# Barung Landcare

Seeds of our Future • Barung Landcare Association Quarterly Newsletter • April - May - June 2015

The New National Landcare Program
*Butterflies in Backyards, Blizzards, Booms and Birdwings*

Bunya Dreaming
*Birds in Backyards*

Walks with alpacas on the Wildside
*Icicle Fungus*

Upcoming Events
*Volunteering Opportunities*

Great Expo Raffle Prizes to Win!
*Ashley Sewell - Landcare Honour Roll*

Both onlookers and participants enjoyed master carver Don Powell's Hand Held Carving workshop in 2014

## LOCAL ARTISTS TO SHARE WOOD SKILLS AT EXPO

by Mim Coulstock

Some of the Sunshine Coast's most talented woodworkers and artists will share their expertise at this year's Maleny Wood Expo workshop line up.

Maleny's Donald Powell, a multi-award-winning wood sculptor, will hold a two-day Hand Held Carving Workshop. Don teaches extensively, contributes regularly to national wood magazines and received a Churchill Fellowship to study wood-carving teaching methods in 1996.

A virtuoso carver, his work ranges from miniature to life size pieces and is characterised by realism and exceptional attention to detail. Don specialises in faces, figures and wildlife.

*(Continued p 10)*

Barung Landcare

2015 WOOTHA PRIZE
"PLANTING THE SEED"

MALENY WOOD EXPO 2015
*from chainsaw to fine furniture*
2 - 3 MAY

**Barung Resource Centre**
38A Coral Street
PO Box 1074
MALENY Q 4552
Mon to Fri: 9 am - 4 pm
07 5494 3151
info@barunglandcare.org.au

**Barung Nurseries**
0429 943 152
nursery@barunglandcare.org.au

***Retail:***

Porters Lane NORTH MALENY

WED to FRI: 9 am - 3 pm

SAT: 9 am - 12 noon

***Wholesale:***
65 Amigh Rd
LANDSBOROUGH
by appointment

## THE BARUNG FAMILY

**2014/15 VOLUNTARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

| | |
|---|---|
| President | *Lindsay Kruger* |
| Secretary | *Sue Brieschke* |
| Treasurer | *Alan Harrington* |
| Committee Members | *Lin Fairlie* |
| | *Martina Gordon* |

### *BARUNG STAFF*

***Barung Resource Centre & Projects***

| | |
|---|---|
| *Jonathan Waites* | Projects Officer |
| *Steve McLeish* | Barung Events |
| *Den Lalor* | Admin/Project Support Officer |
| *Robyn Harper* | Editor, *Barung News* |

***Barung Nurseries***

| | |
|---|---|
| *Wayne Webb* | Nursery Manager |
| *Fuschia Collard* | Porters Lane Nursery Manager |

***Barung Natural Area Services***

| | |
|---|---|
| *Luke McWilliam* | Manager |
| *David Luhrman* | Team Leader Moreton Bay |
| *Brenton Schwab* | Team Leader |
| *Matt Bateman* | Projects Officer |

***Hinterland Bush Links***

| | |
|---|---|
| *Susie Duncan* | Coordinator |
| *Sue Brieschke* | Project Officer |

*...and our many Volunteers,*
*Labour Team Participants and Members.*
*We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land.*

**www.barunglandcare.org.au**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Lindsay Kruger

### *The New National Landcare Program:*

- *Fewer Dollars*
- *More Comprehensive Applications*
- *Increased Reporting*

On 28 January, I attended a meeting of landcare groups under the umbrella of the Burnett Mary Regional Group (BMRG). This was part of a number of regional information sessions which the BMRG held to gauge community views on how best to invest the 20 per cent of regional base funds from the new National Landcare Program (NLP). As a result of these meetings, the BMRG produced a community consultation paper. Here are some of the key points:

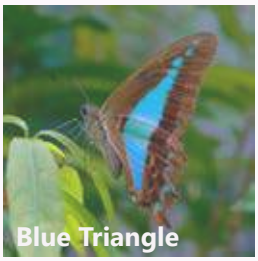
- The NLP is to deliver this funding to local on-ground projects and related activities that are delivered by, or directly engage with, local communities including landcare groups, agriculture groups, community groups and individual land managers.
- Approximately 70 stakeholders representing landcare, coastcare, industry, community groups and individual land managers attended the meetings, with the overwhelming number of attendees agreeing that the BMRG should continue to liaise with communities and deliver funding through existing channels and arrangements.
- As part of the NLP implementation, the BMRG will have an open expression of interest process for this 20 per cent funding component. In this regard, Barung Landcare will be able to apply for grants to implement on-ground activities. BMRG staff will be working with their program steering committees to design the grants program for the funds.
- For the 2015–16 financial year, a total of $324,606 will available for application from the landcare community, with guidelines and expressions of interest open in June 2015. All regional allocations have been cut by 20 per cent for the 2015–16 year onwards.

Some Barung projects could be eligible for funding as part of regional investments if they align with the Regional National Resource Management (NRM) Plan, BMRG's contract and the Australian government's national and international obligations. To follow through, we need to examine the extensive amount of information available about the funding, then assess the eligibility of various Barung projects. This will be addressed as soon as possible but could take some time to work through.

