BARUNG
LANDCARE NEWS

August - September 2012

Barung Resource Centre
Riverside Centre, MALENY
Mon to Fri: 9 am - 4 pm
07 5494 3151
info@barunglandcare.org.au
PO Box 1074 Maleny Q 4552

Barung Nurseries
0429 943 152
nursery@barunglandcare.org.au
Porters Lane NORTH MALENY
WED to FRI: 9 am to 3 pm
Forestry Road LANDSBOROUGH
Under construction

WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

www.barunglandcare.org.au

VOLLIES DOING US PROUD AGAIN

NURSERY NOTES by Fuschia Collard

Most of June was spent preparing for the Queensland Garden Expo on 6,7,8 July at the Nambour Showgrounds. What a HUGE event! This was the first time I had ever been. I was amazed at how big it was and how much money I spent!

The lead up…

Unfortunately we had to postpone the Volunteers' Day Out on 27 June because we had extremely bad weather for three days and that day was the worst! Freezing cold winds and icy rain hammered the nursery site and I thought I would be the only one that would turn up to work (especially since we had all been looking forward to a great day out). I could not believe my eyes when I saw most of the Wednesday 'A team' ready for action and knowing full well how much we still had to do to be ready for the Garden Expo. Thank you, 'A Team', you truly warmed my heart that day! So we buttoned up our rain coats pulled on our beanies and found a corner in the propagation tunnel out of the wind so we could start assembling and filling our themed buckets. We had bee attracting, bird attracting, butterfly attracting, frog friendly, bush garden, rainforest understory and bush tucker buckets. Each recycled 200 ml pot came with 8 assorted tubestock and pot hanger for a handle. Wayne's 'designer labels' were the finishing touch. They looked fantastic!

The event…

With the help of our wonderful volunteers Kerry and Clare Sluggett and their truck plus Doug and Ruth Blanch and their car, all the plants arrived safely at the Nambour Showgrounds. We set up our stall as part of the Sunshine Coast Council's 'Living Backyard' display. Everything was ready by the time the gates opened on the Friday. The weather was great (apart from a few brief showers) and there were bumper crowds. Thanks to John and Joan Dillon, Daryl Reinke and Craig Hosmer, Bob Philpott and Fran Guard, Kerry and Clare Sluggett, Ian and

Continued on page 3

LANDCARE WEEK 2012

Monday 3rd - Sunday 9th September

Wildlife habitat in your back yard,
Birding basics, Rainforest tree ID, and
Bushcare's Major Day Out

Full program of Barung activities on page 2.

Barung Landcare's 2012 LANDCARE WEEK PROGRAM

Please register for all activities either online at **www.barunglandcare.org.au** or through the office on **5494 3151**.
Wear sensible clothing suited to the activity. All activities are free.

Monday 3 September

Little Critturs in Your Backyard - Susie Duncan & Tony Bright

9 am – noon, 2 Treehaven Way, Maleny

Find out how to attract a diverse array of local wildlife to a suburban back-yard or acreage, from Emerald Doves to the rare Three-toed Snake-tooth Skink. Morning tea provided. Bring water, boots, hat, sunscreen & insect repellent.

Thursday 6 September

Rainforest Tree ID - Ann Moran

9 am – noon, Maleny

This will be an introduction to using the *'Red Book'* to identify rainforest species with acclaimed Sunshine Coast botanist, Ann Moran. This workshop will also be followed up at a later date with a session for the more experienced, depending on demand.

Sunday 9 September

Bushcare's Major Day Out

9 am – 2 pm, Crystal Waters, Conondale

Join Roving Restorers for Bushcare's Major Day Out – an exciting national event in Landcare Week to engage communities in local bush restoration. We will be doing a morning of planting and weeding activities at Crystal Waters, followed by a cuppa and cake and a guided walk on the property with Alan Wynn from Land for Wildlife. Check out this listing on the Barung website for where to meet and what to bring.

Wednesday 5 September

Birding Basics - Eric Anderson

9 am – noon, Maleny

Learn about how to go about identifying the feathered critturs that fly over and through your patch. Eric will show us how to use binoculars to view birds and what types are the most useful for the purpose as well as how to recognise bird shapes and calls. For those who have caught the birding bug there will be a future workshop involving a field walk.

Friday 7 September

Little Yabba Bushcare Group

8–11 am, Cambroon

Join in with this committed group (just one year old) of experienced bush regenerators and give them a hand with their restoration work at Little Yabba Park at Cambroon in the Mary Valley. There will be time to discuss the approach being taken to regeneration at this park. After work activities we have a cuppa followed by a short bushwalk nearby. A great opportunity to pick up some regeneration tips to apply to your own patch.

