



PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Twelve months ago, Mareeba Shire Tourism took the reins of the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre and it now feels like a good time to pause and look at what happens when you put people, promotion and partnerships behind a destination.

The numbers tell part of the story. Over the past financial year, the Kuranda.org website recorded 444,000 views, while the Kuranda Village Facebook page reached an incredible 1.8 million views. Link clicks increased by almost 386%, showing that visitors aren't just looking at Kuranda online, they're actively planning what to do and how to get here.

Behind every number is a person. Our volunteers continue to be the welcoming faces of Kuranda, helping visitors navigate the village, find an experience and often discover something they didn't know was here. Here at the Kuranda Visitor Information Centre, we welcomed 104,300 visitors through our doors during 2025-26, fielded 574 phone enquiries and 249 email enquiries. That's more than 104,000 opportunities to help someone discover Kuranda, find their next adventure or simply decide where to have lunch.

And that's perhaps the biggest lesson. Tourism isn't just about getting people here. It's about what happens once they arrive. It's a conversation with a volunteer. The coffee from a local business. The handmade piece they take home. The rainforest experience they didn't expect. The recommendation that sends them down a different path. Together, they are what make Kuranda such a special place to visit. Those small moments are what turn a visit into a memory, a recommendation to someone else and possibly even a return trip.

Our team has also continued building relationships with local operators, makers and attractions, while Mareeba Shire Tourism has delivered networking, marketing and industry development opportunities across the region. The wider tourism picture is significant too. In 2024/25, tourism contributed \$185.5 million in sales and \$88.8 million in

value added across Mareeba Shire. That's a lot of reasons to keep investing in the visitor experience.

We've also given our retail space a fresh new look, with more room to showcase local makers and unique Kuranda products. Come in, have a browse and support the locals! And if you'd like to be part of the team, we'd love to hear from you.

We're always looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help welcome visitors and share what makes Kuranda special. We are rich in friendly and informative people behind the attractions of the Village. From our galleries, markets, cafes, guides and small creative businesses, Kuranda's visitor economy works because of the incredible mix of operators who give people a reason to stop, wander and stay a little longer.

We're pleased to welcome Clara Pawelski (pictured) Mareeba Shire Tourism's new Executive Officer, who will be based at the Visitor Information Centre on Wednesdays. If you're an operator with a question, an idea or simply want to know what's happening across the Shire, drop in and say hello.

There is plenty more ahead as Mareeba Shire Tourism continues to encourage visitors to discover the people and stories behind Kuranda – because Kuranda isn't just somewhere you visit, it's somewhere you connect.

This month the Centre will be celebrating World Cassowary Day (26 September) and World Tourism Day (27 September) and we'd love to welcome you to join us and see what your Visitor Information Centre has to offer.

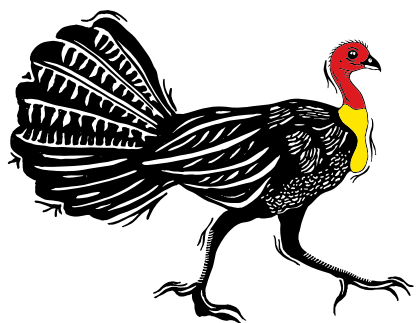
Simone Van Der Zwaag,
Manager, Kuranda Visitor Information Centre



Clara Pawelski,
Mareeba Shire Tourism



World Cassowary Day 26 September.
Join us to celebrate. Photos KVIC



• SHOP LOCAL •
• EMPLOY LOCAL • ENJOY LOCAL •

Advertisement sizes and rates		Advertisers
[width x height in mm]		
A – 262x380 (full page)	\$640	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).
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	Acceptable formats: PDF, EPS, JPG or TIFF.
F – 129x188 (1/4 page)	\$190	In-house design services are available for an additional fee.
G – 262x124 (large strip)	\$250	
H – 262x60 (small strip)	\$145	Advertisements booked for 3 months and paid for in advance are eligible for a 10% discount.
I – 129x124	\$145	
J – 85x188	\$145	
K – 85x124	\$105	
L – 85x60 (business card)	\$70	



Please keep letters to under 250 words. All letters are subject to editing. Anonymous letters will not be published. Correct name, address and phone number are to be submitted with your letter. Read our full Letters Policy/Guidelines: www.kurandapaper.com (Submissions)

KURANDA MEDIA ASSOCIATION UPDATE

COMMITTEE POSITIONS FILLED

The two interim committee positions on the Kuranda Media Association Management Committee advertised last month have been filled. The Committee warmly welcomes Rhianna Pride as interim President and Sheree Scott as interim Members Representative. Both Rhianna and Sheree are existing volunteers and members. They join the existing committee members Kerstin Brown (Vice President), Anna Raye (Secretary) and Gayle Hannah (Treasurer/Production). Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in the positions. We are so grateful for the support *The Kuranda Paper* continues to receive 35 plus years on. We welcome new members and recognise the need for new energy and input. Membership is just \$10 per year. Our AGM will be held in December and all positions will be open then for nominations. If you would like more information on membership and how to become more involved with your community newspaper please, in the first instance, email: mail@kurandapaper.com

PAPER FOLDERS NEEDED

Before *The Kuranda Paper* lands in your post or mail box it needed to be hand folded to fit. Our intrepid paper folders fold 2600 copies every edition - and of course many hands make light work in preparation for mail delivery that day. Not everyone can make it every month so it is really helpful to have as many folders available as we can to spread the load. If you have a couple of hours available once a month (usually the last Thursday) from 6.30am to share this simple but necessary task, with a beverage afterwards, please email us : mail@kurandapaper.com

We welcome your letters via email or post

POOL IMPROVEMENTS APPRECIATED

Thank you to Mareeba Shire Council and Kuranda Aquatic Centre for the much-needed maintenance on our community pool.

It is looking so much cleaner and heated enough to take the chill off.

Sheree Scott, 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.

Djabugay Notice of Community Meeting

Djabugay Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC ICN 4258

Notice of 2026 AGM

All members of Djabugay Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC ICN 4258 are invited to the 2026 AGM

The AGM will update members on activity from July 1 2025 to 30 June 2026

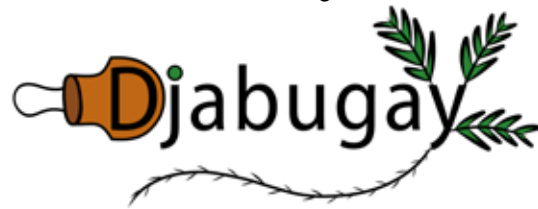
Date: 25 October 2026

Time: 10am

**Address: Nyuwarri Estate,
1496 Kennedy Highway Kuranda 4881**

Enquiries to: CEO@djabugay.org.au

Members are reminded to advise if contact details are changed in order to receive meeting documentation.



COVER MASTHEAD

This month's masthead features *Cassowary Journeys* an original painting by acclaimed artist Melanie Hava. Melanie's original high quality prints and calendars are stocked locally by Terra Nova Gallery on Therwine Street. Our sincere thanks to Melanie for generously allowing us to share her stunning art with our readers. You can also view more of Melanie's art online by visiting her website: www.artofmelaniehava.com

Melanie Hava "Winden" (green pigeon):

"I am blessed to have been born into interesting and diverse cultures: my father comes from the oldest city in Austria, Enns (Upper Austria) and my mother is from the oldest cultures in the world, Aboriginal people of Australia. While celebrating my Austrian heritage, I also identify through my Mum's line as a Mamu Aboriginal woman, Dugul-barra and Wari-barra family groups, from the Johnstone River catchment of the Wet Tropics of Far North Queensland and the adjoining Great Barrier Reef sea country. Reef and rainforest country are important sources for my inspirations."



Join us at our

Spring Fair and Open Day

Saturday 12 September, 10am

School tours

Academic displays

Maypole dancing

Artistic performances

Activities + games

Food + drink stalls



Now taking
applications
Kindy-Class 8

46 Boyles Road, Kuranda

chss.qld.edu.au |  

Saturday 12 September | 10am to 4pm | Free Entry

The Cairns Hinterland Steiner School will throw open its gates, inviting the community to enjoy a day of fun, food and family entertainment at its annual Spring Fair and Open Day. The much-loved event brings together students, families and the wider community for a vibrant celebration of creativity, learning and connection.

Visitors can enjoy a packed program of activities, including traditional fete games, village-style attractions, marionette puppet shows and an array of delicious food and drink stalls. One of the highlights of the day is the enchanting Maypole Dance, a captivating tradition that delights audiences of all ages, with guests encouraged to join in the festivities.

The Fair also showcases the richness of Steiner education, with students' work on display, live musical performances, and a variety of student-run stalls demonstrating creativity, initiative and entrepreneurial spirit. Whether you are a current school family, a prospective parent, or simply looking for a wonderful day out, the Cairns Hinterland Steiner School Spring Fair and Open Day promises entertainment, community spirit, and memorable experiences for all ages. For more information, visit chss.qld.edu.au or follow Cairns Hinterland Steiner School on Facebook and Instagram.

THE BAGS ARE PACKED FOR BIG SOUND ADVENTURE

The countdown is on! Djawarray, his band and the Mayi Wunba Dancers and their team will soon head out from Far North Queensland to Brisbane for BIGSOUND 2026.

What started as an exciting invitation to perform has grown into something much bigger. An opportunity to take the music, dance, culture and spirit of our community to one of Australia's biggest music industry events. Djawarray, a Djabugay and Western Yalanji artist from the Kuranda region, will perform alongside the Mayi Wunba Dancers as part of the BIGSOUND program. Together, they will present two 30-minute performances and spend four days connecting with music industry representatives, attending workshops and networking with people from across Australia and beyond.