*Keep an eye on the Barung website for upcoming events and new features:*
www.barunglandcare.org.au

## ACTIVITY @ PORTERS LANE

NURSERY NOTES by Fuschia Collard


Blue Triangle

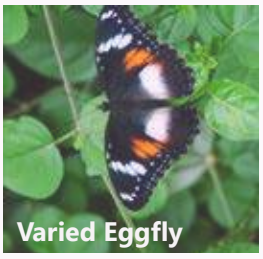
Blue Tiger

Caper Gull

Orchard Swallowtail

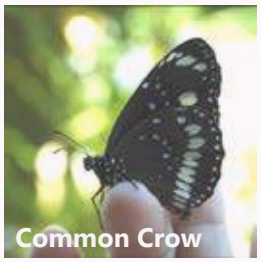
Monarch

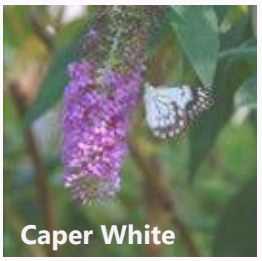
This summer brought a spectacular parade of butterflies to the Sunshine Coast. The variety of butterflies seen in the 'Butterfly Blizzard' this year was phenomenal. According to the Queensland Museum, 'butterfly booms usually only consists of one or two species', making this year's boom extraordinary. Here at the Porters Lane nursery we saw Blue Triangles, Blue Tigers, Caper Whites, Orchard Swallowtails, Monarchs, Varied Eggflies, Lesser Wanderers, Richmond Birdwings, Yellow Admirals, Common Pencilled-Blues, Evening Browns, Common Crows, Skippers and probably a few others that I have missed.


Varied Eggfly

Yellow Admiral

Lesser Wanderer


Common Crow


Caper White

Photos: www.butterflyhostplants.com.au/gallery/BUTTERFLIES

As for the possible cause of this delightful population explosion, the Queensland Museum Website (copied with permission) explains:

'There is no simple explanation for the recent explosion in butterfly numbers. The recent extreme hot and humid conditions provided perfect flying weather for butterflies as they don't need to consume as much energy to keep warm and hydrated.

As to other possible explanations, we offer the following comments: We have not had exceptional rainfall; just enough to rescue plants from drought conditions and promote new growth. Butterfly breeders, Tony and Katie Hiller, have noticed that dry conditions are better for butterflies and their leaf-eating caterpillars. Neither thrives in wet conditions which stop butterflies from flying and cause caterpillars to develop fungal and viral diseases which can retard growth and cause mortality. Parasitic wasps and flies which reduce numbers of butterfly larvae and pupae seem to be in lower numbers in drought conditions.'

Whatever the cause, all of these butterflies need native food plants for their caterpillars. Here is a list of some of the plants we currently have in stock and some of the butterflies they attract.....

Acacia spp (wattle) – Blue Jewel, Double-spotted Lineblue, Common Imperial Blue

*Acmena* spp (Lilly Pillies) – Common Red-eye, Easten Flat

*Aotus ericoides, lanigera* (Native Broom) – Fringed Blue

*Callicoma serratifolia* (Black Wattle) - Eastern Flat

*Cryptocarya* spp (Native Laurels) - Blue Triangle, Macleay's Swallowtail, Orchard Swallowtail

*Ficus coronata* (Creek Sandpaper Fig) – Common moon-beam

*Flindersia schotianna* (Bumpy Ash) – Orchard Swallowtail

*Lomandra* spp (Mat Rush) – Symmomus skipper

*Meliocope elleryana* (Pink Dougwood) – Orchard Swallowtail

*Neolitsea dealbata* (White Bolly Gum) – Blue Triangle, Eastern Flat

*Pararchidendron pruinosum* (Snow Wood) – Tailed Emperor

*Pararistolochia praevenosa* (Richmond Birdwing Butterly Vine) – Richmond Birdwing Butterfly

*Viola betonicifolia* (Arrowhead Violet) – Australian Frittillary

For further information about our local butterflies I recommend a book by Frank Jordan and Helen Schwencke called 'Create More Butterlies', available at Porters Lane Nursery and the Barung office at 38a Coral St. Maleny.

We also have a small stock of Koala Food Trees.

Hope to see you soon at the Porters Lane nursery and at the Maleny Wood Expo in May,

*Fuschia.*

Does anyone have a working push mower they are willing to donate to the Porters Lane nursery? At the moment, all of the grass is being cut by volunteers with a Whipper Snipper.

Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting the Sunshine Coast Hinterland
Barung LANDCARE
WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

## NATURE KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES

by Susie Duncan

Photo: Susie Duncan

Roving Restorers still powering after planting 500 trees at Upper Cedar Ck.

*'What I think motivates these good souls who come to Roving Restorers and Bushcare events, is a sense that we belong to a larger landscape where there are no real estate boundaries'.*

I was at a tree-planting day with Roving Restorers recently and got chatting with two couples who are living in retirement villages in Maleny. Now these aren't the sort of retirees that are short on things to do or low on energy. They are actively supporting our local community and one of their passions is getting outdoors and helping restore our beautiful bush. There are many such retirees who help out at these events, but the difference here was that both couples have deliberately down-sized from acreage so that they have more time to contribute in this way.

This got me thinking about where this altruism springs from. There is no doubt that looking after your own acreage in this fertile, high rainfall region, presents plenty of weed challenges and can be burdensome if you don't have much support. But once down-sized, it could be tempting to just relax and enjoy the occasional walk in a national park. What I think motivates these good souls who come to Roving Restorers and Bushcare events, is a sense that we belong to a larger landscape where there are no real estate boundaries. The plants and animals certainly don't recognise them. And with this recognition comes a shared responsibility to look after the wider environment. This is very much the principal behind Hinterland Bush Links – together we can stitch back the fabric of this land regardless of its tenure.

The great thing about getting out there and helping landholders with weeding or planting is that there are many rewards, and that's not just morning tea or lunch. You get to see some wonderful country, learn about our native plants and animals, become skilled in the best ways of annihilating your favourite weed, and most importantly have a yak with others who appreciate this beautiful land. We don't have a 'right to roam' over private land in the way of some European countries, but we have a great community network that understands that with sharing country, comes a desire to care for it - the type of custodianship that has been embraced by Indigenous Australians for time immemorial.

So if this resonates with you, please come and enjoy the bush restoration events that are on offer. You don't have to be an expert because there are plenty of friendly people to share their skills and experience. And you might just encounter a jewel of our bush, like the iridescent Paradise Riflebird, along the way.

### Hinterland Bush Links & Barung

### EVENTS

**First Friday of each month** (10 April, 1 May, 5 June)

Little Yabba Bushcare - Little Yabba Park, Cambroon in the Mary Valley. 8 - 11 am Members are actively restoring vegetation along the banks of Little Yabba Creek. Work activities followed by a cuppa and short bushwalk nearby. New members very welcome.

