource Management South East Queensland, South East Queensland Western Catchments Group and the Burnett Mary Regional Group. These regional bodies direct all natural resource management funding such as National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality and Natural Heritage Trust 2. It is important to know in which region your property lies.

Burnett Mary Regional Group

Tamara Boland



Happy New Year to everyone!

Well the public round of consultation has been completed, and we've all come out alive. On behalf of BMRG we'd like to thank each and every person, group and organisation who took the time to read all, some, or parts of *Country to Coast – A Healthy Sustainable Future* and send in feedback and letters of support.

It wasn't an easy document to tackle (all 7 volumes of it!), but our region's natural resources can't be managed in a couple of pages, as we all realise. The passion and interest in people's responses indicated that many took the time to read.

But it doesn't stop there. While everyone is now out there enjoying the bit of rain, trundling off to other meetings, and keeping out of the heat, the BMRG staff, TAG, and Board are busy beavering away collating and reviewing the feedback for inclusion into the document for submission to the JSC for approval and Ministerial Accreditation. After all, without your input there just wouldn't be a plan at all. Once this planning stage has been completed and approved, we will be able to get stuck into the implementation phase of *Country to Coast – A Healthy Sustainable Future*.

We have produced a synopsis of *Country to Coast – A Healthy Sustainable Future* in the form of a 25 page coloured brochure, which gives a concise and clear overview of the complete seven volume document. This is available at all local government authorities in the Burnett Mary Region, or can be obtained by ringing the BMRG office on (07) 4132 8333.

A big thank you to all members and groups who have contributed, helped and supported BMRG in getting this far. We look forward to a wonderfully productive year in partnership with you.

SEQ Western Catchments Group

Bruce Lord

NRM Plan update – Following further refinements late in 2004, the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) have recommended *Healthy Land – Our Future*, the Integrated



Regional Natural Resource Management Plan for the Western Catchments of SEQ, for accreditation and it has been submitted to State and Federal Ministers for final sign off.

Regional Investment Strategy – An Investment Prospectus has been submitted to the Australian and Queensland governments seeking a total of \$4.47 million from National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP), Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) and National Landcare Program (NLP) for the next 12 months.

National Landcare Program Community Support grants – in the latest round SEQWCG have been successful with a regional proposal which incorporates a number of pilot projects:

- property & subcatchment planning in the Emu Creek catchment
- support for best management practices in the dairy industry
- salinity management in the mid-Brisbane catchment.

SEQWCG is pleased to offer revegetation opportunities for landholders under the **e Trees program** which is a computershare initiative in association with Landcare Australia. Revegetation projects which address regional issues, have multiple benefits and provide good value for money are encouraged, with all projects to be completed within 18 months. Guidelines and application forms are available by contacting Liz Gould on 3816 9723 or at enviro@seqwgcg.com.au

Another opportunity for landholders interested in revegetation projects is through **Greenfleet initiatives**. Greenfleet is a not-for-profit environmental organisation that plants trees to offset carbon dioxide emissions primarily from vehicles. Sites must be a minimum area of 10 ha with landholders responsible for site preparation and ongoing maintenance, with Greenfleet organising and supplying all native plants and labour and equipment for planting. Prior to planting, a carbon agreement must be signed, specifying that the trees will never be harvested and Greenfleet maintains carbon credits and that this will not be sold or traded.

Next **Upper Brisbane Region Catchment Network** meeting – 10 Feb, Yarraman, to include updates from all local Landcare & community groups, Councils and industry groups, SEQWCG report and regional arrangements update, and Communication Grants.

Natural Resource Management SEQ

Susie Chapman

The last days before Christmas proved to be some of the busiest of 2004, as a skeleton staff jumped through hoops, shimmied under broomsticks and set land speed records for data entry tweaking the SEQ Regional NRM Plan and Investment Strategy into shape for Ministerial accreditation.



Well, NRM SEQ has just been informed that the **RIS has been recommended for accreditation** by the Regional Strategy Group. We now await Canberra's response. In the meantime, the Board, Landscape Assessment Panel and Planning Advisory Committee are rallying to formalise the definition of Key Regional Landscape Areas in SEQ, which will be the focus for much of the on-ground activities for the 12 month Regional Investment Strategy.

Landcare Links Forum – Connecting Industry, Landcare and Sustainable farming groups – 22 February 2005, Rocklea, Brisbane. This unique forum aims to strengthen relationships between rural industry peak bodies and sustainable farming/Landcare groups. It will help participants get involved in industry initiatives and develop partnership approaches to sustainable farming, as well as improving the communication channels between volunteer groups, industry bodies and other stakeholders in NRM.. Further information can be found at <http://www.nrmseq.com/events/> or by contacting Scott Graham – NRM SEQ Regional Landcare Coordinator on (07) 3211 4404, 0437 910 685 or scott@nrmseq.com. Nomination forms are due by 8th February.