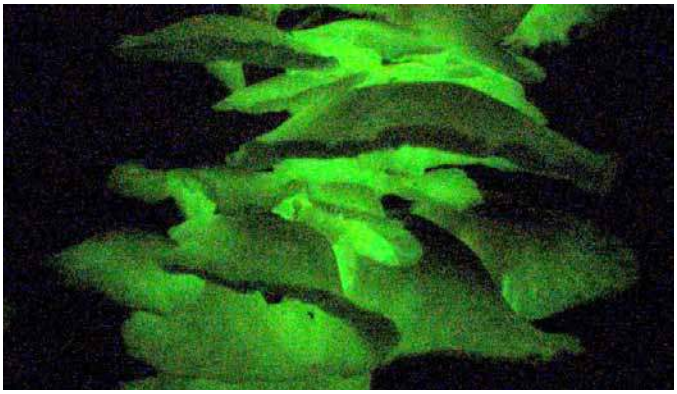
GHOST FUNGUS

FUNGAL FORAY by Gretchen Evans

In late May a friend found a creamy white fungus growing around the base of an old stump. It was a Ghost Fungus *Omphalotus nidiformis*. It is a relatively large fungus up to 30 cm across, funnel-shaped, and often brown or purple in the centre. It grows in overlapping clusters and has gills which run partway down the stem. Large forest snails are attracted to it, possibly by its strong smell, and can be seen feeding on it at night.

In an earlier newsletter I wrote about the luminescent *Mycena* and many people told me they had seen them. The Ghost Fungus is also luminescent, shines green at night, and is quite spectacular. I have only seen it once at Lamington so I am wondering whether anyone else has seen it growing here on the Blackall Range.

(Omphalos is navel in Greek; nidus is nest in Latin.)



Near right: A low resolution photo of Omphalotus nidiformis *luminescing at night.*

Far right: O. nidiformis *on a tree trunk at Binna Burra.*

[Photos: Fran Guard]

NURSERY NOTES continued...

from page 1

and Clare Sluggett, Ian and Dianne for volunteering their precious time to attend the stall. The whole weekend ran smoothly and sales were good. Our best sellers were the flowering hoveas, Richmond Birdwing Vines and the bush tucker and rainforest understory themed buckets. All in all it was a successful weekend and we can already see how we can make it even better for next year. Once again Wayne and I would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone involved.

What's Next...

Now that the weather has improved we will hopefully be having that Volunteers' Day Out! We know how much you all deserve it.

I will also be representing Barung at the field day for 'Kids In Action' to be held at Cahill's Scrub Reserve near Peachester. Jonathan Waites and I are teaming up with Kylie from The Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Recovery Network to help around 100 keen young environmentalists learn more about the beautiful Richmond Birdwing Butterfly. The students will then help expand the butterfly's habitat by planting around 100 *Pararistolochia praevenosa* along the banks of London Creek. 'Kids in Action' is a two day annual event run by Sunshine Coast Council as part of Australia Post Kids Teaching Kids Week. Middle school students (grades 5–9) from all over the Sunshine Coast with a passion for the environment are invited to present and participate in this wonderful event. For more information please visit **www.kidsteachingkids.com.au**

That's all I have time and space for right now. There is always heaps going on at the nursery. We've got a great range of tubestock so I hope you are all cleaning out your weeds and getting ready for spring planting. See you soon!

PLEASE RETURN

any empty plant tubes and trays you may have to the Barung Nursery - we really need them

WANTED

3 or 4 drawer FILING CABINET - for the Barung Nursery, please

THANK YOU

Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting the Sunshine Coast Hinterland

CONNECTING NEIGHBOURS

HINTERLAND BUSH LINKS by Susie Duncan

Local bushlink groups are beginning to form between neighbours in the Hinterland. These groups are connecting up habitat between their properties, with creeks often forming the key linkage. Whether you have ¼ acre or 100 acres, linking bush makes it easy for wildlife and the seed they disperse to move through the landscape. Get in touch if you would like help in setting up a group.

For all enquiries, contact Susie Duncan on 5429 6622 or **wilderness@hotkey.net.au** or see **www.hinterlandbushlinks.org**

Barung Landcare
WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

EVENTS *in addition to Landcare Week events:*

Sunday 7 October

Roving Restorers: Booloumba Ck Rd, Cambroon in the Mary Valley, 9am-12.30pm

Join us for some maintenance weeding and planting at the Hinterland Bush Links launch site. The trees have grown well despite dry weather followed by floods and frost. We will go for a picnic, swim and walk in the Conondale NP afterwards. Bring gloves, weeding and planting tools, water, lunch, boots, long-sleeved shirt and trousers, hat, sunscreen, repellent and togs if you wish to swim.

Sunday 14 October

Bush restoration in a privet landscape: Maleny-Kenilworth Rd, Maleny, 9am-1pm

Find out how to get started with restoration on a newly acquired property. Kim Holcroft and Paul Magee have recently embarked on the challenge of dealing with dense privet invasions in order to recover a beautiful cascading creek. With the assistance of Matt Bateman from Barung, we will discuss how to develop a plan, set priorities and access advice and funding. There will also be some practical demonstrations of various **privet control methods**. $10, morning tea provided. Bring water, lunch, gloves, long-sleeved shirt and trousers, boots, hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.

ALL EVENTS:
Please register at Barung Landcare on* 5494 3151 *or
www.barunglandcare.org.au

Meredyth Sauer tackling lantana at the Lyola Roving Restorers day.

SPRING BLUE AND GOLD

ORNAMENTAL GARDEN by Joan Dillon

What a relief it is to see some proper winter sunshine and of course this sunshine is encouraging the spring flowers to come into bloom. The legumes, and specifically the peas, (Fabaceae family) are great shrubs for the ornamental garden. Blue *Hovea acutifolia* has been adding colour to road verges around the railway towns and in gardens. It is an adaptable shrub which seeds relatively freely, providing extra plants for the following year. The effective lifespan is 3–4 years after which the shrub can become rather sparse, but it's always worth having several for late winter and early spring colour.