**Mon 13 April - Roving Restorers**

Booloumba Ck Rd, Cambroon 9 am - 12 noon

Hand-weeding lantana along Booloumba Ck, lovely property adjacent to Conondale Nat. Park. Morning tea provided. Rainforest walk up the creek to the 'Egg' sculpture in the National Park for those staying on (bring lunch). Swimming an option.

Car pool at Maleny IGA carpark 8 am or travel independently for 9 am start.

**Sun 19th April -** Butterflies, Beetles & other small critters in your backyard 10 am - 12 noon

Includes morning tea. Presenter Barry Traill

**Sat 25 April - Roving Restorers**

Maleny-Kenilworth Rd, Maleny 9 am - 12 noon

A morning of tree planting at Kim Holcroft and Paul Magee's property in the beautiful Elaman Creek catchment. Enjoy fab-

## BUNYA DREAMING

by Fuschia Collard

Majestic Bunya backdrop to Bunya Dreaming Photo: Den Lalor

Bev Hand gives Welcome to Country

Photo: Susie Duncan

It was a sweltering hot day. The Mary was raging after the heavy rains, the bunya cones were full and all the while the crowd gathered. The shady areas along the river filled first. Extra gazebos and tarpaulins had been erected. They were a welcome sight. We came. We sat. We connected.

Beverly Hand's Welcome to Country stirred our spirits and opened our hearts. Then the challenges began. The competition was hot, literally! Challengers from the following teams were fired up, Crystal Waters, SEQ Catchments (Goanna), Mimburi, Valley Diamonds, Water Dragons and of course The Barung Dream Team. Many battled the heat and the bunyas but finally the Barung Dream Team accepted the trophy. It was a wonderful day. Many thanks to Beverly Hand, her family and volunteers for sharing such a magnificent event.

Winning Dream Team members: Den Lalor, Gretchen Evans, Fuschia Collard, Tim Dwyer, Wayne Webb, Jessica Webb and Arabella Wedderburn-Bisshop.

ulous views of the Conondale Ranges. Morning tea provided. Car pool at Maleny IGA carpark 8.30 am or travel independently for a 9 am start.

### Mon 11 May – Roving Restorers

Burgum Rd, North Maleny 8.30 am – 11.30 am

Join us hand-weeding vines at this property on a beautiful stretch of the Obi Ck. Morning tea provided.

Car pool at Maleny IGA carpark at 8.00 am for 8.30 am start. All weeding and planting tools provided.

### Thurs 14 May – Gardens for Wildlife Workshop

Stepping Stones - Challenges and Choices 9 am – 12

Free GFW & Barung Members, non-members $10

Presented by Joan Dillon. Morning tea provided. Limit 25.

### Fri 22 May – Roving Restorers

Kidaman Ck Rd, Curramore 9 am - 12 noon

Join us weeding Morning Glory in forest on Mim Coulstock's property, which provides an important buffer to Maleny National Park. Mim has been actively restoring habitat for koalas and other wildlife. Morning tea provided.

Car pool Maleny IGA carpark 8.30 am or travel independently for a 9 am start.

### Fri 29 May – Workshop Gardening to Connect Habitat

Thynne Court, Maleny 9 am - 12 noon

Find out how your property can contribute to important wildlife corridors in the local landscape. The workshop looks at the significance of gardens between Mary Cairncross Reserve and the Obi Ck and consides how this linkage could be enhanced. This will help you plan habitat works in your own area. Morning tea provided. This is a joint Hinterland Bush Links – Gardens for Wildlife event. Address provided on registration.

### Fri 12 June – Roving Restorers

Booloumba Ck Rd, Cambroon 9 am - 12 noon

Join us at the Hinterland Bush Links launch site in the beautiful Mary Valley to weed the trees planted 3 years ago to buffer Wompoo Creek. Morning tea provided. Stay after weeding for a rainforest walk in the Conondale National Park. Bring lunch if staying on.

Car pool Maleny IGA carpark 8 am or travel independently for 9 am start.

**For all outdoor events:** *All tools are provided. Please bring gloves, water, boots, insect repellent and sunscreen. Long-sleeved shirt, trousers and hat are essential (Work Place Health and Safety Regulations).*

For enquiries and directions please contact Susie Duncan Ph: 5429 6622 E: sduncan@hinterlandbushlinks.org Further Details: www.hinterlandbushlinks.org

**Please register with Barung Landcare Ph: 5494 3151** or online @ **www.barunglandcare.org.au/events**

## FUNGAL FORAY - Icicle fungus (*Deflexula fascicularis*)

by Gretchen Evans

This fungus has been found growing on logs in Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve. It has been called an 'icicle fungus' because it consists of single or branched spines which can be up to 25 mm long. Sometimes they appear to fall like tiny waterfalls and at other times they look more spikey and these tend to be those which are more branched. They can be pale white but often look dirty or with a lilac tint. Some authors believe they are related to the coral fungi.

My interest in this fungus is that apart from MCSR, there is only one other record of its occurance in Queensland and that is from Springbrook. Currently there are no recorded endangered or rare fungi listed in Queensland and our society believes fungi have been largely ignored by the Nature Conservation Legislation. We are attempting to find rare fungi to bring to the notice of the State Government and this is possibly one that could be considered. This gives you all a chance to find another one and prove me wrong!

Icicle Fungus on logs at Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve
Photo: SJM McMullan-Fisher

Note: *Delexular* means 'bent' and *fascicularis* means 'pertaining to clusters'

Ref: Sapphire McMullan-Fisher et al. Australian Subtropical Fungi.

## WILDLIFE FRIENDLY GARDENING

by Joan Dillon

Sometimes it's fun to play around with a different group of species with the aim of attracting birds which can be found close by, but not always in one's own garden. This was the thinking behind the establishment of a grass and shrub field in the back paddock. It's not directly linked to the house garden but is connected via a revegetated gully that provides plenty of cover for small birds moving to and fro in the landscape.

