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community resource, which supports  
local community groups and projects.  
Our stated objectives are to provide  
a means of open communication in  
order to foster the spirit of community  
involvement and reflect the aspirations  
of the residents of the Kuranda area.

Note: Views expressed in *The Kuranda  
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KMA Management Committee.

KMA Management Committee 2025

**President:** Nettie O'Connell

**Vice President:** Kerstin Brown

**Secretary:** Anna Raye

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**Members Representative:** Toni Rogers

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## DEADLINES

October

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All copy and advertisements  
due by 10am

**Thursday 25 September**

Paper published

**Thursday 2 October 2025**

Management is not responsible for  
any copy missing deadline.



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doubtful origin may not  
be published.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

#### MANY THANKS FROM SPROUT

To all my awesome customers, I would like to extend a most heartfelt thank you to everyone who has been a part of the Sprout experience, for all of the laughs, tears and joy that you have brought to my life. A special shout out needs to go to the 'Table of Knowledge' (you know who you are). Your constant support whilst I was learning the ropes, throughout COVID and onwards, when times got stupid/busy have not gone unnoticed and you are very much appreciated. We also have the OG's whose orders we know by heart and their presence gives us stability when things get tough.

Choosing to cease trading as Sprout Juice and Coffee Bar has been a very hard decision but one that I felt I needed to make due to some physical issues I have been experiencing, requiring treatment, and which were exacerbated by working on my feet. It was also a very hard business choice to make considering that we have just had our biggest trading year and it is most likely that the trend upward would continue. However, sometimes the right choice is the one that allows us to change direction in life professionally, emotionally and physically and I am happy with my decision.

I have employed so many fantastic local people over the past nine years (around fifty in total) and every single one of them has brought something unique to the business and contributed to the success of Sprout. I have learnt an incredible amount about staff (people) management which has made me a more patient and compassionate person all round. Dealing with diversity on a daily basis gives you a very grounded outlook on life. I am in no way a perfect boss and have made many mistakes along the way. I do hope though that I may have made a small impact on some lives to improve self-confidence, learn new skills and to move forward in life. This could be either in Kuranda, going to university or gaining employment elsewhere. No one should underestimate the joy of seeing a young person succeed in learning life skills in their first part time job. I thank all of my wonderful juniors for joining Sprout and being part of the team. A special thank you to Nyuwarri Gilkerson and Elias Chibnall for working so hard these last few months to get us through to our closing date (Friday 29 August). It has been truly challenging but also many laughs have been had.

I would like to thank my suppliers: Cleall's Butchers, Stockade Farms, Mungalli, Cairns Produce, Curcio's Bakery, Max Stocks, Michelle B at Koah Gold Produce, Peggy Woodstock, Coffee NQ (Blackbird), SpiceZ from Koah, Sweetleaf, Hugh Cobham, Pinata, Mario and Carol, Enviromart, Nettie O Design and the many local farm-gate suppliers we have in the area for locally grown fruit and vegetables. Also not forgetting my dedicated waste collectors making use of scraps and coffee grinds to minimise landfill and reduce my waste management costs. A special mention to the staff at the Kuranda Transfer Station.... especially when I accidentally drop a lid or hat into an empty bin that needs retrieving – thanks for some great chats and laughs. So many people do so much to help local businesses and absolutely deserve the recognition. If I have missed anyone, apologies but I am already being reminded to get this completed and emailed into the Kuranda Paper post haste.

Finally, I would like to say that though Sprout will be closing its doors this month a NEW venture will be opening early October, and I am very pleased that a couple of awesome locals in our community are going to take the plunge and bring their ideas to fruition. I do hope that they will enjoy the experience of being their own boss, being creative and engaging with the community in a very positive atmosphere. I wish them the best of luck and will help and support them as much as I can throughout their first few months of trading.

Thank you everyone

**Dei Gould, (Sprout Juice & Coffee Bar)**

*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.*

#### HISTORY REPEATS

Zedekiah.

Eleazar ben Simon.

Netanyahu.

Vale Judah ... again.

So sad.

**Mark Freeman, Kuranda**

#### A LIFE OF SONG, A LEGACY OF SOUND DAVID STEWART (1942–2025)

Very sad news indeed is the recent passing of David Stewart, world renown contributor to Australian bird acoustics. He will be sadly missed but has left an incredible legacy of a life filled with the appreciation, recording and sharing of a life spent dedicated to bird song, and later frog calls.

"David's pioneering work in bioacoustics—especially his recordings and analysis of bird calls—opened new frontiers in ornithological research and helped develop tools that are now standard in fieldwork across Australia and beyond. His legacy includes the comprehensive Stewart Australian Bird Calls app and bestselling album Australian Bird Calls Songs of Disappearance.

We remember a man whose life was a symphony of curiosity, care, and deep listening—to nature, and to those around him." Birds Queensland (Facebook, 20 August).

There will be many, many others like me who have David's numerous CDs on their bookshelves, the go-to for that elusive hoot, trill or even a mysterious frog call in the dark, wet night.

For a truly special audio/visual experience visit the YouTube Bowerbird Collective Channel and enjoy the animated film 'Songs of Disappearance' (<https://youtu.be/c2MoH9Z1HuQ>)

The title track of the album 'Songs of Disappearance' celebrates the incredible diversity of the Australian soundscape, and highlights what we stand to lose without taking action. Be immersed in a chorus of iconic cockatoos, the buzzing of bowerbirds, a bizarre symphony of seabirds, and the haunting call of one of the last remaining night parrots."

A fitting tribute to a naturalist of the highest order.

**Gayle Hannah, Kuranda,**



#### Cover Masthead

Our masthead this month features the iconic ceramic tile mural on the outside of the Ngoonbi office on Coondoo Street. The building was also known as the Jillie Binna Information Centre when an arts, craft and museum display space was created there in 1975. The mural was designed by Edward Deemera from Yarrabah Pottery, under instruction from potter Peter van der Helder from Kuranda. Artists were Adelaide Major, Elaine Stafford, Terrence Canendo and James Ludwick. Although plans for a major redevelopment of the site are underway this mural will be saved and integrated into a new building in recognition of its cultural, artistic and heritage importance.

*Photo supplied by Ngoonbi Community Services Indigenous Corporation.*

#### Advertisement sizes and rates

[width x height in mm]

A – 262x380 (full page)	\$640
B – 174x380 (dominant)	\$440
C – 129x380 (1/2 page vertical)	\$350
D – 262x188 (1/2 page horiz)	\$350
E – 85x380 (1/3 page vertical)	\$250
F – 129x188 (1/4 page)	\$190
G – 262x124 (large strip)	\$250
H – 262x60 (small strip)	\$145
I – 129x124	\$145
J – 85x188	\$145
K – 85x124	\$105
L – 85x60 (business card)	\$70

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paid for in advance are eligible for a 10%  
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*as of 1 July 2025*

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of *The Kuranda Paper* can be viewed online at  
[kurandapaper.com](http://kurandapaper.com), along with back issues. Hard copy  
outlets:

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

IGA (Thongon St), BP Service Station, Annabel's Pies  
(Therwine St), Honey House Kuranda (Therwine St).

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

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

**TOLGA:** The Humpy

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

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

**CAIRNS & SMITHFIELD:** Libraries





# Cairns Hinterland Steiner School

Academic Nurturing Creative

## Celebrate creativity, community, and joyful learning



Marvel at the Maypole Dance then join in.



Make beautiful flower garlands from nature's wonders



Enjoy scrumptious cakes and cookies from the Bake Sale

Cairns Hinterland Steiner School is opening the doors to its beautiful rainforest campus and inviting you to attend its annual Spring Fair and Open Day on Saturday 13 September, from 10am.

The event offers a unique opportunity to experience firsthand what makes Steiner education so special. Whether you're considering educational options for your child, curious about the Steiner approach to learning, or simply looking for an enjoyable day out the Spring Fair and Open Day promises discovery, connection, and celebration for the whole family.

All welcome! Free to attend.

### It's an Open Day...

Come along and discover how the Cairns Hinterland Steiner School inspires children to love learning.

From the moment you arrive, you'll be met with the wonder of Steiner education. You'll be in awe of the students' work as you wander the exhibition in the Mary Majella Hall where class displays showcase the developmental approach of Steiner education.

For a deeper experience, book onto a School Tour. The school's dedicated staff will answer your questions, guide you around the school's grounds and welcome you into classrooms to see firsthand how the Steiner curriculum integrates arts with academics, and cultivates creative thinking alongside intellectual development.

Visit the Information Desk, by the entrance to the hall, to book a school tour and learn how the



## Cairns Hinterland Steiner School

# SPRING & OPEN DAY

13 September  
10am

Join us for  
a vibrant  
community  
celebration

Cairns Hinterland Steiner School  
Academic Nurturing Creative

46 Boyles Road, Kuranda  
chss.qld.edu.au

Steiner approach to education nurtures the head, heart, and hands of each child.

### ...and a Spring Fair!

One of the most wonderful aspects of Steiner education is the vibrant community. The Spring Fair and Open Day brings together current families, alumni, teachers and staff, and curious newcomers for a seasonal celebration.

Set against the gentle backdrop of student music performances, you'll enjoy meaningful conversations while savoring delicious food and drinks from market stalls.

There's something for everyone with children's games and village fete activities, a marionette puppet show, and the highlight of the festival, a mesmerizing Maypole dance—give it a go, anyone can join in!

**Come to the Spring Fair and Open Day to feel the warmth of a community that values childhood, creativity, and holistic development.**

**Date:** Saturday, 13 September **Time:** 10am-3pm **Location:** Cairns Hinterland Steiner School, Boyles Road, Kuranda **Entry:** Free admission.



## LA FONDA LATINA Cafe & Bar

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Djabugay Native Title  
Aboriginal Corporation

### DJABUGAY NATIVE TITLE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (RNTBC ICN 4358)

### NOTICE OF COMMUNITY MEETING

All members of DJABUGAY NATIVE TITLE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION RNTBC (ICN 4358) are invited to a meeting to update members on Djabugay activities.

The meeting will take place as follows:

**Sunday 26 October 10 am**  
Nyuwarri Estate, 1496 Kennedy Highway,  
Kuranda, 4881, Qld

For further information call (07) 4093 8116  
or email [office@djabugay.org.au](mailto:office@djabugay.org.au)

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Kuranda Men's Shed - Community Spirit and  
Craftsmanship on Display

After some chilly starts over the past month, things have been heating up at the Kuranda Men’s Shed—not just in temperature, but in activity too! There’s been plenty going on behind the scenes and on the workbenches, as our members continue to lend their time and talents to a range of valuable community projects. We always enjoy taking on meaningful community projects whenever we can. That said, we’re occasionally limited by government regulations and insurance requirements—but we do what we can within those boundaries to make a positive impact.

One of our members has recently taken on the task of crafting a brand-new door for the Kuranda Neighbourhood House Community Food Bank. This vital service provides free food to individuals and families experiencing financial hardship, and we’re proud to contribute in any way we can to support their incredible work.

The Shed is always thankful for the generous donations of tools and equipment we receive from the local community. However, these items often need some serious TLC before they can be safely used again. Fortunately, we’re lucky to have members with the technical know-how and skills to tackle these refurbishments. A great example is a heavy-duty bench saw that is currently being restored by two of our members—after some impressive work, it’s expected to be fully operational very soon.

In another exciting development, the Shed has gladly agreed to take on the refurbishment of the RSL Roll of Honour board at the Kuranda Railway Station. Preserving this piece of local



Refurbished donated bench saw and Christmas Charity Toys. Photos supplied.

history is something we’re honoured to do, and it’s just one example of how the Shed supports the broader community.

With Christmas not too far away, some of our members have already begun crafting handmade gifts for children’s charities. So far, we’ve got some colourful building blocks and beautifully made spinning tops ready to go, with more toys in the pipeline. It’s a small gesture that brings big smiles.

There’s always something happening at our very friendly and welcoming Shed, and we’re constantly on the lookout for new members—both men and women. Whether you’re looking to share your skills, learn something new, or simply enjoy some good company, the Kuranda Men’s Shed is the place to be. So why not drop in and check us out.

Session Times

Mixed Shed (male and female) • Tuesday 8.30am–12pm  
Men's Shed • Wed & Sat 8.30am–11.30am  
She Shed • Friday 8.30am–1pm

116 Kuranda Heights Road

Contact: Daryl (President) mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

 Kuranda Men’s Shed



Photo supplied

CleanCo invests more  
than \$33,000 in Far North  
Queensland communities

CleanCo Queensland is backing the long-term wellbeing of Far North Queensland (FNQ) communities through more than \$33,000 in grants as part of its latest round of Community Futures Funding.

The grants will directly benefit communities near CleanCo's hydroelectric power stations at Barron Gorge near Cairns and Kareeya near Tully, supporting local organisations working to build stronger, more resilient and sustainable regions.

Among the successful FNQ recipients are:

- Marlin Coast Neighbourhood Centre: \$5,000 to install solar panels and an inverter, significantly reducing energy costs and supporting CleanCo’s commitment to renewable energy.
- Ellis Beach Surf Life Saving Club's Saltwater Strong Program: \$5,000 to empower Indigenous young women through training, promoting youth development and community inclusion.

CleanCo Chief Executive Officer Tom Metcalfe said the program was a direct investment in the communities CleanCo is proud to be part of.

“Our assets like Barron Gorge and Kareeya Hydro are deeply embedded in these communities. We’re proud to invest in local initiatives that help people thrive - supporting wellbeing, sustainability and strong local connections,” Mr Metcalfe said.

CleanCo Community Performance Specialist Claire Butler said the initiative was about creating meaningful, achievable and lasting benefits.

“This funding helps deliver real outcomes that matter to local people, from solar systems that cut energy bills to programs that support young women and volunteers.

“It’s about helping Far North Queensland communities build on their strengths and thrive into the future,” Ms Butler said.

Last year, the Mission Beach Sailing Club used CleanCo funding to purchase five new self-inflating marker buoys, highlighting our commitment to ensuring safety in the communities where we operate.

“Thanks to CleanCo’s support, we’ve been able to replace our worn-out markers with bright, 1.8-metre self-inflating buoys that are highly visible in all conditions which is a huge boost for safety and enjoyment at our sailing events.”

“CleanCo’s funding has given us equipment that will benefit not just our club, but neighbouring clubs too. These new buoys will be a standout feature at our regatta and other community water events across the region.”

Since its inception in 2023, CleanCo has shared more than \$145,000 with communities across Queensland, reinforcing its long-term commitment to delivering clean energy solutions that help local communities prosper.

For more information about CleanCo’s Community Futures Fund, visit [Community Futures Fund | CleanCo Queensland](#).

Big changes are coming to 36 Coondoo Street  
where the current Ngoonbi office is situated.

WATCH THIS SPACE.



# *Sonia Poole*

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## Councillor Column



This springtime, there are a number of projects coming to life in Kuranda which bring with them a sense of renewal.

One such project is the Kuranda Centenary Park Amenities Block Mural. Funded by the Regional Arts Development Fund and Kuranda Infrastructure Funding, Council has engaged talented artist Violet Shaban to refresh the entire block with a design based on Kuranda's unique environment. Work will begin on 1 September 2025, with the mural expected to take around eight weeks to complete.

Alongside the mural, the surrounding garden beds will be refreshed by Council's Parks and Gardens Team. New low-growing plants, chosen to suit Kuranda's environment, will be planted once the mural is complete, while the existing plants will be relocated for use elsewhere in Council gardens. These landscaping improvements are intended to highlight the mural, while also adding to the beauty of Centenary Park.

Works are also continuing on Jarawee Road, with significant progress made following the extensive damage caused by Cyclone Jasper. The abutments and bridge decks are complete, backfilling has been finished, and the relieving slab has been poured. Pavement and guardrail works are currently ongoing.

The ongoing delivery of projects in Kuranda and surrounds requires Council to carefully manage resources. In July, we endorsed the 2025/26 Budget with an average increase of 3 per cent. This budget leaves no room for excess, with every dollar committed to maintaining essential services. By seeking external funding and working in partnership with community organisations, we are able to achieve more than Council could alone.

Congratulations must go to the Kuranda Historical Society, which has relocated its interpretive panels to the Visitor Information Centre. Covering themes including the Djabugay people, hydro power, the Butterfly Man and more, the panels are now far more visible.

To close, I would like to reflect on the community spirit that exists in Kuranda, Speewah, Koah and the surrounding communities. Every month, there are countless examples of organisations, groups and individuals working together to bring events to life and projects to fruition and, as a Councillor, it is a great privilege to witness.

Cr Amy Braes

Phone number: 0429 061 981

Postal address: PO Box 154 Mareeba QLD 4880

Email: AmyB@msc.qld.gov.au

## Changed Traffic Conditions

Saturday, September 20, 2025



**QSuper**  
Part of Australian Retirement Trust

far north queensland  
**hospital**  
foundation

**The Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation advises it has obtained a one-lane closure of the Kennedy Highway (Kuranda Range) on Saturday, September 20, 2025.**

To enable cyclists in the QSuper Cardiac Challenge to safely traverse the range, the up-lane will be closed from 6am-8.45am on that date.

