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KURANDA
AUSTRALIA

THE KURANDA PAPER

December 2023 | January 2024

Issue 360

FREE INDEPENDENT MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1991

WWW.KURANDAPAPER.COM

STAY SAFE AND BE PREPARED

As this edition of *The Kuranda Paper* goes to print we have finally received some light rain after a couple of months of dry weather which created a lot of hard work for our rural fire brigades across Far North Queensland. Some outbreaks were close to home, in areas such as Mona Mona. The dangerous conditions led to total fire bans being enacted in October and again in November. To safeguard your property please remain fire aware. Not only are you safeguarding your assets and family, but you are also reducing the risk to our invaluable fire fighters and other emergency service personnel.

However, as was well put by Dorothea Mackellar, Australia is also a big country "of droughts and flooding rains". This year we were reminded of what a 'proper' Wet Season looks like despite a noticeable absence of cyclones in our region. As we go to print, rainfall for the year recorded at the Kuranda railway station, is 2462.1mm with a month to go. This is significantly higher than the annual average of 1951.6mm. So it is also time to consider preparing for floods and cyclones without letting it dampen your festive spirits.

While everyone still has another month or so of 2023 to enjoy, our volunteers at *The Kuranda Paper* are looking forward to our annual break between old and new year

editions. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our readers a safe, memorable and happy holiday season. We will be back on 1 February, with our first edition for 2024 – our 33rd year of uninterrupted publication. Thank you to all who contribute to our own independent community newspaper. We are 100% submission-based, so if you have something you wish to share get in touch and become one of many regular and not so regular contributors.

Thank you to our local advertisers. Please support local businesses, their viability ensures we have a wide range of services and skills available, and provides jobs for locals. Add value to your festive spending by buying local, employing local and enjoying local.

Finally, we are really pleased to be able to bring back our annual Kuranda Media Association Short Story Competition. We will be starting the competition with adult writers (over 18 years) and the theme is *A Spirited Tale*. Details on how to enter, terms and conditions are on page 2 of this edition. In March we will open up the competition for young adult and junior writers. We will be running a poetry competition in the second half of 2024.

See you in 2024.

SMOKE SIGNALS

Strengthening Community Defences: Join the Local Rural Fire Brigade!

Wildfires in our area are usually intentional or accidental, none of the recent wildfires were ignited by dry lightning. When it comes to combatting these fires, backburns are a last resort. However, landholders cannot just light up the country under the threat of an uncontrolled bushfire, without consultation and collaboration with neighbours and agencies such as National Parks and Rural Fire Service.

Fortunately, hazard reduction burns conducted in winter have shown success in controlling wildfires, as demonstrated at Mona Mona recently. To enhance your property's safety in a bush fire zone, please construct and maintain fire breaks and have a chat with the Rural Fire Service if you need more insights.

The battle against wildfires is facing a significant challenge – a sharp decline in Rural Fire Volunteer numbers. Now, more than ever, we need your help to bolster our community's resilience.

Consider joining the ranks of your local Rural Fire Brigade and play a crucial role in safeguarding our community against the increasing threat of wildfires. Your commitment can make a significant difference in ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.

"Volunteerism is about the pure joy and pleasure of giving and caring for people. I've rocked up to blocks where fire is coming, and I've got panicked owners. What a wonderful feeling to be able to say, "It's okay. We're here now." Barry 'Baz' Child, First Fire Officer for the Kuranda/Myola Rural Fire Brigade and Fire Warden for Flaggy Creek.



- SHOP LOCAL •
- EMPLOY LOCAL •
- ENJOY LOCAL •

A SPIRITED TALE

Kuranda Media Association
Short Story Competition

See page 2 for details

Photo: Tobias Tullius – Unsplash

DEADLINES

February

Edition 361/2024

All copy and advertisements due by 10am

Thursday 25 January

Paper published

Thursday 1 February 2024

Management is not responsible for any copy missing deadline.

Advertisement sizes and rates

[width x height in mm]

A – 262x380 (full page)	\$635
B – 174x380 (dominant)	\$435
C – 129x380 (1/2 page vertical)	\$345
D – 262x188 (1/2 page horiz)	\$345
E – 85x380 (1/3 page vertical)	\$245
F – 129x188 (1/4 page)	\$185
G – 262x124 (large strip)	\$245
H – 262x60 (small strip)	\$140
I – 129x124	\$140
J – 85x188	\$140
K – 85x124	\$100
L – 85x60 (business card)	\$65

Advertisers

All artwork, images and logos to be supplied in high resolution (300dpi), CMYK colour mode, and in the correct size (see left for advertisement sizes).

Acceptable formats: PDF, EPS, JPG or TIFF.

In-house design services are available for an additional fee.

Advertisements booked for 3 months and paid for in advance are eligible for a 10% discount.

LETTERS



Please keep letters to under 250 words. All letters are subject to editing. Anonymous letters or those of doubtful origin may not be published. Correct name, address and phone numbers are to be submitted with your letter. Submissions by group email will be treated as spam.

We welcome your letters via email or post

'WE NEED YOUR HELP TO STOP THE STINK!'

For nearly 12 years now we have lived at 10 Cooodoo Street in Kuranda, and for the past four of those years, we have had to live with a putrid faecal sewerage smell emanating from multiple places around our home somewhere in the centre of town. Wafting throughout our house most days at differing times which has been and is quite frankly both sickening and disgusting to us. Other residents living and working in the area and the 100,000s of visitors that we welcome every year to Kuranda must be able to smell it as well.

It smells more like the sewerage treatment plant in our lounge room than it does at the Kuranda Sewerage Treatment Plant at the end of Arara Street. Enough is enough and we're sick of it! (no pun intended). We hope you are too!

We know there are hundreds of you in Kuranda that have smelt this horrible, putrid sewerage smell wafting around the centre of town everyday. If you haven't already, we ask that you take a minute to read and sign our petition to have it once and for all properly investigated by Mareeba Shire Council and fixed for the benefit of those of us living with it and smelling it on a daily basis.

Please help us to 'stop the stink' in the centre of Kuranda by signing our petition on the Kuranda Ratepayers & Residents Working Group Facebook page or go to www.change.org/p/investigate-and-stop-the-putrid-sewerage-smell-in-kuranda-cbd-now-it-s-a-health-hazard

Thank you for taking the time

Mark Riley, Kuranda

Cover Masthead

Our masthead this month is by the multi-talented Barry 'Baz' Child, who not only photographed this bushfire at Mona Mona in November, but was also busy fighting it as part of his 'day job' as First Fire Officer for the Kuranda/Myola Rural Fire Brigade and Fire Warden for Flaggy Creek.

Thank you Baz and all our fire fighters and rangers for your work all year round. Extra thanks to Baz from us here at *The Kuranda Paper* for always being open to sending his drone up to get us bird's-eye views of the Kuranda district when required.



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

THE KURANDA MEDIA ASSOCIATION SHORT STORY RETURNS

Tell us **A SPIRITED TALE**

We are pleased to announce the return of our annual short story competition. We will be running the competition in two parts – one for adults which is open now, and one for young adults and juniors which will open in March 2024. In addition, we will be running a poetry competition in the second half of 2024.

We know there are some great storytellers in Kuranda and we know our readers love original local writing. This competition is open to all current residents of postcode 4881.

This first opportunity to tell us *A Spirited Tale* is open to eligible adults (18 years and over). The work must be no longer than 1500 words, be your own original work and not previously published. Entries close midnight Friday 16 February 2024. The winning story will be published in the March edition of *The Kuranda Paper* on Thursday 29 February. The prize for the winning story is \$400 – so sharpen your pencil or clean your keyboard and get cracking.

HOW TO ENTER:

Email your story in a Word doc to mail@kurandapaper.com. Also please send with it a signed cover sheet detailing your name, address, age and contact details (phone and email).

Deadline: midnight Friday 16 February 2024.

LATE ENTRIES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Open to all current residents over the age of 18 living in the Kuranda district (postcode 4881). Entries from writers outside of the Kuranda district are not eligible. All entries MUST BE original, the work of the person submitting and must not have been previously published. All entries must be 1500 words or less.

The winner will be notified in person. Winning entries will be published in *The Kuranda Paper* March 2024 edition. Members of the Kuranda Media Association Management Committee and their direct family are not permitted to enter.

Short Story Competition Prompts ... food for thought ...

adjective: spirited; suffix: -spirited

1. full of energy, enthusiasm, and determination.
2. having a specified character, attitude, or mood.
3. past tense: spirited; past participle: spirited convey rapidly and secretly.

noun: spirit; plural noun: spirits:

1. the non-physical part of a person which is the seat of emotions and character; the soul.
2. the non-physical part of a person manifested as an apparition after their death; a ghost.
3. a supernatural being.
4. the prevailing or typical quality, mood, or attitude of a person, group, or period of time.
5. the quality of courage, energy, and determination. "his visitors admired his spirit and good temper"
6. strong distilled alcoholic drink such as brandy, whisky, gin, or rum a volatile liquid, especially a fuel, prepared by distillation.

Stockists – A free copy is delivered to every postal box and street mail delivery in the Kuranda district (post-code 4881). If you don't receive a copy please contact the Kuranda Post Office.

The current edition of *The Kuranda Paper* can be viewed online at kurandapaper.com, along with back issues. In addition you can pick up a hard copy of *The Kuranda Paper* at the following outlets:

KURANDA: Kuranda Post Office (Thoree St), Sprout Café (Cooodoo St), Kuranda Visitor Information Centre (Centenary Park), Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (Rob Veivers Dr), Kuranda Discount Drugstore (Cooodoo

St), Kuranda Arts Co-op (Cooodoo St), Cornetts IGA (Thongon St), BP Service Station, Annabel's Pies (Therwine St), Honey House Kuranda (Therwine St).
KURANDA DISTRICT: Speewah Service Station, Koah Service Station.

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

TOLGA: The Humpty

ATHERTON: Atherton IGA (Silo Shopping Centre)

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

CAIRNS: Cairns Library



The O'Cajuns. L-R: Bernie Blattner playing percussion, Gayle Betts on bass, Kirk Steele on Cajun accordion, blues legend Johnny Green on guitar, Brian Clarke ex-Frogs band on guitar – the line up will also be joined by Frank Terranova on drums at the Christmas Twilight Market.

TWILIGHT TRADING

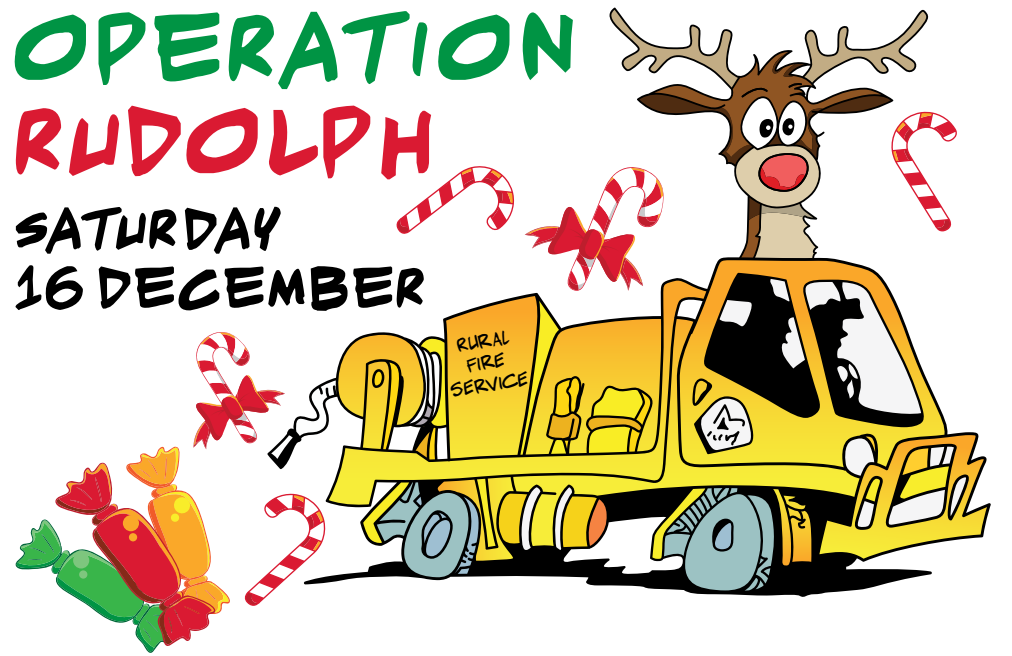
at the Kuranda Original Rainforest Markets
Saturday 2 December 2023

Experience the magic of the Christmas Twilight Market at the Kuranda Original Rainforest Markets on Saturday 2 December. The Markets are open from 10am for their regular day-time trading, including Rainforest Mini Golf, Henna art, Psychic Readings and healing massages; and come dusk, the gardens and shops come alight with twinkling Christmas merriness for shoppers' delight until 8pm.

Support our local traders. With colourful stalls and shops presented by artisans and crafters, offering a wide range of gift ideas from handcrafted jewellery, clothing, handmade pottery and soaps, to beautiful artwork – the Christmas Twilight Market has a vibrant, warm family atmosphere.

Back by popular demand – listen to a lively set from 6-piece band, The O'Cajuns at Vittoria's Emporium, on the Rainforest Mini Golf Course from 6-8pm. Enjoy the music while you dine! Market DJ Fi, Fiona Ruttelle is setting down the beats between 4-8pm from Stall 2, and La Fonda Latina is offering a special dinner menu with DJ JC (Funkdafied) on the decks to provide sweet melodies.

It's also The Magical Lane's 5th birthday, and Fairy Jenny is celebrating with a Magical Birthday Quest... follow the clues to find the cake during the Christmas Twilight Market between 4-8pm.

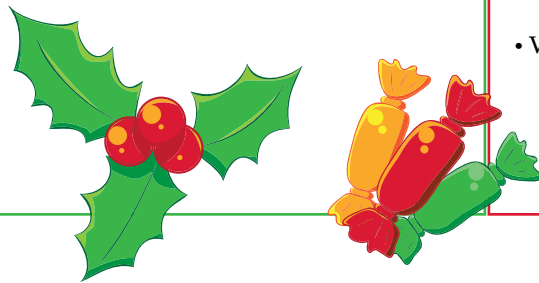


Every year, Kuranda's Emergency Services come together to make sure that Santa doesn't get lost as he travels around Kuranda visiting the children and adults of the Kuranda community. The unexpected cacophony of sirens sure gets some hearts racing – and not just Kuranda kids who eagerly line the streets and roads of the district, to wave to our Emergency Super-heroes, and maybe catch a lolly or two. Every year it comes as a big surprise to newcomers to the area – so this is your heads up. Representatives from Queensland Police Service, Queensland Fire and Emergency Service, Rural Fire Service and SES volunteers all participate in this annual event.

This year on Saturday 16 December, Operation Rudolph will kick off with **TWO separate routes** – Kuranda and surrounds, and Speewah/Cardinia/Koah – see details below.

Please note: Following the end of the Speewah to Koah run, everyone is invited to enjoy cold watermelon and soft drinks courtesy of the Speewah Fire Brigade at the Koah Hall.

KURANDA AND SURROUNDS	SPEEWAH, CARDINIA AND KOAH
<p>Departs Kuranda Urban Fire Station at 2pm then travels via</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coondoo Street – Thongon Street <li style="padding-left: 20px;">• Barron Falls Road • Mason Road – Williamson Drive <li style="padding-left: 20px;">• Warril Drive • Gregory Terrace – Coconut Grove – Saddle Mountain Road • Myola Road – Oak Forest Road – Mantaka – Kowrowa 	<p>Departs Speewah Tavern at 2.30pm then travels via</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speewah Road to Stoney Creek Road <li style="padding-left: 20px;">• Stoney Creek Road to Kelly Road • Up Kelly Road to the Possum Ridge turnoff • Back the same way to Speewah Road <li style="padding-left: 20px;">• Ganyan Drive loop then William Smith Drive • Right turn into Douglas Track and into Veivers Drive • Veivers Drive back to the highway, then Cardinia Boulevard • Koah Road to the end and back • Finishing at the Koah Hall



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CAIRNS INDIGENOUS ART FAIR

Call out for First Nations Artists

First Nations artists and creatives living in or holding a strong connection to Queensland have until Friday 8 December to submit their Expressions of Interest (EOI) to participate in Cairns Indigenous Art Fair's (CIAF) exciting new development program – **CATAPULT**. The EOI phase closes on Friday 8 December 2023.

Designed to ignite the crafts and careers of Queensland's First Nations independent, emerging, mid-year and established artists, **CATAPULT** is a new, two-part exhibition and professional development program offering tailored support that will lead to exhibiting work within CIAF's 2024 Art Fair. Such artists who are not affiliated with an existing Art Centre and do not have formal gallery representation are invited to apply.

According to CIAF's Artistic Director Francoise Lane, **CATAPULT** is a first for the organisation. "Without Queensland's First Nations arts and cultural practitioners,

CIAF is nothing. Catapult is what its name implies, a platform for artists to leverage a whole range of opportunities from exhibition and profile building to expanding and developing their professional practice.

"Catapult is just the first in a series of strategic development programs and forms part of an ambitious and transformative four-year plan. CIAF is and has always been much more than an annual event that showcases the incredible talent and shares the stories of First Nations people. Taking a step back, it is a progressive movement geared towards reconciliation and understanding through the creative employment, economic participation, and delivery of high-quality arts experiences," Ms Lane said.

In addition to **CATAPULT**, CIAF has issued a second EOI for **ART FAIR EXHIBITORS** that also closes on Friday 8 December. This EOI is for artists currently working on and planning to exhibit work at CIAF 2024. The Queensland Government supports these programs through Arts Queensland.

Artist Call to action: To view and complete the EOIs for **CATAPULT** and Art Fair Exhibitor visit www.ciaf.com.au

CIAF 2024 – Looking ahead: Theme is *Country Speaking*. **Dates:** CIAF 2024 will be held between 25–28 July 2024.

CIAF 2024 – Development Programs:

CATAPULT: A two-part exhibition and professional development program for First Nations emerging, mid-career or established artists **CATAPULT** is designed to create critical pathways for independent artists with a unique opportunity to exhibit within an Art Fair context, expand their arts practice, and gain access to mentors and tailored experiences. EOI is now open – closes 8 December 2023.

ART FAIR EXHIBITOR: CIAF now calls for Art Fair exhibitors and wants to hear from Queensland's First Nations artists and creative practitioners. CIAF is particularly interested in what artists are working on in the lead-up to CIAF 2024. EOI is open now – closes 8 December 2023.



Photos: CIAF

The National Electric Ant Eradication Program BLITZING KURANDA

The Kuranda Blitz was an intensive weekend of electric ant surveillance conducted in and around the Kuranda region.

The last time the Blitz was held in 2021, two new infestations of electric ants were detected so the event was considered well worth repeating.

Led by National Electric Ant Eradication Program (NEAEP) field officers, Kuranda Envirocare, the Wet Tropics Management Authority's Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program, the YCA Community Taskforce volunteers, and the Djabugay Bulmba Rangers came together in a collaborative effort conducting proactive surveillance work across Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October.

Thirty-two yard checks were conducted on properties over the weekend, with more completed in the following days. The teams also covered approximately 14 kilometres of footpath surveillance, collecting numerous ant samples for identification at the electric ant diagnostic lab in Cairns.

