

The 2004 MALENY WOOD EXPO

...cultivating the future of Australian native timbers

With less than four weeks to go, the 2004 Maleny Wood Expo on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd May is approaching fast. This year's Expo promises to be the best yet, with a record number of exhibitors and new attractions.

A copy of the 2004 EcoTour brochure is included in this newsletter, so that Barung members can 'get in early' to book a seat. EcoTour Coordinator, Peter Milton, has done a fantastic job of organising these tours which explore both the local area and land-use alternatives in the region.

Likewise, Bridget Sparks has put in a huge effort to line up prizes for the Expo Raffle ranging from luxury accommodation to artworks to a chainsaw! Bridget has been overwhelmed by the generosity of local businesses and artists for the raffle. A list of prizes can be found on page 7 of this newsletter.

If you wish to purchase a book of 5 tickets to go in the draw for the additional BOOKBUYERS PRIZES, these can be obtained from Bridget, the Barung Office or the Maple Street kiosk over Easter and on Saturday mornings prior to Expo.

The inaugural Wootha Prize exhibition will be the feature exhibition at this year's Expo. Entries have been received from as far away as Western Australia, and the selection panel has chosen the best for the exhibition. This themed exhibition will be a feature at all future Maleny Wood Expos, allowing wood artisans from across Australia the opportunity to exhibit their work. The theme of the 2004 competition is "BOXES".

Thank you to Bold in Gold, David Linton Furniture and CSIRO Forestry and Forest

Products for sponsoring this inaugural competition.

And of course, there's the wonderful woodworking displays by the region's best wood artists. Exhibits range from the finest fine furniture to rough bush and outdoor furniture, all made from local native timbers, recycled or weed timbers. All timber used by these exhibitors must be sustainably harvested to be eligible to show at the Expo.

Other aspects of our timber culture include Frank de Groot building the final stage of the post and rail fence in the Dairy Paddock, using time honoured traditions to cut, split and fashion bush timbers. Monday will see a brief ceremony to install a plaque on the fence commemorating

Frank's heritage contribution to the Maleny Showgrounds over the past three years.

Inga Green is again pulling together a wonderful display of old photographs and other memorabilia that will constitute the Historical Display in the DownUnder Pavilion, entered through the Landcare Paddock.

The mobile millers will be slabbing timber all weekend so that visitors can appreciate the modern equipment used for timber salvage. Many of the millers source their timber from nuisance trees - trees that have been planted too close to houses, or that have come down in storm events etc - just another aspect of sustainable timber usage. In days gone by, much of this timber would have ended up on the bonfire pile. By recycling it, the stored carbon is locked up for the future, and timber that would otherwise be wasted is given a new lease of life.

SES exhibits will include furniture and other timbercraft and trade displays as well as working demonstrations of woodworking equipment and techniques.

The Taste Maleny Cafe and the Taste Maleny Produce Store are both generating considerable interest, with local restaurants and businesses recognising the opportunity to promote their produce and their businesses to 10,000 visitors over the weekend.

Maleny Music (Spectrum), with assistance from the Maleny Community Centre, are launching the *Maleny Music* CD at the Expo. Many of Maleny's best musicians who feature on the CD will be performing throughout the weekend.

The other exciting musical attraction will be the RAW - Rhythm, Arts and Words Youth Music
... cont'd on p3



maleny
WOOD
EXPO

1, 2 & 3 MAY
MALENY SHOWGROUNDS



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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Rod De Jong	Di Collier
Grant & Christine Britton	Loraine & Phil Wilkinson
Peter & Linda Cause	Ruth Parnell
Ted Czechura	Julie Hough
Gavin & Shirley Jack	Joanna Bruford
Sue Carstens	S & S Richardson
Alan Geritz	Fushia & Samara Collard
Erlanda Leonard	Max & Wendy Valentine
John Croffs & Judy Stubbs	Melissa Green
Glenn Higson	Jocelyn Francis
Terry Smith & Janet Carew	Peta Jervois & Glen D'eske
David & Coral Bell	Chris & Di Murray
Ali Darmansjah	Brian & Irene Kennedy
Cliff Hanna	John & Irene Nicholson
Rod & Maria Crawford	

WELCOME BACK

Lindsay Kruger	D & D Drew
Brooke Lightbody	Mark Boon
S Spall & B Smith	Wendy Hartmann
Glasshouse Mountains Advancement Network	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LANDCARE SUPPORT

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Lin Fairlie

Barung's 2004 Maleny Wood Expo is nearly here. It is vital that our members help publicize the event through word of mouth - to relatives, neighbours, friends and work-mates, in order that potential new and return visitors are aware of the dates. Without your assistance before, during and after the event we will not be able to keep expanding the range of activities and displays.

Please fill in the volunteer form from the February newsletter if you still have it, or contact Raylee Myers, our Expo Volunteer Coordinator on 5494 3779 if you are able to volunteer. Working at Expo as one of the team is great fun and is an opportunity to meet other members and staff.

The Barung Management Committee has finalized the Barung Business Plan - essential for the future of the group. The need for new premises was identified as the key to our future. The existing site allows for no expansion of either the Resource Centre or the nursery and, just as importantly, our License to Occupy the current Caloundra City Council site expires in 2007. There will be an article in the June-July newsletter detailing our requirements, options and possible ways forward. The Committee would like to hear any ideas members may have about land which could be suitable for our purposes.

There is currently a vacancy on the Management Committee due to the resignation of Guy Morgan who is no longer living in Maleny. Talk with any member of the Management Committee if you would like more information about the time commitment etc. Management Committee members make a real contribution to the environmental future of our area, and play an important role in the success of the organisation. It's also a great way to make friends.

