

# Barung Landcare



Seeds of our Future ♦ Barung Landcare Association Quarterly Newsletter ♦ July - August - September 2015

## Sunshine Coast Council's draft Koala Conservation Plan

*Why volunteer - especially at Barung?*

**Farewell Fuschial**

*Wood Expo Success*

**Tax Deductible Donations**

*Gardening to Connect Habitat*



## Expo Vollies Do it Again in 2015

### Flood, Rain & Shine

by Jonathan Waites

It began with a gentle 32mm of rain on the preceding Thursday and finished with a 188mm deluge on Friday afternoon, which effectively brought setting up to a wet, watery halt. Saturday dawned bright and sunny and despite residual dampness under foot and tyre, set-up was enthusiastically completed by volunteers and exhibitors in record time and off we went!

Crowds were a little quieter on Saturday compared with past years but we were busier on Sunday. Once again feedback from exhibitors and customers was overwhelmingly

Volunteers, Patricia Geritz (left) and Martina Gordon (right) selling raffle tickets at this years Wood Expo. Photo: Kerry Chave

favourable and this is in large part due to all the volunteers' supportive, enthusiastic interactions with the public.

Huge thanks go to the 170 plus volunteers who helped before, during and after the event - particularly those who found themselves on-site on Friday and some of whom battled on, in the downpour and knee-deep water.

Volunteers who would like to tell us about their experience or have some suggestions to make, please go to <http://www.barunglandcare.org.au/survey> to access our survey either online or for printing out.

Next year is the 20th Wood Expo and we are planning to make it bigger and better (and drier) than ever before. We hope to see you all there again.

*(read more about volunteering on page 10)*



## 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	<i>Lindsay Kruger</i>
Secretary	<i>Sue Brieschke</i>
Treasurer	<i>Alan Harrington</i>
Committee Members	<i>Lin Fairlie</i> <i>Martina Gordon</i>

### BARUNG STAFF

#### Barung Resource Centre & Projects

<i>Jonathan Waites</i>	Projects Officer
<i>Steve McLeish</i>	Barung Events
<i>Den Lalor</i>	Admin/Project Support Officer
<i>Robyn Harper</i>	Editor, <i>Barung News</i>

#### Barung Nurseries

<i>Wayne Webb</i>	Nursery Manager
<i>Calie Salzmann</i>	Porters Lane Nursery Manager

#### Barung Natural Area Services

<i>Luke McWilliam</i>	Manager
<i>Brenton Schwab</i>	Team Leader

#### Hinterland Bush Links

<i>Susie Duncan</i>	Coordinator
<i>Sue Brieschke</i>	Project Officer

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

[www.barunglandcare.org.au](http://www.barunglandcare.org.au)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Lindsay Kruger



### Sunshine Coast Council's encouraging draft Koala Conservation Plan

### Wood Expo 2015 Reflections

The Sunshine Coast Council launched its first koala conservation strategy at the Maroochy Bushland Botanic Gardens, Tanawha, on 2nd June.

The population of koalas in southeast Queensland has shrunk by 64 percent since 1996, from an estimated 6,246 koalas down to 2,279 in 2008, according to the Department of Environment and Resource Management. In 2004, the Queensland government upgraded the koala's status to Vulnerable in the southeast. In 2012, the Commonwealth's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) listed the Koala as Vulnerable. The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection survey 2014, shows populations are still declining.

In southeast Queensland, the primary threats to koalas are associated with increasing habitat loss and fragmentation, vehicle strikes, dog attacks (mostly from domestic dogs) and disease. Between 1997 and 2011, a total of 5,757 koala deaths were attributed to these causes.

The looming threat of a warming climate is expected to have a major impact on all fauna and flora.

The conservation plan is to guide management action to help retain a viable koala population, and preserve and enhance suitable habitat in the Sunshine Coast region. The plan is intended to provide clear, measurable and prioritised actions as well as delegated responsibilities.

Part of the strategy for enhancing habitat is by land purchases, Voluntary Conservation Agreements and the Land for Wildlife program. The strategy includes planting koala feed trees using local provenance trees, and Barung Landcare is preparing a submission in this regard.

The plan's 30 recommendations are to be phased in over the next five years and paid for from Council's Environment Levy.

Nature Conservation (Koala) Conservation Plan 2006 -

A conservation plan for koalas has been prepared following its listing as a vulnerable species within the South East Queensland Bioregion in 2004.

The Nature Conservation Act provides for the conservation of nature and prescribes management principles for protected wildlife.

Wood Expo 2015 - Barung Landcare produced another successful Wood Expo in May despite the major weather event, which flooded many parts of southeast Queensland. The two days before the Wood Expo saw 104 mm of rain fall in Maleny, seriously affecting the setting up schedule. Our Event Manager, Steve McLeish, volunteers and staff, persisted in their work and eventually achieved a great outcome. The Wood Expo was again highly successful in promoting economically sustainable development and natural resource management. Many thanks to our Event Manager, many volunteers and staff, who made this important sustainable timber event such a success against the odds of the shocking weather.



