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# THE KURANDA PAPER

June 2026

Issue 387

FREE INDEPENDENT MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1991

WWW.KURANDAPAPER.COM

## MSC COUNCILLOR LAUNCHES APPEAL IN HONOUR OF HER MUM

Australia's most ambitious individual fundraising campaign for ovarian cancer was launched on 8 May, World Ovarian Cancer Day. Far North Queensland mum, and Mareeba Shire Council (MSC) councillor, Amy Braes, is proudly wearing a new buzzed look after shaving her head in Cairns late May to launch the bold, national fundraising project.



Amy Braes' new buzzcut for a cause.  
Photos Amy Braes supplied.

It was this time five years ago, Amy's Mum, Karen died from ovarian cancer and now her daughter is vowing to raise at least one million dollars to help drive research into detection, treatment and prevention.

"I'm doing this in honour of my incredible Mum. She was so brave, she was a fighter and such a positive inspiration to so many people after she was diagnosed with Stage 4 ovarian cancer in 2016," Ms Braes said.

"Back then, we were shocked to learn there was no early detection test for ovarian cancer, and that's still the case today. It's time to start the chat and build the buzz for ovarian cancer."

Amy is aiming to raise one million dollars by this time next year to support the Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation (OCRF).

"While progress in research has been made during the past decade there's still a long way to go to improve outcomes against what is the most lethal cancer for women," Ms Braes said.

OCRF Fundraising and Partnerships Director, Georgie Herbert, said community-led initiatives play a vital role.

"The OCRF is the largest independent funder of ovarian cancer research and 100 per cent community-funded, playing a vital role in progressing research into this devastating disease. In the past 15 years, ovarian cancer research has received less than one per cent of Australian Government medical research funding, despite being the most lethal gynaecological cancer, with five-year survival below 50 per cent," Ms Herbert said.

"We are blown away by Amy's ambition and passion for the cause. Support from fundraisers like the one Amy is launching helps fund the critical research needed to find the disease earlier and treat it more effectively, so women like Karen are not lost too soon."

Ms Braes said the campaign is designed to bring communities together around a shared goal.

"Across Australia, we know there is a strong drive for change. Every time a woman loses her life to ovarian cancer, people seek answers," Ms Braes said.

"Early detection is one of the most important answers, and the pathway to achieving it is research. We must change this, and we can if enough people support this campaign. Every dollar can make a difference, and just two dollars is tax deductible!"

Donations to Amy's one million dollar project can be made through the OCRF website or searching Google for 'Amy Braes Start the chat. Build the buzz'.

"This is for my Mum, but this is also for every woman currently battling ovarian cancer, for their families, and for future generations as we keep driving positive change," Ms Braes said.



To stay informed of events and developments in this appeal: Facebook (Amy Braes Ovarian Cancer Research) Instagram @amybraes\_ovariancancer

LIVE MUSIC · ECO WORKSHOPS · MARKETS · ART INSTALLATIONS · FOOD & BAR

# Kuranda eco-art Festival

FAMILY FRIENDLY

SATURDAY 27th JUNE 2-10pm

SCAN FOR MORE

TICKETS FROM \$10

## IT'S ALL OUT AND ABOUT IN KURANDA THIS JUNE

There is so much going on in and around Kuranda this month you might need to mark your calendars so as not to miss out.

There are community markets, workshops of all kinds, meetings, music events, opportunities to get involved in community discussion and development - then, of course, there is the most magic time of the year, our tropical winter, which makes any outdoor activity a real joy, be it wandering through the great outdoors or rediscovering the village at its best.

Bringing everything 'Kuranda' together for one day on 27 June is the inaugural Kuranda Eco-Arts Festival at the Kuranda Amphitheatre. There are a myriad of ways to get involved. See Page 5 for more information.

### Kuranda Eco-Arts Festival, Saturday 27 June, 2 - 10pm

This family-friendly festival will transform the Amphitheatre into a vibrant celebration of music, art, sustainability and community spirit.

Festival highlights will include:

- Live music from local and regional artists
- Eco-inspired art installations
- Interactive workshops and talks
- Market stalls
- Creative activities for children and families
- Food, drinks and dancing under the stars

Powered by the Amphitheatre's new solar system, the festival will showcase what is possible when creativity, community and environmental sustainability come together.

Visual artists, workshop facilitators, market stallholders, sponsors and volunteers are warmly invited to get involved. Email: kurandaecoartsfest@kurandaamphitheatre.org



• ENJOY LOCAL •



## DEADLINES

July

Edition 388/2026

All copy and advertisements due by 10am

**Thursday 25 June**

Paper published

**Thursday 2 July 2026**

Management is not responsible for any copy missing deadline.

### 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



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

#### ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

To the crew at the Kuranda Paper: I just want to send a big “thank you” for turning my scratchy (often horridly written) notes into a professional looking column on the monthly planetary movements. Much appreciated by me and, I’m so glad to report, has been useful to some readers in planning, and understanding the month’s portends and possibilities. I’m always delighted to find that there is some interest out there in ‘readerland’ in how the planets and stars interact with our lives down here... Thanks again and I’m always ready to share astro information through my regular column or one-on-one (0499 548 456).

On a personal note, after 29 years conducting readings at the Heritage Markets, I am now only taking readings at home in Speewah (Rob’s Rainforest Retreat) which visitors tell me is a special experience in itself. Fascinatingly, 29 years represents a complete Saturn cycle which governs work and mastery: this particularly tickles me as an astrologer.

**Rob Hart, astrologer, Speewah.**

#### SCHOOL BUS TO CAIRNS

Our community has a long term and well known problem regarding adequate support for children and young people pursuing education in Cairns, such as both primary/secondary education, VET via TAFE, or university students studying at JCU/CQU.

For many years now there has been little to no transport options available for these children and young people. This has been further exacerbated by the recent change in timetable by TransNorth meaning there is now NO public transport option to support people pursuing education in Cairns.

Given the expansion of our community, as well the environmental impact both locally and globally, with increased pressure to the already congested Kuranda range road as well as increased green house gas emissions, this is just not good enough for the locality of Kuranda and surrounds.

I have contacted the Mareeba Shire Council regarding this matter and whilst they could understand our frustration could offer no solution other than to contact the QLD Department of Education. Following a discussion with this Department I have subsequently raised a case with Translink with the aim to have a school bus service in place for any students wishing to study in Cairns 5 days a week.

It would be important to get an accurate idea of just how many people would utilise this service if available. Please reach out via the Kuranda and Speewah notice boards on FB, or email [rcyoung72@yahoo.com](mailto:rcyoung72@yahoo.com), if you are interested. If Translink cannot offer a solution the next step will be to contact the Transport Ombudsman.

**Ruth Young, Speewah**

#### FROM TRANSFERS TO THE TREETOPS

After two years of early mornings and airport runs, Kuranda Transfers is hanging up the keys on the transfer side of things at the end of May 2026.

Thanks to everyone in the Kuranda community who supported us along the way. It’s meant a lot. If you need a reliable transfer service going forward, we’re happy to point you in the right direction.

From June, the focus shifts to day tours and birding expeditions through the Wet Tropics with Kingfisher Birding, connecting visitors with the extraordinary wildlife on our doorstep.

If you know a special spot where the birds show up, we’d love to hear about it at [kingfisherbirding.com/partners](http://kingfisherbirding.com/partners).

**David Lyons, Kuranda**



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.

#### KURANDA’S RIVER WALK NEEDS URGENT ATTENTION

I’m writing as a Kuranda resident and volunteer information officer at the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre.

My wife Sarah and I moved to Kuranda from interstate in 2016, and found the riverwalk of approximately 2 kms from the Barron River bridge as one of the most attractive features of the town. My work in the Information Centre has confirmed its importance also as tourist attraction for approximately 3000 tourists every day.

I have therefore written to the Mareeba Shire Council to request urgent attention to remediation work including landscaping, replacement of suitable trees, replacing and if possible increased seating, and any other attractions suitable for tourists arriving by train or Skyrail, or accessing the walk from either end of the railway station.

We understand the work is extensive, expensive, time consuming and requires the completion of repairs to the weir and infrastructure. However, after more than two years it remains an eyesore, full of weeds, many broken and sagging trees, often impassable with mud and water over the tracks. It is not a good look for tourists, whereas it was once a peaceful and majestic avenue of melaleucas with grassed areas for picnics, and quiet spots for meditation. I believe the operators of the Kuranda Riverboat are also concerned with the present state of the area and the time it has taken for Council to fix this mess.

Yours sincerely

**Adrian Fethers, Kuranda**

#### MAKING MUSICAL MEMORIES IN THE VILLAGE

Kuranda-based singer-songwriter Toshi Sakamoto and Cairns-based harpist Natalia Mann recently presented two collaborative concerts at Saint Saviour’s Anglican Church in Kuranda, with both performances drawing near full audiences.



Photo Toshi

The combination of harp, nylon guitar, voice and original music created an intimate atmosphere that moved between delicate stillness and powerful emotional expression, deeply touching many attendees.

Those wishing to receive notifications about future concerts can email [toshiharu3@protonmail.com](mailto:toshiharu3@protonmail.com) with the subject line “Concert Notifications”.

**Thank you, Toshi**

#### FAREWELL

LONG TIME KURANDA RESIDENT  
REINHARD HILLMANN DIED ON 4 MAY 2026  
AFTER A LONG BATTLE WITH PARKINSON’S DISEASE.  
“AT LAST HE CAN COME HOME”.

The Kuranda Media Association (*The Kuranda Paper*) would like to acknowledge Reinhard Hillmann, who recently passed. Reinhard was our thoughtful and supportive landlord for just over 12 years, most especially during the challenges of COVID. Our deepest condolences to Reinhard’s family, partner Jax and his many friends in Kuranda and surrounds.

## FAREWELL ROB RICHARDSON

It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of Robert John Richardson - a beautiful father, proud Poppy, loyal friend, and much-loved member of the Kuranda community for over 30 years.

Rob will be remembered for his humour, his kindness, and his endless knowledge about just about everything. Whether talking about the moon, the trees, or a bird no one could identify, he always had a story to tell and something to teach.

His family would like to sincerely thank the community for the overwhelming support and kindness following his passing, and extend gratitude to the friends who have established a GoFundMe to help ease the financial hardship now faced by his daughters.



## GO FUND ME APPEAL LAUNCHED

Tragically, Russet Park resident Rob Richardson had a car accident in Kuranda on the morning of Thursday 7 May. In need of urgent medical attention, Rob was flown to ICU at Cairns Base, where sadly five days later on 11 May, Rob passed with his girls by his side.

We are all absolutely devastated and feeling deeply for Rob's three young daughters and grandchild.

Rob was a delightful human, kind, generous with his time and always wore a bright smile.

These funds are intended to cover the unexpected costs of Rob's passing and so that he gets the send-off that he so greatly deserves.

Thank you for supporting this family through such a sudden tragedy and great loss of a very good man, and long-time local of Kuranda, Rob Richardson.

<https://gofund.me/b779acf4d>



### COVER MASTHEAD

Our masthead this month features an image of a Painted Grasshopper Dragonfly, taken at Speewah by renown local macro photographer Alan Henderson (Minibeast Wildlife Kuranda).

"A stunning dragonfly from north Queensland, a Painted Grasshopper, Neurothemis stigmatizans. These insects are masters of flight with incredible speed and manoeuvrability. Their massive eyes are comprised of thousands of lenses which provides excellent vision enabling them to pursue and capture other insects."

Follow **Minibeast Wildlife** on Facebook, Alan on Instagram **@alan\_hendo\_macro** or visit his website Alan Henderson Macro - [www.minibeastmacro.com/](http://www.minibeastmacro.com/)

Alan Henderson is a regular contributor to the Kuranda Paper. See page 17 for this month's Minibeast Wildlife column



## WORLD-CLASS HAPISTS CONVERGE IN CAIRNS FOR THREE-DAY LUMINARA FESTIVAL

Cairns will host a rare meeting of three leading Australian harpists this June, as the Luminara Harp Festival unfolds across Cairns and Kuranda from 5 to 7 June 2026. Bringing together performance, mentoring and creative immersion, the three-day festival places Far North Queensland briefly on the international harp map.

On Saturday 6 June, the Festival will hold an event at the Kuranda Recreation Centre with The Inspired Harp Creative Retreat, hosted by the Far North Queensland Harp Connection. Set in rainforest surrounds, the day welcomes beginners through to professional harpists, as well as musicians and creative practitioners, for masterclasses, guided harp meditation, improvisation and resonance-based music exploration.

The Festival opens Friday 5 June at The Chapel in Whitfield, where Melbourne-based virtuoso Katia Mestović joins Mossman/Port Douglas singing harpist Loni Fitzpatrick and Cairns-based festival director Natalia Mann for two intimate concerts at 1pm and 7:30pm. Two performances have been scheduled to accommodate both daytime and evening audiences, including regional visitors who prefer not to travel at night.

Tickets: Eventbrite (LUMINARA CONCERT) or visit [www.luminaraharp.com](http://www.luminaraharp.com)

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Cafe & Bar

Tacos Beers Cocktails Juices

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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?

The Disaster Resilience team have been busy over recent months with information stalls at the Great Wheelbarrow Race in Dimbulah, Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre, Dimbulah Community Centre and at the Mareeba library.

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 this is something you are interested in, please contact the Resilience and Disaster team.

## WHAT'S COMING UP?

### **FREE First Aid Training - more information to come!**

**Community Resilience Plans** are being developed to assist residents and stakeholders better understand their local risks.

We need your input to help ensure the plans reflect community priorities.

### **Come and have a chat with us at a market near you in June:**

Mt Molloy - 6 June

Mareeba - 13 June

Kuranda - 14 June

### **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!**



### **Expression of Interest**

With the wet season ending, fire is now our focus. Council is seeking expressions of interest 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.

Interested residents are encouraged to complete the expression of interest via the QR code. Take the next step in protecting your land, assets and livelihood.



**Visit Mareeba Shire Council's Emergency Management Dashboard for up-to-date information, contacts and more: [emergency.msc.qld.gov.au](https://emergency.msc.qld.gov.au)**

### **Keep an eye out for upcoming:**

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



Australian Government



Queensland Government

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



**KURANDA AMPHITHEATRE CELEBRATES COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND GEARS UP FOR A BIG JUNE**

The Kuranda Amphitheatre came alive recently as the Djawarray Celebration brought the whole community together for a powerful day and night of music, culture and connection.

First and foremost, congratulations to Djawarray for taking home the Queensland Music Award for Regional Artist of the Year! A huge achievement and a proud moment for the entire village.

A massive thank you goes to Dell and Levi for bringing the event together, and to the many performers, volunteers and supporters who helped create something that was about so much more than music. It was a celebration of community, connection, shared space and soul.

The response from locals has been overwhelming, filled with heartfelt comments from people saying the event felt "just like the 90s." Many spoke about reconnecting with old friends, seeing generations of families dancing together, and experiencing the unique magic that only the Amphitheatre seems to create.



Djawarray Celebration. Photos by Meike Simon Art  
Instagram: @meikesimonart | Facebook: @meikesimon



For nearly 50 years, the volunteer-run Kuranda Amphitheatre Society has provided a place where the community can gather to celebrate, create and connect. Run entirely by volunteers, the Kuranda Amphitheatre continues to build on this legacy while looking confidently to the future.

With this momentum building, attention is now turning to the inaugural **Kuranda Eco-Arts Festival**, taking place on **Saturday 27 June**.

This family-friendly festival will transform the Amphitheatre into a vibrant celebration of music, art, sustainability and community spirit.

Festival highlights will include:

- Live music from local and regional artists
- Eco-inspired art installations
- Interactive workshops and talks
- Market stalls
- Creative activities for children and families
- Food, drinks and dancing under the stars

Powered by the Amphitheatre's new solar system, the festival will showcase what is possible when creativity, community and environmental sustainability come together.

Visual artists, workshop facilitators, market stallholders, sponsors and volunteers are warmly invited to get involved. Email: [kurandaecoartsfest@kurandaamphitheatre.org](mailto:kurandaecoartsfest@kurandaamphitheatre.org)

**Kuranda Amphitheatre Society Committee**



- [www.kurandaamphitheatre.org](http://www.kurandaamphitheatre.org)
- [info@kurandaamphitheatre.org](mailto:info@kurandaamphitheatre.org)
- Kuranda Amphitheatre

**WHATS ON AT THE AMPHITHEATRE ~ JUNE**

- **Brackets & Jam – Saturday 6 June**  
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](mailto:theman@pixrecords.com).
- **K.A.S.T Theatre – Every Wednesday FREE**  
K.A.S.T Kids | 4:00–5:00pm  
A six-week crash course in street theatre, with participants preparing a performance for the Eco-Arts Festival.  
K.A.S.T Adults | 5:30–7:00pm  
All welcome. A new cabaret show is currently in development, so bring your ideas and join the fun.
- **Sunday 14 June | Kuranda Community Markets**  
A vibrant community market held at the Amphitheatre grounds.  
Interested in having a stall?  
Contact Wasana on 0402 130 225.
- **Saturday 27 June | Kuranda Eco-Arts Festival**  
A solar powered community celebration of music, art, sustainability and creativity.

**BE PART OF THE VILLAGE**

The Kuranda Amphitheatre runs on community spirit. Every event, market and performance is made possible by locals who pitch in and help create something meaningful for the wider community. Our volunteer rosters have been a little light lately, and with so much happening at the Amphitheatre, our capacity to keep up relies on our village stepping up to share the load. Whether you can help in the garden, behind the bar, in the kitchen, with social media, or simply lend a hand when needed, every contribution makes a real difference. Keep an eye on the Amphitheatre's Facebook page for volunteer call-outs and opportunities to jump in.