Applications for the Contracting Services Manager for Barung's new Contracting Services Arm have closed and it is hoped that an appointment will soon be made. This is also an action from the business plan. Another action is the recent purchase of a very good, secondhand twin cab 4WD utility to be used by the Revegetation Officer, Nursery and other staff as needed. We foresee strong competition for its use in the lead-up to Expo.

So, please plan to visit the 2004 Expo - volunteer for a shift of raffle ticket selling, car parking, serving in the Taste Maleny Café or the Landcare Bar & BBQ or one of the hundreds of other jobs essential for the smooth running of this important event. You really will enjoy being part of your landcare group's most important educational and fund raising event. There are also many tasks requiring creative minds and extra pairs of hands in the weeks before the event. You will be most welcome if you can assist. Expo cannot run without its volunteers.

I am looking forward to meeting more members at this year's event.



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THE STATE OF THE LAND

NATIVE VEGETATION INQUIRY RELEASES DRAFT REPORT

Costs of native vegetation and biodiversity regulations can be reduced while increasing environmental benefits, according to a recently released Productivity Commission report. In its draft inquiry report into the impacts of native vegetation and biodiversity regulations, the Commission proposes that, as a first step, all jurisdictions should ensure that their regimes follow good regulatory practices including clear specification of objectives to promote transparency and accountability. But fundamental change is required to give landholders more incentive to retain and care for native vegetation in the long term.

The Commission considers that governments should seek to facilitate and remove impediments to increased private provision of environmental services. Landholders and local communities should be given greater flexibility to develop and implement regional solutions to local environmental problems.

The final report of the inquiry will be released in April.

For the draft report go to <http://www.pc.gov.au/inquiry/nativevegetation/draftreport/nativevegetation.pdf>. (from EnviroInfo, 22 January 2004)

TRUSS ANNOUNCES NEW STATE LANDCARE COORDINATOR

Australian Agriculture Minister Warren Truss recently announced the appointment of a Queensland landcare coordinator, funded under the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

Wanora landholder Tony McKew has been appointed State landcare coordinator. His responsibilities will be to help encourage greater community and industry involvement in landcare activities across Queensland.

Mr Truss said Tony's extensive background in natural resource and catchment planning qualified him as a valuable player in the landcare movement.

"Tony has shown leadership and expertise in natural resource management and will be a great asset in engaging the community in landcare activities," Mr Truss said.

The voluntary landcare movement, with its thousands of members, along with the Government's National Landcare Program, are at the heart of Australia's approach to natural resource management.

"Landcare works because it represents a partnership between governments, individuals and the wider community.

"It has also been instrumental in raising awareness of sustainability issues, and improving the way Australians from all walks of life manage this country's precious natural resources."

Mr Truss said the position will help ensure the landcare movement in Queensland continues to build on its already significant achievements, provide much needed support at the State level, and also link in closely with the National Landcare Facilitator, Coral Love.

"Tony will also help foster partnerships between government and resource users at the national, regional and local levels. After all, the involvement of farmers, and other major resource users, is essential if we are to continue improving resource management in Australia."

The new position will complement the work of the NRM facilitators, funded by the Natural Heritage Trust, by encouraging the continuing participation of the landcare movement and industry in sustainable resource management.

Tony can be contacted on 0428 330 121.

The 2004 MALENY WOOD EXPO

...cultivating the future of Australian native timbers
cont'd from p1

Competition which will be hotly contested each morning by our aspiring young musicians.

The Maleny Players will be running a Wine and Cheese Bar adjacent to the music venue in support of the entertainment.

Other catering outlets in 2004 include the Landcare Bar and BBQ where you can pull up a haybale and enjoy a beer and burger, the Maleny High School pie stall and fish and chips outlets and the River School's vegetarian alternatives as sampled at the Woodford Folk Festival.

The Landcare Paddock displays will offer the opportunity to find out everything you need to know about farm forestry, and friends and foes of threatened species.

The three regional bodies who will be directing the future of our Blackall Range river headwaters - the Mary, the Stanley and the Maroochy and Mooloolah Rivers - will all participate in the Natural Resource Management tent.

If you want to know more about how priorities will be set for repair and funding of rehabilitation in your local area, this is the perfect chance to speak to Community Support Officers and others from the Burnett Mary Regional Body (Mary River), South East Queensland Western Catchments Group (Stanley River) and Natural Resource Management South East Queensland (Maroochy and Mooloolah Rivers).

Although a lot of planning has gone on with stakeholders in these regions, including landcare, many actual landholders are unaware of how regional arrangements will impact on them.

The Barung Plant and Book Sales venue will be the best yet with the nursery staff designing new props and planning well ahead to ensure a huge range of plants are available for sale over the weekend.

The Speakers Venue will be a drawcard for those interested in cutting edge thoughts on how we are managing our resources.

If you have not yet put your name down for a volunteer shift at the Expo, give Raylee Myers, our Expo Volunteer Coordinator a ring on 5494 3779 to become part of the 'Expo team' and support Barung.

The Maleny Wood Expo is Barung's major annual fundraiser and education event and depends on volunteer help to run smoothly to ensure visitors depart with a positive Maleny experience.

2004 QUEENSLAND STATE LANDCARE CONFERENCE

Hosted by Toowoomba Landcare Group, the 2004 Queensland Landcare conference will take place from 1-5 September in Toowoomba. A diverse program of speakers, workshops and field trips is being finalised along the theme 'get your hands dirty.'

The program will cater to NRM volunteers and workers across Coastcare, Rivercare, Bushcare, Waterwatch and Landcare as well as the staff and boards of Regional NRM bodies and their clients.