*As some of you are aware, I accepted the manager's position at Coolum Native Plant Nursery, from 14th September. I would like to thank you all for your support while I have been working at the Barung Nursery for the last 3 years and 8 months. I have learnt a lot and am most grateful to Wayne Webb for his patience (and corny jokes) while I was learning the ropes at Porters Lane. All in all, I have worked over 8 years for this organisation, through its ups and downs, and have achieved a great deal of knowledge and appreciation for the organisation and the work we do for the betterment of the environment and our community. I have loved meeting our amazing customers who work so hard to make a difference to our beautiful environment.*

*However, it is now time for me to follow my dream of living at the beach.. I know I will continue to have good relationships with Barung staff, volunteers, members and associates and hope to see some of you at Coolum someday. Otherwise... See you at the Garden Expo next year!*

*Fuschia*

*Caper White*

Fuschia was first employed in 2005 as Administration Officer. It soon became clear that Fuschia's abilities went far beyond administration, and she eagerly took on the role of public relations as a Barung ambassador. She spread the landcare message and ethic into the community, at primary schools, street stalls, festivals, and events. Her passion and enthusiasm for the natural environment and her skills, saw her become our retail nursery manager at Porters Lane.

Fuschia has had an enormous role in training and over-

seeing many volunteers, who are the backbone of our organisation.

Fuschia, Barung's volunteers, staff, members and associates farewell you with respect, love and gratitude, and wish you every success in your new role as nursery manager with Coolum Community Native Nursery.

You have made an enormous contribution to Barung Landcare and to renewing and preserving the natural environment.

*Lindsay*

## **2015 TAX REFUND APPEAL** *Tax Deductible Donations*

by Lindsay Kruger

For 25 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](http://www.barunglandcare.org.au) to see the many activities carried out and support our 2015 Tax Refund Appeal. You can donate by visiting [www.barunglandcare.org.au/donate](http://www.barunglandcare.org.au/donate)

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

## *Thank You.....*

... to Bob Philpot and Fran Guard for their substantial financial donation to Barung Landcare.

... to Jill and Richard who have given a mower...and the two volunteers who went to collect it and the volunteer who previously, used to brushcut the whole footpath!

... to Gary and Viv Bochow of Beenatree Milling for the two lovely Tallowood slabs they donated to Barung at this year's Maleny Wood Expo. Plans are being hatched for additions to our office furniture!

## **MICROWAVE OVEN NEEDED**

Do you have a safe, working, microwave oven you no longer need that you could donate to Porters Lane nursery? Theirs has passed its use-by date and the valued staff and volunteers need the occasional hot lunch! If you can help, please phone the Resource Centre on 5494 3151.



# Hinterland Bush Links

connecting restoring protecting the Sunshine Coast Hinterland

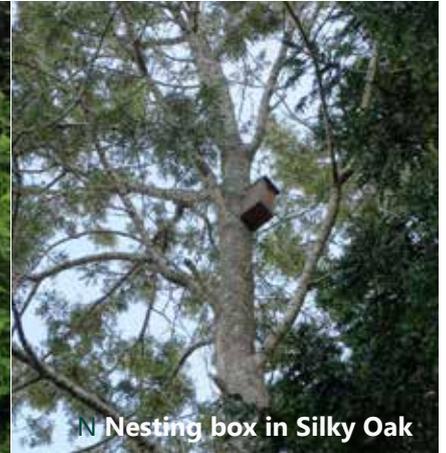


## Gardening to Connect Habitat - in conjunction with Garden for Wildlife

by Susie Duncan



Gardening to Connect Habitat participants  
Photos: Susie Duncan



Nesting box in Silky Oak

Gardens for Wildlife has been sharing ideas about how we can create a wildlife friendly setting around our homes. But more valuable than this is for your neighbours to join you in creating habitat to support more of our local wildlife. To enhance this even further we could look at how neighbouring properties could provide linkages between reserves and other natural areas.

These ideas were explored at a joint Gardens for Wildlife and Hinterland Bush Links workshop held at a garden that falls neatly between Mary Cairncross Reserve and a well vegetated stretch of the Obi Ck. The garden not only provides a safe stop-off point for birds moving between these healthy blocks of forest, but is increasingly providing habitat in its own right. So wildlife corridors aren't just commuter runs, they ideally provide good tucker and shelter for animals that may be able to make at least a part-time home within them.

You might wonder why it's important to link areas such as Mary Cairncross and the Obi Ck. As you've probably observed, Mary Cairncross Reserve is a bit of an island amidst urban areas and farmland, and this limits the dispersal of wildlife and the rainforest seed that they carry. There appears to be movement of both birds and ground-dwelling animals from the reserve, down the southern escarpment to the national park on Ewen Creek. But to the north there are a few more urban barriers to this movement through to the Obi Ck or the Upper Mooloolah Nature Refuge. Some landholders have done excellent work in restoring habitat in this area and we encourage all residents to be part of this. The beautiful rainforest vegetation at Mary Cairncross Reserve was once widely distributed on fertile soils across the southern Blackall Range. So little remains that whatever we can restore where once it occurred, is important for the conservation of the plants and the specialist wildlife that

relies on it. Many animals that live in this rainforest habitat feed on rainforest fruit and must travel to find enough seasonally fruiting trees to support them year round.

Landholders will have many purposes for their gardens but if we can plant some of the vegetation that originally occurred there and link it with that of our neighbours, we should see the return of wildlife that was once abundant. For Mary Cairncross neighbours that might just mean that Regent Bowerbirds, Catbirds, Riflebirds and Rufous Fantails will enjoy their gardens.

## Hinterland Bush Links & Barung EVENTS

### First Friday of each month (Fri 3 July, Fri 7 Aug, Fri 4 Sept)

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.

### Sun 12 July – Gardens for Wildlife Workshop – Planning a small garden for wildlife

Maleny 9.30am-12pm

Find out how to get started with creating wildlife habitat on a small block. Morning tea provided. Address provided on registration.

### Mon 13 July – Roving Restorers

Mt Mellum 9am-12pm

See this beautiful Nature Refuge property with views to the Blackall Range escarpment and Glasshouse Mts. A simple weeding activity to remove lantana so that rainforest can re-emerge beneath the Flooded Gums. Morning tea provided.

