

# A FINE DAY TO REMEMBER

FEDERAL  
ELECTION  
SATURDAY  
3 MAY 2025  
[see page 4]



Above: Able Seaman Lloyd Mais playing the Last Post.  
Right: Ris Douglass serving up the 'Gun Fire Breakfast' after the Dawn Service.  
Photos: RSL Queensland and Kuranda RSL Sub Branch.

It was wonderful to have a rare fine and dry day for Anzac Day observances in Kuranda. Friday 25 April 2025 marked the 110th anniversary of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

The Kuranda RSL Sub Branch again hosted a Dawn Service at the Kuranda Railway Station at 5.30am, followed by a 'Gun Fire Breakfast' which has become a great community event.

Then came the Anzac March through the village along Coondoo Street, culminating with a service and wreath laying in Centenary Park where various community groups, service organisations and individuals laid wreaths in remembrance of those who served and sacrificed.

Lest We Forget



Left: Anzac March on Coondoo Street.  
Below left: John Barbetti (National Servicemen's Association Atherton Tablelands) in front of Kuranda's Roll of Honour.



New fairy lights adorn Coondoo Street's Heritage listed fig trees.  
Photo: Krishna Buhler and Kuranda Historical Society.



07 4093 8942

mail@kurandapaper.com

Shop 2, The Red House Arcade,  
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The Kuranda Media Association Inc. is  
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Kuranda Paper* enables us to provide this  
community resource, which supports  
local community groups and projects.  
Our stated objectives are to provide  
a means of open communication in  
order to foster the spirit of community  
involvement and reflect the aspirations  
of the residents of the Kuranda area.

Note: Views expressed in *The Kuranda  
Paper*, including letters, do not  
necessarily reflect the views held by the  
KMA Management Committee.

KMA Management Committee 2025

**President:** Nettie O'Connell

**Vice President:** Kerstin Brown

**Secretary:** Anna Raye

**Treasurer:** Gayle Hannah

**Members Representative:** Toni Rogers

**Paper Production this edition:**

Nettie O Design (layout and design).

Gayle Hannah (production),

Toni Rogers and Andrew Brown

(proofreading). Thanks to all our  
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## DEADLINES

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### Advertisement sizes and rates

[width x height in mm]

A – 262x380 (full page)	\$635
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*We welcome your letters via email or post*

### CONCERNS FOR KANJINI FESTIVALS

One might wonder how a development, including the holding of noisy festivals, could have been approved right next to the serene Emerald Creek Falls.

In 2022, Kuranda Region Planning Group had a long discussion with Council about how, despite MSC 2016 Planning Scheme requirements, ecological assessment reports were not included in development applications. Kanjini's MCU/22/0002 was named as an example. Because of the many environmental values on the property and to safeguard them from negative impacts of development, an expert report would have been necessary, at the very least, to determine noise impacts on wildlife.

I then was pleased to see that Council requested an ecological assessment report on 13 September 2022 as per Confirmation notice and amended Confirmation notice 2 March 2023.

However, I was unaware that in the response to information request on 5 November 2023, the applicant made some unqualified comments in respect to environmental concerns and an ecological assessment report was not supplied. Council obviously was satisfied with the word of the developer (the old case of letting the fox look after the hen house) and issued an amended Confirmation notice on 14 November 2023, no longer requesting and ecological assessment report drafted by a qualified expert.

Consequently Council approved MCU/22/0002 on 16 October 2024 with insufficient information, which now is apparent in the conflict between Kanjini and The Agile Project. Noisy festivals are not compatible with wildlife.

I hope Council will do something to reverse this ludicrous development approval as it was based on a flawed assessment process?

*Nadine O'Brien, Koah*



### Cover Masthead

Our masthead this month features detail from a photograph of the Kuranda Railway Station and Barron River, captured from above on 19 April, by Kevin Explores.

Kevin's aerial and drone photography is well known and admired by those who follow his Facebook (Kevin Explores) and Instagram (@kevin\_explores) accounts. Visit his website where he shares his collections of aerial and landscape images of North Queensland. As Kevin says "Elevate your perspective, deepen your connection." [www.kevinexplores.com.au](http://www.kevinexplores.com.au)

### REMEMBERING JOSHUA (JOSH) AKKERMAN

A social get together in memory of Joshua (Josh) Akkerman will be held on **Sunday 18 May 2025 from 11am**.

Family, friends, school and scout mates, support workers and any interested others are invited to meet up at the lower section of Davies Creek (6.2km from the highway).

BBQ and salads provided. BYO drinks.

RSVP via text to Lorraine 0447 082 229 or email [lorraineakkerman1@bigpond.com](mailto:lorraineakkerman1@bigpond.com)



Kuranda paper folders enjoy a well earned beverage.  
Photo: Anna Raye.



### CHANGES TO ADVERTISING RATES

Print publication is an expensive business and it is only our high level of volunteer input, across the board from production through to paper folding, which has allowed us to continue to publish *The Kuranda Paper*, an independent, 100% submission-based community newspaper since July 1991. The *Kuranda Paper* is published

by the Kuranda Media Association which is a volunteer-run, not-for-profit organisation. Our only source of income is paid commercial advertising.

It has been several years since we last increased our advertising rates but the cumulative effect of cost rises, most especially our commercial printing costs which have increased annually since 2022, means we will have reluctantly make small adjustments to our advertising rates as of 1st July 2025. We will ensure that the new rates which we will advertise next edition remain affordable, so we can continue to support our valued advertisers.

*The Kuranda Media Association acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. The Kuranda Media Association is committed to honouring Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.*

**Stockists** – A free copy is delivered to every postal box and street mail delivery in the Kuranda district (postcode 4881). If you don't receive a copy please contact the Kuranda Post Office. The current edition of *The Kuranda Paper* can be viewed online at [kurandapaper.com](http://kurandapaper.com), along with back issues. Hard copy outlets:

**KURANDA:** Kuranda Post Office (Thoree St), Sprout Café (Coondoo St), Kuranda Visitor Information Centre (Centenary Park), Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (Rob Veivers Dr), Kuranda Pharmacy & Newsagency (Coondoo St), Kuranda Arts Co-op (Coondoo St), Here's Good (Coondoo St), Cornetts IGA (Thongon St), BP Service

Station, Annabel's Pies (Therwine St), Honey House Kuranda (Therwine St).

**KURANDA DISTRICT:** Speewah Service Station, Koah Service Station.

**MAREEBA:** Piagno's News (Byrnes St), Mareeba Heritage Museum & Visitor Information Centre (Byrnes St), Mareeba News (Byrnes St)

**TOLGA:** The Humpy

**ATHERTON:** Atherton IGA (Silo Shopping Centre), Atherton Visitor Information Centre

**SMITHFIELD:** Totem Clothing (Smithfield Shopping Centre),

**CAIRNS & SMITHFIELD:** Libraries





# ANZAC DINNER AT SPEEWAH TAVERN A GREAT SUCCESS

On Saturday 12 April, the Kuranda RSL Sub Branch hosted its annual Anzac Dinner at the Speewah Tavern. Invited guests were delighted to enjoy the company of a wide range of representatives from local community groups, service providers, our Defence Force, and guests from Federal, State and Local Government. There was also strong representation from the Kuranda RSL Sub Branch and from a number of Tablelands RSL Sub Branches.

Special Guest Speaker for the night was Dr Dave Cuming from the Kuranda Medical Centre. Dave, who was accompanied by his wife Marg, Dave delivered a very entertaining speech about his early career in medicine and his eventual move to Kuranda. He included the history of the location of the clinic from where Cornett's IGA is now located to its present location on the corner of Barang and Thongon Streets. In addition, he regaled us with details of two nasty tropical diseases/infections that are found in our area.

Special thanks to our hosts Laurie and Michele Woods from the Speewah Tavern who provided the wonderful venue and superb food and drinks service.

Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to next year's event.

LEST WE FORGET



Above: Dr Dave Cuming as the guest speaker of the night.



Right: Speewah Tavern owners Laurie and Michele Woods



Far left: Flowers in appreciation for Jan Carroll (Kuranda Medical Centre) with Eddie Blythe, Kuranda RSL.



Left: Flowers in appreciation for Cheryl Robinson (Kuranda Medical Centre) with Craig Kerr, Kuranda RSL.

Photos: Steven Nowakowski

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# FEDERAL ELECTION – SATURDAY 3 MAY 2025

## 8AM TO 6PM

**VOTING IN KURANDA (POLLING DAY ONLY)** Kuranda CWA Hall, cnr Barang and Thongon Streets

All Australian citizens 18 years and over are eligible to vote. Voting is compulsory.

You can vote at any polling place in your state or territory on election day. Polling places are open from 8am to 6pm. To find your nearest polling place visit [aec.gov.au/where](http://aec.gov.au/where)

When you arrive at a polling place, a voting official will ask for your full name and address, and whether you have voted before in the 2025 federal election.

- Your name will be marked off the electoral roll.
- You will be given a green ballot paper for the House of Representatives and a white ballot paper for the Senate.
- Follow the instructions on your ballot papers to complete them correctly or ask a voting official for help. Once you have completed your ballot papers, place them in the correct ballot box.

**To vote for a Member of the House of Representatives** (green ballot paper) you are required to write the number '1' in the box next to the candidate who is your first choice, and the numbers '2', '3' and so on against all the other candidates until all the boxes have been numbered, in order of your preference.

**To vote for the Senate** (white ballot paper) you need to either:

- number at least six boxes above the line for the parties or groups of your choice, or
- number at least 12 boxes below the line for individual candidates of your choice.

**EARLY VOTING** as we go to print – Thursday 1 May and Friday 2 May remain for early voting. Note there is **NO** early voting available in Kuranda.

**Smithfield:** Tjapukai  
Thursday 1 May 8.30 am to 5.30pm  
Friday 2 May 8.30am to 6pm

**Cairns:** Commonwealth Centre, Grafton Street  
Thursday 1 May 8.30 am to 5.30pm  
Friday 2 May 8.30am to 6pm

**Mareeba:** Mareeba RSL Sub-Branch, Walsh Street  
Thursday 1 May 8.30 am to 5.30pm  
Friday 2 May 8.30am to 6pm

### VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

**Kuranda CWA Hall – 8am to 6pm**  
20 Thongon St, Kuranda QLD 4881

**Smithfield – 8am to 6pm.** Numerous polling booths will be open including at Tjapukai, James Cook Uni and most schools. Check AEC website for more details.

**Mareeba – 8am to 6pm.** Mareeba State High, Mareeba State School Assembly Hall. Mareeba RSL Sub-Branch. Check AEC website for more details.

### RESEARCH YOUR VOTE

(via [www.buildaballot.org.au](http://www.buildaballot.org.au))

Candidates for the House of Representatives, Division of Leichhardt and Division Kennedy are listed in the order they appear on the ballot paper.

**\*\*Depending on where you live in the Kuranda district, you may fall in either the Leichhardt or Kennedy division.**

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VOTING LEICHHARDT

#### LEICHHARDT ELECTORATE 2025 Candidates in Ballot Paper Order (10 Candidates)

Candidate Name	Party
Nicholas James Nigel Daniels	LEGALISE CANNABIS PARTY <a href="http://www.legalisecannabis.org.au">www.legalisecannabis.org.au</a>
Robert Hicks	ONE NATION <a href="http://www.onenation.org.au">www.onenation.org.au</a>
Lloyd Russell	LIBERTARIAN PARTY <a href="http://www.libertarians.org.au">www.libertarians.org.au</a>
Daniel Collins	KATTER'S AUSTRALIAN PARTY <a href="http://www.kattersaustralianparty.org.au">www.kattersaustralianparty.org.au</a>
Matt Smith	LABOR PARTY <a href="http://www.queenslandlabor.org">www.queenslandlabor.org</a>
Les Searle	FAMILY FIRST <a href="http://www.familyfirstparty.org.au">www.familyfirstparty.org.au</a>
Jeremy Neal	LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY <a href="http://www.lnp.org.au">www.lnp.org.au</a>
Norman Miller	INDEPENDENT <a href="http://www.normanmillerforleichhardt.com">www.normanmillerforleichhardt.com</a>
Phillip Musumeci	GREENS <a href="http://www.greens.org.au">www.greens.org.au</a>
Greg Ian Dowling	TRUMPET OF PATRIOTS <a href="http://www.trumpetofpatriots.org">www.trumpetofpatriots.org</a>



### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VOTING KENNEDY

#### KENNEDY ELECTORATE 2025 Candidates in Ballot Paper Order (8 Candidates)

Candidate Name	Party
Annette Swaine	LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY <a href="http://www.lnp.org.au">www.lnp.org.au</a>
Steven Clare	INDEPENDENT <a href="http://www.facebook.com/steven.clare.549/">www.facebook.com/steven.clare.549/</a>
Carole Stanford	GREENS <a href="http://www.greens.org.au/qld">www.greens.org.au/qld</a>
Douglas Lush	FAMILY FIRST <a href="http://www.familyfirstparty.org.au">www.familyfirstparty.org.au</a>
Kate Harris	ONE NATION <a href="http://www.onenation.org.au">www.onenation.org.au</a>
Sharon Winn	LABOR PARTY <a href="http://www.alp.org.au">www.alp.org.au</a>
Mark Westcott	TRUMPET OF PATRIOTS <a href="http://www.trumpetofpatriots.org">www.trumpetofpatriots.org</a>
Bob Katter	KATTER'S AUSTRALIAN PARTY <a href="http://www.facebook.com/bobkattermp/">www.facebook.com/bobkattermp/</a>

### QUEENSLAND SENATE CANDIDATES

Nineteen parties are listed on the Queensland Senate ballot, too many to include here. You can vote above the line or below – check your ballot for instructions.

For more information about the parties vying for your vote please visit <https://www.abc.net.au/news/elections/federal/2025/guide/senate-qld>



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## Councillor Column



### MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCILLOR MARY GRAHAM

This month's Councillor Column, I would like to warmly welcome Cr Mladen Bosnic to the Mareeba Shire team, we look forward to working together for our residents.

#### Kuranda Fairy Lights

The fairy lights are now on in Coondoo Street! The lights enhance the atmosphere and improve visibility, bringing a magical glow to the heart of our beautiful village.

A big thank you to the Queensland Government for their support through the Building Bush Tourism Fund. This project is also supported by the Kuranda Infrastructure Agreement Fund.

#### Mareeba Shire RADF Advisory Committee Nominations

Nominations are now open for the Mareeba Shire RADF Advisory Committee, closing Sunday, 18 May 2025.

Mareeba Shire Council is calling for passionate community members to volunteer their time and expertise to help shape the future of arts, culture and heritage in the region.

If you have experience, knowledge or a strong interest in the arts and culture sector and want to make a difference in your community, we encourage you to apply.

Applicants are encouraged to read the RADF Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and complete the online nomination.

Feel free to reach out to me anytime if you have any feedback or concerns to share.

Cr Mary Graham

07 4092 1030

MaryG@msc.qld.gov.au

PO Box 154, Mareeba QLD 4880

*Kuranda fairy lights on Coondoo Street.*

*Photo: Krishna Buhler and Kuranda Historical Society.*



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## MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL - COMMUNITY UPDATE



### Mareeba Shire Council Welcomes Cr Mladen Bosnic

Mareeba Shire Council is pleased to welcome Cr Mladen Bosnic following his successful election in the recent by-election held on 5 April 2025.



The Queensland Electoral Commission officially declared the result on 16 April 2025, confirming Cr Bosnic as the newest Councillor for Mareeba Shire Council. This by-election was held to fill the vacancy left by the passing of Councillor Kevin Davies earlier this year.

Mareeba Shire Mayor Angela Toppin extended her congratulations to Cr Bosnic on behalf of the Council and the wider Mareeba Shire community.

"Sincere congratulations to Cr Mladen on being elected as a Councillor for Mareeba Shire Council. We look forward to working together to serve the community," said Mayor Toppin.



L-R Cr Amy Braes, Cr Mladen Bosnic, Cr Mary Graham, Mayor Angela Toppin, Deputy Mayor Lenore Wyatt, Cr Ross Cardillo and Cr Nipper Brown.

### Coondoo Street Project Taking Shape

Exciting progress is being made on the Coondoo Street Kuranda project, with key improvements well underway.

All electrical works have now been completed, and both the new street lighting and charming fairy lights are fully operational—adding a warm and welcoming glow to the area.

Pavement upgrades in the upper section of Coondoo Street are now finished, while construction continues in the lower section. Work is also ongoing to enhance the garden beds.

This project was developed with the support of the Queensland Government's Building Bush Tourism Fund in association with the Kuranda Infrastructure Agreement Fund.



**Call for  
Volunteers!**

**Arts & Culture  
Committee**



Artist: Lavinia Letheby

Mareeba Shire community members with an interest or experience in arts, culture or heritage are invited to nominate for the

**Regional Arts Development  
Fund (RADF) Advisory  
Committee.**

Provide advice to Council on the development of the arts, culture and heritage sector. Assist in the implementation of the RADF Program, including community grants rounds.