Grasses and low shrubs are the favoured species since we wish to look across and through it, rather than at a wall of vegetation. Local grasses aren't always available but are gradually being sourced and include Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*), Barbed Wire Grass (*Cymbopogon refractus*) and Tussock Grass (*Poa labillardieri*). Tussock grass in particular, has fine seeds that should be attractive to the smaller birds and also to our small marsupials. Black Thorn (*Bursaria spinosa*) produces masses of small, white, insect attracting flowers and its dense, prickly foliage is known to be favoured by wrens as potential nesting sites. We live in hope! It is now seeding prolifically. Other shrubs include low to medium height banksias and melaleucas for their nectar, leptospermums or tea-trees for insects and nectar, and two or three grass trees for their long flower spikes and attraction to honey eaters. Wattles provide seasonal colour and will also attract insects. Birds love the tasty fruit of Midyim (*Austromyrtus dulcis*) just as much as I do – a bit of competition there. Purple Pea Bush (*Hovea acutifolia*) will give spring colour and will also self seed for a continuous supply of this pretty shrub.

Herbaceous plants include Flax Lilies (*Dianella* spp.) for their fruit, lomandras, Guinea Flower (*Hibbertia scandens*) to trail along at ground level, grasses of course and a few sedges. There are others. It is becoming a very diverse and different garden.

Establishment was tricky due to dominating exotic grasses but close attention to their control, especially Setaria, is gradually achieving success. It's been slow but worth it. One exotic grass strip was sprayed and other strips have been heavily mulched for total exclusion of light prior to planting. Establishment has been progressive and is now in its third year. More may come, but for the moment, I shall await the arrival of flocks of finches and breeding pairs of wrens.

The 'house full' sign was up at the recent Gardens for Wildlife workshop, Attracting Birds to your Garden, run by Barung in the Conference Room at the Hinterland Business Centre, Maleny. The 42 attendees were informed about bird habitat necessities and how plants provide birds with a number of resources, including food, shelter and protection, nesting material and nest sites.

## BIRDS IN BACKYARDS

by Eric Anderson

**Food** – plants provide food for birds both directly and indirectly. Many, such as banksias and grevilleas, are pollinated by birds and provide nectar that is rich in high-energy sugars. Other plants rely on birds to disperse their seed and the reward is in the form of energy-rich fruit. The seeds of plants such as wattles and grasses are also eaten by a range of birds. Plants also provide habitat for insects that are eaten by birds and are rich in protein; insects are a significant part of most birds' diet.

**Shelter and protection** – Most animals, including birds, form part of the diet of other animals. Birds must always be vigilant against predators and this involves either evasive action or a retreat into shelter. The thickets of understorey vegetation are important habitat elements for many bird species, particularly the smaller ones.

**Nesting material** – Nests need to be robust, provide good insulation and be well camouflaged. Materials needed include sticks, bark, grass, spider web, lichen and moss.

**Nesting sites** – Typically 70% of eggs produced by birds are eaten by predators. so there is a high demand for concealed nest sites such as can be provided by thick understorey vegetation and spiky shrubs. Harder to provide, are the larger nest hollows required by rosellas and lorikeets. In these instances. consider providing nest boxes. Check out the Birds in Backyards web site for general tips on building and locating nest boxes for a range of birds.

**Providing water** – Birds need fresh water but are vulnerable when they are drinking or bathing. Birdbaths need to be in dappled shade, beyond the reach of cats. Replace the water and clean the bath regularly. Dense shrubs should be available nearby to allow birds to escape if threatened.

**Feeding birds** – It is much healthier for birds to obtain natural food from our gardens than to be fed directly by people. If you want to feed, make it an occasional treat (for you and the birds), rather than a daily event. Ensure that the feeding area is out of the reach of cats and other predators and that it is cleaned daily. Be cautious about feeding meat-eating birds as they can become aggressive to humans and attack vulnerable smaller birds. Only use native seed mixes rather than bread or sunflower seed.

In Summary:

- Healthy soil means healthy garden – mulch, mulch.....
- Don't start from scratch – add plants to your garden and let them establish before removing unwanted vegetation.
- Give preference to local native plants.
- Create density – small birds need shrubs to provide protection for food and nest sites.
- Plant a variety of plants – some that attract insects, some that provide nectar, some that provide fruit and plants that flower at different times of the year.
- Avoid hybrid natives with big showy flowers. These provide lots of nectar all year round and the big honeyeaters they attract chase/keep smaller birds away.
- Put in a birdbath or two.
- Keep an eye on your nest boxes to stop introduced birds or feral honeybees taking over.
- Allow birds to forage for food naturally in your garden rather than feeding them.
- Protect birds from pets. Keep cats indoors or in a run and have an area of your garden inaccessible to cats and dogs.

Look out for the next Birds in Backyards workshop, date TBA.

Bird Contact links: Birds in Backyards www.birdsinbackyards.net; Birdlife Southern Queensland www.birdlife.org.au (click on Birdlife Southern Queensland); Birdlife Sunshine Coast www.scbab.blogspot.com.au Contact Ken Cross friarbird43@bigpond.com Outings 1st Saturday of the month; Eric Anderson plainswanderer@powerup.com.au

## BUTTERFLY GARDENING AND CONNECTION IN YOUR BACKYARD

by Jonathan Waites

Helen Schwencke (centre) of Earthling Enterprises presented the workshop to 17 keen participants.