Registration and program information will be available in the coming weeks and enquiries should be directed to mariens@landcare.org.au

THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN

Joan Dillon

This summer certainly tested the hardiness of the ornamental garden, especially in my heavy clay. Plenty of January rain saturated previously dry soil - a very sudden change for plants with sensitive root systems - and then they were hit by the heatwave. A very few succumbed; the large flowered scaevola, a fine leaved westringia, and a prostrate banksia which was a bit of an experiment anyway. Some gaps are already being filled by adjacent shrubs, and the scaevola can readily be replaced to provide my favourite blue colour splashes. The dense shrub and mulch layer protected the soil and also provided a safe haven for a family of whip birds which have moved in from the lantana, plus a young echidna.

Apart from replenishing the soil moisture, the rain also filled the tanks, so I was able to water a few more delicate treasures during the heatwave. Having to manage one's own water supply makes one so much more aware of garden options. Catherine Stewart in her editorial in the latest issue of 'Landscape Outlook' noted: "While it breaks my heart to see parts of my garden wither and die back because of lack of rain, I accept that it is just that - lack of rain, my plant choices, my imperfect soil preparation, inadequate mulching and not water restrictions that have made this happen." Sydney Water has restrictions in place in order to force a change in attitude and behaviour, an interesting development in urban Australia.

The heatwave triggered a spectacular if brief flowering of the red form of *Melaleuca viridiflora*. I don't know whose entire beehive arrived for the feast but suspect there will be some odd-flavoured honey around as the perfume of this melaleuca is not exactly sweet. It's still worth planting for the colour display. Habit is variable, from twisted to pendulous to 18m. My three look as though they will develop into relatively small trees but it would no doubt be wise to allow a bit of space. It's periodically available from Barung.

Those wretched African koala bells which have been written about lately are steadily taking over the septic field and will need attacking with a machete and possibly a crowbar. Herbicide is not an option there so I fear their removal will be a long slow process. It's so important to be aware of weed potential and I should have recognised the signs of impending disaster a couple of years ago. I do choose to have a beautiful South East Australian iris which I am keeping strictly confined to a narrow garden bed between house and lawn. It produced masses of seed pods which delivered hundreds of seedlings in an experimental seed tray in the shadehouse. These will be destroyed. The pods were not allowed to explode, seeds were not winged, and all future pods will be removed while still very green. This native would be a disaster near a creek. Management is the key, combined with the precautionary principle.

The 'Gardening Australia' program of February 20 showcased a Victorian garden on the edge of a national park and demonstrated how an ornamental garden can blend into bushland and take advantage of its surroundings. It was a great example of what can be achieved by working with the local environment. Ground covers, choice of mulch, pavers, timber and every detail complemented nature. We can achieve similarly great results by choosing equally carefully, paying attention to leaf shapes and colours, growth habits and aspects of the hard landscape. The latter can really enhance and draw attention to particular features of the actual garden, the plants. Acreage and lots of money are obviously handy, but not essential.



NURSERY NOTES

Nick Willis

As you are no doubt aware, things around Barung are currently in a state of organised chaos with all things Wood Expo taking up most of our thoughts, our computers and a lot of our space.

However, the humble nursery staff and volunteers are still working away vigilantly to produce more and more plants. Weather conditions are still great to get more plants into those revegetation projects before the end of the wet, and stock levels and diversity are the best they have been in years.

Some exciting species currently in stock (or just around the corner) are Eumundi quandong (*Elaeocarpus eumundii*), Pencil cedar (*Polyscias murrayi*), Thread barked myrtle (*Austromyrtus inophloia*), White beech (*Gmelina leichardtii*), and Bunya pines (*Araucaria bidwillii*). Some of you have been waiting years for these particular species so get in quickly - they may not last.

For this year's Maleny Wood Expo we are planning the biggest and best display seen to date in the Barung Nursery tent. We have been planning and roping in volunteers since before Christmas and have reserved some beautiful stock especially for the event. Some examples of plants to be displayed and available for purchase are bush foods, butterfly attracting plants, wallum wildflowers, and timber trees for farm forestry as well as our usual range of rainforest species.

This year we are incorporating a greater educational component into our usual high quality plant displays so make sure you come in and check us out at this fabulous event. The good thing about the Maleny Wood Expo is that you can come back every year as it is always bigger and better than previously with new attractions.

The nursery will be closed on Saturday the 1st of May because of the Expo. For those who don't know, the Barung Nursery is open from 9am to midday all other Saturdays. These mornings are staffed entirely by volunteers and more helpers are always welcome. If you have some knowledge of our local flora and could spare one Saturday morning a month, please come and have a chat with the Nursery staff. If a few people are interested, we will run a special training session on retail procedures etc, otherwise you can just spend time with some of our regular Saturday volleys and get on-the-job training. These shifts are particularly good for anyone wanting to update their native plant ID skills and general flora knowledge. We do not expect trained botanists as any queries that cannot be answered on the spot are referred to nursery staff on Monday.

Thanks again to all seed donors, especially those who have brought in White beech seed. 2004's bumper crop will keep the nursery supplied with White beech seedlings for years to come. I have decided to stop listing individual donors in this column as I was forever upsetting people by forgetting to print their name. So thanks to everyone who has donated seed to Barung. You are all appreciated !!!

See ya at the Expo.

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PLANT PROFILE

Nick Willis

White ash

Alphitonia petreii

Family: *Rhamnaceae*

One of our most valuable local pioneer species, White ash is utilised extensively in Barung revegetation projects. It can easily reach 2m in a single growing season and the distinctive layered canopy is ideal for providing quick shade and microclimates for other more sensitive plants.

Eventually growing to a height of over 20m, White Ash is more usually seen as a regrowth tree on the margins of sub tropical and littoral rainforest from mid NSW to Thursday Island. Some of the distinguishing features of White ash (*Alphitonia petreii*) include the layered, spreading crown of horizontally arranged leaves, resembling the trees seen growing on the plains in documentaries on Africa.