**Nominations close:  
Sunday, 18 May 2025**

For more information, phone 1300 308 461, scan the QR Code or email [communitywellbeing@msc.qld.gov.au](mailto:communitywellbeing@msc.qld.gov.au)

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Mareeba Shire Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.



**Scan the QR  
to nominate  
today!**







# Bree's Barron River BULLETIN

**Ms Bree James MP**

**State Member for Barron River**

*Assistant Minister for Tourism, Early Learning,  
Creative Industries and Far North Queensland*

☎ 07 4229 0100 ✉ [Barron.River@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:Barron.River@parliament.qld.gov.au)  
✉ Tenancy 2.2, 2 Chelsea Lane, Redlynch QLD 4870

This month was a busy one with plenty of Easter celebrations and Anzac commemorative services. It was great to hear so many attended the Magical Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday and I enjoyed catching up with many locals at the annual Anzac service dinner at Speewah Tavern, and at my mobile office held at Cafe Suzi on Coondoo Street.

Although it's always nice to take the drive up the Range, I am disheartened to see so many small business owners and residents struggling. Vandalism, attacks on tourists, public drinking, small business thefts and break-and-enters, it's clear there is a lot to do in this space. I've spoken to the locals and the owners and it's evident. We've all had enough. I know there are many conflicting sides to what can be done, but there is something that everyone can do and I hope everyone can agree on doing. This is to report any crime you see to the police.

I've been told that many small business owners don't bother as it doesn't do anything. I get this. But, in order to push for more police assistance, housing and facilities, we need incident reports. **We need every single incident to be reported.**

So, I am urging all small business owners and residents to report the criminal activity to the police. Vandalism, broken windows, car thefts, stolen goods, even public nuisance. The more reports the police receive, the better chance we can stop these crimes from taking place. Do it online at [www.police.qld.gov.au/policelink-reporting](http://www.police.qld.gov.au/policelink-reporting).

Now, onto one of the hottest topics of the month – the Barron River Bridge. I know everyone is eagerly waiting for work to commence on our new bridge and I feel the same way. But this is a process.

The Crisafulli Government has completed its first step in delivering a new Barron River Bridge by securing \$245 million in the Federal Budget. I welcome the funding from the Federal Government, something the former Labor State Government was never able to achieve, nor did they put any money in the State budget for it.

Our Government's first State Budget will be released in June, and I am confident we will have the remaining money allocated for this vital project. Please remember that Labor had over 10 years to get this done and they didn't do it. We are in the final stages. It's been less than 200 days since our Government and I were elected and we will honour our election commitment which was to deliver a new Barron River Bridge.

Please reach out to my office if you have any other questions or concerns - we are always happy to assist. Until next month.

Bree James, Member for Barron River



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LNP FOR LEICHHARDT



“

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because more needs to be done.***

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Authorised by B. Riley, LNP, 281 Sandgate Road, Albion QLD 4010.



## ALBUM LAUNCH



**SAT 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY • DOORS 5PM**

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The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Cairns Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

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BAR & GRILL



# Djawarray new album launch

Ellis Beach will come alive on Saturday 17 May, from 5pm until 10.30pm, to the sounds of Djawarray and band, for the much-awaited launch of the *Magayin* album.

Supporting Djawarray will be deadly Kuranda acts, the next generation of sweet rainforest reggae roots music, Cloud 9, a powerful performance by the iconic Mayi Wunba Dance Troupe and hip hop artists, Diggis and ZDC will represent.

**Entry is \$15 for early bird tickets online or \$20 at the door.**  
<https://events.humanitix.com/djawarray-magayin-launch>

Recorded at Pegasus Studios, Cairns, with Koahlition Reggae Band and funded by a grant from the Regional Arts development Fund, the album, *Magayin* (meaning Stand and Rise), has been an awesome journey for songwriter and lead singer, Bertie Riley (Djawarray) and the band, and they are pumped for its release. So come, join us!



*This release has been made possible by a grant from the Regional Arts Development Fund through the Cairns Regional Council. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and local government to support local arts and culture in Regional Queensland.*

Below: Djawarray and Koahlition.  
Photo: Alicia Jade, Sol Studios



**Call for  
Volunteers!**

## Arts & Culture Committee

Mareeba Shire community members with an interest or experience in arts, culture or heritage are invited to nominate for the  
**Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Advisory Committee.**

Provide advice to Council on the development of the arts, culture and heritage sector. Assist in the implementation of the RADF Program, including community grants rounds.

**Nominations close:  
Sunday, 18 May 2025**

For more information, phone 1300 308 461, scan the QR Code or email [communitywellbeing@msc.qld.gov.au](mailto:communitywellbeing@msc.qld.gov.au)

Artist: Lavinia Letheby

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Mareeba Shire Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.



### What's Happening at the Amphitheatre

#### A Heartfelt Thank You from the Amphitheatre

After a massive few weeks of connection, colour, and creativity, we want to extend our biggest thank you to Kuranda! From our Members Mingle to the explosive *LUV BOM* event, the Amphitheatre has once again proven what a powerful, joyful, and uniquely local space it is.

We're so grateful to everyone who showed up as performers, volunteers, dancers, helpers, families, and first-timers. Whether you were flipping burgers, stringing fairy lights, wrangling sound gear, or simply sharing the good vibes — we see you, and we thank you!

These events were about more than music or logistics. They were about building trust, celebrating community spirit, and reminding ourselves what it means to gather, to contribute, and to share joy in this special space. We are so proud of what we've co-created and we know this is just the beginning.

The spirit of the Kuranda Amphitheatre was well and truly alive from kids expending energy galore, to teens dancing their style, to the diverse crowd soaking in music, performance art, food, and the lush open sky above. It was a celebration of all the things that make this space magical, joy, connection, colour, and freedom to just be.

Special love to the 20-plus volunteers who held it down across the bar, kids' zone, gate, food, set build, setup, and pack down crews. And to the 40-plus performers who gifted their time and talent to create an unforgettable show, thank you for filling the space with sound, art, rhythm and magic. To everyone who showed up with generosity and strength, and to the committee and community members who've been tending to this space with love, late nights, and big vision for decades!

And this isn't the end! Keep an eye out for our next event — *Brackets & Jam* — which is coming in May. Follow us on Facebook for more information and details.

With much love and gratitude,

*Kuranda Amphitheatre Crew*

[www.kurandaamphitheatre.org](http://www.kurandaamphitheatre.org)  
[info@kurandaamphitheatre.org](mailto:info@kurandaamphitheatre.org)  
Kuranda Amphitheatre



Artist Profile – Sarah Watson

Introducing our newest artist who joined the Gallery in April – Sarah Watson. Sarah is a ceramic artist originally from the south-west of England, and has been living in Far North Queensland for the last 20 years.

She is inspired by the nature around her home and memories of her childhood garden which was filled with cottage garden flowers.

Sarah makes organic flower forms, sculptures and vessels using mainly a hand-building process. She mostly prefers to leave pieces unglazed to highlight the raw, tactile beauty of the clay and see its natural, colour, texture and matt finish.

Sarah is currently studying a Diploma of Visual Arts and continues experimenting with new forms, techniques and processes.

**Can you describe your artistic style. What is your preferred medium, and why?** My style is organic, nature-inspired and sculptural. My medium is porcelain and dark clays.

**What motivates you as an artist?** I'm motivated by beauty in nature. I also find it relaxing working with clay, it's a time to slow down and be quiet.

**Describe the best piece of art you have created?** My favourite piece is the *Titan Lily* (or corpse plant).

**What artists inspire you and where do you find inspiration?** Two artists that inspire me are Vanessa Hogge ([www.vanessahogge.com](http://www.vanessahogge.com)) and Sandra Davolio ([www.sandradavolio.dk](http://www.sandradavolio.dk)). Both artists create beautiful flower-like sculptures. My inspiration comes from nature and plants and flowers found locally, and memories of my parents garden.

**How do you learn new skills and/or techniques?** I have been lucky to spend some time in the last couple of years studying ceramics at TAFE with an amazing teacher, Olivia Azzopardi.

**What has been the most challenging, and rewarding, part of being an artist?** When you make pieces with clay you never know if they will survive the kiln, this part is both challenging and rewarding!

**What do you like to do when you're not creating art?** Gardening.

**Can you describe your studio/workspace and your favourite time of day to create?** My workspace is on the side of our house overlooking the garden. Mornings are the best time of day for me to work.



Above: "Rose" and "Chrysanthemum" by Sarah Watson.  
Right: "Flower Vase"

**What is your favourite tool that you can't do without?** My hands are my favourite tool, as mostly I hand-build my pieces.

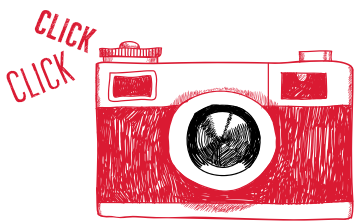
**Do you think art is important in society?** Yes, art is a reflection of society's values, beliefs and emotions. It helps us express identity, tell stories and preserve culture. It can even drive social or political change



What's happening at the Gallery?

Artists are currently touching up the walls inside and tidying up the outside of the Gallery with bright colours to welcome in the cooler winter months and our visitors heading north away from the chilly south.

The Gallery is open 7 days a week from 10am–4pm. We also have an online shop at [www.kurandaartscoop.com](http://www.kurandaartscoop.com) and can deliver anywhere in the world. Call 07 4093 9026 for more information.



FOCUS ON KURANDA

The **Focus on Kuranda Photography Group** is a Facebook group for photographers of all levels. Photos featured here have received the most 'likes' for the previous month (at the time of going to print).



APRIL

"Victoria's riflebirds courtship on display"  
Russell Page  
(5 April 2025)

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Kuranda  
Historical  
Society

✉ kurandahistory@gmail.com  
✉ PO Box 896, Kuranda  
f Kuranda Historical Society

*Working with the Kuranda community to preserve  
our history and tell our stories*

#### Kuranda Historical Society Trivia Night – A Groovy Success

The Kuranda Historical Society (KHS) would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who attended the KHS 'Hippies' Trivia Night. It was heaps of fun and a huge success. Also a special thank you to all of our fabulous sponsors and businesses who donated prizes – everyone loved them.

Massive thanks to the wonderful Birdwing Café, who graciously donated the space for the event and what an incredible venue it is!

Thank you for helping to keep history alive by supporting the Kuranda Historical Society.



Winning table L-R: Richard Bickford, Rhondda Young, Michael Bindley, Terry Eager, Fairy Jenny and Mark Weaver.  
Check out more photos from the night on our Facebook page.



*Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025 from 9am.*

Join our Classic Motorcycle show now in its 4<sup>th</sup> Year! All makes welcome including customs. Run in conjunction with  
**AMX Australia's largest motorcycle accessory company**  
&  
**Shannons Insurance Leaders in classic Vehicle Insurance.**

Everyone welcome bring the family and ride your daily ride or your classic to this Event.  
Sausage sizzle and Raffles 3 great prizes.



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The Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

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# A NIGHT NOT TO MISS

## ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK, TOM JONES, DOLLY PARTON

### TRIBUTE VARIETY SHOW

*One night only!*

7.30PM – FRIDAY 23 MAY @ CAIRNS PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Raff De is a dynamic, internationally acclaimed singer and performer, based on the Gold Coast, who captivates his audience with his world class vocal ability and stage presence. He will be presenting a one night only show at the Cairns Performing Art Centre (CPAC) on Friday 23 May, as part of his Australian tour. The show is being brought to Cairns by Top Class Entertainment and locals are urged not to miss this wonderful night out. This is a show for all generations of music lovers.

The show has something for everyone! The Cairns show will feature a live band and will also have the backing of the best of both Cairns and Gold Coast musicians and performers, including musical director Alan Laguda from well-known band "Street Café" on keyboard. In addition, the Cairns SwingRays dancers will be adding their special touch to bring another dimension to this spectacular show.

The show opens with Raff De showcasing the memorable hit songs of Engelbert Humperdinck, followed by the beautiful and talented Lisa Stewart, who also plays the saxophone, performing Dolly Parton's favourite hits. Raff De will also perform hit songs from greats such as Elvis Presley, The Beatles, Roy Orbison, Neil Diamond, Johnny Cash and Tony Orlando. The audience can also look forward to fantastic duets featuring Raff De and Lisa.

Finally, to close the show, this well-seasoned singer, frontman, songwriter and guitarist, Raff De, will perform as Tom Jones, with Tom's favourite top songs sure to thrill.

This will be a one-off show in Cairns that you must see. Raff De charms audiences of all ages. It will be a show that Cairns has not seen the likes of before and a show for all. You will enjoy it so much that you will all want him back again next year, for another dynamic show. Don't miss out, book now.

ONE NIGHT ONLY at the Cairns Performing Arts Centre at 7.30pm. Doors open 6.30pm. Tickets available at [ticketlink.com.au](http://ticketlink.com.au) or CPAC Box Office, 9 Florence Street, Cairns or call 1300 855 835.

## ONE SHOW ONLY

▪ Engelbert Humperdinck ▪  
▪ Tom Jones ▪ Dolly Parton ▪

## TRIBUTE VARIETY SHOW

*Starring* Raff De & Lisa Stewart  
*Plus* LIVE SHOW BAND



Friday 23 May 2025

@ CPAC Theatre Cairns  
Doors Open 6.30pm ▪ Show Starts 7.30pm

Tickets available at [ticketlink.com.au](http://ticketlink.com.au)  
or Box Office on 1300 855 835



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- General maintenance repairs
- Basic plumbing
- Fencing
- Roof repairs, re-screws & leak sealing

## KURANDA RANGE ROAD UPDATE FOR MAY

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) would like to remind road users of changes to Kuranda Range Road night closures. TMR understands many road users travel during these holidays and have factored this into the reconstruction program.

There is **no scheduled night closure on Sunday 4 May 2025**.

Night closures will continue as previously advised from **Monday 5 May 2025 until December 2025**:

- 9 pm to 4 am on Sunday to Thursday nights.
- No scheduled night closures on Friday and Saturday.
- Scheduled traffic let throughs from top and bottom of the range at 12 midnight.

TMR will continue to notify road users of changes to traffic control and night closures.

For the safety of road users, traffic control measures and single lane measures will remain in place.

Night closures are necessary for certain reconstruction works to be undertaken safely.

Cancellations or continuations of night closures are not an indicator of reconstruction delay or progress. TMR reviews night closures regularly with the preference to open roads wherever possible or safe to do so. Where it is not safe

or possible to open the road during ongoing works, night closures are continued.

TMR will continue to provide updates to road users based on the progress of works or where significant changes in site conditions, closures or traffic management are required.

TMR would like to remind road users:

- Stay alert, stay safe and drive to the conditions over the holiday period.
- At road work sites, please turn on your hazard lights at the back of queued traffic to warn approaching drivers. Remember - last in, lights on!

### STATUS OF WORKS as of 10 April 2025

#### Site 1 (multiple slips)

- Downslope slip, below Henry Ross Lookout
- Soil nails and shotcreting are in progress.
- Embankment excavation, soil nailing and further structural shotcrete to continue.
- Rockfill embankment works and gabion basket retaining wall installation will follow.

#### Site 2 (upslope slip)

- Upslope slip, 300m above Henry Ross Lookout is now repaired.

#### Site 3 (multiple slips)

- Streets Creek area
- Additional soil nailing and shotcrete works have been completed to stabilise the embankment.
- Rockfill embankment works will commence in April 2025 pending weather and site conditions.

#### Site 4 (multiple slips)

- Approximately 1.2km above Henry Ross Lookout.
- Upslope slip
- Vegetation clearing for works have commenced.
- Soil nail drilling and mesh installation to follow.

### Where do I find more information?

If you need further information about these works, please contact the TMR Cairns office by email at [cairns.office@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:cairns.office@tmr.qld.gov.au), visit the project webpage Far North Queensland cyclone reconstruction works | Department of Transport and Main Roads or call 1800 187 937.

For up-to-date information about the state-controlled road network, please check the QLDTraffic website or call 13 19 40.





## Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC)

Operated by Kuranda Information  
& Support Centre Assoc. Inc.

6 Rob Veivers Drive, Kuranda  
PO Box 170, Kuranda Qld 4881  
**4093 8933**  
[manager@kurandanc.org.au](mailto:manager@kurandanc.org.au)

### Easter BBQ and Neighbour Day Celebration 15 April

On 15 April, Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC) held its Annual Easter Event and Neighbour Day in collaboration with Relationships Australia. There were lots of Easter activities and information provided around Neighbour Day. Everyone enjoyed the craft activities, free BBQ and the Easter egg hunt at the end. We would like to thank everyone who attended and made the morning such a success. We look forward to seeing everyone at our future events.

### Community Garden Grant

KNC have been approved for a grant through Neighbourhood Centres Queensland to assist in extending our Community Food Program. The first stage will commence in the coming months with some earthworks, so the site is more accessible for community members, followed by the installation of above-ground garden beds. This is very exciting for the KNC and the community as we will be able to grow more food for community programs. Jade will assist with running the project and will let the community know when we need volunteers to assist with the initial setup. Please follow our Facebook page for updates.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lunar who volunteered his time, hard work and dedication to the garden over the past four years. He was able to start the garden on an extremely low budget, build the existing garden beds and has, with the help of many other volunteers, got the garden to where it is today. Thank you Lunar, your time is much appreciated.

