# Barung Landcare Association Quarterly Newsletter

## Autumn 2017

www.barunglandcare.org.au

WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

## In this Issue


| | |
|---|---|
| Presidents Report | p2 |
| Thank you Cali | p3 |
| Wood Expo 2017 | p4-7 |
| Landholders' Guide Book Launch | p8 |
| Fungi Foray | p8 |
| Enhancing Lowland Subtropical Rainforest Communities Project | p9 |
| THECA forum | p9 |
| Birds of the Blackall Range | p10 |
| Wildlife Friendly Gardening | p12 |
| Natural Area Service | p13 |
| Revegetating the Range | p14 |
| Donate to Barung | p14 |
| New Books | p15 |
| Walks on the Wildside | p17 |
| Plant Profile | p18 |

**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 Nursery:***
Porters Lane NORTH MALENY
WED to FRI: 9am - 3pm
SAT: 9am - 12noon

***Production Nursery:***
135 Forestry Rd
LANDSBOROUGH
by appointment

## THE BARUNG FAMILY

### VOLUNTARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|---|
| President | *Lindsay Kruger* |
| Secretary | *Raine See* |
| Treasurer | *Alan Harrington* |
| Committee Members | *Ian McMaster* |
| | *Sue Brieschke* |
| | *Elaine Green Ricketts* |

### *BARUNG STAFF*

***Barung Resource Centre & Projects***

| | |
|---|---|
| *Jonathan Waites* | Projects Officer |
| *Theresa Bint* | Office Coordinator |
| *Den Lalor* | Admin/Project Support Officer |
| *Steve McLeish* | Events Coordinator |

***Barung Nurseries***

| | |
|---|---|
| *Wayne Webb* | Production Nursery Manager |
| *Cali Salzmann* | Retail Nursery Manager |

*Greg Smyrell , Maia Stegman*

***Barung Natural Area Services***

| | |
|---|---|
| *Luke McWilliam* | Manager |
| *David Luhrman* | Team Leader |
| *Simon Peters* | Team Leader |
| *Kate Seehuusen* | Liaison Officer |

*Adam Houlden*
*Alana Trott*
*Annaliese Walker*
*Ben Symons*
*Brett Nelson*
*Dan Gynes*
*Dawn Mickelo*
*Donna Morgan*
*Evan Millwood*
*Joseph Rosenberg*
*Mark Berndsen*
*Matt Campbell*
*Neal Rolley*
*Richard Kinkead*
*Stephen Bond*
*Tanya Ellison*
*Wendy Conway*

*...and our many Volunteers.*

*Barung Landcare acknowledges the Yinnibarra people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand.*

***Cover:*** *Bird's eye view of the Maleny Wood Expo 2017 at the Maleny Showgrounds*

# President's Report

***Maleny Wood Expo – From Seed to Fine Furniture***

Our 21st Wood Expo was a great success with patrons and industry leaders telling us it is now the best show in Australia. Over the three days, 9,000 visitors attended our family-friendly event.

We all hoped for fine weather this year and it turned out to be glorious. Patrons came from near and far to see the best wood show in Australia. They came from Bowen, from Western Australia and South Australia, and there were bus loads from Gunnedah, NSW.

The Wood Expo started as part of Barung Landcare's reason for being: the event serves to value and promote sustainable native timber use, to support local economic development, to benefit the regional community and to conserve and enhance the rich diversity of the natural resources of our region.

The Maleny Wood Expo is truly a magnificent community event. There are many people and businesses to thank; our 170 volunteers, as well as staff: we could not have done it without you. It was well organised and successful because of you (and is now considered the best wood show in Australia). Our event manager Steve McLeish is a wizard of creativity and has produced a magnificent cultural event. A big thank you to Maleny's local businesses who generously donated goods and services for the raffle and the opening night, and to our sponsors and supporters.

The 2017 Wootha Prize theme was Inside Out. The prize was won by Jack Wilms for his artistic piece titled *Metamorphosis*. The Wootha Prize is one of the longest-running, themed, national woodworking competitions in Australia.

For the first six years, only volunteers ran this far-sighted event. Today it is still largely run with volunteers and Barung staff. Its success is due to many people working together to realise a shared vision.

What Barung Landcare advocated for all those years ago, and still does, about the value of our native forests, has become widely recognised; that the farming of native trees is an economically viable, alternative land use with environmental benefits.

*Lindsay Kruger*

# Thank You Cali

One of Barung's favourite people is leaving us. Cali Salzmann will depart on 9th July for the United States to spend quality time with her 81-year- old uncle and help him preserve his 15 acres of high-quality vegetation.

Cali started as a Barung Landcare volunteer in 1997, finding meaning by studying local provenance vegetation and ecological systems. She went on to complete a degree in native plant horticulture. Cali was also the Sunshine Coast trainee of the year in 1999.

Cali's enthusiasm and skills saw her employed by Barung as nursery hand then assistant nursery manager.

As we know, successful community groups reach out to engage their members and the community. It's about relationships, and Cali's belief in Barung's ability to make a difference in preserving our regional natural environment, coupled with her enthusiasm for meeting people to talk about our natural environment, saw her spread the landcare message and ethic into the broader community.

