



BARUNG LANDCARE NEWS

April - May 1998

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday April 1 9am - 1pm Meet at Barung.	RAINFOREST SEED COLLECTION & TREE ID WALK with Marc Russell at Mapleton. Identify mature rainforest trees in their natural environment and help increase Barung's seed bank. BYO hat, drink & smoko. \$3.00 - Barung members, \$5.00 - non-members. BOOKINGS REQUIRED.
Saturday April 4 8 - 10am	WEEDBUSTING - BARUNG TREE MAINTENANCE TEAM All welcome. Weed busting on the Obi Creek, below the RSL Hall. Phone Linda on 5494 3497 for Info.
Tuesday April 7 3.15 - 5pm at Barung	S.E.E.D.S. - WATER QUALITY \$20 Annual Membership / \$2 per session
Tuesday April 14 9am - 3pm	FARM FORESTRY FIELD DAY - INTENSIVE SILVICULTURE at Simon Proctor's, Booroobin. Topics will include tree mensuration, and pruning and thinning. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL. Phone Barung on 5494 3151 or Mark Warnick on 5441 4557
Thursday April 16 7 - 9pm at Barung	INFORMATION NIGHT - LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVES with Clayton Stokoe. Creating native options with fragrant, bird attracting plants etc, suitable for smaller blocks. \$3.00 - Barung members, \$5.00 - non-members. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Saturday April 18 8 - 10am t Barung	WEEDBUSTERS TRAINING DAY Developing a Weed Management & Control Strategy for the Obi Boardwalk and the continuing Weed ID Workshop. All welcome - no charge.
Saturday April 25 7-9pm	NIGHT FAUNA ID FIELD WALK with Tony Bright. - night frog, bird and other fauna ID walk at Mary Cairncross Park. Limited places available. BYO flashlight! Venue to be confirmed. Ring Barung on 5494 3151 for bookings
Saturday May 9 8 - 10am	WEEDBUSTING - BARUNG TREE MAINTENANCE TEAM Weed busting on the Obi Creek. All welcome. BOOKINGS NOT NEEDED. Phone Linda on 5494 3497 for Info.
Sat - Monday May 2 - 4 10am - 4pm Maleny Showgrounds	"FROM CHAINSAW TO FINE FURNITURE" EXPO - a woodworking exposition featuring displays of fine furniture and other articles made from native timbers by local woodworkers from around "The Range". Wood turning, wood working tools & finishing materials, timber and portable sawmill displays, farm forestry & landcare exhibits. Please contact Barung if you can offer any help on this weekend.
Tuesday May 5 3.15 - 5pm	S.E.E.D.S. - \$20 Annual Membership / \$2 per session
Wednesday May 6 9am - 1pm Meet at Barung.	SEED COLLECTION & TREE ID WALK with Marc Russell. BYO hat, drink & smoko. \$3.00 - Barung members, \$5.00 - non-members - BOOKINGS REQUIRED.
May 7 - 9pm at Barung	INFORMATION NIGHT Topic and details to be announced.
Saturday May 23 8 - 10am at Barung	WEEDBUSTERS TRAINING DAY Continuing development of Weed Management & Control Strategy for the Obi Boardwalk and the continuing Weed ID Workshops. All welcome - no charge.
Tuesday June 2	S.E.E.D.S. - \$20 Annual Membership / \$2 per session
Wednesday June 3 9am - 1pm Meet at Barung.	RAINFOREST SEED COLLECTION & TREE ID WALK with Marc Russell. Identify mature rainforest trees in their natural environment and help increase Barung's seed bank. BYO hat, drink & smoko. \$3.00 - Barung members, \$5.00 - non-members. BOOKINGS REQUIRED. Venue to be announced.
Saturday June 6 8 - 10am	WEEDBUSTING - BARUNG TREE MAINTENANCE TEAM Weed busting on the Obi Creek. All welcome. Phone Linda on 5494 3497 for Info.
Friday - Sunday June 12 - 14	BUNYA MOUNTAIN RAINFOREST WEEKEND FIELD TRIP Bush walks, tree ID, camp fires, getting bushed with good friends for minimal cost. See 'Chat Corner' article inside. See article on page 3 inside. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL. Contact Barung Landcare for information.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

From **JOAN DILLON**

We were pleased to welcome Joe Herron to the Management Committee at our last meeting. Joe has a dairy farm in the Conondale area and will increase the breadth of experience on the committee. It is important that the farming industry is well represented in landcare groups which cover an area as diverse as Barung's. We look forward to his contribution.

The BHP sponsored tree plant at the entrance to Maleny was a huge success and we have been relieved to have had good rain since. The plants were well watered during the hot dry spell but there's nothing like some natural rainfall. I would like to personally thank all of those who participated and helped to make the morning so enjoyable. We will all appreciate the community's collective effort as the years go by and the trees grow.

I would also like to thank those who participated in this project in other parts of the catchment. This continuing catchment-based project is a major collective effort and will increase valuable riparian and other vegetation corridors in the Upper Mary region.

Our next major event will be the *From Chainsaw to Fine Furniture Expo*. This is a great showcase for the talented woodworkers of the Range, and is of course, an important fundraiser for Barung. I urge you to mark the date in your diary now and invite your friends as well. It's an event not to be missed.

The response from private landholders to the revegetation competition has been excellent and judging is sure to be a challenging process. Work undertaken on private land contributes very substantially to improving the health of the land and the habitat for insect eaters, pollinators and all the other useful and beautiful small creatures. One can only feel sorry for the suburban gardener whose native finches and wrens have been replaced by the drab northern hemisphere sparrow as a result of habitat loss.

We continue to work with Caloundra City councillors and staff towards good vegetation establishment and management on public land. Maintenance is the key issue and we anticipate that with good planning and project implementation, maintenance should be substantially reduced.

Much activity has been taking place at the resource centre. As funds allow and with the members' assistance, we will continue to upgrade the facilities to improve our service. Superseded but still useable computers were generously donated and all staff members now have adequate access to computing facilities. The nursery continues to expand and we really do hope to tackle the morning glory before too long. In the course of time we intend to replace the weeds with an attractive wetland between the resource centre and the park. Any help with both planning and implementation of this would be greatly appreciated and add to the attractions of Maleny.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at the resource centre and don't forget the Expo in May.