### Mahjong

Mahjong group meets at KNC every Wednesday from 1–4pm. New members welcome.

### KNC Laundry

Laundry days have changed again due to visiting organisations using 'The Nest' to see clients requiring a quiet space, with no interruptions.

New hours are **9–4pm Monday and Wednesday** and **9–1pm Friday**. Please see reception for the key and return it once you are finished.

The laundry is for community members who are homeless or cannot afford to pay to use the laundry in town. The dryer is only available on rainy days.

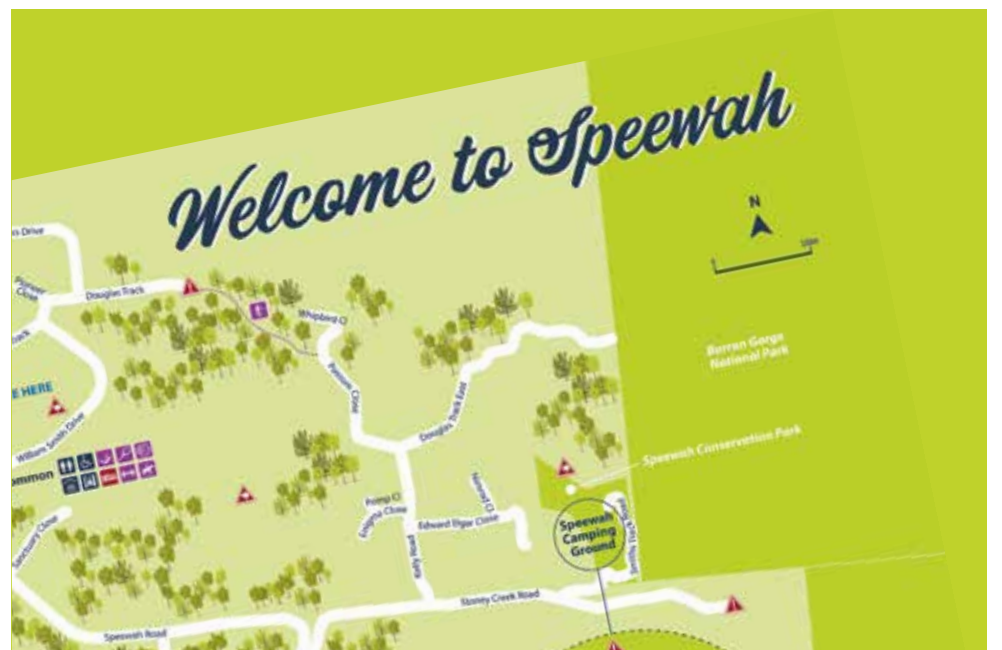
### Date Claimers

- Mother's Day – 11 May
- Neighbourhood Centre Week – 12–18 May
- Reconciliation Week – 27 May–3 June
- Seniors Week 2–6 June

Please check our Facebook page for events in the coming weeks.



*Winter Warmers Welcome. Donations of blankets and warm clothing are welcome at Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. Please ensure donations are clean and in wearable condition.*



## The Speewah District Residents Association

### Speewah District Residents Association Announces AGM

The Speewah District Residents Association (SDRA) is pleased to announce that its Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Monday 23 June at 6pm at the Speewah Fire Shed, Roscommon Park, Speewah Road.

Nominations are now open for the positions of Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you wish to nominate someone or are interested in joining the SDRA management committee, please email your nomination or expression of interest to [speewahdistrictresidentsassocia@gmail.com](mailto:speewahdistrictresidentsassocia@gmail.com).

The SDRA is a dedicated community group committed to enhancing the quality of life for residents in the Speewah district. By acting as a forum that connects residents with stakeholders, including local residents and the Mareeba Shire Council, the SDRA champions various community initiatives and fosters dialogue on local issues. Our aim is to ensure a vibrant and connected community while promoting the well-being of Speewah's residents.

Membership in the SDRA is open to all Speewah residents, with an annual fee of just \$5 per member. Meetings are held four times a year on Monday evenings at 6pm and typically last for an hour or less. If you're unable to attend the meetings, you can still stay involved by receiving correspondence, including meeting minutes and agendas.

Should you have an agenda item for discussion, please email it to Jo Garbellini at [jgarbell15@gmail.com](mailto:jgarbell15@gmail.com).

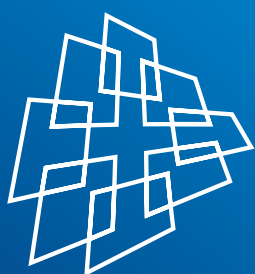
We look forward to your participation in building a stronger community together!

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**Speewah**

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**Meals and Takeaway Pizza**  
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 **[speewahcountrytavern.com.au](http://speewahcountrytavern.com.au)**



## Kuranda Medical Centre

**4093 7118** [kuranda@ipn.com.au](mailto:kuranda@ipn.com.au)

cnr Barang and Thongon Streets  
**Monday – Friday 8.30 to 5pm**

**Dr Dave Cuming:** *Dermatology, paediatrics, minor surgery – Monday, Wednesday (am), Friday (am)*

**Dr Veerendra Sinha:** *Specialises in skin cancers and excisions – Tuesday and Thursday*

**Dr Steve Salleras:** *Thursday*

**Dr Sarah Smith:** *Family medicine and Indigenous health – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday*

**Dr Lauren Taylor:** *Family medicine and Indigenous health – Monday and Wednesday*

**Extra Services:** *Podiatrist, Dietician, Psychologist, Diabetic Educator, Nurse, Asthma Care, Indigenous Health and more...*

**Private Billing Practice**



# A Grinter's Tale

"Come on, come inside, and no, no, don't pee on your brother's head."

It suddenly occurred to me while uttering this the other day, that these are not normal conversations one has outside one's gate, and maybe my neighbours are too polite to suggest I need help.

This is what happens to you when you live with animals. Anything goes. I mean, peeing on someone's head is not acceptable behaviour in anyone's books, and the last person you would do it to is the oldest member of the family who wouldn't even notice because he has had two strokes, is away with the fairies and deaf. You can't let that go without saying something.

After a decade of foster failing rescue dogs, and rehoming dozens of compromised horses, I finally decided it was time to buy a young horse for me and a puppy, a border collie to replace Boo, the little rescue border collie that passed just before Christmas at the age of 15. She is sorely missed, apart from the high pitched bark that accompanied her latter years and made my every re-entry into the driveway a nightmare. She was also deaf, so I supposed she had no idea how loud she was.

I can't imagine a life without dogs and horses. Well actually, that's a lie. I frequently dream about how I would spend the fortune I would have amassed over the years had I not had so many animals.

And then there are the friends I might have retained, had they not been unimpressed by the time I spend entertaining and exercising said animals and making excuses for staying at home that make me seem agoraphobic. The truth is, I just can't bear to see three sad faces staring at me as I drive away.

Or the social faux pas presented by them. I recall an old skydiving friend coming with her family to stay with me at Clifton Beach. I hadn't seen her for years, not since we used to rough it over many a weekend camping on the drop zone in the Hunter Valley in our younger years, sitting in the dirt around the campfire and eating potatoes straight from the ashes. And then probably licking our fingers. They were funny days. Us gals used to lift a wetted finger to the wind in the morning and if we felt the slightest zephyr cool our fingers, we would opt for a wine tasting at the local vineyards rather than risk flying with the pilot who had spent last night imbibing at the local Aero Club and liked nothing better than to dive bomb the drop zone for a laugh.

The boys not on that jump run would line up for a 'mooning' as the plane soared over a couple of metres from the ground, while the poor jumpers on the first morning run prayed for redemption from death or the loss of last night's Chinese dinner, not necessarily in that order. I recall our pilot flying so low one day that the row of 'moonies' became like a little mountain range as they all fell flat on their faces when the plane appeared to be hell bent on taking them out. It was not a sight to behold.

The first run of the morning was always late, while nerves and last night's medley of chow mein, sweet and sour pork, flied lice and wine sent jumpers running back to the

long drop dunny before taking their uncomfortable kneeling position in the cramped Cessna.

Anyway back to the story, I'm not sure what happened in the intervening years, but it appeared I had welcomed the Von Trapps to my abode. All immaculate, ready to burst into song in unison, albeit without a mountain for inspiration, designer suitcases, each family member clinically clean with stain free, ironed clothes from head to underpants, and definitely not used to the tropics. That was evident by the look of disgust at two geckos mating on the living room wall. I made a mental note to shoo the wee lizzies and strip the beds and iron the top sheet and pillowcases while they were out at the beach.

I wilted rapidly during the ensuing two weeks of being told I had the wrong clothes pegs, my swimming pool needed a shade, my windows needed cleaning, and I should wash my hands every time I came in from outside. There was a frog in both the downstairs toilet and the bathroom so I was asked to please keep both doors shut to make sure they did not frighten the kids, or God forbid, jump onto a kitchen bench. I was sorely tempted to plant one of those cute little pottery ones on every windowsill and maybe in a guest bed.

Not only that, my pans needed replacing, the sofas were uncomfortable and I spent too much time walking my dogs and tending to the horses and not enough sharpening my knives, which were all blunt and useless. Good job they are, I thought.

I was counting down the days to murder with a blunt instrument when catastrophe struck. I walked into the kitchen to face four people in total apoplexy. They turned to look at me accusingly. The daughter looked like her head would swivel on its axis, and my old friend appeared to be gagging. Her husband looked decidedly nervous waiting for his wife to implode. As it was, she sort of exploded.

"There's a dog hair in your butter! A DOG hair!!!!".

For me, it just involved a (blunt) teaspoon (so as not to offend further by using my supposedly dirty paws) and a quick apology. That didn't cut it, and it was suggested that I needed to completely revamp my hygiene standards. I refrained from furthering a previous directive about my need to contain my animals in some kind of cage outside, to which no doubt my presence would now be recommended.

After coming home from work a few days later to find they had arranged for the erection of two or three huge Koppers logs around my pool from which to suspend a shade sail that I would have to take down at great risk to myself in the event of a cyclone, I decided to become a troglodyte. Thankfully they left the next day and the dogs and I sat around the dining table to debrief, sharing a large bowl of Chum.

There is that old saying about liking dogs more than people. I don't subscribe to that theory, but mmmm, I look at the world and do consider that dogs have a lot going for them that many humans haven't and I seem to be more acceptable to people who like animals. I suppose that could be taken a few ways...



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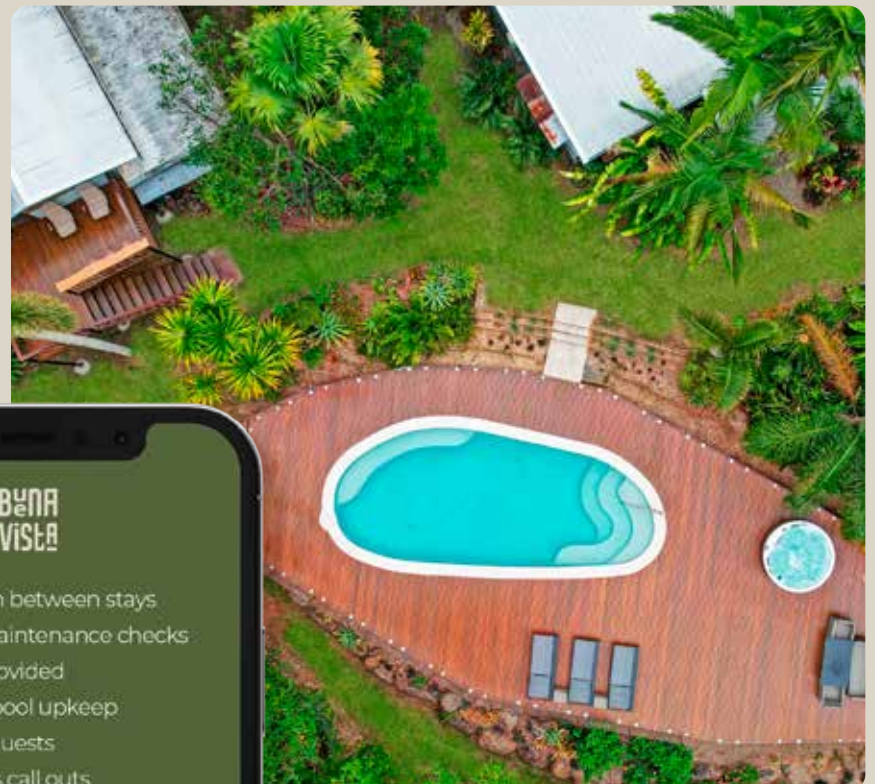
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FROM KURANDA TO CAIRNS AND PORT DOUGLAS





# Kuranda Roots Festival Returns in 2025

A Week of Roots Culture, Creative Connection & Regenerative Rhythm

Kanjini, Far North Queensland — Deep in the ancient heart of Buluwai Country, by the flowing waters of Emerald Creek, the Kuranda Roots Festival returns for its 23rd year — a full week of music, art, culture, and conscious connection. From 15–20 July, this beloved celebration of roots, rhythm and culture will unfold in collaboration with the visionary teams behind Island Vibe and Bushweek Festivals.

Kuranda Roots has always been more than a festival — it's a meeting place for kindred spirits, a shared ritual of creativity, culture, and ecological awareness. This year, under the theme *Creative Collaboration*, we welcome seekers, healers, dancers, and dreamers to co-create a deeply nourishing experience of music, movement, and mindful living.

## FIRST ROUND ARTIST LINEUP

Casual Healing (Aotearoa)	Afro Moses (Ghana)
Juman (Byron Bay)	Broden Tyrell
Andy V	Icaro
Komorebi	Amazonas
Djawayray	Byron Dreaming
Tjunq	Ska Tissue
Old Man River	Neil Junior
Tashmeen	Lara Biggs

More artists to be announced soon!

## THE EXPERIENCE

### 15–20 July: The Camp-Out

Arrive early to tune in and drop deep. The Camp-Out phase is a chance to settle into country, participate in workshops in yoga, bodywork, art, movement and craft, and connect in a relaxed, co-creative environment.

### 18–20 July: The Festival

The land comes alive with music, ceremony, and community celebration. Three days of world-class performances, interactive installations, and spontaneous collaborations.

## A FESTIVAL WITH PURPOSE

Kuranda Roots is a family-friendly, drug- and alcohol-free event designed to honour the land, each other, and ourselves. As Kuranda Roots is held on Buluwai Country, we ask that you leave pets at home and tread lightly. The site will also host a craft village, art gallery, and a selection of ethical food vendors catering to all dietary needs.

Tickets are available for the full week, weekend, or single-day access (Saturday/Sunday). We encourage you to come for the whole journey — or drop in for the days that call you.

Tickets, artist updates, and full program details available at [www.kurandaroots.com.au](http://www.kurandaroots.com.au)

## Stay connected via social media:

[facebook.com/kurandaroots](https://facebook.com/kurandaroots)  
[instagram.com/kurandarootsfestival](https://instagram.com/kurandarootsfestival)

RUDEKAT, BUSHWEEK AND DREADAGADE PRESENT

# KURANDA ROOTS

## FESTIVAL

JULY 15-20 2025



### 1ST LINE UP ANNOUNCEMENT

CASUAL HEALING (AOTEAROA)  
AFRO MOSES (GHANA) JUMAN  
BRODEN TYRELL ANDY V ICARO  
KOMOREBI AMAZONAS DJAWARRAY  
BYRON DREAMING TJUNQ SKA TISSUE  
OLD MAN RIVER NEIL JUNIOR TASHMEEN  
LARA BIGGS LELIO SUNNY SIDE UP  
RAINFOREST RHYTHM BENT INTENT  
JC FUNKDAFIED & MANY MORE

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FOOD & CRAFT MARKETS

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## Community Nursery and Landcare

Caring for Kuranda's environment

"by standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before"

### Projects progress – Focus on Jumrum

Another of our 2023 projects is coming to a successful close, with the installation of another component.

#### Bin ya butts!

#### To protect our beautiful waterways and wildlife

If you've been in Kuranda village recently, you may have noticed a newly installed cigarette butt bin in one or more of 12 locations.

Kuranda Envirocare secured funding for 12 cigarette butt bins, to install in key sites in the Kuranda village centre. After meeting with Mayor Angela Toppin and CEO Peter Franks, it was agreed that after Envirocare sourced funding for the bins, Mareeba Shire Council would be responsible for installation and ongoing maintenance.



Sarah Rizvi with dog Suki beside a newly installed cigarette butt bin holder. Photo: Sarah Rizvi.

Strategic locations for the bins were identified, with a focus on points in Kuranda village where cigarette smoking and storm water drains were co-located. The ground around these areas typically experiences a lot of butt litter, which is likely to enter the stormwater drains. The drains contain baskets to catch litter, but

they generally won't catch things as small as butts, which will then the wash out to waterways like Jumrum Creek and the Barron River.

Cigarette butts may be little, but they can also be lethal to wildlife. Littered cigarette butts leach toxic chemicals into the environment, such as arsenic (used to kill rats) and lead, to name a couple, and so can contaminate water. The toxic exposure can poison fish. Cigarette butts are often mistaken as food by fish, birds and other wildlife, and they can cause serious digestive problems or even death. This can be prevented by simply binning your butts!

