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AUSTRALIA

THE KURANDA PAPER

July 2026

35th Anniversary Edition

Issue 388

FREE INDEPENDENT MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1991

WWW.KURANDAPAPER.COM

35th ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 35 FULL YEARS

Although this edition is a milestone one, marking 35 years of publication of The Kuranda Paper, it is nevertheless just one of 388 editions produced since July 1991, and, as always the production team has struggled to fit everything in.

This is a testament to the strength, depth and range of community activity and spirit across the Kuranda region. It also reflects the wonderful creativity our community is famous for, and the 'have a go' mentality which has not only resulted in Kuranda having its own independent, community owned newspaper, but also many other impressive, community-built 'legacy' assets such as the Kuranda Amphitheatre, Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre and a raft of active and ambitious community groups and support services across a wide range of categories.

As *The Kuranda Paper* is, and always has been, a 100% submission based publication (meaning the community makes the community news, no reporters or editors involved) it is also, in a society which can be tough on 'tall poppies', built on the generosity of those brave souls who provide the content we could not do without. Whether it be the letter writers, the story tellers, the artists and photographers who give generously of their art for our mastheads - a different one every edition - each edition is full of local, news, views and aspirations.

So while it might be our birthday, and you will see congratulations sprinkled throughout this edition, the recognition and thanks belong to so many. Too many to mention individually.

First and foremost, thanks go to the legion of volunteers, past and present, who made, and make, the continuing publication of *The Kuranda Paper* possible. Print publication is an extremely expensive exercise and without the hundreds of unpaid volunteer hours so selflessly given every month, *The Kuranda Paper* would struggle.

A message from Toni Rogers, President Kuranda Media Association:

"As we proudly present our 35th Anniversary edition, I want to express my congratulations to every single volunteer who has ever given their time, talent and heart to The Kuranda Paper over these years. This milestone is not just ours to celebrate, it also belongs to you.

Over the decades, you have been the lifeblood of this publication. You have produced editions, folded hundreds of print copies ready for post boxes, in the early hours come rain or shine, delivered bundles, and tended to every detail simply because you believe in keeping our community connected. You have helped preserve the stories that make our community unique. That kind of dedication, given freely and without expectation of reward, is rare and precious.

The Kuranda Paper is a living history built by your hands. From the earliest black-and-white issues to the colourful publication we have today, every edition carries your commitment. Reaching 35 years is no small feat in a changing media world, and it stands as a powerful testament to what people can achieve when they work together.

On behalf of the Kuranda Media Association (KMA) Management Committee, our members, our production team, our readers, our advertisers, our supporters and the entire community, thank you. Thank you for your hours, your patience, your creativity, and your unwavering belief that local stories deserve to be told."

What does the future of The Kuranda Paper look like ?

It looks bright and positive but, as with many long-lived community organisations, we are in need of new hands to pass the baton on to.

Please consider joining us as we head into year 36.

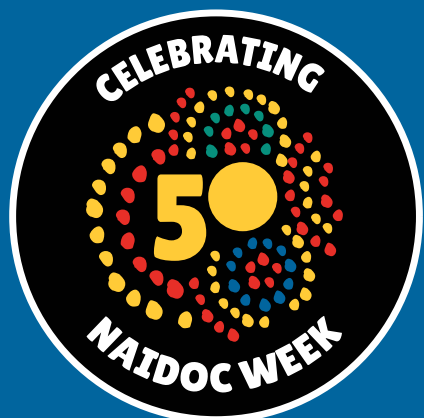
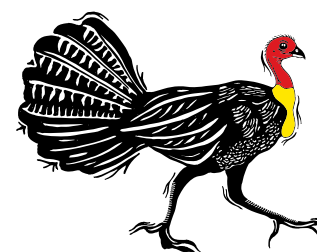
Last but certainly not least, thank you to our advertisers, some of whom have been with us for decades. Paid advertising is our only source of income and it allows us to continue to provide this space for the community to connect and share, and allow us to promote and support local projects, charities and causes free of charge. Local business is community business. Thank you.

On behalf of Mareeba Shire Councillors, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to the Kuranda Media Association for providing an incredible service to the community over the past 35 years.

The Kuranda Paper offers a space for the community to share ideas, collaborate on projects and showcase local businesses and classes. Every month, residents look forward to receiving the paper in their mailbox. Kuranda is a creative hub, surrounded by World Heritage rainforest and is socially supportive through dozens of volunteering and not-for-profit organisations that make the town unique. The team at *The Kuranda Paper* works hard to bring together the stories, projects and aspirations through this invaluable community resource.

Congratulations for reaching this milestone and thank you for your service.

Mayor Angela Toppin AM



NAIDOC WEEK

50 YEARS DEADLY

5-12 JULY 2026

DEADLINES

August

Edition 389/2026

All copy and advertisements
due by 10am

Thursday 23 July

Paper published

Thursday 30 July 2026

Management is not responsible for
any copy missing deadline.



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

We welcome your letters via email or post

ADDRESSING CONCERNS AT SPEEWAH FOLLOWING INCIDENT

My wife and I feel compelled to write this letter to help us get through a very difficult time we are experiencing following the recent fatal accident on the highway near Speewah. School buses from Mareeba managed to get through into Speewah around 3.15pm, but were stuck for several hours, with no indication of how long they would be here.

Children asked in the shop if they could go to the toilet in the Bar and we had to tell them they couldn't. This is because unaccompanied minors are not permitted in a bar, and huge fines are involved, for both us as landlords and the bus driver, had he escorted the kids to the pub's toilet. The driver kindly assembled them onto the bus and took them down to the public toilet for us.

Subsequently, it became obvious there would be a very long wait for the road to clear, so we had to make the decision that the children could use the toilet if needed and if they wanted food, we could accommodate that too. It was our decision, and we would face the consequences.

Many people came off the highway to wait, and while accommodating their refreshment needs, I received phone calls from two concerned parents both asking the same question. At the time I was in four places at once, with around 100 cars outside, and just three of us to man the shop, motel, bar and kitchen (as staff could not get here), while keeping an eye on the kids with all the cars around, making drinks and trying to help Michele make and cook 44 pizzas in 2 hours.

I assured both parents that the children could use the toilet and under the circumstances, could get food if they wanted it. One parent obviously misheard me, and later posted derogatively on social media that they didn't understand my tone and lack of empathy for the children. This was despite the fact I had given exactly the same message to that parent I had to the other, that the children were being looked after as above.

Michael, the bus driver, is nothing short of a champ and has a great rapport with the kids. I let him know that I was letting the kids use the toilet here and they could get food if needed. He passed that on immediately.

In the midst of utter chaos, we got pizzas to the kids, and fed the rest of the people who at different times were eight deep at the counter. We kept the shop open till 7.00pm to give the kids somewhere to be, all the lights were on, they had the area out front with seating and tables under cover.

Some of the people making comments and venting their spleen this time have never even been to the Tavern. Others took the word of an angry person without checking the facts. Many comments bordered on being defamatory. Unfortunately, despite our best endeavours to help everyone on the day, we will now have to live with the dire consequences of one person's totally unjustified blind judgement.

We were on our way back from Cairns that day, but we managed to get through. If we hadn't, the Tavern would have been closed, no toilet, no food. Under the circumstances I think we managed to look after everyone as best we could.

The shark feeding frenzy that was stirred up was so very unjustified and extremely hurtful to Michele and myself. Not

everyone visiting a business has a good experience and there are many reasons why that happens. Many locals know that we have always tried to do what we can for our community and we are ever grateful for the many community members who came to us the next morning to express disbelief at the vitriol thrown our way on social media. If only keyboard warriors knew what dreadful harm such posts inflict on others' mental health. The overwhelming support we received in the aftermath of that post made it worthwhile to get up at 5.30 in the morning and open the shop.

The concerned, angry parent feels it is a shame that we can't make our toilets available to the children all of the time. We put our livelihoods and licence at risk if we do so. We are in a unique situation here where so many children congregate outside a hotel. We suggest concerned parents lobby Council to have the bus stop moved to where the toilet is at the park. We've tried but the only assistance we managed to achieve was to have the toilets monitored and cleaned once a week, instead of whenever Council workers felt like it.

We are more than happy to host a meeting at the Tavern of all concerned parents where we can collaborate on strategies to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

Thanks, Laurie & Michele. Speewah Country Tavern



SUPPORTING A DESERVING REGISTERED CHARITY.

How often have you bought tickets in a charitable art union and regarded it as a donation, never thinking of winning, but with that little hope in the back of your mind? Well after years of 'donating' to one of my charities I won a major prize. Had to sit down after realising the phone message was not a hoax call.

The Rural Fire Brigade Association of Queensland (RFBAQ) runs art unions throughout each year (their only means of funding, along with generous donations). This registered charity has a call centre in Gympie, which employs local people to staff phones. That money stays in Queensland and supports Rural Fire Volunteers and their Brigades, regularly supplies Brigades with equipment bought locally from businesses in that Brigade's town. RFBAQ supports Brigade families in financial difficulties and also after floods and wildfires.

If you get a call from the RFBAQ Gympie Call Centre consider purchasing some tickets. You never know your luck and you will be helping our Queensland Volunteers, who are out there helping their communities.

Yvonne Thomson,
Speewah Rural Fire Brigade Support member
(I no longer attend fires).

*LETTERS CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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.

Advertisement sizes and rates

[width x height in mm]

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

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.

as of 1 July 2025

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

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

(Therwine St), Honey House Kuranda (Therwine St)
KURANDA DISTRICT: Speewah Service Station, Koah Service Station

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

TOLGA: The Humpy

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

SMITHFIELD: Totem Clothing (Smithfield Shopping Centre)

CAIRNS & SMITHFIELD: Libraries



COVER MASTHEAD

Our masthead this month is a detail from an original painting 'Blue Quandongs' by Connie Rovina.

Connie is of KukuThaypan, Cape York, and Widi / Birriah, Central Queensland, ancestral heritage. Her artwork is inspired by both her familial and cultural heritage and the brilliance of Far North Queensland's rainforests and seas.

You can catch up with Connie and many of her original artworks at her

Widiworks Aboriginal Art Gallery,
Shop 6/13 Therwine Street Kuranda (open 10am to 3pm Thursday-Sunday).

www.widiworksaboriginalart.com

Follow Connie on Facebook (WidiWorks Aboriginal Art Gallery)

Instagram @_connie_rovina_

You can also admire Connie's beautiful hand-painted cassowary 'Bundarra', part of the ever growing Cassowary Art Trail, at the Kuranda Heritage Markets

KURANDA POOL SHADE SAIL PROJECT IS GOOD TO GO!

Great news for Kuranda swimmers — summer water temperatures at the Aquatic Centre are set to become much more bearable.

Kuranda Aquatic Centre Upgrade Inc have secured a Gambling Community Benefit Fund grant (\$35,000) to go with the existing TRACQS funding (\$100,000) for the shade-sail build. The extra cash pushes the project over the line, meaning an end to blistering heat and bath-hot water through the Wet.

We are hoping that we can get a start in August and have it up and completed by the end of November. These dates are not set. Getting heavy machinery into the pool area whilst it is very soggy requires patience (where is our dry season?)

This achievement reflects the efforts of many people and organisations across the community. Special thanks go to Lance Starr at TRACQS, without whom the project would not have happened. Thanks also to all of you who showed up with support, opinions and advice.

This has been a genuine community effort from start to finish, and the result will be a more comfortable, usable pool for everyone to enjoy throughout the Wet and beyond.

Watch this space for updates as the project takes shape.



TRACQS
LEADING THE WAY



ORIGINAL MARKETS TRADERS GROUP FORMED

Just over two years ago, a group of traders from the Original Kuranda Markets recognised that by working together they could achieve far more than any individual business could alone. From that vision, the Original Kuranda Markets Association (OKMA) was formed.

Our shared goal is simple: to support the long-term success of the Original Kuranda Markets while contributing to the prosperity and vibrancy of Kuranda as a whole.

One of our first milestones was becoming an incorporated association, providing a strong foundation for future growth and allowing us to seek funding opportunities that benefit our members and the wider community. Since then, we've been busy behind the scenes.

Working collaboratively, the Association has commissioned new market signage to improve the visitor experience, supported members with grant applications, invested in both print and digital advertising, and expanded our online presence through Facebook and Instagram to help showcase the unique businesses that make the Original Kuranda Markets such a special place to visit.

Community and sustainability are also important values for OKMA. This year we joined the Containers for Change program, helping reduce waste while raising funds that can be reinvested into projects that benefit the markets and our visitors.

Creating reasons for people to visit Kuranda has been another major focus. The Association has organised several successful events, including the popular 2025 Twilight Christmas Markets, which brought locals and visitors together to celebrate the festive season in a relaxed village atmosphere. Building on that success, we're now working with community organisations and local businesses to develop even more events that encourage people to



Photo Akasha Mead

experience everything Kuranda has to offer.

Our committee has also represented the markets at networking events across the region, building valuable relationships with tourism organisations, local government and other business groups. These connections help ensure the Original Kuranda Markets remain part of the broader conversation about Kuranda's future as one of Tropical North Queensland's most loved destinations.

While much has been achieved in just two years, we see this as only the beginning. There are many exciting opportunities ahead, and we remain committed to working collaboratively with businesses, community groups and residents to strengthen Kuranda's reputation as a vibrant, welcoming village for both locals and visitors.

We would like to thank our members, volunteers and supporters who have generously contributed their time, ideas and enthusiasm. Community organisations are strongest when people work together, and we're proud of what has already been accomplished through that shared commitment.

As we continue to grow, we look forward to playing our part in helping Kuranda thrive for many years to come.

For information - originalkurandamarketsassoc@gmail.com

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A STRONGER KURANDA

In the Original Rainforest Markets

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Disaster-ready Mareeba Shire



Thanks to funding from the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, Council is boosting disaster awareness and preparedness across our communities.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

In collaboration with Mareeba Community Centre, we hosted a Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness (P-CEP) information session. P-CEP helps make emergency planning more inclusive by matching plans with individual support needs. If you are interested, please contact the Resilience and Disaster team.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

FREE First Aid Training:

Mareeba Shire Council is offering FREE First Aid Training! This Nationally Accredited course, delivered by the Australian Red Cross, will give you the confidence and skills to respond in an emergency.

Training includes:

- HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- HLTAID010 Provide basic emergency life support
- HLTAID011 Provide first aid



Community Guardian

volunteers play a key role in helping their communities better prepare for and recover from disasters

Scan the QR code to learn more and become a **Community Guardian today!**



Scan the QR code for dates, locations and to register!

Fire Workshop Registration

With the wet season ending, fire is now our focus. Council is seeking registrations from landholders of properties sized 5 acres or more, who may be interested in participating in a fire workshop offering tailored fire management planning, expert advice and practical strategies to reduce bushfire risk and protect critical assets. Presented by Leasie Felderhof from Firescape Science.

Register via the QR code or visit Mareeba Shire Council's website.

The workshop will be on Thursday, 6 August 2026 at the Mareeba International Club.



Visit Mareeba Shire Council's Emergency Management Dashboard for up-to-date information, contacts and more: emergency.msc.qld.gov.au

Keep an eye out for upcoming:

- Community training opportunities
- Come and see us at local markets throughout July



Australian Government



Queensland Government

Jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

1300 308 461 | disastermanagement@msc.qld.gov.au

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0407 028 388



Ms Bree James MP
State Member for Barron River

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



Councillor Column

At the June Council Meeting, Mareeba Shire Council awarded the Kerbside Collection Services contract in JJ Richards & Sons and discussed the results of the Waste Survey conducted earlier this year.

The survey sought community feedback on introducing fortnightly kerbside recycling and garden organics collection.

Kerbside waste collection remains one of Council's most important essential services, providing weekly general household waste collection as well as servicing Council facilities and the waste transfer station network across the Shire.

Council conducted a community survey in March and April this year, which received 1,094 responses with 90% of the surveys submitted by property owners.

Results showed:

- 55.1% of participants were likely to use a kerbside recycling service, however 71.8% were not willing or able to pay for it.
- 32% were likely to use a Garden Organics service, with 85.6% not willing or able to pay.

Council has made a balanced assessment based on financial and operational feasibility, long-term community interests and community feedback when considering whether to introduce the new services.

We recognise that while many residents support recycling, the survey highlighted concerns regarding affordability and cost-of-living pressures.

By introducing additional kerbside collection services, this would have cost at a minimum \$144 per year for recycling and \$88.50 annually for garden organics.

We will not be introducing kerbside recycling or garden organics services at this time and continue to encourage recycling using existing facilities, for example the recycling station including a Containers for Change bag drop near the end of Arara Street, just past the Kuranda Library, and the Kuranda Transfer Station.

The survey confirmed residents actively use existing waste services, including transfer stations, the Mareeba Buy Back Shop, Containers for Change bag drops, and free recycling options for materials such as cardboard, metals and batteries.

Thank you for participating in the survey. Community feedback plays a vital role in informing future service planning and decision-making.

Cr Ross Cardillo

0417 757 142

PO Box 154 Mareeba QLD 4880

RossC@msc.qld.gov.au

A big congratulations to *The Kuranda Paper* on its 35th birthday edition, an incredible milestone for a publication that plays such an important role in our community.

It's been a very busy month, with several Ministers visiting the region, including the Minister for Transport and Main Roads. During his visit, we inspected the 'Skate Bowl' site on the Kuranda Range to see firsthand the extent of the work underway. I've shared a short video from the visit on my Facebook page if you'd like to learn more.

Recently we released the State Budget, and I'm pleased to share that Far North Queensland will continue to receive significant investment across health, housing, infrastructure, education and more. Many of the projects I have been advocating for will now proceed or receive continued funding, including the new Cairns Airport city bus service, upgrades to the Cairns Western Arterial Road, Kuranda Range upgrades, Captain Cook Highway, and more.

Another exciting announcement in this year's Budget is funding for sports facility upgrades at Kuranda District State College. I look forward to seeing this project take shape.

I would also like to congratulate the Kuranda Aquatic Centre on securing funding through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to upgrade their facilities. This is a fantastic outcome for the club and the wider community, supporting local sport, youth development, and keeping Kuranda active and connected, a well-deserved result for everyone involved.

I am pleased to see continued strong investment in major infrastructure across Far North Queensland. No one likes roadworks, but everyone wants better roads that are safer and built for the traffic they carry. And the reality is, you don't get one without the other.

Please don't listen to the misinformation about the Cairns Western Arterial Road and the Barron River Bridge. These projects are in the budget but as the contract has not yet been awarded, no project cost is included in QTRIP (Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program). Unlike the previous Labor approach, we do not go to market with a predetermined figure. Instead, this Government takes the project to market and invites competitive bids from industry, ensuring value for money for Queensland. Funding for the project has been allocated within the budget, and the final cost will be confirmed once a contractor has been appointed. This road will be fast tracked for delivery and complete by the 2032 Olympics.

A final key benefit for local households in Kuranda and across our region is a reduction in electricity costs, with a 6.9 per cent decrease for Ergon customers helping to ease pressure on family budgets, alongside a 7.9 per cent decrease for small businesses. This is in addition to ongoing cost-of-living support, including the Back-to-School Boost and our \$200 Play On! vouchers.

Until next month,

Bree James MP

07 4229 0100 | Barron.River@parliament.qld.gov.au
Tenancy 2.2, 2 Chelsea Lane, Redlynch QLD 4870

MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL - COMMUNITY UPDATE



Australian Citizenship Ceremony



In June, we welcomed 14 of Mareeba Shire's newest Australian citizens from Brazil, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Vietnam.

The ceremony was extra special as it was held during Refugee Week.

Special Council Meeting - 9am, 15 July 2026

A Special Council Meeting to adopt the 2026/27 Financial Budget will be held on Wednesday, 15 July 2026, commencing at 9am at 65 Rankin Street, Mareeba. The Ordinary Council Meeting will follow. The public are welcome to attend.

Did you know you can receive your rates notice via email?

Help reduce your waste footprint and sign up to receive your rates notice via email! Scan the QR code to sign up. You will need the eNotices registration number from your most recent rate notice to be able to register.



Manual Water Meter Reads - 1 to 16 July 2026

Manual meter readings will be conducted by external contractors on properties with failed water meters from 1 to 16 July 2026. To help the team complete this process efficiently and minimise the need for return visits, we kindly ask that you:

- Restrain dogs away from the meter area
- Clear any foliage or obstructions around your meter
- Leave gates unlocked where possible

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and will help ensure readings can be completed safely and promptly.

Containers for Change Bagdrop



Drink containers are one of the most common items found in litter. When you return yours through Containers for Change, you are giving those containers a brand-new life – plus, you will get 10-cents back for each one!

The bag drop is located at the end of Arara Street, Kuranda.

Residents can bag, tag and drop their recycling here to cash in on their containers or donate to a charity registered with Containers for Change.

Kuranda Library Story Time

Join us for weekly story time sessions designed to spark children's imaginations at the Kuranda Library!

Every Friday
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

For more information call Kuranda Library: 4093 9185



Office Closures

All Council Customer Service Centres and Libraries will be closed from 12.30pm Wednesday, 15 July and all day Friday, 17 July 2026 for the Cairns Show Holiday.

The After-Hours Customer Service Centre is available to assist with urgent enquiries by phoning 1300 308 461.

PLANNING AN EVENT? Let the community know and add it to Council's event calendar!

