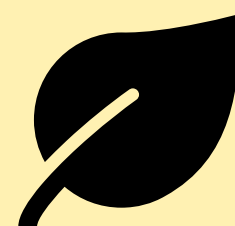


CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT NEWS

Welcome to our community newsletter.

Voluntarily produced by Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc (ABN 77 276 084 092), this newsletter is printed on sustainable forest paper and distributed to 11,000 households and businesses within the Currimundi Catchment. Can you help deliver newsletters four times a year? Please phone Tony on 0435 375 450.



Autumn
2024

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 Sunshine Coast
COUNCIL



10TH LAKE EVENT SO LIT!

More than 2500 people gathered in Crummunda Park on the northern shore of Currimundi Lake on a perfect Sunday afternoon in early December last year to enjoy the 10th annual Lights on the Lake festival. This free, family-friendly event has become well established in the community as a highlight of the festive season. It draws people from the local area and all over the Sunshine Coast and is the major event organised by the Currimundi Catchment Care Group.

The focus of the event is to showcase the wonderful natural environment at Currimundi Lake by bringing together many volunteer organisations (Friends of Currimundi Lake, Turtle Care, Sea Life Sunshine Coast, Dicky Beach Surf Club, Kawana SES, Caloundra Lions Club, Caloundra Girl Guides) and other community members to deliver this event. The twin aims are to provide entertainment and to promote care for our coastal environment.

A special thanks to all the volunteers (over 100 on the day), without whom this wonderful event could not happen.

Informal feedback from regular attendees, including Jarrod Bleijie MP (State Member for Kawana and MC at the event), was that this year's event was one of the best yet. The children's program of activities attracted 374 attendees, with three face painters kept very busy and lots of Christmas decorations and pot plants prepared as gifts.

Lynne Hulm led an enthusiastic drumming circle of kids and parents.

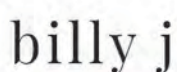
Wonderful entertainment was provided by local and talented artists: Totally Undecided Ukulele band, Owls of Neptune, Trevor Mitchell, Ignition! Chorus, Hot Curri Band, Ken O'Shea and the Sunshine Coast Show Choir.

This year we were able to capture quality images of the decorated and illuminated watercraft in the parade through the generosity of Blueys Photography drone (see above). The evening culminated in a spectacular laser light show that featured stylised images of the local environment and Christmas themes.

This event would not be possible without the generous financial support provided by Sunshine Coast Council, Billy J Boutique, Community Bank Caloundra – Bendigo Bank, Ray White Real Estate, Jarrod Bleijie MP, Sunshine Toyota, Initiative Group Accounting, TJM Caloundra, IGA Wurtulla, Coco's Beach Café.

Finally, thanks to all the local businesses, organisations and individuals who donated goods and prizes or provided services:

Australia Zoo, Bill Alexander, Boomerang Bags, Bunnings Caloundra, Coles Kawana, Currimundi Newsagency, Dicky Beach Surf Club, Domino's Pizza Currimundi, Haynes Paints Currimundi, IGA Little Mountain, KAG Event Electrical, Kawana Bowls Club, Ken O'Shea, Kmart Caloundra, McDonalds Currimundi, Nothling Building Group, Officeworks, Woolworths Currimundi, Wurtulla Newsagency, Zarraffa's Currimundi.



IN PICTURES – LIGHTS ON THE LAKE 2023



GOOD NEWS FOR WAR ON WASTE

Waste management is a major issue for the Sunshine Coast Council, exacerbated by the ever-growing population and visitor numbers, and the consumerism of so many in society. Council's approach is to divert as much as possible from landfill and to treat waste as a resource that can be used again and again in a 'circular economy', as part of its cleaner, greener, more sustainable future for the Sunshine Coast.

One of the challenges for Council is to substantially reduce organic waste going to landfill. When organic material breaks down in landfill, it generates methane, which escapes into the atmosphere and becomes a significant contributor to climate change. Currently, most of Council's greenhouse gas emissions (~76%) come from its landfill sites, with the waste generated by the whole community. We all have an important role in helping to reduce emissions. One of the best ways is to ensure that all the green waste from our gardens goes in the green bin. Council is planning to transition to a food organics garden organics (FOGO) collection service by 2025 to reduce organic waste in landfill even further.