**As per the permit, the**

**closure will affect the uphill lane of the Kennedy Highway (Kuranda Range) from Canopy's Edge, Smithfield to RainForestStation, Kuranda.**

Any cyclist who has not been able to reach the top of the Range by 8am will be uploaded into a vehicle. All emergency vehicles will be able to traverse the Range in either direction if required, during the closure.

**For more information call: 4226 6327 or visit [www.cardiacchallenge.com.au](http://www.cardiacchallenge.com.au)**

## MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL - COMMUNITY UPDATE



Snippet of the new mural planned for the Centenary Park Kuranda amenity block by artist Violet Shaban.

### Kuranda Centenary Park Mural, Garden and Facility Improvements

Starting Monday, 1 September, an exciting new mural will be painted to revitalise the Kuranda Centenary Park Amenities Block.

Artist Violet Shaban will paint a vivid artwork depicting animals and plants endemic to Kuranda. The mural references the colours of the Aboriginal flag.

The mural is grant funded through the Regional Arts Development Fund which is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Mareeba Shire Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

New low growing plants suitable for the Kuranda environment will replace the existing gardens.

Council will also undertake other repairs and painting to the Amenities Block to provide a facelift for the entire facility.

### LED Streetlighting - Lower Coondoo Street

Ergon has begun LED streetlighting upgrade works along Lower Coondoo Street (the train station end), as part of Mareeba Shire Council's Coondoo Street lighting improvement program.

Works are expected to take four to six weeks, and should be finished late September / early October 2025.

Works have started at the lower end of Coondoo Street and will progress to the central area below the Thongon Street intersection.

This project includes:

- Replacement of existing light poles
- Installation of underground power connections at two locations

Power Outages:

To energise the new power connections, planned power outages of approx. 5-6 hours will be required.

These will be staggered and affect both the north and south sides of Lower and Upper Coondoo Street at different times.

Ergon will notify impacted businesses 10 business days prior to any scheduled outages.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation as these important upgrades are carried out to improve our community lighting and safety.

### UPDATE: Barron River Bridge Oak Forest Road Temporary Closure

Barron River Bridge on Oak Forest Road will be temporarily closed to allow for essential refurbishment and strengthening of the bridge.

The existing timber structure has reached the end of its service life, and these works are necessary to ensure the long-term safety and reliability of the bridge.

The contractor has made a change to the work method compared to the previous notice which has enabled a temporary bridge to be provided which will reduce the overall time that residents will need to detour through Mona Mona.

### CLOSURE DETAILS:

- Bridge Works Commence: Tuesday, 7 October 2025
- Full Bridge Closure – 3 Days: 7-9 October 2025 (to dismantle the existing bridge)
- TEMPORARY Bridge in place for vehicle access in between closures: 10-24 October 2025 (approximate dates)
- Final Bridge Closure – 3 Days: 27-30 October 2025 (to reassemble the updated bridge – dates may change slightly, we will provide an update if the date changes).

The total full closure will be for six days (three at the start and three at the end of the replacement period, with a temporary bridge available for vehicles between these days).



1300 308 461



[info@msc.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@msc.qld.gov.au)



[www.msc.qld.gov.au](http://www.msc.qld.gov.au)



MareebaShireCouncil





# Bree's Barron River BULLETIN

**Ms Bree James MP**

**State Member for Barron River**

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

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

As we gear up for September, I want to start by sending my congratulations to Nguni Community Services Indigenous Corporation on their 50th anniversary on September 25.

I also want to mention World Cassowary Day on 26 September and share some exciting news about cassowaries in Kuranda.

Transport and Main Roads recently completed a cutting-edge AI trial right here in Kuranda on the Kennedy Highway to help our beloved Southern Cassowaries remain safe on the roads.

The system - called LAARMA - used AI-powered sensors to detect cassowaries near the road and instantly alert drivers with flashing signs. Over just three months, LAARMA achieved 97% cassowary detection accuracy over 287 sightings with the risk of serious crashes down by 31%.

The Kuranda Range and Barron River Bridge works continue this month, with TMR working hard to ensure minimal disruptions while keeping the projects moving as quickly and safely as

possible. Pre-construction started May 2025 with construction expected to start in 2028. It is expected the bridge will take four years to build with an opening date of 2031.

These are very complex projects with several permits required. It will be done, but it will take time.

This month marks plenty more great developments for our region including a very exciting upgrade ahead for Skyrail Rainforest Cableway. Skyrail 2.0 includes an \$85 million upgrade. Cableway construction works will begin in stages starting from July 2026 with some temporary closures. Skyrail will continue to operate in an adapted capacity throughout most of the project.

Recovery works will continue at Barron Gorge Hydro after ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper, with a focus on long-term resilience. Riverbank stabilisation near the power station is now complete and Phases A& B of the Kuranda Weir Recovery Project were delivered in 2024. Phase C now underway. Embankment works in progress and major concrete works will start in September. Phase C is expected to finish in early 2026, followed by revegetation with local partners. I commend the team at CleanCo for the incredible work they have done so far.

Finally, I want to wish Kuranda Scenic Railway a happy birthday as they celebrated 134 years in operation earlier this month. The celebration was part of Queensland Rail's 160th anniversary. Kuranda Scenic Railway is one of Queensland Rail's longest-running services and a true jewel of our tourism industry. I look forward to seeing this iconic train rolling through our region for many years to come.

Until next month,

**Bree James, Member for Barron River**



## New sentencing data helps communities act

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples continue to be disproportionately represented in Queensland's criminal justice system, but new data reveals how the offences driving custodial sentences differ by gender, age, and location, empowering communities to tackle the underlying drivers.

The Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council (the Council) has released a major update to its Sentencing DataHub, now including data about custodial sentences for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for the 2023–24 financial year.

The Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel Chair Thelma Schwartz said the updated Sentencing DataHub reflects the need to move conversations beyond well-established overrepresentation rates to focus on root causes and solutions.

"This data is a powerful tool to help us better understand not just the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in prison, but the offences and localised drivers behind these outcomes," Ms Schwartz said.

"By breaking down sentencing outcomes – offence by offence, across regions, and by gender and age group – communities, empowered by access to this evidence base, can use this data to begin targeted, evidence-based efforts to meaningfully reduce incarceration rates."

A key finding from the latest data update reveals that contravention of a domestic violence order (CDVO) is the most common offence leading to custodial sentences for both Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and non-Indigenous peoples in Queensland.

In 2023–24, CDVOs accounted for 1,586 custodial sentences for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – an 8 per cent increase from 2022–23. Assaults occasioning bodily harm (1,081 sentences, up 7 per cent) and burglary (546 sentences, up 4 per cent) were the next most frequent offences resulting in incarceration.

Ms Schwartz said that understanding specific offence trends across regions is crucial for both prevention efforts and the development of community-led responses.

"These localised insights enable place-based solutions, such as stronger preventative measures, policies to reduce DVO breaches, and culturally safe pathways to address failure to appear," she said.

"Systemic inequalities – including poverty, homelessness, and coercive control – often determine how and why certain groups enter the justice system.

"Breaking these cycles means focusing strategies not just on the offence but on its root causes, while empowering community-led and community-designed responses."

The Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council provides independent research and advice, seeks public views and promotes community understanding of sentencing matters.

Further data specific to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is available on the QSAC website [www.sentencingcouncil.qld.gov.au](http://www.sentencingcouncil.qld.gov.au)

**Source: Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council**

## RATE NOTICES ISSUED

## DUE DATE - FRIDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2025

The half-yearly rate notices for the six-month period ending 31 December 2025 have been issued.

If you have not received your rate notice, please contact the Rates Department.



**Mareeba**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

### RECEIVE YOUR RATE NOTICE ELECTRONICALLY (eNotices)

Go electronic and receive your next rates notice via email. eNotices allows you to view your notice at any time and sends notices to multiple email addresses. Find your eNotices Reference Number on the back of your rates notice to register.

### PAYMENT PORTAL – DIRECT DEBIT ARRANGEMENT

Our Flexipay payment portal allows you to pay your rates or easily set up a direct debit payment arrangement. You can choose to make payments weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Scan the QR Code on your rate notice or visit [mareeba-pay.enotices.com.au](http://mareeba-pay.enotices.com.au) to pay or set up a direct debit arrangement. You can pay via Visa, Mastercard, Bank Account, Google Pay or Apple Pay.

### INTEREST FREE ARRANGEMENTS

No interest will be charged on approved arrangements for current outstanding rates and charges provided the payment plan is adhered to.

### 10% DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT

To receive the 10% discount (on your general rates), all rates and charges must be paid and received by Council by 12 September 2025. Council does not take responsibility for the late processing of electronic payments by third parties.

### PENSIONER REBATE

A pensioner rebate may also apply to those holders of a State Government Pensioner Concession Card or Repatriation Gold Card.

For more information refer to your rates notice, scan the QR-Code to visit our website or contact Council.

**Peter Franks**  
Chief Executive Officer  
PO Box 154 MAREEBA QLD 4880



1300 308 461



[info@msc.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@msc.qld.gov.au)



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Tableland Regional Gallery, Atherton, QLD

## Off the Beaten Track



An exhibition of new works by:

### Saltwater Creek Fibre Artists

Bonnie Alison, Marcia Bird, Rosey Cummings, Pamela Kusabs, Tijn Meulendijks,  
Toni Rogers, Sue Ryan, Jeanette Sproule, Pamela Westera

Closing Date: 4 October 2025

Gallery Opening Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm,  
Saturday 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

Tableland Regional Gallery  
Situating next to the Atherton Library  
16 Robert Street, Atherton, Qld



Kuranda Arts Co-operative members Marcia Bird (above) and Toni Rogers (right) are among the nine fibre artists featured in the Off The Beaten Track exhibition currently on display at the Tableland Regional Gallery. Photos supplied.

## Be A Culture Vulture in September

While this is the best weather for stretching the muscles with a nice hike or swim, it is also a great time to stretch the mind and creative curiosity. There are exhibitions galore on the Tablelands and Coast. There are also workshops to expand skills and learn new techniques. A quick Google will serve up so many options, we have given you a few close to home here. Explore and enjoy!

## Judy Zugish Fishsticks Basketry

Marysville WA. USA  
[www.twigtwisters.com](http://www.twigtwisters.com)

Judy is keen to share the joys of working with plant material, the playfulness and connections of a meandering path; to cultivate, harvest, process and to create.

Judy will be holding  
two workshops at  
Cantata Studio, Kuranda  
on  
Saturday 18th October  
or  
Sunday 19th October 2025  
\$110 per workshop  
10am - 4pm  
Materials, tea and coffee supplied



Contact Toni Rogers, Cantata Studio for bookings and information.

**0427 553 447.**

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## EXPRESSIVE ART WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS

Free Event  
Bookings Essential

Chillagoe Library Saturday, 6 September 2025 9:30 am - 11:30 am Ph: 4094 7077	Dimbulah Library Saturday, 13 September 2025 9:30 am - 11:30 am Ph: 4093 5963
Kuranda Library Monday, 8 September 2025 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Ph: 4093 9185	Mareeba Library Wednesday, 3 September 2025 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Ph: 4086 4622

Mareeba SHIRE COUNCIL  
Inspire Art  
STATE LIBRARY QUEENSLAND  
Queensland Government



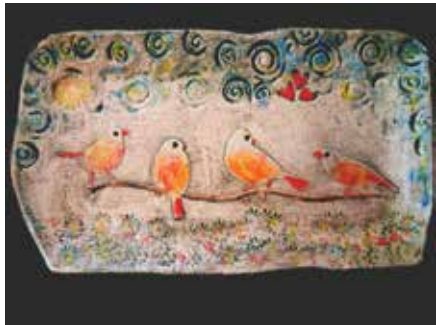
Introducing Kerry Geck,  
our profile artist for September:

**Can you describe your artistic style?** What is your preferred medium, and why? My favourite art medium is clay. Clay aligns with my other loves, for example, gardening, the outdoors, waterways, foraging, exploring. I'm a tomboy at heart. My attraction to clay, probably dates back to being a child, making mud pies and painting our faces with clay or mud .. I still find it great fun!

**What motivates you as an artist?** I'm not so much motivated to be an artist, for me it's all about play. There is true wonder when creating something from nothing and the way the 'making' propels you into a peaceful timeless zone. Also, the anticipation of opening a kiln lid to see what happened to your creations is a feeling and addiction I will never tire of.

**Describe the best piece of art you have created?** I have yet to create a favourite or perfect pieces. I am very experimental at this time and realise the more I know the less I know. So much to learn and make.

**What artists inspire you and where do you find inspiration?** I'm inspired by many artists and many mediums. You only have to visit our Co-op to be inspired and appreciate the great diversity of artists in our own home town of Kuranda. I am also spoilt for choice now with social media and being able to instantly access dozens of artists who share your particular type of art. I especially love the people who say they aren't artistic but can whip up a stunning visual and mouthwatering array of food in a heartbeat, or have gardens that take your breath away. Most people, in my opinion, are artistic in some way, even accountants, pumpkin growers, or hairdressers, to name a few.



Artworks by Kerry Geck.



work in the late afternoon or at night. I also love to set up outside under a big shady tree and work alongside the wildlife as it goes about its business.

**What is your favourite tool that you can't do without?** My wooden carving tools. They seem to know what I want to do before I do!

**Do you think art is important in society?** What no ceramics, no books, no theatre, no music, no painting? Yes definitely, what would life be without art?

The Co-op artists are busy finalising their pieces for their Exhibition "GATHERED" to be held at the Tableland Regional Gallery in October. We are able to share some work in progress images with you this month.



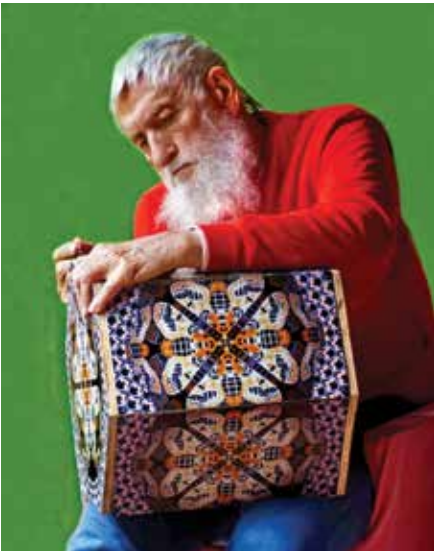
Colin Free



Robyn King



Cathy Harvey



Buck Richardson – Man at work

Exciting News for Kuranda Artists

The Kuranda Art Cooperative is proud to offer monthly Life Drawing sessions at the Kuranda Country Women's Association (KCWA) Hall, starting on Sunday 7 September, 1-3pm .

Students, intermediate and advanced artists wishing to draw from a live model are welcome to the inaugural life drawing project at the KCWA Hall on Sunday 7 September, from 1-3pm. This is not a mentored activity. Draw at your own pace. Life Drawing is integral to an artist's development and a great way to meet others.



What to bring, what to expect:

The afternoon session will begin with a series of two-minute warm-up poses, change to 5-10 minute poses, then after the 2pm tea break, finish with two poses of longer duration.

Easels, chairs and tables are provided but artists must provide their own drawing materials. Artists progress at their own pace.

Cost:

The cost for artists is \$15 for the two-hour session to pay for a model and rent. Please tell your friends and help keep life drawing in Kuranda viable. Basic drawing papers may also be available for purchase.

Kuranda Art Cooperative Life Drawing will continue the first Sunday of each month at the KCWA Hall, 1-3pm. The drawing group is a non-profit venture to encourage artists of all ages to attend. This is a pilot project and it is hoped that it takes off, for the benefit of our arts community.

Further Information: Theo Tremblay 0415 127 089

Modelling Enquiries: William Wakefield 0438 031 384



CLICK  
CLICK



## 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).

### AUGUST

"A beautiful katydid I don't see very often. Chloracantha garradunga." Gerhard Hillmann, Kuranda. (16 August)



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# MEMORIES OF FROGS KURANDA

Frogs on Coondoo (Circa 1980s)



Above, A mustachioed Terry at Bats Takeaway (1980s)  
Below, Sunday night session (1990s)

At the dawn of the 80s, an advertisement appeared in The Cairns Post announcing a new restaurant in Kuranda. 'Fine food in cool rainforest surroundings' was the description, and that's just what Frogs Restaurant delivered, over several locations in Kuranda, for 45 years under the ownership of the Pates family. Locals always knew about Frogs, tourists happily discovered it, and they all had the same fantastic experience. This year, owners Terry and Vicki Pates sold the iconic business which continues to operate under new ownership in the Kuranda Heritage Markets. Terry, chef Gawain Barker and musician Brian Clarke share some memories of 'Frogs':

"Along with Tawnys, the Kamslers' Tradewinds, and the Nautilus, Frogs provided a unique FNQ a-la-carte dining experience; a combination of food, drink, service and setting, and soon began attracting a wonderfully diverse clientele from around the world, rubbing shoulders with the 'locals'.

Local produce was always part of the Frogs' kitchen. Tomatoes, avos, yabbies, and mangos from the Tablelands, seafood from the Gulf and Coral Sea. And in later times, custom Spicez spice mixes from Koah. As mass tourism picked up and the main street was often shoulder-to-shoulder from the station to the park, Frogs at lunch pumped like the Barron Falls in The Wet. Not only were there walk-in customers sampling everything from a grilled leader prawn and glass of champagne Special, to a made-on-the-premises beefpie, there were also tour groups, sometimes 120 strong! How kitchen and front-of-house served these groups a three course lunch with drinks in 45 minutes, amongst a busy lunch service, was a testament to hospitality at its best.