National Landcare Program (NLP) South East Queensland has been successful in securing \$502,983 in funding through the NLP in the recent round of applications for the following projects:

1. Dairying Better N Better for Tomorrow (Logan-Albert region).
2. Regional Farm Forestry Extension Program (NRM SEQ in consultation with Private Forestry Southern Queensland, \$92,500).
3. Implementation of Catchment Plans in SEQ Key Regional Landscape Areas (Proponent: NRM SEQ, Funding: \$100,000)
4. Best Management Practice across Primary Industries (Proponent: Beaudesert Landcare Group Inc, Funding: \$75,000) B'dst Shire.

LandPlus! Trailer The LandPlus! trailer is being geared up with information and equipment that is available to Landcare, Catchment and other groups across the NRM SEQ region for field days, workshops, demonstrations, tree planting days and other NRM events. LandPlus! is funded through the National Landcare Program to assist landholders with property management planning with a particular focus on natural resources. For more information, please contact David Clark on 3211 4404 or davidc@nrmseq.com

Seed-collecting Time

NURSERY NOTES by Wayne Webb

Summer is always a busy time for seed collecting, and this year has been no exception. For me, it has been a steep learning curve as to where and when to look for given species. Thanks to Marc and Jolyon for helping in this respect. Thanks also to members who have brought seed into the nursery, or who have let us know trees are fruiting on their properties and offering us permission to collect. Unfortunately with the time constraints over Christmas we haven't followed up on all offers – please don't feel we don't value your offer.

To achieve our goal of producing as wide a range of local species as possible, with a wide genetic base, access to remanent vegetation on private land is essential. If you are willing to collect and bring in seed, please include a note with your name, species name, collection area (eg. Witta, North Maleny), and whether the trees are natural or planted (we prefer seed from naturally occurring trees, but this is not always possible). Also include a small branch with foliage so we can verify ID.

For those wishing to learn more about seed collecting, Greg Smyrell (our new Revegetation and Habitat Officer) will be conducting seed collecting excursions – keep a lookout for dates in the Fridge Calendar inserts.

Following a suggestion from Joan Dillon, the nursery sub-committee is investigating acquiring a nursery management database from Greening Australia, which will allow us to keep records of seed collections, propagation, potting on, etc. The program includes plant descriptions, and allows species lists and plant labels to be produced. Greening Australia are offering the program to Barung at no charge.



New potting roof shed keeps potters cool and dry – thanks to Max Smith.

Meanwhile, the nursery has lots of new rainforest species coming through and stock is looking great. Useful rainfall continues, so come on in, buy some more plants and get them in the ground while the going is good.

FOR PRE-SALE ADVANCED TREES

in 200 ml (\$35) and 300 ml (\$60) pots

Contact Cali at Barung Nursery
on 5494 3151

*Trees available after the Maleny Wood Expo
Member discounts available*

ORANGE THORN

Pittosporum multiflorum

(Syn. *Citriobatus pauciflorus*)

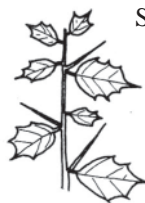
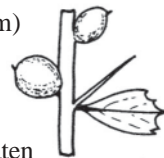
Family: *Pittosporaceae*

PLANT PROFILE by Wayne Webb

Orange thorn is a small shrub common in subtropical and dry rainforests from south-east NSW to south-east Qld.

In the understorey of dense rainforest orange thorn tends to be tall, straggly and sparse, growing to 3 metres high. However on rainforest margins plants are generally more compact – shorter and denser – growing to only 1.5 to 2 metres high. In these situations orange thorn may flower quite heavily.

The white five-petalled flowers are small (6 mm) and may occur spring to summer. The attractive orange berries, produced through autumn and winter, look just like miniature oranges (1 cm across). The fruit are edible, and are reportedly eaten by Wonga pigeons. The glossy leaves are rounded (approx. 1 cm across) with teeth on the outer edges. They have thin sharp axillary spines to about 1 cm long.



So orange thorn is an ideal shrub for encouraging small birds into the garden, providing protection from larger birds, cats, etc. It provides interest with its unusual leaf shape, red new growth and colourful berries. It fits well into those out of the way shady corners. It also makes an interesting bonsai specimen.

Orange thorn should also be included in revegetation plantings for its habitat value. Group plantings provide safe nesting sites. It is also a host plant for the bright copper butterfly. Orange thorn does require some protection and is relatively slow growing, so it should be included in follow-up plantings rather than initial revegetation plantings.