Deeper blue tending to purple pea flowers are provided by the twining climber *Hardenbergia violacea*, an old favourite. Many of our vines are too vigorous for the home garden but there are no problems with this one. Keen gardeners will be aware that there are white flowering selections and also more shrubby forms. It's a native of eucalypt forests but is very adaptable. As with *Hovea*, full sun or very light shade will give the best display. Grow it on a trellis against a sunny wall or up a convenient tree on the edge of the garden.

Gold is very much the colour of spring. Reliable *Pultenaea villosa*, Hairy Pea Bush, grows to approximately 2 m, has hairy drooping branchlets and is covered in gold flowers, usually with red markings, from late winter into summer. *Pultenaea retusa*, Blunt-leaved Pea, bears its flowers in dense terminal heads and likes a bit more moisture. *Platylobium formosum*, Flat Pea, has a sprawling habit. Look out also for species in the genera *Gompholobium, Daviesia, Dillwynia* and *Aotus*.

For those who want a taller shrub, there is *Oxylobium robustum*, flowering freely from late winter through spring. It will flower in light shade but provides the best display in full sun. *Jacksonia scoparia*, Dogwood, may be seen along roadsides on poor gravelly soils. It is an open, leafless, twiggy shrub to 3 m with probably a four year lifespan, depending on where it is growing. Definitely full sun for maximum colour.

There are a few native rainforest legumes with gold flowers but in the family Caesalpiniaceae. The stand-out species is *Barklya syringifolia*, a tree of drier rainforests. It has glossy heart-shaped leaves and bears its clustered flowers in terminal racemes from spring into summer. It is extremely reluctant to flower in shade.

Hardenbergia violacea *on a trellis providing colour and vivid contrast against a wall. [Photo: John Dillon]*

Propagation of this one appears to have been tricky, but if a specimen can be found do add it to the garden. It could be some time before another is located.

BARUNG'S 2012 AGM

and official opening of Barung's Landsborough Nursery will be on

Saturday 3 November

WORKSHOP OPPORTUNTIES

Community Action Grant: Engaging Communities Stage 2 – Landholder capacity building for biodiversity

by Jonathan Waites

Barung has been fortunate in obtaining another Community Action Grant (CAG), which is funded from the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program. It follows on from the success of the 2010 CAG which was also about Engaging Communities and consisted of a series of workshops aimed at assisting landholders to better understand and manage their land.

The response was so positive then that we are going to run a similar set of workshops starting with Landcare Week (3rd September – 9th September). Have a look at the workshop program (on page 2 in this newsletter) and if there is something that catches your interest be sure to register by ringing the office on 5494 3151 or via our website **www.barunglandcare.org.au**

...and a call for future workshop ideas

I am interested in hearing any ideas you might have for workshop topics. What would you like to learn about your land? Is your interest mainly trees or critters? Or perhaps you'd like to explore more on the social side of sustainability: the changes we are facing and how we will deal with them.

Please contact me with your suggestions at **jonathan@barunglandcare.org.au**.

Note however that I will be away until 27 August so don't expect to hear back from me before then.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GET TIME TO THINK...

REVEG MUSINGS by Ian Webster

Far from focusing one's mind on the job in hand, mind numbing activities such as pulling cobblers pegs, slashing, and lantana bashing allow one to think outside the square. In my case such mental gymnastics tend to create the absurd from the mundane, the sacrilegious from the gospel and the humourous from the painful. It keeps me going when the going gets tough!

Anyway, here are a few examples of my mental musings.

IQ and property size

After speaking to, observing, and analysing those in the reveg game, I worked out a simple mathematical relationship between a person's IQ and the size of the property purchased for reveg. This relationship is: 'A person's IQ is inversely proportional to the size of their property!'

We have 32 rugged acres and our neighbour has 60. This means he is twice as silly as we are! Alternatively, we are only half as silly as he is. But we are three times as silly as someone who has bought 10 acres.

On reflection there is a flaw with my formula. Taken to its logical extension the brainiest people would be those who buy a unit in a highrise building in a city with a balcony on which to place some pot plants. I don't know about you but I would rather be dumb and live on 30 acres and work my guts out than have an IQ of 160 and live in a highrise unit.

Give and take

A lot is made of the 'give and take' between neighbours involved in reveg, Bushlinks, Land for Wildlife etc. This certainly does occur.

A perfect example occurred during the 2011 wet season. We had a major landslip in a gully which then flowed down to our neighbour's property (the one who is twice as silly as us). I requested he return the 2000 cubic metres of our soil. He agreed to do so after the Gympie Regional Council returned the 4000 cubic metres of his land that had ended up in the Mary River.

We give. He takes.

Learning

You never cease to learn once you start the reveg caper. And the learning process starts early. Take my experience.

Prior to being involved in reveg I did not swear. However, experiences such as being bitten by jumping ants on one's 'sensitive parts', having cockspur thorns impaled in your person, putting your hand within six inches of a red-bellied black snake, sliding uncontrollably down slippery slopes, having a leech attach itself to your eyeball, having near death experiences on your tractor, brush cutting or poisoning your own recently planted trees, or discovering that the brush turkeys have dug up the rest provide you with a very fast learning curve in the fine art of swearing.