Whilst some results are still being finalised, four new infestations have been detected so far as a result of these combined efforts. Two came from yard checks booked and surveyed during the event, while the other two were requested as a result of the Blitz advertising and the checks were conducted in the following days.

This is a fantastic example of getting on the front foot by proactively seeking out unknown infestations, enabling us to promptly deal with them whilst they are relatively small.

The NEAEP are extremely grateful for the support offered by all involved in completing the Blitz work, and to the residents who booked their free yard checks.

They encourage all residents to get behind this effort to eradicate electric ants from the community by registering for their free yard checks at www.daf.qld.gov.au/anthunt, calling **13 25 23** or emailing electricantinfo@daf.qld.gov.au



The National Electric Ant Eradication Program held their Kuranda Blitz over the weekend of Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October 2023 conducting yard checks and proactive surveillance in and around the Kuranda region.

At the conclusion of each days work, a BBQ lunch was provided to all participants.

Advertisement

BOOK YOUR FREE YARD CHECK

Queensland Good jobs
Better services
Great lifestyle



Stop the spread of electric ants

13 25 23

daf.qld.gov.au/anthunt

 Queensland
Government

Authorised by the Queensland Government, William Street, Brisbane.

Sonia Poole

**The Kuranda & Tablelands
Region Specialist**

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Sonia Poole
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sonia.poole@raywhite.com

COMMUNITY UPDATE



COMMUNITY OUTCOMES REPORT NOTED

Mareeba Shire Council's Community Outcomes Report highlights some of the significant achievements that have been delivered across the Shire during the period of July 2019 to June 2023.

This report outlines how Council has been guided by the strategic priorities of financial sustainability, community, transport and Council infrastructure, economy and environment and governance, to achieve Council's mission to "provide cost-effective services, foster collaborative partnerships and maintain accountable governance to promote the prosperity and liveability of the Shire".

While Council has faced challenges in the last four years, especially due to Covid-19, it is proud to maintain a reputation as financially sustainable and dedicated to delivering services.

Visit Council's website to read the report online or follow Council on Facebook to see highlights from the report.



Community Outcomes Report

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2024



Nominations for Mareeba Shire Council's 2024 Australia Day Awards are now open!

These prestigious Awards are presented at a ceremony that coincides with Council's Australia Day and Citizenship Ceremony, which will be held on Thursday 25 January 2024.

Nominations must be received by **3:00 pm Thursday, 7 December 2023**.

Categories:

- More than one category can be selected.
- For junior categories the individual must be aged 21 years or under on 26 January 2024.

Categories include:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Junior Sportsperson of the Year
- Community Service Award (Open Age - Individual or Group)
- Environmental Achievement Award (Open Age - Individual or Group)
- Arts and Cultural Award (Individual or Group)
- Junior Arts and Cultural Award
- Community Organisation of the Year
- Community Event of the Year

For further information and to nominate, please visit Council's website or scan the QR code.



GET READY QUEENSLAND ACTIVITIES

Queensland is the most disaster-prone state in Australia and the Bureau of Meteorology has predicted that Far North Queensland will experience a hotter and drier summer this year.

Mareeba Shire is vulnerable to bushfires, flooding and cyclones and has already seen the impact of major bushfires this season.

To help residents prepare for natural disasters, Mareeba Shire Council participated in Get Ready Queensland activities throughout October and November.

This included pop-up stalls at Kuranda IGA, Dimbulah Community Centre and Dimbulah Community Kindergarten, Mareeba Square Shopping Centre (outside of Coles) and at Council's Seniors Morning Tea.

Council would like to encourage residents to visit Council's Emergency Dashboard for the latest information about local emergencies and sign up to receive the Early Warning Network alerts.

KURANDA HEIGHTS CEMETERY

The project to build the new Kuranda Heights Cemetery has progressed considerably with the bulk earthworks now complete.

Favourable weather conditions have enabled significant progress and construction continued with the access road and car park. Stage 1 of the new cemetery will provide burial capacity for the next ten to fifteen years.



The 2023 Mayor's Christmas Appeal has been launched. Each year, generous community members and organisations make donations which Council then distributes to local families in need with the help of Community Centres across the Shire.

Council would like to encourage residents to get behind the annual cause and donate to the appeal to assist those in need. If you have never donated before, consider making a small donation to the Mayor's Christmas Appeal for the first time in 2023.

Your donations will be gratefully accepted at Mareeba Shire Council Customer Service Centres in Mareeba and Kuranda.

Donations can also be made by cheque and mailed to PO Box 154, Mareeba QLD 4880. Please make the cheque payable to 'Mayor's Appeal Gift Fund'. Visit Council's website and search 'Mayor's Christmas Appeal' for more information.

EVENTS CALENDAR



Are you planning a community event? Would you like to spread the word?

Council offers an online Events Calendar which allows community event organisers to submit their events to be displayed in the calendar.

For further information, please visit the website or email info@msc.qld.gov.au.



Mayor
Angela Toppin

Mayor@msc.qld.gov.au
4086 4606



Deputy Mayor
Cr Kevin Davies

KevinD@msc.qld.gov.au
0400 490 493



Cr Lachlan (Locky)
Bensted

LockyB@msc.qld.gov.au
0408 871 420



Cr Daniel (Danny)
Bird

DannyB@msc.qld.gov.au
0467 304 744



Cr Mary Graham

MaryG@msc.qld.gov.au
4092 1030



Cr Mario Mlikota

MarioM@msc.qld.gov.au
0428 402 015



Cr Lenore Wyatt

LenoreW@msc.qld.gov.au
0447 757 336

Mayor's Christmas Message



MAREEBA SHIRE MAYOR ANGELA TOPPIN

The festive season is upon us, and it is my hope, as Mayor, that all people have the chance to take a break, to recharge and to welcome the New Year with renewed energy and optimism.

While the Councillors and I look back on 2023 as a year not without its challenges, it is also one that has been associated with achievements and progress. We continued to deliver important services including community facilities, libraries, community partnerships and events.

There was also significant investment in infrastructure services to water, waste and sewerage. These essential infrastructure upgrades are required to help secure safe and reliable water access for our growing community.

In Kuranda, the new playground in Centenary Park and the Bulmba Ngirra mural, which incorporates traditional Djabugay language (Ngirra) and symbols, was well received by residents and visitors this year. Council has continued to engage with stakeholders in Kuranda to discuss upgrades to Anzac Park and I look forward to the progressing of the planned works. The almost \$2 million project to acquire and build the new Kuranda Heights Cemetery has progressed well and is on track to be finished soon.

It was wonderful to see tourists returning to Kuranda following the pandemic. Council provides direct support for tourism promotion within the Shire by funding destination marketing and post-arrival visitor information services, and the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre saw a significant increase in visitor numbers to the Shire. I would like to take this time to thank the volunteers at the Centre and in Kuranda and to recognise the collective power of volunteerism and its positive influence on our community.

Christmas is a wonderful time of year for many, but for some it can be a time of isolation and stress.

I encourage everyone this Christmas season to spend quality time with family and friends. Reach out to those who are less fortunate in our community and take the time to connect with those who may be feeling overwhelmed or isolated.

Please stay safe and enjoy a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

On behalf of my family and I, Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2024.



Celebrate First Nations culture with one-of-a-kind gifts

Kuranda Indigenous Tourism Hub invites you to discover the beauty of Australia's oldest living art form with our unique collection of authentic Aboriginal artworks.

From traditional pieces embodying cultural stories, to innovative works embracing contemporary styles and methods – shop our collection of unique gifts now and find something special for everyone.

Celebrate First Nations culture while brightening someone's life with one-of-a-kind gifts from our selection today!

Find us in the The Heritage Markets, Kuranda next to Birdworld Kuranda or visit kuranda.org.au

90% of proceeds from sales go direct to our artists, with 10% directed towards purchasing new art supplies.



Building culture and creating economic opportunities in Far North Queensland

Crawford's Corner

Dear Kuranda residents,

The countdown to 2024 has begun. Along with summer and the holiday season, rainfall, and cyclone season are fast approaching so remember that planning is the key to survival. Head to getready.qld.gov.au for information and advice.

Big news! The Kuranda Barron River Bridge options have been presented by TMR and they want to know your thoughts: **a new bridge or a major upgrade of the current bridge.** Comprehensive investigations have resulted in these potential options as they tick all the boxes in catering for future capacity improvements, providing a safe solution for pedestrians, bike riders and mobility device users, facilitating heavy vehicle access and minimises environmental impacts.

Careful consideration has been given to how the two options can be constructed and disruption minimised, ultimately whether a new bridge or an upgrade to the existing bridge, further traffic disruption during construction is unavoidable.

For more information and to have your say, head to www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/kennedy-highway-barron-river-bridge-kuranda

Not all Queenslanders are getting the support they're entitled to. To explore the range of Queensland Government funded savings, concessions, and support services head to queenslandsavers.qld.gov.au. For example, there's still time to take advantage of rebates of up to \$1,000 for the purchase of energy efficient appliances.

As always, my Barron River Electorate Office staff are happy to help you with government and community issues. Come in for a face-to-face chat, phone 4229 0100 or email barron.river@parliament.qld.gov.au.

I hope you have a safe holiday period, see you in the new year.



Craig Crawford – Member for Barron River
Phone – (07) 4229 0100
Email – barron.river@parliament.qld.gov.au
Social Media – @CraigCrawfordMP

Have your say on options for the Barron River bridge at Kuranda

Community consultation on two proposed options for the Barron River bridge at Kuranda is open until 8 December 2023. The two options include one major upgrade option and one new bridge option. Have your say at

www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/kennedy-highway-barron-river-bridge-kuranda

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is conducting a \$8.98 million planning project to determine the best long-term solution for this vital bridge.

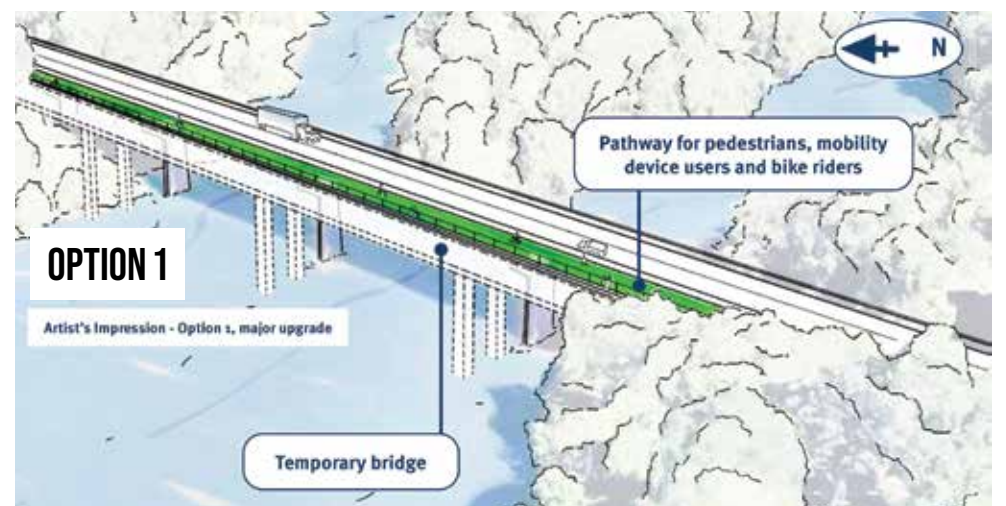
Two potential options have been identified to accommodate future capacity needs, enhance safety for pedestrians, bike riders and mobility device users, facilitate heavy vehicle access, and minimise environmental impacts.

TMR has published artists impression of the two options on the consultation website and is seeking feedback from the community and road users to inform the planning study. **Consultation closes on 8 December 2023** with the planning study expected for completion in late 2024.

For those without internet access, a copy of the artists impressions can be obtained by contacting the TMR Cairns office via 4045 7144.

Transport and Main Roads Minister Mark Bailey says, "I encourage frequent bridge users to provide their feedback, given their unique insights. Feedback from the community and road users will complement the technical expertise of the engineers working on this planning project. Previous community feedback gathered in May 2022 has already played a crucial role in shaping these options for a long-term solution for the bridge."

Source: Department of Transport and Main Roads



NORTH QUEENSLAND WILDLIFE TRUST – supporting wildlife care and conservation



The North Queensland Wildlife Trust (NQWT) was established in 2004 by the Freeman family, who own and operate Kuranda Koala Gardens, Birdworld Kuranda and Hartley's Crocodile Adventures, where there are easy mechanisms for visitors to make an active contribution to the conservation of native species and local habitats with funds accumulating weekly.

Visitors are encouraged to donate their spare change at the various collection boxes located in each wildlife park. For each dollar collected, the business holding the donation box matches the cash collected, dollar for dollar. Conditions apply, individual contributions are matched up to the value of \$100. Since the Freeman Family's invitation by Tourism and Events Queensland to participate in their inaugural 'Travel for Good' program in 2022, they also created a new revenue stream via a \$2 automatic donation being included in every wildlife encounter photo taken at their parks. This has proven highly successful and well received.



Mahogany glider mum
Pip in her hollow log.
Photo: Rowena Molina, Kuranda Koala Gardens

The Trust is focussed very much on grass roots conservation efforts, hands-on wildlife care, critical habitat acquisition, conservation, research and preservation.

Since inception, NQWT has distributed well in excess of \$300,000, either directly or via acquisition of equipment etc, to local conservation groups, researchers and others with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. To comply with Australian Taxation Office requirements, NQWT can only distribute funds to DGR approved not-for-profit organisations. All applications for funds from the 'NQWT' must be in writing, preferably by completing the official Application Form. Each application is assessed on its worthiness to conserve native species and local habitats.

This is just a snapshot of some of the support provided by NQWT:

- Urgent support funds for Dr Karen Coombes at the Tree Roo Rescue and Conservation Centre.
- Funding for Dr Ali Bee at the Magnetic Island Koala Hospital to acquire essential medicines and guide treatment for her annual intake of koala patients.
- Additional funding for Dr Ali and her family (also carers) of the Magnetic Island Koala Hospital to attend the national Koala Conference in Port Macquarie.



Lumholtz's Tree-kangaroo.
Photo: Dr Karen Coombes, Director
and Founder, Tree Roo Rescue and
Conservation Centre Ltd.

- Funds for Rainforest4.org to acquire Lot 34 Cape Tribulation Road for permanent preservation and restoration work to convert the degraded land back to viable cassowary habitat.
- A further grant to Rainforest Rescue for the acquisition of a critical habitat tenure Lot 41 – Licuala Rainforest Sanctuary. The 18-hectare parcel was described as "a perfect example of intact Daintree Rainforest".
- Rehabilitation of cassowary habitat in Daintree and Mission Beach.
- Restoration of tree-kangaroo habitat on Petersen's Creek, Yungaburra plus funding a new top shelf ride-on mower for the volunteers to maintain the very popular trails and facilities.
- Breeding for release of endangered Gouldian finches.
- Construction of facilities and funded specialist training for wildlife carers.
- Research into the prevalence of Northern bettongs.
- Expansion and support of the Turtle Hospital on Fitzroy Island.
- Restoration of a wildlife corridor for Spotted-tailed quolls.
- and too many more to mention.

Another fundraising initiative has seen NQWT benefit from the 'Containers for Change' recycling initiative where the proceeds of all plastic bottles used by visitors are turned into funds for NQWT.

Seven extremely worthy causes were selected to share a pool of \$58,000 in funds in November 2023. These are:

1. A further \$5,000 to support the work of Dr Karen Coombes PhD, at Tree Roo Rescue based on the Atherton Tablelands, to help Karen and her partner with funding to support their need for a Level 2 Wildlife Assistant. Karen has recently had a heart attack and quadruple bypass, restricting her ability to be cleaning enclosures, feeding and direct hands-on care of the animals in care. She and her partner usually rely on volunteers, but decided they need to employ at least one full-time person to supervise the volunteers. They would very much like to employ a second when funds become available.

2. One of the main objectives for the North Queensland Wildlife Trust fundraising in 2023 has been to support Dr Alison Bee, Magnetic Island Koala Hospital Ltd which was created almost 20 years ago, for the rescue and rehabilitation of injured, sick and orphaned koalas on Magnetic Island, North Queensland. The facility was set up by Dr Ali and her husband Tim in 2006 when she worked as a veterinarian on Magnetic Island, and recognised the need for longer term care of injured koalas. The facility received an additional \$5,000 from NQWT to support the provision of gold standard veterinary medicines for the annual intake of koala patients and also fund necropsies where needed to guide treatment decisions. The primary objective is to rescue, care for and rehabilitate the koalas to where possible, return them to their native habitat and support the koala population on Magnetic Island and wider North Queensland. It is not widely appreciated or understood that koalas do occur in the wild in North Queensland and there are limited options if they are injured or become too unwell to manage in their natural habitat. Support is ongoing, and NQWT is holding a significant parcel of funding to assist with the establishment of a dedicated koala care facility on Magnetic Island once a suitable site is secured and the necessary approvals and tenures are secured. An application for support is currently in place with the Townsville City Council.

3. NQWT provided \$5,000 in 2022 to Rainforest4.org (now rebranded to Gondwana Rainforest Trust) to support the acquisition and rehabilitation of significant parcel of Daintree Rainforest. Now in 2023, NQWT will provide \$5,000 to Rainforest4.org, headed up by Kelvin Davies, to assist with the funding effort to acquire 252 Maalan Road, Maalan, (Lot 535 NR2668) located on the Atherton Tablelands. Rainforest4.org is buying this 83-hectare property due to its exceptional value to nature conservation. Strategically located between Wooroonoan National Park and Maalan National Park, the property's value as a corridor for wildlife is of immense significance. The purchase will enable 83 hectares to be managed as an essential refuge for endemic mammals that have nowhere else to go. The Spectacled Flying-fox, Spotted-tailed quoll, Southern Cassowary, Lumholtz's Tree-kangaroo, Lemuroid Ringtail possum, Green Ringtail possum, Herbert River Ringtail possum, and Golden bowerbird need urgent help if they are to survive climate change. These threatened species are restricted to the cooler parts of the Atherton Tablelands and other higher parts of the Wet Tropics in Far North Queensland. Securing this important habitat is essential to support their long-term survival.

4. For the first time in 2023 NQWT has commenced work towards a long-held ambition to support the proactive work of Great Barrier Reef Restoration. An initial \$5,000 has been

gifted to the Reef Restoration Foundation Ltd, headed up by Ryan Donnelly. The foundation was started by members of the local community after the mass coral bleaching event that affected the northern-most third of the Great Barrier Reef in 2016. Their mission is to assist the natural process of recovery of coral reefs after disturbance. After a category five cyclone in 2017 accompanied by an additional mass bleaching event, the Foundation secured the first permit to install the first ocean-based coral nursery at Fitzroy Island. After starting with a pilot six trees from a frame system developed successfully in the Florida Keys, they are now operating in three sites with 60 tree frames using fragments of coral in the water column free from normal ecological pressures, speeding up the natural process of recovery by five times faster. This will be the first of many future donations to support the great work of Ryan and the Reef Restoration Foundation.