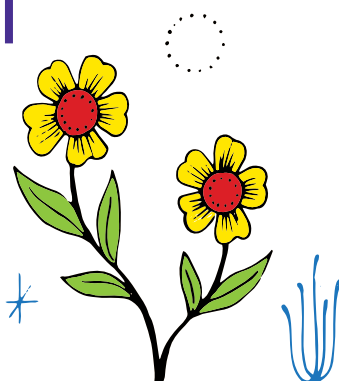
For these artists, this isn't simply another gig. It is an opportunity to stand on a much bigger stage and proudly share who they are, where they come from and the culture that sits at the heart of their music and dance. It is also a wonderful opportunity to put Kuranda, Djabugay and Western Yalanji culture and Far North Queensland in front of people who may never have experienced it before. For Djawarray, this opportunity is also about paving the way for the younger generation, showing young mob what is possible and creating opportunities for them to carry culture, music, dance and language onto stages around Australia.

BIGSOUND is primarily an industry showcase and, like many opportunities of this kind, much of the work is unpaid. Our performers have been rehearsing regularly and also our little management team has been working hard behind the scenes to make it happen. We've applied for funding, contacted local organisations, organised donations and started a GoFundMe campaign. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, we've already managed to cover a large part of the travel costs. But we're not quite there yet. If you are reading this before we leave at the end of August, every donation, big or small, gets us a little closer. And if donating isn't possible, that's completely okay. Sharing the GoFundMe is just as valuable. You never know who might see it and want to help.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has already donated, shared our posts, made a contribution, opened a door or simply cheered us on. Your support means more than you probably realise. And thank you to *The Kuranda Paper*.

A very special thank you to Flying Arts Alliance, TRACQS, Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation, Ngoonbi, Norweld, and the local businesses, organisations, families and individuals who have generously contributed to the journey so far. And to every single person who has donated through our GoFundMe — thank you. Every contribution has helped get this mob one step closer to BIGSOUND.

Djawarray.



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?

Throughout August, several great initiatives took place across the shire supporting our communities to be prepared and informed.

Community Events The recovery and resilience team attended Koah Markets and Mareeba Lions Club Community Fete, and in collaboration with the Rural Fire Service, connected residents with valuable information and resources to prepare for fire season.

Community Training FREE first aid courses were delivered in Mareeba, Julatten, Chillagoe, Dimbulah and Kuranda. It was great to see so many people registering for these courses and making the most of the opportunity.

Landholder Fire Workshop 24 residents from all across the shire attended this workshop, with landholders from Watsonville to Julatten and everywhere in between gaining practical skills and knowledge to better prepare their properties for fire season.

School Visit Year 5 Geography students at St Thomas' school were visited by the recovery and resilience team - the students have recently been learning about natural disasters and this visit helped reinforce their learning and help them understand local risks and practical ways to prepare for severe weather.

Community Guardian Volunteers Community Guardian volunteers received training in QLD Disaster Management Arrangements and Evacuation Centre Management, giving them knowledge to support their communities. We had 2 new volunteers join the network who are eager to support their communities. Expressions of Interest are open year-round and we encourage interested individuals to join the network!



WHAT'S COMING UP?

Come visit us at the following events to benefit from tailored advice and resources to boost your disaster resilience:

Mareeba Seniors Expo - Friday, August 28, 9:30am-12pm, Mareeba International Club

Mareeba Multicultural Festival - Saturday, August 29, 10am-4pm, Arnold Park, Mareeba

Mount Molloy Markets - Saturday, September 5, 8am-12pm, QCWA Hall

Ngoonbi Kuranda R U OK Day Event - Tuesday, September 8, 10am-2pm Centenary Park, Kuranda

Paint and Prepare Workshops

Community members are invited to a FREE Paint & Prepare workshop. Learn about supports in your area and receive a paint by number kit - work individually or as a team to complete your artwork.

This workshop is aimed at adults, however children are welcome to attend with adult supervision.



Chillagoe - Wednesday, 2 September, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Chillagoe Town Hall

Julatten - Wednesday, 9 September, 5:30pm-7:30pm, English Park Hall

Irvinebank - Wednesday, 23 September, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Irvinebank School of Arts Hall

Scan the QR code to register!

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!



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

Keep an eye out for upcoming:

- Community gatherings
- Workshops and events



Australian Government



Queensland Government

Assistance provided by the Australian and Queensland governments through the jointly funded Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

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

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YOUR KURANDA TO JULATTEN SPECIALIST



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0407 028 388



Changed Traffic Conditions

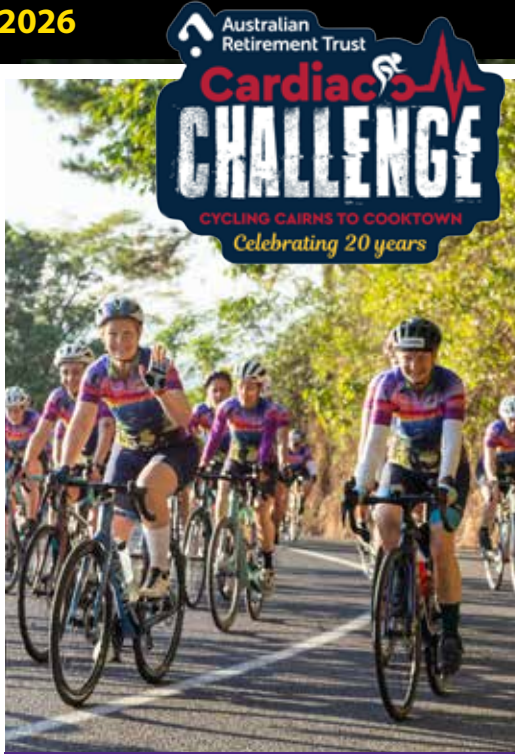
Saturday, September 19, 2026

The Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation advises it has obtained a one-lane road closure of the Kennedy Highway (Kuranda Range) on Saturday, September 19, 2026.

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

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

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



Australian Retirement Trust
hospital foundation

For more information call: 4226 6327 or visit www.cardiacchallenge.com.au

Councillor Column



Spring has arrived, and with the September school holidays just around the corner, there are plenty of activities across the Shire to keep families entertained.

One of the highlights these holidays is **I AM NATURE: Puppet & Storytelling Adventure**, a free creative program designed to inspire young imaginations through storytelling, puppetry, nature, and hands-on play.

Children will discover local animals and their stories while creating their own unique animal puppet to take home. Participants will also work together on a giant animal artwork and help create an imaginative adventure story inspired by the natural world.

Activities include:

- Making a unique animal puppet to take home
- Creating with natural and recycled materials
- Contributing to a giant collaborative animal artwork
- Co-creating exciting animal stories through creative play

This free program is open to children aged 12 years and under.

Kuranda Library - Thursday, 1 October 2026 - 10.30am to 11.30am

Bookings are essential. To secure your place, visit the Mareeba Shire Libraries website or contact the Kuranda Library on 4093 9185.

During the school holidays, head over to the **Kuranda Aquatic Centre**, which features a heated 25-metre pool and a shallow children's pool, perfect for cooling off and enjoying the beautiful spring weather.

For those looking to explore the outdoors, Kuranda and the wider Shire offer an abundance of scenic walking tracks. Whether it is a leisurely stroll along the River Walk or the picturesque walk through the rainforest canopy to the Barron River waterfall, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Grab a coffee or smoothie, support a local business with a breakfast stop, and take advantage of the perfect conditions to get outside and explore.

If you have anything that you would like to discuss, please reach out to me.

Mayor Angela Toppin AM

07 4086 4659

PO Box 154 Mareeba QLD 4880

Mayor@msc.qld.gov.au

MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL - COMMUNITY UPDATE



Grant available to Host Seniors Morning Tea

Mareeba Shire Council is offering community organisations and schools the opportunity to apply for grants of up to \$500 to host their own Seniors Morning or Afternoon Tea event.

Applications are now open and close Sunday, 13 September 2026.

"The Seniors Morning Tea Grant Program is for community groups located outside of Mareeba township. We want to support celebrations in other areas of our Shire so more senior residents are included," said Mayor Toppin.

Please note that funding is limited and the applications will be competitive.

To view the guidelines and to apply, please scan the QR below or visit Council's website.



Scan the QR code for more information about the Seniors Morning Tea Grant and to apply.

Apply for an Information Stall at Mareeba Seniors Morning Tea

Mareeba Shire Council will host the highly anticipated Seniors Morning Tea at the Mareeba International Club on Friday, 16 October 2026. Bookings to attend the event will open Friday, 18 September.

Council is now inviting local services to host an information stall in the foyer between 9 am and 10 am, before the Mareeba Seniors Morning Tea to connect with senior residents.

Applications are now open and will close Sunday, 20 September 2026.

This event is supported by the Queensland Government and the Council on the Ageing Queensland.



Scan the QR code to apply for an Information Stall at the Mareeba Seniors Morning Tea.



BE WHEELIE WISE!
Place your bin on the kerbside the night before collection or by 5am on collection day.

Kerbside Waste Collection Update: New Service Times

Council is introducing a third kerbside waste collection truck to support bin services across the region. As a result, collection routes are being adjusted and pickup times may change. Collection days will remain the same, please have your bin ready by 5am. Keep an eye out for our new truck, more designs are on the way later this year!

Water Meter Replacement Program

In August and September, Council will be replacing water meters that have reached the end of their service life to ensure water usage is recorded accurately.

- To help our crews, please make sure your water meter is easy to access, clean and free from any obstructions

If your meter is already accessible, there's nothing you need to do.

If our crew can't access your meter, we'll leave a calling card with instructions on how to arrange another appointment. Work hours: Monday to Saturday, 7am-5pm

If you would like to book a specific date and time for your replacement, please call Council with your preferred appointment details.



1300 308 461



info@msc.qld.gov.au



www.msc.qld.gov.au



[MareebaShireCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/MareebaShireCouncil)



Bree's Barron River BULLETIN

Ms Bree James MP
State Member for Barron River

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

CRIME UPDATE

Far North Queensland is hurting. The recent tragic death of a young woman in Smithfield has left our community devastated, angry and asking a very simple question:

When will enough be enough?