Thanks to the generosity of Susie Duncan and Barry Traill who once again made their 'messy' and very wildlife friendly garden available, we had a wonderful site on which to host our seventh Gardens for Wildlife event, 'Butterflies in Backyards' on the 5th of March. The workshop attracted 17 keen participants and was presented by butterfly and small invertebrate enthusiast, Helen Schwencke of Earthling Enterprises (www.earthling.com.au)

The morning began with Helen and Barry leading us around the garden identifying trees, vines, moths and caterpillars. Eleven different species of butterfly were sighted, including a Speckled Line Blue (*Catopyrops florinda)*, a White-banded Plane Butterfly (*Phaedyma shepherdi*) and the near 'threatened' Richmond Birdwing Butterfly (*Ornithoptera richmondia)* which was observed investigating vines for their suitability as egg-laying sites. Sharp eyes found many species of moth caterpillars on top of and beneath leaves happily munching away supporting Helen's dictum that 'the only good leaf is a chewed leaf!' Also found were bess beetles (*Passalidae* family; see http://insects.about.com/od/beetles/fl/10-Fascinating-Facts-about-Bess-Beetles.htm) that 'talk' by rubbing a hardened part of their hindwings against spines on the surface of their abdomen. Helen admitted to a fascination as a child with these 'talking' beetles (as did another member of our group), up until her third trip to hospital to have a beetle removed from her ear, into which it had crawled whilst she had been listening intently. A beautiful blue-green Cuckoo Bee (*Thyreus* sp.) was spotted surveying plants around our hosts' verandah.

A few of the interesting snippets that came out on the workshop included:

- There are five families of butterflies in Australia and sixty-nine families of moths.
- Often it is the male of the species we see flying about looking for females, whereas the female is more interested in laying eggs on an appropriate plant.
- Messy gardens rule! Many invertebrates depend on rotting vegetation (leaves, sticks, logs) for food and shelter.
- When choosing plants to grow, consider the needs of for example, butterflies (or more specifically their larvae) and fruit eating birds, by selecting appropriate species which provide food (leaves, flowers, fruit, seeds) we can share.
- If you have a range of trees and ground covers in your garden you don't need to feed butterflies. In fact sugar in water stations can be toxic for some butterflies, particularly when it ferments. On the other hand, inebriated butterflies are easier to observe since they become more sedate (unlike many of our own species in a similar condition). The main butterflies that can get sozzled safely according to Helen, are the Tailed Emperor (*Polyura sempronius*) and the Evening Brown (*Melanitas leda*).
- Booms in seasonal population numbers are followed by busts, due in part to the fact that predators and disease populations have run down in the season preceding the boom and take time to breed back up; which they have towards the end of the boom. They are then of a sufficiently high number to 'nail' their prey in the following season – a bust.

As Helen declares on her website, Earthling Enterprises, work is about "Connecting people with nature…". To this end her talk took a holistic view of butterflies; butterflies are simply one element in an interconnected system which is made up of eggs, larvae, pupae and butterflies. Similarly the 'butterfly system' is nested within a 'vegetation system'. For instance many butterfly larvae are particular about which plant's leaves they will feed on. The Richmond Birdwing Butterfly larvae prefer the soft leaves of the Richmond Birdwing Vine (*Pararistolochia praevenosa*) and plenty of them, so there is not much chance of finding their larvae in an area which doesn't have any of these vines. The vines like shady, moist areas with mature trees to climb on, such as forests, so there is not much likelihood of finding large vines (growing naturally) nor therefore, Richmond Birdwing Butterfly larvae, outside forested or well-treed areas. The seeds of the vines are contained in capsules which are broken up by Australian Brush Turkeys (*Alectura lathami*) or by falling from heights. Therefore, if no Brush Turkeys or mature tall vines, then no more germinating new vines and no increase in food for more hungry larvae. Do you get my drift?

Thinking in systems, helps us glimpse the big picture. We can stand back and appreciate the overall structures, patterns and cycles that are the complexity of nature (e.g. forests, turkeys, vines, larvae, pupae) rather than only specific elements (e.g. butterflies). We 'see' the forest, as well as the 'trees'. 'Systems thinking' has the potential to connect us more meaningfully with the natural world and make some sense of an unimaginably complex cosmos.

So next time you are awed by a tree, a bird or a butterfly, spare a thought for the supporting actors in the drama that allow this particular player their moment in the sun.

Bamboo frame to train a Richmond Birdwing Butterfly vine into a tree.

## RICHMOND BIRDWING BUTTERFLIES

by Lynette Hill

We moved from Brisbane to Maleny a few years ago and bought acreage with some rainforest. It was old dairy land that had been cleared. There was some rainforest present so we decided to do some re-vegetation to support the wildlife and birds. 'Land for Wildlife' visited us and amongst the rainforest plants we found some vines, *Parasistolochia Praevenosa,* that attract the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly, growing naturally in the rainforest.

I knew nothing about these butterflies so I did a bit of research about the conservation effort to protect existing habitats and the planting of more vines to encourage breeding of the butterfly. I learnt that the butterflies are also attracted to the introduced Dutchmans Pipe Vine, *Aristolochia elegans*; when the larvae hatch and begin eating this vine they die, as it is poisonous to them. Over the years, the population of these butterflies has drastically reduced owing to many factors including clearing habitat and the introduction of the Dutchmans pipe. The butterfly is now only found in small pockets.

Caterpillars appeared in February.

Crysalises appeared in early March.

I have planted out more of the vines on our land and in the garden area to attract these beautiful, vulnerable butterflies. The vines are growing in different areas of the garden - two on a trellis, one facing east, the other west. This trellis is in full sun and the vines are very healthy. In early February I was looking at the vines and saw a caterpillar. How exciting it was to see it. Over the next week, I found more caterpillars ranging in size from that of my thumbnail to as large as my index finger. In early March, the caterpillars were at their transformation stage of becoming chrysalises, well hidden and protected amongst the leaves of the vine.

On March 19th, a beautiful male Richmond Birdwing Butterfly hatched, followed by a female on 30th. There are now six chrysalises in the vines which will not hatch now until spring. And there are also plenty of small caterpillars still munching away.

Male Richmond Birdwing Butterfly hatched 19 March. Photos: Lynette Hill

I look forward to seeing more of these beautiful butterflies flying around after they hatch, feeding on the nectar of native flowering trees and varieties of flowers in my garden.