Council's event calendar is the place to go to find out what is happening across the Shire. It is a space where the community can share upcoming events. It's quick, easy and free to add your event to the calendar, scan the QR code to add your event today!





Message from Matt Your Member for Leichhardt

June was another whirlwind month in the Far North and I'm always excited to share with you what's been going on. We've made huge strides with infrastructure across Leichhardt, most recently when Minister Catherine King joined me in Cairns to announce that expressions of interest are now open for the Maritime Common User Facility.

Working with the Queensland Government, we have committed a total of \$387 million, with expressions also open to private investors to come to the table, and join us to deliver for the region.

This is a project that was a cornerstone of my election campaign and it's very exciting to see it progress to the next stage. I have stated repeatedly what an important and significant piece of infrastructure the Common User Facility will be for the growth and future security of Cairns: it will bring jobs, trades, and families to the Far North and a huge potential for expansion of our great city. We anticipate a creation of 4,600 jobs supported by the Cairns maritime industry. Those families will be able to work in Portsmith, build new homes in the Southern Corridor, and their children will be able to study further education at CQU or JCU. It's about diversifying our region, meaning more security, when tourism takes a hit.

CQUniversity has also reached another milestone, as we saw Cairns Regional Council vote to approve the development application for the new CQU Campus, right in the middle of Cairns, near the Convention Centre. The federal government committed \$77.5 million towards the construction of this new educational hub which aims to deliver on-campus attendance, flexible and remote learning for more than 50 course offerings such as nursing, medical imaging, engineering, paramedics, physiotherapy, digital media and education.

This is part of a holistic and ambitious plan for our region - we've already announced the infrastructure funding for thousands of new homes to be unlocked in the Southern Access Corridor of Mount Peter, and the recently announced expansion of the Cairns Western Arterial Road will enable greater numbers of commuters to reach their destination safely and on-time.

It's well known that students tend to work and stay in the towns they graduate in, and by investing in these pillars of our society we are also investing in future generations of families that live, work and thrive in Far North Queensland.

We are expanding our city's economic profile beyond tourism: these projects further solidify all of the Far North as Australia's brightest hope for the future. Thank you for being part of it, it makes me immensely proud to represent our region and all the people that live here.

Until next time, look after one another, and I'll look forward to catching up again soon.

07 4051 2220 | 200 Mulgrave Road, Westcourt
matt.smith.mp@aph.gov.au | Matt Smith MP on Facebook and Instagram



Chez Coco

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INSTAGRAM



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KURANDA BRANCH

20 Thongon Street

Email: kurandabbranch@qcwa.org.au

Booking Agent: Krishna Buhler 0427 937 348

President: Carol Jeanes

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



The Kuranda QCWA Hall Upgrade.

*'Delivering for Queensland' grant
- for restoration and upgrades.*

Last year Kuranda CWA was grateful to received notification from the Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety regarding Kuranda Hall receiving part of the \$2 million allocated to Far North Qld to upgrade various Halls in the region including Koah and Kuranda CWA.

Mareeba Shire Council's department of Community Well Being assisted last year with assessing the grant application costings with consideration for under Hall stumps area restoration, containment of water runoff, rear Hall disability access and carpark safety.

Mareeba Shire Council will be managing the works around the CWA Hall starting in July, to be completed by November 2026.

Kuranda CWA AGM July 29 9.30am.

Why not become a member? Look up QCWA online to find out more. Our hope as volunteers is to continue offering a safe place to meet and provide innovative, engaging activities.

AVAILABILITY;

The Kuranda CWA Hall is a volunteer-managed venue close to the village, with a large safe space, air conditioning, kitchen, toilets, furniture, disability access and parking. Professionally cleaned and flexible hire times.

We currently have availability Monday 9am-5pm, Tuesdays 10.30am-5pm, Wednesdays mostly free until 4pm, Thursdays 11-4pm, some spaces available Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

*Please enquire via email address as bookings can change:
kurandabbranch@qcwa.org.au*

WHAT'S ON AT THE CWA HALL?

CWA CRAFT GROUP 'CRAFTS OF YOUR CHOICE' with morning tea. Fridays 10 & 24 July - 10.30am-12.30pm. Contact Trish Maude 0417050911

CWA MONTHLY MEMBERS' MEETING
Wednesday 8 July - 9am. ALL Welcome. Contact via email.

CWA DANCE GROUP Tuesday mornings 9am - 10am
Contact Sandra 0447 737 415

CWA SODALITY - beautiful creative activities
Sunday 19 July - 4-6pm. Phone Holly, 0494369462.

Contact the following PRIVATE GROUPS or any enquiries regarding their activities:

Taekwon-Do - Jeff Dieben 0437 438 196

Vinyasa Yoga - Valentina 0439 287 403

Gentle Flow Yoga & Sound Healing
- Kylie Arantz 0400 781 607

Kuranda Life Drawing - Theo Tremblay 0415127089.

MaGiCS Dance Group Denver 0451949740

Eckanker AU. Faith Group 0452544490

Chakradance Freedom Workshops
Suzanne Masters 0488333126. Begins 19 July

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



*Local service for Kuranda and
'Top of the Range' residents*

TOP HANDY HELP

Call Dominic

0478 782 371

tophandyhelp@gmail.com

TopHandyHelp

**"I WILL ALWAYS LEAVE YOUR
RESIDENCE CLEAN AND TIDY"**

- Pressure washing driveways
- Paths & decks etc (high power pump)
- Exterior surface cleaning
- Wall washing & mould removal
- Chainsaw work, tree pruning & low risk tree felling
- Brush-cutting, gardening & vegetation clearing
- Roof, gutter & solar panel cleaning
- General maintenance repairs
- Basic plumbing
- Fencing
- Roof repairs, re-screws & leak sealing



The Kuranda Amphitheatre has always been one of those places where community happens naturally. It's a place where people gather to create, connect, share stories and celebrate together.

June was a huge month for the Amphitheatre, with our pilot Kuranda Eco Arts Festival bringing the space to life with music, markets, workshops, environmental conversations, art installations and plenty of smiling faces. It was wonderful to see hundreds of people enjoying the terraces, children immersed in hands-on activities and our community coming together in such a beautiful and positive way.

The Festival simply wouldn't have happened without an army of volunteers, performers, artists, stallholders and supporters who gave their time, energy and passion to make the day possible. To every person who lent a hand, THANK YOU. We also want to extend a massive thank you to the Mareeba Shire Council for not only supporting the Festival through the Community Partnerships Pathway Program, but also through the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF), which enabled us to engage and pay local artists and performers. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and local government to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland. The support of both programs helped transform a big community idea into a reality. As the Amphitheatre edges closer to its 50th year, events like the Eco Arts Festival remind us just how special this little patch of rainforest really is and how much can be achieved when community comes together.

WHAT'S ON AT THE AMPHITHEATRE ~ JULY

- **Brackets & Jam – Saturday 4 July**
A night of pre-booked performance brackets followed by a good old-fashioned jam session. Musicians, poets, comedians and storytellers are all welcome. To book a bracket, email Pix: theman@pixrecords.com.
- **Ngoonbi NAIDOC Talent Quest – Monday 6 July**
5:00pm–8:00pm
Come along and celebrate local talent, culture and community as performers take to the stage for an evening of music, dance and entertainment.
- **BULURRU: Story, Song & Film – Saturday 11 July**
FREE Community Event
Presented by Desert Pea Media, Djabugay and Youth Link, BULURRU will bring together storytelling, music and film in a powerful community celebration of culture, creativity and connection.
- **Sunday 12 July | Kuranda Community Markets**
Come wander the stalls, grab a bite to eat, enjoy a coffee and support local makers, growers and creatives. Interested in having a stall? Contact Wasana on 0402 130 225.
- **K.A.S.T Theatre – Every Wednesday FREE**
K.A.S.T Kids | 4:00–5:00pm
Kids KAST is taking a well-earned break over the school holidays and will return in the first week of Term 3 with an exciting new project to explore.
K.A.S.T Adults | 5:30 onwards
Adults KAST is continuing throughout the holidays as the BLUE cabaret keeps evolving. More blues-minded folk are warmly welcomed at any session, whether you'd like to perform, help create, play music, or simply come along and see what all the fuss is about.

BE PART OF THE AMPHITHEATRE

The Amphitheatre has always been shaped by the people who show up, and that's still very much the case. Whether it's attending an event, volunteering, pulling a few weeds, performing on stage or making a donation, it all helps keep this unique community venue alive and thriving.

Thank you to everyone who continues to play, perform, volunteer, hire the space and support the Amphitheatre. It's your shared effort, creativity and community spirit that keeps this magical little venue humming along.

We're excited to share that you can now donate directly to the Amphitheatre through our website. Every dollar, big or small, goes straight back into keeping this magical little patch of rainforest alive. Supporting maintenance, community events, local artists and creating spaces where people can come together. As a registered charity, all donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

See you on the dance floor soon.
One love Kuranda

Kuranda Amphitheatre Society Committee




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



Photo Djaburray

CAN YOU HELP SEND DJAWARRAY AND MAYI WUNBA TO BIG SOUND?

Just weeks after being named Queensland Regional Artist of the Year at the Queensland Music Awards, and following the release of his award-winning album *Magayin* and the official *Wulman Wulman* music video, Djaburray has received another major honour, securing a place at BIGSOUND 2026, Australia's premier music industry gathering.

The Far North Queensland artist and his band will be joined by five members of the Mayi Wunba Dance Troupe, taking a unique cultural showcase of music, dance, language, and storytelling to Brisbane this September.

Held annually in Fortitude Valley, BIGSOUND attracts some of the most influential figures in the Australian and international music industries, including booking agents, festival programmers, record labels, managers, media representatives, and industry professionals. It is recognised as one of Australia's leading platforms for discovering new music and creating career opportunities.

For Djaburray and Mayi Wunba, the invitation represents an opportunity to share First Nations culture with industry leaders and audiences from across the country and beyond. Their performance will showcase the richness of Djabugay culture through contemporary music, traditional dance, language, and storytelling, highlighting the unique creative talent emerging from Far North Queensland.

While the selection is a significant honour, participation also comes with considerable financial and logistical challenges. Travel, accommodation, costumes, and production costs must all be covered to present the performance at the highest standard. With only limited financial assistance available, support from the community will help make this opportunity possible.

Despite the challenges, the opportunity to represent community, culture, and Country on one of Australia's most respected music industry stages is one the group is proud to embrace, carrying the stories and spirit of Far North Queensland to a national audience.

Curious to know what is bringing the recognition and awards? *Magayin* CDs are available at BGI'ded Kuranda and Djaburray on the usual streaming apps. Treat your ears.

**With gratitude,
Djaburray & Mayi
Wunba Dance Troupe**



 Scan to donate to Bertie Riley's fundraiser
 "Help Djaburray & Mayi Wunba Take Culture to
 BIGSOUND 2026"



**BIGSOUND 100 ARTIST
 Djaburray and
 Mayi Wunba
 Dancers**

CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK 2026
5TH - 12TH JULY 2026
THEME: 50 YEARS OF DEADLY
CELEBRATIONS ACROSS KURANDA (NGUNBAY), AND CAIRNS (GIMUY) (GHMUY) COUNTRY

MONDAY 6TH JULY
NAIDOC TALENT QUEST
 Kuranda Amphitheatre – Top Pavilion –
 5:00pm – 8:00pm
Supper Provided
CATEGORIES: SONG & MUSIC, DANCE, POETRY & SPOKEN WORD, STORYTELLING & YARN, VISUAL ARTS, LIVE PIECE, OPEN TALENT

TUESDAY 7TH JULY
ELDERS NAIDOC LUNCHEON
 Ngoonbi Respite Centre
 10:00am – 2:00pm
 A day to honour, connect and celebrate our Elders.
Everyone Welcome!
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
 JOHN MORIARTY FOUNDATION SPORTS DAY
 Cairns Esplanade
 11:00am – 2:00pm
 Bus Transport Available

WEDNESDAY 8TH JULY
DJABUGAY DEADLY DAYTIME EVENT
 Centenary Park, Kuranda
 12:00pm
EDOR CARNIVAL FOR THE COMMUNITY
 Cairns Tigers Sports Club
 9:00am – 3:00pm
 Bus Transport Available

THURSDAY 9TH JULY
KURANDA NAIDOC CULTURAL FAMILY DAY AT NYAWARRI PARK
 9:45am NAIDOC March departing from Ngoonbi Office, 40 Coondoo Street
 10:00am – 2:00pm
 Live Music & Dance Performances
 Cultural Activities & Games
 Community Service Stalls
 BBQ Lunch Provided
 Bus Transport Available
 Departing Kowrowa 8:30am, Mantaka 8:50am, Kuranda 9:00am
 Bus returning 3pm

FRIDAY 10TH JULY
CIAF DAY OUT
 Cairns Indigenous Art Fair
THEME: RECLAMATION & REGENERATION
 Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns
 Provide own lunch
 Bus Transport Available
 Departing Kowrowa 8:30am, Mantaka 8:50am, Kuranda 9:00am
 Bus returning 3pm

SATURDAY 11TH JULY
DJABUGAY DEADLY EVENING EVENT
 Kuranda Amphitheatre
 4:30pm
 Live Performances
 Cultural Showcase
 Community Celebration
 Bus transport available
 Contact Chloe Richards: 07 4093 83116

TUESDAY 14TH JULY
KURANDA DISTRICT STATE COLLEGE NAIDOC CELEBRATION & OFFICIAL OPENING
 Secondary Campus
 9:15am sign in
 Activities & Morning Tea Included

WE PROUDLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE DJABUGAY AND BULUWAI PEOPLES OF KURANDA
 Traditional Custodians of the lands on which these celebrations take place.
 WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO ELDERS PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING.
Everyone Welcome!

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www.kurandaartscoop.com

The artists and members of the Kuranda Arts Co-operative would like to congratulate The Kuranda Paper on 35 years of keeping our community informed and supporting the Arts Co-op and its members for nearly 30 years.

Calling All Local Creatives:

Elevate Your Craft by joining the Kuranda Arts Co-operative!

Are you an artist, artisan or maker, living in the Kuranda region? Do you have a studio full of stunning creations but find yourself wishing for a stronger community, better retail exposure, or simply a group of fellow creatives to bounce ideas off?

Your artistic community is calling! The Kuranda Arts Co-operative is inviting artists to be a part of our growing, vibrant collective.

Why Join the Co-op?

Being an artist can sometimes feel like a solitary pursuit, but it doesn't have to be. For nearly 30 years, the Kuranda Arts Co-operative has been a cornerstone of our local creative community, run by artists, for artists.

As a member, you don't just get a place to display your work; you gain a support system. Benefits of joining include:

- Gallery representation: Showcase and sell your work in our prominent, high-traffic local gallery space and through social media.
- Community and Networking: Connect with other local painters, sculptors, jewellers, ceramicists, and textile artists.
- Shared knowledge: Gain insights into marketing your art, pricing your work, and participating in exhibitions.
- Exhibitions: Participate in art exhibitions hosted by the Kuranda Arts Co-operative.

To find out about how it all works, the roster commitments, membership benefits, obligations, selection criteria, and commission structures, just drop us an email at artskuranda@gmail.com or phone 40939026 to make a time to meet with one of the committee members.

Let's keep Kuranda's creative heart beating strong—together.

World Handcraft Day

On 10 June annually, World Handicraft Day is celebrated worldwide. It honours the skill, heritage, and creativity of global artisans while commemorating the first international conference on handicrafts in 1964, where the World Crafts Council was established.

For generations, women have preserved traditions through weaving, sewing, embroidery, basketry, and countless other forms of craftsmanship. Yet handmade work is also much more than heritage—it is a powerful pathway to economic empowerment. Traditional crafts play a particularly important role in creating opportunities for women and young people and strengthening local communities.

UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) has long recognised that women artisans are not only custodians of cultural heritage but also drivers of economic resilience. Across the world, communities and women-led craft enterprises improve household incomes, support education and health, and create opportunities for future generations.

At the Kuranda Arts Co-operative, we see and share this impact every day. Two members, Marcia Bird and Toni Rogers, have been weaving baskets, holding workshops and exhibiting together for over 26 years. Examples of their work are displayed in the Kuranda Arts Co-operative gallery.



Toni & Marcia weaving. Photo supplied

Stuck for ideas for a present?

We have Gift Vouchers available at the Gallery, which make a great present for an art lover.

Our profile artist this month is Robyn King, textile artist and painter.

Can you describe your artistic style? What is your preferred medium, and why?
 My art practice is varied. I paint on fabric, watercolour, acrylic on canvas, drawing on paper and embroidery. I have no preferred medium, just dabble in anything to hand.

What motivates you as an artist?

My motivation is sporadic at best. I find the necessity to paint for the Arts Co-operative usually gets me inspired for a while, then it's back on the couch reading.

Describe the best piece of art you have created?

The piece I consider my best work is an acrylic, mixed media painting on canvas that I gifted to a friend, and whenever I visit her it gives me great pleasure to see it.

What artists inspire you and where do you find inspiration?

I am inspired by John Wolesley, Fred Williams and Howard Arkley to name a few.

How do you learn new skills and/or techniques?

I like to visit galleries and see other artists' work. I would like my work to be more expressive and freer, that is something I am working on.

What has been the most challenging and rewarding part of being an artist?

The weather is the most challenging thing for my fabric painting. The humidity tends to make the paint unruly.

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

Reading is a great pleasure, I like to garden and go bush.

Can you describe your studio/workspace and your favourite time of day to create?

I have several spaces for working. A multipurpose shed for fabric painting, a corner desk for watercolour and painting on canvas, and the couch for embroidery.

What is your favourite tool that you can't do without?

Good brushes.

Do you think art is important in society?

Music, painting, acting and dance are all necessary for our wellbeing.



Embroidery and watercolour artworks by Robyn King

Robyn at the Arts co-op. Photos supplied

LIFE DRAWING AT THE KURANDA CWA HALL

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

- 5 JULY 1-3pm
- 2 AUGUST 1-3pm
- 6 SEPTEMBER 1-3pm

Kuranda Art Co-op offers life drawing at CWA Hall on the first Sunday of each month, corner of Thongon and Barang Streets, Kuranda Village. Sessions are from 1-3pm

WHAT TO BRING, WHAT TO EXPECT:

Tables and chairs are provided. Artists provide their own drawing materials, boards clips and easels. Arrive 15 minutes early to set up. A series of short warm-up poses starting at 1pm followed by 10-to-20-minute poses with two short breaks for socialising and critical discussion.

Cost: \$15 No booking necessary.
 (cost contributes towards model & rent)

For further information - Theo Tremblay, Convenor: 0415 127 089 | the.pal@bigpond.com



Study by Clive Williams

Got a creative idea for Mareeba Shire?

The RADF Community Grant Round is open now!

Up to \$10,000 is available to fund local arts, culture & heritage events or projects.

Apply Today!

Visit Council's website for more information.



Applications close
 Monday, 31 August 2026

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





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Angela Martin
 estate agent | video presenter | auctioneer



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

Winter has arrived in the Tropical North, and with it comes one of our busiest and most exciting periods of the year.

Over the school holidays, Kuranda's streets, attractions and cafes have welcomed a steady stream of families exploring the rainforest, discovering local wildlife and enjoying everything our village has to offer. While much of the industry entered winter with cautious optimism, the holiday period has provided a welcome reminder of why the Tropical North remains one of Australia's most sought-after destinations.

Adding to that momentum is the Queensland Government's new \$100 tourism voucher initiative, designed to encourage more Queensland families to explore their own backyard. For many local attractions and tourism operators, these vouchers have the potential to convert interest into bookings and provide an additional boost during the peak travel season. It's a simple reminder that sometimes a little encouragement can go a long way in helping families create lasting holiday memories.

Behind the scenes, Mareeba Shire Tourism is preparing to launch the new **"Inspired by the Rainforest"** campaign, celebrating the people, creativity and stories that make Kuranda unlike anywhere else. The campaign encourages visitors to stay a little longer, explore a little deeper and connect with the personalities behind our businesses, galleries, attractions and experiences. If you're a local operator, now is the perfect time to share your story. Whether it's a favourite local spot, the inspiration behind your business or a behind-the-scenes glimpse into what you do, every story helps build a stronger picture of Kuranda and reminds visitors that some of our best experiences begin with a conversation.

We're also looking forward to the many NAIDOC Week celebrations taking place across the region this month. This year's theme, "50 Years of Deadly", celebrates five decades of culture, community, resilience and leadership, recognising the Elders, artists, organisers and communities who have shaped the movement over the past fifty years. NAIDOC events bring people together, create meaningful cultural experiences and attract visitors into our region, providing another welcome boost for local businesses and the broader visitor economy.

Inspired By The Rainforest How You Can Get Involved

Over the coming weeks, Mareeba Shire Tourism will be rolling out our new Inspired by the Rainforest campaign, celebrating the people, stories and creative spirit that make Kuranda unlike anywhere else.

The campaign encourages visitors to stay longer and explore a little deeper. Rather than simply ticking Kuranda off the list, we're inviting travellers to wander the village, step inside local businesses, meet the makers, hear their stories and discover the people behind the experiences.

As a local business, we'd love your help amplifying this message.