The leaves have a distinctive white undersurface and the trunk is cylindrical, covered with a grey smooth bark with vertical grey lines, giving this tree a distinctive whitish look which contrasts well with other more lush green-foliaged trees.

The Nursery currently has loads of White ash available, so we are offering them for

\$1.50 each for the next couple of months.

This species is not always available so get them while you can.

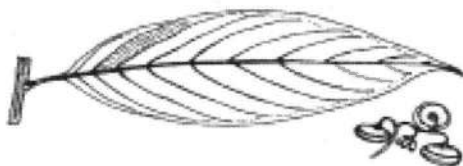


Illustration from Trees & Shrubs in Rainforests of New South Wales & Southern Queensland by Williams, Harden & McDonald, published by Uni of New England

woody weed problems? need the Sidewinder?

Ring the office to put your name on the list for the next training session.

Training is run on demand, so let us know!

LOCAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

THREATENED SPECIES NETWORK grants -

closing date for next round is 5 June.

For more information visit www.wwf.org.au

CALOUNDRA CITY COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT GRANTS applications (up to \$1,000 /property in 2003) due SOON. Watch papers or ring Nick Clancy (CCC Land for Wildlife) on 5420 8791

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BUTTERFLIES OF THE RANGE

Bob Miller

Australian painted lady

(*Vanessa kershawi*)



photo courtesy of Bob Miller

How would you like to go through life as a male Australian painted lady? This was the question I used to ask my father when I was much younger. The question just doesn't seem to have the same impact anymore.

The Australian painted lady is one of those few butterflies that land with their wings in an outstretched attitude.

Another of these butterflies, and the main one that the Australian painted lady is confused with, is the Meadow argus (*Junonia villida calybe*). The easiest way to tell them apart is by the eye spots on both the fore and hind wings of the Meadow argus which are not present on the Painted lady.

The Australian painted lady can best be described as a medium sized butterfly with a wingspan averaging about 45mm. And if you have noticed something dining on your daisies, the chances are that it is the larvae of this butterfly. This is actually one of the few butterfly larvae that I have seen spin a web in which to hide during the day. They then come out at night to feed.

The greenish egg is laid singly on a leaf of the foodplant.

The spiny larvae are very variable in colour, some are brown, some grey and some are even green. Larvae of all these colours can hatch from the same batch of eggs. Even though they are adorned with spines, these are non-irritant and so the larvae can be handled safely.

The pupae also vary in colour, ranging from greyish brown to reddish brown. They are either found on the foodplant or on an object nearby, but are always found hanging head down.

The adult butterfly is mainly orange, with some brown patches and white spots on the fore wings, and four blue spots on the hind wings. The undersides are very cryptic and because of their beige ground colour, the butterflies seem to disappear upon landing.

The Australian painted lady is one of our migratory butterflies and can sometimes be seen in large numbers.

For further information on this or any other Australian butterfly, reference should be made to Butterflies of Australia by Michael F. Braby, 2000.

If you want to learn more about our rainforest flora & fauna ...

... join Marc on his weekly seed collection walks
- meet at Barung at 9.30am Thursdays

... or join the 'out-back crew'
on the potting bench
& get first-hand experience in sowing
a wide variety of seed and potting up,
& join in some ridiculously funny conversations!



What is it?

- It is chocolate brown in colour
- has short yellow legs
- is middle sized
- has white patches on its tail
- has yellow beak and eyes
- may not appear aggressive but really is.

Answer: an **Introduced Common Myna**

* "Introduced" to distinguish it from the native Noisy Myna

* "Common" because it is found in so many places - hopefully not in new places and gradually less in areas where it is now found. It is common in Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra and Toowoomba to name a few.

* Should not be called an "Indian" Myna even though they originated in India and southern China where they are commonly seen eating insects in fields - the reason for their introduction to Australia.

Caloundra City Council is taking the lead on the Sunshine Coast in an effort to identify areas where the bird occurs. Their behaviour indicates they are more intelligent than many other birds. They steal dog and cat food, like shopping centres because of the scraps and build nests of rubbish in tree hollows so displacing other birds and even possums etc. They have been known to build in air conditioning ducts and similar nooks and crannies. They carry lice and mites and because of the rubbish, their nests can attract ants so making the hollow unsuitable for other animals to use once the mynas have finished.

Common Mynas, apart from during their October - March breeding times, congregate in groups of up to 20. Groups of birds have been seen at Beerwah, Glasshouse, Landsborough, Mt Mellum, Woodford and Cedarton. They follow road corridors and like large open spaces such as golf courses but have not been seen in bushland. They are aggressive and take on individual birds much larger than themselves such as kookaburras.

So here is a pest species just starting to become established in this area. With vigilance, a plan can be developed by which these birds can be controlled even if not eliminated entirely. It is up to us. Are we going to let a bird outsmart us?

Please contact Greg Brown, Pest Management Coordinator, Caloundra City Council, if you have seen Common Mynas anywhere in your area.

the Red-eared Slider Turtle - it's true!

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines (NRM) have declared an alert for the Red-eared Slider Turtle, a declared pest from America recently found in two private dams in Pine Rivers and in nearby waterways.

It is important for everyone to keep an eye out for the Red-eared Slider Turtle as it is a serious threat to our native turtles, fish and crustaceans.

Key points distinguishing this turtle from natives:

- Juveniles have a red flash behind the eye
- Unlike native turtles, they retract their head straight back into the shell, not to the side
- They enjoy basking on rocks and logs

If seen, note the exact location (GPS points are great if you've got the technology) and contact Dept NRM on 1800 999 367

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CAPTURE - THEY BITE!!!!

Attached is a link to the NRM website alert sheet.

http://www.nrm.qld.gov.au/pests/warning_brochures/pdf/red_eared_slider_turtle.pdf

It's just been a matter of time for Duranta

The following Newsflash from Noosa Landcare backs up suspicions that Barung staff have had about Duranta for some time. Let us know if you've seen similar in the Hinterland.