5. Another worthy recipient of \$5,000 from NQWT is the Great Barrier Reef Legacy (Forever Reef Project) to provide support to Dr Dean Miller and Dr Charlie Veron. The aim of Great Barrier Reef Legacy is to preserve the genetic biodiversity of all coral species across the world, starting with the Great Barrier Reef. They are currently collecting living fragments and genetic samples in a state-of-the-art holding facility acting as a 'coral ark'. This is to maintain this critical biodiversity of corals, so they are not lost to future generations. The ultimate aim is to collect all 415 species of hard corals from the Great Barrier Reef. Thus far 181 of the coral species have been collected. With further support in the future, we hope to assist them in securing their objectives and more. The funding goal of the project at this stage is to raise \$500,000.

6. Our hard-working, North Queensland bat carers are also beneficiaries of the funding allocation, with \$8,000 funding being given to Tolga Bat Hospital which will disburse the funds to The Bat and Tree Society of Cairns (BatSoc). BatSoc will administer the funds and pay the amount of \$2,000 directly to BatReach in Kuranda and also pay fruit suppliers (or cherry picker operators/companies) upon invoice or reimburse payments on receipt of proof of expenditure. Pam Tully is the founder and owner of BatReach, a bat and possum hospital and educational visitor centre. She cares for non-releasable flying-foxes, and has 30 years' experience in care and rehabilitation of Spectacled Flying-foxes and other flying-foxes. One of the other highly worthy recipients will be tireless Kuranda local and wildlife carer/artist Rebecca Koller for her Kuranda Flying-fox creche and release facility. Rebecca is highly respected and has been a key bat carer and trainer in Cairns region since 2016. Over 95% of rescued flying-foxes rescued in Cairns are released at this facility. The Cairns Bat and Tree Society will ensure that various other suitably qualified and experienced permitted bat carers outside of Cairns region are supported by this funding as required.

7. \$20,000 has been donated to long-time recipient of NQWT support, Rainforest Rescue (Kristin Canning and Branden Barber) to contribute funding towards the acquisition of Lot 1, Cape Tribulation Road. This contribution will be used as a matching incentive for the crowd funding campaign to strongly encourage individuals, businesses and philanthropic trusts to donate and maximise their giving impact. Lot 1 stands out as an especially important save as it is connected to the coastline reserve, adjoins the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and is well connected to the Daintree National Park CYPAS by continuous forest. Lot 1 is defined as "critically endangered Littoral Rainforest/endangered Wet Tropics Lowland Rainforest" and is considered a "Critically Endangered Ecosystem" by the Department of Environment (DES).

In addition to the above, earlier this year, Peter and Angela Freeman in conjunction with the Zoo Association of Australia and New Zealand provided \$5,000 in NQWT funding to assist volunteers in Europe with the care and relocation of wildlife held in Zoos and facilities in Ukraine, displaced by the current war.

All this funding for such critical wildlife care and conservation projects is made possible through visitor contributions at Kuranda Koala Gardens, Birdworld Kuranda and Hartley's Crocodile Adventures. The Freeman family hopes this will add to your experience when next you visit, or recommend, one of these iconic wildlife attractions.

Angela Freeman, North Queensland Wildlife Trust (NQWT)



THANK YOU AND FAREWELL FROM THE KTA



On 9 November 2023, we held the Kuranda Traders Association (KTA) AGM. Sadly, there were no nominations for Management Committee positions, and as such, the very difficult decision was made to disband the Association and cancel its incorporation. To facilitate this process, a series of special resolutions were put to the AGM which were subsequently voted on, including the appointment of an Administrator.

We'd like to thank those businesses and community members who have supported the KTA since its inception in 2020. It is with sadness that we say farewell.

The KTA has sought expressions of interest from local not-for-profit organisations and charities who may be looking for a one-off cash donation and/or near new computer equipment. As the KTA is in the process of disbanding, all assets must be dispersed to not-for-profit entities in a timely manner. Expressions of interest applications have closed and each will be considered with successful groups contacted after that date. We have had a great number of applications and each will be considered on their own merits. A full list of successful applicants will be published in the February edition of *The Kuranda Paper*.

I would like to personally thank the KTA Committee—Melissa P, Nettie, Gary and Melissa C—for their dedication and commitment throughout the pandemic in trying to keep Kuranda Village valid through the craziness of it all. This included the lobbying of politicians from all sides and requesting funding to continue the marketing and promotion of our village – sadly the efforts were unsuccessful. The committee also put in a massive effort to host and stage seven events, and not to mention the many, many hours of meetings over the last three and a half years. We've had lots of laughs, almost some tears, and as time moved on, we experienced some confusion as the level of engagement waned among the traders and the general community. In the end, we all decided that three and a half years was long enough – it was time to pass the baton onto other traders who may have fresh ideas and a willingness to give some time to their community. Sadly, there was not one nomination to even vote on.

It seems the mentality and future of communities like ours may prefer a 'hand-out' rather than a 'hand-up'. Many charities and associations struggle to continue due to the lack of volunteers, and ours was no different. It would be great if individuals would step up and do even a small amount of volunteering for their community. Many hands...

In closing, I'd like to wish all Kuranda traders well in their businesses and hope that we can continue to be successful in our efforts to ensure the continuation of this vibrant little village.

Dei Gould
Former KTA President



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80-year-old bombs found in State forest go 'bang'

Australian soldiers clearing live World War II artillery shells on a Solomon Islands beach.
Photo: Fairfax Media 2018

Three 80-year-old bombs discovered by rangers in the Bilwon State Forest in November, might've been rusted on the outside, but their insides remained as deadly as the day they were manufactured.

Ranger Ben Finnerty from the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) said rangers were patrolling the State forest on the Tablelands and found three 25-pound unexploded ordnance (UXO) on 23 October.

"Last year we had a series of firebreaks constructed through the Bilwon State Forest to assist with our fire management program," Mr Finnerty said.

"The new firebreaks gave rangers better access to different parts of the State Forest, and during a routine patrol we discovered several unexploded ordnance in a remote part of the forest.

Rangers immediately contacted the Queensland Police Service, then the Australian Defence Force for advice.

Two members of the Defence Force travelled from Townsville and met rangers on site to make the UXO safe to the public, and it went up with a bang.

"It shows even though these objects have been sitting on the ground for around 80 years they are still highly dangerous and ready to explode. According to the Defence Force members, old UXOs become more unpredictable and prone to explosions if they are moved or tampered with. This is the first UXO rangers have found in the region since 2014 and 2016, and we will continue to search the forest for UXOs on our patrols."

Mr Finnerty reiterates, "Remember, if it looks like a bomb, it probably is. Anyone who finds a suspected UXO in the region is urged to leave it alone and immediately contact police."

Mr Finnerty said the UXOs most likely relate back to the rich history Mareeba and the Tablelands had during World War Two.

"The Mareeba Airfield was built in 1942 with two runways and served as a base for the Australian and United States air forces," he said.

"After the war, the southern runway remained active, and the northern section of the airfield was used for agriculture. We believe the UXOs were either used for war-time drills or accidentally discarded in the bushland."

There are several areas on the Tablelands where UXOs have been found.

For more information visit www.uxo-map.defence.gov.au

Source: Department of Environment and Science



The Speewah District Residents Association

The Speewah District Residents Association (SDRA) will conduct our final meeting for this year on 4 December, 2023 at 6pm at the Speewah Fire Brigade training room. This meeting presents an opportunity for Speewah (including Cardinia Park) residents to meet with Mareeba Shire Councillors and other residents to discuss issues affecting the neighbourhood. As per usual, we ask that if you wish to discuss anything in particular, please contact our secretary, Jo Garbellini on jgarbell15@gmail.com to add it to our agenda.

As an incorporated association we have an annual fee of \$5 per member to pay for any expenses incurred to the Office of Fair Trading. We have elected to remain with this low membership fee and advise that when you attend our meetings, you do so at any risk to yourself (we don't pay for your insurance).

The advantages afforded by the community through this long-term association and our regular meetings include ongoing consultation with your local Councillors and Mayor. On behalf of residents, we also periodically liaise with State and Federal government members, and other stakeholders on specific issues or for clarification about something.

We look forward to seeing residents there and, as our meetings are short, sharp and to the point, the meeting should be concluded by 7pm.

SDRA Management Committee –
Jo, Annie and Charlotte.



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A Grinter's Tale

“There is none so blind as those who cannot see.”

Of course, that's not the end of the one above, but no-one really knows what the next bit means, so basically it's been edited out, like Prince Harry. “The most deluded people are those who choose to ignore what they already know”. I think in actual fact, it is a prophetic reference to Erin Patterson's ex-husband and his multiple near death events.

I find it funny that she is referred to as the “Mushroom Killer”, conjuring images of all the mushrooms in her kitchen cowering in their brown paper bags as Erin prepared her Beef Wellington.

I love quotes, not the kind that make you fall off your perch when you see the total cost of something you have to have done or the house will fall down around your sorry derriere, but the few choice words that have the potential to change your way of thinking. I'll die happy if I become famous for saying something profound. I spend sleepless nights dreaming up memorable memes.

That's why the Dalai Lama will die happy. He's had more quotes attributed to him than any of us have had hot dinners, and in truth, he didn't even utter such sagacities.

George Washington would be lying if he pretended he really said, “I cannot tell a lie”, because he didn't say that, but he did come out with some corkers, and maybe he was a little bit of a prophet:

“Knowledge is... in every country...the surest basis of public happiness.”

“If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter.”

“The time is near at hand which must determine whether Americans are to be free men or slaves.”

And my favourite: “Truth will always prevail where there is pains to bring it to light”.

I've actually written to the sagacious George posthumously to ask if he wants me to make that “are pains” for posterity, to preserve his reputation into eternity, wherever that may be. I've done a lot of thinking on eternity, and I think it refers to a return phone call from banks, and telecommunications and energy providers.

Anyway, did you know you can email via president@whitehouse.gov or if he is out fishing, you could try comments@whitehouse.com. Here's an opportunity to use that ghastly fridge magnet like the Dr. Nowzaradan's “Why you eat so much?” one that stops you raiding the last night's leftovers. But seriously now, this is a valuable piece of information, very handy for when the s really hits the f, as it will. It's fun visiting the White House page. The dialogue is so clever it turns the Adams Family into The Waltons.

Ho hum, back to reality. Do you often wonder who first said ridiculous trending expressions such as “I knew that” (when you didn't and everyone knows you didn't), or “It is what it is” (not suitable for use when someone hits their thumb with a hammer, or to describe current world events)? Then there's “It's the bomb”, which I feel is highly inflammatory, “Social distancing” which is an oxymoron and how can “Break a leg” mean you wish someone luck for heaven's sake?

Anyway, it's that time of year, and even Christmas has its own special quotes:

“Once again, we come to the holiday season, a deeply religious time that each of us observes, in his own way, by going to the mall of his choice.” — Dave Barry.



Sad, but true. I do wonder how many kids actually know the meaning of Christmas besides presents that need batteries that mum forgot to buy, a living room full of wrapping paper and the dog vomiting up its very own festive treats next to mum preparing the Christmas feast.

Our Christmas Eve as kids started with licking coloured paper strips to form multicoloured chains to decorate the downstairs area of the house. Off to midnight Mass with dry mouths and a gutful of potentially toxic paper dyes, we left Dad to mount the unstable household ladder to stick the chains around the ceiling and stuff the Christmas stockings in our absence. Risk management didn't exist in those days. I wonder if kids nowadays check the home security cameras for evidence of Santa's arrival?

Midnight Mass was kind of fun, although we froze our little butts off in the cavernous stone church on hard wooden pews. There was always a big nativity setting up near the altar, comprising not only the main stars of the show, but donkeys, a cow, a little lamb, the Shepherds of course, and the Three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. Unlike the croaky renditioning of weekly hymns, perhaps fuelled by a sherry or Guinness before mass, the congregation belted out carols like there was no tomorrow. My piano teacher, Mrs Parkinson, played the organ as if she were performing at the Royal Albert Hall, her spindle thin fingers banging the keys ferociously like Hiromi Uehara on steroids.

We would drive home past windows framing the sparkling lights of

Christmas trees and sporting spray on snow, stick on stars, reindeers and snowmen, glancing at the sky every now and then less we miss a sighting of the man himself. Santa that is, not Jesus, as the latter was still a baby, remember? Come to think of it, we thought he was born every year. Oh, the blessed innocence of childhood.

Home to the warm house, beanies and gloves peeled off, a quick sneaky sip of the parents' Warninks Advocat and off to bed for the shortest sleep of the year.

Christmas was a grand day. Babycham for my mum and Tizer for the kids, Kim the cocker spaniel wrapped in tinsel and the shedding of pine needles on the living room carpet, cracking walnuts with an ancient nutcracker, feeling queasy from too much chocolate, busting teeth on coins in the home made pud, and family togetherness.

Even opening the tenth present of embroidered handkerchiefs, or for my brother, yet another pair of woollen socks, could not dampen our enthusiasm, as of course our parents were a little more imaginative in their choice of presents. My first horse was the best ever present at age 13, delivered in the form of a plastic miniature horse with YES written in permanent ink on its side. Permanent ink meant they could not change their minds when they realised they had signed up for another mortgage.

A merry and safe Christmas everyone. Let's hope there is a big shift in energy in 2024, which will happen as more people become aware. Be like a tree, and be thankful for this pruning as our branches will multiply and we will grow back stronger.

“Oh little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie, above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.” Ironically, at Christmas in 2023, the silent stars in that part of the world are now missiles and gun fire. Whoever and whatever you believe in, send positive energies or prayers to the innocents at Christmas.

Thank you for reading my column, writing it is a very cathartic exercise.

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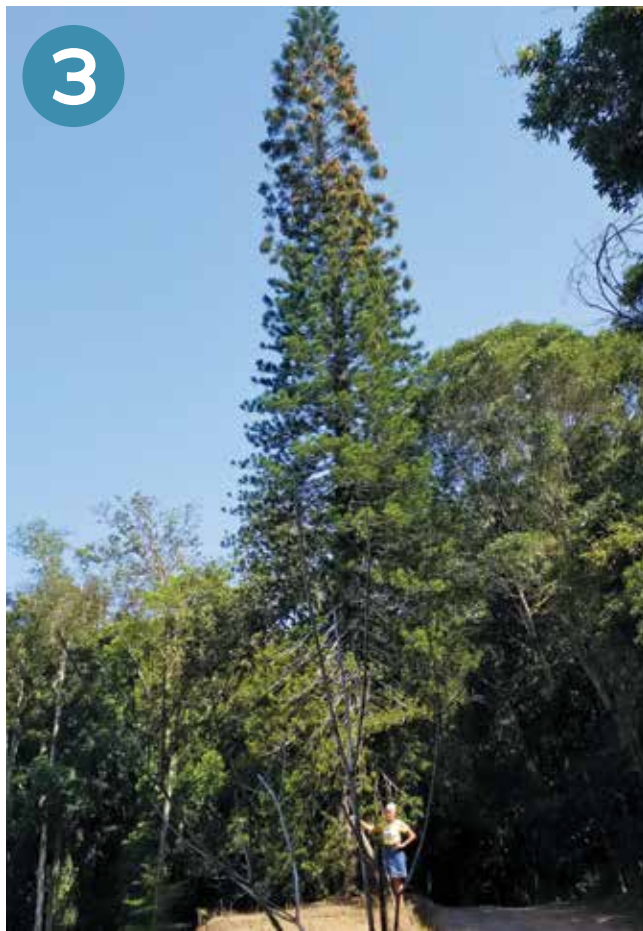
May you have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Callitris intertropica
Photo: Jude Ridinsky





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



Iconic Trees of Kuranda

Trees with age, beauty, history or stories — we want to know about them for an **ICONIC TREE REGISTER**.

Too many trees have been lost as few knew their unique value, so we hope we can help establish their credentials to maybe save them from an unjustified demise. Here are some of the trees we have identified around Kuranda .

1. The Kauri Pine (*Agathis robusta*) Plantation: Located at the recycle depot. These trees date back to the Jurassic age, but are not a true pine as they have leaves rather than needles. This historic grove was planted by Kuranda Primary School children in the 1950s. They were nearly cut down when the school relocated to Myola, but were saved by concerned citizens. It would be good to see some forestry tidy up work done there.

2. King Ferns (*Angiopetris evecta*) at Wrights Lookout: The largest fern in Australia and is found on the road side and vulnerable to large machinery scraping the verges of feral weeds that are also strangling the ferns. These majestic ferns are an important feature of our rainforest.

3. Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunningham*) on Lotus Lane: 'The Friendship Tree' was planted by Kim Willmet in the mid-1970s. Due to the horizontal hoop-like indentations on the trunk, they became known in the timber trade as Hoop pines. This magnificent specimen, that sticks out over the forest, commemorates the purchase of a large tenants-in-common property amongst friends, which was a common way for groups of people to buy land inexpensively.

4. The Old Longan Trees (*Dinocarpus longan*) or Dragons Eye: These trees were planted on the Faithful's Farm on what is now Boyles Road. They are near the historic timber cutters Dismal Creek bullock dray-crossing from Koah to Kuranda railway that was active from 1891 to the 1940s. Introduced in the late 1800s, these old Longan trees were perhaps planted by some bygone timber worker in an earlier century. They were known to be routinely harvested during the Faithful's custodianship and the subsequent owner by Chinese herbalists from Cairns in the 1950s to 1970s. The fruit is valued for its properties that claim to improve memory, boost immune systems and libidos, calm inflammation and bring good fortune!

5. Strangler Fig (*Ficus watkinsian*): Located opposite the Kuranda Hotel (aka Bottom Pub) this tree is common around Kuranda, but vulnerable due to its proximity to the road and/or enthusiastic Council pruning – like the one near St Saviour's Church on Coondo Street.

There are many other trees in our town and our region that may need recognition to help save them for the future.

HELP US TO IDENTIFY MORE OF THESE TREES contact the Kuranda Historical Society at kurandahistory@gmail.com with any suggestions.

Kylie Moore, Kuranda Historical Society.



Cemetery Film

Krishna Buhler is drawing on her film-making background to pull together a Kuranda Cemetery overview film. We hope this film can be uploaded onto a community website.

Move to Precinct

The Kuranda Historical Society has been granted a much-appreciated lease in the Kuranda Community Precinct on Arara Street (old Kuranda Primary School site). Mareeba Council have granted the Society the use of a big, airy room with a kitchenette and storage space above the Kuranda Library. We will be retaining the existing Kuranda Historical Society space in Centenary Park for public events and exhibitions and will use the Precinct space as an office and workroom.



Above: Gary Bresnan as Santa on Talisman Tartan (pure Arabian horse) in 1981 in Myola. Gary was a long-time high school bus driver for students travelling from Kuranda to Cairns via the White Cars bus service. Photo: John and Kathryn Edwards

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Glass Christmas Decorations by Klaus Brucksch



Dragonfly by Marcia Bird



Christmas Card by Henri Hunsinger

Seasons Greetings to all our friends who have visited our Gallery over the past 12 months and for your support since we relocated to the old RSL Building on the corner of Coondoo and Thongon Streets nearly two years ago.

At the recent AGM our hard-working Executive Committee was re-elected and we acknowledge the work they have put into developing and improving the Kuranda Arts Cooperative with the help of all the artists. As this is a not-for-profit organisation, all the artists are required to work at least two shifts a

month, as well as take on regular responsibilities to help the Gallery run smoothly.

Going forward, the Arts Coop is hoping to hold an exhibition in Cairns in 2024 – so watch this space and other Gallery updates next year.