I hear that frustration every day from families, residents and business owners who are tired of seeing homes broken into, cars stolen, businesses targeted and repeat offenders back on our streets. People deserve to feel safe in their homes, safe in their businesses and safe on our roads. We have taken significant action, but I know there is more to do. Our police are catching offenders. **They are doing their job.** But our community is frustrated when people who have been arrested are released back onto our streets and go on to commit further serious offences. The revolving door of bail must end. Our courts should be a place where justice is served. But when someone is released on bail, breaches that bail and commits another serious offence, our community rightly asks: **How many chances are enough?**

I have heard that message loud and clear. Thousands of Far North Queenslanders have supported our call for **"Breach Bail, Go to Jail"**, including stronger consequences for adults who breach bail and reoffend. I agree. If you are an adult on bail and you commit another serious offence, there must be serious consequences. If you are a serious repeat youth offender, you are on bail and commit another serious offence, there must be serious consequences. And turning 18 should not mean pressing reset on a history of serious offending. We have made progress, but the job is nowhere near finished. We need a justice system that backs our police, protects victims and puts the safety of law-abiding Queenslanders first.

I didn't have to step up. I chose to. I had a business and I have a family and a life I really loved. But I love this community, I believe in Cairns, and I believe our lifestyle is worth protecting, and that's why I campaigned hard to become an MP. I chose to fight for change, and I won't stop.

I'd also like to celebrate some Kuranda businesses

Kuranda Village is now home to the Swagger and Jaxx Barber shop on Therwine Street. Congratulations to Jaxx on this exciting business venture. Be sure to pop in, say g'day and support this great new local business.

I also want to congratulate the team at Rainforestation on an incredible milestone – 50 years. In 1976, Charlie and Pip Woodward had a vision. Fifty years later, Rainforestation continues to flourish. And the Australian Butterfly Sanctuary has received a Secure Communities Partnership Grant to assist with surveillance of their premises in Kuranda. I commend the owners for putting the application in to receive this grant. The next round will open next year and I encourage all retailers in Kuranda to apply.

Until next month, Bree James MP

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



Message from Matt Your Member for Leichhardt

Hey Kuranda, I hope everyone is keeping well!

Last month we talked about Skyrail undergoing some closures while their upgrade works proceed. Well, I'm glad to share that already the Kuranda to Barron Falls loop has re-opened, keeping that steady flow of tourists and visitors coming through the village and enjoying the beautiful sights and sounds of our natural wonder. It's great to see the project is progressing so quickly and I believe Skyrail is on schedule to fully reopen their entire route from the end of October, with plenty of time before the summer school holidays.

I appreciate there was a small period of disruption to the Kuranda Range road whilst helicopters were flying supplies up to the Skyrail construction site, so thank you to all the motorists for the patience during that time. We are working alongside the Queensland Government to get the road back to full capacity as soon as works will allow.

As your Federal Member for Parliament, folks often ask me when they can find me for a one-on-one chat to discuss issues that are important and personal to them. Leichhardt is of course quite a large electorate and I spend a great deal of time travelling around to make sure I visit every community and council I can as frequently as possible. As ever, if there's anything you believe I can help you with, then please drop me a line at matt.smith.mp@aph.gov.au or come and visit my office at 200 Mulgrave Road, next time you come down the hill.

Until next time, take care of one another.

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



The Kuranda Paper

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

RATE NOTICES ISSUED DUE DATE – 11 SEPTEMBER 2026

The half-yearly rate notices for the six-month period ending 31 December 2026 have been issued. If you have not received your rate notice, please contact the Rates Department.



RECEIVE YOUR RATE NOTICE ELECTRONICALLY (eNotices)

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

PAYMENT PORTAL – DIRECT DEBIT ARRANGEMENT

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

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

INTEREST FREE ARRANGEMENTS

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

10% DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT

To receive the 10% discount (on your general rates), all rates and charges must be paid and received by Council by 11 September 2026. Council does not take responsibility for the late processing of electronic payments by third parties.

PENSIONER REBATE

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

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

Peter Franks
Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 154 MAREEBA QLD 4880

1300 308 461 | info@msc.qld.gov.au | www.msc.qld.gov.au | MareebaShireCouncil



PHOTOGRAPHY MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITY OPENS



Ever dreamed of photographing one of Australia's biggest music festivals?

Three aspiring photographers, aged 18 - 23, will be selected to spend Saturday 10 October, 1pm-5pm, at Savannah in the Round, photographing some of Australia's biggest artists while being personally mentored by legendary Australian concert photographer Nathan Kelly @nathan_david_kelly

Throughout the day, you will gain hands-on experience covering live performances, learn the art of capturing unforgettable music moments, receive practical guidance on shooting in a fast-paced environment, and gain valuable insight into the world of professional event photography.

Whether you're an emerging photographer looking to build your portfolio or someone passionate about live music photography, this is a rare opportunity to learn from one of Australia's most experienced music photographers.

To apply, scan the QR code on the accompanying poster and fill out the form.

(LINK: <https://forms.gle/weBvv6jWTfAUorpG9>)

Applications close 5pm, 13 September.

This is your opportunity to step into the pit, capture incredible live music, and learn from a photographer who has spent more than three decades documenting Australia's music scene.

Nathan Kelly.



Have you seen the Kuranda Amphitheatre lately? It's looking absolutely beautiful!

A very special round of applause must go to TRACQS, who have stepped up to a much needed cause and put some serious love, time and energy into the grounds. The difference is incredible. The space is looking cared for, alive and truly magical. There really is nowhere quite like our rainforest amphitheatre, and right now the old girl is looking bloody beautiful. Thank you.

Cross Your Fingers and Toes! We've recently applied for THREE grants:

Through RADF, (Regional Arts Development Fund) we're seeking support for strategic new digital photography and videography to help us get much better at telling the Amphitheatre story. We have nearly 50 years of incredible history behind us, but we also need to show people what's happening here now, our artists, events, volunteers and community.

Our RAF (Regional Arts Fund) application looks towards next year's Kuranda Eco Arts Festival, building on this year's event and creating more opportunities for local artists, musicians and creatives.

And then there's Revive Live, which tackles another big challenge, getting our Main Stage better equipped for today's live music and touring scene. We're seeking support for sound, lighting and Main Stage infrastructure alongside a program of original Australian live music. Touring has changed enormously since the Amphitheatre's big concert days. Having core production infrastructure here helps reduce the cost of putting on live music, creates opportunities for the skilled technicians and artists already living in our region, and helps the Amphitheatre compete in today's touring market.

Now we wait!

WHAT'S ON AT THE AMPHITHEATRE

BLUE Cabaret (NEW DATES) has been postponed to 16 and 17 October. But never fear, BLUE is definitely still coming! The extra time gives our KAST crew a chance to hone the show, add a little more mischief and make the whole thing even more BLUE! We're also still looking for a few more acts. If you've got something bold, funny, theatrical, musical, slightly outrageous or wonderfully weird that belongs in an adults-only Kuranda cabaret, we want to hear from you.

On 22 October, we'll be joining arts organisations across the country for AusArt Day, raising much-needed funds for the Amphitheatre through our *Amplify the Amphi* campaign. But this one is about more than fundraising. It's a chance to put our BIG little rainforest amphitheatre on the national stage and tell some of the incredible stories behind nearly 50 years of music, art, community and creativity in Kuranda. So keep an eye on our socials, we've got some great stories to tell! When the campaign kicks off, jump behind it. Share it, talk about it, make some noise and help us show the rest of Australia just how special this place really is.

As always, Wednesdays are KAST days:

Kids KAST runs every Wednesday from 4-5pm, FREE for all and facilitated by Bugzy Bumblebee. The kids are currently creating their own Kuranda Christmas Show for later in the year Then from 5:30-6:30pm,

Adults KAST takes over, having fun with all things BLUE until mid-September while we continue developing BLUE Cabaret. Come along and have a play. No experience necessary.

What Else Is Coming Up?

Kuranda Amphitheatre Community Markets on Sunday 13 September! Wander the stalls, grab something to eat, catch up with the village and spend a Sunday morning in one of Kuranda's most beautiful community spaces.

Brackets & Jam is back Saturday 5 September! Seriously, the talent hitting the UnderStage lately has been EPIC. Local musicians, familiar faces and a few surprises have been jumping up and reminding us just how much talent lives around here. It is absolutely worth braving the cold for! Come down, grab a drink, catch some great live music, or bring an instrument and jump on stage yourself.

Fresh Off the Boat has shifted dates and will now be hitting the Amphitheatre in November. Keep an eye on our socials for the new date and details.

And finally, a little reminder of what the Amphitheatre is:

Want to put on a gig? Do it. It's here for you. Want to start a choir? Do it. A youth jam? Do it. Got a big band that needs somewhere to make a ridiculous amount of noise? DO IT! Got some strange artistic idea that you're not entirely sure anyone else will understand? Even better. Come and do it.

This place has been glued together for nearly 50 years by people getting up and doing things. We create things as a village. We show up and support them as a village. We embrace the radical art, the strange ideas, the music, the theatre and the experiments. We push boundaries. We have a crack. Sometimes it works spectacularly. Sometimes we learn something and try again. We aren't bound by corporate structures or tightly wound government deals telling us what our culture should look like. We are community owned, community driven and gloriously Kuranda. So, if you've been sitting on an idea, stop waiting for someone else to make it happen. This is your stage. Get up and use it. KAS is here to help!

See you on the dance floor soon!

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

SAVE THE DATE : WALLABY CREEK FESTIVAL 2026

Wallaby Creek Festival offers three days of camping, surrounded by the crystal waters of Wallaby Creek and the Annan River. This year it will be held 25 - 27 September.