**BOOK THE VENUE**

The Kuranda Amphitheatre is available for concerts, workshops, weddings, community gatherings, school events and private celebrations. If you're looking for one of the most unique rainforest venues in Far North Queensland, we'd love to hear from you. To enquire about hiring the venue, email [bookings@kurandaamphitheatre.org](mailto:bookings@kurandaamphitheatre.org). The Kuranda Amphitheatre has been bringing people together for nearly 50 years, and with the continued support of our members, volunteers and wider community, the next chapter is looking brighter than ever. See you on the dance floor soon.



**Kuranda Community Markets. Even more in June**

**INDIGENOUS YOUTH JUSTICE**

**LETTER WRITING WORKSHOPS**

**CAN WE COUNT ON YOU TO SHOW UP FOR YOUTH JUSTICE?**

**CAIRNS:** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2 - 4pm  
City Library 151 Abbott St

**ATHERTON:** Sun 7<sup>th</sup> June 10am-1pm  
Merriland Cafe, Robert Street

**KURANDA:** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 1pm  
Amphitheatre 5 Barron Falls Road

**FOR MORE INFO AND TO RSVP:**

**KURANDA REGION**

**HELP SHAPE YOUR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN**

Council is seeking input to help inform localised community resilience plans

**Kuranda Community Markets**  
Sunday, 14 June 9am - 1pm

Residents of Kuranda, Myola, Kowrova, Mona Mona, Koah, Speewah and surrounding communities are encouraged to drop in. The plans will capture possible severe weather hazards and their local impacts, becoming valuable resources for new residents, visitors, community members and anyone wanting to find out about local impacts and community concerns.

## Councillor Column



The recent announcement by the Minister for Local Government of joint \$19 million investment from the Australian and Queensland Governments was welcomed. This funding is to upgrade and repair the Kuranda Water Treatment Plant. The facility suffered extensive damage during ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper in December 2023 and has been operating with a range of temporary fixes since then. The project will see new water intake pipework and anchorage systems, as well as raising the intake structure, upgrading the sludge thickener armour to increase durability during extreme weather. Plus a number of other upgrades to ensure reliable, year-round water security and prevent service interruptions for Kuranda during future tropical cyclones and extreme weather.

Mareeba Shire was included in the Queensland Government's 2026 Land Valuation Program, and most property owners have now received their updated land valuation notices from the Valuer-General. These new valuations will take effect from 1 July 2026.

We understand that there is still some confusion in the community, particularly around how these valuations impact Council rates.

It is important to note that while many properties are expected to see increases in land value, this does not directly translate to equivalent increases in rates. For example, a 40% rise in land value does not mean a 40% increase in your rates. Council only increases rates to cover the inflationary costs it faces and that is considerably less than what the valuation increases have been.

Because valuation changes will vary from property to property, individual rate changes will vary with some increasing more and others less than the average. That said, Council is committed to minimising the impact on residents and will make every effort to keep rate increases as close as possible to the current CPI.

The annual Great Wheelbarrow Race has drawn to a close for 2026, with 47 teams taking part across the event. On behalf of Council, we extend our sincere thanks to all participants, the organising committee and our dedicated volunteers whose efforts make this unique event possible each year. A special acknowledgement goes to the Kuranda team, the "Kuranda Rollies," who claimed the Social Team Award and proudly showcased the vibrant Kuranda spirit on their journey to Chillagoe.

**Cr Nipper Brown**

0429 931 061

PO Box 154 Mareeba QLD 4880

nipperb@msc.qld.gov.au

## MAREEBA SHIRE TOURISM JOB OPPORTUNITY

### EXECUTIVE OFFICER – MAREEBA SHIRE TOURISM

Mareeba Shire Tourism seeks an experienced Executive Officer to lead operations, deliver the Tourism Action Plan, and drive marketing, partnerships and industry engagement.

Full-time or part-time | \$70,000–\$80,000 p.a. Based Mareeba/Kuranda (min. 1 day/week in Kuranda)

In this role you will work closely with the Mareeba Shire Tourism Board, industry members, and key tourism stakeholders to promote the premier experiences, locations and products of the Mareeba Shire. The Executive Officer will be instrumental in enhancing the organisation's reputation and driving the successful delivery of the Tourism Action Plan for the Shire. Marketing, social media and WordPress experience is highly desirable.

*Join us in shaping the future of tourism in Mareeba Shire!*

Apply with CV and marketing example to:  
admin@mareebashiretourism.org

For details & to download the Position Description:  
www.visitmareebashire.org/mareebashiretourism

*\*Applications close 7 June 2026*

Visit  
**MAREEBA SHIRE**

www.visitmareebashire.org/mareebashiretourism

## MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL - COMMUNITY UPDATE



### Munch & Learn

FREE bite-sized digital workshop for small business  
9-11am Kuranda Community Precinct Room

Book online at  
[bit.ly/4mtTW13](https://bit.ly/4mtTW13)



**Mon 22 June: Beyond ChatGPT - the expanding world of AI**



For information call (07) 4086 4762



### 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



### The Great Wheelbarrow Race - Kuranda Rollies

Kuranda's own Kuranda Rollies were a standout in this year's Great Wheelbarrow Race, proudly representing the village with energy, humour and a strong sense of community. Taking on the full 140km course, the team lived up to their name — a nod to both Kuranda and the challenge of rolling a wheelbarrow across the region. While they describe themselves as a social team, their effort delivered a meaningful outcome, raising an impressive \$6,382 to support families in the Mareeba and Cairns areas experiencing domestic violence.

For the Kuranda Rollies, the race is about more than just the kilometres. It's a shared experience that brings family and community together. Their team includes all ages, with children playing a big part.

The Great Wheelbarrow Race has become something special for the group, turning what was once a bucket list item into a growing family tradition.

Their approach to the race is simple — enjoy the moment, support each other, and keep moving forward.

Their quote of the race (coming from a runner with fresh legs) "we need to catch the team in front!"

The Kuranda Rollies are a great example of what makes this event so memorable - local pride, family involvement and giving back to the community, all rolled into one.



L-R Cr Amy Braes, Anne Leahy MP, Mayor Angela Toppin, Deputy Mayor Lenore Wyatt, Bree James MP



Shamrock Space Studio



1300 308 461



info@msc.qld.gov.au



www.msc.qld.gov.au



MareebaShireCouncil



## Message from Matt Your Member for Leichhardt

Great to check in with everyone in Kuranda!  
I've been working hard, advocating for the Far North this past month, both across the region and also down in Parliament House.

The good news is that Jim Chalmers, the Treasurer, handed down his Federal Budget mid-May and we have received some significant investment in the region.

The biggest news is that there is a national Local Infrastructure Fund of \$2 billion announced, of which \$500 million will be specifically targeted for the regional areas of Australia – this money will be used to subsidise roads, sewerage, connectivity and everything necessary to prepare sites on which to build new houses.

I've written to every Mayor across Leichhardt (including Mayor Angela Toppin) and invited them to plan accordingly so that when the funding applications open, your area will be well placed to apply for infrastructure and housing expansion.

The North Side Urgent Care Clinic has been going from strength-to-strength delivering essential health care for folks north of the Barron River, and the Budget has now funded both of our Urgent Care Clinics to remain permanently as part of Medicare.

In the two months since the doors opened, over 2,500 patients have visited in need of urgent care. If someone you know needs rapid (non-life threatening) medical attention, the clinic is located at 7-11 Mount Millman Drive, Smithfield, seven days a week.

Labor recognises the importance of Medicare and its significant role keeping all of us as healthy as possible.

With 53 fully Bulk Billed general practices across the electorate, the two (permanent) Urgent Care Clinics, a walk-in Medicare Mental Health Clinic on Mulgrave Road, and cheaper prescriptions for all, the government is doing everything in its power to look after every Australian's health, both inside and out.

I always value hearing your voices, and if you want to get in touch with me at any time, you can call my office on 4051 2220, email [matt.smith.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:matt.smith.mp@aph.gov.au) or feel free to pop into the office at 200 Mulgrave Road. If you want to follow my movements more closely you can find me online at my website [MattSmithMP.com](http://MattSmithMP.com) or my social media feeds "Matt Smith MP" across Facebook and Instagram.

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](mailto:matt.smith.mp@aph.gov.au) | Matt Smith MP on Facebook and Instagram

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN KURANDA

### FINAL MONTH FOR PCYC YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN KURANDA

The final month for PYC Youth Activities in Kuranda. Just to advise the Kuranda community that June will be the last month of PCYC Mareeba coming to Kuranda for now, as our funding for this program expires on 26 June 2026. The program has been very well received and we thank everyone who has attended these sessions.



What is on offer: art and crafts, health and fitness, community engagement, education and learning, life and cultural skills and a light meal/snacks.  
Ages 10 - 17 years. FREE.

We will be at the following locations for June:

- Tuesday 2 June Mantaka 3.30pm - 6pm
- Tuesday 9 June Kowrowa 3.30pm - 6pm
- Tuesday 16 June Mantaka 3.30pm - 6pm
- Tuesday 23 June Kowrowa 3.30pm - 6pm

NOTE: Participants are free to come and go as they please during this DROP IN program. Parents must arrange transport of their youth.

Mareeba PCYC



## Bree's Barron River BULLETIN

Ms Bree James MP  
State Member for Barron River

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

Can you believe we are almost halfway through 2026?

### Kuranda Range Road

The year might feel like it's flying by, and I know some think the Kuranda Range repairs are stuck in the slow lane, but in reality, it's steadily progressing, just not at the speed anyone would wish for.

The Kuranda Range repairs are taking time because this is not a standard road fix. It is one of the most technically and environmentally complex road corridors in the country. Crews have been dealing with more than 30 major landslips, requiring deep geotechnical reconstruction, slope stabilisation, soil nailing, netting, and long-term drainage works. On top of that, the road sits within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, meaning every stage of work must carefully protect rare and threatened flora and fauna, while also meeting strict environmental approval requirements.

Native Title considerations and cultural heritage assessments add further layers of consultation and compliance, alongside the engineering challenge of rebuilding on steep, unstable terrain that continues to move after extreme rainfall events.

Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) are making steady but necessarily careful progress on a uniquely challenging corridor, and they tell me that they are still on track to finish the repairs by the end of the year, despite an extended wet season this year.

TMR has implemented manual traffic control to improve traffic flow on this critical route. A target average delay of 10 minutes is in place, with travel times continuously monitored.

Progress report to date: 37 sites identified for repair with 30 sites now completed.

### Thank You To Our Volunteers

Last week was National Volunteers Week, and I want to take a moment to sincerely thank every volunteer across Far North Queensland, including Deborah from Frog Safe whom I met with in April. The work our volunteers do in the region is nothing short of incredible and I look forward to working with our volunteer community in the coming months.

### Kuranda Eco-Arts Festival

Looking ahead, the Kuranda Eco Arts Festival is calling on artists, makers, tinkerers and creative minds to get involved. This year's theme focuses on solar, light and sustainability, encouraging low-impact designs using reused or repurposed materials. Thank you for the team at the Kuranda Amphitheatre for organising this great event, coming up in June 2026.

Far North Queensland continues to lead when it comes to protecting our environment while supporting local industries and I was proud to make my contribution to The Environmental Protection (Efficiency and Streamlining) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 earlier this month in Parliament.

This is particularly important for our tourism sector, which supports over 29,000 jobs and contributes more than \$3.4 billion annually to our economy. By streamlining approvals, the Bill will give operators greater certainty to invest and grow, while still protecting our natural assets.

As always, I will continue to stand up for our region, supporting local jobs, strengthening our communities and protecting the environment we are so lucky to call home.

Bree James MP

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



TERRA NOVA  
gallery.com.au

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- Canvas stretching and box frames
- Framing repairs



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[ceti.com.au](http://ceti.com.au)





# 10th Cairns Bat Festival

Sunday 28th June 4-7 pm

Wharf One Cafe, Trinity Wharf

Live music  
Raffle prizes  
Guest speakers  
CYCAS circus

Kids' activities, face painting,  
tattoos, craft, Bat screen-printing  
Prizes for best bat costume  
Free event - fun for all the family!




EcoFiesta Satellite event

## GO BATTY IN JUNE WITH BATS AND TREES SOCIETY OF CAIRNS: ENJOY A KURANDA 'FLYING FOXTAIL' AND TOAST THE 2026 CAIRNS BAT FESTIVAL

As the flying-fox pup-rearing season quietens down, with all 200 pups and several rehabilitated adults in creche or released to the wild, the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns (BatSoc) can turn to community engagement. It's time for the annual celebration of bats.

BatSoc works to build a community that not only co-exists with its winged nocturnal neighbours but celebrates them. We do this by working with all levels of government to advocate for conservation, better policy and legislation. We raise funds for bat carers, including the Kuranda creche and release site and engage and educate the community through a series of activities to raise awareness about bats and create community will for their conservation. We restore and create new bat habitat in partnership with other conservation groups and assist in the recovery of the endangered Spectacled Flying-fox with the Spectacled Flying-fox Recovery Team. We give presentations to schools and community groups, and we're also developing curriculum-aligned education kits for teachers to increase education about bats. We also encourage people to join our citizen science projects to help us learn more about both our flying-foxes and smaller insectivorous bats, so we can better manage and conserve these vital animals.

### HABITAT RESTORATION IN KURANDA

We're pleased to announce that, although we had a shortfall in funding to cover the costs of creche and release, which made us more reliant on donations and sale proceeds, we did receive a Queensland Government Grassroots Environmental grant to restore habitat adjacent to a major Kuranda roost near the creche and release site. Jax and volunteers from Conservation Kuranda are helping with weeding and planting native trees to provide foraging and roosting habitat for Spectacled Flying-foxes. This work will improve the survival probability of our hand-reared orphan pups. The grant also provided \$10,000 towards the costs of feeding the flying-foxes in creche as they learn to be wild bats. We are also grateful for the \$10,000 annual grant from the North Queensland Wildlife Trust for creche and support feeding costs. The \$20,000 from these grants covered around half the full cost of feeding pups from entering creche to release to the wild.

You can support BatSoc by attending our events, becoming a member and/or subscribing to our newsletter. Contact [info@batsoc.org.au](mailto:info@batsoc.org.au) for more information.

BatSoc invites the Kuranda community to join us for FNQ Bat Month, part of the Australasian Bat Night program. Events include the annual Flying Fox-Tail Trail (cocktails and mocktails at participating bars and cafes in Kuranda and Cairns), stalls at EcoFiesta, Tanks and Kuranda Amphitheatre markets – and the biggest event of the Bat Year - the annual Bat Festival Gala at Wharf One Café on Sunday 28 June.

Funds raised from the Bat Festival, market stalls, and donations go to bat conservation, including support for the Kuranda creche, Bat Reach, Tolga Bat Hospital, other bat carers, and community education. The good news is Bats and Trees Society of Cairns now has Deductible Gift Recipients (DGR) status, which means your donations are tax-deductible!

### Need more bats in your life?

Why not book a tour at BatReach Kuranda  
(Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays – ring 4093 8858)  
find out about our amazing bats, then pop up to a Kuranda café for your FoxTail.



Spectacled flying foxes at the Kuranda Creche. Photo supplied Bats and Trees Society of Cairns

### THE FLYING-FOX TAIL TRAIL, FRIDAY 5 JUNE – SUNDAY 5 JULY

Thank a bat for your drink as you enjoy a bat-themed cocktail at 10 venues across Kuranda and Cairns in the lead-up to the tenth Cairns Bat Festival! Did you know that flying-foxes and some smaller bats pollinate and disperse seeds of many tropical fruits used in making your favourite cocktails and mocktails? And that bats are the only pollinators of the agave plant, the main ingredient of tequila?

BatSoc invites members, supporters, locals and visitors to a Flying FoxTail cocktail and mocktail trail. Sample a bat-themed drink at various bars and restaurants in Cairns and Kuranda from Friday 5 June until Sunday 5 July. You can pick up a Flying FoxTail passport at any participating venue, at our Bat space at EcoFiesta or other events and from BatReach Kuranda or the Kuranda Visitor Centre. Each time you try a delightful bat-themed cocktail or mocktail, you can have your passport stamped.

There are prizes for completing the Kuranda leg or any four venues across Cairns and Kuranda, with bonus points for additional prizes if you get to all venues and extra bonus points if you try a FoxTail at Wharf One Café on the Bat Festival night (Sunday 28 June, 4pm – 7pm). Just scan or take a photo of your passport once you have four or more stamps and send it to [education@batsoc.org.au](mailto:education@batsoc.org.au) to enter the draw. Winners will be notified after 6 July.

Don't forget to post about your FoxTail on social media, tag BatSoc and the venue, and use #KurandaVillage for Kuranda venues.

### Participating venues:

**Kuranda** - The Butterfly Shop and Café, Le Petit Café, La Fonda Latina and new for this year, The Barron Falls Hotel.

**Cairns** – (City) Flamingos Tiki Bar, Three Wolves, Pist4cchi, La Pizza, and also The Hound Small Bar (Edge Hill) and Eazytiger (Trinity Beach).

BatSoc thanks the participating venues and Kuranda for their support of the FoxTail Trail and for raising awareness of bats to Kuranda locals and visitors. Don't forget to vote for your favourite cocktail. The venue that has the most popular cocktail also wins a prize!

### ECOFIESTA- SUNDAY 21 JUNE 2026 9AM -4PM

Visit our stall and Bat activity space at the annual EcoFiesta, Munro Martin Park, Cairns. Kuranda Amphitheatre BatSoc is proud to support Kuranda at the Amphitheatre events

- **Market Day: Sunday 14 June.** Come by our stall and say hi, and pick up your FoxTail passports. We will be at the Amphitheatre most market days this year.
- **Kuranda Arts EcoFest: Saturday 27 June.** BatSoc will be at the Kuranda Eco-Art festival with bat and wildlife artworks for sale, plus games and craft activities for kids.

Join us the following day at the Cairns Bat Festival for even more fun!

