

# 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 12,000 households and businesses within the Currimundi Catchment. Can you help deliver newsletters four times a year? Please phone Tony on 0435 375 450.



Autumn  
2025

Proudly  
supported by  
 Sunshine Coast  
COUNCIL

## LOL DELIGHTS BY DAY AND NIGHT



The impacts of Tropical Cyclone Alfred have brought into sharp focus how vulnerable our coastal communities and the natural environment are to these major climatic events and how important this special part of the Sunshine Coast is to many people.

Currimundi Catchment Care Group has been caring for the environment in this area for more than 23 years and showcasing its important values to the broader community through its annual Lights on the Lake (LOL) festival every December since 2011. This free, family-friendly event has become well established in the community as a highlight of the festive season that draws people from all over the Sunshine Coast. The twin aims are to provide entertainment and to promote care for our valuable and vulnerable coastal environment.



*ABOVE: Oh, Christmas tree! Baiden Drew was the winner of the 'Best Dressed' watercraft at the 2024 Lights on the Lake community festival with a spectacular creation featuring a festive gingerbread house built across two kayaks, lots of lights and a real Christmas tree.*

Last year's festival was attended by more than 3000 people in Crummunda Park and on the southern shore of Currimundi Lake for another fabulous afternoon and evening. Once again, the children's program drew a huge crowd with 380 registered for the various activities and 120 lucky enough to have their faces painted by the expert team led by Holly 'Blossom' Clark. Hannah 'Goanna' Jones ran an indigenous weaving workshop, a first for the festival, celebrating First Nations' values and conservation through weaving.

Wonderful entertainment was provided by local and talented artists: Undecided Ukulele Band, Sunshine Coast Show Choir, Hot Curri Band, Sally Jupp and DJ Candi's kids disco, which generated lots of energy amongst young and old. We hope they'll be back this year. At dusk, the focus turned to the water where 37 enthusiastic kids and adults decorated their various watercraft (kayaks, canoes and paddleboards) and took to the lake for a fabulous Lights on the Lake parade. The evening culminated in a stunning laser light show.

This event would not be possible without the generous financial support provided by Sunshine Coast Council, Nabis Dredging, Community Bank Caloundra – Bendigo Bank, Ray White Real Estate, Deputy Premier Jarrod Bleijie, Gage Security, Sunshine Toyota, Initiative Group Accounting, TJM Caloundra, IGA Wurtulla and Coco's Beach Café. Big thanks to you all.



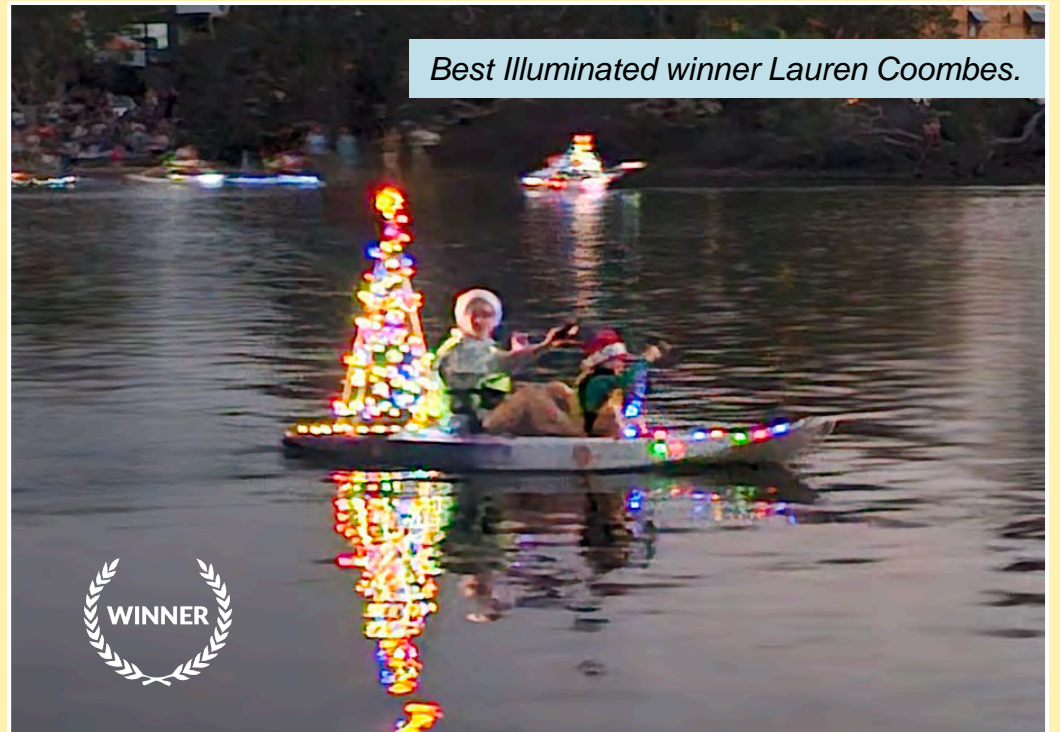


# MAGIC MEMORIES FROM LIGHTS ON THE LAKE

We had an impressive 126 volunteers step up and support our event on the day, including people from Currimundi Catchment Care Group, Friends of Currimundi Lake, Turtle Care, Dicky Beach Surf Life Saving Club, Caloundra Coast Guard, Kawana SES, Caloundra Lions Club, Caloundra Girl Guides and other community members without whom this wonderful event could not happen.

