BARUNG LANDCARE NEWS

November - December '97

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday Dec 6th 8-10am	**WEEDBUSTERS** Spreading mulch on Obi Obi Boardwalk Phone Linda Izevic for details: 5494 3497
Thursday Dec 11th 9am-3pm	**PMP WORKSHOP - SOILS INFORMATION WORKSHOP** **DAIRY FARMERS ONLY** - with Ben Harms from DNR Indooroopilly. To be held on site. Meet at Barung. Barung member $8, non-members $10. Bookings required.
Friday Dec 12th 9am-3pm	**PMP WORKSHOP - SOILS INFORMATION WORKSHOP** **NON-DAIRY FARMERS** - with Ben Harms from DNR Indooroopilly. To be held on site. Meet at Barung. Barung member $8, non-members $10. Bookings required.
XMAS NEW YEAR	*BARUNG RESOURCE CENTRE WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 25TH TO 29TH AND FROM JANUARY 1ST to 5TH* **HAPPY CHRISTMAS & ALL THE BEST FOR 1998**
	NO S.E.E.D.S. IN JANUARY
Late January	**LAP CONSULTATION MEETING** Date and venue to be announced. Watch The Range News.
Saturday January 31st 8 - 10am	**WEEDBUSTING - BARUNG TREE MAINTENANCE TEAM** Weedbusting on the Obi Creek, near the Boardwalk. BYO tools. BOOKINGS NOT NEEDED. Phone Linda for details: 5494 3497
Saturday February 7th 8 - 10am	**WEEDBUSTING - BARUNG TREE MAINTENANCE TEAM** Weedbusting on the Obi Creek, near the Boardwalk. BYO tools. BOOKINGS NOT NEEDED. Phone Linda for details: 5494 3497
Tuesday mid February	**PMP WORKSHOP - MAPPING & AERIAL PHOTOS** with Terry Reed from DNR. Date and details to be announced - please contact Barung late January.
Tuesday February 10th 7pm	**INFORMATION NIGHT** **"Permaculture in a Slide Show"** with Jenny Allen at Barung. Date and time to be announced.

SAT. MARCH 14TH	***THE BIG TREEPLANT AT THE ENTRANCE TO MALENY*** ***Keep this date free so you can be a part of the festivities.*** ***Details available later in the New Year.***

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Joan Dillon - Action Woman!!

It is time that I introduced myself and the new committee members who will work with all Barung members and staff during what is likely to be a very busy year. More than half of the previous committee are staying on, which will be of great assistance to me. It is very important to maintain continuity and take advantage of experience as well as to gain new expertise and ideas. It is certainly wonderful to join an organization served by such a hard working and enthusiastic community of people. All candidates for committee membership were endorsed. Everyone would have received background material on the candidates prior to the AGM.

The office-bearers and committee members are as follows:

- **Joan Dillon** - President and Publicity Officer (the latter an interim arrangement)
- **Jenny Allen** - Vice President
- **John Dillon** - Secretary, Convenor, Revegetation sub-committee and Mary River Cod sub-committee
- **Craig Hosmer** - Treasurer
- **Marek Malter** - Convenor, Finance and Policy sub-committee
- **Ann Oliver** - Convenor, Education sub-committee
- **Jan Tilden** - Convenor, Nursery sub-committee
- **John Wildman** - Convenor, Farm Forestry sub-committee
- **Kerry McIntyre** -
- **Linda Ivezic** - Weedbusters

All committee members are members of various sub-committees. Convenors for each sub-committee will accept responsibility for reporting back to the management committee and ensuring that the sub-committees achieve their goals. If you wish to have some input into a particular sub-committee, please don't hesitate to ring the appropriate convenor. Active sub-committees can provide much support for busy staff and it's a great way to become involved in your organization. Daryl Reinke has agreed to convene the Expo sub-committee and David Fraser will maintain his involvement with the Nursery sub-committee.

The long delays in announcing grants through the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) has meant that the past few months have been ones of considerable uncertainty in relation to funding. We were fortunate in that the Queensland government provided us with some interim funding to pay staff salaries, but many forward commitments had to be put on hold. Following the signing of the Partnership Agreement between the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments in the first week of November, NHT funds have been released and Barung has received continuing funding for our Education Coordinator and for the Project Officer for the Mary River Cod program, plus initial funding for the Revegetation Project Officer. Applications for the next round of NHT funding will be called in early December.

While much energy tends to be channeled into keeping track of the funding processes within landcare, it is important not to lose sight of the bigger picture and to recognise the value of interaction and cooperation and enlist the help of others who may not see themselves as able to make a contribution to landcare. To this end, Barung has joined forces with Landcare Australia Limited (LAL) and BHP to revegetate several areas in the Mary River catchment on the 14th of March next year. The project has tentatively been named "Catchments to the Coast": other suggestions are welcome. People from the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane will be encouraged to participate. It isn't always realized down on the coast that the water quality up here will affect the water quality down there, and that vegetation does a lot to filter sediment and excess nutrients before they reach the dams and treatment works.

Landcare is of course much more than tree planting and depends for its success on participation and attitudinal change. It is a constant and fascinating learning process and I am certainly finding I need to adapt some of the ideas I brought from the Northern Territory to local conditions. If we are all willing to listen and to contribute, then landcare and Barung will continue to move forward. I look forward to a busy and stimulating year and hope to meet as many members as possible. The Resource Centre is yours so please visit as often as you wish.