### THE TENTH CAIRNS BAT FESTIVAL GALA EVENT- SUNDAY 29 JUNE, WHARF ONE CAFÉ, TRINITY WHARF, 4 PM – 7 PM

**BatSoc's biggest event of the year, the Cairns Bat Festival, is an annual event celebrating bats and the environment. This year marks our tenth bat festival supported by Cairns Regional Council. We're celebrating the vital role of bats in our theme: Imagine a world without bats.**

Enjoy live local music by Frank Ridge, a microbat walk where you can try out BatSoc's bat detectors, listen to inspirational guest speakers and buy a raffle ticket or some batty goods to raise funds for BatReach and bat carers in Kuranda. There will be a visit by Kuranda's own Bats on Stilts, batty face painting and temporary tattoos, performances and workshops by CYCAS circus, craft activities for kids (book your time slot!) and a costume parade with prizes for the best bat costume.

There will be some great bat products for sale by the Jungle Collection and BatSoc's own locally produced goods including the Big Book of Bat-tivities, the Spectacled Flying-fox eco-board game, cards, postcards, stickers and bookmarks and the popular Bats of North Queensland poster.

You can find out how you can assist BatSoc, the Spectacled Flying-fox Recovery team and the local bat community to recover threatened bats by coming to our events, sponsoring pups in care, booking a school talk, or participating in our Citizen Science project "Bats in FNQ backyards."

And don't forget to try the festival cocktail! You can find more information and book tickets at [www.batsoc.org.au](http://www.batsoc.org.au)



Butterfly Shop & Cafe Foxtail



La Fonda Latino Foxtail

Cnr Coondoo & Thongon Streets • 4093 9026  
[www.kurandaartscoop.com](http://www.kurandaartscoop.com)

Welcome to June – the rain should surely be stopping soon as the cold nights start setting in.

Firstly, our thanks to Arts Co-op artist Ron Clark, who has been regularly writing for the Kuranda Paper column, with stories that we hope will help aspiring (and existing) artists in their creative endeavours. You can also follow our gallery news updates on our website [www.kurandaartscoop.com/news](http://www.kurandaartscoop.com/news). Also, big thanks to the artists who share their profiles every month.

## Photography Workshop

The members of the Arts Co-operative held a photography workshop to help gallery artists promote their work by teaching them how to take professional-looking photos of their art. Good photographs are critical for websites, social media, exhibition catalogues, and applications to galleries or grants.

The workshop also hoped to help artists build a stronger online presence and share the story behind their work through images of their studio, creative process, and exhibitions. By learning photography skills themselves, the artists will have more control over how their work is presented.



Photography workshop. Terry, Mollie, Kate, Glynis

## Tableland Regional Gallery visit

The Tableland Regional Gallery Director and volunteer team came through Kuranda last week as part of their Cairns galleries bus tour. It was a pleasure to welcome them into our space and share the artworks currently gracing our walls.

Some of the visiting volunteers had helped us install last year's exhibition "Gathered" and delighted in recognising a few familiar pieces. Their brief stopover was filled with lively conversation and shared enthusiasm. Short, though the visit was, it offered a valuable chance to connect, exchange ideas, and strengthen the creative ties between our regional galleries.



Gallery visit. photo supplied

## OUR PROFILE ARTIST THIS MONTH IS HENRI HUNSINGER.

### Artistic style/preferred medium?

My artistic drive is primarily visual – expressed through painting, printmaking, and image-making – rather than through words or writing. Bravo to Nikki, who articulated herself so beautifully in last month's column.

My work draws from a wide range of sources, with all the ambiguities that may be involved. It can be realist, imaginary, abstract, whimsical, humorous, or simply decorative. I work mainly with acrylics on canvas, but I also manipulate images digitally to create prints on paper.

### Motivation?

Whatever artistic talent I may possess fuels both my curiosity and the work I create, while opening up the possibility of shaping a personal world.

### Best piece?

I know there is probably one piece that is my best, but I could never describe it. Here's a small story.

A few years ago, a young sales assistant approached me in a shop and asked if I was Henri H. I told her I was. She explained that she had one of my paintings hanging in her room, that she loved it, and that she simply wanted to thank me.

I often think that she may own the finest work I have ever created ... yet I have no idea which painting it is.

### Learning new styles and techniques?

I am sure I still have much to learn. There are books, exchanges with others, experimentation, and above all, curiosity. Living in a small village like Kuranda is not the ideal place for discovering new techniques, although the internet certainly helps.

### Most challenging and rewarding part of being an artist...?

The greatest challenge is to create work that satisfies me personally while also appealing to others. When that appeal results in a sale, it is rewarding not only financially, but also as a form of validation for the work itself.

### And when you are not creating art?

I read, go to the movies, cook every second month, and visit local galleries.

### Describe your studio and best time of day

My studio is magnificently messy: piles of prints and drawings, tubes of paint meandering here and there, unfinished – and perhaps unfinishable – canvases, and works in progress everywhere. At the centre sits an etching press that has gradually given way to a computer and several printers.

### Favourite tool?

My hands

### Is art important?

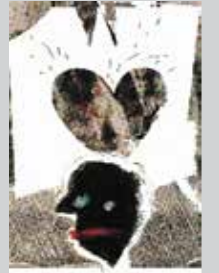
YES....



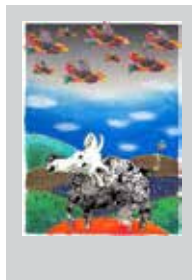
Self portrait. Henri Hunsinger



Simple Pleasures.



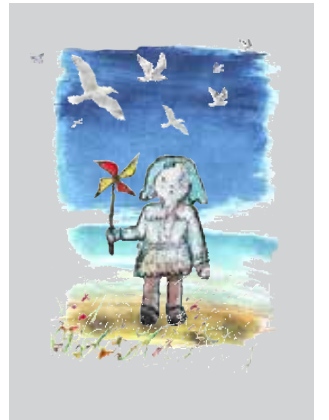
Shit I'm in love



Hi



Confusion



Wind Catcher

## LIFE DRAWING AT THE KURANDA CWA HALL

### FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

7 JUNE 1-3pm  
 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 but 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 and modelling opportunities contact Theo Tremblay, Convenor: 0415 127 089



Sketch by Rojua Virasilpa



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

As we move into the cooler months, the Tropical North continues preparing for what many operators hope will be a strong drive season. While petrol prices have eased slightly in recent weeks, there is still a level of tension across the tourism industry as businesses await clearer signs on how this year's drive market will perform.

Closer to home, preparations are underway for the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway upgrades, which commenced late May. During this period, many visitors will be arriving via alternative transport routes into the village, and local operators and visitor services will be working together to help ensure travellers continue to enjoy a smooth and welcoming rainforest experience.

Community spirit was on full display earlier this month during the Great Wheelbarrow Race. Congratulations to every team that took part, raising funds for charities and organisations while tackling one of the region's most iconic endurance events. It was another fantastic showcase of determination, resilience and community pride across the Mareeba Shire.

The May Mareeba Shire Tourism Networking Event also highlighted the strength of collaboration within our local industry, with over 30 attendees coming together to share updates, ideas and opportunities ahead of the busy season. These networking opportunities continue to play an important role in keeping operators connected and informed across the region.



Happy Volunteers Gabriel & Claire presenting the Mareeba Shire Tourism Regional Guide.

Looking ahead, excitement is already building for the Mareeba Rodeo and Festival 2026, returning to Kerribee Park Rodeo Grounds on 10–11 July. Friday night's rodeo action will see gates open from 3pm, with arena events kicking off at 5pm followed by live entertainment through to midnight. Events like this continue to draw valuable visitation into the region while showcasing the character and energy of the Mareeba Shire.

A huge congratulations also goes to the Mareeba Shire operators recognised through the Best of Queensland Experiences Program. This recognition reflects the quality, professionalism and memorable visitor experiences being delivered across the region every day. From rainforest adventures and outback landscapes to local flavours and unique attractions, the Mareeba Shire continues to prove itself as a destination that offers far more than just a holiday.

For businesses looking to strengthen their own visitor experience, Quality Tourism Accreditation remains a valuable tool. Through the Quality Tourism Framework, operators gain access to practical business support, training and industry resources designed to help businesses grow and maintain high standards. For many operators, accreditation is more than just a badge, it reflects the professionalism and care happening behind the scenes every day. More information is available here: <https://hubs.la/Qo4bk9390>

The Kuranda Visitor Information Centre is also currently seeking two new volunteers to join the team, with positions available for Tuesday afternoons and Saturday afternoons from 1pm to 4pm. Volunteers enjoy a range of benefits including local industry experiences, social connection, training opportunities and the chance to play a valuable role in welcoming visitors to the region. Anyone interested in learning more is encouraged to contact the centre directly.

As always, the message remains steady and optimistic. The challenges facing tourism are real, but so too is the resilience of the local industry. Collaboration, adaptability and community spirit continue to be some of our region's greatest strengths as we move further into the 2026 season.

**Simone Van Der Zwaag**  
 Manager, Kuranda Visitor Information Centre

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**10 & 11 JUNE**

**MAREEBA RODEO**

<https://mareebarodeo.com.au/>

**22 JUNE**

**MUNCH & LEARN**

**FREE Workshop - Beyond ChatGPT: The Expanding World of AI**  
 9am - 11am Kuranda Community Precinct Room, above the Kuranda Library  
<https://collections.humanitix.com/munch-learn-series-for-small-business>

**27 JUNE**

**KURANDA ECO-ARTS FESTIVAL**

at the Kuranda Amphitheatre

2pm-10pm

**5 - 12 JULY**

**NAIDOC WEEK**



**2026 Terrain NRM / James Cook University Spectacled Flying foxes Drone Workshop**

On 11 - 12 May Buluwai Rangers were excited to attend the 2026 Terrain NRM/JCU SSF Drone Workshop at the Daintree Rainforest Observatory. Ranger Ivan Brim says the highlights of the workshop included getting to try out flying a thermal drone (pictured) and seeing a shy tree kangaroo. Thank you to Terrain NRM and James Cook University for teaming up to provide valuable state-of-the-art field training for Indigenous rangers. Ranger Aden Brim adds "It was really inspiring and uplifting to connect with our neighbouring tribes, and their Indigenous ranger groups, to listen and share what we're all doing on country."



Buluwai Rangers join rangers from far and wide at the Daintree Rainforest Observatory to learn about, and try thermal drones to survey endangered species Spectacled Flying-fox camps.

Photos Terrain NRM, James Cook University



**Terrain NRM Facebook Post 14 May 9:36 AM:**

What a fantastic couple of days in the Daintree. New technology is transforming the way we detect and count wildlife populations. This week, 12 Indigenous Ranger groups partnering with us to monitor Spectacled Flying foxes came together at the @daintreerainforestobservatory for knowledge sharing and collaboration.

These groups are already building strong drone skills, and this interactive workshop — co-hosted by Terrain NRM and JCU's Centre for Tropical Environmental and Sustainability Science-TESS — provided hands-on training in thermal drone technology, along with survey design and data collection techniques.

This training is part of our Spectacled Flying fox monitoring project, which combines cutting edge technology (thermal drones and AI) with traditional ground counts — and the results are proving to be a game changer.

A highlight of the workshop was the yarning circles, where Indigenous rangers shared ideas and aspirations for caring for Country, blending science and technology with traditional ecological knowledge.

This project is funded by the Australian Government under Saving Native Species and delivered by Terrain NRM as member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel. The thermal drone project is supported with funding from the Australian Government under the National Environmental Science Program.

**Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water**

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:** 13 June, 11 July, 8 August, 12 September, 10 October

| [office@buluwai.org](mailto:office@buluwai.org) | [www.buluwai.org](http://www.buluwai.org) | [facebook.com/buluwai](https://facebook.com/buluwai) | [instagram.com/buluwai](https://instagram.com/buluwai) |



## KURANDA BRANCH

20 Thongon Street

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

Kuranda CWA AGM coming up in JULY; why not become a member? There are CWA Supportive Memberships and Active Memberships. Look up QCWA online to find out more.

Different communities have different needs and interests – we are a small group so plenty of opportunities to be creative. Together, we can improve the lives of Queensland families living in regional, rural and remote areas.



Country Kitchens in Partnership with QCWA promoting healthier living programs

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

**COUNTRY KITCHENS** has been promoted for several years by Kuranda CWA Branch but now it is in need of a new Co-ordinator. Country Kitchens is a partnership between the QCWA and the Queensland Government, funded through Health and Wellbeing Queensland.

**CWA CRAFT GROUP 'CRAFTS OF YOUR CHOICE'** with morning tea. Friday 29th May 12th & 26th. June 10.30am-12.30pm. Contact Trish Maude 0417050911

**CWA MONTHLY MEMBERS' MEETING** – Wednesday 10 June 9am. ALL Welcome. Contact via email.

**CWA DANCE GROUP** Tuesday mornings 8.30am – 10am Contact Sandra 0447 737 415

**CWA SODALITY** - beautiful creative activities Sunday 7th June 4-6pm. Phone Holly, 0494369462.

Contact the following hirers for 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** 0451949740

**Eckanker AU. Faith Group** 0452544490

#### 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 after 11am, Thursdays 11-4pm, some Fridays.

Please enquire via email address as bookings can change: [kurandabrand@qcwa.org.au](mailto:kurandabrand@qcwa.org.au)

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

### 'WHAT IF I DID THIS?' by Ron Clark

For 20 years I mostly painted from photos, virtually copying the photo as I saw it and adding a few relatively minor variations in shapes, colours and brushwork. I relied mainly on the natural characteristics of the watercolour paint itself to create a loose, arty look.

Although I've been happy overall with my art practice to date, I'm very aware that it was much more satisfying and enjoyable for me on those occasions when I engaged a higher level of creativity during the painting process. So the question is... "how do you 'turn up' your level of creativity while painting and make it your normal setting?" Here's a little project for you.

First, we need to recognise that everyone is already creative; we just need to learn how to activate it when we're doing our art. We all have inside us our own 'creative databank' built up over our lifetime from experiences, things we've seen, places we've been, challenges we dealt with, beauty we enjoyed, etc., etc. Without even knowing it we constantly draw on our creative databank day-in, day-out to help us through life.

To grow as artists, it helps to build our creative databank as richly as possible, by exploring art online, in galleries, in books and magazines, and also by paying attention to the patterns, forms and rhythms we encounter in nature. The more expansive your internal databank becomes, the more ideas will surface when you're making your own work.

Secondly, we must allow ourselves the freedom to play and make a mess, the freedom to experiment and make mistakes, to be free from conformity and constraints, and free from the fear that others won't like our work! Giving yourself this freedom can be a tough choice for some as it goes against what our parents and school teachers drummed into us. So be brave!

#### NOW GO FOR IT!

Adhere closely to the following four principles and work this way every day for a month, and watch what happens!

1. Paint for Myself - for my enjoyment only, I'm the only person who needs to like this! I'm not painting this for anyone else. It doesn't matter what others like or dislike!
2. Paint from Within - A reference photo can be used to provide a simple basis for the composition, but it's crucial to cut back severely on the amount of info that you take from the photo. Now, throw open your creative databank and note every idea that comes up from imagination, intuition and memory. Don't dismiss a single idea!
3. Paint 'Experiments' - Stop thinking that you're painting a 'finished' painting! Try new things, take big risks, 'push it' to the edge of chaos and see how it feels. Keep asking the question "What if I did this? and what if I did that?"
4. Paint Quantity - aim for one new composition per day, but with much less pre-planning and forethought. Don't get stuck on one painting trying to get it just right; put it aside for another day and start a new one. Always find beauty in the imperfections, for they will make your artwork uniquely yours!

Ron Clark is an active member of the Kuranda Arts Co-Operative.



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# KURANDA MEN'S SHED

*incorporating*  
**KURANDA SHE SHED**



Australian Men's Shed Association  
 SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

The Kuranda Men's Shed continues to benefit from the generosity of the local community, with regular donations of tools and equipment helping to keep the Shed active and productive. These contributions are greatly appreciated and play an important role in supporting the shed's projects and activities.

At present, the Shed has a number of surplus corded electric tools that are in good working order and ready for a new home. Rather than letting these items sit unused, the Men's Shed is making them available to the public. This is a great opportunity for locals to pick up useful equipment while also supporting the Shed—simply visit, choose what you need, and make a sensible donation.

Available tools include a range of drills (including a hammer drill), reciprocating saws, plunge routers, jigsaws, and circular saws. There are also biscuit cutters, planers, drop saws, and two table saws on offer. All tools are available for a suitable donation, with details to be discussed at the Shed.

In addition, there is a set of quality wooden bi-fold doors available for purchase, the doors stand 2 metres high and consist of four panels, each measuring 520 mm wide. This set is available for \$200 and would suit a variety of renovation or building projects.

The Kuranda Men's Shed warmly invites community members to drop by during opening hours to take a look and see what's available. It's a chance to find a bargain, support a local organisation, and perhaps even spark a new project.



### 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

**f Kuranda Men's Shed**

116 Kuranda Heights Road  
**Contact:** Daryl Douglass, President  
 mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

# WIRE WORKSHOP

## When, where and cost

Date: Sat 20<sup>th</sup> June  
 Time: 12.30–4.00pm  
 Where: Kuranda Recreation Center,  
 28 Fallon Road, Kuranda  
 Price: \$70.00 each  
 (includes all materials for  
 your creation plus tea  
 and coffee)

Limited places available – ensuring  
 you will receive personal attention

To secure your place,  
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Additionally, kits comprised of all the  
 materials you have used during the  
 day will be available to purchase so  
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## The details

This is a workshop being held by Amanda Purkiss, a well known local wire sculptor that has been using wire to make amazing sculptures for over 20 years.

Amanda will personally tutor you whilst you create a "Tree of life", which you will then mount into a horse shoe to complete your sculpture. All materials and tools will be supplied. At the end of the workshop you get to take home your amazing sculpture!



## Preserve a Lifetime of Memories

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### About Suzy Grinter

A Cairns resident since 1979, Suzy Grinter is an experienced writer and editor who has helped many older Australians preserve their life stories for the next generation.