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

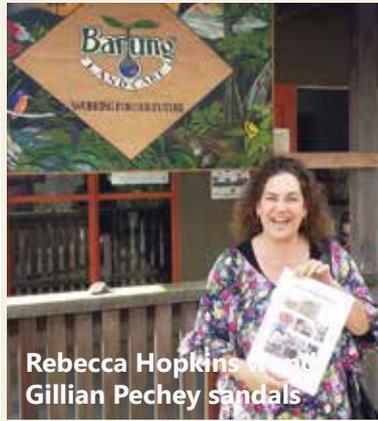
## WOOD EXPO RAFFLE

by Martina Gordon

*Fourteen  
fabulous prizes  
won - donated  
by local artists  
& businesses*



Glasshouse Sunset won  
by Katherine Blackburn



Rebecca Hopkins  
Gillian Pechey sandals



Flame She-oak Pod Box won  
by William & Deidre Arnold

Hearty congratulations to the very fortunate winners of the Wood Expo Raffle this year. There were 12 wonderful prizes and 2 Bookbuyer's prizes as well. Thanks from Barung to everyone who bought tickets. All proceeds from ticket sales and the expo are used in the day to day running of Barung Landcare's care for the environment over the past 25 years.

Barung sends a huge, sincere **'Thank You'** to all the generous local businesses and contributors listed below, for the fantastic raffle prizes they supplied. Local artists donated fabulous works of art such as Gary Meyers' painting, 'Glasshouse Sunset' valued at \$780, won by Katherine Blackburn, and a stunning photo on canvas of Kondalilla Falls by Ben Messina Landscapes Gallery valued at \$750, won by Elizabeth Bradford. Artisans from the Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild banded together and hand-made a beautiful nest of red cedar tables valued at \$530 won by Carol. Book buyer, Rebel Hungerford, won one night's luxury villa accommodation at Spicers Tamarind valued at \$399 while John Donaldson won the other - a lunch/gift voucher from Flaxton Barn and a Camphor Laurel Chopping Board from David Linton valued at \$115.

We truly can't thank you enough. All remaining prize winners are listed below. Congratulations to you all and we look forward to another monster effort in next year's 20th Wood Expo!!

- Introductory Hand Joinery Set from Carba-tec \$500 - Doug Ferrier
- Handcrafted Rosewood & Red Gum Document Box by Bill Rangott \$375 - Roger & Marianne Loughnan
- Flame She-oak Pod Box by John Tudehope \$300 - William & Deidre Arnold
- Milking Stool or Workshop Voucher plus 2 x Cutting Boards by Richard Knight plus Arbotech Contour Sander \$276 - Theda Hoehl
- Ebony Square from Colen Clenton Tools plus Arbotech Contour Sander \$257 - Barry Traill
- Husqvarna Chainsaw Maleny Mowers \$249 - Mark Seville
- Small Curved Sole Spoke Shave from HNT Gordon & Co plus Arbotech Contour Sander \$219 - L. Longland
- 2 x Organic Woollen Pillows from Blessed Earth \$180 - Tiny
- Gift Voucher for Handmade Leather Sandals by Gillian Pechey \$100 - Rebecca Hopkins

*(continued from opposite page)*

### Sat 25 July – Roving Restorers

Maleny-Kenilworth Rd, Maleny 9am-12pm

Join us for a morning of tree planting at a property in the beautiful Elaman Creek catchment. The landholder is committed to extending eucalypt and rainforest habitat on this property. Morning tea provided.

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

### Fri 31 July – Roving Restorers

Imbil 9am-12pm

Join us hand-weeding lantana on this property in the Imbil district north of Kenilworth. An opportunity to see country at the northern end of the Conondale Range. Morning tea provided and bring lunch if you want to stay on.

Car pool Maleny IGA carpark 7.30 am or travel independently for 9 am start.

### 10 Aug – Roving Restorers

Widgee 9 am - 12 pm

Join us for hand-weeding along a revegetated creek and removal of Cats Claw Creeper in Dry Vine Scrub at this property west of Gympie. The landholder has already made good progress on the Cats Claw Creeper control. Morning tea provided and bring lunch if you want to stay on.

Car pool Maleny IGA car park 7 am or travel independently for a 9 am start.

### Sat 29 Aug - GFW workshop - Jillian's Garden for Wildlife 26 years on

Buderim 1.30 pm-4 pm (first preference to people from Buderim and surrounds)

Come and enjoy this restful garden adjacent to the beautiful Foote Reserve in Buderim. Jillian has developed this garden with wildlife in mind over many years. Find out how she went about it. Afternoon tea provided. Address provided on registration.

### Mon 28 to Wed 30 Sept - Subtropical Forests Ecology Course

Booroobin/Bellthorpe

Hinterland Bush Links is piloting this exciting three day residential ecology course. Stay tuned for further details by email to Barung/Hinterland Bush Links members, and through other advertising outlets.

**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](http://www.hinterlandbushlinks.org)

Please register with Barung Landcare Ph: 5494 3151

[www.barunglandcare.org.au](http://www.barunglandcare.org.au)



## FUNGAL FORAY - *Phillipsia subpurpurea*

by Gretchen Evans

Many people like to photograph fungi which are extremely colourful and *Phillipsia* is one of these fungi.

The fruit body is disc-shaped or like a cup which is up to 6 cm in diameter. It is eye catching because of the contrast between the rich pink-purple of the interior and the white of the exterior or underneath. It appears to grow flat on the wood but actually has a minute stalk underneath.