Over the years, Barung Landcare has nurtured talented people, and Cali's plant skills and knowledge saw her gain a position in 2006 with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne, Victoria, where she spent eight years.

Cali eventually realised that she really, really preferred to work for Barung Landcare. She missed the community camaraderie, the expertise of our wonderful staff and the chaotic dynamism that is Barung.

As soon as a position became available, she came back, this time as the retail nursery manager in September 2015.

Cali has had an enormous role in training, retaining and overseeing volunteers, who are the backbone of our organisation. She has made many friends. She will miss our volunteers and all those people she meets who call in to the nursery to talk trees, who are doing the right thing and planting their properties with local provenance trees.

Barung has been a big part of her life and Cali credits Wayne Webb and Greg Smyrell for inspiring her with their knowledge of plants.

Barung's volunteers, staff, members and associates farewell Cali with respect, love and gratitude, and wish her every success in the next part of her life back in the United States with her family.

Cali credits her uncle David for developing her interest in the natural environment, and she is planning on being an environmental activist when she's back in the United States.

*Lindsay Kruger*

### Nursery Tubestock Price Rise

Wholesale tubestock prices at Barung's Porters Lane Nursery will increase from $1.65 to $1.80 (including GST) from July 1st 2017. Our wholesale price has remained at $1.65 for over 10 years so this has not been a hasty decision!

Those of you who currently have credit in your accounts please come in and get plants at the $1.65 price before the end of the financial year!

**Barung Landcare Retail Nursery**
**Porters Lane, North Maleny**

Open Wed, Thu, Fri ( 9am - 3pm )
and Saturday ( 9am - noon )
Phone 5302 9900 / 0429 943 152
nursery@barunglandcare.org.au

# Maleny Wood EXPO 2017 - *21 years and growing.*

**Fantastic job everyone !!!!**

We had almost 10,000 visitors over the 3 days.

The sun sparkled and the cars rolled in. A huge thank you to Chris Brooker and the Rotary crew for parking the constant stream of vehicles with such grace and efficiency.

The Maleny Wood Expo is steadily gaining a national following and some prominent industry leaders are saying the MWE is now the best Wood Show in Australia. Congratulations to the Barung committee, staff and its members for hosting such a quality event.

The introduction of the Junior Landcare Paddock (children's activities) was an outstanding success and will now become a regular feature at the Expo.

Work on the 2018 Maleny Wood Expo has already begun. The dates are set at the 5th 6th and 7th May.

The theme for the Wootha Prize next year is 'Joined' so if you would like to enter applications will be available soon.

Enormous thanks must go out to the Maleny community for its support. Thank you to all the volunteers who take such pride in the Expo. To all the local businesses who generously donate their goods and services to the raffle and the opening night. And many thanks to all our sponsors and supporters.

What a great event !!!

*Steve McLeish*

# Wood Expo Raffle

***By Raine See***

Wow! Another successful Wood Expo raffle. Once again the Blackall Range community was extremely supportive both in donating fabulous prizes and in buying tickets to make the raffle the success it was, putting another $10, 000 into Barung's coffers. To all our fabulous sellers, including our back-up and homestay Mum, Liz Saunders, who were 'on the streets' before the Expo and who sold at the Expo a huge thank you. Without the volunteers who step up we would not be able to achieve our aims. The prizes donated by our local woodworkers and artists were of amazing quality and we are very lucky to be in a position where we don't have to beg but have people approaching us to donate prizes! Thank you to all! As I have been involved with the raffle for 7 years and Martina for 5 we are leaving the space open for another team to come forward for next year. It is a very rewarding experience. Please call the Barung office if you are interested.

*Sue Young was the happy first prize winner*

*From left to right: Prize winners Karen with 'Blue Palms'; Tom Feenstra with Sculpture by Lindsay Muir; Jim Bryan with chopping board and rustic platter by Richard Knight; Christa Pater with massage voucher from Cat O'Connell;*

# Thank you!

Martina and Raine have organised the raffle for several years – now it's time to hand over the reins. If you are interested in being involved in next year's raffle, please get in touch with us at the Barung office – 54943151 or info@barunglandcare.org.au

A huge thankyou to Raine, Martina, the volunteers and sponsors who make the raffle the great success it is. You are amazing!

*Raine & Martina*
*Photo: Hinterland Times*

## Opening Night of the 2017 Maleny Wood Expo and the announcement of the Wootha Prize winners

The Opening Night of the 2017 Maleny Wood Expo and the announcement of the Wootha Prize winners was a well-attended and enjoyable event, setting the scene for one of the best Wood Expos to date.

**2017 Wootha Prize Winners:**

1st Prize ($2500 and free site at the 2018 Maleny Wood Expo) sponsored by HQPlantations: “Metamorphosis” by Jack Wilms

2nd Prize ($1000) sponsored by Queensland Water and Land Carers: “Gossamer Wings 11” by Jeanette Rein

3rd Prize ($750) sponsored by Timber Transitions: “Navajo Revelation” by Guy Breay

Craftsmanship Award ($250) sponsored by Geochempet Services: Jack Wilms

Design Excellence Award ($250) sponsored by Geochempet Services: Jeanette Rein

Encouragement Award ($250) sponsored by Maleny Art Direct: “Tree of Life” by Gary Field

People’s Choice Award ($500) sponsored by HQPlantations: “At the Back Door” by David Harriman

A huge thank you to HQPlantations, Queensland Water and Land Carers (QWALC), Geochempet and Timber Transitions for their ongoing sponsorship; and many thanks to Maleny Art Direct for sponsoring the new Encouragement Award.

