



BARUNG LANDCARE NEWS

'LANDCARE - THE BIGGER BACKYARD'

The 1999 Landcare Month theme of **THE BIGGER BACKYARD** seems particularly applicable to an area such as the Sunshine Coast.

The theme focuses on the idea of managing whole catchments, but thinking of those catchments - the places in which we live - as backyards. This concept can appeal equally to both urban and rural audiences and has particular reference to the kinds of things we do, both in our backyards and the bigger backyard. Our backyard is our immediate environment - and the total environment is our bigger backyard.

The idea of **THE BIGGER BACKYARD** also carries with it the idea of breaking down barriers between people as they manage resources, of people belonging to a wider community than just those in their own backyard, of people living and working and sharing together, and the fact that a catchment is the big backyard in which Landcare and Catchment Care work so well.

With **THE BIGGER BACKYARD** in mind, Barung is organising a series of activities and events for Landcare Month, which we hope will make people more aware of their bigger backyards and the part Landcare and Catchment Care have to play in the sustainability of those backyards. We are joining forces with Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group for several of these activities.

To raise general awareness in our backyard about the importance of Barung as our local Landcare Group and Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group as our local Catchment Care Group, there will be Landcare and Catchment Care displays at the new Maleny library for the duration of Landcare Month.

Promotional days aiming to bring the concept of **THE BIGGER BACKYARD** to the attention of coastal residents, will be held by Barung in conjunction with Lake Baroon Catchment Care at both Kawana Shopping World and the Sunshine Plaza. These will incorporate Landcare and Catchment Care displays and encourage our coastal neighbours to join us in the public treeplant on March 6th. Their bigger backyard is our hinterland and the backyard from which their water comes.

Our Landcare Month Information Night on Wednesday March 3rd will be on the subject of the Mary River Cod with Sandy Jones, Barung's Mary River Cod Community Network Officer. Sandy will highlight the importance of looking after our waterways to ensure the survival of endangered species which all have a role in our unique eco-system.

Marc Russell, Barung's Nursery Manager will be leading his Landcare Month Tree I.D. walk through rainforest at the head of the Mooloolah River. This area features quite a different species range to the rainforests growing on red/clay soils at the higher altitudes of the Blackall Range, and is much more typical of the coastal rainforest type. Marc will also be teaching seed propagation at the Nursery on the same afternoon, so that you can learn how to grow some of the species already occurring in your backyard.

In keeping with both **THE BIGGER BACKYARD** and the *Range to Coast* theme of our BHP sponsorship (now part of the national Olympic program), the focus of Barung's 1999 *Range to Coast* project - the treeing of Walker's Creek near Erowal - will be a huge public treeplant on Saturday March 6th. The treeing of Walker's Creek will provide a vegetation link to previously established trees and to the 1998 *Range to Coast* planting next to the High School on the Landsborough Maleny Road. In turn, these will link up with the work currently in progress on the Primary School stretch of the Obi.

Walker's Creek flows through Erowal land and the Retirement Village has been working for many years with the help of the community to revegetate the surrounding area. Some of the earliest eucalypts now stand over 10m tall while the native species bring a lot of pleasure to residents as they flower and fruit throughout the year.

In 1996, Barung, Erowal, forestry expert Ashley Sewell, and more than 40 volunteers helped to establish rainforest trees on the western side of Walker's Creek near the Bryce Homestead. Over 800 trees and bank-holding Lomandra were planted by this enthusiastic team. Over the following years the fast-growing wattles have created a canopy of frost protection for the rainforest trees beneath them. Now many of the wattles have been removed and it is time to add to the rainforest planting to create habitat diversity along this section of the creek.

With the help of the community, Barung aims to develop vegetation corridors along many of our local creeks. These corridors will ultimately provide more diverse habitats for local wildlife as well as filtering the run-off water which flows in to Lake Baroon from where it is piped to the Coast.

Please ring Barung to register as a treeplanter for March 6th, and watch *The Range News* for further information.

February - March 1999

PRESIDENT'S REPORT from Joan Dillon

A Happy and Successful New Year to everyone and welcome to what is shaping up to be another very busy year for Landcare. We trust that even more people will become involved and that further positive change will occur for our environment.

Important dates for your diary are March 6th for the next major tree plant for *Range to Coast* and the first weekend in May for the "From Chainsaw to Fine Furniture" Expo. Both events will be well advertised in *The Range News* and elsewhere.

Our projects are to be reviewed in early February by the Natural Heritage Trust sub Regional Assessment Panel and that will be followed by a visit from a representative of Landcare Australia Ltd to look at our BHP Olympic Landcare sites. Yes, the ongoing *Range to Coast* Catchment program now wears an official Olympic label. This year's major site will be on Erowal land on both sides of the northern entrance road and should make a big difference to Walker's Creek.

In time Maleny will have a very special tree lined entrance and vegetation links providing improved habitat along many of the local creeks. I hope everyone has noticed the excellent growth of the majority of trees planted last March along the road embankment beside the High School. Scheduled maintenance was delayed due to rain but is now well in hand.

The *Streams of Trees* program is attracting increasing interest including at the regional level, and we will be working actively to attract further funding to support this program. *Streams of Trees* has also provided an improved opportunity to reach our members on the northern end of the Range. Whilst the Barung Resource Centre is located in Maleny and we certainly appreciate the support of Caloundra City Council, our members also live in Maroochy Shire (and there are even some in Brisbane and elsewhere) and we are also available to assist them in whatever way we can.

Everyone is no doubt tackling the rampant weed growth which followed recent rainfall, a special challenge for those establishing young trees. Barung is looking at a range of methods to suppress weed growth and promote positive discrimination in favour of our local vegetation. I am sure this will be a topic for our discussion groups which are to be established shortly. It will be very informative to visit one another's properties and much more interesting than sitting around a table discussing theories!

Many members are understandably too busy for active involvement in management but may like to become less formally involved at times which are more suited to them.

Should significant issues arise during the year in which you feel Barung should become involved, please let us know. Your membership is valued highly so do keep in touch.

**BARUNG LANDCARE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS
ARE HELD ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

COMING UP - FEB 17TH & MARCH 17TH

If you have any issue you would to see addressed,
please contact the office/Joan Dillon.



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COORDINATOR'S CHAT with John Muir

COMING EVENTS FOR 1999!!!

ONE DAY/OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIPS

This year we are planning some social/educational overnight and one day trips, such as our visit last year to the Bunya Mountains National Park, on top of our normal educational programs.