CO-ORDINATORS CORNER CHAT

with **JOHN MUIR**

Well, March was Landcare Month with the theme "People in Landcare". It certainly was a month of people in landcare for Barung, with the culmination of the BHP "Range to Coast" Project. Many thanks to the 130 + volunteers who turned out on March 14th to put in the final trees on the Entrance Site. This brought the total number of trees planted for the project up to 20,000. We had tree planting by both High and Primary School students, S.E.E.D.S., a PMP Workshop on Aerial Mapping with Terry Reid, a Reveg Info Night with Ann Moran, a Farm Forestry Field Day

THE
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Maleny's 'big tree' project
20,000 trees in the ground

Barung offers \$2000 revegetation prize 'project underway'
Farm forestry day at Bellthorpe

As many as seven, Barung Landcare has been concentrating its bushcare efforts around the Range on creekbank riparian projects, most of which have been on eroded land. Probably the most obvious one has been the 400m long riparian zone in Maleny township. Over the last couple of years, Barung has overseen, with the help of Caloundra City Council, the removal of 1000s of weeds and rubbish from the banks of the RMA between the 500 and 600 Street. This year...



and a Seed Collection and Tree ID Walk !

Four weeks in a row on the front page of the local 'Range News' is also a fair indication of our landcare members' energy and output.

NHT Funding

In early March, we completed a new round of NHT Funding Applications for 1998-2001, with two smallish projects put up:

1. "Trees on Farms for Productivity"
2. "Corridors of Green" Consortium

We have also assisted three other groups with applications:

1. Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group - "Implementation of the Catchment Strategy"
2. Queensland Bushfoods Cooperative - "Bushfoods in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland"
3. the Centre of Integrated Resource Management (Qld Uni, DNR, DPI and DOE) - "Whole Farm Nutrient Management"

These applications will be going through a review process and if successful, will commence in Spring 1998.

New Volunteer Work Hours Registration Book

NHT funding requires us to keep a record of all volunteer work hours so that we can match Federal Govt. funds received with our own local \$ for \$ funding. This adds up when we are talking about grants totalling over \$250,000, so your participation in this paper work exercise would be appreciated. A new blue folder is now at Barung for any and all volunteers to record their hours and activities. Thanks, your cooperation with this is very much appreciated.

Bunya Mountain Rainforest Weekend Away

Did you know that only two and a half hours west of Maleny, in the middle of the Darling Downs, is a unique offshoot of the great Dividing Range? This offshoot includes the Bunya Mountains National Park with various vegetation types including rainforest. This is the only National Park in Queensland with private accommodation and numerous facilities. The park itself is three hundred times bigger than Mary Cairncross Reserve! The land towers above the surrounding fertile farming land to over 1,000 metres and is indeed a sight for sore eyes.

The Blackall Ranges were once called the Bunya Ranges.

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MALENY-KENILWORTH ROAD, CONONDALE

Looking at the vegetation in the Bunya Mountains, one can imagine how Maleny must have been once upon a time. The distinctive dome-shaped crowns of the bunya pines emerge above the tall moist rainforest, with the hoop pines replacing them at lower altitudes. I have been to the Bunya Mountains several times myself and it never ceases to amaze me what a wonderful and unique place it is. Although it is certainly cold at night in winter, it has beautiful clear cool sunny days in which to enjoy the crisp mountain air.

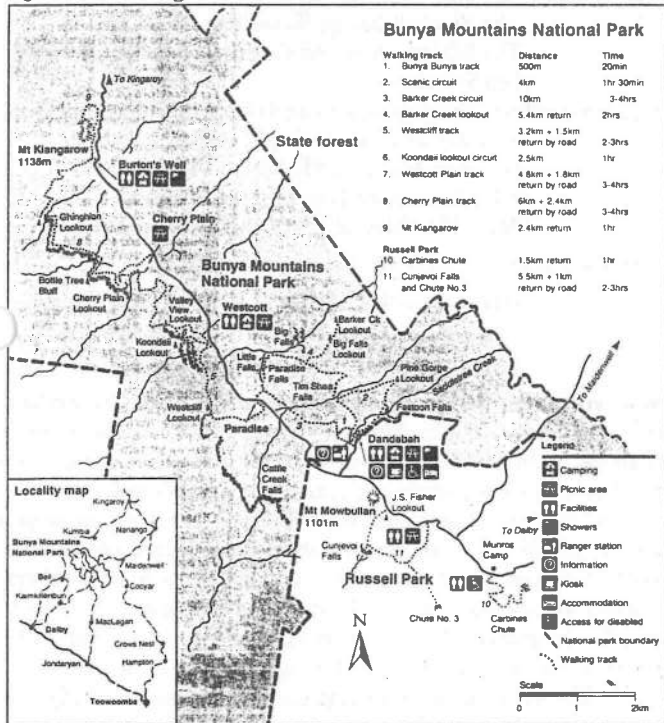
The diverse vegetation types found in the National Park include wet and dry rainforest, natural grasslands, bald knobs, open eucalypt forest, and vine thickets with Bottle trees, Belah and Brigalow on the western slopes. There are even grass trees!

Barung is organising a Weekend Retreat Bunya Mountain Trip from Friday 12th to Sunday 14th June, with variously priced accommodation options, from self contained lodges to bunkhouse-style accommodation.

We propose to have a program of nature walks, tree ID, campfires, bushfood restaurant and billy tea parties, a Natural History Association Volunteers Museum visit, and discussions etc. We will be having experts such as Bill McDonald, the rainforest specialist from the Qld Herbarium, to guide us on walks. Bill is the person to whom we send plants for ID and he also does the field work for the Herbarium. He will be doing similar work in our area soon.

So if you want to find out what the Maleny district used to look like, come and join us on this trip to the Bunya National Park. For those who can't make it up on Friday morning, you could join us on Friday night or Saturday morning. A small minibus may be hired if the demand is there, otherwise car-pooling will be arranged.

For further information and bookings please contact Mim or John at Barung.



service by having a say in Barung's future.

Kodak Photo Lab Display and Free Tree Give Away

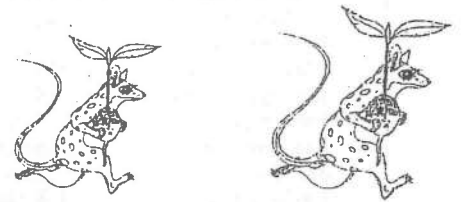
Maleny and Beerwah Photo Labs will once again be giving away free Barung trees with every film processed over the two week Easter holiday period. Barung will have a shop-front window display.

So if you are taking photos over Easter don't forget to have them processed at the Maleny or Beerwah Photo Lab and pick up your free Barung tree as well.

Info Night on the Local Area Planning Public Consultation

John Wildman (Barung Committee Member) and I, who are both on the LAP Committee, will be leading informal and open discussions in late May on the LAP Draft Proposal. As residents of the Range, your input is essential for the future of landcare, remnant vegetation protection, revegetation and open space in the Maleny district. If you would like to see a copy of the draft, it will be available from the CCC Library or Barung in May. The date and time of these discussions will be announced later.