Drain stencils will also soon appear throughout Kuranda village, promoting this message.

Many thanks to Kuranda Envirocare member Sarah Rizvi, who was the project manager for this component.

Thank you also to Kuranda based artist Zachary Barclay and Tableland Yidinji artist Dan Joseph who collaborated to create the designs which you can find etched onto the butt bins, and Traditional Owner Dennis Hunter who provided the message in Djabugay. Also to Jacob Grundling from Mareeba Shire Council and Adric Rusch from TRACQS, who collaborated to install the bins.



**KEEP BANA-WURUU BARRON RIVER GURII HEALTHY**



**KEEP BANA-WURUU BARRON RIVER GURII HEALTHY**



Above: Drain stencils coming soon throughout the village.



### Explore Kuranda app – update

Explore Kuranda app available, with upgrades since July last year. Go to Google Play or Apple store to download and learn about Kuranda Arts, Kuranda European settlement history and interesting features on the Kuranda Nature Trail circuit, useful for locals and tourists.

This project was supported with funding from the Dept of Environment and Science Community Sustainability Spaces grant program.

### Plant of the Month

#### Wenlock gardenia – *Larsenaikia ochreatea*

A tree or shrub suitable for both rainforest and drier areas such as Koah and Speewah. It grows to 20 metres with fragrant white flowers turning yellow with age.



### • Date Claimers •

**20–28 May – Monthly Frog monitoring** – fun starts at 6.30pm until 9.30pm. Come for all or part of the night's sites. Check Facebook or text Sylvia 0409 647 714 to join the group texts and emails.

 Friends of the Kuranda Tree Frog



### Celebrating 10 years of action!

In April 2015, Kuranda residents concerned about the limited resources available for yellow crazy ant control organised—under Russett Park resident Mikhaila Jacoby—to form the Kuranda Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce. Kuranda Envirocare secured funding through a Terrain Natural Resource Management grant to support the Taskforce's activities and provide a part-time paid coordinator.

Local fundraising—including \$10,000 from our very own *Kuranda Paper*—kept the Taskforce going and supported critical research by James Cook University.

In those early days, Taskforce volunteers conducted field surveys to better understand the infestation, made and set out traps to monitor ants, and even treated areas under the close supervision of the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA). What a great example of local grassroots action!



Russett Park residents gathered with Mikhaila Jacoby (fourth from left) in 2015 to discuss the issues.



Volunteers carry out yellow crazy ant treatment in Russett Park in 2015.

In recent years we have been fortunate that the State and Australian Governments have provided stable funding for the Wet Tropics Management Authority's Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program. This allowed Taskforce volunteers to focus on education and monitoring. The Taskforce has continued to play a big role in keeping yellow crazy ants in Kuranda 'on the radar' for government partners.

#### Saying farewell to the Taskforce model

The Kuranda Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce has been hugely successful, not just in controlling these invasive pests, but also in raising community awareness and support. Let's celebrate that success!

At the same time, we recognise that the taskforce model no longer really reflects our activities. We no longer have a group of committed volunteers. Instead, activities are now organised and led primarily by the Taskforce Coordinator (currently Rachel Reese).

We believe that the time has come to officially 'stand down' the Kuranda Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce. After 10 years, the taskforce has largely achieved its objective. Yellow crazy ants are well under control in the Kuranda area, with infestation areas reducing in size again this year. Thank you to everyone who has participated over the life of the Taskforce!

#### What's next?

The change is really just recognising what's already happening, and you're unlikely to notice any big changes on the ground. Kuranda Envirocare will continue to deliver yellow crazy ant education activities

in the Kuranda community, and we will continue to need volunteers to help with big events. Residents in treatment areas will liaise directly with WTMA rather than going through the Taskforce Coordinator.

#### Let's party!

We are working with past Taskforce members and residents in treatment areas to organise a celebration of all that the Taskforce has achieved. Get in touch with us if you'd like to be involved, and watch this space (or your post box) for more details!

*Rachel*

Right: Ciara Bridgland and Cathy Retter were key to the Taskforce's success.

Below: Volunteers share information about yellow crazy ants at Kuranda IGA in 2021.

Photos: Kuranda Envirocare.



Coordinator: Rachel Reese

0474 560 700

coordinator@communitytaskforce.org.au

Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce

ycacommunitytaskforce

communitytaskforce.org.au





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## Yardlong beans and Mouse melon

Yardlong beans are growing longer every day. I wonder if they will turn into a yard long or this is just a name for a long bean? One yard is 91.44cm and our bean is 90cm at the time of writing. This is indeed interesting. Yardlong bean of the Leguminosae family is also called Chinese long bean or asparagus bean. I am only hoping that these beans will grow to maturity before the wildlife make any discoveries.

To harvest the bean for seed saving, the pod has to dry out on the plant. The bean seeds originate from Jane Lawrance also known as Jane Many Leaves. Jane lives in Babinda and has been growing organically, open pollinated seeds for many years. We quite often receive seeds from Jane as she is a keen seed saver herself and one of her wonderful missions is to share these seeds.

Saving seeds from crops you have grown adds another tier of joy to gardening. There is a lovely sense of satisfaction when you see your plants through to the next generation. Then there is the brilliant promise that, if the variety has done well at your place, its seeds are also likely to do well. Perhaps even better, because it carries the genetic memory of adaptations to your garden's unique conditions.

This is exactly what I am experiencing at the moment growing Marjorie Spear's bean. After a few generations of this bean in my garden in Koah, it is now longer and fuller with bigger seeds.

My Mouse melon is growing vigorously at the moment. Mouse melon is also known as Cucamelon or *Melothria scabra*. It is a small fruit that resembles a miniature watermelon and has a taste similar to cucumbers with a hint of sourness. It is a fast growing vine and can soon take over your garden so keep it trimmed. I eat it raw and sometimes pickled. To harvest for seed saving, pick the largest ones, cut them open and squeeze out the seeds into a glass jar. Remove

any pulp. Add water and let seeds soak for two days. Rinse once a day. Then dry on piece of paper. Label and store.

Top: Mouse melon.

Above: Yardlong bean.

Photos: Ulla Melchiorson

I have been wondering! How do plants know when it's time to do things, like grow or flower, setting fruits and creating seeds? I read somewhere that plants are very good at tracking time. They need to produce their flowers and fruits for maximum impact. No use putting on a glamorous floral display when your insect pollinator is still a grub and unable to flutter from plant to plant.

Makes sense to me so I will continue to make garden observations. If you would like to learn more about seed saving and gardening please join a local seed savers group. Ko-Wah seed savers meet at Koah Hall every second month on the second Sunday.

For more information please contact Helen 0402 803 144 or email ko-wah.seedsavers@outlook.com.

Happy gardening! Ulla Melchiorson

## Testing and maintenance works Barron River Bridge Kuranda 6-30 May 2025

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will continue testing and maintenance works on the Barron River bridge near Kuranda from Tuesday 6 May until Friday 30 May 2025, weather permitting.

The works are part of an ongoing testing and monitoring program to ensure the bridge remains safe and operational while TMR works on a long-term solution for the bridge.

Crews will be on site between 7am and 5pm (including Saturday and Sunday). Changed traffic conditions will be in place during the works, including a single-lane operation of the bridge. Traffic controllers will monitor queue lengths and working hours will be adjusted if required. From Monday 19 May until Friday 30 May 2025 short, intermittent full closures of up to 10 minutes will be required between 9am and 3pm.

Variable message signs (VMSs) will be in place to inform motorists about the changed traffic conditions. Any changes to the date of works will be posted on the VMS.

Motorists should expect minor delays and plan their journeys accordingly.

We'd like to thank road users for their patience while we carry out these important testing and maintenance works.

For more information check [www.tmr.qld.gov.au/barronriverbridge](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/barronriverbridge).





# SHAPELY HUNTERS

Spiders come in all manner of shapes and sizes. One group that breaks the 'standard spider' mould are the Triangular spiders (*Arkys species*). While not all members of this group are truly triangular in shape, they all certainly fall into the unusual spectrum of spider forms.

Triangular spiders are quite small and if it wasn't for their bright colours they would often go unnoticed, however, with bright red, orange and yellow adorning their bodies they often catch the eye.

Like all spiders, Triangular spiders are predators, with insects and other small spiders making up their diet. They are ambush hunters that do not use a web to catch prey, instead sit and wait patiently beneath leaves or hanging from silk lines for prey to come within striking distance.

When prey approaches, these little hunters snatch them up with their powerful and spiny front legs. Once in their clasp, the prey is bitten and injected with venom. Like the vast majority of spiders, their venom works well on their invertebrate prey, but has little or no effect on us.

Locally we have three species of Triangular spiders which are commonly encountered. The most common is *Arkys lancearius*, which is true to its name and has a distinctly triangular-shaped abdomen that is deep red and adorned with white and yellow spots. These little jewels become more common as the weather warms up and are often seen hanging beneath leaves and can remain in the same area for quite some time.

Another species here in Kuranda is *Arkys cornutus*. It is orange-red in colour with an abdomen that resembles an arrow head. Its deep red-coloured head has two horn-like protrusions that extend out at either side.



The third local species, *Arkys furcatus*, has an abdomen more like a lampshade than a triangle. It has enormous spines on its front legs which form a cage of sorts when it captures prey.

**Alan Henderson, Minibeast Wildlife**



[www.minibeastwildlife.com.au](http://www.minibeastwildlife.com.au)



Top: Our most common Triangular spider (*Arkys lancearius*).

Above: The abdomen of *Arkys cornutus* resembles an arrow head.

Left: *Arkys furcatus* with its lamp shade shaped body and enormous spines on its legs for catching prey.

Photos: Alan Henderson

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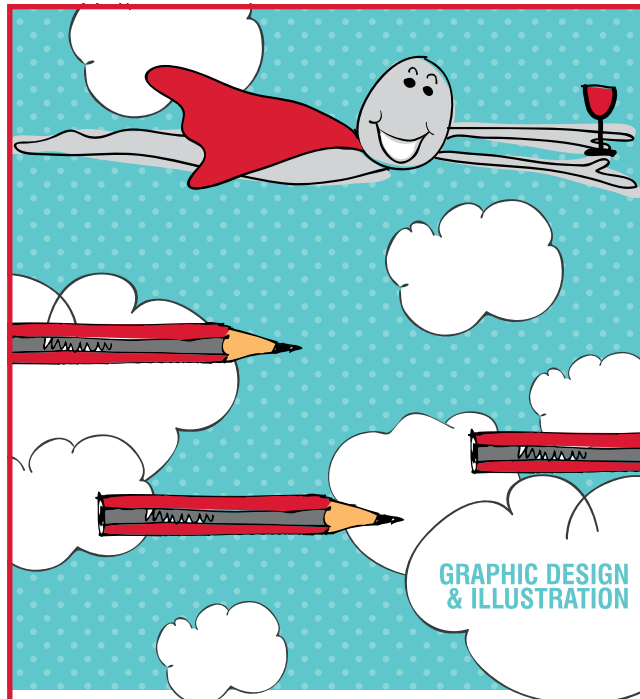
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**GRAPHIC DESIGN & ILLUSTRATION**



**NettieO**

DESIGN

m. 0416 120 852 e. [artwork@nettiedesign.com](mailto:artwork@nettiedesign.com)

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## CASSOWARY ART TRAIL UPDATE

### Kuranda's Big Cassowary

The countdown is on until we launch Kuranda's Big Cassowary. The project has been split into three steps in order to create a developmental story for the Big Cassowary life cycle and implemented over a longer period of time.

**Step 1** – The Big Cassowary will be set up in Centenary Park, Kuranda in the second half of 2026 with an interpretive sign showing all the local artists involved, the story they will paint on the cassowary, as well as all the sponsors, supporters and collaborators.

**Step 2** – After the launch of the Big Cassowary, some eggs will be added – one unhatched and the other a cracked egg with a chick looking out.

**Step 3** – Juvenile cassowaries will be added to show the full developmental cycle of the cassowary. How fantastic is that?

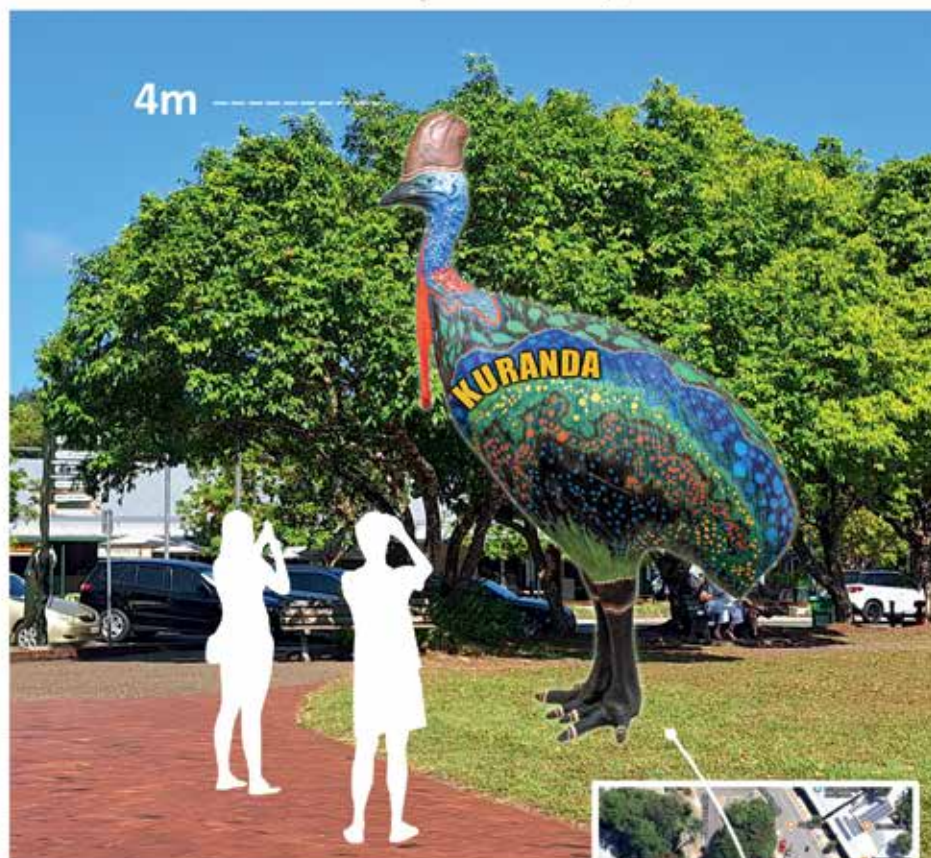
Part of the first step is securing full funding for the project. The project team has developed a sponsorship document that will be handed out to different tourism operators, businesses and organisations to gain as many pledges as possible for the project. So far we have secured \$30,000 towards the project. If you would like to support the Big Cassowary project with a donation you can do this at [www.cassowarytrail.com.au/big-cassowary](http://www.cassowarytrail.com.au/big-cassowary). Every dollar counts.

To get the latest on the project, follow us on Facebook and Instagram and help us to spread the word to a larger audience. With the Big Cassowary we believe we are creating a very special and iconic, must-see feature for Kuranda, while also creating a broader awareness for the conservation of the Southern Cassowary.

The whole project team thanks you for all the support toward achieving the Big Cassowary, which is a project of Kuranda Conservation Community Nursery Inc. If you would like to get involved, have questions or additional input, please send it to [info@cassowarytrail.com.au](mailto:info@cassowarytrail.com.au)

Jurg Jutzi  
Project Director

## Big Cassowary at Centenary Park, Kuranda



**CASSOWARY ART TRAIL**  
A Project of Kuranda Conservation  
Community Nursery Inc  
In collaboration with  
Mareeba Shire Council



FRIENDS' WEDNESDAY NIGHT TALK

## INTO THE FUTURE

Cairns Botanic Gardens

Guest Speaker  
**Charles Clarke**  
Curator Botanic Areas

**14 MAY 2025**  
Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre  
6pm Variety of wraps - 6.30pm Talk  
\$5 FOBG members; \$10 non-members

Friends of the Botanic Gardens Cairns

Cairns REGIONAL COUNCIL

### "Cairns Botanic Gardens into the Future"

with **Dr Charles Clarke**  
Curator, Cairns Botanic areas



Around the world, trends in botanic gardens management have moved from passive to active engagement with visitors, with a corresponding increase in baseline standards for public education, environmental conservation and scientific research. This presents challenges to regional botanic gardens, whose resources are typically very limited.

In the 2020s Cairns Botanic Gardens is playing catch-up and this talk outlines some of the initiatives that have recently been taken to meet these challenges and ensure that the gardens continue to develop and remain an engaging visitor experience into the future.

**6pm on Wednesday 14 May 2025**  
**Gardens Visitor Centre.**

Visitors welcome. \$10 charge for light supper.