In the meantime, I'll keep planting vines for the cycle to continue and to help ensure these magnificent butterflies survive, thrive and multiply.

# FOR SALE

Barung's Massy Ferguson tractor needs a new home. It runs and is available for inspection at Barung's Landsborough Nursery. Enquiries phone Luke McWilliam 0400 666 488.

# FOR SALE

Barung's Coffee Cart is for sale. All offers considered. Enquiries phone Luke McWilliam 0400 666 488.

....continued from front cover

Another Maleny favourite, Richard Knight, will run a full day workshop in which participants will construct a milking stool using traditional mortise and tenon joints and simple hand tools. Richard's introduction to this age-old technique can lead a creative woodworker anywhere. His sculptural art that doubles as functional rustic furniture is living proof.

For bookings or for more information on the Maleny Wood Expo's 2015 exciting Workshop program, visit www.malenywoodexpo.com

Richard Knight shows how to use simple hand tools to make a milk stool with traditional mortise and tenon joints.

## TIMBER HERITAGE COMES TO LIFE IN MALENY

Visitors can enjoy a relaxed weekend at the picturesque Maleny Showgrounds in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland on 2nd and 3rd May.

The Maleny Wood Expo is one of those rare events with 'something for everyone', whether you're a collector of fine woodwork, a woodworker yourself or just looking for two days of clean country fun for the whole family.

This unique event celebrates our rich timber heritage and everything wood - from chainsaws to fine furniture - by showcasing the work of regional wood artisans working in sustainably harvested native timbers, weed or recycled timbers.

Hosted by Barung Landcare, the event was born from the vision to promote sustainable use of our beautiful native timbers while protecting this natural resource for future generations.

The Wood Expo tells the whole timber story – from seed collection and planting forests, harvesting and milling through to the end product.

Find an inspirational piece to transform your home or take home the perfect piece of timber for that DIY project.

The 2015 Wootha Prize theme is 'Planting the Seed'. The exhibition is the end product of a prestigious competition that attracts entries from woodworkers and sculptors Australia-wide. As with other Expo woodwork, all Wootha entries must be made from sustainably harvested native timbers, weed or recycled timbers.

Visitors can enjoy demonstrations of heritage crafts such as cross-cut saw racing as well as mobile milling, wood working for women, chainsaw carving, wood turning, tool displays from our heritage days to the latest wood carving innovation and technology.

Sharpen your skills at one of the popular Wood-Shed Workshops. This year's program includes Hand Held Carving with Master Carver, Don Powell, Diddley Box Making with blues duo Eb'n'Flo, Long and Short board Skateboard Deck Making with wooden surfboard shaper Steve-o, and Construct a Milk Stool learning the technique of mortise and tenon joins, with Richard Knight.

Pioneers felling large Tree in Maleny – courtesy State Library QLD – late 1800s

Want to take home your own bespoke woven basket? Join local sculptor and installation artist Kris Martin, for the workshop 'Weaving with Cat's Claw – a Weed of National Significance'. Learn how to transform an environmental problem into a beneficial solution.

And when you're ready for a break, simply soak up the country atmosphere. Pull up a hay bale and enjoy a Land-care burger or a Montville Coffee Fair Trade latte.

And the sustainability theme flows throughout the event. Barung's Nursery offers visitors the opportunity to purchase local native plants to create habitat for local fauna. Visit Natural Resource Management displays to learn more about the region's environmental initiatives.

Take home some local boutique produce including wood-fired breads, bush tucker and cheeses from the Taste Maleny Produce exhibits. Plus there's live music, free entertainment for the kids including Kids Woodworking Sessions and a monster raffle with prizes that everyone will love.

Admission is $15 for adults and $12 for Concession holders. Youth under 16 enter for FREE. All tickets include FREE parking.

The Maleny Wood Expo is supported by the Queensland Government through Tourism and Events Queensland as a part of a dynamic calendar of events throughout the state.

For more information on the Maleny Wood Expo visit http://www.malenywoodexpo.com

Tourism and Events Queensland

Stan Ceglinski

Barung Expo nursery stall

Eb'n'Flo blues duo

Kris Martin basket weaving

# Barista Scholarship Program - Maleny Wood Expo 2015

For the past 10 years, Montville Coffee has offered the Barista Scholarship Program to youth in our community. This year, in association with the Maleny Neighbourhood Centre, Maleny Chamber of Commerce, Barung Landcare and the Hinterland Times, Montville Coffee is able to offer ten young recipients the opportunity to benefit from a Barista Training and Mentoring Scholarship. These scholars will complete a coffee training course in our training centre in Montville and will go on to complete industry work experience at the Maleny Wood Expo 2015. This year, more work experience will be offered for our recipients at the Barung Landcare stall and Totally Delicious stall. Under the tutelage of their trainers, the recipients will learn barista skills, coffee appreciation, espresso machine maintenance and customer service.

This program aims to provide the recipient with the knowledge needed to go confidently into a place of employment. Eligible applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 25 years. At the end of the course, recipients will receive a certificate and letter of reference.

Applications for this year are complete and several lucky young people will soon be finding out that they have secured a Barista Scholarship. To enquire about an application for next year, please contact the Maleny Neighbourhood Centre by email: admin@malenync.org.au or Ph: 3051 6311. Closing date for applications in 2016 will be in early April, so it is best to enquire and apply in March 2016.

**Want to support Sustainability ...**
**Do something for your Environment ...**
**Save the World ...**
**but not sure where to start?**

More than 100 people still have the opportunity to have a great experience at the Wood Expo, absolutley free!

Volunteer a few hours of your time at the Maleny Wood Expo 2015 supporting Barung and we'll do the rest (well, as much as we can!).

But be quick - it's not far away!

There are plenty of positions still available in

Admissions, Parking, Set up/pull down etc. If you can't find an area listed on the Registration form that appeals to you, please phone Jonathan Waites at the office and he will find a great way for you to contribute.