Joan Dillon

COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS - CHAT CORNER

Firstly I would like to thank all the team that were involved in the ***successful November Tree plants on Bridge Creek and the Mary River.*** This is just the beginning of the '***Landcare Catchments to Coast***' BHP sponsored, and Olympic endorsed tree planting project. Look out for another 15,000 to go in by the 14th March, including the entrance site into Maleny, between the High School and Erowal. Contact Lexy Forbes and Clayton Stokoe at Barung for more details and input. Thanks.

A special thanks also goes to the ***Green Corps Team*** who finished up mid November. Most look like having work to go to! We are one of only two groups in Qld. to receive a second round of funding for Green Corps. Once again Jim Watson will be the capable supervisor of 10 volunteers, on board from December to May 1998. If anyone has any ideas or thoughts on this volunteer labor training project, including riparian reveg, weed control and community project sites, please contact Jim or me.

You will also all be pleased to hear that at the recent ***Lake Baroon Catchment Management Strategy Publication Release and Action Planning Day***, at the idyllic Mary Thynne Education Centre at Mary Cairncross Park, the top 5 priorities of works required were:-

1/	Remnant vegetation protection and revegetation	18 votes
2/	Sewerage, Home Sewerage Plants (HSP's) and septic improvement	12 votes
3/	Stormwater pollution reduction	11 votes
4/	Local, State and Federal Environmental Protection Regulation enforcement	9 votes
5/	Property Management Planning requirement for ALL land developments	6 votes

This highlights the challenge ahead for our Land and Catchment Care groups to deliver on these projects, which will result in on-ground works, with the implementation of Best Management Practices, education and community stakeholders' attitudinal changes towards Land and Catchment Care. This will include close cooperation and coordination with volunteers, local government bodies such as the Caloundra Maroochy Water Supply Board (CMWSB) , Councils and the general public.

Much positive public community debate and discussion has taken place of late, regarding the first round of comments on the ***Local Area Planning*** process. John Wildman and I are representatives of Barung and Lake Baroon CCG. Most of the submissions to Council that I have seen so far are concentrating on the need for true transparent Community Consultation, and the need for flexibility and alternative options in the present planning process. This is based on Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) principles of course! Thanks for your contributions so far. Please keep your good input flowing for the future draft papers. You can comment on these in the New Year please.

The recently released LBC Management Strategy goes part of the way to addressing the issues of ESD principles in our area. Barung and its members are requested to have a long and hard look at the LAP issue papers which will be published again after our day-long Sunday 30th November Planning and Decision Meeting. A second Information Night will be held in late January specifically for Barung members to have feedback and input into this very important planning process, by which the future vision of Maleny and its environs will be determined.

So far the Barung Committee has endorsed two motions for the LAP:

* '***Designated Waterways***' need to be redefined to be more inclusive of streams in the catchment headwaters. These are not presently protected at all, resulting in the legal clearing and damming of riparian zones.

* The ***LAP process*** should continue to exist post Caloundra City's official management, so that the plans become a living document, owned by its constituents, and continue to be driven by a community owned LAP group, who represent all of the stakeholders involved.

Following our successful 1997 NHT bid for a ***Revegetation Project Officer*** for three years, (see advert on page 4), a second round of funding is now upon us, with applications closing on the 15th December! New ***National Heritage Trust (NHT/NLP) Preliminary Funding Drafts*** are required by Monday the 8th of December, so if anyone has any great funding ideas and energy please come and see us NOW or never for 1998-99+.

We are also hoping to ***Indigenize Landcare*** more locally, through developing a closer Landcare association with our local ***Gubbi Gubbi*** clan, in the form of a possible ***Bunya Festival, a Bushfood Park*** development at the rear of Barung and the delivery of ***Traineeships with Murri people*** on Barung projects.

Please contact myself or Janelle Turner on 5499 9494 (see advert on page 4) if you are interested in being involved or have some energy or ideas. Thanks to Anthony Wootton and Allan Atkinson's voluntary input, they will be running this Bushfood Park project at the rear of Barung, in conjunction with

COORDINATOR'S CHAT CONT'D

Jim Watson and the new Green Corps Team (and our soon to be, new Revegetation Officer).

Don't forget that ***Riverbank Restoration Grants*** are still available in the Mary Catchment, for help with riparian vegetation protection, revegetation, off-stream watering points and fencing. Contact Barung or Allan McGregor at the DNR Gympie office for application forms and more information.

We have still not finalized all of our ***NHT*** and ***'Corridors of Green'*** riparian revegetation and protection sites, so if anyone has any worthy sites needy of funding over the next 3 years please contact us, also ASAP.

Seasons Greetings and all the best for 1998 in Land and Catchment Care!

John Muir.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

P. Frawley	Anthony Couch
David Pratt	Gayle Johnson
Belinda May Brown	Joseph Delaney
Colin Male	Tim Breeze
J & S MacIntyre	Gavin Muller
Terry Ryder	Alistair Charlton
Aileen Fidler	Lorraine Ungerer
Elisabeth & Mark Atkinson	Jane Hyde
Koolyangarrah Property Trust	Ken Gibson
Robin Gudmundsson	Laurie Wholson
Geraldo & Janet Goodrich	Deon Vandenberg
David Daugaard	Tanya De Vere
Dawne Douglas & Michael Liddle	
Brendon Bradford	Rod Phillips
Dave Davison	Nick Willis
Olivia Suosaari	Tammy Atkinson

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MALENY-KENILWORTH ROAD, CONONDALE

Just who IS at the wheel at Barung?

SITUATIONS VACANT

QUEENSLAND BUSHFOODS in conjunction with Barung Landcare have two positions vacant to be employed on the bushfoods plot at the back of Barung. Computer training will be provided. Applicants must be local, eligible for TAP or Newstart traineeships. No experience \necessary.