SEEDS. with ANN OLIVER



This year the S.E.E.D.S. program started with an exciting field trip to Harold Hopper's Dairy Farm. With rain bucketing down, 12 children and 3 intrepid mothers ventured forth into the bowels of the Rotary Dairy. The S.E.E.D.S. were given a guided tour and talk by Keith Hopper who was only too happy to explain the workings of the dairy. After viewing the milking process, feeding the new calves and sampling some of the wonderful milk that was produced, the S.E.E.D.S. (covered in cow manure and mud) went home full of tales about where the milk came from! The S.E.E.D.S. would like to thank Keith and Harold for the great time they had at the dairy.

For Landcare Month the S.E.E.D.S. teamed up with the Green Corps troops and planted trees on the entrance site below the High School. Fifty trees were planted with great enthusiasm, much waving to passing motorists and general enjoyment of the experience of knowing that in twenty years time, they will be able to drive past and remember that they helped participate in one of the largest tree plants on the Blackall Range.

Plans are in progress for the next couple of months with S.E.E.D.S. being involved in creating educational and environmental games, water-animal identification and frog breeding programs. For more information about S.E.E.D.S. (wether about joining up, helping out or being involved with the projects) please ring Barung on 5494 3151.

Thanks to MRS ANNE-MARIE DULLO
& THE MALENY CREDIT UNION
for their generous donations

Phone Survey of Barung Members' Needs

In order to determine the educational needs of our members and clients, Barung staff hope to conduct a random phone survey of members to get feedback on existing programs, and ideas from members for future activities, community needs and thoughts.

Please do not let this stop you from putting ideas on paper, calling the office or dropping in to discuss your ideas.

Remember Barung is a local Community Group and your involvement and input is critical. Please help us deliver a better

MALENY

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1998 - YEAR OF THE OCEAN

The Year of the Ocean is designed to remind Australians of the rugged beauty of our oceans and the need to conserve and protect our marine environment.

The Australian Government will be stepping up its marine conservation efforts during 1998 and will call on the community to play its part, according to Federal Environment Minister Robert Hill. Among the priorities will be reduction of sewerage and stormwater pollution. This will be achieved through a 'whole of catchment' approach - from the source of the stream to the mouth of the river - involving Rivercare strategies.

CAT'S CLAW ERADICATION ASSISTANCE

With the appointment of a Cat's Claw Project Officer, the Gympie and District Landcare Group is able to offer assistance to people in the Mary River Catchment who have this weed on their property.

If you have a problem with Cat's Claw or know of an infestation of it, please ring Barbara Cutler on 07 4129 2268 (fax/

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

H Mertons	Gail Crowther
Esther Pockrandt	Julie Salter
Mitch O'Brien	D&A McDonald
Kathryn Wilson	Sue Starling
B&A Wilson	A Radford
Ray Troyahn	Claire Leimbach
J&P Pirie	Trevor Astley
Barbara Fox	T & J Sweeting
J&C Hall	Jenny Tatton
Jennifer O'Connor	P&J Brown
K&M Yalden	L Platz

WOOD EXPO UPDATE

with DARYL REINKE & CRAIG HOSMER

Less than a month remains until the Labour Day weekend and Barung's third annual presentation of its highly successful woodworking expo, "From Chainsaw to Fine Furniture". We thought we would give you a sneak preview of the great line-up of woodworking artists from the Blackall Range and Hinterland who will be joining forces to display a breathtaking array of items crafted from Australian native timbers. As we go to press, the following artists will be at the Maleny Showgrounds on 2nd, 3rd and 4th May, from 10 am to 4 pm each day:

Jack Wilms of the Cedar Gallery
 Douglas E. Chambers
 Randy DeGraw
 Tony McCracken of D'Aguilar Range of Furniture
 Rob Lamont of Dundathu Furniture
 David Linton
 Chris Hooper
 Howard Jupp
 Keith Patullo
 Paul Kielarsky
 John McBride of Maleny Touch Wood
 Michael O'Kane
 Glen Newell of Southern Cross
 Traditional Archery
 Doug Eaton and Dale Jacobsen of Stanley River Music
 Tony Cleaton and Duncan Studd of Sustainable Timbers and Joinery
 Cynthia Rogers of the Welsh Dragon
 Diana Bryce of Witta Woodwork and Weaving
 Absolute Timbers
 The Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild
 The Maleny Arts and Crafts Group Woodworkers
 Jim Svensson

Outdoor displays, demonstrations and timber sales will include:
 Rob Tap and Laurie Capill of Forest Farmer
 Norman Austin of Hinterland Mobile Mill
 John Fogarty of Fogs Chainsaw Services
 Allan Handsley of PNG Quality Timbers

Finishing materials and tools will be presented by:

Jeff and Debbie Taylor of Maleny Paint Supplies
 Allan Manning of Woodturning Supplies Pty. Lt.
 Robert Gregory of Gregory Machinery Pty. Ltd.

Other artists are still signing up, so the three-day weekend will offer visitors to the Maleny Showgrounds woodworking at its finest. Musical instruments, bows and arrows, toys, and woodturning vie for space with furniture ... bush style, sleek and modern, organic shapes that show the beauty of the individual tree, or traditional. All are in native timbers (red cedar, white beech, red gum, silver sycamore, silky oak and a host of others), or weed species like camphor laurel. The atmosphere is redolent with the fragrance of those timbers, and the excitement of the stories of the people who have lovingly crafted each piece.

The weekend gives Barung Landcare a chance to advocate its principles of sustainable harvesting of native forests, salvage of timber, and extension of native forests (with all of the side benefits for the environment) through establishment of farm forestry plots on private land. We are grateful to Ashley Sewell and the Department of Natural Resources, our partners in sponsoring the event.

The entry charge is \$3 for adults and children under 16 are free. Money raised helps to fund our education and revegetation projects, while the event gives a boost to an important segment of the local community, and great pleasure to all who come to view and buy their work.



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VOLUNTEERS

This is Barung's most important fund raiser of the year, and volunteer help is crucial to the success of the event. If you can help us for a few hours (setting up or dismantling displays, selling tickets or books, controlling parking etc.) please give Craig Hosmer or Daryl Reinke a call at 5445 7325.

MALENY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SPONSORS SHUTTLE BUS FOR EXPO

Barung is again sharing the Labour Day weekend with the Maleny Arts and Crafts Group. These artists will be displaying other crafts in the Maleny Community Centre over the weekend.

