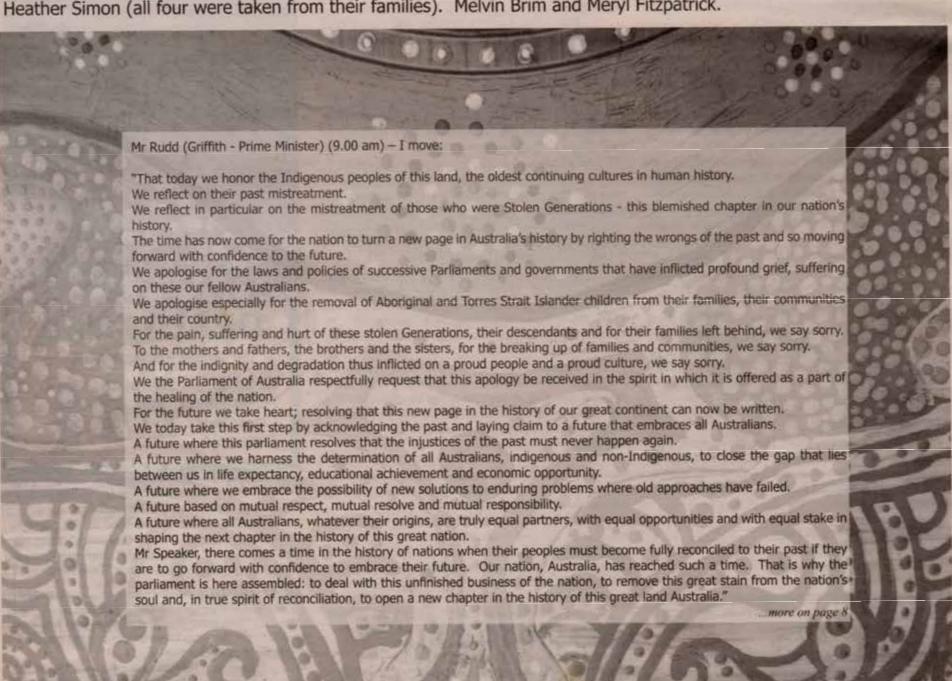




Pictured above, left to right: Locals at an impromptu celebration at Djurri Dadagal Art Gallery after the speech given by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on the morning of Wednesday 13th, February. Enid Boyle, June Grogan, Martha Hunter and Heather Simon (all four were taken from their families). Melvin Brim and Meryl Fitzpatrick.



COMMUNITY LETTERS

PO BOX 66 KURANDA 4881

Please keep your letter to the point and under 250 words. All letters are subject to editing. Anonymous letters or those of doubtful origin are not published. Correct name, street address and phone contact are to be submitted with your letter which should be headed "Dear Kuranda Paper". Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Kuranda Media Association Incorporated, Publishers of the Kuranda Paper.

Dear Kuranda Paper,

Thank you for the photo in last month's Kuranda paper of the palm with the giant mass of flowers on top of it - the Corypha Elata.

It deserves to be in the Kuranda Paper as it is a palm that that Kuranda is proud of. As a seedling it was donated by Richie of Kuranda's Rosebud Farm and planted at the airport by Jappa, another Kuranda identity, thirty five years ago.

That crown at the top should last about two years and should be worth watching over those years as it produces millions of flowers.

Robin Dods - Kuranda

Dear Kuranda Paper,

It's good to see that five Kuranda people have put their names forward as prospective councillors for the new Tablelands Shire, Division 8. Kuranda Envirocare has invited all candidates to a Forum on Wednesday 12th March at the Sports and Social Club on Fallon Road. See the Envirocare article on the Envirowatch page for more details. Also check out the article in this paper, reporting on candidate's answers to questions posed by Friends of the Earth.

Cathy Retter, Kuranda Envirocare Dear Kuranda Paper,

Follow up on Paradise King Fisher. Those who read my letter about my enjoyment of seeing the Bluff Breasted Paradise Kingfisher in Jum Rum Creek may be pleased there is more.

At our Kuranda Community tree planting, one girl recalled how she once saw one down at the Red Arrow track near Cairns, another found one covered in Bird lime up the Palmerston, (he got the lime off and it flew away) and finally, a family in Kuranda is visited every year by a pair of these sumptuous birds, - who drill a hole in the same termite mound, every year and raise a family. - How about that.! Cheers,

Geoff Thomas, Kuranda

Dear Kuranda Paper,

some confusion surrounding the development at 138 Myola Rd. Apart from 3 small blocks fronting Myola Road, the development is located within the Fairyland Link Wildlife Corridor (Significant Vegetation Overlay Myola, Kuranda & Speewah map no. V1).

The development was approved under the old Mareeba Shire Plan. In an out-of-court settlement, (REC/06/0072, 8 February 2007), Mareeba Shire Council has allowed significant downgrading of the protections afforded a wildlife corridor under its own Mareeba Shire Plan, eg:

the 600 sq.m. clearing for house and infrastructure provision has been changed to allow 3000 sq. m. of clearing.

it is no longer obligatory to retain vegetation on slopes of more than 15%, although some erosion control measures are mandated.

In the Amended (new) Myola Plan the Fairyland Link would remain a wildlife corridor (Myola Structure Plan - Features Plan Map no. Z7(ii)). Furthermore it appears that the three blocks previously outside the corridor have now been included in the corridor.

Part of the Fairyland Link would have some protection under the zoning "Forest residential"

However the remainder, designated "Large lot Dear Kuranda Paper, residential" would have less protection.

Would the Amended (new) Myola Plan better protect the vegetation? Not if the State Government's Integrated Planning Act allows a council to arbitrarily negate its own planning scheme.

How can we protect vegetation in the wildlife corridors for both wildlife habitat and future generations? The FNQ 2025 Planning Scheme will have legislative power. When the draft is released in April we will all have the opportunity to see it and to comment. Let's not miss this opportunity to make sure the law, through the FNQ2025 Plan, protects the vegetation in the wildlife corridors.

Margaret Zehntner, Kuranda Dear Kuranda Paper,

Re: Email address I have received numerous comments on my advertised email address of voiceofkuranda@bigpond.com Some have thought it was an ego trip and some a sign of confidence. It is neither.

The address was started many years ago when Alexis Callaghan and I instigated the Kuranda Main Street Program on the urging of Arch McArthur. That process was designed to be the "Voice of Kuranda" and over the years part of it grew into the Kuranda Village Promotion Program. However, that address now has hundreds of correspondents in academia, travel and government. It is just too difficult to change.

Mark Freeman. Kuranda

Dear Kuranda Paper,

It was the healthiest and tallest fan palm on Now it is dead, poisoned by Rob Vievers Drive! vandals, and what a surprise. Now the bright blue and yellow sign that the fan palm had mostly hidden is fully exposed.

Fan palms are slow growing and even if that one was replaced, it would take years for it to grow that size.

Mary von Keyserlingk, Kuranda Dear Kuranda Paper,

How predictable that a semi commercial sign (community group advertising the pub it meets at) rudely pollutes the Rob Vievers Drive entrance to the "Village in the Rainforest" and the only rainforest vegetation within 20 metres of it mysteriously dies!

I understand that Rotary had permission to erect the sign anywhere along the grassed bank but whoever placed it chose to put it right next to the only Licuala palm, which incidentally obscured the sign. Of course, the Licuala had to be got rid of, didn't it? Not the sign. It's not a good look for Rotary.

However, K-Cons (the community native plant nursery) is prepared to replant the bank with appropriate native, low-growing (for under the power lines), flowering shrubs, including a Licuala palm, to enhance the entrance to the village without obscuring the Rotary sign.

Co-operation, consultation and teamwork can work wonders for a community but it takes unselfishness and willingness to see how your actions contribute to the big picture - not how they degrade it for some greedy misguided advantage.

Jax Bergersen, Kuranda

Accolades to the person(s) who placed the placard on the left hand hillside of Rob veivers Drive leaving town, pertaining to the sad (and rapid) demise of a once beautiful Licuala palm.

It's curious to note that this poor palm is directly in front of a what appears to be a newly erected Rotary sign - a sign of the times perhaps?

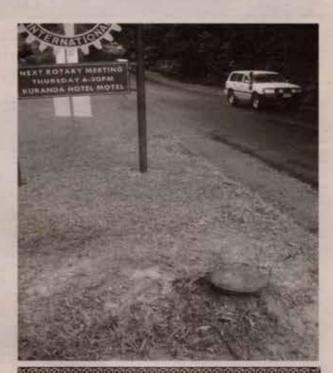
Some years ago, when these palms were planted, I thought how lovely - what a beautiful entrance to our village - but no more - it seems manmade advertisements are more important than living things.

To the perpetrator of this destruction, I say shame on you - you're a few crumbs short of a crouton, and in olde worlde language - where's your head at?

In good faith (and hope)

Dear Folks - A postscript to my letter concerning palm and sign - today I noticed the palm has been cut and removed (placard also), and the Rotary Sign stands proud and unencumbered, on the hill. Does one dare to suggest two palms could be planted for the one lost in mysterious circumstances? I live in hope. Regards

Zaigar Gardiner - Kuranda



DEADLINES

2008 Edition 187

Thurs 20 Editorial Advertising Thurs 20 Mar Thurs 20 Classifieds Mar Thurs 27 Paper out Mar

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All contributions and advertising to Pauline and Jan at "Kuranda Videos" at the BP Complex.

Deadlines must be adhered to. Photographs and items for return to be collected from the "Kuranda Videos" immediately after publication. Thanks to Pauline and Jan at the VideoShop.

Contributors please present your work in digital or good typewritten format. Classifieds and small items may be legibly handwritten and must be paid for when lodged. First time advertisers should present payment on lodging initial advertisement.

This edition No. 186 of the Kuranda Paper was produced by a volunteer team including: Liane, Seren, Peter, Zananda, Garth and Penny. Thanks to the Paper Folders.

Fossil Forum

Time to dig up your best shoes, best clothes and best smiles for Kuranda in celebration mode. March sees the official opening of the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre on Friday March and the Kuranda Aquatic Complex on Saturday March 8th. Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers for their long hours of toil and their willingness to engage in interminable battles with bureaucracy to achieve these goals. Both of these tax-payer/resident funded facilities, when up and fully operational, will do much to enrich the lives of residents - so use them to get your monies worth. Also thanks to those politicians that came up to the crease to bat for these operations.

Saturday March 15th also sees the elections for Mayor and Councillors of the new Tablelands Shire. Remember that voting is compulsory with polling booth at the Kuranda District College complex. Voting runs from 8am to 8pm and a free bus is running from Kuranda to the College at 9am and 3pm and from

Kowrowa/Mantaka @ 9.20am.

These elections are important to ensure that Kuranda will have strong representation on the new amalgamated Council. It is vital that the area with its treasures of natural beauty, unique and diverse flora and fauna, easy life-style and centre of a thriving tourist destination sees future proposed developments rigorously planned and executed.

What might we expect as basic democratic processes upheld by all electoral candidates? Basically, as citizens, we should be able to expect widely canvassed and open consultation processes with adequate time lines for community responses,



decision making that is open, transparent and free from taint of undue pressure and influence and where councillors are open about possible conflicts of interests. And finally, an adequate and open public

accountability on decisions made.

Presently, thanks to the initiative undertaken by Friends of the Earth (many thanks in particular to Sarah Isaacs who worked hard to bring you this report see centre lift-out), we have the opportunity to familiarise ourselves with candidates' positions on a wide variety of issues affecting the area and our lifestyles

As well Envirocare has thoughtfully given us the opportunity to meet the candidates and hear their responses to pressing issues at the public meeting following Envirocare's AGM - 7.30pm at the QCWA Hall on Wednesday March 12"

Kuranda is fortunate in that a number of well known residents have nominated to stand for Division 8 representation. All the candidates are to be commended for running for what will probably be a demanding and work-heavy term of contentious issues, long meetings, endless debate, public criticism and often little thanks. No sinecure this.

Think long and hard about your vote - difficult as most of the candidates have distinguished records of public involvement and commitment. Remember we get the politicians we deserve and Kuranda deserves the best! Good fortunate then to all candidates and may the best and hardest worker win!

Maybe the old Taoist adage icould be applied to all public officials:

Those who say they know, do not know. Those who say they do not know, also do not know. Therefore, be quiet and let your actions speak for you.

They speak much louder than your words". Meantimes see you in your best shoes at the Neighbourhood Centre and Aquatic Complex openings and on Polling Day!



Ambulance Update February 2008 Station News

Hi all and welcome to another edition of the ambulance update. Over the past month we have all been fairly busy, with most cases related to seasonal illnesses with the

occasional home and road accident.

In the coming months, I will be taking extended leave and we will have paramedic Officer Michelle Boulter relieving in my position. Michelle is an experienced paramedic from Atherton and is a long time resident of the far North. I am sure our community will benefit from her experience and enthusiasm, and I wish her well for her tour of duty in Kuranda.

LAC and Fund-raising News

The Kuranda Local Ambulance Committee (LAC) is a group of community minded individuals who dedicate many hours work per month towards enhancing the ambulance service to the local community. The role of the committee is to raise awareness in the community about the ambulance service and its products, and also to inform the Ambulance nservice via the commissioner as to the effectiveness of the local service.

The LAC is also a significant fundraising body that raises funds for the purchase of equipment for use in the local community.

On the Saturday May 31st, we will hold our ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT and a great time will be had by all. I would like to invite everyone to join us at the CWA Hall for what is always a great night, so get your teams of four or more people together and come and grab some great prizes on offer from our generous sponsors, and remember funds raised will be used for the coming budget to purchase equipment for your ambulance service. Festivities will begin at 6.30 pm.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our generous sponsors who made up the full spectrum of business people and they are:

Cezaly's Sugarworld, Rainforeststation, Butterfly Sanctuary, Sizzlers, Brothers League Club, Cairns Tropical Zoo, Birch Carrol & Coyle, Big Cat Green Island Reef Cruises, Queensland Rail, Birdworld Kuranda, Quicksilver, Skyrail, Cairns Goldpins Lane, Holiday Inn.

Sam's Kuranda Take-away, Kuranda Videos, Kuranda Foodworks, Kuranda Bakery, The Candy Shop, Cliff Timmins, Gifts from Kuranda, Kuranda Fruit and Veg, Conbar - Opals from the Heart, Rainforest Habitat, Cairns Colonial Club, Kuranda Envirocare, Terra Nova Gallery and Speewah Bromeliads.

On the Saturday 8th March, the Kuranda LAC will be holding a Garage Sale at the Kuranda Ambulance Station. Over many months, we have had a myriad of items donated to the LAC and we will have them all up for sale on the 8th March beginning at 9.00am. until finished. The sale will be done on a donation basis, so come along, see what is available and if you see something you want, you decide what to pay. Every little bit helps and we are very keen to clear out our stores.

LEON'S TIPS

This month I would like to talk about the Wet season and the challenges it brings. Up here in the North, we are blessed by rarely having to worry about drought, but the challenges we face in the wet season can often be just as troublesome and usually happenrather quickly. You would think some things would be obvious and common sense, but all too often common sense ain't too common!

I often get asked the question about who the people are that have accidents on the Range, surely they are unfamiliar tourists. The answer, however, is almost always a surprise as it is mostly locals who come to grief in our wet conditions eg: people who drive the Range regularly and become complacent and allow their caution to relax a little. It is us who need to be wary of the fact that the range will present a new driving experience each and every time we travel on it. There are always road works and fuel spills and drivers should be ever vigilant while driving and at this time of year allow a little more space between you and the car in front. And allow a little more time to get to your destination.

The wet season also poses a threat for tropical diseases like Dengue fever, so look out for Mozzie breeding areas and take action to minimize the risks. It is time when rivers flood and currents become very strong even if they don't look it. Swimming in the river at this time of year should be completely avoided as debris and depths change with the movement of water and what may have been a good spot to dive at one time may now be full of branches or sand.

Other challenges are also things like wound dressings. In the Wet, we are perspiring quite a bit and wounds become warm moist areas that are ideal for infections to grow in. These types of infections can be minimized by using antiseptic powder instead of ointments or creams. Powders also mean that you don't have to touch the wound as much, which will also minimize infection.