It usually grows in rainforest and at certain times of the year may be found growing on fallen logs in Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve. It plays an important role in the ecosystem as a decomposer of dead wood.



*Phillipsia subpurpurea*, opposite and above, on logs at Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve Photo: Frances Guard

*Phillipsia* is a member of the Cup fungi or Ascomycetes and the way these fungi produce spores is different from most of the fungi I have written about previously.

*Phillipsia* was named after a British mycologist called William Phillips and *subpurpurea* means pale purple.

Note: I have been told that if you Google 'A guide to common fungi of the Hunter Central Rivers Region' by Pam O'Sullivan, you can download it for free and it contains many of our local fungi.



## WILDLIFE FRIENDLY GARDENING

by Joan Dillon



*Banksia robur* Photo: Joan Dillon

Winter arrived with a welcome slowing of weed growth. The early May downpour, whilst causing quite a bit of damage, did replenish the soil moisture and autumn growth was better than is often the case. It was an ideal time to be out in the garden during those clear, cool days.

Apart from getting weeding up to date, it was good time to place some old logs or interesting pieces of timber in the garden as lizard hides for the cold weather. They

could be observed warming themselves on top in the early sunshine. With the toads largely gone (they don't like the winter), numbers of small rocket and other frogs were about. They are most easily seen on strappy leaved plants and sometimes come into the house on freshly picked vegetables. Encourage them to jump onto something other than your hand and deposit them back into the garden. The natural oils on our skins can damage theirs, which are much more sensitive.

Who noticed the appearance of our winter migrants such as the Grey Fantails? They were active since early May, darting about catching insects on the wing and competing for splash room in the birdbaths. If the habitat is suitable, they will return every year. Protective, shrubby cover and open hunting space plus of course a good supply of small insects, are needed.

Winter is not the best time of year for honeyeaters, but winter flowering banksias like *Banksia integrifolia* and *Banksia robur*, help to keep them around. There were ripe blue berries on Velvet Leaf, *Callicarpa pedunculata*, for the pigeons and others. This sprawling shrub will be more compact in a sunny spot and should be kept pruned. Variety in the garden will help to provide something for everyone. Our large range of wattles started flowering early bringing insects - a protein source for many other species.

## GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE PROGRESS - *pick up your trees!*

by Jonathan Waites

*The Garden for Wildlife (GfW) project is going from strength to strength.*

*Our membership target of 150 was exceeded in May of this year, four months ahead of schedule.*

The first 150 members were entitled to the ten free tree guards and free attendance at workshops and field days. However, subsequent members will still receive ten free plants, an attractive Garden for Wildlife sign for display on their fence, gate or letter box and a GfW folder containing a range of information sheets and brochures supporting the development of wildlife friendly gardens. Also included are the newly completed fact sheets.

One of the conditions of our Queensland Government's Everyone's Environment grant that has funded the initiation of the GfW project, is that all the trees allocated to the first 150 members (1,500) must be planted by the end of the funding period (31st October).

Therefore any of the first 150 members who have not picked up their ten free trees from the Nursery at Porter's Lane yet,

please do so as soon as possible or at least by 30th October. The first ten fact sheets, mentioned earlier, for the GfW folders have been completed and are available for collection at the Barung Office (38A Coral St) or at the Nursery at Porter's Lane (bring your membership card). The fact sheets are also available to non-GfW members as a booklet for the princely sum of \$5 from the Barung Office.



## BUTTERFLIES, BEETLES AND OTHER ...

by Kirsty Holmes



## ... SMALL CRITTERS IN THE BACKYARD



On Sunday, 19th April, I joined a group of other Gardens for Wildlife devotees, and spent an enjoyable and enlightening couple of hours at the property of Susie Duncan and Barry Traill, discovering 'Butterflies, Beetles, and Other Small Critters in the Backyard'. Their small, 1 acre allotment held a wealth of specimens – imagine what one could find on a 10 hectare property! Barry has an enormous range of knowledge of our local invertebrates, and we looked forward to learning as much as we could from him.

Following our initial welcome and acknowledgement of the original land owners, Barry took us to a small patch of revegetation where we were able to find, and Barry identified, several caterpillars, spiders, moths and ants which were utilising these small trees as their home. We then rolled away a large log, and dived into the soil and

mulch that had been exposed with our trowels, depositing the results into dishes. We were amazed by the number of beetles, grubs, spiders, worms etc. that we had caught. Once we had discussed our findings with Barry, we returned our specimens to their original location, and rolled the log back into position.

Our next destination was a small backyard pond. We scooped some of the pond water into a couple of bowls, where we found tadpoles of varying sizes (definitely not cane toad tadpoles!), as well as some other small water-loving invertebrates.

I would recommend any local small landholders with an interest in our local flora and fauna, to join Gardens for Wildlife as we have people with an amazing depth of knowledge, keen to pass this on to those interested. For further information, contact Barung Landcare.



L to R: Participants examining the host of grubs, beetles, worms and spiders discovered in April's Gardens for Wildlife workshop. Invertebrates were found by turning over logs and examined in dishes. Photos: Susie Duncan



## Maleny Wood Expo - RAIN RAIN RAIN !!!!!

by Steve McLeish



*Next year is our 20th year celebration so we would like to make it an extra special one!*

In my 25 years of living in Maleny I have never experienced rain as heavy as we had during the set-up for the Maleny Wood Expo this year. The flash flooding broke the banks of the Obi and exhibitors were arriving with perilous tales of road closures and dangerous conditions. My stress levels were rising as my phone kept ringing (over 300 calls on Friday) with the predictable question "have you cancelled yet?"... at which I would reply "we are still going ahead.... the sun will be sparkling tomorrow... it will be a fantastic event"

Meanwhile, a small team of volunteers and contractors, drenched and frozen, methodically worked through the enormous list of jobs to get the site ready for the Expo. Respect and many thanks to everyone of these amazing people - what an effort!!! - flying in the face of adversity.