Enquiries to Janelle Turnewr on 5494 9494

BARUNG LANDCARE ASSOCIATION INC.
REVEGETATION OFFICER

The project officer will coordinate revegetation and remnant protection activities in the Upper Mary River catchment. These activities will involve landholders, volunteers and governmant organizations.

Applicants should have appropriate teriary qualifications, sound knowledge of revegetastion practices and demonstrated success in coordination the activiteis of volunteers and other organizations. Position funded through National Heritage Trust. Anticipated completion date for project is June 2000.

Applications in writing should address the criteria listed in Selection Criteria available from Barung Landcare Office. Employment will be for 38 hours per week at $16.40 per hour. Applications close December 15th.

Phone: (07) 5494 3151 Fax: (07) 54943141

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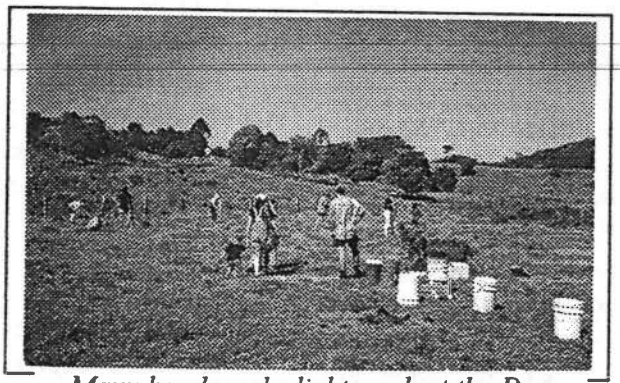
BHP LANDCARE CATCHMENTS PROJECT UPDATE

The initial stage of our project is completed and we would like to thank all of the volunteers who assisted with the three plantings on the 8th of November. It was a beautiful hot sunny day and the volunteers really worked - THANK YOU.

We planted 572 trees and lomandra at Bridge Creek and 284 trees and shrubs at Trail Rd.



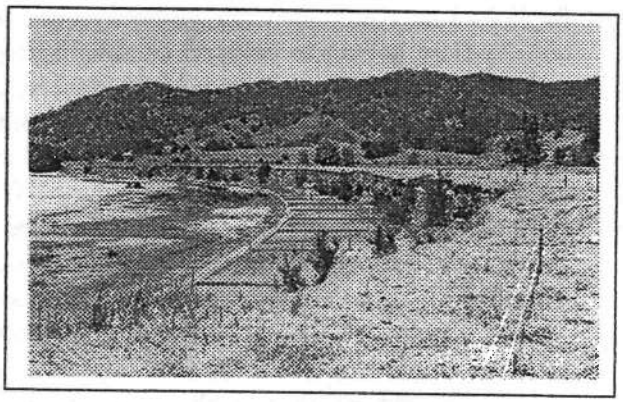
Many hands make light work at the Dam.

Our contribution to the Mary Riverbank Restoration Project was also part of this project and was greatly appreciated with 5,850 trees planted prior to and on the 8th of November.

This day was a great practise run for the big event being planned for getting 10,000 trees in the ground leading up to and on March 14th.

Clayton and I are back on board to run this huge event. Please keep this date in mind as we will be planting the entrance to Maleny which is an amazing site and will be a must to be involved in. We can really make the town entrance something to be proud of with a rich diversity of rainforest and sclerophyll species and in the future an entrance which will give a glimpse of days gone by. Other sites previously discussed are still being considered but the focus will be on the entrance site.

Lexy



Congratulations to Damon Telfor of DNR Gympie, who did such a great job of organizing the massive river restoration job on the Mary.

Landcare volunteers turn up to plant 800 trees

From The Field

Hi Groovers

Yes, another extremely busy month for Barung Landcare and myself in and around the Range on Landcare issues.

As some of you would know, there have been several revegetation projects which I have been personally involved in. One was the Mary River site and the others at Baroon Pocket Dam and Trial Road. All were addressing water quality for the Mary River catchment. With these recent rains and a reasonably soft season to date, survival will be excellent with little need for follow up watering, "yar hoo". The projects owe their success to the excellent volunteer response. Thanks. 40 or so people turned up for the Bridge Creek plant alone. Maybe we need to start propagating people from this community for future Landcare projects! Congratulations and well done!

For Lexy Forbes and myself it was a good trial run for the big one going off in March 1998 when we propose to rehabilitate the entrance site to Maleny. This site covers approximately 700m of road verge for which the plans and species lists are available for your input. Please come and give us your ideas so we can put together a project which most clearly reflects our community. So keep in mind the March plant-out and stay involved.

Last month I mentioned a project on a golf coarse at the Gold Coast at which it was proposed to plant many species of sedges to address water quality and create a wetlands ecosystem within their property confines. Now the same type of project has begun here on the Sunshine Coast at Coolum. Some unusual species of sedges are being sought for the wetlands within the golf course grounds. I think and hope that this will be the beginning of a change in attitude towards our streams, rivers and wetlands. It is about time.

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We, as Queenslanders, have a reputation to dispel. How's this for statistical information to be ashamed of.

- Last year 365,000 sq. hectares was licensed to be cleared on freehold land by the Qld government.
- If Qld was a country, we would rate as the third highest in the world for land clearing, "in the world", man that's sick.