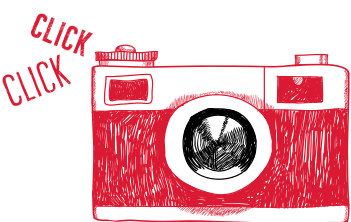
Drop in for some great gift ideas at very reasonable prices or just a chat with the Artist on duty.

We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year.



Three pieces of Mollie Bosworth's ceramics

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FOCUS ON KURANDA

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



NOVEMBER

"A visitor to our rainforest garden is 'Erik' the Cassowary. It's always wonderful to see him come in for a drink at the birdbath and have a nap in the rainforest."

Sharon McGrigor
 (7 November 2023)



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CASSOWARY ART TRAIL UPDATE



Festive cassowary at Terra Nova Gallery painted by George Riley. Photo: Jurg Jutzi

Cassowary Art Trail – Where are we?

As mentioned in the November edition of *The Kuranda Paper*, we have expanded the Cassowary Art Trail into other parts of the Wet Tropics. The Cassowary Art Trail now has six cassowary statues, handpainted by local artists. Check out the map on our website www.cassowarytrail.com.au.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all the businesses, organisations and people behind the scenes who supported and believed in this fantastic project – and a special thank to *The Kuranda Paper* for all their work. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the contributors who supported us during year.

We are very happy to announce sponsorship renewals for 2024 (in no particular order): Kuranda Koala Gardens, Heritage Markets, Birdworld Kuranda, Kuranda Riverboat, Duesburys Accountants & Advisors, Care Chiropractic QLD, Steven Nowakowski, Nettie O Design, JVIB – Jo Vella Insurance Broker, Mareeba & Kuranda Veterinary Surgery, Lotsa Printing, Brett's Kuranda Day Tours, Kuranda Traders Association, *The Kuranda Paper*, Terra Nova Gallery.

A big thank you to Kuranda Conservation Community Nursery Inc which is the backbone for the whole project.

Do you have any great stories about cassowaries, or encounters with them? We would love to hear about them and add them to our website. Please email your stories to info@cassowarytrail.com.au

The Cassowary Art Trail team would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and for 2024 all the Best. We look forward to supporting the Southern Cassowary in the coming year.

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram to get the latest news. If you would like more information about this exciting project, or if you would like to be involved, please visit www.cassowarytrail.com.au

Regards from Cassowary Art Trail Team

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Don't forget you can also use your Gift Voucher towards framing!

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Heads Up!

The Kuranda Paper deadline for February 2024 edition #361 is **Thursday 25 January 2024**. Please send all submissions and advertising to mail@kurandapaper.com

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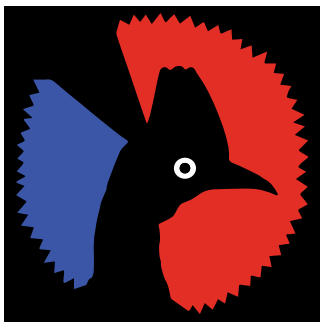
Mareeba SHIRE COUNCIL

FREE DOMESTIC GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL

Council advises Mareeba Shire residents of the upcoming free domestic green waste disposal days at the Kuranda Transfer Station.

Saturday, 9 December and Sunday, 10 December 2023

For more information please phone 1300 308 461 or visit: www.msc.qld.gov.au



K U R A N D A
conservation
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Let us know if you see a cassowary on the road or in the bush.

Two **BOX TRAILERS** available for you to borrow - 4093 8834

WRAPPING UP 2023 AND DIVING INTO 2024

NEW VOLUNTEERS

Our cup runneth over. We have two new volunteers. They are just made for the job. We have more laughs than we pot up trees. But we're also churning out the trees like there's no tomorrow. The point is, there will be a tomorrow because we're churning out the trees.

Among the forest of trees and shrubs we have:

- Advanced lomandra, already seeding, perfect for bank and creek bank stabilisation.
- *Melicope rubra* (LITTLE EVODIA): small tree, pink blossom, Ulysses butterfly food plant.
- *Garcinia warreni* (NATIVE MANGOSTEEN): largish tree, exotic perfume, cassowary food.
- *Syzygium fibrosum*: Apricot blossom, bright pink fruit, dense foliage, good for tall hedging.
- *Maniltoa lenticiliata* (HANDKERCHIEF TREE): large shade tree, attractive flowers and new leaves.
- *Davidsonia pruriens* (DAVIDSON'S PLUM). Yummy for jam and sauces. Cassowary food.

But there's more ... pop in and check it out.

OLD VOLUNTEERS

Kuranda Conservation (KCons) owes its very existence to the army of volunteers who have been at our core over the decades since inception. Every day of the week, they come to do their thing; mix the soil (made to a recipe, not just a price), water the plants, weed, pot up the ever-growing seedlings, get enthralled by the ants, spiders, katydids, butterflies and all sorts of creepy-crawlies, then attend to the people who come to look, buy, share, drop off cassowary poo and seeds they've collected. We make new friends every day. We're in a very happy place.

CASSOWARY ART TRAIL

The brains behind the Cassowary Art Trail is Jurg Jutzi. He keeps coming up with astounding ideas. At first we think his ideas are a bit over the top, but he puts his shoulder to the wheel and his ideas become reality. Kuranda has a gem in Jurg. We have painted cassowaries all across the Wet Tropics now. Who would have thought. And, Jurg even has a BIGGER idea.

CASSOWARY UPDATE

Elvis is regularly seen crossing the highway at the bus depot, but lately only one of his chicks is seen with him. They are very tiny and easy to miss, but they're also very vulnerable at this age. Our attention is now drawn to the proposed development at Speewah Gardens (formerly Rosebud Farm). Our focus is the threat to the large population of cassowaries around that area by increased traffic along Douglas Track. We are at the mercy of our Mareeba masters in deciding what's good for this special environment and the local community. Noise is the main issue for local residents.

Our warmest holiday wishes and a Happy New Year break to us all. Don't forget, for us to have a good relaxing time means someone else is working their butt off for us to have a break. But thanks, we really appreciate it.

For we who never sleep, the nursery will be open during this time so you can get plants planted or pick up a living gift for a really important person.



STAR POSSUM

Taylor Swift the Coppery Brushtail joey.

Making waves since her quiet arrival in Kuranda, orphaned celebrity Taylor Swift has certainly stolen the hearts of Batreach volunteers. Arriving at just over 200 grams, the Coppery Brushtail joey has quickly become a Star Possum.

After being found on her deceased mother in a shed in Atherton, Taylor was rescued by volunteers from Tablelands Wildlife Rescue, we can only guess as to why mum was injured and possibly took shelter there, but it may have saved her baby's life.

Little Taylor has settled in well to her quiet new foster home in the rainforest. She loves her milk and always eats all her fruit and vegetables so is growing well and will soon move to a new aviary as a juvenile.

Batreach would like to thank the Kuranda Men's Shed (John) for the fabulous possum and glider boxes, Trish and Chris at the Honey House for their generous donations of

(you guessed it) ... honey. Thanks to Louisa at Wholesome Kuranda for the weekly mystery box of fruit and veg, and all the volunteers who regularly help out, you are all amazing.



07 4093 8858
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 www.batreach.com

Visitors welcome to pre-book private tours by donation on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10.30am and 2.30pm.

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THE YEAR THAT WAS @ 2023

THE KURANDA PAPER



2023 marked the 32nd year of uninterrupted publication of Kuranda's own independent community newspaper, and with the July 2023 edition, the start of our 33rd. A very special thank you to all the fabulous and generous artists, writers and photographers whose creativity graces our pages, adding that bit of Kuranda creative spark to each edition. And of course, as advertising is our sole source of income, we simply could not remain viable without the continued support of our wonderful local advertisers. Thank you. Don't forget that every edition of *The Kuranda Paper* is available on our website if you want to read a past edition that you may have missed.

Kuranda Koala Gardens shared with us great news that twin female Mahogany gliders had been born to parents 'Pip' and 'Tonto'. The Mahogany glider (*Petaurus gracilis*) is a critically endangered species, native to a very small region between Ingham and Tully.

Local music was coming back in a big way post-COVID, with at least five locally based live acts recording new music in 2022. And life came full circle for Kuranda's Jason Campbell (aka JC Stylls) returning from a stellar overseas career as a jazz guitarist 'to the stars', to the same Kuranda Amphitheatre grounds he had helped clear as a 14-year-old boy with a machete. Eight members of the Kuranda Writers Group generously gave us original writing for summer reading.

Rainfall for December 2022: 327.5mm. Rainfall for January 2023: 509.7mm

DEC/JAN
#349



Our front page story featured a co-operative project between the Djabugay Bulmba Rangers and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation to begin delivering a Traditional Owners Healthy Water Project called 'Bana gurii. Bulmba gurii. Bama gurii. Healthy water. Healthy country. Healthy people.' This project brings together traditional cultural knowledge and lived experience, and western science and technology to improve the health of local waterways.

Our masthead featured the embroidery art of Gayle Hannah and we think is our first mixed media masthead. Gayle credited the mentorship of local artists painter David Stacey and ceramicist the late Sandy Hablethwaite in widening her creative horizon and urged others to "take up the opportunity to learn from any of the many highly talented artists we have in our community. It can be life changing." Another opportunity for artists was the call for entries in the second annual Kuranda Art Prize, organised by Kuranda Riverboat owners Melissa and Warren Clinton.

We marked the sad passing of Bruce Johnston of Speewah, and Peter Hanzak of Kuranda. Peter tragically passing away following a kayaking accident. Bruce's talents were many and generously given, including his services as a solicitor, helping out many community groups including assisting with the setting up of Ngoonbi in Kuranda, charitable causes and individuals in need.

We were definitely into the wet season with a health warning to watch out for Melioidosis, a serious bacterial disease found in ground water and soil following extreme weather events such as flooding.

Rainfall for the month: 517.5mm

FEB
#350



Our masthead featured a recent work *Rainforest Fruit, North Queensland* by master artist David Stacey, another of his iconic large studies of our unique flora. Growing things was also the subject of our front page story – a community garden being established at the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. And it just wouldn't be the wet season without yet another remarkable photo of Din Din (Barron Falls) in all its gushing glory. Our featured photo by Rupa Sztraka was the satisfying result of 12 years trying different angles and compositions by Rupa.

Suzy Grinter in her *Grinters Tale* column cited February as having been "quagmire month" and still the rain came. Fairy Jenny was gathering all her magical friends for the Magical Clean Up Australia Day which she does every year – thank you Jenny! Recognition for local RSL members Mick Forde (Australia Day Council Award) and Phil Jelbart (Australian Defence Medal, Anniversary of National Service Medal 1951 to 1972).

The Kuranda Traders Association (KTA) continued its efforts on behalf of Kuranda, working with the newly formed Mareeba Shire LTO (Local Tourism Organisation) to promote Kuranda as a destination, support local business and work with other parties in the greater tourism networks. ***Update:** Sadly, at time of this December/January 2023 edition, the volunteer-run KTA has been disbanded due to the lack of volunteers to relieve the founding members. *The Kuranda Paper* has recorded the KTA's contributions over three and a half years and we thank them for its many good works and inspired events. This is a great loss to the Kuranda community and traders.

Rainfall for the month: 613.7mm

MAR
#351



Kirty Bell's mesmerising artwork *Ornatus Adornment*, incorporating her signature portrait work with beautiful Rainbow Bee-eaters (*Merops ornatus*) certainly made for a stunning masthead. Kuranda Koala Gardens announced that its 21st Birthday would be celebrated in May. They started off with a handful of iconic Australian species, a few snakes, a pond of freshwater crocodiles in 2002, and now the former bungy-jumping area at the Kuranda Heritage Markets has grown to include some of Australia's most rare and endangered species including Northern bettongs and quokkas. As a result of successful breeding programs, the bilbies, Mahogany glider and Northern bettong population at the park is now growing.

The Groves Creek bridge was renamed the Bob Madden Bridge in recognition of the decades-long community advocacy of the late Bob Madden, most especially on behalf of Speewah including many years working (successfully) to attain and then improve telecommunications for the area. Bob's good community works were not confined to the Speewah area by any means and this recognition of his legacy is well earned.

The Kuranda Amphitheatre continued to deliver homegrown music and entertainment in the form of 'LOVE BOMB' featuring an impressive lineup of local musicians and performers. The Cassowary Art Trail continued to grow with life-sized, hand-painted cassowary number four by Melanie Hava and was unveiled during Easter in the village.

Diane Brim (Buluwai Indigenous Corporation) was proud to open the Djindigal Rehabilitation Service facility referring to it as "a unified, outstretched hand ready to help people". Mission Australia sats "Djindigal aims to create a safe 'healing space' for people to address the underlying issues of substance misuse".

Rainfall for the month: 166.1mm

APR
#352



"Braving the rain" – yes indeed it was another very wet Anzac Day in Kuranda, but with umbrellas aloft, the day of remembrance went ahead. Our masthead was watery themed as well, but of the saltwater kind – *A Family of Sea Turtles* by local artist Connie Rovina.

The seemingly never-ending maintenance and inspection works on the bridge over the Barron River at Kuranda continued, while the future of this vital transport link was under investigation. Visitor numbers to Kuranda, as reported by Council, had increased year-on-year by 170%, and in 2023 exceeded pre-COVID levels, with a 6% increase compared to 2019 figures.

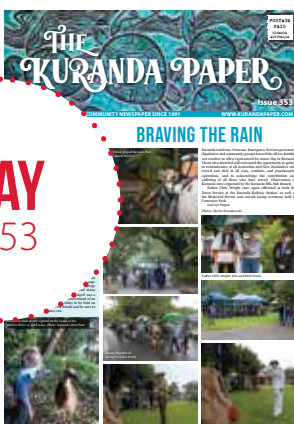
Djawarray (Bertie Riley), a member of the legendary Koalition band, released his new album *Binal* with a launch at the Kuranda Amphitheatre. The Amphitheatre also hosted renown Australian musician/songwriter Troy Cassar-Daley for an intimate concert at the Understage.

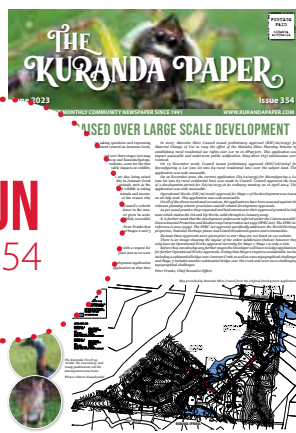
The fight to eradicate yellow crazy ants from Kuranda (and the Wet Tropics) will enter its 10th year in 2024. In March, a reminder that the fight goes on, came with the discovery of a small patch of yellow crazy ants at Russett Park, in the centre of the infestation area. These were not detected in 2022 demonstrating the need for ongoing surveys. Previous infestations at Green Forest and Myola are looking positive for successful eradication.

Our resident astrologer Rob Hart celebrated a milestone orbit of 80 years on planet Earth, surrounded by family and friends.

Rainfall for the month: 55mm

MAY
#353





JUN
#354

Our masthead featured the macro photography of Alan Henderson (Minibeast Wildlife) with a portrait of Mr Moopsus Mormon, Australia's Green Jumping spider – a creature so disarmingly charming, he just might melt the heart of the staunchest arachnophobe.

Probably more alarming for many, was our front page story about a large scale residential development, centred on Jumrum Creek. The development, which has laid seemingly dormant since 2008, has now sprung back into life after changing hands. It is obvious to anyone concerned or interested in the environment that standards have changed significantly in the intervening years and a number of questions have been raised about the manner in which the project has been allowed to 'roll over' as permits expired with decisions being made internally by Council. A lack of transparency is concerning, not just for those who have bought land which will be affected, but by anyone concerned by the impact of land clearing on this environmentally sensitive area.

Kuranda's iconic wildlife rescue and rehabilitation centre BatReach re-opened to the public continuing its important work of almost 30 years. Visitors are welcome to pre-book for private tours by donation Tuesday to Thursday 10.30am-2.30pm. Support our wildlife carers.

Community theatre returned to the Amphitheatre with the formation of the Kuranda Amphitheatre Stage Troupe (K.A.S.T).

The second Kuranda Art Prize attracted a total of 52 entries, more than double the entries in 2022. First Prize Winner was Marianne Tow for her painting *Deep in Reflection*.

Rainfall for the month: 96.5mm



JUL
#355

Our 32nd birthday edition – of course we are proud, but also humbled. Thank you for trusting us with your stories, creations, news and views. Thank you local businesses for your support, as paid advertising is our only source of income. Thank you volunteers, hundreds over 32 years plus. Our masthead featured a painting of a Brush-turkey by Robyn King, in tribute to our mascot Didge. Robyn's art can be viewed, and purchased, at the Kuranda Arts Co-op.

The 'Speewah to the Hat – Walk for a Cause', an annual hike from Speewah down the range to the Red Beret Hotel in Redlynch, was getting ready for a 10th anniversary event. Beginning as a social event, four years ago it became a fundraiser for charitable causes and individuals in need. In those four years the event has raised almost \$20,000.

News from Council was that the development of the Kuranda Heights Cemetery was proceeding with the awarding of a tender to build.

Kuranda Conservation spoke for many in their column when they said "We have lost a treasure. It is with great sadness that we farewell a treasured member of Kuranda Conservation in Sylvia Walker. Sylvia died on the evening of 21 June after a short illness". Whether you knew Sylvia through her community work, her store Sandra Viden Design or from meeting her dog walking, she was a kind, generous and caring member of our community.

Rainfall for the month: 223mm



AUG
#356

How the artist responsible for our August masthead finds the time to be so prolific is a natural wonder. Rebecca Koller is not only an amazing artist, specialising in wildlife subjects such as the Boyd's Forest dragon featured on our masthead, but she is a highly respected wildlife carer 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Our front page story came in response to concerns that Council might be about to remove mature native trees from Anzac Park, which is the little park located between the two markets. We were able to give a little background to the history of this area which once was part of the old Kennedy Highway when it ran through Kuranda, along the road now called Rob Veivers Drive. Over the years, the area has had various bursts of landscaping and planting, but in recent years it has been neglected. Concerned residents met with Council on-site to urge a gently goes approach to what everyone agreed was a much needed revamp. It is hoped that Council listened and will preserve the mature vegetation and polish our "neglected jewel in the village".

The Kuranda Men's Shed/She Shed showcased some of the impressive woodworks by member John Todd, including a ukulele and boat. Younger crafters at the Kuranda Community Kindy were having probably as much fun painting, planting in the garden and playing the mud kitchen in the lead up to their Open Day. The Kindy is another great Kuranda community success story.

We also received a detailed history of *A Most Unexpected National Park* from Peter Ogilvie, State President of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland. This national park reserve was given the name Barron Falls in 1900.

Rainfall for the month: 159.4mm



SEP
#357

World Cassowary Day was on 26 September and we featured Merlin, one of Kuranda's iconic cassowaries who is well known to residents of the Black Mountain Road area, photographed by Steven Nowakowski. Cassowaries and other native wildlife also appeared in the fascinating artworks by local Nicky Gallagher, who paints on feathers.

A very sad farewell for Coral Stratford was shared by her family. It would be hard to find a person in Kuranda who did not know Coral, who with her husband Dugg, was involved in so many aspects of life in Kuranda. Many will know her as a bus driver, and maybe more as a smiling face and helpful hand at the old Kuranda Post Office. Vale also to former Kuranda resident James 'Jungle Jim' Francis.

