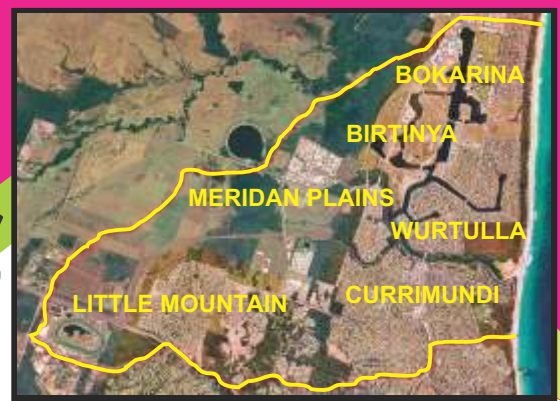


CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT NEWS

This is a community newsletter voluntarily produced by Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc. ABN 77 276 084 162. It is printed on sustainable forest paper and distributed by volunteers to 9,000 households and businesses within the Currimundi Catchment. If you can help with distribution please phone Joan on 5493 2698.



Spring 2016

COULD THIS BE A THING OF THE PAST?



We join with other community groups in welcoming the Queensland Government's announcement in July that a Cash for Containers scheme will be introduced in Queensland in 2018. This collection, pictured left, of around 500 drink containers, were picked up during our 2016 Clean-up Australia Day event, and confirmed that drink containers make up a very large component of all litter in the Currimundi Catchment.

From 2018 Queenslanders will be able return used containers to depots in shopping centres to receive 10 cents in return, and this will be linked to the New South Wales scheme to be introduced in 2017.

"Cash for containers is a proven scheme and will slash litter rates, increase recycling across the state, create hundreds of jobs in collection and re-processing and provide a financial boost to community organisations interested in collecting can and bottles." said Toby Hutcheon, spokesperson for Boomerang Alliance & Wildlife Queensland.

But small items such as drink containers are not the only litter problem in the Currimundi Catchment. Unfortunately large household rubbish continues to be illegally dumped along the banks and into parks or directly into the waterways by people who are too lazy to drive to the refuse station. When there is heavy rain these items create an even bigger problem as they are swept along into the waterways.



Large household items dumped along road to Meridan Playing Fields

So remember - our waterways need your help, whether by placing litter in bins, removing it to the Council waste facility, or picking up discarded litter on your walks. And why not think about joining Boomerang Alliance, a group formed to give local communities power and influence in the struggle to



stem the massive waste of discarded resources polluting our parks, beaches and waterways.

RIVERSWEEP CLEAN UP 2016

If you own a canoe, kayak, or tinnie, or if you're just a walker, come join Currimundi Catchment Care Group to collect rubbish on and around the lake, creeks and canals from 9.00 am to 11.00 am on Sunday 16 October.

We meet at the western end of Noel Burns Park, Mulloka Esplanade, Wurtulla for sign-on, and finish the clean up with a sausage sizzle.

Come and have some fun, help improve the health of the waterways and socialise at the barbecue. Gloves, bags and sunscreen will be supplied. Please wear appropriate clothing and shoes.



NATIONAL TREE DAY



It was another very successful National Tree Day community planting at Little Mountain on Sunday 31 August. For several years Council has organised a community planting in Little Mountain, revegetating connected patches of degraded former grazing land to provide a wildlife corridor and an area of natural bushland in the midst of what is rapidly becoming a highly urbanised area of our catchment.

Currimundi Catchment Care Group is proud to have played a part in helping Council promote the event, providing volunteers to help with registration and of course getting our hands dirty planting.

This year almost 150 volunteers planted 2,100 native plants to add to the plantings from the past four years.



What a glorious day it was to take the family out in the sun and fresh air and help the environment. We had fabulous help from groups from Mountain Creek High, Caloundra Girl Guides and Meridan Community Church Youth Group, our local councillor Peter Cox, plus lots of families and local residents.

Thanks Rhonda, Wendy and the Sunshine Coast Council crew for once again organising a great event. Thanks Caloundra Lions for the yummy sausage sizzle. Thanks everyone who joined us.



LIGHTS ON THE LAKE 2016

Currimundi's biggest outdoor community event will be held again on the shores of Currimundi Lake, 4 pm to 8 pm, on Sunday 4 December.