Recently I was involved with another project which proposes to create a large housing estate in the Pelican Waters area, directly behind the Caloundra airport and extending south to Bells Creek. This project is huge and is responsible for clearing literally hundreds of hectares of coastal heath for housing. I was employed to train staff in the art of seed collection as a dismal attempt to "save the wildflowers", for later propagation and reintroduction into the estate! I was very disturbed and depressed by what I saw and the plight of our coastal wallum. I saw the largest patch of Boronia falcifolia I have ever seen. Sowerbaea juncea was literally from horizon to horizon, creating a purple hue. Sedges, Banksias, Fabaceas, Myrtaceae, my heart bleeds. While we drove around compiling species lists (more than 300, and three pages long) a real estate agent drove past in his shiny 4WD, stopped, leaned out the window and attempted to make conversation with us. He said "Not much around eh?". My mind recalls the lyrics of a song by The Clash "the public gets what the public wants". An apt name "The Clash"

I would like to urge all of you to take on "The Clash" in what ever capacity you can. Ring or write to Caloundra City Council Environment Dept. or ring John Birbeck, 54910885, suggests a more responsible attitude towards our environment. It is within this department that change can occur and is possible. Suggest the retention of larger areas of vegetation, tighter restrictions of exotic plants within new developments, tighter regulations on private land clearing, responsible road verge management through rehabilitation, water quality control through revegetation, and weed eradication programs. It is really time for action, as the pace of development on the coast is like an infectious disease, very soon in need of open heart surgery.

Remember: "The public gets what the public wants".

Kind regards, **Clayton Stokoe**

"THE ANSWER LIES IN THE SOIL"

Barung Landcare is hosting two field days in Maleny on December 11-12, focusing on the various soil types found in the Maleny area and soil management for improved production.

Participants in a recent soils day

Representatives from the DNR and DPI, and others will talk about all aspects of soils management covering the following topics: soil properties down the soil profile; soil fertility and interpretation of soil-test results; infiltration, drainage and nutrient leaching (disposal of dairy effluent), plant available water; pasture renovation and improvement; fertiliser options; other land use options (horticulture/vegetables); soil erosion and its control.

Two main soil pit sites will be featured, one with typical red Maleny soil and one with grey clay. There will be a comparison between effluent treated and non-effluent treated soils. At both sites, discussion will focus on management options in terms of soil properties and site characteristics. There will also be a progress report on the dairy effluent trials which have been running since 1993. Detailed information handouts will be available on the day.

The Thursday 11th field day is for a general (non dairy) audience and the Friday 12th session is for dairy farmers. Both days will begin at 9.30 am at Gaven Muller's property on Mountain View Road, Maleny (just follow the signs), and will finish at 3.30 pm.

For further information please contact John Muir at Barung, 5494 3151, or Ben Harms, DNR (07) 3986 9609. Bookings are required and can be made by phoning Barung Landcare on 5494 3151.

Remember: "The Answer lies in the Soil".

WEEDBUSTERS REPORT

The last couple of months has brought about a review of the role of Weedbusters. Thinking back on the group's inception in March of this year, the motivating factor was that there was a strong community outcry against any move to use herbicides as a weed control along the newly cleared and re-vegetated Obi Obi area. This is now known as the Boardwalk. Wipper-snippers were not a possibility at the time because the weeds had grown taller than the trees that had been planted. Hence Weedbusters became a small but ever-so-steady troupe of volunteers who saw a need for hand weeding as the immediate solution.

This worked well until the advent of massive spring weed invasion that hits Maleny unrelentingly every year. Things were out of hand within a few weeks. The difference this time however was that the seedlings have grown and are now bigger than the weeds. Council workers were quick to step in with their wipper-snippers last week and have made an immediate difference.

I have been told that they'd like to come back every fortnight. This would be a great on-going plan and now leaves the Weedbuster team with an opportunity to review our direction. Mulching will still have to be done along the Boardwalk but when to buy more mulch is a Barung budgetary decision.

There is still a lot of woody weed eradication to be done along this walkway. This has been identified as being too big a job for Weedbusters to handle alone and discussions have begun looking at planning their removal through bigger groups of willing hands.

Weedbusters will continue to meet on the first Saturday of the month (remember NOT in January - the January date will be January 31st). Many hands have really made light work so far and more hands are always welcome. Any changes of site to be tackled will be announced in the Barung newsletter and personally to regulars.

Linda Ivezic
Phone: 5494 3497 AH

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COD AUNT COMES ON BOARD

Eve writes:

As was hinted in the last newsletter, I'm about to increase the expertise I bring to the role of Cod Mother by producing a little one of my own! Bernie's and my baby is due in January and I am now going off-line until at least Easter next year.

During this period, care of the Cod Community Network will rest in the capable hands of the new *Cod Aunt*, Wendy Gillespie.

Now that the next lot of NHT funding is through, Wendy will have many delightful opportunities to meet with you as local landholders and others interested in the cod's future and the health of the Mary River catchment. I thank you for your support in over the past 18 months, and encourage you to welcome Wendy as she takes on the Cod.

Wendy writes:

I'm excited to have the opportunity to introduce myself via the December Newsletter and am looking forward to meeting with you early in the New Year. Integrated management and ecological sustainability are particular interests of mine. Since arriving on the Sunshine Coast earlier this year after a substantial stint in the Northern Territory, I have become very involved in the Integrated Catchment Management process in Noosa as both the Rural Residential representative and Secretary of the Noosa River Catchment Coordinating Committee. In addition I have been tutoring in *Science and Sustainability* at Sunshine Coast University which is wonderfully innovative and an inspiring reintroduction into contemporary environmental issues and education.

I very much enjoy interacting with the community, so the opportunity to join you as Cod Aunt was too good to turn down. This introductory article is being compiled on my very first day on the job, though I have been acquainting myself with the Cod's history, local issues and needs, and the present status of the recovery program. I look forward to further enlightenment from the local community, and anticipate your vital assistance in the recovery of our Cod.