The Cassowary Art Trail project looked forward to celebrating its first anniversary and a growing family of six cassowary statues, handpainted by local artists. While it was disappointing that the Amphitheatre had felt the need to postpone the Kuranda Spring Festival until 2024, there was growing excitement for two nights of community theatre on the main stage under the stars, with the premiere of an original play *Time Warp 2059 – In The Nature of Things*.

A new mural, *Bulmba Ngirra*, was unveiled for the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre, featuring artwork by Connie Rovina, adding colour and interest to the streetscape while presenting and celebrating Djabugay cultural heritage. The mural also includes traditional Djabugay language (Ngirra) and symbols. It is the fifth artwork completed under the Mareeba Shire Council's Public Mural Action Plan.

Rainfall this month: 68.1mm



OCT
#358

Buck Richardson's photographic portrait of a Sulphur-crested cockatoo graced our masthead. The image was perfect as Kuranda got ready to celebrate a true milestone with the 25th anniversary of the Kuranda High School at Myola, whose emblem is the cockatoo. The Kuranda Traders Association gifted the school the opportunity to include the Kuranda Colour Run and other amusements/entertainment following the cancellation of the Kuranda Colour Fest in September due to the threat of rain. A true silver lining and generous offer.

Just as we must remain vigilant to progress the mission to eradicate yellow crazy ants, so too we have to dedicate the same level of care and awareness to electric ants. In October, the National Electric Ants Eradication Program, operated by Biosecurity Queensland, was conducting a 'Blitz' actively looking for electric ants and yellow crazy ants, in and around Kuranda. Electric ants and yellow crazy ants can be carried and spread in various ways including pot plants, soil and green waste. Residents are urged to be vigilant.

The Kuranda Rangers Football Club wrapped up another busy year and conducted their end of year presentations – awarding all their super talented players an array of awards from Best and Fairest to Most Improved.

Rainfall this month: 26.5mm



NOV
#359

Our penultimate edition for 2023 featured a detail of a lush poinciana leaf photographed by Gayle Hannah. At this time of year the poinciana trees are ablaze with red flowers as if signalling the festive season is not that far away.

Our front page story featured Caitlin Henderson's award winning wildlife portrait which is about to tour the world as one of 100 photographs (out of 50,000 entries) chosen at the *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* exhibition at the Natural History Museum in London.

The dangers of handling bats during their breeding season, when it is more likely that fallen or sick pups or bats might be encountered, are a cause for concern. Please leave this to trained and vaccinated carers. Report found bats but do not touch.

The Kuranda District State College Carnival held in October to celebrate 25 years of the campus at Myola was a huge success. Congratulations to everyone involved. Kudos too, to everyone involved in the staging of the original community play, *Time Warp* in October. Two magical nights full of homegrown talent. A brilliant achievement. Not to be outdone for birthdays, the CWA celebrated 86 years with—you guessed it—tea and cakes. The CWA Hall in Kuranda is a venue for so many activities and events. Thank you to the volunteers who keep the Kuranda branch alive and care for and share this vital piece of community infrastructure.

A sad farewell and tribute for Rosemary 'Mookai Rosie' Richards formerly of Lower Kowrova.

Rainfall for the month: 24.6mm to 27 November



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Buluwai Indigenous Corporation News

In loving memory of

Henry 'Buster' Brim

11 September 1980 – 28 September 2023

A treasured member of our community.

He will be deeply missed by all those who knew him. Forever in our hearts.



Photos: Buluwai Digital Library



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Christmas beetles count



Summer in Australia is signified by all sorts of occurrences in nature, but one which many people identify with is the appearance of Christmas beetles. These stunning beetles usually emerge in early summer, coinciding with Christmas. In the past, they have been seen in large numbers, decorating gum trees in their own unique way. Unfortunately, it is mainly the older generation of people that remember these beetles, as they are sadly in decline. The mass emergence of these beetles during the Christmas season is becoming a thing of the past. Scientists are trying to discover why, and we need your help!

Christmas beetles belong to the scarab family of beetles. We have over thirty species of Christmas beetles in Australia, with colour forms which include brown, green, blue and even stunning gold. The majority of species are found along the east coast of Australia, and most are endemic (found only in Australia).

The life cycle of these beetles is the same basic cycle as most beetles. In this case, eggs are laid underground in grasslands adjacent to eucalypt trees or forests. The grubs (larvae) feed upon grass roots and their growth is dependent on soil temperature. Those in warmer climates may emerge a year later, whilst those in cooler regions may spend two years underground. The larvae are called curl grubs – they are crescent-shaped with a pale, reddish-brown head and three pairs of legs, but can be quite difficult to distinguish from other beetle larvae.

After pupating, the adults time their emergence with warmer conditions and are also stimulated by rainfall. Different species will emerge at different times throughout the summer; perhaps to avoid direct competition. Other factors can influence the exact timing of their emergence, such as seasonal variations in weather patterns. Most Christmas beetles emerge from November to February, but as we know, many appear in late December. But in the last 15 years, the number of beetles emerging each year is declining. Why is this? We simply do not have enough information currently to know for sure. There are some contributing factors. One is definitely habitat loss, as grassland areas and open woodland areas are cleared for developments. The second is our use of insecticides in the garden and around the home, and the third is climate change. These beetles are essential to a healthy ecosystem, as they provide food for mammals, birds and reptiles at a time when these animals are raising young.

So, how can you help with saving the Christmas beetle? The University of Sydney has teamed up with Invertebrates Australia, an organisation that is dedicated to the conservation of invertebrates all across Australia. They have a project called the Christmas Beetle Count, and they are asking you to record when you spot a Christmas beetle. This is called citizen science, and it is an exciting way to be part of a large research project.

The steps to be involved are simple:

1. Download the iNaturalist app. This can be on your smart phone or mobile device, or you can also access it on a computer
2. Create an account – this is completely free
3. Search for the project “Christmas Beetle Count”
4. Take a photo of the Christmas beetle that you have found. Christmas beetles are nocturnal, so it is likely you’ll find them flying to lights at night, but you might also spot them on gum trees through the day.
5. Add your observation and photo to the iNaturalist app and include as much information about where you found the beetle as possible. Even if you haven’t joined the project, any sighting of a Christmas beetle will be included. Be sure to update the geoprivacy to open (which gives the exact location the photo was taken), or obscured, which will round the location data to a 20km radius.

And that’s it! But what if you don’t know how to identify a Christmas beetle? The Australian Museum has an app that will help you ID a Christmas beetle – it’s called **Xmas Beetle ID Guide**. iNaturalist will also help to ID your beetle from the thousands of records it already has on beetles. A few guidelines are that Christmas beetles tend to be oval in shape, and are quite chunky beetles. They are often iridescent in colour, but not always. Their head has a sort of ‘duckbill’ shape, and their back legs are thick, like they are wearing a set of leg warmers.

For more information about this project, go to the Invertebrates Australia website at www.invertebratesaustralia.org/christmasbeetles They also have a great webinar all about the project.

Deanna Henderson, Minibeast Wildlife

Top: A beautiful local – a green rainforest species from Kuranda (*Anoplognathus smaragdinus*)

Above left: The stunning Golden Christmas Beetle (*Anoplognathus aureus*) from Kuranda.

Above right: A trio of Christmas Beetles (*Anoplognathus boisduvalii*) in a gum tree near Speewah.

Photos: Alan Henderson



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What's Happening at the Amphitheatre

The Pad Boys – Understage --Saturday 9 December

What better way to wrap up a great year at the Amphitheatre than with Kuranda's own The Pad Boys? The Pad Boys have been jamming together for 30 years, and are a household name in Kuranda and Far North Queensland. In September this year they released their highly addictive album *Where Are They Now*, full of their original anthems that fuse roots-based reggae and indie rock with Djabugay language. The Pad Boys' songs have become part of the longer Djabugay music tradition. With special guests DJ Mr Tarago and Friends, this is a show not to be missed! 5-10pm, bar and food available. **Please note this is an 18+ gig only due to recently imposed licensing conditions (see below).**

Reggaetown

Thank you Reggaetown 2023 for bringing the music! It was so good to see so many families dancing and enjoying the brilliant vibes that Reggaetown brings every time. An absolutely amazing line-up of local and international acts, perfect weather, and a beautiful crowd. Thanks so much to all our volunteers for their often huge efforts to put this event on, including our local SES crew who help us immensely at every large event. Your hard work and humour are so valued, and hopefully you were rewarded by the knowledge that YOU made it happen, bringing sweet music to the people.

An important message to our beloved community: Kuranda Amphitheatre is a dancing ground, not a fighting ground! Please people, bring your good vibes to our events to share around. Recent crowd behaviour by a small few has left the Amphitheatre vulnerable to compliance and licensing issues, and we're pretty sure everyone in Kuranda is keen to keep the Amphitheatre open. Show your support for your Amphitheatre and your community by acting and drinking responsibly, keeping an eye on the young 'uns, and looking after each other at events. One Love.

Theatre

KAS Theatre continues at the Understage every Thursday night at 6pm, and are still welcoming crew for their next production, which has been re-scheduled for early 2024. All welcome, and it's free!

The Centre for Australasian Theatre (CfAT) are currently hiring the Understage on Wednesday nights for development towards their next production, *The Great Travelling Medicine Show*. CfAT will be presenting the show at Cairns Performing Arts Centre in March, and are also hoping to bring it to Kuranda Amphitheatre for a night.

2023 Highlights




This year was a rollercoaster for an entirely new committee as we did our best to bring more events, while figuring out how it all works. We had some wonderful gigs this year, highlights being the epic community theatre collaboration of *Time Warp 2059: In the Nature of Things*, Reggaetown, Troy Cassar-Daley, Djawarray Album Launch, Polymantra, Lovebomb, and DJ and soundsystem nights. Now we are spent! And looking forward to a rest over the Christmas season.

We hope to see our team grow in 2024. All KAS members are encouraged to serve to your community by joining the Committee or one of the KAS working groups, and being an active volunteer. Apart from Committee roles, we are looking for a Bookings officer, expanding our Food & Beverage and Events team, help with marketing and communications, strategic planning, and the myriad projects required to keep our venue viable. Our next AGM will be on Sunday 25 February 2024.

And lastly, but mostly – thank you to the whole KAS community, especially our many regular, active volunteers. Specifically, a massive thanks to Tim Gronwold, KAS volunteer site manager for 20 years, for not only continuing the huge job of maintaining the Amphitheatre, but also providing invaluable committee support. We would have been lost without you Tim!

All the best for a safe and happy festive holiday.

Kuranda Amphitheatre Management Committee

 www.kurandaamphitheatre.org
 info@kurandaamphitheatre.org
 Kuranda Amphitheatre

THE PAD BOYS present a very "Funky Xmas"



It's been a huge year and let's celebrate together! We want all you mob to come together – share our achievements and celebrate as one big family!

We'll be inviting some deadly guests and are planning the hottest Xmas party this side of Easter!

With the deadliest funk DJ in the land, DJ Mr Tarago, playing wicked funk, groove, electronic and classic murri anthems. We've also got some special guest supports – just wait! And of course – us –The Pad Boys in full effect!

Can't wait to boogie with you mob on Bulmba!

Funky Xmas takes place on **Saturday 9 December** at the Kuranda Amphitheatre. Doors from 5pm. LIMITED TICKETS!

Tickets: www.events.humanitix.com/funky-xmas

This is an 18+ show.

REMEMBER – No Muck Around – Love Is The Answer.



Nicole Nighthawk Releases Debut Single

It's been seven years since we saw Nicole Nighthawk win Best Rock Artist at the Australian Independent Music Awards with her band Grandhour. Only 12 months later, halfway through recording the band's sophomore album, Nicole made the hardest decision of her life as she walked away from everything.

With the heartbreak of leaving her marriage to Grandhour's guitarist and producer weighing heavily on her shoulders, and the anguish of breaking up a band on the rise, Nicole's journey to her debut solo release has been paved with emotional lows, highs, loss, new love, and finding the strength within. Re-emerging into the world as part of the LGBTQIA+ community, Nicole had a strong following of loyal fans waiting to see what would come next for the singer-songwriter.

In 2021, Nicole packed up and left Melbourne in a campervan. She and her wife of six months travelled around Australia looking for a new place to call home. Tropical North Queensland answered their call. Warmly welcomed by a wonderful village community cocooned in the rainforest, thousands of kilometres from Melbourne's laneway bars and rock scene, Nicole was inspired and ready to return to music.

Nicole's highly anticipated first single *No Tomorrow* is an epic and melancholy dark pop track oozing with her captivating energy and vocals. It's a raw and authentic first single from her upcoming debut studio album *Heart On My Sleeve*.

The composition and music video features elements and scenes from deep space symbolising distance and disconnection between lovers as they drift apart. The music video was filmed locally, and directed by Nicole and her wife Leigh Hanna, who also features in the clip.






No Tomorrow is out now on all major music platforms including Spotify, Apple Music and YouTube.

You can find more information at www.nicolenighthawk.com or follow Nicole – Facebook [nicolenighthawkmusic](https://www.facebook.com/nicolenighthawkmusic) or Instagram [@nicolenighthawk](https://www.instagram.com/nicolenighthawk).

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Text or call Cathy 0419 624 940 to book.

Water's Wonders in our Creeks

Our second survey in November was highly organised and we had a great set of creatures showing up in a site on Jumrum Creek. Thank you Russ and Kate Slater for the use of your place. We hauled out silt, pebbles and leaf litter from the riffles and captured over a hundred specimens. Some had



Identifying waterbugs at Jumrum Creek. Photo: Lance Neville

their photo taken and all were returned to the creek.

It's a fascinating insight into the world of freshwater creatures and several of the sharp-eyed kids, like Pascal and Eden, are going to be great ecologists in the future. Our identification skills and techniques were much more honed with the use of the Waterbug app, books and cards with bright colourful photos. Reon did a sterling job capturing images of the creatures with the digital microscope and Glenn did a great job with his overnight light trap capture of 40 caddis flies at the site, with 12 or more species, indicating that we hadn't quite managed to find all the various larvae stages.

We'll be running more surveys next year from April, but watch out for the occasional email or Facebook post between now and then asking for several volunteers, if we get access to creeks above the breeding zone.

This project is made possible through Engaging Science program funding from the Office of the Chief Scientist, Department of Environment and Science and provides local employment.

Frog Friendly property signs?

The endemic and critically endangered Kuranda Tree frog lives here and needs your help to ensure its protection. You can show your support with a FFP sign.

We are offering: a simple assessment form, receiving a site visit from Sylvia Conway to discuss any support, reveg etc. Email info@envirocare.org.au.



Plants over the Christmas break

A few native Christmas trees are still available. The nursery will be closed from 22 December 2023 to Friday 5 January 2024.

Shout out for any spare buckets

Has anyone got any unwanted old plaster buckets or paint pails. We need them for hand watering plants so they can be a bit rough and ready. We can come pick them up and tidy them up.

To our special friends – thank you for your donations

A big shout out to the Australian Bush Store and Small World Journeys for their generous donations to restoring wildlife habitat. And also to all those who round their tree purchases up by a few dollars. Every dollar counts! Please support those businesses that support us.

• Date Claimers •

Sunday 3 December – 4–8pm – Kuranda Envirocare Xmas break up BBQ – 19 Kullaroo Close. Cooked BBQ provided, vegetarian and gluten free options. Bring a plate of salad or a dessert to share. RSVP to 0419 624 940 for BBQ catering.

Monday 18–23 December – Monthly frog monitoring fun starts at new time 6.30pm. Check Facebook or text Sylvia on 0409 647 714 to join the group texts and emails.

We are the invasive resist-ants



Career Talk for Kuranda's Youth

Senior students who completed their Cert II in Conservation and Ecosystem Management from Kuranda District State College, attended a Career Pathways Talk Panel discussion on 4 October, which the Taskforce was invited to join, thanks to the Djabugay Bulmba Rangers.

Students have worked with us during some of their course modules learning about yellow crazy ant survey techniques, identification, and the stages of yellow crazy ant eradication. The Taskforce shared knowledge and information with the students about potential future pathways in this line of employment.

Also attending were speakers representing Djabugay Rangers, Queensland Parks and Wildlife, Biosecurity Queensland, Kuranda Envirocare, and Mareeba Shire Council.

Congratulations to the students who completed their course, keep up the clever work and we hope to see some of you in the field soon.



The Panel sharing our stories of the pathways we made and the best and worst things about our jobs.

Kuranda got blitzed for invasive ants

On 21–22 October weekend, Biosecurity Queensland's National Electric Ant Eradication Program joined forces with Wet Tropics Management Authority's Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program, Djabugay Bulmba Rangers, Kuranda Envirocare and the Taskforce to survey and yard check for both electric and yellow crazy ants in the Kuranda area.

Teams walked multiple kilometres on Kuranda's streets luring with sausage, cat food and jam to entice ants. A total of 32 yard checks were completed over the weekend and more were done on Monday. We had 25 participants on Saturday and 22 on Sunday. Six of which were Taskforce volunteers.

A big THANK YOU to the volunteers for coming out to protect our environment.

All the magnificent work completed on the weekend blitz found no new yellow crazy ant infestations and four new electric ant infestations. Two of which, were from yard checks that were registered from the publicity around the blitz and completed in the following days.

A great result from a great collaboration. See more on page 4 of this paper.

It is not too late to be a part of this blitz. Anyone can have their yard checked at any time, call 13 25 23 to book your free yard check.

Last Kuranda Tree frog Habitat Survey for 2023

Good news for the Kuranda Tree frog and all our other rainforest frogs of the Wet Tropics – no yellow crazy ants or electric ants were detected on the invasive ant survey last Saturday 11 November, and for that matter, in any of the KTF surveys from 2022–2023. We took various suspect invasive ant samples along the way, but they all fortunately came back negative.

We certainly had yet another fun and adventurous year of surveys with impressive results. This is our second year of monthly surveys with a total of 14 surveys complete and seven local creeks surveyed for both electric ants and yellow crazy ants.

Thank you to all the Taskforce volunteers who have given your time and energy, also a big shout out to the

Survey crew at Dismal Creek ready for the last survey of 2023.



wonderful property owners who have given permission for us to come out and look for invasive ants in your backyard. And Dei for looking after us with your delicious lunches from Sprout Café.

This was our last survey for 2023 as we take a few wet season months off. Splendid work everyone and I look forward to surveying with you again starting back in March 2024.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Koah Christmas Market

WHERE: Koah Hall, 322 Koah Rd, Koah
WHEN: Saturday 2 December — 8am–12pm

Kuranda Envirocare Christmas Party

WHERE: 19 Kullaroo Close, Kuranda
WHEN: Sunday 3 December — 4–8pm

Mareeba Christmas Market

WHERE: 1 Fenwick St, Mareeba
WHEN: Saturday 9 December — 9am–12pm

An Ants World – a look in the life of an ant

WHERE: Kuranda Recreation Centre, Fallon Rd, Kuranda
WHEN: February 2024. Date TBC.

Merry Christmas and see you in the new year.

Join the invasive resist-ants

 Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce
 communitytaskforce.org.au
 coordinator@communitytaskforce.org.au





Launch into the holidays!

Want to build rockets with a future astronaut?

Learn all about space and how to launch a rocket with Mareeba Shire Libraries resident rocket man these school holidays.

Budding astronaut Toby, one of four young Aussies who attended NASA space camp in the USA earlier this year, is eager to share his experience and knowledge with everyone and have some fun along the way.