Thanks to ongoing commitment from our sponsors, the Wootha Prize is now a prestigious national woodworking event, attracting contemporary designers and innovative craftspeople in the promotion of our beautiful native timbers and sustainable use of our timber resources.

The 2018 Wootha Prize theme is JOINED.

# Thank you to all Maleny Wood Expo Volunteers

This year we had more then 200 volunteers at the Maleny Wood Expo: from the new Junior Landcare Paddock to the admission gates, most of the volunteer roster was full. Everyone was happy to put in their little bit to make the show run smoothly and I had a great time seeing old faces and getting to know some new volunteers to the Expo this year.

It's a great way to meet new people and I hope all of you - especially the new volunteers - will help us out again next year. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication, we couldn't do it without you all.

We are going to have a thank you BBQ very soon and I hope that you can come along and enjoy a sausage and share in celebrating this year's success.

*Kellie Huddy*

# Wood Expo Volunteer Thank You BBQ

## Sunday 2nd July 11am till 3pm

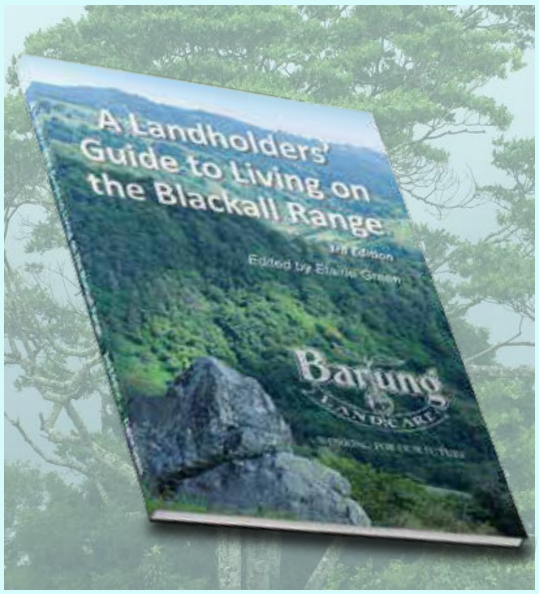
at the Hinterland Business Centre

Please come along and join us for a burger, a drink and a chat
to celebrate the success of the Expo.

For catering purposes please RSVP by Tuesday 27th June to
Barung 5494 3151 or info@barunglandcare.org.au
or **register online here** .

Also please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.
We hope to see you there!

# Book Launch Blackall Range Landholders' Guide 3rd edition




The official launch of the 3rd edition of the Blackall Range Landholders Guide – A Landholders' Guide to Living on the Blackall Range – was officially launched on April 7th in the beautiful and very fitting surrounds of the Mary Cairncross Reserve's new Rainforest Discovery Centre.

Anne Brown of Rosetta Books launched the book which is edited by Elaine Green, written by local authors and published by Barung Landcare. This full-colour publication shares the collective knowledge of locals and is an invaluable guide to working with the land in our special part of the world.

Copies of A Landholders' Guide to Living on the Blackall Range are available for just $20 from the Barung Resource Centre at 38a Coral St, Maleny. You can also pick up a copy from Rosetta Books, the Mary Cairncross Rainforest Discovery Centre or from Barung's online shop:

**http://www.barunglandcare.org.au/e-shop**

# Fungi Foray Do Fungi Cry?

***By Gretchen Evans***

I have written before about finding a fungal hotspot in Mapleton Forest and on a recent foray we found another one at Bellthorpe. These "hotspots" are small areas full of interesting fungi.

One of the finds was a group of relatively large and robust gilled fungi which were unusual in that they had distinctive wispy trails hanging down from the rim of the cap.

None of us had previously seen anything like it.

One of our gurus (Patrick Leonard) later identified it as *Lachrymaria asperospora.* So far there are only 4 records of it in Queensland. The ID was made possible by finding it had black warty spores and that the wispy trails were actually the result of sterile white cells hanging down from the margin of the cap.

There is a related species found overseas which has black watery droplets forming on the cap rim and gill edges. It is called the Weeping Widow and apparently sometimes large groups of it are found besides gravestones.

Lachrima = tears
aria = pertaining to
aspero = star
spora = spore

## Enhancing Lowland Subtropical Rainforest Communities Project

*by Jonathan Waites*

This project will support three landholders in the London Creek/ Peachester area in their efforts to enhance the critically endangered ecosystem known as Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia on their properties, improving local habitat and connectivity in the Upper Stanley River catchment.