In the 45 years of Frogs a couple of generations of young (and older) locals learnt high-end hospitality from kitchen to front of house under Terry and Vicki's tutelage. In Frogs most recent location, in the middle of the Heritage Markets, the open plan kitchen was great fun for the kitchen staff, who, when not heads-down bum-up busy, could see the world pass by, and sometimes engage in culinary conversations with interested observers." **Gawain Barker**

"In 1984 the Cairns International Airport opened up Tropical North Queensland to the world, 'The Age of Tourism' had come to Kuranda. With this rush of extra visitors to the region, many small businesses had also opened and the Village was a hive of activity, employment

and opportunity. However in 1989, a national airline pilots strike bit hard and virtually closed down the tourist trade to the Far North. Times were tough and businesses struggled. The mood in the Village was grim. Terry approached a few of the local musos to "Get a band together and have a play in the restaurant" to help pick up the vibe and to encourage locals to support locals.

Once started, it became 'THE' place to be and continued on for just about every Sunday night over the next ten years. On a 'Full House' night some jumped up and danced on the tables or spilled out into the main street and continued to dance. It was wild. Kids happily played Ninjas and hide and seek in the street, climbed in the fig trees and were laid down to sleep in the backs of station wagons, vans and cars parked out in front.

The regular 6-8 piece Frogs Band morphed over the years as different members came and went. This collective approach was more like a musicians club. This attitude was encouraged by the band and no one knew who would walk through the door from week to week, which helped to create spontaneous variety. This Band was not for hire and only ever played at Frogs. Australian and international bands were touring the East coast and The Amphitheatre became the last gig on the touring circuit. The Kuranda Rainforest Resort accommodated the crews and artists and many chose to stay over for the weekend. On many occasions they would come in for dinner, hang out with the locals on the Sunday night and also take to the stage or play in with the band.

Like the Amphitheatre, this was social enterprise at its best. A small cover charge covered obvious costs and extra staff. Terry & Vicki provided all of the players, including the musos who dropped by, with a meal and a couple of drink vouchers. The musicians came to play and have a good time. It was our own Sunday night community therapy session. As the years rolled by we probably staged in excess of 400 gigs (but no one was really counting). The generosity of Terry, Vicki, family and staff in allowing us to take over their enterprise through all those years is one of the best gifts to Kuranda that anyone has ever given." **Brian Clarke**

"In 1980 I was a chef at Fathoms Restaurant in Cairns and had just bought a property in Weir Road. The agent was John Scheller who had a property adjoining the markets and a café vacant, and he offered me his café. Whilst renovating the space (we lived in the back) we struggled for a name then the tree frogs started up in numbers and it was FROGS, a short time later Bruce Zilenski showed up with three Frogs paintings and Robin Dods gave me a photo of Bruce holding a green tree frog. FROGS was cemented.

In the beginning Lilian and Rein were an integral part of the start-up of Frogs. Sadly Rein is no longer with us but I cannot forget the enthusiasm with which the three of us jumped into such a crazy adventure with virtually nothing, coming from ten years of travelling on a shoestring, maybe I was the "dangerous optimist" as Lilian would often label me. Or possibly Frogs would not have got past the 1982 recession.

In less than 12 months we wanted bigger premises so we set about borrowing money to purchase the old Red & White store on Coondoo street. The first solicitor that I had ever dealt with in life, asked me "Do you know that we are in the middle of a deep recession?" I said "no" as I didn't know what a recession was, our interest rate was 18% Just crazy! We moved, and with the help of many local tradies and handy men and women we created the Frogs that we loved so much. Although no longer with us, the artistic and practical input of Roger Quinn and Nigel Bennett will never be forgotten in the creation of that venue.

45 years later I look back at the fantastic experience Frogs and Kuranda has been. So many stories.

Bringing the piano in from Jeb Buck's place out the back of Rosebud in the back of my ute, the Bulgarian guy that tuned it for me, and George Cables the famous jazz pianist walking around the battered upright and calmly stating the obvious "we don't have a grand I see".

Finding false teeth in a glass of stale beer on a Monday morning after the Jam Club Sunday night, watching the floor bounce and heave with so many dancers, waiting in dread for its collapse, smashing open a wall in the kitchen



The Kuranda Paper, August 1997

to put out a fire with the Jam Band playing, looking over and wondering what the f\*\*k is going on! Father Chris in his robes coming in late one night, telling Ruedi Hamburger to "shut the noise down we can't hear ourselves pray". The money stored for safety in the microwave, safe until the chef used the microwave as a timer and the money caught alight.

In Bats, our takeaway, experimenting with chicken and parsley sausages, grilling on the street, they kept expanding and exploding, a white and green mess observed by bewildered tourists.

30 June 2025 was my last day operating Frogs Restaurant, the business was sold and new owners took control on 1 July. To call it retirement would be false. Two years ago I decided that the old Windmill café that had been closed since COVID was a great position for a smaller operation offering the same high standards that Frogs always aimed for. Kieran, one of our sons, was really keen to establish a high quality coffee outlet. We leased the premises. Sam our other son, had his hand in helping to create menus and Here's Good Café was established. Kieran indeed has taken coffee to another level. Vicki my wife enjoys helping out on weekends and Sam, only yesterday, shot some of his latest short film at Here's Good. I help out and discuss the operation regularly with my family and, of course, all the fantastic and very capable staff. You will see recognisable faces from Frogs when you call in.

Although I now have a lot more time to concentrate on projects on our property and more time for multi day tramps in New Zealand, my passion. I have not retired from the very thing I love so much and that is hospitality. The Pates family intend to continue offering our best to the Kuranda community and our visitors for years to come. Vicki and I thank the Kuranda community for the opportunity to create Frogs which has given us such a wonderful experience, but without the participation and support of such an eclectic group of people Frogs could not have flourished and the last 45 years could not have been so enjoyable and thoroughly entertaining and rewarding, as it has been." **Terry Pates**



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

## The Amphitheatre is alive with community spirit!

From music and theatre to markets, dance, and weekly workshops, the Amphitheatre continues to be a beating heart of Kuranda. Thanks to the efforts of past and present volunteers, the legacy of this much-loved space carries on with new energy, familiar faces, and plenty of opportunities for everyone to get involved.

Each week, the Amphitheatre buzzes with classes and creativity.

- Yoga with Kyla happens on Wednesdays at 9:30am,
- salsa dancing with Strictly Street Salsa kicks off Mondays at 6pm, and
- KAST Theatre is in full swing with rehearsals and casting for their production of The Wizard of Oz, set to open in November. Kids meet Thursdays at 4:30pm and adults at 6pm, there's space for everyone to join in, try something new, and be part of something amazing.

The MainStage will be pumping for a good cause on Saturday, September 6, from 12pm–10pm with the Gig for Gaza. A huge line-up of music, yummy food and community spirit will make it a day to remember. Funds raised through the gig will support humanitarian aid, while the Amphitheatre bar will be running to help keep the venue thriving.

At the end of every month, the UnderStage comes alive for Brackets & Jam. And it's not just for musicians, poems, jokes, stories and yarns are all welcome. Add in yummy food, a well-stocked bar and good friends, and you've got a night full of community spirit. Best of all, every dollar raised goes straight back into keeping the Amphitheatre pumping.

The second Sunday of each month brings the much-loved Community Markets, full of colour, connection and local action. The Amphitheatre Kitchen is at the heart of it all, and each month four volunteers are needed to keep it running, with one shift from 7–10am and another from 10am–1pm. Every cent raised in the kitchen goes back into keeping the space vibrant, and with some internal work needed on the kitchen itself, community support is more valuable than ever.

Behind the scenes, big infrastructure wins have also been delivered. The solar installation is now complete and the MainStage roof has been fully repaired, two massive steps forward in sustainability and site maintenance. Thanks go to Red Dog Solar, Tom the Plumber, the Gambling Community Benefit Fund, Mareeba Shire Council and the previous committee for securing and organising this incredible project.

There are also a few little jobs around the place that need a hand, like tightening a tap and fixing a door. If you're handy with tools and have a soft spot for the Amphitheatre, call Bugzy on 0437 309 646 and help tick these off the list.

Looking for somewhere to run your own activity? Spaces at the Amphitheatre are ready to hire, workshops start from just \$25 + GST per session with a 20% discount for weekly hirers, and smaller community event spaces are available for just \$100 + GST. To book, email [bookings@kurandaamphitheatre.org](mailto:bookings@kurandaamphitheatre.org).

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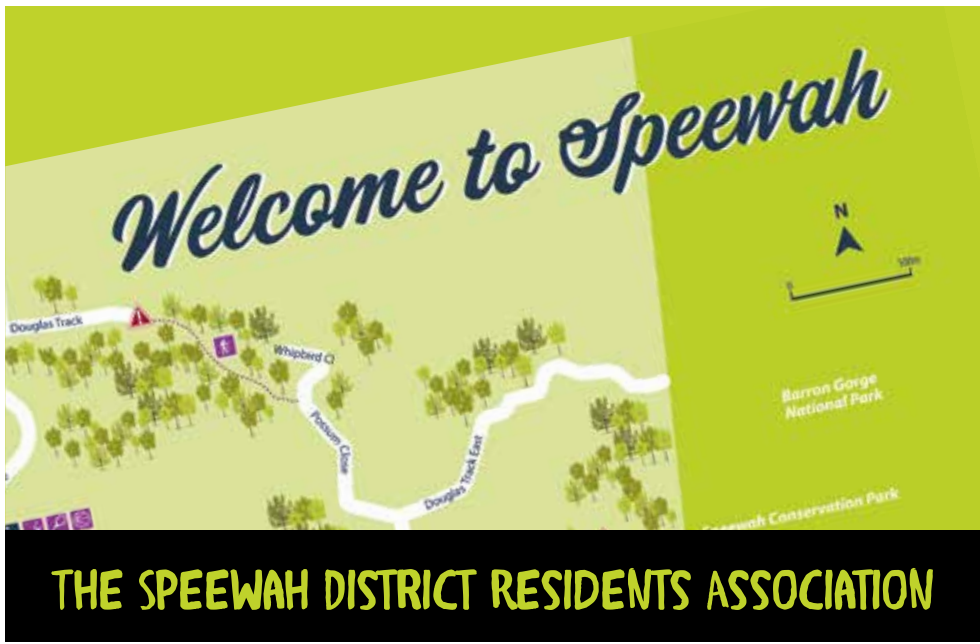
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**Dr Steve Salleras:** Thursday  
**Dr Sarah Smith:** Family medicine and Indigenous health – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday  
**Dr Lauren Taylor:** Family medicine and Indigenous health – Monday and Wednesday  
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# SPEEWAH TO THE HAT CHARITY WALK BEST YET!



The 2025 Speewah to The Hat - Walk for a Cause - Annual Event is Run and Done for another year and was the most successful yet! We raised \$6,405 for our very worthy recipients.

\$3405 went to a very deserving Mother of a young Baby Girl who is battling a severe bout of cancer (won't go into full details here) and is commuting to Cairns daily for chemotherapy!

\$1500 went to the Speewah District Residents Association towards the new mural being painted on the water tank to celebrate and promote the volunteers at The Speewah Rural Fire Brigade.

\$1500 also went to Mareeba Animal Refuge who are also all volunteer based and solely rely on fund raising to do what they do, so also very deserving!

That has put us at well over \$30,000 raised in the last 6 years, since the event became a n annual fund-raiser, so cheers to everyone involved!!

Thanks to all the sponsors and also to all the walkers (just under 60 of us this year) who made the trek down the mountain from Speewah to the Red Beret Hotel ('Hat') for the 12th year of this event.

See you all next year Ya Legends,

*Mick Dowling, Speewah.*



Photos Mick Dowling.  
Top: Off to a great start at Speewah, Bottom top left: Hurrah for The Hat! Ready for a refresh at The Red Beret, Redlynch. Above: It's all downhill from here. Bottom Left: View from the top - worth every step.

## Local Hero Mick Dowling Supports SDR with Heartfelt Donation

In a heartwarming act of generosity, Mick Dowling has once again proven that community spirit is alive and well in our region.

Through his self-organised charity initiative, Speewah to The Hat - Walk for a Cause, an annual trek from Speewah, down the ranges, to the Red Beret Hotel at Redlynch, Mick has been able to make a significant donation to the Speewah District Residents Association (SDRA), helping to fund an exciting new community driven project that will benefit locals for years to come.

Speewah to The Hat - Walk for a Cause is no ordinary charity. Entirely run by Mick himself, it's a labor of love that raises funds for individuals and groups in genuine need. Whether it's helping families through tough times or supporting grassroots organisations, Mick's mission is simple: give back where it matters most. The charity walk is also supported by generous donations by local businesses which are raffled at completion of the walk in Redlynch.

The SDR Committee expresses deep gratitude for Mick's support, noting that his contribution will make a lasting impact on the lives of many in Speewah and beyond.

From all of us at SDR: thank you, Mick Dowling. Your kindness, dedication, and tireless efforts through Speewah to The Hat - Walk for a Cause remind us what it means to be a true local legend.

Here's to Mick—proof that one person really can make a difference.

The SDR is committed to provide a space for consultation between Speewah residents, stakeholders, and local government. New members are encouraged to join. For more information, please contact: speewahdistrictresidentassocia@gmail.com.



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# A Grinter's Tale

The word vitamin is defined in the dictionary thus: "Any of a group of substances that are essential in small quantities for the normal functioning of metabolism in the body. They cannot usually be synthesised in the body but they occur naturally in certain foods."

I like the sound of the word 'thus'. There is something very strong in its brevity and it sounds as if whatever you are going to say, people will believe you.

In an article I wrote for Gulf News in Abu Dhabi back in the 90s when my daughter was at primary school, I said that I'd spent the last few years trying to persuade her that vitamins do not occur naturally in take away fried chicken, sugary biscuits or French fries, but she had reached the age of reasoning and could see through my white lies - after all she could see her fast food addict friends were still alive, if not thriving. And at that age, that's all that matters. It's hard to make a child see that it's the long term effect of poor nutrition that matters to mothers, because unlike us, children tend to live for the moment.

I tried to live in the moment when unsuccessful for the third time in getting hold of a person, any person, at the ANZ online and by phone last week. I decided I wouldn't even get an interview for living in the moment.

You can't have serious discussions with a six year old about the importance of fibre, healthy fats, vitamins and minerals, when you're faced with serious competition in the form of plastic dinosaurs or Pokemon characters handed out by fast food companies like rock wallaby feed at Granite Gorge.

Getting children to eat healthily is like bathing a cat. It can be done, but there will be retribution.

I'm one of those awful people who visibly grimace when I see some shopping trolleys being unloaded in the supermarket. It's like those moments that you are in a public place but reliving a horrible memory, feeling the anguish, and you suddenly realise you are screwing your face up like an overripe passion fruit. It's the same face your children pull when you experiment with olives or quinoa.

Far more shoppers are wearing glasses in the aisles these days. I've never known so many people read the labels on the back of cereal packets. They must have heard of Butylated hydroxytoluene, the cereal killer.

Growing up in the family health store and being faced with a handful of vitamins on the breakfast table every morning, I suppose I was somewhat indoctrinated, but I'm glad of that. I had a friend stay with me in Abu Dhabi who was of an ilk when it came to an interest in healthy eating and our vitamin bottles vied for space on the top of the refrigerator.

Clutching our glasses of Chardonnay, on my return from work we would ooooh and aaaah at each other's latest discoveries. At that time it was such things as oyster shell calcium, ginkgo and silica. It was tempting to trade remedies, but we were grown up enough (or so we thought) to realise that one dose would not make any difference to the strength of our bones or make our hair grow an inch overnight.

I recall selling Nutrimetics in the late 80s, spending a fortune on the set up kit, which included vitamin tablets. I truly resented my party hosts handing them around at the ubiquitous home sale parties as if one chewy tablet would turn their guests into Meg Ryan.

There were no shortcut dinners or marinated poultry in Abu Dhabi supermarkets, no Shepherd's pie or cheesecakes, no pasta bakes or bacon wrapped chicken. Certainly no bacon wrapped chicken. Going to visit family in the UK, I dreamed of full days spent in Sainsburys or Marks & Spencer's food section. But there was something wonderful about having to create every meal from scratch.

How many people do you know who have an allergy to certain foods, cannot eat gluten or are lactose intolerant. It's endemic. I'm no expert at all, but interestingly, in cleaner, more industrialised societies, children are exposed to fewer microbes early in life.

The immune system, under-stimulated, starts overreacting to harmless things like peanuts or pollen. Higher allergy rates are found in urban populations vs rural ones, and in high-income countries vs developing ones.

Somewhere along the line, cleanliness stopped being next to godliness and started being next to complete immune confusion. We used to play in mud, and feed the dog from the table. We would lick cake batter off cracked wooden spoons that hosted the bacteria of hundreds of baking episodes and a child digging a hole in the garden to bury an earthworm. It was washed with hordes of other implements in lukewarm water and dried with a tea cloth that hadn't seen the washing machine for a week.