Orange thorn in native tubes will be on sale in the Barung Nursery during February and March at \$1.50 each. Other species on special will be *Pittosporum undulatum*, *Omalanthus nutants*, and *Neolitsea dealbata*.

* Illustrations of leaf and fruit from *Trees and Shrubs in Rainforests of New South Wales and Southern Queensland*, Williams, Harden & McDonald, Uni of New England, 1984.

EFTPOS facility
available at Barung Landcare

Ron Wilson



Phone:
(07) 5494 3228

Mobile:
0438 943 228

THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN

by Joan Dillon

The warm, moist weather has certainly caused some spectacular growth in both desirable and less than desirable plants. The weeds didn't quite win but kept bringing in seemingly endless battalions of reinforcements, and continue to do so. We finally resorted to a machete to deal with the exotic koala bells I mentioned last year and will have to monitor regrowth carefully. This species is susceptible to glyphosate but results have been variable due no doubt to its suckering habit and extensive root system.

On the plus side, its removal has opened up a very attractive melaleuca/leptospermum woodland and demonstrated the value of selecting plants which will provide permanent structure early on. All sorts of changes can be rung in the understorey, intended and otherwise (!), but removing trees and large shrubs because the wrong initial choices were made is rarely an option. We can now see all the small birds which visit this area and have welcomed bar-shouldered doves and green wing pigeons, which quietly poke around in the litter under the melaleucas. The final job will be to add additional mulch to cover patches of bare soil and deter further weed seed germination. Very little replacement planting will be needed. A small banksia may be added to provide foreground foliage contrast and summer nectar.

The apparent weather extremes we've experienced seem to have triggered the best flowering to date, at least in my garden, of the baecias and babingtonias. I haven't really caught up with the detailed name changes within this group but they're the shrubs with fine, usually bright green foliage and masses of tiny white flowers. They're a great addition to any garden.

Whilst not available at present, Barung hopes to offer both the large *Babingtonia similis* (syn. *Baekia virgata*) and possibly the cushiony dwarf species, once seed has been collected and propagated.

Better growing conditions have encouraged the spread of the native violet *Viola hederacea*, which has now formed a dense mat over its original planting site and is steadily spreading between some paving blocks which provide directed access between two areas. It's a great little minimum maintenance groundcover and seemingly never stops producing its dainty white and purple flowers.

The *Psychotria loniceroides* plants which I really thought had succumbed to the long dry spell have recovered and are now flowering and fruiting, quite a surprise. They looked so sad for so long, however, that I wouldn't use them in the garden again. However they are quite satisfactory as an understorey species in the revegetation areas.

Vines are not usually popular in our garden because they are either weeds or ultimately too heavy and break the branches of our dry rainforest trees. However one beautiful spring flowering vine that is also a lightweight twiner is *Hoya australis*. It's planted in association with a few native orchids and bracket ferns (the platyceriums) which require similar conditions in terms of drainage, humidity and shade. It's gradually working its way along the branches of a *Ficus fraseri* and seasonally cascading its waxy pink to white inflorescences. Descriptions of required cultivation conditions vary from well composted soil to heavy, moist soils so it must be pretty adaptable. Mine was planted in a shallow terracotta pot at the base of the tree and has presumably spread its roots into the leaf litter. If you have any growing in natural bushland on your property (in other words, local provenance), Barung would love to hear from you.

Tips For Controlling Weeds Around Planted Trees

Greg Brown, Caloundra City Council
Pest Management Coordinator

The most basic way to control weeds around trees is to mulch.

One problem the unwary can inflict on themselves is actually introducing weeds by using contaminated mulch. The most common mistake is buying the cheapest mulch possible. Hello! There's usually a reason it's the buy of the century. It's often because it's been cut from a roadside or back paddock and contains any number of nasty weed seeds. Lesson – only buy mulch you are confident is clean of weed seeds. Ask the question, 'Can you guarantee it doesn't contain weed seeds?' If they can't, don't buy it, simple as that. Prevention is way better than cure!

You can get away from this by using plastic, cardboard or other products instead of plant material mulches to form a weed barrier. Again, there's plenty of good info on the subject.

Spraying is another common technique for controlling weeds. Glyphosate herbicides are most often used. These are non-selective translocating herbicides – this means they can kill all green plants and move via the sap-stream from the leaves to the rest of the plant.

This means you need to be careful to avoid killing plants you want to keep. Glyphosate isn't absorbed very well through the stem of a plant unless it's recently been damaged. So if you've been brushcutting (or whipper-snipping) around your trees, avoid spraying around them for about a week to give any stem wounds time to seal over.