For more information or to arrange a friendly chat:

### Suzy Grinter

Phone: 0417 796 310  
 Email: suzy@wordfactory.com.au  
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# A Grinter's Tale

Somewhere along the line, perfectly ordinary English speaking people stopped speaking English.

We no longer talk about problems, plans or teamwork. We now "leverage strategic stakeholder engagement frameworks to optimise collaborative outcomes".

This first came to me many years ago, when applications for government department employment started to incorporate 'selection criteria'. These were generally written either by someone who had eaten a dictionary for breakfast, had a night on the tiles or had spent years collecting big words that no-one had ever come across in real life.

I've probably mentioned that after returning from life in the United Arab Emirates, I bought my old business back (there was reason behind my madness). Having done a lot of recruiting in my job at BP in Abu Dhabi, I decided to add resume writing to my portfolio.

The father of a child in my daughter's class at primary school came into my office one day to ask for help writing an application for a nuclear physicist position at Lucas Heights. I said it would be unethical. He said it would be humane, as English was his second language, and that he was a scientist, not a writer.

I replied that I was a writer and could not split atoms, that I couldn't tell a proton from an antiproton (unless of course it had a plus or minus sign stuck on it). The conversation got quite silly, and after he told me that lots of people were helping quarks like him write their application, I conceded defeat. Until that day, I thought quark was something like Ricotta cheese.

Even in those days, the wording of the criteria bamboozled most folk. It got worse and worse over the years, and there was no AI to ask for a translation, I just slowly had to figure out the lingo. I got busier and busier as more poor victims of corporate jargon grovelled at my office door begging for mercy and offering large amounts of money for me to assist them in the translation of these documents that were akin to ancient manuscripts.

Here's an example. You can take a break after reading it.

"Demonstrated capacity to strategically leverage cross-functional stakeholder engagement frameworks to deliver sustainable, customer-centric service optimisation outcomes within a dynamic governance environment."

This, roughly translated means: "Can you work with other people without setting fire to the building?"

Or "A demonstrated commitment to fostering inclusive, outcomes-driven strategic alignment across multidisciplinary stakeholder ecosystems." You what?

Translation: "Try not to annoy everybody."

The good thing about working for and with, and by myself, is that no-one saw me panic when I had difficulty understanding this verbal diarrhoea. I would take deep breaths and take my time breaking the sentence into parts. You couldn't really Google such things in the late 1990s. The internet was still on trainer wheels.

Twenty years on, I feel I could translate the ancient Babylonian Code of Hammurabi after solving the more recent puzzles of the Queensland Leadership Capabilities. I don't bother translating them for clients now, I just tell them what I need in the way of examples, because I know they would deflate as noisily as a whoopee cushion.

"Distils and communicates the vision authentically to connect program objectives to the broader priorities", in other words, normal words, "Helps staff see the bigger picture."

"Achieves active participation and buy-in to the program by communicating with presence and pride for its intended outcomes", which roughly translated means "Encourages people to support the project."

Somewhere along the line "encourage teamwork" became "facilitate collaborative stakeholder participation frameworks supporting sustainable engagement outcomes."

"Leads change agendas, generating workforce readiness through timely communications and strategic support mechanisms that allow people to thrive".

Seriously? What about "Explains changes clearly and helps people cope with change by showing them how they will benefit".

Then again, perhaps every generation develops its own dialect. Bureaucrats write "stakeholder engagement frameworks," while teenagers communicate entirely through combinations of letters that resemble airport codes. Idk, tbh, imo, will we end up talking like that? I don't know, to be honest, in my opinion, it's a worry, no cap! smh.

I'm all for say it as it is. Just simple words. Which makes me think of something else. I am a big labeller of household solutions, and I keep it simple. No dietary content or free from preservatives etc that you can't read anyway unless you have perfect eyesight.

I had a very 'proper' customer arrive a couple of weeks ago.

That means changing out of the dog walking leggings, stained t-shirt and boots, vacuuming the dog hair from the office floor, clearing the desk of nose spray, pistachio nut shells, screwdriver(?), last night's potato chips, dog treats and yet-to-be-photocopied receipts.

But I forgot one thing. When the customer arrives, they cross my big verandah, and right plonk in the view of arriving visitors on the servery was a jar prominently labelled "Willy Wash". I froze. I was just too late to swipe it away in time.

For the uninformed, or frightened potential customer (male), you are perfectly safe. I won't go into detail but it's a very unpleasant and embarrassing chore that you put off forever, and pray to God no passers-by see you perform this horse hygiene task.

Ooooh, but the client? Of course, the more I tried to explain, the worse it got. I wished I had labelled it Equine Preputial Cleansing & Conditioning Solution. I longed for a rotten floor board on the verandah to give way and suck me into the abyss under the house.

I tried to explain the reasoning behind my labelling, as I make so many of my own solutions and they sometimes look similar, which could have dire consequences when it comes to horses' private parts.

For example, my beeswax furniture polish is not dissimilar to my saddle soap in both content and look, and that's okay, but my home made horse fly spray is identical in appearance to Willy Wash. I leave you to picture the consequences of an unlabelled bottle, or a house sitter having to work out what function hfs or ww perform.



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## From Public Education to Steiner Education: A Year of Learning

After one year as Head of School at Cairns Hinterland Steiner School, and more than 20 years working in public school teaching and leadership across Far North Queensland, I can say the transition to independent schooling has been one of the most rewarding and inspiring chapters of my career.

Like many educators, I entered teaching wanting to create the kind of childhood I was fortunate to experience myself: one filled with storytelling, projects, outdoor play, meaningful relationships and a genuine joy for learning. For years in public education in local FNQ schools and as a country kid from Malanda, I've worked hard to bring those experiences into classrooms and school communities wherever possible.

What I did not realise was that, quietly nestled in the hills of Kuranda and Cairns Hinterland for the past 30 years, there was already a school community intentionally built around those very ideals.

The school's teaching and learning curriculum includes the essential foundations of English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Music and Health and Physical Education. Alongside this, however, students are also immersed in rich practical and artistic learning experiences that are increasingly rare in mainstream education.

In our primary years, children add to their academic learning by engaging in woodworking, handcrafts, storytelling, music and artistic work as part of their everyday learning. As students move through Primary and High School, they undertake projects, investigations, yearly curriculum-aligned camps from Class 3 onwards, outdoor education and assessments that encourage independence, critical thinking and real-world application of knowledge.

Learning at CHSS extends well beyond the classroom walls. Students develop a deep understanding of the local environment and community through excursions, camps, bush walks, festivals and hands-on experiences connected to the unique landscape and culture of Far North Queensland.

One of the greatest strengths of the school is the sense of support and belonging that exists for students and families. Our students are encouraged to become independent thinkers while also being held within the structure and guidance of dedicated class teachers, specialist staff, brilliant teacher aides and a school culture that values inclusion, connection and wellbeing.

As an educator and leader, this past year has reminded me that education can still be joyful and creative while maintaining high expectations and strong academic outcomes.

For me personally, it has felt less like discovering something new and more like finally finding education that aligns with everything I have always believed schooling should be

**Chani Cardwell – Head of School**

# WET FELTED CROSSOVER BAG WORKSHOP

Create your own bag, using beautiful wool fibres!

You will be guided through the process of making a reversible, seamless crossover bag using the resist method of felt-making.

This is a beginner-friendly workshop held in a calm, nurturing environment at the Cairns Hinterland Steiner School.

We will be working in natural medium and raspberry-coloured Coridale wool, which we will embellish with different materials.

- Saturday 27 June, 2026
- 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Majella Mary School Hall
- \$120.00 - all profits from the workshop go to the Sol Group!

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All material provided (wool, bag strap and buckle, embellishment, resist, towels, ball brauser, bubble wrap, mesh, soap, etc.)
- Morning Tea
- Good Karma
- Completed Project

### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR

Julija Kolega Halilovic – Soul Portraits and Art  
Julija is a felt artist who has recently moved to Cairns from Newcastle. She uses both traditional and modern techniques to create sculptural, functional, and wearable art from wool fibre. Her process is deeply intuitive and connects the hands, head, and heart.

You can find her at Soul Portraits and Art, Facebook.

Julija.kolega@gmail.com

SOUL PORTRAITS AND ART  
FELTING



Woodwork



Class 4



Class 2



Class 8. Photos supplied CHSS

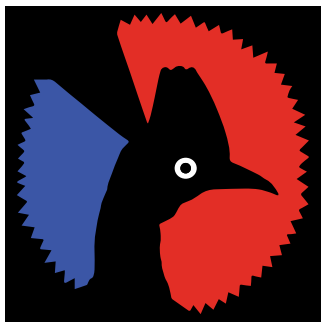
## Cairns Art Gallery – School Holiday Art Classes

Beat the boredom this school holidays with a fun art workshop at Cairns Art Gallery. Classes are for kids ages 5-9 and 9-14 and are all facilitated by experienced artists and teachers.

Bookings are open now for the June and July holidays, however we recommend booking quickly to avoid disappointment:

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

- 29 June, 10am – Art Gallery Dioramas with Narelle Wilson, ages 5-9
- 29 June, 1pm – Miniature Worlds with Narelle Wilson, ages 9-14
- 30 June, 10am – Air-dry Clay Play with Narelle Wilson, ages 5-9
- 30 June, 1pm – Figurines with Armature Wire and Clay with Narelle Wilson, ages 9-14
- 1 July, 10am – Creature Creations with Narelle Wilson, ages 5-9
- 1 July, 1pm – Creatures of the Imagination with Narelle Wilson, ages 9-14
- 2 July, 10am – Comic Book Character Factory with Lachlan Judd, ages 5-9
- 2 July, 1pm – Comic Book Character Team Building with Lachlan Judd, ages 9-14



# KURANDA conservation COMMUNITY NURSERY Inc

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Phone: 4093 8834 | Email: kurandaconservation@hotmail.com  
[www.kurandaconservation.org](http://www.kurandaconservation.org)

*The KCons Community Nursery is nearly always open!*

## NEW OPPORTUNITIES KNOCK

Our community nursery has picked up a couple of notable plant orders for wildlife revegetation, one for bat habitat and the other for cassowary habitat. Both are interchangeable in any case. We'll not only be supplying plants but also getting our hands dirty in the field. This is good news for our young cohort who are chafing at the bit for this sort of action.

We accept the compliment from Transport and Main Roads (TMR) to be tagged as a reference group for the upcoming work on the new Barron River bridge in Kuranda. Naturally, our focus is on cassowaries and any habitat loss they might suffer along with any loss of connectivity within their habitat. Our planning and mapping person, Jo Martin, presented outlines of where corridors might best serve to connect habitat in the region. We made the point that room for cassowary movement under the new bridge will be of paramount importance, an aspect TMR has already designed for. We're pleased to say that TMR's representatives were young, enthusiastic and informed people who had obviously studied the environmental issues surrounding the project and took all our concerns seriously.

We need to be aware that the project is going to be disruptive and noisy. Vegetation will be removed and we will be horrified but, over time, we can replace the vegetation. The current bridge has to be replaced so we'll have to be patient during the process of renewal.



The nursery is **NEARLY ALWAYS OPEN** and not far from your place

- This community **NATIVE PLANT NURSERY** specialises in plants that belong here. We care.
- You can get **BIN STICKERS** at the nursery or order online at [kurandaconservation.org](http://kurandaconservation.org) or at the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre. They make great gifts.
- **SNAKES:** We're happy to relocate an unwanted snake. We love them.
- We can refer you to **Native Wildlife Carers for Injured Animals**
- Want advice on what to plant at your place? Give us a call.
- Let us know if you see a cassowary on the road or in the bush.
- Two sturdy **BOX TRAILERS** for you to borrow. \$10 half day / \$20 Full day - 0439 899 731.

## CASSOWARY UPDATE

The breeding season is now underway. It's a difficult time for last year's chicks who are being told to leave home. Sometimes they don't want to go and there can be some rough parenting as both the father and his mate, possibly their mother, attack the young ones to make them go.

Sometimes, the male with his 1-4 chicks, now juveniles, does not mate again this year and the youngsters may stay with him for longer.

For the next few months, you may see adult cassowaries in pairs, sometimes with a juvenile in tow; you may also see juveniles in strange places as they search for their new home range. They are often disoriented and may be easily startled. Give them space. Keep dogs under control.

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.

[kurandaconservation@hotmail.com](mailto:kurandaconservation@hotmail.com) / [kurandaconservation.org](http://kurandaconservation.org).

## BIG CASSOWARY PROJECT

It's a very exciting time to see what the artists' group have developed during their last 3 workshops as they create a fantastic story for the BIG 4m cassowary sculpture for Kuranda's Centenary Park.

The story depicts the beginning of the cassowary life, then takes us through the rainforest environment, the food sources and waterways then blends into the present with the threats of habitat loss for the cassowary.

This artwork incorporates indigenous and non-indigenous culture in a magical way. It will be a public masterpiece advertising Kuranda for its history and place.

Left: *Hoya australis*. Photo Dianne Daniels



# BIG CASSOWARY KURANDA UPDATE

## PART 1 - PRESENTING PROFILES OF THE SIX ARTISTS WHO WILL BE PAINTING THE BIG CASSOWARY

### George Norman Riley (Jillimablu)

George Norman Riley, born 1964, spent most of his life along the Barron River at Kowrowa. After primary school in Kuranda and high school in Cairns he studied Art and Craft at TAFE, followed by studying visual art at Deakin University in Geelong.

George's artwork is in various galleries in Melbourne, Brisbane, Cairns, Kuranda and many private collections, both national and international. One major work was the design and painting of the historic Cairns-Kuranda Scenic train. He is very proud to be a part of the Cassowary Art Trail which gives him the opportunity to present his local knowledge.

George's art can be seen at Terra Nova Gallery, 15 Therwine St. Kuranda [www.terranovagallery.com.au](http://www.terranovagallery.com.au)



### Imogen O'Neil

Australian Rainforest Artist, Imogen O'Neil is a painter and poet from Kuranda. Her vivid paintings are inspired by her upbringing walking barefoot on these beautiful lands, and evoke a sense of place in Australia's ancient rainforest. Imogen has been commissioned by clients including the Cairns Regional Council on

community events and public murals; music festivals Island Vibe and Rootbound, and private commissions. She opened her Kuranda shopfront, *Art of Ion*, in 2021 selling mementos of the region featuring her artworks, including prints on canvas, apparel, and even small batch handmade hot sauce made with her own homegrown produce.

Visit Imogen at her new location, *Art of Ion* - Shop 5/19 Coondoo St, Kuranda [www.artofion.com.au](http://www.artofion.com.au)

Next month we will feature two more artists

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 or for more information: [www.cassowarytrail.com.au](http://www.cassowarytrail.com.au) | [info@cassowarytrail.com.au](mailto:info@cassowarytrail.com.au)  
The *BIG Cassowary Kuranda* is 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*

### Two Red Penda trees survived Kuranda's intense logging history

Long before pastoralists and settlers arrived in the Kuranda district, many rainforest species were in high demand. One such species well-known to the timber getters in the Atherton district was the Red Penda, a species also found in Kuranda. It was botanically identified in 1917 by Acting Queensland Government Botanist Cyril Tennison White, and *Xanthostemon whiteii* was later named for him.

Today, two massive Red Pendas remain on steep escarpment beside Barron Falls Rd. The larger tree is estimated to stand 45 metres tall, with a trunk circumference of 12.6m and a crown spread of 38m, remarkable dimensions by world standards. But why were these giants never cut down despite the colonial government's support for the timber industry with little concern for conservation?

Ironically, the Cairns-Kuranda railway was a major engineering achievement that depended heavily on timber getters working with rudimentary tools. These men moved through the vine scrub with axes, adzes, and crosscut saws, enduring dangerous and exhausting labour in isolated conditions. One historical account recorded that a timber worker, Jim Stanley, had been trapped beneath a tree near Cairns for 24 hours. He was found covered in bees and green ants and was taken to hospital in an unconscious state but died shortly afterwards.

Timber workers were often portrayed in colourful terms:

"the roughest of rough fellows, muscular as a working bullock, hairy as a chimpanzee, obstinate as a mule, simple as a child, generous as the slave in Aladdin's Lamp, [had a] fondness for rum and the capacity for absorbing vast quantities of it."

Although such descriptions were often exaggerated, timber getters led some of the

[kurandahistory@gmail.com](mailto:kurandahistory@gmail.com)  
 PO Box 896, Kuranda  
 Kuranda Historical Society  
[www.collectingbug/kurandahistoricalsociety/](http://www.collectingbug/kurandahistoricalsociety/)



*Photo Janine Evans*

hardest working lives of the early settlement period, assisted by well-trained teams of bullocks. Bullocks were preferred over horses for hauling timber because they were capable of pulling enormous loads across rough terrain.

Despite the demand for durable hardwood timber, the pendas may simply have been too difficult to harvest. Evidence presented to the 1887 Timber Commission revealed that sawyers became frustrated with the exceptionally hard timber, making it costly to cut.

The terrain also worked in the trees' favour. The steep escarpment near Barron Falls made access impractical when timber was easily available elsewhere.

By the late nineteenth century, attitudes towards forests were also changing. Concerns about widespread deforestation led to calls for timber reserves and better forest management.

In the end, the survival of Kuranda's giant Red Pendas was likely due to a combination of their immense size, extremely hard timber, difficult location, and changing views about conservation.