Yes it's time to get your canoes and kayaks decorated for this year's Lights on the Lake Festival. There'll be kids activities, live entertainment, a drumming circle, market stalls, and of course a visit from Santa. And if you're not feeling active, just spread out the picnic rug, settle in and watch it all happen.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates: www.facebook.com/lightsonthelakefestival



Stay up-to-date with news and events. Visit www.currimundicatchment.org.au

CCCG WORKING BEES

As we trundle around with barrows and jerry cans watering new plants, or pulling out weeds, we are often greeted with words of encouragement and compliments; "you must be with CCCG – well done, it looks great". We agree, the plants are looking wonderful, and some are even flowering in their first season.

Our last two working bees for the year will be in Moondara Park. Meet near the car park in Vista Place, off Moondara Drive, Wurtulla. Gloves and tools provided.

Sunday 9th October 3-5pm, and
Sunday 6th November, 3-5pm.

COUNCIL UPDATE

FISH BIODIVERSITY STUDY

Great news – The University of the Sunshine Coast has offered council's Environmental Operations Senior Project Officer, Michele Jackson, a full academic Masters by Research. The Sunshine Coast Council are assisting the study and providing funding for the field survey work over the next 2.5 years. The research is a unique scientific question that to date is unanswered within Australia.

The project will compare fish data for Currimundi Lake with the three other Intermittently Closed and Open Lakes and Lagoons (ICOLLs) on the Sunshine Coast: Tooway Lake, Coondibah Lake and Stumers Creek lagoon. Using the same methodology this data will be compared with Bell's Creek, which is a scientifically studied and well documented estuary. The outcome of this work will assist in gaining an understanding of the different systems and the levels of their natural assets in relation to the range of individual management regimes. Fish sampling will commence in spring 2016 (under Animal Ethics permits with conditions).

This research initiative has received wide support from Sunshine Coast University with the allocation of Associate Professor Neil Tindale as Principal supervisor and Dr David Schoeman as Academic and Ecological supervisor. In addition, Dr Phillip Haines, who completed his PHD research of over 70 NSW ICOLLs currently working with consultants BMT WBM Brisbane, has agreed to externally supervise the project. Denise Lindon (Coordinator Community Catchment Partnerships) from Sunshine Coast Council is also research project advisor/supervisor.

MIDGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The closure of the lake entrance occurred on 1 September and will be closed for a 6 week period. During the closure, as part of the 3 year Australian Research Council (ARC) partnership, the University of Queensland & Sunshine Coast University will be monitoring at a number of fixed locations water velocity, height, and basic water quality (e.g. salinity, temp, Dissolved Oxygen) plus using mobile GPS technology during the opening in six weeks time. This will continue to build on our knowledge of the baseline flow dynamics of the system, particularly during these types of events. Council officers will also be monitoring water quality,



IT'S WILDFLOWER TIME AGAIN!

Currimundi Catchment Care Group hosted a guided walk through Leacys Bushland Reserve Currimundi as our contribution to the Sunshine Coast Wildflower Festival in August. There weren't too many wildflowers but the walk meanders through a beautiful pocket of remnant bushland in the heart of Currimundi. It showcases several different ecologies within a small area with a great diversity of native plants, trees and bird life.

Thanks Alex, Jude, Jess, David, Jenny and Tony for helping out, and also to the participants who contributed their own knowledge and experiences to make the morning a great success.

But of course you don't need to go on a guided walk to appreciate the wildflowers around the catchment. This beautiful white *Leptospermum* or tea tree flower was photographed at Ivadale Lakes and there are flowers of many varieties and colours to be seen in the wallum heathland of Kathleen McArthur Regional Park, particularly on the north-south running Moondarra Track.



Pultenaea or bush pea in Leacy's Reserve



Milkmaids in Kathleen McArthur Park



Leptospermum or tea tree in Ivadale Lakes

LAST CALL FOR PHOTOGRAPHS FOR 2017 CURRIMUNDI CALENDAR

Don't forget to send in your photograph/s for consideration for our 2017 wall calendar by 30 September to: cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au

Technical requirements are set out on the Currimundi Catchment Care Group website. Calendars will be for sale for \$10 and successful photographers will receive a free calendar.



This project has been assisted through the Sunshine Coast Council Grants Program. Opinions expressed are not those of Council and not necessarily those of CCCG Inc.

Group Reports

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

It's often said that the future is our children and I can't agree more. Events like the recent National Tree Day community planting give me hope that our future is in good hands. More than half the 150 participants who volunteered to plant native trees and plants were young people. They included toddlers enjoying a sunny day out with their families, a group of girl guides, a local youth group, a high school environment group and teens who turned up just to give a hand. They were united by their enthusiasm and love of the natural areas and environment.

