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# THE KURANDA PAPER

December 2022 | January 2023

Issue 349

FREE INDEPENDENT MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1991

WWW.KURANDAPAPER.COM

## KURANDA

*Twilight Trading*

PLUS STREET MUSIC

Thursday  
8 December

Proudly sponsored by



## A NEW YEAR BECKONS...

While we all know that the concept of an actual 'new' year is just an artificial concept, we cannot argue with the arrival and departure of seasons – warm, hot, cool, cold, wet, dry, stormy. And so we arrive at the season of heat and more than usual unpredictable weather just as the 'old' year is coming to a close.

The rhythms of daily life for many are altered by school holidays, travel plans, social gatherings and for some a welcome break from the day job. So it is for us at *The Kuranda Paper*, we will be taking a break until the end of January, when production on edition #350, for February 2023, begins.

Thank you to all our contributors, our volunteers, our advertisers and our readers. 2023 will see the 32nd year of publication of this independent community newspaper.

We wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season and look forward to receiving your news, views and reviews in the 'new' year.

Special thoughts for, and thanks to, all those who work selflessly all year long to the benefit of our community. Our health workers, carers, community leaders and emergency workers.

If you do mark the holiday season with a celebration, a new outfit, gifts, or some delicious treats, please consider filling your shopping list with local products or services and support our local businesses and strengthen our local economy.

- SHOP LOCAL • EMPLOY LOCAL •
- ENJOY LOCAL •



What a joy to see the Kuranda Amphitheatre full once again for Reggaetown on 20 November 2022. Photo: Eve Stafford



## DEADLINES

February

Edition 350/2023

All copy and advertisements due by 10am

**Thursday 26 January**

Paper published

**Thursday 2 February 2023**

Management is not responsible for any copy missing deadline.

### Advertisement sizes and rates

[width x height in mm]

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

### Advertisers

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

Acceptable formats: PDF, EPS, JPG or TIFF.

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

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

## LETTERS



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

We welcome your letters via email or post

### MSC PLEASE CONSULT BEFORE ACTING

Today, 24 November, was another day for a beautiful walk, one of many. In fact, we (family and dog) have enjoyed the walk from Barron Falls Road, down the Jungle Track and along the Barron River daily for 10 years.

Today was a little different however. MSC have finally provided some new signage along the tracks and river – well done! Good to see my ridiculous rate rise going somewhere... Problem: the main sign on the lovely Esplanade now clearly states no dogs! and no bicycles! Really?

Seriously, there are so many locals per day enjoying this space with their dogs. Who in their right mind thinks they can alter the lifestyle of so many?

**Update:** There was a strong community response to the new and short-lived sign, especially on the Facebook “Kuranda Notice Board” group. Council has explained that the sign was intended as a forewarning to those entering the National Park (several hundred metres downstream). The Council response was to immediately cover up the offending references to no dogs and no bikes. It is great that MSC responded promptly to the numerous phone calls and social media outcry – thanks for listening. But, in future, Mareeba Shire Council can you make sure to consult with the locals, plan thoroughly and accurately before displaying such disregard for the locals? Thank you.

**Name withheld, Kuranda**



Photo supplied

### CANCER THANKS

I would like to thank the residents of Kuranda and surrounding areas for their donations to Cancer Council Queensland and the support given to me over the last couple of years. I have recently walked from the Grand St Bernard Pass in the Swiss Alps to St Peter's Basilica in Rome, along the Via Francigena. I walked 1258km over 50 days and raised \$10, 232 for cancer.

**Jennifer Rooks, Speewah**



Photo supplied

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.

### PROPOSED KURANDA ART GALLERY

As there are so many artists in Kuranda, instead of hitting the taxpayer up for a 'new gallery' that ultimately benefits a small group of people who, if they're any good, are already quite well off through selling their overpriced and self important works of art, how about the artists get together and all chip in and rent out one of the many empty shops in the village and create a gallery of their own? The old newsagency/pharmacy would be perfect and it's been empty for months.

Oh wait a minute, they already have one don't they? The Kuranda Arts Co-Op.

I propose *The Kuranda Paper* prints more stories and articles about what's really going on in the centre of town – the rubbish everywhere, the anti-social behaviour taking over our streets, or the general poor condition of our village due to the lack of maintenance by Mareeba Shire Council – instead of constantly bowing down to minority groups who can see no further than their own selfish needs.

**Mark Riley, Kuranda**

**The Kuranda Paper:** The recently expanded gallery space at the Kuranda Arts Co-op is a private space reserved for Arts Co-op members. This is perfectly reasonable as it is small in size and members pay for the costs of running the Co-op, including rent. It has also taken 25 years of hard work for the Co-op to reach this milestone.

The benefits of public galleries are well documented and widely accepted. They have benefits, not just including exhibiting opportunities, which go beyond that of just for the individual user. Just as sporting facilities, public libraries and community facilities do: professional development, employment and community resilience are among these.

The Mareeba Shire is the poorer for not having a public gallery, and for a shire of such regional importance and rich diversity, it is hard to understand why such a key piece of public infrastructure has not been established – and Kuranda would be the perfect location.

### Cover Masthead

Our masthead this month glows with the rich patterning of a Northern Barred frog (*Mixophyes coggeri*) captured by local photographer and environmentalist Sylvia Conway, during frog monitoring at Jumrum Creek, Kuranda. Endemic to the Wet Tropics, they can often be mistaken, at first glance, for a cane toad as they sit upright and share a similar size. Their call is a deep reverberating 'worg' repeated at long intervals.

Kuranda Envirocare has been frog monitoring for over nine years across 11 sites on Kuranda creeks. Frogs are sensitive creatures, and therefore are great indicators of the health of any ecosystem. The long-term frog monitoring program aims to identify any increase or decline in native frog populations in Kuranda creeks with the principle aim to protect our endemic and critically endangered Kuranda Tree frog (*Litoria myola*).



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

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

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

St), Kuranda Arts Co-op (Coondoo St), Cornetts IGA (Thongon St), BP Service Station, Annabel's Pies (Therwine St).

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

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

**TOLGA:** The Humpty

**ATHERTON:** Atherton IGA (Silo Shopping Centre)

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

**CAIRNS:** Cairns Library



# TWILIGHT TRADING THURSDAY 8 DEC



## Twilight Trading Thursday 8 December

We are on the final countdown for our annual Twilight Trading event next **Thursday 8 December**. It's shaping up to be a festive evening with a great variety of retail shops and eateries opening throughout the evening.

There will be live music throughout the streets and some businesses are also putting on their own entertainment to showcase some of our wonderful local talent.

The success of this evening depends on the support of the Kuranda community. We encourage all residents to shop locally for their Christmas stockings or that special gift for a loved one. It is also the opportunity to shop in the cool of the evening and to catch up with friends who you may not have seen for awhile.

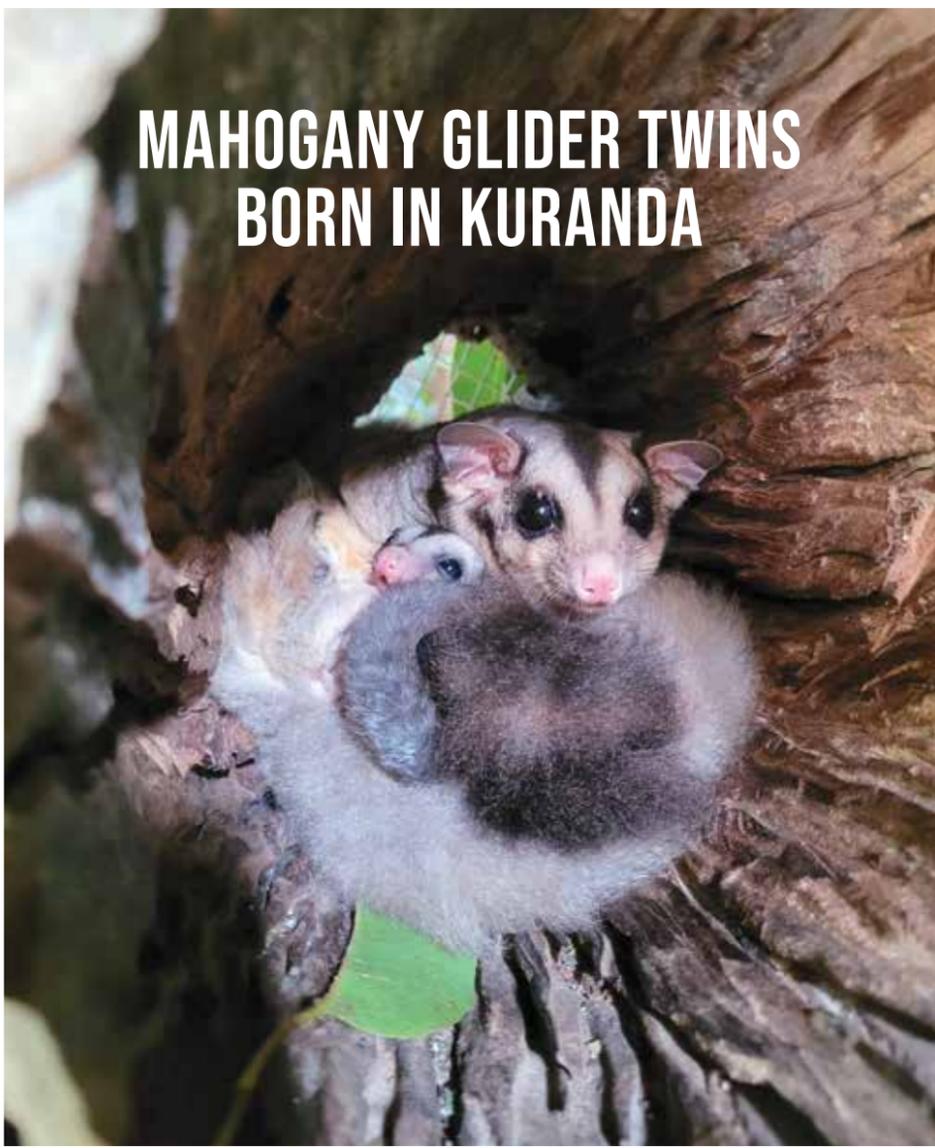
We're also very excited to see the Kuranda Original Rainforest Markets open this year! It is such a great atmosphere there and it is sure to be lots of festive fun. Congratulations to Fairy Jenny and The Magical Lane who will be celebrating four years of fairy magic and will be having a special Quest around the market between 5-7pm.

Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date on the businesses who will be open on the night. Be sure to also contact your favourite eating spot to check if they will be open as you may require a reservation.

## Seasons Greetings

The KTA Committee would like to thank all of its members for their ongoing support of the association and its events, social media and website in 2022. We wish a Merry Christmas to all Kuranda traders and to our amazing community and a fabulous 2023.

*Dei, Melissa P, Gary, Melissa C and Nettie.*



# MAHOGANY GLIDER TWINS BORN IN KURANDA

Mum "Pip" cuddling with one of her joeys in their cosy hollow. Photo: Rowena Molina, Kuranda Koala Gardens.

Two more adorable recent additions to Kuranda's Koala Gardens are twin female Mahogany Glider joeys, born on 23 August. Mum "Pip" and dad "Tonto" have been excellent parents. The twins left the pouch in early November and their eyes started to open a week later. This is the first time Koala Gardens have successfully bred this critically endangered species. At the moment the joeys are staying inside their log hollow with their parents, but are expected to start venturing outside on mum's back in the coming weeks. The twins are unnamed at the moment as carers become more familiar with their personalities.

The Mahogany Glider (*Petaurus gracilis*) is an endangered gliding possum native to a very small region between Ollera Creek south of Ingham and Tully, in coastal Queensland. A nocturnal arboreal marsupial, the mahogany glider closely resembles the sugar glider, the squirrel glider and the yellow-bellied glider but is noticeably larger than any of its relatives. It grows to 26.5cm long and 410g, and has a long tail at 34-40cm. The species gets its common name from its mahogany-brown belly and the similar colour of its patagium, or gliding membrane. The tail is covered in short hair, and is black on the underside.

Supporting small Kuranda businesses. Become a member today! [kta@kuranda.org](mailto:kta@kuranda.org)



**BLUE REED SWINGS AT PETIT CAFE DURING TWILIGHT TRADING**

Blue Reed will be performing at Petit Cafe on 8 December from 6-8.30pm [bookings essential] and will be playing music from the Django Reinhardt/Stephane Grappelli repertoire. Gypsy Swing and the American Song book are some of the styles covered. Blue Reed are Dave Hart on double bass, Steve Baker on guitar and vox, and David Breeze on guitar.

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## Thanks For Your Support



Seasons Greetings

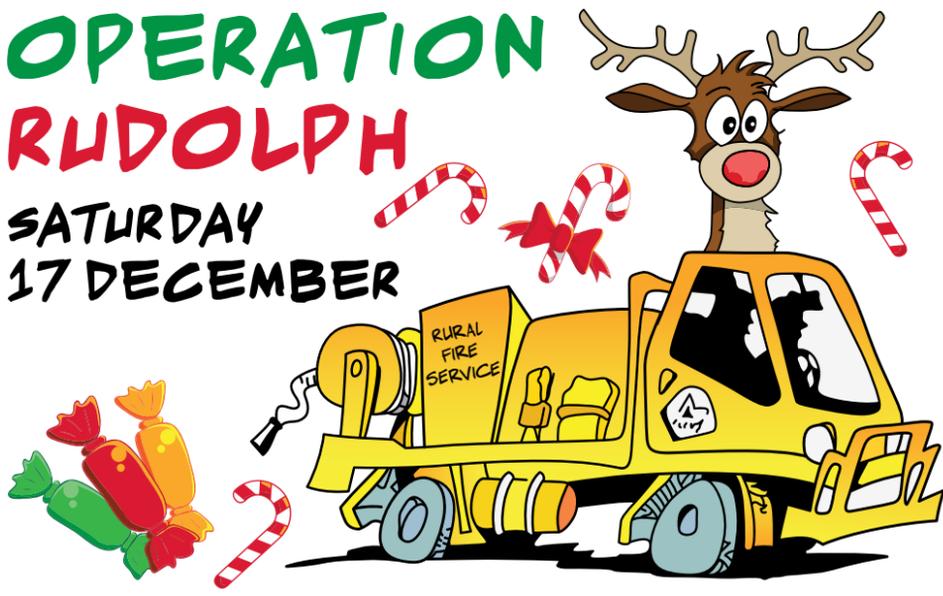
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# OPERATION RUDOLPH

SATURDAY  
17 DECEMBER



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

This year on Saturday 17 December, Operation Rudolph will kick off with **TWO separate routes** – Kuranda and surrounds, and Speewah/Cardinia/Koah – see details below.

**Please note:** Following the end of the Speewah to Koah run, everyone is invited to enjoy cold watermelon and soft drinks courtesy of the Speewah Fire Brigade at the Koah Hall. The Speewah Rural Fire Brigade would like to thank Mareeba Shire Council for the \$500 donation towards this year's Operation Rudolph.

## KURANDA AND SURROUNDS

Departs Kuranda Urban Fire Station at 2pm then travels via

- Coondoo Street – Thongon Street
- Barron Falls Road
- Mason Road – Williamson Drive
- Warril Drive
- Gregory Terrace – Coconut Grove – Saddle Mountain Road
- Myola Road – Oak Forest Road – Mantaka – Kowrowa

## SPEEWAH, CARDINIA AND KOAH

Departs Speewah Tavern at 2.30pm then travels via

- Speewah Road to Stoney Creek Road
- Stoney Creek Road to Kelly Road
- Up Kelly Road to the Possum Ridge turnoff
- Back the same way to Speewah Road
- Ganyan Drive loop then William Smith Drive
- Right turn into Douglas Track and into Veivers Drive
- Veivers Drive back to the highway, then Cardinia Boulevard
- Koah Road to the end and back
- Finishing at the Koah Hall



## SMOKE SIGNALS

The heat is ramping up, so be sure to check in with your local fire wardens before burning and have your bushfire plan in place. Double check your pumps, sprinklers, hoses and safety gear for the hot dry season.

We are always conducting a rolling intake and are keen for new members of the Rural Fire Service both firefighters and support personnel. Remember those that come and help in your time of need are your fellow community volunteers!

Contact Cairns RFS Area office for more information 07 4232 5468 or email RFSQ.Cairns@qfes.qld.gov.au. Check out Kuranda/Myola Rural Fire Brigade Facebook page!



The "Burn Over" exercise training on 21 November. L-R: Wayne Harris-Gallichan, Matt Tompson and Travis Evans. Photos: Baz Child



## The Speewah District Residents Association

### The Bob Madden Bridge and new Life to Roscommon Park

The Speewah District Residents Association (SDRA) will hold its last General Meeting for the year on Monday 5 December 2022 at 6pm in the Speewah Fire Brigade training room at Roscommon Park.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the SDRA throughout the year, particularly SDRA members, Mayor Toppin, and all the Mareeba Shire Councillors who attend our meetings and help make it happen. While our meetings are generously attended by MSC Councillors, Danny Bird specifically liaises between Kuranda and Council and subsequently directly consults with the SDRA on issues raised at meetings.

One such issue that has been discussed during meetings this year has been the upgrading and maintenance of facilities at Roscommon Park. Immediately after discussion at our September meeting, Council appointed a contractor to clean the toilets at Roscommon three times a week to improve these facilities for residents and visitors, which is a great outcome for Speewah. Further, Councillor Danny Bird will be telling us about further improvements to the park's facilities that have been brought forward to this year's Council budget. For those of you who are interested in the park (which was originally built by the community), it might be worthwhile to attend the meeting.

On another issue, Council have approved re-naming the Groves Creek bridge at the entrance into Speewah, the "Bob Madden Bridge". This is subsequent to a submission by Marie Boswarva which was supported by the SDRA and the Djabugay Tribal Aboriginal Corporation (DTAC) with whom the SDRA consulted on the issue. Council's rationale for supporting this is outlined in a recent MSC Media Release and was based on Bob Madden's enormous contribution to communications at Speewah, which included his lobbying for a two-lane bridge into Speewah.

The SDRA would like to thank those who attended the unveiling of the Bob Madden plaque on 28 October. This was largely a celebration of Bob Madden's altruistic work at Speewah and was attended by the Hon. Warren Entsch, Member for Leichhardt, who missed the Tourism Industry Awards to come to the plaque unveiling. Once again, MSC Councillors, including Mayor Toppin, came to pay their respects, and Mick Dowling (whose dynamic and generous fundraising from the *Speewah to the Hat – Walk for a Cause* largely paid for the plaque) made time in his busy schedule to attend.

We look forward to seeing members and prospective members at the meeting on 5 December. Please send any issues that you would like to raise at the meeting to our secretary, Jo Garbellini on jgarbell15@gmail.com to add to agenda items.

SDRA Management Committee –

Annie Austin, Charlotte de Doger Speville, and Jo Garbellini.

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**Speewah**

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# GENUINE FULL CIRCLE JOURNEY FOR KURANDA BOY AND THE AMPHITHEATRE



Dizzy's Jazz Club, Lincoln Centre, New York City. Photo: Joe Lane II

Once upon a time, some four decades ago, the concept of a Kuranda Amphitheatre was just a brainstorm idea by a bunch of Kuranda creatives. Then one day, low and behold, some action took place in the form of a call out for the first volunteer working bee to help clear some bush, to begin the job of creating a world class open air venue in what was then a paddock of blady grass and lantana.

Present on this day, with a machete in his hand, was local boy Jason Campbell – then just 14 years of age. As a well known song goes "from little things, big things grow" and today, as we all know, the Kuranda Amphitheatre has indeed grown, to host some of the biggest names and stellar achievers in music over the years, through good times and hard.

While there were very hard times in the last couple of years affecting all of us, including the Amphitheatre, it actually also produced a serendipitous moment in returning Jason back to the Kuranda fold – full circle, so to speak!

Jason knew what he wanted to do since the age of 13, and that was to learn to play jazz music at the highest level. He left Kuranda at 16 years of age to see legendary George Benson perform. After witnessing this performance in person, he realised he needed to be in Sydney to be around players more adept in jazz if he was to succeed. He then went on to live in New York City to follow his dream, where he had to rebrand as "JC Styllles" (due to a name conflict with a big time baseball player of the same name) and was signed to Grammy winning recording label Motema Music, with his album *Exhilaration and Other States* spending 13 consecutive weeks on the USA Jazz Charts. He won the Highest Debut Award for his next album *Blakey Grease*, debuting at #15 out of the Top 50 albums released, before racing up into the Top 5 where he stayed firmly entrenched again.

Since then, he has gone on to perform at various Jazz Festivals and Clubs internationally, as well as managing two of New York City's premier jazz clubs—*Smalls* and *Mezzro*. He also produced, hosted and performed in the largest jazz memorial concert, *Jazz at Lincoln Centre* with Grammy winners Wynton Marsalis, and vocalist Cecile McLorin Savant in February



Middle: Jason, early days in Kuranda. Above: Jason (on left), jamming, poolside at George Benson's home. George, far right.



Queensland Youth Orchestra Big Band. Photo: QYO

JC STYLLES meets the QYO BIG BAND...to

One Show Only

SWING IN THE JUNGLE

5.30 PM-8.30 PM Sunday 4th DEC

@Kuranda Amphitheatre UNDERSTAGE 5 Barron Falls Rd

Doors Open 4.30 / Lic. Bar / Food Avail. Premium Seating & Dancefloor Option!

Tix \$35-\$45 + Booking Fee

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JC Styllles QUEENSLAND YOUTH ORCHESTRA KURANDA UNDERSTAGE KURANDA AMPHITHEATRE

2020 – just before all New York City nightlife was shut down due to COVID lockdowns, forcing Jason back to Australia, and his boyhood hometown.

On Sunday 4 December 2022, Jason returns (as JC Styllles) after 40 years, to the very Amphitheatre he helped create as a boy, joining forces with the Queensland Youth Orchestra (QYO) Big Band for one show only, at the Amphitheatre Understage.

The QYO Big Band is a 20-piece auditioned ensemble consisting of some of Queensland's most talented young and emerging instrumental musicians performing music from a variety of big band jazz and swing genres. The Big Band provides the musicians with the opportunity to perform at a variety of community, educational, corporate and commercial engagements in venues such as Suncorp Stadium, QPAC, Brisbane City Hall and various Brisbane jazz clubs. The Big Band has performed with noted international artists such as James Morrison and Tom Burlinson. The ensemble is led by accomplished Musical Director, Bohdan Davison, a noted musician, music educator, and saxophonist.

This is going to be one very rare and special night for all who attend, so grab your tickets and get set for a world class musical experience.

Doors open from 4.30pm with a licensed bar, food and dance floor. Tickets range from \$35-45 and can be booked through Try Booking [www.trybooking.com/CEBGG](http://www.trybooking.com/CEBGG)



[www.kurandaamphitheatre.org](http://www.kurandaamphitheatre.org)

[support@kurandaamphitheatre.zendesk.com](mailto:support@kurandaamphitheatre.zendesk.com)

Kuranda Amphitheatre

WOW!! The month of November was massive! Preparation for Reggaetown Festival began many weeks out from the event, getting the venue up to scratch and the many tasks needed to put on such a show. The effort from our committed Amphitheatre volunteer crew is always staggering. A big thank you to all those volunteers who went above and beyond, jumping in where needed, and just getting the job done. A special thank you goes to three young girls who helped out, serving customers from the kitchen counter throughout the evening when it was extremely busy. Thank you Amaru, Tia and Seppa, and our other young fellas who mucked in as well!

Thank you to the TRACQS Crew for all your support and hard work through 2022. Love you guys! AND a big thank you to Trish Green and the Honey House for the role you play in the operation of the Amphitheatre!

Our youth of Kuranda are the future of the Amphitheatre and it was great to see the effort of quite a number of them turning up to help. Be proud of yourselves, committing to your community.

On Sunday 4 December, another performance will take place in the Understage, with the Queensland Youth Orchestra Big Band and JC Styllles for an early evening of Jazz 5.30-8.30pm (see details above). A light dinner will be available to purchase and the bar will be open.

The Amphitheatre will then move into our wet season prep of the grounds and infrastructure, and have the usual Christmas, New Year break, so that our hard working committee and support can spend some much needed time with family and friends.

The Amphitheatre has just been successful in acquiring a \$35,000 Community Gambling Benefit Fund grant for grounds maintenance and safety, new security locks and new equipment such as a ride-on mower and tools to ease the load on volunteers. The grounds and infrastructure are in constant need of maintenance and take up a lot of volunteers' time and energy, so this a major bonus and much needed help.

Our website [www.kurandaamphitheatre.org](http://www.kurandaamphitheatre.org) is being reconstructed. The site will drop out at some point before the new, fabulous site goes up. Thank you to KAS Committee Support Member, Sarah Arrowsmith.

Thank you once again for the ongoing dedication of our long standing Support members – Mandy Dewey and Tim Gronwold. They work extremely hard all year round, with a fine-tuned system that ensures the venue is operating as safely and efficiently as possible.

With numerous regulations to follow, the Amphitheatre relies on member 'volunteers' support and willingness to learn all aspects of operating the venue. Come along to the next Working Bee and find out more.

**WORKING BEE – Sunday 11 December**  
**Grounds and Infrastructure + Wet Season Prep and Tidy Up**  
 Come and volunteer, and participate in your local venue!

The Kuranda Amphitheatre Society would like to thank all 2022 volunteers for their ongoing support.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year! See you in 2023



# KURANDA LOVE BOMB

Kuranda's musical creativity has had an explosive year. At least eight locally based live acts have recorded new music in 2022. Solos, a duo, and five-, six- and seven-piece bands have all been busy in Far North Queensland studios laying down local high grade homegrown multi-genre music for your listening pleasure. With everything from folk, roots, rock and reggae through to the blues and world to hip hop, pop, funk, disco and EDM – there is an amazing and powerful upsurge of varied and excellent output.

Each artist is exceptional in their own right, and to see such a powerful flowering of Kuranda talent in a single year is inspiring.

## DJAWARRAY

Bertie Riley is Djawarray, which means thunder, the voice of Gudju-Gudju the Rainbow Serpent. Bertie is a Western Yalanji, Djabugay man from Ngunbay (Kuranda), born in Gimuy (Cairns). He has been playing his own music with Koalition Reggae Band over the past few months, merging their musical styles as they record his authentic and true original songs, ensuring important cultural traditions and the language of his ancestors continue. With thanks to a grant from RADF via MSC, Djawarray will release an EP in 2023.