I'm not saying we should all go back to licking trees or drinking pond water for immunity - but the obsession with sterility may have left our immune systems under-stimulated and overdramatic.

Somewhere between the introduction of antibacterial soaps, hand gel and cutting boards we lost the plot. We've become a society that sanitises everything from trolleys to other people's children. And while we've done a spectacular job of killing 99.9% of germs, maybe we also wiped out our immune systems' sense of purpose.

I grew up in an era when clean meant you didn't have chocolate around your mouth or a blob of tomato ketchup on your front. We filled our water bottles from the tap instead of buying plastic bottles that have probably sat in the sun somewhere for days leaching chemicals and containing nanoplastics.

If you dropped your sandwich, you blew on it and called it character-building. I recall an elderly friend spitting on his handkerchief and applying to a mosquito bite on my arm. I must admit, I did find that a bit confronting. Don't ask if it worked.

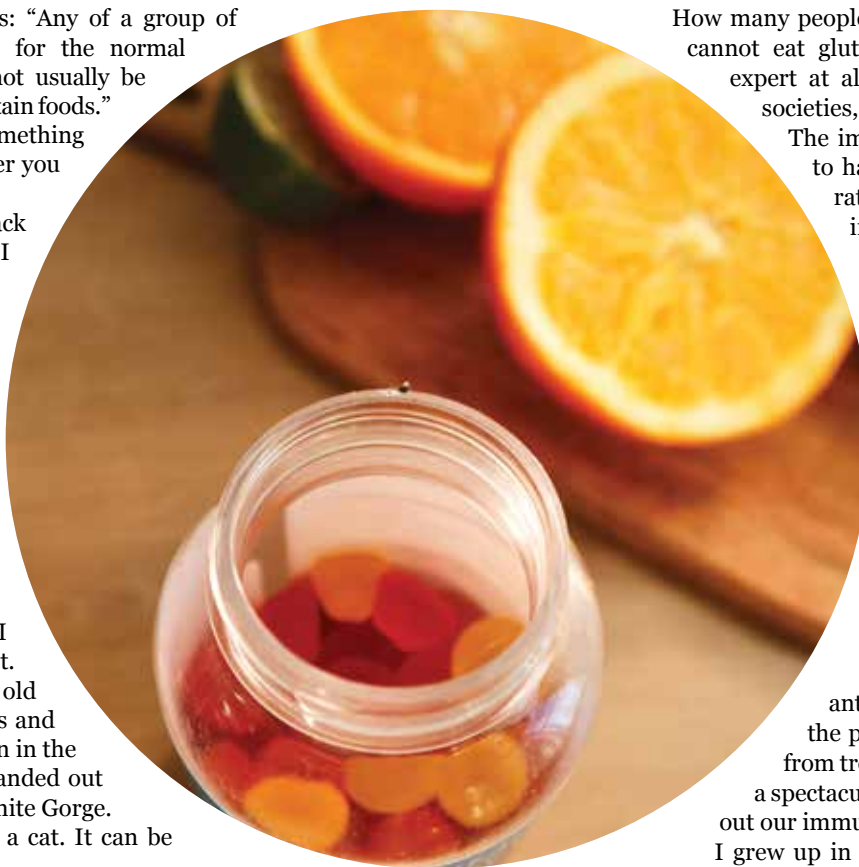
What has all this disinfection achieved for us? A paranoid generation with fear of doorknobs and supermarket trolley handles, and immune systems so under-stimulated they're now mistaking tomatoes for biohazards. And of course certain US 'doctors' went viral suggesting tomatoes are killing us because of the lectin contained therein. However, apparently they are good for male sexuality - it's the lycopene therein. I can see the supermarket shelves emptying. So I mean, you have to weigh the good with the bad, don't you, unless you're a woman. We dipped out on that one.

It's not just gossip that backs the hypothesis that our over-clean, sterilised, bacteria-phobic modern lives may actually weaken our immunity.

I reckon I'm doing okay for my age, and touchwood, very healthy, despite letting the family cocker spaniel lick my plate then my face as a kid, and standing thigh deep in putrid ponds in the local woods, catching tadpoles then eating a picnic sandwich without an antibacterial wipe in sight. Of course, I'm not advocating for a full return to filth. I'm just saying that disinfecting has become like gaming, an addiction.

Personally, I think we're sanitising the joy out of life. Kids' microbiomes are crying out to be fed. We have far worse enemies than dirt and a few germs, and they're busy inventing something else to destroy your immunity.

Right, I've got my wellies on, and I am off to scrape the sludge out of the bottom of my fish pond. I might have some on my salad tonight. Ta ra!



## Barry Hodson

FCPA

### Certified Practising Accountant

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Adult Learner's Week 1 - 8th September 2025

*Celebrate by learning how to Weave*

**LUNCH IS PROVIDED**

**Kuranda  
Neighbourhood  
Centre**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of  
September**

**11:30am - 2:30pm**

***Weaving session come along and  
learn***



**Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC)**

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**4093 8933**

**manager@kurandanc.org.au**

**Monday to Thursday 9am-5pm | Friday 9am-1pm**

## Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre is Hosting Adult Learner's Week

The Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC) is gearing up for a busy September with a range of community-focused events, workshops, and initiatives aimed at learning, safety, and support.

From 1-8 **September**, KNC will celebrate **Adult Learner's Week**, highlighting the importance of lifelong learning.

**Celebrate by Learning How to Weave Workshop** - Tuesday, 2 September 11:30am-2:30pm at KNC.

From 7-13 **September**, KNC will be promoting Children Protection Week. This year the theme is "Every Conversation Matters, Shifting conversation to action".

KNC is also looking to the future, with a callout for **new committee members** to join the board starting in **November 2025**, following the Annual General Meeting. This is an opportunity for community members to play a key role in shaping programs and initiatives that benefit Kuranda residents.

Anyone passionate about community development and eager to contribute is encouraged to contact the centre for more information.

For updates on workshops, events, and opportunities to get involved, follow the **Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre Facebook page** or call **4093 8933**.

## COMMUNITY DONATION DRIVE

KNC is initiating a Community Donation Drive to support local families struggling with the rising cost of living. Each week, dozens of individuals and families rely on the Centre for food parcels, hygiene kits, and emergency supplies - but shelves are running low.

The Centre is calling on the community to donate pantry staples such as canned goods, pasta, rice, spreads, and UHT milk, along with toiletry items including toothpaste, soap, shampoo, and toilet paper. Donations can be dropped off directly at the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. Please help, where you can, those who need our help.



## Keep Your Home Safe

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Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September  
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Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

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9:30 am to 4:00 pm

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KURANDA



For more information, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice)

SE156 2411



# YOUTH LINK NEWS



Our Youth Centre has recently begun a new project to refresh and repaint the pathways around our grounds. While we are still in the early stages, it has already been wonderful to see some of our young people take part. Even small contributions—helping prepare, painting sections, or sharing ideas—are making a visible difference to the space.

This pathway project started as a practical upgrade, but it is also becoming an opportunity for the youth to shape the look and feel of their Centre. The more they can be involved, the more ownership and pride they develop in the place they spend time. We are hopeful that as the work continues, more young people will join in, and the pathways will become not only safer and brighter but also a reflection of their creativity.

Art programs like this offer benefits that go well beyond aesthetics. Creative projects give young people a chance to express themselves in ways that words sometimes can't. They encourage imagination, problem-solving, and resilience. They also provide healthy outlets for emotions and stress, something that is particularly valuable for young people navigating the challenges of adolescence.

While the pathways are our latest project, they follow on from another meaningful arts initiative we were able to deliver last year thanks to support from Mareeba Shire Council's Regional Arts and Development Fund. With this grant, we partnered with local artist Connie Rovina from Widiworks to run a youth art program that culminated in a series of individual works and striking murals now proudly displayed at the centre.

Connie guided the young participants through the creative process, from brainstorming to painting and the result was not only a beautiful artwork but also a memorable experience. The youth involved built practical skills, gained confidence in their abilities, and were able to engage in conversations about storytelling, culture, and identity. For many, it was their first time working alongside a professional artist, and the impact was profound.

Both the mural and our current pathway project demonstrate the important role of creativity in youth development. When young people are given the chance to create, they feel more connected to themselves and to their community. Projects like these leave behind more than painted walls or renewed walkways—they leave behind a sense of pride, belonging, and contribution.

We are deeply thankful to Mareeba Shire Council for supporting arts programs through RADF, and to Connie Rovina for sharing her time and immense talent with the youth. Most of all, we are proud of the young people who continue to take part in these initiatives, whether in small or large ways.

As the pathway project progresses we look forward to watching the space transform, and to seeing how the young people continue to leave their mark. Every brushstroke, whether on a mural or a pathway tells a story of creativity, resilience and community spirit.



Youth Link Mural and pathway  
Photo: Youth Link

## Exciting News for Kuranda Village Accountancy.

After many fulfilling years serving the Kuranda community, I'm writing to share some important and exciting news about the future of Kuranda Village Accountancy.

I will be stepping back from my role as principal tax agent as I enter retirement. It's been an honour to support you and your businesses over the years and I remain deeply grateful for the trust you've placed in me. I have immensely enjoyed meeting and making many friends in the diverse Kuranda community.

To ensure a smooth and confident handover, I'm pleased to introduce Amjad and Shaun, who will be taking over as the new Registered Tax Agents. Amjad brings with him a wealth of experience and a forward-thinking team from ImplementHQ, who specialise in accounting system implementation and small business advisory services. Amjad also has extensive experience working with clients across Melbourne, Brisbane and the Gold Coast and is excited to work more closely with the Far North Queensland community. Their expertise will complement the work we've done over the years, and I believe their approach aligns with the values and legacy we've built.

Most importantly, our wonderful team members Simone, Linda and Jena will remain in place and continue to look after your day-to-day needs.

We look forward to welcoming you into this next chapter, where we will continue to offer the same reliable service now with expanded support in business advisory, system upgrades, and implementation assistance tailored for today's evolving business environment.

Last year, we had many people contact us to engage our services but unfortunately, we were operating at full capacity and unable to accept new clients. With the expanded team we are now happy to assist new clients with their individual and business needs.

I thank you with all my heart for your custom and support over the years.  
Kind regards

Fay Allen BCom



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The Tax Team left to right Simone, Amjad, Jena, Shaun and Linda



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## Buluwai Indigenous Corporation News

### Kuranda's Stories Come Alive with New Talking Trail App

Kuranda visitors can now explore the rainforest village in a whole new way with the launch of the Kuranda Talking Trail App, a free self-guided walking tour available in September on the App Store and Google Play.

Blending ancient cultural knowledge with modern storytelling, the app takes visitors on a journey through Kuranda's rich history, vibrant attractions, and lush rainforest trails. At its heart are exclusive recordings from Willie Brim, a respected Buluwai Elder, who shares stories of Country, bush foods, and the living traditions of his people. His voice grounds the experience in authenticity, offering visitors a chance to hear directly from those whose ancestors have cared for this land for thousands of years.

Television personality Mel Symons brings her curiosity and enthusiasm as she guides users through the app, adding warmth, familiarity and accessibility for visitors of all ages. Adding to the wonder local icon, Fairy Jenny, sprinkles her own special touch of on-the-ground magic, delighting visitors of all ages as part of the Kuranda experience. Together this trio of voices ensures the Talking Trail appeals to every visitor—whether drawn to culture, history, nature, or just a little bit of enchantment.

From the iconic Kuranda Scenic Railway Station—where many journeys begin—to riverside walks, local art galleries, bustling markets, historic sites and rainforest trails alive with rare wildlife, the Talking Trail App ensures visitors don't miss a thing. Detailed audio, engaging storytelling, and location-based guidance mean travellers can explore at their own pace, whether discovering a hidden café, stopping at a gallery or pausing to learn about a towering fig tree.

"Kuranda has always been a place of stories—stories written into the rainforest, into our culture and into the village itself," said Willie Brim. "Now visitors can walk with those stories in their ears, connecting to this place in a deeper way."



*Willie Brim recording Talking Trails. Photo Buluwai Indigenous Corporation*

The development of the Kuranda Talking Trail App was funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), ensuring that cultural voices and community-led storytelling are at the heart of the project.

The app is free to download on both Apple and Android devices, offering a seamless companion to a Kuranda day trip. For local businesses and attractions, it represents an exciting new way to highlight Kuranda as a destination that celebrates both its natural beauty and its cultural heritage, and features many local businesses.

With the Talking Trail App, Kuranda's rainforest village becomes more than a stop on the map—it becomes an immersive story waiting to be heard.

Download from the App Store or Google Play and step into the story of Kuranda or go to [www.kurandawalkingtours.com](http://www.kurandawalkingtours.com).



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**Village in the Rainforest**

**TALKING  
TOURISM**

**Bringing you the latest from Kuranda and  
Mareeba Shire's vibrant tourism community**

Kuranda is a village that thrives on connection; the way visitors arrive, the way they explore, and the way they remember their time here. Lately, those connections have been a topic of conversation, as local operators share concerns about Skyrail's upcoming upgrade project. It's an important piece of work to ensure the attraction remains world-class, but I know it will take some creative thinking from all of us to keep the momentum going during the works. Skyrail has long been a vital lifeline for the village, bringing thousands of guests each year who fill our cafes, wander our markets, and discover our galleries. Now more than ever, our warmth, our welcome, and our ability to turn a short visit into a memorable experience will make all the difference.

That spirit of connection was alive and well at the recent TTNQ networking event at Mexicairns that exceeded capacity. Joining me as my guest was Meleuka from Rare Earth Oils, and between the handshakes and conversations, we struck gold: a new contact who can help her reach visitors at exactly the right moment (while they're planning their day in Kuranda) to book her one-hour organic perfume-making workshop. Opportunities like these are why industry networking matters, and I'd encourage anyone in the tourism space to save the date for the next TTNQ member function on 10 September at James Cook University.

Kuranda is adding fresh layers to its charm. The monthly Amphitheatre Markets continue to draw visitors who linger, browse, and discover a more playful, creative side of the village. Soon, there'll be another reason to wander: the Kuranda Centenary Park Amenities Block is getting a vivid new mural by local artist Violet Shaban, celebrating the plants and animals of our region with colours inspired by the Aboriginal flag. Surrounding gardens will be refreshed with native plants, making the whole space a brighter, more inviting stop for visitors.

History lovers have something new to explore too. The Kuranda Historical Society has installed six large heritage

panels on the external wall of the Visitor Information Centre. Bringing stories of the village to life, the panels are now on full display for anyone strolling through the park - seamless mix of past and present, just waiting to be discovered.

It's also the time of year when I remind our local operators about the Mareeba Shire Tourism Partnership Program. If you have a brochure or flyer in the Visitor Information Centre or you'd like to - you'll need to be signed up at the Access level. Beyond that, partnerships keep you plugged into the latest industry news, networking events, and promotional opportunities that can give your business an extra edge. The details are just a click away, and if the sign-up process feels like one task too many, send me your details and I'll make it happen for you.

None of this work would be possible without the ongoing support of Mareeba Shire Council, whose commitment to the Visitor Information Centre ensures we can keep serving both our visitors and our industry with the professionalism and pride they deserve.

And because tourism is also about creativity, I'll leave you with a note about a workshop that caught my eye: Sketch to Shirt - Create Your Own Wearable Art. It's a hands-on, playful way to explore your artistic side, and exactly the kind of experience that shows the diversity of what's on offer in our region. In Kuranda, it seems there's always another story to tell, another connection to make, and another reason for visitors (and locals) to fall in love with our village all over again.

### What's On in September:

**09th Sept** Mt Carbine Bull & Bronc Ride  
**14th Sept** Kuranda Amphitheatre Markets  
**22nd Sept** Munch & Learn: Sketch to Shirt- Create your own wearable art. See page 8 for details  
**26th Sept** World Cassowary Day  
**27th Sept** World Tourism Day





SPIDERS BEWARE!

It's a fair estimate that for many of you, a close encounter with a spider may not be classed as your best day ever. It may surprise you then, that there could be something buzzing around your head occasionally that strikes fear into the hearts of spiders around the globe. This perfectly ordinary appearing insect could have, occasionally, caused you to squeal and bat at it – but never fear; humans are not of interest to this spider specialist. For spiders though, the stakes are high ... and capture results in being paralysed, buried and devoured alive.

The spider wasp (family Pompilidae) is a common insect found all over the world and widespread in Australia (including Tasmania). Though it lives in diverse natural habitats (locally in woodlands and wetlands), like all common insects it has adapted well to living in urban areas - a distinction it shares with other wasps. It can regularly be seen flying about during the day, perhaps in pursuit of wandering spiders.

These wasps are easy to recognise and differ greatly from other distinctive backyard visitors such as colonial Paper wasps. Some Australian spider wasps reach 3.5cm in length (though the smallest mature at only a few millimetres). Although the ratios of colouring can greatly differ, it is usually some combination of orange and black (though not striped at all). The antennae are long, curled and usually orange. The legs are visibly elongated and the knees bend above the body, a differentiation from other, stockier wasps. The eyes are very large and easily distinguishable, and females usually grow larger than males. Apart from when

breeding, spider wasps are solitary and do not build communal nests

Though named “spider wasps”, the adults of this family feed on nectar. It is the peculiar requirements of the larvae to which the name pertains. When ready to lay her eggs, the female wasp goes on the prowl for suitable spiders. It has been observed to flick its wings in a strange jumping/hopping motion when hunting. Though most species attack wanderers such as wolf spiders and huntsmans, some species of spider wasp have specialist scales on their legs which enable them to walk freely on a sticky web and capture orb weavers and other web-builders.