Our first adventure will be to indulge in the magic of Fraser Island's rainforests, lakes and beaches after the EXPO. May 21st-24th are the tentative dates for this trip. We can arrange tours of the island with the National Park Rangers, as well as an inspection of the environmental impact of the Eco Tourism award winning Kingfisher Bay Resort.

Accommodation alternatives are either the 'Wilderness Lodges' at Kingfisher Resort at about \$60 per head (inc. meals) or the Dept. of Environment and Heritage's own self-contained cabins at Eurong beach for \$10 per head per night. Food, boat transfers, entrance fees and the like will be extra. We will need to know how many 4 wheel drive vehicles we can muster, to avoid the need to hire them on the Island at \$175 per day!

We are also looking at other venues such as the Carnarvon Gorge, Binna Burra, Bunya Mountains, O'Reilly's, Moreton, Stradbroke and Bribie Islands, possibly in conjunction with Bakers Coaches of Maleny.

So if you are interested in joining Barung on such social/educational field trips, please let us know now, so that we can develop a program to suit your desires and pocket. If you have ideas about other potential locations, or have other thoughts on activities which will allow Barung Committee, staff and members to get to know each other better, please let us know at the office on 5494 3151.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AND THANK YOU DAY.

The work and energy which our volunteers, sponsors and donors have put into Barung over the years, is quite unbelievable. In fact our latest estimate of the in-kind contribution into our Revegetation projects this year alone adds up to nearly \$100,000 !!!!

In recognition of such a huge effort by all, Barung Landcare will be holding a THANK YOU DAY on Saturday March 20th in the form of a casual Luncheon BBQ in the park beside Barung in Bicentennial Lane. ALL members, friends and volunteers are invited to attend and join in the event. Please just let us know, for catering purposes, if you can join us in saying thankyou to all of those unpaid workers who keep Barung afloat and functioning. Thanks.

INFORMATION NIGHTS

Information Nights will be continuing this year. They will usually be held at Barung on the fourth Thursday of the month, from 7pm til 9pm.

Our first night for the year will be with Sandy Jones, our new project officer for the Mary River Cod Community Network. This will be held on Wednesday 3rd March. The usual charge of \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members will apply for all Information Nights unless otherwise advertised, and supper will be provided.

These nights will focus on a broad range of topics ranging from water issues to erosion and slip control, from bushfire prevention to birds.

Keep your eye on the Calendar of Events for up and coming Information Nights as we are planning to have some very informed and entertaining speakers!

If you, as a Barung Member, have any suggestions for the new edition of

THE BLACKALL RANGE LANDHOLDER'S GUIDE

please let us know at the office, so that we can give them fair consideration.

PROPERTY PLANNING MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS

Property Management Planning Workshops will be run again throughout '99, focusing on revegetation, weeds, and resource management and planning (mapping).

This year the workshops will take a slightly different format in that they will be 'stand-alone' sessions for one day only (from 9am-3pm) and not part of a series. Each workshop will be repeated about three times throughout the year.

Please let us know if you are interested in attending any of the sessions and we will make sure that you are notified of dates as soon as they are set. A session fee of \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members will apply as in previous years.

.....
 it was hard to keep Landcare Boy John Muir's feet on the ground
 * for the first couple of days after Sunday Jan 18th *
 * - he was still buzzing with the excitement *
 * of the birth of his young un-named son. *
 *

Congratulations

to Trudi for a job so well done,
 to John for being the loving father and husband he is,
 and to Rosie for graduating to older sister status!
 from all of your friends at Barung.



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Dominique Hales</i> | <i>N&M Midgley</i> |
| <i>D Kay & H Boscott</i> | <i>Peter Fisher</i> |
| <i>Bridget & Jervis Sparks</i> | <i>Jim Rankin</i> |
| <i>Shaun Travers</i> | <i>Des & June Harries</i> |
| <i>Gina James</i> | <i>Ken Coleman</i> |
| <i>Frank Jordan</i> | <i>Dallas Nott</i> |
| <i>RJ Pike</i> | <i>Jan & Owen Hutchison</i> |
| <i>Geoff Broadby</i> | <i>Daphne Gie</i> |
| <i>Joanna Todd</i> | <i>Mark Stephens</i> |
| <i>Anne Minter</i> | <i>Susan Scougall</i> |
| <i>Sandy Jones</i> | <i>Magnus Berggren</i> |
| <i>Hanna Osbourne</i> | <i>Tina McLaren</i> |
| <i>Tim Rees</i> | <i>Erica Siegel</i> |
| <i>Debbie Willats</i> | <i>J&D Falconer</i> |
| <i>Gordon & Noela Negus</i> | <i>W&A Deacock</i> |
| <i>J&J McLennan</i> | <i>Allan & Elaine Little</i> |
| <i>Paul Murphy</i> | <i>Craig Middleton</i> |
| <i>John & Margaret Ward</i> | <i>Angela Woodward</i> |
| <i>Gerry Butler-Fitzgerald</i> | <i>John Pumpers</i> |

J Mansergh & Leigh Findlay

Thank you for your landcare support

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TRIPPING AROUND.....

DISCUSSION GROUP FOR SMALL LANDHOLDERS

Eleven people attended the first meeting of the Landholders Discussion Group held at Barung on January 26th. Another five people indicated their interest but were unable to attend, so it seems as if interest is high and such a group has a role to play.

Between them, participants at the discussion group own nine properties and it was decided to focus on information on tree-growing for the present. It is hoped that other topics will be addressed over time.

The group plans to visit each other's properties at regular intervals to learn from other participants' hand-on revegetation experience. The first of these visits will be to George and Chris Whitlam's property "Barung Point" in North Maleny, on February 24th at 8.30am.

If anyone else is interested in becoming part of this rear ground, please contact Barung Landcare.

FROGS & TOADS INFO NIGHT

A very cool and wet evening was perfectly suited to the frog and toad night held recently at Barung for a packed house. John Pumpurs, a professional frog photographer gave a very interesting talk with beautiful colour photos of these special creatures.

The main topics covered were frog and toad identification, native plant enhancement around ponds, and tall frog tales.

As a result of such a wide interest in frogs generally, the Sunshine Coast Environment Council is again conducting its annual free frog tadpole give-away at the Beerwah State High School Frog Fest on Saturday 21st February from 9am.

KONDALILLA FALLS TREE ID WALK

On Wednesday the 13th of January, I joined Marc Russell on his Tree ID morning at Kondalilla Falls.

It was a very informative and inspiring walk and I now know at least 12 more species of plants and trees, some of which I had been trying to identify for some time.