## PAD BOYS

PAD BOYS, local rock reggae funk legends, represent Kuranda's distinctive and historical musical lineage. They are Djabugay bama from Kuranda, William 'Biri' Duffin, Roderick 'Rocky' Newbury, Timmy 'Wiggz' Wason, and Dennis 'Bugsy' Hunter, with new member Tegan Koster on keys. Celebrating their 30th anniversary in 2022 and with RADF assistance from MSC, PAD BOYS are currently finalising their debut L.P. for release in early 2023.

## HOWLIN' DINGOES

Howlin' Dingoies are a seven-piece collective combining blues, rock, soul and funk with a kick arse attitude locked down by the unique tones of Jean 'Jimmy' Mounier on bass, vocals and didgeridoo. Their searing sounds feature Nicole Willinger's soulful voice, Gordon 'The Governor' Sheard and David 'Shredder' Oui on guitar, Mark 'Animal' Trimboli on drums, Alex 'half hand' Maher on keys and 'Lucky' Lester on blues harp. The Howlin' Dingoies first album *The Only One* landed in 2022 and is available at Jimmy's didge shop above Kuranda's Original Markets.

## FAUX MO

Faux MO (pronounced FO MO) play electronica, pop, disco hip hop, reggae, EDM, gospel and more as they share the good news of love and hope through music and poetry. With William 'Biri' Duffin, Dennis 'Bugsy' Hunter, 'Spooky' Yuki Toda, Jen 'Genesis' Fengler, Trish Mo (Faux Ma) and Mo Zach (Faux Pa), Faux MO are currently producing their first studio album recorded by Dave Cooke in Speewah with help from MSC RADF grants. *Faux Mo Sapien* is coming soon.

## DIGGIS & JIMMY FLIPSHYT

Local leading light Diggis (Digby Trapnell) and Cairns based Jimmy Flipshyt (aka Ill Jay Phox) are prolific boom bap hip hop music makers. After over a decade of creativity together, March 2022 saw the release their fresh new fun and entertaining debut EP *What's This Then*, solidifying their impact on the FNQ Hip Hop scene as a powerful creative force. With two conscious and two party songs, *What's This Then* is available on all digital streaming platforms and store. Come get some.

## Z.D.C.

Z.D.C. is local Indigenous underground hip-hop beat maker and songwriter Zami-Dan Coleman. Zami writes lyrics of hope, struggle, justice, love and inspiration for the next generation with a positive outlook, embedded with tradition and cultural heritage, infusing hip hop roots, rock and reggae with a bit of a twist. Often performing with local legends Zennith, and with backing from Cairns based hip hop pioneers R.3.B, you can find Z.D.C.'s music releases on all digital platforms.



Diggis. Photo: Eve Stafford

## TOSHI SAKAMOTO

Toshi Sakamoto is a folk and world music inspired singer songwriter and multi-instrumentalist born in Hitachi-city, now based in Kuranda. Originally a bass player, Toshi's angelic voice is backed by his guitar and djembe on beautiful original songs in both Japanese and English. Toshi's focus is on people's hearts, hopes and memories. He recorded his first EP late 2022 at Mark Myers Mountain Kauri Studio which will be available soon thanks to RADF from MSC.

## CINNAMON SUN

Currently on his East Coast *Flying High* tour, Cinnamon Sun is Kuranda based alt-pop, hip hop, soul, roots and reggae singer, songwriter and collaborationist Davy Simony, who oozes a smooth, comforting, conscious vibe. Davy's work is grounded in heartfelt poetic song writing, and his live performances are exceptionally moving experiences. A prolific creator who has released three EPs as Davy Simony, his debut album *Cinnamon Sun* is coming in 2023.

## LOVE BOMB

Kuranda is an exceptional village, bursting with art of the highest quality, in all media and art forms. For eight separate musical acts to all record their new and original music in a single year is a massive outpouring of the powerful force of creativity that runs through this town like the mighty Barron River in flood.

Watch out early next year for a celebration showcase concert featuring these awesome musical talents from our special little village in the rainforest.

One Love Kuranda!  
MO Zach

## Kuranda Amphitheatre Reggaetown and Katchafire

Perfect weather and a wonderful Sunday Kuranda night sky filled with stars, on 20 November. And below, the Kuranda Amphitheatre mainstage filled with world class musical stars entertaining a mesmerised audience of smiling, happy people.

Talk about twinkling above and twinkling below. Reggaetown and Katchafire delighted, amused and got the party started and the people dancin' for nine hours.

A great afternoon of entertainment as only the Kuranda Amphitheatre can provide for families, young ones, old ones, in between ones and all the other ones. A wonderful responsible crowd, who ate, watched, had a drink, danced, repeated till the very end. And why not?

With brilliant local musical talents Koalition and Zennith plus Jelly Oshen, Blad P2A, DJ Victor Lopez, Nicky Bomba and the Reggaetown Allstars, concluding with Masaya and headliner Katchafire.

Kuranda was moved to the roots!

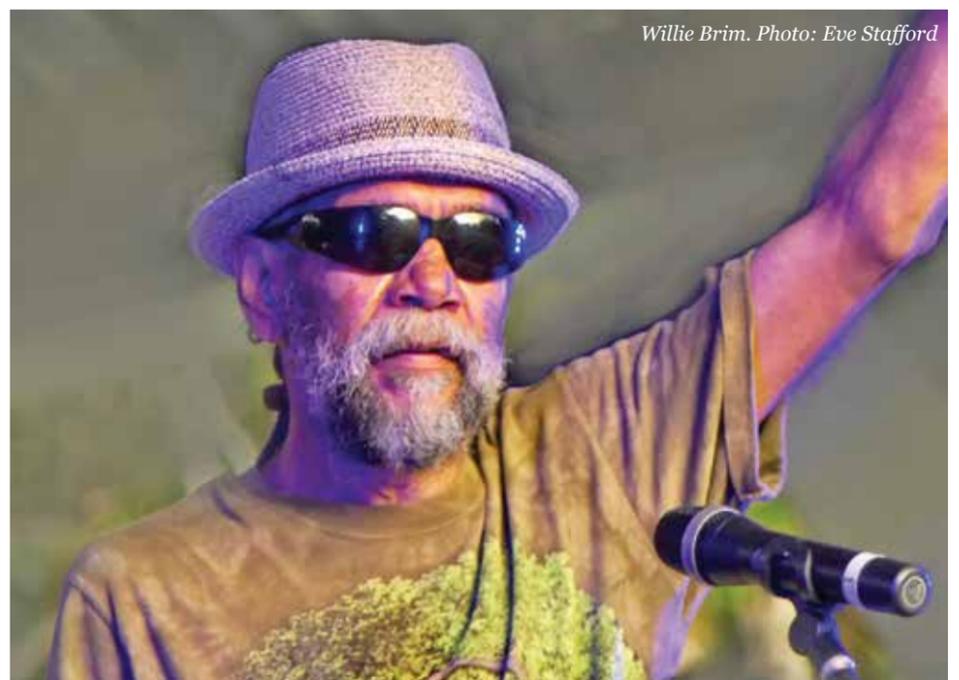
A sincere thank you to all who came and saw and loved Kuranda Amphitheatre. A most wondrous thanks to our volunteers who made the shows possible. Talk about big hearts and muscles, it's what's required to manage and operate Australia's last volunteer-run, live performance venue, 40 years in the making.

So, big thanks to everyone and let's continue the party rollin' with our next Kuranda Amphitheatre event, in the Understage with JC Stylls and Queensland Youth Orchestra Big Band on Sunday 4 December. Doors open at 4.30pm with food, bar, seating and dancing. Tickets [www.trybooking.com/CEBGG](http://www.trybooking.com/CEBGG)

Peter McCabe, President Kuranda Amphitheatre Society.



Buluwanydji/Djabuganydji/Yalanji dancers. Photo: Eve Stafford



Willie Brim. Photo: Eve Stafford

"It's great to have Reggaetown back in Kuranda where I saw overwhelming smiles and gestures of goodwill, and fellowship with everyone sharing the same spirit because it came through the dance and the music.

I was very pleased to see the combination of Buluwai, Djabugay and Yalanji dancers open for Zennith. Really great to see the next generation, my grandchildren, my nephews, all participating to create this dynamic performance in true Kuranda Bama style.

I was really happy to be part of Reggaetown to bring back the true old spirit of Kuranda. We hope Reggaetown will continue on, again, as one of the mainstay local events on the FNQ calendar."

Willie Brim

As this is the final *Kuranda Paper* for 2022, I would also like to take this opportunity to wish residents and friends of the Mareeba Shire a Merry Christmas and enjoyable festive season. I encourage everyone to spend quality time with family and friends, reach out to those who are less fortunate and take the time to connect with those who may be feeling overwhelmed or isolated.

Please stay safe and enjoy a wonderful Christmas and New Year. On behalf of my family and I, Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2023.

Cr Angela Toppin, Mayor  
4086 4606 | mayor@msc.qld.gov.au

## Councillor Column

Welcome to the Councillor Column, an opportunity for Councillors to share updates and information relevant to Kuranda and surrounds.



### MAREEBA SHIRE MAYOR ANGELA TOPPIN

#### Thank You

On behalf of Mareeba Shire Council, I would like to open this final 'Councillor Update' for 2022 by acknowledging the community spirit of residents, community groups and businesses in the Mareeba Shire. During the last 12 months, I have witnessed a continued rallying of community, business and industry to face some significant challenges. The recovery from the pandemic continues and is reflected in our economic data with the Mareeba Shire's Gross Regional Product now at pre-pandemic levels.

This is a credit to all who have worked hard to meet the challenges of the pandemic, including moving forward during a labour shortage which is being experienced across the country through to dealing with major supply chain challenges including delays and price increases. During this time, Council remained focussed on delivering quality services for our community, by bringing down a balanced budget which is within the means of the ratepayers and remains true to the long-term financial plan.

This does not mean that there has been a lack of action or projects, in fact, the capital program in 2021/22 saw more than \$30 million in works completed across the shire including the replacement of the Granite Creek Sewer Pump station in Mareeba at a cost of \$2 million, the purchase of a new site for the Kuranda Cemetery of \$1.1 million and major water projects including the \$3.30 million upgrade to Chillagoe's critical water infrastructure. The State and Federal governments are acknowledged for their assistance in funding these projects.

Now, I am looking forward to the completion of the new playgrounds at Centenary Park in Kuranda and Amaroo Park on Hastie Road in Mareeba, and also to the opening of the Splash Park in Mareeba in the coming months.

As Mayor, I have been privileged to attend an incredible number of community events and functions throughout the year, with some local Clubs celebrating major milestones in the last 12 months. I commend every resident who volunteers in the Mareeba Shire. While it is difficult to quantify, the significant benefit of those volunteer efforts must be recognised.

In closing, I am pleased to advise that the Mayor's Christmas Appeal is now accepting cash donations. These cash donations are provided to the community centres across the Shire to distribute vouchers to families in need. If you have never donated before, I would like to ask that you consider making a small donation to the Mayor's Christmas Appeal for the first time in 2022. The smallest donation, made by many, will add up and spread much needed kindness and generosity this Christmas season.

## BRIDGE UPDATE

In October 2020, inspections identified fatigue cracks in some steel elements of the Barron River bridge in Kuranda. These cracks were caused by many years of impacts from heavy vehicles, which are now much heavier than when the bridge was designed and built in the early 1960s.

Many Kuranda locals would have seen these delicate remediation works underway.

The remediation works have been successfully completed and it is safe to reopen the bridge to two lanes for vehicles under 50.5 tonne, with pedestrian access moved to the southern side of the bridge and a speed limit of 60km per hour. The Department for Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will continually assess the effectiveness of these control measures and revise them if necessary.

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

Going forward, the contract to investigate long-term solutions for the Barron River bridge near Kuranda has been awarded to Arup. The project will look at many different aspects, including:

- future capacity improvements
- a safe solution for pedestrians and bike riders
- heavy vehicle access.

Following public consultation earlier this year in which 158 contributions were received, it is expected that this planning phase will be completed in late 2023. This \$5.98 million planning project is fully funded by the Queensland Government.

Until the planning phase is complete, the bridge will continue to operate as it currently is, with periodic testing and maintenance works causing some changed traffic conditions. TMR has not yet advised when the next round of testing and maintenance will be.

It would be unwise to pre-empt the outcome of the planning phase, however, I am aware that a new bridge is a popular option, as is significant rehabilitation of the existing bridge.

*Craig Crawford, Member for Barron River*

## MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL - COMMUNITY UPDATE

### COUNCIL RENAMES BRIDGE IN HONOUR OF BOB MADDEN



Councillors at a recent event to commemorate Mr Madden's service to the Mareeba Shire.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on Wednesday, 16 November 2022, Council approved the renaming of the Groves Creek Bridge, Speewah to the Bob Madden Bridge.

"Bob was a long-term chairman of the Speewah District Residents Association (SDRA) and as chairman his contribution was immense," said Annie Austin, SDRA Chair.

"While Bob's many altruistic activities extended to the broader Kuranda community, the SDRA submitted the renaming of the bridge to Council in account of Bob's extraordinary work in telecommunications in Speewah." Ms Austin explains.

Council considers input from community members for the naming of roads and water crossings. Submissions involving a request for a name which is not already on an approved list for the relevant district, will be referred to Council for approval.

Council is pleased to rename the bridge after Bob Madden. The signs will be manufactured in the near future, and Council looks forward to the official renaming of the bridge at an event early in 2023.

### A TIME FOR GIVING



The 2022 Mayor's Christmas Appeal has been launched. Each year, generous community members and organisations make donations which Council then distributes to local families in need with the help of Community Centres across the Shire.

Council would like to encourage residents to get behind the annual cause and donate to the appeal to assist those in need. If you have never donated before, consider making a small donation to the Mayor's Christmas Appeal for the first time in 2022.

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

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

### LIBRARY CHRISTMAS CRAFT PROGRAM



- Rock Painting for Adults
- Porcelain Plate Painting for Kids

View availability and book online or contact the Mareeba or Kuranda Library.



### COUNCIL PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Mareeba Shire Council is making significant progress towards the completion of capital projects throughout the Shire.

Council's Capital Works program focusses on the renewal and upgrade of Council infrastructure and is funded through a combination of Council's own funding and external grants and subsidies.

Two current projects are the new playgrounds at Centenary Park in Kuranda and the Mareeba Eastern Catchment Park (Amaroo) which are progressing well. The Splash Park in Mareeba will also be completed in the coming months.

Council is continuing to work towards the commitments made in the 'Parks and Open Spaces Action Plan'.

Dear Kuranda residents,

Rising cost of living is putting a strain on everyone, particularly at this time of year when we gather with friends and family. Whether it be grocery prices, fuel costs, electricity bills, insurance premiums, rent or mortgage payments, tight household budgets are under strain.

This is why the Queensland Government allocated a record \$6.786 billion for concessions and rebates in the 2022-23 state budget, including \$725 million worth of targeted concessions and rebates to those who need it most, including eligible seniors and those on a Disability, Age, or Carer pensions, or a Department of Veterans' Affairs pension. Some of the available concessions include support for healthcare, transport, rental and energy costs. Be sure to visit [www.qld.gov.au/smartsavings](http://www.qld.gov.au/smartsavings) or phone 13 74 68 to find out what savings you might be eligible for.

We're also delivering free or cheaper kindy for 40,000 families. From 2023, the *Kindy for All* program will offer free kindy for 14,000 families – an average saving of \$4,500 for each of them. It will also be cheaper for 26,000 families. Learn more at [www.earlychildhood.qld.gov.au/early-years/kindergarten](http://www.earlychildhood.qld.gov.au/early-years/kindergarten) or phone 13 74 68.

As always, if you need anything from me, please contact my local office at [barron.river@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:barron.river@parliament.qld.gov.au) or call 07 4229 0100. Please note, the Barron River Electoral Office will be closed from 24 December, reopening on 2 January. As we head to the end of 2022, I would like to wish everyone in Kuranda an enjoyable festive season, and a wonderful new year!



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

## KURANDA POLICE UPDATE

### DECEMBER 2022

Greetings to the Kuranda community. We are heading into the silly season now and it's always good to remind people to be safe when travelling and also ensure your residences and valuables are properly secured. Please remember the **FATAL FIVE – Distraction, Drink Driving, Speeding, Fatigue and Not Wearing Seatbelts** are our five biggest killers on the road.

I wanted to touch on property security as well. The technology in CCTV cameras has come a long way in the last decade or so. High quality CCTV systems are now available to purchase for a reasonable price and can be installed relatively easily. We recently had break and enter offences occur in the community which was disappointing to see. However, due to the premises having quality footage, we were able to identify and charge a number of persons quickly.

The Police have spoken to many residents around Kuranda who still do not lock their doors or vehicles even at home. Unfortunately we are in a time where we must secure all of our possessions all of the time. Home/business owners will often install cameras or take other security precautions after they have been broken into, which is good, but we need to focus on prevention.

The Kuranda Police recently unveiled a plaque at the Kuranda Police Station. The day was to acknowledge continued contributions of the Elders to the community and the assistance that they give Police on a regular basis. The plaque will permanently acknowledge their unique contributions and make a commitment to continue the work into the future. All were welcomed by Uncle William Brim who acknowledged that persons present come from many different traditional countries, but call Kuranda home. The two First Nation School Captains from the Kuranda District State College were present and the challenge to continue the work of the elders present was issued to them. Auntie Florence Brim also spoke reinforcing the responsibility of the Elders to assist the community and the value of working with Kuranda Police.

The Kuranda Police would like to wish everyone in Kuranda a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe and we hope you can share some quality time with your friends and family.

**Remember if you need Police and the crime is happening now, call 000. If the crime has already happened or you need Police for other non-urgent matters, then call Policelink on 131 444.** You can also call the Kuranda Police Station on 07 4093 7356.

*Sergeant Matt Harling, Officer in Charge, Kuranda Police Station*

*Elders and community members gather at the Kuranda Police Station for the unveiling of a plaque to acknowledge contributions made by Elders.*



## ANTENNA GUY

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- Data, TV and Phone Outlets
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📞 0402 537 952 | 📧 [laurence.antennaguy@gmail.com](mailto:laurence.antennaguy@gmail.com) | 📺 Antenna Guy Laurence

## Mareeba SHIRE COUNCIL

### FREE DOMESTIC GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL

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

**Saturday, 3 December and Sunday, 4 December 2022**

For more information please phone 1300 308 461 or visit: [www.msc.qld.gov.au](http://www.msc.qld.gov.au)

## sprout

juice & coffee bar  
*~meet, greet, eat, repeat~*

**OPEN FOR DINE-IN AND TAKE-AWAY**  
 7.30am – 2.30pm

*Open 7 DAYS*

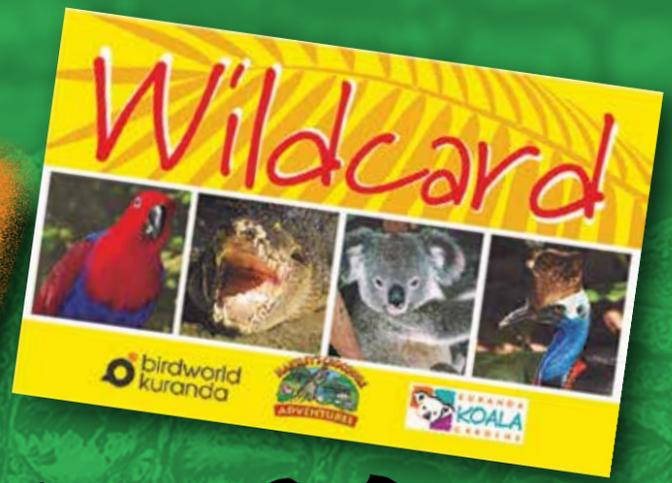
*locals looking after locals*

📍 24 Coondoo Street, Kuranda  
 📞 07 4093 8256  
 📧 [sproutkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:sproutkuranda@gmail.com)

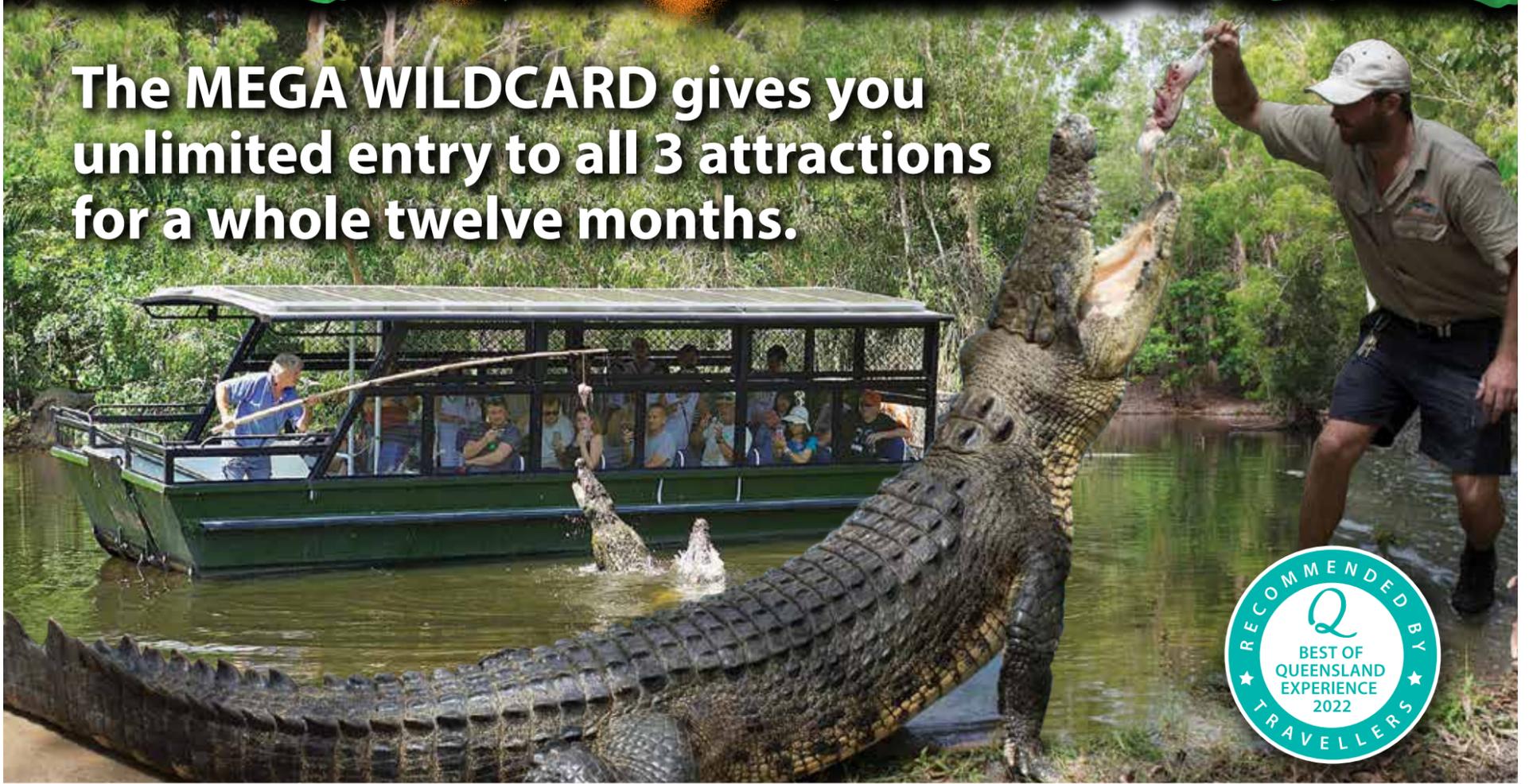
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# Wild-life!



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PASSES AVAILABLE AT ALL 3 ATTRACTIONS



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Kuranda Heritage Markets  
Ph 4093 9953



OPEN DAILY 8.30am - 5pm  
Cook Highway, Wangetti  
Ph: 4055 3576



OPEN DAILY 10am to 4pm  
Kuranda Heritage Markets  
Ph: 4093 9188

[crocodileadventures.com](http://crocodileadventures.com)

\*Closed Christmas Day - check other dates on our website.



## KURANDA BRANCH

20 Thongon Street

Email: collblu@antmail.com.au

Booking Agent: Colleen Blunt 0448 434 186

President: Vicki Donovan 0400 791 345

### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS EVENT



**Kuranda Branch Community Christmas Event – Saturday 3 December** at the CWA Hall, 20 Thongon Street. Raffles, Community Trading Tables, and Kuranda CWA Historical Display to celebrate the Qld CWA 100th Birthday. **BOOK a STALL for only \$10!** Contact Sandra McCorry on 0447 374 415 or email [sandra.mccorry@hotmail.com](mailto:sandra.mccorry@hotmail.com)

Thanks to those generous community folk who gave donations and raffle contributions for CWA fundraising. All proceeds will be going towards our Kuranda Branch CWA hefty insurance 2022-2023 bill.

Thanks to Barron Falls Hotel and Doongal Gallery for their donations. We appreciate the fantastic voucher for the raffles from Skyrail, Sprout and BP Kuranda. Thanks also for the crocheted rugs, Barron Falls Hotel for the wine, Colleen Blunt for Mosaic Pot, Rudi Buhler for pot plant, and all those who gave gifts such as Christmas cake, pudding and stocking fillers to be included for a fun raffle.

Tickets \$2 each with three prizes to be drawn on the evening of 8 December at the Kuranda Twilight Trading. Tickets available at the CWA Christmas Event on Saturday 3 December at the CWA Hall.

**CWA monthly Members meeting** – will be held on Wednesday 14 December 9–11am.

**Social and Craft** – Held on the third Wednesday of the month 9am–12noon. Hobby stall opportunities. All welcome.

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

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

- Yoga in Rainforest – Aileen 0419 726 955
- Yoga with Tina – 0499 593 119
- Tae Kwon Do – Jeff 0437 438 196
- Myola Body Groove – Sandra 0447 737 415
- Tension & Trauma Release – Sabine 0415 959 195
- AA Group – 1300 222 222

**Hall Hire Available** – We currently have hire availability on Mondays 11.30am–5pm, Tuesdays 11am–5pm, alternate Wednesdays until 5pm, Thursdays until 5pm, all day Fridays, most Saturdays, and Sunday afternoons. Availability is flexible over Christmas/New Year period. Contact Colleen Blunt Hall Convenor 0448 434 186.

### Kuranda Medical Centre Update

An update on the comings and goings of medical staff at the Kuranda Medical Centre. As most of our patients know, we are a training medical centre meaning that GP registrars rotating through James Cook University on a four year GP training program come and go every six to 12 months. Dr Sarah Andela will be working with us through to January 2023 when she will leave to take up her next training position in Cairns. She will be replaced by Dr Miranda Hamilton who will be working with us part-time for 12 months.