For more information contact:  
D Rentz, Publicity via email [antipodectes@yahoo.com](mailto:antipodectes@yahoo.com)

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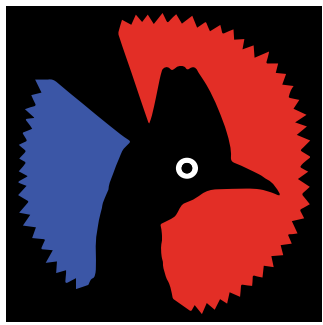
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# KURANDA conservation COMMUNITY NURSERY Inc

1 Pademelon Lane, Kuranda 4881

Phone: 4093 8834 | Email: kurandaconservation@hotmail.com  
[www.kurandaconservation.org](http://www.kurandaconservation.org)

*The KCons Community Nursery is nearly always open!*

Our role in Kuranda, and the wider Wet Tropics, is to do all we can to protect our natural environment. We chose cassowaries as our indicator species. We say that if we get it right for the cassowary, we get it right for what trees we grow, town planning decisions, how roads are designed and managed and how properties need to be managed to ensure there are intact corridors across the landscape for all wildlife to pass through. Wildlife needs corridors to find each other and to find habitat. We have been instrumental in having the Kennedy Highway speed limit reduced to 60kph near Top of the Range where we've lost generations of cassowary chicks to vehicle hits. Love us or hate us for that, since the speed reduction in this area, we've had no more hits.

## AGM

We recently had our AGM, key to which were the speakers for many of our projects. Most attendees were amazed at the range of things we do. These include:

- Cassowary Art Trail/ Big Cassowary Project – Jurg Jutzi, Project Leader
- Cassowary Monitoring – Shaz and Di Daniels
- Cassowary Corridors and Planning – Jo Martin
- Wildlife in the Nursery – Jules Seabright, Entomologist (speaker)

- Nursery Renovations, kitchen, plumbing and electrics – Phil, Matt and Netta
- Nursery Management – Nat
- Publicity and Events – Jude Thomas
- IT (website) – Rosie Belson
- Bin Stickers and Rebecca Koller's cassowary feet castings and moulds – Jax

We're pretty focussed and meet twice a week to try to keep up with things. Our volunteer base is awesome with new people joining us on Saturdays out of curiosity, to learn about native plants and to enjoy our 11 o'clock round-table coffee gathering. We're a family.

## RAISING FUNDS

Like everyone, we need funds to do all the things we want to do. For this purpose we sell the beautiful native animal bin stickers (created by Rebecca Koller and made possible by Steven Nowakowski, Nettie O Design, and supported by *The Kuranda Paper*), we hire out our two box trailers as a community service, we have an amazing native plant nursery and, more recently, the Cassowary Art Trail and the Big Cassowary project, thanks to Jurg Jutzi from Terra Nova Gallery. Put together, these bring in enough funds for us to do most of what we aspire to do.

- This community **NATIVE PLANT NURSERY** specialises in plants that belong here. We care.

- You can get **BIN STICKERS** at the nursery or order online at [kurandaconservation.org](http://kurandaconservation.org) or at the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre. They make great gifts.

- **SNAKES:** We're happy to relocate an unwanted snake. We love them.

- We can refer you to **WILDLIFE CARERS** for injured wildlife.
- Want advice on what to plant at your place? Give us a call.
- Let us know if you see a cassowary on the road or in the bush.
- Two **BOX TRAILERS** available for you to borrow – 4093 8834



Adult male Cassowary resting  
Photo: Sharon McGrigor.

## CASSOWARIES

Mating is in full swing from now till around August/September. Juveniles are being told to leave home and this can be a very confronting time for them. You may see two adults together more often these days and lone juveniles looking for their own new home range and feeling a bit lost. However, their fathers have taught them everything they need to know over the past 6-9 months, so they'll be OK.

Please continue to message us on our Facebook page or phone in or message us on our mobile number: 0439 899 731. A photo is always most helpful.

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## KURANDA BRANCH

20 Thongon Street

Email: [kurandabbranch@qcwa.org.au](mailto:kurandabbranch@qcwa.org.au)

Booking Agent: Krishna Buhler 0427 937 348

President: Carol Jeanes

*Kuranda CWA Branch works within the QCWA Strategic Plan framework – Focusing beyond: overcoming isolation, healthy QLD women and our local community needs.*

### FEDERAL ELECTION SATURDAY 3 MAY

Don't forget the Federal Election is on Saturday 3 May. You can cast your vote at the Kuranda CWA Hall at 20 Thongon Street Kuranda from 8am to 6pm.

**Women's Health and Equality** – The QCWA is proud to be promoting Women's Health and Equality with free phone counselling support. See the QCWA website for more information or call **1800 4 Women** (1800 496 636).

QCWA's focus on empowering women through education and health is its priority. "It drives many of the reasons women from all walks of life join. An active community of women who, together, improve the lives of Queensland families living in regional, rural and remote areas. It's about friendship, community and connection." Why not join us today? Email Kuranda CWA for membership information.

**Kuranda CWA Women's groups** – Our very own Crafts and Sodality women's groups aim to provide connection and creativity in our community. All women are welcome to join these new groups. Dates and times are below.

**CWA monthly Members' meeting** – Wednesday 14 May 9–10.30am.

**CWA Crafts Group** – Friday 2 and 16 May 10.30am–12.30pm at the CWA Hall. Contact Sabina at [kurandabbranch.qcwa.org.au](mailto:kurandabbranch.qcwa.org.au) for more information.

**CWA Women's Sodality Group** – Is a new group to connect and create with engaging activities for the mind, body and soul. All women welcome to join this new group on Sunday 10 May from 4–6pm. Contact Holly 0494 369 462 for more information.

**Country Kitchens** – Contact Vicki Donovan 0400 791 345 for more information.

**CWA Dance Group** – Contact Sandra 0447 737 415.

**Kuranda CWA Membership** – Check out QCWA website and see the benefits of becoming a CWA member, or enquire locally via email [kurandabbranch.qcwa.org.au](mailto:kurandabbranch.qcwa.org.au).

#### WHAT'S ON AT THE CWA?

**Contact the following hirers for any enquiries regarding their activities:**

Taekwon-Do – Jeff 0437 438 196

Dani's Soul Temple – Thursdays 9.30–11am. Contact 0401 162 915



Above: Holly Scott and Jane Dyer, Members of the new CWA Sodality Women's Group, where a diverse group of women gather to celebrate their uniqueness, express and explore their passions, gifts and ideas with acceptance, where all women are mentees and mentors for one another. Photo: Krishna Buhler.

**Hall Hire Available** – The Kuranda CWA Hall is a venue close to the village with a large safe space, air conditioning, kitchen, toilets, furniture, disability access, professionally cleaned, disability parking, and flexible hire times.

We currently have hire availability on some Mondays, some Tuesdays 11am–5pm, Wednesdays (except 2nd week for CWA meetings 8am–12pm). Thursdays 12–4pm. Some Fridays and Saturdays free. Sundays are mostly free.

Please enquire as bookings can change.

## In Turbulent Times, Shakespeare Shouts

Get your sea legs ready as tickets come on sale for **Richard III**, a tropical retelling full of local Cairns pirates and Shakespearean mayhem. In this, the latest production from the multi-talented theatre troupe at Tropical Arts Association, Shakespeare's classic cautionary tale of power takes to the high seas. And what better way of honouring Shakespeare than by launching ticket sales on the anniversary of his birth and death (23/4/1564 – 23/4/1616).

Cairns' creatives of all abilities have spent months crossing swords and donning puffy sleeve shirts at facilitated workshops in Tanks in preparation so that when the show opens at Tank 3 from the 26 June – the watery stage is set and the cannonball ready to fire. A massive pirate ship makeover is currently

being built so that audiences can sit up close around a galleon, making for an immersive experience as they watch dastardly deeds and murder most foul unfold.

- *Richard III* tickets go on sale 23 April 2025.
- The production hits the stage **26–28 June 2025** at Tank 3.
- Tickets are \$35–\$27.50 and available through [www.tropicalarts.org](http://www.tropicalarts.org) or at the box office on the night.

Beyond the drama, it is Shakespeare's enduring themes that remain timeless but without a rollicking good story – who would come watch? Warts and all, this new show is designed to entertain.

Source: Tropical Arts Association Inc.



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Did you know that Kuranda Community Kindergarten is a not-for-profit organisation?

Our Kindergarten offers a variety of early childhood education and care programs and is committed to quality education and supporting children's social and emotional development.

Being a Community Kindergarten means that we need a committee of devoted parents and volunteers to keep our Kindergarten running.

In March we held our AGM and had our new parent committee voted in. We welcome back our president from 2024 Megan. Megan has been an incredible president who is always ready to offer her support. Megan also has a background in science and working with animals. These are wonderful interests that Megan can share with the Kindy children. Our new Treasurer is Jarrad. Jarrad has an interest in sustainability and will be encouraging the Kindy to get more involved in some of the recycling opportunities available to the Kuranda community. We also welcome our new secretary Ebonney. Ebonney has been very involved at the Kindy and is always offering a helping hand. When we had our first working bee in Term 1, Ebonney was keen to help with the weeding that our gardens were badly needing.



Above: Welcome to our new and continuing committee members. L-R – Megan (President), Tania (Past Treasurer), Amanda (Director/Teacher), Ebonney (Secretary), Jarrad (Treasurer), Teha (Business Manager).

We would like to thank all the parents from Djama who were involved in the weeding bee, and Bundarra group parents for all their support in Term 1 and going forward.

We are excited to let families know that we have **FREE KINDY** for target age children in 2025! Target age for 2025 are children born between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021 (turning four by 30 June). This is a wonderful opportunity so please contact us [kcka@westnet.com.au](mailto:kcka@westnet.com.au) or 07 4093 8087 for any enrolment enquiries.



Above: Weeding Wednesday Working Bee

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[chss.qld.edu.au](http://chss.qld.edu.au)

46 Boyles Road, Kuranda

## Design matters for Steiner school development

The Cairns Hinterland Steiner School, set on 40-acres of tranquil rainforest in Kuranda, is looking to the future and making plans to enhance its school campus, by developing buildings and outdoor spaces.

With new principal Chani Cardwell at the helm, the Steiner school is hosting a series of community engagement events, with locals invited to share their ideas and suggestions about the school's future development.

"We have the land. We have ambition. We now need a shared vision to take us through to 2035," Chani explained.

"We aim to create a region-leading learning environment that offers the finest education for generations to come.

"We're ensuring that our buildings and outdoor spaces are well-organised, beautifully designed, and efficiently delivered to enhance our school campus in a way that positively impacts the schooling experiences of young people. Good design really matters.

Community views from these events will shape the school's Master Plan, and therefore the future development of its Kuranda campus.

Sarah Rizvi, long-time Kuranda resident and strategic planner, explained, "The most successful Master Plans preserve a location's unique character, support diversity, and make connections between school buildings, social settings (including areas for play) and the environment.

"The long-term goal is to ensure that the school's facilities are aligned with its educational, operational, sustainability, and growth requirements; and that the future needs of the Kuranda, Cairns and Tablelands communities are considered," said Sarah.

"Community input on these matters is highly regarded and valued," Sarah concluded.

The Cairns Hinterland Steiner School provides early childhood services along with primary school and high school (to Class 8). It is renowned for its holistic and creative approach to education, whilst upholding academic excellence and the highest standards for its pupils.

The next master planning community engagement event is on Friday 2 May 5.30–7.30pm at the school's Hall. Everyone welcome. Details are on the school website at [chss.qld.edu.au](http://chss.qld.edu.au).

If you can't make the event in person, follow the school's social media accounts as an online survey to capture more of your views will shortly be available.





## Voice – Vague but Vital

Voice is an elusive concept, but we tend to throw the term around freely.

*We're looking for a fresh voice.  
It's important to develop your voice.*

We also hide it in the middle of a list of similarly vague terms.

*Pay attention to the tone, mood, voice and style.  
Make sure your style, tone and voice are consistent.*

What is voice? Ask half a dozen writers and you could get six different answers. I am giving you mine. I have two – the author's voice and the character's voice.

### The author's voice

The easiest way for me to define the author's voice is with a visual.

Let's pretend your story is a stack of pancakes. The ingredients you've used – flour, egg, milk, salt, butter – are the elements of your story. You combine plot, characters, dialogue, setting, and conflict and spoon the mixture into a pan. It cooks; you turn, fiddle and adjust the heat. When they are golden brown and your mouth is watering, you flip them onto a plate and admire your work. Your story is complete. Or is it?

You take your first bite, expecting culinary perfection. It's okay, but something's missing.

Voice.

Voice is the rich syrup that soaks into the crevices and the pores of your story and flavours the entire experience.

### Three tips for finding your author's voice

**Be yourself.** Your voice is your personality. It's how you creep into your stories and become familiar to your readers. This may have to do with your chosen topics, structure, language or even settings. Your voice is as unique as you are.

Choose topics or storylines that are important to you. Avoid writing a book because you think it might sell. If you have no interest in werewolves, don't even try it. They will not cooperate. If small aliens bore you, run away. They won't work for you either.

If, however, you have dreamt about a fantasy world where children are in charge, adults follow orders and Labradoodles take care of all menial labour, create it. If it means something to you and you love the concept and possibilities, dive in. Your passion will inevitably soak into your writing.

**Write as you speak.** This can be difficult at first and often intimidating but trust yourself. You are the only person who can write like you.

A great way to practice this is by free writing for at least ten minutes a day. Let your thoughts pour onto the page without censure or editing. Your quest is not to find correctness, but your unique voice. You may write in short bursts of emotion or with languid thoughts leading lazily into the next. Your writing will be unfettered with insecurity or fear as no one will ever see this. The more you practice, the stronger your voice will become.

**Speak to your audience.** Once you've found your voice, it's important to be able to alter it slightly to suit your readers.

You probably wouldn't write a letter to your in-laws like this:

*Yo!  
Thanks for the shirt.  
T.*

Your twelve-year-old daughter might be a little confused if you left the following note on the fridge.

Dear Ms Harth,

Please find your lunch in the refrigerator and your bus money on the bench. Transportation will be waiting for you in the agreed-upon place, subsequent to your final class.

Sincerely,  
Mrs Harth

These are extreme examples of altering a voice, and usually your changes will be more subtle. But even though you may modify your writing according to varying age and interest groups, your voice can still ring true.

### A character's voice

Once you're comfortable with your own voice, you can play with your characters' voices. My own voice is not appropriate for an eight-year-old boy with a passion for soccer. If I don't want him to sound like an aging woman, I must back off and tell the story through his eyes.

### Two tips for finding your character's voice

**Know your character.** There are countless ways to do this with interviews, questionnaires, and just walking through a day with a character to notice tiny details about his life. As you get to know him, you might imagine his voice inside your head through conversations and interactions with friends and family. When his voice is clearly in your mind, it should be easier to integrate this into your story – your character's story.

**Write through your main character's viewpoint.** Once you have become buddies with your character, you can step aside and make room for him. Allow readers to see, hear and experience only what he does and share his thoughts and impressions. Invite readers to identify closely with your main character and care about him. If they care about him, they will become more involved in the story.

### A final word

So what is voice?

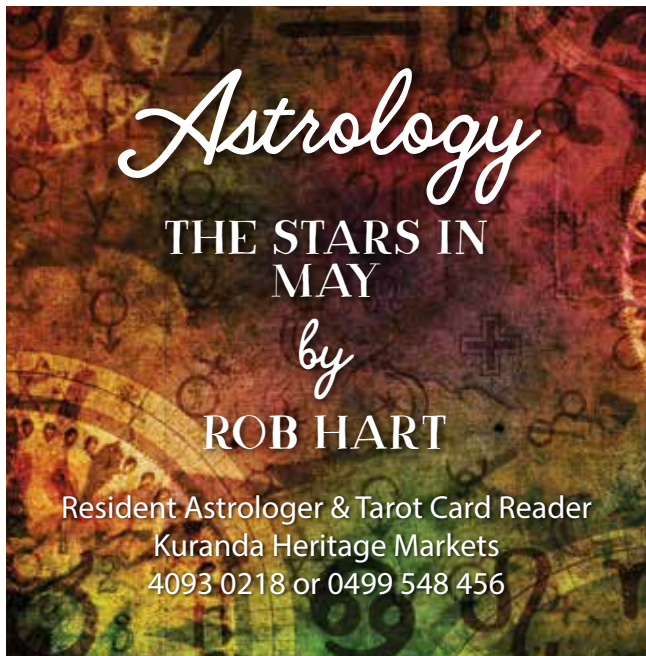
Voice is a tool that conveys the personality of a writer or character.

How do you develop a strong and unique voice?

Be yourself. No one else can.

[www.annharth.com](http://www.annharth.com)

*Ann Harth is Speewah-based and is a member of the Kuranda Writers Group.*



The stand-out here to kick-start May is both Venus and Neptune moving into Aries as May begins – creative, artistic fantasy, drifting in the haze of love, pleasures and erotic, mind-altering flights of pure bliss, probably all an illusion and certainly conducive to indulging, and well, enjoy...