Small community-based environmental groups like ours can't protect our local environment alone. We have some wonderful, dedicated volunteers who turn up to everything. I thank them sincerely. We receive great assistance from Council. But our main focus has to be engaging everyone in the local community to help. You could attend our meetings and help with administration. Some people just come to our clean-ups, community events and working bees or volunteer with our water-quality monitoring program. Many people just pick up rubbish when they take the dog for a walk or plant native shrubs in their yard. If we all do our little bit, in our own way, we can make a big difference.

President, Tony

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

There is work being done to widen the inside sand area in front of Cliff Hargreaves Park. Hopefully the small bay near the sand blow fence will not fill up as much with debris and any other accumulated waste thereby making it a nicer area for small children.

The new fence above the foreshores of the Lake from Hargreaves Street back to the playground has been finished. This should be a great asset in helping to sustain the foreshores from any further erosion, and protect native vegetation. At some stage in the near future, a new set of steps from the coastal pathway down to the Lake will be installed on the western side of the playground.

All weeding bees have been successful, including some planting. Sadly there was vandalism in the park behind the soccer field where more than 25 young trees had their tops broken off. Our volunteers work so hard to make our area great, and to have this done to the trees we have planted is so disappointing. There is plenty of space for more volunteers, so if you are looking to fill in a couple of happy hours, contact me. Four of our members attended the SSCR Council Environment Day at London Creek Reserve, Peachester. The site and workshops were great, and it was a great opportunity to catch up with other volunteers.

President, Rhondda

KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The recent tree planting exercise carried out by Council in some open areas to the north-west of the estate has been well received. The areas were untidy with various grasses and weeds and will now develop into more 'bushland', and provide habitat for wildlife.

There is some concern and question over the access to the Meridan playing fields to the south of Kawana Forest via Red Cedar Drive, adjacent to the Pacific Lutheran College. Council has now erected signage to indicate that this access is only to be used for emergencies, yet the gates have often been open, sometimes overnight. More discussion on this issue is likely.

The KaFRA AGM was held on 24 July, with a revitalised committee ready to address issues affecting our estate for the next 12 months.

President, Greg

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

Sad news about the passing of Dot Billingham, our founding leader, on 22 July 2016. Dot was significant in organising Parklands Community Group. She was there from the very start and was instrumental in leading us in the challenges of events, activities and focus for the neighbourhood. She will be sadly missed.

Light duties as we progress into Summer but don't forget an early December meeting with Cr Peter Cox. Bring your questions and queries to our meeting. Contact me for details closer to December on 5491 7905.

President, Ron



Contacts



Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc. (CCCG)

covers the catchments of Currimundi Lake, Creeks and Canals and Lake Kawana.

Meetings: 7.00pm at the Talara Primary College Library, Talara Street, Currimundi on the 2nd Monday of every odd month.

Next Meeting: 9 November

Contact: President Tony, 5438 8267

Email: cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au

Website: www.currimundicatchment.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/currimundicatchment



Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL)

covers the area south of Currimundi Lake

from the beach to Nicklin Way bridge.

Meetings: 7.30pm at Currimundi Recreation Hall cnr Currimundi Rd & Ilya St, Currimundi on the 1st Tuesday of every even month.

Next Meeting: 6 October, 1 December

Contact: President Rhondda 5437 6481

Email: foclinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au

Website: www.currimundicatchment.org.au

Parklands Community Group

Contact: President Ron 5491 7905

Email: rburnett@bigpond.net

Kawana Forest Residents Association (KaFRA)

Contact: President Greg 0419 822 663

Meeting Place bookings: Josephine

Marciniak 5443 7281

www.kafra.org.au

Others:

Sunshine Coast Council: 5475 7272 for issues regarding Currimundi Lake and its Catchment.

Kawana Police: 5413 8700 or 131444

Queensland Boating & Fisheries Patrol:

5444 4599 to report speeding boats.

TurtleCare: 0437 559 067 to report turtle tracks or nests.

Department of Environment & Resource Management (DERM): 1300 130 372 to report spills, dumping or anything suspicious in our waterways OR

1300 264 625 to report wildlife emergencies, including sick, injured or distressed marine life.

Wilvos: 5441 6200 24 hour hotline for injured wildlife.

Fishwatch Hotline: 1800 017 116 to report unlawful fishing activities.

Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital: 1800 334 350