Lowland subtropical rainforest (Gallery rainforest) typically occurs as narrow stretches along creek lines confined to eastern Australia from Maryborough (Qld) south to the Hastings River (NSW) and may house a wide diversity of plants and animals. It provides habitat for threatened plant species such as Bopple nut or Gympie nut (Macadamia ternifolia) (Vulnerable) and fauna, for example the Giant or Southern barred frog (Mixophyes iterates) (Endangered). Many fruit-eating birds which migrate seasonally from upland to lowland rainforest are dependant on these forests.

Unfortunately many of them have been significantly degraded and are highly fragmented. They are threatened by inappropriate land use, urbanisation, weed infestation, clearing and disturbance.

Barung Natural Area Services will be engaged to carry out strategic weed control and revegetation work on the properties leading to improvement in the extent and condition of around two and half hectares of Lowland rainforest in the Upper Stanley catchment.

This project is supported by a Healthy Land & Water Local Level Grant, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme.

## Barriers to Biodiversity
## THECA Forum 2016 – PART 3 - Financial

***By Lisa Chin***

This piece in the series inspired by the THECA forum held in October last year is all about the money. Jane Hutchinson, CEO of the Tasmanian Land Conservancy, presented on the financial barriers to biodiversity conservation.

It may seem like costs alone are insurmountable when the annual requirement to maintain existing conservation areas is estimated at US$400 billion but, to put that into some perspective, the annual global spend on ice cream is US$77 billion. It's not just the price that is a challenge; in a world where the bottom line is the main concern, conservation has consistently been undervalued. Progress is being made as the concept of natural capital accounting becomes more commonplace and tools, such as Accounting for Nature an environmental accounting system by the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, are developed. There's also a growing body of research that demonstrates the value of nature to human health and shareholder pressure on companies for greater social responsibility is increasing; there's a trend for conservation to make good business sense.

This means more opportunities for private-public partnerships, incentive based conservation models and financially sustainable long-term conservation projects. The Five Rivers Conservation Project, the result of a partnership between Tasmanian Land Conservancy, Conservation International and BHP Billiton launched in 2014 but not without some hurdles. The decision for the Tasmanian Land Conservancy to partner with BHP Billiton wasn't taken lightly, as Hutchinson said "It was a very long board meeting", but ultimately the benefits of the proposal and the fact that BHP Billiton chose to support such a project beyond its corporate obligations were deciding factors. As the diversity of economic pathways to undertake conservation work increases so too do the opportunities to protect the ecosystems we value and a business approach can help us do it efficiently and effectively.

Images courtesy of the Tasmanian Land Conservancy.

# Birds of the Blackall Range: Variegated Fairy-wren

***By Eric Anderson***

Variegated Fairy-wrens are small (140 mm long) endemic birds with long tails. "Wren" was used from the earliest days in Australia, because it reminded homesick settlers of the utterly unrelated (and dissimilar except for having a cocked tail and their living in bushes) Eurasian Wren. "Fairy-wren" is a relatively recent term. The sense of "fairy" is clearly that of small or delicate. "Variegated" refers to the mix of colours in the male. Like other Fairy-wrens the sexes are different with the males adopting a highly visible breeding plumage of brilliant iridescent blue and chestnut contrasting with black and grey-brown. The brightly coloured crown and ear tufts are prominently featured in breeding displays. The male in breeding plumage has striking sky blue ear coverts, with the crown often slightly darker, a black throat and nape, a royal blue upper back, chestnut shoulders and a bluish-grey tail. The wings are grey-brown and the belly creamy white. Non-breeding males, females and juveniles are predominantly grey-brown in colour; all males have a black bill and lores (eye-ring and bare skin between eyes and bill), while females have a red-brown bill and bright rufous lores.

*Male and female Fairy-wren*

The Variegated Fairy-wren was previously four species but is now combined as a single species with five subspecies. It is the most widespread of the nine species of Fairy-wrens found in Australia. It is distributed over 90% of the Australian continent, being absent only from Cape York Peninsula, Tasmania and the extreme south-west corner of Western Australia. It inhabits spinifex, acacia scrub, mallee, heath, rainforest margins, mangroves and eucalypt woodland wherever shrubby thickets are present.

They usually live in small groups of 2-5 birds and breed communally. Breeding is generally between July and February, although in arid regions it can occur any time after rain. The oval-shaped dome nests are often close to the ground - found in a clump of coarse grass or a small dense shrub. The female alone constructs the nest and incubates the 3-4 eggs (white speckled with red-brown at larger end) for 14-16 days, but is assisted by other group members in feeding the chicks. The young fly at 10-12 days.

The Variegated Fairy-wren feeds on insects and a small amount of seeds. The birds feed around the base of small shrubs, and seldom stray into the open. Some food may be found among the bark and foliage of short trees and grasses. They tend to be shy, inclined to stay in undergrowth in the presence of intruders. Their movement is a series of jaunty hops and bounces, its balance assisted by a relatively large tail, which is usually held upright, and rarely still. Often their presence in the shrubs is betrayed by their soft, chirping contact calls, though the species calls less often than other fairy-wrens. In contrast, their song is surprisingly loud, and is often given from a prominent perch

Major nest predators include Australian Magpies, Butcherbirds, Laughing Kookaburra, Currawongs, Crows and Shrike-thrushes, as well as introduced mammals such as foxes, feral cats and black rats The Variegated Fairy-wren readily adopts a 'rodent-run' display to distract predators from nests with young birds. The head, neck and tail are lowered, the wings are held out and the feathers are fluffed as the bird runs rapidly and voices a continuous alarm call.