I really recommend joining Marc on these walks, the next of which is Wednesday March 3rd in rainforest at the head of the Mooloolah River, off Ensby Rd. (from Nuan-Tara Jarvis)

BP GOLDLINK CONTINUES THEIR LANDCARE SUPPORT

Barung would like to publicly thank Chris Brooker and Phil Giles of BP Goldlink Petroleum, Nambour, for their continuing support of landcare in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland.

Not only did BP contribute to the purchase of the 'landcare trailer', but they recently sponsored another \$1000 towards our revegetation fuel account.

Such generosity makes Barung's funding dollars spread a lot further, resulting in more trees in the ground. It also helps us greatly with matching \$ for \$ our Government Landcare grants.

CALOUNDRA CITY FREE RATES TREES

- Collect your two free local native rates trees from:
- Mary Cairncross Park on Sat Feb 6th, 9am-12 noon**
- Barung Landcare on Fri Feb 12th, 9am-4pm**
- Barung Landcare on Sat Feb 13th, 9am-12 noon**

Two free local native trees and advice on planting available to all CCC Range residents, on production of paid 1998/99 rates notices

BARUNG MEMBERS BACK LAND FOR WILDLIFE

Barung members were prominent among the 17 Caloundra City landholders presented with *Land For Wildlife* signs and animal nesting boxes by CCC Mayor Des Dwyer, on December 17th.

Among other Hinterland residents were Barung Treasurer Neil MacLeod and his wife Gillian, and Barung members Carmel Givens and Rid Kennedy, David and Vivienne Fraser, and John Martinkovic and Lisa Solomon.



Barung members, Carmel Givens & Rid Kennedy, receive their 'Land For Wildlife' plaque from CCC Mayor Des Dwyer.

Land For Wildlife is a free scheme, supported by South East Queensland Councils, through which landholders can access information, advice and assistance, for the creation of vegetation corridors to benefit wildlife.

While there are no legal implications

from having *Land For Wildlife* status, the benefits of habitat retention to the landholder include: assistance with salinity and erosion control; maintaining a natural means of pest control; provision of shade and shelter for stock.

Wildlife habitat on private land, whatever the size, contributes to the survival of plants and animals which are dependent on habitats now affected by human impact. The protection and enhancement of remnant vegetation is especially important.

Corridor habitats also provide linkages between isolated nature reserves, allowing for wildlife movement and genetic interchange.

If you are in either Caloundra or Maroochy Shire, Cath Moran, your local Land For Wildlife Officer can be contacted by phoning your council office.

FROM CHAINSAW TO FINE FURNITURE

1ST TO 3RD MAY 1999

ATTENTION WOODWORKERS! Do you make beautiful things in native timbers? Barung's annual woodworking exposition provides the ideal opportunity to join other local artisans in an event that thrills visitors, gives a boost to the local economy AND supports the local landcare group. The exposition will be held once again at Maleny Showgrounds over the Labour Day Weekend - 1st to 3rd of May - from 10am to 4pm. Contact Mim Coulstock on 5494 3151 for an application form if you would like to participate.

ATTENTION ALL OTHER BARUNG MEMBERS! Can you help us by volunteering for any of the myriad roles to be filled in mounting an event such as this? The Expo is Barung's major fundraiser for the year. We've had great help at each of the last three expositions, but this year the event will be bigger than ever, and the need for volunteers will be even greater. The educational activities will be further enhanced with plans for a speakers' tent and other exciting exhibits.

Primary volunteer tasks involve helping with ticket sales and directing parking at the event itself, but we also welcome help in the preparatory stages (for example, setting up exhibits, delivering flyers, preparing name tags etc.). Please mark the dates on your calendar, and call Mim at 5494 3151 or Craig Hosmer at 5445 7325 to add your name to the volunteer register.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT EDUCATES KIDS

Kerriane Cashin from Maleny Credit Union, and Maleny Rotary Club representatives, Cheryl and Michael Gregory, inspected the work being carried out on the Maleny Primary School's Obi Creek bank recently. Donations from these two organisations have made possible the clearing works for the second planting phase which will complete the restoration of this section of the Obi Creek.



Craig Hosmer gratefully acknowledges financial support from Maleny Credit Union and Maleny Rotary representatives.

In clearing this section, contractor Ron Chambers had an opportunity to demonstrate the effectiveness of his new machinery which takes the back-breaking labour out of clearing heavy woody weed infestations. This machine can do in one day what would normally take an experienced team a week to complete.

Barung would like to again thank the Credit Union and Rotary for their support which has enabled us to offer the children lessons in environment, habitat and water quality.

Maleny Primary teacher, Phil Weddel, will head Maleny School's environment program in 1999, and he will have his work cut out for himself and his team replanting these newly cleared areas.

HELPING HANDS

We are delighted to report that many members are using their Community Support Cards at the Mapleton Thrifty-Link Hardware Store.

Just to remind you, Peter and Sue Gould have nominated Barung Landcare as their partner in the HELPING HANDS program, which donates 5% of the value of purchases recorded on each completed card to Barung on a quarterly basis. (A completed card requires five separate purchases at the Mapleton store.) This will provide Barung with a valuable ongoing source of income. HELPING HANDS is just that - turning your everyday hardware purchases into donations for landcare.

If you already have a Community Support Card, please use it whenever you can. If you don't, please ask for one the next time you are at Barung or ask Peter or Sue when you visit the Mapleton store at the corner of Obi Obi Road and Emu Walk and declare yourself as a Barung member. As a further incentive, Thrifty-Link will offer a prize each quarter, drawing one of the completed cards to select the winner.

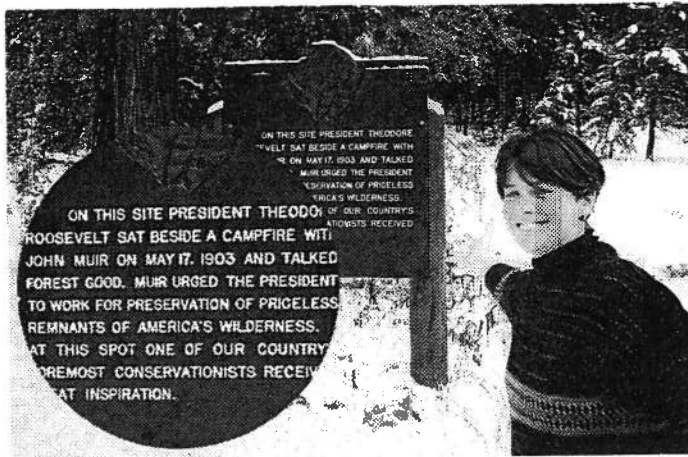
Thanks again Peter and Sue, Thrifty-Link, and all Barung members supporting the program.