Kuranda Library will be hosting **Rockets 101** – an all-ages rocket launching event on Thursday 4 January 2024 from 10.30am to 12 noon. Toby will talk about his time at NASA and teach you how to build and launch your own rocket.

Can't make it? – Chillagoe, Dimbulah and Mareeba libraries will also be hosting rocket launching events throughout the school holidays.

For further information, but more importantly to book your spot, please contact Kuranda Library on 4093 9185.

Do your kids suffer from summer slide?

Did you know a loss of learning occurs during the summer months when school is not in session? It's called the **summer slide**.

Research has shown there is a risk of lowered performance in Term 1 if children do not keep their minds engaged during the holiday break.

Kuranda Library can help kids retain their learning and return to school in the new year with accelerated literacy skills. Here's how:

1. Active brains: join the Kuranda Library reading challenge.
2. Beat the post-break fatigue: enjoy free library events and activities over the holidays such as our upcoming event Rockets 101.
3. Limit screen time: what better way to limit your kids screen time than with a good book?

Fun fact: kids who read during the summer break gain an average of one month of reading proficiency over their peers.

Book Review

Tea and Sugar Christmas Train by Jane Jolly and Robert Ingpen

Extract of publisher's blurb: A delightful, heart-warming story from the National Library of Australia that will intrigue, captivate, and introduce readers to a slice of the past. For 81 years, from 1915 to 1996, the Tea and Sugar Train travelled from Port Augusta to Kalgoorlie once a week. It serviced the settlements along the Nullarbor Plain, a 1050 km-long rail link. It was a lifeline to goods and services that were not available in these settlements. There are wonderful, sensitive illustrations, including a beautiful double fold-out image showing the shops inside all the carriages.

Imagine the isolation of the railway workers' kids, the indigenous kids and the farm kids... then imagine their most exciting event of the year. That's right, Santa is on the train giving out gifts as he travels along the line.

Author Jane Jolly sets the scene with the young girl waiting with so much anticipation for the train; her excitement is contagious. At times, the words on the page, similar to the clickety-clack of the train approaching, triggers a memory, almost like you to are also sitting at the station with the kids waiting for the train.

However, it is the gladness and appreciation of this special event that makes this book special for readers.

The crow, which appears throughout the story, serves as a reminder this is a harsh land and excitement is rare in such an isolated environment.


There is a great opportunity here to talk about how much some things have changed and some things that have simply stayed the same. The contrast between children's lives then and now couldn't be starker. However, it never ceases to be a reminder of our history and a reminder of the simple things that bring joy to our lives.

The detail is incredible and meticulously researched from old photos and journals so they would be historically accurate. The fold out page showing the shops is very realistic; you feel you could step inside and start shopping!

Did you know you can reserve books at the Kuranda Library? You can either visit the library or call us on 4093 9185 to reserve a copy of your favourite book.

There is also a selection of new Christmas picture books and board books available now.

Happy reading. *Helen B*



Next meet:
Thursday 11 January 2024
10am-12 noon
 to discuss what the new year will hold.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1253010558786902>
All welcome!

Well, the Kuranda Writers Group has wound up for 2023. There will be NO meet-up in December.

Thank you for all those that shared their stories and their support this year.

From crocodiles, to time, to imagining an ideal world, we have woven stories throughout the year to fabricate the heart that is the Kuranda Writers Group.

Meanwhile, we wish you all the gift of being in the zone/visited by a muse/ quiet time to write this festive season. See you all in 2024.

MAGIC SUN KYTE FLIES AGAIN



I wrote the *Magic Sun Kyte*, 48 years ago in India, on the coast of Goa, where I was living with my young family. My son Morgyn, the illustrator of the new edition, was a babe, only a few months old. I wrote it for Morgyn's brother Ben, who was about seven and his cousin Rachael who was with us at the time. Ben became Benzel and Rachael became Sonna – the heroes of the tale. I wanted to encourage them to read.

Now, 48 years later I am amazed that Morgyn has brought into the world this new edition, enlivened as it is by his artistry, the colourful brushwork of Ines Luisa and the graphic skills of Donna Gee.

This is a story for the young, the young at heart and all enjoying their second childhood. The perfect gift in everyone's stocking!

Morgyn and I welcome all to the launch of *Magic Sun Kyte*, on Saturday 9 December at 11am–12 noon at Frogs Restaurant in the Heritage Markets in Kuranda.

There will be book readings by accomplished thespians and a tantalising glimpse of the next adventure of the *Magic Sun Kyte* to be published next year.

To be sure of a place, please book with Frogs, or turn up anyway. Hoping to see you there.

Michael Quinn



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Common Ground

by Katelyn Jones

Davies Creek. Photo: Buluwai Digital Library/Steven Nowakowski

Mimu, a bright girl from Buluwai Country, would frolic through the open bushland of Davies Creek to find wildflowers and bush foods. Her mother and the women of her tribe would take Mimu on long journeys to find special bush medicine and food (ma:yee) for her people. Mimu loved being out with the women, sitting at sacred sites and taking in all the magic that nature had to offer. She would watch the seasons and cycles and soon came to learn how to read them, to know what ma:yee and medicines were available for collection. Mimu's name meant Water Lily, out of all the adventures she had in nature, Mimu loved finding wildflowers the most.

Mimu learnt how to commune with nature and feel all the subtle energies around her. She could sense the mountains, the wisdom of the ranges, and the energy of their Creation God (Buda:dji). Mimu and her people felt a great connection to the dreamtime that lay below in the earth (buruygan) and above in the sky (djilngarnda). Mimu would listen to the wind ('kujuru) and absorb the story of where it had been, she could sense when change was in the air. One early spring day Mimu felt a message in the breeze. 'kujuru began to whirl around her and whispered "pay attention sweet child, you are the placeholder for great change. Call on me to help you when it is time".

As soon as 'kujuru had swirled around her it was gone, sending little tornadoes of leaves off in the distance. These messages from nature were not uncommon for Mimu, but she could feel the echo of the wind's message as if it had sunk deep into her bones.

On their journey through the tall open forest, Mimu came across a field of wild strawflowers. In her culture strawflowers were a symbol of immortality. Strawflowers represented something that was always remembered. She somehow knew that the wind had guided her here, but why? Is there something that this moment held she needed to remember?

As Mimu explored the patch of flowers she began to stray from the group of women, she wasn't paying much attention to direction, rather in a deep process of exploration with the natural world. Mimu sensed a change in the energy around her and looked up, the open woodland began to thicken into rainforest, the plant life became denser as the greenery darkened. In her curious observation of the shift in ecotone, she saw there was a scar in the tree to her right, signifying she was no longer on Buluwai land, but had entered Djabugay country. Through the trees the wind carried the sound of children's laughter, Mimu knew the neighbouring tribe were not far from the border. In that moment she heard a loud cry from the women of her tribe behind her, so she ran, as fast

as her skinny legs could carry her back to her people. When Mimu finally arrived, she saw it was her mother who had been bitten by a red belly black snake (gurrumbun). Mimu knew if she did not think quickly her mother would not stand a chance from the gurrumbun's venomous encounter, as they were half a day's walk from their tribal medicine woman. Mimu remembered learning of the special medicine in the rainforest that could heal snake bites, so she took off again in search for help from the Djabugay people.

Mimu ran fast, retracing her steps past the strawflowers and past the scar tree. With no hesitation she entered the thick sea of green, following the sound of the Djabugay people's voices carried through the trees. She pushed through the dense rainforest, getting hung up by thorny vines (danba) that clung to her like a strong hand's grip. She relentlessly pushed forward to her unknown destination in search of help. Mimu came towards a clearing, it felt like a breath of fresh air to see the tribe all gathered. She pushed out of the thickening to expose her despair in a plea for medicine. As she emerged from the vine laden rainforest behind her, she was spotted, the men immediately gathered their spears ('kul:u) and aimed them at Mimu. The mothers grabbed the children, and all stared at Mimu with unwelcome eyes.

Mimu placed her arms skyward in a gesture of submission, and once they realised she was only one girl they lowered their 'kul:u and gestured her to explain her surprise arrival. Mimu did her best to explain with common words and storytelling gestures about her mother's dire situation. The Djabugay elders discussed between them and went to collect the tribal medicine woman. The woman who emerged was a blind elder with a white glaze that covered her eyes like a film. She had a presence about her, Mimu could see a faint glow encasing her body like she was covered in a moonbeam (keinden da).

The medicine women delicately collected some rainforest leaves, paperbark, and an animal bladder filled with water and gestured for Mimu to guide her to where her mother lay. Mimu swiftly retraced her steps with the old woman close behind following the sound of Mimus footsteps. Mimu passed the scar tree and when she turned to look back, she saw the medicine woman had stopped at the tree to murmur in her language something Mimu could not understand. Mimu thought this to be entrancing, the woman could not see but she could sense the border between two lands.

The old woman passed the scar tree and they headed towards the strawflowers. As they arrived in the small opening of tiny flowers the woman gestured for Mimu to get her mother, so she climbed over the small ridge to where the women were gathered around her mother. Mimu approached

the group yelling that she had medicine and to follow her. The women gathered up Mimu's mother and carried her to the strawflower patch where the medicine woman was grinding the herbs between two stones. The Buluwai women placed Mimu's mother down and the medicine woman placed the rich wet herbs directly onto the snake bite and covered it with paperbark. She sang in her language, and it was like the world stood still, there was magic in the air and Mimu could feel it. Yet she could sense the resistance in the other women, knowing this medicine woman was not of their clan group and they did not approve of her service.

In that moment, Mimu recalled the voice in the wind earlier that day, 'pay attention sweet child, you are the placeholder for great change. Call on me for help when it is time'. Mimu called with all her heart to 'kujuru to swirl around them, to shift the energy of the non-believers. She started singing a sacred song of healing, slowly the women began to join in. A chorus of divine voices rang, all entranced by the call of healing. In what felt like a glitch in time and space her mother then opened her eyes, the singing subsided and the medicine woman began to wash the bite wound with water. Mimu knew in that moment her mother had survived.

Mimu stood in front of her people and called for this patch of strawflowers to be remembered as common ground between her people of Buluwai country and the neighbouring Djabugay clan. Her grandmother, as an elder of the group, agreed and claimed this as new Lore. All the women together thanked the old medicine woman. Mimu and her grandmother returned to the Djabugay elders and made an offering to find the strawflowers as a safe location for trade and communication. From that day forward, all embraced this place as common ground.

Katelyn Jones is a creative writer, who for this fictional story, felt inspired by Buluwai and Djabugay Country and its people. Katelyn is a Kuranda local of 30 years, whose roots have grown deep into the place we all call home. As a non First Nations person, Katelyn appreciates the connections she gained through growing up in a close, mixed race community. She felt inspired as a child learning language names from Michael Quinn, a well known Djabugay language teacher in the area. As an adult, Katelyn feels passionate about Far North Queensland – she feels it is rich in symbolism and story, and finds consistent inspiration from the natural world. The language names in this story can be accessed in the Buluwai Indigenous Corporation language dictionary. Katelyn is grateful to currently reside on Buluwai land and pays her respects to First Nations custodians past, present and future.

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20 Thongon Street

Email: kurandabranh@qcwa.org.au

Booking Agent: Krishna Buhler 0427 937 348

President: Carol Jeanes

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

BIG TURN OUT FOR HIGH TEA



CWA organisers of the High Tea event. L-R: Sandra McCorry, Liza Soenario, Carol Jeanes, Vicki Donovan, Krishna Buhler, Jennifer Rooks and Sonja Soenario.

High Tea and 86th Birthday Celebrations

Our High Tea held on 18 November was a great success with over 50 guests in attendance. The High Tea was also a celebration for the Kuranda CWA's 86th birthday. It was a great social and community success. Special thanks to the event organising skills of Liza Soenario and her many helpers, who not only made cakes, but washed the dishes!

Thank you also to the fantastic entertainers including Sonja, the CWA Dance Group, Liza Soenario, and Rudi Homberger. Mayor Angela Toppin very generously donated a \$50 voucher for the Lucky Door Prize which was won by Kim Woodland. We also thank the many other donors who contributed the other raffle prizes which were cheerfully received on the day.

The event raised nearly \$1000 which will go towards maintaining the CWA Hall which is a priority at the moment.

Best wishes for a great Christmas and Happy New Year 2024 – we wish everyone a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Country Kitchens – Don't forget to check out all the healthy recipes on www.qcwacountrykitchens.com.au

CWA monthly Members' meeting – will be held on Wednesday 13 December 9–11am.

Social Gathering – Wednesday 20 December at 9am at the CWA Hall. All welcome for a Christmas themed social time.

WHAT'S ON AT THE CWA?

Contact the following hirers for any enquiries regarding their activities:

- Yoga in Rainforest – Aileen 0419 726 955
- Feldenkrais with Justine – 0408 735 309
- Taekwon-Do – Jeff 0437 438 196
- CWA Dance Group – Sandra 0447 737 415



Above: Cake cutting by Kuranda CWA President, Carol Jeanes and Mayor Angela Toppin – celebrating 86 years in Kuranda for the CWA.



Left: Rudi Homberger entertaining the guests playing his flute.

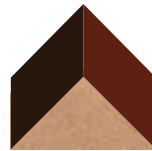
Hall Hire Available – The Kuranda CWA Hall is a venue close to the village with a large safe space, air conditioning, kitchen, toilets, furniture, disability access, professionally cleaned, parking, and flexible hire times. Also a cheaper smaller space for up to a 4-person activity along the front of the Hall.

We currently have hire availability on Mondays after 11am. Tuesdays 1pm–5pm. Wednesdays (except on 2nd and 3rd week for CWA meetings 8am–12pm) otherwise day free to 5pm. Thursdays until 5pm. Friday and Sunday all day at present. Most Saturdays all day. Please enquire as bookings can change.

Please note that the Hall is available for hire over the Christmas break. Contact Krishna on 0427937348 or email kurandabranh@qcwa.org.au

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Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC)

Operated by Kuranda Information & Support Centre Assoc. Inc.

6 Rob Veivers Drive, Kuranda
PO Box 170, Kuranda Qld 4881
4093 8933
manager@kurandanc.org.au

Christmas Closure Dates – KNC will be closed from 5pm Thursday 21 December 2023 and will re-open 9am Monday 8 January 2024. We would like to thank all community members and volunteers for their contributions to the Centre in 2023. Without these valued contributions (be it time, goods or other donations) KNC would be unable to operate as effectively within the Kuranda community. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you again in the new year.

The Nest Update – After our successful RADF grant application, local artist Tanique Brim, has designed and painted the outside of the NEST reflecting our local/resident curlew and Brush-turkey.



The new NEST mural by Tanique Brim

Deck Extension – The deck has been completed and is a relaxing outdoor area that can be booked by groups and utilised by staff and community.

AGM – KNC's 2023 AGM will held on **FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER 2023 at 1pm**. All welcome. Please use side entrance as front entrance of Centre will be closed

Community Garden – If you are interested in helping or contributing to the Community Garden please drop in and see either Koa or Lunar.

Mahjong – The group meets at the Centre on a Wednesday from 1-4pm. Beginners and new members welcome.

Furniture Exchange – Our furniture exchange is run by Centre staff and our amazing volunteers Zac and Terry. The aim of the program is to regift unwanted furniture to others in community. Please call the Centre to donate or to be added to the furniture wanted list. PLEASE do not leave items at the Centre as we often have to pay for dumping if the item cannot be regifted. Please no electrical items.

Street Pantry – Thank you to all community members who donate to the food pantry we appreciate your contribution.

Staffing –

Family Support Worker – We are still looking for a Family Support Worker to join our team. If you are qualified and have had previous experience, please contact Heidi at the Centre for a job description and selection criteria. The position is also advertised on SEEK.

We say goodbye to Louise Gilmour and Cathy Billam who are both retiring in December after many years of tireless work for KNC. We will miss them both and are truly grateful for their commitment and contributions they have made to the Centre over the years.

We welcome Jan Boag our new bookkeeper to the team who started in November.

Holiday key crisis and contact numbers:

Emergency	000	Homeless Hotline	1800 474 753
Kids Helpline	1800 551 800	Headspace	1800 650 890
Mensline	1300 789 978	Lifeline	131 114
Suicide Call Back	1300 659 467	DVConnect Womensline	1800 811 811
Beyond Blue	1300 224 636	DVConnect Mensline	1800 600 636

MAH JONG

New members and beginners are welcomed at the Mah Jong group in 2024. Wednesday afternoons 1-4pm Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre.

Come along to learn and enjoy a shared afternoon tea.



RSL
Kuranda Sub Branch

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023



Photos: Steven Nowakowski

Graham Fowler



Coke Joffray



Daryl Douglass (left) and Jerry Nowakowski (right)



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Kuranda Kindy




Djirri nyurra yaluguli? How are you today?

We have had such a great year here at the Kuranda Community Kindergarten and we've had so many wonderful learning opportunities.

The Djama and Bundarra children have been so lucky to spend time each week with Ms Taha learning about Djabugay language and culture. Dancing, singing, acting, painting and weaving have all been part of her playful learning experiences. Most recently we have created some language books together. We can read these books at Kindy, and send them home with families so that children can show their parents what they have learned.

Creating curiosity and interest in the world is an important part of our learning program. We have explored many languages during the year including Japanese, Thai, French, Maltese and German. We have even had parents come in and read books in Djabugay, Thai, French, German and Japanese. The children have really enjoyed this opportunity.

John Moriarty Foundation soccer with Bruno and the coaches has been an exciting part of our week. The children have been building their gross-motor skills and learning hand-eye-coordination, team work and listening skills, all while playing fun ball games with friends.

Our visits to the Kuranda Library have been an enriching part of our program. These visits to our library are turned into a small adventure for the children. Peta and Meg always have a fun book, song and craft activity ready for the children.

Our excursions to the Kuranda District State College (KDSC) are our big adventures. Many of the children experience catching a bus for the first time. Going to Under 8's Day and visiting Miss Kiera and her beautiful Prep classroom have helped the children to build their confidence.

I would also like to thank our wonderful committee for all their support this year. Thank you Donna, Tania and Inyika. Thank you also to Sarah and Jini for helping keep our gardens beautiful, and Megan for bringing in wildlife and enriching the children's science knowledge. Thank you to Ditto, Cool Kids First Aid, Tiny Towns Road Safety and Kuranda Fire Brigade who have all visited the Kindy kids throughout the year and helped make their days so much fun and taught safety at the same time. Thank you to *The Kuranda Paper* also for letting the community know how great our Kindy is!

Lastly, a big thank you to everyone who has helped to support our community Kindy and create lasting memories for the Kuranda Kindy children in 2023. We look forward to another wonderful year in 2024!

We invite any families who would like to be a part of our beautiful Kindy next year to come down and have a



Top: Djabugay culture lessons with Ms Taha.

Above: Soccer with John Moriarty Foundation

Below: Kindy kids visiting Prep at KDSC.



look, enrol your child and see how passionate we are about Kuranda Community Kindergarten. Please contact us on kcca@westnet.com.au or 07 4093 8087 for any enrolment enquiries.

Kindergarten in 2024 is FREE at Kuranda Kindy for eligible aged children!

Astrology

THE STARS IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

by
ROB HART

Resident Astrologer & Tarot Card Reader
Kuranda Heritage Markets
4093 0218 or 0499 548 456

With Sun, Mercury and Mars in Sagittarius as December begins, there is a positive view of the 'big picture' – expansive, optimistic and very conducive to travel and study, but could also lean towards extravagance "can't really afford this but WTF, let's indulge". You might as well if you're feeling lucky, go ahead.