We decided to cancel the opening party and Wootha Prize announcements on Friday night due to the dangerous road conditions, as we didn't want to encourage anyone to be on the road. This proved to be a wise decision as the rain just kept coming.

After an exhausting day and almost sleepless night, the excitement and relief I felt to see a sky full of stars when I rose, was profound.

I arrived back at the Showgrounds and watched a beautiful sunrise over the festival site..... PHEW!!!!

The showgrounds were in remarkably good condition after all the rain and heavy traffic during the set-up. Some exhibitors were in place already, but most were yet to arrive. We had to restrict cars and trucks from driving on grassy areas, so I had to adjust the site layout. Most affected by this layout change, were the exhibitors on Orb Cork Oval.

We have received very positive feedback from exhibitors and patrons about the event, saying they liked the diversity and quality of the exhibits and that the kids' workshops were wonderful.

We are steadily gaining the reputation as one of Australia's best timber related shows. In fact, some exhibitors who have attended most woodworking tradeshow in Australia for many years, say ours is now the best in Australia.

Work on the 2016 Maleny Wood Expo has already begun. Next year is our 20th year celebration, so we would like to make it a special one. If anyone has any ideas for the 20th celebrations, I would love to hear from you, or if you have time to help out with the planning, please let me know.

The Maleny Wood Expo is truly a community event and 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 and to all the local businesses who generously donate their goods and services for the raffle and the opening night. And many thanks to all of our sponsors and supporters.

Congratulations to Barung and its members for hosting such a quality event.

Apart from the opportunity for Barung to benefit financially, the Maleny Wood Expo exposes 'landcare' to a wide demographic and promotes Barung as a leader in community engagement and innovation.



Photos: Kerry Chave





## PLANTING THE SEED – THE 8TH WOOTHATHA PRIZE

by Mim Coulstock

The Wootha Prize again formed the feature exhibition at this year's Wood Expo. The Planting the Seed theme inspired entrants to create an artwork or piece of furniture crafted from wood. Some entries took the form of sculptural works while others responded with a more abstract interpretation.

Judges Linda Nathan, Editor of the Australian Wood Review and well-known furniture makers, George Gavaric and Ross Annel, were unanimous in their decisions.

Peter Stibilj, a Sydney furniture maker, won the major \$2,500 cash prize sponsored by HQ Plantations, with his 'Glide' cocktail cabinet featuring tambour doors, glass shelves and internal mirror back. The cabinet was made from small sections and offcuts of Tasmanian blackwood with ebonised, slimline, spotted gum handles. Its restrained design, pared back proportions and fine detailing, succinctly illustrated how commercially lower value wood can be used to create a high value piece. Fostering a greater appreciation of wood and its value, was the seed Peter was trying to plant.

Brenda Walker from Bundaberg, Qld won 2nd prize of \$750 sponsored by Queensland Water and Land Carers, with her piece, 'The Journey'. What presented as a 'simple' shell form was a finely shaped form sculpted from sections of hoop pine.

The laminated pieces had been cut in a sequence, each larger than the one before, seeking to 'portray the gradual and incremental growth of the Nautilus shell', as Brenda wrote in her artist's statement. The hoop pine was an offcut from a wood chopping competition and became 'fertile ground' for this artist's imagination.

Third prize of \$500 sponsored by Timber Transitions, was awarded to Richard Vaughan, Brisbane furniture maker, for his 'Seeda Pearl Box'. A shell form sculpted from salvaged jacaranda, contained a single black 'pearl' which drew on the idea of how pearls can be created by seeding. In contrast to the smooth blond interior, the outer surfaces of the box were chiselled and ebonised. All-wood hinges were a subtle touch and the box rested on a shaped, integral red cedar base.

Each year a People's Choice Award of \$500 is also sponsored by HQ Plantations, and this year, local Jack Wilms from Cedar Creations won with his piece 'Bold Prediction'.

The theme for the 2016 Wootha Prize is Against the Grain and guidelines and application forms are now available at [malenywoodexpo.com/wootha-prize](http://malenywoodexpo.com/wootha-prize).



People's Choice, Bold Prediction by Jack Wilms; 1st prize Glide Cocktail Cabinet by Peter Stibilj; 2nd prize, The Journey by Brenda Walker.

### Long-nosed Potoroo Research

The local indigenous word 'Barung/Baroong' has been variously ascribed to have meant Long-nosed Potoroo (*Potorous tridactylus tridactylus*); place of the Long-nosed potoroo; and meeting place. Alina Zwar, a masters student at University of the Sunshine Coast, is carrying out monitoring work on the Long-nosed Potoroo. Previously considered extinct in this area and listed as Vulnerable in Queensland, it was recently captured on camera in the Reesville area.



If you would like to nominate your property to be a part of this research, email: [alinazwar@gmail.com](mailto:alinazwar@gmail.com)

### Bob Collins Chainsaw and ACDC Courses

Expressions of interest are invited for Chainsaw and ACDC Courses.

Weekday or Weekend Courses are available.

Minimum of 6 people per course.

If you are interested please contact Barung Office on 5494 3151.