We also have been joined by an experienced female doctor who I hope will be working with us on a more permanent basis. Dr Cat Heiner is a local from Cairns, went to university at JCU and has worked over the past few years as a GP in Mount Sheridan, Edmonton, Yarrabah and Manunda. Dr Cat describes herself as having a bubbly and laid-back personality which is conducive for relaxed consultations with her patients, and a style that should suit Kuranda nicely. She has a special interest in weight loss, anti-wrinkle injections, injections to treat headache and migraines, iron infusions to treat iron deficiency, pregnancy care, baby and children's health.

Dr Cat has recently moved to the Tablelands with her husband, young daughter and two dogs. It is her intention to be working at the Kuranda Medical Centre 1–2 days per week and will be working as a private billing GP.

Her fees for both face-to-face and telephone consultations are:

- short consultation (<15 minutes) \$87
- consultation 15-30 minutes \$145
- anti-wrinkle injections \$6 per unit
- iron infusions \$250 with a Medicare rebate of \$76.95

I am sure that many patients in Kuranda will welcome a permanent female doctor joining the practice and I hope that Dr Cat settles into Kuranda and enjoys practicing medicine here as much as I have done over the past 22 years.

Kind regards  
Dr Dave Cuming

## Vale

BRUCE WILLIAM JOHNSTON

(Solicitor)

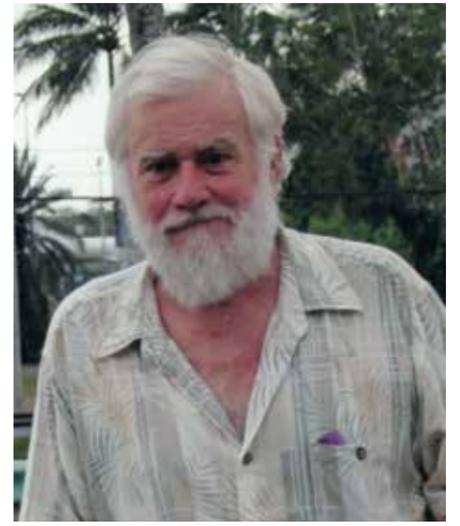
20 NOVEMBER 2022

Bruce Johnston passed away peacefully at the Mareeba Hospital on Sunday 20 November 2022 after a long illness. Aged 74 years.

Bruce was the beloved husband of Alison and cherished by all his extended families.

A private cremation was held as per Bruce's wishes.

'Peacefully Resting'



## Community Christmas EVENT

QCWA  
100 YEAR  
DISPLAY



### KURANDA BRANCH

**WHEN: 8am to 12.30pm • Saturday 3 December 2022**

**WHERE: QCWA Hall, 20 Thongon Street, Kuranda**

*Just the place to find that perfect Christmas gift, or grab a bargain!*

MORNING TEA FOR GOLD COIN DONATION

**COMMUNITY STALLS WELCOME**



#### STALL HOLDER INFORMATION

**Cost:** \$10 per site (tables provided)

**Set-up:** from 7.30am

**Stall Bookings:** Sandra McCorry • 0447 737 415 • [sandra.mccorry@hotmail.com](mailto:sandra.mccorry@hotmail.com)



## Kuranda Medical Centre

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

cnr Barang and Thongon Streets

Monday – Friday 8.30 to 5pm

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

**Dr Veerendra Sinha:** specialises in skin cancers and excisions – Tuesday and Thursday 8.30am–5pm

**Dr Agufana Pepela:** Outreach every second Monday at Kowrowa

**Dr Steve Salleras:** Monday and Wednesday 8.30am–5pm

**Nurse Terry:** Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander patients

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

*"Professional Care in Your Community"*

# A COMMON THREAD EXHIBITION

The exhibition *A Common Thread* by Kuranda artists Toni Rogers, Marcelle Dieben and Sheree Burnside at the Tableland Regional Gallery in Atherton was opened recently by Kellie McBride.

In her opening address Kellie said that whilst many of the materials bowered in the exhibition were lovingly collected locally, the stories and skills woven into them by the artists come from time and spaces that stretched out in all directions.

Kellie invited the audience to float their minds through time and recall the gentle, or perhaps the strong hand of a grandmother figure guiding and teaching through the everyday basics which have become part of their lives.

"The skills seen here in this exhibition are a result of such guidance. These three artists honour their Grandmothers, their common thread in the artworks."

"Place, material, stories, the individual pieces in the exhibition, spoke to and about each other over the last 12 months. The artists' commitment to the brief 'a common thread' and to each other, was strong. The restful cohesiveness of this collection speaks to their successful collaboration."

"The value of the slow-make is radically at odds with the pace of the world, it provides the artist and the viewer with a spiritual antidote to the materialism of mass production."

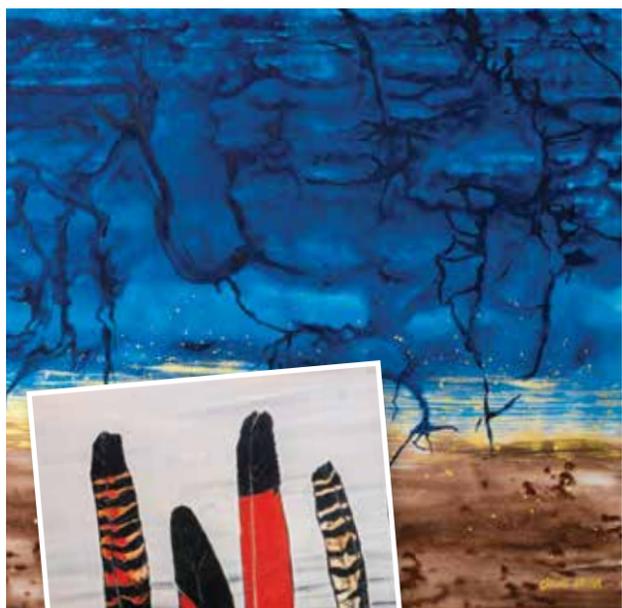
*A Common Thread* continues at the Tableland Regional Gallery in Atherton until 21 January 2023.

Right: Kellie McBride. Photo: Gayle Hannah.  
Below: Marcelle Dieben, Sheree Burnside and Toni Rogers  
Far right: Official opening of the exhibition. Photos: Lee Goldring



## CONNIE ROVINA SOLO EXHIBITION

Well known Kuranda artist, Connie Rovina, is pleased to invite everyone to her first solo exhibition **Reconnections** at the Crystalbrook Bailey Hotel in Cairns during December and January 2023. Connie's gallery WidiWorks, is in the Kuranda Original Rainforest Markets complex. She has most recently completed her beautiful custom painting of one the three life-sized cassowary statues which kickstarted the Kuranda Cassowary Art Trail.



Above: Detail of "Night Spirit Descending"  
Left: "Travellers Over Country"

*I have been painting all my life since I was a young child. My style and stories were passed down through my Grandfather and Uncle. After taking a long 19-year sojourn away from painting I now urgently feel the need to pass our family tradition as painters to our family members, to keep painting culture present. For me, painting combines the chance to connect spirituality, culture, family and re-connection to country, giving a true sense of whole being.*

*This, my very first solo exhibition, showcases new original acrylic on canvas paintings (in size ranges from 160cm x 90cm to smaller 50cm x 50cm) and a selection of Limited Edition prints on canvas, all created in the last two years.*

*Come, share my happiness and modern cultural vibrance.*

*I am of KukuThaypan (Cape York Peninsula), and Widi/Birriah (Central Queensland) ancestral heritage. My artwork is inspired by my upbringing within my Aboriginal family which includes sibling artists, painters and artifact manufacturers; and the outback traditional lands of our grandmother, which stretch from Musgrave Station and the Laura district, the KUKU-Thaypan people (Far North Queensland), and the Bowen Basin district Birriah and Widi people (Central Queensland) of my grandfather. Second to this is the brilliance of Far North Queensland's rainforests and seas. I use both traditional ochre tones and multi-colours from inland bush, and sea themes and abstracts about life and spirituality as Aboriginal people.*

Connie Rovina

**THE COURT HOUSE**  
CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL

### BILUM STORIES CURATED BY MOALE JAMES, LITTLE MATCH PRODUCTIONS

LAUNCH: 6PM FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER  
EXHIBITION: WED 2 NOV - SAT 10 DEC

From womb to the grave, bilums have been carried through every phase of life and passed down through generations. The subject matter and media used is as diverse as are our climates and environments.

Bilum Stories brings together women from Cairns and Brisbane each with their own bilum story to share that just as the craft is carried through generations so too are the stories of the women who own, make and use these woven bags.

VENUE: THE COURT HOUSE GALLERY COST: FREE  
OPEN: 10.00AM - 4.00PM TUESDAY - SATURDAY



Sepik Bilum, courtesy of Heru Pinkasova

### AGM DATE CHANGE

#### KURANDA MEDIA ASSOCIATION



**Kuranda Media**  
ASSOCIATION

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4pm  
**Tuesday 13 December 2022**  
The Kuranda Paper office  
Shop 2, Red House Arcade,  
24 Coondoo St, Kuranda.

Memberships \$10. Applications for membership to  
mail@kurandapaper.com

## Hair Off The Dog FNQ

**Sharlene Kemp**  
0409 255 427

77 Kelly Road, Speewah  
etteleahpark@bigpond.com

Hair Off The Dog FNQ

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## MAXIMUM PEST MANAGEMENT

**Max & Jodie Turner**  
MOB: 0418 150 759

PH: 4092 1999  
E: maximumpestman@hotmail.com  
W: www.maxpestman.com

### The Melting Pot – Cairns Regional Gallery

Kate Prynne will be entering her latest exhibition piece, entitled *Renewal*, in *The Melting Pot* exhibition opening on 16 December. Mollie Bosworth will also be entering her work. The exhibition will run through to 16 January 2023.

### A Common Thread – Tablelands Regional Gallery

A collaboration of work between Toni Rogers, Shiree Burnside and Marcelle Dieben. An invisible thread connects those who are destined to meet, regardless of time, place and circumstances. The artists' diversity serves as a testament to the importance of recycled materials as an artistic genre. Artworks include packaging paper, fabrics, threads, stone, wood, leaves and our environment's flotsam and jetsam. The exhibition will be on display until Saturday 21 January 2023.

### Klaus Brucksch

Klaus Brucksch recently completed an impressive stained glass commission for a lucky local resident.



Klaus Brucksch's stained glass commission

### Membership and Gallery space

With our fresh new space, we also welcome new artists to join the Co-op. Drop in and pick up an application/membership form which will give more information about becoming an exhibiting artist.

### Thank you

Thank you to everyone in the community for continuing to support our Gallery. It has been a very eventful year with the opening of the new gallery space and our 25th Birthday Exhibition.

A special mention to Adric from TRACQS and his team, who worked on renovating the space for us, as well as the Co-op members who worked to get the gallery open and operating in such a short space of time earlier this year, in particular Kate Prynne, our project coordinator!

The Arts Co-operative will continue to be open seven days a week, only closing on Christmas Day. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you in 2023.

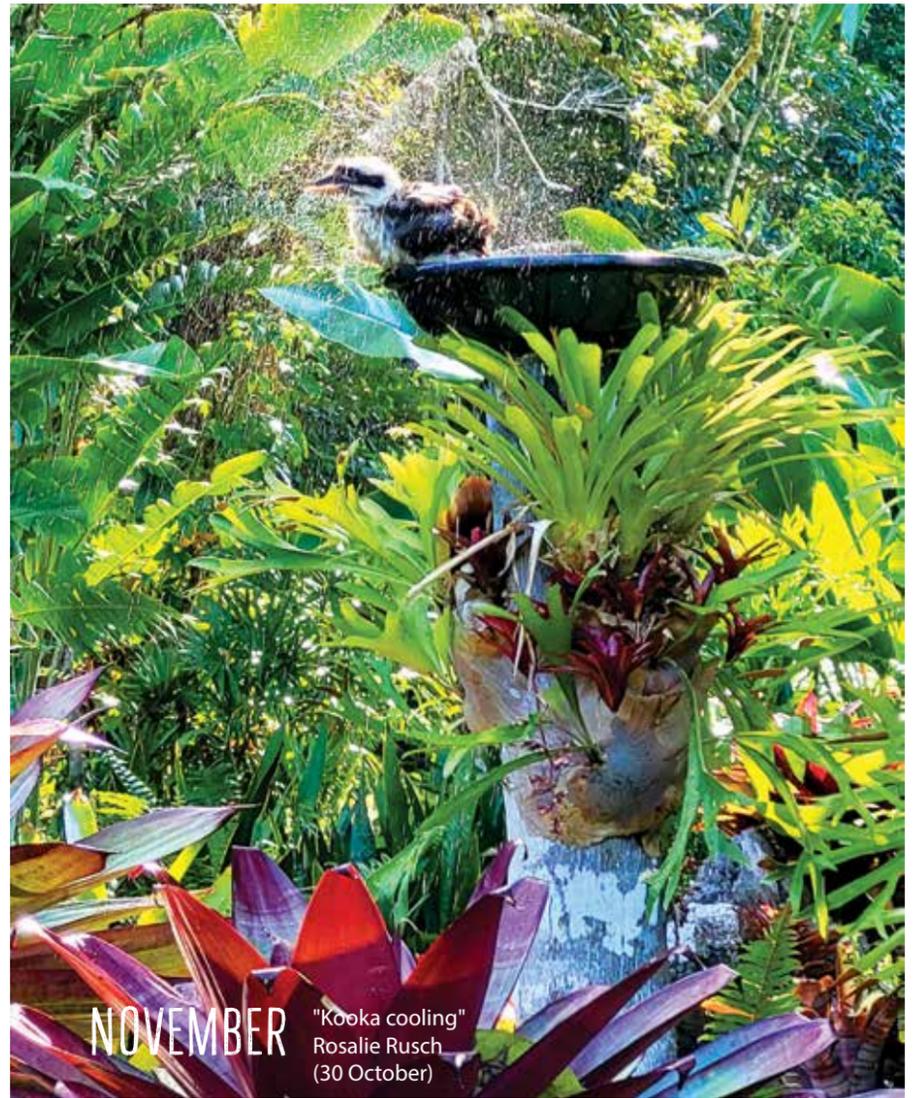
*"Art is too important not to share"*

Romero Britto



## FOCUS ON KURANDA

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



NOVEMBER

"Kooka cooling"  
 Rosalie Rusch  
 (30 October)

## Kuranda



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"Pandemia". Photo: Sahlan Hayes

## BEACH COUTURE: A HAUTE MESS BY MARINA DEBRIS

'Grotesquely amusing' exhibition at Cairns Museum to spark debate about the future of plasticity.

A provocative exhibition where fashion, art and activism collide will encourage visitors to imagine a future world full of plastic while questioning their daily contribution to it.

Open at the Cairns Museum until 25 February 2023, *Beach Couture: A Haute Mess by Marina DeBris* features wearable pieces made from trash collected from beaches and oceans.

Described as "grotesquely amusing", the exhibition will be complemented by a fun, hands-on school holiday program and a free public talk by Distinguished Professor Stewart Lockie titled *Plastic Futures, or a better Anthropocene*.

Marina DeBris is an 'artist' who—as her pseudonym suggests—highlights our use of single use plastic items and the resulting impact on the health of our oceans.

Marina's artistic journey began more than a decade ago, when she would collect trash during her daily runs on Venice Beach in Los Angeles as her way of helping to maintain its natural beauty.

To draw attention to the alarming developments she was seeing on the beach, Marina began turning the trash she collected into art. Since then, her works have been exhibited in the United States, Japan and Australia.

As part of the broader discussion around plasticity of the future prompted by the exhibition, Cairns Museum will also host a six-week school holiday program.

Held from 13 December to 21 January 2023, the school holiday program will include workshops such as recycled Christmas decorations, a collaborative bottle cap mural, and the creation of hologram-viewers from old plastic containers.

School holiday workshops are suitable for children aged 4-12 years and cost \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. A range of free-with-entry activities inspired by the exhibition will also take place, such as the Marine Couture Scavenger Hunt.

Cairns Museum curator Dr Daniela Vavrova said visitors to the exhibition can contribute to the broader discussion about plasticity of the future.

"The Cairns Museum is delighted to welcome Marina and *Beach Couture* to Cairns for the first time, particularly with our strong attachment to the preservation of the Great Barrier Reef here in the Tropical North," Dr Vavrova said.

"The exhibition invites viewers to engage with the problem of plastic pollution, with these ideas to be featured on our social media platforms and in the temporary gallery itself as part of the greater discussion prompted by the exhibition.

"Anyone wishing to contribute to their ideas can tag @cairnsmuseum and use the hashtag #BeachCoutureCM."



"White Trash (Bedtime Stories)". Photo: Richard Flynn



Leigh Sales and Annabel Crabb to headline

### CAIRNS TROPICAL WRITERS FESTIVAL in February 2023

After three heartbreaking cancellations over the past three years, the Cairns Tropical Writers Festival (CTWF) will be held at the Pullman Cairns International Hotel over the weekend of 24-26 February 2023.

The addition of Leigh Sales and Annabel Crabb to the program will add gravitas to the already strong lineup of presenters, and undoubtedly attract visitors to Cairns during the off-peak season. Whilst the duo are individually regarded as highly respected leaders in the journalistic and political realm, Sales and Crabb are also hosts of the wildly popular independent podcast with *Chat 10 Looks 3*. In September 2021, the duo published their first book together, *Well Hello*.

The Cairns Tropical Writers Festival was established in 2008 as a biennial event. It brings together our regional community of writers and readers with Australian and internationally revered authors and celebrities, who inspire us and feed our literary minds. With such a rich, tropical backdrop, it's no surprise that the Festival continues to gain national and international appeal, showcasing the distinctive voices of our tropical region.

2018 demonstrated unprecedented growth and marked the Festival's 10th year since it was established. The three cancellations took their toll on the Festival's passionate committee and volunteers, however, they are delighted to announce that the Festival is back, bigger and better in February 2023.

**Tickets to the three-day event are now on sale at [www.ctwf.com.au](http://www.ctwf.com.au)**

Follow us at [facebook.com/CairnsTropicalWritersFestival](https://facebook.com/CairnsTropicalWritersFestival)

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# A Grinter's Tale

The Christmas solar lights were still up from last year, the long string of wee lights lovingly wrapped around all the beams of the verandah like an anorexic snake. I rather liked them there, although they only worked when they wanted to, maybe hormonal imbalance or their country of origin?

I decided I should change the siting of the lights to make it seem like a new Christmas, maybe wind them around the trunk of the Norfolk pine in the driveway where they could be enjoyed by passers by and get more sun on the charger. I spread the string of lights across the verandah floor, tens of metres long, carefully laid out in several huge circles like a fairy ring. Bored already with that project, I left them in situ, heading off to start another project that would also remain unfinished. Such is my wont and the reason why chaos reigns in this household.

The Kelpie turns up beside me, looking up at me with a beatific expression on his old face. I absentmindedly pat his little head as I glance behind him at something lying in a heap on the grass.

"Oh Harry", I mutter, as one would to a toddler that had just leant against a newly painted wall. I stared sadly at the string of lights he had obligingly walked through on the verandah, bringing the neat concentric coils down the stairs and across the garden. However, the string was no longer in concentric circles but more like a heap of vermicelli noodles.

I eyed the mess, considered the options, glanced at the garbage bin, looked back at Harry and said with a sigh, "Never mind, we all know that mistakes are the portals of discovery". He looked at me as if to say "Get them off me, I have no idea what portals are". He should do, he's watched Outlander with me three times.

The garbage bin seemed the easier option. After all, Christmas decorations are two a penny these days... sorry, two a cent just doesn't sound right.

However, In the spirit of Scrooge, I spent the next hour untangling the spaghetti junction, cursing at the heat and my stupidity, then a further half hour winding said solar lights tastefully through the lower branches of the tree. I stepped out onto the verandah after dark, to view my handiwork.

The driveway was as black as the inside of the garbage bin with the lid shut. How do I know how black that is? I'll tell you one day.

Nothing, not so much as one teeny bulb alight. Never mind a year, they will stay there forever, like our old Clifton Beach neighbour's life size Santa, sleigh and reindeers. They hurtled across his hot tin roof from December to December because it took him so long to get them up there, he couldn't face disassembling the display. I thought it was bad enough to still be eating Christmas cake in March, and far worse than seeing Christmas decorations in the shops in September. Life that year, passing this oxymoronic racing/static display, was just one long Christmas without the indigestion.

The Christmas tree left for greener pastures last year, having accumulated the equivalent of a full bale of hay in its branches from being stored in the hay shed. It's like getting a knot out of a fine silver chain, or unravelling Christmas lights; there are only a certain number of hours in the day and only so many swear words.

Gone are the days of paper chains and lanterns stretched from one side of the room to the other, home made Christmas crackers, silver sprayed pine cones and coins in the Christmas pud.

Paper chains were fun to make, at least when you were under 10 years old, but they did have their drawbacks. My older (and wiser) brother would point out that his little (dopey) sister had got the colour sequence wrong, which inevitably resulted in him gleefully tearing my chain at the point of error, causing copious tears from his sibling and the intervention of the matriarch with wooden spoon in hand. Then poor Dad would come home from a full day's work in his pharmacy and spend the next few hours up a ladder hanging fragile chains from corner to corner of the ceiling in every room, along with twisted crepe paper streamers.

The year he set the Christmas lunch table alight when he lit the candle of a yuletide centrepiece, a paper chain wafted down from the ceiling to land on the table. Everyone exited through the French windows leaving Dad to strangle said fire with one of mum's best Marquette cushions, while she stood agape in the doorway with a vase of water at the ready. He so very nearly wore it.

Fortunately that wasn't the year mum nearly choked her sister, putting coins in the Christmas pudding as per tradition, but neglecting to send out a warning prior to hearty consumption of said pud. My dad, the erstwhile firefighter, leapt from his seat to perform the Heimlich manoeuvre on Auntie Betty, the errant coin flying across the table into my brother's lap. He all but fell off his chair, apparently thinking it was her dentures. Such fun was there to be had on Christmas Day in Blighty.

As it turned out, my aunt could probably have had my mother charged for attempted manslaughter, as it seems after decimal currency was introduced in Australia, the new five cent piece was considered too big for safety as a pudding surprise. In any event the coins would turn green in the cooking due to the nickel and copper content. There's a tale you can tell when there isn't enough pudding to go around and you need to divert diners to the pavlova.

Later, probably in recognition of paper chains' contribution to pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, paper chains were replaced by foil decorations, and Mum would colour macaroni with food dye, which we strung together to decorate the tree along with a couple of strands of tinsel and home made baubles made from papier-mâché. That is, until Kim the family cocker spaniel pulled the entire tree over after stripping the branches of macaroni, and went hyper due to all the e-colours. Ah well, as I said, mistakes are the portal of discovery... and it prevented us from hanging the customary foil covered chocolate decorations, which could have killed said spaniel. What a way to go though!

But it was rather a dangerous festival, with houses all over the globe burning down as a



result of misplaced candles or faulty Christmas tree lights. Fathers would fall from ladders while putting up Christmas decorations, babies would choke on new teddies they bit the eyes out of. You'd be amazed at how many people were injured by stocking holders! I'm no expert on Christmas injuries, but it seems it's a good time of the year to watch out for little children eating glass tree ornaments. Yes, they do.

And it's not only people who are at risk in the festive season. As kids in our home, there was always an argument about who had the right to decorate the tree. My brother, unhappy one year over the parental deliberation that it was his little sister's turn to adorn the tree, took revenge. I came in from the garden to see my beloved teddy tied to the top of the tree with a blindfold over his eyes and Christmas sticky tape across his mouth. I was hysterical. Christmas was such a very jolly time. Ho ho ho.

I'd like to share my risk assessment for Christmas with you, to avoid all the stresses that accompany this flash in the pan day.

Firstly, check young teenage cousin Matilda has not become a vegan in the last three days.

Do a practice run from fridge to oven with turkey. Place baking tray on kitchen bench. Open oven door, return to fridge, carefully lift turkey out and place on waiting tray. Retrace steps to oven. Gently slide turkey into oven. If turkey lands on your feet instead, you have a potential disaster on your hands. See if IGA is open and has a smaller turkey, or get the axe out before any guests arrive.

Keep a generic present on hand in case Uncle William bought you a house for Christmas and you only got him a magnifying glass. It might have to be a gold bar, but it is an investment for the future if you don't need to use it.

Make sure you have pre-fed your pets before leaving food on the kitchen benches, especially ham and turkey.

Don't imagine that giving the kids a tot of sherry on Christmas Evening will give you a lie in. They could vomit all night and still get up at 5.30am to jump on your bed. Have an early night.

These of course emanate from personal experience, well, perhaps not being given a house, but you get the idea.

So, I had virtually finished this column before shooting off to Yungaburra markets yesterday with friends. I didn't buy a huge amount, but did purchase a few plants, several bunches of Asian leaves and one of Auntie May's superb home-made Christmas puddings as a present for our now retired saddler, who is one of the kindest people I know. It looked a bit like a bum, as it sort of had a parting across its diameter, but wow, it looked rich and wholesome.

I came in to finish this column and send it off to *The Kuranda Paper* and the wonderful people who do all the work to put this paper to bed once a month.

I forgot to bring the bag in. The horses, who I had let out of the paddock to have some green grass in the garden, ate the whole pudding (I'm trying to ascertain which of them seems a little drunk), and most of the Asian veg. There's one to add to the risk assessment list.

A big thank you to all those two readers who wade through my column faithfully every month, and a very happy, safe and healthy Christmas to everyone, even those who use my column to clean the windows. Have a seriously wonderful New Year, a better year if we are all vocal in rejecting digital currency. Bitcoin reminds me of Auntie Betty's Christmas choke.

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**Cairns Hinterland Steiner School – Season greetings!**

Rudolf Steiner received his initial impressions of Christmas from the festive atmosphere of the Austro-Hungarian villages in the latter nineteenth century of his childhood. As Christmas approached, these neighbourhoods were suffused by a mood he later described as a "magical breath that filled the homes and streets with joyful, hopeful anticipation". Households would dedicate a corner of their home to a nativity scene populated by wooden figures they had carved themselves to represent the Holy Family and its pastoral and regal visitors, and above the scene always hovered an ingeniously suspended angel protecting the domestic setting of the miraculous newborn.



