

# 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 9,500 households and businesses within the Currimundi Catchment. If you can help with distribution please phone Tony on 5438 8267



## Spring 2022

### WE'RE TURNING ON THE LIGHTS AGAIN!

Lights on the Lake will be back on the shores of Currimundi Lake on Sunday 4 December, 4 pm to 8 pm. After a two year break caused by COVID-19 restrictions we are delighted to announce that this family festival is back!

It's fun, it's festive and it's free!

Get your kayaks, canoes and paddle boards decorated for the best lighting competition and water parade, get involved in the many kids activities, or pack your picnic rug and settle in for an afternoon of free entertainment at Crummunda Park.

Entries for the water parade are opening up even further this year to invite owners of watercraft with electric motors to join in the parade. Only electric motors are permitted.

The festival is able to go ahead this year thanks to the Organising Group of community volunteers and some very generous sponsors, including the Caloundra Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank and Ray White Caloundra who are the major sponsors along with Sunshine Coast Council. Other sponsors are also coming on board to help make this a night to remember.



Is Santa giving water safety tips?



Looks like Bendigo Bank's Piggy is helping a team of rowers

You'll be able to see all your favourites, including Santa, Bendigo Bank's Piggy, lifesavers surf dog, face painting, live music, Jembo Johnno's drumming circle, food stalls and so much more.

And after the boats have returned from their beautiful twinkling water parade, the night will conclude with a stunning laser light show from the main stage.

For further information or to register for the water procession:

[www.currimundicatchment.org.au/lights-on-lake](http://www.currimundicatchment.org.au/lights-on-lake)

or call Fergus 0459 880 572

or email: [lightsonthelake@currimundicatchment.org.au](mailto:lightsonthelake@currimundicatchment.org.au)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lightsonthelakefestival](https://www.facebook.com/lightsonthelakefestival)

### FOLLOW THE SIGNS



We love our Coastal pathway but as it becomes more and more popular there are bound to be some congestion problems. Council has recently renewed signs on the pathway to remind people to consider others in sharing this space.

All people should keep to the left wherever possible and be aware that there are bikes, children,

older people and pets sharing the pathway. And of course, it doesn't hurt to say Hi as you pass other walkers. I recently met several walkers from Brisbane doing the published self-guided wildflower walks and they're always so jealous when they find out you actually live here.

### LAST CALL FOR PHOTOGRAPHS FOR 2023 WALL CALENDAR

Don't forget to send in your photograph/s for consideration for our 2023 wall calendar by 9 October to: [calendar@currimundicatchment.org.au](mailto:calendar@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.



## ENVIRONMENT DAY EVENT DRAWS AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD

Attendees at this year's local World Environment Day event on 26 June saw first-hand the outcome of community ecosystem restoration. A total of 71 people (one of the larger WED events on the Coast) came to the Bancroft's Red Gum Reserve in Little Mountain on a glorious winter's morning. They heard about the program to create the reserve, saw images of the area before and after 9 years of annual tree-planting, as part of National Tree Day, and then to strolled through the now self-sustaining Wallum bushland on a self-guided walk.

Amongst the people who came to the event were four families who had been involved in the National Tree Day events. They were all very excited to see the transformation from the sometimes boggy paddocks to a functioning wallum ecosystem. Brechtje and Manuel Viasus Zoet, pictured right, participated in a planting day with 2 young daughters when Brechtje was 8-months pregnant. Not only did she deliver a healthy daughter, but she and her family helped deliver a wonderful environmental outcome.



The Viasus Zoet family Brechtje, Manuel, Mayra & Alanna (Amani obscured)

Another returnee, Jarrod Bleijie (Member for Kawana), whose family were involved in numerous planting days over the years, commented how good it is to see local communities coming together in practical ways to rehabilitate the natural environment on their doorstep. He applauded the work of Currimundi Catchment Care Group and other community organisations in undertaking this important work.

Sylvia Norris, pictured left, was the lucky person who won the kid's e-scooter. She explained that as her grandkids live interstate she intends to use the e-scooter herself! Sylvia has been passionate about the natural environment for a long time and regularly participated in community tree-planting along the nearby Currimundi waterway.

Apart from enjoying the sausage sizzle and chatting to members of CCCG and Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, participants took home a free native seedling, including Native Violet.

Everyone left with a positive sense that the natural environment can be regenerated and become self-sustaining. This is nature healing itself, if given a chance!



## AND THE TREE PLANTING CONTINUES....

National Tree Day still happens every year and this year it extended over a full week in July. Currimundi Catchment Care Group organised perfect weather on 25 July for planting 200 seedlings in Kawana Forest Reserve.