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

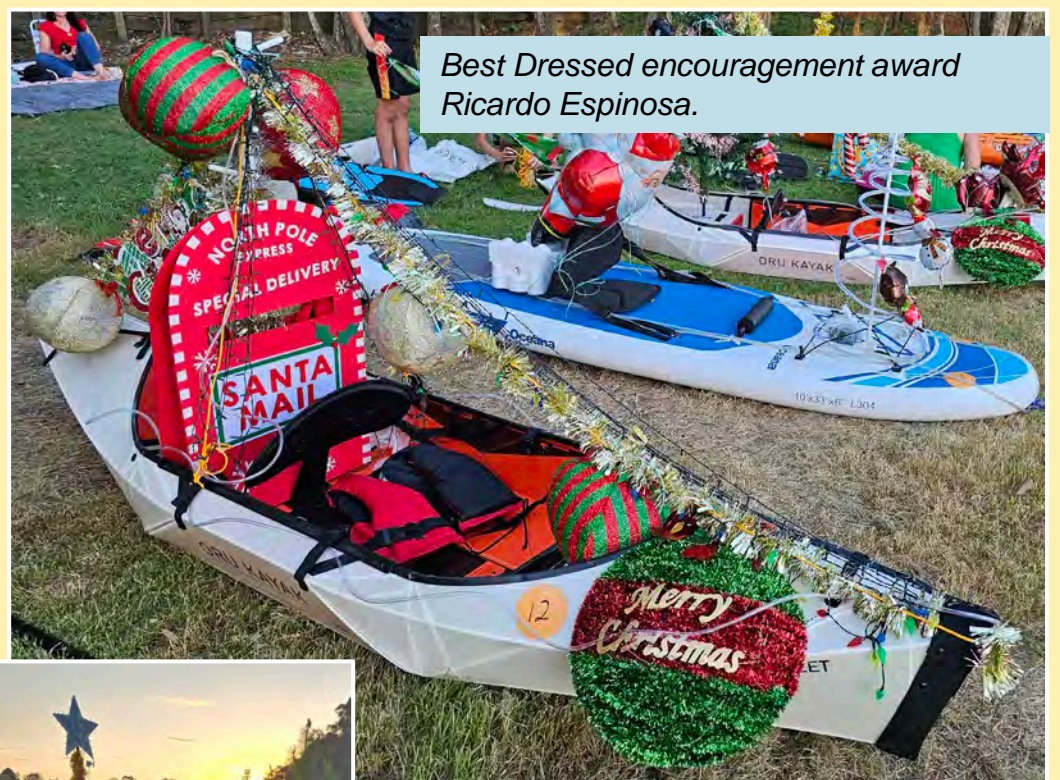
Anaconda, Aroona FoodWorks, Australia Zoo, Bill Alexander, Boomerang Bags, Bunnings Caloundra, Coles Caloundra and Kawana, Currimundi Newsagency, Dicky Beach Supporters Club, Dixon Homes, Domino's Pizza Currimundi, Haynes Paints Currimundi, IGA Little Mountain, KAG Event Electrical, Kawana Bowls Club, Kennards Hire Caloundra, McDonald's Currimundi, Night Owl Parklands, Nothling Building Group, Officeworks Warana, Sealife Sunshine Coast, Unitywater, Woolworths Currimundi and Zarraffa's Coffee Currimundi.



Best Illuminated winner Lauren Coombes.



Thanks for helping out, Caloundra Girl Guides!



Best Dressed encouragement award Ricardo Espinosa.



FAMILY FUN: Face-painting and children's activities were a hit.



ABOVE: Best Illuminated runner-up Clara Rush.



ABOVE and BELOW: Best Dressed runner-up Wendy Stott and her boys.





# CURRIMUNDI COMMUNITY CLEANS UP

Thanks to the 35 wonderful volunteers who braved the steamy weather on Sunday 2 March to join us for our Clean Up Australia Day event at Little Mountain. We collected lots of rubbish, including a car tyre and a shopping trolley! As in previous years, Slurpee cups and lids were the single biggest problem, closely followed by miscellaneous soft plastics and about 100 cans and bottles (plastic and glass). It was great to see some regular families returning year after year as well as new volunteers who joined us and vowed to return next year. It may have been hard work, but everyone had fun too. There was a wonderful sense of community spirit and pride. Of course, we finished up with our usual sausage sizzle, cold drink and chat. It wouldn't be Clean Up Australia Day for us without a sausage sizzle and a well-earned drink from the Esky.



*CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: Volunteers with the rubbish collected at Stockyard Park; Jo and Mariel from Jarrod Bleijie's office; Angelina and Anna making Parklands Boulevard sparkle; President Tony with some of Keryn Jones' family from Melbourne; champion sausage sizzlers Christine and Enid at the grill.*



**Started:** 1990  
**Founder:** Ian Kiernan (1940-2018)  
**Most common rubbish:** cigarette butts, soft plastics.  
**In 2025:** 800,000 volunteers took part in more than 8000 events across the country.

Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL) also held a CUA Day event – see report back page. FOCL members take part in weeding, planting and rubbish collection along the coastal pathway between Nicklin Way and Currimundi Beach once a month, working with the Sunshine Coast Council.



*LEFT: Jarrah and Aria investigate the stump of a once majestic tree, likely felled during early settlement of the region to provide timber to build the stockyards that gave Stockyard Park at Little Mountain its name. RIGHT: They, along with big sister Summer, were delighted to find 'treasure' in the stump, discarded items they took home to reuse.*





## Group reports

### CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP

Thank you to the wonderful, talented and dedicated team of community volunteers who planned, organised and ran the Lights on the Lake Community Festival last Christmas. Judging by the number of people who attended, as well as the fun atmosphere that was so evident, this is a hugely popular event within our community. It could not happen without these hard-working, unpaid volunteers, the support of the Sunshine Coast Council and our sponsors.

Thank you also to everyone who volunteered at our recent Clean Up Australia Day event. There were more than 50 events scheduled by numerous community groups and organisations throughout the Sunshine Coast and hinterland. I always feel a real sense of pride when I see groups of people getting together like this to make things happen for the community and our environment.

As I write this, Cyclone Alfred looms on our doorstep so I don't know yet the full impact on our community. It seems we may escape the worst, but already it has taken a heavy toll on our beaches and is likely to do far more damage throughout the catchment. I hope everyone stayed safe. I feel confident our community will have rallied together in the aftermath to help everyone affected.

**Tony, President**

### FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE

The new year has started with a busy bang. We have had our Clean Up for the Hatchlings and Clean Up Australia Day, plus we have started our Bushcare weeding and planting days. The Clean Up for the Hatchlings was successful in that overall litter was down, except for the number of filled doggie bags left on the beach.

The weeding working bees have started with a good turn-up of people and plenty of weeds pulled, especially these ones pictured.



ABOVE L-R: Painted spurge (*Euphorbia cyathophora*), velcro weed (*Desmodium uncinatum*) often found stuck in dog paws after a walk, and the toxic Gloriosa lily (*Gloriosa superba*).

We also had a good roll-up for Clean Up Australia Day (CUAD) on Sunday 2 March. We had three special visitors, Graham and Irene Smith – FOCL members and CUAD coordinators for over 20 years, our very active Councillor Tim Burns and his lovely wife Mandy, and Mayor Rosanna Natoli who was very interested in our group and what we do. We also had lots of positive comments about our two new FOCL banners.

Thank you to Debbie at Coco's for the lovely hot chips, very much appreciated. Here is a small breakdown of our CUAD litter collection, bearing in mind we did not do the beach as usual because of dangerous weather conditions:

35 unknown hard plastics 🗑️ 43 plastic bags (food, retail, garbage) 🗑️ approx. 20 bottle tops plastic and metal 🗑️ 1 bong, a small drug kit 🗑️ more than 30 doggie bags.

**Rhondda, President**

### PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

Waiting for Alfred to arrive! Thought he gave us a miss but now headed our way.

If you have any trees on public land overhanging your property that are endangering your home, contact Sunshine Coast Council and report as a hazard. You can report fallen trees by calling 5475 7272, filling in a form online or using the free SCC app.

Removal may take a few months or even longer if we have much damage from the cyclone. All the best to everyone.

**Ron, President**

## 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, 12 May 2025

Contact: President Tony, 0435 375 450, [cccinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au](mailto:cccinfo@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, 1 April 2025

Contact: President Rhondda 5437 6481, [foclinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au](mailto:foclinfo@currimundicatchment.org.au)  
Working bees: Ruth 0408 989 263

### PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP

Contact: Ron 5491 7905, 0448 517 905, [rburnett@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rburnett@bigpond.net.au)

### KAWANA FOREST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Contact: President Glenn 0412 286 156, [htimsg60@gmail.com](mailto:htimsg60@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.kafra.org.au](http://www.kafra.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