Barung is pleased to announce that the Maleny Chamber of Commerce is once again generously sponsoring a shuttle bus which will take visitors between downtown, the Community Centre and the Showgrounds. All visitors are encouraged to park once and use the bus.

We thank the Chamber very much for their support with this environmentally friendly service. We hope our members will make use of it as they love around town that weekend. See you there!



CEDAR GALLERY DONATES MIRROR TO BARUNG

The most popular artist at last year's EXPO was Jack Wilms of The Cedar Gallery in Montville. Jack and his wife, Bianca, had just moved to Montville when Barung invited them to exhibit in the "From Chainsaw to Fine Furniture" Expo. They hesitated because they were busy setting up their new Gallery, but in the end decided to join the other artists. As a result, they won themselves many new ardent admirers and clients, among them George Johnson, who commissioned Jack (at the Expo) to create the main doors and many of the pieces of furniture for his stunning "Treetops" resort at Lake Baroon.

To thank Barung and give support to its education and revegetation projects, Jack and Bianca have donated a gorgeous red cedar mirror which Jack has made and signed. Barung will give you a chance to win this mirror through its Expo raffle. Tickets will be on sale from April 10, and the raffle will be drawn on the

last day of the Expo, Monday the 4th of May, at 3 pm in the Main Show Pavilion.

The mirror will be on display in the window of the Maleny Photo Lab, and raffle tickets will be available in the store and at Barung. Raffle tickets are only \$2. The mirror is valued at \$800.

Second prize is a copy of Ashley Sewell's new book on Australian cabinet timbers, with full colour photos of the bark, leaves and flowers of each species. This first edition has a value of \$50 and will be personally autographed by Ashley!

Third prize will be your choice of ten free trees, in tubes, from Barung's nursery, a \$20 value.

We hope you will support our raffle and we wish you luck in the draw!

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Range to Coast - A Great Success

Well it's over and what a delight it has been for me to come back from motherhood into such an amazing project. As much as I never look back, the thought, "Have I ever done anything else?" often crossed my mind while washing nappies. It was great to actually get my head around something for the first time in three years.

The launch on the 14th of March could not have gone any better. With the help and support of the staff and committee of Barung the treeplant and launch went extremely smoothly. Our current Green Corps Team provided a hell of a lot of the actual muscle that got the plants in the ground and were always happy to apply themselves to whatever needed doing, from cutting up sandwiches to cutting down privet.

Clayton and I have worked well together and been able to overcome all the obstacles that were put in front of us, e.g. what seemed to be pages of Main Roads instructions on what we could and couldn't do on the day. We had to have "Men at Work" signs, "Tree Planting in Progress" signs, licensed traffic controllers and designated 60 km zones, to name just a few. What seemed to be such overkill on paper turned out to be no drama at all with the help of the Maleny SES and few great parking attendants.

I would really like to thank the people of Maleny for their support during this project. Many hours of volunteer time has gone into making this event so successful. With over 20,000 trees in the ground on seventeen different sites all we need now is constant follow up maintenance and more rain. Anybody who has been involved in tree planting will know that maintenance is a major priority so with the final funds remaining from the project, we will be doing all that is necessary to keep our trees alive.

My belief is that this project was such a great success because, for once, this community group actually had enough money to do the job properly without having to scrimp and save. Thanks BHP and Landcare Australia.

As I try to tie up all the loose ends I would just like to thank everybody for their support and Barung for giving me this opportunity to get back into the work force. I really enjoyed the challenge.

Love Lexy

PS. Don't forget to watch your tree/s and monitor their progress over the years as the entrance to our town turns into the Rainforest of our future.



From The Field

Hi. I wonder if everyone is sick of hearing about Barung and their revegetation work. You would think nothing else happens in this town if the Range News is any indication - 4 front pages in a row!

Well, here's a little insight from me as the Site Coordinator of the BHP project, as to what it was like on the ground and what you can expect to see from our work over the next few years.

The entrance site coming into Maleny was one of 8 sites to receive a full work-over. Between

all of the project sites, 20,000 trees have gone in the ground over the past few months and a warm thank you to every one involved.

On any rehabilitation job, selection of species and appropriate site prep methods need careful consideration. Every project is different from the next. Once the final outcome is determined, deciding on the most appropriate work schedule can leave considerable heartache. With the entrance site, this was done with a fair amount of internal debate among Barung staff and committee members. We formulated our



Plants within our selection had to fit into at least 1 of 5 categories:

Edge plants: These needed to have a dense growth habit with branching to the ground, low to medium height requirements and to be fully sun hardy. This gives us resilience to weed invasion by reducing sun intensity to the forest floor. It also minimises temperature fluctuations thus moderating the climate within our forest. Hopefully it will also be resilient enough to exclude privet.

Full sun plants: These were the hardest of the selection, tolerant of high levels of sun, wind and frost stress. They were planted in the harshest areas.

Sun or frost sensitive plants: All of these species were planted in the softest locations such as under the shade of existing trees, giving protection from sun and cold frosty nights.

Creek plants: These were species suited to, or naturally occurring by creeks, water courses or poorly drained sites. This enhances the ecology of the High School gully / water course, and thus water quality. Also plants were chosen which would effectively help to control erosion from drainage lines running off the oval.

Low growing plants: These species were used under power lines that traverse the site on two spots. They have a height restriction of 4-5 m.

When undertaking a bush regeneration project like this, (and there is a fair amount of controversy over this issue), I propose that 60% of the plants need to be colonisers. Colonisers are plants that have a relatively short life-cycle. Their growth rate is fast and they flower and seed frequently in the first or second year. They encourage fauna through seed production and increasing insect population, and provision of nesting sites and shelter. They fix nitrogen in the soil, and improve and encourage the micro-organism activity essential for later stage plants to survive and thrive. The density of colonising plants differs considerably to later stage species. Once they have gone from the ecosystem (around 35 years in rainforest, 3-7 years in sclerophyll), the space created allows room for the larger longer term species to fully develop, 100 to 500 years later. So in 500 years when you drive past the entrance to Maleny you can say: "Hey dudes, look, the colonisers are gone!" and know why.

This project has been an excellent opportunity for me to really ground myself in this area, get involved with some truly lovely people, some fantastic plants and do something of considerable size and impact for the environment. It has been truly wild.

Thanks,
Clay

...as then submitted them for public opinion. Opinions came thick and fast. What we have ended up with is a focus on mostly local species which will be similar in outlook to that of Mary Caincross Reserve. Of course, due to the highly modified environment of the road we were faced with, species selection had to be somewhat tailor-made to suit. Scabby degraded soils, compaction, full and unrelenting sun, wind, frost, weed invasion, safety, depleted soil flora, and even worse, Main Roads regulations, Energex red tape, Telstra underground cables - you can't even fart on

that site without a permit!! All factors considered, we came up with around 280 species, 95% local with some rare ones included (just to upset the new "rare and protected" plant legislation). Due to the narrowness of parts of the site, we approached the High School in the hope of widening our most vulnerable points and thus creating a little more resilience against wind and weed invasion. They kindly obliged and allowed us to plant a considerable area inside the school grounds.