Today, Steiner schools celebrate Christmas through their participation in an Advent Festival. Here at Cairns Hinterland Steiner School, teachers create individual handmade cards, personalised for each student, and families fashion gifts from felt or wood and together they enjoy time reflecting on the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas. Finally, the school comes together to close the year, for an evening of carols by candlelight led by our community choir and the students themselves.

As a collective we strive to honour the Christmas Festival as a time to re-evaluate our place and purpose in the world so that each soul blooms in love for all existence.

"Christmas is not a time nor a season but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill and to be plenteous in mercy, is to hold the real spirit of Christmas" – Calvin Coolidge

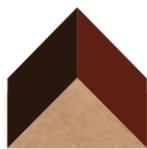
From our family to yours, we wish you all a safe and joyous Christmas season.

*Kelly Ferguson, Head of School*



**KURANDA MEN'S SHED**

*incorporating*  
**KURANDA SHE SHED**



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

Kuranda Men's Shed and She Shed recently had our Christmas party combined with our official opening.

A big thank you to Loris and the She Shed members who put a huge amount of effort and energy in cleaning and preparing the Shed, garden area and refreshments for the day. Also to Eddie Myles for his efforts in raking up the leaves and helping as always.

The opening was an opportunity for the Shed members to thank the organisations and people from the wider community who have helped to establish the Shed and facilities. The group was established in Kuranda a decade ago and stories are still told about the difficulties of that process, let alone the actual building and fitting out of the Shed. Richard gave the welcoming speech followed by a vote of thanks in reply from Mayor Angela Toppin. Thank you to all those who attended.



*Mayor Angela Toppin with Loris.*

The following day we had a very successful Open Day for the local community to come and have a browse and a chat with Loris, Geoff and Don who enjoy chatting. Many interesting locals attended and expressed their interest in joining, while each expressing their stories and why their lives might be improved with the activities we enjoy here. Membership interest was equally divided between men and women. Some bought knick-knacks and contributed to the kitty. One community member promised wonderful donations of machinery, which would be appreciated. Can never have enough good tools!

On this topic, a lovely local couple have donated some very useful tools to the Shed. We greatly appreciate these contributions from the local community and this generosity is a timely reminder that giving back to the community is part of our purpose as a community group. Thank you, folks.

On another note, has anyone seen the Kuranda Men's Shed post box which has gone missing from opposite Peter the Potter's driveway on Kuranda Heights Road?



*Mayor Angela Toppin addressing members at the Shed Christmas party.*

**Session Times**

Men's Shed • Wed & Sat 8.30am–11.30am  
She Shed • Tue 1–5pm, Friday 8am–1pm, Sun 1–5pm

116 Kuranda Heights Road

**Contact**

Geoff (Men's Shed Manager) [mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

**Kuranda Men's Shed**



**Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC)**

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**E. [coordinator@kurandanc.org.au](mailto:coordinator@kurandanc.org.au)**

**Christmas Closure Dates**

The Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC) will be closed from 5pm Thursday 22 December 2022 and will re-open 9am Monday 9 January 2023.

We would like to thank all community members and volunteers for their contributions to the Centre in 2022. Without these valued contributions—be it time, goods or other donations—KNC would be unable to operate as effectively within the Kuranda community. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you again in the new year.

*The Neighbourhood Centre Team*

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<b>Mensline</b>	<b>1300 789 978</b>	<b>DVConnect</b>	
<b>Suicide Call Back</b>	<b>1300 659 467</b>	<b>Womensline</b>	<b>1800 811 811</b>
<b>Beyond Blue</b>	<b>1300 224 636</b>	<b>DVConnect Mensline</b>	<b>1800 600 636</b>



**\*\*Reminder that school commences  
Monday 23 January 2023\*\***

## Kuranda District State College Disco Fundraiser

The Primary Student Council ran their final fundraising event for the year in October. The Under the Sea themed primary disco raised much needed funds for The Reef Restoration Project which works to reseed and replant corals on our Great Barrier Reef.

Throughout 2022 the Student Council has raised over \$2,000 for various charities including Epilepsy Awareness, Kuranda Youth Link, Kids Cancer Project, Ronald McDonald House, Tree Kangaroo Rescue in Malanda. Our own Kookaburra Orchard has also benefited from the hard work of the Student Council with funds from Icy Cup sales going towards garden bed extensions, fencing, mulch and fertiliser. This work has been led by Mrs Katrina Burgess whose tireless work and support for our student leaders has made such a significant impact for our local community.



### Improving our grounds with Murals

Over the past two years the KDSC P&C has donated funds to have a series of murals painted across the primary campus. This year we were again fortunate to receive funds to further beautify our grounds with a mural on our prep wall and a de-escalation wall behind our Well-Being rooms. These were all created by a local artist Sharon Wedel who included all students across the campus in the design and painting of the murals. Our P&C is tireless in their support of our school and there are not words adequate to express our gratitude and thanks for this group of advocates. All funds raised by P&C go towards supporting ALL students across the College. Without P&C many projects would not get off the ground. As with all P&Cs across the state, more help is always appreciated. If you have two hours spare once per term and would like to be involved with this wonderful group of volunteers, please contact the College for more information.

### Amazing student work

Congratulations to all of our students for their achievements throughout the year. Across the primary campus students have been learning how to read, comprehend and write poetry. They have created some outstanding poems. Here is a sample...

#### By Nia Prep

I can see a seagull flying near,  
It is flapping its wings here.  
I can hear the waves flowing,  
They are very slowly going.

#### By Lori Year 1

I can see a spotty deer galloping near.  
I can see a red back spider drinking apple cider  
I can hear a fish making a flippy wish.  
I can smell dragon's breath rocking her kid named Beth.

#### By Noah year 2

I can see a rainbow reindeer, nervously drinking tasty beer.  
I can hear a singing bird, that can always be heard.  
I can hear a blue mouse, building a complicated house.



#### By Jessie Year 3

I can taste the dish of drift wood  
Going down the rocks.  
Zooming past a majestic dragonfly  
Flying away from danger.  
I can feel the mighty mist blow my feet  
I can feel big and small rocks  
I can feel a big feeling of fun  
Going through my body  
My senses; sight, hearing, smell,  
taste and touch combine  
to help me understand so well  
This slimy creek all entwined.

#### By Lief Year 4

I can taste disgusting river sand  
Going in my mouth and nose.  
I can taste watery land  
And things that grows  
I can feel the stream flowing  
And I can feel slimy crocs.  
The wind is blowing,  
I can feel the water flowing to the lochs.  
My senses; sight, hearing, smell  
Taste and touch combine,  
To help me understand so well  
This watery beauty all entwined.

#### By Phoebe Year 6

Spider like trees stand  
In the rough muddy water.  
Edged by the boat that starts to motor,  
The person tries to grab the crocs with his hands.  
The person finished his tin,  
He measured the croc very neat.  
With leathery skin  
And dagger teeth  
He lays on his white soft belly.  
He can see the other croc snap it's prey.  
When they catch the prey they get a tally,  
They hunt November to May.  
The female croc was so robust,  
She was looking with loathing disgust.  
At the person who starts their motor so fast,  
To catch a bulky fish – her biggest wish.  
And he sees the female crocs who was fixated  
with the prey,  
She was so devious when she chased that prey.  
She was so immense,  
She had to lay in the searing, relentless sun.

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Outside Hours School Care (OSHC): kurandaOSHC@gmail.com

# THE YEAR THAT WAS @ 2022

## THE KURANDA PAPER



2022 marked the 31st year of uninterrupted publication of Kuranda's own independent community newspaper, and with the July 2022 edition, the start of our 32nd. This remarkable success story is the result of many acts of personal generosity and community spirit across the decades. A very special thank you to all the fabulous, generous artists, writers and photographers whose creativity graces our pages, adding that bit of Kuranda creative spark to each edition.

And of course, as advertising is our sole source of income, we simply could not remain viable without the continued support of our wonderful local advertisers.

Our masthead for the final edition of 2021 (what a year!) was a burst of silly season colour, featuring Gillian Marie's photograph of a Rainbow Lorikeet feasting on Black Bean flowers. The Kuranda Traders Association annual Christmas Twilight Trading event, themed *Heartbeats* promised to fill the 'heart' of Kuranda with local music, art and of course Fairy Jenny's magical quest for kids.

Two of Kuranda's longest serving committees at the Kuranda Amphitheatre and the Kuranda Recreation Centre, were hoping that volunteering might be on people's New Year's resolutions list for 2022. Minibeast Wildlife featured the 'ghosts of the tree trunks' – Lichen Huntsmen spiders. Enough for some to perhaps look to Jaunita May's naturopathic suggestions for finding calm and inner peace.

**Rainfall for December 2021: 172.5mm. Rainfall for January 2022: 468.9mm**

DEC/JAN  
#338



Front page of our first edition for 2022 featured a masthead with detail from a painting *Flight* by Henri Hunsinger, and a evocative photo of Din Din (Barron Falls) in flood by Holly Rochelle Read. The passing of Cyclone Tiffany in January had brought the falls into full roar. Equally stunning was the spectacular sunrise on Monday 17 January caused by the drift of volcanic ash from a powerful volcanic eruption on the Togan peninsula two days previous. Local snappers Ranjini Rusch and Jill Melody shared their stunning sunset and sunrise photos.

We republished the first half of 14 episodes of *As the Barron Falls...* a round robin by seven Kuranda writers in 1991–1992, to celebrate the formation of a new local writing group. You can find original writing by members of this new group in this edition, pages 27 to 30.

After the summer break, it was time for both Kuranda Rangers Soccer Club and the Kuranda Horse and Pony Club to get their boots and saddles, respectively, back on for a new year keeping kids active and engaged.

Paul Devine, in his *View from the Understorey* column signalled his year ahead would be focussed on delving into the complexities behind the label 'Climate Change' – his top three qualities for human survival? "Kindness, propensity for collaboration rather than competition, and an ability to observe patterns in nature." Synchronistically, Rob Hart in his *Astrology* column pointed out that a recently released book *The Kindness Revolution* found the only possible path out was kindness, compassion and peace on earth.

**Rainfall for the month: 152.7mm**

FEB  
#339



The startling red eye of a Metallic (Shining) Starling captured by photographer Steven Nowakowski made for a riveting masthead. These migratory birds visit far North Queensland each year from Papua New Guinea. "Wet season, what Wet Season?" was the headline – all the rain, with devastating effects in some places, having appeared to have gone south.

Fairy Jenny was leading her band of fae folk to help Clean Up Australia – the Kuranda part – for a third year running. Koah Markets were back in the swing after their annual break during January and February. Kuranda Envirocare was successful in obtaining an Engaging Science grant to train more volunteers to become citizen scientists for their frog monitoring and water quality programmes. The Cassowary Art Trail project was proceeding under the steady hands of Jurg Jutzi of Terra Nova Gallery, initiator of the project. Seedsavers featured a cabbage intriguingly named "Old Women Standing Around Gossiping". And we published the second instalment of *As The Barron Falls...* short stories.

A final farewell was paid to Kuranda Media Association legend Sue McArthur, who was our honorary auditor for many years. Sue was also an incredible voluntary contributor to many community groups and causes over the years including the Kuranda Amphitheatre, the Kuranda Recreation Centre and the Kuranda Ratepayers Association.

More farewells to community members much loved and now much missed – Ron Bruce, Jon Williams and Regina Berk.

**Rainfall for the month: 358.3mm**

MAR  
#340



Our masthead for the month was a detail from Imogen O'Neill's fabulous *Kuranda Story* mural (view the original at the Kuranda Heritage Markets). Our front page story detailed progress on the draft development plan for the new Kuranda Cemetery, planned for land adjacent the existing cemetery which was fast approaching capacity. It has taken close to 30 years to achieve this final (pardon the pun) conclusion to such a long running dilemma.

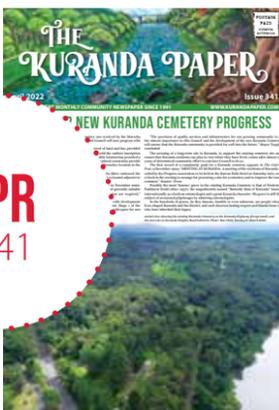
The Kuranda Riverboat celebrated its 40th Anniversary and to mark it launched the inaugural Kuranda Arts Prize. Your Garden Harvest recorded the transformation of a 'suburban' backyard in Kuranda to a syntropic cornucopia. Seedsavers featured CowPea, and recipes Dragonfruit. The abundance of the tropics! Rachael Kelly busted some myths about mistletoe and argued why it should, in most cases, not be removed. The delightful Mistletoe Bird would have to be one more reason.

Local historian Peter Ryle brought us news of scams and swindles – from 1898 no less. The Kuranda Men's Shed and She Shed continued to power on. Visitor numbers to the village continued to improve following the opening of state and international borders. A study at Cairns Hospital revealed some interesting statistics in regards to 'bites' in the tropics with snakes coming out tops (734 presentations between 2013–2020) and crocs bottom at 10.

The incredible life of Kuranda's own songbird June "Joon" Graham was shared by her daughter. June's creativity, passion, curiosity and love for this place and its people is something to celebrate and her music will go on.

**Rainfall for the month: 463.7mm**

APR  
#341



Our May masthead featured a detail of an Orange-thighed Tree Frog by local photographer/naturalist Caitlin Henderson. If you enjoy your wildlife photography to come with some unique humour and insight check out Caitlin's *She's Got Legs* on Facebook, Instagram and Youtube. A natural delight.

Our front page paid tribute to Cathy Harvey who for 17 years managed the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre. Like many in our community, Cathy's energies were also to the benefit of other groups and endeavours – including the Kuranda Amphitheatre and Kuranda Arts Co-op, where Cathy is an active member, creating and exhibiting her glass artworks. A 'creative' retirement ahead.

Anzac Day saw the holding of a public Dawn Service at the Kuranda railway station – the first for two years, following COVID restrictions being lifted.

One of Kuranda's most well known and well loved shops Just Gorgeous celebrated 30 years in business, growing from a market stall to the emporium it now is in its renovated Queenslander on the main street. The efforts of our rural fires and the Djabugay Bulmba Rangers to care for country continued to inspire. And the Kuranda Arts Co-op members—with the help of works from TRACQS Kuranda—were busy renovating to expand gallery space to accommodate their upcoming birthday exhibition in July. Alarm was raised in regards to the proposed Upper Burdekin Wind Farm and the devastating effects even renewable energy projects can cause if not properly assessed or located in the wrong place.

**Rainfall for the month: 179.5mm**

MAY  
#342





JUN  
#343

June's masthead featured detail from a stunning vinyl cut relief print by Bianca Foster, *Birds of a Feather*, and more artwork Bianca and her twin sister Brooke was featured inside the edition. The twins, and an impressive number of other Far North Queensland indigenous artists, are represented by Canopy Arts, based in Speewah. Front page was the installation of a new memorial by the Kuranda RSL Sub Branch in Centenary Park. The memorial *Cor Infinitus* (Infinite Courage) in memory of those who served Australia, either through the profession of arms or emergency services, and have taken their lives.

Another legend in the field of community service, Marg Yandell, was farewelled from her job of 15 years as Co-ordinator at the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. But her passion for community continues as she takes on the effort of establishing a base for Tender Funerals, a not-for-profit community funeral service, in Far North Queensland. Three little Tassie Devils settled into their new home at Rainforestation. The Cassowary Art Trail, having received a Regional Art Development Fund grant through Mareeba Shire Council and Arts Queensland, was set to start putting cassowaries on the map, and the streets, in Kuranda.

Sincere condolences were given for the passing of Grannie/Auntie Stella Oui, remembered fondly for her advice, expertise and support of the Kuranda Amphitheatre and NAIDOC in Kuranda. We finally completed the job of recording the 31-year history of *The Kuranda Paper* and the Kuranda Media Association, and as part of our office renovations putting them on our windows – so if you're passing we hope you might have a read – it's an inspiring story of volunteer efforts.

Rainfall for the month: 12mm



JUL  
#344

Our masthead for the month featured colourful Banksia flowers, a detail from a hand-painted cushion by Robyn King, Kuranda Arts Co-op member and talented artist. A perfect fit for fellow Co-op member Terry Eager's potted 25-year history of ups and downs the Co-op has weathered. A milestone marked by their first ever exhibition *Kindred* in Kuranda, in their newly expanded gallery space.

The inaugural Kuranda Art Prize added a \$250 People Choice prize courtesy of Cantata Studio, Kuranda. Barbara Foster-Rentz launched her children's book *The Adventures of Rodney and Me*, a book for the whole family inspired by her pet turtle. The Cassowary Art Trail project was given a RADF grant through MSC and Arts Queensland, and three Kuranda artists were getting their paint brushes out to begin painting three life size cassowary statues.

Foodworks became IGA, the *Speewah to the Hat Charity Walk* was up and running (well walking), NAIDOC week was celebrated in Centenary Park and at the Kuranda District State College, Kuranda Roots festival was set to be held for the second year at Kanjini, Emerald Creek. July's birthstone of the month was Ruby. A Grinter's Tale pondered on the telling of 'porkies'.

We bid a sad farewell to John Woodbridge who was a member of the very first Kuranda Media Association management committee formed in July 1991, and who performed the role of Treasurer for years. A kind and gentle man.

Rainfall for the month: 231.1mm



AUG  
#345

Masthead for the month was from a photograph by Tim Trim of an adorable Spectacled Flying-fox. All things creative on the front page with the deadline approaching for entries to close for the inaugural Kuranda Art Prize, and the realisation of a long planned 'love job' by local author Ian Whittaker. Ian's book *Clay and Spirit* which is an incredibly detailed and beautifully photographed (photography by Greg Hillman) review of the artistic practice and work of local potter Peter 'Potter' Thompson – a friend and mentor to Ian. A must for every Kuranda bookshelf, inspiring and surprising portrait of one of our own Kuranda creatives by another.

Council announced a number of community forums to be held throughout the shire. Through the Speewah Residents Association, Council was requested to re-name the Grove Creek bridge at Speewah in honour of the late Bob Madden in recognition of his years of work in support of the Speewah community, and Kuranda district in general. The Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce column gave tips on how to NOT spread invasive ants when swapping or selling pot plants. This is a very important consideration when moving any pots, soil or plant materials. Be vigilant! Your Garden Harvest offered up a 'Nature Bingo' game for kids. And Myola couple John and Kathryn Edwards were surprised, but happy, award winners of the Mareeba Shire Garden Award for Champion Garden. A View from the Understorey pondered the mouth of the Barron.

The saddest of goodbyes to Ross Verevis with a heart felt tribute by Timothy Bottoms for his dear friend. Such an incredible loss to our community.

Rainfall for the month: 59.6mm



SEP  
#346

Our masthead for September was graced by a detail from the fabric design artwork *Eucalyptus Leaves* by local fashion designer and artist Briana 'Jarawee' Enoch.

September was all things cassowary – 26 September being World Cassowary Day. How fortunate are we to have these incredible animals living with us, and what a responsibility. Creating cassowary awareness is a multi-pronged strategy spread across community groups and individuals – even through art as we saw through progress photos of the three artists working on the Cassowary Art Trail statues.

The Kuranda Historical Society was set to mark the 100th anniversary of the first car crossing the Kuranda Range from Smithfield, with an event in Centenary Park including the family of the driver of that car, William 'Bill' Moller. The Kuranda Police gave us a few tips on resolving neighbourly disputes – always handy to have. The 'Kuranda Diamonds' wowed the judges at the diamond anniversary Cairns Festival Grand Parade taking out First Prize. Queensland's Chief Scientist, Hugh Possingham, visited Kuranda and went frogging with Envirocare. Our rural fires were stepping up operations in preparation for the bushfire season. Buluwai, Djabugay and Bulmba Rangers were all on country undertaking a number of important projects.

Another local legend gone – vale Beverley Adamson who many might have known through her volunteer work at the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre, through her food and hospitality with her late partner Peter in their restaurant Monkeys in the 1990s, her art, her work assisting with the crucial switch from hardcopy to digital at *The Kuranda Paper* in 2001. She was a pocket rocket who gave much to our community.

Rainfall for the month: 38.2mm



OCT  
#347

David Stacey's fabulous *Rainforest Fruits* featured in our October masthead. Looking delicious enough to bring our Cassowary Art Trail cassowaries to life. A big month of celebrations for October – the official launch of the Cassowary Art Trail, with the unveiling of the first three life-sized cassowaries (hand-painted by artists Rebecca Koller, George Riley and Connie Rovina), the Kuranda Amphitheatre Spring Festival, the opening and exhibition of artworks for the Kuranda Art Prize, and the inaugural Kuranda Colour Fest and Colour Run.

2022 was another great *Speewah to the Hat Charity Walk* organised by Mick Dowling, with \$5,600 raised for worthy local causes. The Kuranda Men's Shed were grateful recipients of some of this money raised.

Warmer days and nights meant snakes were on the move, Kuranda Conservation warned. They can be messaged for snake removal and relocation. Terrain were busy building artificial dens to help increase the Northern Quoll population at locations north of the Atherton Tablelands. It was also Aussie Bird Count month. But bird news of the month was the re-appearance of Elvis the cassowary with four new chicks.

The Cairns Tropical Writers Festival 2023, was announced for the weekend of 24-26 February with a stellar lineup of presenters and authors. Arts Co-op members Toni Rogers and Marcia Bird both had artworks included in the annual *Sculpture Botanica* exhibition at the Cairns Botanic Gardens. And, courtesy of CSIRO, we gave you *Seven Megatrends That Will Shape The Next 20 Years* for some light reading.

Rainfall this month: 71.2mm



NOV  
#348

Our masthead for the month featured a detail from Natasha Davui's intricate painting, *Womens' Business*. Front page cuteness overload with twin bilbies born at Kuranda Koala Gardens. There was a call out for a public gallery/exhibition space for Kuranda. So many Kuranda artists are unable to find a space to exhibit their works in their hometown, or home shire. The benefits afforded by a public gallery are well documented and many, including economically. More people in Australia attend galleries than sporting events, yet art receives much less financial support than sports across the board. Cultural/creative tourism is the fastest growing sector in the tourism market.

Resident Eve Stafford, in her letter, raised the issue of equitable access for our local walking tracks. This is an issue long acknowledged but seldom addressed by planners – steps, steep slopes and a lack of ramps and handrails means the benefits of using these public facilities are limited to those who are not disadvantaged by infirmity or age. We should do better.

Focus on Kuranda photograph of the month was Sabine Nellen's newly hatched female Cairns Birdwing butterfly. Reggaetown was making a much awaited return to the Kuranda Amphitheatre in November and it was a great cause for celebration to imagine the terraces full of music lovers again after the past few years. The November edition was chock full of photographs capturing the fun and excitement of community events such as the Kuranda Amphitheatre Spring Festival, the Cassowary Art Trail launch, the KTA Colour Fest and Colour Run, and the Kuranda Art Prize exhibition. How wonderful to see life and celebration and vibrancy once again on the ascendency.

Rainfall for the month: 21.4mm to 26 November



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## BIRTHSTONE OF THE MONTH

# December



Photos: Karin Notaro from Silk Road Gems, Kuranda

December birthdays have claim to three gemstones – Zircon, Turquoise and Tanzanite.

Multiple options for some months were created in order to allow more affordable options to the traditional, more expensive, stones. The final attempt to standardise the birthstone system came in October 2002 when December was given a third birthstone option. All three of December's birthstones are best known for their beautiful shades of blue. These gemstones range from the oldest to one of the most recently discovered.

### ZIRCON

Zircon is a brilliant and underrated gem to the naked eye. It's regularly confused with cubic zirconia, which is a lab grown diamond simulant. Few people realise that zircon is a spectacular natural gemstone available in a variety of colours. Colourless zircon looks like a diamond to the naked eye because of the gemstones brilliance. This can make the birthstone appear as if it has twice as many facets.

Zircon is the oldest mineral on earth and dates back 4.4 billion years. It gives us a look at the past because it describes pressure changes and erosion shifts throughout the earth's history. Zircon represents the purity of the mind and a clear path to wisdom. It symbolises honour and prosperity while fostering self-confidence

Zircon Hill (Mid-West) Western Australia, is home of the December birthstone in Australia. Australia's Harts Range also mines lots of zircon and tends to produce yellow-brown, orange-brown, pink, and purple zircon.

### TURQUOISE

The name "turquoise" comes from the French phrase for Turkish stone, which is pierre turquois.

Turquoise has a long, rich history across many ancient civilisations. Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt often wore turquoise. Chinese artisans also carved turquoise more than 3,000 years ago. Turquoise also played an important role in the lives of Native Americans. The Apache believed that turquoise lies at the end of a rainbow rather than a pot of gold. According to folklore, turquoise is a love charm. It also symbolises good fortune and protects against harm. It's believed to

help balance the blue throat chakra, enhancing the ability to communicate while increasing resistance to viruses, helping to relieve sore throats and allergies.

Turquoise is an opaque gem that ranges from blue to green and often has veins of matrix (remnants of the rock in which it formed) running through it.

The Nishapur district of Iran have been home to turquoise mining for 1000 years. Turquoise from this region is prized for its distinct sky blue colour.

In the United States, New Mexico was the biggest producer, however most mining now exists in Arizona and Nevada.

Today, the Hubei Province of central China is the most significant worldwide producer of turquoise.

### TANZANITE

Tanzanite is a radiant gem. Its velvety hues range from intense blue to violet and can change with the light.

Tanzanite is a newcomer to the birthstone scene. In 1967, Maasai herders found blue stones near Arusha, Tanzania.

A year later, Tiffany & Co. launched an advertising campaign all about mineral zoisite. The campaign marketed the birthstone's high clarity, richness of colour, and potential for large cuts. Tiffany & Co. quickly become tanzanite's primary distributor.

Located in northern Tanzania, the Merelani Hills is the only place where tanzanite is currently mined. A study in 2012 says that the tanzanite supply is dwindling. Mining operations could deplete the largest section of Merelani Hills, in as little as 30 years. This report caused tanzanite prices to climb. Many experts say that the current generation will be the last to purchase new tanzanite.

Tanzanite's meaning varies based on its colour – the darker the stone, the more powerful the meaning.

Violet hues represent majesty, mystery, and magic, which are closely associated with the colour purple throughout history. Darker tanzanite stones in both blue and purple also represent royalty because of the depth and richness of their colour. Indigo tanzanite stones symbolise the heart, intellect, intuition, and purity.