STOP PRESS

Barung now has email:

barung@sun.big.net.au

FROM YOSEMITE TO THE EVERGLADES



waterfalls plunging from the sky - sun tipped morning cliffs with blue snow shadows - glass ice rivers so clear that golden fish lie still in their beds - this is Yosemite.

soaring cliffs lashed by wild Pacific waters - the last lone pine standing solitary against extinction - 1950's inspiration of America's bohemians - this California coastline.

a crust of dew giving life to seed in sand - cool oasis of massive fan palms giving life to fish in the desert - earth colours so subtle you don't see them till you pause - the living desert.

CALIFORNIA - WHERE WATER BURSTS DOWN MASSIVE AQUEDUCTS TO CLOTHE THE CITY OF ANGELS IN GREEN - WIDE FREEWAY RIBBONS CUTTING SWATHES THROUGH HILLSIDES - VAST FERTILE FARMLANDS OFFERING THEIR FRUITS UNDER A PALL OF GREY - THE COLOUR AND HEIGHTS OF CULTURE LIVING HAND IN HAND WITH HOMELESS AND SAN FRANCISCO BAG LADIES - CALIFORNIA, LET ME VISIT YOU AGAIN AND LEARN FROM YOUR WISDOM AND YOUR MISTAKES.

endless seas of razor sharp grass - melaleuca weed where melaleuca seed was air-dropped to take form and suck the endless waters from east to west - still humidity torpor with alligators lying drunk with heat - the Everglades.

slender fingers of earth sand like a ribbon up the coast to hold the Atlantic from the grass seas - mile upon mile of mangrove fringed waterways, home to the dugong cousin manatee - the Intercoastal land of a thousand lakes with mother Lake Okeechobee giving the

1998 BHP RANGE TO COAST

ENTRANCE SITE UPDATE

Maintenance on the entrance site has been a hard slog in this heat of January with weeding and brush-cutting. All plants have had a heavy fertilize this past month and are responding well already, some reaching an incredible 4m in height in only 10 months from planting. Incredible! A big thanks to Bob Miller for his efforts in the humidity, not only on the entrance but around the Range on many a Barung project. Good job Bob.

Site improvements in the near future include planting up several drainage lines to ease potential erosion and secondly, an edge planting of selected species to address weed invasion and again, erosion.

WANTED FOR NURSERY
 2nd hand concrete mixer
 preferably electric - in working order for
 preparation of potting mix.

milk of life to her child the Everglades and to the green acres of Florida sun citrus - bottomless holes of freshwater depths - the interior.

FLORIDA - WHERE THE ELEPHANT BROTHER SEA COW LOLLS HELPLESS AGAINST BOAT PROPELLOR EXTINCTION - MUD WALLS DRYING TO FEND OFF THE EVERGLADES AS SUBURBIA CREEPS WEST - THE WORLD'S LARGEST WETLANDS UNDER THREAT OF DEATH FROM DRYING - GATEWAY FOR PROWLING HURRICANES - DESTINATION OF NORTHERN HORDES FOR THE SUNNY LEASE OF LIFE - DESTINATION OF HISPANIC SOUTHERNERS ANXIOUS FOR SUNNY FREEDOM - FLORIDA, LET ME VISIT YOU AGAIN TO BASK UNDER YOUR ISLAND PALMS AND LEARN FROM YOUR MISTAKES.

AND IN BETWEEN - LONG FLIGHTS OVER SNOW DRENCHED MOUNTAINS, ICE FLOES DRIFTING ON THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI, BLIZZARD STUCK TRAVELLERS CAMPED ON AIRPORT FLOORS, BIRD'S EYE RED/OCHRE IMAGES OF THE CANYON OF ALL CANYONS, AND RUNNING THROUGH IT ALL MAN'S ROAD RIBBONS AND VALIANT ATTEMPTS TO TAME THIS BEAUTIFUL LAND CALLED AMERICA.

I would like to thank the staff and committee and Barung's helpers for giving me the chance to open my eyes and take a wonderful holiday in an amazing land of contrasts.



VOLUNTEER TRAINING...

PROPAGATION WORKSHOPS THE 1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 2-4PM AT BARUNG
 Due to the quantity & variety of local seed ripening now, workshops will focus on seed preparation & sowing.

BARUNG NURSERY HOURS

Tuesday to Friday ~ 9am - 4pm
 Saturday ~ 9am - 12 noon

TUBES - \$2.00	6" POTS - \$4.00
4" POTS - \$3.00	8" POTS - \$8.00

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS ON ALL NURSERY STOCK

THE AGGRESSIVE NOISY MINER

from John Pennie

Man has changed the environment!

The impact has been most noticeable in the suburbs of our towns and cities. We have created a collection of gardens of nectar producing trees and shrubs: tall eucalypts, banksias and large grevilleas together with other plant species, while at the same time removing the natural understorey and creating large areas of lawn.

All of this – the nectar producing plants in an open garden lacking understorey – is the preferred habitat of the noisy miner. Such habitats allow the noisy miners to feed at all levels of the plant cover. At the same time however, this rather 'open' garden is unable to provide the suitable cover and protection necessary for many small birds.

As mentioned in the Dec-Jan Newsletter, there is evidence that noisy miners are affecting our already reduced tree coverage, leading to poor tree health and even dieback in some of our remaining woodlots.

The aggressive noisy miner is having an even greater effect on our 'smaller bird' populations. In many areas where once a general mix of bird species utilised the environment for its food sources, there are no longer small birds to be seen.

In this new suburban environment which we have created, the smaller birds and the general mix of bird species has, to a large extent, disappeared. What is feared is that this situation is far more prevalent and subsequently far more serious, than at first imagined.

Could it be that this aggressive bird (the noisy miner) is in fact changing the balance of species? Could it be that as a consequence of our impact on the environment we have brought about a PERMANENT REDUCTION of small bird populations?

There are a number of Australian birds which are either extinct, or whose numbers are at levels which suggest they will be unable to survive in our changed world. With the spread of aggressive birds such as the noisy miner and the pied currawong, the future of our small feathered friends in our suburban scene is jeopardised.

Research has shown that if high nectar producing plants are removed, noisy miner numbers will drop and smaller birds will return. If the removal of such plants is accompanied by the planting of appropriate food species and prickly shrubs for safe habitat, the small birds will again increase in numbers. Maybe one side or perhaps a corner of our gardens with such understorey plants would bring about some improvement in the plight of the small birds.