Feral Duranta is "going off" around Kin Kin. The junction of Kin Kin-Pomona Road and Eastern Branch (near the main bridge) is infested with a whole mob of it. Within a 2km radius of this spot, Duranta is up in gullies, out-competing Lantana and making itself very difficult to remove. The plant also sports pretty feral spines.

Another region where Duranta is spreading is along Cooroy Creek (near Wust Rd). Plants here have a totally closed canopy above a desert floor. In this region Duranta has infested three or four properties to date and seems to be advancing down the catchment.

from Conor Neville and Phil Moran, Noosa Landcare

and then there's Praxelis!

The Queensland Herbarium wants to establish the distribution of Praxelis, *Praxelis clematidea*, which has only recently been reported in SEQ. Praxelis is a South African species which is known to be highly invasive in North Queensland where it forms dense swards not eaten by stock. It is invasive in most situations.

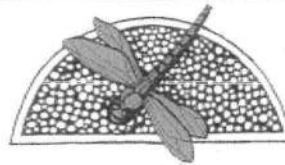
Praxelis is potentially a more serious environmental weed than Blue billygoat weed (*Ageratum houstonianum*), as it invades undisturbed forest ground layers forming large monocultures.

The Queensland Herbarium is asking people to send in specimens of this plant if found in the area.

Barung has an E-flyer showing the key differences between Praxelis and blue billygoat weed to assist in accurate identification - let us know if you would like this forwarded to you.

Please see link below to Queensland Herbarium website guide to collecting specimens. Please read this to ensure you send all the necessary information for proper identification.

<http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/publications>



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COLOUR IN THE RANGE

THE WEED REPORT Lin Fairlie

Summer's vines are showing off

This is the time of year to keep your eyes open for Maderia vine or Lamb's tails (*Anredera cordifolia*) as it is flowering now. The tiny cream flowers are borne in pencil-like strands 4-5cm long but it only seems to flower when the creeper reaches the top of the tree or fence up which it is climbing.

Due to the formation of small fleshy, potato-like tubers along its stems, Madeira vine should not be pulled out of the tree or off the fence as these tubers will fall off and then grow on the ground under the original vine. A careful watch needs to be kept around infestation sites as the aerial tubers will have been produced for a long time before the flowers appeared. A vine as short as 30cm can have the beginnings of tubers along the stem.

The best removal technique is to trace the vine down to where it leaves the ground. If the vine is small, dig out and bag the underground tuber and any small tubers on the ground. If the vine is larger, cut it above ground level and immerse the two cut ends into a herbicide mixture. The longer the cut stems remain in the herbicide the more herbicide is absorbed upwards into the stems and tubers of the vine and down into the underground tubers and roots. Please contact the Barung Nursery on 5494 3151 for the most appropriate herbicide.

Madeira vine leaves are quite fleshy and once you 'get your eye in,' they can be seen climbing through vegetation to reach the top. It is possible to spray small plants on the ground or alternately to dig each one up as it appears. This may seem time consuming but at least other native seedlings are not destroyed. The tubers seem to be able to last in the ground for up to four or more years.


Of course the other weed vine showing itself at the moment is Morning glory. Caloundra City Council is asking landholders who have Morning glory on council roadsides adjacent to their properties to report it to the CCC Call Centre, so that these infestations can be mapped.

It would be good if the Department of Main Roads (DMR) adopted a similar regime. The DMR area office is in Gympie so if you are one of the concerned residents of the area let them know of your concern.

Until the roadside are weed-free zones, the battle with these weeds will continue.

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\$2

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- 2 nights deluxe accomm., Lyola Pavilions \$520
- Husqvarna Chainsaw, Maleny Mowers, \$449
- 2 nights accomm., Maleny Country Cottages, \$350
- \$250 cash, Bench Pro,
- Dinner for four, King Ludwigs Restaurant, \$200
- The Cove by Heather Jones, \$200
- Rainforest Birdbath by Shirley Marsh, \$150
- Australian Timbers Vols 1 & 2, Dept NR&M, \$110
- Thai Cooking Class, The Tamarind, \$105
- Dinner for two, Terrace Seafood Restaurant, \$100
- Bush Dog wooden carving, John Gerritsen, \$90
- Midyim Liqueur Pack, Australian Wild Foods, Ltd Ed

5 TICKET BOOK - \$10

Everyone who purchases a 5 ticket book goes in the draw for

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- Handcrafted leather sandals (value \$80)
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All profits go towards assisting Barung revegetation & education projects on the Blackall Range.

Drawn: 4pm 3/5/04, Main Pavilion, Maleny Showgrounds
Winners notified by phone/mail,
& published in The Range News 13/5/04

Coxen's Fig Parrot Recovery Project

Marc Russell

Reveg & Habitat Officer

Have you ever seen the Monty Python skit about the dead parrot? Well this will be the fate of the Coxen's Fig Parrot (*Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni*), one of Australia's most endangered birds, unless we act now.

Historical records show that it was once numerous in rainforest between the Mary River in SEQ and the Richmond River in NSW. Currently, only about 50 - 100 birds are believed to remain. Its critically endangered status is mostly due to extensive habitat clearing and loss of remnant connectivity.

The Coxen's Fig Parrot Recovery Team was formed in 1993, but securing funding has not been easy. An increase in sightings lately however, particularly in the Maleny / Booroobin area, has given enough hope for the Wildlife Preservation Society Queensland (WPSQ) to obtain NHT Envirofunds to "kick off" the recovery programme in Queensland.

WPSQ, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), Wildlife Land Fund and Barung Landcare have joined forces in an effort to improve habitat for the parrot on the Blackall Range as part of the recovery project.