Planting was not done just at random



with JIM WATSON

Has Barung lost its mind?
Why are we giving away \$2000 worth of Reveg on Private lands?
How will this benefit the environment?

Well gather round members while I try to explain the big picture, the prize and the reasons behind it.

It's not hard to figure out that most of the creekbanks round the Range are on private lands. Many landholders with creekbanks have started their own reveg work. Still many more would like to begin but are confused as to where to start, what to do first. Well, it is important that they begin because the task of repairing the Obi Obi and its related creeks and tributaries is mammoth. For me it is not a matter of each individual property, but of trying to view the creek as part of the whole river system. How can we convince everybody to repair their creek sites, remove their weed sources and plant the right species in the right place at the right time?

Here is where the contest comes in! Barung has offered the prize as a way of introducing a cooperative effort for riparian land repair. As part of the application process, we have asked a lot of questions about the environment of each site as it stands at present: What trees are left? What animals are found there? How bad the weeds are? What is the land currently being used for? All of this information is being collected so that we can assist landholders in the coming financial year, with whatever they may need for the successful repair of their waterways.

Why? Good question. No doubt you are aware that Barung was successful in its application for NHT funding. What you may not know is that there are two parts to this funding arrangement: the first part is the money from the NHT funding, the second is the 'in-kind' contribution. 'In-kind' is measured in dollars, but comes down to any way by which the landholder contributes to the works on the land. 'In-kind' may be in labour, in fencing, in trees or whatever. This is then converted to a dollar value and can be matched dollar for dollar with the actual NHT funds.

Barung hopes that by matching dollars for dollars and by working with a strategy to keep costs down, as much work as possible can be achieved with the available funds.

Sounds O.K.? Good. Here are a few things to consider if you would like to work on your land or would like to support Barung in this endeavour to repair our creeks and waterways.

The land we are targeting is only creekbank land at this stage. This includes gullies and tributaries as well as running creeks. (Later on we will target off-stream land such as slips and hillsides etc. for reveg works.)

Some concerns from landholders have been brought to my attention. I hope that the following points will clarify these for people. The land remains in the control of the property owner. Our aim is only to assist the riparian repair in whatever way we can, not to dictate to landholders on land-use issues.

A voluntary maintenance agreement needs to be undertaken to ensure that the works have the opportunity to reach maturity. I am hopeful of putting together a user pays (subsidised) service for any landowner who has trouble keeping up with the weeds on their riparian site.

Fences separate properties but not creeks! The weeds from upstream will still invade downstream properties, so the more people prepared to help by putting their own house in order, the better the

overall outcome.

If you have any other concerns or queries about riparian reveg on private lands, I am happy to meet with you for discussion.

PS I would like to take this opportunity to beg from members the use of a chainsaw and a ride-on mower/small slashers. I can pick up and return these tools as you require. I promise to take the best of care with them and even repair them if needed. Please contact me if you can help.

Thanks, Jim

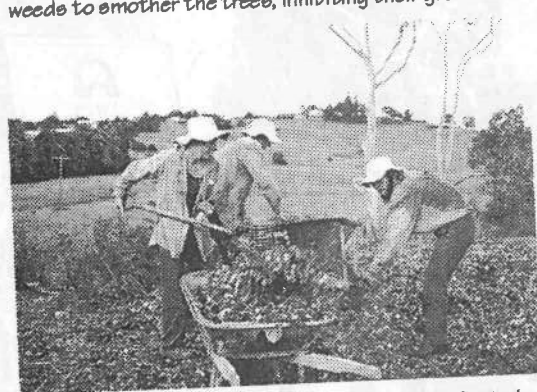


with JULIE TREMBATH

Over the past four months the Maleny Green Corps team have worked on many conservation projects. Apart from the well known BHP Range to Coast treeplant along the entrance to Maleny, several other treeplants have been completed. These include 1,500 trees at the Baroon Pocket Dam on Caloundra/Maroochy Water Supply Board land and 2,400 trees at the Sewerage farm.

Other projects undertaken include the removal of weeds from the showground remnant, and planting of native rainforest species increase the size of the remnant and to act as a windbreak. Green Corps will be constructing an interpretive walking trail and fence around the remnant.

Green Corps have also spent some considerable time doing maintenance on existing revegetation along the Obi Obi Creek from the showgrounds to the elevated boardwalk. In some areas the revegetation is five years old and the plants are no bigger now than when they were first planted. A serious lack of on-going maintenance has allowed the weeds to smother the trees, inhibiting their growth through competition

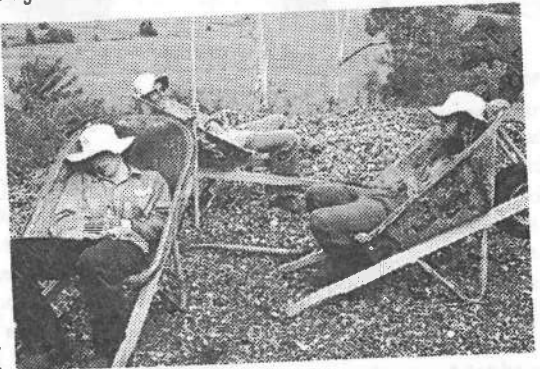


for sunlight, moisture and nutrients. With the weeds removed and mulch added the plants have increased in size in just 2 months!

On going maintenance is

just as important as planting the trees in the first place. If maintenance is done on a regular basis (and this can be done by slashing, brushcutting, hand-pulling, chemical spraying and/or heavy mulching), rainforest species can reach a considerable height and establish a canopy within a few years. This then negates the need for maintenance.

With only two months to go, our Green Corps will continue their revegetation works along the banks of the Obi Obi. Both they and I hope that once we are gone, Barung and the



people of Maleny will continue the maintenance on a regular basis to ensure optimum growth of the plants, reduce the amount of weeds and increase water quality and habitat for native species.

WEEDBUSTERS' REPORT

with LINDA IVEZIC

'Weedbusters' has been undergoing some exciting developmental changes during the last two months.