In coastal areas these would preferably be plants pollinated by insects, such as prostrate wattles, hoveas, pulteneas, melastomas and the smaller spider grevillea. In rainforest areas such as the Blackall Range, the planting of fruiting plants such as *Austromyrtus cryptocarya* and *Endiandra ehretia* etc will also encourage the presence of larger rainforest birds such as doves, pigeons, catbirds and figbirds etc. These birds will, in turn, encourage the regeneration of other rainforest plant species through the spreading of local native seed. Shrubs suitable for providing safe habitat for small birds include *Alyxia* spp, native limes, native caper and orange box thorn.

To totally ignore the plight of our smaller birds is to see them disappear completely from our everyday scenes. Once reduced in numbers, some catastrophic could result in their total disappearance/ extinction as is the case with the paradise parrot, and with a question mark over such birds as the Coxen's fig parrot, the night parrot and the orange bellied parrot.

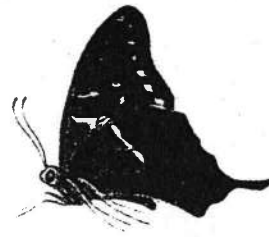
Perhaps we can help – at the very least we should try.

Are you the APHID SPECIALIST??

Would the English aphid specialist who is doing research on local aphids, and who bought all of Barung's native pines, please contact Marc Russell at Barung a.s.a.p.

MACLEAY'S SWALLOWTAIL

(*Graphium macleayanum macleayanum*) by Bob Miller



Macleay's Swallowtail *Graphium macleayanum* × .65. Highlands from Qld to Victoria and Tasmania. Larva green with yellow or red dorsal bar, on sassafras and camphor laurel. P.

Another one of our butterflies which has tails on its hindwings is the Macleay's Swallowtail.

These are reasonably common on the Blackall Range and the surrounding hills at the present time and will be mainly noticed as small black dots flying around the tops of trees. This problem, as with any other high and fast flying butterfly, is easily overcome by planting nectar producing flowers.

This will inevitably bring them back to earth, so to speak, where they can be admired at a closer range.


The Macleay Swallowtail is very similarly coloured to the Pale Green Triangle, featured in the last issue. The best way to recognise the Macleay Swallowtail is by the tail on each of their hindwings.

I have actually been able to raise the larvae of this butterfly over the last two years, for the first time since becoming involved with butterflies, way back in 1965, and now have them actively breeding in my Landsborough backyard, just by planting the right plants.

Which plants should you grow? The best natives I have found for Southeast Queensland are: Rose Maple (*Cryptocarya erythroxylon*), Domatia Tree (*Endiandra discolor*) and Three-vein *Cryptocarya* (*Cryptocarya triplinervis*), all of which are available from the nursery at Barung.

The Macleay Swallowtail larvae are olive brown at birth, turning lime green in colour as they get older. The pupae are light green and are found on the underside of the foodplant leaf. They are suspended by their tail and a central silken girdle, and have a small projection on the head end.

For further information see 'Butterflies of Australia', by Common and Waterhouse 1981.

 **DEADLINE**

FOR APRIL/MAY NEWSLETTER

MONDAY MARCH 15TH

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CHANGE ADDRESS SO THAT WE CAN KEEP MEMBERSHIPS UP-TO-DATE. PLEASE RENEW YOUR M'SHIPS

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FROM JIM WATSON

This month's Rainforest in Progress introduces Robert Kooyman and his technique for the revegetation of Australian rainforest.

Robert is famous in Northern NSW for his work in the rainforests around the Lismore/Byron Bay districts. His book "Growing Rainforest - Rainforest Restoration and Regeneration" is available at Barung and is very handy for planning reforestation work on your property.

REAFFORESTATION OF EX-RAINFOREST SITES:

Trying to re-establish rainforest on cleared rainforest land can be extremely demanding, as the clearing process strips away the nutrient exchange between the mature tree and the soils. Ex-rainforest soils quickly leech or wash out, and become depleted of organic nutrients. Most rainforest trees require high amounts of humus in the soil to truly thrive. Add to this the competition from exotic grasses and other weeds and you get the idea how hard things can be when establishing new trees.

Robert Kooyman suggests that the following factors need to be considered when deciding just where to start.

Reafforestation sites will differ from each other in terms of:

1. Locality of nearest rainforest seed source - this is very important as you will need to rely on birds and other pollinators to introduce many of the hundreds of species of plants that make up a rainforest.
2. Availability of seed dispersers and pollinators - you need to consider questions such as: Are there many perch trees for birds? What species of birds occur around your property?
3. Level of site degradation - the extent of site degradation and how original the vegetation is are two points that need to be taken into consideration.
4. Extent of displacement of original species by weeds.
5. The potential for weeds to move in - consider neighbours' land and creeks as potential weed sources for your project.
6. Climatic factors such as frost and flood etc.
7. Other factors such as current land-use, access, fencing.

Tree and Shrubby Weed Growth:

This sort of regrowth is characteristic of the first steps of succession (the way in which plant communities develop). Species in our area that demonstrate this stage of forest development are *Macaranga* sp., Large Leaved Privet, Black Wattle and Camphor Laurel.

When developing a rainforest planting, removal of the above with the exception of *Macaranga* sp., is recommended. By doing this your planting will represent stages two and three of succession, being the pioneers and early emergent trees of the rainforest.

Stimulating Natural Regeneration:

By planning your planting to include up to 70% pioneer trees, you can create a fast growing tree plot which should produce total canopy closure after only three years. With a closed canopy, early weed problems are diminished and you have created the environment which the tall (emergent/large trees that break through the

forest canopy in search of light) trees require. Pioneer trees make good habitat for parrots and rainforest pigeons etc to begin bringing in seed from other areas.

An additional planting should be considered after canopy closure, to fill any gaps in the canopy or edges as required. Excellent pioneer species for this area are: *Commersonia* spp. (Kurrajong), *Alphitonia* spp. (eg Red Ash, Soap Tree), *Melia azederach* (White Cedar), *Macaranga* sp., *Eleocarpus grandis* (Blue Quandong) and *Pipturus* sp. (Native Mulberry).

Grassy Areas and Weed Invaders:

Rainforest trees have very shallow roots and do all of their feeding in the top 300mm of soil. Grasses feed at the same depth and are therefore very competitive with young trees.

When re-establishing paddock areas, it is recommended that all grasses be killed off by either the careful and selective use of herbicides or by the use of paper and cardboard with very heavy mulching.

Weeds will quickly invade new plantings and these weeds are best managed rather than destroyed. If you choose to use chemicals for weed control, try to be responsive to the site and spray off all weeds before flowering. Remember that the goal here is to exhaust the store of weed seed in the soil. Allow weeds to flower and the seeds will top up the soil's seed storage capacity.

An alternative is to be extremely vigilant in your maintenance of weeds by mowing or brushcutting, but be aware that the same principals apply to mechanical control methods as to chemical methods.