Somehow, 'oops', 'dash it', 'oh dear', 'fancy that', 'dammed bad show' or 'darn' just don't seem to cut it. You have to give vent to the primordial utterances that would make a bullocky blush. And guess what? It makes you feel good! It somehow decreases the pain, fear or exasperation that you are experiencing.

Psychology and planning

The accepted wisdom is that you start planning as soon as the property is bought, spending many months researching, observing and analysing your property. 'Seek advice and reflect before you do anything' is the mantra.

Don't believe it! Such 'wisdom' only comes from hindsight and completely ignores psychology. I defy any normal, sane person to follow the accepted wisdom. It is impossible.

Buying a property to reveg means you have a certain psychological bent. You want to 'get stuck in' and 'save the planet' yesterday. No time to lose! Sitting back and doing nothing except planning is impossible. As impossible as expecting an 18 year old bloke who has just bought his first car to spend the next three months studying the ins and outs of the vehicle before he drives it. Yeah, right! The same applies to expecting a person who buys a 4WD to not immediately want to drive it offroad or on the beach. Impossible!

So, in my experience, those who buy a property immediately go into a frenzy of activity – planting everything, clearing, slashing, chain-sawing – until they fall into a heap from running around in circles. Of course you don't realise that every frenzied activity leads to maintenance issues in the future and repenting at leisure your mistakes and stupidity, at which point you can impart 'wisdom' to newcomers to the reveg game.

But don't feel bad about this frenzy of activity – it is normal. You do learn something from it and it adds to the knowledge base for the better because – just like the 18 yo driving everywhere or taking the 4WD offroad – you learn from experience.

And isn't it fun!

Conclusion

So the next time you feel depressed or overwhelmed with your reveg project, look on the bright side, think outside the square, and enjoy yourself.

It works for me.

Now, where did I put my #@$% antidepressants?

BARUNG RESOURCE CENTRE

Shop 3, Riverside Centre, Maleny

MON to FRI: 9 am – 4 pm

5494 3151

info@barunglandcare.org.au

BARUNG NURSERIES

at Maleny & Landsborough

0429 943 152

nursery@barunglandcare.org.au

MALENY Nursery

Porters Lane, North Maleny

WED to FRI: 9 am – 3 pm

LANDSBOROUGH Nursery

135 Forestry Road, Landsborough

Official opening at the Barung AGM on Saturday 3 November

GRANTS & GARDENS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Eric Anderson

Barung had a small hand in this year's ***Schools' National Tree Day*** by supplying plants and preparing the site at Russell Family Park. The tree planting was coordinated by the Russell Family Park Rainforest Revegetation Group and supported by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council. About 40 students from Montville State School participated in the planting, which contributes to the establishment of an eco-educational rainforest in the Park.

This year Barung will celebrate ***Landcare Week***, 3rd to 9th September, with a range of free events – see page 2 in this newsletter for details. Many thanks to our project coordinator Jonathan Waites for putting the program together and to Susie Duncan, Tony Bright and Ann Moran for facilitating events and workshops.

Recently we have been successful with two funding applications. The first is a ***Commonwealth Government Community Action Grant*** worth about $20 000 to engage the community in a range of landcare activities. Some of our Landcare Week activities will be supported by this funding. The second is worth $29 600 (GST exclusive) and is a contract with the Burnett Mary Regional Group in a project titled ***Conondale to Blackall Range Riparian Rainforest Link for Healthy Habitats***. The project covers an area along the Mary River from Little Yabba Creek junction to the Walli Creek junction, and involves mapping, initial control and devolved landholder grants in relation to Cat's Claw Creeper, Dutchman's Pipe and Madeira Vine.

Barung has recently decided to establish a ***'Gardens for Wildlife'*** scheme which supports, encourages and recognises people who wish to make their property friendly for local wildlife and the environment. This scheme is available for all landholders but is particularly aimed at those whose properties are too small to qualify for the Council Land for Wildlife scheme. We have been inspired by a similar scheme being run in Tasmania – see **www.gardensforwildlife.dpiw.tas.gov.au** We should have more details about the scheme in the New Year.

Our ***Landsborough native plant wholesale production nursery*** recently passed another milestone when the automatic watering system in the shadehouse came on line. Already we have begun germinating seeds in the propagation tunnels with the next step being tubing these seedlings up and transferring them to the new shadehouse. Some infrastructure and of course regular volunteers are still needed to make the operation viable.

The date for this year's ***Barung's AGM is Saturday 3rd of November***. Please mark this as a date claimer in your calendar. We will again hold the AGM at the Landsborough Nursery and take this opportunity to officially open the nursery.

Montville State School students continuing to demonstrate their commitment to the revegetation work at Russell Family Park on Schools' National Tree Day.

THANKS MALENY STATE HIGH

by Kellie Huddy, Barung Administration

This week at the Resource Centre we had a Work Experience student from Maleny State High School. Hayley Venturini was very capable and polite and a great worker and I enjoyed spending my week with her. Hayley has learnt some basic skills in general administration that she will be able to use in the future. We wish her much success.

Thank you, Maleny State High School, the pleasure in hosting Hayley was all ours…

Dear Jonathan and David,

Greetings of Peace from LANDCARE Philippines.

Thank you for taking time to share with us scores of ideas and insights during our visit in Queensland. It was indeed a privilege on our part to have the opportunity to meet and learn from you personally and from the experience of the Barung Landcare Group.