# January



Photo: Karin Notaro from Silk Road Gems, Kuranda

### GARNET

Those born in January are lucky to have the beautiful and diverse garnet as their birthstone. Garnets are commonly red, but also come in an extraordinary range of beautiful colours, including orange, yellow, purple, brown, blue, black, pink, colourless and vibrant green. Tsavorite, the world's rarest garnet, a stunning beautiful green gemstone that rivals any other green gem. Garnets are opaque, transparent to translucent mineral that can be found as individual crystals, pebbles, or clumps of inter-grown crystals. Sri Lanka is a

major supplier of rhodolite garnet, the common deep reddish purple variety of the gemstone. Red garnets can be found in Orissa, India. Rare and beautiful reddish orange spessartine garnets can be found in Myanmar, along with several other varieties mined in the area. In Queensland, Mount Garnet has deposits of Grossular garnet, orange, red and green.

Garnets are the only common transparent gemstones that show a Pick Up response to an N52 magnet. They are more magnetic than other transparent gems because they generally contain higher concentrations of paramagnetic iron (up to 35 per cent iron oxide by wt.)

The word "garnet" comes from the 14th century Middle English word, meaning "dark red". The word is derived from Latin granatum, which means "seed", and is called so because of the gemstone's resemblance to the red seeds of the pomegranate.

One such myth suggests that the garnet originated with Persephone, the Greek goddess of sunshine. Persephone was captured by Hades, the god of the underworld. Before Hades released Persephone, he wanted to guarantee her return, so he gave her some pomegranate seeds.

In ancient history, travellers wore garnet gemstones because they were believed to light up the night and provide protection from nightmares and accidents. With associations with the heart, blood, inner fire, and life force, garnets have long been considered symbol of love. Garnet symbolism also extends to friendship.

Wishing Everyone A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Contributed by Chris Maaten, Emu Ridge Gallery, Fossil and Gemstone Museum, Gift Shop.

Wow, you look like...  
**POO!**



In the world of minibeasts, there are many ways in which to camouflage and visually hide from predators. There are katydids that look like leaves, mantids that look like flowers, and stick insects that look like, well, sticks. But some animals have taken it to the next level and hide in plain sight looking like poo!

Looking like the undesirable wastes of another animal is actually a very good defence and there are many species of animals that do it. Here in Kuranda, there are a few invertebrate species that are well protected due to their turd-like appearance.

The aptly known Bird-dropping Spider (*Celaenia excavata*) has been described as a master of camouflage, with its colour patterns and body shape truly resembling a big blob of bird poo. As birds are one of the main predators of spiders, disguising oneself as their bodily wastes is a great way to avoid them. These spiders often sit exposed on leaves during the day, often accompanied by their egg sacs. They are so un-spider like that we have been sent photos of their egg sacs for identification, with the spider sitting right there, but unnoticed by the enquirer when taking the photo.

Another local spider (*Phrynarachne species*) also looks like a nice fresh sky-bomb that has fallen upon a leaf, however, it's gone a step further. This one looks like a fruit-eating bird has digestively created it, complete with the right hues and sheen and seed-like bumps that such excrement has! These spiders apparently even smell like poo, however I've not personally sniffed one that has passed such a stink test! Perhaps they save that up for when they are seriously harassed.

Yet another species that survives thanks to its not so attractive appearance is the Orchard Swallowtail Butterfly. The caterpillars change their appearance as they grow, but during their early stages, resemble blobs of black, brown and

white. Often a few young caterpillars can be seen together on citrus leaves, which looks like a few birds have been busy overhead.

While its often said that when something looks like poo, it usually is – that's obviously not always the case!

### Alan Henderson, Minibeast Wildlife

Top: A female Bird-dropping Spider hangs beneath her egg sac.

Middle: A young caterpillar of the Orchard Swallowtail Butterfly looks like a nice, neat bird turd.

Above: Another spider that looks the part, *Phrynarachne species* complete with its seed-like bumps.

Photos: Alan Henderson



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The Australian Government \$24.8m budget commitment over four years to eradicating yellow crazy ants will ensure the important work the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) will be able to continue.

The Authority's Executive Director, Scott Buchanan said, "This shows the Australian Government's commitment to the environment and foresight to keep our highly successful Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program running."

"Yellow crazy ants in sugarcane paddocks, in local businesses and in residential areas, spraying formic acid and injuring pets and people, was something Cairns experienced in 2013, but with the subsequent success of the Authority's Eradication Program, yellow crazy ant infestations have reduced significantly, with eradication declared at four sites and remnant populations on-track for eradication in the coming years. As sites progress towards eradication, we are moving from broad scale treatment into long term monitoring so we can be sure the ants have truly been eradicated" Mr Buchanan said.

Yellow crazy ants are considered to be one of the world's top 100 worst invasive species and have been present in Far North Queensland for over a decade, but the persistent efforts of the Authority's Eradication Program have seen widespread infestation contained in recent years.

The negative impact yellow crazy ants have on ecosystems can have dramatic impacts on the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area of Queensland, considered one of the world's most significant biodiverse places. The ants outcompete native invertebrates and birds, reptiles and frogs are impacted by them.

Project Manager, Lucy Karger said, "Support from community and industry, in particular the sugar industry, has been a major contributing factor to the Program's achievements on-ground. We are grateful for the continued investment that will support our ongoing collaboration with many and varied partners in the region to eradicate yellow crazy ants from the area."

"The Authority's Eradication Program has been jointly supported by the Queensland and Australian governments and it is great to see that spirit of cooperation continue" Mr Buchanan said.

The budget commitment also includes funding to tackle yellow crazy ants in Townsville.

Mr Buchanan said the Authority has already been consulting with Townsville authorities on how to tackle the infestations growing in the region.

Source: WTMA



# A BIG YEAR FOR THE BULMBA RANGERS

Three activities amongst many throughout November reflect the diversity of the work and the wide networks that the Djabugay Bulmba Rangers have been involved with in 2022.

The Rangers have taken the lead role within the Djabugay Corporations to manage the discussions between the Elders and the Queensland State Government in relation to the management of Water Allocations within the Barron River catchment. Governments have recognised that Traditional Owners have strong cultural connection to water and storywater places and that these must be addressed through regulatory processes. The Flaggy Creek area is being highlighted as a focus for this work with claims being developed for economic and environmental flow allocations. This project is ongoing.

The Rangers furthered their involvement with the Kuranda Tree Frog Project by developing a closer working relationship with Professor Conrad Hoskins and PhD Candidate Lorenzo Bertola, both of James Cook University. Professor Hoskins carried out the initial field survey work on the frog over 15 years ago and returned recently to Kuranda to repeat that work and add another layer of research centred around the collection of genetic material to assess population health and genetic variability.

The Rangers who have been partnering with Kuranda Envirocare for some time now on this project, were able to work on site with the two scientists. This involved night-time survey work and using some new techniques. The Rangers provided a Call to Country for them and guided them onto the Flaggy Creek country for the first time. By finding frogs here the geographic range of the species has been extended. All partners in this project are looking forward to future collaborations.

This year 2022 is the first in the International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032. Sadly, many of the world's indigenous languages are now lost and it is predicted that even optimistic estimates suggest that at least 50 per cent of today's languages will be gone by 2100. Fortunately, the Djabugay language was nurtured through the mission years by many committed Elders and passed on to the wonderful Michael Quinn in the 1990s. Michael, through his efforts, ensured that the language was reinstated back into daily use and now young Djabugay people are looking to take the next steps.

The Djabugay Cultural Engagement Officer Dennis Hunter and the Bulmba Rangers have started discussions with the Atlas of Living Australia Division of CSIRO to develop a language project that will see the Djabugay language represented in the first instance through plant, animal and place names put onto the iNaturalist and ALA platforms. The Djabugay language will be joining eight other indigenous languages from across Australia and the first from Far North Queensland to be represented on this platform. This is the beginning of a big project.

It was with pride that the Bulmba Rangers reported this to their families and the Elders at a Djabugay Family gathering just a couple of weeks ago. They know that they are doing good for the mob and the country. And there is more to come.

Gurii

Dameon Hunter  
Djabugay Bulmba Ranger Coordinator



L-R: Levi Newbury (Djabugay Ranger), Jess Harris (QPWS), Jodie Cross (QPWS), Professor Conrad Hoskins (JCU), Ed Bell (Kuranda Envirocare Engaging Science Coordinator), Dameon Hunter (Djabugay Ranger).



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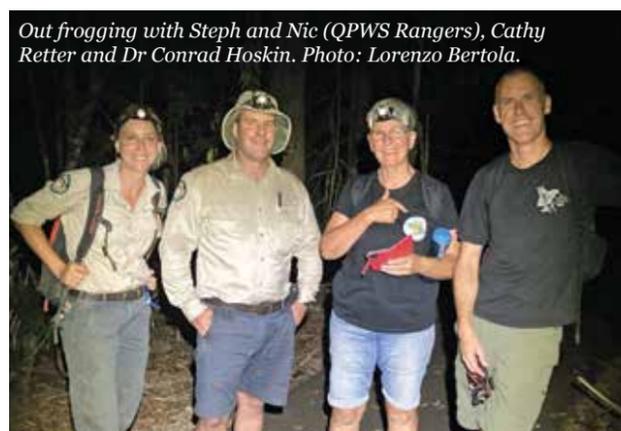
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Text or call Sarah on 0499 588 145 to book.

### Frog Frenzy survey completed

A big shout out to all the volunteers who joined us in doing the frog survey and those who accompanied Conrad and Lorenzo. Also to the Bulmba Rangers and QPWS Rangers for joining in at Flaggy Creek, and to the landowners who generously allowed us access to their creek line. It's quite special to have a species like this at the bottom of your garden.

We noticed a decline in water quality in some creeks so investigations are needed. A successful frog survey over the past 10 days for the Kuranda Tree frog, but not much else was calling unfortunately, given the promised storms that didn't eventuate. We'll survey again in March next year for International Frog Day when there'll be more frogs around here. We'll have a comprehensive report from Lorenzo Bertola and Dr Conrad Hoskin on their population genetics health survey next year too.



Out frogging with Steph and Nic (QPWS Rangers), Cathy Retter and Dr Conrad Hoskin. Photo: Lorenzo Bertola.



Amy and Donald at planting 2022. Photo: Cathy Retter

### Planting starts again

We've been taking a break from planting since the abrupt end when it dried off in June. The nursery is bulging and we have a target in the next six months of 2,000 trees. Come and give us a hand to reach our collective target to provide more habitat for wildlife around the Owen Creek mouth.

In January to June 2023 join our community plantings to reach our 2,000 tree target and celebrate with BBQs and drinks. Register by texting "Join the target" to 0419 624 940 or emailing to info@envirocare.org.au

### End of Year celebration

Join us in the afternoon of 3 December from 4pm till late at Little Road by the Barron River for a swim, a few drinks and bring a food plate to share.

### Have a safe and happy festive season

Wishing all our community a safe and happy festive season wherever you may be.

Visit our stall at the CWA on Saturday 3 December to buy your native Christmas tree or visit our nursery on Myola Road. Don't forget we can re-home your Christmas tree too when it outgrows you.



Native cypress pine (*Callitris intratropica*). Photo: Denise Donald

### • Date Claimers •

**1 December 7pm** – Chalumbin Wind Farm environmental statement analysis. Steven Nowakowski and Rainforest Reserves will give a talk on the adverse impacts of some of the wind farms along the Great Dividing Range. Submissions are due by 16 December.

**3 December 4pm till late** – End of year social. All welcome, bring a chair, drinks and a plate to share.

**19–24 December** – Monthly Frog monitoring fun starts at new time 6.45pm. Check Facebook or text Cathy 0419 624 940.

## We are the invasive resist-ants



Taskforce volunteers ready to treat Russett Park in 2016.

### Who are the Taskforce?

In April 2015 Mikhaila Jacoby officially formed the Kuranda Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce after an infestation of yellow crazy ants swarmed in her backyard at Russett Park near Kuranda. She believed the success of treating the infestation required a community led approach.

In June 2015, Kuranda Envirocare obtained a Wet Tropics Community Grant from Terrain NRM to coordinate volunteers and activities for the Taskforce. Soon there were more than 100 active local volunteers to survey and treat the infestation area.

At the time, ongoing funding to eradicate yellow crazy ants from the Wet Tropics was uncertain, the community mobilised and raised \$20,000, half of which was donated by *The Kuranda Paper*, for research into the biology of yellow crazy ants and collection of ant colonies for set up in a laboratory.

Today, the Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce works alongside the Wet Tropics Management Authority to help find and eradicate yellow crazy ants in and adjacent to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

Recently we shared our story with staff at the Authority's Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program operations base.

### Winning for the frogs

The most recent Warril Creek survey showed no invasive ants. This is the sixth survey we have completed in the lower reaches of creeks in Kuranda Tree frog habitat.

The search continues for both electric ants and yellow crazy ants as part of our monthly survey activity. You are invited to join in on the fun. No experience necessary, however an average level of fitness is required due to some steep terrain.



Wet Tropics Management Authority's Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program field staff supports the Taskforce. L-R: Taskforce volunteer Paul with Authority staff Lukasz and Adam.

Right: At Warril Creek, a pink flag is placed next to the lure every 5 metres for ease of relocating an hour later to check for invasive ants.



Andrew Vakaci from the Authority, sharing important information about yellow crazy ants with the Djabugay Bulmba Rangers. Photo: Wet Tropics Management Authority

### Bulmba Rangers skilling up

The Wet Tropics Management Authority has teamed up with Biosecurity Queensland to deliver specific invasive ant training on country, and the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. The Djabugay Bulmba Rangers recently received this training and conducted a practical survey on country at the Barron Falls. In the long-term it would be advantageous to incorporate this work into pest and weed prevention plans. This will also serve as a legacy project of the program for when the current program concludes.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Tropical Tree Day

**WHERE:** Disney Street Reserve, White Rock  
**WHEN:** Saturday 4 December, 8–10am

### Invasive Ant ID Workshop

**WHERE:** Kuranda Recreation Centre, Fallon Rd, Kuranda  
**WHEN:** Saturday 10 December, 10am–1pm

Volunteer with the Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce by calling (07) 4093 8989 or by joining the Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce Facebook page.

Sylvia

## Join the invasive resist-ants

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



# Kuranda Kindy




With the end of the kindy year fast approaching, we would like to say thank you to all involved for a wonderful, productive and positive 2022!

Firstly, we would like to congratulate our amazing co-educator Tracy Richardson on completing her Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care! We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all the hard work, commitment and dedication shown by Tracy and the vital role that she plays at our community kindergarten.

'Miss Tracy', as she is affectionately known, has been putting smiles on children's faces at Kuranda Kindy for over 13 years. We thank Miss Tracy for all that she has done and continues to do for our community kindergarten and so many of Kuranda's children.

We would also like to congratulate our fantastic co-educator Miss Bobbie on recently completing her Certificate 3 in Children's Services. We are proud of Bobbie for working hard to achieve this outcome.

We also thank our work experience students from Kuranda District State College for their time spent at the kindergarten. The staff and children really enjoyed having you join us. We are excited to have one of these students commence a School Based Traineeship with us next year and look forward to welcoming our new team member. This has been a wonderful community partnership and we look forward to it continuing.

We also need to thank our staff, our children and families for a fantastic 2022 and we wish you all the best. Thanks to our amazing committee from 2022, for helping us to achieve such positive outcomes for the children and kindergarten. Thank you also to all the parents, families and community members who volunteer their time and skills for the children! We look forward to another wonderful year in 2023 and to welcoming our new families.

If you have a child who turns four by 30 June next year and would like to make an enrolment enquiry for 2023, please contact us at the Kindy – call 4093 8087 or email [kcka@westnet.com.au](mailto:kcka@westnet.com.au) or.

Thanks for a wonderful 2022.

Kuranda Community Kindy Team



Above L-R: Making volcanoes, and Puzzle time as a team.  
Right L-R: Construction time, and Imaginative play.



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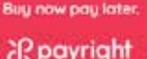
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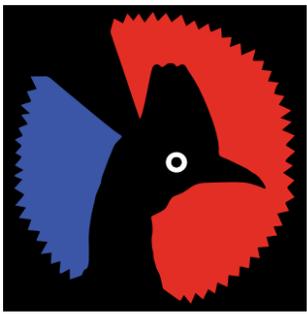
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*The KCons Community Nursery is nearly always open!*

## SO MUCH TO DO, SO LITTLE TIME

### AMAZING SPRINGTIME

As we write, it's been weeks since we had rain. A sprinkle here and there maybe, but while inland NSW is under water, we're virtually in drought. The lack of rain in combination with the heat takes a toll on even the most resilient rainforest. You can see through the forest more easily now with many leaves falling or hanging thirstily from the branches. Hopefully, by the time you get to read this *Kuranda Paper*, rain will have fallen and settled the dust and refreshed everything.

Surprisingly, there are many birds around, mating and nesting, lots of snakes, goannas, insects and spiders. It's really very busy out there. With plenty of watering, the nursery plants are doing well. There are lots of seeds around and dedicated seed collectors bringing us a range of amazing species. This is so appreciated. We're not so interested in quantity as diversity. It is an amazing thing to see new shoots piercing the soil from the tiny seeds we planted. Some of the biggest trees have seeds so small they are like powder. Amazing!

### BIN STICKERS AND T-SHIRT BADGES

Sales are picking up in time for Christmas giving. We have some brilliant nerds working on our Facebook and selling platforms so you'll be lucky to miss out on our promotional onslaught. The T-SHIRT BADGES are a new line we're introducing. They are the bin sticker designs made into an iron-on transfer for clothing. You won't be missed in a crowd with the amazing, colourful cassowary or the doleful gaze of the curlews. The green frog and the owl are spectacular. Call us on 4093 8834 to order the T-shirt badges or our Facebook for the bin stickers.

### WORKING IN THE NURSERY

There's never a dull moment on the nursery floor. So many seeds, all requiring

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

You can get **BIN STICKERS** at the nursery or order online at [kurandaconservation.org](http://kurandaconservation.org)

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

**FERAL PIGS:** We can assist with advice and referring you to trained shooters and trappers.

We have **WILDLIFE CARERS** who will assist with injured wildlife - 0408 548 886.



*Fruiting at the moment is *Mallotus philippensis* and is a plant in the spurge family. It is known as the Kamala tree or Red Kamala or Kumkum tree, due to the fruit covering, which produces a red dye. Dianne Daniels*

different treatment. Some seeds are very hard and waxy and require boiling water to be poured over them. Can you imagine doing that? You'd think you'd kill the live germ inside, but no, you put them in the right soil mix and hey presto up comes a huge tree!

We have a great team working on many levels as we go about our normal nursery stuff and get on with our renovations. We don't really want to grow, but we're under pressure to produce and develop more efficient ways of doing things.

### CASSOWARY SIGHTINGS

Cassowaries love water and will be lolling around in ponds and creeks while it's so hot. Unfortunately, there have been a couple of sightings of Elvis (we think) crossing the highway near the bus depot. This is the last place we want him to go. This is where he's lost 3 of his offspring in past years and even took a nasty hit from a car which injured him quite severely.

To report a sighting, especially one where a cassowary is in danger, go to [www.kurandaregion.org/cassowary-records](http://www.kurandaregion.org/cassowary-records) under Kuranda Region Cassowary Families or phone us on 4093 8834 or 0439 899 731. The Department of Environment's reporting number is 1300 130 372.



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## KURANDA LOCAL GETS LOUD

by B. Malarski  
Contributor H. Royster

Hannah Royster is a local 'Kurandian' from Russet Park. She attended Kuranda State School, back when the primary school was in the perfect spot to wave to the Queen from the Skyrail. Hannah moved from Kuranda to study medicine, but returned home every semester break to recoup on the family property on the Barron.

On the hospital wards, as a medical student and junior doctor, patients would often remark about how well Hannah had done, becoming a doctor from a small rural town. But the real challenge was not the barriers posed against her by being a 'Kuranda girl' but the hidden culture that came with the title of doctor.

Junior doctors everywhere in Australia are confronted by extreme stress and emotional strain, institutional bullying, long hours, poor sleep and restricted social lives that the medical culture has normalised. They witness their peers fall victim to high rates of depression, anxiety and suicide, whilst simultaneously navigating these difficulties themselves. The pandemic has put even more pressure on an overburdened Australian hospital system, which echoes out to the doctors who are simply trying to hold the walls up and do their best. Shaming and blaming is a common practice used by other doctors and is seen as an acceptable practice, further compounding the trauma and exhaustion that doctors experience in this unhealthy environment.

In the space of a year, Hannah was confronted by the loss of three junior doctors to suicide at the hospital she was working in. These suicides were minimised in the hospital, and it was this experience that propelled Hannah to write about her experiences as a junior doctor.

Hannah's debut novel, *In Turn*, lifts the veil on the hidden toxic culture of the medical system. This fictionalised memoir follows a girl from a small town who, on becoming a doctor, faces fatigue, high physical and emotional strain, misogyny, bullying and mental illness. Her main character observes the irony of Australian doctors losing their health to save the health of others. An important read at this time, an opportunity for change is here.

Available for pre-order on Amazon under **H.G. Royster 'In Turn'** from 1 December 2022 and purchase on 1 January 2023.

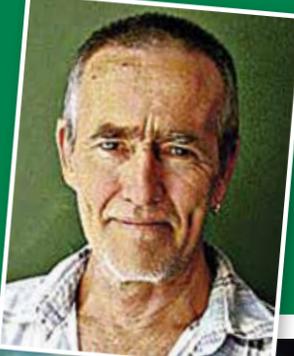
Peter Thompson

# Peter 'Potter' Thompson

## CLAY AND SPIRIT

### Book Launch in Kuranda

Thursday 8 December 5.30pm



This is an open invitation for friends, fans and Kuranda residents to gather for a book launch to celebrate our local, but internationally renowned artist, Peter 'Potter' Thompson.

Kuranda Arts Co-op is the event host at 5.30pm on Thursday 8 December as part of Kuranda's annual Twilight Trading night on the plaza just outside their gallery location on the corner of Coondoo and Thongon Streets (directly opposite the Kuranda Pharmacy).

All welcome, and books on display are for sale afterwards. Ian Whittaker, as the author of *Clay and Spirit: celebrating the art of Peter 'Potter' Thompson*, will address the gathering about why he felt compelled to pay overdue tribute to this hidden treasure, documenting the life's work of 'Peter Potter' as he is affectionately known.

A long-term resident of Kuranda, for 50 years Potter has dedicated himself to his craft, travelling extensively in his quest to learn from leading ceramists worldwide. At his Five Treasures Studio in Kuranda, he built several high-temperature wood fire kilns. Firing events are busy affairs aided by a team of friends on shift day and night to 'feed the dragon', with flames seen leaping skyward at night from its chimney. Once cooled down there is the excitement of the kiln opening. Some of Potter's public art is in the main street Kuranda Art Trail.

A former shipwright, Potter's work shows strong Asian influences, particularly from immersion in the ceramic traditions of Japan and Korea that inspires his own experimentation and innovation. It is said that to be good at anything takes at least 10,000 hours. Learning from the masters for 50 years, Peter has exceeded that in spades, along the way becoming the sensai (Master) himself.

For more, see the front page of *The Kuranda Paper* August 2022 edition, or view it at [www.kurandapaper.com](http://www.kurandapaper.com) in the 'Past Editions' section.

**Author contact:** 0497 458 107 or [www.ianwhittaker.com](http://www.ianwhittaker.com)



### Storytime

Did you know that the Kuranda Library hosts a Storytime every Friday morning at 10.30am? Even better, we are now using our wonderful outdoor area and filling it with lots of fun activities for children of all ages to delight in. These activities include playdough, painting, water play, balancing toys, and arts and craft. Babies, toddlers, pre-school children and even school-aged children are all welcome to come along to play and, of course, enjoy a story too!

### Seven Reasons to join a regular Storytime and Playgroup:

1. Children practice their literacy and social skills.
2. Parents can meet up with other parents and make new friends.
3. Regular reading to children helps them learn.
4. Provides an opportunity to sing, dance, and play together.
5. Participate in new activities.
6. Held in a safe environment (where parents can relax).
7. It's fun!

For the first time, Storytime at the Kuranda Library will continue to run throughout the school holidays, so there is no excuse not to come along and say hi. Enjoy our air-conditioned inside play area for songs and dancing or sit back, relax, and let your children cool off outside with our fun water toys and other outdoor activities.

### Online Resources

Do you enjoy reading but often don't find the time to sit down and enjoy a book? With your Library Membership, you can download the BorrowBox app. It's a great app that makes it easy to browse and borrow eBooks and eAudio Books. Downloading an eAudio Book is a fantastic way to listen to books while you are busy doing other things. You can browse the collection 24/7 by title, author, or category, listen to excerpts and more! Many different genres are available, including non-fiction, and if your car is Bluetooth equipped, you can listen while you drive. It's a great option for introducing books into busy lives. Got a holiday road-trip planned over Christmas? BorrowBox has plenty of children's books too! Simply download and listen in the car. It's a wonderful way to enjoy and share together as a family.

Ask our staff how to download BorrowBox and start enjoying a whole new world of eAudio Books. Or talk to us about the many other eResources available to library members for literacy development, LOTE – Languages other than English eResources, Magazines and Online Learning.

### Customer Service Centre

Kuranda Library is also a Mareeba Shire Council Customer Service Centre, offering such services as rates payments, animal registrations, animal renewals, infringements, busking licences, food licences and many others. Save yourself a drive to Mareeba and come and see us for your Council enquiries here in Kuranda.

Mareeba Shire Council would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2023. Until next time, happy reading!

**For enquiries contact the Kuranda Library and Council Office on 4093 9185.**



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We meet  
once a  
month

On the  
2nd  
Thursday  
of the  
month  
10-12  
noon

# Kuranda Writers Group

## KURANDA WRITERS GROUP

The Kuranda Writers Group was initiated by Rachael Kelly in 2022, and has been meeting every month at the Kuranda Library. We hope that in the new year more local writers will put aside a regular time to spend with other writers – both established and aspiring. All aspects of writing are welcome, from prose to poetry, new writing or long brewing projects. It's a friendly, supportive, non-judgemental place to share stories and the challenges and insights involved in communicating them via the written word.

The Kuranda Writers Group will be taking a small break until February. In the meantime, please like and follow at Kuranda Writers Group on Facebook.

Thanks to the staff of the Kuranda Library for providing the perfect venue, surrounded by books, for our group meetings. And thank you to *The Kuranda Paper* for supporting local writing and writers.

### World Mirror

Is there a conspiracy of insanity?  
Madness badness and sadness on a world that's being turned upside down  
Will the world's frown be what kills the clown?