Best wishes for the festive season.

Wendy Gillespie
and Eve Witney

SAVING THE PLATYPUS IN OUR FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

Excerpts from an article by Dr J Mckee and Ms A J Grimley

The south-eastern Queensland and north-eastern New South Wales hinterland regions are being developed at a rate that challenges the management of freshwater ecosystems. Effective management relies not only on the practical application of science, but is heavily dependent on landholder cooperation and commitment.

Over the past few years regional landholders have voiced concerns that platypus are becoming less evident in their streams, demonstrating both a sense of ownership in the animal and an avid interest in its local preservation.

Urbanisation and grazing practices have been associated with the disappearance of the platypus from waterways of NSW and Victoria. However there are no detailed abundance estimates of Queensland platypus nor studies on how they respond to development pressure.

Stable platypus populations require permanent water, consolidated banks in which to build burrows and an abundant and diverse food source. Bank stability and aquatic food chain diversity are heavily dependent on riparian zone vegetation, (thus) the link between habitat quality and platypus status.

Platypus are at the top of the aquatic food chain and are susceptible to the cumulative effects of degradation and pollution in waterway systems. Change in abundance and health of platypus, at some level, reflect trends in waterway integrity.

From The Growing Idea - Summer 1997

"LANDCARE"

A Toastmaster's Speech by Linda Ivezic

Abbreviations used:

NFF - National Farmers Federation
ACF - Australian Conservation Federation
NLMP - National Land Management Program
LCDCs - Land Conservation District Committees
NLP - National Landcare Program

If Australians had discovered England, do any of you here tonight think that we would have grazed it with kangaroos?

This sounds like a bizarre notion but when you think about it, it's just a simple inversion of what occurred in Australia with European settlement.

Our early white settlers brought with them the farming practices with which they were familiar, i.e. Sheep, cattle and wheat. If we were to study the history of world agriculture we would find that farmers' responses to their environment had been dictated not only by what's happening to their land, ecologically, but also by the society to which they belong.

This thought is s simplification of the reasons behind the formation of the Landcare movement in Australia. We All know about Australia's history of government campaigns to expand agriculture across the country by clearing millions of acres of land and promoting widespread use of super-phosphate. We were all exposed to the newsreels and taught about it at school as being the patriotic thing to do. The result, 20 to 30 years later, was wind erosion, salinity, water-logging and water-repellence problems. The 1970's brought the end of the national dream that agricultural technology could turn any land into profitable farming land.

In mid 1988 an historical partnership between the strangest of bedfellows came into being. The leaders of the National Farmers Federation and the Australian Conservation Foundation, despite disagreeing on most issues, shared the view that land degradation is Australia's biggest environmental problem and that the overall level of government funding allocated to this issue was pitiful. The funding for the National Soil Conservation Program was in fact comparable to the landscaping budget for the new parliament house!

In 1989 the directors of the NFF and the ACF, Rick Farley and Phillip Toyne, secured support for and ambitious National Land Management Program from John Kerinn then Minister for Primary Industries, and Graham Richardson, then Minister for the Environment.

In July of that year, Prime Minister Bob Hawke, announced that the 1990's would be the Decade of Landcare, supported by $340 million funding, the key elements of which were funding for Landcare groups and property planning.

The overall goal of the NLP is to achieve efficient, sustainable and equitable management of natural resources in Australia. There are three levels to the NLP: community, state/commonwealth partnerships and national.

Landcare groups comprise the community level. Australia now has well over two thousand of these groups all with their own land management issues and objectives. They're all volunteer based and most are rural, but there's an ever-increasing number of coastal and urban Landcare groups being formed.

Being both volunteer and community based, the strength of these groups comes from people with a common goal working together and contributing their individual skills. Their focuses and methods are quite diverse and importantly, these are decided by the members themselves. The groups themselves put in submissions for funding, both government and sometimes private.

Local extension officers from the Department of Primary Industries are used as sources of information and advice.

Our own local Landcare group is called Barung, Barung being a local indigenous word meaning "rat kangaroo". The rat kangaroo was once plentiful around Baroon Pocket and the Mary River.

Barung was one of the early Landcare groups being established in 1989.

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"LANDCARE" cont'd

To tell you about Barung's range of activities is another talk in itself, so I will just tell you a bit about one of its many current projects.

You would have either read thoroughly or just skimmed across last week's front page article in The Range News entitled "Scenic entrance plan for Maleny". This is a plan to put 5,000 trees along the entrance to Maleny, between the High School and Erowal. It is being sponsored by Landcare Australia Limited and BHP. You can all imagine that this will be a significant beautifying feature for Maleny, but it is not only being done for aesthetic purposes. It will be part of a series of riparian revegetation corridor projects under the banner of "Catchment to Coast".

The definition of 'riparian' is "pertaining to the bank of a river or other body of water". The body of water in this case is the Obi Obi Creek which then flows into Baroon Pocket Dam. The significance of a vegetation corridor is that it allows wildlife, both bird and animal, to settle along it, connecting species that have been living in isolated in pockets of remnant vegetation. You can imagine that if say, a family of possums have been living in a two acre patch of vegetation for 30 years with no physical connection to any other pocket of vegetation, that the genetic pool is going to be very limited. Indeed. Allow several pockets to connect through a series of corridors and you diversify the breeding options for those animals and strengthen their genetic resources. This is so easy to understand in relation to humans as well. We know that in small isolated rural communities, everyone can be related. I'm sure we've all passed through little towns and come away pondering the depth of the genetic pool.