What the Campaign Will Include

The Inspired by the Rainforest campaign will be delivered across multiple channels to showcase Kuranda's creative community and encourage visitors to spend more time exploring the village. Campaign activity will include:

- A series of short-form video interviews featuring local artists, makers and creatives, shared organically across Mareeba Shire Tourism and Kuranda Village social media channels
- Paid Meta and TikTok advertising targeting audiences outside the region to build awareness and inspire visitation
- Website articles and blog content profiling local creatives and encouraging visitors to discover a different side of Kuranda
- Ongoing resharing of partner content that aligns with the campaign messaging

By working together and sharing authentic stories, we can showcase the depth, creativity and character of Kuranda and inspire visitors to stay longer, explore deeper and connect with our community.

The Story We Want to Tell

Kuranda isn't just somewhere you visit, it's somewhere you connect. Visitors are looking for authentic experiences, local knowledge and genuine interactions. They want to meet the artist, chat with the maker, hear the story behind the business and discover what makes this rainforest village so special.

We're encouraging operators to focus on storytelling, personality and connection rather than promotions or sales messages.

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to attend the My Queensland TNQ Tourism Conference in Cairns. One message stood out above all others: destinations that work together win together. Whether it's embracing new technology, sharing stories more effectively, or creating stronger visitor experiences, collaboration continues to be one of the most powerful tools available to small tourism businesses.

Finally, the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre is still seeking two volunteers to join our team on Tuesday afternoons and Saturday afternoons from 1pm to 4pm. If you've ever wanted to share your local knowledge, meet people from around the world and become part of a fantastic community of volunteers, we'd love to hear from you.

Before we know it, one of the biggest weekends on the Mareeba calendar will be here. The Mareeba Rodeo and Festival returns on 10 and 11 July, bringing competitors, spectators and visitors from across the country. It's an event that captures the spirit of the region perfectly and one we look forward to welcoming visitors to each year. The Irvinebank Festival follows on 31 July.

As always, every visitor who chooses to stop in Kuranda, stay a little longer, and explore a little deeper helps support the businesses, attractions and people who make our community so special.

Simone Van Der Zwaag,
 Manager, Kuranda Visitor Information Centre

Content Ideas You Can Share

Introduce Yourself
 Create a simple video introducing yourself and your business. For example:

"Hi, I'm Sarah from XYZ Gallery. I've been part of the Kuranda community for 15 years. One of my favourite things about living here is meeting visitors from all over the world and sharing this special part of the rainforest with them. If you're visiting Kuranda soon, stop in and say hello."

Show Visitors Around
 Create a voiceover reel showing visitors what they can experience when they visit your space. Examples:

- Your workshop or creative process
- A behind-the-scenes look at your business
- Your favourite corner of the village
- What a typical day looks like
- The story behind a product or artwork
- What inspires your work

Share Your Kuranda
 Tell visitors:
 • How you came to live in Kuranda
 • What inspires you about the rainforest
 • Your favourite local spots
 • Hidden gems visitors shouldn't miss
 • What makes Kuranda different from anywhere else

Messaging Suggestions
 Consider using phrases such as:
 • Discover a different side of Kuranda
 • Stay a little longer
 • Explore a little deeper
 • There's more to Kuranda than you expect
 • Some of Kuranda's best experiences begin with a conversation
 • Wander, discover and connect
 • The rainforest creates differently here

Help Us Share Your Story
 When posting campaign-related content, please tag: @visitmareebashire & @kurandavillage
 This allows us to reshare your content and help amplify your story across our channels.

Most importantly, we encourage you to share genuine, story-led content that helps visitors connect with the people behind Kuranda. Showcase the experiences, personalities and stories that inspire visitors to spend the day wandering, discovering and connecting with our village.

If you'd like to discuss content ideas or run something past us, please contact Shannon at: marketing@mareebashiretourism.org



KURANDA TO MAREEBA RAILWAY LINE FALLS INTO NEGLECT

I feel compelled to share images I took of the current state of the railway line between Kuranda and Mareeba - closed in 2025 following damage caused by flooding after Cyclone Jasper in December 2023. In 2025, the Network Operator (Queensland Rail) reported to the Savannahlander that there was damage to the railway line between Kuranda and Mareeba, and as a result, that section would be closed for repairs - "anticipated to take approximately six months to complete".



I feel that the need to re-open the line is being ignored by those responsible for this vital infrastructure. And many people will not be aware of the effect a few years of neglect is having on this section of the line.

I personally believe the lack of political will to address the problem and the effect on the Savannahlander and its operations in the last few years has been one of the worst things to happen to the communities along the affected sections of track since the shut down of 'The Last Great Train Ride' which the Savannahlander replaced. The Savannahlander has just been crowned the best tourist attraction in Queensland, yet it is currently limited to round trips from Mareeba and the breathtaking section from the coast, up the range and through Kuranda to Mareeba has been lost to it.

There are a number of bridges which require repair in order for the entire line to open back up and keep its potential not only for tourism but also freight, even local transport? I believe it is an investment worth making to keep alive what so much effort and money built over more than a hundred years.

'The Australian Trainspotter' (images shared 21 June on Facebook)

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The ANZAC Alliance - Conclusion

In the May edition of *The Kuranda Paper*, I wrote a short story called 'An ANZAC Alliance'. This fictitious story struck up some interesting comments from friends about Freudian themes and Feminist subplots – all of which was news to me! But the most common comment regarded the cliff hanging end and most asked what happened next. Many thanks to those who gave me feedback, and in response to their requests, I have written a conclusion to the story published in this edition.

If you missed the first part, it's in the May 2026 edition on the *Kuranda Paper* website

Malcolm Frost, Speewah.

In the first part of this story set in England during WWII, a bomb with a delayed fuse lands in a hospital storeroom. Joe, a member of the Bomb Disposal Unit is a patient at the hospital being treated for shrapnel wounds in his back. As the hospital is evacuated, he inspects the bomb and is discovered by Tilly, a Kiwi ambulance driver doing a final check. After some lively and sometimes prickly banter, Joe sees a possible but extremely dangerous way to stop the bomb from ticking. Joe tells Tilly to leave and meet him at the pub later. She refuses, explaining he cannot do the task alone in his injured state. Joe reluctantly concedes on the condition he shouts for the beers at the pub after :

The explosion blew the side of the building onto the courtyard, peppering the street with broken red brick. The steeply pitched roof of Welsh tiles erupted sending shards skywards like blue-grey confetti. A yellowish fog of burnt explosives and dust drifted across the courtyard. The stench of burnt sulphur and vaporised metal caught in the throats of those first on the scene.

Mr Barrick, the Air Raid Protections Warden, was blown off his feet and sent sprawling onto the bitumen. A flying shard of brick sliced his ear and sent his tin helmet clattering against a wall. He lay motionless for some time and the first to arrive feared he was dead, but he slowly got to his hands and knees and whispered that he was only wounded. Blood from his ear dripped down the collar of his dark blue uniform. He had the ominous feeling that he had made a terrible mistake.

"Anyone hurt?" he breathed as he rose unsteadily to his feet, pushing away the helping hand of Mr Allinson, the local baker.

"Only you, it seems." The baker cleared his throat and stared at the gaping hole in the hospital. Through the clearing smoke he could see the large void that was once the storeroom and surrounding wards. Anyone inside would have had no chance. "I turned the power off like you ordered and the whole bleedin' lot went up."

"It's regulations," the Warden replied defensively. "All gas and electricity connections to bomb damaged buildings must be cut as soon as possible," he quoted. The bellowing voice that had earned him the nickname 'Barking Barrick' was gone, replaced by a lifeless quaver. He brushed down his uniform and eyed the devastation and blanched inwardly recalling the brief conversation with the man in pyjamas who was accompanied by a young woman who was too cocky for his liking. Mr Barrick was not accustomed to being told what to do on his patch.

Half an hour earlier, the last of the gravely ill and injured had been transferred by ambulance to the next town. There had been wholehearted support for the suggestion that the more able should wait in the warmth of the pub down the street. The Crafty Rabbit was a small establishment squeezed between Wilson's Drapery and Allinson's Bakery. Its dim interior was warmed by a fireplace that faced the entrance. The low oak beams of the ceiling bowed down as though drawn to centuries of gossip and laughter. The smiling publican cast his eye around his pyjama clad clientele and quipped that he might have more fancy-dress days in the future.

Two people sat at a small round table near the fire. The favoured spot had been graciously given to the pair as they arrived behind the last of the evacuees. Joe, still in his pyjamas and tightly wrapped blanket, shivered and sipped quietly at his beer. Two more full glasses were in front of him. Tilly had a beer in her hand, and two glasses of sherry had been placed on the table by appreciative patrons. Word had spread quickly about their remarkable effort to stop the bomb from detonating. Their courage and innovation inflated with every telling, and they were rewarded in the traditional manner.

"Seems you didn't have to shout after all."

Her tone was mocking and her right eyebrow rose above a sparkling eye loaded with mischief. Joe pondered if the expression was endearing or annoying. Fatigue and pain were making him irritable.

"No, there seems to be no end to my luck today," he sighed and immediately felt guilt at his sullen and sarcastic reply. It washed past Tilly; she seemed impervious to barbs. He changed the subject clumsily.

"Shouldn't you be driving your ambulance?"

"I would except someone nicked it and I'm pretty sure I know who." She smiled at him and ran her eyes around the room and back to the fire. "If you watch carefully, you'll see I'm in the process of consoling myself about the crime with free drinks in a warm pub." Her eyes settled on the drinks in front of her.

"The beer's good here - but why do people think women would rather drink sherry? It's like fruity golden syrup - blarr." She pulled a face and Joe's face fell into a smile as if tiny strings had snapped.

"Thank you for today."

"That's OK. I had fun." She smiled back. "Before the bomb hit, I was playing cards with the other night shift crew."

"You like cards?"

"No, boring." She pulled that face again and groaned. "I've had more entertaining migraines."

"You get migraines?"

"No... Why?"

"For a moment there, I thought we might have something in common."

"Ha-ha." she said grinning. "Well, we did share a bomb. We turned the bugger's clock off." She took another sip from her beer and ran her finger around the rim of the glass. "That electric magnet idea was very clever - especially for a Queenslander," she challenged with the raised eyebrow and playful twinkle.

"As long as the power stays on." He raised his glass in salute.

At that moment the bomb exploded. Softened by distance, the sound was a deep thud. A mild shockwave hit the building; glasses rattled and fell and several patrons dived for cover. There was a moment of silence before a light shower of small stones sprinkled the road outside. The pub was quiet; eerily wordless. Tilly helped a tearful man with one leg from the floor, reassuring him with a joke that he'd almost caught his beer and there was a place for him on the New Zealand cricket team. She offered him one of her sheries, but the publican intervened with a fresh beer. There were appreciative smiles and soft conversation resumed. A vehicle came to a halt outside, scrunching on the gravel; its engine cut and a door slammed.

The door of the pub swung open and a tall, elegant woman entered. Like Tilly, she wore the uniform of an ambulance driver. As her eyes adjusted, she spotted the couple near the fire and walked with practiced elegance towards them, aware that eyes were upon her.

"G'day Tills. Thought I'd find you in here - drinks lined up and chatting up some poor bloke who can't run away." She winked at Joe and reached down and picked up one of the sheries and took a generous gulp. She pulled a face and put it back down again.

"Joe, this is my friend Joyce - from Dirranbandi." She lowered her voice. "If such a place exists. She steals drinks and ambulances - among other things. Do you Aussies learn crime in the cradle?"

"Did everyone get out of the hospital?" interrupted Joe.

"Yeah, no worries. I've been ferrying patients to the next town. Everyone is accounted for." She eyed Joe's two untouched beers. "May I? I've only had a dingo's breakfast and a cup of tea all day."

"Be my guest." Joe motioned to the drinks in front of him.

Joyce picked up a beer and took a long drink. "Hmm. That's good." She gazed appreciatively at the beer and took another mouthful, "I better not have any more or I'll end up on me bum." She wiped her mouth with her sleeve. "I'd better head back for a feed and a sleep. Nice to meet you Joe, thanks for the beer."

Tilly stood up. "I better go too. I'll give you a lift. See you later Joe."

The two women walked towards the door.

"Tilly," called Joe. She turned and came back. Joyce waited at the far end of the bar, striking up a conversation with a young soldier with a missing hand and ruined face.

"Thank you for your help today."

"You're welcome. It was fun."

"I owe you a favour."

Tilly sat and reached across the table and took Joe's hands in hers and gazed into his eyes. The soldiers at the bar watched and smiled, some winked knowingly.

"There's something you can do for me, if it's not too much trouble." She smiled and her right eyebrow raised once more.

Joe tensed at the unexpected show of affection. He was aware that most of the eyes in the pub were on him and he awkwardly met her gaze, "Yeah, no worries. What is it?"

She leaned forward and whispered. "Tell me what the bleeding heck a 'dingo's breakfast' is!"

Joe smiled as he looked left and right conspiratorially, leaned in closer and whispered, "It's a stretch, a yawn and a look about."

Tilly leaned back, inspecting his face for deceit; none could be found.

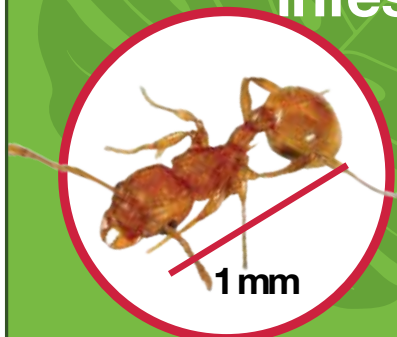
"Hah!" she said and stood up and walked around the table and gave Joe a small hug. He emitted a theatrical groan of pain. A playful smile crossed her lips. She walked to the door where Joyce met her. She turned briefly and said one final "Hah!" and was gone.

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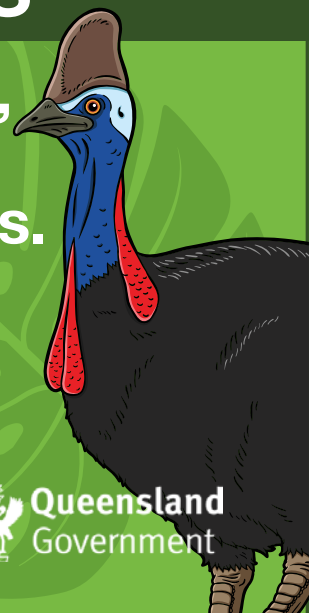
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Big Cheers, Fresh Ideas: Kuranda/Speewah Community Spirit on Show
The Speewah District Residents Association (SDRA) extends its warm congratulations to *The Kuranda Paper* on celebrating its 35th anniversary of publication. This remarkable milestone reflects the dedication of the quiet achieving volunteers who produce this valued community newspaper. Over the decades, *The Kuranda Paper* has become an essential local asset, providing a reliable platform for community communication, consultation, advertising, and keeping residents informed about what's happening across the district.

The SDRA would also like to thank the Speewah community for taking such positive ownership of the Book Library at Roscommon Park and especially acknowledge the anonymous resident who kindly installed a new roof. The Speewah Book Library was originally built and painted by SDRA members as a place for the community, and visitors to the area, to swap books and toys. Its purpose has since grown, with locals now using it to share excess produce and re-home miscellaneous items, co-ordinating exchanges through the Speewah District Facebook page.

As we look ahead, we encourage community members to mark 7 September in their calendars for our upcoming AGM and to consider nominating for an Office Bearer role. Whether you're interested in joining the committee or simply becoming a member, it's a meaningful way to contribute to the future of Speewah. The SDRA meets quarterly for one hour on a Monday evening and works closely with Mareeba Shire Councillors and other stakeholders on matters affecting our district. Annual membership is just \$5 per person, and even if you're unable to attend meetings, you'll still receive minutes and updates to stay informed and connected with what's happening in our community. Meetings are held at the Speewah Rural Fire training room at Roscommon, Speewah and are conducted between 6:00 pm. and 7:00 pm. Please send your nominations or anything that you would like to discuss to our secretary, Jo Garbellini on: garbell15@gmail.com.



KURANDA MEN'S SHED

 **incorporating KURANDA SHE SHED**

Creativity and Camaraderie Thrive at the Kuranda Men's Shed

The Kuranda Men's Shed continues to be a place where skills, friendship and creativity come together, and May was another busy and productive month for our members.

We were delighted to welcome two new female members to the Shed during May. Both have now completed their inductions on the equipment they need to use to begin their projects. Additional training will be provided whenever required, ensuring all members can work safely and confidently as their projects develop.



Pretty Flamingo team.

I am continually amazed by the ingenuity of our members. One recent project was a true team effort that perfectly demonstrates the camaraderie the Shed was designed to foster. Together, members created a large stand-alone garden ornament in the shape of a flamingo standing over one metre high.

The project began with Greg's idea and the donation of a motorcycle petrol tank, which became the body of the bird. Don welded the steel framework together, Ron applied the finishing paintwork, and Dougie sculpted the head. The result is a unique and eye-catching garden feature that showcases not only

creativity and craftsmanship but also the spirit of teamwork that makes the Shed such a special place.

Members have also been busy on individual projects. Greg recently completed a terrific coffee and games table using pallet wood and reclaimed tiles, transforming recycled materials into a practical and attractive piece of furniture. Meanwhile, Lynne has almost finished a fabulous large mobile kitchen cutting board—an innovative design that many of us wish we had thought of ourselves!

These projects are a great reminder that we really do make things at the Shed, while having plenty of fun along the way. Whether working on community projects, personal creations or simply sharing knowledge and a laugh, there is always something happening.

New members are always welcome.

If you've ever thought about joining, come along and see what the Kuranda Men's Shed is all about.



Coffee and games table. Photos Men's Shed

SESSION TIMES

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

 **Kuranda Men's Shed**
116 Kuranda Heights Road

Contact: Daryl Douglass, President
mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

A Grinter's Tale

It's one of those months when I just couldn't think of a tale. This only happens 11 times every year.

When I went to school in the Dark Ages, we had a very stressful 'game' in class that was somewhat akin to the BBC's *Just a Minute*, but also to Chinese Water Torture. You were given a word and had to stand up in front of the class and talk about it for 60 seconds without hesitating, repeating any words, fainting a faint, or wetting your knickers.

I only recount the latter, because that really did happen to poor Mary Smith (name changed just in case she just happens to live in Kuranda, 13,500 km away from Holy Trinity Convent, UK). I believe she lived in fear of egg timers for many years following that traumatic incident.

Once *The Kuranda Paper* is published, I never read my column for fear I will harbour deep regrets, discover I had said something libellous or find I have shared information about myself that I wished I had kept to myself.

Every month I make a vow to carry my mobile everywhere, in order to record any inspiration that comes to me before I write the next column.

Working from home, I dress for comfort and practicality rather than wearing something that is de rigueur. So leggings are the go to at this time of the year. However, only my riding pants have a pocket for mobile, and like most gym wear now, wearing riding pants is like wearing a full body condom, although I can't speak from experience of course.

So, I bought myself a Makita tool pouch, with this clever clip to hold it firmly to my waistband. My mobile fitted perfectly. But I felt like my left hand side had a dental anaesthesia hangover. Five minutes of raking up horse poo in the paddock and my leggings were half way down my hips on one side. That put paid to that. So I gave myself a subject. Facebook.

It tells you something about social media when the majority of posters on community pages suddenly have names that sound as though they escaped from a zoo or a fruit bowl, or a stable full of retired racehorses.

So someone sporting a new name that transformed her online presence into a glowing cetacean, posted a note that had presumably been left on their windscreen that basically was chastising them for pulling out in front of the complainant's car. The letter of admonishment included a reference to her husband being a police officer (I'll bet he had to wear a paper bag over his head at work during his next work shift).

I was pleasantly surprised to see The Honest Truth as the first commenter and I did wonder if that name had been chosen to match the comment, "Sounds like you just need to drive better".

Well, that's saying it how it is, short, sharp and straight to the point, like Jacqui Lambi. I must admit, I warm to those with endearing names, like Cuddly Bunny2362 or MarshmallowMouse1475. I make excuses for them if they say, "Take yourself back to the big

city" or Whare ja you lurn to spell, ijit?" If Venomous Viper or Prickly Hedgehog said the same thing, I would have to bite my lip and put my typing fingers in fingerless mittens.

After a little fencing match, a numbered coloured stone fruit brought it all back to reality: "Can we just take a second to appreciate the handwriting. It's so neat and easy to read."

That stopped the glowing cetacean and The Honest Truth in their tracks, well, briefly. The other warriors were ready to fill the gap and when I checked back at the end of the day, the conversation was beating Roly the Shar Pei unwinding the Purex toilet roll all over the house. If you printed it out, you'd have to buy a new ream of paper and a replacement printer cartridge.

Still, scrolling through such ridiculous jousting matches, there's many little things to exercise your brain cells along the way, like the reply that simply consisted of a W and a little picture of an anchor. As a convent schoolgirl, it took me a whole three minutes to work that one out.

It's quite ridiculous that we even give our time to these debates, but I suppose it's better than nothing when you are sitting in a waiting room with only *Fishing World*, *Tech Life Australia* or *Wheels*, or God forbid, brochures on dentures, funeral planning and health funds.

I used to choose my health provider according to the currency and readability of its reading material in the waiting room. That all stopped with COVID, and I reckon it was part of the master plan to make us addicted to staring at our phones. You only need to glance around any waiting room now, be it hospital (take a sleeping bag for when your phone runs out of charge), doctor's surgery, dentist or airport. Everyone, but everyone has their face glued to that tiny little screen, finding out what Marshmallow Mouse2345 thinks about the latest hold up on the Range.