To increase community knowledge and appreciation of the parrot and its habitat requirements, we will be carrying out educational activities with several schools on the Range and will be holding training workshops to help landholders and other interested community members with field identification.

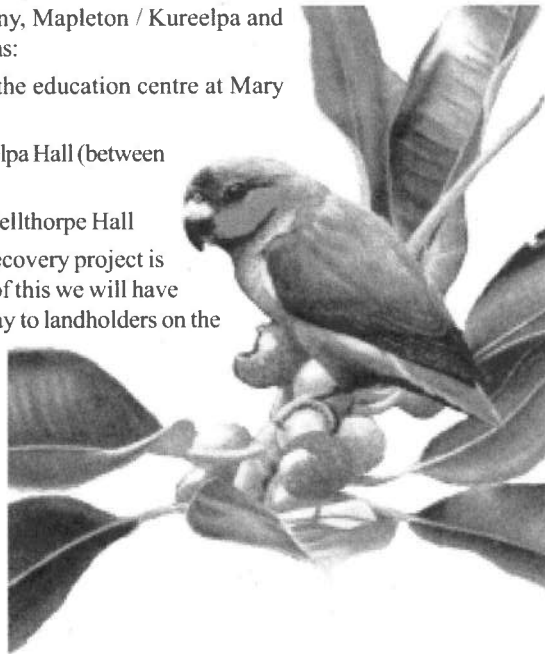
Dr Ian Gynther will talk about characteristics and identification of the parrot and I will speak about fig trees and other habitat plants.

Workshops will be held in Maleny, Mapleton / Kureelpa and Bellthorpe over the next few months:

- * 7 pm, Thursday, April 22nd at the education centre at Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve
- * 7 pm, Tuesday, May 11th at Kureelpa Hall (between Nambour and Mapleton)
- * 11 am on Saturday, June 5th at Bellthorpe Hall

Another important aspect of the recovery project is to address loss of habitat. As part of this we will have 4,000 assorted fig trees to give away to landholders on the Blackall Range with the aim of increasing potential food plants for the parrot.

If you are interested in coming to a workshop, monitoring wildlife, getting involved in the project as a volunteer, or obtaining some free fig trees please contact me at Barung on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.



A Win for Walli

Eva Ford

In what state of environmental repair are the lower reaches of Walli Creek?

To an untrained eye it looks like a beautifully tree-lined, clear water creek surrounded by pasture fields. From an environmental perspective the creek is troubled by non-existent or thin vegetation along most of its lower reaches before it enters the Mary River: infestations of climbing weeds (e.g. Madeira vine and Cat's claw vine) that can smother and kill large trees; infestations of Lantana; large areas of Camphor laurel; and stock accessing the creek banks.

These factors can all contribute to poor water quality, stream bank erosion, loss of flora diversity and loss of wildlife habitat. In the bigger picture, trees of all kinds also play an important role in the cleaning of the air we breathe, maintaining the food web and cycling of nutrients through the soil, water and air.

For this reason and because of interest shown by Walli Creek property owners, funding has been sought by the Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee from Maroochy Shire Council through their Community Assistance Scheme grants and also through the Australian Government Envirofund to help the repair process. This funding will provide better management options for sensitive creek areas on 7 Walli Creek properties. The next 12 months will see the following activities in the area:

- Fencing cattle away from the creek while retaining less sensitive areas for grazing
- Weed control
- Revegetation along the creek to widen the riparian zone (i.e. creekside vegetation)
- Maintenance of natural regeneration areas through weed and stock control

This project has only been made possible due to the enthusiasm of the property owners involved.

If you have any questions about this project please contact me on 5482 4766 or 04080 381 727.



Changes to QLD Frog Status

The Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation (no 2) 2003 has made the following changes to the status of frogs in Queensland:

1. *Adelotus brevis* is now listed as 'vulnerable' (was 'common')
2. *Taudactylus pleione* is now listed as 'endangered' (was 'vulnerable')
3. *Litoria pearsoniana* is now listed as 'endangered' (was 'vulnerable')

The early drafts of the legislation were correct in only listing the Kroombit populations of *L. pearsoniana* as 'endangered', leaving the remaining populations as 'vulnerable' (as recommended by the Scientific Advisory Committee).

Apparently Central Office will try and correct this in an Amendment on 2004, however, it may take much longer. So until then, we have to treat all populations of *L. pearsoniana* as endangered!

FARMCARE - LANDCARE IN HORTICULTURE CSA - Community Supported Agriculture! John Muir

How important is environmentally friendly produced healthy clean food for YOU?

In response to an increasingly globalised industrial and monoculture food production system, and the social, environmental, cultural and health problems which go hand in hand with it, communities around the world have been developing a different vision for alternative food production and distribution systems.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) encourages local, environmentally friendly sustainable food production and supports both farmers and consumers.

CSA was started in the 1960's in Switzerland and Japan by farmers who were looking for more stable markets partnering with consumers who were seeking safer and more environmentally friendly foods. CSA is a community support partnership between farm (producer) and community (consumers), and provides direct economic benefit and social link between food production and consumption.

Jules Pretty, in his most recent book "Agri-Culture - reconnecting land and people and environment", summed this concept up when he discussed the need for the world's consumers to reconnect and discover the basic need for quality produced food for their very existence and performance. We almost take it for granted - as we do with air and water - that we get clean food. But do we?

Modern farming artificial chemical-based systems are not sustainable and their long and short term impact on the environment (let alone our bodies and minds) is well recorded. For example it is estimated that, in Australia, the annual repair bill for present unsustainable food production systems would be over \$6 billion annually to address impacts such as acidity, salinity and biodiversity loss just to maintain the status quo.

This is well over of the \$1.5 billion allocated for Landcare NRM (Natural Resource Management) projects over the next five years. Similarly, in England a conservative figure of 85% of present Agricultural GNP (Gross National Product) is required by government to fix and address the negative side effects of poor farming, on health and infrastructure repair and maintenance.