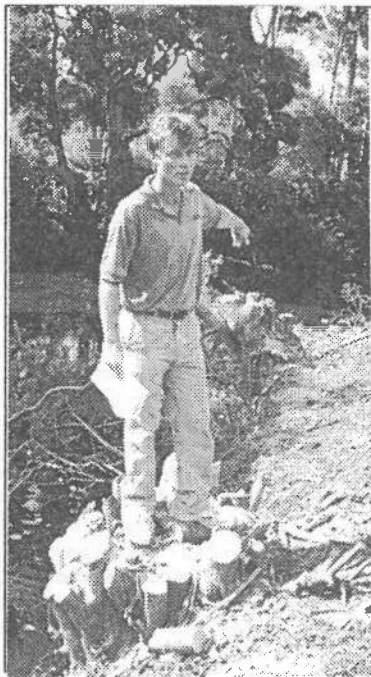
Jim Watson, Barung's newly appointed Revegetation Officer, has developed a program of Weed ID Workshops in appreciation of our efforts as dedicated volunteers. These are timetabled for the third Saturday morning of the month. They will run from 8 - 10 am and will be held at Barung. We've already had the first two and everyone has been fascinated by the information that Jim has been imparting to us: where each weed was introduced from and why, why it has become a problem, and effective control methods. All of this has generated a lot of discussion and many questions from every one of us.

We're all feeling empowered to get out there and "bust weeds" - not only for Barung's projects, but also on our own properties. Well done Jim, and thanks for your recognition of our efforts. Jim is doing these workshops in his own time by the way, his busy work schedule doesn't allow them to come out of his already full, full-time work schedule.

"Weedbusters" is a year old now. We started in March last year, "Landcare Month". We still have the same core of dedicated regulars - Dee Cosgrove, Pam Hunt, Robbie Hammer, Julie Lehmann and Alison Abbott. Welcome to newcomers Doug Eaton and Dale Jacobson and thanks very much to John King for taking part again.

For this month's Weedbusting session, Saturday April 4th, Jim has asked that we change our site of attack to the Obi banks at the RSL Hall.

If you are interested in becoming a regular Weedbuster, please don't hesitate to come along to our third Weed ID Workshop on Saturday 18th April at Barung from 8 - 10am. (An added bonus is the 25% discount on all plant purchases from Barung's nursery, offered to regular Barung volunteers.)



".....and that, my friends, was a privet!"

- Jim Watson, Weed Detective.

Jim and the Weedbusters on the Boardwalk for the first 'weed workshop'.

WANTED/NEEDED

- a lockable cupboard for the reveg shed for chemical storage in line with workplace health & safety regs.
 - an old, but working, BLENDER to use for scarifying seed
 - a volunteer knowledgeable about irrigation systems, on call to help when our irrigation system works less than perfectly!
 - black rainforest tube pots (5 x 5 mm x 12 mm)
- and of course we always welcome volunteers to work in the nursery

BY BARUNG

WEED OF THE MONTH

ANEW BI-MONTHLY REPORT

Many of us living on The Range have moved here from all corners of Australia, strongly motivated by the beauty of the area.

Unfortunately we see beauty in many trees and plants, which, although they cause no problems down south, have the potential to become serious weeds in the Sunshine Coast climate. There is no doubt that many are beautiful and why they are a weed has caused many a heated debate.

In the interest of promoting community awareness and promoting general 'weedbusting' activities, Barung Landcare would like to briefly feature a selected weed in this column each newsletter.

If your interest is aroused by these brief articles, please feel free to contact Barung for more details and to discuss the practicalities of weed management issues.

CAMPBOR LAUREL

This newsletter's weed is CAMPBOR LAUREL (*Cinnamomum camphora*), without a doubt one of the most beautiful trees, but at the same time one of most serious environmental weeds in Northern NSW and SE Qld. (so much so that it is known as 'the GREEN CANCER' in NSW!) In the wild it has spread from Victoria to the Atherton Tablelands.

ORIGIN: Taiwan, Japan, China. Ironically, Australia's first specimen was brought from the Royal Botanical Gardens in Kew, England, in 1822.

PROBLEMS ARE DUE TO:

1. vigorous root growth
2. the fact that a mature tree produces in excess of 100,000 seeds per year, many of which germinate readily in this climate
3. substances exuded from roots and leaf litter which suppress other plant growth

This means:

Roots eventually lift foundations, paths and driveways, and choke drains.

In creekbank (riparian) situations, camphor laurel have outcompeted local streambank rainforest species as well as *Eucalyptus tereticornis*, Blue Gum, a local water dependent species. (*Eucalyptus tereticornis* is a major koala food source. Reduction in the number of this species limit wildlife corridors for koalas to travel in their search for food and habitat.) The most serious creekbank infestation of camphor on the Sunshine Coast can be seen when you drive north along the Bruce Highway past Yandina and North Arm. There are many infestations locally on the Range such as along the Obi Obi Creek in Maleny, along North Maleny Rd. and in Witta.

The camphor laurel has no natural predators because of the camphor content, a natural insect repellent.

Birds eat the juicy black berries, then perch on power lines and fences and deposit seed. This is why camphor are often seen along fences and under power lines. However, as they grow they can push over fence posts and disrupt power and phone lines. From other seed, camphor also invades and smothers pastures.

IDENTIFICATION: The best way to identify camphor laurel is to smell a crushed leaf. The camphor aroma is unmistakable.

CONTROL: Large trees can be felled and the timber milled for furniture making or resale. Camphor is especially useful for blanket boxes because of the insect repellent qualities of the camphor.

Small trees can be removed by cutting down and swabbing the cut immediately with Glyphosate (50:50 glyphosate and water). Small trees should not be kept for timber production - we need to get rid of them as early in their lifespan as we can! Further details are

available from Barung Landcare. If you have a heavy camphor infestation on your property, please contact Barung for the purpose of mapping camphor locations and a possible field day on camphor removal later on.

CAMPHOR LAUREL REPLACEMENT TREES

The following trees provide alternative local food sources for birds that spread camphor laurel by eating its fruit. Birds that feed on camphor laurel include the brown cuckoo dove, black-faced cuckoo, cuckoo shrike, green catbird, regent bowerbird, wompoo fruit dove, topknot pigeon, figbirds and the lewin's honey-eater.

Beilschmedia obtusifolia (Blush Walnut): med-large tree, fruit ripens Dec/Jan.

Cryptocarya glaucescens (Silver Sycamore): 10-15m tree with dense crown, tolerates poor soils and exposed conditions with adequate water, important food source as black fruits are ripe at same time as those of camphor laurel.

Endiandra pubens (Hairy Walnut): usually low, bushy tree, for protected position and rich soil, red fruit ripe Oct - Feb.

Ficus fraseri (Sandpaper Fig): 6-15m tree, open branched or with dense crown, hardy, fast growing especially in rich soil, fruits May-Feb.