Once a spider is located, it is immediately paralysed via the wasp's powerful venomous sting. Reports suggest that wasps prefer spiders the same size or larger than themselves, to take their larvae through development, though some may collect many smaller spiders to make up for size discrepancies. Many species immediately snip off the legs of the spider for better manoeuvrability (and the spider is alive throughout this). The wasp then carries the spider to a hidden location where it has built, or will shortly commence building, a nest.

The wasp nest is usually little more than a burrow in the ground, though may occasionally be a mud-and-resin reinforced cell. Here, the spider is buried and will remain alive for some time. Long enough, in fact, for the egg which the wasp then lays on the spider's abdomen, to hatch into a larva and slowly devour it alive until it is old enough to pupate. It will then metamorphosis into the adult wasp (called holometabolism). It is suggested that larger spiders will result in female offspring, whilst smaller will cause the larva to develop into a male wasp.

Caitlin Henderson, Minibeast Wildlife



Top Photo: This species of spider wasp shears off the legs of its victim, presumably to make it easier to carry to the nest.  
Above: A large spider wasp dragging a paralysed huntsman spider through grass.  
Photos by Alan Henderson



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f Kuranda Historical Society

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

## Gold, River, and Power: Stories from Our Past

At the Kuranda Historical Society, we are always grateful when community members share their memories, stories that turn history from dates on a page into a living, breathing experience. At a recent gathering, Duggan “Dugg” Stratford did just that, recounting his 35 years at the Barron Falls Hydro-Electric Power Station and his family’s long ties to Kuranda. His words gave us a glimpse of both the hardship and the humour that shaped life here.

### Goldfields and the Birth of Cairns

Dugg began by reflecting on the earliest days of settlement, when prospectors followed James Venture Mulligan inland from the Palmer River. “Mulligan discovered the major load of gold on the Palmer River, and that was the boom of Cooktown as well,” Dugg explained. “When the gold started petering out, he went further—he found coal at Mulligan, and then gold again on the Hodgkinson River. That’s why Kuranda and Cairns are here.” Those discoveries spurred the need for a port closer than Cooktown. Dugg told us, “The miners were starving because the road was rough and often washed away. So the government sent Brinsley Sheridan in 1876 to survey a new port, and that’s when Cairns was marked out on Trinity Bay.”

### The Coming of Electricity

By the 1920s, Cairns was growing, though power was still primitive. Dugg laughed as he recalled stories from his elders: “They built the first little power station right beside the cemetery. Only one generator, noisy enough to wake the dead, but it got the job done.”

He added: “They started with 300 homes and it grew fast to 800. After that, they kept adding diesel generators—old machines from all over the world. Some of them were antiques, but they kept Cairns running.”

### Working in the Gorge

When Dugg joined the new Barron Falls station in 1964, he was a young tradesman already seasoned by work in Cairns and Mount Mulligan. “It was the biggest plant I’d ever worked on,” he remembered. “I had plenty of experience with generators, but stepping into big hydro stations was something else. The boss just said, ‘I’m sure you can do it.’ So I did.”

He vividly described the way workers reached the station: “The only way down was on the skip trolley. Imagine midnight on a pitch dark night, in a flying open wooden box going flat out down a two foot gauge rail straight down the mountainside. The inside looked like a set of stairs on level ground, but when you tipped downhill it flattened out. Carpet snakes often lay across the rails, so you’d bump right over them. A few blokes got such a fright they jumped off and broke bones.”

### Floods and Storms

The Barron River could be a friend or a fury. Dugg recalled the disastrous drought of 1966-67: “Tinaroo Dam was declared empty. The Barron was just a trickle, you could walk across it without getting your feet wet. It was disastrous. Without Tinaroo we never had enough water.”

At other times, floodwaters raged. He told us of a hair-raising helicopter trip. “Kuranda was cut off, and I had to get down to check the station. The pilot spotted what looked like a grassy patch and dropped me off. But it wasn’t grass at all, it was the top of a flooded cane field. I stepped off and went straight under. Lost my hat, toolbox, and the bread I was carrying for the crew. Had to swim to higher ground and walk all the way in, dripping wet.”

One of Dugg’s treasures is the original visitors’ book from the Barron Falls Hydro. “The first entry is Mr. and Mrs. Howe from Gordonvale, 15 April 1934,” he showed us. “The last is H. Foster from Cairns in 1963. And then it says ‘plant closed down at 3.45 pm, 14 August



*Dugg Stratford shares his Kuranda stories with Jan Weaver, Barry Haldane and Krishna Buhler at the KHS gathering*

1963.’ That was it. History written in a single line.”

### Keeping the Spirit of Kuranda Alive

As Dugg shared his stories, we were reminded that Kuranda’s history is not just in archives or photographs. It is in the voices of those who lived it. “I enjoyed my time in the power industry,” Dugg said simply. “You earned your money, but it was good experience.”

At the Kuranda Historical Society, we are deeply grateful to Dugg for sharing these memories with us. They remind us that Kuranda’s story is one of resilience, humour, and determination, whether on the goldfields, in the rainforest, or at the powerhouse in the gorge.

We are working to record more of these living histories. If you’d like to share your story or contribute to our collection, please join us. We meet every Monday from 1-3 pm at the Precinct above the Library. Join us. Membership is \$15 a year, and together we can ensure Kuranda’s remarkable history remains alive for generations to come. Come in and see us or email us at kurandahistoricalsocietycollec@gmail.com – our collection email address, or visit us online at <https://thecollectingbug.com/kurandahistoricalsociety/>

### So what’s happening next?

The Society’s AGM which will be held at 3 pm Sunday 5 October in the old Information Center at Centenary Park and we will be seeking new committee members including executive roles. Send an email to kurandahistory@gmail.com for nomination forms for the AGM. We also welcome new members, and any new memberships or renewals from now will run until September 2026.

We are delighted to see our posters displayed on the wall of the new Information Centre, thanks to Mareeba Shire Council for framing and installing them.

**By Marjorie Cutting - Kuranda Historical Society**



*Dugg Stratford and KHS President Vaughan Edwards. Photos supplied.*



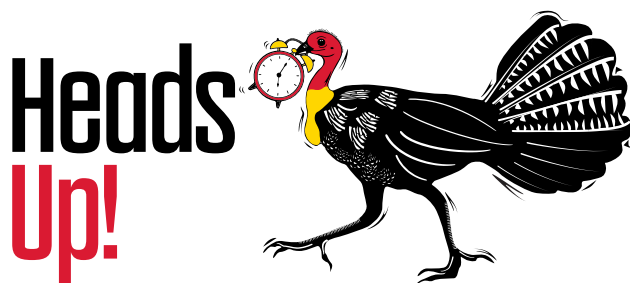
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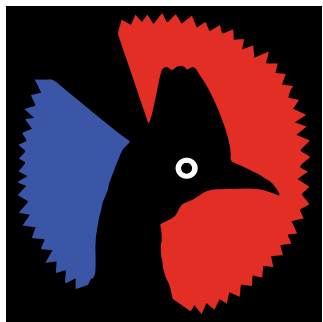
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# KURANDA conservation COMMUNITY NURSERY Inc

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- Let us know if you see a cassowary on the road or in the bush.
- Three **BOX TRAILERS** available to borrow – 0439 899 731.

## ALL ABOUT CASSOWARIES

You see lots of pictures of cassowaries but this one is special. She is named Chloe and lives in the Kuranda State Forest beyond Oak Forest. She's been known by the owners of the property on which she is regularly seen since she was a golden teenager. Now she's a beautiful, full-blown beauty. She has an occasional boyfriend that she likes to flaunt when the season is right. The area she frequents suffered severe flooding from Cyclone Jasper and now, 18 months later, she has returned to her original range. For those rare few who get to see her it is a treat. They are such awe inspiring creatures, right here.

Now for some not so good news. Last week, we got a call from Speewah to say a tiny cassowary chick, about 3 weeks old, had become separated from its parent and was following a bush turkey, calling out for him. She was easily rescued and put into a safe cage for the night. However, QPWS was called, correctly so, and they came and released the chick. End of story? No. The next day, we received a call from a resident about a kilometre further away to say that a tiny chick had wandered into his place, calling for its parent. He wrapped it in a warm blanket and called Wilf from Tigerlodge Wildcare, who came promptly and picked up the chick and drove it all the way to the vet in Atherton. From here it was transported to the Garner's Beach cassowary care unit where it was left, cold, in a box. Next morning it was found dead. The moral to the story might be that following text book rules might not be better than commonsense and warm care, even if your actions are outside the rules of the text book..

Cassowaries are in full mating mode at this time. The females are on the hunt for males, so you might see these large, colourful birds cruising around. The females are larger than the males and they wear a straight cut mini skirt to show off their shapely legs. The males always fall for this show and succumb to the female's "come hither". What the males seem to forget, year after year, is that he gets landed with a clutch of bright turquoise eggs which he sits on for 50 days or so, then looks after them for the next 6-9 months. When the female comes around the next year, he falls for it all over again! Maybe he likes it.

When we started counting, monitoring and collecting data on cassowaries many years ago, we estimated that there were about 12 cassowaries in the Kuranda region. We now know there are well over 40 and it looks like their numbers are expanding. One reason for this might be that dogs are NOW much more under control within their properties. Cassowaries are rarely seen where dogs are around. Another factor which may be contributing to an increase in numbers is that we are losing fewer to road strikes. And this, we think, is due to the slowing down of traffic. It's much easier to avoid hitting a cassowary at 60kmh than 80kph.

Please continue to message us on our Facebook page or phone in or message us on our mobile number: 0439 899 731. A photo is always most helpful. Our email address is: [kurandaconservation@hotmail.com](mailto:kurandaconservation@hotmail.com). Our website is [kurandaconservation.org](http://kurandaconservation.org).

## THE COMMUNITY NURSERY

Things have been evolving for the better in the KCons nursery due to the people in it. We have some new, young faces with new energy and new ideas. We have a newly acquired 10 x 5, dual axle trailer with canopy to add to our compliment of trailers. It's a bit more expensive but you'll be able to get a lot done with the extra covered space. Check it out.

Spring is on its way reflected by the rush of new growth across the whole nursery. Exciting.



Photo by Dianne Daniels.  
Thanks TMR.

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## At Kuranda Community Kindergarten we value Kindness as a virtue.

Kindness is an innate tendency, but it is also a skill that can be developed through positive social interactions, education and role modelling.

It is easy to think that children understand the intricacies of kindness but like most things children need to experience, see, hear and learn about kindness. We need to make kind and thoughtful behaviour visible, important and let children know that it is something we value.

We have an important rule that we learn at Kindy and that is; Be Kind. Play Kind.

As we learn what it means to be kind, play kind, we make the small acts of kindness that we see visible. We do this by complementing acts of kindness. We encourage the children to notice when their peers are kind and thoughtful. In term one we celebrated the kind things we noticed during the day. We sang and danced to songs; our favourite song is Kindness by Juicebox.

We even had a kindness party in Term one.

In Term two we created a kindness book that explains how each child got their kindness award. This was then turned into a book the children like to look through. They can see and be reminded of all the different ways they can be kind. Children love to share this book with family members when they come into Kindy.

When we sit and reflect together about what the children enjoy most about Kindy. Be Kind. Play Kind comes up often. Miss Aimee (age 4) said "We do kindness at Kindy".

Parents tell us that their children talk about kindness at home. One child asked his mother if his new school would be full of kindness like his Kindy. We always know when something is having a positive impact when we start to hear parents saying that the children are talking about it at home.

In Term three we have opened the Kindness Café in home-corner so that children can continue sharing kindness through play. This is a popular area for the children to play in as they build their communication and social skills.

*"The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child's own natural desire to learn"*

– Maria Montessori –



Clockwise from top left: Kuranda Community Kindergarten - Welcome to the Kindness Cafe, Cheerful Chocolate Desert, We explore literacy in interesting ways, We learn through play when we use our imagination to create and connect, Working together to make some food in the Kindness Cafe



## KURANDA BRANCH

20 Thongon Street

Email: [kurandabranch@qcwa.org.au](mailto:kurandabranch@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.*

## CWA is about friendship, education, connection & advocacy.

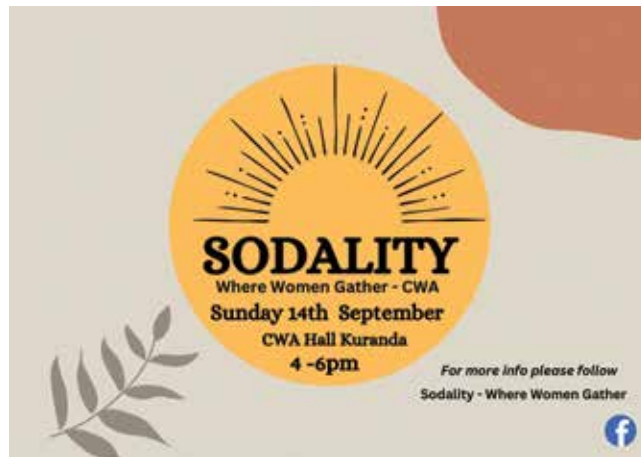
QCWA Far Northern CRAFT members will meet up with the Kuranda group on Friday 5 September, sharing their experiences and skills. Cairns CWA groups have over the years contributed to supporting women in shelters and babies in hospitals with handmade items. Recently members have sorted out the Craft storeroom and invite further donations of materials to work with. New participants are welcome.

CWA Sodality Women's group meets monthly on a Sunday evening, always surprising those present with creative, passionate and interactive presentations.

Kuranda CWA is grateful to have secured the Australian Government's '2024-2025 Volunteer Grants Program Grant' of \$5,000 towards this year's property Insurance.

QCWA is excited to officially announce that; "the Country Kitchens program has secured an additional two years of funding from the Qld. Government, through Health and Wellbeing Queensland. This funding extension will take us to the end of June 2027." The Kuranda Country Kitchen position is now vacant, let us know if you are interested.

This time of year QCWA web site is promoting various competitions Check them out!



Promo; CWA Sodality Group meets once a month on a Sunday at 4-6pm. See dates.

### CWA ACTIVITIES:

**Monthly Members' meeting** - held on 2nd Wednesday at 9.00 – 10.30am

**CWA CRAFTS** - held on Friday 5th & 19th Sept 10.30am – 12.30pm. ph. Trish Maude 0417050911

**CWA WOMENS SODALITY GROUP** - held on Sunday 14th Sept. 4-6pm.

Ph Holly 0494369462  
**COUNTRY KITCHENS interest;** Contact 0427937348

**CWA DANCE GROUP** - Sandra 0447 737 415

### WHAT'S ON AT THE CWA?

Contact the following hirers for any enquiries regarding their activities:

**Taekwon-Do** - Jeff 0437 438 196

**Dani's Soul Temple** Thursdays, 9.30-11am. ALSO; Mondays Sept. & Oct. ph. 0401162915

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

We currently have availability; Monday 12-8pm. Tuesdays 11am–5pm. Wednesdays (except 2nd week of month for CWA meetings 8am-12pm). Thursdays 12pm- 4.00pm. Some Fridays & Saturdays are free. Sundays are mostly free.

Please enquire via above email above as bookings can change.

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## Community Nursery and Landcare

### Kuranda Nature tracks by Cathy Retter

We've finally finished installing updated plaques around the Kuranda Nature tracks, that circuit of three tracks around Kuranda village; Jum Rum walk, Jungle walk and River Esplanade. We were funded by the Department of Environment and Science to promote our local urban environment to locals and tourists alike. Our project with its "Focus on Jum Rum" included cigarette butt bins being installed around town to help stop cig. butts washing down stormwater drains into Jum Rum creek. And the Explore Kuranda app provides information about the environment through Jum Rum creek walk including the critically endangered Kuranda tree frog – watch the 2 min videos on Wet Tropics and the Kuranda Tree frog discovery in our local urban creek.



Plaque on Jum Rum walkway  
Photo: C. Retter

And lastly the 17 walkway plaques which have a fresh new look, QRcodes that work, the local indigenous name (if known) and flags indicating information in English, Mandarin and Japanese on our website. This includes identifying fruit and flowers plus local indigenous usage of the plant.

Our thanks go to Jess and the northern QPWS team who manage the Jum Rum conservation area. They kindly repainted the plinths and placed the new plaques. Also a big



Left: QPWS team, Above:  
volunteers Lyn, Nick and Joel  
Photo: C. Retter

thank you to our volunteers Lyn, Joel and Nick who placed the rest of the plaques around the Council managed areas.