This year marks Wallaby Creek's 24th Festival, with a brilliant and diverse line-up of touring and local live music acts. Wallaby Creek has something for everyone, including a dedicated Children's Festival, a packed workshop program, late night Cabaret, circus, dance, roving and street theatre, Poet's Breakfasts, delicious food stalls, healing and market stalls.

Tickets - 3 day adult: \$270

Youth (13 - 17, must be accompanied by adult) \$135 | Children under 13 - \$10.

There are a number of family bundles available also, including for single parent families, with great savings.

Jump online and get your tickets to this year's very special Wallaby Creek!

www.wallabycreekfestival.org.au



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Calling All Local Creatives: Elevate Your Craft by Joining the Kuranda Arts Co-operative!

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

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

Why Join the Co-op?

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

To find out about how it all works, the roster commitments, membership benefits, obligations, selection criteria, and commission structures, just drop us an email at artskuranda@gmail.com or phone 4093 9026 to make a time to meet with one of the committee members.

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

GALLERY NEWS

Mollie Bosworth has had two pieces selected for the North Queensland Ceramic Awards, to be displayed in The Perc Tucker Regional Gallery from 19 September 2026 until to 17 January 2027. The biennial North Queensland Ceramic Awards has long aimed to increase public exposure to a high standard of pottery from around the nation.



Leaflines and Earth Pulse, Mollie Bosworth



ARTIST PROFILE:

Introducing our talented new watercolour artist (and baker), Laure – a new arrival to Kuranda. You may recognise her when lining up for freshly baked pastries at Chez Coco!



Name: Laure Nebout-Reyx

Can you describe your artistic style? What is your preferred medium, and why?

My artistic style is colourful and inspired by nature. I like to observe the little creatures and get lost in the gradients, reflections and patterns of the animals. The flowers are also so rich in colour and texture, and I can't get enough of them. I experimented with different mediums, and I often worked with acrylics and felt-tip pens before discovering watercolour thanks to my cousin. She introduced me to the subtleties of colour mixes, and I made this new technique my own.

What motivates you as an artist?

My art is a way of fully appreciating nature, down to the smallest detail. It's only when I draw that I really observe. The very detailed observation leads me to see the details that I would not have seen at first glance. When I paint, I am also fully aware of the light, the smells, the noises; I immerse myself in the environment, and I become one with it to better transcribe into drawing what is offered to me. I also hope that my art will allow people to realise the beauty of nature, and thus to love and protect it better.

Describe the best piece of art you have created

I don't know if it's the best, but it's a work that brings back a beautiful memory: a sunset on a lake in Nicaragua, Central America. We were with a friend, on the shore of Ometepe Island. This island is actually two volcanoes next to each other, on Lake Cocibolca. This lake is so big that it looks like the sea.

I opened my travel diary and took out my notebooks, and I started to paint this spectacle of colours that the sunset offered on the lake and the volcano. All around me, there were a lot of people and reggae music. I drew as fast as I could, because the colours changed, the light changed from minute to minute. I have a memorable memory of it. Every time I open my notebook on this page, I am again immersed in this place.

What artists inspire you and where do you find inspiration?

My inspiration comes from my hikes in nature. I also recently discovered the Cairns Botanic Gardens, which is an infinite source of inspiration. And then there are those moments in my garden when I see a butterfly, an ant climbing on my arm, or a bird settling down to make its nest.

How do you learn new skills and/or techniques?

I learned a lot thanks to my cousin Amandine who introduced me to the techniques of mixing colours, putting the right amount of water and pigment. I continue to learn from books, exhibitions and other artists I meet.

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

Every day is a new challenge! I have the feeling that every time I start a new work, it's a new challenge!

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

When I'm not with my brushes, I'm in the bakery. I am a baker in Kuranda, at Chez Coco, the new French bakery. Making croissants and pains au chocolat is also an art to me, with different raw materials of course!

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

I set up my studio in a small room in my house, I feel cozy in this small space, a bit like in a creative safe place. But most of the time, I draw outside. In a garden, by the side of a path, in the middle of flowers. Sometimes I take a picture to draw later in my studio, especially for animals that move a lot like butterflies.

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

I found my perfect brush! In reality, I have two favourite brushes, I only use these so I have a multitude of others. It's as if we had tamed each other.

Do you think art is important in society?

Yes, of course! Art in all its forms is necessary because it allows us to question our vision of the world. In my opinion, art makes the person who looks at it experience emotions and allows reflections to emerge. Each artist sees the world with his own eyes and what I like about the Arts Co-op is this variety of universes. I also think that art should be accessible to all, it is not reserved for privileged people, it is for everyone.

Artworks by Laure Nebout-Reyx



LIFE DRAWING AT THE KURANDA CWA HALL

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

6 SEPTEMBER 1-3pm

4 OCTOBER 1-3pm

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

WHAT TO BRING, WHAT TO EXPECT:

Tables and chairs are provided.

Artists provide their own drawing materials, boards clips and easels.

Arrive 15 minutes early to set up. A series of short warm-up poses starting at 1pm followed by 10-to-20-minute poses with two short breaks for socialising and critical discussion.

Cost: \$15 No booking necessary.

(cost contributes towards model and rent)

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



Study by Theo Tremblay



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KURANDA RSL CHRISTMAS IN JULY CELEBRATIONS

Christmas fun in July at the Speewah Tavern was enjoyed by Kuranda RSL Sub Branch members, families and local residents recently.

Santa (aka Craig Kerr) presented gifts to all children young and not so young. He was ably assisted by his "pixie" Lilith Ryan. A great time was had by all present. Everyone enjoyed the warmth and delicious foods prepared by hosts Michele and Laurie.

Don't forget Remembrance Day in November (Wednesday 11 November 2026).



Photos: Nik (Kuranda RSL)

SPEEWAH STORE OFFERING NEW SERVICES

PARCEL PICKUP HUB:

The Speewah Convenience Store and Feed shop have taken on a new service role, through Rocktrans, to become a Parcel Pickup Hub for most of the major couriers servicing the Tablelands. This service takes any overflow of parcels, e.g. when couriers run out of time to complete deliveries for the day. A text message is sent to the recipient once parcels are dropped off here in Speewah informing them their parcel is ready to pick up. The text supplies a 4digit code for the receiver to be able to pick up their parcel here at the Speewah Store. NOTE: it is essential a phone number is added when the item is purchased to have this work properly. So far, after a couple of weeks it is functioning well although a few parcels are going back to sender, not picked up.

NOTE: the areas covered for this service are Speewah, Koah and Kuranda/Myola.

GAS BOTTLES

The Speewah Store also stocks gas in BBQ size bottles from Supagas. And additionally, now supplies 45kg bottles, pickup only, for \$145ea.

KURANDA MEN'S SHED



Australian Men's Shed Association
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

incorporating
KURANDA SHE SHED

Well this year is really disappearing fast. September already!

Things are moving along at the Shed and we have gone into the bicycle industry, in a way. A local family recently donated a large quantity of bicycles and spare parts that were surplus after the close of a bicycle hire business. Some of the shedders are reconditioning them and so if anyone is looking for a cheap 'treadly', come and check us out. Some have child seats and so are just right for that Sunday family ride around the village. We may not have just what you want but in a short while we can probably put something together to fit your needs - all for a small donation.

Staying with the bicycle theme, one of our members has skilfully hand-built a wooden mountain bike. The idea began in 2018 when he stumbled across a rustic wooden bicycle outside a coffee shop in the small village of Haarlem in the Netherlands. Fast forward to 2026, and the opportunity to design and build his own interpretation became too tempting to ignore. His goal was not only to create a unique bicycle but also to use as much recycled timber and reclaimed bicycle hardware as possible, making the project both sustainable and rewarding.

The search began for timber that was strong, visually appealing, and distinctly Australian. Offcuts of Tasmanian Oak from a house construction project proved to be the perfect choice. A second-hand mountain bike supplied most of the remaining components, including the wheels, drive-train, brakes, handlebars and a comfortably well-worn saddle.

The frame was designed using CAD software and consisted of laminated timber sections bonded around a marine plywood spine. The timber was machined into laminates, cut to size, carefully mitred, and assembled on the template using high-strength epoxy resin to form the front triangle. The completed timber frame received four coats of marine-grade varnish to seal and protect the wood while preserving the natural beauty and grain of the timber.

To quote the builder: "The finished wooden bicycle is unlike any other bike I have ridden. It is remarkably quiet, absorbs much of the vibration from the trail, and delivers a riding experience that is both smooth and uniquely satisfying. It possesses a character that is difficult to describe until you ride it yourself."

This is just another example of the skill and talent of our Shed members. So do come along and bring your special project to life at the Kuranda Men's Shed.



SESSION TIMES

Mixed Shed (male and female) • Tuesday 8.30am–12pm

Men's Shed • Wed & Sat 8.30am–11.30am

She Shed • Friday 8.30am–1pm

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

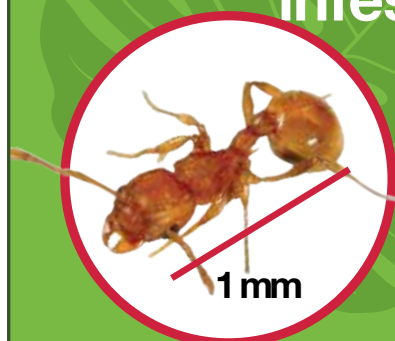
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mensshedkuranda@gmail.com

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A Grinter's Tale

I'm done. Even my tea towel doesn't work.

Nothing works anymore. Am I expecting too much of a rectangular piece of cloth identifying as a tea towel? Maybe drying plastic storage containers is not in its job description.

I was about to go and get the hairdryer to dry the dishes that had just been through the 'Extra Dry' cycle in the new dishwasher, but opted for 30 seconds of Chair Yoga, then found my way to the office room, through the ever increasing pile of faulty goods waiting to go back to retailers.