Mercury then moves quickly into Capricorn and THAT certainly puts a practical, 'sensible' perspective into the situation, hmmm. But Venus then crosses into Scorpio on 5 December and passions are aroused with very little concerned for the practical handbrake. Now it's – "what do I feel passionate about? Let's do it, enjoy it and make pleasure our goal."

Right on the new moon on 13 December, Mercury goes retrograde, backing off and letting the Scorpio lunar cycle begin – more intensity and passion overwhelming the practical considerations. Go fishing, if that's your thing on 17 December and watch for the flying fish. It's a Sun, Neptune, Pisces, Sagittarian thing, with a rising Aquarian moon. Just saying... there's a good chance of jaggging anything you're angling for anywhere "river deep, mountain high".

Then comes the summer solstice on 22 December. The Sun enters Capricorn and begins its journey north again with a rising Taurus Moon exactly in trine to the solstice Sun. Very grounding and setting the scene for the next few months, focusing on things very practical and growth-orientated. Good time for a long-term investment you would think, with a view to steady growth. Jupiter and Uranus still retrograde in Taurus. Slowly, slowly. Play the long game here.

By the end of the month, with a full moon in Cancer the seeds have been sown, the delights of travel start to build again and the urge to fly, to break free and to chase the adventure into the unknown is almost irresistible. Mutable fire (Mars/Sagittarius) and water (Neptune/Pisces) on the move.

And then it's 2024. Sun and Pluto in Capricorn trying to put a lid on, but with three planets, Mercury, Venus and Mars still in Sagittarius, good luck with that! A highflying start to the year with Mars pointed right at the galactic centre, there is an incredible surge of energy to fly high. Spread the good news and love the journey, with the promise of safe landings as Mars joins Sun and Pluto in Capricorn, and coming into a harmonious aspect with Jupiter and Uranus in the earth signs. A nice start to the year you would think with our earthly affairs becoming more settled.

With Mercury and Venus also entering Capricorn, we have on the Capricorn new moon on 11 January the beginning of a period with five planets in Capricorn. Then Pluto crosses into Aquarius and that should really settle world affairs and bring a sense of 'playing by the rules'.

And a full moon in Leo on 'Australia Day' might give us reasons to be proud of our nation for the best reasons.

Blessings





RANGERS report

The Kuranda Rangers would like to thank the Kuranda community for all of the support throughout 2023. In particular we'd like to thank our wonderful coaches, managers and parents – there would be no Club without you.

It's been a big year and our players have done really well and further developed their skills and friendships. We hope to see you all back for another fantastic season.

Keep your eye on the Kuranda Rangers Facebook page for updates and 2024 season news, including when and how to register players through the Squadi app.

We're looking forward to another successful season in 2024 and welcoming all current and new players to the beautiful game.

Enquiries: email play@kurandarangers.football

New Club contact for 2024:

Keira Nash 0437 778 849 or via our Facebook page.



Merry Christmas from everyone at the Kuranda Rangers!

FREE EVENT

MOVE IT AQUA CLASSES

Join us for sessions at the Mareeba, Dimbulah or Kuranda Swimming pool.

Start date: 9 October 2023
End Date: 10 April 2024

See website for session information.



This activity is supported by North Queensland PHN.

FREE AQUA CLASSES FOR SENIORS

Mareeba Shire Council invites senior residents to get moving and grooving at free *Move It Aqua Classes* starting next month at a pool near you.

Hosted at the Dimbulah, Mareeba and Kuranda swimming pools, the FREE fitness classes commenced on 9 October and will run until April 2024.

Enjoy a variety of fun exercises promoting strength, flexibility, and cardio during the Variety Sessions and promote movement in your joints, enhance your core and improve your balance at the Easy Sessions.

Mareeba Shire Mayor Angela Toppin encourages the community to participate.

"Council's *Move It Aqua Classes* are a fantastic way to get your body moving in a fun and energetic environment while socialising with peers," Mayor Angela Toppin said.

Sessions are limited to groups of 15 per class and bookings are recommended, but not required.

Bookings can be made by email to moveitaqua@mcsf.com.au or call 4092 1691.

Please bring along your swimmers, a towel and water bottle. All other equipment will be supplied.

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KURANDA HORSE & PONY CLUB NEWS

ROOM FOR HIRE

The Club has an air conditioned room available for casual hire at great rates. It would suit a variety of uses e.g. meeting room, massage or yoga classes. If you are interested in viewing the space or need any more information please email kurandahpc@gmail.com

Keep up to date with what is happening at the Club on our Facebook page. If you have your own horse and would like to join the Pony Club in 2023, contact us for more information by email at kurandahpc@gmail.com or via our Facebook page.

Till next time, Happy Riding! Di Curtis, Club Instructor

WAYGAL-A-GALING BUWAL-WU

Going looking for words



The Bama (people) of this area (bulmba) shared a common ngirrma, language.

The Djabuganydji, Bulwanydji, Nyagali, Yirrganydji and Gulunydji have lived here for millennia. The Djabuganydji called it Djabugay. The Bulwanydji called it Bulway. The Yirrganydji on the coast called it Yirrgay. The 'ay' sound at the end of these words sounds like the archaic English word 'aye' for yes.

Some of their stories go way back in time. The Djabuganydji

believe that once their hunting grounds stretched to the Barrier Reef. At the end of the last ice age there was a rise in sea-level that pushed the people back inland and created the present shoreline. Nowhere else in the world have people been able to reside continuously in one place for so long, passing on their stories to the present day.

The actual word 'bulmba' has many meanings: home, camping ground, territory, the weather and the authority of

the elders, upholders of the Law. This bulmba is constantly changing, depending on the time of the year, the season and the weather.

Thanks to the Bulmba Rangers for help with selection of wordsearch words and to the Djabugay Tribal Aboriginal Corporations for their work in preserving the area's linguistic inheritance.

Michael Quinn



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



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 BIRINY
 BIRRM BIRR
 BUBUN
 BUGAN
 BULNGAN
 BURRWURR
 DILGAN
 DURU
 DJALMBA
 DJANDJA
 DJINDJIM
 DJULBIN
 DJULGIL
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 GABIDJIN
 GALBAL
 GAMBARR
 GULBUL
 GULBUNDJI
 GUMBU
 GUYAN
 MANDAL
 MALAN
 MARRGA
 MULAM
 NGAMUN
 NGUDAA
 NYUMBA
 WALBA
 WARABA
 WAYWAY
 WUBA
 WURAN
 WURUU
 YALMBA
 YALNYDJI
 YARRBI
 YIRRIY

WORD MEANINGS

BANA: water, fresh water. *Bana wungan! Drink water!*

BIRINY: salt-water. *Gari biriny wungan! Don't drink salt-water!*

BIRRM BIRR: snot, nasal mucous. *Nyurran guu birrmbirri. Your nose is snotty.*

BUBUN: a spring of fresh water. *Bana garrang bulngan-mu, bubun-mu. Water coming from the ground, from a spring.*

BUGAN: charcoal, used as a pigment.

BULNGAN: the ground, earth, soil. *Nyinan bulngan-da! Sit on the ground!*

BURRWURR: gravel.

DILGAN: Dog excrement. *Gari djanan dilgan-da! Don't stand in the dog poo! Magarri nyurran gurraa-n dilgan! Pick up your dog's poo!*

DURU: tear/tears. *Duru wandang djili-m. Tears falling from the eyes.*

DJALMBA: foam/beer. *Djalmba ganaa Dindin-da. Foam under the waterfall.*

DJANDJA: excrement, human and other.

DJINDJIM: dew. *Djindjim wunang bulngan-da. Dew is lying on the ground.*

DJULBIN: tree, trees, wood. *Gari guni gulu djulbin. Don't cut this tree.*

DJULGIL: resin, gum, from kauri species and evodia, for making artifacts. Sinews from a pademelon's tail used for binding spear to shaft.

GABA: white clay for pigment *Nganya bulba gaba. Rub white clay on me.*

GABIDJIN: mud. *Nyurran gambi gabidjin-dji. Your clothes are muddy.*

GALBAL: blood. *Galbal barring guu-malim. Blood flowing from the nose.*

GAMBARR: mist. *Bunda gambarr-i. Misty mountain.*

GULBUL: The sea. *Nganydji yungang gulbul-nda. We're swimming in the sea.*

GULBUNDJI: having a period i.e. with gulbun, menstrual blood.

GUMBU: urine. *Gari gumbu djurran gulun! Don't pee here!*

GUYAN: quartz crystal, hailstone. Crystals are described as "clever stones"

MANDAL: gum from Bulnyan, Black boy, Grass tree. The gum is used as a red dye and as a glue for bonding axe-heads to hafts. It is burned to chase away spirits and thunderstorms.

MALAN: a flat rock

MARRGA: yellow ochre. *Ngawu gidjarr gundal marrga. I'm painting using yellow ochre.*

MULAM: gravy, soup, juice. *Nyurran mulam wungan! Drink your soup!*

NGAMUN: breast/breastmilk. *Ngama-nggu barndil-ngunda gulnggal ngamun. Mother feed the baby breastmilk.*

NGUDAA: cloud. *Ngudaa gurilanggan djin.gal-nda. Beautiful clouds in the sky.*

NYUMBA: spit. *Gari nyumba daban! Don't spit!*

WALBA: rock, stone/money. *Ngayanda walba waan! Give me money.*

WARABA: creek. *Gulu waraba guyngganydji. This creek is haunted.*

WAYWAY: breath. *Wayway nambiyin! Hold your breath!*

WUBA: red ochre.

WURAN: steam. *Ngawu wuran ngundany magayiya waraba-m. I saw steam rising from the creek.*

WURUU: river. *Wurru djunggang bunda-m, gulbul-nda. River runs from the mountain to the sea.*

YALMBA: flat. *Bulmba yalmba. Flat country.*

YALNYDJI: a cliff. *Gari djanan guriguri yalnydji-la! Don't stand on top of the cliff. Nyurra wanda-yabi. In case you fall.*

YARRBI: basalt, ironstone used in an earthoven a bayngga.

YIRRIY: granite

DJABUGAY

A guide to the pronunciation of Djabugay words

Vowel Sounds

/a/ is pronounced as the vowel in the (English) words "some, "come" e.g. **bama** (person)
 /a:/ is pronounced like the /a/ sound in "father" but longer e.g. **buda:dji** (carpet snake)
 /i/ is pronounced like the /i/ in the word "bin" e.g. **bina** (ear)
 /i:/ the vowel sound is lengthened and pronounced like the vowel sound in "heat", "beat", "feet" e.g. **biri:** (again)
 /u/ is pronounced as the vowel sound in the English word "book" e.g. **mu**du (back)
 /u:/ the vowel is lengthened and pronounced as the vowel sound in the words "good", "tool", "rule" e.g. **djungguu:** (behind)

Consonants

/dj/ The sound is like a /d/ and a /j/ pronounced simultaneously e.g. **djulbin** (tree)
 /g/ is pronounced as in the word "gun" e.g. **gindan** (moon)
 /rr/ a trilled, or rolled /r/ as in Scottish pronunciation of the word "sporran" e.g. **burra-y** (to fly)
 /r/ as in the American pronunciation of /r/ in car e.g. **biri** (fire)

/ny/ is like the initial /n/ in onion, like an /n/ and a /y/ pronounced simultaneously e.g. **nyurra** (you)
 /ng/ as in the word "singer" e.g. **bungan** (sun)
 /n.g/ when you see the n.g broken by a stop do not run the two sounds together e.g. **djin.gal** (sky)
 /ngg/ is pronounced as the ng sound in the word "finger" e.g. **nyinggarra** (eel)
 /ay/ is generally pronounced as in the English word "eye" e.g. **Djabugay**

Stress

When saying Djabugay words which syllables should we stress?

In words of two syllables, the first syllable is stressed e.g. **bina** (ear).
 In words of three syllables, the first syllable is stressed e.g. **gan**yarra (crocodile).
 However, if a long vowel occurs in the second syllable of a word of three syllables, it is stressed e.g. **buda:**dji (carpet snake).
 In words with more than three syllables, stress falls on the first syllable and on the syllable before the last one e.g. **gan**yarra – **nggu** (crocodile).

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

LANGUAGE CLASSES

Wednesday evenings 6-8pm

Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation

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



NEW RANGER POSITIONS FOR DJABUGAY BULMBA RANGERS

This time last year the Djabugay Bulmba Rangers began a process of talking with their Elders and key partners. We prioritised the activities we thought were achievable over the coming three years and developed a new strategic plan.

Twelve months on we have achieved our highest priority. Our efforts have seen 26 new positions for Djabugay people within the corporation.

Michelle Wenden, Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation Operations Manager said, "On behalf of our Elders and our board, we are excited to announce that we were successful in our application to the Queensland Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger program and have been granted two new Ranger positions. We were one of only two Ranger groups across FNQ who were granted new positions and we plan to use them to increase our female Ranger numbers."

However, it's another program that has created an even bigger stir than that news. Ms Wenden said, "Earlier this year, our team started talking about how we might realise the employment and training objectives that were laid out in our strategic plan. We started talking with our local TRACQS team, the Many Rivers team and with staff from DESBT about how we might utilise a whole range of programs to develop an employment and training pathway for our people."

"The attraction of working with mob on Country was immediate and the response has been overwhelming. The program has now been going for two months with individuals now starting to identify where their particular interests may lie in future career paths."

Ms Wenden reiterated, "We want this to be a pathway into real jobs, so we have been focusing on two outcomes. The first is working closely with partners like Department of Environment and Science, Mareeba Shire Council, Skyrail and others to talk about what that might look like in their businesses, but more exciting is the work happening to develop business enterprises with our own corporation. More to come so watch this space."

Another priority project is working closely with our neighbouring mobs to promote the idea that we needed to care much better for our Country. The result is a large region-wide project, "Building a fire resilient wet tropics bioregion", funded by WWF-A (Worldwide Fund for Nature Australia) and including five other indigenous groups between Bloomfield and Innisfail and Firesticks Alliance.

Mr Dennis Hunter, Regional Coordinator for the project said, "The aim of this project is to re-engage Traditional Owners and Ranger Groups with the knowledge, skills and practices associated with using cultural burning on their Country. But more than that, we want to encourage each of the groups to consider the special places on Country or maybe those species that need specific fire at the right time."

WWF is supportive of the Traditional Owners revitalising these skills and showing that in a world impacted by climate change, getting right fire back on the drier woodlands

and forests they will provide a buffer to fire getting into our rainforests and maintain the mosaic of habitat supporting our wonderful biodiversity.

Left: Leonie Baird Ranger trainee practising her photography skills.

Djabugay Ranger trainees learning tractor skills with Dameon Hunter.



LANGUAGE GRANTS AND LANGUAGE APP IN PROGRESS

Djabugay have two new Language grants and a Language App in progress.

This year we have received two language grants that will be used to renew and create new resources for Djabugay language speakers and those wanting to start to learn Djabugay.

The first is the Priority Languages Support Project grant from First Languages Australia. This grant is being used to support the renewal of two language text books previously written by Michael Quinn and Roy Banning over 30 years ago – *Djabugay Ngirrma Gulu (Djabugay Language Here)* and *Nganydjin Ngirrma Djabugay (Our Language Djabugay)*.

The second grant is the Indigenous Languages Grant from the Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts. This grant is funding the production of a new Djabugay resource, the "Ngirrma Djabugay Teaching Kit: Stage 1". This resource will be a comprehensive guide for teaching and learning the Djabugay language and will be the first stage of what will eventually be a three-tiered level learning package. These exciting projects are due for completion in 2024.

Once complete, we will also be able to use these resources with our community Language Classes currently held at Nyuwarri Estate – 1496 Kennedy Highway in Kuranda at 6-8pm on Wednesday nights during the school terms.

Dennis Hunter, our Cultural Development Officer, is in the middle of implementing a Djabugay app working in partnership with Skyrail. The app will be giving national and international visitors a background about Djabugay Country and its stories when travelling on Skyrail from Smithfield to Kuranda. These stories will be spoken in Djabugay language and translated into English. We are very excited to share these stories with our visitors for many years to come.



Djabugay Ranger trainees learning language with Micheal Quinn and Dennis Hunter on Cultural Tuesdays.

NOTICE OF

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) OF DJABUGAY NATIVE TITLE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

DNTAC

DATE: SUNDAY JAN 21ST 2024
TIME: 10AM
VENUE: NYUWARRI ESTATE, 1496 KENNEDY HWY. KURANDA
RSVP: OFFICE@DJABUGAY.ORG.AU
P: 07 4093 8116



NOTICE OF

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) OF DJABUGAY CORPORATIONS

DTAC BUDA:DJI

DATE: MONDAY JAN 22ND 2024
TIME: 6 PM
VENUE: NYUWARRI ESTATE, 1496 KENNEDY HWY. KURANDA
RSVP: OFFICE@DJABUGAY.ORG.AU
P: 07 4093 8116



seedsavers

Protecting our inter-generational food-plant seeds

Galangal

Many South-East Asian countries' traditional cooking includes the lovely spicy, aromatic, pungent and gingery taste of galangal. The plant has been cultivated for thousands of years, making its way around the world's spice trails. It grows very well in the tropics and is an excellent producer of the peppery root corms and also provides lots of 'chop and drop' biomass for mulching your garden.

Although most gardeners grow galangal by separating the corms and replanting, the plants also have beautiful flowers and seed-heads, and can be grown from seed as well, plant seeds after the last frost.

They are hardy and can be very useful to plant in new swales, on ridges, and in between fruit trees in permaculture and syntropic systems or along edges as barriers or privacy foliage. The plant itself has a delightfully fresh zingy aroma making harvest time a lovely sensory experience.

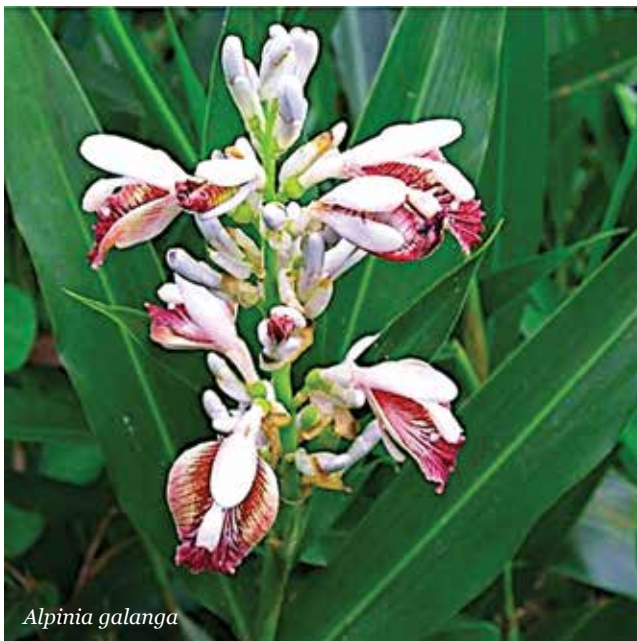
Galangal is in the Zingiberaceae (ginger) family. Some varieties include *Alpinia galanga*, *Alpinia officinarum* and *Alpinia nigra*. We also have native versions here, such as *Alpinia caerulea* and *Alpinia arundelliana*.