Ficus virens (Banyan Tree): med - tall tree, fruit ripe mainly June-Aug, but also throughout year.

Gmelina leichhardtii (White Beech): tall tree, valuable for timber, profuse white and purple flowers, fast growing and hardy, mauve/blue fruit ripe Feb-May.

Archonotophoenix cunninghamiana (Bangalow Palm): med - tall palm, tolerates full sun, moist soils, frost sensitive, bright red fruit ripe Dec-March.

Other trees that attract these birds include *Litsea lefeana* and *Cryptocarya erythroxylon*.

FROG POPULATIONS UNDER THREAT FROM CAMPHORS!!

(excerpt from an article by Joe Friend in Liemore.)

The tentative conclusions of basic trials from The Channon in Northern NSW, an area which abounds with camphor-laurel trees, indicate that regional frog populations are almost certainly being threatened by the camphor extracts exuded by camphor-laurels. These then wash into local soils and streams.

The first research trials revealed that camphor oil (made from the trunks and a powerful killing Metamorphosing can die within an to this oil, and all tadpoles appear dieaffected.

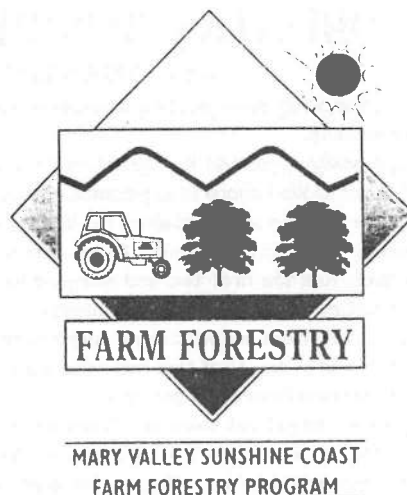
Further testing of local and/or soils near camphor trees is now needed to prove a 'cause and affect' linkage. It is known that camphor 'drop' of leaves and fruits which contain concentrations of oil occur around late summer/autumn, when frog populations may be at their most vulnerable when streams start running with water carrying significant loads of camphor oil, waxes, resins and other active poisonous molecules.

Meanwhile local and regional Councillors are urged to support the move to rescind the 'weed' status for camphor-laurels. Landcare groups are urged to take special care to remove or kill camphors within catchments or reserves known to contain remnant, 'endangered' or 'threatened' frog and other aquatic species populations. Persons utilising chipped camphor trees probably need to be taking more precautions in areas where native wildlife are to be protected.



limbs of trees) is a g e n t . frog-tadpoles hour of exposure stages of to be seriously

research and streamwater



with MARK WARNICK

The past four weeks has been significant for farm forestry in the greater Blackall Range area. The first of a trilogy of field days is completed and we have received tremendous feedback. Seventy people visited Simon Proctor's property in Mear's Lane, Boorobin on Saturday March 21st to look at rainforest ecology and re-establishment for timber and other uses, and at mixed rainforest plantation methods and successes.

Networking went well with representatives of different community groups present:

TAFE horticultural lecturers; landcare groups; Queensland Folk Federation; a varied cross-section of landowners from throughout the Sunshine Coast and the Mary Valley. This networking will continue.

Thanks to co-organisers Geoff Borschmann and Bob Burns (Prop Manager), and of course to Simon Proctor, landowner. Thanks also to Barung, taking bookings and their usual good moral support.

The second Field Day will be held on April 14th at the same property. It will be an intensive silviculture day. Topics to be covered include tree mensuration and thinning and pruning. Bookings are again required and can be made with Mim at Barung on 5494 3151 or Mark Warnick on 07 5441 4557. Places are already filling fast.

Neil Halpin from DPI Forestry's joint venture program and I will be organising another Field Day in June. This will be held at Steve Harrison's property in Witta and will look at Eucalypt plantation management. More details and booking procedure to be announced at a later date. I also attended another Future Profit Day. The group is bonding very well and heaps of progress is being made.

I attended an intensive week of Graduate Certificate Course in Forest Science (Farm Forestry) in Gympie. Again, this was very successful. Among many other activities, we visited Perry Corbett's mill and Hynes' hoop pine mill for detailed tours and discussions, as well as properties owned by Bob Whitworth and Coreen Schnitzerling.

I heard Gordon Banks, MVNCFPP representative, participate in a general presentation including one on co-ops. This session was also attended by Graeme Hughes, Farm Forestry Project Officer from Gympie. We lined up a story and a picture of the group with Perry Corbett and Rowan Reid (senior lecturer in Forest Science at Melbourne University), for the Gympie Times.

Other Farm Forestry activities included staffing a Regional Farm Forestry Information Centre at 23 Howard Street, Nambour; completion of two mo columns; attending the Barung Farm Forestry Sub-committee meeting, assisting with the completion of NHT funding proposal with John Wildman from Barung, and another with Dave Taylor, Cheryl Seabrook, Mike Askham and Ashley Sewell. Farm Forestry has a very big couple of months coming up. Please call me at Nambour on 5441 4557 if you have any queries.

Barung needs your continuing support, so please do not let your membership lapse. Call us if you are in doubt on 5494 3151.
DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
- WEDNESDAY MAY 20TH.

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- ★ PLANT SEEDLINGS

NURSERY REPORT with Marc Russell

Whew! The BHP 20,000 tree project is over. It's been wonderful to be involved in such a worthwhile project and it's also wonderful that the planting stage is finished. This means that we can get back to the normal old mayhem that Barung was pre-BHP!

Nursery maintenance has fallen well behind, so at present we are cleaning the place up. We've been weeding, gravelling, laying down weedmat, doing irrigation and drainage works, sorting pots and generally rearranging things. We are even making a dent in the huge backlog of seedlings needing potting. The nursery is looking so much better, but there is still quite a lot to be done. If you have any time to spare, we can always use extra help to boost the efforts our team of regular volunteers.

Many new works are also in progress around the nursery. We will be putting a roof over the slab on the back of the potting shed soon, giving our nursery workers twice the shaded space to work with.

The path to the two upper tubehouses and a slab for the reveg. shed were completed last week thanks to concreter Phil Vickers. This small shed and fenced lockup area is situated at the rear of the front carpark and will house all the tools etc. involved in revegetation works. This means that the nursery shed can be reclaimed from the existing

chaos, resulting in much celebration among the nursery workers! If you have been in to Barung lately you will have noticed the new verandah and glass doors at the front of the building. This is the new nursery office and sales area. More work needs to be done, but when it is finished customers will have a shaded, rain-free area with a bench to put plants on and with labels and general info on hand.