I am super eager to locate the results of a B6 toxicity test I had a week ago while in Emergency after eating a tiny piece of a Eucharis Lily bulb identifying itself as an onion. Don't even ask... but it would make a hilarious story. While draining me of blood for the purposes of seeing if I was going to cark it, the hospital kindly took a third syringe of my poisoned blood for the B6 toxicity. Afterwards I did wonder if the Eucharis poison might impinge on the toxicity test.

Before starting work yesterday, I decided to take a few minutes (ha!) to check on MyGov/My Health Record for the result of that toxicity test.

Link in to MyGov. Right, I have four choices. A) Digital ID – no way. Passkey – what passkey? Ah here we go, Gov username and password. I can do that. Easy peasy.

First, find username and password in my secret password storage under the dog bed.

Okay, username or email. I've got both, but I'll use the email address I have always used. Fail.

Clicked "Forgot Username" while grinding teeth because I haven't forgotten it. Would I like it sent to SMS or Email? I opt for SMS. Nothing arrives. Teeth wearing down a little. I opt for email as an alternative. Breeeathe.

It's a Bigpond email account I only use for online purchases that are preceded by 'Receive a \$10 discount off your purchase', whereby the company extracts your email so you can spend the rest of your days blocking unwelcome spam. But my phone is in the kitchen keeping an eye out for the remote trying to sneak out, and I am too lazy to go and get it. Mental note to train the dogs to sniff out my remote. They always find the cat, but it probably smells a little stronger.

Rightio, log in to Bigpond email, which sometimes identifies as Telstra mail, depending on the weather and my level of frustration. Ah, Telstra says my log in details are incorrect. Ah, Telstra, do you mean the new username I set up only a week ago at the Telstra shop? If my teeth weren't my own, I would take them out to avoid further damage at this stage.

I can't remember how, but I got into my Telstra mail for the new MyGov username sent and received a username I wouldn't remember even if I was threatened with dinner with Albanese. Never mind, let's record it for posterity and give it a go.

I entered the new username on MyGov, then my password. Surprise! No, no surprise, the password is incorrect. Teeth are about to come out even though they are my own.



Click "Forgotten Password". The system responds, "Send to SMS or Email?" Mmm, let's go for SMS, just for a laugh, hey?

"Enter your Username, email address or mobile phone number". I entered mobile number as they have it on file and to make sure the SMS makes it this time. "Incorrect Username" is the response. If a Telstra robot was in front of me now, it would have no teeth. So I entered the Username.

"A one time code has been sent to your mobile phone". There's no option for me to reply, "No, it bloody hasn't!"

So there is absolutely no way of letting the system know I did not get a code. Pressed Cancel.

Enter "Forgotten Password" again. Opted for email. No email. I'll try my business email. Anything for a laugh. No email arrives on that email address.

Oh look, there are Digital Health e-Learning resources. That would be such fun!

It's the next day. I am calling them. Six steps later and I have been warned to be NICE. Thirty more seconds of chair yoga and considering a swig of vodka, not that I have any, but still considering it. While I am holding on for a human (hopefully), I hover over the Dan Murphy's page to see if they can transfer vodka electronically. I decide to try making a new MyGov account. What a grand idea.

I enter my business email address; that might smarten them up. Oh, it's "already in use". There are two of me it seems, maybe I am connected to a parallel universe. But then I remember I tried this yesterday. Foiled again. So, last attempt before I go and fell a tree with one blow of an axe.

Using my last weapon, the email address I use predominantly for buying dog wormers, I have just created my third identity, which cancels out my parallel universe theory. My head is reeling. Beside me the phone is still reeling off messages 25 minutes later about how I can quickly get information from my 'My Gov' account. Thank heavens I have not been reminded to be nice. I have a rubber sports teeth guard between my front teeth, and I think I might leave my phone line open while I go and stab horse poo with the rake, load it into bags, and instead of selling it for \$2, make a line of punch bags along the fence.

Just before I go looking for those results, I want to tell you something I think is really important. I was brought up in family pharmacies and then a health store, so I always thought I was reasonably vitamin and supplement savvy. The recommended dietary intake of Vitamin B6 for an adult is around 1.5mg a day, depending on age and sex. The B Complex I have been taking for months contains 75mg. Yes, you read that correctly. Seventy-five. And I had absolutely no idea. I suspect many of us have been lulled into thinking that because B vitamins are water-soluble, any excess simply gets flushed down the loo. Unfortunately, it isn't quite that simple with B6. High doses taken over time can accumulate and cause nerve problems, which is why I am now rather keen to find out what that third syringe of blood had to say.

After all that, no results. I might go and manufacture those horse poo punch bags.

"They always find the cat, but it probably smells a little stronger."



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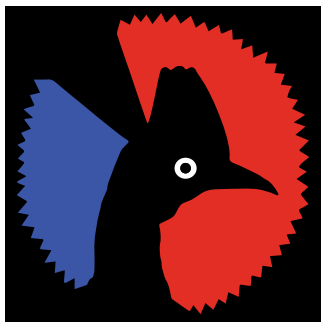
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www.kurandaconservation.org

The KCons Community Nursery is nearly always open!

OUR CASSOWARIES ON INTERNATIONAL TV

During July, we were visited by a German film crew to enable them to produce a documentary show for children in Europe. Dad/Bruce (Black Mountain Road) appeared on cue with his three brand new chicks and put on a magnificent show to the delight of all. Our thanks to Leonie of Cassowary House for making this whole sequence possible. Leonie's land has been used by Dad/Bruce for decades and it was predictable that he would appear as hoped.

After that, the nursery was the main attraction with interviews about why we do what we do and our focus on food trees for wildlife, particularly cassowaries.



The German film team with Jax Bergersen (centre in blue). Photo KCONS

Later there was a sequence about scats and the role of the cassowary in eating big-seeded fruit and depositing the seeds some distance from where the fruit was eaten, thus spreading these big seeds throughout its habitat. This is a unique service performed by the cassowary which earns it the label of being the rainforest gardener.

The film crew were keen to show how roads play a major role in

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 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 - 0439 899 731.

killing these birds, so this was another theme of their production.

We were lucky enough to come across a very large python, at least 4 metres long, which was a real treat for our international visitors. In all, plenty of footage was taken and we eagerly await to see the final outcome. But that's not all. We've since been visited by a documentary wildlife film crew from South Australia seeking to capture footage of all phases of the cassowary's life cycle. Move over David Attenborough.

FERAL CATS

Research is informing us about the damage being wrought by feral and domestic cats on the loose. So much wildlife is being decimated that need not meet this fate. We strongly support any effort made by authorities to cull feral cats. We also want to emphasise to cat owners that if their cats are found outside the boundary of their owner's property, they are deemed to be feral and therefore subject to the same fate. By keeping your cat indoors, you can ensure that your cat is safe.

CASSOWARY UPDATE

We reported last month that Dad has come forth with three new chicks (now internationally famous). Merlin had done likewise. Reports from Speewah confirm new chicks and we await news of Elvis of Kuranda Riverboat fame. The only time a cassowary might be threatening is when he is protecting his brood. Take note and stay away.

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

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AN OPPORTUNITY TO SET UP A LIFE-SIZED PAINTED CASSOWARY AT YOUR BUSINESS

The Cassowary Art Trail (CAT), a project of Kuranda Conservation Community Nursery Inc, is seeking a new location in Kuranda to showcase the fantastic "Ku-Raptor" cassowary, painted by local artist, Rebecca Koller.

Showcasing the painted cassowary in front of your business will increase more foot traffic to your door and create an additional experience for visitors.

The business will be mentioned on the Cassowary Art Trail map, webpage and flyers.

Leasing includes also:

- Your logo on the Cassowary Art Trail webpage (if no logo then a photo).
- Social media post.
- Integration of your location on the map.
- 1 banner (1.2m x 2m) with general information about the Cassowary Art Trail and the cassowary artwork (see photo).
- Supply of flyers.

NOTE: The statue has to be set up under cover and locked up during the night.

By leasing a painted cassowary, you are not only raising awareness of the cassowary and its role in sustaining its environment, but you're also encouraging more visitors to support your business. Give it a go!

Cost for minimum 12 months lease is \$600.

The Cassowary Art Trail continues to grow. There are now three statues set up at local businesses around Kuranda and four at tourist attractions in Tropical North Queensland. Watch out for The Big Cassowary coming to Kuranda soon!

For further information please contact info@cassowarytrail.com.au



Photo: Jurg Jutzi



KURANDA BRANCH

20 Thongon Street

Email: kurandabranch@qcwa.org.au

Booking Agent: Krishna Buhler 0427 937 348

President: Carol Jeanes

You are welcome to look up QCWA site online and consider if you would like to be a CWA member. Contact above email or QCWA. Our hope as volunteers is to continue offering a safe place to meet and provide innovative, engaging activities.

THANKS GIVEN TO KQCWA FROM MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL, "We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Kuranda QLD Country Women's Association for their contribution towards making this shire a truly wonderful place to live. Council is pleased to be involved in this community partnership as greater community benefits can be achieved by working together." "Council recognises the important role played by not-for-profit community groups in delivering services and activities for the benefit of the community. For this reason, Council provides financial and in-kind assistance to support community groups through the Community Partnerships Program towards general property rate rebates and charge remissions."

AGM Kuranda Branch QCWA held 29 July 2026.

At the meeting new Vice President Sabina Webb was welcomed and thanks given to Vicki Donovan for her many years of support in her role as President and Vice President. Guest Speaker Nadia Rengifo, social worker and now manager of the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre, shared her passion for "creating a welcoming, inclusive, and connected community." She "leads a dedicated team delivering a broad range of services, including emergency relief, advocacy, individual and family support, and community development initiatives. And is committed to working collaboratively with community members and partner organisations to build local capacity, strengthen connections, and support positive outcomes for individuals and families".