When you're spraying, carry a pair of secateurs with you. If you happen to spray any leaves on plants you want to keep, immediately cut off that section of the plant. If you plan to trim off sucker growth around the base of your trees, wait until after you spray. If you cut first and then spray, you may introduce the herbicide to the sap-stream of your tree.

If you plan to spray regularly under trees, it's a good idea to use another type of herbicide occasionally to prevent herbicide resistance in your weeds. Commonly used herbicides for this job are the contact herbicides – non-selective and non-translocating. This means they kill all plants but only affect the parts of the plant they contact. Take care – these products are usually at the higher end of the toxicity scale.

Other non-traditional herbicides do a similar job. Commercial ones include 'Enviroweeder' and 'Interceptor' (this is a pine oil-based product). Some people use an acetic acid (ie vinegar) solution, while others use a salt spray (I'm not too keen on this one – salt isn't too good for the soil).

Flame-weeders generally aren't a good idea around planted trees (unless you keep the ground reasonably bare). It's very easy to start a grass fire if you're not careful. You can also damage trees that have surface roots.

Happy weeding!

BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS

Lilyponds Holiday Park Mark Fentiman Dental Surgery
Frasers' Selection Maleny Motor Trimmers
Mulchmakers



Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group

Office: 19 Coral Street, Maleny 4552

Email: lbccg@ozemail.com.au

Telephone: 5494 3775

A wet summer has alleviated water shortages for both tanks and reticulated water users. The Obi Obi and tributaries have had a good flush-out and platypus sightings have been reported between the two bridges and beyond to the Primary School.

Susan Edols, our project officer, has organised several projects with local landowners. Peter Stevens has been appointed to the Caloundra City Council's *Environmental Advisory Committee* (EAC) joining Lin Fairlie and other community representatives.

We have had several queries regarding storm-water controls on housing development sites. Rivers of brown water have been photographed running from the Hakea Avenue development, an indication of the difficulty of coping with Maleny's heavy rain. Or is it just that no measures were taken to hold the silt?

We welcome any feedback from people interested in this subject area. If you have actually contacted Council yourself about erosion/sediment concerns, we would appreciate hearing about the response you received.

The Wildlife Preservation Society of QLD advertised in November 2004 that they were looking for participants in a survey of platypus in SEQld waterways. For further information contact (07) 3221 0194 and please let us know if you are taking part in the survey.

The deadline for feedback on the Draft Regional Plan for SEQld is 28 February. In November and late January there have been well-attended public meetings at the Maleny Showgrounds. You can complete an online survey at www.oum.qld.gov.au, post your response to Office of Urban Management (Reply Paid 31 Brisbane Albert St BC 4002), or email feedback@oum.qld.gov.au. For more information phone 1800 021 818.

LBCCG meets monthly, usually on the second Thursday of the month, at 7.00 pm at the Coral Street Office.

New Reveg & Habitat Officer on Board

REVEGETATION IN PROGRESS by Greg Smyrell

As Barung's Reveg & Habitat officer I intend to continue the good work of Marc Russell and all the other present and past Barung team, in a similar way – seed collecting, plant ID walks and topical workshops (check calendar of events for dates). It was very interesting to hear the stories being bantered around at Marc's farewell. He has left an imprint on this region to be very proud of, and I would like to thank him for his vision, hard work and development of this Reveg and Habitat Officer's position.

Jackie Montgomery, Barung's Education Officer, and I are keen to hear suggestions for training and workshops. Currently I'm working on site revegetation workshops (looking at a range of soils and topography), pruning the evolving revegetation site to gain structure and mulch, and a 'sense of place' – getting to know the uniqueness of where we live and living with it. I'm keen for ideas for plant ID and seed collecting walks – do you have a suitable remnant that you would like to share with others on a short walk?

I feel honoured to be working at Barung with such a great team of totally committed staff, committee and volunteers – Barung is truly dynamic!

Citrus butterflies

(*Papilio aegaeus aegaeus*, *Papilio fuscus capaneus*, *Papilio anactus* and *Papilio demoleus sthenelus*)

BUTTERFLIES OF THE RANGE by Bob Miller

Are you one of the millions of people who have seen caterpillars on the citrus trees and wondered what they were? If so, this article should prove very interesting.

The larvae of three butterflies in south-east Queensland commonly use citrus trees as foodplants: the orchard swallowtail, the fuscous swallowtail, (formerly capaneus butterfly) and the dainty swallowtail (formerly dingy swallowtail). I have also seen the chequered swallowtail ovipositing (laying eggs) on potted orange trees and have found larvae on pomelos, but their preferred foodplant is emu foot (*Cullen sp.*).