Silliness would be lost, seriousness would be the cost  
It's hard to shun an attitude when a gun enforces a different point of view  
Guns do not make us brave, they make us, make us their slave  
The world will never be one with the use of a gun

The burden of responsibility of laughter and being silly  
Only a clown knows the braveness of a Red Nose  
Who would bring everything down by killing the clown  
Smiles are the sound of peace and they help our world go round

Christopher Headmesser

"I would like to thank the members of the Kuranda Writers Group for the opportunity to present thoughts in the friendly environment of the Kuranda Library. An hour or so of mixing ideas provides fresh inspiration and more enthusiasm to put pen to paper. It is always an interesting and fun time."

David Jones aka Christopher Headmesser  
(Hip Pocket Poetry Presents on Facebook)

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## THE KURANDA WRITERS GROUP WILL BE ON HOLIDAYS TILL 2023!

SEE YOU AGAIN  
ON THE 9TH FEBRUARY  
HAVE A RELAXING  
& CREATIVE BREAK  
NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

[www.facebook.com/Kuranda-Writers-Group-106231515332401](https://www.facebook.com/Kuranda-Writers-Group-106231515332401)

### FEATHER OF TRUTH I

4.30AM  
CAN'T SLEEP  
FULL MOON HIDING  
BUT I CAN STILL FEEL IT  
THROAT SORE  
THOUGHTS RACING  
DRINKING NETTLE AND LIQUORICE TEA  
BY CANDLELIGHT  
HOPING  
THE REMEDY OF WRITING  
WILL SEND ME BACK  
TO [STRANGE] DREAMS  
RESTLESS LATELY  
LIKE SOMETHINGS' BUILDING  
YESTERDAYS INQUIRY  
SWIRLING STILL  
IN MY HEAD  
FORMING THE SKELETAL OUTLINES  
OF AN EMBRYONIC POEM  
'WHEN YOUR HEART IS WEIGHED  
AGAINST THE FEATHER OF TRUTH'  
WHAT IS REVEALED?  
IN MAAT'S DARK EYES  
IN THOTH'S FAIR SCRIPT  
IN THE BARE BONES OF A LIFE  
JUST PASSED  
WHO DID YOU LOVE?  
WHO CHERISHED YOU?  
WHAT WENT WRONG?  
WHAT WENT RIGHT?  
DID INTEGRITY INFORM YOU?  
DID YOU STAND IN THE DARK  
AS A LIGHT?  
WERE YOU TRUE?  
TO YOURSELF?  
SO QUIET  
ONLY CRICKETS  
AND THE OCCASIONAL  
CRY OF A CURLEW  
TONIGHT  
BUT NOW  
LISTEN  
THE DAWN CHORUS  
THEIR FEATHERS  
SO LIGHT

### FEATHER OF TRUTH II

GIVE ME YOUR HEART  
SHE SAID TO HER LOVER  
SO I MAY WEIGH IT AGAINST THE FEATHER OF TRUTH

YOU ALREADY HAVE IT  
HE SAID  
UNWEIGHED AND UNJUDGED  
WHY WEIGH IT NOW?  
BEFORE THE END?

I NEED TO KNOW IF YOU ARE TRUE  
SHE SAID  
NOW WHERE IS THAT FEATHER?

IT IS ON THE BIRD OF TRUST  
HE REPLIED  
WHICH IS OUTSIDE IN THE GARDEN OF LOVE  
PECKING AT THE WORM OF DOUBT.

### FEATHER OF TRUTH III IN 7 LINES AND MIRRORED BY P

CAN'T SLEEP.  
AN EMBRYONIC POEM, SWIRLING.  
WHEN YOUR HEART IS WEIGHED AGAINST THE FEATHER OF TRUTH  
- WHAT IS REVEALED?  
WERE YOU TRUE?  
TO YOURSELF?  
SO QUIET.  
NOW.

NOW.  
I KNOW.  
TORMENT OVER.  
I AM PURE.  
AMMUT WATCHES AS MY HEART HANDLED BY OTHERS IS  
RETURNED TO ME.  
AND DAWNS LIGHT BRINGS SLEEP.  
ONCE AGAIN.



"I'm currently working on a large sprawling book of collected wisdoms, myth and lore. Also a children's book and two sets of inspirational cards – one for writers and one for community resilience building. Additionally, I write poetry and paper articles throughout the year.

I am hoping to get the Community Resilience Cards and a children's book to be considered for publishing next year. I am also immensely enjoying an online workshop in storytelling with Alan Moore through BBC Maestro, and I hope to finish this fascinating course soon. It's a dip-in dip-out course to complete when one has the time, so that suits me perfectly.

The Kuranda Writers Group has been a delight to attend, with a great bunch of fellow scribes reading their penning each month and casually chatting about their writing. It's very relaxed and I love hearing others stories and poems and how their writing journey is going. Support and leads are fantastic, especially for unconfident writers like myself.

Rachael Kelly

## No Time for Regret

The ancient bench seemed like a reasonable place to park his despondency. The aged wood on rusted metal sounded creak as he positioned his posterior upon its lack of comfort. It was as if the well-used artefact had given up any sense of benevolence to the weight of its years in service to the many and varied derrieres that had placed itself to service.

The effort required to plonk his burgeoning forty-year-old frame forced a small involuntary groan from his strained vocals that seemed in cadence with his choice of seat. Indeed, it reflected the pessimisms of his current outlook. Looking out from his now fixed point of reference, the sky descended to settle across the lake as a thin mist. It covered the expanse with an ethereal haze that spoke large to the chilled outlook that crept upon the land. Even the usual flock of birds, both scavenger and majestic, had better things to do than to hang around waiting for someone to throw them a scrap of some unwanted morsel.

Distracted as he was by the swirling mist and his glum thoughts, he could but startle at the figure now standing before him. He did not hear her approach, nor, in truth, welcome it. It was such a sudden intrusion to his darkening introspections.

'Do you mind if I sit?' asked the old woman rather politely pointing to the empty space beside him.

Startled as he was from his reveries, he did enough to notice that the woman, despite her greying hair and diminutive frame, seemed harmless enough. Although, it must be said that there was something about her that radiated a spark of luminescence from within her vivid baby blues. Perhaps it was an auric glow, or maybe a trick of the light through the mist that caught his eye.

Not a word was shared at first as the brown paper bag she removed from her purse made a crinkle as she rummaged for the sandwich within. A sandwich, he noted, cut to the four corners in dainty little triangles, just like you see in those quaint little coffee shops of yore.

'Would you like one,' she proffered, holding out her hand with the sandwiches attached.

'Ah, no thanks, I, ah ...'

'Go on, don't be shy. They're my favourites. Egg and lettuce. Good for the soul.'

His empty stomach managed to overcome his reluctance as he took one of the triangles with a murmur of thanks. Only then did the sound of chewing break the silence that echoed around them.

'Why do you lament so? God's hand dances well upon your soul. Your journey is enlivened by His grace,' she said looking at him intently after swallowing a morsel.

The question, placed so stridently, did take him by surprise. So much so that he almost choked on some crust.

'Well, I, ah ...,' he mumbled.

'Has someone died? Are you ill? Have you lost something important?'

'Well, no, I ...'

'Good then, you've nothing to worry about that is worth another thought, have you?'

'But ... it's just that ...'

'Oh, poppycock and fiddle-sticks,' she said taking another bite. 'When I was your age ...'

It surprised even him. In fact, it felt like a door to a furnace had opened and his previous pretence at civility just melted before the onslaught.

'What d'you know, old lady? You don't know me. You don't know what I've been through. You don't know what my life's been like.'

Despite the acuteness of his tone, the lady seemed unruffled, more composed, even. Although she did bend down to rummage for something else from her purse, pulling out a mirror. Small, it must be said, but big enough to see a face reflected within.

'Look,' she said, urging the reflector into his hand with determination.

A quick glance was all it took. No more than a milli-second. It was time enough to see everything he needed to see. How his whole life flashed in review before his eyes, the how of which, to this very day, still perplexes him. But, not withstanding, it was enough. Even the old lady could see that.

'Good!' she exclaimed with a surety. 'Now it's time for you to get on with it. No time for regret. No time to waste. You've a divine purpose to fulfill, and if you don't do it, you'll only have to come back and start all over again.'

He tried, really he did, but his own words stuck like a globule in his throat. He could only stare agog when the old lady placed the now empty sandwich bag back in her purse. Standing spritely, she turned abruptly, pointing to the small mirror still locked in his hands.

'Oh, you can keep that.'

**Stephen Chong** ([www.stephenchong.com.au](http://www.stephenchong.com.au))

"At the present time, my sixth book, *The Afterlife, a journey to* (6th Books, UK) is due for release in May 2023, and I am currently doing pre-promotion work, podcasts, etc. about the topic of 'What happens to us after we pass to the next realm'.

The importance of an effective and vibrant local writers group, I believe, is absolutely essential for any writer's journey – whether it be your first, or first of many writing/publishing experiences. To be able to sit, muse and discuss with other like-minded individuals in discussion and feedback on your work is an essential part of the writing process.

We are blessed with many fine, creative talents here in Kuranda, and in our local writers' group, I have always found it to be a great source of inspiration for one's craft."

## Ebony Heart Tree

One of my favorite early memories as a child was sitting under the branches of an old gnarled pine tree at the entrance to my grandparents' farm in Eudunda, South Australia. The whispering sounds of the pine needles as the cold wind swept through the boughs of the tree would transport me to a place I could barely imagine as a child; not through images, but rather a feeling of belonging. A deep soul memory. A sense of place.

Since that time, wherever life takes me, I have always looked for the 'grandparent tree'. You know the one. That one special tree, that seems to call to you. But this tree that stands before me now, in Kuranda Queensland, a long way away from where I was born, is different. While past grandparent trees have offered me the greatest of comfort, this tree asks something of me.

So, on a day in the middle of Spring, I sit and watch and observe this tree. I had already witnessed the blossoming of the tree's delicate bell-shaped flowers in autumn; and in winter the forest floor had turned white like snow as spent flowers fell carnage to the Spectacled Flying-foxes plucking fruit off the tree at night.

Now, unlike the flowers that had fallen gently to the ground, the remaining green hard fruits, the size of golf balls, landed with a hard thud from 20 to 30 metres above my head; and as the sound of the fallen fruit reverberates through the forest, I imagine that somewhere, the cassowary hears it too.

Sitting in this exact same spot, early last summer, I glimpsed a flash of blue and red which stood out from the otherwise shades of forest greens. A resident cassowary had come to eat the fallen fruit and I had frozen both exhilarated and frightened at the closeness of seeing this magnificent bird. I wonder when I will see it again.

My thoughts are interrupted by a flash of orange, and I watch a Cruiser flutter by. I gently remind myself to come back to the present moment. A family of four kookaburras sit high up on a bough of the tree. One, a familiar old male, flies closer to where I sit. "Good morning", I say out loud and accidentally startle a female pademelon grazing nearby. She takes a few hops, stops, turns around and realises it is just me. Carrying a joey, I can tell she is edgy and on high-alert. The kookaburra, more interested in a rainbow-skink than with me, swoops down with precision and flies off.

By mid-morning I have seen the usual suspects flit in and out from the lawyer vines and surrounding understory of the tree – my constant companions: the sunbirds, pale-yellow robins, the yellow spotted and graceful honeyeaters, the spectacled monarchs and the lyrical song of the little shrike-thrush. But, as the cool morning fades and the heat of the day rushes in, I become a little restless and frustrated by the constant attack of march flies

iron roof facing the low, red sun setting behind the trees on the other side of the airstrip. She was early. She liked to be there well before the sound of the plane droning in the distance.

It had become her habit to stand in different places and freshen up the feelings that soaked this place, but these days she mostly sat on the bench and looked about.

This was a waiting place, a place of too many stories, a place that made the old woman's body shiver and clench and giggle and cry up a bit sometimes. She thought of her man and the time the sound of the plane never came and the waiting until news came of the crash. People stood still in silence looking stupidly at the sky, unable to move as though moving would make it true. Then the wailing. She got another man, not as good as that first one, but good enough. The spear in her heart still stole her breath even after all these years.

She purposefully shifted her thoughts to Old Uncle Ricky, the time he won some

money on a scratchy and bought the biggest suitcase he could find. He filled it squashed tight with KFC and brought it back on the plane. She chuckled as she remembered everyone in this place grinning and munching on chicken bones and people running from town as news got out. He was a good one, Old Ricky.

She thought of the women, getting off the planes with their new babies, their shy smiles, half proud, half scared, a bit lost, but warming again as they sipped family and country like hot soup.

She thought of that fella who had been fiddling with the kids for years until the coppers finally did something and took him away. Family was stretched cold and thin and brittle that day. And the gang of young boys taken away to juvy, holding their heads high above the fear. Onlookers, deeply sad and quietly relieved. Glad that they would be gone for a time until they came back, cocky, proper crims now.

The plane circled and landed. She liked

and the odd mosquito. I listen to the rumblings of my stomach and decide to take a pause from sitting, telling the tree I will come back later.

In any case I tell myself, not much happens during the middle of the day. The forest is eerily quiet, apart from the male brush-turkey that works tirelessly raking and collecting leaves for its mound. The poor thing. I am exhausted just from watching it.

When I return in the middle of the afternoon, I find a lace monitor less than a metre up the tree and at the base, the turkey with its back to the tree is furiously scratching at the ground with its claws and spraying the monitor with leaves and twigs. Seemingly unperturbed, the monitor climbs further up the trunk of the tree, flattens itself out and bathes in the sun's warmth. The turkey eventually gives up and walks away.

As the day gets cooler and the shadows grow longer, I watch the monitor climb further and further up the tree to stay ahead of the moving shadow. It is a peaceful scene and lulls me into a sense of calm. I drift off to a place somewhere beyond a daydream, and suddenly I realise I am sitting up high in the outer canopy of the tree, far above the monitor. To my right is a crested hawk with piercing yellow eyes and a boldly barred breast. My brain scrabbles to try and identify it, but an inner voice tells me to let go of the critical mind. Just be. Breathe. I look around as if I am surveying my kingdom, but it is from a kind and compassionate place. As I sense every living being, above, below and all around me, I realise I am looking at the world through the eyes of the tree. I look down to where I am sitting at the base of the tree, for the tree has been watching and observing me.

"Come, come, Little One, it is time to walk this Earth together."

A sense of belonging rushes into my heart now wide open, and I am that child again, sitting under the whispering pines. Only now I know my place in this world. My place among the trees. This place isn't connected with the word 'I' anymore, for that place has been truly shattered. It never really existed to begin with. It was the 'I' that built the walls around my heart, that needed the comfort of the whispering pines.

Now, as the tree stands before me, connected to every living being, it asks me to do the same.

**Charmaine Savage October**

"Working in the field of environmental management, I have always written about the natural world, but from a scientific and technical viewpoint. Now semi-retired, I wish to explore nature writing as a way of journaling how I see and interact with the natural world and from a more creative and personal space. This is my first piece, inspired by joining the Kuranda Writers Group. I love that the Group offers support and encouragement for new writers."



## Airstrip

The old woman regarded the building as she slowly made her way down the dusty road, her rolling gait and regular pauses announcing her bad hips and discomfort. She tilted her head, squinting with her good eye, a slow hand waving away the last flies of the day. She'd be finished soon, she supposed. The tired bits of her old body were telling this story with pain and restriction and complaint. Yeah, be finished soon.

The building was severe and incongruous with its three sharp concrete walls and flat



It was on a flight from Cairns to Sydney that I met Mr Luck. He was Chinese and appeared to be travelling alone. It was the early 1980s, some years before the great wave of Asian tourists to the far north, and I was curious about Mr Luck, so I did what I always do when sitting next to a stranger on a plane, I began a conversation with the following gambit: “Where are you from?”

“Hong Kong,” he replied.

“Are you on a business trip?” I asked. Mr Luck smiled with a dreamy, almost faraway look in his eyes and said:

“No, a pleasure trip, pure pleasure. Five days’ holiday in Cairns!”

“Unusual,” I thought, all by himself!”

The flight attendant served our drinks, a beer for Mr Luck, a Virgin Mary for me, and as we sipped our drinks, flying 30,000 feet above the Australian landmass, Mr Luck told me his life story.

He had escaped the Cultural Revolution in Communist China and arrived penniless in Hong Kong. To make money he would knock on people’s doors and ask if they had any unwanted clothes. Most people would give him a few garments. Mr Luck would make those clothes look like brand new. He would wash, iron, starch and even invisibly mend them, then Mr Luck would sell them at street markets.

“Anything you get for free,” said Mr Luck, “then sell, at any price you can get, is 100 per cent profit.”

Mr Luck worked and scrimped and saved enough for a deposit on a rundown tenement building. Mr Luck treated that building just like his used clothes, he cleaned it up, mended it and gave it a paint job inside and out until it looked almost brand new. He also rented the

building for five times the original rentals. Then he bought another building, and another. Mr Luck was now a millionaire. Mr Luck then gave me some words of wisdom.

“You never really own anything in this life,” he said. “Your clothes will someday be worn by someone else. Your car will be sold and driven by someone else, one day your jewellery will be worn by others, and when you die, other people will live in your house. The only thing you ever truly own is the food you eat.”

Food, whether growing, buying, cooking, eating, or sharing a meal with friends, has always been one of my great pleasures, and I sometimes remember Mr Luck’s words as I enjoy a special meal.

But this is not the end of Mr Luck’s story. When he was poor and knocking on people’s doors, Mr Luck heard that big game fishing was the sport of millionaires. Mr Luck promised himself that if he ever became a millionaire, he would first spoil his family and then spoil himself and indulge in the sheer pleasure of a big game fishing adventure, somewhere tropical, somewhere far removed from the grey Hong Kong haze, anywhere that was bright with sunshine, blue waters and blue, blue skies.

When Mr Luck read that the Hollywood actor, Lee Marvin, made an annual pilgrimage to Cairns to go game fishing off the Great Barrier Reef, Mr Luck promised himself that he too would one day fly to Cairns, all by himself, and fish off the Barrier Reef. Mr Luck had just fulfilled that dream, five days of sun, sea and big game fishing. I was impressed.

“Did you catch anything,” I asked.

“A big marlin!” said Mr Luck with a smile that lit up the cabin. “It’s frozen, crated and in the cargo hold of the plane right now. I’m taking it back to Hong Kong.”

“That must have cost a fortune!” I said.

“Ten thousand dollars,” he said with pride.

“Are you going to eat it?” I asked.

“No, no, no, no !” he replied. “I have to take the marlin back to show my friends and family, or they will never believe I caught it.”

Mr. Luck then leaned a little closer and said quietly:

“I will never tell my family this, but you are a stranger, so I can tell you. My life has given me much pleasure, my family, making clothes like new, my first building, my beautiful house, my first skyscraper, but nothing has given me as much pleasure as catching that big marlin on the Great Barrier Reef.”

I smiled to myself and thought that Mr Luck’s pleasure was less about the frozen fish in the belly of the plane, and more about the deeply satisfying pleasure of fulfilling a dream, the dream of a poor man who wanted to be rich. The marlin symbolised that dream. I don’t think Mr Luck even knew my name, or if he ever gave me another thought.

I, on the other hand, I always remembered Mr Luck.

It has been a pleasure to tell his story.

### Marilyn Pye

“When my book *Wholly Moses* was published a decade ago, I vowed I would never write again. In 2019, with great reluctance I began re-writing and editing a manuscript, started many years ago. Completed in February, *The Golden Pyramid Lady* taught me objectivity and the craft of good writing, and also the loneliness of the writer.

The Kuranda Writers Group is a chance to escape from the self-imposed solitude of a writer and share ideas and stories with other wordsmiths. By airing and sharing our writing, we gain other perspectives and insights. The Writers Group has opened a world of possibilities when it comes to writing genres. My creative juices are not just flowing, they are in full flood. I have discovered the joy of writing again. Thank you.”

## Nguyay

“I acknowledge the people of the Djabugay Nation as the Traditional Custodians of this Country on which I live and about which I write this story. I recognise their continuing connection to these lands and thank them for managing them since time immemorial. I pay my respects to Elders past and present and thank them for granting permission to write this story using Djabugay language and providing me with much of the knowledge described within.”

### Biri gandang

A frenzy of flicking insects including yindin and bundim ride the warm air above the highest of the thin white wisps of djugay. Brown guguys, emboldened, swoop and arc in under the canopy of the djulbin, gawula and gambol, feasting on the wing, while smaller birds flee to find refuge in the lower shrubs. Lower down the steep ridge is a slow moving biri gandang-ala in the nguyay. The dry, brown leaves and florets of the nguyay and a light layer of leaf litter carry the djalbar. Lower again dawul bama dayal carrying biri djunda-djunda-y quietly through the open forest above the wuruu that leads to dindin. It is buga-mayi-y in the early gurraminya, and these men have just used a cool fire to keep this country healthy and keep djumburru clear.

Some days later dawul bama dayal sit atop the high dugul. Gentle gili gili has fallen since the biri and accentuated the natural mosaic below. Small patches of pale green, grey and brown show bulmba not burnt. Splashes of bright green over black indicate regeneration on burnt ground. Knee-high black scars glisten on the trees. Already there are new shoots of nguyay nurtured by rain and a charcoal bed. Guri: biri.

### Nguyay

Nguyay. Kangaroo grass, Themeda triandra, grows in grasslands and open forests throughout Australia as well as much of Africa the Pacific and Asia. It is a perennial, often growing for decades, particularly when exposed to regular burning. It features a deep, fibrous root system, a hardy crown at ground level with tufted leaves to about 1 metre high. The new leaves often appear with a blue green sheen through the wet season and cure to an orange brown by the end of the dry. It produces large brown spikelet’s with bare florets from December to February each year. It is a food source for many native animals and bama.

### Bulmba gaba:n-dji

Mulu bandjil and many tumbling bibunbay djunda-djunda-y along the riverside djumburru. Tall open forest slides down the ridge to the water. It is gurrabana and thick knee-high nguyay now swathes the whole ground six months after the fire. A myriad of annual and perennial plants, many providing food and resources, grow amongst this sward of grass. The bandjil are moving through the grass, pushing it aside with sticks searching today for dalmba used to make strong djurrbal dilly bags.

Disturbed, clouds of guban leave the nguyay flowers, are caught in the early morning sun and disperse. The bandjil notice the deep conical holes below many of the nguyay plants where djalbay have dug for grubs hiding in the moister soil there. Higher up the ridge a mob of dulbil grazes on the nguyay with eyes on the bama. Pellets of their dry guna lodge between stalks of the grass. At dusk tonight one of their older members will be

quickly taken by a flashing galga.

The older bibunbay stop their play and using sharpened stones cut the stems of nguyay into armfuls that will be taken back to the bulmba and placed as a mat on the floor of their bayu.

### Bulurru

Black ash on the ground after a fire says to bama that the goal of a cool burn was achieved. The carbon has not been returned to the atmosphere and rain will see it absorbed into the soil. Djalbay’s scratching’s will incorporate it deeper where it will be captured by the fine root system of the nguyay and stored. The carbon will be transformed within the roots into complex sugars and in turn offered to the fine underground web of mycorrhiza woven across the ridge touching all roots for secret plant business.

The soils of the ridge are old, shallow and of low fertility. Yet they support nguyay who practices frugality in its own requirements, orchestrates alchemy and builds bulmba with bama. Creating abundance.

### Singing up Biri Wayi

Gurraminya, fifteen months later, the dayal again stand on the dugul above dindin. Nguyay has dropped its seed as have many of the medicine plants growing amongst it. Brown is now the colour of the ridge in the afternoon sun and gadagada is the feeling. They will wait now for three cool mornings with dew and cobwebs on the grass. Then again, they will walk along wuru edge singing up Biri Wayi, Biri Wayi, Biri Gandang, Ganda-Gandang.

### Glossary

Djugay – smoke	Guguys – hawks
Djulbin – trees	Gawula – bloodwoods
Gambol – blue gum	Biri-gandang-ala – the fire is burning now
Djalbar – flames	Dawul – three
Bama dayal – males	Djunda-djunda-y – walking along
Wuru – river	Dindin – Barron River Gorge Storywater place
Buga-mayi-y – dusk	Gurraminya – dry season
Djumburru – track	Mulu bandjil – two women
Bibunbay – children	Gurrabana – wet season
Dalmba – Lomandra	Guban – ash
Djalbay – long nosed bandicoot	Dulbil – wallaby
Bulurru – Sacred time	Bulmba – country, home
Biri wayi – Light the fire	Biri gandang – the fire is burning
Yindin - locusts	Bundim – grasshoppers
Guri - good	Guban – butterflies
Galga – spear	Guna – shit
Gadaga – dry	Bama – people

### Narrative by The Earth, words by Paul Devine

Paul believes himself to be a much better reader than a writer. He has an interest in nature-writing and thinks that everybody should write something every day. Just for their own benefit.



The morning was tropically perfect, balmy and not yet subject to the heat that would come later. The weather map had been wiped clean by the movement of a huge cyclone, to the south, and so the humidity and mugginess was at a blessed minimum.

That same cyclone, named Althea, had halted her return to the small town she now knew she wanted to call home. There had been days waiting at flooded creeks and rivers, reliant on the kindness of strangers, as everyone waited for the highway to re-open, but she had been determined to make it back in time to see the new year in.

Arriving via the last of a long line of hitched lifts, just as the last day of the year was drawing to a close, she had time only to drop her bag of possessions at her little humpy in the forest, jump in the creek and head out of town with friends for what promised to be a joyful gathering and a perfect party night.

They stopped short of the property which would host the New Year celebrations, slipped under a fence which held curious cows in, and gathered some Blue Meanie mushrooms to put them in the right mood for a long night of dancing... and perhaps romancing. Blue Meanies were not first choice, but partiers can't always be choosers. The Meanies, true to their name, could result in some less than desirable early side effects such as anxiety or paranoia, but this usually passed and a more mellow and enjoyable mood set in. And so it did.

The party was a level above the usual candles and guitar kind. The unexpected provision of power via a generator, connected by a very long cord snaking far off into the rainforest, conjured up an immersive bubble of music and twinkling lights, all the more magical for being open to the moon and stars above, and the hum of the summer forest itself all around.

The festivities extended far past the midnight turning into the new year, and so it was that she found herself heading tired, but happy, barefoot and carefree towards home just as the morning stars were starting to fade and a faint dawn arrive. Crossing the deserted highway and onto the sleepy main street, where all the shop windows and houses still had their eyes firmly shut.

Fading as the first light grew, she struggled with the sarong which had seemed when teamed with a white ginger flower behind her ear, the height of carefree tropical fashion the night before, but now increasingly seem to want to slip off her, requiring repeated wrapping, re-wrapping and twisting.