## Thank You

Thank you Joan Dillon for bringing in seed from the critically endangered *Clausena smyrelliana*, Smyrell's clausena or Greg's wampi.

There is an article about the only known existing specimen in the wild here:

**https://wbbcc.files.wordpress.com/2008/10/wambaliman-winter-2008web.pdf**

# Gardens for Wildlife Happenings

*Jonathan Waites*

**The next workshop is scheduled for Tuesday the 27th of June, 9 – 12pm.**

We will be reviewing how our garden is handling the cooler and drier weather. The Rock daisy (*Brachyscome multifida)* which was doing so well has unfortunately "turned up its toes" and will be replaced by an as yet to-be-decided species. Joan has been busy pruning the Native indigo (*Indigofera australis var. australis*) and the Cat's whiskers (*Orthosiphon aristatus*) to bring them back into their bed.

There will be a discussion on plant selection for the mulched lawn and small triangle garden areas which will be planted up on the day. We will also lay a path of pavers through the mulch area from the office verandah to the footpath - following due consideration of design constraints.

For those who haven't been involved in the project to date, there will be ample time to catch up on the background and learn about the process so far.

# Coppicing in Rainforest Trees of Gondwanan Origin

*Diana O'Connor*

At the recent Rainforest Symposium held on the Gold Coast, the opening address was given by Dr Tim Low. In part, he looked at the origin of plant species in our rainforests including those from the Tweed region north to the Blackall Range. This area includes plants of Gondwanan origin, when Australia was still linked to Antarctica, and species that have come down from Malaysian forests in the last several million years. One propensity of many Gondwanan species is their ability to coppice. You may remember seeing this in Green Mountains demonstrated by the magnificent Antarctic Beech trees with their multiple stems of varying ages. Tim Low kindly forwarded me a list of Gondwanan species that we may find here. Interestingly of our two *Sloanea* species, *australis* is Gondwanan but *woolsii* is Malaysian in origin. In Mary Cairncross Reserve, you can walk around and see *Sloanea australis* with coppice shoots and *Sloanea woolsii* without.

***Sloanea australis***

We also noted as we walked around M.C.R. *Pouteria australis* and *Castanospermum australe* with coppice shoots.

This is a list of some species that you may recognise that are also of Gondwanan origin:

*Acacia melanoxylon, Araucaria cunninghamii, Archirodomyrtus beckleri, Brachrchiton acerifolius, Backhousia spp., Callicoma serratifolia, Cryptocarya erythroxylon, Cryptocarya glaucescens, Cryptocarya obovata, Cyathea spp., Daphnandra apetal, Elaeocarpus reticulatus, Emmenosperma spp., Eupomatia laurina, Ficus fraseri, Flindersia schottiana, Guioa spp., Grevillea robusta, Syzygium oleosum, Macadamia spp., Podocarpus spp., Sarcopterix stipata Synoum glandulosum, Syzygium oleosum, Syzygium smithii, Tasmannia insipida, Wilkea huegeliana.*

***Pouteria australis***

It is interesting to think of the ancient origins of these wonderful trees that we live amongst. Genetic analysis is now making huge contributions to knowledge of our rainforests and adding to the information that pollen samples etc. have previously supplied.

# Wildlife Friendly Gardening

***By Joan Dillon***

With the changing season, the bird population is as active as ever. The Grey Fantails have arrived for the winter and a new species, for this garden, was sighted recently at the water dish. It appeared to be a White-Throated Honeyeater but I need to see them again. There was a pair, the first additions to the bird list for some time, both happily splashing. Despite some changes, the garden continues to be wildlife friendly. The beautiful Rufous Fantail, a favourite, comes up from the forest on most evenings for a late bath.

Having consciously avoided large grevilleas, I have recently added some dwarf and ground-cover grevilleas to the plant mix. All have small or prickly leaves and spider type flowers. The small Brown Honeyeaters and White-Browed Scrub Wrens are frequent visitors.

We tend to think of native gardens as being “spring” gardens as that is when most of our local plants are at their best, but with the range of plant choices now available, this time of year can also provide colour. Blue, white and yellow daisies continue to flower, some grevilleas are either flowering now or are in bud, philothecas (we do have a local species) are either flowering or will display a profusion of little white stars for the winter. *Phebalium woombye* is covered in buds and *Phebalium nottii*, Pink Phebalium, seems to have been flowering for ever. It’s supposed to be a late winter, early spring flowerer but mine has certainly been ignoring instructions. It’s native to northern NSW and southern Qld; look up its distribution on the Atlas of Living Australia website.

The herbaceous Koala Bells, *Artanema fimbriatum*, from the Glasshouse Mtns have either blue or pink flowers but will be finished soon and can either be cut back for the winter or replaced in the spring. Blue-Banded Bees are frequent visitors to the small bells.