Paths and driveways are extremely slippery at this time of year and concrete in particular can become treacherous in the wet conditions. We all like to wear our thongs at this time and thongs combined with moldy concrete can be a recipe for disaster with all manner of injury resulting.

I suppose the main message I would like to convey is Think about the conditions and plan accordingly. Hopefully then we won't have to meet professionally.

CARING FOR COUNTRY CELEBRATING COMMUNITY IN KOAH

The Koah Tree-Planting Group, "Community Caring for Country", recently invited the wider community for a day of celebration of previous work, planting out a new section, and a ceremonial bushfood planting, also enjoying watermelon, tea, yummy scones and muffins - while sharing, building and renewing friendships.

additional 60 trees planted which will grow to form a flowering, bird-attracting, welcome walk down to the junction of the Clohesy and Barron Rivers.

The local murri youth planted burdekinanddavidsonplums, in the new bushfood grove, encouraged by Uncle Melvin and Granny Rosie. Another community day will soon be planned to put up the sign for this area, and plant more bushfood and medicine plants.

The tree planting at Koah is transforming the junction from wild guinea grass to a beautiful reserve grove of local endemic species that protect the river banks and provide food and habitat for native birds and animals, and beauty, shade and shelter for the local community.

The Envirocare Project has grown over the years with dedicated work from a small group of people committed to a chemical-free, handson approach, including seed-collecting from remnant surviving undamaged ecosystems, propagation and maintenance.

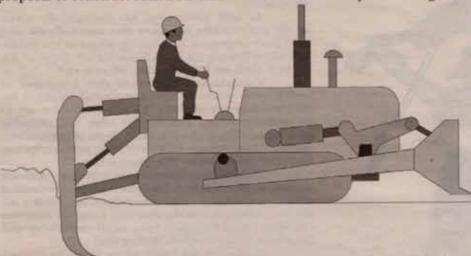
The group meets each Tuesday at 4.30pm and all Koah residents and visitors are welcome to come and lend a hand.



THE FIRST BARRON FALLS HYDRO PROPOSAL

The present Barron Falls Hydro station was built in 1950, a full fifty years after the first proposal to construct such a scheme.

the Barron Falls and also the public lands situate on Freshwater Creek referred to in the Hydraulic Engineers



In 1899 the Queensland House Representatives adjourned proceedings to discuss an important matter - "Proposed lease of Barron Falls Lands to Chillagoe Railway and Mines Ltd., and Assumption of right to control and dispose of waters of the Barron River to Queensland Railway Department". However, the mining company planned to have much more than just an electricity generating plant. In its original proposal it intended to construct a smelter and treatment plant on the Barron Falls to process the minerals from its mines at Chillagoe and other areas. Given the total destruction of the surrounding forests that resulted from such a project at the Mt Lyall project at Queenstown in Tasmania, we have much to be thankful for that the Chillagoe Mining Company's proposal failed. The mountains surrounding Queenstown, once clad with heavy forest, were completely denuded by the fumes of the smelters, and remain seriously compromised today.

The plan to harness the power of the Barron Falls first appeared in December 1897 when C.W. Chapman wrote to the Under Secretary for Public Lands asking for a Special Lease of portion of land on the south side of the Barron River: "frontage 25 chains to river, 12 chains above and 13 chains below the break of the Barron Falls depth of 10 chains from the margin of the stream, for the erection of ore reduction works (to treat copper and other ores from the Chillagoe Copper Mines, utilising for that purpose the power of the Falls), for the term of thirty years, and to request that the lease, if granted, shall issue in the name of the Chillagoe - maybe Mareeba". This Proprietary, limited".

When the proposal became public knowledge there was an immediate reaction against the project. In February 1898 the Mayor of Cairns, Karl Aumuller, sent a telegram to the Minister for Lands: "Large and influential meeting of citizens held last night at which the following resolutions were carried unanimously. First that this meeting strongly protests against the granting of any special lease to any corporation or person of any lands in the immediate vicinity of the Barron Falls or to the alienation of any such land. Second that the public lands and

Report on July twenty eight ninety two [28 July 1892] be proclaimed reserves for water supply and other purposes for the town of Cairns and district. Third that these resolutions be wired to the Minister for Lands". The Minister assured the Mayor that nothing would be done without a full inquiry as to the effects that would ensue from granting the lease. He then asked if the objections would be withdrawn if the Government assured that the "the beauty of the Falls will be absolutely respected, and that nothing will be done to interfere with the locality as a pleasure resort".

The Mayor was asked to nominate any conditions that should be attached to a lease.

Chapman, Company's representative, told the Minister: "With regard to protests in Cairns. I understand that the Local Authorities at Cairns have been very exercised about this application, and imagined all sorts of evils, such as pollution of the water and desecration of nature's beauty. Wrote to both papers and spoke with Mayor Draper and seem satisfied. (Draper had replaced Aumuller as Mayor of Cairns and he was in favour of development.) major All we intend doing is divert a portion of the water through a hidden aqueduct to generators. Power by line to smelter was in direct contradiction to the original proposal to include a smelter and treatment plant near the falls. As opposition to the scheme increased Company the Government suddenly dropped all reference to an "ore reduction plant" and insisted that only a hydro scheme was contemplated. The lease, if granted, would allow the Company to take 144

cubic feet of water per

second from the river free

reserves immediately surrounding of payment and pay for all water in excess of that amount. However, a monthly limit of 288 cubic feet per second would apply. (If my rudimentary calculations are correct this is equal roughly to a minimum of 300 million and a maximum of 600 million litres each day).

The proposed lease of 25 acres was to be excised from a reserve of 172 acres "for public purposes", which was proclaimed in 1897. In order to circumvent the problem of the reserve lands, the Government proposed to place the land and water under the control of the Commissioner for Railways, who could then make the land and water available to the Chillagoe Company at special rates. However, support was lacking in the Public Service. When the plan was put to the Surveyor General, he replied: "I cannot see the necessity for placing all this land under the control of the Commissioner for Railways. He already has control of the railway line, and at least one chain either side of it".

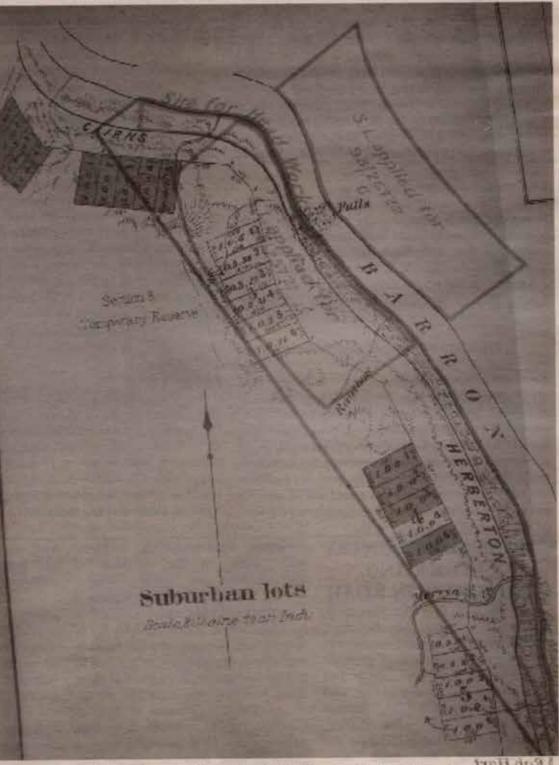
October 1898 In the Commissioner for Railways told the Secretary for Railways that the land should be put under his sole control "so that I may be in a position to treat with the Proprietary Company direct as to the terms and conditions

under which this concession is to be allowed, but more especially to enable me to control the construction and course of the water tunnel". The lease, for 48 years, was approved in October, granting eight acres in one block and twelve acres in another block. Payments were set at £20 for the first year and £520 per year for the succeeding 19 years. After that time the rental was to be determined by negotiation, but not to exceed £1,145.00 per year.

Despite the lease being passed by the Government, there were those who doubted the legality of the process. By November 1898 the Secretary for Public Lands commented that "It is not considered advisable to take any action in the matter at present". When the matter came before the Solicitor General he ruled that the Commissioner for Railways did not hold the land in question and could not enter into a lease.

Fortunately for generationstheGovernmentchanged, and the new Chillagoe Company was not as influential with the new order. The Chillagoe Company constructed its smelter at Chillagoe and railed the treated metals to the coast for export.

Peter Ryle



The proposed lease to the Chillagoe Mining Company

Garden Jottings

by Alectura

Things to consider this month: Well the rains have arrived and then some. Time to look at drainage and how water lies in or runs off your gardens, paying particular attention to situations where water is pooling – very few plants appreciate their roots becoming water logged. Also check ponds and any other possible breeding places for mosquitoes. "One year's seeding – seven year's weeding" – the old gardening saw is certainly true with many of the local weeds now in flowering/seeding stage. Remove and compost before seed ripens and disperses.

With cooler weather around the corner, some readers may be interested in starting a vegetable patch and now is a good time to consider aspect – most vegetable require full sun, good drainage and fine tilth. It is probably better not to be too ambitious, starting off with a small patch that can be easily fenced and covered as nothing more disappointing than the ready-to-be picked fruits of your labour being devoured over night. Turn over soil to one spade depth and apply dolomite if soil is clayey. Allow to stand for a month. Or you might wish to try the no-dig hay bale method More next month.

Plant of the month: For drama, bold statement, subtle foliage colouration and easy care, consider the Alocasia family (Araceae) With wide distribution through SE Asia through New Guinea to the Phillipines, these plants are remarkably hardy once established although amply repaying with better foliage if well watered, fertilised and mulched. Preferring some shade from the hottest sun, wind protection is necessary to preserve their foliage. They are relatively pest free and prove excellent for understory plantings.

Closely related to and easily confused with the Colacasias and Xanthosamas, all are characterised by their sagittate leaves arising from bulbous stock. Often called "elephant ears" they range in height from less than 1m to over 3m.

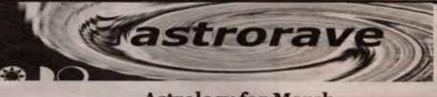
With careful selection, the keen gardener is able to select from the wide range of species (approximately 70) and hybrids available. Of particular beauty with their silver central veining and dark green purple reverse are the various A. x amazonica offerings. Of particular note in this range is "bebe", sometimes offered as "bambino", with short stocky growth, quick clumping and great leaf production, making for particular impact. Other valued treasures include the fabulous A. cuprea with its new leaves shiny copper coloured and the beautiful A. chelsonii, A. lowii grandis and A.watsonianae

Native: Native: Faradaya splendida - a very vigorous liane, native to Queensland rainforest and relishing loamy soil and adequate moisture at its roots. Not for the faint hearted as requiring solid support or a very large tree to grow into, it has 15 to 30cm long leaves with highly perfumed clusters of white flowers followed by egg shaped, reputedly edible fruits which can be eaten raw.

Q. & A. Dear Marie, The plant you bought at the markets with its purple open faced flowers as the "hot water bottle plant" is probably an Achimines hybrid. These low growing flowering plants belong to the Gesneriad family which also contains Sinningia (Gloxinia), Saintpaulia (African Violet) and Columnea, the 'Goldfish plant" – all delightful subjects for pot or hanging basket.

With a myriad of colours and both single and double flowering forms, Achimines are of the easiest growth habit. Flowering from spring through summer, the plants die down with cooler weather to a grublike tuber which comes back when warmth returns. Division of tuber gives more plants. Preferring a very open and well drained mix (African Violet Ready Mix if not making your own), avoid over-watering and watch for thrip and, in dry conditions, watch for red spider. Dear Sandy, The orange flowered shrub the tourists were asking and now in flower around the village.after is Clerodendrum paniculatum, the "Chinese Pagoda" shrub. Like most of the Clerodendrum family, this is a mildly suckering plant and while preferring good sunlight will grow and flow in shady conditions. Growing to approximately 2m, after flowering can be cut back severely, removing all spent flowering stems. Relatively pest-free and very hardy when well

For plant identification/sourcing, general questions contact Alectura or email wortwoa@optusnet.com.au Keep those questions coming in!



Astrology for March

The New Moon begins the March lunar cycle at 3.15am 8th March at 18 degrees Pisces, setting things in motion for a month of completions, dissolutions, and washing away of old structures.

The Aries equinox falls at 3.49pm on 20th March as the Sun, directly above the equator crosses the zero degree Aries point. The beginning of the Astrological year. On the same day there is a Mercury, Venus conjunction in Pisces and the Moon is almost full in Libra. A very nice time to begin (or complete) an artistic or creative project; a work of fantasy or to send a love message in a bottle and trust that it will wash up on the right beach. Cast thoughts of love adrift on the tides and have a happy Astro New Year.

On the 28th March there's a fascinating pattern forming: a triple conjunction of Mercury, Venus and Uranus at 19 degrees Pisces (exactly where the new Moon began this monthly lunar cycle); Moon at 19 Sagittarius; Jupiter at 19 degrees Capricorn and Neptune at 23 degrees

Aquarius. So these guys are all in close aspect to each other and all neatly aligned in the last 4 signs of the Zodiac. What's this all about then?

Well, the last four Zodiac signs together represent the bigger picture: unifying, expanding, structuring, merging and resolving. The numbers are doing their thing: the date – 28th comes down to a number one; the year 2008 is a number one year and the degree being activated by all the planets – 19 degrees also reduces to a number one. All representing unity and the beginning of creative processes.

If we blend all of this with the energies of the planets involved: the Moon, Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune, and that's quite a mob to have all sitting in alignment, then what we have is the beginning of a unification process which is gentle, sensitive, imaginative, beautiful, all embracing and quite unique. Not to mention extremely, expansively weird! Definitely a dawn of a new era kind of feeling.

And so what do we have right in the middle of this month of March? The amalgamated Tablelands Council elections. Let's see what the stars have to say about that.

The election day birth chart speaks strongly change, vision and expansion — as you would expect but overwhelmingly indicates service and sacrifice. Who will be elected to represent Kuranda? The chart identifies them as the candidate who will be able to carry a huge workload and serve all local interests. Someone with a strong record of community service, adaptability, and tough negotiating skills. This will be no sinecure and will demand considerable sacrifice of the elected councilor's personal life. Who will it be? Well the old mystic rectangle or "scaled envelope" pattern turns up in the chart again, so we will have to wait for the night.

Feelings and emotions run high and the post-election party will be a beauty. Then the real work begins. Issues to do with water, health, ecological preservation and efficient energy usage will be prominent on the new Council's agenda.

So, an interesting march through March this year. Probably still plenty of water about and change, change, change.

The proposed lease to the Children Minime Compa

Rob Hart

ord faring it



Interested in gardening?

Find out more from local experts! All are welcome. Come along to

KURANDA and DISTRICT GARDEN GROUP

2 pm Saturday 8 March Fronds Nursery, Boyles Road, Kuranda

Krishna and Rudi Buhler will be showing us around their nursery.

They have been there for 17 years growing mainly palms and other foliage plants

suitable for this area.

Please bring a plant or cuttings to swap, and a plate to share for afternoon tea. Phone David or Graham 4093 9492



We are at that time of year again, where the grass grows faster than one can mow it. I have spent 12 years in Kuranda's wet seasons and this one

seems wetter than most. I know the temptation to let it grow longer than normal and come back to it later, but long grass harbours bugs, insects and unfortunately mosquitoes.

These pest numbers can be kept down by regular mowing so that evenings spent on our Kuranda Verandas can be that much more pleasurable. So if I can help you keep your lawn in order, give me a call, Anton the Lawn Man.





RAINFALL 28/01/08 TO 24/02/08

404mm

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the Arts page

The Art of Healing - Chandrika Steinhardt

This month's featured artist is Chandrika Steinhardt. Chandrika has been painting all her life, "my earliest memories are of painting in an imagi-

nary wown?,
Her mof wor average sq. but created tude of ink drawater when the evening is commpassionate, and my voice reaches you was a introspection of truth.

nary world of my own", she says. Her major body of work is in oils, average size 1m sq. but has also created a multitude of pen and ink drawings and watercolours. 1992 to 1999 was a period of introspection and full time study

with a Master of Fine Arts. During these seven years she was privileged to live at several beauti-

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Mother and Child

ful studio locations that influenced her work, mostly on the Atherton Tablelands, but also Magnetic Island. Chandrika then travelled to Northern NSW where she taught art in a Rudolf Steiner School. In 2003 the artist returned home to her family in the Cairns, Tableland

Kuranda region. She currently has two major paintings in progress.