*Editor's Note: This issue of the Barung newsletter is very overdue, owing to a family bereavement and resulting life complexity. Activities will be out of date, but serve as a record of what has been. The October - December newsletter should reach you around the end of October. Apologies, Robyn Harper, Editor.*



## WHY VOLUNTEER - especially at Barung?

by Jonathan Waites



Volunteers planting trees at the Maleny Community Precinct - just one of the many ways to join in. Photo: Den

It has been said that people volunteer for a whole host of reasons, which is not surprising given the variety of ways they can choose to do so. Probably the most often cited reason for volunteering, is to help others by making a difference and giving back to the community. This is a great reason, but volunteering is not all one way, and nor should it be. You need to get something too - at the very least some 'warm fuzzies'. So with this in mind it has been suggested to think of volunteering as an 'exchange', where both parties benefit from participation.

Volunteering provides opportunities to get out into your community and meet people (particularly if you're new to the area) with similar interests (and sometimes not so similar!), getting a feel for the people who make up your community and allowing you to exercise your empathy 'muscles'. At Barung you will also be introduced to your natural environment, enabling you to better connect with and develop a 'sense of place'. Through volunteering you'll get to indulge a passion, or explore a new one, while also developing new skills as in Ruth's story, later.

For people beginning their working life or those changing career, volunteering can provide valuable experience to add to a resume; you are demonstrating an interest in an area beyond any immediate financial reward it might generate. It can give you the opportunity to 'try out' an occupation before committing to several years of academic study or before burning bridges by leaving your current area of work. It can also provide networking opportunities and may even lead to employment.

Who are our volunteers? They arrive via various routes. Some are fulfilling Centrelink obligations or work for the dole programs or completing Community Service requirements. Some are volunteering in the usual sense of the word and others for a whole mix of reasons including those mentioned earlier. Over the last two years, we have also had a number of asylum seekers volunteer at the nursery at Landsborough.

We also have 'one-off' event volunteers (e.g. Maleny Wood Expo, although many of these it must be noted, have been volunteering for years - some at all 19 Expo events!) while others volunteer regularly week after week and some do both. These volunteers work mostly in one or both of the nurseries or in the Barung office, carrying out administrative roles. Others are involved in contributing their expertise to the development and management of projects. Volunteers run Barung, making up our management committee and some of them take on executive roles on that committee.

Ruth Blanch, Barung Volunteer of the Year in 2014, began volunteering in the Barung Nursery in 2010. Having spent

most of her working life in an office, Ruth said that she relished the opportunity to work "outside in the open air". Ruth and husband Doug (also a Barung Nursery volunteer, now retired), bought land in the Cedarton area some years ago and after moving onto their block, were both keen to learn more about how best to care for it. Their desire for knowledge coupled with a passion for local plants, has been well catered for throughout their time spent in the nursery, declared Ruth. This is supported by comments from both Wayne and Fuschia (Nursery Manager/Porter's Lane Nursery Manager) regarding Ruth's 'dedication and long service' where she has performed 'above and beyond the call of duty', particularly in applying her knowledge to the organisation and preparation of plant stock for the Barung displays at events such as the Maleny Wood Expo and the Queensland Garden Expo in Nambour.

Ruth has been described as the 'Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Vine Queen' given her ability to produce prime specimens of this species (*Aristolochia praevenosa*) in our nursery for sale and display. However, nurseries are not just about plants; they also grow people and Ruth has taken the time to mentor other volunteers interested in extending their plant propagation skills, while taking a key supervisory role in the nursery.

Ruth's experience, and that of many of our volunteers, could be succinctly summed up by the following statement on our website:

"Volunteering at Barung is an experience in both helping and learning. Barung operates with only a small paid staff, but a large number of volunteers. By being a volunteer you can support Barung's mission in helping the environment, learn about native Australian plants and ecosystems, gain valuable skills in raising native plants from seeds, and meet like-minded people with an interest in maintaining our environment."

So if you have been thinking of volunteering, come and give it a go! Barung and our local environment will appreciate your help, no matter what your reasons. Thanks!

For more good reasons to volunteer go to:

<https://students.ucsd.edu/student-life/involvement/community/reasons.html>

For enquiries about volunteering at Barung, send us an email: ([info@barunglandcare.org.au](mailto:info@barunglandcare.org.au)), phone 5494 3151 or visit: [www.barunglandcare.org.au/volunteering](http://www.barunglandcare.org.au/volunteering)



# FARM FORESTERS - Journey from tree growing to production

by Carol Neal BEM Tropical Forestry (Hons)

Our story begins during 2013 when our group of farm foresters, growing mixed rainforest plantations in south east Queensland, came together with a view to providing best practice forest management while still being able to generate an income from our trees. Our plantations are designed and managed as perpetual forests, where selected trees are harvested to ensure sustainable yield while allowing remaining trees and understory plants to thrive as a diverse natural system. In addition to environmental benefits of erosion control and water filtration, this type of forest management also permits protection, forage and habitat for our native fauna from canopy (where active nests are protected), building a healthy functioning soil biota. The group is also committed to setting aside and protecting areas of high conservation value. The best example is a hectare of natural rainforest scrub where one adult and forty-two *Macadamia ternifolia* offspring trees were discovered. The species was identified by highly respected macadamia expert, Ian McConachie and mapped by Michael Powell of the Macadamia Conservation Trust.

Most plantings are around 8-12 years of age, traditionally believed to be too young to make timber processing tenable. The growers met to discuss the benefits of group certification, and ultimately became certified under the PF Olsen (Australia) ForestSmart Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) Certification Scheme - the first of its kind in Australia. *PF Olsen (Aust) Pty Ltd uses the FSC® trademarks in accordance with the terms and conditions of its license from the Forest Stewardship Council® - PF Olsen (Aust) Pty Ltd's trademark C112244.* Certification can give us the leverage we need to access more specialised markets.