BitterAloes2422 will be gnashing his teeth while he stabs out the words "Stupid idiot", totally oblivious to the fact that the car holding up the Range swerved to avoid a falling branch.

Social media used to be something you visited every now and then, like an ice cream parlour or a zoo. We used to buy a ticket, walk through the gate, enjoy it for a while, but now we live there. I take my hat off to social media teetotallers. After all, what is the opposite of social media? Yes, that's it, social life.

The village noticeboard has simply gone digital. Instead of pinning up a handwritten note on a few local trees asking if anyone has seen your wandering Cockapoodle, you post it online. Within minutes, SparklyMonkey5645 has spotted a dog like him 100 kilometres away; GreenPython4624 has told you it's your fault for letting him go to McDonalds by himself; MadOnion1583 has offered to help you look; CrankyCockatoo3215 says he should have been on a lead, and someone from Gordonvale with a real name who doesn't care what people in Kuranda think of her, asks if you've checked under the bed.

So, when you're not wrecking your eyes staring at a small screen, comparing yourself to others, secretly envying their happy family life, their achievements, their appearance, or their dinner out, head down to your front gate where you could be solving the world's ills with GreenTurnip4123.



"Whare ja you lurn to spell, ijit?"

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A Bright Finish to the School Term

For students and families of Cairns Hinterland Steiner School, the last day of Term 2 was a celebration of the season and a time to come together as a community under the starry night sky.

Each winter, the school celebrates their Festival of Lights, recognising the seasonal cycle and the shortest day and longest night of the year.

Across the grades, students make beautiful lanterns and learn songs in preparation. As the sunlight fades, they gather together with their families for a lantern walk, before blowing out their lanterns to experience the winter darkness. Then, one by one, each student in the school lights a flame to create a glowing winter spiral.

As students become older, they take special parts in the Festival. Students in Grade Six spend a term preparing a fire movement sequence, complete with fire twirling, to perform on the evening – an engaging way to experience the Arts curriculum. Grade Seven students sew their own cloaks, as part of their Design and Technologies studies, and act as ushers on the evening.

An orchestra of students and alumni provide music to accompany the evening, and the High School students bring a modern influence by singing Birds of Tokyo's *Lanterns*.

The Festival of Lights is just one of the ways that student learning is woven into meaningful experiences, and connection to the natural world, for students and the school community.

Chani Cardwell – Head of School



Last years' Festival of Lights at CHSS. Photos supplied.

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2026

A DECADE OF MUSIC IN THE FAR NORTH AND THE ATHERTON TABLELANDS

As the fifth edition of the ATCMF approaches, the event marks another major milestone - celebrating 10 years of chamber music on the Atherton Tablelands. Locally born violinist Khalida De Ridder together with Danish classical guitarist Simon Thielke have cultivated a unique event now integral to the cultural landscape of the region. Despite its intimate size, their concerts in FNQ have drawn audiences from across Australia. Khalida has built a widespread career over the years having performed as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral musician in Spain, The Netherlands, Slovenia, Greece and throughout Scandinavia. Celebrated guitarist Simon Thielke is recently and currently the president of the Danish Guitar Society, successfully hosting international artists and masterclasses as well as forging new initiatives such as the DGS orchestra and awards night in his home country, all alongside regularly performing himself as a soloist and chamber musician. Simon enjoys performing in the Far North, where he has also previously lived and maintains a strong connection to through his extended family and community.

"In my experience, people in regional communities are curious, engaged and deeply appreciative when given access to high-quality artistic experiences. The repertoire we've chosen over the years have always been works we love ourselves and presented with the intention of sharing something that we as musicians think should be experienced."

says Simon Thielke.



Khalida in Berlin

The Festival is what one may call a micro-festival, and a unique fact is that the pair have no intention of growing the event into a larger one.

"Our festival is kept deliberately small. In order to sustain what we have (which is a completely artist-led event) Simon and I invest a lot of our own resources into the event and oversee every detail from programming to performing; but we both truly believe that regional communities deserve and require sustained cultural investment, not occasional attention or to serve as an intermittent touring destination. We hope we can also showcase the many skilled FNQ musicians performing at the festival and affirm that talent shouldn't have to relocate to a capital city to be valued."

says Khalida De Ridder.

The festival aims to position the Tablelands as a serious cultural home for artistic collaboration.

That philosophy has resonated strongly with audiences and performers alike. Musicians who may otherwise feel professionally isolated are given opportunities to perform challenging repertoire, collaborate with other artists and reconnect with the high artistic ambition that can be difficult to sustain in regional areas. Audiences, in turn, experience chamber music not as something imported from elsewhere, but as something rooted within their own community.

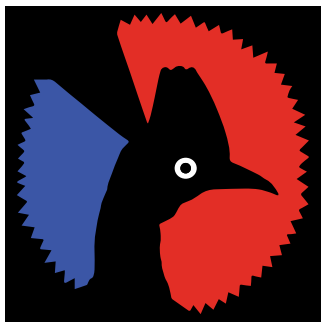
Audiences can expect four fantastic sold-out concerts at the Herberston Town Hall, across the weekend from the opening concert on Friday 17 July at 7:30pm, two concerts on Saturday 18 July at 3:30pm and 7:30pm, with the closing concert on Sunday 19 July at 3:30pm.

A free instrumental workshop will also take place on Sunday beginning at 9:30am. This year the program ranges from the most virtuosic to the beautiful, featuring works by Korngold, Paganini, Malcolm Arnold, Vaughan Williams, Elgar, Bach, Rachmaninoff, Satie, Reinecke, Piazzolla, Strauss, Mozart and Haydn. The Festival ensemble will be a highlight as usual, performing in both concerts on the Saturday (3:30pm-7:30pm).

Tickets are available online now at trybooking.com, with remaining tickets available at the door.



Khalida De Ridder performing. Photos supplied



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The KCons Community Nursery is nearly always open!

AN ACTION-PACKED MONTH

JUNE was a busy month for us with night stalls at The Tanks and the Ecofiesta. We've had to reorder many of our most popular stickers. Also, we are preparing for a big tree planting within the next few months while we are constantly receiving more enquiries for rare and unusual plants. While our nursery is not big, we have a reputation for the selection of species we carry and that's thanks to the many people in our community who bring us seeds we'd never find ourselves.

CASSOWARY UPDATE

The breeding season is now underway. It has been reported to us that Merlin and Gertie, in the Black Mountain corridor, are courting again and their juveniles (last year's offspring) are now foraging on their own. We think one is male and the other female. Elvis and Priscilla, in the Din Din corridor, have been seen together. You will remember that Elvis has lost just about all his offspring to traffic accidents on the Kennedy Highway, where you join the Range Road leaving Kuranda.

Please continue to message us with your sightings on our Facebook page or phone in or message us on our mobile number: 0439 899 731. A photo is always most helpful. Our email address is: kurandaconservation@hotmail.com. Our website is kurandaconservation.org.

BIG CASSOWARY PROJECT

We are proud to announce that our funding application for \$5000 to the CleanCo Community Futures Fund was successful. This funding goes towards the foundations for the BIG Cassowary structure. CleanCo says "Our Thriving Communities Strategy outlines how we engage with and contribute to the wellbeing of communities across the state, ensuring the shift to clean energy supports people, places and local growth." CleanCo manages the Barron Gorge Hydro Power Station.



We take this opportunity to thank CleanCo for supporting this local community project.



Our team busy at Ecofiesta Photo by Dianne Daniels

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BIG CASSOWARY KURANDA

**PART 2 - PRESENTING PROFILES OF THE SIX ARTISTS
WHO WILL BE PAINTING THE BIG CASSOWARY**

Sheila Brim

Sheila was born in Mareeba and grew up in Kuranda. Sheila is a descendant of the local Djabugay, Buluwai and Kuku Yalanji tribes. In 1990, Sheila attended TAFE to expand her artwork knowledge. At that time, she did a series of paintings about Indigenous people in the workforce for TAFE, which she sold throughout northern Cape York towns eg. Wujal Wujal, Hopevale etc. She also designed the logo for The Kuranda Local Justice Group.

Sheila's flair has inspired and taught many of the creative young artists in the community and encouraged youth to be involved in Mareeba Shire Council funded projects e.g. painting the bus stop shelters.

She is very proud to be a part of the BIG Cassowary artists group. With her local knowledge and artistic talent she helped develop the story for the artwork.

You can find her artwork at the North Site Gallery in Cairns.



Akasha Mead

Akasha, born in Cairns, started selling her first commissioned artworks to friends and family, and that soon grew into a part-time business. She then spent years making and creating artwork while travelling the world and eventually settled in Scotland where her art practice continued.

In Scotland, she spent nine years developing her artistic style and over time, what started as something small evolved into her full-time work.

During her stay in Scotland she had the privilege to be in a number of group exhibitions at various local galleries, including The Field, Blackruthven and Birnam Arts, Dunkeld.

In 2024 she returned to her home in Tropical North Queensland Australia and her passion and inspiration have propelled her art journey to new heights.

She was a finalist in the 2025 Cairns Art Society Annual Art Awards where two of her works were chosen to be exhibited at the Cairns Art Gallery. The same year she opened her art studio in the Original Market, in Kuranda, a space deeply connected to both her artwork and her surroundings.

She has always been inspired by animals and the natural world — not only for the beauty, but for what they reflect back to us. Each subject becomes a kind of mirror, reflecting qualities we often already hold within ourselves.

Her latest project is the BIG Cassowary for Kuranda and she is very proud to be a part of the artists group to paint the 4m statue.

For more info about her artwork visit www.akashamead.com

The art component of this project was made possible by the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund, provided through Regional Arts Australia, administered in Queensland by Flying Arts Alliance.

If you would like to make a donation, please go to www.cassowarytrail.com.au

The whole Cassowary Art Trail team thanks for all your support.
A project of Kuranda Conservation Community Nursery Inc





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Kuranda Historical Society

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

We invite you to follow the Kuranda History Trail

The Explore Kuranda History Trail leads you around Kuranda in an easy walk. It brings you records (photos, text and drawings) of old buildings of interest and photos of these historic features now.

The history trail arose out of a joint project with the Kuranda Historical Society, Kuranda Envirocare, the Kuranda Arts Co-operative and Djabugay Corporation where four self-guided walking trails around Kuranda were created. Each of these trails leads you on a journey around the village taking you to points of interest unique to Kuranda.

The Explore Kuranda app itself is easy to find. Do a google search and download from Google Play or Apple Store. When you open the app all the directions you need are on the front page where you can select one of the four separate trails – the History Trail, the Nature Trail, the Public Art Trail and the Traditional Owners Trail. The app is great for locals and visitors alike. Something to show your guests for a gentle and interesting stroll around the township.

KHS QUIZ NIGHT

The KHS Quiz night - with the theme 'Kuranda History Hard Quiz', held this year on the winter solstice at the Recreation Centre was a great night and a successful fundraiser for the Society. About 55 people attended with Denis Overberg as our quiz master. Denis drew on his extensive experience running trivia nights, school classrooms and managing crowds. He quizzed us on ten topics ranging from 'it's in the news', 'name that tune', 'Kuranda history' and the 'Kuranda railway'.

We very much appreciated having Councillor Amy Braes on the door supporting us and drawing the raffles. The raffles were awesome, and we are very grateful to the following companies and

✉ PO Box 896, Kuranda  kurandahistory@gmail.com

 Kuranda Historical Society

 www.collectingbug/kurandahistoricalsociety/



Mareeba Shire Councillor Amy Braes with Denis Overberg Quiz Master (standing in front of the Silent Auction item "Castle Hill" by Paddy Taylor)

individuals who generously sponsored the raffle and auction prizes as follows: Rare Earth Oils; Bunnings Smithfield; Paronella Park, Australian Butterfly Sanctuary (Capta Group); Just Gorgeous; Tantrika; Kuranda Pilates; Smithfield Centre; Angela Toppin; Watergardens Nursery; Terra Nova; Mamu Skywalk; Kuranda Queen; Australian Bush Store; Tea Lily Boutique; Barron Falls Hotel; Here's Good Café; Distil on the Hill; Buck Richardson, the Kuranda Arts Co-operative; Historic Herberton Village; Kuranda Scenic Railway; Hartley's Crocodile Farm, Friends in the Rainforest, Kuranda Koala Gardens and Birdworld, and Peter Thompson.

The raffle and auction winners were:

Raffle 1: Duggan Stratford

Raffle 2: Pam Frost

Raffle 3: Ayse Blackley

Winning Quiz Table Prize:

Warren Clarke, Mark Field, Arch McArthur, Peter McCabe, Rick Christie and Mark Weaver.

Best Dressed Historical Figure:

Eve Stafford

Lucky Door Prize:

Catherine Jacoby

Silent Auction Winners:

Trish Keur, Chris Harth, Mark Field, Catherine Jacoby, Garth Owen

Thanks to all who participated, catered, organised and asked friends along and to the Recreation Centre for the venue and bar.

VALE DR TIMOTHY DAVID REIS BOTTOMS (1954-2026)

The historical community of Far North Queensland and Australia has lost a distinguished independent scholar with the passing of historian and author Dr Timothy Bottoms. Over more than three decades, Bottoms made a significant contribution to the understanding of Queensland's frontier history, Indigenous histories, and the social development of the tropical north.

Born in Bromley, Kent, England, in December 1954 and arriving in Australia as a child, Bottoms began his professional life as a teacher before turning increasingly towards historical research. His background in education shaped his approach throughout his career. He believed history should be accessible not only to scholars but also to the communities whose stories it records. His early works, including *Djabugay Country: An Aboriginal History of Tropical North Queensland (1999)* and *Bama Country (2008)*, reflected a commitment to collaborative research and to documenting Indigenous histories of the Wet Tropics. His doctoral study, *Cairns: City of the South Pacific (1770-1995)*, remains one of the most comprehensive regional histories produced in Australia. Unusually, it was conceived both as a rigorous academic thesis and as a substantial work of public history, demonstrating Bottoms' determination to bridge scholarship and community understanding.

Nationally, he became best known for *Conspiracy of Silence: Queensland's Frontier Killing Times (2013)*, a major contribution to the historiography of frontier conflict and a work that stimulated further research into Queensland's colonial past. Throughout his career, Bottoms combined the roles of educator, historian, public communicator and independent scholarly entrepreneur. Working largely outside university structures, he researched, financed, published and promoted a remarkable body of historical work, ensuring important regional histories reached a broad audience.

To conclude his body of works, his final project was completed only months before his passing: *the Bama Bulmba (2026)* series of four books – *Tribes of the Wet Tropics*, *Buluwanydji and Djabuganydji*, *Yidinydji*, and *Yirrganydji*. In these final published works, consolidating his decades of study, he continued his lifelong commitment to preserving and sharing the histories of Far North Queensland communities.

He will be remembered for his scholarship, perseverance, generosity, and enduring contribution to Australian historical understanding.

By Theo Utzinger

Following a private cremation at Guilfoyle Funerals in Atherton on 15 June 2026, his family has decided to publicly celebrate his life and honour his legacy. A combined memorial and book launch will be held this August. Further details and formal advertisements will be shared closer to the date.

Webpage: <https://cairnshistory.com.au/dr-timothy-bottoms-in-memoriam>

Source: Cairns Historical Society



THE KURANDA PAPER

35th

ANNIVERSARY

The Kuranda Paper celebrates 35 years of publication this month (July 1991- July 2026).

In January 1991, 15 people representing 27 community groups attended a workshop at the Kuranda CWA Hall, and after several months of networking and another large public meeting, the Kuranda Media Association (KMA) was born. Krishna Buhler who worked on management committees (including the first), in paper production for eight years (1991-1999) and then returned as President in 2021, outlines the moves which led to the creation of a community newspaper for the Kuranda district:

"The Kuranda Community News, which would later be renamed The Kuranda Paper, was one of the outcomes of that meeting. It had been identified that there was NO effective means of communicating for the Kuranda area, there being little or no services offered by the Tableland newspapers or The Cairns Post AND they often came at a cost."

Krishna had recently arrived from a small rural town in NZ where she had been contributing to a monthly community paper. Volunteers had used typewriters, duplicating copies on a hand turned "Gestetner" (ronéo) machine, hand folded and hand delivered. Which sounded like a LOT of work, to cover the entire Kuranda district. And just WHO would put this newspaper together? This question was still being tossed around when Joan Dods, a local trailblazer in such projects as the establishment of the Kuranda Amphitheatre, suggested Shep Humston, a local Kuranda historian and publisher (Shep's work lives on to this day in the book *Kuranda; The Village in the Rainforest 1888-1988*).

Word got around. There being no other way to spread the word this was done largely by word of mouth and utilising various community notice boards (in pre-Facebook days these were actual boards on actual walls). And with some helpful donations and advertisers, the process was underway. The first edition (8 pages in black and white) was published on 26 July 1991 and was an immediate success.

It was in hindsight an audacious idea: to create a newspaper not owned by any one person, in a little town in Far North Queensland, with no money and no resources, and in a time with no internet and few phones or faxes. With no editors or reporters and a policy based on community participation dictating the content in a conscious decision to move away from standard paper procedure and "journalese", to make it free to all residents and delivered into every mailbox. And yet somehow it worked, with the odd hiccup and crisis averted.

The Kuranda Media Association is a not-for-profit community group and the volunteers who serve on the Management Committee are charged with keeping the ship afloat. Thank you to all Committee members, past and present.

Thoughts from past Presidents:

"I have been a member of the Kuranda Media Association for 35 years.. I still write for the Paper and as a paper folder I enjoy catching up and sharing our memories, and dreams for the future, as we do the vital paper folding at the Paper office in the Red House and share a coffee afterwards. I would encourage anyone to come join us."

Krishna Buhler President 2021

"The Kuranda Paper but it still occupies a large place in my life. It is a microcosm of Kuranda and reflects what is happening here, what we are thinking about, and we are better for its existence."

"When I became part of the Paper, in the middle of 2007, I was quickly welcomed into the production team and joined the other enthusiastic volunteers, learning as we went. During my time on the Paper, we moved from black and white to full colour and to professional graphic design. We moved from under the Fire Brigade building, via a stint in a room where only half the team could be accommodated at any one time, to the current capacious permanent office. We became more professional. We weathered a few crises, mainly financial, but our volunteers, the true believers, pulled us through."

"Now, looking from the outside at the Paper, I am hugely impressed with what the present team has achieved. I have every confidence they will weather whatever the future brings and the Paper will continue to be the inspiration it has always been."

Garth Owen President 2008-2019

"I would like to congratulate the Kuranda Paper on 35 years of continuous publication as a free independent newspaper. It is a testament to the spirit and commitment of the Committee and the ongoing support of the community. The Kuranda Paper is a unique voice for a wonderfully unique community."

"My time associated with the Kuranda Paper will stay with me always. Firstly, as a privilege and secondly as an honour. Being asked by my neighbour at the time, Peter North, to write a column for The Kuranda Paper was both daunting and exciting. Peter was retiring from writing the Gardening column and he proposed that I write a column."

"I decided to write a column about the unique architecture and residents of the Kuranda area, 'The View From Here'. It was a privilege to meet so many wonderful, interesting residents. My column profiled scientists, artists, entrepreneurs, adventurers, writers, storytellers, fashion designers and so many more fascinating characters. I

was as enthralled by their stories as I hope the readers were. My time interviewing and writing the column was enriching, entertaining and a gift."

"It was then an honour to be asked to join the committee, first as Vice President and then as President for a short but very rewarding time. I would like to thank the Kuranda Media Association for the opportunity to have been a part of the team. I was so fortunate to have met many residents when writing my column and to have discovered the heart of Kuranda. The heart which in many ways lies in The Kuranda Media Association and the Kuranda Paper."

"Congratulations on 35 years of sharing what makes the village in the rainforest of Kuranda so very special."

Michelle Murray-Beckman President 2020-2022

"Congratulations to The Kuranda Paper on reaching its 35th birthday! This is a remarkable milestone for any community-based, not-for-profit publication, but in Kuranda, even more so. It is rare for a local newspaper of this kind to not only survive, but thrive and remain a valued voice for our community for so many years. Its continued success is a testament to the dedication of volunteers, contributors and readers, and to the unwavering support of local businesses."

"As a former President of the paper, I am proud to have been part of the Paper's history including as resident graphic designer for over five years. I wish The Kuranda Paper continued success for many years to come."

Nettie O'Connell President 2022-2025

Every Edition Online

In 2021, a mammoth job was undertaken to scan all our old pre-digital copies, involving many volunteer hours and a couple of irons, and upload them onto our website. This online resource represents a unique local history record available to all.

View any edition online at www.kurandapaper.com

Milestone Issues

These milestone editions chronicle the developing history of The Kuranda Paper:

- First edition July 1991
- First Anniversary edition August 1992
- May 2000 (100th edition)
- November 2004 (150th edition)
- June 2009 (200th edition)
- December 2013 (250th edition)
- July 2018 (300th edition)
- July 2021 (30th Anniversary edition)



A HANDMADE PAPER

Although technology has changed dramatically over the 35 years of production, each edition of The Kuranda Paper remains completely unique and is the result of hundreds if not thousands of decisions made depending on what is received ... hopefully by deadline.

From the very first edition, published 26 July 1991, the idea of a community-driven paper really took off. We had asked for contributions and got them. Stories, letters, poems, jokes, music and arts, school, sport and club news, drawings, mastheads and photos. They came in as letters or more often as scraps of paper, scribbles on envelopes etc collected over the month. For a year we had no phone or fax. These days we still have, in essence, the same flow of contributions each month, but now they come via email or through social media.