Finally, in the pale light she gave up, unwound it and draped it over her shoulder. With not a soul around, most of the shady main street already covered, and only a small distance left, down to where a track led off it and to home, she gave no thought to the fact she had nothing else on. Not even when the gathering light revealed to her up on the second floor verandah of the old tumbled-up wooden hotel, the figure of a man dressed in khakis and a battered cowboy hat.

He was leaning on the railing looking out across the street. Twin plumes of cigarette smoke and steam coming off his mug, seemed to signal a reflective and companionable approach to this, the first morning of a new year. If he was surprised by the sight of this young woman, walking barefooted, and more, along the centre of the main street, he didn't show it. As she passed below him the sarong girl gave him a smile, and the old timer gave her the slightest dip of his hat and rise of his cup in return.

#### Gayle Hannah

"This short story was a response to a 'small town' theme in the Kuranda Writers Group, and the sense of being 'at home', both as a place and within oneself. I am not a disciplined writer. Spending a dedicated time each month with other writers reminds me that everyone has stories, writers just make the time to tell them. And it is a real treat to share, everyone is generous and supportive. I do hope to make time for more creative writing in 2023, and I hope the Kuranda Writers Group can encourage more local writers."

### Good for Something

"One. Two. Three. Four. Good, Mrs. Belcher. Keep that arm straight!"

Peter groaned from the doorway. How could she smile while shouting at this sea of bobbing white heads? Glazed grins nodded back at her, pausing often to sip from their pale pink water bottles.

He couldn't. He wouldn't.

He clasped his wheels and started to back away, but Lois grabbed his wheelchair handles.

"You made the decision, Peter. It's either this or checkers with the champ."

"That's my choice? Wally the wacko or exercise class?" He'd been watching Emily for months as she trotted past his room in her workout gear. Taking her class seemed the best way to meet her. But this? He tried to back off again. "I promise, I'll never do it again – just get me out of here. The inane cheerfulness is killing me."

"Not happening. I'm sorry Peter." Lois didn't sound sorry. "Your daughter agreed. You need an interest and you chose this."

"I changed my mind. I'm in a wheelchair for Chrissakes!"

Lois laughed. Not the reaction you'd expect after this declaration, but he understood; wheelchairs and walkers peppered the gym.

Did he deserve this? His had been a crime of brilliance – a profitable one, at that. And who knew there were so many luses in an old folks' home? He'd had an interest. It passed the time and took him back to his Navy days when they'd strained aftershave through a loaf of bread – out dripped pure alcohol. Seemed mouthwash worked just as well. Maybe better with its lingering minty fresh taste. He'd sold out seven times before the head nurse walked in on him, mid-strain.

"How could you do this?" his daughter had asked. She was beginning to wring her hands like her mother had.

"It's the law of supply and demand, my dear. Supply and demand."

Peter jumped as Lois clapped her hands behind him. "Emily?" she called. "We have a new recruit. Any room for Peter?"

Smiles swivelled toward the door and parted as Emily glided through them. "Welcome, Peter." Her voice slid over his name like cream.

"Welcome, Peter." The class's sing-song chant sounded contrived, but with a closer look at the sea of joy, Peter was convinced. For some reason they wanted him here.

Peter pressed his back into his chair, and Emily lowered her voice as though calming a flighty bird. "Come, we'll put you in the back row until you get the hang of the moves." Was that a wink?

Couldn't be. He had nothing to offer Emily.

"Off you go!" Lois gave his chair a shove and he glided into the room.

The door clicked behind him, and Emily leaned down to whisper in his ear. "I'm glad you're here." She slipped back through the crowd, leaving a soft scent. Not a bad walk for an octogenarian.

The hour crept by. Joy permeated the class, and pride beamed from each face. Emily kept up a steady patter of encouragement, and when she graced individuals with praise, walkers creaked as knees lifted higher and arms stretched further.

Peter sat quietly, his eyes rarely leaving Emily's face or lithe body. Maybe exercise class wasn't all that bad. How else could he simply sit and watch this woman who had slid into his dreams at night? He had nothing offer, but at least now he had a reason to be near her.

"Three more, class! Find your weights, now! Stay hydrated!" Emily instructed. They lifted, sipped; waggled, sipped; squeezed, sipped; and puffed.

The cool-down came and went, and class was over. Unaccustomed to manoeuvring his chair in a crowd, Peter stayed put. He was a boulder in a stream of fitness fanatics.

Emily stood at the door as her class filed out. She had a kind word or a touch for each of them.

"Welcome to the class, Peter," a few said over their shoulders.

"Don't worry, you'll get the hang of it," a woman trotted past with a cane in one hand and her water bottle in the other.

Peter followed the last walker to the exit. His hands grew damp, and perspiration prickled his head. He hoped it wouldn't bead up there before he could make it past Emily. But she'd never be interested in him anyway; what could he offer her? The line grew shorter. What would he say? Thanks, bye. See you tomorrow. See you in my dreams.

"Thanks for coming, Peter." Emily placed a hand on his shoulder.

"Y- see- see- um ... where do you get those drink bottles?" he blurted.

Idiot.

She smiled and the room lit up. "Come, I'll grab you one." A set of keys appeared from somewhere in her snug costume, and she unlocked a door in the corner of the gym. "You will be coming back tomorrow, I hope?" She left the keys swaying in the lock and disappeared into a small storage space. He wheeled closer and peered past her to where a single pink bottle sat alone on a wide shelf.

"It's all yours." Her fingers brushed his as she handed him the bottle.

Peter held it to his lips. That scent was back. What was it? The liquid touched his tongue and his eyes grew wide.

"Do you like it?" Emily leaned closer, her hand on his shoulder.

"Minty fresh."

"Enjoy it. My supply's dried up. Shame, too. The exercise class loves it!" She leaned closer and a wistful note crept into her voice. "I never discovered who the intriguing mind behind it was, but unfortunately they caught him."

Peter felt his face stretch into a grin. He touched the dangling keys at his shoulder. Maybe he did have something to offer.

#### Ann Harth

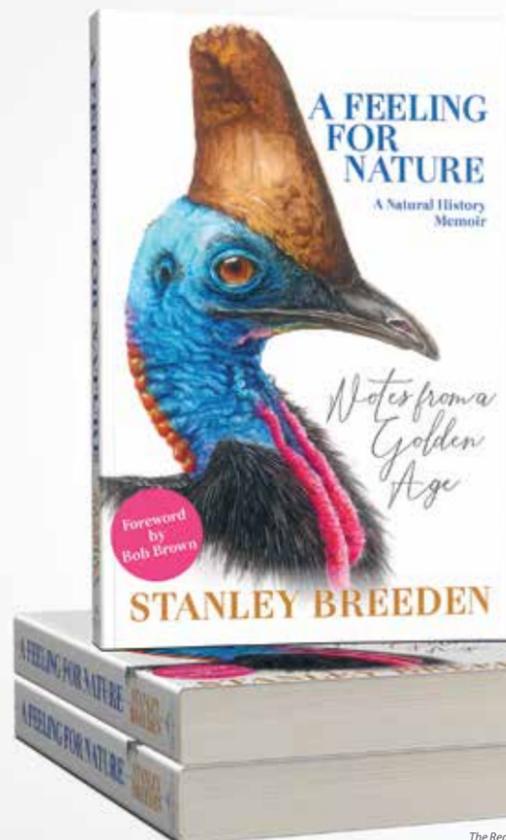
"Over the years I have written in many genres for many ages. I have a middle grade novel to be released in January and am currently developing my characters for a contemporary novel for adults. The Kuranda Writer's Group offers the opportunity for writers to gather and discuss their creations in a non-judgmental space. Writers can be solitary souls, and having the opportunity to meet with others to "swap stories" can be a good way of finding inspiration and support."

## A FEELING FOR NATURE

### A Natural History Memoir

by Stanley Breeden

BOOK LAUNCH



"If humanity survives, Stan Breeden's memoir is destined to be a natural classic. For eight decades he has been a peerless observer and chronicler of Earth's wilds and wildlife.

In this book are some of the most poignant accounts of the human affinity with nature that have ever flowed from pen to paper. No one has written it up with finer or easier words to read than these."

Bob Brown



The Regional Arts Development Fund is a Queensland Government partnership through Arts Queensland and Tablelands Regional Council to support local arts and culture.

5.30-7.30pm  
Wednesday 7th December 2022

Tableland Regional Gallery  
16 Robert Street, Atherton

Guest speakers and light refreshments



## Gifts from the Garden!

Your garden is overflowing with gifts year-round, but at Christmas it gives a special bounty. This festive season pretty jars, handdrawn gift tags, painted pots, garden produce and a little of your time will produce wonderfully personal and thoughtful gifts that won't break the bank. So here's your Yuletide Gifts from the Garden list:

**Seeds** – the easiest and most obvious gift of all. Gather your favourite veggie and flower seeds, pop them in a homemade seed packet and label. Alternatively you can make seed paper or seed bombs. See how at [www.homesteadlady.com/3-seed-gifts](http://www.homesteadlady.com/3-seed-gifts)

**Seedlings** – herbs, flowers or even trees potting up seedlings into decorative pots and gifting them is sure to delight anyone's heart. Herb and flower options are great for friends with limited garden space. *Hint: kids love decorating pots!*

**Bouquet of flowers or cuttings** – go through your garden and make cuttings of all your favourite useful and hardy plants and wrap in pretty paper. A bouquet of flowers is so simple yet always heart-warming. Only trick is you must pick your bouquet on the day you gift it.

**Potpourri & sachets with herbs and flowers** – use fragrant plants and even fruits like dried orange peel or berries. Dry your herbs very well and put in handmade sachets tied with pretty ribbon. See [www.rockinwhomestead.com/scented-sachet-bags](http://www.rockinwhomestead.com/scented-sachet-bags)

**Foodie gift items** – think herbal salts and oils, dried turmeric powder, dehydrated fruit, fruit straps, fruit cordials, jams, kimchi, pickles, chutneys etc. Gift in cute jars or bottles. Try something a bit different like roasted tomato or Tabasco sauce. Tabasco sauce is super easy – 1/3 cup hot peppers (any type), 3/4 cup vinegar (any type), a clove of garlic, 1 tsp salt and 1 tsp sugar. Bring chilli peppers and vinegar to the boil and then simmer for 5 minutes. Add the remaining ingredients and blend well until sauce forms. Refrigerate. *Warning: Be very careful handling chilli peppers and have room well ventilated.*

**Household gift items** – luffa sponges and birdhouse gourds make wonderful unique gifts and you can grow them at home so quickly and easily. Other homemade gifts from the garden include soaps, shower scrubs, salves, ointments, and tinctures. Attend a workshop

## GARDEN GIFTS



and try your hand at making dandelion salve for gardeners' tired, achy joints, for example. For birdhouse gourd instructions [www.littlesproutslearning.co/birdhouse-gourds](http://www.littlesproutslearning.co/birdhouse-gourds)

**Dehydrated treats** – Fruits and vegetables can be dehydrated and made into beautiful gifts. Think dried fruit candies and dried vegetable soup mixes. Try stringing red and green peppers on twine, tie a loop at the top for hanging, and allow to completely dry. Wonderful festive gifts to hang in the kitchen for décor and for cooking.

**Fresh harvest hamper** – find a wicker or woven basket, line with a brand new tea towel or garden apron, pick your own home-grown produce and arrange in the basket. If your garden isn't growing much this year then fill up your hamper with homemade jams, pickles, cakes and any of the ideas featured here!

**Treats For your Garden** – biological and mineral rich garden amendments can be made using leaves, weeds, eggshells, bones, etc. Think worm tea, weed teas, compost, wood ash, biochar etc. All really useful and appreciated gifts for gardeners.

Yuletide Greetings and a hearty Thank You to all readers of Your Garden Harvest. Feel free to drop me a line via [www.facebook.com/YourGardenHarvestAustralia](http://www.facebook.com/YourGardenHarvestAustralia)

Rachael Kelly – *YourGardenHarvest*

# seedsavers

Protecting our inter-generational food-plant seeds

## Local and Global Seed • Food Sovereignty and Resilience

"People have power. We've been made to think we are inert. We've been made to think nature is inert. And all it is, is a colonisation of our mind." – Dr Vandana Shiva.

Seedsavers FNQ has hosted the Australian-made documentary *The Seeds of Vandana Shiva* several times since its recent release, and plan to screen it again soon at Koah Hall.

Other food documentaries featuring Vandana, including *Food Inc.* have been screened previously by Seedsavers FNQ.

Vandana has become a hero for a growing number of social change activists and globalisation-script-flippers, advocating for true seeds, for nature, for indigenous knowledge and ways, for small farmers, food sovereignty, for soil and water, for our gut micro-biome and biodiversity, and much more besides. A woman of extraordinary conviction and integrity and enthusiastic energetic capacity to clearly educate complexities in to tangible information, she inspires people through her words and actions to make a difference in their own communities and in the world.

The author of more than 20 intricately relevant and informative books such as *Soil not Oil*, *Oneness vs the 1%*, *Stolen Harvest: the hijacking of the global food supply*, *Seed Sovereignty*, *Food Security: Women in the Vanguard of the Fight against GMOs and Corporate Agriculture*, *Reclaiming the Commons: Biodiversity, Indigenous Knowledge and the Rights of Mother Earth*, *Making Peace with the Earth*, *Who Really Feeds the World*, *Philanthrocapitalism and the Erosion of Democracy: a global citizen's report on the corporate control of Technology, Health and Agriculture* and many more... each a revealing expose of the underlying deceptions veiling many of the major issues faced by humanity, biodiversity and life itself today.

Diving in to the world of Vandana through the experiential wisdom contained in her books, one can go from being completely unaware of what is happening to the world's food supply, to seeing the interconnected web of control and manipulation attempts being made by a few very wealthy influential people. One can then see how these manipulations are encroaching on our kitchens via food suppliers and agriculture systems, and can then make informed choices to support growers who support their local community, health and the environment.

Vandana's recent release *Terra Viva: My Life in a Biodiversity of Movements reviewed* – Trained as a physicist, Vandana Shiva says, "It was Chipko that made me realise, in intimate detail, how biodiversity is at the heart of sustainable economies." Working with peasant women in her home state of Uttarakhand, she learnt her first lessons in ecology: transferring fertility from the forest to the field. Chipko was her 'university' and, turning away from quantum physics, she made the preservation of biodiversity, and of sustainable societies, her life's work.

For over four decades Vandana Shiva has worked with farmers' and people's movements across the world, against what she calls 'seed imperialism', economic polarisation, and the digital colonisation of our ecological and social diversity. Her Gandhian philosophy of resistance is rooted in people's power, true science, and real facts, through which she

challenges the Billionaires Club of Bill Gates, Warren Buffet, Marc Zuckerberg, Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, etc., and the transnational corporations that manipulate and control what we cultivate and consume and how we communicate, via Big Ag, Big Pharma and Big Data.

This powerful and eloquent memoir looks back at the most memorable campaigns and movements that she has been part of, while looking ahead to the challenges posed by the current ongoing crises, the privatisation of biotechnology, and the commodification of our biological and natural resources.'

As Vandana explains in the documentary, Chipko was a pivotal point in her commitment to protecting nature and indigenous rights. The village women of the Chipko movement used their only available resources, their mind, body, spirit, to hug the trees which were marked for destruction. "The Chipko movement is historically, philosophically and organisationally an extension of the traditional Gandhian satyagraha" (non-violent resistance). This Chipko movement inspired conservationists around the world to put themselves in front of the natural world which can not protect itself from the onslaught of the kind of 'progress and development' which is threatening many of the Earth's natural systems.

In her village in India, the young Vandana and her siblings would walk, sometimes for days with their father, a forest conservator, observing the intricate and interconnected nature of the biodiverse area of the doon valley. "Nature was my first inspiration – and the study of nature my first passion – which is how I ended up becoming a physicist."

Many people in the seedsavers movement are simply inspired by those in their local community who are growing food, saving seeds and sharing their natural abundance. Along the way, those who have come in contact with the work of Vandana Shiva become further inspired about the importance of conserving our multi-cultural, intergenerationally safeguarded seed and food heritage.

With the popularisation of what can only be called 'fake-food' products, the dominating food system continues its push to genetically modify chemically controlled agriculture.

A final quote from Vandana for now... "Fake food is the extension of the dominant food system and will extend the destructive patterns of high entropy, monocultures for feedstock, violation of our gut microbiome, accelerating destruction of the planets health and ours. We need to learn from indigenous food systems with 80% biodiversity" (multi-cropping such as syntropic agriculture). "In nature's economy, the currency is not money, it is life."

Please email [seedsavers@kurandaregion.org](mailto:seedsavers@kurandaregion.org) for any enquiries and to receive messages about regional seedsavers meetings.

*Chipko women hugging trees, from "The Seeds of Vandana Shiva" Documentary.*





### Where have all the insects gone?

When politicians get really mad, and they have had enough, they order a Royal Commission. When it looks like the blame is circling closer to them, they order a Royal Commission. When the solution to their problem looks messy and potentially unpopular, they order a Royal Commission. When somebody who's not on their side crashes, they order a Royal Commission.

A Royal Commission is a serious business. Ordering a Royal Commission sends a strong message. Just like wearing a suit and tie to work every day or wearing a hard-hat on a site visit or going onto the morning talkback programs sounding resolute and calling everybody maaaaate.

Recent really angry governments have called Royal Commissions into Aged Care Quality and Safety, Building and Construction Industry, Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Service Industry, Trade Union Governance and Corruption, The Home Insulation Program.

Emissions of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane, rose by 1 per cent globally in 2022, meaning the temperature at which earth will eventually stabilise is almost now out of humanity's control. The potential for us to keep the temperature rise to below 1.5°C is now all but gone. Climate scientists have warned us that even at that degree of global warning our climate systems will veer out of control.

The IPCC recently reported to the world that between the years 2011 and 2021 the burning of fossil fuels made up 86 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions. The large oil, gas and coal producers are making some of their best profits ever at the moment given the high market prices for their product as a result of the Ukraine War. Those same corporate behemoths have lobbied governments around the world to allow them—now in the middle of a climate crisis—to explore for and mine more fossil fuels. In Australia our own home-grown corporate polluters are putting into place schemes to quickly get approval for 114 new coal and gas projects across the country so they too can cash in.

"Attempts at the recent COP27 climate talks to get all countries to agree to phase out coal, oil, natural gas and all fossil fuel subsidies failed. And countries have done little to strengthen their commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions in the past year," says Peter Schlosser, a professor of Earth and environmental sciences at Arizona State University.<sup>(1)</sup> By the way there were more fossil fuel industry lobbyists at COP27 in Cairo than the combined delegates from the ten countries most affected by climate change.

So, you could imagine how really angry our politicians would be about all this. You would imagine that they would be falling over each other to pull the let's have a Royal

Commission trigger. What were the reactions then? The only ones that I picked up were that our Prime Minister didn't even bother going to COP27 and the Mayor of one of Australia's biggest cities thought it would be a great idea for his city to host the 2030 COP because "you know it will be just before the Olympic Games and they sort of go together".

As well as the very important things that make politicians very angry and that trigger Royal Commissions, I wonder if normal people could think of some reasons as well. Just imagine if everybody had an opportunity to name their top three, for example, and we did some sort of poll. What would be your top three?

Here are my top three in no particular order of offensiveness. Let's have a Royal Commission into how the Victorian Government thinks that it is completely appropriate to go into an election for a possible third term with a policy of clear fell harvesting mountain ash (yes, that's right, the tallest trees in the world) native forests for woodchip. But in addition, because the forestry industry is ailing, subsidise them \$192 million dollars over the next eight years to help them do it.

Or let's have a Royal Commission into why the Commonwealth and State Governments are not only not taxing fossil fuel miners, but actually subsidising the coal and gas industries nearly \$10 billion per year to produce and sell their products, locally and globally, that drive us towards climate chaos.

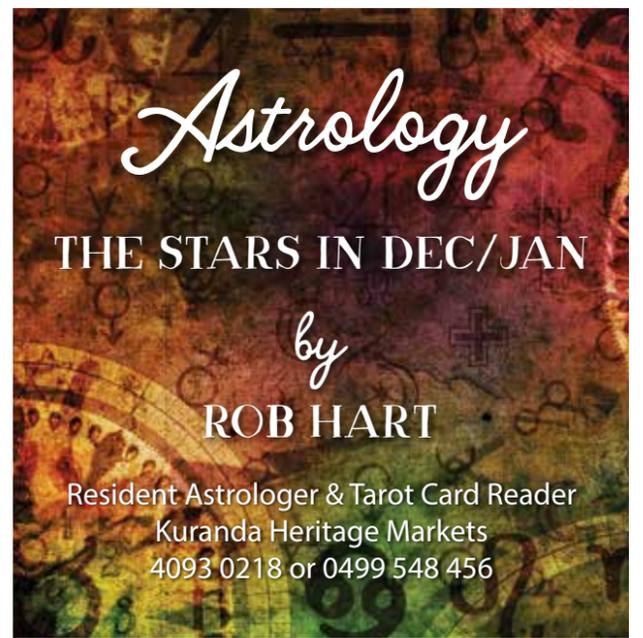
Which brings us finally to where have all the insects gone? Those who spend time outside during the day or near a lit window at night know what I am talking about. Scientific research around the globe supports the anecdotal evidence that in some places we are seeing a massive collapse of insect species and numbers of insects. Some research points to collapses of up to 70 per cent in some tropical areas by 2050. A loss of such biodiverse biomass and plant pollinators at that is unthinkable. So, let's have a Royal Commission into which is the biggest cause of insect collapse; climate change, habitat loss or agricultural chemical use?

I didn't even get a chance to mention ... Anyway does it matter? Apparently not. Anger and negative reporting merely turn people from your cause the experts say.

That was my last *View From the Understorey* opinion piece. I've decided to give it a break. As they say in the classics, "after all it's not easy banging your head against some mad bugger's wall".

Cheers.

<sup>(1)</sup> *The Imagine Newsletter, The Conversation. 24/11/2022*



It's interesting to see that December begins with a Venus-Mars opposition, exact at 18 degrees Sagittarius and Gemini – female/male, fire/air and 'mutable', or flexible. There's a wildness, a freedom, an urge to travel, to learn and to dance with abandon to a pulsating rhythm. People with 18 degrees Sagittarius or Gemini prominent in their birthcharts can look forward, in December, to some hot coupling and journeying both physically and mentally with the partners of their choice. Lucky people.

Then, on 8 December, there is a Full Moon at 18 degrees Gemini ... the beat goes on and rounds off a week of high-flying caprice.

Mars back-tracks (retrogrades) looking for more of the same, but Venus sensibly strides into Capricorn and gets really boring. But wait! Come 9 January 2023, Mars stops and goes forward again at 8 degrees Gemini, while Venus arrives a bit breathless, at 8 degrees Aquarius. So they harmonise in an air trine – "light as the breeze". Plan your strategies around those dates and you'll be right on target and we can now add in 8 degrees Gemini and 8 degrees Aquarius people. Check your cosmic calendar (i.e. your birthchart).

Venus and Mercury finish December in a tight alignment at 24 degrees Capricorn, kind of suggesting the happiness that mathematicians and physicists find in elegant formulae. For the rest of us, beautiful creative thoughts and ideas being put to constructive action might just do it.

Venus is about to lock loins with Pluto on New Year's Day and that is as passionate and intense as it gets – nymphs and satyrs in wild embrace. Should be quite a New Year's Eve with some kind of hangovers!

Jupiter crosses the zero Aries point and begins its next 12-year journey around the zodiac on 21 December, the Summer Solstice, with a New Moon following, and with Ceres, the Goddess of the Harvest, entering Libra, exactly complementing the 0 degrees Aries Jupiter. A very bountiful harvest, sharing the abundance and achieving much wisdom as we move into the next 12-year cycle. That seems to be quite contrary to the media doomsday obsession, but the real truth is in the stars.

An Aquarian rising Moon for Christmas – so really weird, futuristic and techno presents are the go. And with a Mercury- Neptune alignment, good luck with following the directions for assembly and use of talismans and trinkets invested with magic and love are a better choice.

January ends with a Sun-Mars air trine Aquarius to Gemini. Very actively auspicious and fiery. Ten degrees of those air signs are hot! Check your chart, there could some very exciting news on the way.

Have a beautiful solstice season.

Blessings



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# KURANDA HORSE & PONY CLUB NEWS

## KURANDA HORSE AND PONY CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

The biggest highlight for the Club in 2023 was six of our riders attending the Zone 18 Gymkhana hosted by Mareeba Pony Club held on 15 October. All of our members rode beautifully and all came away with placings, which ended in Kuranda Horse and Pony Club winning HIGH POINT CLUB.

To top it off, Indie Cabral was also awarded the Effort and Sportsmanship trophy – what a highlight. I would just like to congratulate our riders for doing so well and being recognised as very polite, great attitude riders.

On Sunday 16 October, we had three riders attend the Official Zone 18 Sporting competition and again all came away winners – Kerry coming 1st overall, Arabella 2nd overall, Xanthe 2nd overall. What a great effort from our little Club!

On 23 October we held our last rally for the year, which was Halloween themed. We had some great costumes and lots of fun events. Everyone had a great time and finished it off with a water slide. Such a fun way to end the year.

The Club's breakup and end of year presentation will be held on 3 December at the Speewah Tavern.

As the weather gets hotter, things start to draw to a close for the year, which is sad to see, but it's also great to see how far all the riders have come. So keep up the good work. We can all keep up riding in summer, but should choose either early in the morning or later in the day so we don't all overheat our horses or ourselves.

## ROOM FOR HIRE

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

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

Till next time, Happy Riding  
Di Curtis, Club Instructor

Zone Gymkhana winners




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# RANGERS report

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



The Kuranda Rangers would like to wish our soccer family and supporters a safe and happy festive season.