We can also contribute to waste reduction in other meaningful ways by avoiding excessive purchases and choosing reusable items instead of single-use items.

Currimundi Catchment Care Group strongly endorses these initiatives, which align with our core objective of protecting and preserving the natural environment of the area for the benefit of all species, including residents and visitors. To that end, we introduced compostable waste bins to the regular recycling and general waste bins at our annual Lights on the Lake festival last December, as part of our objective of making this an environmentally sustainable event.

We required the food vendors to substitute all single-use plastic items with certified compostable alternatives or offer re-useable items, where suitable. Attendees were encouraged to dispose of their waste in the appropriate bins throughout the program of activities.

The results were encouraging, with 67% of waste diverted from landfill (see the numbers below). Party Bins were contracted to manage the event waste and Manager Tammy Cvirn said: "This is a great effort for a first time at such an event", which was attended by more than 2500 people. Whilst this is a good start, there's more that we can do.

We will continue to encourage attendees to separate their waste into the appropriate bins, particularly at the end of the evening when people are packing up. We also hope that this will contribute to wider community education about waste and how we can all reduce our footprint for the betterment of the community and the environment.



Lights on the Lake rubbish? Sorted!

Compostable: 117kg (38% or five 240-litre bins) to Earthborn Chevallum
Cardboard: 10kg (3% or two 240-litre bins) to Caloundra recycling centre
Recycling: 80kg (26% or four 240-litre bins) to Caloundra recycling centre
General: 100kg (32% or four 240-litre bins) to Caloundra landfill

BIG CLEAN-UP COMES TO CURRIMUNDI

Thanks to the wonderful volunteers who braved the steamy weather on Sunday 3 March to join us for our Clean Up Australia Day event at Little Mountain.

Twenty-four volunteers collected lots of rubbish, though it is pleasing to report general feeling was an improvement on previous years. The container refund scheme is still working with (only) 104 drink containers collected. Only one plastic straw (replaced with lots of paper ones), showing the state ban is working too. As in previous years, Slurpee cups and lids were the single biggest problem closely followed by miscellaneous soft plastics.

We finished up with our usual sausage sizzle and cold drink. Great to see some regular families returning and good to see some council candidates and teams working with the community. Thanks to Kawana MP Jarrod Bleijie for your generous donation and for coming along. Thanks Enid, Christine, Fergus and Tony from CCCG for running the event.



Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL) also held a CUA Day event at Cliff Hargreaves Park. FOCL is an environmental group with similarities and close ties to our Currimundi Catchment Care Group. Its members do weeding, planting and rubbish collection along the coastal pathway between Nicklin Way and Currimundi Beach once a month, working with the Sunshine Coast Council to keep this special area clean and tidy.

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: Volunteers with their trash haul at Little Mountain; Christine, Enid and Fergus at the registration table; Fergus, Jarrod Bleijie and Tony.



WEED-BUSTERS WELCOME

As most gardeners know, the Summer rain has created an abundance of weeds. Lucky we are on to them, thanks to the regular efforts of our volunteer weeders getting rid of the likes of Corky passion vine (pictured) and other invasive plant species so our natives can thrive. Working bees are held on the second Saturday of the month, from 2.30 to 4.30pm. It is amazing how much can be done in that time. Everyone is welcome. The work is easy. The chat is friendly. For details of upcoming working bees including dates and locations, please go to cg.currimundicatchment.org.au/events/ or email cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au

Group reports

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at our recent Clean Up Australia Day event. Ian Kiernan, the founder of Clean Up Australia Day events, once said: "What I most like about (Clean Up Australia Day) is that it's the people who own it." The event and the organisation are great examples of people power.

There were 75,000 sites registered and over 350,00 volunteers donning their gloves and cleaning up around Australia at this year's event. Individuals in the community getting out and taking action to make Australia and our environment a better place. We are proud to play a small part in it.