Paper production until 2000 looked a bit like an adults' kindy craft session; lots of glue, paper, scissors and white out. It is hard to believe now just how basic the production of the old Kuranda Paper was - it was cut and paste but not in the computer sense. We literally 'cut out' pieces of text or photos (more often a photocopy of a photo as we had no scanner) and 'pasted' them using a hideous type of brown contact glue onto the full sized cardboard 'storyboards' *The Cairns Post* provided. *The Cairns Post* would receive our completed pasted layout boards, photograph and print them.

These days we work on two Mac computers and the cut and paste is keyboard driven. Our digital files go via FileZilla and the papers are printed in Townsville and trucked up, flooded roads permitting, arriving very early on the last (or first depending) Thursday of the month, ready for our paper folders. The one thing which hasn't changed is the job of paper folding for all the papers which go into mail boxes and on the outlying mail deliveries. Yes, not only is your Kuranda Paper handmade and hand delivered, it is hand folded to fit in your mailbox.

In September 1999, a call went out on the front page to the folk of Kuranda: a cry for help. The Kuranda Paper HAD to transition from paper and glue to computer and disc or close its doors. The Cairns Post were no longer going to be able to accept our pasted pages of hard copy for printing. A meeting was called and as a result it was discovered that there were people who might be able to step into the breach. But the pivot of this change in direction was Saddhen Edwards. There are thousands of people who are part of *The Kuranda Paper* history. Then there are a couple of hands full of those who we can say truly, without them, *The Kuranda Paper* would not exist today. Saddhen is high among them. Long after he ceased working on production, he was still a regular paper folder, and fiercely supportive of the Paper right up to his recent passing in April this year. Thank you Saddhen.



Paper folders outside the old post office on Thongon Street, 1990s.

With the mastering of digital production the Paper was able to offer better quality images and straighter lines than those achieved with hand-cut paper and glue but it lost none of its Kuranda flavour. Nowhere is this better demonstrated than the gallery of selected unique masthead art from across 35 years, we present on pages 18 and 20 of this edition. Thank you to every artist and photographer for gracing our pages - you put a smile on our dial!

Colour came first as "spot colour" on some pages of the Paper in December 2011, and the first full colour Kuranda Paper was published in December 2012. Now we had the tools to really showcase the natural beauty and artistic talents of the community. Social media has also enabled us to better connect with readers and contributors, alerting them of deadlines and alerting us of breaking news and potential stories.



Veteran folders Graham Nicholson and Saddhen Edwards. The Red House Arcade 2018. Photos KMA archives

Gayle Hannah, who worked on layout and production from 1991 to 1999 (the non digital years) and then returned to it in 2015, compares the hands on approach to making a patchwork quilt from scraps and thread sent in from individuals and groups. The job of production is take everything received and present it the best possible way, both for our readers and the contributors. Achieving this also involves our intrepid team of proof readers, who gather with pens and highlighters in hand the morning before the print files are sent off to the printer, to hopefully catch any typos or glitches before they become forever set in ink.

Looking back over 388 editions, it is like a great big family album, a series of snapshots of changing times and faces in this community. We have been privileged to have been able to provide a place for individual expression to come together in one place, at one time, for all to share. And our greatest thanks go to everyone who has put a little bit of themselves into the mix over three and a half decades. Please keep it up.

Words written on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Paper in 1992 still ring true:

"This paper is for us all and the more community members use it for their news and views the more interesting it will become. The support of advertisers and constructive criticism are both important; but in the end it is those who live in our community who are interested enough to write, photograph or draw expressing concerns and recording events, sharing talents and other interests who will provide the material for another 12 issues - and beyond - of our own Kuranda paper. Don't be shy, write in with your news and views. This is your paper."



Cartoon observations of Kuranda life by local artists bemused by our 'attractions'.



Our spirit animal, 'Didge' the hard working Brush Turkey.

Designed by Nettie O'Connell (Nettie 'O' Design).

In January 2020, we ran a Facebook poll to name him. 'Didge' came in first place, with 'Wawun' (Djabugay for Brush Turkey) close behind.

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|---|--|---|---|--|
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| <p>July 1991 First edition Kuranda Community News which later became The Kuranda Paper</p> | <p>February 2010 The Kuranda Paper moves online to the world wide web !</p> | <p>March 2012 Spot colour printing hails a new colourful era for the paper</p> | <p>December 2012 Great cosmic shifts from the complete solar eclipse, bring new and endless possibilities to The Kuranda paper with digital printing now available !</p> | <p>February 2020 The facelift and rebrand of <i>The Kuranda Paper</i> by Nettie 'O' Design. First edition on the updated website.</p> |

Layout and Artwork for this anniversary edition by Alex Harris (Folk and Poke)



HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

One of the first things you notice about tree trunks in the rainforest is the abundance of lichen and moss that grows on them. Rich in colour and texture, these living carpets are also home to an extraordinary array of animals that, at first glance, are almost impossible to see.

The Lichen Huntsman (*Pandercetes gracilis*) is one of the rainforest's most perfectly concealed predators. Its camouflage is so effective that it can remain exposed on tree trunks throughout the day, hidden from predators and prey alike.

The secret to this spider's invisibility lies in a remarkable combination of colour, pattern and body structure. While its mottled colours and intricate markings closely match the surrounding lichen, it is the clusters of hairs covering its body and legs that truly complete the disguise. These hairs break up the spider's outline, reducing shadows and allowing it to blend seamlessly into the tree bark.

Lichen Huntsmen are ambush hunters. They spend long periods sitting perfectly motionless, waiting for an unsuspecting victim to wander within striking distance. Equipped with eight eyes that provide relatively good vision and specialised sensory hairs called trichobothria, they can detect the slightest vibrations in the air caused by the movement of nearby animals - the wingbeats of a moth or the scuttling of a cockroach. The moment suitable prey comes too close, the spider explodes into action. In the blink of an eye, it launches itself at its victim with astonishing speed. Most prey have virtually no chance to react, let alone escape. Lichen Huntsmen feed on a wide variety of invertebrates, including formidable predators such as small praying mantises and other spiders.

Watching these spiders hunt is truly astonishing. We had the privilege of filming them for a documentary several years ago, and the experience was fascinating. To reveal exactly how they captured their prey, we filmed them at 1,000 frames per second. Even at that speed, their attacks were breathtakingly fast. Occasionally, a spider would strike an insect from an awkward angle, instantly abandon the attack and vanish back into the lichen. Remarkably, the fortunate insect often continued on its way, seemingly unaware that it had narrowly escaped death.

Living and hunting in plain sight using camouflage is impressive enough, but breeding on exposed tree trunks takes this spider's cryptic lifestyle to another level. Female Lichen Huntsmen lay their eggs directly on lichen-covered bark, enclosing them in a silken egg sac spun from specially coloured silk. They then decorate the sac with fragments of lichen and other debris, making it almost indistinguishable from its surroundings. The female remains guarding her precious cargo for about a month until the eggs hatch.

Around 100 tiny Lichen Huntsmen emerge from the egg sac, each a perfectly formed miniature replica of its parents. The spiderlings remain close to their mother for about a week before dispersing to find territories of their own. From that moment on, they are entirely independent and must become highly skilled hunters immediately if they are to survive.

Alan Henderson, Minibeast Wildlife Kuranda

*A Lichen Huntsman waiting in ambush on a tree trunk.
 Photos: Alan Henderson*



A Lichen Huntsman on a black background revealing the hairs which are key to their camouflage.



STREET TREES OF KURANDA



BLUE QUANDONG (*Elaeocarpus* sp)

Fruiting now in and around Kuranda. These tall rainforest trees are frequently spread through fruit distributed by birds, the first sign you have one may be the 'blue marbles' (one of the many common names for this tree) on the ground. Cassowaries and various rainforest birds eat the blue fruit whole, which is important for seed distribution. The leaves, which start out green then develop into many beautiful shades of red, are attractive all year round but the stunning blue fruit are the real show

stoppers. The fruit is enclosed in an iridescent blue skin. A unique feature of the fruit is the surprising source of the blue colour. It is not a pigment, as is the case with many other fruit, but rather the result of the microscopic structure of the skin. It is produced by multi-layer interference in a similar way to the iridescent blue of bird feathers and butterfly wings. The tart, sour pulp has been consumed by Indigenous Australians for generations and is used in jams and stews. Due to its sour and astringent profile, modern bush food cooks frequently stew the fruit to use in jams, pies, and preserves. The flesh can be eaten raw or mashed with water to create an edible paste. Traditionally, picked green (unripe) fruit were buried in the sand for a few days. This tenderised and sweetened the fruit as they turned blue. Then the thick blue outer skin was removed and the thin green flesh around the seed eaten. It is extremely high in Vitamin C (more than oranges) and contains potassium and calcium. The rough, brain-like central seed is highly valued by First Nations cultures, and in Southeast Asia, for making necklaces, jewellery and prayer beads.

Photo and watercolour pencil sketch Gayle Hannah

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Nurturing the Future Custodians of Our Community and Country

Environmental sustainability as a relationship.

A core belief at Kuranda Kindergarten is simple yet powerful: “When we look after this place, it looks after us.” This principle guides our curriculum, which begins each year with a ‘Calling to Country’. This Djabugay tradition was introduced to our kindergarten community by Mrs Tahalani, our Djabugay language and culture teacher. This ritual of connection teaches the children that they are in their ‘Bulmba’ (their place) and have a duty to care for it.

This foundational understanding is reinforced throughout the year with hands-on involvement. Children actively participate in caring for their environment by picking up rubbish, watering plants, making plans, and caring for the creatures that inhabit the Kindergarten’s yard. Learning through play is taken outdoors, where Educators encourage the children to use all their senses to connect with and be in the moment so they can appreciate Kuranda.

Creativity and sustainability go hand in hand. Instead of discarding materials after a single use, the Kindergarten champions reusing and repurposing. The children learn that items like containers and boxes can have a second life. A recent project saw the creation of a large bundarra (cassowary) sculpture made entirely from repurposed materials. Furthermore, food scraps are composted for the garden, and containers are collected for recycling schemes. The children have even been learning the art of papermaking, creating their own recycled paper.

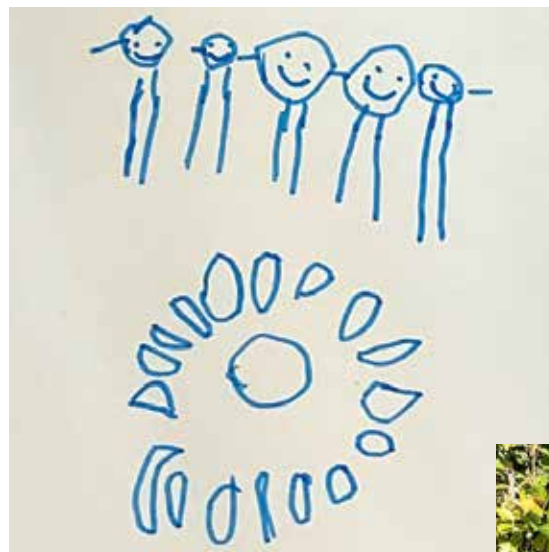
“Our Kindy children are at an age where they are learning about reciprocity and the principle of give and take”.

This early education instils the idea that caring for the environment is not a chore but a mutually beneficial relationship.

By teaching these young minds the value of stewardship, Kuranda Kindergarten is not just providing an education; it is investing in the future of our local environment. Our children are being given the opportunity to be the thoughtful caretakers and custodians that our community will depend on for generations to come.



Involved in the process of making paper.
Photos Kuranda Kindy



“When we look after this place, it looks after us”
Picture by Ngaru



Making a campfire and having a chat with friends.



Bundarra created from repurposed materials.



NAIDOC Celebrations

Tuesday 14th July

9.30am – 2.30pm, Secondary Campus

This NAIDOC Week Activity is delivered with funding support from:



KDSC ATHLETICS CARNIVAL A CELEBRATION OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

The KDSC Athletics Carnival, held on Friday 19 June, was a tremendous success, bringing together students, staff and families for a day filled with energy, teamwork and school spirit.

A huge thank you goes to Mr Dunsmuir and Mr Crawford for their outstanding organisation of the event. Their efforts, along with the support of our groundsman, and the many staff and students who assisted with both set-up and pack-up, ensured the day ran smoothly from start to finish.

Students participated enthusiastically across a wide range of events, showcasing not only their athletic abilities but also their determination and resilience. While there was plenty of friendly rivalry between the houses, what stood out most was the strong display of sportsmanship, with students, staff and parents alike cheering on competitors and encouraging everyone to give their best.

The weather was kind, with the rain staying away and providing a beautiful, warm backdrop for the day. It was wonderful to see so many families in attendance, supporting their children and sharing in the excitement of the carnival.

A special thank you is also extended to Ms McGuinness and the canteen team, who went above and beyond by relocating their operations for the day and ensuring that athletes, officials and spectators were well catered for.

Events like these highlight the strength of our school community. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the Athletics Carnival such an enjoyable and memorable occasion for all involved.

Natasha Glover,
Principal
Kuranda District State
College



KDSC Athletics Carnival. Photos KDS.



NGOONBI NEWS

Ngoonbi Community Services Indigenous Corporation
 Established 1975 as a Housing Co-operative 2/40 Coondoo Street, Kuranda.
 Office hours: 8:30am – 4:30pm . Phone Contact: 40937177

NGOONBI'S BIBI YUNGAN PROGRAM SUPPORTS STRONG BEGINNINGS FOR LOCAL CHILDREN

Ngoonbi's Bibi Yungan – Great Start to Great Learning program continues to make an impact on families and young children within the Kuranda region. Strengthening early development and supporting lifelong learning.

Established in 2012 and funded by NIAA, (National Indigenous Australian Agency) the program was created to support families to provide the best possible start for children from birth to five years of age, providing guidance to grow into confident, capable and independent young people. The SDA church Elders proudly gifted the program its name – Bibi Yungan meaning “train up a child”.

Bibi Yungan supports families, children and young adults as they transition successfully into schooling, training and employment. Ngoonbi workforce is currently made up of 15% youth. Families have been able to access a wide range of programs and opportunities designed to build resilience, promote empowerment, self-esteem, social and emotional wellbeing.



The program delivers a variety of activities that includes:

- **Early childhood learning and development sessions** Playgroup, excursions, Early Reading Intervention programs at KDSC and the development of educational resources
- **Family support and engagement programs and workshops** With the focus on family visitations, nutrition, wellness, family routines, teaching your child at home, as Parents/Carers are their childrens' first teachers.
- **Weekly Youth mentoring and transition pathways in collaboration with Kuranda District State College** Girls Group, Boys Group, Bama Role Model sessions, Monday Breakfast Club at KDSC, homework support, successful enrolments to obtain accredited training and qualifications, plus traineeships and school based work experiences at Ngoonbi.
- **Health, wellbeing and community building initiatives** Promotion of self-care initiatives for healing and assisting the delivery of fortnightly men's and women's group.

The above activities offer a safe, cultural space for young children, youth and their families.



The Bibi Yungan program continues to give every child and young person a great start to life, led and supported by the positive guidance of Parents and Elders.

Photos Ngoonbi

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|--|--|---|---|--|
| Lagoon Day Out – Cairns Esplanade | Movies – Event Cinemas, Smithfield | No event | Skating – Manunda | Cairns NAIDOC March Nil transport provided |
| MONDAY 06.07.26 | TUESDAY 08.07.26 | WEDNESDAY 09.07.26 | THURSDAY 10.07.26 | FRIDAY 11.07.26 |
| NAIDOC Talent Quest at Kuranda Amphitheatre. Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place. Register your interest. | NAIDOC Elders Luncheon John Moriarty Football – Cairns Esplanade | NAIDOC EDOR Carnival – Cairns Tigers Football Club | Community NAIDOC Day – Nyawarri (Centenary) Park, Kuranda | NAIDOC CIAF Men's and Women's group – Register your interest. Limited seats on bus. |

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Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC)

Operated by Kuranda Information & Support Centre Assoc. Inc.

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

Connecting, Supporting and Belonging at Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre

Firstly, congratulations to *The Kuranda Paper* on celebrating its 35th birthday edition. For more than three decades, the paper has played an important role in keeping our community connected, informed and engaged. We thank the Paper for their ongoing support of KNC and other local organisations, events and stories that make Kuranda such a special place to live.

The team at The Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre had another busy and rewarding month in June, with many opportunities to bring people together, support those doing it tough, and strengthen community connections.

Over the past month, we have continued our regular programs including our Malara Weaving Group, Mah Jong and Thursday Gardening Group, which is seeing increasing numbers of volunteers and community members becoming involved. We have also launched our Little Sprouts Garden Playgroup, a nature-based program that combines family support, early learning and community development. Our monthly Healthy Breakfast Tuesday and, in partnership with Queensland Health, Yarn and Play at Kowrova continue to provide culturally safe spaces for families to connect and access support.

July is shaping up to be another busy month at the Centre. Community members are welcome to join us for:

- NAIDOC Family Fun Day in the Park - Thursday 9th of July from 10am-2pm
- Healthy Breakfast Tuesday – Tuesday 14th of July
- Little Sprouts Garden Playgroup – every Thursday morning
- Thursday Gardening Group – weekly, welcoming new volunteers
- Mah Jong Group – Every Wednesday at 1pm- social connection and fun
- Malara Weaving Group – Every fortnight on a Tuesday - continuing to bring community together through culture and creativity
- Regular visiting outreach services available throughout the month

6 Rob Veivers Drive, Kuranda

PO Box 170, Kuranda Qld 4881 . 4093 8933 . manager@kurandanc.org.au



BULUWAI
LAND PEOPLE CULTURE WATER FLORA FAUNA ARTEFACTS
INDIGENOUS CORPORATION

BushGuardian AI Camera Training

The Murdoch University BushGuardian project has been completed with the Buluwai Rangers collecting 2,293 images of Queensland native species, including:

Northern quoll (*Dasyurus hallucatus*), Northern bettong (*Bettongia tropica*), Northern brown bandicoot (*Isodon macrourus*), Long-nosed bandicoot (*Perameles nasuta*), Giant white-tailed rat (*Uromys caudimaculatus*), Black-footed Tree-rat (*Mesembriomys gouldii*), Delicate mouse (*Pseudomys delicatulus*), Fawn-footed melomys (*Melomys cervinipes*), Grassland melomys (*Melomys burtoni*), Common rock rat (*Zyzomys argurus*), Cape York rat (*Rattus leucopus*), Canefield rat (*Rattus sordidus*)

Many people know the Neighbourhood Centre as a place to seek support, but not everyone realises the breadth of support available in Kuranda. Alongside our own services, we are proud to host a number of visiting outreach programs, ensuring local people can access support without needing to travel to Cairns or Mareeba.

These include:

- Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service
- RISE Ventures
- Gambling Help from UnitingCare
- Housing Assistance through Mareeba Community Housing
- Financial Capability Support through Mareeba Community Centre
- Distress Brief Support through Mareeba Community Centre
- Drug and Alcohol Counselling provided by Lives Lived Well
- Playgroup delivered by Ngoonbi

Every week we assist community members with housing issues, financial hardship, advocacy, referrals, emergency relief and access to essential services. We also provide opportunities for social connection, volunteering and community participation. Our aim is to ensure that everyone who walks through our doors is met with dignity, compassion and a sense of belonging.

This month, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to a very generous local community member whose donation will make a real difference to the lives of families in our community.

We would also like to sincerely thank TRACQS for their generous support and donation to the Centre. Their kindness helps us continue delivering practical support and meaningful programs for those who need them most.

Many community members may not realise that we also have donation collections located at Kuranda Pharmacy. Funds raised through these collections are used to assist people experiencing financial hardship to access essential medications and fill prescriptions they may otherwise go without. Even a small contribution can make a significant difference to someone's health and wellbeing.

As a not-for-profit organisation, we rely on our funding, grants, partnerships, volunteers and the generosity of our community. Every dollar donated stays local and helps provide emergency relief, support vulnerable individuals and families, and create opportunities for connection and belonging.

If you would like to support the work of the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre or are interested in volunteering with us, please visit us at 6 Rob Veivers Drive, Kuranda.

Call us at (07) 4093 7800,

Follow us on Facebook to stay connected with upcoming

With the AI training of the cameras complete, the device moves to the next stage of testing. Unlike similar traps being developed to combat wildlife predation by feral cats, recognised as one of the world's 100 most invasive species (IUCN 2019), the BushGuardian will use a humane mechanical strike, rather than poisons which are more precarious in the environment.



BushGuardian camera with inquisitive rat. Photo supplied Buluwai Digital Library

If you would like to find out more about the corporation's activities, get a membership form, discuss Buluwai areas of responsibility with traditional owners or any other matter relating to the Buluwai tribe. Dianne Brim can be reached on 0459 062 784.

MEETINGS & CONTACTS

10am – 12pm, Saturdays @ Kuranda Amphitheatre

2026: 11 July, 8 August, 12 September, 10 October

| office@buluwai.org | www.buluwai.org | facebook.com/buluwai | instagram.com/buluwai |

Little Sprouts Garden and Play

ALL WELCOME

Come along and join in the fun. Gardening, arts and play activities to suit all ages

Thursday July 23rd

At 10-11.30 AM

Gamblinghelp | UnitingCare Australia

FREE GAMBLING SUPPORT

UnitingCare Australia Gambling Counsellor at Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre

Confidential. Free. Non-judgemental support.