Chandrika's paintings depict abstract and realistic human form metamorphosing within landscapes, which she describes as "Visionary Dreamscapes". The work evokes challenging feelings and often awakens a shift of consciousness, if the viewer has "the courage to look beyond to a deeper level of awareness". Each painting took four to six months to complete and is an explosion of sensual form and colour.

When asked why she paints, Chandrika said...

"The drive to express feelings which arise from relationships with those I love is irrepressible, it is a gift and part of my purpose. The spirit of truth, grace and beauty stemming from our human experience reveals itself and formulates as an inner vision to be captured to share with others as a precious moment in time.

Also, of equal importance, is a strong passion to describe the timeless essence and mysterious nature of this wondrous land. The sights sounds, smells and textures of our natural environment enchant, inspire and beckon the artistic imagination to create.

My main medium is painting, but have also enjoyed developing expression through voice, dance, drumming, creative writing and the healing arts. It is a mysterious and awesome way of life, but be no means easy to sustain.

The ability and space to create is essential for the artists' wellbeing and happiness. Art for Art's sake is one of the most challenging professions one can pursue in our society, requiring a determined

Legs

conscious effort to inspire, nurture, support and protect the creative spirit within ourself, and our community. To offer a hand of help to each other when we falter is the energy required to perpetuate a healthy culture creating 'true' art in these challenging times.

With gracious love I acknowledge the tremendous support of all those friends, family and respected teachers who have encouraged me to pursue my dreams."

Chandrika offers her 'Ignite your Passion' Art classes and consultation for all ages, Psychic Readings and Intuitive Bodywork for realignment and support of the creative process.

Chandrika can be contacted on 0424 054 209, email: joysongmoon@yahoo.com.au.

Her work an be viewed in a group exhibition organized by 'Connect' Magazine on Friday evening

Coming Soon- Zeitgesit Film Screening March 15th

5-9pm free for members, \$5 non-members tea and cof-

fee, alcohol-free event. "Zeitgeist, produced by Peter

Joseph, was created as a nonprofit filmiac expression to inspire people to start looking at the world from a more

critical perspective" finds out more about the film and

6.00pm at 'The Tanks Art Centre', tank 3 on the 29th February 2008.



Valley of the Moon



The greater the Disipline

By the time this edition goes to print the Kuranda Amphitheatre Society will have elected a new committee for the next 12 months. To find out who will be in the hot seats, check the website www.kurandaamphitheatre.com There you will also find updates on the events listed below... Don't miss the first member's night for the 2008 amphi-

theatre calendar year. Perennial favourite, the dynamic seven- piece 'The Swingin' Alley Catz' bring their slick swing band sound back to the Understage. With their combination of innovative arrangements of traditional jump jazz blues of the 30's, an entertaining stage presence and a huge horn section, their shows always go down a treat. This experienced group of musos is well worth a look. Find The Swingin Alley Cats at the Understage on Fri March 7, doors and bar open 6.30pm. Make the most of this opportunity to take up or renew your amphitheatre membership for free entry and it affords you discounted entry to every member's event throughout the 2008 calendar.

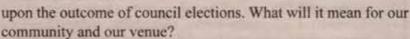


the international movement www.zeitgeistmovie.com

Kuranda Roots have scheduled for June, details to be confirmed.

We anticipate a prosperous year of community engagement and cultural development at the amphitheatre and wait

with baited breath



A few individuals have approached the committee informally to discuss the use of the venue for band rehearsal space. If this interests you and you would like to coordinate such a concept and turn it into reality, please put your hand up. Thankyou to the team of volunteers who have mowed and pruned and cleaned paths during the wet season. We need this ongoing maintenance to keep the venue safe and user-friendly.



Focus has started the Year of the Rat with rehearsals for a satirical comedy, "2 Across", a play by Jerry Mayer. Megan Freeman will be making her directing debut, with actors Dany Harris and Seren Starlight in this intriguing piece. As you read this our dates for the performance are not set, as the Kuranda Amphitheatre Society Inc.'s Annual General Meeting will have been on 24th February, and we will all have a new committee. Once the new committee is in place we can then apply for dates for our performances. Just a reminder

for anyone interested in theatre and how it all works, we meet every Wednesday night in the Understage at the Amphitheatre, 7pm-9pm. Yours in Theatre, Diana



KURANDA ARTS CO-OPERATIVE

SIMPLE GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY

received over the past couple of months, make it possible to take a great shot all new growth and colour has been the re- day. ward, with warm sunlight and water still glistening on the leaves from recent rain. Take as many shots as you can. The beauty Tall tree ferns form translucent canopies of the digital camera is that if the images with their fronds as they reach towards are not as spectacular as you hoped, you the sun. Tree roots festooned with moss can view them on your computer screen decorate many moist settings. Taking and delete them without incurring the photographs of your garden or in Kuran- development costs associated with tradida's surrounding rainforest, is a fantastic tional photographic film. way to capture your day and there is no need for a large, cumbersome camera or expensive equipment. A compact digital camera that fits nicely into your pocket can take the best of snap shots.

Some of the best photographs are taken in the early morning. The light is less intense at this time, which eliminates excessive contrasts of light and shade.

Bright cloudy days are also excellent as With all the lovely rain our gardens have the cloud cover diffuses the light and can

Another tip is 'safety in numbers'.



Nature's Palm roof to the lowly shelter from the sun carpet of the holy shelter from the storm keeping me cool keeping me warm nature is holding me in her palm

ARTS CO-OP ARTIST OF THE MONTH Margaret Genever...

tory and theory.



Margaret's relevant qualifications include a Diploma of Fine Arts, Batchelor of Arts, Graduate Diploma of Tertiary Teaching, and Master of Creative Arts.

Margaret continues to direct the Life Drawing Open Workshops and is jointly organizing a Drawing Intensive Workshop from 6th-11thJuly at JCU, at which the

tutor will be the well known Victorian artist, Geoff Dupree. (Anyone wanting information about this workshop, please contact Margaret through the Kuranda Arts Co-operative- 40939026.)

Margaret's principal mediums include printmaking, drawing and painting with occasional forays into hand built sculptural ceramics. The themes and subjects vary, but major works and exhibitions are usually concerned with contemporary issues, in particular social relationships.

Although drawing for its own sake always remains at the heart of Margaret's practice, at present she is focusing on solar plate printmaking. Solar plates are a very versatile process as both etchings (intaglio) and relief prints can be made from them. In the simplest process, a drawing is made on a transparency, which is then placed on a solar plate and exposed to UV light or the sun. Solar plates are user friendly because the materials are safe for the printmaker and the environment. Like all handmade

Kuranda resident Margaret Genever has prints, the solar plates are hand printed been a practicing artist for many years. on a mechanical press to produce what She has taught the visual arts at all levels are sometimes called 'original prints'. As from primary to tertiary level. For the with more traditional printmaking methpast 13 years she was a lecturer at Cairns ods, it is possible to work directly onto a campus of James Cook University across solar plate with inks or implements, and a broad range of media as well as art his- also to produce multi plate prints combining traditional methods such as linocut reliefs, monoprints, metal plate etchings, dry point or hand colouring. The printmaker's arsenal of techniques and processes is extremely diverse and interesting and can produce works of great variety and complexity as well as the apparently very simple.

The print 'Flying to a Circus' (photograph) was made from a drawing in pencil on paper which was photographed onto a transparency and then exposed on the solar plate to UV light, to produce an etching plate. This plate was inked and, before printing, was rolled with ink of another colour and viscosity to produce a two colour artwork.

Margaret Genever joined the artists at the Kuranda Arts Co-operative last year. number of her limited edition prints





Amber Gill does it again...

Amber Gill, local virtuoso, innovational composer and inventive connosseur of all things artistic would like, once again, to extend a compassionate welcome to all to join in the second local public manifestation of her favoured endowment and cherished distraction.

Sharing with onlookers the alleviation that helps keep her sone, she has ventured out of the drawing division of her first exhibition and on to a painting explosion which combines much larger works with an arduous display of audacious, undaunted and conspicuous colour,

The subject matter is as varied as thoughts and dreams and along with subjecting it to a particular catagory the artist much less enjoys trying to devote herself to one subject or another, describing it as 'a constriction of aspiration'

So join us in this juxtaposition of visionary delight and share in the indulgence of pleasure as we wander through this residuum of abiding artistic thought.

Be at the Kuranda Resort and Spa after noon on Sunday the 9th of March and accompany the inquisitive croud on this artistic roller coaster.



Song for the Heart

are for sale at the Co-operative's gallery. In the past, I have been asked about the lyrics to one of my songs Thief of Smiles and given recent events it was suggested I share them with you all. The basic story comes from two women I met in Katherine NT and Daintree who had similar tales of abduction and who also knew of local white women hiding babies from the protectors or police. You may have heard local songbird Rachel Shields singing this one:

Thief of Smiles

Standing outside in the rain, fearful tears they are disguised As the rain falls on her face, from a dark and stormy sky. Through the trees there comes a man, many times he's walked that mile Has a bible in his hand and evil close behind For with him there come protectors, you've heard the stories going round They're here to take the children, drag them far across the land So take the girl and run away, from this man who gave you child Refuse to take his hand, he's a thief of many smiles.

Missus Parker's hiding babies if you can make it cross the town Take your daughter in that wheat sack, before the protectors hunt you down.

Two police caught your mother, that was many years ago Tipped you from that wheat sack, stole you from your home Slowly peeled away your blackness, quickly took your native tongue Raised you in that convent, to protect you from your own While they divided up your birth right, lord they did not understand In your heart you were connected, to the spirit of this land.

Reflections on "SORRY"

Healing - By Rachel Shields

Healing is a process of re-identifying with oneself. With Family members.

Independently making the choice to work through the scars and layers that have power on our every

It is a process of finding our strength and standing up to our pain, so it no longer has hold on us. Then we can walk the journey of healing and reflect on the past with release, moving us forward. Rather than regret and anger holding us still and spiralling us to a disempowered state of being.

To empower ourselves, we must be able to recognize first what is holding us back.

It is the pain which we harbour; the anger, guilt, fear and shame.

Do we continue to give our lives and power to this? Or to a new life of freedom from that which binds our hearts and still keeps us separated from ourselves and one another.

There is a saying "The way out is through" to get out of this space of unforgiveness and anger, we can walk through the memories from a safe time and place, which is here and now. And choose how we let it affect us today.

It won't change the fact that the past has happened, though we can make today our opportunity to practise being free of the grip we let it have on us. By reconnecting with ourselves and eachother, we take ourselves back. We call all of the pieces of ourselves HOME, and home being our HEART, the place where emptiness resides for some.

This is a process that takes honesty and communication and to release the belief that it is shameful to expose who we truly are.

The time is over for shame; let us use our time for healing.

Holding each others' hands as Aunties and Uncles, Brothers and Sisters. Mothers and Fathers. Daughters and Sons. Grandparents, Cousins and Friends.

As FAMILY, as a community and SUPPORT each other so we may be empowered with what STRENGTHS we all have.

This is the journey to FREEDOM within; this is the key we can give ourselves,

EACHOTHER

Though we must first recognize ourselves so we may be able to open to one another. There are no excuses, nothing we can blame. Only recognition of what led us to this point.

It's our choice, our present is our choice.

We can change our future with what we choose today.

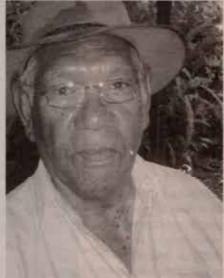
If the pain comes from being stolen and separated, misunderstood, abused suppressed and beaten.

Then let us stand up together NOW No matter how nervous we may feel. Let us be the change

Only we can give ourselves back to our Country To our people

Only we can take ourselves home

Word on the Street With Zananda Foord



Ronnie Richards

Where were you when you heard the speech? I was one in the gallery at Parliament house.

His say: "It was very emotional for me as I was taken away from my familyat the age of 5 and taken to the mission at Mona Mona. It was moving because everyone in there white or black had tears in their eyes. The word "sorry" really hit me inside. I give Kevin Rudd 10 out of 10 for having the courage to address the issue. I hope we can all try and get along



Gerald Hobbler

Where were you when you watched the Speech by Kevin Rudd?

At home.

His say- "I was very emotional like all of us and wondered why it took so long for the government to apologise. Saying sorry does not fix the current problems the Indigenous community face, like housing and Land issues but it is the first step. We as a people don't want to forget about the past but we also know that we have to move forward to the future. Working towards a common goal of UNITY is what Australia needs to do now."

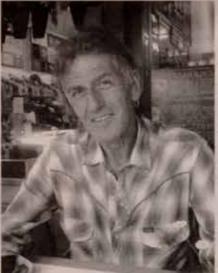


Glenis Grogan (CEO Ngoombi Aboriginal Corp.) Where were you when you watched the speech?

"Here at work (Ngoombi) then we headed up to Djurri Dadagal

Gallery for an impromptu celebration."

Her Say: "It was a very emotional time for me as my mother (June) was taken away to Mona Mona. I grew up listening to the stories about this devastating time. The next step is for these people to be recompensed. A lot of different groups over the years have had compensation, so why not them? My soul was lifted though when he (Kevin Rudd) said he will take steps to tackle the housing issue as we have a current housing crisis in Kuranda. 900 people are living in 56 houses, so how can the Indigenous community move forward if our living conditions are crowded? I am also relieved the culture of denial is over. I hope Non-Indigenous and Indigenous people can now be respectful and compassionate to each other as the racism has to stop.



Alan Dunne

Where were you when you watched the speech?

I was at home over the river and listened to it on the radio. His say: "When I was listening I felt a sense of relief and felt a sense of decency as an Australian. Now I can be a proud Ozzie again. What he said touched me. The words are cheap compared to the hurt they have endured. I felt the PM was genuine about what he had said.

It made me think that maybe now something can happen in a positive way. We have a real chance here to move forward. I'm still a little cynical though about the promises he made.



Where were you when you watched the speech? I didn't get to watch it as I was at School (KDSC). We should have been allowed to watch it at school as it effects the younger generation as well.

Her say: "One speech is not enough. We have to do more in the future for everyone to heal. There has been a lot of racism at school lately and I hope that the younger generation can overcome this and move forward too.

Green Season Active In Kuranda

International visitors, domestic sightseers and locals are traveling to Kuranda by the hundreds each day to see the Green Season in full swing in the Far North's premier tourist town.

Whether they are arriving by rail on the Kuranda Scenic Railway, skimming over the tree tops and over the majestic Barron River in a Skyrail gondola, or travelling the Kuranda Range Road, literally thousand of visitors have come to Kuranda to see the vast changes that have taken place during our annual Green Season" Kuranda Village Promotion Program chairman Fr Chris Wright said.

Recent heavy rains upstream have turned the Barron Falls into the number one tourist attraction adjacent to Cairns and hundreds of thousands of pictures and DVDs have captured the full force of the Barron Falls as they plummet nearly 800 feet to the floor of the Barron Valley. As well, the Green Season' rains have streams in falls and lush growth along walking tracks.

"All of this goes with Kuranda's world renowned hospitality and restaurants and eateries that complete a few hours, or for a growing number, a lucky couple of days in Kuranda. Add in our markets and shopping and tourist attraction and it is clear that our Green Season has brought with it a new burst of activity and happy memories for visitors to our town and environs. Yet again we have the good fortune to live up to our reputation of being more than a village in the rainforest, Fr. Wright said.

The old people are calling strongly now. They are asking us to slow down, to stop and listen The waters are rising and pushing us closer together, the waters are flowing and cleansing the earth for the times to come take time to listen now

listen to the whisper and allow that whisper to become second nature to be our nature talking to us clearly

There is a celebration for our awakening for the coming together of many people for the remembering of our connection to one another for the remembering and embracing of our beautiful mother She is nature and she gives of herself without limitation Let us remember to walk as one with her again Open to her guidance, slow our pace and listen to her From within we will feel

Her beauty is all around us, she exists even beyond the concrete and walls her heart beat resonates beyond all structures simply listen to feel again our song in the rhythm let us heal ourselves so the land may be well again
Love... Rachel 19th February 2008

Kuranda Cassowaries Rep side at the 14th Annual Sports and Cultural Festival in Brisbane



Kuranda Touch **Grand Final**

Kuranda Touch Grand Final Results:

The early wet weather didn't deter the 350 people who attended the Kuranda Cassowaries Touch Football Grand Final day which was held on the 16th of December 2007. It was a great finish to the end of a 17 week season. Many thanks to all those involved including participants, spectators, officials and referees, volunteers and sponsors.