With the inputs and insights we have learned from you and the rest of our mentors there, we (Landcare Philippines) are now going through a more refreshed and more informed action planning process to pursue new modes of generating resources and logistical support from the business sector and the government.

It was heartening to hear your assurances of willingness and eagerness to be of assistance to Landcare Philippines as our mentor in the area of resource mobilization and NGO administration. Hope we would not be taking much of your time as we intend to continue to seek your advice in the coming months.

Of course, we will forever be indebted and thankful for the gift of the person of Noel Vock for his untiring support through all these years and bringing the expert mentors to the service of Landcare Philippines.

Respectfully, Ben-Errol D Aspera

Executive Director, Landcare Foundation of the Philippines

BLUE-FACED HONEYEATER

RAINFOREST BIRDS OF THE BLACKALL RANGE
by Eric Anderson

The Blue-faced Honeyeater is a large, robust, 30 cm long honeyeater. It has a strong decurved bill, broad rounded wings, and a medium-long and rather square white (except for two central feathers) tipped tail. The adult plumage is golden olive above and white below. This species has a black head, neck and bib, and a large area of bare bright-blue skin round the eye. The bill is pale blue basally with a broad black tip while the eye is yellow to yellow-white and conspicuous in the blue face. The feet and legs are dark grey.

The sexes are similar in plumage, with the males being slightly larger. In juveniles the plumage is duller overall and the facial skin yellowish. Adult colour is obtained at about 16 months of age, or possibly even older.

In Australia Blue-faced Honeyeaters occur in the Kimberley region of WA, are widespread across the Top End of the NT, common in the eastern half of Qld and located through to the south west of SA, but are mostly absent in the south-west of NSW and southern Vic and SA. They are also found in New Guinea.

Blue-faced Honeyeaters occur in a wide range of habitats, including edges of rainforest, but mostly sclerophyll forests and woodlands. They are often seen in urban and rural habitats, such as homesteads, caravan parks, school yards and gardens, where they take advantage of native and exotic plants and can be seen foraging in foliage and at fruit and blossoms. As well they hop about on branches and cling to trunks, probing and prising under bark for prey, and sally for flying insects. Occasionally they feed

Adult Blue-faced Honeyeater (above) and juvenile (below left). *[Photos: Eric Anderson]*

on fallen fruit on the ground. They are easily tamed and will take food from bird tables in suburban gardens, but beware they have sometimes been considered a pest of orchards causing damage to cultivated fruits such as pears and especially bananas.

This honeyeater is one of the first birds to call in the morning with strong monotonous piping notes, often uttered 30 minutes before daylight. Their commonest call is a repeated querulous *woik* or *queet*. They are gregarious, occurring in twos, probably pairs, or small aggressive and noisy flocks that move locally to feed. It is in their nature to be pugnacious and aggressive and chase other species of birds using the same tree or feeding close by. They often occur in family parties or small flocks when not nesting.

In Queensland Blue-faced Honeyeaters can breed in all months of the year, but mostly in spring and least in summer. They build a bulky nest of bark, grass and rootlets in a tree fork. Often they do not build their own nest but instead make use of the many nests made and abandoned by grey-crowned babblers. They lay two or rarely three eggs which vary in shape and size from elongated to nearly round. These are close-grained, smooth, slightly glossy, pinkish buff or delicately tinged salmon, boldly blotched and spotted about the apex with brown and dull-purple. Sometimes more than three eggs are found but this could be due to two birds laying in the same nest. The eggs are incubated for 16–17 days by the female only. The nestlings are fed by both parents and by any helpers present.

Barung Contracting Services

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WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

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RANGE BEES MEETINGS

The September meeting will be a Botanical Information Field Workshop which is a practical site by site guide to understanding local vegetation and geology, with Ashley Sewell. On Saturday 8 September we'll start at Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve at 8.30 am and finish around 3.30 pm back at the starting point. Carpooling is proposed for this event.

Bookings (by way of the email address below) are essential.

A split of a native bee hive is the planned feature for the October meeting – location to be announced and the time will probably be 10 am.

For November, we are looking at a honey hive extraction and that will probably be a morning get-together as well.

For more information on Range Bees: **rangebees@hotmail.com**

SMALL-LEAVED PENNYWORT

Hydrocotyle tripartita

Family: Apiaceae

PLANT PROFILE by Wayne Webb

Small-leaved Pennywort is a stunning low ground-covering herb to 5 cm in height with neat bright green foliage. Stems are prostrate to the ground and root at the nodes, and it can spread over a considerable distance if conditions are suitable. It requires damp situations, and is common along stream edges where it can extend out into shallow water, even growing fully submerged in water.

Its ability to grow underwater has made it popular as an aquarium plant. In situations where it is not competing with grass and other ground cover, it can form dense mats. While looking its best in filtered light, it will grow in full sun to shade.

Hydrocotyle tripartita is widely distributed down the eastern seaboard of Australia in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, and around into South Australia.

In high rainfall areas such as Maleny it is frequently encountered as a 'weed' of lawns, along with other native groundcovers such as *Hydrocotyle laxiflora* and *Dichondra repens*. Those seeking the 'perfect' lawn may well be tempted to reach for the broad-leaf herbicide to eradicate these nasty invaders. But are they really doing any harm by being there?