Are you worried about your gambling or the gambling of someone you care about? We're here to listen, support and help.

- DROP-IN SUPPORT**
 - Discuss the impact gambling may be having on your life
 - Learn practical strategies to reduce or manage gambling
 - Ways to regain control and improve wellbeing
- SELF-EXCLUSION SUPPORT**
 - Self-exclude from local gaming venues
 - Set up online gambling exclusions
 - Create a plan to reduce gambling-related harm
- FREE COUNSELLING**
 - Confidential therapeutic counselling for individuals
 - Support for family members and loved ones affected by someone else's gambling
- REFERRALS & PRACTICAL SUPPORT**
 - Financial counselling services
 - Community support services
 - Mental health and wellbeing services
 - Other specialist supports

WHERE: Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre, 6 Rob Veivers Drive, Kuranda QLD 4881

WHEN: Every Friday, 9:00am - 12:30pm

ENQUIRIES AND SUPPORT: Call: (07) 4050 4988

FREE • CONFIDENTIAL • NON-JUDGEMENTAL

Supporting individuals, families and communities affected by gambling harm.

日本語版あり

MAPS INCLUDED!

Download the Talking Trails Kuranda Tourism APP

QRコードをスキャンする

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SCAN QR CODE

Learn about Rainforest Bush Foods

Discover Secret Fairy Houses

Take a self-guided tour with an Indigenous elder

Learn about Kuranda's fascinating history

Check out local stores, cafes and attractions

Explore the River Walk or Jum Rum Trail

Discover the BEST PHOTO SPOTS

Self-Guided audio tours with Tour Guide & Elder Willie Brim

OVER 40 TOUR STOPS

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OFFICIAL KURANDA CULTURAL GUIDE & TOURISM INFORMATION

CROSSROADS Brings Story, Song and Culture to Kuranda for NAIDOC Week

A powerful celebration of Djabugay voices, creativity and community is coming to the Kuranda Amphitheatre this July as Kuranda marks NAIDOC Week through story, song, film and art.

Over the past six months, young people in Kuranda have been writing songs, creating films, making art and sharing stories as part of CROSSROADS: Kuranda—a community-led creative project delivered by Desert Pea Media (DPM) in partnership with YouthLink Kuranda and Djabugay Aboriginal Corporations.

Funded through the Queensland Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support, CROSSROADS brings together Elders, young people and local organisations to explore culture, identity, leadership and hope for the future through music, film, dance, art and storytelling. The overall project purpose is to encourage social participation and reduce young people's involvement in the justice system.

For more than two decades, Desert Pea Media has worked alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia to create powerful stories through music, film and digital media. Since 2002, DPM has partnered with communities in more than 90 regional and remote locations, supporting young people to find their voice, celebrate culture and build stronger futures through creative collaboration.

DPM's first project in Kuranda was back in 2020 – producing a song/music video at Kuranda High School called 'KDA Crew – Djabuganydji Bama' which won the 2020 National Indigenous Music Award for 'Community Music Clip of the Year'.

At the heart of DPM's work is a simple belief: when young people are surrounded by strong culture, positive role models and opportunities to tell their stories, communities thrive. Through safe spaces, creative expression and intergenerational learning, DPM projects create spaces where leadership can emerge and local voices can be heard.

Since March, weekly creative workshops in Kuranda have seen local young people develop skills in songwriting, music production, visual arts and performance while strengthening connections to Culture, Country and community.

Beyond creative outcomes, the project has created opportunities for young people to yarn about identity, aspirations, leadership and the kind of future they want for themselves and Kuranda. The project has been co-facilitated by Ciolla Riley, Wally Brim (Djabugay) and the deadly staff at Kuranda Youthlink and Djabugay Aboriginal Corp.

Central to these conversations has been the importance of positive role models. Through time spent with Elders, community leaders, Djabugay staff artists and mentors, young people have explored what leadership looks like in practice - grounded in respect, responsibility, cultural knowledge and care for community.



Interviewing Uncle Vincent Mathieson.



Matt Priestley from DPM, Nina from Djabugay and local young people interviewing Aunt Rhonda Brim for 'Voices of Our Elders' film project.

According to Desert Pea Media Creative Director Toby Finlayson, the project has always been about creating opportunities for young people to share their stories, express themselves and build a positive culture of leadership.

"CROSSROADS is about creating spaces where young people can feel proud of who they are, build confidence and self-esteem, connect with positive role models and imagine positive futures for themselves and their community", he said.

As Australia celebrates 50 years of NAIDOC Week, BULURRU honours the enduring strength of Djabugay culture through the voices of Elders and the next generation of storytellers. At its heart, the event celebrates intergenerational knowledge transfer—creating space for stories, culture and identity to be shared across generations and carried forward into the future.

On Saturday 11 July, the Kuranda Amphitheatre will host BULURRU – Story, Song, Film and Art from Kuranda Bama, a free all-of-community event showcasing the creative outcomes of the project.

The event will feature the world premiere of a new Desert Pea Media documentary, Voices of Our Elders, developed in partnership with Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation and sharing the stories, knowledge and experiences of Djabugay Elders.

Audiences will also enjoy the premiere of three new music videos created with local young people, including tracks from KDA NEXT GEN, alongside performances from local artists Cloud 9 and Will Brim. Live dance, projections and art installations will bring the Amphitheatre to life in what organisers hope will become an ongoing celebration of local culture and creativity.



Interviewing Aunt Rhonda Duffin. Photos Desert Pea



KDA: NEXT GEN filming their debut music video 'One Track'.

BULURRU

Story, Song, Film and Art from Kuranda Bama

Saturday 11 July 2026
@ Kuranda Amphitheatre

Gates open 5pm | Event starts 6pm
Free community event – everyone welcome
Free feed from 5pm | No drugs. No alcohol.

SHOWCASING CREATIVE WORKS PRODUCED AS PART OF CROSSROADS: KURANDA AND THE PREMIERE SCREENING OF THE 'VOICES OF OUR ELDERS' FILM

SATURDAY JULY 11
6PM
(GATES OPEN AT 5PM)
KURANDA AMPHITHEATRE

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
NO DRUGS. NO ALCOHOL
FREE FEED AT 5PM

FILM SCREENINGS
MUSIC VIDEO PREMIERE
MUSIC FROM:
» CLOUD 9
» WILL BRIM
» KDA NEXTGEN

DANCE GROUPS
PROJECTIONS & ART

NAIDOC WEEK
50 YEARS DEADLY
5-12 JULY 2026



YOUTH LINK NEWS

partnership between Desert Pea Media, Youth Link, Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation, Elders, knowledge holders and artists, and is funded by the Queensland Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support.

Over recent weeks, young people have been busy filming their second music video, exploring themes centred around caring for Country and the complexities young people navigate within their lives and communities. Young people have led much of the creative process, developing lyrics, shaping storylines, performing and contributing to the creative direction of the project.

Filming took place across a number of locations, including the Kuranda pine forest. While now a familiar local landscape, the plantation itself exists within a much older rainforest ecosystem and carries a complex history of land use and environmental change. Being on Country in this space prompted important conversations with young people about colonisation, ecological loss, healing and our collective responsibility to care for the places we call home.

One particularly special moment involved filming a smoking ceremony led by local cultural knowledge holders. Witnessing young people engage with this process through a shared creative experience was incredibly powerful. The scene captured far more than footage for a music video; it represented the continuation of cultural knowledge, intergenerational learning and the deep relationships that exist within our community. These moments remind us that some of the most meaningful learning happens



when young people, Elders and community members come together to create, yarn and share experiences side by side.

At Youth Link we know that creativity can be a powerful vehicle for strengthening identity, belonging and wellbeing. Projects such as these not only provide opportunities for young people to develop creative and technical skills, but also strengthen connection to culture, Country and community. Recent funding through The Crossroads Project has been instrumental in enabling deeper cultural integration within Youth Link programming. The support has allowed us to strengthen partnerships and create richer opportunities for multigenerational creative processes to occur, ensuring that culture, creativity and community remain at the heart of the work.

Alongside the music project, young people have also been continuing work on a series of murals in preparation for upcoming NAIDOC celebrations. The artworks showcase the incredible talent, creativity and pride that exists within our community and will form an important part of this year's celebrations.

The creative sessions continue building towards a community showcase event during NAIDOC celebrations at the Kuranda Amphitheatre on July 11th, where the young people's songwriting, music videos and visual artworks developed through the program will be shared and celebrated with the wider community.

In a time when young people are often spoken about through a deficit lens, these projects provide an important reminder of the extraordinary creativity, insight, cultural knowledge and leadership that exists within our community. We look forward to celebrating these achievements alongside the wider community in July.



Community Nursery and Landcare

Caring for Kuranda's environment
"by standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before"

Celebrating Sir David Attenborough - by Mark Fields

On 8 May, 2026, the world marked the 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough, one of the most influential broadcasters and natural historians of the past century. Beginning with Zoo Quest (1954), he created and narrated many of the world's most celebrated natural history series, including Life on Earth, The Living Planet, The Blue Planet, and the Planet Earth franchise. His work is renowned for combining scientific accuracy with a sense of wonder, helping generations understand the complexity and beauty of the natural world.

In recent decades, he has become a leading global voice for environmental protection, championing action on biodiversity loss, climate change, and sustainable living. He has advocated for restoring planetary biodiversity, limiting population growth and switching to renewable energy.

One of our Envirocare community, Jane Younghusband, wrote a song to celebrate David Attenborough's amazing life. As part of a song-writing club challenge, Jane was asked to create a song which referenced someone famous and also the "Ken Burns Effect" (a panning / zooming technique used in video production). Jane decided to celebrate Sir David because of his life-long presence as

a video presenter and lover of wildlife and the earth. She used film terminology in keeping with the theme.

To mark Sir David's birthday in May, Jane sent her song to Robin Williams at Radio National's Science Show and was delighted when he asked if he could include it as part of a program which focused on science from our FNQ region! You can hear it at the beginning and end of this episode:

www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/scienceshow/106643084

Her song is also on YouTube at:
<https://youtu.be/pDjxaRVy-ho>




Frog Monitoring: 23-30 July - 6pm

Receive details via group texts and emails

Contact Cathy, on 0419 624 940

 Friends of the Kuranda Tree Frog

 info@envirocare.org.au

Plant of the Month:

Prunus turneriana – Almond bark

Prunus turneriana (Almond bark) is a tall, buttressed rainforest tree found from Cooktown to Paluma. It produces fragrant cream-white flowers and red-to-black almond-scented fruits eaten by birds, flying-foxes, Musky Rat-kangaroos and other mammals. Grows in full sun to part shade from sea level to 1200m.



Photo credit: Vern Hansen

Congratulations Kuranda Paper. 35 years is a significant achievement for a local paper. Kuranda Envirocare has enjoyed working with consecutive KMA teams who have always managed to creatively inform the Kuranda community and help protect its unique environment.



KURANDA WASTE-BUSTERS

by Julia Mauro

Plastic Free July 2026

Here we are back at Plastic Free July, which marks a year since this column started!

Plastic Free July is the month to challenge yourself to reduce the amount of plastic in your life.

There are environmental reasons for this: plastic is a huge pollution problem, microplastics are now detectable all over the planet and single-use plastic is piling up in our landfills and oceans.

There are also health reasons to avoid plastic. Recent research in Perth has found that consuming food and personal-care products packaged in plastic results in the accumulation of plastic chemicals like phthalates and bisphenols in our bodies. These chemicals (detectable in urine and blood) can upset the body's normal hormonal functions, leading to health problems.

By reducing our exposure to plastic, we can lower the plastic chemicals in our bodies in just a week!

The softer the plastic, the more likely it is to pass chemicals and shed microplastics that we absorb through our skin or ingest when breathing or eating. Chemicals in shrink-wrap leach into things like cheese and meat.

When hot foods are placed in plastic containers, they soften the plastic, allowing chemicals to leach into the food. That roast chicken sold hot in a plastic carry bag is quite convenient but it also carries health risks.

Another key troublemaker is BPA (bisphenol A), which is used to line food cans. This is why the chef Pete Evans recommends buying passata in bottles rather than cans. But then what do you do with the tomato jars? Use them to buy whole foods in bulk, store pantry items and snacks, make preserves, and store leftovers in the fridge and freezer. Reusing jars is a low-cost way to get away from plastic containers.



What simple swaps can you try in Plastic Free July?

Can you buy your oats, pasta and laundry powder in boxes rather than single-use plastic packaging?

Can you buy popping corn in bulk and cook your own instead of buying individually packaged snack portions?

Can you choose unpackaged, locally grown fresh produce that has lower food miles and supports our local economy?

Can you puree fruit for your baby rather than buying it in a squeeze pouch?

Can you remember to refill your steel drink bottle at the tap and take your reusable coffee cup to the barista rather than buying single-use bottled water and disposable coffee cups?

Yes, water is now being sold in bottles made from recycled bottles. But everything you consume that is packaged in plastic is contributing to the accumulation of plastic chemicals in your body. And a system that has to recycle every bottle, manufacture new ones and then transport all these single-use items from manufacturer to consumer and back to the recycler is inherently imperfect.


At some point, we have to say "enough is enough" to unnecessary plastic packaging!

So keep an eye out for alternatives that will reduce your exposure to plastic, cut your family's waste and benefit our planet, all at the same time!

By Julia Mauro



Plastic-free grocery shopping generally features jars, boxes, paper bags and fabric sacks. Photo supplied.



FOLKHOUSE

TATTOO

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Lenore Wyatt

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MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCILLOR



a view from the understorey

by Paul Devine

GARDENING AS A QUESTION

Eric Arthur Blair did many things in his life, including studying at Eton, acting as an imperial police officer in Burma, living with beggars on the streets of London and Paris, teaching in a small exclusive private school in the English country-side, fighting against the fascists in Spain, working as a broadcaster with the BBC during the second World War and under the pen name of George Orwell writing classics such as “*Down and out in Paris and London*”, “*Animal Farm*” and “*Nineteen Eighty-Four*”.

Eric was born in 1903 and lived through two dreadful wars and the depression. During much of his relatively short adult life he kept a diary, which he drew upon in his writing and when his living situations allowed he kept a garden of “food, flowers and fowls”. Dutifully, as we see from his diary entry below, he combined the two pursuits demonstrating the practical approach he brought to his gardening.

12.10.39: Fine autumn weather, as yesterday. Planted out about 25 more wallflowers, a few hollyhock seedlings, 20 bought tulip bulbs (2 black) & about 15 of our own, and about 30 daffodils some bought some of our own. Cut leaves off marrows to let them ripen. I have left one on each plant, one of them a very large one. 8 eggs. (1)

Derek Jarman, artist, provocateur, British gay icon, writer, film maker extraordinaire and passionate gardener amazed his London-set friends when in 1986 on almost a whim he bought a small fisherman’s cottage on a stark shingle beach dune almost in the shadows of a nuclear power station in Dungeness Kent. He named his declared paradise, Prospect Cottage and on this wild, wind-swept beach started laying down the earthly garden of his life. The garden started with driftwood, flint, rusted metal with attached molluscs, wave-borne debris, storm-washed seaweed and kelp and a collection of hard, prickly grey plants and herbs.

Bizarrely, even though close to a nuclear site the beachfront of Dungeness was dedicated a special scientific zone, and regulations restricted planting to local provenance native plants only. This strongly appealed to Jarman’s personal ecological aesthetic and challenged his well-honed horticultural skills.

His thoughts were that the garden should be kept raw and as bleak as the landscape when he first saw it. “I can look at one plant for an hour; this brings me great peace. I stand motionless and stare” (2). However over time he reports the vegetable and herb garden has thyme and oregano, hyssop, lavender, rue, fennel, rosemary, caraway, artemisia a few sweet peas, rows of lamb’s tongue, purslane, peas, radish, onion, lettuce, spinach and purple rocket both blown in by the wind and placed by his own hands and the ancient gardening tools he had used continuously from his childhood.

Derek became ill and willingly let the sun and wind and sea form and shape his garden with ever diminishing input from his own hands. It blossomed and thrived while he struggled, faded and died in 1994. His beautiful rough garden remains still tended to this day by friends and the elements.

In her recent article “Meeting this place with garden thinking” (3), Fiona Harrison, Australian Landscape Architect and gardener invites other gardeners to proceed with their work in a specific way and with a different mind-set.

She references Nigerian philosopher Bayo Akomolafe, “there is a path to take that has nothing to do with victory or defeat, a place we do not know the co-ordinates to and a question we do not yet know how to ask. Let go of the fighting and stay with the questions”.

Gardening when approached with this heart becomes what Fiona calls a relational practice of thinking with place. “As I reach and pull, lean and pause, my mind wanders, conjuring what might become, wondering what the traditional owners, the first gardeners here would make of my practice”. A relational practice of thinking with place.

Aunty (Dr) Mary Graham is a Kombumerri and Wakka Wakka person. She is an Elder, Aboriginal Philosopher, Educator, Community Development Leader and Adjunct Professor at QUT. I don’t know if she gardens but she does tend land. In her efforts to explain Aboriginal ideas of relationalism to Land, she says, “there is no Aboriginal equivalent to the Cartesian notion of “I think therefore I am, but if there were it would be – I am located therefore I am”. Place, being, belonging and connectedness all arise out of an awareness of being located in Land (4).

So, the land brought people into being and continues to provide for them. This process has created a relationist connection to land. This Relationist Ethos is a foundational concept and refers to the idea that the Land is the source of the Law and we are all in relationship with each other, people with land, living and non-living beings. The Law of Obligation is putting this relationist thinking into practice by looking after the Land and nurturing the cultural, spiritual and physical relationships.

Aunty Mary offers many suggestions as to how we may address our personal obligations. She calls for careful management of our ego, suggests the primacy of family especially the young and the old, encourages consensus, conflict management and non-competitiveness in all things and asks us to contemplate autonomy, balance, place and ethics. She offers this knowledge freely to indigenous and non-indigenous people alike. Relationist Ethos seems to me to sit opposite the transactional processes we often bring to all of our practices.

Stephen Muecke of the University of New South Wales says, “Mary Graham’s contribution will be looked back on with gratitude for it’s foundational role in the re-civilising of Australia”

Gardening and tending to the land in our place offers us the opportunity to question and explore for ourselves the profound depths of this relationist ethos and to begin our own re-civilisation.

1. Orwell, G. 2009, *The Orwell Diaries*. Penguin Modern Classics, London.
2. Jarman, D 1995. *Derek Jarman’s Garden*. Thames and Hudson, London.
3. Harrison, F. 2026, *Meeting this place with garden thinking*, landscapeaustralia.com/articles/meeting-this-place/
4. Graham, M. 2023, *The Law of obligation, aboriginal ethics: Australia becoming, Australia dreaming, Parrhesia* 37, 1-21.

Paul Devine, Kuranda

*LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to *The Kuranda Paper* on 35 years of circulation. It has been the link that has brought a lot of us together, over the years, and I’m very grateful that it’s still a means to do that.

I have been an advertiser, since the very beginning, first as Kuranda Aerobics, then New To You and ,now, Just Gorgeous.

Thank you to the current *Kuranda Paper* team for your hard work and dedication. Also thanks to all the volunteers, over the years, many who are no longer with us but always remembered with fondness.

I believe that there are still many community members who take pleasure in having a real newspaper to flip through in a day and age where we spend so much time looking at screens.

It is my pleasure to continue to support this great little paper.

Best wishes for many more editions.

Jill Melody, Kuranda

CONGRATULATIONS KURANDA PAPER

I wish to congratulate *The Kuranda Paper* on reaching such a wonderful milestone of 35 years of operation.

An enormous showing of dedication by a group of locals in producing this great free paper, established in 1991.

During the first week of every month I go searching for my *Kuranda Paper* as I love to get it for the articles printed.

I dare not miss getting a copy of *The Kuranda Paper* as I cannot miss a word of “A Grinter’s Tale” by Suzy Grinter. Many of her anecdotes keep me amused as I can personally relate to her tales so often. I used to read them to my elderly sister when she was still with us and she loved them as well.

Another regular to mention is “Words of Wisdom from my Grandmother”. One of the words of wisdom in June 2026 : “Sometimes when one door closes, you need to nail a board over it”.

I pick up the paper in Atherton at either the Atherton Information Centre, Atherton IGA or The Humpty at Tolga.

Beverly Prescott, Atherton.

ASTROLOGY

THE STARS IN JULY

RESIDENT ASTROLOGER & TAROT CARD READER

4093 0218 or 0499 548 456

What really stands out here is a fascinating, never to be repeated, aspect pattern between the three outer planets: Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, active over 3 to 4 months, but exact mid July. It’s a midpoint picture, with Neptune sitting exactly on the midpoint between Uranus and Pluto, Neptune at 60 degrees, or sextile, to both Uranus and Pluto, who are at 120 degrees, or trine, to each other.

These three represent long-term, generational, even epochal, periods of time and each represent change of a particular nature: Uranus - sudden, revolutionary, Neptune - gradual, dissolving, and Pluto - explosive, violent, disruptive and regenerative.

The angles between the planets are positive, opportunistic and beneficial. The signs involved are Aries (Fire), Gemini (Air) and Aquarius (Air). Very compatible signs, fast-moving, exciting and active. The effects will be global, and of course, personal.