Final results:

Bendigo Bank A Grade Champions Stormz defeated Top Kowrowa Walkabout 8 v 6

Bendigo Bank B Grade Champions Mantaka redbacks defeated KG's 9 v 8

Smoking, It can Cost Us the Game Junior Champions Kangaroos defeated Crocodiles

Bendigo Bank Senior Awards

Most Consistent Referee - Errol Evans Most Promising Referee - Thomas Quarry Best & Fairest Male - Glen Williams Best & Fairest Female - Evie Rose Most Improved Male - Isaac Coleman Most Improved Female - Roberta Donahue A Grade Grand Final Best on Ground - Glen Williams B Grade Grand Final Best on Ground - Johnathon Nandy

Smoking, It Can Cost Us the Game Junior Awards:

Most Improved Sub Junior Male - Zane Singleton Most Improved Sub Junior Female - Adrienne Verevis Kangaroo B&F Junior - Bernard Riley Crocodiles B&F Junior - Levi Newbury Eagles B&F Junior Kelsey Richards Stingrays B&F Junior - Maylene Riley Goannas B&F Junior - Damson Byrne Sharks B&F Junior - Johnathon Nandy

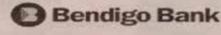
Many Thanks to Our Sponsors and Supporters



Many Thanks To Our Sponsors and Supporters

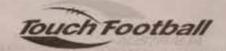


It can cost us the game









Department of Communications, aformation Technology and the Arts

Queensland Government



Health. Beauty. Lifestyle.



What's Eaten In a Week.

Take a good look at the diet of each country and the cost of what is eaten in one week. Incredible !!!

one week: 214.36 Euros or \$260.11

Germany: The Melander family of Bargteheide Food expenditure for one week: 375.39 Euros or \$500.07 United States: The Revis family of North Carolina Food expenditure for one week \$341.98

Mexico: The Casales family of Cuernavaca Food Dr. Jean Valnet in France is very well known for his expenditure for one week: 1,862.78 Mexican Pesos or treatments with the help of essential oils taken orally.

Poland: The Sobczynscy family of Konstancin-Jeziorna unguents. Food expenditure for one week: 582.48 Zlotys or More of how to achieve a good skin condition in next

\$151.27 Egypt: The Ahmed family of Cairo Food expenditure for Valarie Birchall, Aesthetician

one week: 387.85 Egyptian Pounds or \$68.53 Ecuador: The Ayme family of Tingo Food expenditure for one week: \$31.55

Bhutan: The Namgay family of Shingkhey Village Food expenditure for one week: 224.93 ngultrum or \$5.03 Chad: The Aboubakar family of Breidjing Camp Food expenditure for one week: 685 CFA Francs or \$1.23 Don't know about you, but right about now, I'm counting my blessings!





HEALTH AND BEAUTY HINTS

VISIT YOUR BEAUTY THERAPIST AND LOCAL HAIR SALON ON A REGULAR BASIS TO MAINTAIN GOOD SKIN, HEALTHY HAIR AND WELL BEING.

ESSENTIAL OIL APPLICATIONS FOR DIFFERENT TREATMENTS HAVE BEEN USED SINCE BEFORE CLEOPATRA'S TIME IN THE ANCIENT WORLD.

If it is a case of diseased skin the condition is treated locally. If there is an excess of fat in the tissue, slimming must starts otherwise the penetration will not be satisfactory.

Once the oils can reach the deeper layers of the skin they act on the production of new cells, helping them to be more vigorous in getting rid of the old cells.

The process of ageing comes from the inability of new cells to remove the dead cells quickly enough.

They will help to restore muscles to a healthy condition, the soft tissues to get rid of the extra fluid and wasted materials, or on the contrary help them in gaining back some lost hydration.

They also act as a blood regulator improving blood circulation. By pressures on nervous centres they will help the nervous system making it more alert to impulses and quicker in reactions.

After fecundation and maturation a second essential oil is produced in the rind of the fruit, containing vitamins C and D. The juice of the fruit has a third essence with a vitamin content.

Essential oils are vital elements which are considered as vegetable hormones.

They are obtained by a method called 'enfleurage'. The flowers are put in a sieve above a bath of oil, the role of which is to absorb the odoriferous molecules; fresh Italy: The Manzo family of Sicily Food expenditure for flowers are added until the oil is saturated. With the help of a solvent the fat is extracted from the oil and the pure essence remains.

The essences distilled from natural plants are used by some members of the Medical Profession in drops and

Externally with fumigations, inhalations, creams and

month's issue.

Are You a Winner?

Three of our lucky readers will win a complimentary CD of JUNG by well known local artist and frequent performer at The

Amphitheatre Gigs. Patric Jung To claim your prize, please return your Lucky Insert to The Video Shop, BP Complex Kuranda. Support your local artists!



GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

DO NOT SWALLOW CHEWING-GUM !!



Astrology for March

The New Moon begins the March lunar cycle at 3.15am 8th March at 18 degrees Pisces, setting things in motion for a month of completions, dissolutions, and washing away of old structures.

The Aries equinox falls at 3.49pm on 20th March as the Sun, directly above the equator crosses the zero degree Aries point. The beginning of the Astrological year. On the same day there is a Mercury, Venus conjunction in Pisces and the Moon is almost full in Libra. A very nice time to begin (or complete) an artistic or creative project; a work of fantasy or to send a love message in a bottle and trust that it will wash up on the right beach. Cast thoughts of love adrift on the tides and have a happy Astro New Year.

On the 28th March there's a fascinating pattern forming: a triple conjunction of Mercury, Venus and Uranus at 19 degrees Pisces (exactly where the new Moon began this monthly lunar cycle); Moon at 19 Sagittarius; Jupiter at 19 degrees Capricorn and Neptune at 23 degrees

Aquarius. So these guys are all in close aspect to each other and all neatly aligned in the last 4 signs of the Zodiac. What's this all about then?

Well, the last four Zodiac signs together represent the bigger picture: unifying, expanding, structuring, merging and resolving. The numbers are doing their thing: the date - 28th comes down to a number one; the year 2008 is a number one year and the degree being activated by all the planets - 19 degrees also reduces to a number one. All representing unity and the beginning of creative processes.

If we blend all of this with the energies of the planets involved: the Moon, Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune, and that's quite a mob to have all sitting in alignment, then what we have is the beginning of a unification process which is gentle, sensitive, imaginative, beautiful, all embracing and quite unique. Not to mention extremely, expansively weird! Definitely a dawn of a new era kind of feeling.

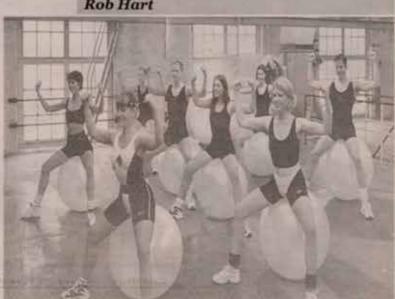
And so what do we have right in the middle of this month of March? The amalgamated Tablelands Council elections. Let's see what the stars have to say about that.

The election day birth chart speaks strongly change, vision and expansion - as you would expect but overwhelmingly indicates service and sacrifice. Who will be elected to represent Kuranda? The chart identifies them as the candidate who will be able to carry a huge workload and serve all local interests. Someone with a strong record of community service, adaptability, and tough negotiating skills. This will be no sinecure and will demand considerable sacrifice of the elected councilor's personal life. Who will it be? Well the old mystic rectangle or "sealed envelope" pattern turns up in the chart again, so we will have to wait for the night.

Feelings and emotions run high and the postelection party will be a beauty. Then the real work begins. Issues to do with water, health, ecological preservation and efficient energy usage will be prominent on the new Council's agenda.

So, an interesting march through March this year. Probably still plenty of water about and change, change, change.

Rob Hart



THANK YOU



Hi, my name is Justine Schlicht and on the 26th January, 2008 I was awarded

"The Citizen Of Year', Mareeba Shire", for my work in Community Social Circus and volunteer work.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Jenny McHugh, who initially nominated me, and all the amazing people who took the time to write great letters supporting this cause.

Other invaluable help has come from Ian Reece and Jenny Sader from 'Circus Art's North', Yungaburra, both have been teaching circus and physical theatre skills in Far North Queensland for at least 20 years and have been part of my journey with circus from

the beginning. Without their love and encouragement/training I would have never made it this far.

Big Thanks to those who have helped create, and support the development of Kassowary Circus over the last seven years, they are:

Rachelle Thompson, who should equally share this award, she has been there from the start training, teaching and inspiring circus and fun in our community. Josh Billam, xtraordinary Strong man, teacher and lots of fun. Kelli Craig, original co-founder of Kassowary Circus and founder of the 'Blackrobats', taking amazing circus to our communities all over Australia.

Michael Jennings, teacher, performer, treasurer extraordinaire. Peirs Freeman for his great juggling skills and smile and the lovely Sally for her time and endless support.

Thanks also to all the amazing mums, dads, grandparents, carers, dogs, who have always been there encouraging us, cheering and feeding us along the way. Kuranda State Primary School, Kuranda State Highschool, Kuranda Amphitheatre, Kuranda Neighbourhood Center, Njoombi, Kuranda Arts Coop, Arts Nexus, Kuranda Bakery, Kuranda Spring Fair Crew, The Kuranda Paper, Mareeba and Cairns Councils.

Other people I would like to thank for their tireless and continual work in developing and creating circus in the FNQ are the amazing Lucy Hart, Paul Barron, The "Grafton 'N 'Arts Crew", Michelle Leenders , Marie , Kaz , Nick Mills, Amelia Pegrum, Jerry Holmes, Daniel Gorski, Tony Hewitt-AASC, Patti Burnhein, 'Cysca's

Circus' founder and inspirational teacher, Tanks Arts Centre, RADF, and to all the other amazing people that have helped us along the way like.

Kassowary Circus would like to say a huge Thank You to John, founder of



Kassowary Circus crew ham it up for the camera

The Rainbow Youth Connection who in conjunct with The Dick Smith Foundation have very recently donated \$1000 to Kassowary Circus to spend on workshops and equipment for our youth.

Thanks to all the amazing youth/trainers that are actively participating in community circus /physical theatre and keeping it real, in the FNQ region, an estimated 200 plus.

And lastly a ENORMUS thanks to you all out there, without a loving and supporting community, "Community Social Circus" would find it very hard to survive. But don't worry we are here to stay, so you won't have to run away to join

Kuranda Recreation Centre Happenings

The Sports Club has a new name, and house keeping issues. a new committee, new membership and new ideas. The change of name is to emphasise recreational rather the competitive nature of the activities that will take place at the Centre, from now on and in the future until there is sufficient sports interest to warrant competition.

A new management committee was elected at the meeting held on 9 Feb at the Clubhouse. The committee members are: President; Gary Davis, Secretary Katy Whipp, Treasurer Fay Allen, Committee Members Keith Ralston, Steve Boag, Arch McArthur and Jeff Dieben. Already the Committee has held two management meetings to deal with a pile up of management, financial,

New membership. The Committee is delighted with the response received so far from the Kuranda community, which obviously does want to retain the facilities for their own. We can'trelax, we do need more membership which is your important contribution to pay for operation and maintenance and the premises. The Committee's first major tasks are to figure out how to raise an operational budget and get feedback about membership interests.

We will be holding a general meeting in April to get feedback. Our members can expect a letter. Ideas will be generated and tested with the members at this meeting.

Club activities are already

underway with some new and old friends. Les Anwyl's Tai Chi and Chi Kung group meets every Tuesday night. To join or observe ring Les on 40938276. Envirocare holds regular meetings ring Margaret on 40938393 for further information. The film club held its first screening at the clubhouse and by all reports it was a very enjoyable afternoon. There will be monthly screenings starting in March,. Ring Hans on 40938393 for more news. The Uniting Church group meets on the first Sunday of every month. Ring Russell on 40921175 or Krishna on 40937348. We are also planning fun nights with a variety of indoor sports and lawn bowls when the weather gets better. And, for the oriental mind, Mahjong.

Club facilities include; a commercial kitchen, a dining and separate entertainment area, upstairs. We have eight ball tables, a darts area, table tennis, indoor carpet bowls, an outdoor sitting and BBQ area and of course bar, showers, and washrooms. There are softball nets; a full size lawn bowls green; a tennis court; a sports oval and car parking facilities located outside adjacent to clubhouse.

The Centre is the ideal location small receptions, meetings, conferences, workshops, commercial tutoring classes and private gatherings, or just for get-togethers.

For clubhouse bookings or membership enquiries ring Arch on 40937 511 or Gary on 40 938399.



a new year in the horsey world. We Good turn up with new and returning members. Our committee for 2008 is President - Mal Baumgarten, Vice President-Judy Pope, Secretary-Di Curtis, Treasurer-Deb Curry. Our 1st rally day is March 1st at 9am to 1pm so anyone wanting to come out and join our club or see what we do can certainly do so on that day. Your own horse is required. Also a reminder that although the horse flu has calmed down the DPI

Welcome to the beginning of still require you to have a waybill every time you come out to the club or move have just had our Sign Up and AGM. your horse around. You can download a form from www.dpi.qld.gov.au The website gives you all the info that you need. We are in the white zone. If the weather looks grim on the day of pony club you can call our weather girl Judy Pope on 40 937 199 to see if it's on or not. Hope to see you there on the Saturday 1st. Any enquires e mail Di Curtis at paulanddi@bigpond.com Happy Riding!

Want to make a difference? Want to learn new skills? We need warm hearts and willing hands! **Volunteer Training Course** Commencing 9am Wednesday 20th March Interested? Enquiries on 4093 8933 call in for further information

Although February started slowly for our branch, events and "to do's" are starting to fill in the blanks on our 2008 Calendar.

General: Our branch participated in the Woolworth's Drought and Flood Appeal held recently at Smithfield Shopping Centre. Peter, Woolworth's Manager. kindly donated prizes of \$100 Easter Basket and \$100 Shopping Voucher plus arranged for tables, chairs and display board on the day. With some of our ladies doing 2-3 hour stints throughout the day, we managed to sell 600 tickets in the raffle and, with a few donations, raised \$630 for the Appeal. It is not easy to sit at a table and encourage passersby to spend their money - even for a good cause so we would like to thank the local Kuranda shoppers who stopped to buy tickets and have a friendly chat.

Craft: The Handcraft & Social mornings are swinging along nicely. The craft lesson day in February was well attended; everyone enjoyed designing and making Beaded Cards for special occasions. We have also got ourselves organized enough to make a list for the next few months - for Lesson Days that is.

March Card Embroidery

April Candlewick Embroidery (cushion top) May Silk Ribbon Embroidery (small article)

June Beading (Amulet Bag)

Kits will be available for these lessons at a nominal cost. Lesson Day is the 3rd Wednesday each month. Lunch is provided at a small cost also.

Anyone interested in joining us on these lesson days, please contact Yvonne on 40937016. We would be happy to see you there - or on any of our craft and social mornings.

Hall bookings: for the month of March, please contact 4093 8229 or 4093 7016.

As part of their commitment to the Kuranda Community, Marino Moller Lawyers will contribute a monthly article to the Kuranda Paper to discuss a particular legal issue and answer any queries you may have.

Marino Moller Lawyers was established by founding Partner Charlie Marino twenty years ago in Cairns. In 1993 he brought on board a Solicitor Brett Moller to open and manage the Gordonvale Branch

Moller Lawyers are well placed to be viewed as a truly regional law firm in wood. Far North Queensland.

and organisations of Far North Road in recent months Queensland, Marino Moller Lawyers and community organisations both at junior and senior level. Its part



Partners and associates

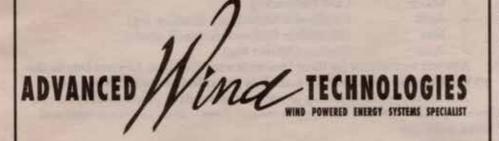
office for the firm. In 1999 Charlie and Brett entered into Partnership in the firm now known as Marino Moller Lawyers and their expansion into and commitment to the rural communities between Port Douglas and Babinda is significant and unparalleled.