**To register as a volunteer:**

- Go online at **www.barunglandcare.org.au** and click the link
- Phone (07) 5494 3151
- Visit the Barung Office at 38A Coral St, Maleny

**See you there!**

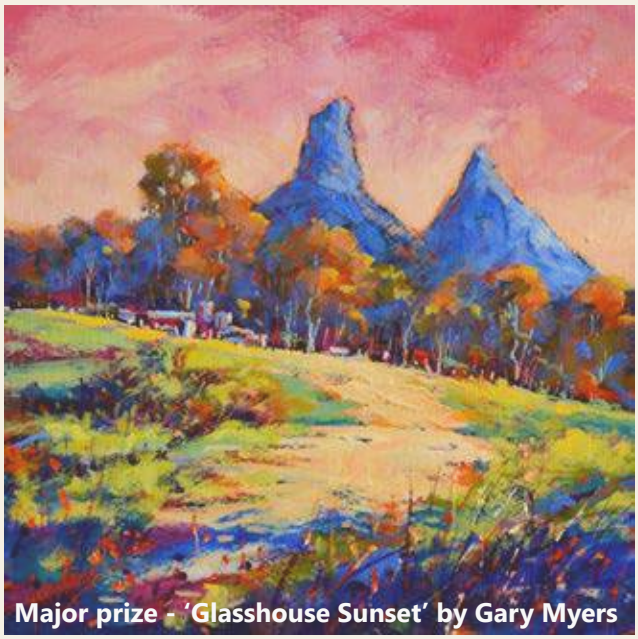
## A FEW MORE NOTES FROM THE NURSERY....

Have you seen these guys on your *Psychotria daphnoides* lately?"

Photos: Fuschia Collard; Tom and David Sleep

According to the Queensland Museum they are the larvae of the Hawkmoth, Macroglossum hirundo.

A great source of information about our local butterflies is this book by Frank Jordan and Helen Schwencke, 'Create More Butterlies', available for $ 29.95 at Porters Lane Nursery and the Barung office at 38a Coral St. Maleny.



Major prize - 'Glasshouse Sunset' by Gary Myers

## WIN FABULOUS PRIZES - WOOD EXPO RAFFLE

by Martina Gordon

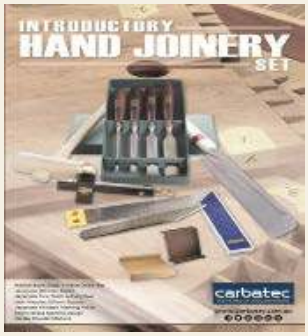
The Wood Expo wouldn't be the Wood Expo without its biggest fund raiser for Barung Landcare Association, the Expo Raffle. Again this year, we are overwhelmed by the generosity of local businesses and Expo exhibitors. Every single person we approached has kindly donated a wonderful prize for the raffle, resulting in over $5000 worth of amazing prizes to be won.

You can have a chance to win one of 12 lots of prizes for just $2 or buy a book for $10!!! There prizes include: an original painting from Gary Myers, spectacular, orginal photo of Kondalilla Falls by Ben Messina, nest of tables form the Woodies, lots of woodmaking tools, beautiful boxes from John Tudehope and Bill Rangott, chainsaw from Peter at Maleny Mowers, milking stool from Richard Knight.. When you buy a book for $ 10 you are in the running ofr a night at Spicer's Tamarind Resort or a voucher form Flaxton Barn together with a chopping block from David Linton.

To get your tickets, keep an eye out for the wonderful volunteers who may accost you in the street, or outside the IGA - we are everywhere!!! If you want to join in the fun and volunteer to sell raffle tickets yourself leading up to or at the expo, give Raine (0412031880) or Martina (0409278808) a call. We'd love to hear from you. Buy online or stand inline to have a chance to win. Good luck everyone!!!

We gratefully acknowledge the following raffle prize donors:

Gary Myers; Ben Messina; Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild; Carbatec; Bill Rangott; Maleny Mowers; Arbortech; John Tudehope; Richard Knight; Colen Clenton; Terry Gordon; Spicers Tamarind; Blessed Earth; Gillian Pechey; David Linton; Flaxton Barn.



Going for a walk with the alpacas at Den and Sharon's farm. Photo: Martina Gordon

Exploring rock pools at Shelly Beach, Caloundra. Photo: Raine See

## WALKS ON THE WILDSIDE

by Raine See

So far this year we have had two 'walks' on the wildside.

The first one was to Den and Sharon's alpaca farm (resort!) The alpacas are all named and are such characters with their own personalities that we loved them all. The children had a great introduction to these amazing animals and took them for a walk down the road, across the paddock and down to the creek where the alpacas and the children had an enjoyable swim and we all had morning tea.

Our second 'walk' was an exploration into the rock pools at Shelly Beach, Caloundra with marine biologist, Christine Clegg, who generously led the children on a journey of discovering who lives in the pools. The children viewed the critters through a bucket with a perspex base to make viewing easier. Many unusual animals were sighted and studied amidst much excitement. A few photos tell the story but it is difficult to photograph people with their heads down, bottoms up exploring rock pools! Owing to the preparations and raffle ticket selling for the Wood Expo there will be no walk in April but keep a lookout for May's walk.

## PLANT PROFILE - *Litsea reticulata*

by Paul Barnes

*Litsea reticulata* is a large tree attaining 40 metres in height and a diameter of 150 cm in well developed rainforest. It grows in most rainforests, except for the dry and littoral types, from Jervis Bay in New South Wales to the Eungella Range west of Mackay in central Queensland.