WELCOME WOMEN TO CWA ACTIVITIES

CWA CRAFT GROUP Crafts of Your Choice sessions, including crocheting, will be held Fridays, 4 and 18 September, 10.30am-12.30pm. Cost is a donation. Contact Trish Maude 0417 050 911.

CWA MONTHLY MEMBERS' MEETING

Wednesday 9 September, 9am. All welcome. Contact via email.

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

CWA SODALITY Creative activities Sunday 27 September. 4 - 6.15pm. Holly 0494 369 462.

Contact the following PRIVATE GROUPS 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 0415 127 089

MaGiCS Dance Group Denver 0451 949 740

Eckanker AU. Faith Group 0452 544 490

Chakradance Freedom Workshops

Suzanne Masters 0488 333 126

Line Dancing Liza Soenario 0413 178 489

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 and Thursdays mostly free until 4pm. Some Fridays free. Some space Saturdays.

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

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

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



Recycle

Sell or donate good-quality clothes. Organise a clothes swap to refresh your wardrobe.

Or send clean, old clothes to Upparel (\$35 per 10kg box) to be recycled into new textiles.

Rot

Pure natural fibres can be composted. However, often the seams are stitched with polyester thread, so cut off and discard the seams.

The most sustainable fabrics are long-wearing pure organic natural fibres (hemp, linen, cotton, wool). Avoid semi-synthetic fabrics (rayon, viscose, bamboo) and synthetic fabrics (polyester, elastane, vinyl).



Julia Mauro wearing a favourite top. The decoration salvaged from this worn-out singlet in the photo above was later used to patch a hole in this child's dress, with sleeves added from another old t-shirt! What once was old (and worn out) can be new again.
Photos Julia Mauro

KURANDA WASTE-BUSTERS

by Julia Mauro

This month's challenge: realise your wardrobe's full potential.

Growing up, I loved op-shopping. I bought heaps of clothes, experimenting with my personal style for a fraction of the cost of buying clothes new.

Later, I supported "eco fashion". I invested in Australian-made garments, chose organic natural fibres, supported slow fashion by ordering custom-made clothes from small producers, and bought garments made from remnant fabric in fair-trade workshops.

You may think both of these approaches sound environmentally conscious, but they overlook two crucial questions: how much were these clothes worn, and what happened to them after that?

The fashion industry is responsible for a huge amount of waste and environmental damage. Too many clothes are being made and discarded. To change the current culture, we must curate and manage our wardrobes consciously so that our clothes realise their full potential.



Old clothes decorating tree stumps.



A broken hand-me-down shirt repurposed to make a plush toy cube.

Reduce

The best approach is to use what you already have. Most people wear a handful of outfits on high rotation and have lots of clothes they rarely wear (about one third of their wardrobe). Unworn clothes are a wasted resource.

Forget "fast fashion". Shop your own wardrobe first! Go on a fashion fast: don't buy any clothes for six months or a year!

Refuse

Know your own style and resist impulse purchases by applying the #30Wears concept launched by sustainability advocate Livia Firth.

Before purchasing an item of clothing, pause and ask yourself: "Will I wear this at least 30 times?" It helps if it works with at least three things in your existing wardrobe. If the answer is no, don't buy it.

Reuse

It is better to keep existing clothes in circulation than to have finite resources consumed to produce and transport new clothes. Buy what you need second-hand, whether from op-shops, flea markets or vintage dealers.

Repair

If a garment has a button missing, a broken zip, a small hole or a split seam, don't send it to landfill. Learn some basic mending skills or have the garment repaired.

Repurpose

Don't throw out threadbare or worn-out clothes. Get creative! Salvage buttons and working zips for future mending and craft projects. Turn old clothes into garage rags or kitchen wipes.

Cut old clothes into strips. Use strips to stuff cushions, footrests or doggy beds. Repurpose them as garden ties, plait them to create a chew toy for your dog, or transform them into a scrap mat. I am stockpiling my children's worn-out clothes to turn them into a colourful scrap quilt.



ORIGINAL KURANDA RAINFOREST MARKETS

MARKETEER PROFILE: TRISH GREEN - KURANDA HONEYHOUSE

This month we hear from Trish Green from Kuranda Honey House and learn about some of the history of this iconic Kuranda business.

Tell us how the Honey House started and how you came to be involved?

The Honey House was established by Howard and June Jones in 1959 at the corner of the (then) Old Kennedy Highway and Therwine St. The original building has since been removed. In 1968, the business moved about 70 metres up the road to its present position. Jim and Olive Mealing bought the business in 1977, retiring in 2005. The Honey House served as both a specialty honey shop and the office for the adjacent Bullock Bell Holiday Inn, later renamed to The Honey House Motel. These Motel rooms are now individual shops, forming the boardwalk section of the Original Kuranda Markets Complex.

I first worked in the Honey House café kitchen which was famous for its pumpkin scones and enormous burgers in the late 1990s. In 2006, I was appointed Manager of the business for the then owners, Malcolm and Gina McLeod who sold the business to me in January 2007.



Trish Green in beekeeping action.

How has the Honey House changed and grown over the years?

As Australia's oldest specialty honey store and the longest operating retail business in Kuranda, the Honey House prides itself on maintaining a great visitor experience over 67 years. In 1978, the glass fronted beehives were installed, with one remaining to this day. Visitors are still able to sample the best of the region's single origin and multi-floral honeys, from our own managed production hives and from other local, ethical beekeepers of the Kuranda and Tablelands communities.

We have exported our honey directly to international markets and individual customers, many of which return to visit Kuranda on a regular basis. It is heartening to so often hear positive comments from visitors returning to Kuranda, enjoying the same happy atmosphere over decades.

As a qualified beekeeper, my passion has been to educate the public about the importance of bees and the health-giving properties of the many resources the bees produce. To this end, the Honey House installed beehives at both our local schools and for many years had the pleasure of teaching beekeeping to our high school students. For over 10 years, I ran monthly Beginner Beekeeping courses helping hundreds of people begin their beekeeping journey, with several going on to become commercial keepers.



Circa 1985



Bullock Bell Circa 1968

The Honey House has employed so many locals over the 67 years of operation, and we are particularly proud of offering a first job to young people, starting them on their employment path.

What do you see as the essence of the Original Kuranda Markets, and what gives it its charm?

The Original Kuranda Rainforest Markets began in 1978 on the footpath in front of the Honey House and quickly grew to need more space. The Mealings offered the land behind the Honey House for the expanded market which featured local craftspeople, artists, performers, produce and excellent food stalls. Originally a Sunday only market, the Kuranda train was packed with Cairns locals travelling up for the eclectic mix of stalls, the 'hippy' atmosphere and the quirky characters. Now operating five days a week year-round, the market continues to be the heart of the village, giving domestic and international tourists a fun, relaxing and memorable experience of the unique Kuranda vibe and a much loved meeting place for Kuranda locals.

This world-renowned Market owes its popularity to the stallholders, old and new, that generously present their goods, creativity and friendliness to all our visitors. The current "Village in a Village" design lends itself to the community feeling and supports over 50 micro-businesses in the complex. Over 90per cent of stallholders hand-make, design or produce their products, giving this market space a welcome difference in an increasingly commercial world. The Honey House is proud to remain as an iconic business fronting the Original Kuranda Markets, welcoming new and returning visitors to our precinct.

Trish Green, Kuranda Honey House



Watching the Bees at work.
Photos Trish Green.



Circa 1975



Honey House Combi Van Circa 1970

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Kuranda Historical Society

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

Remembering the School House

The Kuranda District State School owns a house that is tucked in behind the Envirocare Nursery. The house came with the property taken on by the State Government at the time the Kuranda District College was being planned for. The old farmhouse is not visible from Myola Road. It is situated on the top of the Myola ridge, a piece of land sloping in a northerly direction towards the Barron River. This block is fringed by a wide margin of maturing trees, the result of 20 years of Envirocare revegetation and Warril Creek, which runs from the west. The house has consecutively housed the school accountant Phillip Ridinsky and a series of school principals.

KHS was fortunate to be given permission to film local entity Dugg Stratford recently in the old schoolhouse. Dugg remembered the farm as a child from riding horses out to Myola and recounted the history of the land, including some of its previous owners and land uses. Dugg's recollections turns out to be a fascinating tale of farming endeavors. Read further to follow the farm history.

The first owner of the original and larger property that Dugg recalls was the Markham family, Alice and Ernie Markham and Peter Markham who lived on the land from the 1920s. The Markham's arrived in Myola after owning hotels in Almaden and Mungana, the Barron Valley Hotel in Atherton and the Strand Hotel in Cairns (*Cairns Post*, 1953 (2)) (Thorp, 2017). Peter Markham owned his own business known as 'Markham Refrigeration Engineer' in Cairns. Clifton Farm or Dairy as it was known, was a dairy and sugar cane farm, one of the few places in the Myola area that sugar cane was grown at the time. Sugar cane itself was first planted along the Brisbane River in 1840s (Balanzategui, 1994), and grown commercially at Ormiston, near Brisbane in the 1860s (Douglas Shire Historical Society, no date). In the 1880s, cane lands were being developed further along Queensland's tropical coast and along the northern coast of New South Wales.

By 1924, Clifton Farm, which likely covered a fair portion of what was known as the 'Myola farming flats' (the alluvial river flats between Barnwell and Myola roads), was supplying improved sugar cane varieties to local farmers and the Markhams' were supplying cane under a quota system for the Mulgrave Sugar Mill at Gordonvale (which had its first crush in 1896 and continues today).

By the 1930s, a few Myola farmers had established dairy farms and were supplying milk to Cairns. An important

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📌 Kuranda Historical Society

dairy farmer in the Myola area was Alice Markham. By 1931, she was improving her herd with the addition of 20 head of Illawarra Shorthorn Dairy cows from the Malanda area and was Myola's largest supplier of milk to Cairns. (*Cairns Post*, 1931). By 1938, dairy farmers in Kuranda, Myola and Mantaka were railing to Cairns twice daily consignments of milk for the city of Cairns milk supply (*Cairns Post*, 1938 as cited in Thorp, 2017). The Markham's farm was the only farm in Kuranda that had refrigeration, so the farm became the distribution point for local dairy farmers, with the milk cans kept cold on the train journey by being packed in ice.