If you have Leo strong in your birth chart you are a ball of fire, with Mars charging, flags flying, through Leo. Saturn, the opposition, is down on his knees in Pisces “OK, you win” and as Jupiter dances through Gemini the after-party goes on and on ... until Saturn goes into Aries on 25 May and the fight resumes. Tough old bugger that Saturn and when he finds his mojo again, well with the Sun now in Gemini, joining Mercury, things pick up with a surprising turn of speed and it's all action on the Gemini new moon on 27 May. Multi-tasking with speed, precision and a solid foundation.

So there seems to be real turn-around in events and reactions during the month. Out of the land of the lotus-eaters and into the realms of the practical. Get your timing right and it should be an interesting ride. Gemini people, you have tickets for the fast train and will really be seeing the pieces falling into place. Whatever seeds that were planted during Taurus time (20 April to 21 May) will now be springing up and their successful growth will depend on how well the ground was prepared with Saturn in Pisces.

Monitor the progress of your projects very carefully. The Sun in Gemini trine to Pluto in Aquarius on 24 to 25 May is explosive, transformative and one big power-trip. Watching world events on these days will be very exciting and things may never be the same again.

Jupiter and Uranus form a tight little angle at the end of May, pushing a lot of uncomfortable energies into aspect. Nothing is settled and in fact it's best not to commit just now. Patience.

Blessings







**Join us and the rest of Australia on Wednesday 21 May for a story!**

National Simultaneous Storytime is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association. Each year, a picture book written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator is read at the same time in kindergartens, schools, childcare centres, bookshops, and of course, libraries.

Last year, over two million people participated in National Simultaneous Storytime, in over 21,000 locations – and this year promises to be even bigger!

We invite you to join us here at the Kuranda Library on Wednesday 21 May at 11am, as we read the book chosen for this year: *The Truck Cat* by Deborah Frenkel, with illustrations from Danny Snell.

**Keen to learn more about local history?**

Did you know the libraries host a wonderful collection dedicated to the local history of the Mareeba shire?

At both the Mareeba and Kuranda libraries, we have a local history cabinet you can come in and browse through – we can't borrow out these resources, as they are one of a kind, and many are not replaceable – but you are always more than welcome to take as much time looking through the cabinet as you like.

We do have many local history books you can borrow though, and if you visit the Kuranda library at any time throughout May, you'll find a dedicated display to our local history collection at the front of the library.

Don't forget, you can view our entire collection online by navigating to the library website through the Mareeba Shire Council website [www.msc.qld.gov.au](http://www.msc.qld.gov.au) or by scanning the QR code.



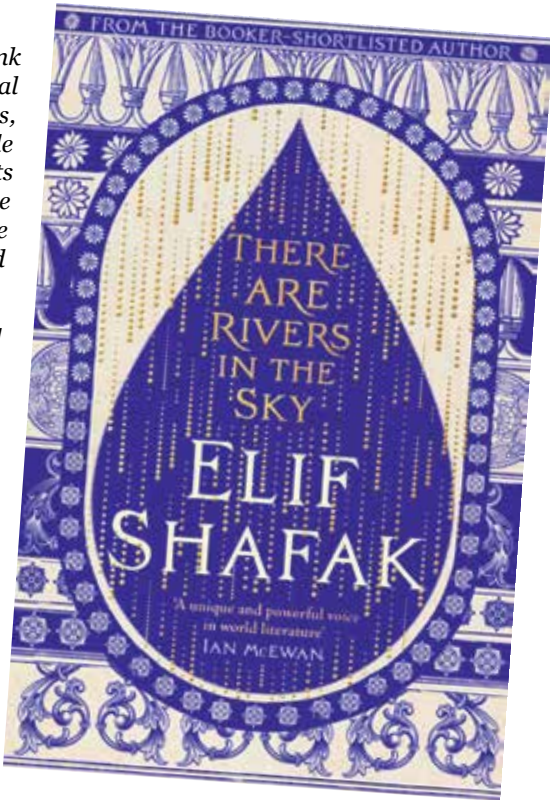
**Book Review – *There Are Rivers in the Sky* by Elif Shafak**  
Trade Paperback, published by Viking Press, released 8 August 2024.

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5 stars

*In the ancient city of Nineveh, on the bank of the River Tigris, King Ashurbanipal of Mesopotamia, erudite but ruthless, built a great library that would crumble with the end of his reign. From its ruins, however, emerged a poem, the Epic of Gilgamesh, that would infuse the existence of two rivers, and bind together three lives.*

*In Victorian London, an extraordinary child, Arthur, is born at the edge of the dirt-black Thames. His only chance of escaping poverty is his brilliant memory. In 2014 Turkey, Narin, a Yazidi girl living by the River Tigris, waits to be baptised with water brought from the holy site of Lalish in Iraq. In 2018 London, broken-hearted Zaleekhah, a hydrologist, moves to a houseboat on the Thames to escape the wreckage of her marriage.*

*A dazzling feat of storytelling, There Are Rivers in the Sky entwines these outsiders with a single drop of water, a drop which remanifests across the centuries. Both a source of life and harbinger of death, rivers—the Tigris and the Thames—transcend history, transcend fate: “Water remembers. It is humans who forget.”*



Elif Shafak is one of my favourite modern writers, so I was chuffed to get a hold of her latest release, *There Are Rivers in the Sky*. If I wasn't already familiar with Shafak's work – I would have picked up this book on the cover art alone – the artwork is stunning and caught my eye immediately – and luckily for me, the content of the book was equally as powerful as its cover art.

Shafak seamlessly weaves together three seemingly disparate characters separated by time. Initially, each are connected by a single drop of water – but as the story progresses, you realise there is much more connecting them than just that.

Each of the protagonists – Arthur, Narin and Zaleekhah – are dynamic and interesting, and I was really invested in each of their stories. Shafak doesn't pull any punches in depicting the tragic, harrowing, and heart-breaking events the characters face. My heart was in my throat several times, and I confess this book did make me cry.

Something I adore about Shafak's writing is how effortlessly she combines the historical and the magical. She also delves into a lot of complex themes – touching on colonialism, the climate crisis, the historical and ongoing persecution of the Yazidi people, as well as the role that water plays in all our lives, whether we are conscious of it or not.

The only thing that stopped me from giving this 5 out of 5 stars was the pacing of the book. I felt that there was a huge amount of build-up through the beginning and middle of the story, but the ending felt rushed, and just didn't quite hit the mark for me. I wish we would have had more time to explore the conclusion for the characters – but the story must end somewhere.

If you love historical fiction, magical realism, and stories told from multiple points of view – don't miss out on this one!

Happy Reading!  
Meg

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A background image for the 'We Love Books Kuranda' advertisement. It shows a stack of books on the right and a dark, textured stone or rock on the left. The text is overlaid on this image.

A logo for the Kuranda Writers Group. It features a stylized typewriter with a green plant growing out of it. The text 'Kuranda Writers Group' is written in a circular path around the typewriter.

## Kuranda Writers Group

Next meet:  
**Monday 12 May – 10am-12 noon**  
at Kuranda Library, Arara Street

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1253010558786902>

**All welcome!**

It's extraordinary to contemplate that it took just 66 years after the Wright brothers launched the first-ever engine-driven airplane made with timber frame and muslin into the skies in 1903 until the first moon landing in 1969. Today with 100,000 commercial flights a day globally, the momentum of change within our own lifetimes continues apace.

The opening words for writing pieces at the April meeting, "Do you remember when...?" led to shared stories reflecting on the days of yore. Members wrote of the stoic and heroic challenges of the outback, on common attitudes of the times such as racism including Queensland's history of slavery, then to finish, humorous tales on the trials and tribulations of the outdoor loo. Starting instead with the first person "I remember when..." opened the option for much more personal revelations.

When it came time to sharing 'goss' (and what's the point of gossip if you don't pass it on?), we learned that Kuranda has a new bookshop (more on that next month, but see the advert above for location and opening times), shared strategies to escape the overwhelming media tsunami of US politics coming through all channels, and the news that Port Douglas is having a Writers Festival on 1-2 August.

Our meeting came with a hubbub of children's shrieks of delight as the tykes on school holidays enjoyed stroking a black-headed snake or patting a dragon in a wildlife display event in the children's area of Kuranda Library.

A close-up photograph of a yellow bearded dragon (Pogona vitticeps) being gently held by two human hands. The dragon has a textured, scaly skin and a prominent beard of spines under its chin. The background is blurred, focusing attention on the dragon.

Photo: Eve Stafford

The homework topic for next month's Monday 12 May meeting from 10am–12 noon at Kuranda Library is **Metamorphosis** – a big word to use for change of any kind wherever your imagination takes you. All welcome.

Eve Stafford

The Kuranda Paper | May 2025 23



Djabugay Ngirrma language classes led by Bada Djaygul/Dennis Hunter, Djaanda/Taha Hunter and Bina/Michael Quinn are held every week. See below for details. All welcome.



B U Y B U R R I L D J A N G U N T M  
I Q D B M U L A B U N Y B U G A Y L  
N J J U G N G U N D A L D J I B I D  
A L I W B A N D A N G A L M A Y A L  
D D L A W U L N G G U W U L N G G U  
D J I L I D J A R R A L B U W A L K  
M A N B D A N I D A N I N Y A W I L  
A B Y U J W G L D D D G A W A L G J  
N A U G I U A Q M Q J B D J U L U R  
G R N A N L L L K G A I N G A A L N  
G A G N G N B N W U L N G G U R R R  
A L G G A G A Y U L B Y G A Y G A Y  
N D A D Y G L U D M A I W U N G A Y  
G I L I M U J N J B Y I N Y U M B A  
Y B L R A X P G A U G Y B A B U N L  
J A W R N Q M G L B A D A D I D I L  
V N Y A U J M A G U U M L Y Y D M R



Photo: Alex Quezada via Unsplash

- BADA

BABUN

BANDANGAL

BINA

BINYII

BUGAY

BUWAL

BUWALBUGANG

BUYBURRIL

DANIDANI

DIBAN

DIDI

DIRRA

DJABARAL

DJALBAY

DJULU

DJANGUN

DJIBI

DJILI

DJILIDJARRAL

DJINGAY
- GALBAL

GAWAL

GAYGAY

GULMBU

GUU

MANU

MANGGANG

MAYAL

MULABUNY

NGAAL

NGUNDAL

NYAWIL

NYUMBA

NYUNGGA

NYUNG GAL

WUDJAL

WUNGAY

WULNGGU

WULNGGURR

WULNGGUWULNGGU

WORD MEANINGS

- BADA:** head, top of mountain, roof. *Bada dibanydji. Bald head.*
- BABUN:** blind. *Nyurra djili babun. You are blind.*
- BANDANGAL:** to taste. *Gulu minya bandanga! Taste this minya!*
- BINA:** ear(s). *Bina Gari gari bina ngundal. Bina Gari doesn't listen!*
- BINYII:** mouth, opening of a dilly bag. *Binyii mumayin! Shut your mouth!*
- BUGAY:** to eat. *Ngawu bugay-galing. I'm going to eat.*
- BUWAL:** word, news, story, message. *Buwal-barra. Messenger.*
- BUWALBUGANG:** talking, speaking. *Ngayanda buwal bugan! Speak to me.*
- BUYBURRIL:** to blow. *Nyurra milba yigiyigi buyburril. You are skilled at blowing the didge.*
- DANIDANI:** a stutter. *Nyurra danidani buwal bugang. You are speaking with a stutter.*
- DIBAN:** bald of head or bare summit of mountain. *Bunda Dibanydji Bare Hill.*
- DIDI:** eyebrows
- DIRRA:** tooth/teeth. *Dirra maynggal. No teeth.*
- DJABARAL:** to ask. *Gari nganya djabara! Don't ask me!*
- DJALBAY:** to lick. *Gari nganya djalban! Don't lick me!*

- DJULU:** cheeks.
- DJANGUN:** chin, jaw. *Ngayang djan.gun. My jaw.*
- DJIBI:** hair of head. *Ngayang djibi djanang. My hair standing up.*
- DJILI:** eye(s)
- DJILIDJARRAL:** to stare. *Gari nganya djili djarra! Don't stare at me!*
- DJINGAY:** nostrils. *Nyurra djingay djarraying. You are sneezing.*
- GALBAL:** blood. *Nyurran djun.gul galbal-maying. Your gums are bleeding.*
- GAWAL:** a call, a shout, a yell. *Nyurra gawal djanang. You are yelling out.*
- GAYGAY:** a whisper. *Gaygay ngaal. Talking in a whisper.*
- GULMBU:** head hair. *Nyurran gulmbu gibayin! Brush your hair!*
- GUU:** nose. *Nyurran guu birrmbirri. Your nose is snotty.*
- MANU:** neck.
- MANGGANG:** to be laughing. *Gari manggan! Don't laugh!*
- MAYAL:** to suck. *Gari nyurran ngamu maya! Don't suck your thumb!*

- MULABUNY:** brains. *Ngawunggu nyurran mulabuny bugana. I'll eat your brains.*
- NGAAL:** to tell, to say. *Ngawu nyurrandanda ngaal wugu gali-ynggu. I'm telling you to go to work.*
- NGUNDAL:** to see, to perceive. *Nganya ngunda! Look at me!*
- NYAWIL:** tongue.
- NYUMBA:** spit, saliva. *Gari nyumba daban! Don't spit!*
- NYUNGGA:** beard, moustache.
- NYUNG GAL:** to smell something.
- WUDJAL:** eyelashes.
- WUNGAY:** to drink, to swallow. *Bana wungan! Drink water!*
- WULNGGU:** a song. *Wulnggu djanang to be singing.*
- WULNGGURR:** thirsty.
- WULNGGUWULNGGU:** throat.

DJABUGAY

A guide to the pronunciation of Djabugay words

Vowel Sounds

/a/

is pronounced as the vowel in the (English) words "some," "come" e.g. **bama** (person)

/a:/

is pronounced like the /a/ sound in "father" but longer e.g. **buda:dji** (carpet snake)

/i/

is pronounced like the /i/ in the word "bin" e.g. **bina** (ear)

/i:/

the vowel sound is lengthened and pronounced like the vowel sound in "heat", "beat", "feet" e.g. **biri:** (again)

/u/

word

is pronounced as the vowel sound in the English "book" e.g. **mudu** (back)

/u:/

the vowel is lengthened and pronounced as the vowel sound in the words "good", "tool", "rule" e.g. **djungguu:** (behind)

Consonants

/dj/

The sound is like a /d/ and a /j/ pronounced simultaneously e.g. **djulbin** (tree)

/g/

is pronounced as in the word "gun" e.g. **gindan** (moon)

/rr/

a trilled, or rolled /r/ as in Scottish pronunciation of the word "sporran" e.g. **burra-y** (to fly)

/r/

as in the American pronunciation of /r/ in car e.g. **biri** (fire)

/ny/

is like the initial /n/ in onion, like an /n/ and a /y/ pronounced simultaneously e.g. **nyurra** (you)

/ng/

as in the word "singer" e.g. **bungan** (sun)

/n.g/

when you see the n.g broken by a stop do not run the

/ngg/

two sounds together e.g. **djin.gal** (sky)

/ay/

is pronounced as the ng sound in the word "finger" e.g. **nyinggarra** (eel)

/ay/

is generally pronounced as in the English word "eye" e.g. **Djabugay**

Stress

When saying Djabugay words which syllables should we stress?

In words of two syllables, the first syllable is stressed e.g. **bina** (ear).

In words of three syllables, the first syllable is stressed e.g. **ganyarra** (crocodile).

However, if a long vowel occurs in the second syllable of a word of three syllables, it is stressed e.g. buda:dji (carpet snake).

In words with more than three syllables, stress falls on the first syllable and on the syllable before the last one e.g. **ganyarra** – **nggu** (crocodile).

Language classes every Wednesday 6–8pm at Nyuwarri Estate (old Ngoonbi farm).

*Buwal bugan Ngirrma bulmba-barra.  
Speak the language belonging to this place.  
Djabugay ngirrma Windjirri bugaa.*

**LANGUAGE CLASSES**  
**Wednesday evenings 6-8pm**  
**Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation**

**Nyuwarri Estate** (old Ngoonbi farm),  
**1496 Kennedy Highway, Kuranda**  
**07 4093 8116 (business hours only)**

ALL WELCOME

Learn about this endangered language with its storylore going back into the last ice age, with Michael Quinn and Bada Djaygul/Dennis Hunter

24 May 2025 | The Kuranda Paper





# RANGERS report

The 2025 season is in full swing and the momentum just keeps building at the Kuranda Rangers Football Club. Training sessions are running strong, energy is high, and our teams have been putting in solid performances each Saturday at Endeavour Park.

This week, we're shining the spotlight on our Under 10s, coached by the dedicated Alex May, who has been guiding a tight-knit group of players with years of experience together.

## A Word from Coach Alex



Coach Alex

"We've played two games so far. We've kept our core squad together—six or seven of the boys have now been playing as a team for four years, which is just brilliant. Because they've spent so much time on the pitch together, they really know each other's strengths and positions. The defenders know they're defenders, the strikers know their role—it all clicks."

"Our first match was a 2-2 draw, a great contest. Then we played Redlynch Strikers and came away with a strong 8-0 win. We've got some really talented players and they're working well together this season."