Galangal is renowned as an anthelmintic (expels parasites/intestinal worms), anti-inflammatory, analgesic, and has many other medicinal qualities which extractive pharmaceutical industry scientists are working hard to isolate and find many uses for...and it grows so very easily in our gardens! Perhaps grating some in to a morning cuppa, lunch-time salad or our evening curry meal can 'cut out the middle man' and keep a zing in our step...there are lots of recipes for many kinds of sweet, or savoury, spicy foods to explore!

The galangal rhizome can be tougher than that of ginger. It is a good idea to mulch around your plants so it is not too hard to dig roots out, or harvest after a good watering, or when the rains set in. The roots can be damaged by sitting in too much water so have them growing in a well-drained area. Harvest as needed, or store, unpeeled, or for longer storage you can peel and freeze. When harvesting cut the stalks and save for mulch, right back to just a couple of inches from the ground, loosen the roots with a garden-fork or shovel, and dig up the corms, shake off the soil, soak and clean, ready to use.



Galangal root



Alpinia galanga

Galangal has a lovely aromatic flower and many people grow the plant for this, cutting the flowers for their vases or floral bunches. The flowers are pollinated by bees, birds and bats, bringing more biodiversity to your surroundings. The leaves are also an attractive elongated blade-like shape and quite often join the blooms in an arrangement. Many of the flowers and berries are edible, including the gorgeous purple-blue berries on the native galangal (separate the corms and grow more), check out information on the Alpinias you are growing.

So another beautiful, hardy, useful plant for the garden or farm, and with the many delicious recipes that can be made for jams, sauces, pickles, ferments, drinks, meals and snacks, as well as the medicinal qualities of this plant, why not add galangal to your collection?

Many thanks to all who have attended our seedsavers meetings this year, and to all who have grown food plants from true seed, and then brought their organically-grown heritage and heirloom seeds (non-hybrid/non-gmo) to our local seedbank. Much gratitude also to all our wonderful hosts – we have all been inspired in so many ways, learned so much and shared many plants, cuttings, seeds, and stories, and how are those seedsavers lunches? We also thank seedsavers for being a very responsible and intelligent bunch, tending to look after our local soils and waterways and natural environment, and to share our abundance with others.

Thanks and Salutations to all at *The Kuranda Paper*, enjoy your very well deserved summer break 'rest', and see you in the 'new year'.

Contact seedsavers@kurandaregion.org for information on seedsavers meetings – including a pre-solstice gathering with our favourite solstice faerie on 17 December.

Visit kuranda.tv (on Youtube) for local videos on seedsavers, syntropics, permaculture and much more.

Thank you Lisa

RENOVATORS BE WARY

Each November Australia's Asbestos Education Committee focuses on saving the lives of everyday Australians who might risk disturbing asbestos when renovating older homes. With the annual death toll from asbestos-related diseases exceeding 4,000 and predicted to rise, it's vital that every Australian homeowner understands where asbestos might be lurking in their home and what to do to manage it safely.

What most don't know is that asbestos could be anywhere in any home built before 1990 including brick, fibro, weatherboard, clad homes, apartments or sheds because it was used in the manufacture of more than 3000 building and decorator products, not just fibro sheeting.

Asbestos could be lurking under floor coverings including carpets, linoleum and vinyl tiles, behind wall and floor tiles, in cement floors, internal and external walls, ceilings and ceiling space (insulation), eaves, roofs, around hot water pipes, fences, home extensions, garages, outdoor toilets, backyard and farm structures, chook sheds and even dog kennels.

The fear is that with the popularity of renovating

continuing to soar, if property owners aren't aware of potentially deadly asbestos lurking within 1-in-every-3 homes, and if asbestos is disturbed during renovation, demolition or maintenance, homeowners could be risking their lives and the lives of their loved ones.

Visit www.asbestosawareness.com.au to learn what to look for and what to do to ensure asbestos is managed safely in line with government regulations. The first rule is, if you think a product may contain asbestos, treat it as if it is asbestos and take all the necessary precautions starting with having the property inspected by an occupational hygienist or a licenced asbestos assessor.

Remember, a regular building inspection does not test for asbestos! And if asbestos is confirmed, property owners should only use licenced asbestos removalists to ensure they protect themselves and their families because it's not worth the risk!

Source: *Asbestos Awareness Education Committee*
www.asbestosawareness.com.au

KURANDA.TV



home grown
community media

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

After calling out (and calling out, and calling out) for a kind soul to donate a laptop for kuranda.tv to use in recording for our YouTube channel, TWO kind souls made our dream come true. Thank you Simone and Barry—now settled in WA—for your generous donation. The laptop will be well used.

Lisa and I recently used it at a Koah Hall film night and the speed and reliability is so appreciated.

Jo Martin



Lisa and Jo from kuranda.tv with the much appreciated laptop donation. Visit kuranda.tv for Youtube for lots of great local content.



Kuranda Media
ASSOCIATION

KURANDA MEDIA ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4pm Tuesday 12 December 2023

The Kuranda Paper office

Shop 2, Red House Arcade, 24 Coondoo St, Kuranda.

Annual Memberships \$10.

Applications for membership to
mail@kurandapaper.com

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

ST SAVIOUR'S KURANDA

SUNDAY

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Sung Eucharist
5pm Evening Prayer
6pm Carol Service 17 December

TUESDAY

9am Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

Sunday 17 December – 6pm Carol Service

CHRISTMAS EVE – Sunday 24 December
7.30pm Carols by Candlelight for children with mums and dads plus Holy Communion.

CHRISTMAS DAY – Monday 25 December
8.30am Christmas Family Communion

Sunday 31 December
9.30am New Years Day Service

ACTIVITIES

Home Groups
Alpha
A Life Worth Living
Sunday School

POSSUM CORNER OP SHOP

8.30am to 12.30pm Monday to Saturday
Closed Saturday 23 December to Monday 8 January



ST CHRISTOPHER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Serviced by the Northern Beaches Parish

Sunday Mass: 5pm
Wednesday Mass: 6pm

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E | northernbeaches.parish@cairns.catholic.org.au
W | cairns.catholic.org.au/parishes/northern-beaches



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Seventh-day Adventist Church

Wirramoo Street, Kuranda

Services held every Saturday
ALL WELCOME

Sabbath School (all ages) 9.30am
Divine Service 11am

St Saviour's Thought for Christmas

Three children playing the part of the wise men in the Christmas story brought their gifts. The first walked up to the crib and said loudly – 'Here is a bag of gold.' The second one said, 'There's some myrrh for you.' The third one said, 'And Frank sent this.'

The Christmas story is one which all of us, whether young or old, only ever understand a little. Christmas is meant to be enjoyed. It is a time of good news. It is about God showing us how much we loved as human beings. It is a time for us to show to others how much we love them. And when we do this, in some small way we show something of how we love God.

Christmas is God's way of showing us that he loves us without conditions. Yet in a funny kind of way we think that the only way we can be loved by God is if we please God in some way or another. I like the story of the angel walking down the street carrying a burning torch of fire in one hand, and a bucket of water in the other. A woman asked, 'What are you going to do with the torch and the bucket?' The angel said, 'With the torch, I'm going to burn down mansions of heaven, and with the bucket I am going to put out the fires of hell. Then we shall really see who loves God.'

What God offers us is the free gift of love. This is sometimes called grace. Grace demands nothing of us, and makes no conditions at all. But when we discover how to receive grace, it empowers people who really love and trust God. If we choose not to receive grace, God's love, we are really missing something.

Earlier this year a friend of mine died. She loved singing,

but she was tone deaf. At her funeral it was said, that when we get to heaven, we will not notice how she sings out of tune. Her singing will not have changed; it will be our hearing, for we will hear the song that God has heard her singing all the time.

Christianity is not about singing in tune. It is not even about getting it right, or winning or losing. It is hearing the sweetest song you have ever heard, like tasting the best food you have ever had; or smelling the sweetest fragrance. It is about hearing God say 'I love you', and saying 'Yes' – I want some more of that.'

Christmas is God's way of showing us that he loves us.

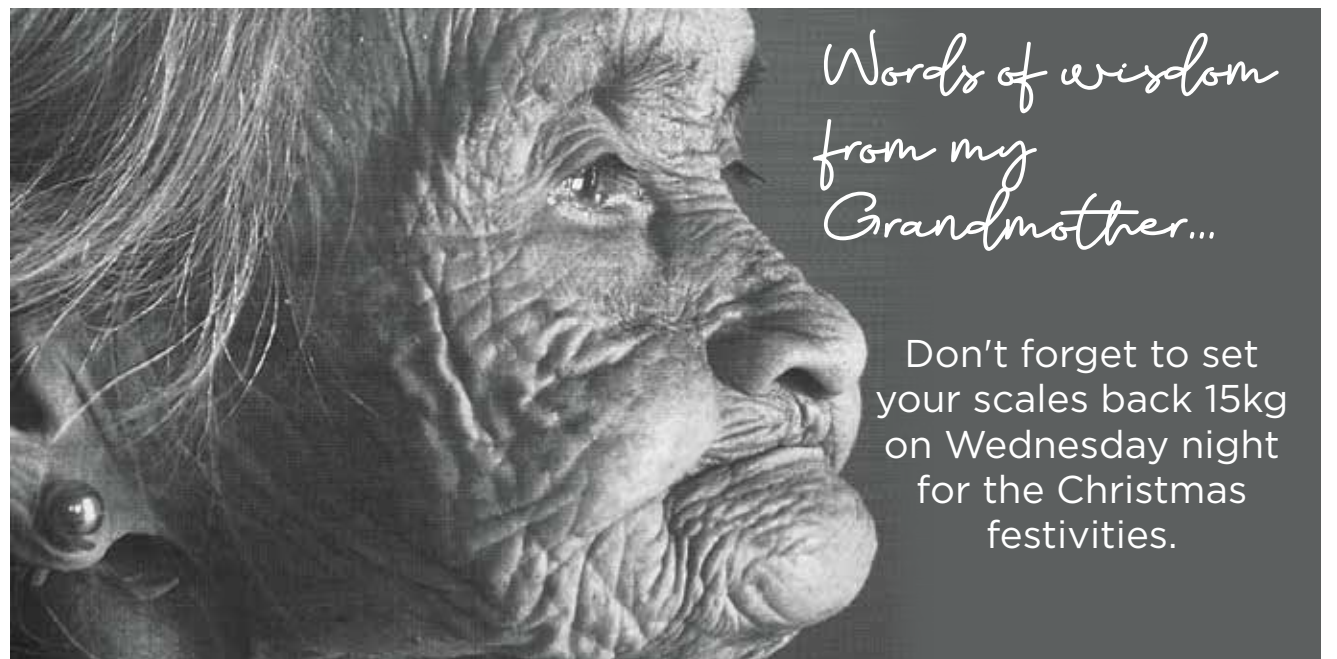
News from St Saviour's

Christmas is coming and there are lots of preparations coming on at St Saviour's for the Christmas Services.

On Sunday 17 December we are holding our Carols Service at 6pm. On Christmas Eve, Sunday 24 December, there will be Carols by Candlelight for children with mums and dads with Holy Communion at 7.30pm. On Monday 25 December, there will be the Christmas Day family service at 8.30am.



Enquiries to Chris Wright
Phone: 4093 8735
Email: wrightc@iig.com.au



Words of wisdom
from my
Grandmother...

Don't forget to set
your scales back 15kg
on Wednesday night
for the Christmas
festivities.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH FROM THE BAHAI FAITH

"Sixty years ago His Holiness Bahá'u'lláh was in Iran. Seventy years ago* His Holiness the Báb appeared there. These two blessed souls devoted their lives to the foundation of international peace and love among mankind. They strove with heart and soul to establish the teachings by which divergent people might be brought together and no strife, rancor or hatred prevail.

His Holiness Bahá'u'lláh addressing all humanity, said that Adam the parent of mankind may be likened to the tree of nativity upon which you are the leaves and blossoms. Inasmuch as your origin was one, you must now be united and agreed; you must consort with each other in joy and fragrance. He pronounced prejudice, whether religious, racial, patriotic, political, the destroyer of the body-politic. He said that man must recognise the oneness of humanity, for all in origin belong to the same household and all are servants of the same God. Therefore mankind must continue

in the state of fellowship and love, emulating the institutions of God and turning away from satanic promptings, for the divine bestowals bring forth unity and agreement whereas satanic leadings induce hatred and war."

(Abdu'l-Baha) *1844

Meditations/Reflections: all welcome to meditations on the sacred writings of the great religions, also discussion evenings, by arrangement.

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

Study Circles: are available in Kuranda and elsewhere, open to all interested, no cost..

Also regular events in Kuranda, Mareeba and elsewhere on the Tablelands and beyond. Open for all those interested.

All enquiries welcome.

0419 632 286 | 4093 9571 | bahai.org.au
The Bahai Community of Mareeba/Kuranda

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Gift wrapping is always offered with any purchase at Just Gorgeous. Open everyday for your local shopping convenience.

Guitar Lessons. Long-time local offering guitar lessons. Beginners to intermediate players. Blue Card. Dave Breeze 0404 290 060.

FREE Aqua Classes for Seniors. Running until April 2024. Bookings can be made by calling 4092 1691 or moveitaqua@mcsf.com.au

Free friendly helpful service with no pressure to buy. Just Gorgeous open daily 10am-3pm. Thanks for your support.

Join our Pilates & Fitness classes in Kuranda. We also offer Personal Training. Call 0415 559 722 fnqpilatesandfitness.com.au

Marriage Celebrant - Cheryl Tonkin. Local, regional & remote. Phone 0407 670 954

Mum's n Bub's Yoga on Thursday mornings at 9.30am. Bring a few toys. Located at Soul Temple Kuranda studio. soultemplekuranda.com.au

Picture Framing Free custom framing quotes at Terra Nova Gallery, 15 Therwine Street. Call 0412 387 557

Résumés. In Speewah, Cairns longest-running resume writing business - over thirty years' experience. Résumés, Employment Applications, web text, all forms of copy writing, editing and proofreading. Word Factory (Suzy Grinter) Phone 4093 0449.

RIDESHARE
Call 1300 74 33 74 or book on the App. We operate 8am-7pm Mon to Sat and Sun 8am-6pm. Prebook for out of hours. Airport/Cairns bookings accepted.

Singing Lessons, classically trained teacher with 30 years teaching experience. Absolutely all styles, sing the music of your choice. 0429 090 476

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

WANTED: local firing service for small ceramic pieces, bisque and glaze firings. Flexible about time so my pieces might help fill your empty kiln spaces. Please phone 0447 088 651.

Women's Sexual Assault Survivors Group
Alternative fortnights at Atherton and Mareeba. Contact 4091 4036.



Heads Up!

The Kuranda Paper deadline for February 2024 is **Thursday 25 January 2024**. Please send all submissions and advertising to...
mail@kurandapaper.com



* 30 WORDS MAXIMUM

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

YOUR COMMUNITY PAGES



WILDLIFE

Wildlife Rescue 4053 4467 (24 hours) – recommended to contact first.

Batreach 4093 8858

TigerLodge Wildcare 4093 0761 (24/7 phone service)

Kuranda Vets 4093 7283

DES CASSOWARY HOTLINE 1300 130 372 (rapid response including road strikes 24/7)

SNAKE REMOVAL

Jax Bergersen (non-venomous only) 4093 8834

Miss Hiss Reptiles (all reptiles) 0447 888 872

DEFIBRILLATORS



Defibrillator locations in Kuranda region.

Kuranda Men's Shed end of Kuranda Heights Road

Kuranda Pharmacy cnr Coondoo and Thongon Sts

Kuranda Medical Centre cnr Thongon and Barang Sts

Kuranda Ambulance Station, Fallon Road

Kuranda Swimming Pool, Myola Road

Steiner School, Boyles Road

Kuranda SES on board vehicle

Envirocare Nursery 284 Myola Road

WATER AND SEPTIC

Water Delivery:

Grego's Raw Materials 0419 705 005

Septic Tank Emptying:

Paul Jennings 0417 632 688

LAUNDROMATS

Gurii Gambi 5C Coondoo Street

FNQ Wildlife Rescue Assoc. Inc.

(Established 1994)



Caring for the region's native wildlife.

Wildlife carers are all volunteers.

Tax deductible donations appreciated.

New members welcome.

Tel: 07 4053 4467 (24 hrs)

Email: fnqwr@bigpond.com



Tree Roo Rescue and Conservation Centre Ltd

We are a non-profit organisation that rescues and rehabilitates, orphaned, injured or displaced tree kangaroos.

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

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

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



Donate now and help us care for tree roos today

www.treeroorecue.org.au

Visit us on



RECYCLE

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

RECYCLE Donate your aluminium cans to **COUCH** (Committee for Oncology Unit at Cairns Hospital).
Recycle bin located at the Kuranda Recreation Centre, Fallon Road.



ROAD REPORTS

Council EMERGENCY number for local roads 1300 308 461

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



Upcycling Kuranda
www.facebook.com/groups/583458973949832/

A group created to connect people with excess stuff with local artists and craftspeople that could use it.
No selling and buying - just free stuff.
In a town where the council doesn't properly recycle, the locals are taking it upon themselves to re-use.

KURANDA MEN'S SHED RECYCLING

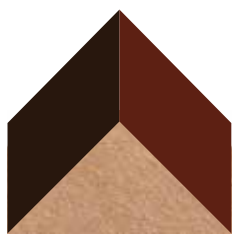
C10055234

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

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

Help your local Men's Shed to keep operating.

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



Australian Men's Shed Association
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

RAINFALL

November 2023
24.6mm
(to 27 November 2023)

Annual Total
2462.1mm
(to 27 November 2023)

Courtesy of Kuranda Railway Station



HELP GROUPS



Kids Helpline
1800 55 1800

kidshelpline.com.au

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



Need help with a drinking problem?

1300 222 222

www.aa.org.au

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

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

Al-Anon can help you!

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

Community Services

KURANDA LIBRARY and COUNCIL OFFICE

Monday to Friday: 10am–5pm

(No Council business after 4.30pm weekdays)

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

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

SERVICES NOT OPEN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

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Saturday & Sunday: 9am–5pm

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msc.qld.gov.au

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DASHBOARD

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

TRANSPORT

Rideshare 1300 743 374

Trans North 3036 2070



Bookings 1300 743 374

Emergency Contacts



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

RURAL FIRE BRIGADE WARDENS



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

Permits required for fires larger than 2 metres in any direction

Join your local SES

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

Contact Caitlin **0476 772 500**



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

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

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

Karen McLaren – 4093 8780 Please phone for an appointment

Trans North Bus & Coach

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

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

Cairns – Kuranda - Cairns

Route 851	Monday to Friday
Departs Cairns	*3.00pm
Departs Smithfield	3.30pm
Arrives Kuranda	3.50pm
Departs Kuranda	4.00pm
Departs Rainforest	4.05pm
Arrives Cairns	4.45pm

*These services travel via Caravonica, Trinity Bay High and TAFE school days only
Current as at 11 February 2022

No services operate Good Friday, Anzac Day and Christmas Day

Bus stops are located at:

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

Ticket Sales:

Purchase tickets from the driver as you board the bus or from Piagnos News at 142 Byrnes Street Mareeba. Phone 3036 2070 (office hours)
Email: atherton@transnorthbus.com.au www.transnorthbus.com.au

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

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

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