The golden rule is to never allow weed to set seed.

This can be very difficult at this time of year due to the rapid growth, but is well worth remembering.


These are but a few of the many considerations we are faced with when attempting revegetation works. Robert Kooyman has worked in this field for over 20 years and is the first to admit that there are no experts.

If you have queries about how to approach your block, give us a call at Barung, and don't miss the next newsletter's article on other techniques that might help both you and us and the trees,

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birds, fish, mammals and community etc.

STREAMS OF TREES ARE ON THE WAY

Barung Landcare's riparian repair initiative for private land, *Streams of Trees*, has had its first completed project, now that the planting is over at the Galea's Mapleton property. This project saw the planting of 108 rainforest species in a 3600m² section of an upper Obi tributary. With a little further work, the link connecting Peter and Anna's property to the undamaged section of this tributary will be complete.

Jim Watson, Barung's Revegetation Officer was talking over the success of this revegetation project with the spiny cray fish colony discovered only after clearing the lantana that has for many years covered the creek line. When questioned about the *Streams of Trees* program, the cray fish had absolutely nothing to say.

Congratulations to Peter and Anna and the cray fish on a job well done! With commitment such as that demonstrated by the Galea's, the *Streams of Trees* program will grow until all the Obi's tributaries have truly become *Streams of Trees*.



Streams of Trees participants Peter and Anna Galea - happy with the completion of their *Streams of Trees* project.

FROM THE CONSERVATOR, SEPT '98 ISSUE, THE GREEN CORPS N'LETTER

"A total of 1260 trainees have completed their commitment to Green Corps and many have now embarked upon a career in the environment. There is no more exciting example of this career development than that of Rod Phillips, Nick Willie and Dave Davidson, 3 ex Green Corps trainees from Maleny who have now started their own business - *Range Revegetation*. The four recognised an opportunity to develop a commercial service based on the skills learnt during their Green Corps experience and offered it to landholders in the Maleny region. Working mostly on private land, the business involves the repair of riparian areas, weed removal from rainforest, and tree planting. The new entrepreneurs are enjoying the challenge of enhancing their business, technical and practical skills whilst continuing their connection with the land."

"Recently Green Corps trainees Reuben Walker (Maleny) and Ingelise Jones (Ipswich), attended a UNESCO Conference: Youth Leadership in a World of Change. The conference enabled Youth representatives from various countries in the Pacific to discuss the diverse problems facing Youth today, and to provide some solutions. It appears that Youth Corps programs are a potential solution to these programs.

Editors Note: Rod, Nick and Dave were members of Barung's first Green Corps team in June 1997. Reuben was part of our 2nd team in December 1997. It is good to see that Green Corps at Barung has not only helped Barung and our local area, but has had a major role in all of your lives. Congratulations.



Mary River Cod
Community Network

from Sandy Jones

Cooran Recreational Club and Queensland Biodiversity Network provided funding for Performing Arts workshops held at the Rec. Club grounds on the Six Mile Creek. During January, community members including a host of children, mustered their creativity, communication and cooperative skills to learn about Catchment Care and the Mary River Cod.

Inspired by local singer songwriter Graeme Hughes' Cod Ballade and the musical wonder of Gabrielle Shootingstar who wrote several Cod songs for these workshops, children sang and wrote their own tunes.

Leisa Rigg, another dedicated Sunshine Coast community workshop leader, led the percussion instrument and shadow puppet making. Children explored issues concerning the Cod while picking up new creative skills. Another lasting benefit to the community is that the Rec Club is now the proud owner of several shekere guiros, rainsticks, shadow puppets and stilt sets!

Don't be surprised to see children stilt walking regularly as you drive past the Cooran Rec Club. This first workshop in stilt making and walking saw kids strutting their stuff after 10-15 minutes assisted walk practices.

Add a few costumes, a little face paint, stir the bubbling enthusiasm and voila! Show time! An excited group made their debut to the Cooran community at one of the regular Friday night gatherings at the Rec Club. The whole shebang was videoed to inspire other catchment groups.

If you like the sound of such interactive workshops, please contact Barung Landcare or Sandy Jones, Mary River Cod Community Network Coordinator directly on Ph/Fax (07) 5485 0421 or e-mail sjones@epiderweb.com.au.

I am willing to present information to community groups, schools and any interested organisations. Workshops will be tailored to the specific environmental concerns of local catchments. Individuals seeking Volunteer positions, Work for the Dole Schemes and Community Service work are invited to train up as workshop tutors.

Future projects will include creative movement and the construction of a huge Mary River Cod inside which children may dance (like a Chinese Dragon). Please consider assisting the development of such Catchment Care innovations with a little of your valuable energy and time. It is envisaged that communities will be left with innovative information decimating techniques, equipment, regular environmental festivals and skills which may lead to employment in the wider Sunshine Coast area.

Come on, give it a go. We'd love to see you join in!



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HELPING YOU HELP THE ENVIRONMENT



WITH MARK WARNICK

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Nursery Industry Association.

Participants then visited the Australian Farm Forestry nursery in the Obi Obi and discussed options for third provenance bred seedlings for Australian natives on sale there.

The tour then progressed to the Dept. of Primary Industry's Forestry Nursery at Beerburrum to look at hardwood cuttings as well as their extensive seedling production and output.

Dept. of Natural Resources' Gympie Extension Officer Ernie Rider also spoke on seed collection and protocols, tree ecology and the future of clonal forestry.

The day was attended by Barung Nursery manager Marc Russell, tree seed collectors, farm foresters and intending growers.

Over the New Year, I teamed up with Laurie Capill (DPI) at the Woodford Folk Festival to deliver a talk on farm forestry while Laurie dealt with the positive side of using trees to counter the greenhouse and do it profitably. The talk was well attended and was followed by 20 minutes of questions and answers.

1999 will see a series of public events and networking for farm foresters including field days and discussion sessions, and the co-op will be further advanced. A series of new plantings have gone in already this summer and a number of growers are now looking at more intensively managing their existing plantings and native forest areas.

Good luck to you all and see you during 1999.



GIANT WOOD MOTHS from Mark Savage

My son recently caught the biggest moth we have ever seen - it was about 6" long! We had it identified by the Queensland Museum and its identity solved the riddle of why there are always piles of sawdust on our BBQ tables under the wattle trees. These moths also like to drill into *Casuarina cunninghamiana* in my forestry plots!

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM THE Q'LAND MUSEUM FACTSHEET ON GIANT WOOD MOTH.