We seem to say this every year, but the hot, wet weather has really given the weeds a head-start this year. We can use all the help we can get at our monthly working bees to keep them under control and give the natives a chance to thrive. For information about upcoming events, visit our website www.cg.currimundicatchment.org.au and register for our e-bulletins, or just check the events listed on the home page.

CCCG is very fortunate to have a great relationship with Sunshine Coast Council. We receive financial support, advice and practical help from Council and its officers. On behalf of our members, I would like to thank retiring Division 3 Councillor Peter Cox for his support of our group and friendship over the past 12 years. Peter regularly attended our meetings to hear our concerns and answer questions, participated in our events and helped us implement several projects. All the best for the future, Peter.

Tony, President

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

Hello everyone,

I am not sure if it is me or are the days and weeks getting busier? One thing is for sure, if you are interested in the environment, whether it is plants – weeds or natives – marine turtles, picking up litter, waterways, dunes, native animals and birds, there is something for everyone to either do or join a group. Friends of Currimundi Lake were able to support Currimundi Catchment Care Group with their family-orientated Lights on the Lake in December 2023.

Since the Summer newsletter, we have had plenty of good, soaking rain that has increased our native flora but also has increased our weeds. FOCL had their first working bee in February with many bags filled with weeds, but it was not an easy day as it was so hot. This year our team will have Youi, the insurance company, with us whenever they are free, which will put more hands on deck. We also had our annual Clean Up Australia day on the first Sunday of March in Cliff Hargreaves Park, Currimundi. I would like to thank Debbie at Coco's for your support of this day.

Sadly, Councillor Peter Cox will not be seeking re election for Division 3. Peter was a staunch supporter of Friends of Currimundi Lake. We wish you all the best for the future, Peter.

Rhondda, President

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

Parklands and our parks are looking MUCH better with a grass trim (twice) to make our park areas more accessible. Thanks to the Council and grass cutters!! With more of our residents out and walking, it is much more inviting. Council have also been out spraying the fast-growing weeds.

Many thanks to our retiring Councilor Peter Cox who has been on hand for 12 years. Let's see who we get next and how they relate to the Div 3 Community and our interests. I am particularly interested in the changes to our sporting venue at our old Quad Park as part of the legacy for the 2032 Olympics.

The expansion of seating at the footy stadium and the building of the proposed 11 court and 5 - 6000 seat indoor facility adjacent will be a big opportunity. Hopefully it all comes to fruition.

Any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at rburnett@bigpond.net.au

Ron, President

NEWS BITE

Have you heard of Sunshine Coast Council's Disaster Hub? It's a website bringing together lots of useful disaster and hazard-related information from within Council and external sources, to keep the community informed during disaster events. See real-time information such as road closures, power outages, warnings and more. Visit the Disaster Hub at disasterhub.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed."

– Gandhi

Handy contacts

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Meetings: Kawana Forest Meeting Place, 160 Woodland Blvd

Meridan Plains, on the second Monday of every odd month.

Next meeting: 7pm, 13 May 2024

Contact: President Tony, 0435

375 450, [cccginfo@](mailto:cccginfo@currimundicatchment.org.au)

currimundicatchment.org.au

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

Meetings: Currimundi Community Hall (cnr Currimundi Rd & Ilya St)

first Tuesday of every even month.

Next meeting: 7.30pm, 9 April 2024

Contact: President Rhondda 5437 6481, [foclinfo@](mailto:foclinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au)

currimundicatchment.org.au

Working bees: Ruth 0408 989 263

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

Contact: Ron 5491 7905, 0448

517 905, rburnett@bigpond.net.au

KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Contact: President Glenn 0412

286 156, htimsg60@gmail.com

Website: www.kafr.org.au

Meeting Place hire: 1300 786 227

OTHER CONTACTS

Sunshine Coast Council: 5475

7272 for issues regarding Currimundi Lake and its catchment.

Kawana Police: 5413 8700

Policelink: 131 444

Queensland Boating & Fisheries

Patrol: 5444 4599 to report speeding boats.

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

Dept 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

unlawful fishing activities.
Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital: 1800 334 350