Banksias of course are a great addition to the winter garden and help to tide the honeyeaters over the colder months. *Banksia integrifolia* and *Banksia spinulosa* stand out at this time of year. Black cockatoos continue to “prune” the *Banksia robur*. Wattles are also flowering and the little native violet at ground level never stops. It’s a useful addition to any garden.

*Psychotria daphnoides*, Smooth Psychotria, is developing fruit and figs from various species are always available, as are the fruit from several local trees. And don’t forget the colourful fungi. With such a mix of growth habit, density and food sources, plus of course rocks, logs and other habitat, why wouldn’t the wildlife take advantage of the bounty provided?

*Habitat for small birds*

# Barung Natural Area Services

***By Kate Seehuusen***

Barung Natural Area Services have been busy wrapping up many projects this financial year. We have lots of projects that we are proud of and here is one of them.

This project is located at Scouts Crossing Road, Brendale. The project scope included the delivery of 3.5 hectares of koala offset planting on behalf of Queensland Rail to compensate for tree loss associated with the Dakabin Station Carpark Upgrade. The overall objective of the project was to demonstrate net gain in koala habitat. The aim of this rehabilitation and revegetation project was to address the impacts of clearing, land use practises, weed infestation and erosion within Scouts Crossing rd Park, and to improve and increase wildlife habitat within the reserve.

This project started in 2015 and will conclude in the 2019/20 financial year. The scope included planting over three years with a five year maintenance period.

Our methodology for this project was to leave the site as close to self-sustaining as possible in terms of reduced weeds, vegetated canopy and appropriate placement of native species. The natural rehabilitation and reconstruction of the reserve required different methodologies depending on the integrity of the remnant regional ecosystem.

All regenerating indigenous species throughout the site were tagged and protected. Methods of weed reduction employed in any area was carried out to ensure that regenerating species were not adversely affected in any way, waterways were not contaminated and the potential for further erosion was not increased. Part of this project also involved the removal of old hardwood fencing which we left on site to help create habitat structures.

# Revegetating the Range

***By Jonathan Waites***

The fifth and final workshop in the Revegetating the Range Project (Maintenance & Follow Up) was held on Wednesday 14th of June at Laughing Waters. Greg covered a range of topics pertinent to this, arguably the most important stage of a revegetation project. It can be the most time consuming and labour intensive stage of the process and in many ways the most critical to ensuring long-term project success.

The aim of maintenance is to ensure your revegetation effort succeeds and becomes self-sustaining as soon as possible; this may be 2 – 5 years or longer depending on circumstances. The most important facet is timing, and this was reiterated throughout the morning as it came up repeatedly in varying contexts. In particular work needs to be approached in a systematic way and completed thoroughly. While the most obvious activity will be the control of weeds it could also include replanting, supplementary planting or pruning. Before wiping out your weeds en masse consider how they may be contributing positively to your restoration efforts as, for example, habitat for birds or other critturs which can bring in seed to fuel natural plant regeneration or through the provision of shade or shelter for your seedlings from sun or frost.

We are very grateful to Denis Wood (owner of Laughing Waters) for allowing us access to his property where we ran four of the Revegetating the Range series of workshops as well as generously providing us with the use of his cabin and facilities.

This project has been supported by the Burnett Mary Regional Group through funding from the Australian government's Healthy Habitats program.

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

## Why not make a Tax Deductible Donation to Barung's Environmental Gift Fund?

For 27 years, Barung Landcare has been setting the agenda on environmental issues in our region. If you drive the roads of the Blackall Range, you will see evidence of the landscape transformation led by Barung Landcare all around you, thanks to the wonderful work of volunteers, members and staff.

With fewer dollars available through grants now, Barung needs to find other sources of income, including donations.

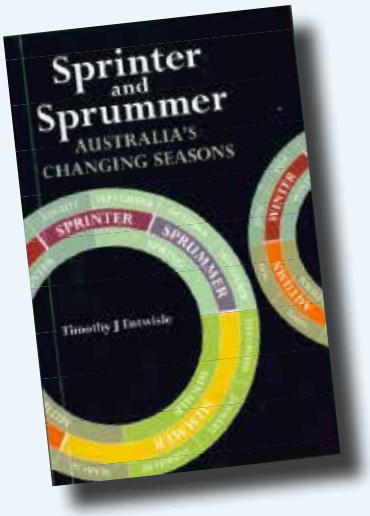
Donations go into our BEG Fund (Barung Environmental Gift Fund) and are tax deductible. All donations help to carry out environmental work.

Please visit www.barunglandcare.org.au to see the many activities carried out and support our 2017 Tax Refund Appeal.

You can donate by visiting **www.barunglandcare.org.au/donate** or by phoning Barung on 5494 3151

.....and remember, donating will help reduce your next tax bill!

# New Books available now.



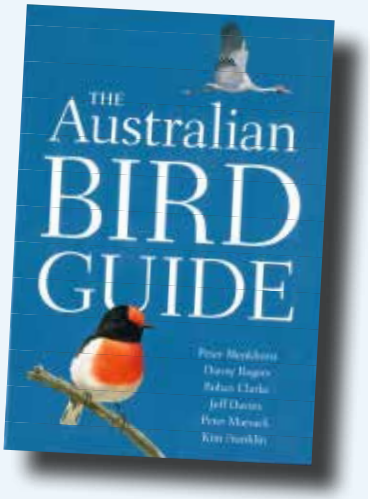

### *Sprinter and Sprummer: Australia's Changing Seasons*

Timothy Entwisle 2014 CSIRO Publishing

Challenges the traditional four seasons, and encourages us to think about how we view changes in our natural world.