Australia is famous for its wood moths which belong to the

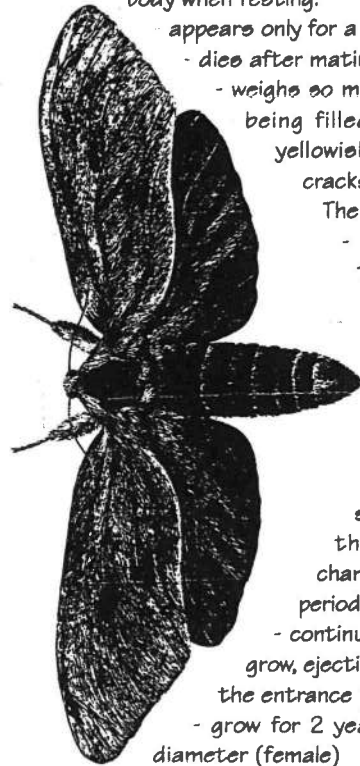
FARM FORESTRY SET FOR BIG YEAR IN '99

The Mary Valley/Sunshine Coast Farm Forestry program in the southern region finished 1998 on a strong note with a well attended "Improved Tree Stock" field day in December.

The field day began at Barung Landcare, where the nursery stocks a wide range of cabinet and hardwood timber species for farm forestry as well as revegetation. Barung is presently considering accreditation with the Queensland

genus *Xyleutes* in the family *Cossidae*. Their fame derives partly from the fact that their caterpillars are the "witchetty grubs" of traditional Aboriginal diet, but mostly from the fact that the moths are some of the largest in the world. The largest of them all is the Giant Wood Moth (*Xyleutes cinereus*). It is common all along the Q'land coast and especially in suburban Brisbane. The female moth has a wingspan of about 25cm and can weigh up to 30g (the weight of two finches!) Males are half the size of females. The Moth:

- is grey in colour with a dark blotch on the thorax.
- is camouflaged during the day as it folds its wings along the body when resting.



- appears only for a short time in mid-summer.
- dies after mating and laying eggs.
- weighs so much due to her swollen abdomen being filled with up to 20,000 minute yellowish eggs which are deposited in cracks in the bark of living trees.

The caterpillars:

- lower themselves on silken threads and it is thought that they are dispersed by wind.
- are boldly banded in purple and white when they first appear on eucalypt trunks at 25mm length.
- select an entry point in the bark and spin a protective shelter under which they bore into the sapwood, then excavate a chamber in which they start their main period of feeding and growth.
- continue to bore into the tree as they grow, ejecting the sawdust through a hole in the entrance plug.
- grow for 2 years until 15cm long and 3cm in diameter (female)
- gnaw the top end of the chamber through to the bark before pupating so that the moths can exit when ready. The thin bark collapses after a few days exposing a 3-4cm hole about 5-8cm above original entry hole.
- spin a fine silk cover over this hole then retreat to the far end of the tunnel which can be 20-30cm long.

After the moth emerges the tree begins growth to close over the apertures, which takes up to two years, leaving a characteristic "double scar" on the bark.

Unhealthy trees suffer more attacks than vigorous ones and may have dozens of past and present burrows evident.

The burrows do not appear to cause permanent damage in large trees, however the tunnelling may cause sufficient weakness in young trees for strong winds to snap the trunks.

Editors Note: Copies of this fact sheet are available from Barung Landcare.

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South-eastern Australian
AG Floyd
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Australian Plants
D Jones & R Elliot
Plants of the Sunshine Coast, QLD
GN Batianoff
Trees and Shrubs 1995
Andy Grodecki
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WEED OF THE MONTH

with LINDA IVEZIC

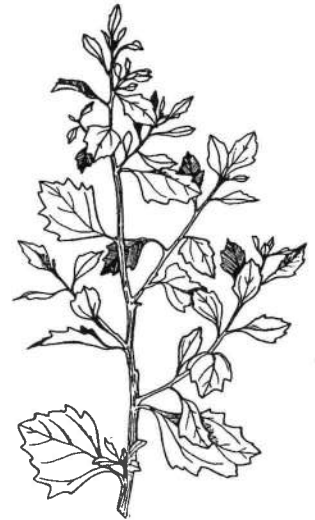
This month my focus is the **GROUNDSEL BUSH** (*Baccharis halimifolia*). The phrase "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" comes to my mind when I think of groundsel. I know of it as an invasive and dominant plant that is making a thorough nuisance of itself in our district. Consequently, I can't for the life of me see anything about it as "beautiful." Historically though, it was actually brought to Australia as an ornamental!

ORIGINS: Groundsel is a native of Florida and the West Indies and was introduced into the Brisbane region in 1900. 99 years later it is well established along the coastal areas of South East Qld and down to the NSW coast. It has even occurred in scattered patterns as far west as Chinchilla - not bad adaptation for a coastal plant! The most serious infestations are occurring right at our own back door where there are about 13 000 hectares of naturalised groundsel bush in the Maroochy Shire. I had a hectare or two of well established growth in my own eucalyptus-dominated forest until Peter Bell from Caloundra City Council found out about it. (More about that further on.)

THE PROBLEM: Groundsel is a rapid coloniser of disturbed, cleared, unused and overgrazed land. It loves moist gullies, salt marsh areas, wetlands and water courses. From a farmer's perspective, it competes with pasture species and does well on high cleared slopes. From a people perspective, there is an alleged problem with allergies.

DECLARATION STATUS: Groundsel has P3 status across all of Qld ie. numbers and/or distribution are to be reduced. In our own Caloundra City Council area and adjoining Maroochy and Caboolture districts it holds the additional P4 status that "plants are to be prevented from spreading".

DESCRIPTION: Although usually a densely-branching shrub up to about 3 m high, it can become a small tree 6-7 m high. Leaves are alternate, wedge-shaped, 2½-5 cm broad

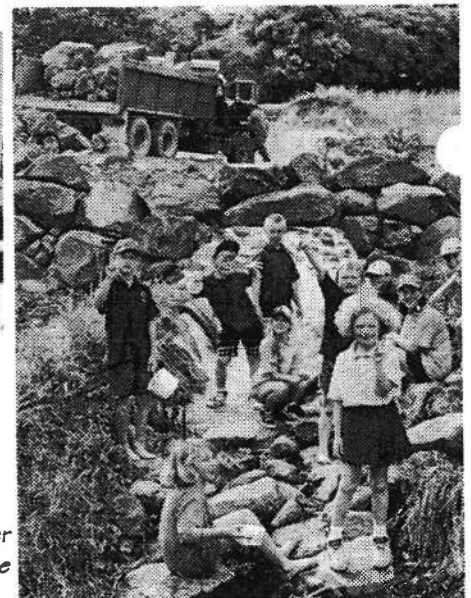


The River School
kindergarten class visits
Barung - Nov '98

JUNIOR LANDCARE



S.E.E.D.S. in water
testing mode



FARM FORESTRY PROJECT OFFICER "EVALUATION OF PRIVATE NATIVE FORESTS"

Full time position, funded through NHT,
in Sunshine Coast/Cooloolah Region

CONTACT BARUNG FOR DETAILS.

with a few large teeth towards the apex. Leaves near the end of branches are often tapered at both ends and are without prominent teeth. They are a dull, pale green and are waxy to the touch.