"The only challenge we're facing at the moment is squad size—we've only got one sub. It's a long season ahead, and if anyone gets sick or injured, we're going to feel it. We'd love to welcome a few more players to join the team."



**THE  
Kuranda Paper**  
est. 1991

The Kuranda Paper is a not-for-profit publication. Profits generated by advertising support local community groups and projects.

Coach Alex encourages any 9 or 10-year-olds (turning 10 at any point this year) to come along and get involved.

If you know someone who'd love to give football a go, or you're just keen to see the teams in action, head down to Endeavour Park on Saturdays and cheer on the Rangers!

Also, keep an eye out for our brand new KRFC jerseys, hitting the field soon thanks to our awesome 2025 sponsors: Aus Internet, TLC Tree Services, Lethal Welding, Waterbores Qld, and Djabugay Tribal Aboriginal Corporations.

And don't forget—KRFC raffles are launching soon! Our young players will be out in the community selling tickets to raise funds for the club.

For all the latest updates, follow the Kuranda Rangers Football Club Facebook page.

Please contact the Club for more information:

- [kurandarangersfootball@gmail.com](mailto:kurandarangersfootball@gmail.com)
- Adric 0429 488 214 or Keira 0437 778 849
- Facebook – [KurandaRangersFootballClub](https://www.facebook.com/KurandaRangersFootballClub)

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**6pm Friday 9 May 2025**

**New players always welcome!**

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Meet new people – create a team  
Come along for a great night of fun and competition!

Regular play will be at  
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Pre-season will commence on  
Friday 16 May at 7pm



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[queenslandtaekwondo.com.au](http://queenslandtaekwondo.com.au)

ITF Taekwon-Do North Queensland

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**6PM FRIDAY 9 MAY** *Bar open*



# LITTLE ANT – BIG PROBLEM

They might be tiny, but electric ants (*Wassmania auropunctata*) are one of the world's worst invasive pests and can cause significant damage and disruption to native flora, fauna and ecosystems.

Electric ants are native to Central and South America but have now invaded many other countries, including Australia. Electric ant infestations in Australia are limited to Far North Queensland, with known infestations from Bingil Bay in the south, to Kuranda and the Tablelands in the west, Cairns and further north in the Douglas Shire, as far up as the Daintree.

The National Electric Ant Eradication Program (NEAEP) has made significant progress reducing the number of infestations overall but needs everyone's help to find them all.

NEAEP Acting Principal Project Officer, Gary Morton, said more than 40% of electric ant infestations were found during registered free yard checks.

"Free yard checks are quick and easy to organise and are a huge help in detecting electric ants while colony numbers may be still low, making eradication much faster and reducing the risk of spread," Mr Morton said.

"Self-checking is not effective or thorough; the program's field officers are trained to lure, detect and collect ant samples."

"Many residents were completely unaware they had electric ants on their properties until we detected them. Early, proactive action is key."

Free yard checks involve the use of small pieces of sausage meat attached to bamboo skewers being placed around the garden areas where ants are most likely to be, leaving them for one hour, then collecting all samples for identification in the Cairns Diagnostics Laboratory. Following the identification, residents receive a report on any ant species identified.

"Yard checks that find no electric ants are equally valuable to the program and are never a waste of time," Mr Morton said.

"We encourage residents to have their yard checked at least every 12 months. The more properties the program can check, the closer they get to eradication."

At just 1mm to 1.5mm in size, electric ants are tiny and very hard to spot and can only be positively identified under a microscope by trained specialists.

Electric ants are ginger in colour and are generally slow-moving, often travelling in distinct foraging lines. They do not build distinctive nests but live in mulch, soil, pot plants, under rocks and in garden beds. Electric ant colonies can contain multiple queens, with each laying up to 70 eggs per day.

Left untreated, electric ants will kill and displace native wildlife and animals, disrupt the ecosystems and harm the environment. Native flora and fauna, along with agricultural crops and fruit trees, will fail to thrive.

Recovery is usually rapid following electric ant eradication, with native frogs, ground nesting birds, insects and pollinators returning quickly to their natural habitats after treatment.

Mr Morton said there was often confusion between the different species of invasive ants present in Queensland, which could lead to misinformation.

"The different eradication programs, their detection methodologies and treatments are all designed specifically for each invasive ant," he said.

"The treatment we use for electric ants is different to that of other eradication programs. We use a small, protein-based granular bait designed specifically for electric ants, which is harmless to humans and animals."

"On an average 1000m<sup>2</sup> block, just 250 grams is used in each treatment. The granules contain less than 1% of the active chemical – so about 2 grams of chemical is distributed.

"The treatment is designed to attract the worker ants who carry it back to feed the queens, before it breaks down within about 48 hours. Only the infested areas receive treatment. In those infested areas, it is unlikely any other species will be present as they will have been driven out by electric ants," he said.

If NEAEP officers detect a different invasive ant during a free yard check, the relevant program will be contacted so they can commence their specific treatment regimes.

To register for your free yard check, either scan the QR code, call 13 25 23, visit [www.daf.qld.gov.au/anthunt](http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/anthunt), or email [electricantinfo@daf.qld.gov.au](mailto:electricantinfo@daf.qld.gov.au).

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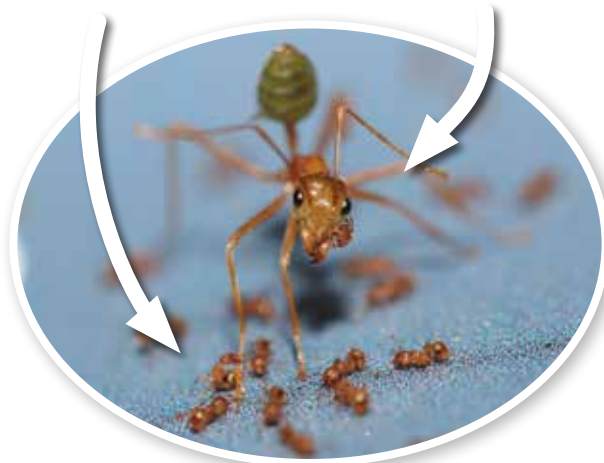
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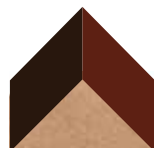
## [daf.qld.gov.au/anthunt](http://daf.qld.gov.au/anthunt)



Authorised by the Queensland Government, William Street, Brisbane.

## KURANDA MEN'S SHED

incorporating  
**KURANDA SHE SHED**



Australian Men's Shed Association  
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

The Kuranda Men's Shed has been a hive of activity recently, with several projects and initiatives aimed at supporting the local community and encouraging broader involvement.

One of our latest efforts was a collaborative project with the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. The Shed volunteered to design and construct two sturdy donation boxes at no cost. Thanks to the tireless efforts of several dedicated individuals—including Sarah-Jane from the Neighbourhood Centre and Don from the Men's Shed—the boxes were completed swiftly and are now proudly installed and in use. A big thank you to everyone who helped bring this project to life!

Recently, the Shed trialed a Saturday afternoon mixed session open to both men and women. Unfortunately, due to low attendance over the five-week trial period, we've decided to discontinue these Saturday sessions. However, we remain committed to welcoming everyone and are actively encouraging more women to join the Shed.

For those interested, we currently run a women-only session on Friday mornings, and women are also welcome at our Tuesday morning mixed sessions. Members are always on hand during these times to assist newcomers with equipment and provide a friendly introduction to the Shed.

In other news, we've recently received a generous donation of various paints—ranging from sample pots to 10-litre cans. We're making these available to the community for a suitable donation. To ensure fair access, we're limiting the distribution to four cans per person. Alongside the paint, we also have a variety of handmade items crafted by our members



Above: Don McDermit, Douglas Buchanan from Kuranda Men's Shed presenting our complimentary donation boxes to Jennifer McHugh – President of the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre.

for sale, including foot stools, planter boxes, walking sticks, coffee tables, and more.

We warmly invite locals to drop by, take a look at what we have available, and consider becoming a member of the Kuranda Men's Shed. It's a great place to learn, create, and connect—with a warm welcome extended to all, including women.

Come see what we're up to—you might just find your new favourite community space!

### Session Times

Mixed Shed (male and female) • Tuesday 8.30am–12pm

Men's Shed • Wed & Sat 8.30am–11.30am

She Shed • Friday 8am–1pm

116 Kuranda Heights Road

Contact: Daryl (President) [mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

Kuranda Men's Shed



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

## ST SAVIOUR'S KURANDA

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8am Holy Communion  
9.30am Sung Eucharist  
5pm Evening Prayer

### TUESDAY

9am Holy Communion

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Email: [wrightc@iig.com.au](mailto:wrightc@iig.com.au)



The Kuranda Paper is a not-for-profit publication. Profits generated by advertising support local community groups and projects.



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## St Saviour's Thought for May

This month we read from St Luke's Gospel Chapter 24 verses 46-53. Reading the end of this Gospel of Saint Luke's Gospel is not actually an ending, it's really a beginning. Although it marks the end of Jesus being among the disciples in a visible, objective way, it also shows them being called to the beginning of a new responsibility.

They had seen Jesus die, and had scattered, demoralised and defeated. Then the unbelievable had happened: he came among them again. Although he was changed, the disciples were quite sure it was Jesus whom they had known and followed for the last few years. From time to time he reappeared: to all of them in Jerusalem, to Mary in the garden, to a group fishing in Galilee, to a couple on the road to Emmaus. It is just after this last encounter that this Gospel passage begins. The two disciples have just come running back from Emmaus. They have gasped out the story of their encounter with what they had thought was a stranger. In the simple action of his breaking a piece of bread they realised that the person with them was far from being a stranger. It was their Lord!

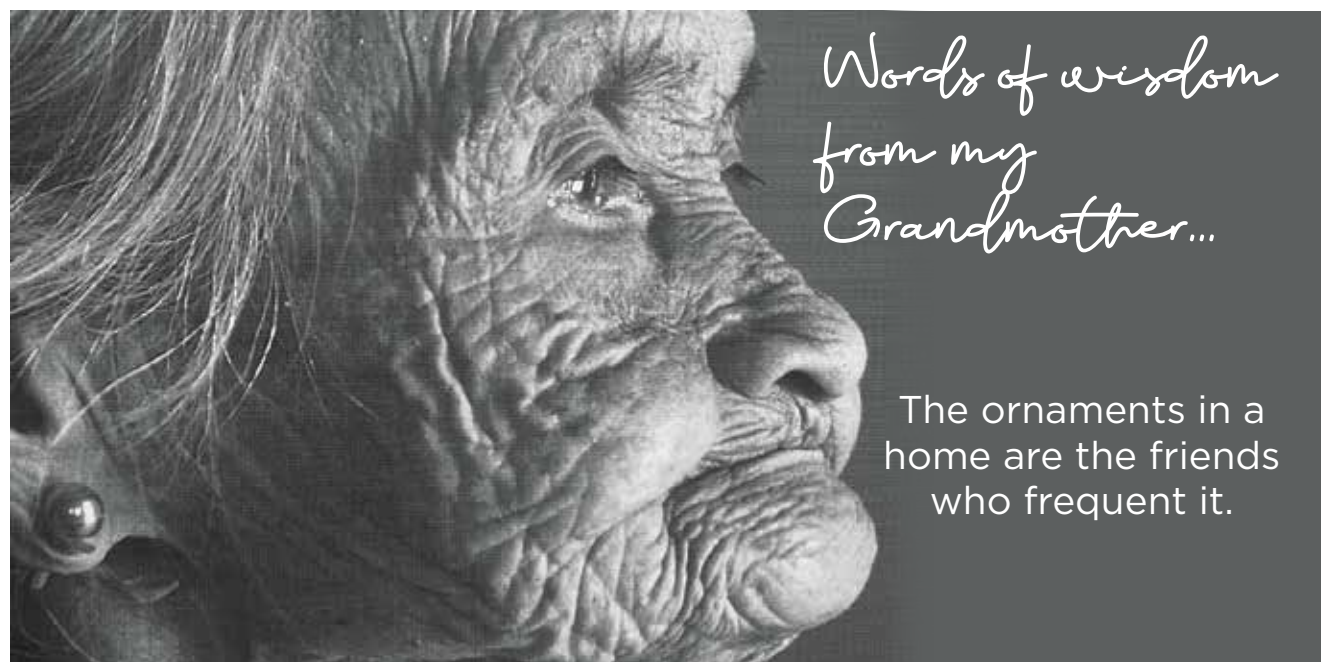
The news electrifies the rest of the disciples into all sorts of thoughts and hopes and plans. Suddenly, Jesus is among them. Once again, he explains the meaning of all that has happened and is happening. He reassures them that the world is not falling apart. The ghastly cross was part of a great plan, and his coming from the tomb was the climax and triumph of that plan. Now something new must begin in and through them.

What has happened has to be communicated, and that task is in their hands. This Gospel's point is that we are those whom Jesus calls disciples. Whatever was said in that long ago encounter after the resurrection is being said again today and will be said in every age. Ours are the ears that hear him — or choose not to hear Him — today.



Jesus was asking for His disciples' commitment, and He asks the same of us. If we commit ourselves to him He promises us what He promised those men and women. He promises his Spirit, the Spirit we call the Holy Spirit, in our deepest being. It's a real promise which millions of men and women have found to be true. If we say Yes to him giving him our spirit, poor and limited though it may be, He gives us his. We get much the better side of the bargain!

Jesus ended this last encounter by gathering the disciples, blessing them, and going from them. As people have discovered in every generation since, He went away only to return into every one of their lives. He has already returned to yours and mine; all we need to do is to realize it. When Jesus left his disciples He did so only to return into every one of their lives. He can return to our lives as well.



## THOUGHT OF THE MONTH FROM THE BAHAI FAITH

"All the divine Manifestations have proclaimed the oneness of God and the unity of mankind. They have taught that men should love and mutually help each other in order that they might progress. Now if this conception of religion be true, its essential principle is the oneness of humanity. The fundamental truth of the Manifestations is peace. This underlies all religion, all justice. The divine purpose is that men should live in unity, concord and agreement and should love one another. Consider the virtues of the human world and realise that the oneness of humanity is the primary foundation of them all. Read the Gospel and the other holy books. You will find their fundamentals are one and the same. Therefore unity is the essential truth of religion and when so understood embraces all the virtues of the human world. Praise be to God! this knowledge has been spread, eyes have been

opened and ears have become attentive. Therefore we must endeavour to promulgate and practice the religion of God which has been founded by all the prophets. And the religion of God is absolute love and unity." (Abdu'l-Baha)

**Meditations/Reflections:** all welcome to Soul Food Meditations on last Sunday of each month 2pm Kuranda (these are very popular). Also discussion evenings – please call to attend and for location.

**Morning prayers:** each Thursday at 8am, in lower Therwine Street, Kuranda followed by coffee – join us.

**Study Circles:** by arrangement, please feel free to enquire.

Also regular events in Cairns, Atherton, Mareeba, Malanda, Tolga and other places. Open for all interested.

All enquiries welcome.

0419 632 286 | 4093 9571 | [bahai.org.au](http://bahai.org.au)

The Bahai Community of Mareeba/Kuranda





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**Clothing alterations & dressmaking** in Speewah. Karen is professional and reasonably priced 0459 184 223.

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**Street Pantry** is located at the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre on Rob Veivers Drive (next to Butterfly Sanctuary). Open 24/7 for donations of nonperishable food or for others to take items as needed.

Will also receive food items and toiletries to distribute.

**Theatre Workshops Thursdays FREE** – Kuranda Amphitheatre Youth 13+ @ 4.30pm Kids 7+ @ 5pm Adults @6pm

**TUTOR/Editor** – Registered Teacher/Guidance Counsellor. Taking bookings for Years 1–10, Special Needs, web copy and university essay editing. Convenient location Myola Road. Contact 0414 706 454 Facebook: Tree Frog Tutoring.

**Winter Warmers Welcome.** Donations of blankets and warm clothing are welcome at Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. Please ensure donations are clean and in wearable condition.

## Heads Up!

The Kuranda Paper deadline for June 2025 edition is **Thursday 22 May 2025**. Please send all submissions and advertising to...

[mail@kurandapaper.com](mailto:mail@kurandapaper.com)



### \* 30 WORDS MAXIMUM

For sale, lost/found and outdated entries will be deleted after one month. Repeat advertisements will be deleted at the discretion of the paper. Existing Kuranda Paper advertisers and community groups will be prioritised for repeats depending on available space. Submit classifieds via email [mail@kurandapaper.com](mailto:mail@kurandapaper.com)



# YOUR COMMUNITY PAGES



## WILDLIFE

**Wildlife Rescue** 4053 4467 (24 hours)  
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**DES CASSOWARY HOTLINE** 1300 130 372 (24/7)  
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 Steve Larkin (all reptiles, mammals, birds, feral pigs, dogs) 0412 263 279

## DEFIBRILLATORS



Defibrillator locations in Kuranda region.

**Kuranda Men's Shed** end of Kuranda Heights Road  
**Kuranda Pharmacy** cnr Coondoo and Thongon Sts  
**Kuranda Medical Centre** cnr Thongon and Barang Sts  
**Kuranda Ambulance Station**, Fallon Road  
**Kuranda Swimming Pool**, Myola Road  
**Steiner School**, Boyles Road  
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**Email: fnqwr@bigpond.com**



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Unfortunately an increasing number of Lumholtz tree kangaroos are being killed by dogs and hit by cars each year.