Using examples from his 25 years working in botanic gardens, author Timothy Entwisle illustrates how our natural world really responds to seasonal changes in temperature, rainfall and daylight, and why it would be better to divide up the year based on what Australian plants do rather than ancient rites of the Northern Hemisphere. Sprinter and Sprummer opens with the origins and theory of the traditional seasonal system, and goes on to review the Aboriginal seasonal classifications used across Australia. Entwisle then proposes a new five-season approach, explaining the characteristics of each season, along with the biological changes that define them. 184 pages; paperback.

**$30**




### *The Australian Bird Guide*

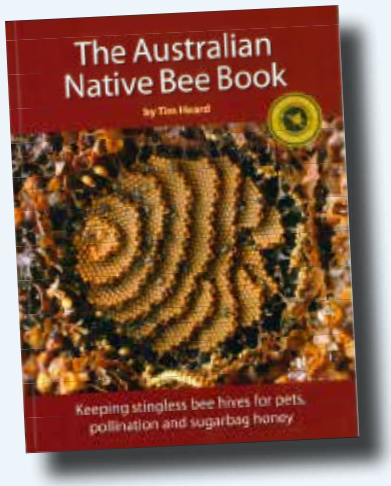
Peter Menkhorst, Danny Rogers, Rohan Clarke, Jeff Davies, Peter Marsack, Kim Franklin

CSIRO Publishing 2017

A new, comprehensive and beautifully illustrated field guide to Australia's unique birdlife with specially commissioned paintings of over 900 species.

Features around 4700 colour illustrations, with particular emphasis on providing the fine detail required to identify difficult groups and distinctive plumages. 576 pages; paperback.

**$50**




### *Australian Native Bee Book: Keeping stingless bee hives for pets, pollination and sugarbag honey*

Tim Heard

Published by Sugarbag Bees, 2016

Keeping native stingless bees is a hot topic in Australia for commercial, environmental and recreational reasons. You can do something about the decline of pollinators by conserving native bees.

In this book you'll find the complete guide to native stingless bees, written by an expert who has spent his lifetime intimately engaged with these unique creatures. Whether you keep a hive or two in your suburban garden, or want to use multiple hives on a commercial farm, this friendly guide has you covered. 246 pages; paperback.

**$42**

### *Fungi of the Sunshine Coast & Mushrooms of the Sunshine Coast*

These glossy folded pocket guides are ideal introductions to fungi identification in the Sunshine Coast region. Excellent photographs are accompanied by indications of size and substrate (what the fungus is growing on). Produced by the Queensland Mycological Society. **Only $5 each!**

**These titles and many more are available at the Barung Landcare Resource Centre in Coral Street or from our online shop:**

**www.barunglandcare.org.au/e-shop**

# It Isn't Easy Being Green

**(For newcomers to the Blackall Range)**

*by Joan Dillon*

*Where did I leave the tractor?*

I've always been green; not bright green and glinting, but quietly green and getting on with the job. I did threaten to stand in front of a bulldozer once but that was to protect an exotic tropical fruit tree on a university building site; successful too, but you can't have the staff starting protest movements; not good for student morale either. They're supposed to do that sort of thing.

I'm also a naturally tidy person with a basically urban background so coming to terms with all this rampaging sub-tropical growth and clutter is rather a shock to the system. Are vines really supposed to hang all over the trees and drop bits everywhere? Green people allow nature to do her own thing with minimum interference but do I have to steel myself, practice what I preach and learn to live with the mess?

In a past life I battled conscientiously with the couch grass which invaded my precious patch of Hawkesbury sandstone bushland and enjoyed the beauty of delicate wildflowers amongst the litter of leaves and twigs. The natural bush was somehow "better behaved". This could of course be rose-tinted memory but at least everything didn't grow quite so fast and gave you a sporting chance of catching up. Couch grass is now a native (well, people in other states carefully cultivate their Queensland blue couch lawns, so it must be) and needs an environmentally unfriendly concrete border around every tree and shrub to contain it.

I've had to give up and leave the native violets to battle it out on their own. For the time being the match seems to be drawn, and the revised plant association can't be mown. I know greenies are against grass but our whole cultural bent is towards the well-maintained sward. Why is it so hard to get it out of our systems? My family has been here since the early 1800's and I still want order in my environment. It's no wonder parts of rural Australia have trouble coming to grips with changing their agricultural practices to suit this dry, unpredictable country.

Newcomers to the challenge of revegetating and encouraging the return of wildlife to their often degraded patch of land will be relieved to learn that there is usually a local support group to help you through these difficult times of adjustment. Members of your landcare group are facing the same challenges. I'm told that as the trees grow, their shade will slow the growth rate of the grass and other weeds. Now, growth is matched by the wait for rain and the steepness of the learning curve.