Group members receive their ForestSmart FSC® Certificates.

At around the same time, it was discovered that the timber properties of our most dominant species, silver quandong (*Elaeocarpus grandis*), permitted early processing. A number of growers believed that there may be potential products in these early thinnings. Subsequently, the group commenced harvesting and milling, and putting their 8-12 year-old thinnings into production.

The group, now branded as Specialty Timber Growers, has commenced selling cut boards into niche markets in southeast Queensland. Some growers are developing products on a smaller scale and selling as boutique and gallery products from tree branches and coppices. To date, contemporary style quandong furniture and the boutique product sales, are proving successful.

We have been actively promoting our group at National forestry industry events, and have just completed our second year at the Maleny Wood Expo 2015. Although only present on the Sunday, our stall attracted a lot of interest and genuine enquiries for silver quandong timber. Our group also attended The Planting at Woodfordia on 5-7 June to showcase what we have achieved to date. It was a great opportunity to meet and discuss our achievements with like-minded environmentally discerning people.

We are also looking at increasing the size of our group because the greater the number of growers, the more effective we will be. In order to attract new growers we have created a basic level of entry for growers interested in local markets only. Carol Neal, the group's representative, states that 'collectively growers throughout southeast Queensland have critical mass of silver quandong, and by combining our resources we can generate greater market power. Whereas, as individual growers, it will be difficult supplying and satisfying market demand'.

Carol can be contacted at E: [carolneal@bordnet.com.au](mailto:carolneal@bordnet.com.au) P: 07 3425 2332 or M: 0411 87332. (more photos next page)



Brendon Collins in his mixed rainforest plantation.

Notice of

## Annual General Meeting BARUNG LANDCARE ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 48 562 796 065

Saturday 31st October 2015

Verandah Room, Maleny Community Centre  
23 Maple Street Maleny 4552

Registration & Morning Tea: 10.00 am

AGM: 10.30 – 12.00 am

### Nature of Business

- Confirm Minutes of 2014 AGM
- Auditor's Report for 2014 - 15
- Election of Office Bearers

Please RSVP to 5494 3151  
or [info@barunglandcare.org.au](mailto:info@barunglandcare.org.au)

Members and Friends Welcome

Please see [www.barunglandcare.org.au](http://www.barunglandcare.org.au) for  
Management Committee Nomination Form

## Constitution Updates

A review of the Barung Landcare Constitution, has found that the governing rules we were operating under, were outdated and were no longer compliant with the requirements of the Office of Fair Trading.

In particular, our rules were outdated and noncompliant in the areas concerning the sharing of information, the providing of public liability information to members, privacy provisions and the use of modern technology such as internet banking.

To ensure that Barung's governing rules are compliant, the Management Committee has endorsed the adoption of the latest Model Rules with the addition of:

- The Objects - unchanged
- The necessary clauses for the provision of the BEG Fund and the required Conduit Policy - unchanged
- Our membership - unchanged
- Changes to reflect modern banking facilities - 2 signatories to authorise EFT payments.

The motion to take to the AGM might be: 'That Barung Landcare Inc adopt the revised rules which consist of the current Model Rules, our existing objects, provisions required to operate the Barung Environmental Gift Fund and the requirement of 2 signatories to authorise payments by electronic transfer'.



Quandong coaster set



Solid silver quandong bedside chest made with flitches that would have otherwise be thrown away or burnt.



Jan & Ian McConachie macadamia expert bagging  
Macadamia ternifolia fruit for propagation.



Quandong flitches



## WATER THE TREES – a project proudly supported by Sunshine Coast Council

by Jonathan Waites



Garry and Lisa Beil with nephew Doug from Just Drilling, Morayfield.

As you would all be aware, water is a critical requirement for growing plants and hence operating a nursery. Last year the water supply for our nursery at Landsborough almost dried up, literally. The dam had an estimated week's supply of water left when, fortuitously, it bucketed down at the end of March filling the dam and saving our bacon, or rather, plants.

Not wishing to repeat this rather stressful predicament, various plans to improve the reliability of our water supply were dissected, discussed and discarded until it was decided to sink a bore on our lease alongside the nursery. We very fortunately secured an Environmental Levy Grant through Sunshine Coast Council which has covered most of the cost of drilling the bore. Fortune continued to smile upon us as our driller (Garry Beil from Just Drilling) struck water at 15m and then again at 28m supplying us with a flow rate of

Thirty samples taken at 1 m intervals show a soil profile of our bore from top left, down progressing to right – top soil, sandy loam, sandstone, coal layer, decomposed sandstone (with some water), sandstone, coal layers, decomposed sandstone (with more water), grey sandstone.

Photos: JonathanWaites



1,200gph (gallons per hour). If this supply can be maintained through the drier part of the year, our water supply problems are solved.

We will equip the bore with an electric submersible pump in the very near future, plug it in, tap into our existing dam line and we'll be 'home and hosed' as the saying goes.



### Thursday Kiosk Volunteer Needed

by Kellie Huddy

Every Thursday, Barung hires the Maleny Community Centre Stall on Maple Street (the Kiosk), to sell plants and books. We really need at least two more volunteers to fill shifts and provide back-up for when people are away on holidays etc. With a few more volunteers to call on, we can space out shifts so everyone can have a break occasionally and everyone can nominate preferred shifts at least a month in advance, giving everyone a bit more freedom. They are only two, three-hour shifts: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm or 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm, so it won't take up all of the day. The people are very friendly in Maleny so it is very easy to sell the plants and books to those who are interested. It's a great way to promote Barung, have a chat with the local people and for the younger ones, it's a great way to gain some experience with customer sales. If you are interested in doing a shift or two to help out on a Thursday, please call the Barung Office on 5494 3151 Monday to Friday 9 am – 4 pm or email [info@barunglandcare.org.au](mailto:info@barunglandcare.org.au) For more information about Volunteering at Barung Landcare go to: [www.barunglandcare.org.au/volunteering](http://www.barunglandcare.org.au/volunteering)

Barung Landcare...