### Plant of the Month Pink Lime Berry - *Glycosmis trifoliata*

The slightly translucent pink berries of this hardy shrub are sweet, honey flavoured, juicy and can be eaten straight from the bush. This small tree in the forest is smaller in a garden setting, 2- 4m. Tiny fragrant white flowers are followed by large clusters of berries that start in late Spring and bear continuously throughout the year. You'll

have to be vigilant to be ahead of the birds! Plants are hardy, but not very frost tolerant and are suitable for the drier parts of Kuranda, Speewah and Koah. They need adequate moisture when they're young, full sun and well drained soil. They attract bees, are host plant for the Canopus Swallow tail butterfly and perfect for a mixed screen planting or bush tucker garden.



### Weed of the month African Tulip - *Spathodea campanulata*

You've probably seen the bright red flowering tree all around Kuranda in August, starting to drop their flowers. Regretably it's not a native and unfortunately it's toxic flowers are killing our native stingless bees, which are vital pollinators for our native rainforest and dryland forests. Link here to see what Bob the Beeman has to say. <https://www.bobthebeeman.com.au/information-documents/african-tulip-tree-ebook/>

It's a declared Class 3 weed in Queensland, it grows between 7–25 m tall and is native to tropical dry forests of Africa. According to one list, it has been nominated as among 100 of the "World's Worst" invaders. You may have noticed

the spread around Kuranda over the years, starting with a few and now quite a lot in some areas. This is progression in action to a replacement of our native forest trees such as is happening on Fiji's Viti Levu. Treatment trials for African Tulip are underway at Cassowary Coast Council in conjunction with the local Mamu rangers.

Our local Mareeba Shire Council Biosecurity team are interested in collaborating with the community and landholders around Kuranda, Mt Molley and Julateen as it needs a whole of area approach. It's a long term project and, to get the ball rolling this flowering season, Kuranda Envirocare will create a register of landholders who would like to eradicate them from their blocks and /or would like help removing them from their block. Please email info@envirocare.org.au with your name, address and phone number and number of plants and we will get back to you to discuss and with more information.

### • Date Claimers •



**Next three weeks of September** – Multiple Swamp orchids blooming in Envirocare nursery. Come along and see the spectacle.

**20th to 28th September.** Frog monitoring. Our September monitoring coincides with the stream breeding frog's breeding season. If you would like to join us, or the group texts and emails, please contact Chloe our new volunteer coordinator on 0422 677 283 or info@envirocare.org.au

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Show, don't tell

"Show the readers everything, tell them nothing."  
-Ernest Hemingway

Who am I to challenge Hemingway? Even so, this is a bit rigid for me. I think telling is useful, even necessary at times, to keep the story moving. I will explain the concepts and let you decide.

When you **tell** - you are giving your reader information. Full stop. *Peter ran away from the angry dog.*

When you **show**, you are inviting your reader to become more involved in your story using dialogue, sensory imagery and actions.

*Peter's feet pounded the road. Blood roared in his ears. Barks turned to snarls as the dog galloped closer. He glanced over his shoulder. He shouldn't have. Strings of saliva dangled from the massive teeth, centimetres from his leg. If only he could fly.*

In this rewrite we can feel Peter's fear. We feel his pounding feet, hear the dog's snarls, see its saliva and big teeth.

One more example:

Telling

*Lizzi missed her best friend, Pia. She told her mother she wasn't going to school.*

This explains the situation, but we don't feel involved. Someone is feeding us Lizzi's feelings, so there's no effort on our part, and we feel more distant.

Showing

This might be one way to invite the reader into the scene. *"Up Lizzi," Mum called. "You'll miss the bus."*

In this first line, you're not being told what's going on, you work it out yourself.

What can we deduce?

- Lizzi's still in bed.
- Mum's calling so we know she's not close by.
- It's getting late.

*Lizzi pulled the covers over her head. She burrowed into her warm pillow. The bus without Pia? She'd never ride it again. "I'm not going," Lizzi muttered.*

What does this show us?

- Lizzi's unhappy from the way she hides under the covers. (Every reader's doona will be different as we create our own images based on our own experiences. In this way, we start to own the story a little bit.)
- Pia is important to Lizzi and she's gone.
- Lizzi doesn't want to face life without Pia.

6 Tips for showing

1. Choose one viewpoint character per scene

This means relate each scene through the eyes, mind and body of a single character. This will allow the reader to identify closely with that character and become more invested in the story. It also makes it easier to show, not tell.

2. Use Sensory imagery

Sight, obviously. But don't forget sound, taste, smell and touch. The more specific and unique, the better.

*- The apple dangled just out of Millicent's reach. Bark scraped the backs of her legs as she edged along the branch.*

*- Bradley sniffed. Smoke? He clomped downstairs. "Dad?"*

3. Use Dialogue

This is another good one as long as the dialogue moves the story along. We don't need an in-depth conversation about the weather unless a cyclone is brewing. We don't need much talk about traffic unless someone's going to miss a plane.

Telling

*Nika tasted Diana's new chocolate recipe. It was terrible.*

Showing

*"Try this, Nika." Diana handed her a square of chocolate.*

*"Can you guess what I put in it?"*

*Nika took a tiny bite. Smooth, sweet, but also something that didn't belong in chocolate. She handed it back. "What is it?"*

*Diana laughed. "Mustard pickles! Do you love it?"*

4. Avoid overusing words like is, am, are, was, were

She is funny. They are talented. The sand was hot. They tell us something, but they show us nothing. You can't replace them all but test them to see if there might be a stronger way of conveying your message smoothly. A good trick for replacing to-be words is to ask yourself, How do I know that she is funny, they're talented, the sand was hot? Or even better, pretend you don't know what the descriptive word means.

Telling:

*He was huge.*

Showing

*His head nearly touched the ceiling and his fingertips brushed both walls.*

Telling:

*Pita was selfish.*

Showing

*Pita shoved her cookies into her bag. "These are mine," she said.*

5. Show emotions, instead of labelling them

Telling:

*Bernice was furious.*

Showing

*Bernice's face grew hot. She clenched her teeth. He wouldn't get away with this.*

6. Show setting

When a character walks into a room and we get a detailed description of furniture, wallpaper and carpet, we are standing still and looking around. The forward movement of the story has stopped.

To combat this? Show the character interacting with their environment.

*Jackson swivelled in his father's chair. He clicked on the lamp and a pool of light spilled across the desk. There it was. The gash made by a sword during the civil war.*

We'll get into how to show setting in a bit more detail next month.

Until then, enjoy the process.

www.annharth.com

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

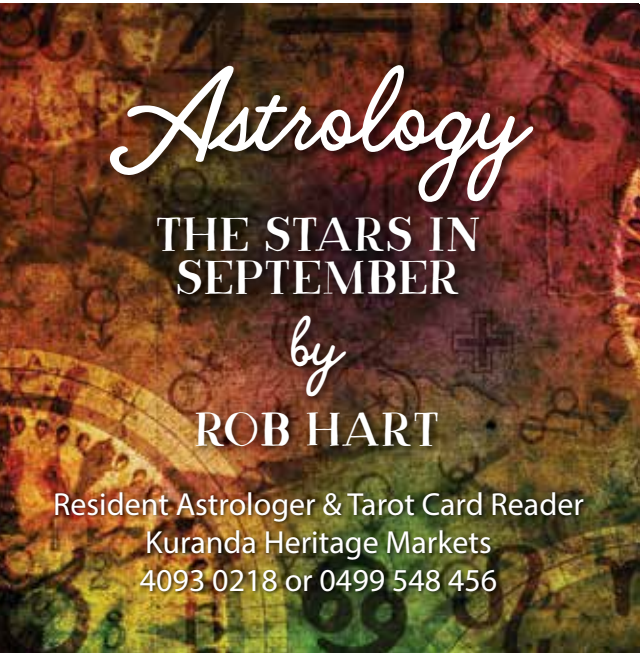


The Practical and Medicinal Uses of Plants. Steve Price

Plant use is the most fascinating of subjects, to contemplate that humans have been on the planet for a million years, and that the key to that survival is primarily not just an understanding of the habits of fauna, but also an understanding of the uses of flora. This includes glue, soap, thatches and fibres, tans, dyes, medicine, unusual food skills, the multitude of timber qualities, insecticides, poison, waxes and oils. Thousands of years of human experience have been passed down to us as plant lore. The connection that this knowledge gives us to our earth is timeless and quintessential.

Steve Prices talk introduces us to the native and exotic uses of plants in the tropics of Australasia. 10 Sept 2025, 6.00 pm Gardens Visitor Centre. Visitors welcome. \$10 charge for light supper.

Contact: D Rentz, publicity, antipodectes@yahoo.com



We are into the next eclipse season: lunar eclipse in Pisces on 8 September and then a very rare and very portentous event, a solar eclipse on 22 September as the Sun and Moon cross the Libran Equinox ... !

That indicates we are at a crossroads, both globally and personally, with opportunities to find balance and harmony, and successfully negotiate positive outcomes, or have the rules of equality under law imposed on us. Seek balance: fair and equal outcomes, and we are flowing with the cosmic tide and this is a watershed time - a rare opportunity and just where the 0 degree Libra equinoctial point sits in your own birthchart will indicate the area of life where this will play out.

In any case, focus on aesthetic harmony, beautiful creations and loving communication will align us with the cosmic flow.

The Sun moves through Virgo, aligning with Mercury on 15 September and here's a day when all forms of communication, recording and planning can be just perfect. Any written or spoken creative work will be a real pleasure, and with very positive links in the air and fire signs between Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, the impact on long-term outcomes and actions will be really firing. Actions and words BOTH speak loudly now. Excitement looms...

And there's more! Right on that potent Sun-Moon-Equinox alignment, on 22 September, Mars charges into Scorpio, where along with Pluto, it "rules", or is in full power and being Mars, the warrior, that fully weaponises the whole thing. Venus also moves signs into Virgo, smoothing and soothing, this is almost too archetypal to put meanings on it. We can just say that momentous times are "a'comin" and if you have any points of your birthchart at 0 degree of any sign you're hooked into one of the most powerful times we are likely to experience.

Globally, nationally, personally, all will be pushed through to a new level - for better or for worse, but this is epochal so give it your best shot (Mars in Scorpio there). Ride the cosmic tides.

Back on 8 September the eclipse of the Moon in Pisces softly dissolves a lot of hard edges and enhances sympathy, compassion, fantasy and letting go, with the ultimate question arising "How may I serve?". The answer may require some sacrifice but will clear the path for the coming barrage. Exciting times indeed.

Blessings Rob



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## Kuranda Writers Group

Next meet:  
**Monday 8 September - 10am-12 noon**  
at Kuranda Library, Arara Street

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

**All welcome!**

Exercising the much over-used word of late, productivity, the writing prompt of slang for the August meeting proved to be a bit of a fizzer.

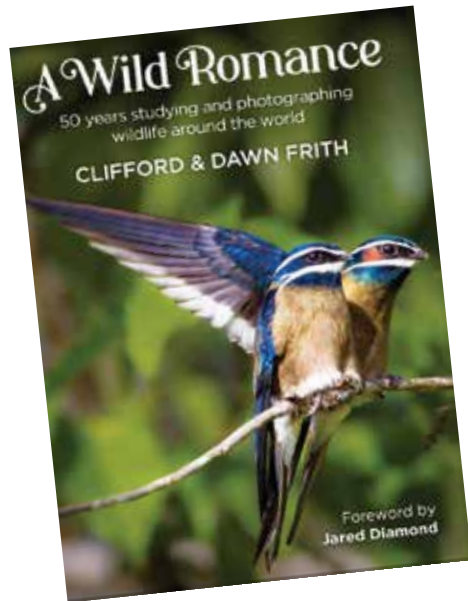
Toni recalled her English teacher using the pseudonym Afferbeck Lauder (Alphabetical Order) for his book *Let Stalk Strine* (Let's talk Australian) and his other tome *Nose Tone* (Unturned). He also had a go at the English upper-class in a book called *Fraffley Well Spoken*.

The best Aussie language reference to tease out the difference between a colloquialism and slang is the *Macquarie Dictionary*. First published in print in 1981 and online since 2003, its reputation is now internationally regarded. Meanwhile the best in the UK is the *Oxford English Dictionary*, and in the US, the *Merriam-Webster*.

What have we been reading or watching lately? Beck has been reading *The Language of Limbs* by Australian Dylin Hardcastle, a coming-of-age story about love (and how it's policed,) friendship and heartbreak. Shortlisted for the 2025 Stella Prize, it has now been optioned by Sony Pictures.

Beck also reported that the daily journaling she had embarked upon months ago has lately dried up due to a headspace that's talking her out of it. This prompted us to suggest she write out all her limiting self-talk, then intersperse that with talking back to herself to again give herself permission to express her authentic self externally on the page. With her background in biology, Beck mentioned the many books by naturalists Cliff and Dawn Frith, including *A Wild Romance: 50 years studying and photographing wildlife around the world* (2023). Sadly, Dawn Frith PhD OAM passed away earlier this year in Malanda.

That got us talking about some of the north's wilder places, such as the cloud forests of Paluma, inland from Ingham where Cliff and Dawn Frith once lived, Chillagoe-Mungana National Park with its extensive limestone caves 140kms west of Mareeba, and the lava tubes at the Undara Volcanic National Park, 220kms SW of Mareeba. Had we visited, or were these natural wonders still on our bucket list?



Anna spoke of *Prima Facie* (2019), a dramatic one-woman play by Australian Suzie Miller. Winning a string of awards, it played in theatres across Australia, UK, USA, and was then translated into 10 more languages for stages across all continents. The play is about a barrister, Tessa, who specialises in defending men accused of sexual assault, and whose view of the legal system changes after she is sexually assaulted herself. Judges in Ireland are now required to watch the movie of the play, available online.

Anna has also been absorbing best-selling memoir *The Salt Path* by UK's Raynor Winn, a 2018 book and 2025 film mired in scandal. It's now in the hands of lawyers to rule what is true and what are lies. There is a long list of such so-called deceptions posing as truth, but in today's world of fake news, has the bar for memoir lowered? More here: <https://tinyurl.com/7b2xvxe8>

The writing prompt for the next meeting 10.00am – 12.00 noon on Monday 8 September 2025 at Kuranda Library is to

take an uncomfortable perspective. We all know that witnesses to any incident each have a different point of view, with some books even repeating the same story in chapters by different people, so this is about choosing an unusual vantage point from an onlooker. Newcomers will be welcomed.

**Eve Stafford**

Picture: Book cover of *A Wild Romance*.



### We love Lego!

We launched our Lego Club last month, and as you can see from our Lego display cabinet, we have been having a lot of fun! If you would like to come along and try your hand at building some bricks, we run Lego Club every Friday afternoon during school terms.

For those who are going through homeschooling, head to the library from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. This is a particularly good session to come along to if you would like to encourage some STEM learning, as we have Lego, Lego Technic and some educational sets for your kids to try their hands at Lego Robotics building.

For those of you who have kids in school, we also run an after-school session from 3:00pm to 4:30pm. We have a weekly Lego Challenge they can have a go at completing, a whole stack of different instruction booklets to help guide their builds, or of course, simply free build wherever their imagination takes them!

For more information, drop into the library at 18 - 22 Arara Street to speak to the friendly staff, or call us: 4093 9185.



### Get Tech Savvy

Need some help with your personal devices? Technology is constantly changing and sometimes it is hard to keep up. So, we are here to help with your digital journey.

Kuranda library runs free sessions offering basic tech assistance on a variety of topics and devices. Held every Thursday from 2:00pm, these one-on-one 30-minute sessions will help you get started or deepen your understanding.

A wide range of how-to titles are also available to borrow, for adults and children alike.

For bookings or more information, contact the library on 4093 9185.



### Hot off the presses!

The Cairns Post and the Courier Mail are now available to read for FREE for Mareeba Shire Library Members through BorrowBox. New editions are uploaded daily from 11:00am – just in time for your mid-morning cuppa!

Haven't heard of BorrowBox before? It's the 24/7 virtual library that fits into the palm of your hand. Best part? BorrowBox is completely FREE with your library card!

There are thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks to choose from – from new releases, award winners, and Australian and international bestsellers – you'll always find something to read.

The app is very user-friendly, with accessibility features that make stories accessible for everyone. You can even download your books for offline reading/listening.

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So, whether you're catching up on regional news and diving into the latest headlines, or cracking into your next great read, it's all just a tap away on your device.

How do you get started? Simply download the free BorrowBox app from the app store on your device and use your library membership card number and PIN to join. You can also visit the BorrowBox link through our 'eResources' page via our Featured Collections to get started.

If you would like help with learning how to use BorrowBox, or have any questions about it, swing by the library and our friendly staff will give you a hand! If you feel you'd like some more in-depth help, you can always book into one of our aforementioned Thursday afternoon Tech-Savvy sessions.

### Book Review - *The Long Road from Kandahar*

by Sara MacDonald

Trade Paperback, Harper Collins, 2022

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 stars

*The Long Road from Kandahar* weaves together the lives of two boys from vastly different worlds:

Raza: the son of Zamir, a retired Taliban fighter turned goat-herder in Pakistan's Swat Valley, who makes a painful decision to send his youngest child away to protect him from looming threats.

Finn: a young English boy whose father serves on a military base in Lashkar Gah, Afghanistan, and whose grandmother Delphi—a grieving artist—provides sanctuary for him back in Cornwall.