*Janine Evans*

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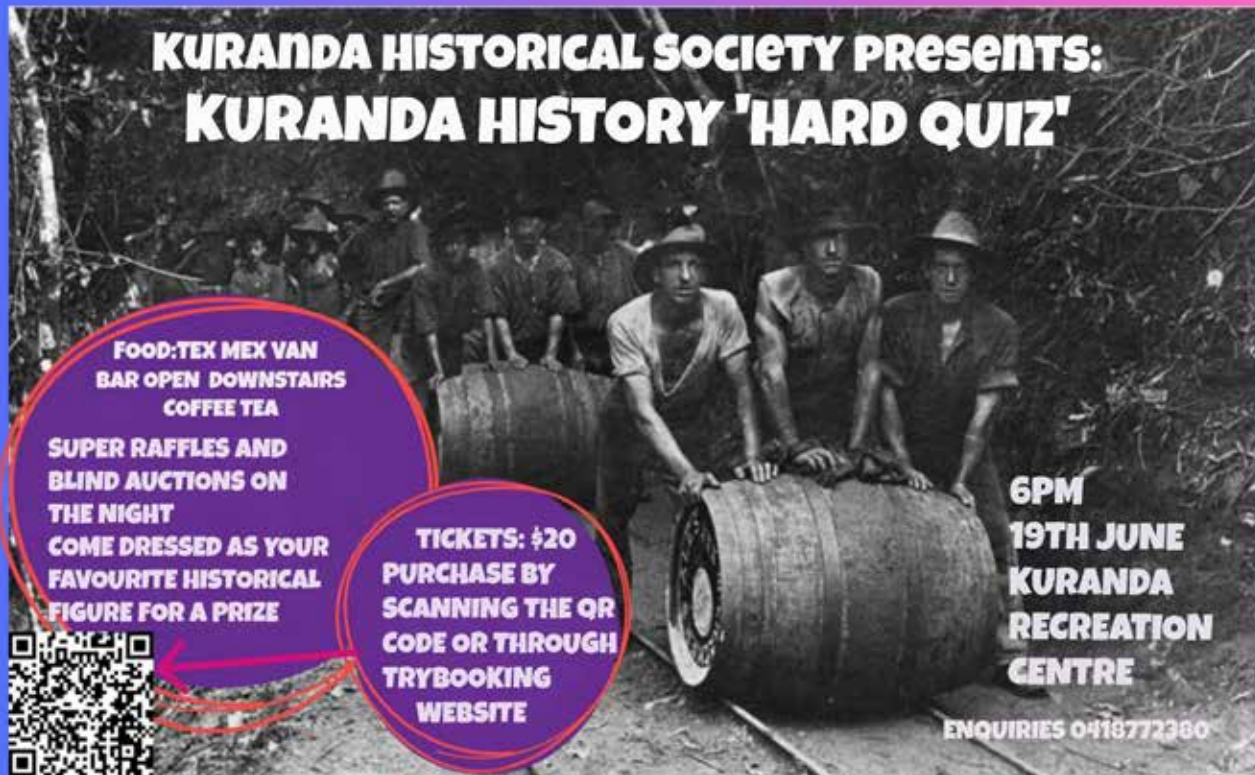
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# THE METRE-HIGH CLUB

The recent weather conditions have been a little different to what we have become used to for this time of the year - we had some late season rain! It is not just us humans who are tracking the weather patterns; millions of ants have been sitting underground, waiting for the perfect moment to leave their nests to participate in an event which would give rise to a multitude of new colonies.

A few weeks ago, that moment arrived. There had been some prior rain, it was still warm, there was no wind and more rain was coming. These conditions triggered the reproductive ants within vast numbers of nests to take to the skies. These reproductives are different than other ants; their task is to reproduce and they have wings to allow them to disperse from the nest. There are males, and, of course, females (new queens). Seasonally, ant colonies raise a number of reproductives which have nothing to do but remain inside the nest until the time is right to leave.

The sheer number of these ants in the air is astonishing. Large columns of ants rising in the air one to two metres off the ground everywhere where I looked on this balmy afternoon. They were above the roadsides, in the paddocks and even in my own backyard. There were literally millions of flying ants dancing in the air in the light of the setting sun.

The columns are formed by males and females from different colonies coming together. They twist and zoom around one another until they find a partner. The male and female ants then lock together to mate in mid air.

Once the mating-fest is over, it is only the females which have a future. The males have completed their life's work, and flit away to either die or to be consumed by one of the many animals which would have been eagerly waiting for the evening's smorgasbord of fresh ant cuisine. The mated females have bigger plans. They are now queens equipped to begin new colonies. Their immediate task is to find a suitable place to begin their nest. They land on the ground and drop their wings as they are no longer needed. Their lives from this point will be underground. They must dig the initial nest chambers all by themselves, and once this is done, they will begin to lay eggs. This is a critical time, and the new queen must tend and raise this first wave of her offspring as these will become her first worker ants. If she succeeds, her colony has begun.

For some species of ants, the life of a new queen is made a little easier, as they are accepted into established super-colonies which harbour many queens to maintain the million-strong masses.

It is sometimes only an event like this that gives us an indication of the sheer numbers of these small animals that normally go about their lives below our feet, unnoticed.

*Alan Henderson, Minibeast Wildlife Kuranda*



*A column of flying ants in a mating frenzy. Photo Alan Henderson*

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# Kuranda Kindy

14 Caroon St, Kuranda / 40938087 / kcka@westnet.com.au

## "To build strong relationships, we need to have many cups of tea together."

Kuranda Kindergarten has launched "Tea on T Days", a simple yet thoughtful ritual designed to bring children, families and the wider community together. Inspired in January by C&K's Welcome Back Day, the idea took shape after the team heard New Zealand educator Ali Porteous speak about environments and rituals. "A ritual isn't just doing a routine mindlessly... it's a way of building something into your life so that you don't forget what's important," she said, a message that resonated with staff.

Back at Kindy, the team asked what rituals they could create in 2026. Sharing tea with children quickly emerged, and educator Ms. Tracy extended the vision to include families and community. Recent professional development with Belinda Ross and Aunty Gloria (The Pedagogy of Walking Together) supported this approach when Mrs. Belinda said, "To build strong relationships, we need to have many cups of tea together." At Tea on T Days, sharing some fruit iced tea is a way to welcome everyone and invite them to slow down, sit together and yarn in a relaxed atmosphere.

Each Tea Day centres on a talking point. Term 1 highlighted Djabugay language and culture with Mrs. Tahalani; Term 2 is focusing on the kindergarten's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) goals. We look at what we have achieved and what goals we would like to work towards. Activities like weaving, beading and collage add a hands-on dimension. Families recently decorated "miya-miya" nautilus shells that will hang in the RAP goals area, with new objectives printed on them, creating a tangible, shared vision.

Safety and inclusion underpin the ritual: all teas are caffeine and nut free, children pour from appropriately sized cast-iron teapots, and sessions run twice a term for each group. Invitations extend to parents, Djabugay Elders, Kuranda District State College, local conservation carers, Djabugay Rangers, Mr. Michael Quinn and Mayor Angela Toppin. Attendance is growing; by the third Tea Day, parents were notably more relaxed, staying longer to yarn, create and connect.

The next Tea on T Days are scheduled for week 8 of Term 2. Kuranda Kindergarten's invitation is simple: come in, slow down, share a cup, and help shape the Kindy's future. In an age of haste, perhaps it's in these mindful sips that stronger communities are built. Look out for an invitation.

We have recently had a few families leave Kuranda and would like to remind families that we still have spaces available for Kindy children.

*Kindergarten age children can attend KINDY FREE in 2026.*

This is a great time to pop your child's name down on the wait list for next year or start now. Come in for a look around and a chat with our Business Operations Manager Mrs. Teha, our Director/Teacher Ms. Amanda, or our Senior Co-Educator Ms. Tracy.



Our miya miya look so good.



Our RAP is a tangible shared vision



Children love having their parents come join in at Kindy Photos supplied.



Adults need the opportunity to slow down and have fun too.



Children are proud to be able to pour the tea and take it an adult or peer.



## THE PRIMARY CAMPUS LIBRARY



The Primary Campus Library here at Kuranda District State College is not just a place to borrow books, it is a hub of fun activities for our students.

Many staff and students come in just to get out of the heat and to enjoy the peaceful quiet spaces and activities on offer.

There are many spaces to sit down and read throughout the library, including our lovely Reading Room. It is cozy, colourful and has a cuddly selection of Book Buddies.

We have a puppet theatre where students can perform a story from their imagination or re-enact a storybook.

There is a drawing station, chok-a-block with paper, colouring sheets, stencils and so forth. Many of the students' artwork ends up displayed behind the Circulation Desk.

The games cupboard is always popular every lunch. There are a variety of games and puzzles which get rotated every two weeks. It's wonderful to see groups of friends laughing and enjoying themselves.

Laptops are available for students to enjoy age-appropriate games or to work on projects or assignments.

Occasionally we have a craft activity running to

compliment a current celebration. And of course, Craft Club is on one lunch per week when our students can get creative.

Our library some days is a buzzing hive of students busy at their activities and other days it is calm with a few students quietly reading or doing a puzzle. But it certainly is one of the students' favourite places to be.



# KURANDA WASTE-BUSTERS

by Julia Mauro

## Reducing medicinal waste

### Hello, cold and flu season!

Being sick is a pain. It can also involve a lot of waste. This month's challenge is to take it easy when you're sick, rather than buying into the disposable and chemical-laden remedies.

At this time of year, advertisers promise to make your cold or flu more comfortable, shorter or even stop it in its tracks. But the best, and least wasteful approach, is to embrace simplicity and old-fashioned home remedies.

Invest in preventative healthcare, up your self-care when your immune system is low, and stop and rest when you're sick. The world isn't going to end just because you take a couple of days off. If you choose to soldier on, you're likely to be sicker, for longer, and infect others.

I find nothing helps as much as rest, warm fluids, lots of nourishing foods, honey and lemon and vitamin C (which grows on trees in cold and flu season!). Eucalyptus oil inhaled unblocks the nose and herbal throat spray is better for you than lozenges.

Cotton handkerchiefs are a waste-free solution (they have to be washed hot). But I don't want to wash hankies, so we strike a middle ground. Soft tissues are such a comfort when we're congested but, when we're not sick, we are happy to use toilet paper. We buy Sorbent boxed tissues because they don't have a plastic sleeve.

Unlike toilet paper, tissues must not be flushed down the toilet because they cause problems at the water treatment plant. We put our tissues in the compost.

At the pharmacy, where possible choose an option with packaging that can be recycled locally. Lots of medicines come in blister packs, which are difficult to recycle. Swap paracetamol and ibuprofen blister packs for bulk bottles over the counter (this option is cheaper).

Never put unused medicines in a wheelie bin. Take them to the pharmacy for safe disposal.

Consider alternatives. For example, reuse a washable fabric face mask rather than buying disposables. Band-aids are often unnecessary; wash small cuts and grazes with soapy water and apply healing aloe vera picked fresh from the garden.

Good hand hygiene is vital. Wash hands with soap and water after exposure to germs and before eating. Use hand sanitiser when water and soap aren't available.

Lastly, take a look at the bigger picture. The Australian Government reports that almost half of all Australians have health conditions that could have been prevented.

Doctors don't usually have time to delve into the underlying cause of a health problem, instead prescribing medications to manage the symptoms. Big Pharma is cashing in on this. Meanwhile, the pharmaceutical industry is responsible for a huge amount of waste and is passing the cost of waste management onto us.

Take an honest look at your health and consider whether any chronic health conditions could be linked to your lifestyle. Consult a natural health practitioner on whether there are homeopathic and nutritional solutions that could render your medications unnecessary.

Living waste-free can improve your health!

By Julia Mauro



Look for lower-waste options when shopping  
Photo supplied.

## UPCOMING NAIDOC EVENTS

BASED IN KURANDA



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# Little Sprouts Garden and Play

ALL WELCOME

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

📅 Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>  
🕒 At 10-11.30 AM




**Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC)**  
Operated by Kuranda Information & Support Centre Assoc. Inc.  
Monday to Thursday 9am-5pm | Friday 9am-1pm

There was plenty happening in May at the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre over the past month and June is shaping up to be just as exciting with a range of community activities, workshops and family programs on offer.

In May, the Centre celebrated both Neighbourhood Centre Week and Volunteer Week, recognising the important role community connection and volunteering play in keeping local services thriving.

As part of Neighbourhood Centre Week, the Centre launched a creative “Tree of Community” canvas project. One of the Centre’s young people painted a beautiful tree trunk onto a large canvas and visitors were invited to decorate individual leaves to add to the artwork. The activity has been warmly embraced by the community and the completed canvas will soon be proudly displayed in the Centre’s reception area.



Volunteer Week also provided an opportunity to acknowledge the incredible contribution volunteers make to the Centre every day. Volunteers assist across many areas including reception, governance through the Board and the community garden. The Centre also extends special thanks to a dedicated volunteer who travels to Cairns each week to collect frozen meals for community members. KNC simply could not operate without the generosity, care and commitment of its volunteers.

The community garden has also been a hive of activity, with volunteers and staff preparing garden beds and planting seeds ahead of the growing season. Community members are encouraged to get involved, with gardening sessions held every Thursday morning from 9am.

A special composting workshop will also be held on Thursday 18 June from 10am to 12.30pm, facilitated by Jaide Stronggrove. The event will include educational activities, a tour of the community garden and entertainment featuring artist Charlie Magee of Formidable Vegetable. We are looking forward to welcoming community members for what promises to be an enjoyable and informative morning.

Families with young children are also invited to attend the new “Little Sprouts” Play and Gardening Group, a collaboration between the Community Garden and Family Support program. The sessions will give parents and carers an opportunity to connect while children enjoy play-based activities and hands-on gardening experiences. Organisers warn that activities may get messy, so participants are encouraged to dress accordingly. Little Sprouts sessions will be held on Thursday 11 June and Thursday 25 June from 10am to 11.30am.

Family Support, in partnership with Queensland Health and Play Matters Australia, is also continuing its fortnightly playgroup at Kowrova. Families can enjoy free health checks, morning tea, and play activities on Wednesday 3 June and Wednesday 17 June.



Meanwhile, the Malara Weaving Group continues to go from strength to strength. The group, which began in October 2025, generally includes five to six women each month. As the Centre is located on Djabugay Country, members sought permission from a local Elder to use the Djabugay word “Malara,” meaning spider web, as the group’s name.

The group has been working tirelessly on a special cassowary mural that they plan to donate to the Centre. Members are creating intricate coiled weaving pieces that will be attached to a cardboard cassowary shape set against a rainforest-themed canvas background. While the project is a slow and detailed process, the women are proud of the progress they have made and are excited to share their work with the wider community.

Members are creating intricate coiled weaving pieces that will be attached to a cardboard cassowary shape set against a rainforest-themed canvas background. While the project is a slow and detailed process, the women are proud of the progress they have made and are excited to share their work with the wider community.



**Malara Weaving Group sessions for June will be held on Tuesdays 2nd, 16th, and 30th.**

Left: Jade, Trent and Mikey working on Tree of Community art project  
Photo Jade Falvo

Above: Malara weaving group cassowary mural taking shape  
Photo Suella Wason

YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND

# KOWROWA YARN & PLAY DAY

FREE MORNING TEA

CHILDREN ACTIVITIES | CHILD HEALTH CHECKS | FACE PAINTING

WEDNESDAY 3RD AND 17TH JUNE 2026  
10:30AM-12:00PM  
KOWROWA HALL

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# Writing your Life WORKSHOP with Edwina Shaw

Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre 9.30-12.30pm Fri 19 June 2026 OR Cairns Stratford Library 1.00-4.00pm Sat 20 June 2026

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Have you lived a life rich in experiences? Have you been thinking about writing your life story down, or at least some of the highlights worth retelling?

To give you all the tools you need to create a powerful piece of writing based on your own life, join award-winning author Edwina Shaw for this hands-on workshop on Friday morning 19 June from 9.30am-12.00pm at Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. Whether you’re writing a family history, personal essays or memoir, this workshop is guaranteed to get you writing!

Edwina Shaw is a Queensland author and editor of fiction, memoir, and screenplays. She is the author of *Dear Madman*, *A Guide Through Grief*, *Thrill Seekers*, *In the Dark of Night* and over 40 published short pieces.

She is the editor of *Bjelke Blues* (a collection of first-person accounts told by those affected by the Bjelke era), and *Hard As* (a tale of overcoming adversity), and co-editor of *Our Inside Voices* (a collection of Covid stories), and *Queersland* (a collection of queer stories as told by Queenslanders).

Edwina has taught creative writing at the University of Queensland and in the community for over 20 years. She also runs Relax and Write Retreats and Transformational Writing Retreats (<https://tinyurl.com/bdfm4rsy>). The latter is a

co-director with her close friend and colleague Kerstin Pilz (<https://kerstinpilz.com>) who after Cyclone Yasi in 2011, wrote her own memoir *Loving my lying, dying, cheating husband*, which Edwina edited. To see a Writing For Healing podcast of them both in a revealing conversation, go to Arts Nexus Studio on YouTube. (<https://tinyurl.com/mr22yr8p>)

*Dear Madman*, as Edwina’s latest book, unpacks the century-old murder of Shaw’s ancestor in the Lockyer Valley. A compelling literary true crime and memoir hybrid, the book has received overwhelmingly positive reviews for its compassionate, page-turning narrative, seamlessly moving between fast-paced, suspenseful true crime and slower, reflective memoir passages. The latest full-page review of *Dear Madman* is in the 4 May *Weekend Australian Magazine*.

Hosted by Kuranda Writer's Group (Follow us on Facebook) in partnership with Arts Nexus, there is an option to go to the same workshop at Stratford Library meeting room in Cairns on Saturday afternoon 20 June. With limited numbers, pre-bookings for either the Kuranda or Cairns workshop are essential at Humanitix.

(<https://tinyurl.com/mterpfn8>)

**Eve Stafford**



# 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 RESPITE: A PLACE OF CONNECTION, CARE AND COMMUNITY FOR LOCAL ELDERS

For more than three decades, Group Social Support—known as Ngoonbi Respite—has been a weekly gathering place for Elders and registered Aged Care clients. Operating since the early 1990s, the service continues to offer a safe, welcoming environment where connection, culture and companionship thrive.

Each week, Elders arrive to the familiar comfort of hot drinks and morning tea, followed by a hearty lunch and dessert. The room quickly fills with conversation, laughter and the unmistakable joy of people who feel at home. Music, games and shared stories create an atmosphere where friendships are strengthened and new memories are made.