Thanks go to the sixteen volunteers who turned up to dig holes, plant seedlings, place a weed mat over the seedling and water it in to give it the best chance of survival. Thanks also to Council staff for their valuable assistance. We look forward to following the growth of this area over coming years.



## CURRIMUNDI LAKE CLIMATEWATCH TRAIL OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED

At long last after a couple of years of discussion and initial planning with officers from the Sunshine Coast Council, interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Currimundi Lake ClimateWatch trail was officially launched on 28 August 2022.

Community participants joined volunteers from the local branch of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, Friends of Currimundi Lake and Currimundi Catchment Care Group, for a guided walk along sections of the trail. Along the way another 6-8 passers-by gathered to learn about the trail and suggested they would like to join others collecting and reporting observations of indicator species of plants and animals through the ClimateWatch App.

After guiding first time users through the various features of the App, participants learned just how easy it is to become a citizen scientist whilst enjoying a walk through our wonderful parks and reserves and contribute to the nation-wide effort to study changes in the natural environment that might be related to climate change.

You can find out more at:

<https://www.climatewatch.org.au/trails>.



Kaye was one of the first walkers to 'officially' use the ClimateWatch App at Currimundi

Stay up-to-date  
with news and events.  
<https://currimundicatchment.org.au>  
or: [www.facebook.com/currimundicatchmentcaregroup](https://www.facebook.com/currimundicatchmentcaregroup)



## TURTLES TO START NESTING IN NOVEMBER

In our last newsletter we reported that turtle nesting had finished for the 2021-22 season. There had been two nests and two turn arounds on Currimundi and five nests and one turn around on the Dicky Moffat beaches.

Several people asked what is meant by a 'turn around'.

A 'turn around' is when a laying turtle comes in to lay on the beach and for some reason, possibly people, dogs, a rock wall, a rocky area, she can't get through the vegetation with her flippers to dig a nest, or she can't get up a steep eroded dune.

When something like that happens, she will turn around and go back into the ocean without laying. She may nest later that night, or the following night at the same beach or an adjacent beach.

People are naturally intrigued by nesting turtles and can cause major problems for them. They often attempt to get close to the turtle or take photographs with a flash. In these cases, the turtle will abort her nesting attempt and go back out to sea.

November is the start of the 2022-23 nesting season when endangered Loggerhead turtles and vulnerable green turtles will start coming ashore to lay their eggs.

Council and some local schools will be helping to get our local beaches ready for their arrival through the Schools Beach Clean Up Super Series from October 17 to November 4, 2022.



Turtle coming in to nest at Currimundi. Photograph by Rhondda Alexander

On these half-day programs students will participate in cleaning-up their local beach, learning about coastal processes and generating ideas to reduce waste at the source.

So remember if you see a nesting turtle on the beach next Summer, give her some space, stay behind her, turn all lights off and call the TurtleCare hotline on 0437 559 067. Enjoy this incredible natural wonder.



## WET AND WONDERFUL WILDFLOWER WALK

After anxiously watching the weather forecast all week, we had to make a last-minute decision to delay the start of our wildflower walk until the afternoon, and were relieved when the clouds finally cleared. We apologise to those walkers who had booked for the morning and were unable to join us in the afternoon, although attendance numbers were still high.

Over 50 mm of rain had fallen overnight and into the morning, so the Swamp Track lived up to its name, but the central fire-break and the lakeside heath track were easy-going.

The exceedingly wet start to the year, followed by continued showery weather during the cold winter months seems to have delayed flowering of many species. Nevertheless, there is currently a fine show, dominated this season by masses of the golden pea-flowers of the Woolly Aotus (*Aotus lanigera*) and Showy Parrot Pea (*Dillwynia floribunda*) aka Mickey Mouse Ears, and once again the white flowers of the Woombye bush (*Phebalium woombye*), with a lesser amount of Wedding Bush (*Ricinocarpus pinifolius*). Also abundant this year along the edges of the central track were the tiny, delicate Wire lilies (*Laxmannia gracilis*) with numerous Sundews (*Drosera sp.*) along the Swamp Track.

We would encourage anyone who was unable to join the guided walk to take a solo wander through the Park in coming weeks, as many flowers are yet to open.

We saw plenty of unopened flower spikes on Milkmaids (*Burchardia umbellata*), Flax-lilies (*Dianella sp.*), and Wallum Grasstrees (*Xanthorrhoea fulva*) and hopefully there are yet some orchids to show their beauty. Happy wildflowering!