I was completely unaware of the extent of *Hydrocotyle tripartita* in our front lawn until I got down and looked closely. Pennywort is actually contributing significantly to the overall 'greenness' of the lawn at the moment with the grass browned off for winter. It is also providing a dense green covering in shaded areas where the grass is quite patchy.

Leaves are circular in overall outline, but are divided into three lobed leaflets. Leaf diameter may be from 5 mm to 20 mm, depending on growing conditions. The upper surface has several prominent hairs, while the under-surface is densely hairy. Flowers are insignificant, being small, yellowish-green and hidden under the foliage. Flowering occurs mainly from late spring to early autumn.

Small-leaved pennywort may be easily propagated by division. Sprigs dug out of the lawn will quickly establish if potted up and kept moist in a shaded spot.

Hydrocotyle tripartita *exhibiting lush growth as a potted plant.* *[Photo: Wayne Webb]*

BARUNG LANDCARE

New Members

Brian Boon
Bridget Chave
Sue Mihovilovich
Kennedy Peter Webb
Grahame and Cathy Jackson
Kim Holcroft & Paul Magee
Kerry Chave
Lukas Clay

Rejoined Members

Tim Cocks
Jane Everest
Marcelle O'Doherty
Edwin & Kathy Codd
Otto & Barbara Fahey
Bridget & Jervis Sparks
Ralph Freestun & Christine Crocker
Kate Crawford
Herbert Fenn

Many thanks to HQPlantations

for your ongoing & generous support of the Wootha Prize and Maleny Wood Expo,

and for sponsoring three issues of the *Barung News*.

HQPlantations

2013 WOOTHA PRIZE THEME

The theme for the 2013 Wootha Prize, feature exhibition at the 2013 Maleny Wood Expo, is 'ON FOUR LEGS'.

Applicants are advised to carefully read the Selection Application Form which is available now from **www.malenywoodexpo.org.au**

The Selection Application deadline is Friday 15th February 2013.

Wootha Prize submissions must:

- be made of Australian timbers sustainably harvested from native forests or plantations or of recycled or weed timbers
- may incorporate other mediums
- be original design, and have been created since May 2012
- fit within a one square metre footprint
- have a maximum height of 2500 mm
- be able to be moved by two people
- be freestanding.

MALENY WOOD EXPO 2013
from chainsaw to fine furniture

4 - 5 May
Maleny Showgrounds
Sunshine Coast QLD

2013 WOOTHA PRIZE
A WOODWORKING COMPETITION WITH A CONSCIENCE

"ON FOUR LEGS"

application forms @ www.malenywoodexpo.com.au

Barung Landcare

REFLECTIONS FROM QLD LANDCARE CONFERENCE 2012

by Jonathan Waites

The 2012 Queensland State Landcare Conference was jointly hosted by Queensland Water and Landcarers (QWaLC) and Landcare Queensland. It focused on three themes:

- Cultivating and strengthening communities
- The environment around us – what groups have been doing
- Stepping towards the horizon – shaping the future.

The opening speakers reiterated the importance of Landcare in addressing NRM issues. Professor Flannery emphasised the importance of '…listening to the land' to inform our landcare activities. Minister Powell outlined the government's $12 million Everyone's Environment Grants program which is planned to run over three years.

David Penton of the National Landcare Network proposed as the purpose of community landcare: '…to foster a community that is aware, engaged and active in caring for their environment, so that it is healthier, better protected, well managed, resilient, and provides essential ecosystem services in a changing climate.'

He is also affirmed that Landcare is focused on people and changing attitudes, as well as the biophysical aspects of the environment.

Greg Grimes from Lockyer Valley Landcare explained why they now focus on Junior Landcare and the importance of training children to ensure a sustainable future.

This theme was embellished further by Maree Prior from the Noosa Integrated Catchment Association (NICA) who emphasised the importance of embedding natural resource management issues into the national schools curriculum. She also discussed the concept of 'knowledge of place' as a focus of aboriginal education and a useful way for students to connect with their local/school area and 'know' their country with their 'heart'.