One more major change happening soon will be to swap the 60% shadecloth on the large shadehouse (retail area) for 30% shadecloth. This will enable us to produce our rainforest plants with much more sun resistance than we have been able to in the past. This will translate into better survival rates on planting out (especially in some of the extreme conditions in the warmer months).

For several months I have been pleased to meet regularly with a small but well-focused Nursery Sub-committee. This is a wonderful way to bounce ideas around within a group, and I feel that more input into the decision making and direction of the nursery is of great value. The sub-committee has already been a great support for me, especially with my job becoming increasingly busy.

We have circulated the new species availability list with this newsletter, to give you an idea of what plants the nursery now has in stock. If you are seeking any species not included on the list, please drop in or give me a ring, we may be able to get it in for you.



Mary River Cod Community Network

Mobile: 015 758 402
Phone/Fax: 07 5474 1423
PO Box 604
TEWANTIN Q 456

Hosted by: Barung Landcare

COD RECOVERY UPDATE

In the last newsletter, I alluded to the enormity of the Cod recovery exercise. This month I plan to bring you up to date with Cod recovery activities around the catchment.

Community involvement is very inspiring with motivated individuals and groups undertaking activities which are of benefit to Cod recovery. Throughout the catchment, landcare and conservation groups are conducting specific riverbank restoration projects, and this together with their ongoing Waterwatch and general Landcare education and restoration activities, are contributing significantly to improving the overall health of the catchment. A natural flow-on effect is the improvement of riverine conditions for the Cod.

Riverbank degradation has been acknowledged as one of the Mary River catchment's biggest threats, and in response the *Voluntary Riverbank Restoration Grants Scheme* was initiated by the Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee in 1997. Various methods of maintaining or improving the riverbank environment include: fencing for better stock control with the provision of off-stream watering points; the preservation of remnant vegetation; restoration of eroded areas; the eradication of woody weeds; and the protection and maintenance of Cod habitats. The 1997 report highlighted the following achievements: the planting of 16,000 mixed native riparian trees; the installation of 18 kms of streambank fencing;

and the establishment of 27 off-stream watering points, excluding almost 3000 head of cattle from riverbanks throughout the catchment. If you are interested in further funding or general information about the scheme, contact Alan McGrigor, Coordinator, on 07 5482 1522 or 07 5484 1372.

A Worldwide Fund for Nature Project was commenced in June last year which aimed at mapping existing Cod habitat. Glenda Pickersgill is working with landholders, fishing groups and interested members of the community to identify and map areas of the Mary River system where Cod are still known to exist. The habitat mapping is aimed at identifying areas which may be suitable for restocking in the future and areas which require remedial works to protect or restore habitat. The mapping process includes recording the state and extent of the riparian vegetation, and the types and extent of weeds in the riparian zone. The mapping is well advanced in the following priority areas: Widgee and Glastonbury Creeks; Six Mile Creek; Tinana/Coondoo Creek; Obi Obi Creek; Amamoor Creek; and along approximately 47 kms of the Mary River. Ongoing research is also a part of the recovery process with a *radio tracking program* commenced in October last year. It is anticipated that valuable information about fish movement will be gained, which will be an additional aid in the conservation of the species. Please phone Glenda on 07 5484 3150 if you can provide any information about Cod distribution and/or habitat, or to discuss riparian vegetation or weed issues.

Radio tracking devices have been placed in

Cod in areas known to have existing populations. Movement of the Cod tagged prior to the rains in February was understandably minimal. However, since water levels have risen, two fish have moved considerable distances, one six kms upstream and returning to its hole, and another tracked to a location 25 kms upstream. This Cod has not returned to its original location to date.

And what's happening at the Lake MacDonald Hatchery? Research is continuing with the Cod breeding program. The hatchery is reliant upon dedicated volunteers from the Lake MacDonald Freshwater Fishing Association, DPI Fisheries staff and funding, and funds from the Noosa Council. To date bred Cod have been stocking storage areas outside the catchment, with restocking of the Mary River system planned for the near future.

Meals on Wheels for Cod Project is now underway, and is a wonderful opportunity for the community and particularly those who have a farm dam, to directly supply the hatchery with lobbies/crayfish during the breeding season. The hatchery is now gearing up for the 1998 season, so it is a prime time for you to offer your support.

Here's hoping that you are involved in activities which promote catchment health during Landcare Month. Please feel free to contact me for Cod information including the *Meals on Wheels* brochure, or if you wish to enlighten me about Cod issues in your area. You can contact me on 07 5474 1423.

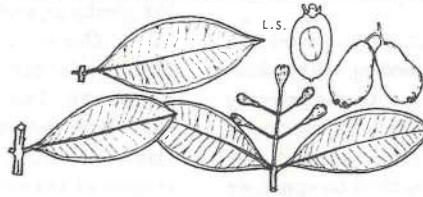
Wendy Gillespie

This fairly common species of Lilly Pilly is distributed from Batemans Bay in NSW to North Queensland. It is found along creeks, in or adjacent to rainforests. Brush Cherries occur on a wide range of soils, from coastal sands to clay loams and clays. Generally seen as a bushy shrub or small tree of 5 to 10m, *Syzygium australe* displays a lot of variation in size, leaf structure and fruit.

Many nurseries sell hybrids or varieties from "who knows where", so it is important that we obtain seed or cutting material from plants which occur naturally in our area for the maintenance of local gene pools. If you insist on local stock, these nurseries will be more careful about the source of their plants. This of course, applies to all plants in our area.

The fruit is ripening over the next couple of months and can be picked from the tree or off the ground, as long as it is pink to red in colour. Flowering and fruiting are spread over quite a long period, so several visits to a tree/trees will be needed to harvest a reasonable quantity of fruit/seed.

**Seed to collect April/May
Brush Cherry (*Syzygium australe*)**



The best way to treat seed before sowing, is to remove the flesh, soak for about 24hrs (to drown seed eating pests), then sow to the depth of the seed in a light seed raising mix. Keep moist. The flesh of the fruit is quite edible when fresh. It is well suited to jams, jellies or syrups, because it has a slightly tart flavour. Shelf life of seed and fruit can be extended by storage in the fridge, as they quickly deteriorate otherwise.

Brush Cherries are fantastic trees to grow in the garden, with beautiful dense glossy foliage, attractive white flowers and decorative edible fruit. Wompoo Fruit Doves,

Satin Bowerbirds and Figbirds may become regular visitors, as they are partial to the tasty fruit.

Syzygium australe has been proven to be frost tolerant, and its bushy nature makes it a great windbreak or screen plant.

If you come across seeds from a local plant and will not use them yourself, we would love to have some in our nursery and spread them, through our revegetation work and plant sales to the public.

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