When Raza and Finn form an unexpected friendship, their bond becomes a heart tugging exploration of loneliness, cultural divide, and the universal hope for connection.

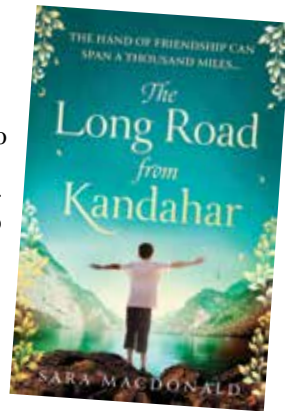
I found *The Long Road from Kandahar* to be uplifting, evocative and heartbreaking. It addresses powerful themes—war and loss, and love and friendship across cultures that captivated me from the start.

The author, Sara MacDonald writes vivid and descriptive character portrayals, immersing you into the lives and emotions of the characters and the landscapes in which they live.

*The Long Road from Kandahar* is a poignant and emotionally charged novel that offers a powerful cross-cultural friendship amid the backdrop of war, lyrical prose and themes that resonate long after turning the final page.

If you're drawn to emotionally rich, character-driven stories that bridge worlds and explore the impacts of conflict on human connections, this is highly recommended.

Peta





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



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



- GUWAL

GUWULGUWUL

GUYUNGUN

MUNUMUNU

MURRGUL

MUWA

MUYGUN

NGABI

NGALGA

NGAMA

NGAMU

NGAMUN

NGANDJAL

NGANDJUNGANDJU

NGANYDJA

NGIRRMA

NYANYDJI

NYAWIL

NYUBI

NYUMBA
- NYUMBU

WAGAL

WALBURRI

WANGAL

WANGARRI

WAYWAY

WIGIL

WIYAM

WUDJI

WUMARRIL

WUMBUL

WURRMBUL

WURRUBA

YABURU

YAGAN

YALUGULI

YINDIN

YIWANDIBIY

YUWAL

WORD MEANINGS

- MUNUMUNU:** crooked/Flaggy Creek/origin of Mona Mona.
- MURRGUL:** cooked. *Minya murrgul-ala*, meat cooked now.
- MUWA:** mother-in-law.
- MUYGUN:** string bag.
- NGABI:** many, much, lots.
- NGALGA:** cluster fig.
- NGAMA:** mother, mother’s sisters.
- NGAMU:** thumb, big toe.
- NGAMUN:** breasts.
- NGANDJAL:** a light, a flame.
- NGANDJUNGANDJU:** clever.
- NGANYDJA:** a taste. *Nganydja gurii*. A good taste.
- NGIRRMA:** language, speech.
- NYANYDJI:** flesh.
- NYAWIL:** tongue.
- NYUBI:** father-in-law.
- NYUMBA:** spit, saliva.
- NYUMBU:** father, father’s brothers.
- WAGAL:** wife, wives.
- WALBURRI:** sugar glider, flying possum.

- WANGAL:** boomerang.
- WANGARRI:** adolescent boy.
- WAYWAY:** breath.
- WIGIL:** sweet.
- WIYAM:** cassowary chick
- WUDJI:** a lie. *Gari wudji-nggu ngaa!* Don’t tell lies!
- WUMARRIL:** to help. *Nganya wumarri!* Help me!
- WUMBUL:** hot.
- WURRMBUL:** pelican
- WURRUBA:** beeswax.
- YABURU:** mature girl.
- YAGAN:** sweat. *Nyurra yagandji*. You are sweaty.
- YALUGULI:** today.
- YINDIN:** a cricket.
- YIWANDIBIY:** to play. *Yiwandibiy-galin wawu!* Go outside to play!
- YUWAL:** to bend something. *Gudji yabulam yuwa!* Bend that lawyer cane!



Photo by Konstantinos Papadopoulos - Unsplash

DJABUGAY

A guide to the pronunciation of Djabugay words

Vowel Sounds

/a/

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

/a:/

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

/i/

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

/i:/

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

/u/

word

is pronounced as the vowel sound in the English

/u:/

“book” e/g. **mudu** (back)

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 “sporrán” e.g. **burra-y** (to fly)

/r/

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

/ny/

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

/ng/

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

/n.g/

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

/ngg/

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

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

/ay/

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

Stress

*When saying Djabugay words which syllables should we stress?*

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

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

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

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

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

Djabugay

Tribal Aboriginal Corporation

*Buwal bugan Ngirrma bulmba-barra.*

*Speak the language belonging to this place.*

*Djabugay ngirrma Windjirri bugaa.*

LANGUAGE CLASSES

Wednesday evenings 6-8pm

Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation

Nyuwarri Estate (old Ngoonbi farm),

1496 Kennedy Highway, Kuranda

07 4093 8116 (business hours only)

ALL WELCOME

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

24 September 2025 | The Kuranda Paper





# RANGERS report



U8 team at Marlin Coast Carnival: photo Coach John.

## KRFC Shines at the Marlin Coast Carnival

The Marlin Coast Carnival, held in July, was a fantastic showcase of skill, teamwork and club spirit from the Kuranda Rangers Football Club (KRFC). With every squad putting on a strong performance and not a single loss recorded across the board, it was a weekend that truly reflected the club's growth and cohesion this season.

### Reflections:

**Coach Greg** (U8 Coach):

"I'm so proud of how our squad handled themselves, they played with confidence, energy, and sportsmanship. Even when things got a bit scrappy or unpredictable, they kept their cool and stuck together as a team. Couldn't ask for more."

**Coach John** (U11 Coach):

"The players gave it their all, and it really showed on the field. They supported each other, stayed composed under pressure, and played some great football. What stood out most was their attitude, proud to see such maturity and team spirit from this group."



U11 team at Marlin Coast Carnival: photo Coach Greg.

From the youngest players through to the older teams, the Rangers showed not just technical ability, but also resilience and respect, key values the club continues to build on.

## U13s March into the Finals

In more good news, our U13s have officially qualified for the finals! This group has shown dedication and consistency all season and now gets the chance to push for silverware. Best of luck to them, the whole club is behind you!

**Save the Date** - End of Season Presentations

Our 2025 Award Presentations will take place on Saturday, 14 September, at the Kuranda Recreation Centre from 11am to 2pm. All players, families, and supporters are warmly invited to celebrate a fantastic season with us.

Please contact the Club for more information:

- kurandarangersfootball@gmail.com
- Adric 0429 488 214 or Keira 0437 778 849
- Facebook – KurandaRangersFootballClub

**Go Rangers!**



## Kuranda State Emergency Service

[kuranda.do@ses.qld.gov.au](mailto:kuranda.do@ses.qld.gov.au) | SES HQ - 9 Fallon road

## Celebrating 50 Years of the Queensland State Emergency Service

In 2025, the Queensland State Emergency Service (SES) proudly celebrates its 50th anniversary. Founded in the wake of the devastating 1974 Queensland floods, the SES has grown into a vital part of our state's disaster response and community resilience network.

Today, the SES is powered by the dedication of over 5,000 volunteers, operating through 76 units across seven regions, supported by regional headquarters and a State Headquarters in Brisbane. These volunteers come from all walks of life, united by a shared commitment to serving their communities during times of need. From flood and storm response to land search, road crash rescue, and vertical rescue, SES members stand ready 24/7 to protect Queenslanders.

As part of the milestone celebrations, the SES 50-year Flag Relay is touring the state, commemorating half a century of service. Beginning in the Far Northern Region in August 2025, the relay sees SES volunteers signing a commemorative flag as it travels to communities across Queensland.

On 17 August, Kuranda SES proudly hosted the flag. The flag was taken by members on a quick trip on Skyrail before a visit to the Kuranda train station. The Kuranda SES is always happy to welcome new members. Volunteers come from diverse ages, skills, and backgrounds, all contributing their time and talents to make a difference. If you would like to be part of this proud tradition of service, visit the Queensland SES website to find out more about becoming a member or email [kuranda.do@ses.qld.gov.au](mailto:kuranda.do@ses.qld.gov.au)



Flying the SES 50-year relay Flag at the Kuranda railway station, and Skyrail, 17 August 2025. Photos supplied.



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## Interested in joining the Kuranda SES?

Attend one of our training fortnightly training sessions at the Kuranda SES HQ starting at 7pm on Tuesdays or Contact us via email

[kuranda.do@ses.qld.gov.au](mailto:kuranda.do@ses.qld.gov.au)  
SES HQ - 9 Fallon road

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Jaide on 0488 229 700

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KURANDA PILATES



## Keeping the Koah community safe from invasive electric ants

The National Electric Ant Eradication Program will be holding a public information seminar on electric ants, the eradication program, and what it means for the broader community.

To be held at the Koah Hall, 322 Koah Road in Musumeci Park, on Wednesday 3rd September at 6:00pm. The program aims to deliver information on the impacts of electric ants, and the work being done to achieve eradication.

There are multiple infestations across Koah, Speewah and surrounding areas - the focus is to reduce the risk of further spread and address any concerns and questions the community may have.

Electric ants are one of the world's worst invasive species and are Category 1 restricted matter under the Biosecurity Act 2014.

Native to Central and South America, electric ants were first detected in Cairns, Far North Queensland in 2006. In response to this detection, a biosecurity zone was established covering 5 local government areas.

Electric ants pose a serious threat to human health, lifestyles and the economy and can cause a decline in population of our native invertebrates, small vertebrates and pollinators. They will outcompete native ant species disrupting the natural processes of our ecosystem. In well-established electric ant infestations, up to 95% of native ants have disappeared.

Electric ants inject a venomous sting which can cause severe allergic reactions in people and can cause blindness in our native animals and domestic pets. Electric ants protect plant pests such as scale, mealybugs and aphids in exchange for their sugars. This can cause sooty mould, resulting in dieback of plants and crops, affecting ecosystems, agriculture and industry. Farm animals may be affected in the same way as other animals.

Early detection is critical in helping minimise the spread of electric ants. The Queensland Government provides free yard checks within the biosecurity zone. Through these yard checks 43% of all known infestations have so far been found.

Landowners and residents are encouraged to attend to learn more about electric ants and the progress toward eradication.

For further information contact 0423 822 210

Register for your free yard check at [www.dpi.qld.gov.au/anthunt](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/anthunt)

**Electric Ant Program  
Public Information Meeting**  
Wednesday 3rd September at 6pm  
Koah Hall  
322 Koah Road, Musumeci Park



Photos from top: Insects, animals and humans are all under threat from Electric Ants. Photos supplied

## KURANDA WASTE-BUSTERS

by Julia Mauro

### The Nose Knows

**This month's challenge: don't throw out any food!**

The other day, I told my husband to get out the infested arborio rice and make a risotto.

What had happened was I'd bought way too much rice, thinking, "Oh, that's an easy one, I can cook that any old time." Then, of course, I didn't use as much as expected. When next I looked at the jar of arborio rice in the pantry, it had a heap of bugs crawling around in it. Shock, horror!

But, as Lindsay Miles explains in her book *The less waste no fuss kitchen: simple steps to shop, cook and eat sustainably* (Hardie Grant Books, 2020), this is really common. If you leave grains standing long enough, then the eggs that are often in the grains when they are harvested will hatch. There's nothing wrong with bugs in grains, you can simply wash them out before cooking.

So, I put the arborio rice in the freezer to kill the bugs. Then, I made sure we used up the rice, rinsing the dead bugs out before cooking it.

I did that because I wouldn't dream of throwing out a kilo of edible rice. But a lot of people do waste a lot of food. According to Craig Reucassel in his ABC documentary series *War on Waste*, the average Australian household throws out a fifth of its groceries per week (equivalent to a bag of groceries every week going in the bin). What a terrible waste!

Let's practise making use of all the food that we buy. Sarah Wilson's idea in her zero-waste cookbook *I Quit Sugar: Simplicious Flow* (Macmillan Australia, 2018) is this: make it a game not to buy anything for a few days or for a week. Use up what you have in the pantry, instead of leaving it there and eventually throwing it out because it's possibly too far gone.

And don't fuss about best-before dates. Trust your nose, your eyes and your tongue instead. A "best-before" date is generally just an indication of the time period when the food will taste its freshest. Only a "use-by" date needs to be seriously considered and, even then, you may have options to finish off food that is getting old (for example, milk that is turning sour can still be used to make pancakes and yoghurt).

This month, challenge yourself not to throw out any food. If your veggies are looking sad, turn them into a soup. If your bananas are over-ripe, store them in the freezer and use them for baking or smoothies. If there are cans in your pantry that are actually last season's cyclone rations, get through those before you buy any more canned goods.

And if you spot bugs in the grains in your pantry, put the whole lot in your freezer for a couple of days so that you can de-bug the grains and still use them up. Our risotto was delicious!

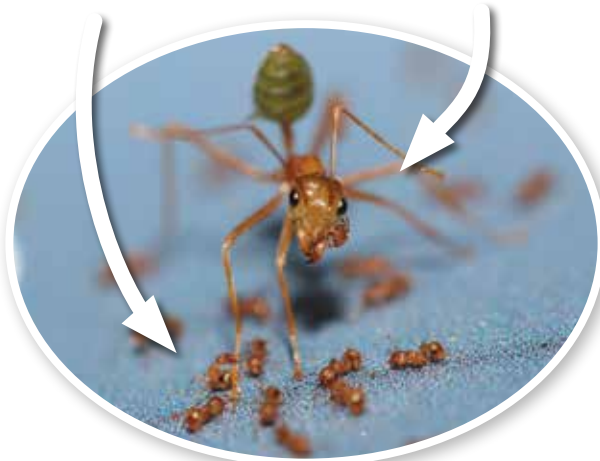
**NEXT MONTH:** responsible food storage to minimise waste

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8:00 am Holy Communion

9.30 am Sung Eucharist

5:00 pm Evening Prayer

**TUESDAY**

9:00 am Holy Communion

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Wirramoo Street, Kuranda

Services held every Saturday  
**ALL WELCOME**

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

**St Saviour's Thought for September**

This month we turn to St Luke's Gospel Chapter 12 and read from Verse 32 to 40

There is one thing that Jesus does over and over in his ministry, he warns his listeners that following him may involve difficult choices, and he warns his society that a just and humane future calls for deep changes.

All through Jesus' ministry there is a sense of premonition. Our Lord was living out nothing less than an alternate way of being a human being in the world! It is obvious that he had no illusions about the dangers he was courting.

That alternate way was what he called the Kingdom of God and the values of that kingdom were diametrically opposed to those of the society around him, and will be diametrically opposed to the values of any society we have so far devised. Human empires are not built on giving alms, turning the other cheek, and praying for one's enemies! Sometimes Jesus makes no effort to hide that sense of premonition, the feeling that certain collisions are inevitable and they might as well be named and faced.

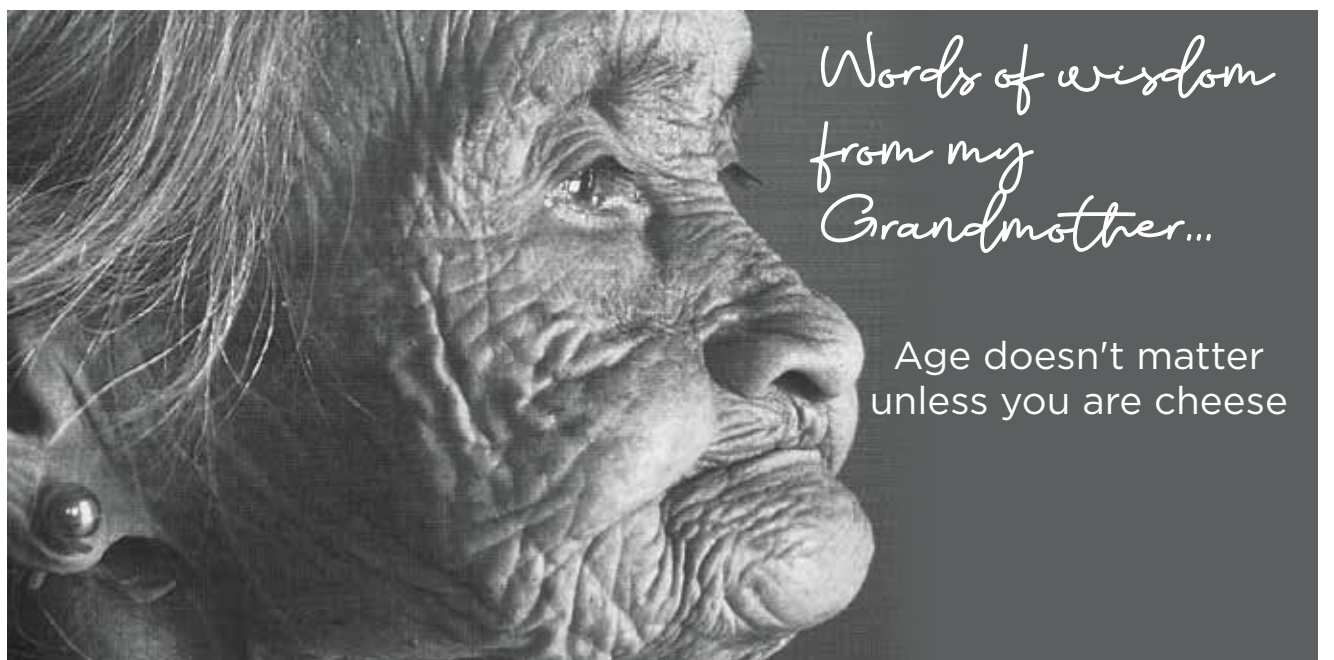
His disciples, on the other hand, seem incapable of accepting the possibilities. "I came to bring fire to the earth. ... I have a baptism with which to be baptised." There is intense frustration in these words. Jesus seems deeply troubled at the antagonism to his vision of the Kingdom of God, yet, at the same time, to accept the inevitability of its clashing with everything in the life of his time. Even close personal relationships will be deeply divided by his vision.