With our European backgrounds, we have all grown up believing that there's more beauty in non-indigenous trees and plants than in our own native species. There has been a lot of talk about planting a corridor of jacarandas at our town's entrance, but when you think about it, they really only at their best for 2-3 months every year. They are either dropping their leaves or bare of leaves for up to 6 months of the year. With good planning, Barung believes that this corridor can be made into an unusual and visually stimulating variety of local species.

A variety of microclimates have been identified along this strip of road. The significance of this is that the site can include at least three distinct types of plantings i.e. rainforest, wet sclerophyl and dry sclerophyl.

Following are a couple of the comments that Barung has received from the public:

- "Towns all over Queensland have entrances of jacarandas, we should do something unique."
- "The weather's changed too much, we're not getting the rainfall we used to when I was a boy and there was still a lot of native forest. If we planted those species now, they would not do well."
- "A roadside planting like this would be a great legacy to leave for future generations of Malenyites."

In summary, the Landcare movement is seen as something uniquely Australian. The concept of local community participation tackling such far-reaching environmental issues is without parallel in other industrialized countries. The Landcare group's challenges are threefold: economical, environmental and social. If our farming and land management practices are not sustainable, then individuals, families, and communities and the gross domestic product of Australia will be seriously affected.

YOUTH TRAINING OPTIONS

We are arranging a think-tank seminar on future decentralized youth-training opportunities for the Maleny bio-region. It would be excellent for young people to have heaps more local training options, and less need to go elsewhere.

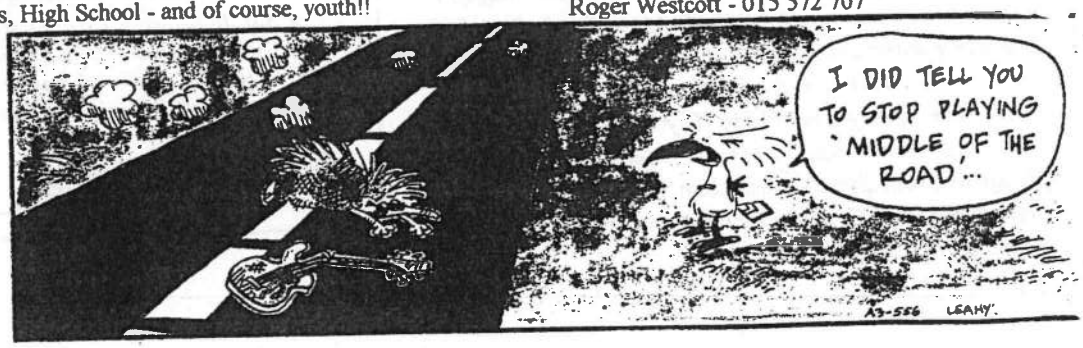
Invites include representatives from DEET, Regional Education, Barung Landcare, M.E.N.A., Green Corps, local trainers and developers, High School - and of course, youth!!

Some outcomes expected are the formation of a steering committee, on-going publicity, and simply the benefit of an evening's worth of brainstorming, inspiration, networking and exchanging of ideas.

This workshop will be held at M.E.N.A., Coral Street, Maleny on Thursday Dec11th at 6pm, facilitated by Eric Kiernan.

Hope you can make it,
Jim Watson (Green Corps) - 5494 9156
Roger Westcott - 015 572 707

BEYOND THE BLACK STUMP



THE GREEN CORPS REPORT

Appreciation and thanks (and a few long faces) were the sentiments of the day on Thursday November 14th, when the Green Corps Team were presented with their Certificates of Completion of a Green Corps Training Program by Peter Slipper, Federal Member for Fisher. Mr Slipper, who officially welcomed the Green Corps on board at the start of their project, was enthusiastic in his praise of the team who have been working out of Barung Landcare for the last 6 months. As he said, not only have they achieved a huge amount of work on the ground, but all, without exception, have grown and developed in their understanding of landcare issues through the project.

Jim Watson and the graduating Team

During their time in Maleny, the team have planted over 3000 trees on sites from Maleny to Montville and completed over 8000m2 of revegetation including land stabilization, clearing, weed removal, replanting and mulching.

They also completed TAFE training in First Aid, Occupational Health and Safety, Environmental Audit, Introduction to Land Conservation and Restoration Industry, and Revegetation and Restoration Techniques. Their education has included an introduction to a vast range of topics from mine rehabilitation, instream erosion theory, sand dune stabilization practices, and timber salvage and chain saw milling to the history of land use and the effects of misuse in Maleny.

Being a part of "The Team" has required a commitment of 40 hours per week for a period of 26 weeks. One of the priorities of the scheme has been learning to work as a team to meet set targets. Self motivation has been essential and while many of the participants have had time to assess new career directions, all have forged valued friendships.

From Barung Landcare and everyone on the Blackall Range: thank you very much to Tammy Atkinson, Brendan Bradford, Dave Davison, Tanya De Vere, Rod Phillips, Olivia Suosaari, Laurie Wholson, Nick Willis and Deon Vandenburg - the Green Corps Team.

At the time of writing we are plaesed to say that all of the team are moving on to new pursuits, from studying in Europe to setting up *Green Care*, a maintenance and planting work group. We wish all of the team well and urge tham to keep in touch.

So it is out with the old and in with the new as our next Green Corps team had its first day on December 1st. We welcome them to Barung, but warn them that there is now a Green Corps reputation to uphold!!

The Barung Trailer. Kindly sponsored by Goldlink BP, Trailers 2000, QDO, and LBCCG. - a wonderful assett for Barung!