Please donate to us and the money will go directly towards treating and caring for these beautiful animals.

If you find an injured tree kangaroo please ring us on 0427 790 694



Donate now and help us care for tree roos today

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

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## RECYCLE

**Kuranda Transfer Station** 2186 Kennedy Hwy, Koah  
**MSC Recycle Station** – Arara Street, Kuranda

**RECYCLE**

Donate your aluminium cans to **COUCH** (Committee for Oncology Unit at Cairns Hospital).

Recycle bin located at the Kuranda Recreation Centre, Fallon Road.



**COUCH**  
Locals helping people affected by cancer



Connecting our Community

## ROAD REPORTS

**Council EMERGENCY number for local roads** 1300 308 461

**Kuranda Range/Kennedy Highway Report an Incident** 13 19 40 (24/7)



## HELPFUL KURANDA COMMUNITY FACEBOOK GROUPS

Here are some helpful Kuranda and district community Facebook groups. Member numbers as at November 2024.

**Kuranda Range Updates** (43,300+ members)

On the spot traffic reports in real time for the Kuranda Range Road.

**Kuranda Notice Board** (12,800 + members)

Information sharing, discussion, advertising.

**Speewah & Surround Residents** (3,600+ members)

Information sharing and support.

**Koah Community** (3,200 members)

Information sharing and support.

**All Things Kuranda** (1,700+ members)

Discussion group for Kuranda district residents only.

**Kuranda Ratepayers & Residents Working Group** (550+ members)

Discussion group for issues affecting Kuranda ratepayers and residents.

**Upcycling Kuranda** (250+ members)

Free recycle group for Kuranda creatives. No buying or selling.

## KURANDA MEN'S SHED RECYCLING

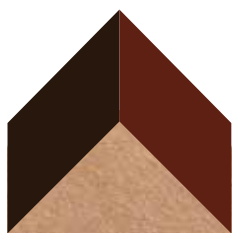
C10055234

We welcome recycling from Kuranda residents at our Arara Street drop off point. We accept:

- glass beer bottles
- aluminium cans
- plastic soft drink bottles
- aluminium cans
- poppers

*Help your local Men's Shed to keep operating.*

**\*\*No milk bottles please\*\***



**Australian Men's Shed Association**  
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

## RAINFALL

**April 2025 – 87.1mm**  
(to 25 April 2025)

**Annual Total – 1802.3mm**  
(to 25 April 2025)

Courtesy of Kuranda Railway Station



## HELP GROUPS



**kidshelpline**  
Anytime Any Reason

**Kids Helpline**  
**1800 55 1800**

[kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)

Kids Helpline is Australia's only free, private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25.



**Need help with a drinking problem?**

**1300 222 222**

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



**Al-Anon Family Groups**  
Help and hope for families and friends of alcoholics

If someone in your family has a drinking problem, you can see what it is doing to them, but can you see what it is doing to you?

**Al-Anon can help you!**

Meetings in Kuranda, Smithfield and Cairns.  
Contact **Kate 4093 9668** or **1300 ALANON**



## Community Services

### KURANDA LIBRARY and COUNCIL OFFICE

**Monday to Friday: 10am–5pm**

(No Council business after 4pm weekdays)

Kuranda Community Precinct  
18-22 Arara Street, Kuranda  
4093 9185

kurandal@msc.qld.gov.au  
msc.qld.gov.au/libraries

SERVICES NOT OPEN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

### KURANDA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

**Open 7 days from 10am**

4093 9311

kurandavic@msc.qld.gov.au

### KURANDA TRANSFER STATION

#### OPERATING HOURS

**Tuesday & Thursday: 9am–4pm,**

**Saturday & Sunday: 9am–5pm**

2186 Kennedy Highway, Koah  
1300 308 461

msc.qld.gov.au/water-and-waste

65 Rankin Street, Mareeba  
PO Box 154, Mareeba Qld 4880  
1300 308 461

info@msc.qld.gov.au

msc.qld.gov.au

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DASHBOARD

Mareeba Shire Council's online Emergency Management Dashboard provides real time emergency information. The Dashboard provides live emergency news, information about road closures, power outages and river heights, weather warnings and fire feeds, emergency contact phone numbers and social media links. Notifications can also be viewed via an interactive map. Mareeba Shire residents can register for the Early Warning Network to receive email and SMS alerts for potential emergencies and severe natural disasters and weather events. Go to [www.emergency.msc.qld.gov.au](http://www.emergency.msc.qld.gov.au)

## Emergency Contacts



Emergency – Police, Fire, Ambulance	<b>000</b>
Flood and Storm Emergency Assistance (SES)	<b>132 500</b>
Ergon Energy – Report Dangerous Electrical Emergencies	<b>131 670</b>
Mareeba Shire Council	<b>1300 308 461</b>
Poisons Information	<b>131 126</b>
13HEALTH – Health and Hospital Information	<b>134 325</b>



## RURAL FIRE BRIGADE WARDENS

First Officer Kuranda	Baz Child 0437 746 601
First Officer Speewah	Mick Dub 0428 820 631
Warden Kuranda/Myola	Duncan Blakey 0408 151 199
Warden Speewah	Mick Dub 0428 820 631
Davies Creek	4093 3181
Koah	4093 7738
Speewah	0428 820 631

**Permits required for fires larger than 2 metres in any direction**

## Join your local SES

Kuranda SES Training  
every second Tuesday 7pm  
at Fallon Road.

Contact Caitlin **0476 772 500**



## TRANSPORT & ALERTS

**Kuranda Transfers** 0497 159 385

**Rideshare** 1300 743 374

**Trans North** 3036 2070



**Call/SMS 0497 159 385**

**Private Driver | Local & Airport Transfers**

Kuranda locals—mention this ad for a discount!

### Traffic Alerts Far North Region Roads

Sign up for SMS traffic alerts for the Kuranda Range, Gillies Range and Captain Cook Highway (Palm Cove to Craiglie). Go to Department of Main Roads website [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au) and subscribe to your preferred SMS alert service. Or call **13 19 40** to subscribe or report an incident.

### Live Kuranda Range Traffic Updates

Volunteer-run **Kuranda Range Updates** Facebook group is the fastest way to keep up to date in real time with road conditions from Smithfield to Mareeba.

### Kuranda Scenic Railway (KSR) Updates for Kuranda Businesses

Subscribe to the Kuranda Scenic Railway for timely updates i.e. maintenance or closures. Email your business name and email address to [ksrsales@qr.com.au](mailto:ksrsales@qr.com.au)

Queensland Justices of the Peace (JPs) volunteer to serve the public by signing documents that need a qualified witness.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

**Robin Anscomb – 0409 046 932**  
(Operates 24/7)



Trans North services are "Hail & Ride". **Please hail the driver** anywhere enroute where it is safe for the bus to pull over. For a small surcharge passengers travelling to Cairns may also be set down at:

Cairns Airport (\$5), Cairns Hospitals (\$3), Greyhound Terminal (\$3),

Please advise the driver of required destination when boarding the bus and also note that Trans North services do not pick up from any of the above.

**\*\*No services operate Good Friday, Anzac Day and Christmas Day\*\***

### Bus stops are located at:

Cairns – Platform 1, Cairns Central Railway Station, Cairns  
Cairns T.A.F.E – Newton Street (7.15am & 3.00pm Services from and to Kuranda)  
Smithfield – Bus shelter near the traffic lights on Kennedy Highway at bottom of the Kuranda Range  
Kuranda – 15 Therwine Street – opposite Visitor Information Centre  
Speewah – Speewah Road bus shelter in front of tavern  
Mareeba – Arnold Park, 171-179 Walsh Street (next door to Police Station)  
Atherton – 54 Main Street

### Ticket Sales:

**Purchase tickets from the driver as you board the bus** or from Piagnos News at 142 Byrnes Street Mareeba. Phone 3036 2070 (office hours)

Email: [atherton@transnorthbus.com.au](mailto:atherton@transnorthbus.com.au) [www.transnorthbus.com.au](http://www.transnorthbus.com.au)

### Atherton Tablelands to Cairns

Route 850	Monday to Friday			Saturday, Sunday and Pub Holidays	
Departs Atherton	6.00am	9.15am	1.00pm	8.00am	1.30pm
Departs Mareeba	6.30am	9.45am	1.30pm	8.30am	2.00pm
Departs Speewah	6.50am	10.05am	1.50pm	8.50am	2.20pm
Departs Kuranda	7.15am	10.25am	2.10pm	9.10am	2.40pm
Departs rainforest	-	10.30am	2.15pm	-	2.45pm
Arrives Cairns	8.50am	11.15am	3.00pm	10.00am	3.30pm

### Cairns to Atherton Tablelands

Route 850	Monday to Friday			Saturday, Sunday and Pub Holidays	
Departs Cairns	7.00am	9.25am	3.30pm	10.30am	4.00pm
Departs Smithfield	7.20am	9.45am	3.50pm	10.50am	4.20pm
Departs Kuranda	7.40am	10.05am	4.10pm	11.10am	4.40pm
Departs Speewah	8.00am	10.25am	4.30pm	11.20am	5.00pm
Departs Mareeba	8.20am	10.45am	4.50pm	11.40am	5.20pm
Arrives Atherton	8.50am	11.15am	5.20pm	12.10am	5.50pm

Current as at 3 April 2024



### WHAT'S ON IN MAY?

**Friday 9 May –  
KURANDA 8 BALL SIGN ON**  
6pm. Bar open.

A new season for Kuranda 8 Ball is ready to kick off. New players are always welcome to join and you only need four players to make up an 8 ball team. It's a great way to meet new people. Come along to the Sign On night for a great night of fun and competition!

Pre-season will commence on Friday 16 May at 7pm with regular play every Friday at 7pm.

*\*\*Please note that Kuranda 8 Ball nights have moved from Tuesdays to Fridays to avoid night closures on the Kuranda Range.*

**Thursday 15 May –  
KURANDA RECREATION CENTRE AGM**  
1pm (downstairs). Please come along and consider joining our team of committed volunteers. Contact krc4881@gmail.com for nomination information.

**KRC kitchen closed till further notice**  
Please note that the KRC kitchen is closed until further notice. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Proud to be the home of:



## CONTACT US

 Kuranda Recreation Centre  
 krc4881@gmail.com

**JUMRUM BAR OPEN  
FRIDAY 6.30 PM**

## WHAT'S ON

**Come join us in our  
air conditioned classes!**

**KURANDA 8 BALL**  
Competitive Pool  
Friday 6.30–10.30pm  
Bar open, affordable prices

**KURANDA RANGERS**  
Training Thursday 4.30–5.30pm  
Keira 0437 778 849

**PILATES**  
Monday 9.30am with Davini  
Tuesday 5.45pm with Davini  
Wednesday 9.30am with Davini  
Thursday 9am with Davini  
Saturday 8.15am with Jaide  
Davini 0414 994 123 and Jaide 0488 229 700

**TAI CHI – Monday 6pm**  
Les 4093 8276

## Venue for Hire

Are you having a party or celebration?  
The KRC has multiple areas available  
for hire for functions, seminars and  
activities. Email krc4881@gmail.com



## What's On at Koah Hall

### EVERY MONDAY

**PILATES** with Jaide or Davini 6–7pm  
0488 229 700

### EVERY TUESDAY

**QUINTESSENCE YOGA** with Katelyn.  
5.15–6.15pm  
quintessence.au@gmail.com

### EVERY WEDNESDAY

**FELDENDKRAIS WITH JUSTINE**  
9.30–10.30am Justine 0408 735 309

### EVERY THURSDAY

**PILATES** with Jaide (except 8 May)  
6–7pm 0488 229 700

**EVA'S DANCE** (except 22 May)  
3.45–5.45pm 0490 781 911

### THURSDAY 1, 15 & 29 MAY

**MANKIND PROJECT MEN'S  
GROUP – 7pm.** Open to all men.  
Simon 0459 755 553

### EVERY FRIDAY

**MANTRA AND SOUND WITH KYM**  
6.30–8pm 0409 963 638

### EVERY SUNDAY

**SHIBARI SANGHA –**  
Creating Shibari Community. 11am–1pm.  
Contact Nikki 0433 779 796

### HIRE FEES

- 1 hour \$10
- 24-hour only \$150 (community rates)
- \$200 refundable bond for one-off events (if space is left as you found it)

[www.koahhall.com](http://www.koahhall.com)

 koah.hall@gmail.com

 Koah Hall

### KOAH MONTHLY MARKET

**Saturday 3 May  
8am till Midday**

- Live music — Blue Reed
- Community Market with all the local goodness! Produce, honey, plants, crafts, treats, treasures
- Fresh coffee and delish' Koah Hall Fundraiser BBQ!
- New stallholders and regulars are invited to join us for all the fun!
- SMS/Voicemail Nicky 0488 961 660 or direct message via Koah Monthly Markets Facebook page.



### DREAM BIG! CIRCUS CLASSES

Bookings are essential. Please contact Sophie 0409 333 404.  
More info at [www.dreamstatecircus.com](http://www.dreamstatecircus.com) on the Dream BIG! Circus School page.

**WEDNESDAY – Circus 1 – 3.45–4.45pm, Age 5/6–9**  
**Circus 2 – 4.45–5.45pm, Age 9 to Adults**  
**Show Class – 5.45–7pm – Age 8 to Adults**



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

*Contributors please advise of any changes via email  
[mail@kurandapaper.com](mailto:mail@kurandapaper.com)*

**For events at the Kuranda Recreation Centre or the  
Koah Hall please see details in their columns above.  
See page 20 for CWA listings for this month.**

### EVERY MONDAY

**Al-Anon** Family Groups 11am–12pm hall under  
St Saviour's Church. Kate 4093 9668 or 1300ALANON

**Ashtanga Yoga** 5.30am & 6pm. Biannka 0407 634 116

**Kuranda Envirocare** Nursery volunteering.  
9am–12noon. 0474 560 700

### EVERY SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

**Kuranda Writers Group** 10am–12noon, Kuranda  
Library.

### EVERY TUESDAY

**Taekwon-Do** & Self Defence 6–7.30pm Kuranda QCWA  
Hall. Jeff 0437 438 196

**Mixed (male & female) Men's Shed** Kuranda  
8.30am–12pm. mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

**Kuranda Choir** 6–7.30pm Kuranda Amphitheatre  
Understage. Trish 0428 284 305

### SECOND TUESDAY

**Kuranda SES Training** 7pm sharp at Fallon Road.  
Paul 0448 008 087

**She Shed Kuranda** 1–5pm.  
mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

### EVERY WEDNESDAY

**Ashtanga Yoga** 5.30am. Biannka 0407 634 116

**Social Tennis** 5pm Wednesdays and Sundays at the  
Kuranda Recreation Centre. Gidi 0448 480 200

**Men's Shed** Kuranda 8.30am–11.30am.  
mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

**Mah Jong** 1–4pm Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre.

**Djabugay Language Classes** 6–8pm Nyuwarri Estate  
(old Ngoonbi farm), 1496 Kennedy Highway, Kuranda.  
40938 116

### EVERY THURSDAY

**Kuranda Envirocare** Nursery volunteering.  
9am–12noon. 0474 560 700

**Taekwon-Do** & Self Defence 6–7.30pm Kuranda QCWA  
Hall. Jeff 0437 438 196

**Ashtanga Yoga** 6pm. Biannka 0407 634 116

**Domestic Violence Help** Kuranda Neighbourhood  
Centre by appointment 4093 8933

**K.A.S.T.** (Kuranda Amphitheatre Society Theatre)  
Free workshops. Youth 13+ @ 4.30pm, Kids 7+ @ 5pm,  
Adults @ 6pm Kuranda Amphitheatre Understage.

**Kuranda Rangers soccer**  
Keira 0437 778 849 for any queries.

### EVERY SECOND THURSDAY OF MONTH

**Kuranda Library Book Club** 10am, Kuranda Library.  
Cheryl 0407 670 954 or cheryl.tonkin@gmail.com  
New members/readers are always welcome.

### EVERY FRIDAY

**Ashtanga Yoga** 6am. Biannka 0407 634 116

**Kuranda Story Time** 10am–12pm, Kuranda Library.  
Every Friday, during school term.

**She Shed Kuranda** 8am–1pm.  
mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

### EVERY SATURDAY

**Tree Planting** Kuranda Envirocare. Contact 0474 560 700  
or check Facebook or website [www.envirocare.org.au](http://www.envirocare.org.au)

**Men's Shed** Kuranda 8.30am–11.30am  
mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

### EVERY SUNDAY

**Social Tennis** 5pm Wednesdays and Sundays at the  
Kuranda Recreation Centre. Gidi 0448 480 200

**AA Group** St Christopher's Catholic Church  
9.30am 1300 222 222

### EVERY SECOND SUNDAY

**Kuranda Amphitheatre Working Bee**  
9am–1pm. Email [volunteers@kurandaamphitheatre.org](mailto:volunteers@kurandaamphitheatre.org)