Jesus then moves to another issue. People don't seem to be able to see that the kind of society they are in cannot be sustained: it is headed for tragedy. They are like a man who doesn't realise his case is so weak he had better settle out of court! The society ought to reform itself and not wait for the harsh judgement of the future.

How can all this speak to us? The vision of a kingdom of peace and justice divides us even as Christians. Some people in church life see any social and political activity in Our Lord's

name as invalid. Others see it as the only valid Christian task. In society as a whole some people see the vision of peace and justice as less important than the development of wealth, whatever the human cost. In ecological issues many, to use Jesus' phrase, refuse to "interpret the present time" in spite of obvious indications of disaster.

As our society moves toward future judgement, as do the two litigants in Jesus' parable, we would do well to settle out of court while we can. Change and reform now, in case the judgement of the future be exceedingly harsh. As usual the gospel challenges us to think and to act



*Words of wisdom  
from my  
Grandmother...*

Age doesn't matter  
unless you are cheese

**THOUGHT OF THE MONTH  
FROM THE BAHAI FAITH**

"Progress is of two kinds, material and spiritual. The former is attained through observation of the surrounding existence and constitutes the foundation of civilization. Spiritual progress is through the breaths of the Holy Spirit and is the awakening of the conscious soul of man to perceive the reality of divinity. Material progress insures the happiness of the human world. Spiritual progress insures the happiness and eternal continuance of the soul.

The prophets of God have founded the laws of divine civilization. They have been the root and fundamental source of all knowledge. They have established the principles of human brotherhood or fraternity,...

The spiritual brotherhood which is enkindled and established through the breaths of the Holy Spirit unites nations and removes the cause of warfare and strife. It transforms mankind into one great family and establishes the foundations of the oneness of humanity. It promulgates the spirit of international agreement and insures Universal Peace.

Therefore we must investigate the foundation reality of

this heavenly fraternity. We must forsake all imitations and promote the reality of the divine teachings..... Until all nations and peoples become united by the bonds of the Holy Spirit in this real fraternity, until national and international prejudices are effaced in the reality of this spiritual brotherhood, true progress, prosperity and lasting happiness will not be attained by man." (Abdu'l-Baha)

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

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

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

Also regular events in Cairns, Atherton, Mareeba, Malanda, Tolga and other places.

All enquiries welcome.

**4093 9571 | [bahai.org.au](http://bahai.org.au)**

The Baha'i Community of Mareeba/Kuranda





# FOREST SOLUTIONS FNQ

*Proudly supporting SES and Australian Institute of Policing*

LOCAL  
KURANDA  
BUSINESS

*For all your  
garden needs...*

- Earthworks
- Garden Design
- Maintenance
- Landscaping
- Tree Services
- Lawn Services
- Stump Grinding
- Construction

**Jeff Williams**  
**0405 906 555**

# KURANDA EARTHWORKS & TREE SERVICES

**Call for a  
FREE quote**  
**0411 383 404**

**Driveways • Rock Retainer Walls • Culverts • Site Clearing • Dams • Landscaping • Tree Services**





**Kuranda**

# Landscape Supplies & Raw Materials

House/Shed Pads, Land/Site Clearing  
Rock Retaining Walls  
Driveway/Roadway Excavation

## EARTHMOVING

**45 Myola Road Ph: 4093 8377**  
[www.kurandalandscape.com.au](http://www.kurandalandscape.com.au)



**Defiant**  
PEST SERVICES

- 100% Local
- 25+ Years Experience
- Competitive Prices

Are cockies, ants or spiders driving you insane? .... or any other pest?

Worried about Termites?

We do Termite Inspections & Treatments.

Do you love your Frogs?

Us too! We do Frog Friendly, Effective, Pest Treatments.

**WE CAN HELP!**

Call Darrell & Lisa Turner  
**0408 174 791**  
[defiantpestservices@gmail.com](mailto:defiantpestservices@gmail.com)

a **small** Family Business - **BIG** on Customer Service

**Jamie & Heidi**  
New Pools & Renovations  
**0437 338 058**



**Tropical Pools**

[info@tppools.com.au](mailto:info@tppools.com.au) • PO Box 563, Kuranda Q 4881  
[www.tropicalprestigepools.com.au](http://www.tropicalprestigepools.com.au)

Case 590 Super M Series 3  
With 900, 600, 450, 300 and Mud Bucket

- Land Clearing
- Rock Walls
- House Pads
- Trenching
- Ponds & Dams
- 24/7 Emergency Call Outs
- Site Waste Removal
- Chain Saw
- Quick Hitch Tilt on Application



**KURANDA BACKHOE HIRE**

**Owner/Operator Jeff Kapteyn**  
ph. 0427 530 253  
16 Years Experience



**Jones Tiling**  
Commercial and Domestic

Specialising in:  
Marble, Granite,  
Porcelain and Ceramic Tiles  
Licenced Waterproof Applicator

**Lindsay Jones**  
**0412 387 651**

Established 1987  
Cairns and Kuranda

4093 0017 | [palorus669@gmail.com](mailto:palorus669@gmail.com) | BSA 50 490

**CALL ADRIAN**  
**0429 265 082**

Domestic —  
Commercial —  
Air Conditioning —



**BEST ELECTRICAL**

Now completing all air conditioning installations  
*Call or text and I'll turn up GUARANTEED!*

Lic 81562  
ARC Lic L166416

**YOUR LOCAL ELECTRICIAN**

**Red tail Property Maintenance**  
**Greg & Lou 0491 335 758**  
[redtailpm@yahoo.com](mailto:redtailpm@yahoo.com)

Small - Med Renovations  
ALL Home Repairs  
ANY Handy Work  
ALL Odd Jobs



## GRATIS CLASSIFIEDS\*

**Amazingly comfortable shoes,** sandals, and boots available right here in our little village. Just Gorgeous open daily 10am–3pm. 16 Coondoo Street, Kuranda.

**Bookworm Wanted** to help me sort my books. Call Judy on 4093 7366.

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

**Lawn mowing,** whipper snipping, yard tidy-up, rubbish removal, chainsaw work. Long term local transitioning out of tree-logging. Friendly, reliable, professional. Contact Shane Little 0404 258 606

**Local one stop shop** for fashions, shoes, jewellery and

gifts. Just Gorgeous open 7 days 10am–3pm.

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

**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 30 years' experience. Résumés, Employment Applications, web text, all forms of copy writing, editing and proofreading. Word Factory (Suzy Grinter) Phone 4093 0449.

**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.

**Theatre Workshops**  
**Thursdays FREE** — Kuranda Amphitheatre Kids 7+ @ 4:30pm Adults @6pm

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



**Community Donation Drive**

Support local families struggling with the rising cost of living.

Donations of pantry staples and toiletry items can be dropped off at the Centre.

## Heads Up!

The Kuranda Paper deadline for October 2025 edition is **Thursday 25 September 2025**. Please send all submissions and advertising to...

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



### \* 30 WORDS MAXIMUM

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



# YOUR COMMUNITY PAGES



## WILDLIFE

**Wildlife Rescue** 4053 4467 (24 hours)  
**Batreach** 4093 8858  
**TigerLodge Wildcare** 4093 0761 (24/7 phone service)  
**Kuranda Vets** 4093 7283  
**DES CASSOWARY HOTLINE** 1300 130 372 (24/7)  
**SNAKE & ANIMAL REMOVAL**  
Jax Bergersen (non-venomous snakes only) 4093 8834  
Miss Hiss Reptiles (all reptiles) 0447 888 872  
Steve Larkin (all reptiles, mammals, birds, feral pigs, dogs) 0412 263 279

## DEFIBRILLATORS



Defibrillator locations in Kuranda region.

**Kuranda Men's Shed** end of Kuranda Heights Road  
**Kuranda Pharmacy** cnr Coondoo and Thongon Sts  
**Kuranda Medical Centre** cnr Thongon and Barang Sts  
**Kuranda Ambulance Station**, Fallon Road  
**Kuranda Swimming Pool**, Myola Road  
**Steiner School**, Boyles Road  
**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 Lumholtz tree kangaroos are being killed by dogs and hit by cars each year.

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

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

Donate now and help us care for tree roos today

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

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.



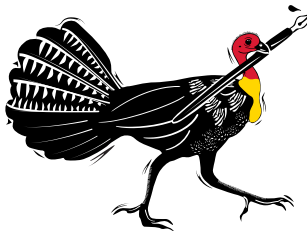
**COUCH**  
Locals helping people affected by cancer



## ROAD REPORTS

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

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



## HELPFUL KURANDA COMMUNITY FACEBOOK GROUPS

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

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

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

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

Information sharing, discussion, advertising.

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

Information sharing and support.

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

Information sharing and support.

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

Discussion group for Kuranda district residents only.

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

Discussion group for issues affecting Kuranda ratepayers and residents.

**Upcycling Kuranda** (250+ members)

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

## KURANDA MEN'S SHED RECYCLING

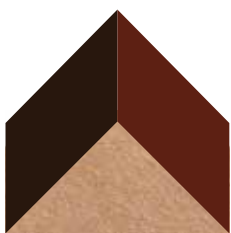
C10055234

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

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

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

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



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

## HELP GROUPS



**kidshelpline**  
Anytime Any Reason

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

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

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



**Need help with a drinking problem?**

**1300 222 222**

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

## RAINFALL

**August 2025 – 22.9mm**  
(to 13 August 2025)

**Annual Total – 2068.1mm**  
(to 13 August 2025)

Courtesy of Kuranda Railway Station



**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**





**Mareeba**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

## Community Services

### KURANDA LIBRARY and COUNCIL OFFICE

**Monday to Friday: 10am–5pm**

(No Council business after 4pm weekdays)

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

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

SERVICES NOT OPEN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

### KURANDA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

**Open 7 days from 10am**

4093 9311

kurandavic@msc.qld.gov.au

### KURANDA TRANSFER STATION

#### OPERATING HOURS

**Tuesday & Thursday: 9am–4pm,**

**Saturday & Sunday: 9am–5pm**

2186 Kennedy Highway, Koah  
1300 308 461

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

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

info@msc.qld.gov.au  
msc.qld.gov.au

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DASHBOARD

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



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

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

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

## TRANSPORT & ALERTS

**Kuranda Transfers** 0497 159 385

**Rideshare** 1300 743 374

**Trans North** 3036 2070

### KURANDA RANGE ROAD UPDATE

**Night closures continue on the Kuranda Range –**

Scheduled Night closures on the Kuranda Range Road continue.

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

TMR will advise stakeholders of any variations to the scheduled night closures.

Visit [tmr.qld.gov.au](http://tmr.qld.gov.au) for any changes and to subscribe for alerts

#### Traffic Alerts Far North Region Roads

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

#### Live Kuranda Range Traffic Updates

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

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

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



**Trans North** Bus & Coach

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.

**\*\*All Sundays, Christmas Day, New Years Day, Good Friday, Anzac Day, Labour Day (Qld)\*\***

#### Bus stops are located at:

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

#### Ticket Sales:

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

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

## NEW TIMETABLE

Commencing 1st September 2025

#### Atherton Tablelands to Cairns

Route 850	Monday to Saturday	
Departs Atherton	7.00am	1.30pm
Departs Mareeba	7.30am	2.00pm
Departs Speewah	7.50am	2.20pm
Departs Kuranda	8.05am	2.40pm
Arrives Cairns	9.00am	3.30pm

#### Cairns to Atherton Tablelands

Route 850	Monday to Saturday	
Departs Cairns	10.00am	4.00pm
Departs Smithfield	10.20am	4.20pm
Departs Kuranda	10.40am	4.40pm
Departs Speewah	10.50am	5.00pm
Departs Mareeba	11.20am	5.20pm
Arrives Atherton	11.50am	5.50pm

#### No Services Operate on the Following Days

• All Sundays • Christmas Day • New Years Day  
• Good Friday • Anzac Day • Labour Day (Qld)

For more information visit

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

Current as at 1 September 2025



## WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER?

### MONDAYS:

**Pilates with Davini** 9:30-10:30a.m.  
**Tai Chi with Lucky Les** 6-7p.m.

### WEDNESDAYS:

**Pilates with Davini** 9:30-10:30a.m.  
**Lizas kitchen** absent till October

### THURSDAYS:

**Pilates with Davini** 9-10a.m.  
**Roots Yoga with Zara** 6-7pm  
PH: 0434 714290

### FRIDAYS:

**Kuranda 8 ball** 7-10p.m. bar open

### SATURDAY:

**20th 8 Ball /Pool day**, 10-4pm all welcome

### SUNDAY:

14th **Kuranda Rangers breakup** 11-2pm  
14th **Restorative Yin & Soundbath Delight**  
SUNDAY 4-5pm  
21st : **Culture Day** all welcome :2-6pm  
Last Sunday -**RAINBOW Circle** 2-4 pm  
contact FNQ Events for details

### EVENTS:

Book your event, jam space, band practise,  
crafts parties & other activities NOW

### OTHER:

\*Kitchen available for hire for pizzas, cold  
platters functions and or take aways  
\*Membership \$10 solo/20 family offers  
discounts and specials on bar prices, and venue  
hire. Join now for yearly membership!!

Volunteers always welcome

## Venue for Hire

Multiple areas available for hire.  
Email [krc4881@gmail.com](mailto:krc4881@gmail.com)

## CONTACT US

 Kuranda  
Recreation Centre  
 [krc4881@gmail.com](mailto:krc4881@gmail.com)

**JUMRUM BAR OPEN**  
**FRIDAY 6.30 PM**

## WHAT'S ON

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

**KURANDA 8 BALL**  
Competitive Pool  
Friday 7-10pm  
Bar open, affordable prices

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

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

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

**ROOTS YOGA**  
Thursday 6-7pm  
Zara 0434 714 290

**YIN YOGA**  
Monday 7.15-8.15 pm  
Gemma 0435 085 503



## What's On at Koah Hall

### EVERY MONDAY

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

### EVERY TUESDAY

**QUINTESSENCE YOGA**  
with Katelyn 5:15 – 6:15 pm  
0428 865 636

### WEDNESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER

**ELECTRIC ANT PROGRAM**,  
6pm. All Welcome.

### EVERY THURSDAY (Term Time).

**DREAM BIG CIRCUS SCHOOL** –  
Circus Jam Class. 5:40 pm -7 pm  
Age 12 – adult. Bookings are essential.  
Please contact Sophie 0409 333 404.

**EVA'S DANCE CLASSES** -  
DANCE GAMES 4:00- 4:45 pm  
(4 - 7 years)

**DANCE TECHNIQUE** -  
4:45 - 5:15 pm (skill dependent, approx.  
7 - 12 years) Eva 0475 240 506

### THURSDAY 4th & 18th SEPTEMBER

**Mankind Project MEN'S GROUP** 7  
pm. Open to all men.  
Contact Simon 0459 755 553

### SUNDAY 7th AND 21st SEPTEMBER

**SHIBARI SANGHA WORKSHOP**  
with Nikki from 11am -1:00pm.

### SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER

**DRUM CIRCLE**. 10.45 am -12.45 pm.  
Contact Jeff 0449 889 503

### HIRE FEES

- \$10 per hour
- Full day and evening  
(24-hour block) \$150
- \$200 refundable bond for one-off  
events (if space is left as you found it)

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

 [koah.hall@gmail.com](mailto:koah.hall@gmail.com)

 Koah Hall

### KOAH MONTHLY MARKET

**Saturday 6 September**  
**8am till Midday**

• Live music –  
“Christina Ukulele”  
is our wonderful market Musician

• New stallholders and regulars  
are invited to join us  
for all the fun!

• SMS/Voicemail Nicky  
0488 961 660 or FB messenger  
via Koah Monthly Markets  
Facebook page.



photo Vije Vijendranath - unsplash



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

### EVERY MONDAY

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

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

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

### EVERY SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

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

### EVERY TUESDAY

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

**Mixed (male & female) Men's Shed** Kuranda  
8.30am-12pm. [mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)



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

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

### SECOND TUESDAY

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

**She Shed Kuranda** 1-5pm.  
[mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

### EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

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

**Men's Shed** Kuranda 8.30am-11.30am.  
[mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

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

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

### EVERY THURSDAY

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

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

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

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

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

### Kuranda Rangers soccer

Keira 0437 778 849 for any queries.

### EVERY SECOND THURSDAY OF MONTH

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

### EVERY FRIDAY

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

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

**She Shed Kuranda** 8.30am-1pm.  
[mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

### EVERY SATURDAY

**Men's Shed** Kuranda 8.30am-11.30am  
[mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

### EVERY SUNDAY

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

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

### EVERY SECOND SUNDAY

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