**More information:** Wildlife Preservation Society of Qld - Sunshine Coast & Hinterland [sunshine@wildlife.org.au](mailto:sunshine@wildlife.org.au)

**Images from the top:** Woolly Aotus, Wedding Bush, Showy Parrot Pea, Wire Lilies.

# Group Reports

## CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Have you noticed the wildflowers this Spring? They seem to be particularly spectacular this year. It is comforting that although we live in a highly developed catchment, there are still pockets of wildflowers throughout. Let's look after it together.

Our World Environment Day Festival event at Bancroft's Redgum Reserve at Little Mountain in June was a big success. It was wonderful to see so many visitors come along to enjoy the walk and learn about the history of this pocket of bushland in the midst of suburbia. There was a real sense of pride and achievement knowing that our own community had made this happen (see report this edition).

By the time you read this, we will have held our Annual General Meeting and elected committee members for the coming year. I would like to thank all of the community members who have stepped up as volunteers to help run our little group for another year.

**President, Tony**

## FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

Well it is cloudy again today, and I am sure that most people are like me and are cherishing every sunny day, and our animals and plants are obviously cherishing the sunny days as well. The turkeys are busy, the blue tongue lizards are out and enjoying the sun, and the numerous birds are collecting food or nesting pieces. Thank you to Fergus and Currimundi Catchment Care for organising the paper work for the ClimateWatch Trail meet on the 28<sup>th</sup> August. Apart from Anne (FOCL) and myself, we had three other people interested. Anne and I are hoping to do a couple more meets this year.

All the weeds are growing strongly, but there are an amazing number of small trees and shrubs coming up as well. The Lake has been full for a few weeks, but sadly there has been quite a bit of erosion with a large chunk falling into the Lake on the eastern side of the boat ramp at Currimundi.

It is now getting closer to when the turtles will be arriving back on our beaches for the 2022/23 season. These are the endangered loggerhead marine turtles. Our beaches have suffered terribly this year with erosion, so fingers crossed that they will be able to find a place to lay their eggs. It will be a busy season for the Turtlecare volunteers, not so much in the number of turtles but possibly in relocation of nests to higher ground. Doggie poo on the dunes is increasing so please doggie owners, just because it is out of site does not mean it is good. For everyone reading this note think, Humans are a part of nature, not above it.

Don't forget everyone, our weeding and planting days are on the second Wednesday of each month from 8.00 am to 11.00 am and anyone and everyone are very welcome to attend. There will be notices on the two notice boards announcing where the working site will be. Morning 'smoko' is supplied.

**President, Rhondda**

## KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Kawana Forest residents are delighted that, after years of effort, we now have a new bus service #611 which travels every 30 minutes (weekdays) and hourly (weekends) to Sunshine Plaza via the hospital and Kawana Shoppingworld. This has already proven very helpful to residents of all ages, reducing the number of car trips being taken.

At our AGM on 21 August, a new KaFRA committee was elected, enabling us to continue into the future:

President – Glenda Lloyd, Secretary – Anita Edmonds,  
Treasurer – Christine Owers,

Committee – Alana McEwen, Amanda Smith, Darren Meredith, Glenn Smith

**President Glenda**

## PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

Spring is here! The Black Swans and ducklings have been back on the pond. The neighbourhood is generally quiet but residents will be back doing things on the garden, filling their new Council provided Garden Organics Bin! No major projects in the area but students are out for a term break.

As a resident of Parklands, do you have any news or activities? Oops, we need another deliverer for the Creekwood area. It's a pleasant walk round the area four times a year! Send me message 0448 519 905.

**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: 12 September**

**Contact:** President Tony, 5438 8267

**Email:** [cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au](mailto:cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au)

**Website:** <http://cg.currimundicatchment.org.au>

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/currimundicatchment](http://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: 4 October**

**Contact:** President Rhondda 5437 6481

**Website:** <http://focl.currimundicatchment.org.au>

### **Parklands Community Group**

**Contact:** Ron 5491 7905, 0448 517 905

**Email:** [rburnett@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rburnett@bigpond.net.au)



### **Kawana Forest Residents Association**

**Contact:** President Glenda 0459 998 845

**Email:** [qpos1@bigpond.com](mailto:qpos1@bigpond.com)

**Website:** [www.kafra.org.au](http://www.kafra.org.au)

**Meeting Place Hire:** 1300 786 227

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/KawanaForestResidents](http://www.facebook.com/KawanaForestResidents)

### **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**