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FARM FORESTRY

MARY VALLEY SUNSHINE COAST FARM FORESTRY PROGRAM

Farm forestry is in full swing right across the region.

Queries and prospective planters are still coming in regularly. If landowners haven't done their full site prep and decided on planting regimes, layouts and species etc. by now, I am advising them to think more of a late February to autumn full-on plant.

In addition to new plantings, the Mary Valley and Barung program services the full gamut of existing landowners' needs and queries and on-going organizational moves.

We are surely heading to co-ops. Ashley Sewell, myself, Barung Farm Fforestry sub-committee and Mary Valley/North Coast Farm Forestry Program will all work towards the formation of at least one in our part of the world heading into 1998 and beyond.

It is sometimes good to reflect on the bigger picture of putting in trees. Many full-time farmers sometimes find it incredible that so much planning, infrastructure, programs, committees, part-time and full-time project officers and extension workers etc are all working at the "simple" task of getting trees in the ground, growing them and getting them back out of the ground and then hopefully replanted. It does seem to be a big industry behind the actual industry - just to get it done.

But it is true that forestry on private land is a huge issue. I'd often like it to be simpler and maybe one day it will be, but the truth is it needs a lot of commitment, vision and downright enthusiasm to make it happen initially, and then to keep it ticking sustainably while providing economic, environmental and social benefits for all - - - landowners, millers, transport workers, craftspeople, timber merchants, other retailers, exporters, carpenters, musical instrument makers, by-product industries and consumers!

A look back on my three years as a farm forestry coordinator show a plethora of meetings, field days, workshops, seminars, media releases and information released, policy and regulatory work at all levels of government and a lot of treetalk. And the job goes on ..... for me and a group of tree lovers both in and out of organized systems. But I believe that while the job goes on, the whole thing is advancing. And every bit of effort exerted in any way on behalf of the cause does make it easier and simpler and more satisfying to do the thing we all want to do - plant a tree, help it grow, use it responsibly and see more trees come on for multiple benefits. I don't believe it is just future profit that is driving the whole farm forestry industry. I believe it is a whole range of motivations and they are evident in everybody in different amounts and mixtures.

And there is no doubt that it is all very worthwhile. More next time....

Mark Warnick

FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

Welcome on board to the new Green Corps. Now that funding and the *Catchments To Coast* program are sorted out, you should have an exciting and busy few months ahead. I hope that you all get as much out of being part of the 'team' as your predecessors did.

It is good to see Marc back in the nursery after 3 weeks of much-needed R & R. Life at the Resource Centre became a little hectic without him! His absence certainly made John and I aware of how knowledgeable he is, how much we have to learn and how lucky Barung is to have him.

Thank you very much to Anthony who happened along at the right time to fill in the gap - we would really have fallen on our faces without your help.

It is also great to have Denise back again with her knowledge, her humour and her big laugh. Denise has been a part of Barung for so long that she just slides right in after an absence as if she had never left.

Barung is wonderfully lucky to have the volunteer base that it does - they turn up at the right time, often out of the blue - and always just when they are needed. The timing often seems more than sheer coincidence!

Motivation is a very powerful factor in the conditions we create, and I cannot help but think that Barung's selfless motivation for the benefit of all, is what draws so many wonderful and talented people to be a part of this Landcare group.

Speaking to Peter Erdmann the other day, he mentioned that the critical factor in his decision to purchase his property behind the Showgrounds, was the presence of a very large, very old fig tree. He said that he felt that he had to caretake the tree for the future l that this prompted him to buy the land.

This conversation has taken root in my mind and caused me to view my own piece of land in a very different light.

Nothing is permanent, I know that, but I was very attached to the idea of putting work into my land and staying there to see the fruits of my labours.

Thanks to Peter, and his seed of wisdom, I now realize that I do only have guardianship over this piece of dirt. I should nourish it and do the best I can for it then be prepared to hand it over to its xt caretaker when the time is right. In a way this has made me more determined to give the most I can while it is in my keeping and has made the idea of moving on a lot easier.

I have made gardens in Melbourne, Maleny, in India, Nepal and Europe, and I know deep down that I will probably move on again.

Thanks Peter - I will now move on gladly and do the same all over again - with the knowledge that I owe it to whatever land I find home.

Food for thought .....

Mim

A BIG GET TOGETHER FOR THE MARY

On Monday 6 October the official launch of the National Corridors of Green (NCOG) was held at the Active Rider lease in Gympie. Barung President Joan Dillon joined representatives from the Dept. of Environment, Cooloola Shire Council and Greening Australia for the launch.

The program combines the efforts of a consortia known as the Mary River Corridor Network, the Commissioner Gully Green Corps Team and Greening Australia.

Recent studies have identified the Mary River as one of the most degraded on the east coast with remnant vegetation declining and becoming isolated.

Through Greening Australia, the Commonwealth Govt. is providing $80,000 to fund projects in the district, working towards creating a network of green corridors. This involves linking groups with projects from the lower Mary River to the upper reaches.

Barung is one of the groups involved, having 11 corridor revegetation sites within the Obi Obi catchment.

Excerpts from The Growing Idea - Summer 1997

THANKS SCEC

Thank you to Gabi Luft for the discount film tickets she gave to our tree planters for the screening of "the Castle" on November 8th. It was great to be able to offer these volunteers a little something in return for their hard labour in the heat.

Gabi raised over $1000 for SCEC with her efforts - well done.