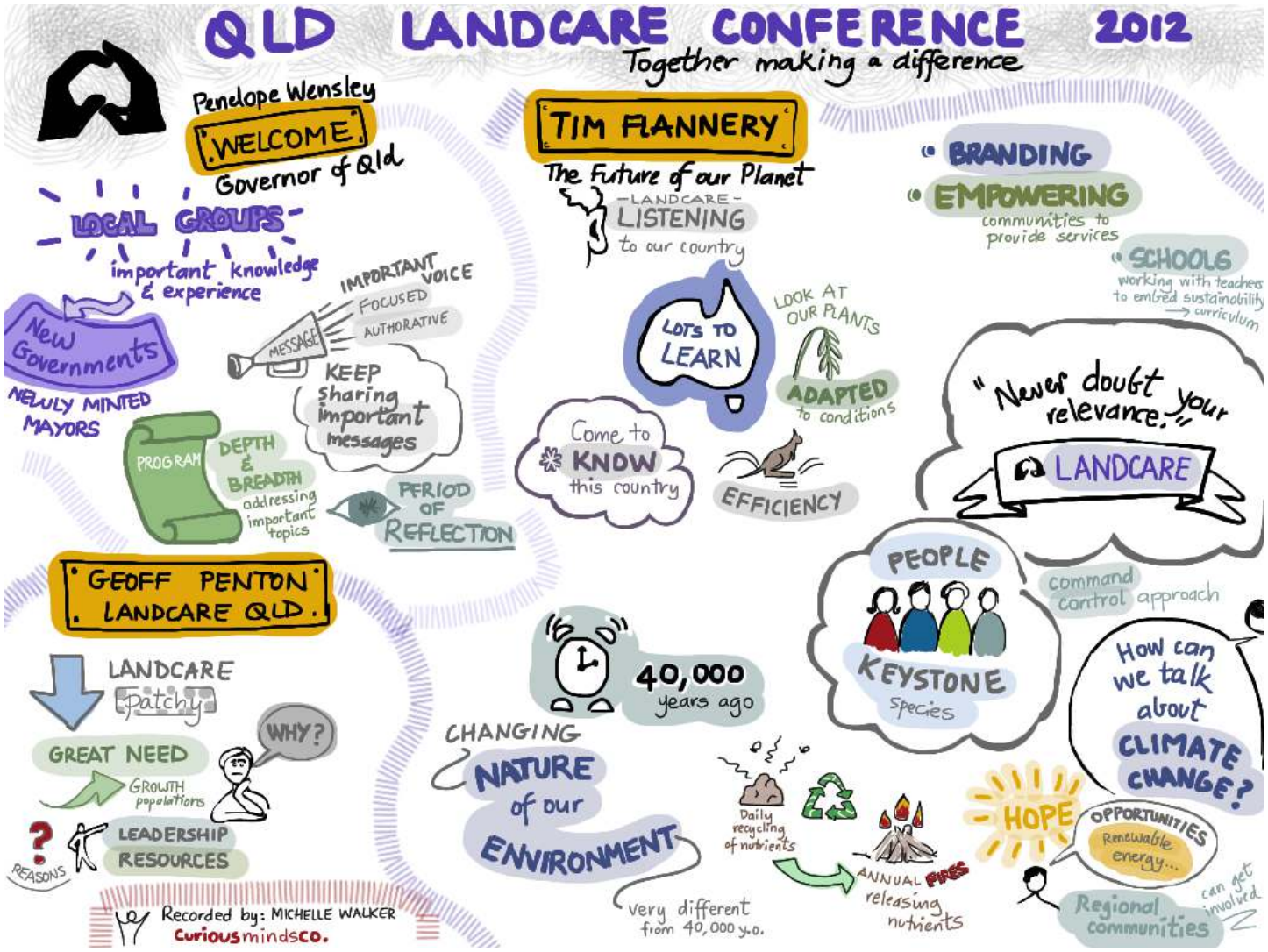
Shifting the demographic focus Jelenko Dragasic (CEO Volunteering Qld) discussed engaging GenY, a group which makes up around 30% of the population and is broadly defined as those born somewhere between '76 and '01. Young people want engagement that is flexible but structured and professional with ownership and leadership opportunities.

On the third morning, Les Robinson spoke of 'Passion Mashin', getting people motivated to be involved by matching something we might really like to do with something perhaps less enticing. So for instance a youth group might do two hours a month maintenance on a revege site followed by a social activity – swimming or gathering at the local. It's all about enabling action.

Professor Helen Ross from UQ discussed her studies of community and regional resilience (resilience = the power to bounce back after disturbance), which reiterated aspects of Landcare already mentioned – the focus on people, strong people/place connections, and community networks.

Many thanks to all the people involved in getting it up and running, including two not so old Barung identities, Darryl and Mim.

Many of the presentation power points, abstracts and biographies are available at: http://qldlandcareconference.org.au/General-page-354.php



CARBON FARMING INITIATIVE

Legislation was passed by Parliament on 23 August to establish a regulated carbon offsets market in Australia. The way forward is now clear for rural communities to benefit from the Australian Government's Carbon Farming Initiative. Farmers and other landholders will be able to access international and domestic carbon markets. More information on the carbon farming initiative can be found at **www.daff.gov.au/climatechange/cfi**

The Carbon Farming Initiative is a carbon offsets scheme being established by the Australian Government to provide new economic opportunities for farmers, forest growers and landholders and help the environment by reducing carbon pollution. Carbon credits represent abatement of greenhouse gases, which is achieved by:

- Reducing or avoiding emissions, for example, through capture and destruction of methane emissions from landfill or livestock manure; or
- Removing carbon from the atmosphere and storing it in soil or trees, for example, by growing a forest or reducing tillage on a farm in a way that increases soil carbon.

For more information go to:

www.climatechange.gov.au/en/government/initiatives/carbon-farming-initative.aspx

THE CARBON FARMING INITIATIVE ROADSHOW

Specialist speakers will provide information on:

- What is the Carbon Farming Initiative?
- How can it operate for your business?
- What soil carbon, vegetation and livestock emission CFI methodologies are available now and in the near future?
- What opportunities and considerations are there?

Events are free, with morning tea and lunch provided.

GYMPIE	***Wednesday 10 October, 8.30am-1pm***
RSVP to:	Vicki on 4169 2999 or **sustainable.landscapes@bmrg.org.au**
BEERWAH	***Thursday 11 October, 8.30am-1pm***
RSVP to:	Christy on 0457 106 252 or **csamorowski@seqcatchments.com.au**

This Roadshow and all associated material are supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry as part of the Carbon Farming Initiative Communications Program and SEQ Catchments and Burnett Mary Regional Group.