### A Letter of Request from John Muir in Cambodia

I'd like to hear from anyone has a spare, old, electric solar or mains power-pack they could donate to Cambodia for research trials to determine their suitability for helping people here. In past we have used high amps to kill rats in rice fields BUT they kill people as well unfortunately, so have bad name!!

Also it means that instead of going to school, cowgirls and boys are tied to cows and buffaloes all day to keep them out of crops, because there are NO fences here and they cannot afford the timber for them.

But most have solar panels for tv and lighting and cell phone etc., so some technology would be easily transferable, I hope.

Please contact me on: [johnsmuir@hotmail.com](mailto:johnsmuir@hotmail.com) with any thoughts or ideas or offers. They'd be most welcome.

With thanks,  
John Muir

Sustainable Rural Resilient Livelihoods and irrigation development  
Oxfam Cambodia AVI Aust Int. Volunteer. Adviser



## PLANT PROFILE - *Cryptocarya erythroxylon*

by Paul Barnes

*Cryptocarya erythroxylon* also known as Pigeonberry Ash and Rose Maple, is a tall symmetrical tree attaining above 35 metres in height and a diameter of 1.25 m. The common names refer to fruit pigeons eating the fruit and the reddish timber which superficially resembles that of the northern hemisphere maples. It occurs from below Barrington Tops north of Newcastle in NSW to Kroombit Tops west of Gladstone in Queensland, generally in cooler subtropical rainforest on fertile basaltic soils, on plateaux or in sheltered gullies.

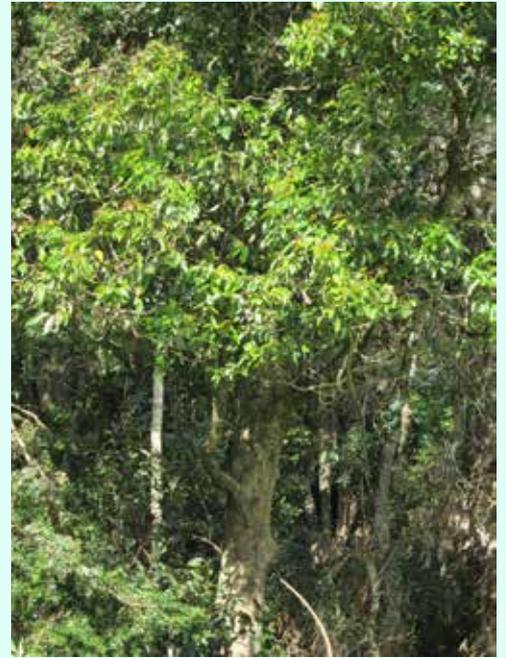
The trunk may be slightly buttressed but is generally cylindrical with a conspicuous white or grey, corky bark which is fragrant when cut or crushed. The adult leaves are alternate with entire margins, elliptical approximate 5-13 by 2.5-3.5 cm tapering to a blunt point at the apex. The upper surface is smooth and green with the lower surface glaucous and waxy. The wax melts if a lighted match is applied to the upper surface. Immature leaves are very attractive pink and red making small trees highly attractive garden specimens or even pot plants.



Rose Maple with hints of beautiful new growth and winter fruits and (top right) full size. Photo: Fuschia Collard

Fruit is eaten by Cicadabird, Topknot and Wompoo Pigeon, Rose-crowned Fruit Dove and Green Catbird. It is borne in midwinter to spring in significant quantity, approximately one year in three, assisting to provide food during the lean period of the year helping to replace camphor laurel and privet.

It is a host plant to a number of but-



terflies including the Bronze Flat (*Net-coryne repanda*), Macleay's Swallowtail (*Graphium macleayanus*), Blue Triangle (*Graphium sarpedon*) and Easter Dusky Flat (*Chaetocneme beata*). In the larger garden or in mixed species cabinet timber plantations, this tree grows best initially under a canopy providing protection from sun. Suitable for furniture, plywood and joinery, the timber is easy to work and has a distinctive odour resembling crushed celery.



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- revegetation
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contracting services 0429 943 156  
contracting@barunglandcare.org.au

### NEW & REJOINING MEMBERS

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Angus Richard            | Justin Dunham            |
| Barb Dilworth            | Lindsay Baillie & Family |
| Bronwyn Carnavas         | Lisa Chin                |
| Carolyn Summers          | Mara Miladonovic         |
| Elaine Foster            | Marian Bertoldo          |
| Elizabeth B Powell       | Melinda & Peter          |
| Henriette Sonne          | Johnstone                |
| Jackie Hansel            | Michelle & Bruce Wilson  |
| Jeff & Shirley Bell      | Patricia McCrae          |
| Jenny & Colin Gursanscky | Rhondda Alexander        |
| Jim Carseldine           | Ross & Di Gillies        |
| John & Rhyllis Aitken    | Shane Alexander          |
| John and Lyndal Currie   | Tim Jessup               |
| Judy Tomlinson           |                          |

### Many thanks to our BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS

- Ananda Marga River School
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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

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- acknowledgement of your support at Barung displays
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- membership discounts on Nursery plant purchases.



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Queensland Government

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