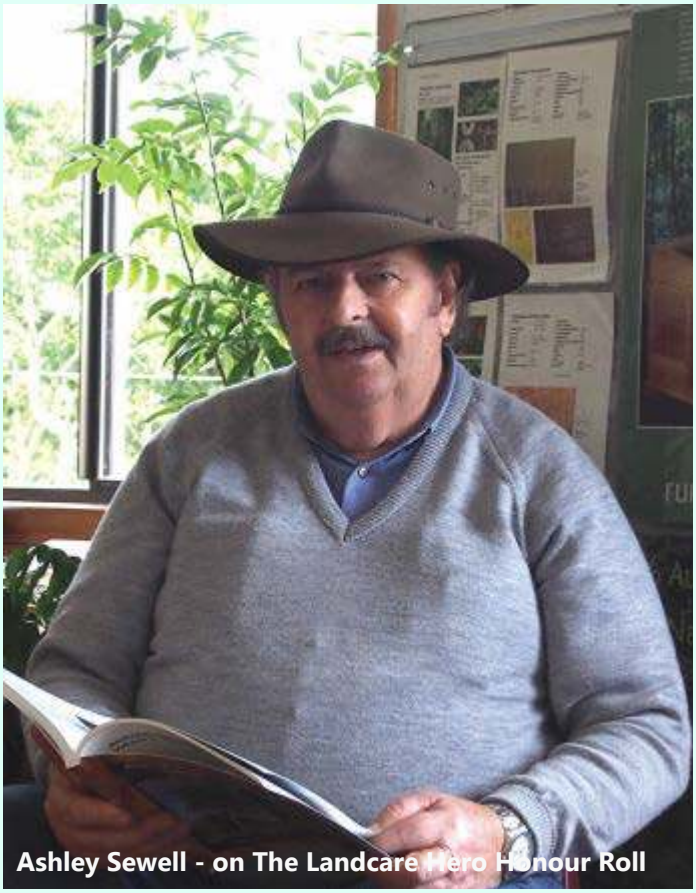
The trunk is buttressed or flanged at the base in large trees and the bark is grey or brown, often scaly, marked by shallow roundish depressions and vertical rows of pustules caused by the shedding of the bark. These marks are often paler and give the bole a patchy appearance. The branchlets are thick and green turning fawn with young shoots briefly fawn and downy. The leaves are alternate and simple, not toothed, and oblong or oblong elliptic 5 - 10 cm long carried on leaf stalks 5 - 12 mm. Veins are visible on both surfaces of the leaves, more conspicuously underneath, and form a network illustrating the specific name 'reticulata' from the Latin for a small net.

Male and female flowers occur on separate trees and are cream or green with pink glands, scented in single or multiple clusters up to 2 cm long. Flowers are borne May to July with purple–black, oval, smooth and fleshy fruit about 10 - 14 mm long, enclosed for about one third of its length in a cup shaped receptacle containing a single oval seed about 11 mm long. The fruit is ripe from November to April and is eaten by Green Catbirds, Satin and Regent Bowerbirds, Topknot and White-headed Pigeons and Wompoo. Fruiting occurs in quantity only every few years. It is also one of the few recorded non-fig foods of the endangered Coxen's Fig-parrot and King Parrots may eat unripe fruit. It is a host plant of the Blue Triangle Butterfly.

*Litsea reticulata* can grow to 40 metres in height. Photo: Wayne Webb

The timber is pale brown, often with yellowish, pink or grey tones, of medium texture, soft and easy to work. It can be used for turning, carving, furniture, joinery, plywood and cases.

In the garden, this is a worthwhile wildlife-attracting, large tree for a protected location where space allows. In rainforest plantings or regeneration, this is a valuable tree to add diversity to support frugivores, particularly in conjunction with other laurels and fleshy fruited trees.



Ashley Sewell - on The Landcare Hero Honour Roll

The Landcare Hero Honour Roll seeks to promote, acknowledge and celebrate the considerable contributions of those who have been involved in Landcare for 25 years or more.

## PLACE ON THE LANDCARE HERO HONOUR ROLL

http://landcarelife.com/nomination/ashley-sewell

Ashley Sewell (QLD) attended the founding meeting for Barung Landcare in April 1989.

He served on the Management Committee for over ten years as a Department of Primary Industries/DNR advisor. In this capacity, Ashley helped shape many Barung projects, such as the Dairy Effluent Trials, and created great interest in farm forestry as an economically viable alternative land-use for the Sunshine Coast Hinterland's volcanic soils.

He was the father of Maleny's 'From Chainsaw to Fine Furniture' Wood Expo, Barung's main educational and fundraising event that will run for the 19th time in 2015.

Ashley's passion was to promote sustainable use of native timbers by showcasing the work of local wood artisans. The first Expo in 1996 attracted 3,000 visitors. It now attracts over 10,000 visitors each year and has become a major event in the woodworking calendar.

Over $300,000 has been raised for Barung Landcare's environmental projects, thanks to Ashley's innovative concept.

Ashley continues to be involved in the event in an advisory capacity and most recently led his "Know Your Timber Trees" Tour from the 2014 Expo.

While he no longer serves on the Management Committee, Ashley continues to be a strong advocate for Barung Landcare and Landcare in general.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Barry Harper
Beth and Andrew Potter
Bob Harris
Carolina Stronkhorst
Collette Sheridan
Dave & Barbara Purcell
Geoff Johnson
Gillian Davies
Herbert Fenn
Jan McArthur
Joanne Skinner
John & Joanna Mays
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## Barung Landcare

### Membership Rates and Benefits

**Individual/family MEMBERSHIP** $ 35 pa

This entitles you to the quarterly *Barung News*, two free trees from the Nursery, discounts with participating, local businesses and enables you to support Barung Landcare's work in preserving and enhancing the natural environment of the Blackall Range and environs.

**BUSINESS CONTRIBUTOR** $ 55 pa

***Business Contributors*** ($55/year) are entitled to

- listing in the Barung News as a business contributor
- acknowledgement of your support at Barung displays
- three (3) free trees and
- membership discounts on Nursery plant purchases.

**BUSINESS SPONSOR** $ 275 pa

***Business Sponsors*** ($275/year) are entitled to

- a business card size advert in Barung's quarterly newsletter x 4issues
- acknowledgement of your support at Barung displays
- three (3) free trees and
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This project was funded by the Queensland Government's Everyone's Environment grants program.

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MALENY WOOD EXPO 2015

*from chainsaw to fine furniture*

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