With five offices in Port Douglas, Cairns, Edmonton, Gordonvale and a visiting office at Babinda and a staff of Solicitors, Secretaries and Administration Clerks numbering over 40 Marino

of the Firms values and beliefs to little more than stall the inevitable, can give back wherever possible to the Community Organisations, Clubs and Associations as without the support of the Community of their business the firm would not continue to prosper and grow and be able to provide its extensive legal services to the regional community.

If you have any particular queries feel free to contact Sarah Fraser, Marino Moller Lawyers, on 4081 6700.

Solar Panels on your Roof may actually make you money, with the help of the Government rebate of \$8000 for Grid Connect Solar, you can both help the environment and reduce your electricity bill. A Kuranda based business, for more information and a quote call: Geoff Thomas, 4093 8899.



Pr Still Problems on Range Road

The imposed 60km speed limit on the escape this very important point. Kuranda Range Road has served as only a bandaid solution and created a further problem according to Kuranda Chamber of Commerce president John Colling-

The speed limit reduction was As well as servicing the introduced after an increasing number legal needs of the people, business of road accidents on the Kuranda Range

"This speed limit might well have are also heavily involved in pro slowed most of the traffic down, but has bono work for the community and created long lines of slow traffic that is sponsorships of numerous sporting turning passing lanes into "rat runs" as motorists endeavour to overtake slower moving vehicles within limited space," Mr Collingwood said.

"The speed problem may have been partially removed from Kuranda Range Road, however the real problem now lies in how increasing numbers of drivers can safely negotiate the long convoy line streams of traffic that use this important traffic link day in and day out," Mr Collingwood said.

Mr Collingwood said that the Kuranda Range Road was becoming increasingly overtaxed as more and more tourists and every day commuters attempt to use the important Far Northern traffic link in line with proportionate business, industrial and residential activity in the area west of Cairns.

"This expansion and the dire need for improvements to Kuranda Range Road was a long established fact that simply would not go away.

"No amount of studies that do

"However successive local politicians and State and Federal governments do more to avoid construction of a main arterial link between Cairns and Kuranda than deliver on what is patently obvious.

"Rather than patting itself on the back for instituting a band aid solution to one problem area, the State government and others should look at solving this ever increasing problems created on Kuranda Range Road as volumes of traffic increase dramatically.

"As far back as the mid 1980s there have been plans and sketches on Range Road improvements, but after over a quarter of a century, all that has been achieved is a slowing of traffic and the creation of dangerously long lines of slow moving traffic which will sooner or later add more road accident victims to the growing tally of incidents," Mr Collingwood said.

The rapid and continual expansion of the northern Tablelands region has flagged the need for a complete upgrade for over 25 years, and it is high time that band aid solutions were dispensed with and logical, real and long term solutions were implemented, he

"We already have been through the talk fest stage a number of times over the past two decades, now is the time for real improvements to be constructed to service current and future expansion in the region," Mr Collingwood said.

KURANDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM

At the February General Meeting a number of guest speakers were welcomed: Steve Wettenhall, Member for Baron River; Chris Capra, Principal, Kuranda District State College; Tony Candeioro and Roy Hanselmann from Ergon Energy; Suzanne Groves, Bendigo Bank; Steve Welsh, Bio-desel Queensland, and Gerard/Gerald Hobbler, Candidate for Division 8.

IMPORTANT

The Kuranda Chamber of Commerce and Tourism AGM

will be held at the Kuranda Hotel Mo-

on 4th March at 5 p.m.

All members and visitors are welcome to attend and participate.

Attention aspiring candidates for the council elections, are invited to speak and introduce themselves from 6pm immediately after the Chamber AGM John Collingwood, President



KURANDA AQUATIC CENTRE OPENING

All Kuranda residents are invited to attend the official opening of the Kuranda Aquatic Centre on Myola Road on Saturday March 8.

The Centre will be opened by Mareeba Shire Mayor, Mick Borzi at 10am. Light refreshments will be provided and to allow catering arrangements to be finalised residents who will be attending the opening are requested to RSVP by

5pm on Wednesday 5 March by phoning 40303900. This facility has been constructed by the Mareeba Shire Council with partial funding provided by Sport and Recreation Queensland.

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MAYORAL CANDIDATE

Mareeba Shire Council completed in the

Kuranda area over the last Eight years.

- Reduced Debt from \$15 629 000 to \$6 518 918
- Increase Reserves to \$9 778 034 and spent \$8 000 000 on replacing Plant Equipment.
- New Bridges at Koah, Clohesy Creek and Russet Park.
- Upgrade to Lower Coondoo st.
- · Old school site bought for the community use.
- New Kuranda Pool built.
- Increased spending to sporting clubs and social/culture activities.
- Promoting Kuranda to attract Tourism to area.
- Safeguarding the water for Kuranda by purchasing more water allocations.
- Taken on the State Government concerning the Mareeba Hospital. To maintain Health services.
- · Council Meeting held in Kuranda. Also regular meeting with community group Kuranda.

I have been involved in all these project and when elected Mayor of the Tablelands Regional Council. I will work fulltime and hands-on to deliver similar outcome for the Kuranda area.

I have been a member of the KVPP for the last 6 years and attended Chamber meeting on a regular basis. Also meet with community groups so I have a good understanding of Kuranda issues

Contact PH: 0418 966 960 - FAX: 4092 4203 EMAIL: guiesppe@ozemail.com.au For a New Broom on Council and a Better Future for Kuranda please vote

Syd Walker 1

In Division 8 Tablelands Regional Council

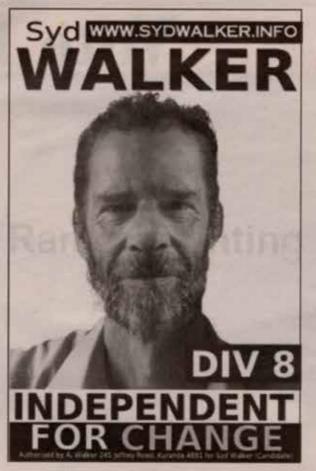
Visit **www.sydwalker.info** to read about some of my recent struggles to end the gross mismanagement of our magnificent environment.

...and check out my campaign blog!

Visit www.betterkuranda.info to read some of my policy proposals.for the Kuranda area

My core commitments are to provide:

- Real direction towards sustainable development
- Meaningful, ongoing community consultation
- Attention to making the new Council work efficiently
- A watchdog role for this area and the public interest
- A voice for ALL constituents and future generations





Authorized by Syd Walker, 245 Jeffrey Road Kuranda for Syd Walker (Candidate)



Geoff STOCKER

YOUR Mayoral Candidate

YOU deserve to have a Mayor that represents YOUR voice, YOUR views and YOUR values

I am:

- A farmer, born on the land with over half my lifetime spent farming on the Tablelands;
- A family man, with my wife Jacquie, daughters Lucia and Elise, son-in-law James and grandson Oscar;
- · A councillor, working for a better deal for all;
- A scientist, establishing and heading for over a decade the CSIRO research station in

 Atherton:
- A businessman, with an internationally recognised orchid business and a long standing involvement in the Malanda Chamber of Commerce;
- A manager, with extensive experience as a senior government executive and in providing expert advice to the Australian Senate;
- An educator, working internationally as a professor and locally supervising students at JCU and lecturing at Mareeba Agricultural College; and
- A practical environmentalist, assisting groups such as LandCare to improve our land management practices.

As YOUR Mayor I have key priorities for Kuranda and its surrounds. These priorities include improving the coordination of tourism promotion across the Tablelands region, supporting better community facilities, examining options for clean energy and recycling, and working with the community to ensure that further development in the area adequately protects areas of high conservation value.

STOCKER for Mayor

Authorised by Geoff Stocker, 1912 Malanda - Millaa Millaa Rd, Malanda

Joe Paronella for Mayor

No teams, open council processes

Tablelands Regional Council Mayoral nominee Joe Paronella has confirmed his commitment to ensuring residents that everyone will have as much access as possible to councillors, council staff and council services within the new Regional Council.

"Neither will I move to have any, or be in favour of any closure of existing offices or depots," Cr Paronella said.

The two term sitting councillor said that he believed that true local government should be fully representative of ratepayers' interests and carry out their duties without any particular allegiance to political parties or teams.

"In my role as chairman of the FNQ Regional Shire Councils Roads Committee, I have seen the high standards of achievement that can be produced when independent members work together in the best interests of the general population."

"My other connections with local events, groups, festivals across the region also have shown how important it is for local government to support these community events wherever possible," Cr Paronella said.

"It also is vital that Council acknowledges and understands the diversity of the region and lifestyles of each community."

"While there may be some differences between the four current shires with their different industries, geographical differences, cultural differences and distances involved, it is vital for our combined future that we have a mayor and council which has current experience and up to date information upon which to make informed decisions."

"I believe a strong council will be achieved if all elected members are completely independent and free of the encumbrances of teams or other alliances," Cr Paronella said.

For further information please contact Joe Paronella 0419 958 233 Email: jwp@cyberwizards.com.au or visit Website: joeparonella.com Tablelands Regional Council Elections Saturday 15th March



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Email: jayjenjay@ozemail.com.au

Check your mailbox for letter from me or call if you would like a copy malled to you.

Authorised J Jensen, 21 Mahogany Ave Speewah For Jenny Jensen (Candidate)

Gerald Hobbler Candidate Division 8 Tableland Regional Council

I would like to introduce myself as a Candidate for the upcoming Tableland Regional Council elections which will be held on the Fifteenth of March 2008.

I am running for Councillor because I feel that I can contribute my experience and knowledge of the electorate having lived in this community for most of my life and I am aware of the different dynamics and nationalities that make up our community.

Kuranda is one of the most unique places with its diversity of Tourism and Development. If elected 1 would like to review past decisions made by the previous Council for progressive and transparent planning with voters and feedback on matters of concern and of relevance to our community.

If elected as Councillor on the Tablelands Regional Council I will ensure that members of Division 8 will have strong representation to take their issues to Council. My interests and commitments are in the areas of:

Education: - is key to development of our future generations and we must ensure that the school environment has access to the resources for application in the appropriate manner of knowledge and skills. Knowledge informs and enables the individual to make better choices in Life. Environment: - is fragile and needs to be nurtured and cared for to the benefit of future generations. Decisions as it concerns the environment must be mindful of protecting our flora and fauna, repairing already damaged areas and ensure that environmental impact studies are done and followed in the cases where there's development.



Development, Industry, Employment and Training:

Kuranda and Biboorba have potential for increased development in tourism and I pledge my support to bring matters and the people's ideas to the Council table. Industries in the region provide increased employment and training opportunities. Land development is also of importance. However such development must be done so within an environmentally sound framework.

Social and Cultural Development:

- My commitment is also to assist our communities in future social and cultural development. For instance, Kuranda needs a Community Hall and a Museum to maintain a true historical record and to keep history intact. Youth across the division need meaningful activities and must be represented at all levels of decision making and it my intention that I work closely with Youth on these matters to be put before the Council. There are many other programs, projects and activities that are of importance when considering prevention being better than the cure.

OntheissueofthePrimeMinister's apology to Australia's Indigenous people on the 13th February, 2008, I would like to identify with Council, ways to contribute how Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Australians can move forward together within our Division and as a Nation.

Authorised by G. Hobbler, Ngoombi

Cheryl Tonkin for Division 8



Having intimate knowledge of the issues across the Tableland region, local Civil Celebrant and Auctioneer, Cheryl Tonkin has declared her candidacy for the upcoming Council elections for Division 8. Having lived in the area for the past 18 yrs, a property owner for 30 yrs, and lifetime work experience in the area "I feel now is an opportunity to offer something back to my community".

"Like it or not we have Divisions for the upcoming election, and the very different areas will have a representative voice on needs concerning them directly, needs on broader areas of interest will also be addressed meaningfully."

"Feeling that the time is here for rethinking the economic, environmental and social issues that impact directly on our community, is of great concern to me that we get things right and reflect the will and priorities of a concerned and sometimes alarmed community.

At Myola, where I live, we have a glaring example of minority and vested development interests riding roughshod over the concerns of that community. Affected locals must have greater input in such matters that will/may impact upon them, their lifestyles and quality of life.

I will demand the residents' opportunity to voice valid concerns, and have an input into all Council decisions, and provide informed feedback on the debate and decisions taken on behalf of all Division 8 residents" Cheryl said.

"With this new change, there must be an encompassing of our local interests. Outlying areas of Division 8, such as Biboohra, Emerald Creek, Speewah, Koah and Kuranda have long been overlooked in the equation of local Council decisions and funding. With rates being of such concern across the community, I believe rates should be based on the averaging of costs of delivery of service and not entirely on the present system of property valuations and other insidious additions".

"Acknowledging the inevitability of development on the Tablelands, I want to see informed local input enhancing it, ensuring future generations a continuing beautiful and worthwhile place in which to live, work and raise their families" Cheryl said.

Cheryl can be contacted on 40938771 or MOB 0407-670-954 or via email CTdivision8@gmail.com

Written & authorised by Cheryl Tonkin, High Chapparal Rd., Myola.

Mark Freeman Division 8 Candidate



To keep our Kuranda lifestyle, you need a Representative who will work 80 hours a week, for six years, no holidays.

I'm volunteering.

Who are you voting for?

What are the local election candidates' policies? Friends of the Earth Kuranda asked them and here are some of the responses, edited for this article. Gerald Hobbler and Jo Moro's replies had not been received at time of going to press.

Their complete, though, by request, still brief answers -also on recycling, local government accountability, Indigenous issues etc can be seen at www.foekuranda.org

Division 8 council candidates Myola Plan recently passed by Mareeba Shire Council

Mark Freeman-

State Government initative. Had little to do with the Mareeba Shire Council. Kuranda region population is increasing at about 60 people per annum. Will take a long time to reach 11,000. However, the 60 will turn into 600 in approximately a decade or so. Must have our planning done before then and that is part of the reason why I am standing

Jenny Jensen-

First priority is for the new Council to review. Look at it all again and fit it in the context of the 2025, other alternatives, further amendments, developing a Town Planning framework across the region and balanced consultation. Expansion and housing growth happening, will continue to occur in our region, needs to happen. However, where we place that growth must be well considered and must have strict controls upon it

Cheryl Tonkin-

Great disappointment at both the Council's decision and also its disregard for the Myola Communities concerns with the proposed development of the area. Grave concerns for the Myola area as it is now firmly in the sights of the developers and the carpet baggers. Detrimental to the community itself as well as the majority of landholders in Myola, not to mention

what will happen to the surrounding environment Syd Walker-

Myola no place for a concentrated suburb of 10,000+ inhabitants. Neither the 2005 Myola Plan, nor the latest Myola plan approved by Council, are suitable blueprints for the future of this very special area. Need a truly 'new' Myola Plan that will protect the unique values of Myola for future generations

Division 8 council candidates 4-lane Kuranda highway project Mark Freeman-

Always supported a tunnel. For various reasons, over the next 18 months or so, there is opportunity to revisit this option

Jenny Jensen-

Need to improve transport access to the Tablelands, but we also need to protect our natural environment. This is such a complex issue and one that is "damned if you do, damned if you don't". I desperately want to balance people needs and environment needs but when it comes to the range road, one or the other will lose out. My long considered view is to support the road option because this region depends so heavily upon the road access to the coast.

Cheryl Tonkin-

Kuranda range needs some serious attention, in particular down lanes, however after being on committee that was involved with decision making process and realizing that "we" were only a token, feel that everyone's values were not taken into consideration. Best outcome should have been development of Davies Ck. Road. Allowed Kuranda to keep its village in the rainforest lifestyle, permitted Mareeba producers better access for produce to Cairns, and provided safer access to the Tablelands in times of emergency etc.

Syd Walker-

Oppose this project, which would carve through

World Heritage and have even more serious flow-on effects. Strong advocate for modern, state-of-the-art rail infrastructure, probably requiring a new custombuilt tunnel, to connect Mareeba and Kuranda with the coast

Mayoral Candidates-4-lane Kuranda highway project Tom Gilmore-

Proposed four lane Kuranda Range development is best of both worlds. As a member of the Board of the Wet Tropics Management Authority I have been intimately involved with the EIS as part of the permit process. All recognised fauna corridors are bridged under the plan

Peter Hodge-

If State government pass Myola plan, this would be needed for safety reasons. But hoping Myola Plan decision will be sent back to new council for review. If Myola Plan does not proceed, much smaller upgrade, rather than \$1 billion project one, would be adequate. Feels road safe now 60km/hr speed limit.