*See you in 2023!*



Kuranda Rangers Football Club 

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# WAYGAL-A-GALING BUWAL-WU

## Going looking for words



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Michael Quinn



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



BULAL  
 BULGAAY  
 BULIR  
 BULMBURRI  
 BURRAWUNGAL  
 DJULGIL  
 DJURRBAL  
 DUBAL  
 DUGAL  
 GIDJARR  
 GIGA  
 GINBA  
 GURRGUDAY  
 GUYURRU  
 MURRGU  
 MURRGUDJU  
 MURRGUL  
 MURRIIDJIY  
 MURUGA  
 MUYGAL

MUYGUN  
 NIGAR  
 NUGU  
 NULGARRIL  
 NYIBAGAY  
 NYUGIY  
 NYUNGGULU  
 NYUWANYDJI  
 WULBIL  
 WUMBUL  
 WUNGAY  
 WUNGUL  
 WURRAYIY  
 WUYIN  
 YINI  
 YIRRILAM  
 YIWANDIBIY  
 YULBAL  
 YULMBU  
 YUWAR

Photo: Alexa Soh

### WORD MEANINGS

**BULAL:** the light of a firefly wugam.

**BULGAAY:** to bark. *Gudji gurraa bulgaang gudaagudaa.* That dog forever barking.

**BULIR:** staghorn fern.

**BULMBURRI:** dusty. *Gulu djumburru bulmburri.* This road is dusty.

**BURRAWUNGAL:** water-fairy, bunanda.

**DJULGIL:** gum, resin from evodia species and kauri pine used for artefact making.

**DJURRBAL:** basket made from dalmba grass Lomandra.

**DUBAL:** a bark water bag sealed with djulgil gum.

**DUGAL:** to get, to grab, to catch, to take. *Ngabi guyu duga!* Get lots of fish!

**GIDJARR:** a stripe, a line a mark. *Dagarr ngawu gidjarr gundal.* I'll paint the shield.

**GIGA:** open, not closed. *Guway giga baraan!* Leave the door open!

**GINBA:** centipede. *Yagay! Nganya bayany ginba-nggu.* Ow! A centipede bit me!

**GURRGUDAY:** water dragon.

**GUYURRU:** the wind. *Guyurru banggal garrang.* A big wind is coming.

**MURRGU:** bush turkey or scrub-hen mound/a grave/an earth-oven.

**MURRGUDJU:** fan palm. Leaves used for roofing of bayu.

**MURRGUL:** cooked. *Gulu minya murrkul.* This meat is cooked (in an earth oven).

**MURRIIDJIY:** to scream. *Gari murriidjin! Don't scream! Gangaligan nyurrany bina ngundal!* The little hairy men will hear you!

**MURUGA:** yellow evodia. The gum is called djulgil and used for sealing bark containers and in axe and spear-making.

**MUYGAL:** a pit-trap covered with branches and leaves.

**MUYGUN:** string bag. *Nyurra muygun gunbil.* You are weaving a string bag.

**NIGAR:** turpentine tree. The gum used for sealing bags and spear-making.

**NUGU:** bait. *Ngayanda djunggum waan nugu-wu!* Give me a worm for bait!

**NULGARRIL:** to wake someone up. *Gari nganya nulgarri!* Don't wake me up!

**NYIBAGAY:** to hiccup. *Ngawu nyibagang.* I'm hiccuping.

**NYUGIY:** to doze. *Nyurra nyugi-nyuging.* You are dozing off.

**NYUNGGULU:** Torres Strait pigeon.

**NYUWANYDJI:** jealous. *Gari nyuwanydji-mayjin!* Don't get jealous!

**WULBIL:** late/take a long time. *Gari wulbil-mayjin!* Don't be late!

**WUMBUL:** hot. *Ngawu wumbul-maying.* I'm getting hot.

**WUNGAY:** to drink, to swallow. *Bana wungay-galin!* Go to drink water!

**WUNGUL:** another name for Budaadji Carpet snake. Large pythons associated with the Rainbow snake Gudjugudju and respected.

**WURRAYIY:** to hit yourself with a switch to chase away insects or spirits.

**WUYIN:** rivergrass. Lomandra multifolia. Dilly bags made from it.

**YINI:** fear. *Nyurra yini maynggal.* You are fearless.

**YIRRILAM:** Praying mantis. *Gudji yirrilam ngunda!* Look at that Praying mantis!

**YIWANDIBIY:** to play. *Wawu yiwandibiy-galin!* Go outside to play!

**YULBAL:** to creep up on. *Gari nganya yulba!* Don't creep up on me!

**YULMBU:** a dot or line of dots. *Yulmbu gidjarr gundal.* Painting a dot or line of dots.

**YUWAR:** a signal stick indicating a source of food.

### DJABUGAY

#### A guide to the pronunciation of Djabugay words

#### Vowel Sounds

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

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

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

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

/u/ is pronounced as the vowel sound in the English

word "book" e.g. **mu**du (back)

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

#### Consonants

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

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

/rr/ a trilled, or rolled /r/ as in Scottish pronunciation of the word "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 two sounds together e.g. **djin.gal** (sky)

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

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

#### Stress

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

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

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

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

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

*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**

With Michael Quinn and Bada Djaygul, Dennis Hunter.

# ST SAVIOUR'S KURANDA

## SUNDAY

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

## TUESDAY

9am Holy Communion

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

Sunday 18 December

6pm Carol Service

**CHRISTMAS EVE** – Saturday 24 December

7.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Holy Communion

**CHRISTMAS DAY** – Sunday 25 December

8.30am Christmas Family Communion

**NEW YEAR'S DAY** – Sunday 1 January 2022

9.30am New Year's Day Service

## ACTIVITIES

Home Groups, Alpha, A Life Worth Living,  
Sunday School

## POSSUM CORNER OP SHOP

8.30am to 12.30pm Monday to Saturday

Closed from Saturday 17 December at 12.30pm

until Monday 12 January at 8.30am



## ST CHRISTOPHER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

20 Barang Street, Kuranda

Serviced by the Northern Beaches Parish

Sunday Mass: 5pm  
Wednesday Mass: 6pm

P | 07 4057 6055

E | northernbeaches.parish@ Cairns.catholic.org.au

W | Cairns.catholic.org.au/parishes/northern-beaches

## ST CHRISTOPHER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

**Northern Beaches Parish – 2022  
Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

**24 December – Christmas Eve Vigil**

6pm – Holy Cross Assembly Area

(bring chair or picnic blanket)

9pm – St. Christopher's, Kuranda

**25 December – Christmas Day**

7am – Sacred Heart, Freshwater

8.30am – Holy Cross, Trinity Park

10am – St. Augustine's, Stratford

**\*\*No afternoon Mass in Kuranda\*\***



## Seventh-day Adventist Church

Wirramoo Street, Kuranda

Services held every Saturday  
**ALL WELCOME**

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

# St Saviour's Thought for December

We are living in a time when we seem to often feel that we are surrounded by enemies and beset by fears. This is in stark contrast to the situation a decades ago after the fall of the Berlin wall when the end of the Cold War was being hailed and everyone looked forward to a safer and more stable world. However, now we are now surrounded by new fears - by the fear of different kinds of global such as we have witnessed daily this year with Russian invasion of Ukraine, the suppression of free will in Hong Kong and the brutal junta that has emerged in Myanmar.

At Christmas we think of the message of the Angels to the Shepherds in the fields; the Angel's message is as pertinent to us today as it was to the shepherds on the hills of Judea two thousand years ago. We need to remind ourselves of this message—do not be afraid—as we approach Christmas 2022. Christmas is a celebration of Christ's coming to us where we are – God incarnate as a human in Jesus Christ baby born in time of occupation and uncertainty.

One of the old Christmas carols *O little town of Bethlehem* has these words, "the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight. May you have a Holy, Safe and blessed Christmas."

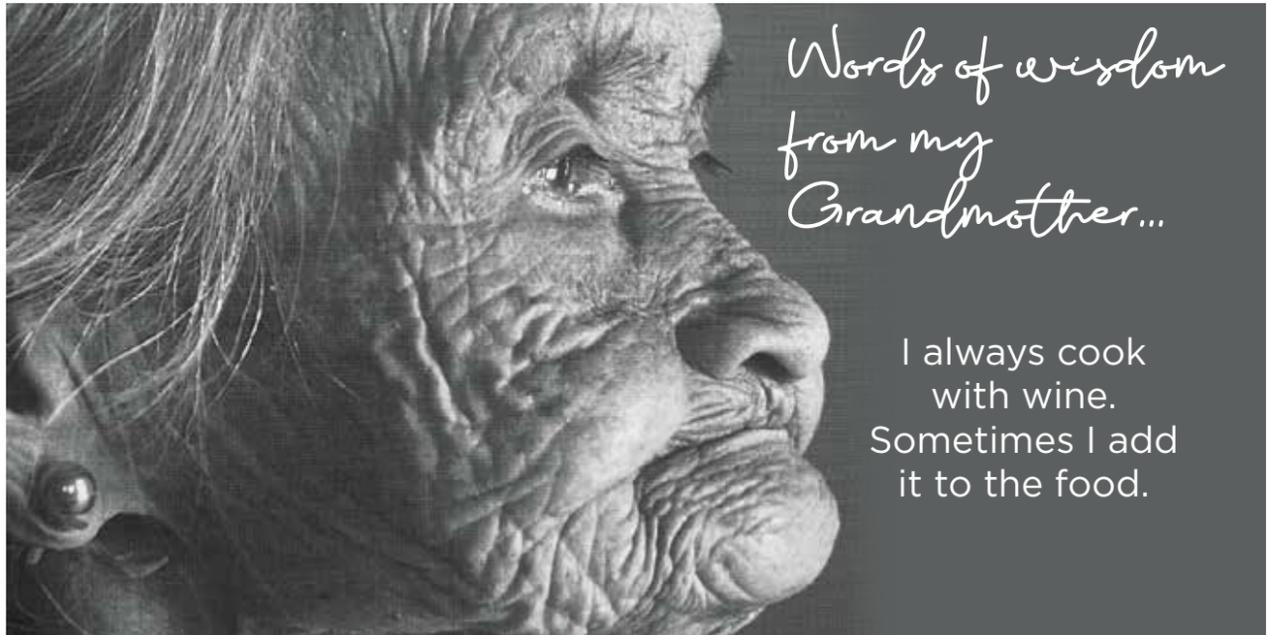
Enquiries to Chris Wright

Phone: 4093 8735

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

## News from St Saviour's

Christmas is coming and there are lots of preparations coming on at St Saviour's for the Christmas Services. On Sunday 18 December we are holding our Carols Service at 6pm. On Christmas Eve, Saturday 24 December, there will be Carols by Candlelight with Holy Communion at 7.30pm. On Christmas Day, Sunday 25 December, there will be the Christmas Day family service at 8.30am.



*Words of wisdom  
from my  
Grandmother...*

I always cook  
with wine.  
Sometimes I add  
it to the food.

# THOUGHT OF THE MONTH FROM THE BAHAI FAITH

## The oneness of all the Prophets

"It is evident to thee that the Bearers of the trust of God are made manifest unto the peoples of the earth as the Exponents of a new Cause and the Bearers of a new Message. Inasmuch as these Birds of the Celestial Throne are all sent down from the heaven of the Will of God, and as they all arise to proclaim His irresistible Faith, they therefore are regarded as one soul and the same person. For they all drink from the one Cup of the love of God, and all partake of the fruit of the same Tree of Oneness. These Manifestations of God have each a twofold station. One is the station of pure abstraction and essential unity. In this respect, if thou callest them all by one name, and dost ascribe to them the same attribute, thou hast not erred from the truth. Even as He hath revealed: "No distinction do We make between any of His Messengers!" For they one and all summon the people of the earth to acknowledge the Unity of God, and herald unto them the Kawthar of an infinite grace and bounty. They are all invested with the robe

of Prophethood, and honoured with the mantle of glory. ... Sayings such as this, which indicate the essential unity of those Exponents of Oneness, have also emanated from the Channels of God's immortal utterance, and the Treasuries of the gems of divine knowledge, and have been recorded in the scriptures. These Countenances are the recipients of the Divine Command, and the day-springs of His Revelation."

*(Baha'u'llah)*

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

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

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

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

All enquiries welcome.

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

The Bahai Community of Mareeba/Kuranda

# KURANDA EARTHWORKS & TREE SERVICES

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT



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

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

**FOREST SOLUTIONS FNQ**

*For all your garden needs...*

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

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

LOCAL KURANDA BUSINESS

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**

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

- Land Clearing
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**KURANDA BACKHOE HIRE**

Owner/Operator  
**Jeff Kapteyn**  
ph. 0427 530 253  
25 years experience

*\*Local business since 1981\**



**JMC WELDING & STEEL FABRICATION**

For all your welding and steel fabrication requirements

Call John  
**0411 105 256**

**Barry Hodson**  
FCPA

**Certified Practising Accountant**

PO Box 139 Kuranda  
Queensland 4881

Tel/Fax: (07) 4093 9770  
Mobile: 0418 314 532  
Email: barry@hodsonott.com.au

**Sommer Painting Services**  
Est. 1995 • QBSA 076195

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- High-pressure Cleaning • Airless spraying
- Roof restorations • Sikkens Timber Finishes
- Free quotes

Ralf Sommer  
107 Veivers Drive, Speewah  
Phone/Fax 4093 0146  
Mobile 0413 313 823

**LONG LIST OF LOCAL REFERENCES**



## Merry Christmas from The Kuranda Paper

The Kuranda Paper would like to sincerely thank all of our wonderful advertisers, contributors, and loyal readers for their support in 2022. There is no paper without this support and we are very grateful to be entering our 32nd year of production — an amazing achievement for this small, independent, community newspaper.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

**Tender FUNERALS**  
FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND  
A COMMUNITY UNDERTAKING

Margaret Vandell  
Secretary/Director  
0413 653 735  
tender.fnq@gmail.com

*Incorporated with Deductible Gift Recipient Status*

**OUR SERVICES:**

- Supply Cardboard Caskets
- Information and Referral
- Provision of resources e.g. Will Kits



**PROPERTYMAKEOVER.NET**  
PAINTING | REPAIRS | COLOUR DESIGN

Kuranda, Mareeba, Cairns & Beaches  
**0447 534 977**

**Sewing Services**

- Experienced seamstress
- All alterations
- Low prices
- Kuranda local

Call Marion 0408 989 835

## GRATIS CLASSIFIEDS\*

**Bowen Therapy & Homeopathy** Sarah at Simply Healing 0402 804 591, www.simplyhealing.net.au Phone for an appointment.

**Carpentry and small jobs** around the home and repairs. Timber/aluminium windows and doors not working too well? Call Mike at County Security Screens & More 0481 862 444

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

**Glass workshops** with Kate Prynne. Glass, firing and tuition included in the price. Call Kate 0400 517 949.

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

**Kunzea oil and creams,** magnesium rollers, selenite healing rods and Orgone EMF solutions, moon gardening calendars, concrete mushrooms and plants at CWA Hall Christmas market, Saturday 3 December 8am–12.30pm.

**Laptop required** – Kuranda TV urgently requires a working laptop if you have one to spare. It will be used for recording videos of interest and use to the community for the Kuranda TV YouTube channel. Please call 0401 423 573 or email seedsavers@kurandaregion.org

**Mah Jong** 1-4pm Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. Beginners most welcome. Sets, handbooks and afternoon tea provided.

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

**NEW in Kuranda** – Soma Breathwork Meditation, Pilates and Group Fitness, weekly classes at Fairyland House tropical gardens Yoga shala. More details at www.fairylandhouse.com.au

**Painter** available. 20 years experience. All types of painting including enamel work, interior and exterior. Complete paint outs or touch ups. Clean reliable and honest. Call Alan 0452 669 447.

**Party dresses** all sizes available at Just Gorgeous. Why travel anywhere to find what you'll love right here in Kuranda

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

**Reiki Healing** with Ruth. Reiki Master. I offer Reiki healing, crystal healing and

chakra balancing. Clear energy blockages to allow life to flow and fulfillment to follow. 0422 631 337.

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

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

**SHOES for sale.** So many stylish and comfortable shoes from casual to dressy available at Just Gorgeous. Open daily 10am–3pm.

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

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

**Yoga at Top Of The Range,** Wednesday 7.30am, 13 Bangalow Place, please call Melissa 0404 862 533 to book.

### \* 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) – recommended to contact first.

**Batreach** 4093 8858

**TigerLodge Wildcare** 4093 0761 (24/7 phone service)

**Kuranda Vets** 4093 7283

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

**SNAKE REMOVAL**

Jax Bergersen (non-venomous only) 4093 8834

Miss Hiss Reptiles (all reptiles) 0447 888 872

## DEFIBRILLATORS



Defibrillator locations in Kuranda region.

**Kuranda Men's Shed** end of Kuranda Heights Road

**Kuranda Pharmacy** cnr Coondoo and Thongon Sts

**Kuranda Medical Centre** cnr Thongon and Barang Sts

**Kuranda Ambulance Station**, Fallon Road

**Kuranda Swimming Pool**, Myola Road

**Steiner School**, Boyles Road

**Kuranda SES** on board vehicle

**Envirocare Nursery** 284 Myola Road

## WATER AND SEPTIC

**Water Delivery:**

**Grego's Raw Materials** 0419 705 005

**Septic Tank Emptying:**

**Paul Jennings** 0417 632 688

## LAUNDROMAT

**BP Service Station complex**

**Gurii Gambi** 5C Coondoo Street

## FNQ Wildlife Rescue Assoc. Inc.

(Established 1994)



**Caring for the region's native wildlife.**

**Wildlife carers are all volunteers.**

**Tax deductible donations appreciated.**

**New members welcome.**

**Tel: 07 4053 4467 (24 hrs)**

**Email: fnqwr@bigpond.com**



## Tree Roo Rescue and Conservation Centre Ltd

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

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

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

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



Donate now and help us care for tree roos today

[www.treeroorecue.org.au](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.



## ROAD REPORTS

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

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



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

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

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

**Karen McLaren** – 4093 8780 Please phone for an appointment

## Join your local SES

Training every week

Tuesdays 7pm

Contact Paul for more details

**0448 008 087**

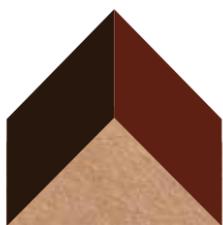


## KURANDA MEN'S SHED RECYCLING

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 **\*\*No milk or wine bottles please\*\***

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



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

## RAINFALL

November 2022  
21.4mm  
(to 26 November 2022)

**Annual Total**  
(to 26 November 2022)  
2056.6mm

Courtesy of Kuranda Railway Station



## HELP GROUPS



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

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

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



**Need help with a drinking problem?**

**1300 222 222**

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

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

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

**Al-Anon can help you!**

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

## Community Services

### KURANDA LIBRARY and COUNCIL OFFICE

#### OPENING HOURS

**Monday to Friday: 10am–5pm**  
(No Council business after 4.30pm weekdays)

Kuranda Community Precinct  
18-22 Arara Street, Kuranda  
4093 9185  
kurandal@msc.qld.gov.au  
msc.qld.gov.au/libraries

SERVICES NOT OPEN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

### KURANDA TRANSFER STATION

#### OPERATING HOURS

**Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays & Sundays: 8am–5pm**

2186 Kennedy Highway, Koah  
0418 282 542  
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.

The Dashboard is accessible on Council's website [www.emergency.msc.qld.gov.au](http://www.emergency.msc.qld.gov.au)



## Trans North Bus & Coach

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

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

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.

#### Bus stops are located at:

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

#### Ticket Sales:

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

### Emergency Contacts



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

### RURAL FIRE BRIGADE WARDENS



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

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



**FIREFIGHTERS NEEDED**  
Kuranda Station  
Your local Queensland Emergency Services Fire station is looking for Auxiliary Firefighters  
If you are interested contact your local station:  
Kuranda Fire & Rescue Station  
Please visit: <https://www.qfes.qld.gov.au/employment/jobs/auxiliary-firefighter.html>  
**Are you driven to lend a hand in times of crisis?**



## Trans North Bus & Coach

### Cairns – Kuranda - Cairns

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

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

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

### TRANSPORT

Rideshare 1300 743 374  
Trans North 3036 2070



**Bookings 1300 743 374**



## What's On at Koah Hall

### EVERY MONDAY

PILATES with Jaide 6-7pm  
0488 229 700

### MONDAY 12 DECEMBER

TEACHING OF CONSTITUTION AND COMMON LAW with Bernard, 7-9pm

### EVERY TUESDAY

SOULATINA - Latin Dance Classes - 6.30pm Salsa, 7.30pm Bachata.  
Contact Andreza  
soulatinadance@gmail.com  
Book at [www.trybooking.com/BWIWD](http://www.trybooking.com/BWIWD)

### EVERY WEDNESDAY from 14 DEC

PILATES BEGINNERS with Jaide 6-7pm  
0488 229 700

### EVERY THURSDAY

PARENT AND BUBS MEET - 10am-12noon. Contact Tui 0472 987 859  
YOGA 5.30-6.45pm various teachers - check calendar.

### THURSDAY 1, 15 & 29 DECEMBER

MANKIND PROJECT MEN'S GROUP 7pm. Open to all men.  
Solomon 0484 761 505

### EVERY FRIDAY

DANCE CRAFT WORKSHOP - Flow Dance Staff and Poi. 4pm onwards.  
Kaliia 0411 841 159

### SATURDAY 17 DECEMBER

DANCE FREEDOM Davini 0414 994 123

*Want to do something fun in the new year? We are seeking community-minded people who want to move, shake, create and make things happen for the community by the community! Join the Koah Hall committee.*

### DREAM BIG! CIRCUS CLASSES

Contact Sophie 0409 333 404. Info on [www.dreamstatecircus.com](http://www.dreamstatecircus.com) workshops page. Dream State would love to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. From our family to yours, all the best for the New Year!  
See you when the term starts end of January 2023.

### HIRE FEES

- 1-2hrs \$10 • Half day \$30 • Full day \$60
- Full day and evening (24 hour block) \$110
- \$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 MARKETS DECEMBER

**8am till Midday**  
**Saturday 3 December**

- Live Music - Blue Reed, Jeanette Wormald Trio, and three wise carolers
  - All your Christmas Presents shopping done whilst supporting locals! Gifts that give twice!
  - Fresh coffee and delish Koah Hall Fundraiser BBQ.
- SMS/Voicemail Nicky  
0488 961 660 or direct message via  
Koah Monthly Markets  
Facebook page.

Koah Hall would like to thank everyone for supporting the Pirate Party. What an amazing effort with just over \$3,330 raised for the nature playground maintenance fund.

Wishing everyone a fun and fabulous festive season and all the best for the year ahead!



### Family Movie Night

The KRC is hosting a FREE Family Movie Night on 2 December 2022 to celebrate the end of the year and the beginning of the festive season. Screening is *Hoodwinked* with doors open at 6pm. There will be a popcorn machine, sausage sizzle and other hot food available. BYO rug, bean bag or pillow and get ultra comfy, the movie rolls at 6.30pm. The bar will open for any parents wanting to enjoy the FREE pool tables.

But WAIT! ... there's more! Join up for a KRC annual membership for only \$10 and go into the draw to WIN a Christmas Basket valued at \$350 bursting with local products and services. Winner announced on the night. Thanks to our sponsors: Rare Earth Oils, Petit Cafe, Kuranda Candy Kitchen, Kuranda Arts Co-op, Davini and Jaide from Kuranda Pilates, Fairyland House, Dear Sprout, and Robyn King.



### Merry Christmas

On behalf of the Kuranda Recreation Centre Committee, we extend our warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of the residents of Kuranda. We look forward to seeing you around the Centre and connecting with your community in 2023!

## CONTACT US

Kuranda Recreation Centre

[krc4881@gmail.com](mailto:krc4881@gmail.com)

JUMRUM BAR OPEN  
TUESDAY 6.30 PM

## WHAT'S ON

### KURANDA RANGERS -

Training Thursday 4.30-5.30pm (Mar-Oct)  
Tuesday Skills Training 4-5.30pm (U8+ only)  
Simone 0402 003 164

### PILATES -

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

### TAI CHI - Monday 6pm

Les 4093 8276

### WING CHUN KUNG FU -

Tuesday 7.30pm  
Grant 0414 966 823

## Venue for Hire

Are you having a party or celebration? The KRC has multiple areas available for hire for functions, seminars and activities. Features include - onsite parking, toilet facilities, licenced bar and commercial kitchen.  
Please contact Symone 0467 391 152.

Proud to be the home of:



# 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 11 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  
**Yoga in the Rainforest** with Aileen 8.15am (for 8.30 start) Kuranda QCWA Hall. Aileen 0419 726 955  
**Ashtanga Yoga** 5.30am & 6pm. Biannka 0407 634 116  
**Adult Children of Alcoholics and other Dysfunctional Families.** 7B Hort Street, Mareeba (through red gate). Priscilla 0439 080 874

### EVERY TUESDAY

**Tae Kwon Do & Self Defence** 6.30-8pm Kuranda QCWA Hall. Jeff 0437 438 196

### SECOND TUESDAY

**Kuranda SES Training** 7pm sharp at Fallon Road. Paul 0448 008 087  
**She Shed Kuranda** 1-5pm. [kurandaSHeshed@gmail.com](mailto:kurandaSHeshed@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.

### EVERY THURSDAY

**Tae Kwon Do & Self Defence** 6.30-8pm Kuranda QCWA Hall. Jeff 0437 438 196  
**Ashtanga Yoga** 6pm. Biannka 0407 634 116  
**Group Fitness Class** 5.30-6.30pm Kuranda Community Precinct  
**Kuranda Dance: Tribal Bellydance with Lisa.** 6-7pm Kuranda Amphitheatre. 0409 367 967  
**Domestic Violence Help** Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre by appointment 4093 8933

### Kuranda Rangers soccer.

Simone 0402 003 164 for any queries.

### EVERY SECOND THURSDAY OF MONTH

**Kuranda Writers Group** 10am-12noon, Kuranda Library. Rachael 0435 001 156

### EVERY FRIDAY

**Ashtanga Yoga** 6am. Biannka 0407 634 116  
**Kuranda Story Time** 10.30am, Kuranda Library. Every Friday, during school term.  
**She Shed Kuranda** 8am-1pm. [kurandashed@gmail.com](mailto:kurandashed@gmail.com)

### EVERY SECOND FRIDAY

**Trauma Tension Release Exercise Class** 11am Kuranda CWA Hall. Sabine 0415 959 195

### EVERY SATURDAY

**Tree Planting** Kuranda Envirocare 0419 624 940 for details or check website [www.envirocare.org.au](http://www.envirocare.org.au)  
**Men's Shed** Kuranda 8.30am-11.30am. [mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

### THIRD SATURDAY

**Meditation with Horses** 10am Koah. Kaya 0429 756 701

### EVERY SUNDAY

**Social Tennis** 5pm Wednesdays and Sundays at the Kuranda Recreation Centre. Gidi 0448 480 200  
**AA Group** Kuranda QCWA Hall 9.30am 1300 222 222  
**She Shed Kuranda** 1-5pm. [kurandashed@gmail.com](mailto:kurandashed@gmail.com)