The growers I have been working with on the Sunshine Coast are often seeking new ways for marketing their produce. As they are often not recouping their costs, they are looking at alternatives such as CSA to spread their risk, cut out the middle man and meet consumer desire for higher quality and environmentally friendly produced food!

There have been several local attempts at CSA in Maleny and Crystal Waters etc and I suggest we might consider supporting such schemes.

Les Nicholls in Beerwah, President of Sun Coast Organic Growers also has such a scheme and is keen to meet like-minded people interested in joining the SCOG group initiative.

Les can be contacted on 07 5496 9501, or at Sandy Creek Organic Farm, 2471 Old Gympie Rd, Beerwah. Or maybe you would like to join the Expo Organic Farming Eco Tour (ring Barung to book) and visit this farm on the morning of Sunday 2nd May.

Other contacts for CSA are:

* Rob Pekin, Friends of the Earth 'Just Food Program' in Brisbane - 07 3846 5793 / 0418 307 834

* Morag Gamble at Crystal Waters, re the 5th Queensland City Farms and Community Gardens Network gathering on Stradbroke Island, May 8-9th.



Caroline Male, State member for Glasshouse visits the property of organic pineapple farmer, David Flewell -Smith

5 YEARS OF LANDCARE IN THE PHILLIPINES & LANDCARE IN AFRICA SLIDE SHOW

An information night to highlight Barung's International Landcare Project in the Philippines will be held on Wed 5th May at Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve.

John Muir, the Australian International Research Centre funded Landcare Facilitator, together with Delia Catacutan, a fellow Filipino PhD candidate at the University of Queensland, will present Landcare outcomes from five years in the Philippines island of Mindinao. John and Delia recently returned from a 10 day visit to Uganda and Kenya, East Africa, where they workshopped the potential of landcare programs in these African countries with key national stakeholders!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME FOR THE TWO HOUR SLIDE SHOW AND DISCUSSION.

Entry is a gold coin.



The partnership project between Barung, Sunshine Coast Sub Tropical Fruit Growers Assn and Maroochy Waterwatch, with funding from the Federal Government Envirofund, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries and Maroochy Shire Council is shortlisted for a Rural Award at the annual Moreton Bay Healthy Waterways Awards.

This unique project has been facilitated by John Muir, Barung's Farmcare-Landcare in Horticulture Project Officer and has focussed on water quality monitoring with Queensland horticulture industries. Many stakeholders have assisted with measuring water quality on and off Sunshine Coast fruit farms. This monitoring will assist urgently needed catchment modelling and scenario mapping programs.

The awards presentation night will be held in Brisbane on 7th April. Congratulations to all involved.

ORGANIC FARMS TOUR

Sunday 2nd May, 9.30am - 1pm, \$40

This tour visits two Beerwah organic farm enterprises, contrasting a 6 ha organic strawberry farm with a 36 ha property producing nearly 40 vegetables and selling direct to consumers by subscription, our local example of Community Supported Agriculture. Morning tea included.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Thank you to ...

... Kathryn Nieminen, Lin Fairlie, Claire Wynn for your help with the February / March Newsletter mailout

... Amelia for your great work helping Juanita with the Expo marketing

... Jackie Montgomery for coordinating the Indian Myna Information Night in March

... Greg Brown for your help with Barung education

... Phil Brown for procuring bin sorter and stapler for the Barung photocopier

... Dave Woolston for sponsoring labour for service of the new Barung 4WD

... Everyone who has put time into organising the Expo to date



EXPO VOLUNTEER POSITIONS VACANT

Please ring Raylee Myers, Expo Volunteer Coordinator, on 5494 3779 if you can fill one or more of the following shifts at Expo:

- Selling Raffle tickets
- Selling Entry tickets
- Directing parking & traffic
- Serving in the Taste Maleny Cafe
- Serving in the Landcare Bar & BBQ
- Manning displays
- Signwriting after Easter
- Assisting at Barung prior to Expo

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS FILLED

Expo Preview Party Coordinator - Susie Duncan - thanks

NEW BOOKS TO BORROW FROM BARUNG

Their future in our hands

World Wildlife Fund
102-170

Regional Nature Conservation Strategy for S.E.Q. 2003-08

Qld. Govt. - Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service. 203-100

SEO Rainforest Recovery Plan 2003-08

Natural Heritage Trust & World Wildlife Fund Australia 204-020

Growing the Future Together Yearbook 2003

Greening Australia 206-610 206-611

Tools for Plant Recognition

Greening Australia Queensland - Training Book 206-630

Introduction to Site Assessment

Greening Australia Queensland - Training Book 206-620

Lantana: Current Management Status and Future Prospects

Day, Wiley, Playford & Zalucki 701-150

Wild Dogs

Caloundra City Council 703-050

Koala Fodder Plantations Development Program Daisy Hill Koala Centre

Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service 802-060

Innovative Approaches to the On-site Management of Waste Water

School of Resource Science & Management. Southern Cross University 911-030

CALLING FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Barung is looking for experienced and hard working people, preferably with some local plant knowledge and reveg experience, to join our paid Contracting Services team. Initially part-time work, hopefully developing into full-time work. Call Clayton Stokoe on 5494 2352 or email barung@sun.big.net.au

FOUND AT BARUNG

Gold ring, Monday 8th March 2004. Please ask at the office.

DEADLINE - Wed 19th MAY for June - July Newsletter contributions

Working Landcare



Please let us know of any change of address so we can keep membership data up-to-date.

Please renew your memberships - your support is very important to Barung.

THANKYOU

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY, PLEASE EMAIL YOUR REQUEST TO BARUNG AT barungadmin@big.net.au

We will take you off the mailout database & notify you when the Newsletter is posted on Barung website.