# Walks on the Wild Side

*Young and old enjoy Mary Cairncross*

***By Raine See***

Our walks continue with a mixed group of interested people. The last few walks have been varied: February at the Buderim Rail Trail, an interesting historical walk at Buderim, March at Ewan Maddock Dam, a beautiful walk around the dam and into the melaleuca forest and for April we visited Mary Cairncross and explored the new centre – amazing. The walk at Mary Cairncross took place on a beautiful misty morning which enhanced the experience (and gave us the reserve almost to ourselves!) Eighteen month old Henry led the group with his delight at discovering the forest. After seeing a pademelon he took several attempts at pronouncing the word and then delighted us all with his pleasure at getting it right! If I get one child to love the forest, that's my aim! The walk for May explored the wallum environment at Kathleen McArthur Reserve on the northern side of Lake Currumundi. Rainforest is enhanced by a misty morning but I think the wallum is best in good weather!

*Maddie at Mary Cairncross*

*Henry leads the way*

# Thankyou to Montville Mist

Montville Mist keeps Maleny Wood Expo hydrated! Montville Mist water dispensers are indispensable – throughout the Expo site, volunteers can access cool, fresh drinking water, courtesy of our generous sponsors. Montville Mist also provided spring water for our Sister Cities visitors from New Caledonia and the Marquesas Islands. Thankyou, Montville Mist – we couldn't do it without you!

# Native Plums and Beer-drinking Butterflies

## Plant Profile – *Guilfoylia monostylis*

Commonly known as scrub ooline, native plum, solo tree or solo plum, *Guilfoylia monostylis* is a small (to 10 m) understorey rainforest tree, found from northern NSW to the Atherton Tablelands. Scrub ooline has drooping branches, slightly zig-zag branchlets, lime-green leaves and bright yellow, five-petalled, bell-shaped flowers appearing in spring to summer. Its grey-brown bark has wavy, longitudinal lenticels; the globular, black, shiny fruit is attractive to birds including the satin bowerbird (*Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*).

*Guilfoylia monostylis* is a food source for caterpillars of the Tailed Emperor butterfly (*Polyura sempronius*). The Tailed Emperor butterfly is also known as the 'Naughty' butterfly as it likes to drink beer (Jordan, F & Schwenke, H 2005 Create More Butterflies - Earthling Enterprises)! So, do a butterfly a favour – plant a scrub ooline and provide an alternative to beer!

Tailed Emperor butterfly (*Polyura sempronius*)

Scrub ooline (*Guilfoylia monostylus)*

## New Members

De-Anne Attard
Mel Bell
Jill Braiden
Lyn Braiden
Gillian Cameron
Derek Cameron
Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton
Gale Duell
David Ellis
Michael Erbacher
Matthew Heyes
Philip Holden
Annette Hornby
David Lewis
Margaret Mancini
Warwick Moody
Kim Rosenburg
Dawn Southgate
Paul Southgate
Sam Thompson
Roslyn West

Upper Cedar Creek Conondale flowing into the Mary River

*Many thanks to our*
BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS

Ananda Marga River School
Crystal Waters Community Co-operative
Earthcarer
Family FEASTival
Habitat Support
Hanson Construction
Happy Little Gardener
Karom Salt
Lapmist Pty Ltd
Montville Real Estate
Narrows Escape Rainforest Retreat
Native Plants SEQ
Northey Street City Farm
Range Auto & Fuel Injection
RB Safety and Training Services
South East Land Repair
Suncoast Hardwoods
Sunshine Coast Koala Rescue

## 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 4 issues
- acknowledgement of your support at Barung displays
- three (3) free trees and
- membership discounts on Nursery plant purchases.


FOREST HEART
YOUR LOCAL NATIVE PLANT NURSERY
* Habitat
* Gardens
* Revegetation
* Fruit trees
20 Coral St, Maleny Phone: 07 5435 2193
www.forestheart.com.au

Montville Coffee
100% Fairtrade Organic
What's the story in your cup?
Karen & Richard Barnett
07 5478 5585
montvillecoffee.com.au
info@montvillecoffee.com.au
*Available in local stores and online*
NASAA CERTIFIED ORGANIC Cert. No. 4200P
FAIRTRADE FLO ID 3340

Montville Mist
*Still Spring Water*
1800 001 102
www.montvillemist.com.au
Bottled at the Source

Maleny SUPA IGA
*Rob and Samantha Outridge*
* FRUIT & VEGETABLES * DELICATESSEN * MEAT *
26 Maple Street, Maleny
Phone: (07) 5494 2257 Fax: (07) 5494 2767

**Barung gratefully acknowledges these organisations for their partnerships & support:**

Hinterland Business Centre

Montville Coffee

Sunshine Coast Council
Environmental Levy Partnership Funding Program

HQPlantations

Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group

Maleny District Green Hills Fund

Maleny SUPA IGA

SEQ Catchments
Healthy Land – Healthy Water

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

Landcare Australia

Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting

QWaLC
Queensland Water & Land Carers

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

Barung Landcare
WORKING FOR OUR FUTURE

If undeliverable, please return to:
Barung Landcare Association
PO Box 1074
Maleny Q 4552

POSTAGE PAID AUSTRALIA