The orchard swallowtail's larvae are the ones most of us recognise as 'the ones that look like bird droppings'. The young larvae are brown with white markings and, as they age, can vary in colour from yellowish-green with white markings to very dark green with white and brown markings. They appear to be spiny.



Orchard swallowtail larva
final instar [Bob Miller]



Fuscous swallowtail larva
third instar [Bob Miller]

The colouration and markings of the fuscous swallowtail's larvae are very similar to the orchard swallowtail's, but as they grow they become more smooth in appearance.

The juvenile larvae of the dainty swallowtail have dark brown and orange patches along their bodies. Older larvae are black with many white spots and a few orange spots, with three rows of yellow spots running down their length. The bodies of the dainty swallowtail larvae appear to be spiny.



Dainty swallowtail larva
final instar [Bob Miller]



Chequered swallowtail larva
final instar [Bob Miller]

The chequered swallowtail's juvenile larvae are very similar to the dainty swallowtail's, the early instars being dark brown with orange patches. As they get larger they are reddish brown with a broken yellow line running from front to back along the side. When fully grown, the larvae are lime green with brown patches, with each brown patch having a raised orange spot. The early instars appear to be spiny but the final instars appear smooth.

All swallowtail butterfly larvae have a defence mechanism called an osmeterium, a pair of fleshy tubes that extend from behind the head when under attack. The orchard swallowtail's tubes are red and emit a fairly strong citrus-like odour. If you find any of these larvae, tap them on their backs. When they instinctively raise the osmeterium, run your finger along the red projections then smell your finger. If you were a bird, would you keep attacking?

These butterflies usually pupate on the underside of a foodplant leaf or branch. Camouflage is the pupae's best defence so they vary in colour depending on where they pupate. Pupae found on the underside of leaves are generally lime-green in colour, whilst those attached to brown stems take on that same brown colour.

References: *Butterflies of Australia* by Common & Waterhouse (1981) or *Butterflies of Australia* by Michael F. Braby (2000).

Now is the time to plant

CONTRACTING SERVICES by Jolyon Froude

Planting is certainly the most exciting part of the revegetation process, and as summer wanes and we move into the cooler autumn months, conditions become perfect for getting new trees into the ground. Decreasing temperatures and reliable rainfall mean that high survival rates can generally be expected from plantings carried out during the late summer and autumn period. Cooler conditions make planting more enjoyable for plants and people alike. It also gives plants an opportunity to get established before the cooler and drier winter months. Frosts are still 4 to 5 months away, so unless you are in a heavy frost zone newly planted trees should get to a sufficient size before winter.

If you are planning to plant, consider the following points:

Species selection – Species that occur naturally on your site or within the surrounding area will be best adapted to local conditions. Think about soil type, drainage, frost, wind exposure and flood potential when selecting species. Incorporate adequate numbers of fast growing pioneer species to ensure rapid canopy development. Also include bushy, low-branching edge species around the perimeter of your revegetation plot to help to protect against wind, light and weeds.

Spacing and layout – Trees for revegetation are generally best planted about 2 m apart. At this spacing a canopy should form after two to three years, which will significantly reduce maintenance. Smaller growing plants, such as shrubs, lomandra or sedges, can be planted more closely. You can ‘lay out’ plants either randomly or in rows. Although planting in rows looks less natural, it does make both planting and maintenance much easier.

Mulching – Mulching is extremely beneficial for newly planted trees. It reduces both water loss and weed competition for the young plants as well as stimulating soil microbe activity. Sugar cane mulch is excellent as it is generally weed free and forms an effective, long-lasting weed barrier. Grass mulch is also good, but it usually doesn’t last as well and may contain weed seed. In difficult to access areas where baled mulch would be impractical, mulch mats are a useful alternative.

Preparation – On most sites preparation involves spraying existing grass and weed cover with a suitable herbicide. It is very important to spray at least 3 to 4 weeks before planting to allow time for the grass and weeds to die and start breaking up. If weed growth is heavy, you may need to allow 2 to 3 months.

Barung’s Contracting Services team can help you get your trees in the ground by assisting you with any aspect of the process from planning and species selection through to preparation and planting. Good advice and practical help can make the planting process even more enjoyable!

BARUNG CONTRACTING SERVICES for landholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">√ reveg, regen & farm forestry√ project management - planning, site prep, planting, maintenance√ weed identification & control√ property planning & consultancy√ environmental landscaping
 WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE	ring Jolyon - 0429 943 156 or Barung Office - 5494 3151

Queensland Maple - a new environmental weed?