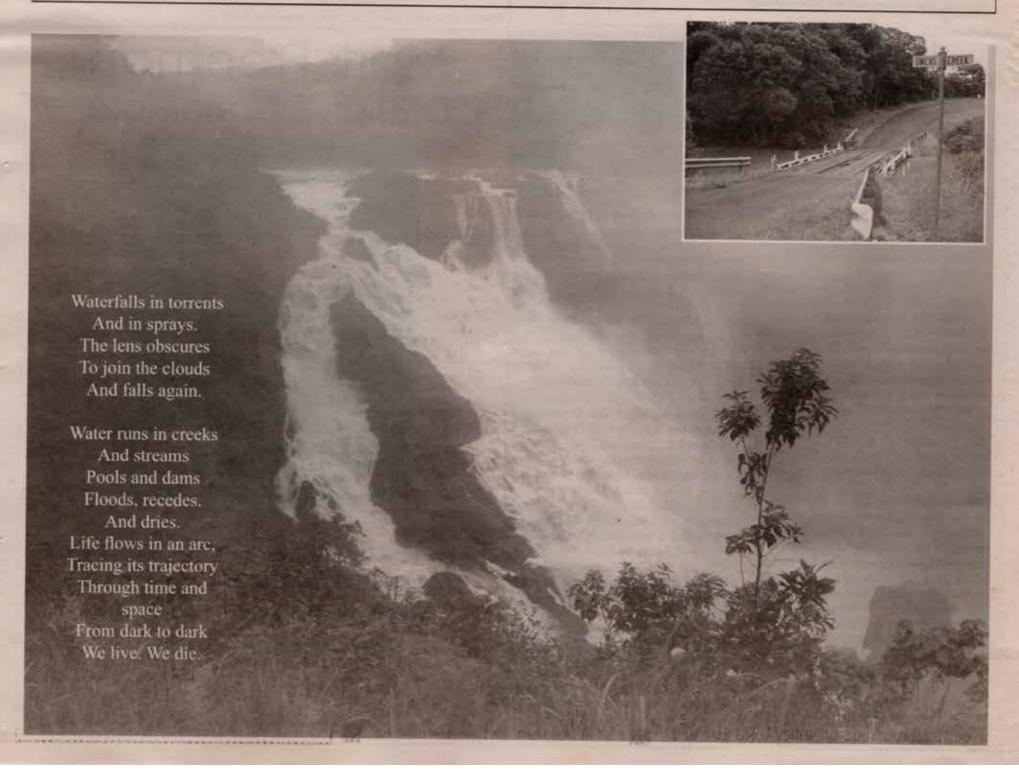
Joe Paronella-

Upgrade is a necessity for the future growth and economy of the Tablelands Region. If elected I will continue to pressure the State Government to progress the plans for the upgrade. Road affects all residents of the Tablelands Region and should not be regarded as an issue for Kuranda area alone

Geoff Stocker-

Current road is already congested during peak hours. Any further urban development on the Tablelands also demands that this route is made safer and of greater capacity. Personally I would like to have a fresh look at the tunnel and other options

For mayoral candidates' opinion on the Myola plan and for details on forum with candidates, see Kuranda EnviroCare article-



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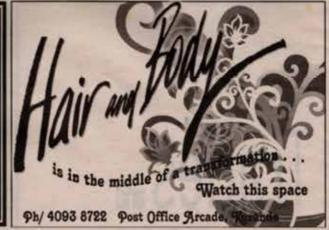
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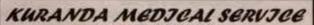




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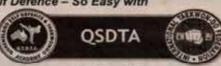
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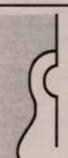
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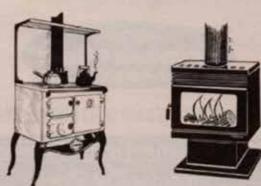
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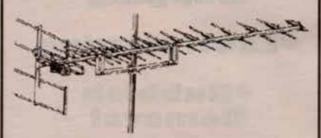
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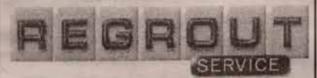


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2008 YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament

An exciting opportunity exists for our young people to get involved in parliament. The YMCA's 2008 Queensland Youth Parliament is fast approaching with nominations currently open to those aged between 15 and 25 years.

"I really encourage our local young people to put their hand up for this great initiative. It will be a valuable insight into how the government operates and understand the way decisions that impact the State are made", said the Member for Leichardt, Jim Turnour.

The YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament is now in its 13th year and allows participants to play the role of a Member of Parliament. The program runs over seven months and involves participants researching an area of interest to them, being part of a committees, attendance at activities such as a forum and camp in Brisbane, as well as debating their ideas in Queensland Parliament.

A fee does apply to participation in the event, however assistance with gaining sponsorship is available.

To obtain an application form or to receive assistance with completing an application, please do not hesitate to contact Jim Turnour's office by phoning (07) 4051 2220. Alternatively, forms can be downloaded from the YMCA website or completed online at www.ymcaqyp.org.

This is a great chance for the youth of Far North Queensland to meet interesting people, gain useful skills and very importantly, to have their voice heard. Young people are our future, so any chance for them to be part of social change should be embraced". said Jim Turnour.

Happy St. Patrick's day

March 17, 2008

Fritter Binding Batter.

1+ 3/4 cups self-raising flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

2 eggs

1 cup of milk

1 dessertspoon melted butter.

Sift flour and salt, combine lightly beaten eggs, milk and melted butter and stir into dry ingredients. Add 1 -2 cups of finely chopped favourite fillings (skag of corned beef, tomato and onion - a universal favourite or, more delicate, cooked chicken or fish, shallots and avocado).

Drop spoonfuls into hot oil and cook until brown on both sides. Drain on absorbent paper



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New Photography Group for Kuranda

Do you enjoy taking photographs? Would you be interested in field trips, exhibitions, talks by the experts? Sharing and learning skills from other photography buffs?

If so, then please get in touch with Zananda (4093 0365 or 0416 983 911), or Seren (0409 499 168) and be part of this exciting new photographic arts group.

No special equipment necessary, just bring your enthusiasm.

Bes Bes

Celebrate International Woman's Day

Mareeba Bride of The Year 2008

Come and join in the fun and at the same time help to raise funds for a good cause (Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign). This is our once a year event where our beautiful local brides for the past year can again parade their gowns and relive some of the excitement of their special day. Cost: \$30.00 p/h for a 3 course meal. Make up a table with friends and family. Tickets available at Travel Experience 131 Byrnes St, Mareeba.

Sat 8th March 2008 Mareeba International Club



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A Thought for March

This month we read a short passage from St Matthews Gospel Chapter 4 verse 1-10. All of us have to make decisions. Sometimes it is far from easy. We go through a time of real struggle, sometimes actually feeling great resentment. Sometimes we become depressed by the complex choices before us, and sometimes we feel that we want to run away from the whole thing.

It may well be that Jesus experienced moments like that. One certainly faced him when he went into the wilderness after his baptism. Actually the word wilderness may be the very best way of describing how we feel when we face making really important choices in our lives.

All signposts seem to be missing; we don't know which way to turn. There may be unknown dangers if we choose one way rather than the other. One thing quite certain is that no choice ever provides the perfect answer. Jesus knew such thoughts well.

He had heard the call of God to public ministry, and had gone south to accept baptism from John in the river Jordan. Then he faced the difficult task of deciding how he was going to pursue the vision of God's kingdom which had been given.

Jesus tells us that the devil offered him at least three ways of building the kingdom. The first was to bribe people into following him. The second way was to impress them. The third was by reaching for power. To each Jesus said a resounding No, because he saw clearly that the devil was appealing to self-image and ego and the human longing for position and power.

To build a ministry on what appealed either to his own ego or to the desires of those who followed him would be a betrayal of himself, of his followers, and of God. So Jesus made another choice. He calls people to come to him and with him, not for what they can get but for what they can give of themselves to him, to one another, and to the world around them.

When we are facing a wilderness of choices it is important for us to be clear about the basis on which we are finally going to make our choice. Are we merely out for our own advantage?

Do we merely wish to build our own image and position? If so we are failing to bring Jesus into our choosing. But knowing that Jesus himself experienced the wilderness makes him our companion in our time of wilderness. That can make all the difference,

When we face choices it is important that we know the basis on which Jesus made them.

Soul Food Tour

For anyone seeking proof of life after death, Kelvin Cruickshank's Soul Food Tour is a good place to start. Kelvin Cruickshank's Soul Food Tour is at the Cairns Civic Theatre on April 1 from 7.30pm to 10.30pm. Bookings Ticketlink 4031 9555.

Kelvin is one of three NZ psychics on Sensing Murder, which screens at 10.30pm Tuesdays on WIN TV.

Sheree Scott



A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.

"If Jesus were sitting here, He would say Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.' Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan,

you be Jesus!"

KIDS IN CHURCH

3-year-old Reese: "Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name. Amen."

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

ST SAVIOUR'S KURANDA Invites you to Worship

SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Family Eucharist
9.30am Sunday school
5.00pm Afternoon Worship
Holy Communion (March 2nd)
Holy Communion (March 23nd)
Informal Praise (March 30th)
all other Evening Prayer

HOLY WEEK SERVICES Tuesday 18th

7.30pm Holy Communion 7.30pm Stations of the Cross Wednesday 19th

12.30pm Holy Communion
Thursday 20th (Maundy Thursday)
7.30pm The Eucharist of the Last Supper

and Washing of Feet Friday 21st (Good Friday)

9.30am Family Service 2.00pm The Liturgy (Holy Communion) 6.00pm Evening Prayer

EASTER SERVICES Saturday 22nd (Easter Eve) 7.30pm The Service of the Light

Easter Vigil Eucharist

8.00am Easter Communion (BCP) 9.30am Easter Family Eucharist 11.30am Easter Communion 5.00pm Easter Communion

CAKES PRODUCE AND BOOKS

Saturday March 1* 8.30am -12.00 noon

ACTIVITIES

Home Groups Alpha A Life Worth Living Sunday School

POSSUM CORNER OP SHOP

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday

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The Middle Way

Buddha says: stop in the middle, because in the middle there is no mind; mind only exists on the extremities. Love? - mind is there. Hate? - mind is there. For-mind is there. Against? - mind is there. In the middle mind cannot exist. In the middle there is no possibility of any thought,

Because either the thought will be of doubt or of trust, of love or hate, enmity or friendship. And you know well that in every friend the enemy is hidden, in every enemy the friend is possible.

> "No Water, No Moon -Talks on Zen Stories".

... Not by bread alone ...





St Cristopher's Catholic Church Barang St

Our Sunday Mass will be held at 6 pm

1st Wednesday of each month Mass 7.00 pm



Uniting Church in Australia

ALL WELCOME Informal style of family service

1st Sunday of the month - 9am Sports and Social Club, Fallon Road

Contact Pastor Russell Clark Ph 4092 1175 or Krishna Buhler Ph 4093 7348

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH FROM THE BAHA'I FAITH

"May fanaticism and religious bigotry be unknown, all humanity enter into the bond of brotherhood, souls consort in perfect agreement, the nations of the earth at last hoist the banner of truth and the religions of the world enter the divine temple of oneness, for the foundations of the heavenly religions are one reality".

Spiritual Meeting: readings from the great religions, each Wednesday, 7pm,
Baha'l Information Centre, bottom of Therwine St. Kuranda, all welcome
Study circles at a private home by arrangement, please feel free to enquire.
Primary School classes each week during school terms.

Baha'I New Year (Naw Ruz) 21 March - please enquire

All enquiries welcome, telephone 4093 7120 or PO Box 702 Kuranda 4881 From the Baha'l Community in the Tablelands

Town Talk

New Member for Leichhardt Sworn in at the Opening of Parliament in Canberra

With the opening of the 42nd Parliament of Australia, the new Member for Leichhardt, Jim Turnour was officially sworn in.

Cairns Base Hospital to Benefit from Medicare-Eligible MRI Services

Member for Leichhardt,
Jim Turnour, confirmed that Cairns
Base Hospital will benefit from the
Federal Government's plan to expand
the Medicare-eligible Magnetic
Resonance Imaging (MRI) services.
This commitment will be complemented
by the Rudd Government's decision to
provide funding towards the purchase
of an MRI machine for the Cairns
community.

MRI uses strong magnetic fields to generate images to assist in diagnosing illnesses. It is especially effective on soft tissue, making it important for diseases such as cancer and strokes.

SBS Hits the Airwaves in tropical North Queensland

Listeners are now able to tune into SBS radio thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Tropical North Queensland community. For the past five years, Cairns Community Radio has been working to bring SBS, Australian's national multilingual radio network, to the air waves of Cairns and surrounding districts.

Broadcasting in 68 languages, residents from Cairns, the Tablelands and some parts of Cape Tribulation will be able to tune into SBS on frequency 90.5 FM thanks to a collaborative effort which has been driven by Cairns Community Radio.

Cairns Community Radio received assistance through the 'Self-Help Retransmission Subsidy Scheme'; an initiative of the Federal Government. Under this scheme, the Government provides SBS with funding to assist communities that wish to improve their existing access to broadcasting services by funding the establishment of self-

help retransmission services.

SBS contributed approximately \$35,000 towards this local project and Cairns City Council have also committed to the cause by providing \$20,000 over two years towards maintenance of the transmission site.

Young people to have a say; 2020 Youth Summit announced

Young people from the Tropical North are being encouraged to nominate for the 2020 Youth Summit, a meeting of Australia's brightest, most energetic and enthusiastic young minds.

The 2020 Youth Summit is a two-day event to be held in Canberra which will bring together 100 young people from across the country to discuss the ten critical areas on the agenda for the Australia 2020 Summit which was recently announced by the Prime Minister. Areas for discussion include the future of the Australian economy, climate change, health, the arts, rural industries and indigenous affairs.

"It is a promising sign when a Government looks past the 3 year electoral cycle and recognises the importance of preparing our country for a healthy and secure future. Young people are our future; they are the leaders of tomorrow. To be part of the discussion that shapes Australia's long-term direction is a wonderful opportunity for our youth." Mr Turnour said.

The Federal Government is inviting nominations from young Australians around the country to be a part of the Summit. Anyone between the ages of 15 and 24 can nominate.

The 2020 Youth Summit will be held in Canberra over the weekend of 12-13 April 2008, and will be chaired by Kate Ellis, the Minister for Youth, and 2004 Young Australian of the Year, Hugh Evans. To obtain further details on the 2020 Youth Summit, visit www.australia2020.gov.au or contact Jim Turnour's office, Federal Member for Leichhardt



Wettenhall Watch

MYOLA

On Wednesday 13 February 2008 I lodged with the clerk of the Parliament a petition signed by 870 residents calling on the Minister for Planning to defer consideration of Mareeba Shire's new Myola zone planning scheme amendment pending the release of the outcome of the FNQ 2025 draft plan.

The FNQ 2025 draft plan will be released for public comment in April 2008. The plan will create an urban footprint outside of which intensive urban development (like that which is contemplated by the new Myola zone), would not be permitted.

As a member of the Regional Planning Advisory Council that advises the Minister on all aspect of FNQ 2025, I will continue to argue that Myola should remain a rural residential community, NOT another car dependent suburb of Cairns.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

A Melbourne cup field is starting for the March 15 elections for Mayor and Divisional 8 representatives for the new Tablelands Regional Council. Voting is compulsory and I urge everyone to find out as much as they can about the candidates. I will of course respect the peoples' choice and I look forward to working constructively with the new divisional 8 councillor, the new mayor and the new Council.

By the way, this year, the state government will be undertaking a complete review of the Local Government Act. An exposure draft will be released for public comment and I will keep you informed on this important next stage of local government reform.