Ngoonbi's dedicated staff play a central role in the program's success. Highly trained and deeply committed, the team ensures every client is supported, well cared for and monitored for their wellbeing throughout the day. Their genuine warmth and professionalism help create a space where Elders feel respected, valued and safe.

Weather permitting, the program extends beyond the centre walls. Fortnightly outdoor activities take clients to beaches, scenic spots and places of local interest—offering fresh air, new experiences and a change of pace that participants look forward to.

After decades of service, Ngoonbi Respite remains a vital community hub, enriching the lives of Elders through connection, culture and care. It stands as a testament to the power of community driven support and the importance of creating spaces where people can gather, belong and thrive.



Activities



Happy faces. Photos supplied Ngoonbi



Ladies playing dominoes

## EMERGENCY RELIEF AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT CONTINUE ACROSS NGOONBI REGION

Ngoonbi continues its commitment to supporting local families and individuals through its Emergency Relief Program, providing essential assistance to those experiencing crisis. With an allocated budget distributed each week, the program offers practical help to individuals, couples and families facing financial hardship or unexpected challenges.

In addition to further support, transport services are available to community members who require assistance getting to appointments, shopping or essential activities. Bookings are encouraged 48 hours in advance, though urgent transport may be arranged depending on driver availability. Community members are advised to contact the Ngoonbi office (40937 177) directly for immediate needs.



Serving of food and ladies playing Bingo  
 Photos supplied Ngoonbi

## SUICIDE INTERVENTION TRAINING STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND SUPPORT

A Suicide 1st Aid Intervention skills training was held 14 May at Ngoonbi Respite, facilitated by CORE Australia (Community Owned Response to eliminating Suicide, www.cores.org.au) and co-facilitated by Beacon Strategies and Mulungu, with 15 participants attending. The full day workshop focused on building understanding, confidence and practical skills to support individuals who may be experiencing suicidal thoughts.

Participants described the training as both insightful and eye opening, gaining a deeper understanding of how body language, behavioural changes and even silence can signal that someone may be at risk of suicide.

### Key messages throughout the session were:

- Use the appropriate language and questioning techniques safely and respectfully around suicide;
- Recognise the warning signs of suicide;
- Identify and develop personal self-care strategies;
- Seek help before a crisis occurs;
- Identify and promote protective factors;
- Identify how to support a person at risk to access appropriate services and to develop their own safety plan.

### If in crisis contact:

- Your personal and professional support networks.
- Lifeline – 13 11 14
- Suicide Call back service, phone and online counselling support available 24/7  
 1300 659 467

The session reinforced the community's shared responsibility to look out for one another and to continue building environments where people feel connected, valued and heard.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

The following events are scheduled for early June, offering training, connection and community engagement:

- **3–4 June** - Mental Health First Aid Training Community members are invited to register for this two day course aimed at building skills and confidence in supporting people experiencing mental health challenges. Venue: Upstairs, Library Precinct Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm Registration: Contact the Ngoonbi Office
- **5 June** - Arthur Beetson Foundation visit in collaboration with Mulungu, will take place at Bartley Oval, Kuranda, from 11:00am – 3:00pm. The visit aims to promote wellbeing, cultural pride and community connection.

Ngoonbi remains dedicated to providing practical support and meaningful opportunities for the community, ensuring that individuals and families have access to the services, care and connection they need.

*Ngoonbi would like to acknowledge our Creator Jah, Elders Past & Present, Djabugay Tribal Owners.*



# YOUTH LINK NEWS

## FROM MURALS TO MUSIC VIDEOS: YOUTH CREATIVITY THRIVING IN KURANDA

Youth creativity, culture, and music continue to be front and centre at Youth Link through our weekly Crossroads Creative Development Labs, delivered in partnership with Desert Pea Media and The Crossroads Project (funded by the Queensland Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support). The sessions have grown into a powerful space for connection, expression, and community pride, bringing young people together each week to explore songwriting, music production, visual arts, and cultural storytelling in a relaxed, relationship-first environment. What continues to stand out is the way local artists, mentors, and community members consistently show up to invest in the next generation.

Local knowledge holder and creative Wally Brim has been leading visual arts sessions with a group of young people, supporting creative skills development and building confidence through collaborative artmaking. Alongside this, a group of young women have begun designing their own mural centred around the theme "Respect Country," featuring local native animals represented through a Djabugay-inspired art style. The project has been entirely youth-led, with participants choosing the theme and direction following discussions around caring for Country, identity, and community.



The centre also recently welcomed local Indigenous MC and rapper Kale Bardi from the hip-hop collective Water Streets into the creative development sessions. Recognised through Triple J Unearthed for blending hip-hop, funk, soul, and storytelling connected to place, culture, and community, Kale spent time yarning with young people about music, creativity, identity, and navigating the music industry as a young Indigenous artist from Far North Queensland.

Kale also shared parts of his creative journey, encouraging young people to back themselves, stay connected to culture, and use music and storytelling as positive outlets for expression and connection. For many participants, connecting directly with local artists creating nationally recognised work while remaining grounded in community is incredibly inspiring, highlighting the importance of local role models and culturally grounded mentorship opportunities.

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.

We also want to give a huge shout out to local artist Djawarray on recently taking out a Queensland Music Award - an incredible achievement and something the whole community should be proud of.

Over the weekend, the Kuranda Amphitheatre hosted a community gig celebrating Djawarray's success alongside a lineup of local bands and artists. A huge congratulations to the organisers, volunteers, performers, and the Amphitheatre team who pulled together such an incredible and wholesome event. The night was a powerful reminder of how strong, connected, and talented the Far North music community truly is.

At Youth Link, we continue to see how creative spaces can become important places of belonging, expression, and connection for young people, and remain deeply grateful to all the artists, mentors, Elders, organisations and community members who continue to walk alongside them.



Photos supplied Youth Link

**Community Nursery and Landcare**

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

**Plant of the Month:**

**Acacia mangium – Mangium**

Mangium (*Acacia mangium*) is a fast-growing pioneer tree found from Heathlands National Park to Ingham. Suited to full sun or part shade, it reaches around 30m and is valuable for land rehabilitation. It flowers in May–June and produces coiled pods from September to November, with seeds eaten by parrots.

Photo credit: Vern Hansen



**ENVIROCARE NURSERY**

284 Myola Road, Kuranda

Monday and Thursday 9am–12 noon

Saturday 10am–12 noon

**Do you want to plant trees on your land?**

**- by Marjorie Cutting**

Kuranda has one of the most varied and interesting natural environments in Australia. Situated in a narrow part of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, it is the only location where species can move between the northern and southern forests of the protected World Heritage Area (Wet Tropics Management Authority 2024).

Kuranda Envirocare has identified a belt of good quality rainforest to the west and south of Kuranda which offers an alternative habitat link (Kuranda Envirolink Corridor - see the accompanying map). Revegetation that extends and strengthens this corridor and a smaller corridor known as the Fairylands Link (located nearer to Kuranda village) is considered especially valuable.

If you live near these corridors and want to plant trees on your land, then we would be delighted to support you with helpful advice on suitable species, planting techniques and even planting assistance by community volunteers. We can also offer guidance on accessing community and government-based resources.

The Cain Creek Corridor is an example of a successful revegetation project undertaken by local landowners and Envirocare volunteers over a five-year period. The longer-term hope for this previously degraded stream is that the revegetated stream bank will provide habitat for the critically endangered Kuranda Tree Frog.

By planting species native to the original forests of the area, revegetation can be achieved quite quickly, giving trees a 40-50 year head start on their 500-year journey to mature rainforest.

For landowners with larger areas of land who might be thinking about ambitious planting programs, there are conservation and revegetation programs that support a range of land management activities:

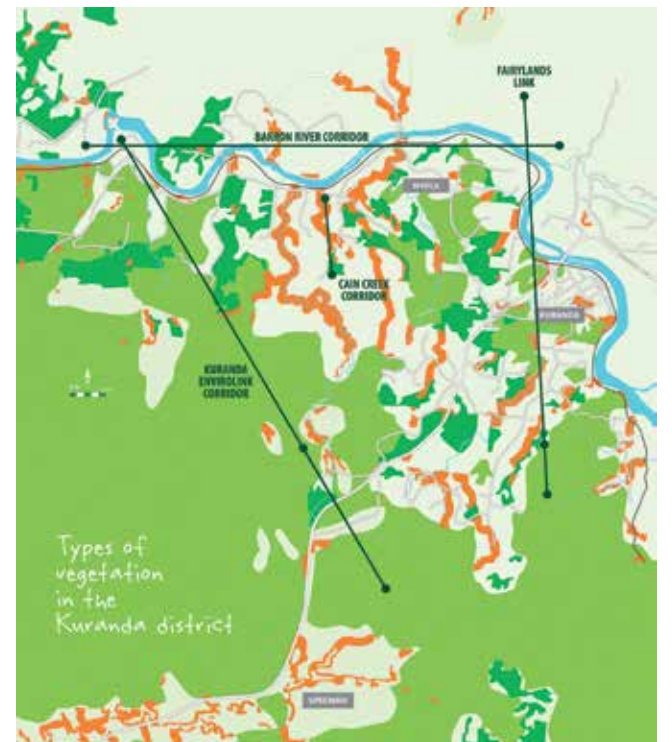
- Land Care Australia
- Greening Australia
- Greenfleet (*supporting the wildlife habitat restoration in the Mareeba wetlands*)
- Queensland Government Land Restoration Fund (*including carbon sequestration*)
- Nature Refuge Landholder Grants
- Grassroots Environment Grants (*supporting Envirocare with the Kuranda Tree Frog Corridor Revegetation Plan at Kuranda District College*).

The Soils for Life website provides links to some of these programs:

[soilsforlife.org.au/conservation-and-revegetation-programs/](http://soilsforlife.org.au/conservation-and-revegetation-programs/)

If you are thinking about revegetation on your property visit the Kuranda Envirocare nursery at 284 Myola Road or contact us at [nurseryenvirocare@gmail.com](mailto:nurseryenvirocare@gmail.com).

**JUNE 2026 KURANDA VEGETATION TYPES**



- Road
- ▬ Railway
- ▬ River/creek
- RVM category B (dominant vegetation)
- RVM category C (high value regrowth vegetation)
- RVM category B (leaf regrowth watercourse vegetation)



Photo Samuel Wylie

**KURANDA - GET BEHIND THE BLITZ TO ERADICATE ELECTRIC ANTS!**

The National Electric Ant Eradication Program (NEAEP), operated by Biosecurity Queensland within the Department of Primary Industries (DPI), is urging residents, businesses and landowners in Kuranda, Myola, Kowrowa, Speewah and Koah to join in the fight to stamp out the serious threat posed by electric ants.

Since the first detection of electric ants in Kuranda and its surrounding suburbs in 2010, 40 infestations have been identified in Kuranda alone.

To combat this ongoing threat, the NEAEP is organising a large-scale surveillance operation in the Kuranda region across the weekend of 30–31 May 2026. This initiative will involve inspections along roadside verges and common areas, as well as free yard checks for residents and businesses.

Property owners are strongly encouraged to book a free yard check ahead of the blitz. By granting easy access to properties and notifying the team of potential challenges, such as locked gates or pets, locals can play a crucial role in the eradication effort.

"It is incredibly important that we check every property," NEAEP Principal Project Officer, Gary Morton said.

"If even one property is missed, it could harbour an infestation, putting the entire eradication effort at risk."

The last blitz in 2023 uncovered four new infestations, and with more recent detections in Kuranda, Koah and surrounding areas, this year's operation is more critical than ever.

*If you would like to volunteer to assist with the blitz, please contact:*

Sharyn Anisset

0423 822 210

or email to register [electricantinfo@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:electricantinfo@dpi.qld.gov.au)

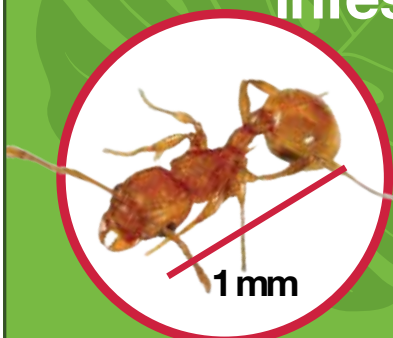


**HELP SAVE FNQ FROM ELECTRIC ANTS**

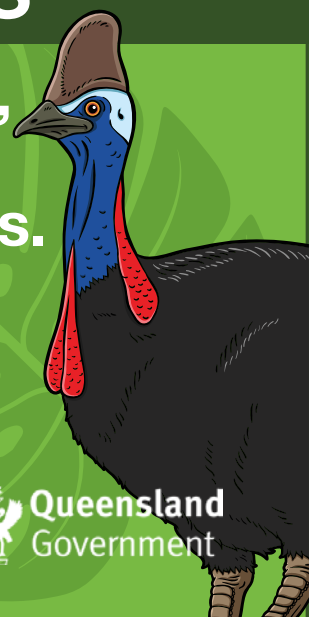
Electric ants pose a serious threat to our wildlife, pets and environment. More than 40% of infestations are found during free property checks.

**Please book yours today**

Please nominate *The Kuranda Paper* as how you heard of us!



**13 25 23**  
[dpi.qld.gov.au/anthunt](http://dpi.qld.gov.au/anthunt)





## a view from the understorey by Paul Devine

### WOULD YOU LIKE A SIDE DISH OF MAL-INFORMATION WITH YOUR DIS-INFORMATION?

We all know the feeling of being pushed into a corner or feeling that we are on the wrong end of an imbalance of power. Maybe we are protecting ourselves or others close to us. Under these conditions most will acquiesce to the circumstances and use some form of subterfuge to extract ourselves with as little guilt as possible. These instances can be forgiven and the ethics pondered later.

However, a different kettle of fish completely is a blatant lie. For as long as there has been an idea, movement or 'ism' or something in a bottle to sell, those with thicker skin who crave gaining personal, political or commercial power over somebody else, think snake-oil salesman, con-man, cult leader and some politicians, have been adept at looking you directly in the eye or camera lens and bending the truth like a Uri Geller spoon, seemingly with little or no guilt.

In the same category, pseudo-science has always floated around the periphery of our known world. In the 1960s, as a teenager, I was beside myself with excitement awaiting more information on the latest photos of the Loch Ness monster. Sadly later proven to have been faked by the researcher looking to recoup some of the money he had spent on his expensive work. Later again, it was grainy images of Saskatchewan or Big-Foot, supposedly taken by a photographer in the snowy wilds of Alaska, who also claimed to have obtained some hair and scalp of the animal but left it on a rock and forgot to bring it back. Thor Heyerdahl's remarkable voyage in a balsa-raft across the Pacific, mangling and mashing all accepted theories of archeology and the movement of human beings around the earth along the way, to promote an alternative reality.

Living through, and learning from, these experiences, however, does not prepare one for the assault of mis-information that we are now subjected to whenever we access any type of media or even associate in public.

Mis-information is the catchphrase used to describe false information; however, the Museum of Australian Democracy rather kindly defines mis-information as false and misleading information created or shared by mistake, without the intent to mislead. This differs from dis-information which is similarly false and misleading but created and shared to deliberately mislead us.

For me an even darker version can be found in mal-information which is information based in fact that is manipulated, presented out of context, or shared to deliberately cause harm. This is truly a 'dark art' and one perfected by the seemingly never-ending stream of alt-right dominated influencers, commentators, bloggers, vloggers and autocratic leaning populist politicians. The trick here is to provide evidence of the thing that you either oppose or support, with no broader data or information to provide background or context. The more spectacular or dramatic the evidence the better.

Given the high stakes and huge financial investments involved, the inevitable transition to renewable energy has become a flash-point for mal-information. Here the objective is to make claims that contain some factual evidence but would not necessarily survive rigorous scrutiny, with the hope of creating distrust, delay, hesitation and even institutional mistrust.

A classic example of a successfully executed mal-information campaign is that carried out over the last few years against electric vehicles. Here, those spreading the mal-information, often funded by fossil fuel companies, focused on what they called the propensity of the lithium-iron batteries within electric vehicles to burst into flames. Hints and snatches of data were provided to support the case. It was true, alarmingly some electric vehicles did burst into flames. But when the full data, provided in the Australian context by Swinburne University of Technology is analysed, it shows clearly that while EV battery fires in general present a new set of issues to fire fighters and traffic managers, fires in petrol or diesel internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles are 20 - 80 times more prevalent than those in EVs. Reading this again drew my mind back to my teenage years when out of the blue, the family car (a wonderful little 800cc Mini-minor) parked under our high-set house burst into flames at 2.30 am one morning. My mum, notoriously a nervous light sleeper, woke us all to the smoke and smell of burning bitumen. We pushed the vehicle out to the street and doused a burning capacitor. Just as well it wasn't an electric vehicle as it could've been dangerous!

Wind turbines and wind-farms have also been successfully targeted by campaigners concerned, they say, by a range of problems. These include the large amount of vegetation that needs to be cleared to accommodate them within the landscape, exotic illnesses, wind turbine syndrome, sweeping ecological collapse, wildlife strikes and noise. The strategy here has become one of 'piling on' and creating a very negative image of a technology. In many parts of Australia, the all-important roll-out of these renewable projects have stalled when communities and investors drop support.

As Michael Barnard wrote in his article "From hockey sticks to EV fires: The circular economy of climate disinformation", published online for Renew Economy (20/05/2026), "within claims against windfarms there is some truth, but a blanket attack helps nobody. Regulators, consumers, politicians and public need to understand the comparative risks involved". He says, "EV fires should be compared with petrol and diesel fires per vehicle, per kilometre. Wind-farm wildlife impacts should be compared with impacts from coal-fired power stations, power lines, habitat loss from fossil fuel extraction, and climate change. Solar farms similarly and so on. Show the data. Show the uncertainty. Show who benefits and who carries the cost."