So, what’s happening ? There’s no doubt that our planet is, and will be, going through some inevitable, permanent, exciting changes. Bob Dylan nailed it. For us, personally, well it depends on where this epochal pattern aligns with your own birthchart: very briefly, if you have any of the planets or angles at 4 degrees of the Fire and Air signs, it’s a direct hit. Don’t hold back, embrace the inevitable changes coming at you. On another level: Uranus embraces the weird and the sudden exciting bursts of change, Neptune the dreams, illusions and fantasies, the magic. And Pluto the inevitable, the absolute giving in to the transformation.

To add to this exciting, unique combination of energies and influences, the Sun and Jupiter both move into Leo: fixing the Fire energy (Leo is the ‘fixed’ Fire Sign) in a way that brings self-confidence and leadership potential into reality. And with Venus in Virgo, a gentle attention to detail, aesthetic and loving.

Mars lines up with Uranus in Gemini, giving the first week of July a really exciting, even dangerous edge. Take risks if you dare but stay alert, swirling the cape like a matador dancing in and out of delicate situations.

Then the last week of July sees the Sun and Jupiter lining exactly together and linking with the Uranus, Neptune, Pluto pattern, bringing Leo into the picture, 27-28 July really firing up and peaking with the full moon at midnight on 29-30 July. Get it together to hit the high point here with exact aspects also between Venus and Mars. Very creative, and the Moon’s node sliding into Aquarius, through the back door and taking us inevitably, into an evolutionary shift.

Big calls indeed, but SO exciting. The final word? Don’t look back now. We’re all in this together and your own birth patterns will align you personally. Give it heaps!

Blessings, Rob.

ROB HART

TAROT CARD READINGS

HAND-CRAFTED ASTROLOGY CHARTS

ROB'S RAINFOREST RETREAT, SPEEWAH

0499 548 456

WAYGAL-A-GALING BUWAL-WU

Going looking for words



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



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



Photo by Juliane Liebermann - Unsplash

BADABAGAY
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 BIBUY
 BINDAL
 BINGGANYDJI
 DAWULDAWUL
 DJAA
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 DJAMBA
 DJURI
 DJUU
 DJUUNGGU
 DJUUNY
 DJUUN
 DJUUNUM
 DJUUNDA
 DJIRRI
 DJIRRIMBANY
 GAGAL
 GAGALGAGAL
 GALGALAY
 GILMBARRI
 GIRIGIRI
 MAGI
 MAYNGGAL
 MUBU
 MULUMULU
 NGABI
 NYII
 NYIRRAAWU
 NYIRRAALA
 NYIRRANGUY
 WAGARRA
 WUMBUL
 YAMALYAMAL

WORD MEANINGS

BADABAGAY Full. *Gudji gaba badabagy*. That cup is full.

BADJI Sore. *Ngayang djili badji*. My eye is sore.

BADJU Blunt. *Gulu naybu badju*. This knife is blunt.

BANGGAL Big. *Ngayang yaba banggal-ala*. My brother is big now.

BANGGANYBANGGANY Spotted. *Maybu-n mudu banggany-banggany*. The quoll's back is spotted.

BIBUY Small, little. *Ngawu guyu bibuy dugany*. I caught a little fish.

BINDAL Flat, level (also yalmba). *Gundii digarra bindal*. The sand is flat there.

BINGGANYDJI Cold. *Ngayang mara bingganydji*. My hands are cold.

DAWULDAWUL Several. *Gurraa dawul-dawul djumburru-la djunggang*. Several dogs are running on the road.

DJAA Where. *Djaa gudji gurraa?* Where is that dog?

DJAANGURRU Where to. *Nyurra djaangurru galing?* Where are you going to?

DJAA-MAILIM Where from. *Nyurra djaamalim garrang?* Where are you coming from?

DJAANGUNDA When. *Nyurra djaangunda bugany?* When did you eat?

DJAMBA Narrow. *Djumburru djamba*. A narrow road.

DJURI Sharp. *Wagay djuri*. A sharp sword.

DJUU Who. *Nyurran guwal dju?* Who is your name? ie. How you would ask someone's name in Djabugay.

DJUUNGGU Who (agent/the person that carries out the action). *Djuunggu ngayang gurra dugany?* Who took my dog?

DJUUNY Whom (patient/the person that is the object of the action). *Djuuny Gudjanggu duuyn?* Whom did he hit?

DJUUN Whose. *Djuun gudjaay gambi?* Whose clothes are those?

DJUUNUM From whom. *Djuunum nyurra dugany yimbi?* From whom did you get the dilly bag?

DJUUNDA With whom/to whom. *Djuunda bama-nda nyurra ngany?* To whom did you tell?/ Who did you tell?

DJIRRI How. *Djirri nyurra?* How are you?

DJIRRIMBANY How many. *Djirrimbany maa djulbin-da nyirruyng*. How many fruit are hanging in the tree?

GAGAL Empty. *Gulu djurrbal gagal*. This dilly bag is empty.

GAGALGAGAL Light. *Gudjaay djurrbal gagal-gagal*. *Ngawu djurrbal wanirrilna*. Those dilly bags are light. I will carry the dilly bags.

GALGALAY Tall. *Nyurra galgalay-maying*. You are getting tall.

GILMBARRI Fat. *Gudji gurrina gilambarri*. That echidna is fat.

GIRIGIRI Fast, quickly. *Bandjil giri-giri djunggang*. The girl is running fast.

MAGI All of. *Ngayanda magi burrin waan*. Give me all of the bread.

MAYNGGAL None, nothing. *Ngawu dugany guyu maynggal*. I caught no fish.

MUBU Heavy. *Barndil mubu*. *Gulu ngabi guyungun wungang*. The baby is heavy. He drinks a lot of milk.

MULUMULU A few. *Gurrungga mulu-mulu nulaying*. A few kookaburras are calling out.

NGABI A lot, many. *Djarruy ngabi djulbin-da nyinang*. There are many birds sitting in the tree.

NYII What. *Nyii gudji?* What's that?

NYIRAAWU What for, why. *Nyurra nyirraa-wu galiny?* What did you go for?

NYIRRAALA With what. *Nyurra nyirraa-la guyu dugany?* With what did you catch the fish?

NYIRRANGUY What kind of. *Dungurr nyirranguy?* What kind of noise?

WAGARRA Wide. *Wurru gulun wagarra*. Here the river is wide.

WUMBUL Hot. *Gabun-gabun*. *Gudji maa wumbul*. Careful. That food is hot.

YAMALYAMAL Cool. *Guyurru yamal-yamal*. A cool breeze.

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

Consonants

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

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

Stress

When saying Djabugay words which syllables should we stress?

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

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

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

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

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



*Buwal bугan 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



LIBRARY LINES



LITERARY DATES IN JULY

• 30 July - Paperback Book Day
Anniversary of Penguin's first paperback publication which introduced inexpensive, high-quality paperback books to the mass market.

SCHOOL'S OUT, FUN'S IN AT THE LIBRARY

Pillowcase Workshop: A Creative Way to Learn Emergency Preparedness

The pillowcase workshop helps children build confidence and calm in emergencies all through the simple act of decorating a pillowcase.

Inspired by real events during Hurricane Katrina, this Red Cross program teaches children how to prepare for emergencies, manage their feelings and pack their own personalised emergency kit.

It's hands-on, engaging and designed especially for primary school aged children. A simple decorated pillowcase becomes more than art, it becomes a tool for safety, resilience and family conversations at home.



When: Friday 3 July

Where: Kuranda Library

Time: 10:30am

Mareeba Library will also be holding a session at 2pm on Friday 3 July.

For bookings call Kuranda Library:
4093 9185

For more information visit:
redcross.org.au/pillowcase-workshops

STORYTIME & LEGO CLUB

Looking for fun, creative ways to keep the kids busy these school holidays? The library is the place to be!

Storytime brings books to life with engaging stories and craft activities, while LEGO Club is perfect for budding builders who love a challenge. Both sessions are relaxed, family-friendly and a great way for children to connect with others during the holiday break.

Come join the fun, spark creativity and make the library part of your holiday adventures. Friday mornings at 10:30am for Storytime and Craft, LEGO Club on Friday afternoons, 3:30pm.

Library Closure

Libraries will be closed Friday 17 July for the Cairns Show Public Holiday.

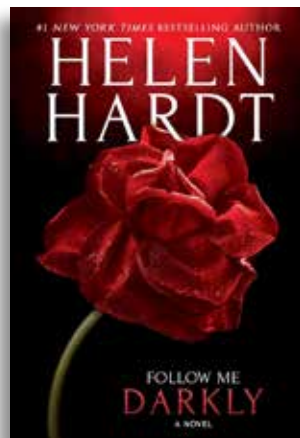
KURANDA BOOK CLUB

July's Book Club book, *A Constant Hum* by Alice Bishop, is challenging because it examines the effects on people's lives of the traumatic impacts from a serious upheaval in one's life. The book digs into the aftermath of a bushfire and just how deeply that affects us. How we respond to the devastating effects of a natural disaster that upturns everything you thought you had in your life. How deep it digs into you.

Next Book Club meeting will be Thursday 9 July, 10am at the Kuranda Library

Book Review: *Follow Me Darkly* by Helen Hardt

Adult Fiction novel, Amara - Entangled Publishing, 2020



★★★★☆

Blurb: She's a take-charge woman. But he's a master of control.

I mean...WOW! If you're searching for a story to set your heart on fire and blends intensity, intrigue and undeniable chemistry than look no further, because *Follow Me Darkly* was FIERY!

From its opening pages, the story draws readers into the charged dynamic between Braden Black, a powerful self-made billionaire, and Skye Manning, a talented photographer. Their attraction is immediate and electric, setting the tone for a relationship defined by tension, desire and a constant struggle for control. Braden is decisive and relentless in his pursuit, while Skye finds herself both captivated by and resistant to his influence.

Skye first encounters Braden through her work assisting a wealthy heiress who shares a complicated past with him, and this connection adds an extra layer of intrigue. As the story unfolds, readers are given glimpses of Braden's darker side, mysterious, compelling and not yet fully revealed, while Skye's growing fascination with him deepens the emotional stakes.

Rich with suspense, sensual undertones and compelling character development, *Follow Me Darkly* proves to be an addictive read. The novel builds steadily toward a dramatic cliffhanger, leaving readers eager to continue Braden and Skye's story in the sequel, *Follow Me Under*.

Fans of dark romance, particularly those who enjoyed *Fifty Shades of Grey*, will find much to appreciate in this novel's mix of passion and mystery.

Follow Me Darkly is available to all Mareeba Shire Library members. Readers can borrow or reserve via the library catalogue, and are encouraged to share their own reviews to help other readers discover their next great read.

Enjoy and get lost in the pages, *Rachael*



Kuranda Writers Group

2nd Monday of the month 10am - 12 noon

Next meet:

Monday 13 July - 10am-12 noon

at Kuranda Library, Arara Street

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

All welcome!

'First Love' was the evocative writing prompt for our 'homework' to share aloud and discuss at the June meeting. What entertained was the variety of objects chosen for "First Love" by each writer. Roman and Hans both read their pieces.

Toni was endeared by her Grannie imparting quiet wisdom, which over time, she recognised as being a 'living library'. Toni's liberal use of lavender and cinnamon and kitchen baking smells brought the piece to life. The consequence of sitting with Grannie was Toni's own growing ability to love, as over time together, she absorbed Grannie's most valuable life lessons in how to slow down to closely observe what was actually going on around her in the finest of detail in the now moment.

Roberta's first love conjured a baby in the womb and of the nascent being of the embryo as the basis of motherhood. Gerry spoke of being a young'un dancing with debutantes, expressing more than a little nostalgia shared by many Queenslanders for the historically famous Cloudland Ballroom in Brisbane. An Art Deco landmark listed on the National Trust, it was the site of countless romances before it was illegally bulldozed to dust at 4.00am in 1982 by a developer to make way for more lucrative apartments. This prompted discussion on the recent protests to save a 100-year-old raintree at Freshwater to make way for a duplex. Cue strains of Joni Mitchell's 1970 song, "You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone . . . they paved paradise to put up a parking lot."

With Magda away on the day, Toni read her piece titled *The Sculptor's Peacock*, set in the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Ellora Caves in India. The caves consist of 34 massive rock-cut monasteries and temples over 2km long carved between the 5th and 12th century into the basalt cliff. Magda's evocative piece has the sculptor washing the basalt black from her hands at the end of the day's work when a peacock appears in full plumage across a mirrored lake. Then, in the lake the woman Parvati she has just carved and the man Shiva still to carve appear as live beings. This apparition solves a quest for the sculptor about whether to carve the couple as aesthetic (transcendent), or amorous (worldly).

Some of our group enjoyed the morning memoir workshop with the award-winning Edwina Shaw at the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre the following Friday.

Next month's writing prompt is 'Friends'. All welcome at Kuranda Library Monday 13 July from 10.00-12 noon.

Eve Stafford

NO LONGER SILENT

Spoken Word Poetry Workshops

Spoken word is a powerful change making and advocacy tool for individual and collective voices, to transform harm and suffering into art.

This workshop invites survivors of sexual harm, their families or allies to come together to play with words and metaphor, as we stand united against sexual violence.

No poetry experience necessary, as we gather together we will be guided by loving hands, hearts and words.

FREE community event.
Limited places.
Registration and commitment required.

WORKSHOP DATES:
SUNDAYS 10.00AM - 12.30PM

19TH JULY
16TH AUGUST
13TH SEPT

POEMS CAN BE DISPLAYED ONLY OR PERFORMED AT THE SVAM EVENT.
SVAM EVENT (PERFORMANCE)
SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER
TOLGA CWA HALL
(60 MAIN ST, TOLGA)

The Tablelands Sexual Assault Service (TSAS) has announced a free monthly workshop series for survivors of sexual harm and their friends, family and allies. Culminating in a performance in October, the four workshops will arm participants with the confidence and literary skills to write their stories in poetry, before having the opportunity to perform them on stage in Tolga's CWA. The first workshop was held on Sunday 14 June at 10am in Tolga and focussed on the healing available through reflection and artistic expression. Future workshops will delve into rhyming tips and alliteration tricks as well as performance craft to make poetry memorable.

"Performance poetry has been instrumental in my recovery from trauma and grief", says Maja Amanita, a Cairns-based spoken word artist who is helping to facilitate the workshops with TSAS. "I started writing poetry after my own breakdown. It brought release and clarity just to see my words on a page. However, after gathering the strength to say those words out loud to an audience, I found incredible connection with folks who had been through similar experiences. It gave us all more courage to speak about difficult subjects like mental health, bullying and consent."

Tracy, a specialist practitioner from Tablelands Sexual Assault Service, invites participants to bring "a brave and curious heart" to the three free workshops. "These workshops will build skills each session, so no poetry experience is necessary". Noel Peake, Ingrid Johnson and Maja Amanita are the local women poets who bring their wealth of creative experience and care to the spaces they craft for workshop participants.

"We are privileged to connect with survivors of sexual harm and their allies. Their stories and voices are vital and must be heard and to help survivors write and speak out with power and eloquence, is a gift. Spoken word and poetry are powerful medicines", says Maja Amanita.

ABOUT: Tablelands Sexual Assault Service

The Tablelands Sexual Assault Service began its journey of support in Atherton in the 1980's as the "Women's Centre". Since those early days, they have expanded their services to include all genders and age groups. They support survivors of sexual abuse and violence to be believed, and empowered throughout their journey of healing and recovery. TSAS wants all individuals and communities to thrive in consent culture, free from all sexual abuse and sexual violence.



RANGERS report

Kuranda Rangers Mid-Season Update

As we head into the school holiday break, it's a great opportunity to reflect on what has been a fantastic first half of the season for Kuranda Rangers.

A highlight of the past month was our successful World Cup Fundraiser at Koah Hall. It was wonderful to see so many players, families, supporters, and community members come together to support the club. The atmosphere was electric as everyone cheered on Australia, who came away with a memorable 2-0 victory over Turkiye on the big screen. A huge thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated prizes, and helped make the day such a success.

We also have some exciting news from the playing ranks. Congratulations to Jimmy, who has been selected in the Peninsula representative squad.



While competition takes a short break for the holidays, training and development continue, and we look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed and ready for the second half of the season.

Thank you to all our players, coaches, managers, volunteers, sponsors, and families for your ongoing support.

Go Rangers!

U14 team members post game. Nicholas scored a goal in his first game. Welcome Nicholas L-R: Deegan, Nicholas, Dylan

For more information or to get involved, please contact:

kurandarangersfootball@gmail.com
Keira: 0437 778 849

For all updates on sign-on, scheduling and events:

Follow the Kuranda Rangers Football Club Facebook page.

This is a fantastic achievement and a reward for the hard work, dedication, and effort he has shown both at training and on game day. The entire club is incredibly proud and wishes him every success in his representative football journey.



KURANDA HORSE & PONY CLUB NEWS

kurandahpc.wixsite.com

[Kuranda Horse and Pony Club](https://www.facebook.com/KurandaHorseandPonyClub)

kurandahpc@gmail.com

On the 35th anniversary of *The Kuranda Paper*, it seems appropriate to also reflect on the history of our Club.

It was formed in 1972, with Dugg Stratford the first Treasurer. Lots of old Kuranda names came up in those early days. Keith Veivers and Harry Grogan taking the kids trail riding, Bevin Butler and Ted Little bringing in loads of horses from a Hughenden droving camp sale to mount the many keen kids who didn't have horses. Ron and Lyn Green, Ken Atkinson, the Salmons, Punch family, Barnwells - all and more played a part. The first rally days were held on the park beside the old school and a cross-country course was built through Jum Rum Creek scrub. There was a brief period of rally days on Fallon Road and then on Keith Veivers' land on Myola Road before the Club approached Mareeba Shire Council for a permanent site. Our present Oak Forest Road home came into being with lots of volunteers that reads like the history of Kuranda: Butlers, Grogans, Stratford, Littles, Atkinson, Salmons, Wallace, Greens, Marriots to name a few. Judy Andrews was Instructor for some time.

By the 1980's, families such as Bresnans, Timmins, Edwards, Gilkersons, Chirios Harleys, Ron and Ann Edwards and Herbohns were consolidating the Club at its new grounds.

The list of involved Kuranda families continues to this day. Since the early seventies, dedicated, selfless volunteers have shared their time and expertise to ensure the children (and adults) of Kuranda have a Pony Club.

Today, thanks to those many families, we enjoy a large fenced arena, a dressage arena, round yard and a clubhouse with good kitchen facilities ready for all events equestrian and available for hire for other purposes as well.

The history of the Kuranda Pony Club is well recorded in a little book called "You Have to Start Somewhere" which was a massive project undertaken by one of the members, Judy Pope, mentored by Ann Harth, in 2010. This article for *The Kuranda Paper* took some time to write, as I kept going back to the little book and reminiscing on the years of fun, horsemanship and dedication recorded there.

President - Lauren Moal, Secretary - Tracy Sekac, Treasurer - Tanya Vickers, Instructor - Deb Curry



Kuranda Village Accountancy

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Individual Tax Returns
Business

GST and BAS Preparation

Partnerships, Companies and Trusts

Self Managed Superannuation Funds

Business Setup Advice (first consultation free)

Entity Structure Advice

Bookkeeping

9am-5pm Monday to Friday

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



4093 8222

info@kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au

kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au

Locally owned and operated

Congratulations to The Kuranda Paper on 35 years of keeping our community connected and informed. It's a real achievement, and one we're proud to support.

Tax time is our busiest season, so here is some of what we are talking through with clients right now.

GETTING READY FOR TAX TIME

A few simple steps make tax time far less stressful. Get your records and receipts together now. Make sure motor-vehicle logbooks and any home-office records are up to date. Check whether any planned equipment purchases are worth bringing forward. And if your cash flow allows, review your super contributions before the cut-off. A short conversation before 30 June is almost always cheaper than one after it.

THEN COMES LODGEMENT

Once the new financial year ticks over on 1 July, the rush to lodge begins, but there is no prize for being first. It usually pays to wait until late July, by which time your income statement, bank interest, private health and dividend details have pre-filled with the ATO, so your return is right the first time. Get your paperwork together early, and if you run a business, keep your bookkeeping and BAS up to date so the year-end figures fall into place. Whether it is a simple individual return, a sole trader, or a company or trust, booking in early means we can give it the attention it deserves before the spring rush.

A NOTE ON TECHNOLOGY

You will also have seen artificial intelligence in the news. It is now part of everyday business, with recent figures suggesting around seven in ten Australian small businesses use it in some form, often for bookkeeping, invoicing and admin. Used well, it can ease the paperwork. What it does not



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ENQUIRIES TO JEFF DIEBEN
0437 438 196

queenslandtaekwondo.com.au

[ITF Taekwon-Do North Queensland](https://www.facebook.com/ITFTaekwon-DoNorthQueensland)

FIRST LESSON FREE

do is replace a set of eyes that understands your figures and the tax rules. The numbers still have to be right, and someone accountable still needs to stand behind them. It is a useful tool, not a substitute for advice.

PROTECTING YOUR MONEY

The same AI technology has made scams far more convincing, and Australians lost more than \$2 billion to them last year. The ones we see hurt local businesses most are fake invoices and "changed bank details" emails, cloned voices, and messages pretending to be from the ATO or myGov. A few habits are worth building in:

- If a supplier or contact sends new bank details, confirm them by phone on a number you already have, not the one in the email.
- The ATO will never threaten you with arrest, demand payment by gift cards or cryptocurrency, or ask you to log in through a link in a text message.
- Switch on two-factor authentication for your email, banking, myGov and accounting logins.
- If something feels off, check with us before you pay. Scammers count on you being in a hurry.