KURANDA RANGE ROAD

Most major road funding is planned and funds allocated many years ahead. Because safety on the range road is my number one priority, I am lobbying to have some important road safety initiatives brought forward. These include skid resistant surfacing on the first corner at the bottom of the range where we have seen a lot of accidents, providing a vehicle run off area in the case of brake failure; and widening some of the tightest curves that are particularly difficult for long vehicles to negotiate without encroaching on the opposite side of the road. If the Main Roads Minister agrees with me, I am sure these measures will complement the series of other measures I mentioned in last months 'Wettenhall Watch'.

PARLIAMENT TO SIT IN CAIRNS

The Queensland Parliament is coming to town! The Cairns Convention Centre will become the Parliament between the 28 and 30 October 2008. This will be a great opportunity for locals to see the parliament at work, meet government Ministers and other Members of Parliament. School. Children are regular visitors to Parliament in Brisbane and I hope local schools will take their students to see our democracy in action.

Q150 CELEBRATIONS

In 2009, Queenslanders will celebrate their 150th birthday! To help mark this important milestone in our history, funding of between \$2,000 and \$10,000 is up for grabs to encourage all Queensland communities to undertake activities and projects that celebrate and commemorate in a way that reflects the unique culture, heritage and aspirations of their own community. Applications close on April 13, 2008. For more information visit www.q150.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 3238 3323-SUSTAINABLE HOME OPENS

Anyone who is thinking about building a new home or renovating should first visit the latest Queensland Government Smart and Sustainable display home that I officially opened recently. Located at 15 Davidson St, Redlynch Valley Estate — the home can be viewed on Saturdays and Sundays between 12noon and 5pm or by appointment with Redlynch Valley Estate North (1800 11 44 77) until the end of June 2008. For further information – see my speech about the sustainable home at www.parliament.qld.gov.au/hansard(members speeches) and visit the website (type Redlynch into the search option) at www.sustainable-homes.org.au-

Steve Wettenhall MP Member for Barron River Ph: contact my office 4038 4800



Kuranda Film Society
4 pm Sunday 2nd March
at the Sports & Social Club,
Fallon Rd.

Membership \$10 per year or \$5 for one day only.

Please bring a plate to share at interval.

From Sand to Celluloid 74 minutes

An impressive collection of Australian short films by Indigenous filmmakers which explore the history and contradictions of Aboriginal identity. Richard Frankland's 'No Way to Forget' is the story of a young man, working on the Royal Commission on Black Deaths in Custody, who drives home to Melbourne and is haunted by the ghosts of the dead. In Sally Riley's 'Fly Peewee Fly!', a young boy teaches his white grandmother and his Koori father a few lessons on perspective. Rima Tamou's 'Round Up' is a tender story about two country boys who discover that their racial differences are not so acute when they are confronted with the multiculturalism and subcultures of the inner-city. In 'Two Bob Mermaid' Darlene Johnson presents a beautifully filmed story about a young girl who can pass for white in a racially divided 1957 Australia. Warwick Thornton's 'Payback' presents a surreal story of a young convict

law. Bill McCrow's 'Black Man Down' explores the need for contemporary Aborigines to be aware of the lessons and spirituality of the past;

Oyster Farmer 87 minutes

23 Year old Jack Flange moves from Sydney to a small oyster farming community on a big river, to work for Brownie and his old man. Jack has moved to the river to be closer to his sister Nikki who is recovering from a car accident in a private hospital nearby. In a desperate bid to find money for her hospital bills, Jack robs the Sydney Fish Markets and posts the proceeds to himself upriver where he waits for the package to arrive. When the package doesn't arrive, Jack begins to suspect those around him and in the process he lies, he steals and he falls in love. A battle is fought over a bathtub, a marriage is saved, and nothing will ever be the same again

who has to obey tribal lore as much as he does white entrancement blothed dotted against abnound

Tablelands Regional Council

Local Transition Committee

Tablelands Regional Council On Track

The new Tablelands Regional Council resulting from the amalgamation of the four existing Tableland Shires is on track to be open for business on 17 March as planned according to the Chairman of the Local Transition Committee, Cr Ray Byrnes.

Responding to criticisms and doubts being promoted by the Mareeba Shire Council in its recent activity report, Councillor Byrnes said that such statements were designed to hinder rather than help a smooth transition to the new Council and were having a damaging effect on staff morale.

"Even though all four Councils strongly oppose the State Government's decision to amalgamate the Shires it was always clear that the amalgamation would proceed. Now is the time for all Councils to focus on getting the best possible outcomes from the amalgamation for the Tablelands community as a whole," stated Cr Byrnes.

"Existing Council staff have put in a huge work effort to prepare the different organisations and systems for the transition to the new Council. Elected members from all four Councils should recognise this and show support for their staff and the progress they have achieved in a relatively short time frame."

"This is not the time to let dissatisfaction with Government decisions and petty inter-Shire rivalries get in the way of our efforts to get this show on the road", said Cr Byrnes.

The organisational structure and systems proposed for the new Council are the result of an intense review of existing practices which required modifying to suit the special needs of the larger and more complex organisation.

"The suggestion that the Tablelands Regional Council should scrap the proposed structure on day one and start from scratch showed a remarkable lack of understanding of staff and management issues associated with organisational change," stated Cr Byrnes.

"The new structure places more emphasis on managers to effectively oversee their work areas and to be accountable for results. It is not the role of Mayors

Council Offices to Remain Open

The existing Council offices of Atherton, Eacham, Herberton and Mareeba Shire Councils will continue to operate as public offices of the newly formed Tablelands Regional Council following the elections on 15 March 2008.

Local Transition Committee (LTC) Chairperson Cr Ray Byrnes indicated that residents would be able to continue contacting Council via current channels.

"Existing office locations, postal addresses and contact numbers of Atherton, Eacham, Herberton & Mareeba Shire Councils will be used for the amalgamated Council to reduce any confusion for residents and allow optimal customer service," stated Cr Byrnes.

Also agreed at the LTC meeting held on 8 February, is the location of the Disaster Coordination Centre.

"The Disaster Coordination Centre and Disaster Management Unit for the Tablelands Regional Council will be located in the offices of Mareeba Shire Council," said Cr Byrnes.

The environmental health area in the Eacham Shire Council office will be a reserve Disaster Coordination Centre.

With only one meeting remaining for the LTC before handing over to the new Council, Cr Byrnes acknowledged the enormous amount of work undertaken in a short period of time to make the amalgamation a success.

"We have an innovative interim organisation structure, the construction of appropriate network infrastructure underway and a comprehensive Transition Plan," said Cr Byrnes.

"Our local Council staff have done a tremendous job in ensuring changeover to the new Council goes smoothly and their hard work has not gone unnoticed.

The Minister for Main Roads & Local Government, Warren Pitt has commended the Interim CEO Ian Church and the Local Transition Committee on outstanding work achieved to date.

"This puts the Tablelands Regional Council in excellent stead to commence its operations from changeover day on 15 March."

"I wish to place on record my appreciation for the professionalism and dedication of the local government workforce in Queensland," stated Mr Pitt in a letter to the LTC.

Interim CEO, Ian Church outlined that the program of change to transition into a single regulatory and service delivery organisation will continue for at least a year.

"The new Council will commence with regulations, policies, planning schemes, charges, facilities and programs carried forward from the four amalgamating Councils," said Mr Church.

"There will be one integrated staff and management team who will have to ensure that existing services are delivered to the community whilst working towards consolidating and improving how we achieve outcomes for our community," concluded Mr Church.

The next LTC meeting will be held at 9am on Wednesday 27 February in the Herberton Shire Council boardroom. The meeting is open to the public. Please contact Marian Slyney on 40967641 to confirm your attendance.

LTC meeting minutes are available at www.tablelandsltc.qld.gov.au



have had all sorts of strange s o u n d s c o m i n g from the front doors

this month... from sighs and giggles to yells of joys. People have been finding us, nestled under the Cascading Bean tree, the perfect place to escape the heat and rain.

To keep you amused we have a TV, DVD and VCR, Internet and games computer, chess, checkers and colouring-in. CD's, Video's, talking books, magazines and DVDs. And something else I feel like I am forgetting...?

Books! You can see why people are surprised?!

I have been blown away by the sense of community this month at the Kuranda Library. We had a backpacker come in and ask for a book on walking tracks... within five minutes the entire library was involved in retelling their favourite walking memories. Certainly more then the fellow bargained for. We have had people volunteering spare coins when a stranger was slightly short for the internet and the older children sharing their knowledge of computer games with anyone who'll listen.

And I also love how everyone feels it's their library. Kids are giving me pictures they have coloured to put up on the wall (could there be a better present?). People are chatting to us about what the New Year

Library news

will bring for the Kuranda Library and telling us what they would like to see. I had one amazing woman that called to say that a sign I had done was misspelt, and then apologise profusely for doing so. I am sure you read the Kuranda Paper, so I'll go public with telling you I don't mind! All these people feeling like they have ownership and responsibility over a library is the best thing that can happen... and is absolutely true and correct.

Anyway... enough sentimentality! On to business! We are busily doing exchanges to keep up with people's feasting eyes and ears. This month half of the large print went to Mareeba and we received some of their stock to renew our supplies, so now could be the time to give your eyes a rest.

While no one could possible replace Abby, Max, Mary-Ann, Klay, Luke, Byron and all the other little regulars now they have headed off to school or day-care, we need some new faces to come and read, play and do crafts with us. Storytimes are on the first Friday of each month and runs for an hour from

Finally, thanks to everyone who has helped us out this month. From pointing out torn pages to recommending a good read. It all helps to develop the sense of community that turns a library from a place to store books to somewhere people want to hang out (sure it has nothing to do with the air conditioners?). If that doesn't entice you, come to see the most askedabout tree in Kuranda. See you soon!

Maddie and Ros

Market Madness

At the request of several readers, reprinted are Market days – a great way to spend a morning. Visitors are always amazed at the bargains in fruit, vegetables and plants as well as the plethora of local Arts and Crafts and the treasures that turn up on the Bric-a- Brac stalls.

lst Saturday of Month

Atherton Platypus Park, Herberton Road
 Babinda Munro Street

Gordonvale Norman Park
 Mt Molloy QCSW Hall

Ist Sunday of Month

Tolga Morrow Park Racecourse

2nd Saturday of Month

Mareeba Centenary Park

2nd Sunday of Month

Kairi Community Hall

3rd Saturday of Month

Malanda Jack May Park

3rd Sunday of Month

Herberton Wondecla Sports Ground
Innisfail Anzac memorial Park
Smithfield Shopping Complex

4th Saturday of Month

Yungaburra Main Street

CAIRNS

Esplanade Every Saturday

Night Markets
 Rusty's

Friday, Saturday, Sunday Last Sunday of Month

Tanks
 KURANDA

Heritage
 Kuranda

Every day Every day

PORT DOUGLAS

Anzac Park Every Sunday

development.

Steve Wettenhall, Member for Barron River understands the concerns of the residents and will raise the matter with the Minister for Main Roads on behalf of his constituents.

A petition can be signed at the Library, the Medical centre and the Video shop.

Please bring a plate to share at interval.

Reffold Development Fallon Rd

This is a progress update for the 70 interested Kuranda ratepayers and residents who objected to the Reffold development on the grounds of traffic access.

Recently at the request of the Highway Access Group, Mareeba Shire Council facilitated a meeting between Council, representatives of CEC (Kuranda Springs Estate), Reffold Developments

and the residents and ratepayers representing the objectors, concerning a proposal from Mr. Dan Reffold to provide access to the Kennedy Highway from his Development at his expense.

The meeting agreed to the proposal and Mareeba Shire Council has written to Department of Main Roads requesting it reconsider its refusal and allow access to the highway from the Reffold

KURANDA ENVIROCARE Caring for Kuranda's Environment

PO Box 494, Kuranda 4881 Email: exec@envirocare.org.au www.envirocare.org.au Nursery: 19 Kullaroo Close, Kuranda Phone: 40 93 9926

Questions about Clearing

Many people have been asking about the clearing in dense rainforest on the way to the Kuranda School. Having obtained documents from Council, the Kuranda Envirocare executive was shocked to learn that Council had essentially overridden its own Planning Scheme by allowing the developer to clear five times the area per block that the Planning Scheme allows. It has also relaxed the condition that would not allow clearing on slopes greater than 15 %. These are conditions that apply in a wildlife corridor, and most of this development falls within the Fairyland Link corridor.

"How can this happen?" you might ask. Well, under the Integrated Planning Act, Councils can override their own Planning Schemes in certain situations. It is not uncommon for a developer who is dissatisfied with the conditions that a Council has applied to take legal action against the Council in the Planning and Environment Court. If the community is not permitted to be involved in those court proceedings (which is the case for development proposals which do not require public notification) then council, the developer, and relevant State agencies can agree on an out-of-Court settlement without involving the community or seeking its input. The settlement can be stamped by the Court and becomes binding on everyone, without involving the community or considering its input. In this case the documents make clear that the Council originally applied its own Planning Scheme conditions, as the final document shows these crossed out. The new conditions have then been added.

This case, and others like it, make a mockery of the Planning Schemes that Councils use to control development.

There appears to be no legal hurdle to the Mareeba Shire Council changing its recently endorsed Myola Plan if enough pressure is brought by developers. It appears that any protection it claims to offer is quite illusory, as this current decision makes clear.

It is certainly time for a 2025 Plan that has the legal authority to over ride Councils. It is also time for a thorough review of the Integrated Planning Act that allows such blatant abuse of Planning Schemes to occur. We also have to ask what the Department of Natural Resources is doing in these situations.

Myola Plan – update

With Mareeba Shire's acceptance of the new Myola Plan (in a two hour closed session in a meeting that was not even mentioned at the previous regular Council meeting) it was time to close the Save Myola petition and present it to local Member Steve Wettenhall. Unfortunately the timing was such that we were unable to plan for a larger group of people to attend, but many thanks to those who did make it at such short

Having been roundly abused in the Weekend Cairns Post, we were delighted that all major media attended the handover and showed a great deal of interest in the strong community support we had gathered.

Over 880 names were in the petition we presented, 90% from the Kuranda area. This represents about one in four of the adult population - a great

Thanks to you all. Steve promised to take the petition to the House and ultimately to the Minister, who will need to sign off the Mareeba Council decision before it can become part of the Planning Scheme. We now await the release of

the draft 2025 plan in April. If Myola is not shown in the urban footprint on existing Myola Plan.

Scheme still contains the original Myola Plan, though hopefully it will be inconsistent with the new 2025 Plan

Please respond to the 2025 Plan during the 3 month public consultation phase if you are not happy with the protection given to the Myola area in that plan. In particular, check that protection for wildlife corridors is part of the 2025

Five Mayoral candidates were

to ensure every step is taken to preserve the beauty and environmental sensitivity of the area. I would look for the development of an overall design which ignores current property boundaries and mandates the best environmental protection for the area... The proposal ought to be contingent on the construction of the Kuranda Range road and the development of a comprehensive blueprint which preserves all wildlife corridors, creeks, streams and ridge lines

Peter Hodge: "We would

council and there will be concise public consultation."

ENVIRO

Environment and Conservation News

Joe Moro: "If the State Government was serious it would allocate funds for the Kuranda Range upgrade and stop putting up barriers to prevent development for its poor planning on infrastructure needs on the Tableland ... If Myola residents do not want any more development in their area, I would consult further on the issue."

Joe Paronella: "Any applications to council to house an extra 10,000 plus residents in the Kuranda area should only be considered if the Kuranda Range road upgrade was to take place."

Geoff Stocker: "The Myola development was originally seen as a consequence of the Kuranda Range road upgrade. There may be less sensitive alternatives to Myola in the Koah and Clohesy areas but both the State Government and Mareeba Council may be locked into the development of Myola."

Kuranda Envirocare is concerned that the environmental values of the Myola area are given the highest level of protection before any development in Myola is considered. We are surprised and concerned to see that only one of the potential candidates interviewed even mentioned the environment. Kuranda Envirocare endorses the suggestion of a master plan for the Myola area that puts environmental outcomes ahead of development based on current property boundaries.

GREEN CORRIDOR PLANTINGS Myola Road infill planting

Another successful BRICMA Green Corridor planting at Myola Rd, infilling with 700 new seedlings throughout the stretch from Little Rd to the Rural Fire Brigade shed. Thanks to all who made this a success and especially the morning tea. (You can tell where my second focus is!).

Koah community planting Sat. 29 March - 8am

BRICMA Green Corridor project is having another community planting at Koah old railway station area, 29th March. See next month's Kuranda Paper for directions to the site.