Fortunately, where it really matters, wiser heads can prevail. The Hunter Valley, historically home to coal mines and their accompanying coal-fired power stations, and distribution hub for much of its State's power, has mapped a way forward, transitioning steadily away from fossil fuels to renewables, taking their community with them and ensuring future prosperity. They have taken control of their own narrative and will welcome no mis-information.

**Paul Devine, Kuranda**

*Paul has a deep interest in how we engage with and protect our natural environment and how individuals, communities and society may relate in positive ways.*



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**ASTROLOGY**  
**THE STARS IN MAY**  
by  
**ROB HART**  
RESIDENT ASTROLOGER &  
TAROT CARD READER  
4093 0218 or 0499 548 456

June begins with a burst of Gemini energy and that means, of course, duality, alternatives, "either-or" and so indecision, with multiple choices. And, on the other hand (very Gemini!) frivolity, dance, play and straight up childishness... not a bad thing if you've been weighed down because, if the Gemini vibrations have a message, it's lighten up! Messages and communications will fly thick and fast, with plenty of opportunities for the 'trickster' to play his/her games ...

How does this all come about? The month begins with planet Uranus at the beginning of Gemini, aligned with Ceres, the Goddess of Plenty, and as Uranus revels in the sudden, the unexpected and the downright revolutionary, there will be plenty of tricks, weirdness and the unexpected...

Mercury, the higher octave of Uranus, is at the anoretic, or final, degree of Gemini and, as Gemini's ruling planet, will go out with a firework display of news, information, messages and communication.

The full moon occurs on the night of 31 May-1 June, with the Sun at 10 degrees Gemini and the Moon at 10 degrees Sagittarius. So the month begins at a fast-moving, optimistic, far-sighted pace. All very Mercury Gemini - Sagittarius influenced. Make journeys, connect with friends, do business and fulfil big plans and dreams now.

Venus sits mid-Cancer. Some beautiful babies being born and creative works also taking life. Mars in Taurus keep the hands on the plough after the swords have been transformed - to quote the old cliché... Still it does offer positive energy going into practical, earthy projects and plans. Saturn in Aries ain't no slouch either, big efforts and resources into new projects and objectives.

As we proceed through June, with Mercury now in Cancer along with Venus and Jupiter, and especially with Venus conjunct Jupiter at 25 degrees Cancer on 10 - 11 June, some very beautiful beings and creations are responding to nurturing. If that 25 degrees Cancer point is active in your own birth chart then happy day! Especially if you have some Gemini in there...

The Winter Solstice, with the Sun beginning its track south again, 'return of the light', occurs on 21 June, traditionally a time of renewal and regeneration. A first quarter moon at 0 degrees Libra offers reward for seeking balance and aesthetic respect. The three outer planets: Pluto, Neptune and Uranus, are highly and positively energised in fire and air harmonious suspects. That says a lot about 'higher powers' taking a hand in bringing peace and balance to our little old globe. Jupiter riding into Leo on the last day of June: Zeus astride the lion! That is a very positive sign of wiser counsels prevailing. Chiron coming to earth and Taurus too: the Centaur lands... a fascinating month.

**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.



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



Photo by Simone Stander- Unsplash

BADA  
 BAGAL  
 BALGAL  
 BAYAL  
 BIBUY  
 BIDJARR  
 BUGAY  
 BUWAL  
 BUMBU  
 DABAY  
 DJANAY  
 DJARRAL  
 DJIBADJANAY  
 DJIBUN  
 DJILI  
 DJUGABAL  
 DJULMBI  
 DUGAL  
 DUGAYIY  
 GANGGU  
 GARRAY  
 GAWAY  
 GAWAL  
 GIDJARR  
 GINDJUN  
 GULI  
 GUNIL  
 GURII  
 GUNDAL  
 MARA  
 MURRGA  
 NGANYA  
 NYUMBA  
 WAGARRA  
 WAMBAL  
 WANDAY  
 WARRAY  
 WARRMA  
 WULNGGU  
 WUMBUL

### WORD MEANINGS

**BADA** head. *Ngayang bada baya-bayal.* My head is aching (biting and biting).

**BAGAL** to poke, to spear. *Mara bagal* to punch. *Djinaa-la-bagal* to kick.

**BALGAL** to construct, erect, build. *Nganydji bayu balgal.* We are building a bayu (a shelter).

**BAYAL** to bite. *Gudjangu gurraangu nganya bayal-a-galing.* That dog is going to bite me. *Gari nganya baya!* Don't bite me!

**BIBUY** small/young one/child. *Bibuy gunda!* Make it smaller!

**BIDJARR** a dream/totem. *Bugadjala ngawu bidjarri bayany ngawu wubun.* Last night I dreamed I was a frog. (Dreams bite!)

**BUGAY** to eat. *Gudjangu djamangu wubun bugay-galing.* That snake is going to eat the frog.

**BUWAL** a word, message, news. *Nyurra ngayanda ngirrma buwal bugan!* Talk language with me! Literally, eat words with me.

**BUMBU** fun, trick, joke. *Bama bumbu djanang.* The people are having fun.

**DABAY** to throw, to chuck. *Gudjangu bama-lu wangal dabay-galing.* That man is going to throw a boomerang.

**DJANAY** to stand. *Ngawu djanay-galing garru.* I'm going to stand up later.

**DJARRAL** to put something up, to erect, to perform a warrma dance. *Djundurru djarra!* Stand it up straight!

**DJIBADJANAY** to have a feeling someone will arrive, to expect. *Ngawu nyurrany djiba djana-ymu.* I've been expecting you.

**DJIBUN** a spoon/to weep loudly. *Darrnggi-darrnggi djibun djanang.* The old woman is weeping loudly.

**DJILI** eye(s). *Nyurra djili gurilanggan.* Your eyes are beautiful. *Gari nganya djili djarra!* Don't stare at me!

**DJUGABAL** frame of a bayu. *Nyurra djugabal djarral.* You are putting up the framework of the bayu.

**DJULMBI** tired, lazy. *Ngawu djulmbi garrang.* I'm coming over tired.

**DUGAL** to get, to catch, to grab, to take. *Ngawu burrin dugal-a-galing.* I'm going to get the bread.

**DUGAYIY** to catch on, to understand, to comprehend, to grasp. *Ngawu dugaying.* I understand, I get it.

**GANGGU** waist/halfway up something, like a mountain. *ganggu wanday.* To take a short cut

**GARRAY** to come. *Ngawu garrang garru.* I'm coming later.

**GAWAY** star(s). *Gaway djanang djin.galnda.* Stars are standing in the sky.

**GAWAL** a yell, a call. *Gari gawal djanan!* Don't yell!

**GIDJARR** a mark. *Nyurra milba gidjarr gundal.* You are skilled at making marks/drawing/painting/art.

**GINDJUN** wet. *Nyurra gambit gindjun maying.* Your clothes are becoming wet.

**GULI** angry. *Gudji bama guli garrang.* That person is coming over angry.

**GUNIL** to cut. *Gari nganya guni!* Don't cut me!

**GURII** good, well, fine. *Nyurra ngayangu mundu gurii gundal.* You make my inner-spirit good.

**GUNDAL** to make. *Bama-lu wangal gundal.* The man is making a boomerang.

**MARA** hand. *Mara wambal* to put hands on, to touch. *Gari nganya mara wamba!* Don't touch me!

**MURRGA** a sulk. *Gari murruga djanan!* Don't sulk!

**NGANYA** me. *Gari nganya bumbu daban!* Don't trick me! Don't throw tricks at me!

**NYUMBA** spit. *Gari nyumba daban!* Don't chuck spits! Don't spit!

**WAGARRA** wide. *Wagarra gunda!* Make it wider!

**WAMBAL** to put something down. *Gudji gaba dibulnda wamba!* Put that cup on the table!

**WANDAY** to fall. *Gabaan wandang.* Rain falling.

**WARRAY** bad, no good. *Ngayang mundu warray djanang.* My inner-spirit is standing badly.

**WARRMA** corroboree. *Gudjaay bama warrma djarra!* Those Bama are putting on a warrma.

**WULNGGU** a song. *Nyurra milba wulnggu djanang.* You are good at singing.

**WUMBUL** hot. *Ngawu wumbul maying.* I'm becoming hot.

### DJABUGAY

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

#### Vowel Sounds

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

#### Consonants

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

- /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 bugan Ngirrma bulmba-barra.  
 Speak the language belonging to this place.  
 Djabugay ngirrma Windjirri bugaa.*

**LANGUAGE CLASSES**  
**Wednesday evenings 6-8pm**  
**Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation**

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

**ALL WELCOME**



## Kuranda Writers Group

2nd Monday of the month 10am -12 noon

Next meet:

**Monday 8 June - 10am-12 noon**  
at Kuranda Library, Arara Street

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

**All welcome!**

After welcoming Roberta as a newcomer, we dived straight into sharing our pieces of writing on 'Cockroach.' One might think this topic wouldn't have legs, but the group came up with surprising responses.

Magda spoke of hiding in cupboards or behind curtains as an adopted child who retreated into her own fantasy world. This fits entirely with research indicating a strong link between childhood adversity and an intense, highly creative adulthood. In this regard, the 2023 memoir *'Don't Tell Anybody the Secrets I Told You,'* by iconic singer-songwriter with three Grammy awards, Lucinda Williams, might be worth a look.

Toni's story was a banquet between a cat and a cockroach named Barnaby and Flicker. In Hans' story, written in the first person, he became the cockroach himself. This included his own experience of manholes. When opening a manhole full of cockroaches, he said, it was safe to enter. If there were none, an invisible, odourless gas will kill anyone who enters.

Roberta shared a long poem, then we laughed at Magda's story about an interview she did with UK actor George Cole where the director remarked to her in their shared Aussie vernacular that the lighting was "flat as a dunny man's hat," a joke none of the Brits got. Roman's story called Roach was a work-in-progress about after we are all gone, and cockroaches inherit the Earth.

Then Eve spoke of a 1990s bring-a-plate women's lunch at her Kuranda home. Gabfest sought to bring different strands of her friends to meet. Between courses, three friends were asked to speak on their areas of activism. The midwife Gabe said doctors dobed in midwives as witches to be burnt at the stake because they wanted to take over their jobs. But when they couldn't see what was going on, they forced women to turn over to lie down on their backs to give birth in what Gabe called "the dead cockroach position". After 400-500 years, Gabe's life-mission was to turn women back over, and assisted by gravity, resume control of their own birthing in any position they chose. In this, she participated in change at the Mareeba Hospital birthing unit, with the old/new birthing practice spreading sporadically state-wide.

Any goss? "What's the use of gossip if you don't pass it on?" There were some juicy stories shared from mainstream and social media before it was announced that award-winning Edwina Shaw has agreed to do a memoir workshop in Kuranda on Friday 19 June. See Pg 20 in this paper for details. Then we settled on next month's writing prompt as 'First Love'. All welcome at Kuranda Library Monday 8 June from 10.00-12 noon.

**Eve Stafford**



### Literary Dates in June

All month: Audiobook Appreciation Month  
- a celebration to promote the format, its accessibility, and its growing popularity

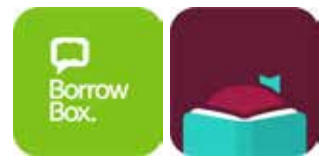
### Press play on your next great book

Audiobooks make reading more accessible and enjoyable, no matter how busy life gets. They let you enjoy great stories while commuting, exercising, or relaxing, and are a fantastic option for anyone who prefers listening over reading. With expressive narration that brings characters and ideas to life, audiobooks can make even familiar books feel fresh and engaging. They're an easy way to fit more reading into your day.

With the BorrowBox and Libby apps, you can choose from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction titles at any time. Some books may have a short waitlist, but the best part is, it's all free, and each month you'll find a selection of titles available for instant, unlimited download, with no waiting at all.

Curious to try eAudio? **BorrowBox** and **Libby** are available in the app store, on your device, and all you need to sign in is your library card number and PIN.

*If you'd like a hand getting started, give us a call on 4093 9185 or drop into the library.*



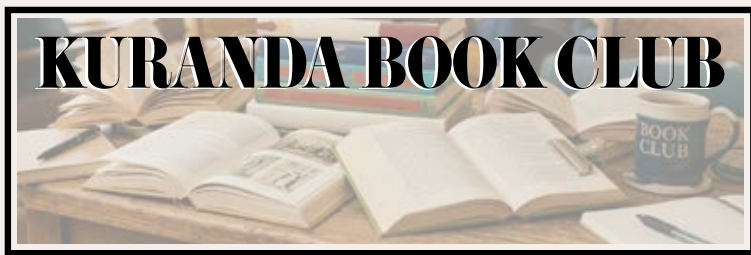
### World Environment Day:

#### Using library resources to shape a greener future

*Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future.*

Helping the environment doesn't always start with big actions; sometimes it begins with choosing shared resources over new consumption. Libraries make that possible every day. By borrowing books, digital media, and learning materials, you reduce waste, cut down on production emissions, and support a culture of reuse.

This World Environment Day, choosing the library is one of the simplest, smartest ways to live lighter on the planet while staying informed, connected, and empowered.



The Kuranda Book Club meets at the Kuranda Library, 10am every second Thursday of the month. At the May get together discussion was on the fantastic book *"Lessons In Chemistry"* by Bonnie Garmus. It was indeed a very lively and insightful meeting; the outcome being that the book was appreciated and loved by ALL

Next month's book up for discussion:

***"The Axeman's Carnival"* by Catherine Chidgey.**

We are getting good feedback on it already.



Photo: May gathering, l-r: Niki, Diana, Cheryl, Leslie, Denise, Jake, Jill, Colleen and Karin.

### Memories of Meg

From The Library of Meg, enjoy a curated mix spanning classics, manga, fantasy, and everything in between. Plus, enjoy some of her favourite movie and TV series recommendations.

Scan the QR code to explore Meg's full list of recom-Meg-dations.



### Book Review: The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

*Adult Fiction novel, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2003*



**Blurb:** "A powerful story of friendship, betrayal, and the quest for redemption, set against the backdrop of Afghanistan's turbulent history".

*The Kite Runner* is a book that really gets under your skin. It tells the story of Amir and Hassan, two boys who grew up together in Kabul, and how one moment of fear and silence changes everything. Even though the story moves across different countries and many years, it always feels very personal.

What I found most affecting was how real Amir feels as a character. He makes selfish choices, avoids responsibility, and carries a lot of guilt, which makes him easy to judge but also easy to understand. Hassan's loyalty is heartbreaking, especially when you see how little he asks for in return. Some parts of the book are hard to read, but they don't feel unnecessary, they're important to the story Hosseini is trying to tell.

The writing is simple and clear, but still emotional, and it paints a strong picture of life in Afghanistan before and after everything changes. By the end, the book feels less like a history lesson and more like a reminder that facing your past is uncomfortable, but sometimes it's the only way to move forward.

Best,

**Prin**

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FNQ WRITERS

### WRITING YOUR LIFE WORKSHOP by Edwina Shaw

**KURANDA - Friday 19 June,**  
9:30am - 12:30pm

**STRATFORD - Saturday 20 June**  
1:00pm - 4:00pm

See Page 20 for details. Bookings essential

### PUBLISHING ON A SHOESTRING

**The Workshop - 6 July, 10am-3pm**

Mossman Library, 14 Mill Street, Mossman.  
The cost is \$150 (plus booking fee). Early-bird rate of \$100  
(if booked and paid by 6 June)

Bookings and enquiries Eventbrite:  
Publishing on a Shoestring Workshop Tickets,  
Monday, July 6 • 10 am - 3 pm | Eventbrite

### BOOKS IN PARADISE

**Sunday 9 August, 10am-3pm**

Pullman Port Douglas Sea Temple Resort & Spa,  
Mitre Street Port Douglas  
Free entry with registration via Eventbrite using this link:  
Books in Paradise Tickets,

Sunday, 9 Aug 2026 • 10:00 am | Eventbrite

# KURANDA RANGERS

## FUNDRAISER EVENT

+ WORLD CUP GAME ON BIG SCREEN 2 PM



DJ JC, (FUNKDAFIED) PLAYING  
MUSIC FROM 12 PM - 2 PM, PLUS  
FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE



14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE KOAH HALL 12 PM TO 4 PM

FREE ENTRY, COME AND SUPPORT OUR  
LOCAL FOOTBALL CLUB



# RANGERS report

## Kuranda Rangers Fundraiser Event

This month, Kuranda Rangers is excited to promote our upcoming Fundraiser Event at Koah Hall on Sunday 14th June.

The afternoon will feature the Australia v Turkey World Cup match live on the big screen, along with music, food, drinks, and a chance for the community to come together and support local football.

The event runs from 12pm to 4pm, with kickoff at 2pm, and entry is free.

We'd love to see players, families, supporters, and the wider community come along for what should be a fantastic afternoon for the club.

Go Rangers!

For more information or to get involved, please contact:

[kurandarangersfootball@gmail.com](mailto:kurandarangersfootball@gmail.com)  
Keira: 0437 778 849

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

Follow the Kuranda Rangers Football Club Facebook page.

### 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 or come in on a Sunday arvo and chat to Tim.

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



## KURANDA HORSE & PONY CLUB NEWS

[kurandahpc.wixsite.com](http://kurandahpc.wixsite.com) Kuranda Horse and Pony Club [kurandahpc@gmail.com](mailto:kurandahpc@gmail.com)

The rain has gone! The ponies are finally coming out to play. The grounds are looking good, all ready for a Showjumping clinic on 23 /24 May. The forecast is for clear sunny days, which is a bit exciting.

The Horse and Pony Club participated in the Anzac Day Parade in Kuranda and it was lovely to be made feel so welcome by the organisers who were so inclusive and considerate of the horses and riders' needs. The horses were all very well behaved and patient. A positive experience all round.



May Rally Day. Photo Melanie McLaughlin

We had a good little rally day this month (with no rain!) and some of our riders represented our Club at the Mareeba District Pony Club, learning heaps and enjoying the many activities. The line up of Gymkhanas in the various Pony Clubs starts now and members will be doing some travelling for them. Others will join the show circuit which starts in June, with dressage, jumping and hacking popular classes.