EVENTS

MARY, MOVIES & MUFFINS

23 August, Majestic Theatre, Pomona

Launch of the 'Sounds of Mary project'. Premiere screening of 'Once an Endangered Species' about the Mary River Cod. Feature movie: 'Growing change - a journey inside Venezuela's Food Revolution'. Doors open 6 pm, $10 donation, includes muffins, tea & coffee. Bar open. A Mary River Festival Fundraiser.

More info: Ian Mackay on 5447 0124

Web: **www.maryriverfestival.org.au**

ROAD CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT

Improved fire, weed and silt management

Thursday 30 August, Toowoomba

The Upper Brisbane community faces threats from fire, weeds and erosion along road corridors. Discussion will be focused on best practice roadside management principles, current impacts of barriers to implementation, and the need for a coordinated sustainable management approach. A forum to bring together council representatives, rural industry groups and landcare groups. Free, includes morning tea and lunch.

More info: David Matthews on 5498 1092 or **dj.matthews@bigpond.com**

SUNSHINE COAST WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL

25 August - 2 September

This annual festival celebrating the blooming of the wallum will be held across the region this year. Council has partnered with local community groups to offer 12 free guided walks exploring the region's natural beauty.

More info: **www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/sitePage.cfm?code=wildflower**

TALKING WILDLIFE: Celebrating 50 years with Wildlife Queensland

7-8 September, Bardon Conference Centre

Talking Wildlife will bring together leading wildlife researchers and campaigners to celebrate Wildlife Queensland's 50th anniversary. Topics will include traditional wildlife management, how wildlife saves the world, balancing our resource needs and conservation, urban ecology, conservation campaigning, biodiversity protection, and wildlife interpretation and community education. $265, includes gala dinner on the Friday night and workshops over the two days.

Web: **www.wildlife.org.au/about/celebrating50years.html**

More info: **talkingwildlife@wildlife.org.au** or 07 3221 0194

SUNSHINE COAST REAL FOOD FESTIVAL

8-9 September, 9 am - 4 pm, Maleny Showgrounds

A fantastic celebration of the wonderful variety of food that Sunshine Coast producers, manufacturers and restaurants have to offer. With stalls, demonstrations, discussions, hands-on and other activities throughout the weekend, the Festival has something for everyone and is a great way for people to support the best of Sunshine Coast regional food.

Entry: $12/day or $20/weekend, children free

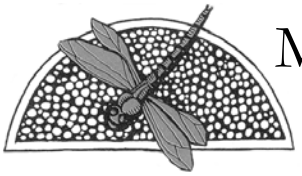
More info: **www.realfoodfestival.com.au**

NOOSA BIOSPHERE FESTIVAL

16 September, 10 am - 3 pm, Noosaville Lions Park

Free family festival celebrating our local community with a range of information stands, kids' activities, entertainment, speakers' tent, films, native animal display, food vendors, local schools involvement, cultural indigenous participation, boat trips to Goat Island, 'Market Chef' demonstrations and much more.

More info: **www.noosabiosphere.org.au**



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BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS

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Lions Club of Maleny
Lapmist Pty Ltd
Maleny Green Printery
Habitat Support
South East Land Repair
Earthcarer
Northey Street City Farm
Range Auto & Fuel Injection Centre

SUPPORT Barung Landcare through YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Individual/family MEMBERSHIP $ 25 pa

This entitles you to the bimonthly *Barung News* and two free trees from the Nursery, and enables you to support Barung Landcare's work in preserving and enhancing the natural environment of the Blackall Range and its environs.

BUSINESS SPONSOR $275 pa

Business Sponsors ($275/year) are entitled to

- a business card size advert in Barung's bimonthly newsletter x 6 issues
- acknowledgement of your support at Barung displays
- three (3) free trees, and
- membership discounts on plant purchases in the Nursery.

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 plant purchases in the Nursery.

Barung gratefully acknowledges these organisations for their partnerships & support:

Sunshine Coast Council

Maleny SUPA IGA

Community Benefit Club

Montville Coffee

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group

Hinterland Business Centre

HQPlantations

Queensland Water and Land Carers QWaLC

Maleny District Green Hills Fund

CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY

Landcare Australia

SEQ Catchments
Healthy land – healthy water

LANDCARE QUEENSLAND

Burnett Mary Regional Group
...for Natural Resource Management Inc

Gambling Community Benefit Fund
Queensland Government

And also the Business Sponsors and Contributors whose advertisements appear in the Barung News.

THE BARUNG FAMILY

BARUNG 2011/12 VOLUNTARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	*Eric Anderson*
Vice President	*Lin Fairlie*
Secretary	*Pat Fuller*
Treasurer	*David Binstead*
Committee Members	*Glen Donoghoe*
	Diana O'Connor
	Raine See

BARUNG STAFF

Barung Resource Centre & Projects

Jonathan Waites	Projects Officer
Steve McLeish	Barung Events
Kellie Huddy	Administration
Den Lalor	P/T Admin/Project Support Officer
Eve Witney	Editor, *Barung News* and *The CODLine*

Barung Nurseries

Wayne Webb	Nursery Manager
Fuschia Collard	Assistant Nursery Manager

Barung Contracting Services

Matthew Bateman	Team Leader

And our many Volunteers, Labour Team Participants, and Members