The Department of Primary Industries established an isolation plot, known as the Hargreaves Brothers Propagation Plot, at Myola in 1944. Hargreaves was a registered sugar grower and was provided with free sugar plants and assistance with planting. Various sugar varieties were trialed looking at growth and stand in this part of the Tablelands (QSA, Bureau of Sugar Experiment Station Files: 20778: Isolation Plots Mossman, Myola, 1944 – 1976, Box 22). Dugg recalls that the Markhams had leased an experimental cane plot - about five acres in size, near the turnoff to Fairyland Road.

It is likely that the schoolhouse was part of the Markham family holdings and perhaps we can assume the family did reside there at some point. There are also remnants of buildings closer to Warril Creek which are now within the revegetation area. Andrew Horn of Kuranda Envirocare finds old bottles and ceramics often in this area when preparing for planting days and remembers nearby the old low-set timber road bridge which crossed Warril Creek (replaced in the 1980s). He notes that he has not found self-seeding coffee plants in the revegetation plot, unlike further upstream in the Barron River flats around the Oak Forest / High Chapparral road junction, indicating it is unlikely that coffee was grown near the river. Certainly, other properties in the Myola area went from rainforest to coffee plantations, and then on to farmland.

The Markhams held this land until 1955 when they sold it to the Atkinson family who kept it for the next 25 years, naming the property 'Moana' (*Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*, Issue S13, 1983). The Atkinson family transitioned the farm from dairy to elite beef breeding - a Brahman cattle stud. The family is known for making the revolutionary move to introduce Brahman cattle to the Far North. While the family's main holding was at the Wairuna Station at Mt Garnet, the land at Myola was farmed by Ken Atkinson, a pioneer in the Australian Brahman breed. Ken, in the 1926 drought, introduced Zebu (Brahman) bloodlines to his family's herd at Wairuna Station. By 1946, he had co-established the Australian Zebu Breeders' Association (which later became the Australian Brahman Breeders Association) and served as its president until 1960. From 1960 Wairuna, with its cross-bred herd, was managed by Atkinson's eldest son, Jon, while Atkinson moved his Brahman stud cattle to

the property Moana to be more easily accessible for domestic and international buyers (Wikipedia, no date). Other local Kuranda families who lived and worked on the land for Ken Atkinson, including Tony Marriott and his wife Joan, and their children, where they lived for 10 years.

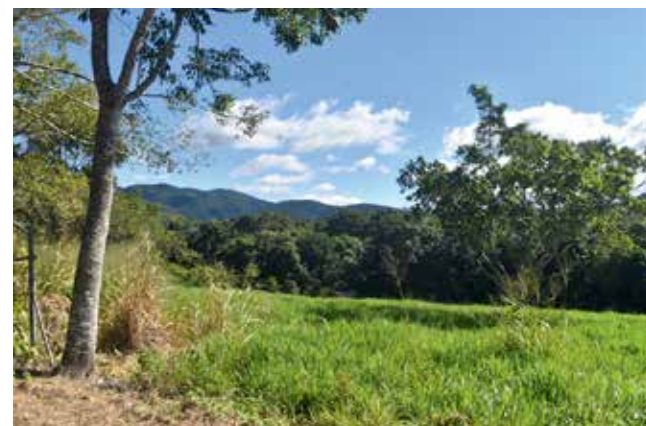
Dugg remembers Ken Atkinson well, having rescued him from some wayward stock, and from transporting his stock from Wairuna to the Cairns Show and back. We filmed Dugg recollecting these times in the school house and KHS has uploaded the film on the Collecting Bug.

The Little family purchased the land from Ken Atkinson, who moved across the road into the brick house he built which is on the opposite side of Myola Road from the Envirocare nursery. The Little's also had property around Wha Hae and raised mixed cattle on the property here and across the Barron River. The Little family lived here until the land was sold to the Education Department. The Education Department originally intended to build an agricultural college on the site; however, the Kuranda State High School was established in 1998 and the primary school relocated to the site in 2007 to form the Kuranda District State College.

Marjorie Cutting



The Kuranda school house.
View down to the Barron River from the Kuranda School house.
Photos Marjorie Cutting



HELP SEND TIM TO LONDON!

Kuranda Recreation Centre is incredibly proud to announce that our Vice President, Tim, has been selected to represent Australia at the 2026 Blackball World Championships in London this October!

As many locals will know, Tim is passionate about his 8 ball and contributes a great deal of his time and energy to the Recreation Centre and our 8 ball community.

This is not Tim's first time wearing the green and gold. In 2023, he represented Australia at the Blackball World Championships in South Africa, making his selection for London an even more impressive achievement.

Getting to a World Championship, however, comes at a considerable personal cost. Tim needs approximately \$6,000 for flights, accommodation and match fees.

The Kuranda Recreation Centre is kicking off the campaign with a \$1,000 contribution towards his trip, and we'd love to see the wider Kuranda community get behind him too

Let's get behind one of our own as he represents Kuranda and Australia on the world stage! Stay tuned for upcoming fundraising opportunities and ways you can help us send Tim to London!

Contact Tim Riley on 0458 267 517



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king of the mid-temp grooves, FNQ's venerable veteran Solomon tunes into nature's heart beat and rides the pulse.

TOSHI SAKAMOTO

Japanese songwriter and now beloved Kuranda local, Toshi's unique style has a zen and other-worldly quality.

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flawless reggae selecta and organiser of Ellis Beach Reggae.

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HIGH-RISE ANTS

Green Tree Ants (*Oecophylla smaragdina*) will be familiar to anyone who resides in, or has travelled into the northern parts of Australia. They are one of the most visible and dominant species of ants in many areas of the north. As long as there are suitable trees to nest within they are also quite at home in disturbed areas and have taken much of our environmental modification in their stride. They are relatively aggressive and do not hesitate to swarm over a perceived threat to their nests, biting fiercely as they do. To add to the pain, they squirt acid from their abdomen into the bite site to ensure the intruder knows who is boss. Many an innocent tourist has been covered with these ants just by brushing a bush as they walk by, and instantly begun to perform the hopping and slapping ‘Green Ant Dance’, which is a sight to see.

These ants construct their homes in the trees using a remarkable method of insect engineering. They create nesting chambers from leaves which are pulled together through the cooperation of many worker ants. Once they have the leaves in position, another wave of workers appear with young grub-like larvae in their jaws. The ant larvae produce silk and are used by the worker ants as tools to bind the leaves together. The workers carrying larvae move to and fro, binding the seams of the leaf nest with precision, whilst the other workers patiently hold the leaves in place. The entire construction may take several hours to complete. Although the colonies have a single queen, they may ultimately expand to have many nest sites throughout a single tree, or even adjacent trees, which the ants travel between. These super colonies can contain tens of thousands of ants, and the various nest sites will have different functions. Some may store larvae and pupae of different ages, others will simply house workers, and of course one will house the queen and will be fiercely protected. The ants tend to prefer living leaves forming their nest chambers. As the silken leaf clusters die off the ants will scout for a new location and repeat the construction process.

Nest building is not the only unique talent of these high-rise ants. They can also build bridges and ladders using their own bodies as the structure. If there is a particular branch they need to reach below them, rather than walking the long way round they can construct a dangling chain of ants. With hundreds holding onto one another, they bridge the gap with incredible cooperation. Once they reach the branch below, other ants will use the living structure to walk across. Of course, this is not a permanent structure, but allows effective temporary access to a spot otherwise difficult to get to.

These remarkable ants have also taken to an insect-form of farming. They actively protect and tend to several species of caterpillars, various leaf hoppers and other sap sucking insects. The ants are in turn rewarded with sugary secretions produced by the farmed insects known as honeydew. This is a rich food source and a valuable commodity for the ants.

Green Tree Ants constantly seek food for their colonies, which means travelling far and wide. If an insect is not on their ‘protected list’ it is fair game. They can overpower a wide variety of small animals, predominantly insects and spiders, then drag them back to their nests. They will also clean up the carcasses of larger vertebrate animals. On some occasions they have been observed dragging small dead birds and reptiles into the trees to be dismantled and fed to their larvae.

Despite the battles some people have with them in their yards, many fruit farmers find these ants to be great allies. Studies on mango crops have shown higher yields when the orchards contain Green Tree Ants as they control many pest insects, reducing the need for pesticides.

Alan Henderson, Minibeast Wildlife



A Green Tree Ant nest made from leaves and silk.
Photos: Alan Henderson



A worker Green Tree Ant on full alert.



Green Tree Ants forming a chain to pull leaves together.



A queen Green Tree Ant guarding her new brood.

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NAIDOC week at Kuranda Community Kindergarten was a chance for us to celebrate the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with our kindergarten community. The best part of our NAIDOC week happened on Wednesday 12 August. This was the day that we all came together to celebrate shared values and pride in our local Djabugay language and culture. We spent time together listening to music, sharing stories, getting painted up, dancing a few different traditional dances, sharing damper and fruit, and having a go at throwing the boomerang.

We encouraged everyone to add their creativity to our Buda:dji (the carpet snake who in the dreamtime carved out the Barron River and creeks that join it) djama (snake) wall, by drawing a picture and writing a thought about how we can be 'all in' on reconciliation. We got lots of new scales to add to Buda:dji though many of our wonderful artists forgot to put their name on their work. A massive thank you to all the families who came to celebrate with us. We especially thank our First Nations families who trust us to hold and value the knowledge and time they share with us; we are very grateful to be living in such a gurilanggan (beautiful) bulmba (place).



Making our own paint from earth.



Bundarra Dance.



Painting our rock.