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When you think about what landcare can do for you ... also think of what YOU can do for landcare.

Barung is a non-profit community organisation funded by memberships



STATE OF THE LAND

cont'd from page 3

QUEENSLAND BIODIVERSITY POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Environmental Protection Agency is seeking comment on the new Queensland Biodiversity Policy Framework. Follow link below if you wish to comment.

http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/publications/p01072aa.pdf/Old/biodiversity_framework.pdf

NEW BULLETIN - KOALA SCIENCE NEWS

The Australian Koala Foundation is getting ready to launch its first issue of KOALA SCIENCE NEWS, a free email update that brings the latest news in koala research to land managers, planners, bush regenerators, conservationists, students, policy makers and koala supporters in Australia and around the world. The first will tackle some of the broader issues affecting remnant eucalypt woodland, the status of diminishing koala populations and the koala's emerging role as a flagship for conserving Australia's bushland fauna and flora.

KOALA SCIENCE NEWS is an initiative of the Australian Koala Foundation, a non-government, not-for-profit organisation that provides an independent voice for the koala. For further details visit www.savethekoala.com.

To subscribe, send an email to akf@savethekoala.com with 'subscribe koala science news' in the header.

THE WILDWATCH SURVEY

WILDWATCH Australia is an online survey www.abc.net.au/wildwatch designed to find out more about wildlife in Australia's backyards. The WILDWATCH Australia survey will be open for 5 weeks - from April 3 to May 7 2004. People from all over Australia are invited to participate. Survey results will be published on June 21 2004. Tune into your local radio for WILDWATCH stories from your part of Australia throughout April.

David Woolston
A.M.I.A.M.E.



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2004 WOOD EXPO ECOTOURS

All tour prices include a \$15 Weekend Pass

OFF-BEAT IN THE CONONDALES

Sunday 2nd May, 10 - 4pm, \$75

Get off the beaten track in 4WD air conditioned luxury and discover the incredible gorges, waterfalls and gallery rainforest with an eco-accredited guide. The Conondale National Park is home to a number of endangered flora and fauna species. A gourmet bushfoods lunchbox is included in this six-hour tour through unspoilt scenic wilderness.

CRYSTAL WATERS

Monday 3rd May, 9.30am - 12.30pm, \$40

The 640 acre Crystal Waters Permaculture Village houses about 200 permanent residents and abundant wildlife, and was awarded a United Nations World Habitat Award in 1995. Visit one home to see how house and garden design and wild nature are integrated for a more sustainable lifestyle. Includes morning tea on the new deck at the Crafty Bites Shop.

RAINFOREST LIQUEURS

Monday 3rd May, 10am - 2pm, \$40

Join Conondale's John King who is pioneering fine liqueurs production from Australian wildfoods. Taste liqueurs made from some of the world's rarest food plants and talk to John about opportunities from growing wild

FARM FORESTRY TOURS

are designed to take you through the whole farm forestry story - from plantation establishment, to thinning and pruning, to harvesting timber for magnificent furniture.

GETTING STARTED IN FARM FORESTRY

Saturday 1st May, 1 - 4pm, \$30

Visit this 20 hectare property situated off Bridge Creek Road to review the Property Management Plan designed to include a 12 hectare farm forestry plantation and windbreaks, as well as rehabilitation of conservation areas and major landslips. Farm Forestry plantings include a monoculture Silver Quandong plantation with a short harvesting time frame.

DOWN-THE-TRACK

Sunday 2nd May, 1 - 4pm, \$30

These two cabinet timber plots on Maleny's red basalt soils were established in 93/94 with a mix of fast, medium and slow growing rainforest cabinet timber species. 1998 thinning in Plot 1 with secondary thinning in 2000 has reduced stocking to 800 s/ha comprising 400 overstorey stems with 400 non-competitive understorey stems/ha. The EcoTour thinning will leave 200 trees of good form and vigour to grow on.

FROM CHAINSAW TO FINE FURNITURE!

Monday 3rd May, 1 - 4pm, \$30

David Linton's reputation for high quality, innovative and beautiful furniture has been enhanced in recent years as his operation has evolved into a "one-stop-shop" - enabling David to control selected species end-use, ensure high quality monitoring of the milling and drying, and value-add to his furniture graded products.

2004 WOOD EXPO ECOTOURS

All tour prices include a \$15 Expo Weekend Pass



maleny
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ECOHOUSING

Saturday 1st May, 9.30am to 12.30pm, \$35

Eco-house design is no longer confined to alternate lifestyles as many home builders and renovators across Australia utilize environmentally friendly house designs and materials. Visit three local houses combining style and environmentally friendly features.

"ABOUT THAT TREE"

Saturday 1st May, 10am - 1pm, \$40

Join Maleny arborist and tree surgeon, Tony Wootton, on this tour of trees featured in his book "About that Tree" as he profiles the biology of species including Red cedar, Kauri, Bunya, Norfolk and Hoop pines. Tony will elaborate on proper tree care and use of these trees in amenity horticulture. Includes a complementary copy of Tony's book.

ORGANIC FARMS

Sunday 2nd May, 9.30am - 1pm, \$40

This tour visits two Beerwah organic farm enterprises, contrasting a 6 hectare organic strawberry farm with a 36 hectare property producing nearly 40 vegetables. and selling direct to consumers by subscription, our local example of Community Supported Agriculture.

Morning tea included.

COFFEE PLANTATIONS

Sunday 2nd May, 10am - 1pm, \$35

Learn about this recently established agricultural enterprise and meet coffee-growing entrepreneurs in North Maleny and Mount Mellum. Discover fine quality and flavour coffee that is marketed locally and is in great demand. Various stages from harvesting to drying will be described. Includes coffee tasting at both sites.

... cont'd page 11

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