AGM - 12th March 7pm At Sports and Social club

To reduce unnecessary postage, please contact the secretary on 40938393 or email secretary@envirocare.org.au for nomination forms. Meeting starts at 7pm sharp for 1/2 hour, followed by a Forum (see below)

FORUM With Tableland Shire Council Division 8 candidates 12 March 7:30pm,

Sports and Social club Come and hear the candidate's views on what they have to offer Kuranda area with a focus on things green. Candidates will have a short, free speaking time then there'll be plenty of time for question and answer from the floor. Supper provided. All welcome

that plan, then we can believe that we have won this campaign to Save Myola. However, it is still important that the 2025 plan provide an alternative to the The Mareeba Shire Planning

which will override it.

Mayoral Candidates and Myola

asked to give their views on Myola in the Advertiser (6.2.08). Unfortunately most spent more time talking about the Kuranda Range Road upgrade (which all seem to support) than what they would do about Myola. Here are their comments on Mvola. Tom Gilmore: "I would insist on a comprehensive review of the plan

and designs all utility corridors.'

move as soon as possible to create a new planning scheme for the new



KURANDA

conservation

COMMUNITY NURSERY Inc.

1 Pademelon Lane, Kuranda (off Fallon Road). Phr. 4093 8834

CONGRATULATIONS to 7 year old Kristy Lane who won the "This is Cassowary Country" colouring competition. Kristy won a K-Cons T-shirt, a "This is Cassowary Country -Respect It" sign to put up on her front fence, and \$50 cash.

THIS IS THE PLANTING WEATHER we've been waiting for. We're booked out helping residents plant native trees and shrubs on their properties on a Saturday morning. If you'd like a hand, give us a call on 4093 8834 and we'll put you in the planting diary.

Be at the K-Cons nursery by 9am Saturday if you want to plant trees.

THIS IS CASSOWARY COUNTRY signs are available for you FREE to put on your front fence. If pressed, we'll accept a donation to put towards getting more signs made. These signs let the neighbourhood know the value you place on your property and ask that others respect that. Respect for wildlife can be shown by walking your dog on a lead, keeping pets contained on your property and driving carefully.

K-Cons NURSERY is OPEN anytime for you to select plants, drop off seeds (swap them for seedlings), find out what's growing in your garden OR hire the trailer.

THIS IS WHAT WE'RE **FINDING OUT ABOUT** CASSOWARY TUCKER Cassowary Forest Brunch

(Serves One) Take 1024 Northern Quandongs Mix with 119 Wait-a-While fruit 7 Wild Almonds 7 medium Bracket Fungi

Prepare in the mist-shrouded forests of the MacAlister Range, ripen in a tropical sun, drizzle with warm summer rain, glaze with the essence of moisture-laden cloud. Garnish with 2 Native Peppers Serve on a bed of golden-brown fallen leaves, tossed with emerald-green

A time-honoured dish enjoyed by Cassowaries for generations. Cost: are and consideration for a vanishing

Thanks to Joy and Peter for this brilliant recipe.

er keen. Place to scrub up in the

Classifieds

22 cents per word

Boxed Classified No more than 30 words \$10.00

CLASSIFIEDS
COST 22 CENTS PER WORD. UNPAID
CLASSIFIEDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
Lodge at Video Shop BP Complex.

Car Trailer Hire 6 x 4 box trailers for hire \$10 half day. \$20 full day. Kuranda Envirocare 4093 9926

Local Rainforest Trees available at Nursery
19 Kullaroo Close (off Barron Falls Rd) Donations
to support land care work.
Kuranda Envirocare 4093 9926

Land for Wildlife: This great program continues to be run by Kuranda Envirocare with an experienced officer trained to do assessments. If you want recognition for your property's wildlife habitat value, have it registered as Land for Wildlife.

Phone Margaret on 4093 8393 or Andrew on 4093 8223

Sewing, Dressmaking, Hems, Alterations, Lounge Covers, Cushion Covers. Dorothy on 4093 8886

Handyman, Maintenance and Painting

Efficient and Reliable

Work Guaranteed - All work under \$1500. Kuranda

Phone Vince A/H 07 40939019 B/H 0438 660741

Horse Poo Wanted Please Phone Larry 40930257

Kuranda Spring Festival needs organisers for Main Events:

Park Activities, Grand Parade, Stage Music and Acts, Battle of the Barron, Street Stalls, Poets Breakfast, Songwriters and Arts/Photo Comps, Treasure Hunt and everything else.

Festival date 6 September 2008. Many helpers make light work! Call Jax on 4093 8834 or Smiley on 0412 775 184

Garage Sale Saturday March 15th

Top of Range (9.00 am - 4.00 pm).
Furniture, Household goods, Pot plants, Bric-a
Brac.

10 Victor Place - Telephone 4093 9761

Home Maintenance, Handyman and Rendering

All aspects – Free quotes Solid Render – Unique Styles Telephone 0418 938 095

Wanted For Rent

Small house or Cottage

Phone Rene on 0410 742 134

Mow with the Flow On site quotes and competitive rates Phone Julian on 0424 191 858

Local Secretarial Service

Resumes, Quotes, Reports. 20 years experience

Telephone 4093 0337

Wanted – 4 -6 room House for two year lease

At least 4 working adults and one child. Telephone 0415 303 043

Lawn Mowing and Gardening Work Wanted 0410 742 134

Speewah Country Tavern Sunday Session

Sundays – Pool Comp \$5 Entry. Sausage sizzle for players 1st prize player gets all, 2nd prize 6 pack light beer. Starts 9st March 2008. 2.30pm onwards. SUNDAY ROAST 6pm onwards.

GARAGE SALE

Queensland Ambulance Service

Kuranda Station - 9am onwards

SATURDAY 8th MARCH 2008

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Election Bus Timetable - Because many people don't own cars and the voting will be at the school on election day, 15th March, a free bus service has been arranged. After a short wait at the school to allow people to cast their votes, the bus will return to the departure point. Depart Therwine Street, Kuranda 9.00 am Depart Kowrowa / Mantaka 9.20 am Depart Therwine Street, Kuranda 3.00 pm

Open Day Ceremony - 7th March 2008 1-3pm. Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre wishes to invite you to our Open Day Ceremony at the New premises next to the Butterfly Sanctuary. The event will include: Official opening by Minister of Communites Lindsay Nelson-Carr. Smoking ceremony by Neville Hobbler Bama Dayal Dance Group - KDSC Steve Wettenhall - State Member for Barron River.

Aquatic Centre Opening - All Kuranda residents are invited to attend the official opening of the Kuranda Aquatic Centre on Myola Road on Saturday March 8. The Centre will be opened by Mareeba Shire Mayor, Mick Borzi at 10am. Light refreshments will be provided and to allow catering arrangements to be finalised residents who will be attending the opening are requested to RSVP by 5pm on Wednesday 5 March by phoning 40303900. This facility has been constructed by the Mareeba Shire Council with partial funding provided by Sport and Recreation Queensland.

KMA Inc. General Meeting -9.30am

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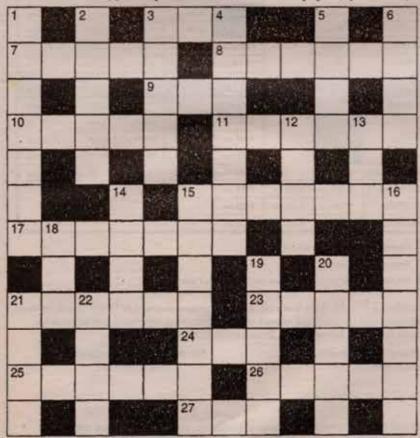
Saturday March 1st
at Kuranda Fire and Rescue Station.
All welcome!
Membership forms available at
The Video Shop, BP Complex Kuranda. Advertisement
and Deadline Schedules

The Kuranda Chamber of Commerce and Tourism AGM will be held at the Kuranda Hotel Motel on 4th March at 5 p.m. All members and visitors are welcome to attend and participate.

from the Video Shop, BP Complex.

Attention aspiring candidates for the council elections, are invited to speak and introduce themselves from 6pm immediately after the Chamber AGM

Answers to No. 95 were published in last month's paper (by mistake)



Supper provided. All welcome

Kuranda Kryptic Krossword No.96

Compiled by John Brooksbank Across

- 3. Ours is the Djabuguy one.
- 7. Knowing you dance around, and why?
- 8. Revision about grass?
- 9. Verse for Billy Joe.
- Sample it or sit on it at Kuranda Medical Centre.
- 11. At sea on the Barron River?
- 15. A treat in the last rude lamington from Annabel's
- Corral West Australian sheep in this area.
- 21 Good place for tea ceremony perhaps?
- 23. Learner in gay potato pile?
- 24. And so on, in short.
- 25. Clothing, not just for Brasilians,
- or Queenslanders?
- 26 Mareeba's yee-ha event.
- 27. Hear Ark feature is found at Kuranda Resort.

Down

- Good girls make spectacles of themselves.
- 2. In spite of local zoo
- Soil is loamy at future population node
- 4. Extent of hair from a loaf on the head?
- With degree after life heads to island.
- 6. Drink note could be irritating.
- 12. Tour disturbance.
- 13. Charge when fancy man leaves sweet?
- 14. Not warp, it's diametrically opposed!
- 15. Danes caught between poles creates sorrow.
- Little Johnny is satirically speaking.
- 18. Whoops, Winnie has made a
- Capitals for Algeria, Cameroon, Chad, Rwanda, Angola & Ghana
- 20. John takes it from a baby at the markets.
- 21 & 22. Place to scrub up in the village (4, 4)



Community Calendar

Every Sat Kuranda Envirocare Tree Planting bee, phone

4093 9926 for details or check website

www.envirocare.org.au

Kuranda Tennis Club Junior lessons 8.30am beg, 9.15am intermediate. Fallon Road. Court hire avail. Ph

40937666

Garden Group 2 pm Phone David 4093 9492 2nd Sat Every Sun A.A. CWA Hall 10.30 am Phone 4093 7599

Kuranda Bowls Club If interested in a game, Phone

4093 9583

R.S.L. 5pm, Lower Market Mall, Thoree Street. 1st Sunday

Kuranda Film Society 4:30 2nd March Sports and Social

Every Mon Life Span exercise QCWA Hall 9.30 am.

Al-Anon Family Groups 8 pm Phone Diane 4093 0462 Karate at CWA Hall Kuranda 6.15pm - 7.15 pm for more info call Geoff 4093 7380

Junior Rugby League 3:30pm Bartley Park Oval

4093 7177

1st Monday Kuranda Horse and Pony Club 7.30 pm Mantaka Koah Sports & Social Club 7.30 pm Barbara La Baysse

4093 7026

3rd Monday KNC Management Committee Meeting 6.00 pm Rob Veivers Dve. Ph 4093 8933

1st Tuesday The KCCT meets at the Kuranda Hotel/Motel. 2nd Tuesday The KVPP meets behind St. Saviour's Church.

Every Tues Tae kwon do & Self Defence adults 7.00 pm CWA hall

Ph 4093 8682

Tai Chi Sports and Social Club 6 pm Phone 4093 8276 8 Ball 7.00 pm at Kuranda RSL, Top pub, Speewah Tavern, Kuranda resort, Kangaventure Ph 4093 8537 Belly Dance at Kuranda Resort and Spa. Have fun and keep fit at the same time Ph. 0429 070 393

Every Wed Craft and social morning at QCWA hall 9 am

Kuranda Playgroup - Cancelled until further notice. Contact Lida on 4093 9882 or Lisa on 4093 0038

Baha'i "Spirit of the Forest" 7pm at Bahai Information Centre, Therwine St.

Karate at Koah Hall 6.15pm - 7.15pm for more info call

Geoff 4093 7380

Yoga at CWA

Kuranda Bowls Club Barefoot Night bowls, Casual 7.00

First Wed Kuranda Interagency Network Meeting at 2.00 pm @

and Wed QCWA meeting 12.30 pm at Hall Ph 4093 7016

Every 2nd Wed - Kuranda and Environs Community Alliance Group -10 am Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre.

Every Thurs Rotary 6.00 pm Kuranda Hotel/Motel Ph: 4093 7206

Tae kwon do & Self Defence 7.00 pm CWA Hall Ph 4093 8682

2nd Thurs Ambulance 7.30 pm Ambulance Centre Fallon Road

PLEASE CHECK IF THE DAY, TIME AND PHONE NUMBERS ARE CORRECT

Page 21 - Community Notices

Emergency Contacts

In case of fire or other emergency please phone 000 Kuranda SES phone Bob on 4093 9143 or 0408 939 143

SES Storm emergency 132 500 Rural Fire Brigade/Fire Permits

Davies Creek 4093 3181 - Lloyd Koah 4093 7006 - Peter

Kuranda/Myola 4093 7190 or 0408 151 199 - Duncan

Speewah 4093 0211 - John

Kuranda Transfer Station Opening Times

Monday & Friday 7am - 10am Wednesday 3pm - 6pm Saturday 8am - 12pm Sunday 1pm -5pm



Kuranda Branch Library and Council Office

4 - 12 Thooree Street Phone 4093 9185

Monday Closed Tuesday 11am - 6pm Wednesday 11am - 5pm Thursday 11am-Spm

Friday/Sat 9am - 12 noon

No council services are available on Sat. Council cashier closes at 4pm on Tues. Wed, and Thurs.

Koah)

iys only)

JOHN'S KURANDA BUS

	MON	TUES	WEDtoFRI	P/HOL & SAT/SUN
DEPARTS	#0725	#0725	#0725	0830
KURANDA	1330	1330	0930	1500
	1615	1615	1130	
			1330	
			1615	
DEPARTS	**0825	**0825	0825	**0930
CAIRNS	1715	1715	1015	**1600
			1230	
**ATHERTO	N & MARE	1715	(1510 from S/FLD to	
# LIMITED	SEATS SCH		(Mon to Fri School Da	

NO SERVICE XMAS DAY & EASTER FRIDAY

Local Bus Timetables



JOHN. 0418 772953. A/HRS 40939278

Trans Nor

Departures	N TABLELANDS TO CAIRNS Monday to Friday				Saturday		Sunday
RAVENSHOE		7.30	7.45	2.00			
HERBERTON		8.00	8.15 au	2.30 ==			-
ATHERTON (arrive)		8.25	8.45 +n	3.00			
ATHERTON (depart)	6.30 am		9.15 am	3.30	6.30	9.15 am	9.15
MAREEBA	7.00 ***		9.45	4.00	7.00	9.45	9.45
KURANDA	7,30 em		10.20	4.30 mm	7.30 am	10.20	10.20 +=
CAIRNS	8.15 am		11.15 am	5.15 pm	8.15 am	11.15 am	11.15 am

Departures		Monday	y to Friday		Saturday		Sunday
CAIRNS	8.30		3,15 pm	5.30	9.30	1.00 pm	1.00
KURANDA	9.05 ***		3.65 ***	6.05	10.05 ***	1.40 pm	1.40
MAREEBA	9.40		4.30	6.40	10.40 am	2.15 pm	2.15 ==
ATHERTON (arrive)	10.15 +m		5.00 +=	7.15 am	11.15 am	2.45 pm	2.45
ATHERTON (depart)	11.00	3.00 +	5.15	1000			
HERBERTON	11.20	3.30 em	5.35 +=				
RAVENSHOE	Noon	4.05 am	6.15				

Operated by Kerry's Bus Service 0000 School days only

Connects with Chillagoe Bus Service Mon / Wed / Fri

Commencing January 2" 2008, Trans North will provide a passenger and light freight service between Atherton and Cairns and all towns and villages enroute. This service also connects at Atherton for Ravenshoe with Kerry's Bus Service, and at Mareeba with Chillagoe Bus Service.

Ticket purchases can be made at:

hillies News, Atherfort

Maronba Nows, Mayoobe; or from the driver as you board the ber. The bus stops are located at:

15 Thurwise Street, Kurondo. Old Railway Station, Mexecoa, and Phillips Nows, Atherton.

You may Hail and Ride at any location enroute, where the bus con safely stop. Upon request, this service will drop off at the Airport, Trinity Wharf and Hospitals and Doctor Surgeries in Cairns.

THERE ARE NO SERVICES OPERATING ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.