WANTED: For the Barung Library, a copy of "The Bradley Sisters Method Of Weeding" Thanks, Sylvia Dawson

BARUNG WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR THEIR SUPPORT

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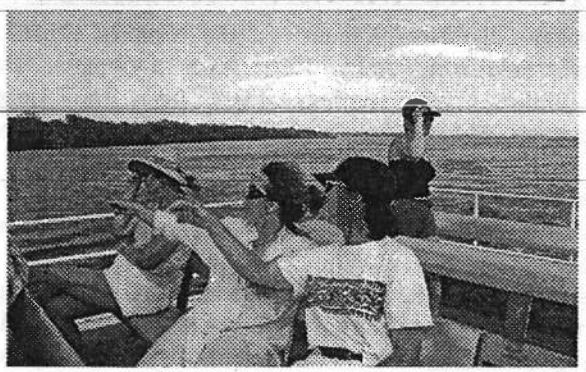
HARK ..... A DUGONG



Well, the Dugong Spotting Team finally cracked the good weather and saw, in the distance, a dugong!!
What thrills and excitement!
Peter Oliver provided a very informative and educational commentary on dugongs, sea grass habitats and catchments, with only the odd song for good measure.
We might try to organise another dugong trip next year.... it is a most relaxing and informative way for us and our children to learn about endangered species and our waterways.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

What topics would you, as property owners and landcare members, like Barung to run with for information nights in 1998? When would you, as members, like these nights to be held? Please let us know if you have any ideas, as we have the resource centre for venue, the contacts for speakers, and the time to organize. All we need to know is what topics you would like covered.

CONTACT MIM OR JOHN

RENOVATORS NEEDED

In response to comments from the public that it is hard to know where to go at the Resource Centre for service in the nursery, the Committee has decided to reshuffle the office space. We want to construct a verandah shelter over the front door so that people have somewhere to bring their plants. We also want to reorganise the interior space, so that Marc is more accessible to customers and can see the retail nursery from his desk.
To this end we are calling on any members who are builders or who have construction skills they can offer to help with renovations. Please contact Mim or John to let us know if you could spare some time. Thank you.

LOOKING AT OURSELVES FROM A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

If we could, at this time, shrink the world's population to a village of precisely 100 with all existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look like this:

There would be 57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 from North and South America and 8 Africans.
30 would be white and 70 would be coloured.
30 would be Christian and 70 would be of other religions.
Half of the wealth would be in the hands of only 6 people and all 6 would be from the United States.
70 people would be unable to read, 50 would suffer from malnutrition and 80 would live in sub-standard housing.
Only 1 would have a teriary education.

Source: Native Web - Glen Welker gwelker@mail.limi.org, 30 May 1995.

Congratulations

to David Fraser,
ex Barung Committee member
and host at FRASER'S SELECTION,
for his environmentally sensitive
cabin development which recently
won a Regional Tourism Award

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Local by name, co-operative by nature

Lake Baroon Catchment Care

CATCHMENT CARE

What is Catchment Care?

All of us depend upon water for life. Our waterways - and thus the water we drink and use - can only be as healthy as the catchments that feed them.

Native fish, crustacea, platypus, frogs and many other small creatures also require life-supporting waterways.

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group is a non-profit group of individuals who live within the catchment area of one of the area's major water sources - Lake Baroon (or Baroon Pocket Dam, as it is also known), which supplies water to the Sunshine Coast population and downstream to the Mary River.

Everyone Lives in a Catchment...

Whether you live on a quarter acre block or 1000 acres, your land is a catchment for our water. What we all do in our own backyard today effects the quality of the water we drink tomorrow.

The Lake Baroon Catchment Area

1 - Sewage treatment plant
2 - Effluent irrigation
3 - Kings' Weir
4 - Sunshine Coast Water Treatment plant

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group
PO Box 567, Maleny, Qld 4552. For further information, call the Co-ordinator, John Muir.
Ph: 5494 3151. Fax: 5494 3141

Barung needs your continuing support, so please do not let your membership lapse.
Call us if you are in doubt on 5494 3151
If you're moving.....tell us where you're going!!
If you have or will be changing address, please put Barung on your list of people to notify.
We don't want you to miss anything and we don't have the resources to track you down!

AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS

- Property visits by Jenny Allen and Anne Moran $30/hour, reveg or permaculture based
- Bi-monthly newsletter
- Discounts on all plant purchases at Barung Nursery
- Access to Barung's resources, contacts, workshops and information

Give a NURSERY GIFT VOUCHER or BARUNG MEMBERSHIP to a friend this Christmas.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
Wednesday January 21st

1998 SOUTH-EAST QLD RAINFOREST RECOVERY CONFERENCE

When? First half of 1998, probably Feb/March. Conference goes for 5 days.
Where? Tannum Sands, south of Gladstone

AIM: To bring together everyone involved with rainforest conservation from NSW border to Rockhampton, for discussion and brainstorming on strategic regional planning and direct on-ground action.

For information contact:
WWF Rainforest Recovery Officer, Bruce Boyes
PO Box 155, Brisbane Albert Street, 4002
Ph: (07 3222 2529 Fax: (07) 3227 6386
Email:Bruce.Boyes@env.qld.gov.au

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Vice President:	*Jenny Allen*
Secretary:	*John Dillon*
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Coordinator:	*John Muir*
Assistant to Coordinator:	*Mim Coulstock*
Nursery Manager:	*Marc Russell*
Nursery Guru:	*Denise Irons*
Mary Cod Network Coordinator:	*Eve Witney / Wendy Gillespie*
Farm Forestry Officer:	*Mark Warnick*
Green Corps Supervisor:	*Jim Watson*
Landcare Catchment Project Coord:	*Lexy Forbes*
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Your Membership is CURRENT till 18/02/98
Your continued support would be appreciated.