Whether it is getting ready for tax time, sorting your return for the new year, or sanity-checking something that looks suspicious, we are here and happy to help, in plain English, over the counter.

Here's to the next 35 years, Kuranda Paper.

Kuranda Village Accountancy

General information only; it does not take account of your personal circumstances. Please get in touch for advice specific to your situation.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
ST SAVIOUR'S
KURANDA

INVITES YOU TO WORSHIP

Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Family Eucharist
and Sunday school
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday

9.00am Holy Communion

ACTIVITIES

Home Groups
Alpha
A Life Worth Living
Sunday School

POSSUM CORNER OP SHOP

Monday to Saturday
8.30am to 12.30pm

Temporary changes to service times
are on notices outside the church.

St Saviour's Thought for June

For our reading this month we read from St Luke's Gospel Chapter 9 verses 18-24.

"Once when Jesus was praying alone." Very few of us in our western culture find it easy to set aside time for prayer. Most of us are always 'going to'. Some of us are busy reading the latest little book on prayer with its good ideas about setting time aside, but even though the shelves are groaning with helpful books we still find it difficult. Jesus constantly set aside time for prayer, and that statement should speak to us deeply. If he needed to how much more do we!

"Jesus was praying alone, with only the disciples near him." This sounds like a contradiction, but it may be saying something to us. If we wait for perfect moments to try to be alone with Jesus we are going to wait a long time. Modern life provides very few, if any, islands of perfect peace. We need to cultivate the art of being alone among other people, among other duties, deadlines, responsibilities.

"He said to them ...'who do you say that I am?'" He is asking each one of us, Who is Jesus Christ for me? Is he a childhood memory, an inspiration in a certain time of my idealistic youth, an interesting historic figure? Or, is he more than that? Do I think of him as contemporary in my

life? Do I consciously seek his presence at any time in my demanding schedule? Does his life set standards for mine? Do I have at least a working knowledge of what the Gospel writers tell me about his life? All of these questions and many more are contained in Jesus' deceptively simple question to his disciples.

"Peter answered, 'The Messiah of God'". Is that our answer? If it is, what is the response in our lives? If the word Messiah means an anointed one, a king and ruler, then we are asking ourselves to what extent Christ is authoritative in our lives. To what extent do we give him significance and authority when we are making decisions?

"If any want to become my followers." Jesus says two things are necessary. First, we must take responsibility for our lives, i.e., "take up [our] cross" We must come to terms with our own self centeredness, i.e., "deny [our] selves." We cannot do that just in bursts of religious enthusiasm; we have to do it 'daily'. Secondly, we have to discover the great truth that the more we give, or lose ourselves, in life, the more we get or find or save. Jesus asks us the same question he asked his disciples. It forces us to decide who he is for us.

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




Seventh-day Adventist Church™ Kuranda

Services held every Saturday
ALL WELCOME

| | | |
|--|---|--|
|  Sabbath School (all ages) 9.30am |  Divine Service 11:00am Combined Lunch |  Bible Study Monday 4:30pm |
|--|---|--|

Pastor Sione Ausage | 0434 135 551 | SioneAusage@adventist.org.au
20-24 Wirramo Street, Kuranda QLD 4881

Words of wisdom
from my
Grandmother...

Knowledge is
knowing what to say,
wisdom is knowing
whether or not to
say it.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH
FROM THE BAHAI FAITH

"The Bahá'í Faith upholds the unity of God, recognises the unity of His Prophets, and inculcates the principle of the oneness and wholeness of the entire human race. It proclaims the necessity and the inevitability of the unification of mankind, asserts that it is gradually approaching, and claims that nothing short of the transmuting spirit of God, working through His chosen Mouthpiece in this day, can ultimately succeed in bringing it about. It, moreover, enjoins upon its followers the primary duty of an unfettered search after truth, condemns all manner of prejudice and superstition, declares the purpose of religion to be the promotion of amity and concord, proclaims its essential harmony with science, and recognises it as the foremost agency for the pacification and the orderly progress of human society..."

(Shoghi Effendi)

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

Morning Prayers:
Each Thursday at 8am, in lower Therwine Street, come join us after checking with us first.

Study Circles:
By arrangement, please feel free to enquire.
Also regular events in Cairns, Atherton, Mareeba, Malanda, Tolga and other places.

All enquiries welcome.
4093 9571 | bahai.org.au
The Baha'i Community of Mareeba/Kuranda



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13 11 14



Beyond Blue

beyondblue.org.au
1300 22 4636
@beyondblue @beyondblue
@beyondblueofficial
company/beyondblue



Need help
with a
drinking
problem?
1300 222 222

www.aa.org.au



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

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

Al-Anon can help you!
Meetings in Kuranda, Smithfield and Cairns.
Contact Kate 4093 9668 or 1300 ALANON



KURANDA DENTAL CLINIC

Steve King Dental Group open at the Kuranda Dental Clinic!

Open every second Tuesday at the Kuranda Medical Centre.

Our friendly team looks forward to helping you and your family have the healthiest teeth and gums possible.

When you come to our centre, you will receive quality personal care at an affordable price.

Call us today for an appointment 4093 9199

Kuranda Dental Clinic is the preferred provider for:

- BUPA
- Medibank
- HCF
- TUH Health Fund
- Westfund
- CBHS Health
- HBF
- AAMI
- APRA
- Qantas
- Suncorp
- NIB
- Medicare (child dental is bulk billed)
- DVA

...and we accept all other Health Funds.



Located in the Kuranda Medical Centre
cnr Barang and Thongon Streets
4093 9199



THE Kuranda Paper

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

- SHOP LOCAL •
- EMPLOY LOCAL • ENJOY LOCAL •



LOVE THE SUN? YOUR SKIN MIGHT NOT.

Years of sun exposure adds up, even if you don't burn. Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world but early detection can save your life.

Our doctors at Kuranda Medical Centre have additional qualifications to diagnose and treat skin cancer and are pleased to offer:

- Comprehensive full-body skin checks
- Dermoscopy examinations for detailed skin assessment
- Skin biopsies of suspicious lesions
- Cryotherapy treatment for precancerous skin lesions
- Surgical excision of skin cancers
- Sun protection education and preventive advice
- Regular follow-up care and monitoring
- Referral to specialist dermatologists when necessary



Book your skin check today:
33 Barang Street,
Kuranda QLD 4881 Australia
(07) 4093 7118



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EARTHMOVING

45 Myola Road Ph: 4093 8377
www.kurandalandscape.com.au



WaterBores QLD are your local water drilling specialists
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Based in Kuranda and servicing Far North Queensland
Call Leon for a free site inspection and quote
Tel: 0403 210 431
leon@waterboresqld.com.au
www.waterboresqld.com.au



Local Picture Framing Shop
15 Therwine St, Kuranda | 0412 387 557



Admire new paintings by George Riley



- Memorabilia framing
- Canvas stretching and box frames
- Framing repairs



terranovagallery.com.au

bath shop

handmade in Kuranda soap, bath products, natural skincare, essential oils, candles, gifts & more



OPEN everyday 10am-3pm



Shop 4/25 Coondoo St.
tel 0428643117
fb [ceti bath shop](https://www.facebook.com/ceti.bath.shop)
ceti.com.au

Laurie & Heather Price Excavations & General Earthworks

0400 669 384 | lauriesbmw@gmail.com

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- 2.6 tonne excavator
- House and shed pads
- 1m tilt bucket
- Roads, driveways and drainage
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**KURANDA
LOCAL
OPERATOR**



Defiant
PEST SERVICES

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

Worried about
Termites?

We do **Termite**
Inspections & Treatments.

Do you love
your **Frogs?**

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

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

WE CAN HELP!

Call Darrell & Lisa Turner
0408 174 791
defiantpestservices@gmail.com

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www.tropicalprestigepools.com.au

Case 590 Super M Series 3
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- Chain Saw
- Quick Hitch Tilt on Application



**KURANDA
BACKHOE
HIRE**

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

Jones Tiling
Commercial and Domestic

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



Established 1987
Cairns and Kuranda

Lindsay Jones
0412 387 651

4093 0017 | palorus669@gmail.com | BSA 50 490

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Small - Med Renovations
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GRATIS CLASSIFIEDS*

Australian Merino Wool vests available at Just Gorgeous. Open daily 10-3.

Boots ALL on sale. Up to 50% off! Just Gorgeous Open daily 10-3.

Electric Mowing & Gardening. Blue Card. Call 0457750098

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

Marriage Celebrant – Cheryl Tonkin. Local, regional and remote. 0407 670 954

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

Résumés. In Speewah, longest-running resume writing business, over 30 years. Employment applications, web text, all forms of copy writing, editing and proofreading. Word Factory (Suzy Grinter) 4093 0449.

Reversible jeans, jackets and dresses available at Just Gorgeous open daily 10am-3pm. 16 Coondoo St, Kuranda.

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

Special occasion wear? Check out Just Gorgeous 16 Coondoo st.

Street Pantry is located at the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre on Rob Veivers Drive (next to Butterfly Sanctuary).

Open 24/7 for donations of nonperishable food or for others to take items as needed. Will also receive food items and toiletries to distribute.

Struggling with sleep or pain? Try Magnesium Relief, made in Kuranda. Shop www.magnesiumrelief.com or call Rhi 0409 266 260.

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

Unique brass door handles for sale at Just Gorgeous. Locals serving locals.



**Community
Donation Drive**

Support local families struggling with the rising cost of living.

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

Heads Up!

The Kuranda Paper deadline for August 2026 edition is **Thursday 23 July 2026**. Please send all submissions and advertising to...

mail@kurandapaper.com



* **30 WORDS MAXIMUM**

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

YOUR COMMUNITY PAGES



WILDLIFE

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

DEFIBRILLATORS



Defibrillator locations in Kuranda region.

Kuranda Men's Shed end of Kuranda Heights Road
Kuranda Pharmacy cnr Coondoo and Thongon Sts
Kuranda Medical Centre cnr Thongon and Barang Sts
Kuranda Ambulance Station, Fallon Road
Kuranda Swimming Pool, Myola Road
Steiner School, Boyles Road
Kuranda SES on board vehicle
Envirocare Nursery 284 Myola Road

WATER AND SEPTIC

Water Delivery:
Grego's Raw Materials 0419 705 005
Septic Tank Emptying:
Paul Jennings 0417 632 688

LAUNDROMATS

Gurii Gambi 5C Coondoo Street

FNQ Wildlife Rescue Assoc. Inc.

(Established 1994)



Caring for the region's native wildlife.
Wildlife carers are all volunteers.
Tax deductible donations appreciated.
New members welcome.

Tel: 07 4053 4467 (24 hrs)

Email: fnqwr@bigpond.com



Tree Roo Rescue and Conservation Centre Ltd

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

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

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

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



Donate now and help us care for tree roos today

www.treeroorecue.org.au

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.



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

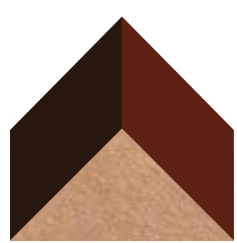
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

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

HELPFUL KURANDA COMMUNITY FACEBOOK GROUPS

Here are some helpful Kuranda and district community Facebook groups. Member numbers as at June 2026

- Kuranda Range Updates** (47,700+ members)
On the spot traffic reports in real time for the Kuranda Range Road.
- Kuranda Notice Board** (14,100 + members)
Information sharing, discussion, advertising.
- Spewah & Surround Residents** (4,400+ members)
Information sharing and support.
- Koah Community** (4,000 + members)
Information sharing and support.
- All Things Kuranda** (1,700+ members)
Discussion group for Kuranda district residents only.
- Kuranda Ratepayers & Residents Working Group** (343 members)
Discussion group for issues affecting Kuranda ratepayers and residents.
- Upcycling Kuranda** (290 + members)
Free recycle group for Kuranda creatives. No buying or selling.



Australian Men's Shed Association
 SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

KURANDA MEN'S SHED RECYCLING

C10055234

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

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

Help your local Men's Shed to keep operating.

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

RAINFALL

June 2026 - 147.3 mm
 (to 30 / 6 / 2026)

Annual total: 1833.3 mm
 (to 30 / 6 / 2026)

Courtesy of Kuranda Railway Station



HELP GROUPS



Kids Helpline
 1800 55 1800

kidshelpline.com.au

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

We are a local

"Queensland Health Approved Products"

TERMITE SPECIALIST

MAXIMUM PEST MANAGEMENT

Max & Jodie Turner
 MOB: 0418 150 759

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

WHAT'S ON IN JULY

SUNDAY 12TH JULY

10.30am – 12pm: Lunar Release – Rest & Release
Start your Sunday with grounding aromatherapy, restorative yin yoga and soothing sound...
Pre-door ticket \$35, Door ticket \$40
Bookings essential
Contact Gemma 0435 085 503

SATURDAY 18TH JULY

10am - 8 Ball Intercity Comp

SATURDAY 25TH JULY

2:30pm-4pm
Wire workshop with local artist Amanda
Create your very own wire sculpture – all materials, tools, coffee & tea included
\$70 pP, limited spaces
Contact Amanda on 0461 472 618 or via email amanda@amandadesigned.com

! SAVE THE DATE! SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST - WORKING BEE AT THE CENTRE

Many hands, one community! Help us refresh the Kuranda Rec Centre gardens on Sunday, 9 August, 10am –2pm. Food provided, then relax afterwards with the bar open and a game of 8 Ball. Come for the gardening. Stay for the community.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:

Casual Sunday Boules afternoon at the Rec! We'd love to hear from anyone interested in helping create a regular Sunday social Boules session. With the bar open, eightball tables running and a casual community atmosphere - the Rec is the perfect place to unwind on a Sunday. Contact us via Facebook, email – krc4881@gmail.com or come in on a Sunday arvo and chat to Tim.

CONTACT US

 Kuranda Recreation Centre
 krc4881@gmail.com

Come join us in our air conditioned classes!

KURANDA 8 BALL

Fridays from 6:30pm - pre-season - bar open
Sundays from 3pm – sunday sesh - casual 8Ball
Competition season starts on Friday 25th July! – come along and join a team. Brush up your skills or learn the ropes – everyone welcome
For more info: kuranda8ball@gmail.com

PILATES

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays - 9:30am
with Davini - 0414 994 123
Saturdays - 8:15am
with Jaide 0488 229 700

TAI CHI

Mondays - 6pm
Tuesdays - 9am
with Les 0400 938 276

YIN YOGA



Mondays - 7:15 pm (no class 20 & 27 July)
with Gemma 0435 085 503

Kuranda Recreation Centre Inc.,
Fallon Road, PO Box 716,
Kuranda QLD 4881

*Commercial kitchen available for hire
*Plenty of parking available
*Airconditioned hall
*Yearly membership \$10 solo/\$20 family, offers discounts on bar prices and venue hire.



www.koahhall.com

 Koah Hall  koah.hall@gmail.com

KOAH MONTHLY MARKET

SATURDAY 4 JULY

7AM TIL 2PM

LIVE MUSIC

"The Jeanette Wormald Trio" featuring "Sisterhood of Sing"

New stallholders are welcome and invited to join us for all the fun

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

If you would like to support your community hall please join us for a shift on the Market Fundraiser BBQ. Let's make our BBQ great!!

Message Jaide 0488 229 700 to volunteer for a shift

HIRE FEES

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

WHAT'S ON AT KOAH HALL

WEDNESDAY 1 & 29 JULY

PILATES

6 - 7:00pm with Jaide 0488 229 700

2, 3 & 20 JULY

4WD TRAINING

8:00-9:00am with Paul

THURSDAY 9 & 23 JULY

MANKIND PROJECT MEN'S GROUP .

6 - 8:00pm Open to all men.

Contact Simon - 0459 755 553

TUESDAY 7 & 21 JULY

WELLBRIETY & SUPPORT GROUP

Addiction & Recovery Meeting

5:30-8:00pm with James 0413 172 474

TUESDAY 14 & 28 JULY

TRADITIONAL SWEATLODGE

4 - 8:30pm with James 0413 172 474

TUESDAY 14 & 21 JULY

FELDENKRAIS

with Justine Schlicht

9 - 11:00am 0408 735 309

SUNDAY 19 JULY

DRUM CIRCLE

10:00am - 12:00pm Djembe Lessons

Jeff Cotter 0449889503

SUNDAY 26 JULY

DA YAN WILD GOOSE QIGONG

8:30 - 10:30am with Suzen 0412604066

THE KOAH HALL NEEDS NEW MEMBERS ON THE PLANNING COMMITTEE!!

If you are interested to be part of this amazing community co-creative please contact Lara 0406783039



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For events at the Kuranda Recreation Centre or the Koah Hall please see details in their columns above. See page 7 for CWA listings for this month.

EVERY MONDAY

Al-Anon Family Groups 11am–noon in the hall under St Saviour's Church. Kate 4093 9668 or 1300ALANON

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

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

SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

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

EVERY TUESDAY

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

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

SECOND TUESDAY

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

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Ashtanga Yoga 5.30am. Biannka 0407 634 116

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

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

Mah Jong 1–4pm Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre.

Djabugay Language Classes 6–8pm Nyuwarri Estate (old Ngoonbi farm), 1496 Kennedy Highway, Kuranda. 40 938 116

K.A.S.T. (Kuranda Amphitheatre Society Theatre) Free workshops. Kids 7+ @ 4 - 5pm, Adults @ 5:30 - 7pm Kuranda Amphitheatre Understage.

EVERY THURSDAY

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

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

Ashtanga Yoga 6pm. Biannka 0407 634 116

Domestic Violence Help, Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre by appointment 4093 8933

Kuranda Rangers soccer Keira 0437 778 849 for any queries.

SECOND THURSDAY OF MONTH

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

EVERY FRIDAY

Ashtanga Yoga 6am. Biannka 0407 634 116

Kuranda Story Time 10am–noon, Kuranda Library. Every Friday, during school term.

She Shed Kuranda 8.30am–1pm. mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

Qi Gong with Kathryn in Centenary Park, 9-10am. weather permitting. Free, all welcome.

EVERY SATURDAY

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

Envirocare Nursery plant sales 10am - 12noon

EVERY SUNDAY

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

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF MONTH

Kuranda Amphitheatre Community Markets 9am–1pm. 0402 130 226



Contributors please advise of any changes via email mail@kurandapaper.com

Community Services

KURANDA LIBRARY and COUNCIL OFFICE

Monday to Friday: 10am–5pm

(No Council business after 4pm weekdays)

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

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

SERVICES NOT OPEN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

KURANDA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

Open 7 days from 10am

4093 9311

kurandavic@msc.qld.gov.au

KURANDA TRANSFER STATION

OPERATING HOURS

Tuesday & Thursday: 9am–4pm,

Saturday & Sunday: 9am–5pm

2186 Kennedy Highway, Koah

1300 308 461

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

65 Rankin Street, Mareeba
PO Box 154, Mareeba Qld 4880

1300 308 461

info@msc.qld.gov.au

msc.qld.gov.au

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DASHBOARD

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

TRANSPORT & ALERTS

Rideshare 1300 743 374

Trans North 3036 2070

ROAD REPORTS

Council EMERGENCY number for local roads
1300 308 461

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

TRAFFIC ALERTS FAR NORTH REGION ROADS

Sign up for SMS traffic alerts for the Kuranda Range, Gillies Range and Captain Cook Highway (Palm Cove to Craiglie).

Go to Department of Main Roads website www.tmr.qld.gov.au and subscribe to your preferred SMS alert service. Or call **13 19 40** to subscribe or report an incident.

LIVE KURANDA RANGE TRAFFIC UPDATES

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

KURANDA SCENIC RAILWAY (KSR) UPDATES FOR KURANDA BUSINESSES

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



Trans North Bus & Coach

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

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

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

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

Bus stops are located at:

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

Ticket Sales:

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



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

Emergency Contacts



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



RURAL FIRE BRIGADE WARDENS

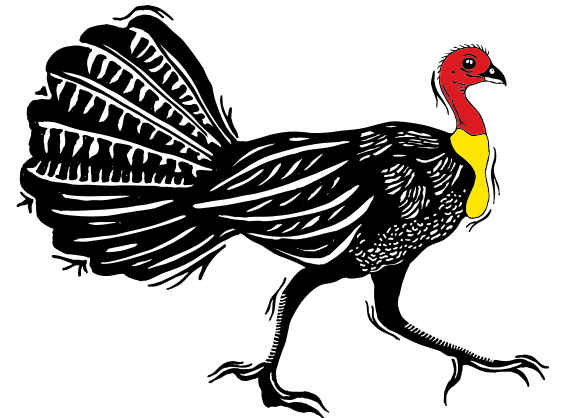
| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| First Officer Kuranda | Baz Child 0437 746 601 |
| First Officer Speewah | Mick Dub 0428 820 631 |
| Warden Kuranda/Myola | Duncan Blakey 0408 151 199 |
| Warden Speewah | Mick Dub 0428 820 631 |
| Davies Creek | 4093 3181 |
| Koah | 4093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

Permits required for fires larger than 2 metres in any direction

Join your local SES

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

Contact Caitlin **0476 772 500**



TIMETABLE

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

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

No Services Operate on the Following Days

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

For more information visit

www.transnorthbus.com.au