Bushes can be male or female - male flowers are cream or pale yellow florets carried in globular heads about 6 mm in diameter. Female florets are white, in heads clustered at the ends of branches, maturing later than the male florets.

Seeds give the bush a fluffy appearance - they carry a conspicuous papas of silky hairs to 1.2cm long. Germination occurs in autumn and winter and two metre tall plants can produce half a million seeds! Wind can transport seeds several kms.



CONTROL: Prevention of course is the best

control for groundel as it spreads so quickly.

It is Barung's experience that the best control is achieved by cutting and swabbing larger plants with a 50:50 mix of glyphosphate:water. Cuts must be swabbed within 2 minutes of cutting for the best results. Smaller plants are best controlled by hand pulling or slashing/mowing/brush-cutting to prevent seed setting.

Always act on small outbreaks - small plants can be pulled out. Slashing or burning does not kill plants, they simply regrow, although it does prevent the setting of seed if slashed in time.

Regular slashing with reforestation can eventually assist but seed production must be prevented while trees are establishing.

Because of its declared status any reports of groundel infestation to professional Weed Management Offices at Maroochy Shire/Caloundra City Council will result in the land owner being obliged to spray with herbicides.

Peter Bell at CCC is very knowledgeable and helpful with any local weed problem and can be contacted at the Caloundra City Council.

WEEDBUSTERS

8-10AM
- THE FIRST SAT
OF EACH MONTH



See you
at the Boardwalk.
with MAL NICOLL

Good news for all who have visited the Boardwalk recently - the weed eradication on the river bank from the bridge to Coral St is almost complete.

We are now awaiting delivery of copious amounts of mulch to finish the job.

The Work For The Dole people have started clearing the heavy undergrowth along the creekbank, are doing excellent work and making excellent progress.

Come and see the improvement and pull some weeds while you are there. The Wednesday morning weedbusting occasions are temporarily suspended, but will hopefully resume soon.

We are still weeding every Saturday morning from 8-10am.

NB: WEEDBUSTING SAT MARCH 6TH CANCELLED FOR THE BIG TREE PLANT ON WALKER'S CREEK - SEE YOU THERE.

SEED TO COLLECT cont'd

Although most native plant nurseries promote hybridised grevilleas, eucalypts and other high nectar plants for bird attraction (see noisy minor article), they neglect our local fruiting laurels "because they don't make labels for them." It is imperative that we break this cycle and begin a campaign to replace some of the diversity of food plants for our local wildlife.

Some of the best local bird attracting native laurels include:

- Beilschmeda elliptica* - Grey Walnut
 - fruits Feb to April
- B. obtusifolia* - Blush Walnut
 - fruits Dec to July
- Cinnamomum oliveri* - Oliver's Sassafras
 - fruits Feb to April
- Cryptocarya bidwillii* - Yellow Laurel
 - fruits Nov to Feb
- C. erythroxylon* - Pigeonberry Ash
 - fruits April to Oct
- C. glaucescens* - Silver Sycamore
 - fruits March to June
- C. laevigata* - Glossy Laurel
 - fruits Jan to May
- C. obovata* - Pepperberry
 - fruits March to May
- C. triplinervis* - Three-vein Laurel
 - fruits Feb to May
- Endiandra discolor* - Rose Walnut
 - fruits March to April
- Litsea lefeana* - Brown Bolly Gum
 - fruits Sept to Dec
- Litsea reticulata* - Bolly Gum
 - fruits Nov to April
- Neolitsea dealbata* - White Bolly Gum
 - fruits Feb to July

If you have any of these laurels on your property, we would really appreciate a donation of seed so that Barung can support the fight against the imported camphor laurel.

Seed from the Three-vein Laurel, *C. triplinervis* (pictured on back page) is ready now. As there does not seem to be a lot of seed set on this laurel this season, the nursery would love any donations.

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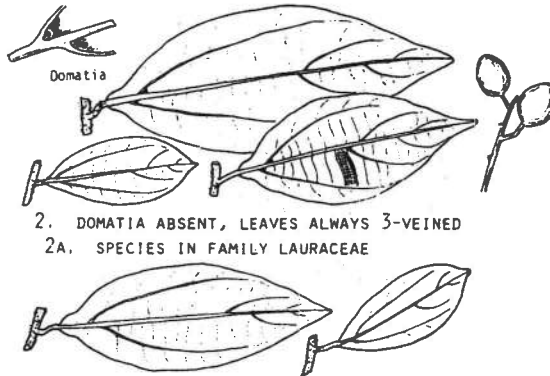
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Amongst the rainforests and wet sclerophyll forests of the Blackall Range, we are lucky to have a wonderful range of endemic trees and shrubs from the family Lauraceae. I wrote about two of these in the last newsletter, *Litsea lefeana* and *Litsea reticulata*, so I thought I would expand on the subject.

The most common laurel in this area is the imported Camphor Laurel, *Cinnamomum camphora*. While it has some value as a bird food plant and butterfly host, it has detrimental effects on the local environment. Camphor Laurels chemically inhibit the growth of other plants around them. This creates problems when establishing native species and no understory.

When growing near creeks or on creek banks the chemicals in the leaves affect stream life as the

Seed to collect Feb/March
by Marc Russell
Cryptocarya triplinervis
- Three-veined Laurel



2. DOMATIA ABSENT, LEAVES ALWAYS 3-VEINED
2A. SPECIES IN FAMILY LAURACEAE

leaves have an 'antiseptic' action which influences life right through from microbes in the soil to the fish and birds at the end of the food chain.

Recently an article has been placed on my desk claiming that chemicals in the leaves and fruits are capable of making our local birds sterile.

Native laurels on the other hand have been a major bird fodder in this region for a very long time. By planting a mixture of species we will achieve a longer fruiting season, which will attract birds to your garden or bushland all year round.

Many of our native laurels are also great for butterflies, playing host to many species, including those that use Camphor Laurel.

Most of our local laurels are extremely attractive trees and some are even suitable for smaller spaces.

cont'd previous page

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