Nick Willis, Greening Australia

In recent years, many rural landholders have established commercial native cabinet timber plots on their properties. If established correctly, these plots offer many environmental benefits including potential long term profits from a sustainably produced natural resource. However, as always, there are also potential problems.

The Queensland maple *Flindersia braileyana* is a popular cabinet timber species and street tree planted throughout south-east Queensland, due to its rapid growth rate and short harvest time. In its natural environment, Queensland maple occurs only in far north Queensland’s tropical rainforests as a large canopy tree.

Like our local *Flindersia* species, Queensland maple produces abundant wind-blown seeds in Spring. These seeds can travel long distances in updrafts... and this species has now been observed rapidly taking over bushland areas far from its original home.

In one reserve in Maroochy Shire, Queensland maple is considered a major weed. In some areas there’s a Queensland maple seedling carpet surrounding established (30 years plus) Queensland maple trees, effectively out-competing any local plants.

If not kept under control Queensland maple will surely become the next umbrella tree or cadaghi to invade our bushland, reducing our local biodiversity and costing thousands in management.

This issue also highlights the importance of growing only local indigenous plants from the local gene pool.

Youth in the environment, where to start?

A TRAINEE’S TALE by Jake Smith-Moloney

Hello to all my regular readers. Hope you all had happy and safe holidays.

My last article about youth involvement in the local environment evoked quite a few responses. I’ve had many conversations with the Barung contracting crew and other staff on this topic and have also heard from Barung members and NRM SEQ (thanks Amy). I thank you all for your input.

After much thought, I’ve concluded that it’s mainstream youth that need to be the focus for environmental involvement. Most time and energy needs to be directed toward ‘average’ teens and young adults rather than those who are environmentally aware (not much value in preaching to the converted). Also I think environmental awareness should be a natural extension of an individual’s personal values. It’s important to instil a sense of environmental responsibility, of accepting responsibility as a part of growing up.

For the Wood Expo I’ll be organising children’s activities, which will need to be engaging and educational but still fun! I’m also thinking of entering a competition to design an event promoting environmental sustainability. I’m heading back to uni to finish off my degree this year (see ya there Nick). I hope I don’t suffer *too* much from having too much on my plate. As always I would love to hear what you think about things I have mentioned in this article. I can be reached at Barung during working hours or email me at Ze_Bacon@hotmail.com



Positions Vacant

Land conservation - Site Regeneration Landscaping

Barung Landcare has 8 positions for long term unemployed persons with an interest in environment & outdoor work.

All positions full time for 17 weeks.

Positions funded through the State Government's Breaking the Unemployment Cycle Community Jobs Plan.

For further info & application details, contact Julie Reid on 5494 3922. Applications due 4pm Thurs 10th Feb.

Fire and Biodiversity Workshop



Are you prepared for bushfires?
Do you have a fire management plan?

Would you like expert assistance in preparing a fire management plan to help protect you and your home, a plan that also considers the needs of biodiversity & your local environment?

Spaces limited. Book early to avoid disappointment. See Fridge Calendar for workshop dates and venues. Tel: 5494 3151.

*Presented by
The South-East Queensland Fire & Biodiversity Consortium*

NR&M Compliance - What is it?

Compliance is probably the most contentious and least understood of all the tools in the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNR&M)'s toolkit for administering Queensland's natural resource laws.

Paul Connelly, DNR&M's South East Regional Compliance Manager, will explain compliance and demonstrate its role in natural resource management for the first half hour of the **Barung Management Committee meeting on 15 March**.

Paul will demystify the investigation process, providing a number of case studies that show compliance in action.

Queensland's natural resource laws prescribe how our resources are to be managed and the tools for doing this include resource assessment, licensing, monitoring, community consultation, and compliance.

Paul Connolly is responsible for the management of the region's compliance activities which span water, vegetation, land, pest plants and animals, and aboriginal cultural heritage.

If you would like to attend Paul's presentation – and it would be good for members to know about these issues – call Barung to register your interest and find out where the meeting will be held.

Genesis Foundation Field Day Barung Landcare

Options for weed control & bush regeneration on steep rural land

If you thought you'd missed it, you haven't!

Now on Saturday 19 February

The Genesis Land, 62 Upper Cedar Creek Rd

An opportunity to learn about property and weed management as experienced by the Genesis Foundation and weed management techniques for your own property.

- Morning session: Speaker presentations*
- Free BBQ lunch*
- Afternoon session: Hands-on experience*

This workshop is free, but bookings are essential. Please contact Barung on 5494 3151.

For more information on Genesis and their environmental restoration activities, contact Laurie Capill on 5494 1923.