Summer at Mareeba Gymkhana

New members are very welcome. Members of a pony club are all affiliated with the pony clubs throughout the state and can participate in many activities. Pony Club aims to instill a solid foundation in horse welfare, safety and horsemanship in a fun way, enabling our members to move onto different disciplines.



Kerry Scott showing the younger riders the ropes at the Mareeba Gymkhana. Photos supplied

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

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

St Saviour's Thought for June

This month we read a short passage from St Matthews Gospel Chapter 11 verses 25-30.

In this passage we hear Jesus voicing a frequent theme. Jesus wants us to understand something contradictory and often puzzling, something about the way God and our lives can be in contact. He says that to keep such lines of contact open we must be as children, and he actually took a child on his knee to emphasise it. That does not mean being childish; it means being childlike, which is very different. What is the essence of childhood which diminishes with adulthood? It is trust, that ability to trust in oneself, in other people, and in God. It is also the capacity to love unconditionally. Thirdly, it is the feeling that anything is possible. Frogs can become princes, people can change. On the other hand, it is the capacity to take people exactly as they are. All such things are of the kingdom of God yet they don't exist easily in the kingdom of everyday adult life! They are considered naive and unrealistic, yet Our Lord calls us to nourish and treasure them. Jesus tries to show us that between him and his father there is a deep and intimate relationship. Jesus then suggests

that, if we wish to see a portrait of the nature of God, we look at Jesus himself. That statement is deep and mystical and it can speak to us about all our human relationships. There are people around us through whom we can catch glimpses of God, people in whose lives and actions and attitudes we come in contact with the same love and grace which were found by those who came in contact with Jesus. We also need to remember that this same love and grace can be found in those around us who may not acknowledge Jesus as their Lord. It is very easy to forget that. In verse 28 Jesus says something so beautiful and appealing it has never been forgotten. It is his invitation to follow him and his way. He lets us know that he fully realises the struggle that human life can be, the restlessness of it all, the challenge and the drain it can be. He then offers himself and his way to us as a resource for living our lives. His way is not complicated. It is not a long list of don'ts. It is a simple deciding that we will accept him into our lives as Lord.

The invitation to us is to look to him, then to follow his way in the world of our time.

Enquiries to Chris Wright ~ Phone: 4093 8735 ~ Email: [wrightc@iig.com.au](mailto:wrightc@iig.com.au)



Image, St Saviour's Centennial booklet pub. 2015



Stained glass at St Saviour's



ST CHRISTOPHER'S  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

20 Barang Street, Kuranda  
Served by the Northern Beaches Parish

Sunday Mass: 5pm  
Wednesday Mass: 6pm

P | 07 4092 1077

E | [Mareeba.parish@ Cairns.catholic.org.au](mailto:Mareeba.parish@ Cairns.catholic.org.au)

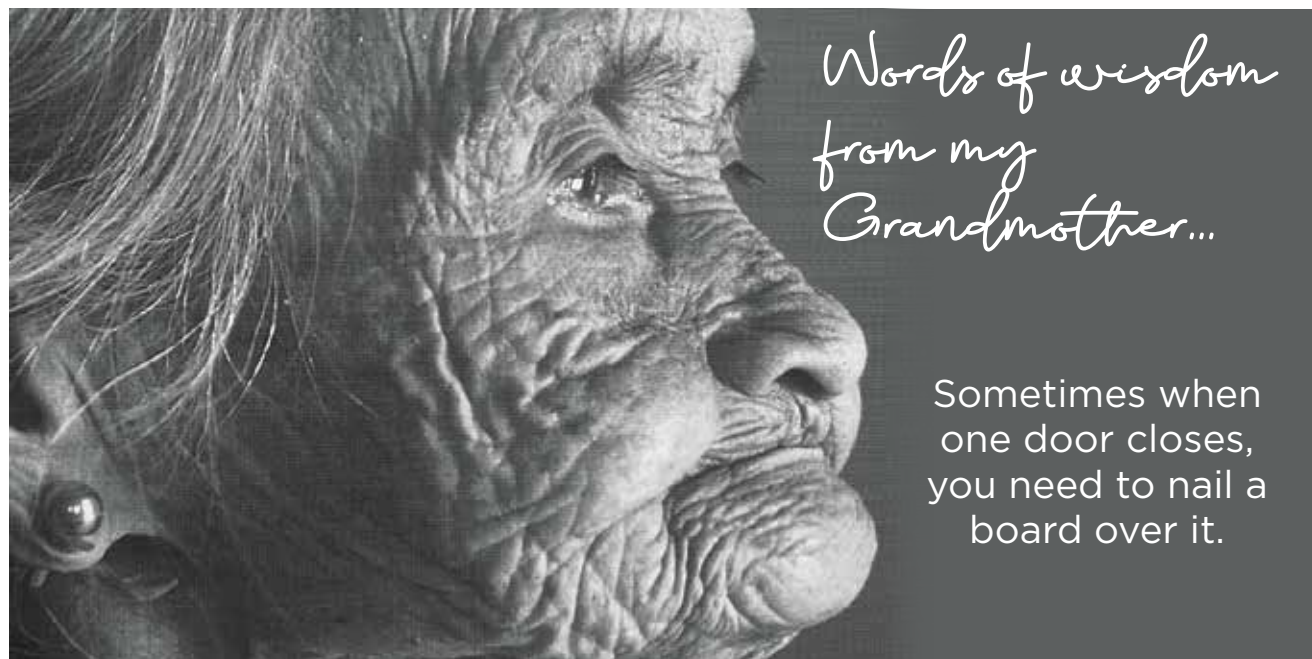


Seventh-day  
Adventist™ Church

Wirramoo Street, Kuranda

Services held every Saturday  
ALL WELCOME

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



Words of wisdom  
from my  
Grandmother...

Sometimes when  
one door closes,  
you need to nail a  
board over it.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH  
FROM THE BAHAI FAITH

"The oneness of the world of humanity. All men are God's sheep and God is the tender shepherd and shows supreme love to His whole flock; nor has He distinguished any above others. "Thou shalt find no difference in the Creation of the Merciful One. All are His servants and all seek His Bounty."

(Koran)

Religion is the strongest fort, but it must be the cause of harmony not the cause of hatred and animosity, and if it causes hate and hostility, it is useless. For religion is like unto a remedy. If the remedy causes disease, it is better to abandon it.

Similarly, religious fanaticism, racial fanaticism, national fanaticism, political fanaticism, - all such prejudices destroy the foundation of humanity and all these lead to bloodshed and the destruction of mankind. Consequently, as long as those prejudices persist, hideous warfare will continue."

(Abdu'l-Baha)

**Meditations/Reflections:**

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

**Morning Prayers:**

Each Thursday at 8am, in lower Therwine Street,  
come join us.

**Study Circles:**

By arrangement, please feel free to enquire.

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

Lifeline  
13 11 14

Beyond  
Blue

[beyondblue.org.au](http://beyondblue.org.au)

1300 22 4636

@beyondblue @beyondblue

@beyondblueofficial

company/beyondblue

All enquiries welcome.  
4093 9571 | [bahai.org.au](http://bahai.org.au)

The Baha'i Community of Mareeba/Kuranda



# 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



## 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

## Laurie & Heather Price Excavations & General Earthworks

**0400 669 384 | lauriesbmw@gmail.com**

- Insured owner operator
- General excavations
- House and shed pads
- Roads, driveways and drainage
- Trenching and landscaping
- Fence lines and firebreak clearing
- 2.6 tonne excavator
- 1m tilt bucket
- 450mm, 300mm & 200mm buckets and ripper



**KURANDA LOCAL OPERATOR**

**• SHOP LOCAL •  
 • EMPLOY LOCAL • ENJOY LOCAL •**

### A FRIENDLY REMINDER: PLAN AHEAD AND ASK EARLY

As we move through the year, it's a good time to check in on a few important areas — especially if you've received any correspondence from the ATO.

If you have questions about ATO debt, payment arrangements or outstanding lodgements, don't ignore them. The earlier you seek clarification, the more options you generally have available. Having a conversation early can help reduce stress and avoid unnecessary penalties or escalation.

It's also worth reviewing your asset protection and structuring. Whether you own a family home, run a small business or hold investments, making sure things are set up properly can provide long-term security for you and your family. A quick review now can prevent complications later.

Finally, don't wait until the last minute for tax time preparation. Gathering records early and addressing any gaps including prior year lodgements makes the process far smoother and more manageable.

A short discussion today can save significant stress tomorrow. If you're unsure where you stand, now is the right time to ask the question.

Please call into our office if we can help. You'll find us at 12 Rob Veivers Drive, next to Petit Café. Phone 4093 8222 or email us [info@kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au](mailto:info@kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au)



Locally owned and operated

**9am – 5pm Monday to Friday**

**Providing the following professional services:**

- 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

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



4093 8222 | [info@kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au](mailto:info@kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au)  
[kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au](http://kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au)



# Kuranda Landscape Supplies & Raw Materials

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

## EARTHMOVING

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



# DefiAnt PEST SERVICES

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

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](mailto:defiantpestservices@gmail.com)

PMT0-10352/PMT1004513814 a **small** Family Business - **BIG** on Customer Service

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



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

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

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



**KURANDA BACKHOE HIRE**

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



# Jones Tiling

Commercial and Domestic

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

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

Established 1987  
Cairns and Kuranda

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

CALL ADRIAN  
**0429 265 082**

- Domestic
- Commercial
- Air Conditioning



# BEST ELECTRICAL

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

Lic 81562  
ARC Lic L166416

**YOUR LOCAL ELECTRICIAN**



# BCB BOBCAT

- Sand Fills • Site Cleanups
- Landscape Work
- General Excavation
- Post Hole Borer 300/450/600mm

Call Tony  
**0432 773 351**  
SERVICING KURANDA AND DISTRICT

## GRATIS CLASSIFIEDS\*

**Australian Merino Wool** vests available at 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.

**Gorgeous Gift Vouchers** posted anywhere, anytime, for any occasion. Just Gorgeous ph 40937508

**Kuranda's spot for shoes,** boots and sandals. Just Gorgeous located opposite St Saviours church, 16 Coondoo St, Kuranda

**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

**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](http://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.



## 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 July 2026 edition is **Thursday 25 June 2026**. Please send all submissions and advertising to...

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



### \* 30 WORDS MAXIMUM

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

# YOUR COMMUNITY PAGES



## WILDLIFE

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

## DEFIBRILLATORS



Defibrillator locations in Kuranda region.

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

## WATER AND SEPTIC

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

## LAUNDROMATS

**Gurii Gambi** 5C Coondoo Street

## FNQ Wildlife Rescue Assoc. Inc.

(Established 1994)



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

**Tel: 07 4053 4467 (24 hrs)**

**Email: fnqwr@bigpond.com**



## Tree Roo Rescue and Conservation Centre Ltd

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

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

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

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



Donate now and help us care for tree roos today

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

Visit us on



## RECYCLE

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

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



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

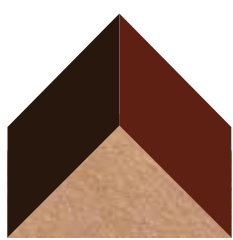
## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

**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.
- Speewah & 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

May 2026: 59 mm  
 (to 19 / 5 / 2026)

Annual total: 1686.8 mm  
 (to 19 / 5 / 2026)

Courtesy of Kuranda Railway Station



## HELP GROUPS



**Kids Helpline**  
**1800 55 1800**  
[kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)

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



**Need help with a drinking problem?**

**1300 222 222**

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

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

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

**Al-Anon can help you!**

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

### WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

#### SATURDAY 6 JUNE

9:30am-5:30pm – "The Inspired Harp Retreat" a day of immersive discovery, creativity, relaxation and inspiration for harpists, musicians, creative and healing practitioners and listeners! Various ticket options available at [www.FNQharpconnection.org](http://www.FNQharpconnection.org)  
For more information call Liza on 0413 178 489

#### FRIDAY 19 JUNE

6pm – The favourite Kuranda Historical Society Trivia "Hard Quiz" Night.  
Join the fun night! With prize for best dressed as a Favorite Kuranda Character; Tex Mex Food Van; Bar open  
\$20 per Ticket - available online through the TryBooking website.  
Contact [kurandahistoric@gmail.com](mailto:kurandahistoric@gmail.com) for more information

#### SATURDAY 20 JUNE

10am - 8 Ball Intercity Comp  
12:30pm-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 0461 472 618 / [amanda@amandadesigned.com](mailto:amanda@amandadesigned.com)

#### SATURDAY 27 JUNE

6:30pm – Sacred Kirtan with Satya Living  
Free event, no booking required  
- Contact Jordan 0479 071088

#### 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 or come in on a Sunday arvo and chat to Tim.

## CONTACT US

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

Come join us in our  
air conditioned classes!

#### KURANDA 8 BALL

Fridays from 6:30pm - pre-season  
Sundays from 3pm – sunday sesh - casual 8Ball  
For more info: [kuranda8ball@gmail.com](mailto:kuranda8ball@gmail.com)

#### PILATES

Mondays, Tuesdays & 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 15 June)  
with Gemma 0435 085 503

#### GENTLE YOGA

Wednesdays 4:30 pm (no class 17 June)  
with Gemma 0435 085 503

#### VINYIN YOGA



Sundays - 9:30am (no class 14 June)  
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](http://www.koahhall.com)

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



## KOAH MONTHLY MARKET SATURDAY 6 JUNE

8AM TIL MIDDAY

LIVE MUSIC

RAE

FOOD

**GREAT BBQ BURGERS ARE BACK!**

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

#### MONDAY 1 & 8 JUNE

CAPOEIRA ANGOLA  
HOMESCHOOL CLASS  
10:00am Juvarn Thebus 0415463841

#### EVERY TUESDAY

FELDENKRAIS with Justine  
9:30 - 10:30am 0408 735 309

#### TUESDAY 2 & 16 JUNE

WELLBRIETY SUPPORT GROUP  
Addiction & Recovery Meeting  
6:00-8:00pm with James 0413172474

#### TUESDAY 9 & 23 JUNE

TRADITIONAL SWEATLODGE/  
INIPI CEREMONY  
4:00 - 8:30pm with James 0413172474

#### EVERY WEDNESDAY

PILATES with Jaide 6 - 7pm  
0488 229 700

#### THURSDAY 11 & 25 JUNE

MANKIND PROJECT MEN'S GROUP  
- 7pm. Open to all men.  
Contact Simon - 0428 865 636

#### FRIDAY 19 JUNE

FORMIDABLE VEGETABLE + MAL  
WEBB & KYLIE MORRIGAN  
Playground Fundraiser. Ecological electro-funk/swing for the whole 'freakin fam'.  
5:00-10:00pm Check Koah Hall Facebook page for ticket link.

#### SUNDAY 7 & 21 JUNE

DRUM CIRCLE Djembe Lessons 10:30am  
Jeff Cotter 0449889503

#### SUNDAY 14 & 28 JUNE

DA YAN WILD GOOSE QIGONG 8:30  
- 10:30am with Suzen 0412604066 Join the flock and start to learn an ancient Moving Meditation based on Traditional Chinese Medicine.

#### SUNDAY 14 JUNE

KURANDA RANGERS WORLD CUP  
VIEWING AND FUNDRAISER  
11:00am- 5:30pm Keira Nash 0437 778 849



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

For events at the Kuranda Recreation Centre or the Koah Hall please see details in their columns above. See page 11 for CWA listings for this month.

#### EVERY MONDAY

Al-Anon Family Groups 11am-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](mailto: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](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

#### EVERY WEDNESDAY

Ashtanga Yoga 5.30am. Biannka 0407 634 116

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

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

Mah Jong 1-4pm Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre.

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

Eco Arts Festival Group  
4pm @ Kuranda Amphitheatre

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)

#### EVERY SATURDAY

Men's Shed 8.30am-11.30am  
[mensshedkuranda@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedkuranda@gmail.com)  
Envirocare Nursery plant sales 10am - 12noon

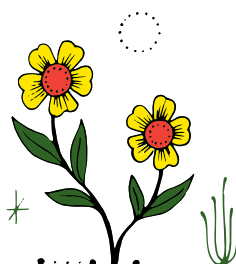
#### EVERY SUNDAY

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



## Community Services

### KURANDA LIBRARY and COUNCIL OFFICE

**Monday to Friday: 10am–5pm**

*(No Council business after 4pm weekdays)*

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

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

*SERVICES NOT OPEN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS*

### KURANDA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

**Open 7 days from 10am**

4093 9311

kurandavic@msc.qld.gov.au

### KURANDA TRANSFER STATION

#### OPERATING HOURS

**Tuesday & Thursday: 9am–4pm,**

**Saturday & Sunday: 9am–5pm**

2186 Kennedy Highway, Koah

1300 308 461

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

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

1300 308 461

info@msc.qld.gov.au

msc.qld.gov.au

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DASHBOARD

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

### 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](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au) and subscribe to your preferred SMS alert service. Or call **13 19 40** to subscribe or report an incident.

#### LIVE KURANDA RANGE TRAFFIC UPDATES

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

#### KURANDA SCENIC RAILWAY (KSR) UPDATES FOR KURANDA BUSINESSES

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



## Trans North Bus & Coach

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

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

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

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

#### Bus stops are located at:

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

#### Ticket Sales:

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



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                    | <b>000</b>          |
| Flood and Storm Emergency Assistance (SES)             | <b>132 500</b>      |
| Ergon Energy – Report Dangerous Electrical Emergencies | <b>131 670</b>      |
| Mareeba Shire Council                                  | <b>1300 308 461</b> |
| Poisons Information                                    | <b>131 126</b>      |
| 13HEALTH – Health and Hospital Information             | <b>134 325</b>      |

### RURAL FIRE BRIGADE WARDENS



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

**Permits required for fires larger than 2 metres in any direction**

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