Agricultural Chemical Distribution Certificate

ACDC

Are you interested in attending an ACDC course at a local venue? The course covers

- Responsibilities and legal obligations of a commercial operator
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- Hazardous areas and exemptions
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- Following codes of practice
- Keeping records of herbicide distribution.

The course will be offered over 1 evening + 1 day at the competitive price of \$240.

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If you are interested in attending, contact Barung on 5494 3151.



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VOLUNTEER POSITIONS VACANT

Maleny Wood Expo

AREA COORDINATORS STILL URGENTLY NEEDED

These volunteer Area Coordinators contribute invaluable to the successful and smooth running of the Expo – and there's lots to learn and lots of fun to be had while you're helping Barung Landcare to spread the Landcare message by hosting one of south-east Queensland's premier events.

1. **Volunteer Coordinator** – Meticulous person needed to coordinate Expo Volunteer Roster. Must have good phone manner & attention to detail.
2. **10th Anniversary Expo Dinner** – Flamboyant & engaging person required to assist with planning and coordinating the dinner on 16th April.
3. **Preview Party** – Love parties? Ring us if you have a flair for entertaining – to coordinate Expo Preview Party on 29th April.
4. **Landcare Bar & BBQ** – Ideal for dynamic duo or energetic individual – coordinate food preparation & food/bar sales in the Landcare Paddock.

If you are interested in helping run any aspect of the Expo please ring Barung on 5494 3151 or drop into the Expo Office at 27 Coral St, Maleny as soon as possible.

BARUNG NURSERY

Saturday morning plant sales –

On Saturday mornings the Barung Nursery is usually run by volunteers. With enough volunteers, you may only need to do one Saturday morning each month.

You will need a reasonable knowledge of our local vegetation, and to feel comfortable offering advice to customers and chatting to people.

Call Cali or Wayne on 5494 3151 or drop into the nursery during the week for a talk if you think you might be able to help.

Weeders wanted – With the heat & rain, the Nursery desperately needs help with weeding. Ring Cali or Wayne on 5494 3151 if you have a couple of hours to spare.

WILLING HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

We are inviting volunteers to sell raffle tickets for ...

Last year more than 50 VOLUNTEERS helped the Maleny Wood Expo Raffle net a record \$8000. This was due to excellent early sales in Maple Street over Easter and the following two Saturdays. We actually sold out of tickets before the end of the Expo! Naturally our Raffle Coordinator, **Bridget Sparks**, would like to beat that record.

Bridget has reserved the **Maple Street Kiosk** for 26, 27 and 28 March (Easter), plus Saturdays 9, 16 and 23 April. This is a great way to promote the Expo to visitors. According to Bridget, 'I aim to make the kiosk time very cheerful, with water, coffee, biscuits and sweets on hand. We work in teams of 3 or 4 so there is no feeling of isolation.'

To quote Verle-Ann, one of last years volunteers, 'I have never had such a good time selling raffle tickets in all my life,' plus 'I got to speak to so many friends during my stints, I'll be back next year.'

The Expo dates are 30 April, 1 & 2 May. All Expo volunteers receive a free Expo ticket, two free trees and a coffee voucher as a small thanks for helping Barung. Bridget will be telephoning 2004 Raffle volunteers soon, but will need many more to beat last year's success. Please ring her on 5499 9110 if you can help

'I find it a GREAT BUZZ selling raffle tickets for such a wonderful organisation, and the absolutely fantastic prizes so generously donated by the Maleny community make it so easy!' Bridget said.

50 ticket raffle books will be available from early March at the Expo Office for individuals to sell.



Bridget Sparks



Thank You to ...

- ... **Les & Rae Hall** for donation of a good projector screen
- ... **Val Phillips** for catering for Barung Strategic Planning Meeting in December
- ... **Shane Peterson, Concept IT**, for extra special price for our new Admin monitor
- ... **Peter Raddatz, Raddatz Refrigeration**, for bringing our dinosaur air conditioner to life
- ... **Trevor Anderson** for connecting up the office air conditioner – bring on the heat!
- ... **Brett Anderson** for donating a PC for Barung volunteers
- ... **Val & Colin Phillips, Max Smith and Maddee Gommers** for the December/January Newsletter mailout
- ... **Max Smith** for roofing the potting verandah – just in time for this week's rain!

Letters

Barung is easy to get along with

To Mim & the Barung Family

Thanks for all the support you guys give us. Thanks for being easy to get along with, which is rare for a community group. I'm sure you will find Warren (new Green Reserves Co-ordinator) a pleasure to deal with – he's off to a good start with three referrals this month, which gets you guys up to five Green Reservers.

Best wishes

Damo (Damian Draper) & CVA

(Conservation Volunteers Australia) staff



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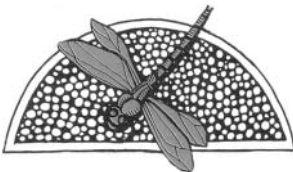


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Bunya trees ... continued from page 16

other trees can. The trees that once stood on the Blackall Range would, in all likelihood, have stood even taller, considering the higher rainfall we get here.

The bunya loves fertile, moist soils and requires 800–2000 mm of rainfall per year. Bunyas also have the amazing ability to harvest cloud moisture on their leaves and direct this condensation down the trunk to the roots, a process seen at its best in the Bunya Mountains where lots of cloud hits the range.

The bunya's exceptional cones can be 300 by 250 mm and weigh up to 10 kg. When falling from 30–40 metres these cones can be somewhat dangerous, but fortunately they fall for only a very short period, and the rewards far outweigh the hazard.

The size of these cones and their ability (or should I say inability?) to spread naturally is probably the main reason the bunya pine's distribution is so limited. During previous dry spells in the earth's history the bunya would have survived in the few refuges where it now finds itself. However with the arrival of humans in Australia, the bunya pine found a new way to get around. To the local Murriss the bunya bunya nourished the soul as well as the body and was of immense cultural significance. The bumper crops of bunya cones that occur about every three years led to great gatherings of people for a non-stop bunya feast and cultural festival. It is believed that the local Murriss would have spread the bunya pine as they moved about the country. The arrival of Europeans saw, on one hand, the devastation of the bunya forests of the coastal ranges due to timber exploitation and land clearing but also their spread across Australia, New Zealand and many other countries as horticultural specimens.

Thankfully the bunya pine is regaining its cultural importance in our area and many are being planted or even regenerating in cow paddocks where it is one of the few trees that repel cattle due to its prickly foliage. So take pride in this special tree that has survived in our area and keep an eye out for some bunya cones and seeds to feast on the bounty of mother earth.

For more information on bunyas check out this awesome web site – www.bunya.gal.org.au – it's fantastic!

Boiled bunyas – Boil bunya nuts in salty water for approximately 20 minutes. Remove from water, cool till you can handle them, then slice from pointy end to rounded end with a very sharp knife (take care: this can be more dangerous than standing under a bunya pine when it's dropping seed!) Scoop out the bunya seed and serve while still warm with a dash of butter. Yum!

References: *The Bunya in Queensland's Forests*, I Smith & D Butler; *Palaeobotany of the Bunya Pine*, GR Hernandez-Castillo & RA Stockey

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Bunya-Bunya, have you hugged a Dinosaur today?

TURKEY TANGENTIAL

by Spencer Shaw, Brush Turkey Enterprises

One of the truly striking trees of the Blackall Range is the Bunya Pine – awesome, awe-inspiring and awfully scary if you're under them when the cones are dropping, which they do between mid-January and mid-February.

The bunya pine *Araucaria bidwillii* is a member of the ancient and noble Araucariaceae family. The bunya pine has a very limited and scattered distribution in south-east Queensland, between Gympie in the north, Mt Mee in the south and the Bunya Mountains in the west. The bunya pine has survived at two other small areas in northern Qld – Mt Lewis and Cannabullen Falls. Other local members of this family include the hoop pine *Araucaria cunninghamiana* and kauri pine *Agathis robusta*. There are only two other Australian family members, the Norfolk Island pine and the newly discovered Wollemi pine *Wollemia nobilis*.

But wait, there's more! The Araucariaceae family of plants is scattered across the landmasses that once made up the super-continent of Gondwana. The first recognised by western science was the monkey puzzle tree *Araucaria araucana* of Chile. Several others are found in Sth America but the hotspot for Araucaria diversity is New Caledonia with 13 endemic Araucaria species – amazing! Others are found in New Guinea and New Zealand.

In the far distant past (about 175 million years ago), conifers dominated the flora of the globe and the family Araucariaceae was widespread. These trees well and truly are living dinosaurs and we should feel forever blessed to have them as neighbours.

But back to the Blackall Range! Before Queensland became a separate colony in the 1850s, this area was called the Bunya Mount-ains and was put aside as an important resource for the indigenous people. Even then the dark and mysterious forests that once covered this range were recognised as a special place.

We must now travel to the Bunya Mountains (200km due west of here) to get an idea of the towering forests that once covered the Blackall Range. The bunya trees at the Bunya Mountains are truly awe inspiring. Massive tree trunks stand like the wrinkled feet of towering dinosaurs and make their mark on these forests like no

... continued on page 11

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Marketing	<i>Juanita Anderson</i>
Graphics	<i>Penny Smith</i>

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