Womans Dance. Photos supplied



Big thank you to our Mantaka families who always come along to share traditional knowledge

We would also like to take this opportunity to share that our dreaming gardens project, that was first suggested in 2024 by Ms Tracy and started in 2025, is finally starting to come together and look fantastic, thanks to our amazing community, committees, families, children and staff. Nganydjim Bulmba Bulurru (Our Story Water Place) is a unique space where children can become storytellers as they play and interact with the traditional Djabugay stories, Buda:Dji Miya-Miya (nautilus) Djada, and Gidiri a Djabugay Storywater. These stories are always happening, and our children of Kuranda are the storytellers living these stories and creating new stories in the present and far into the future. We look forward to sharing more about this exciting project as it continues.

We would also like to reach out to families of Kindy-age children and remind our community that our Kindergarten can only remain open if we have enough children attending. In 2026 we had low numbers of children attending, we hope to see this pattern changing in 2027.

We would like to let families know that our Kindergarten offers a unique experience for children to learn foundational life skills. We have a focus on positive relationships with families and the environment, building social skills and emotional resilience. Whether planning to home school or go with a traditional schooling option your children will benefit and thrive if they have the chance to attend Kuranda Community Kindergarten.

Because Kindergarten is recognised as being so important for growing minds 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!



PRIMARY CAMPUS KITCHEN CHEMISTRY

It's that time of year again, where the Primary students, Year 1-Year 6, wonder over to the Hospitality Kitchen on the Secondary Campus to explore the world of Solid/Liquid/Gases. In the first few weeks students have turned frozen fruit into 'Fruit Poo'; a tropical sorbet and the students love it. Next, they watched cheese melt and gas being released as the class teacher's glasses fogged up. Lots of grins and 'yum' as they get to eat their experiments on the way back to class.

A new addition to this year's knowledge and learning, Glitter Bug. How clean are your hands really. Wide eyed and a little grossed out, the students tested how clean they really washed their hands when they got to see the 'germs' left behind glow under ultraviolet light. We now have the cleanest hands in FNQ.

Nicola Clode,
Head of Special Education Services.



Photos supplied KDSC

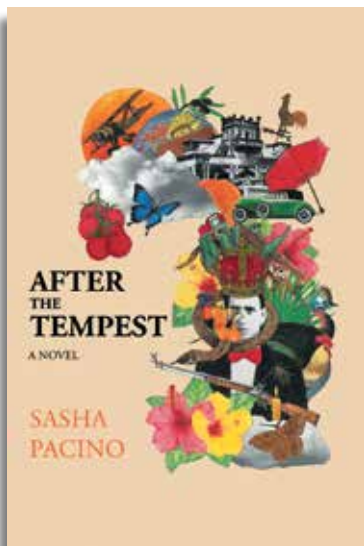


"We are all born scientists. Every single one of us is born wanting to know where the wind comes from, why the stars twinkle."

- Michio Kaku

PARONELLA PARK

NEW BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL BREATHES LIFE INTO THE EXTRAORDINARY STORY BEHIND QUEENSLAND'S FAMOUS PARONELLA PARK



Sasha Pacino's *After the Tempest* chronicles the true journey of an immigrant peasant who built a castle in the Australian rainforest. Sasha Pacino was born on the Sunshine Coast in 1988. In her twenties, she travelled to Cairns where she heard the story of José Paronella. *After the Tempest* is her first novel. She lives in Queensland.

Released on August 29 by Queensland publisher Boobook Press, *After the Tempest* is a luminous new biographical novel by Pacino. The work captures the relentless spirit of José Paronella, the visionary behind one of Australia's most enduring eco-tourism landmarks. The 406-page historical fiction title takes readers on a sweeping journey from a harsh childhood in rural Catalonia to the unforgiving frontier of early 20th Century Queensland.

The novel opens with an evocative reflection on Paronella's birth during a severe Catalan storm in 1887, a moment that foreshadowed a life defined by weathering immense hardship. Driven by a childhood dream of owning a castle inspired by his grandmother's fairy tales,

Paronella immigrated to Australia in 1913.

Facing the brutal realities of frontier life, he refused to let his vision die, eventually carving a Spanish style castle and pleasure garden out of the dense rainforest of North Queensland, a heritage site known today as Paronella Park. An excerpt from the book:

'So, Mr Paronella, how may I help you?'

'Mista Koppen, there's an area of land you do not—and can never—use: the southwest corner. It's too rough. All gullies and falls. You can never grow cane on it.'

Mr Koppen nodded, then raised a brow. 'And?'

'Will you sell me that piece of land?' A brief silence hung in the heavy air. 'I can pay cash,' I added quickly. 'Then you'd have money to help develop the usable parts of your property.'



Historical photograph of 'Paronella Park' castle at Mena Creek, November 1948.

Source: State Library of Queensland / Public Domain.



Historical photograph of José Paronella, circa 1921, original photographer unknown.

Source: Photo via Wikimedia Commons / Public Domain

'But Mr Paronella, as you said, the land is unusable, so why do you want it?'

'It's beautiful.' 'Beautiful but unusable.' 'I don't want to work the land. I want to live on it. I want to build a home—a castle.'

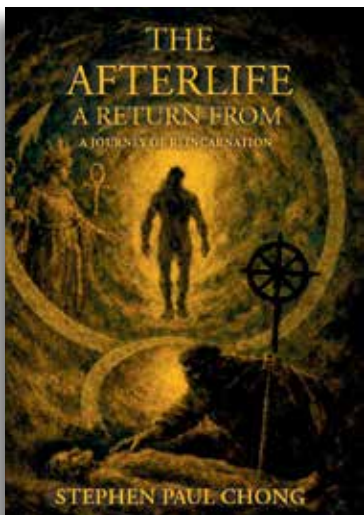
José Paronella's story gives immense insight into the migratory story of minority immigrants.

'It's also a story about what happens when you have a dream and work hard, but fundamentally, it's a story about how you cannot control the future and how Mother Nature always wins,' author Sasha Pacino said

After the Tempest is a celebration of a life lived to its absolute fullest. The book provides a historically grounded narrative for readers of biographical fiction, Australian history, and immigrant triumph stories.

Available via major Australian book retailers including Amazon AU, Fishpond and The Nible. The ebook is available through Kobo, Amazon Kindle and Apple Books.

Local Kuranda Author Releases New Metaphysical Book



The Afterlife, a return from: A journey of reincarnation

"I am in heaven. I am home in the realm of spirit. What more do I need?"

So proclaimed the spirit Athar as he pondered the compelling urge to return to the trials and tribulations of an earthly incarnation, all whilst standing in awe of the glory of his heavenly surroundings. Why indeed return?

Kuranda-based author Stephen Paul Chong, known for his insightful metaphysical and spiritual non-fiction, has released his latest work, *The Afterlife, a return from* – a deeply reflective exploration of what may await us beyond physical existence. Five years since his last work, Stephen explains that:

"For five years the voice went silent; there was no continuation of Athar's journey in the heavenly realms. On the eve of Christmas 2025, however, the voice of Athar returned, and he narrated further wondrous revelations

of his journey to reincarnation which have been transcribed in *The Afterlife, a return from*.

Chong's new book offers readers a compassionate and thought-provoking journey into the nature of the afterlife. The book invites readers to consider life's deeper meaning and the continuity of the human spirit. Answers to important questions are revealed. Why return to Earth (reincarnate)? Why do we forget? Where is the comfort for the bereaved? What is free will? and much more is revealed.

"If you are seeking solace and comfort for lost loved ones, worried about death, or seeking knowledge and understanding about what happens when we 'cross the veil', you will find a message which is directly yours within Athar's words of inspiration and transformation. That is his promise. That is why he has returned. That is why he has given this beautiful book to the world," Chong explains.

The book is attracting international attention via his UK publicist, G.L. Davies; however, Chong, who maintains strong ties to Far North Queensland, says the region's creative and spiritual community has long inspired his writing.

"Kuranda has always been a place where people look beyond the surface of life," Chong said. "This book is an invitation to reflect, to find comfort, and to reconnect with the idea that our journey continues in ways we may not yet understand." *The Afterlife, a return from*, is available now in paperback, eBook and audiobook and can be found on all the major book depository sites, including Amazon, Barnes and Noble, etc. or ask for it at your local book retail stores.

For further information, or to contact Stephen, visit his website:

www.stephenchong.com.au/

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HOMELESSNESS WEEK BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER AT KURANDA NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

Homelessness Week at Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre was a wonderful opportunity to bring people together, offer practical support and most importantly, create a welcoming space where community members could connect.

This year, the Centre focused on two key initiatives: providing access to a portable shower facility and offering free haircuts to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The Centre was grateful to receive a \$200 contribution from Anglicare North QLD towards the hire of the portable shower. While the shower presented some practical challenges during the week, the experience has provided valuable insight into what is needed to develop a more reliable and sustainable shower option for people experiencing homelessness in Kuranda. The Centre is now exploring longer-term possibilities.

One of the highlights of the week was undoubtedly the free hairdressing service, made possible through the generosity of two local hairdressers, Ursula and Rebecca, who volunteered their time over two days. The response was incredibly positive. On the first day, a large number of community members came along for haircuts, with many staying afterwards to have a chat, socialise and take part in activities at the Centre's arts and crafts table. The Centre's new hair-washing station also proved to be a popular addition. Purchased for use at future community events, it provided another opportunity for people to enjoy a little bit of self-care and feel welcomed and valued. There were plenty of smiles throughout the day, particularly among the younger boys who were excited to show off their new hairstyles. After learning about different hair products and how they could be used to manage and style their curly hair, they enthusiastically returned several times to experiment with different looks. Two women also took the opportunity to have complete hair transformations, creating some wonderful moments of confidence and connection.

The second day included some particularly meaningful moments. Two regular community members received haircuts, including one person who made the very personal decision to cut off the curls he had been growing since his hair regrew following cancer treatment. It was a significant moment and a reminder that initiatives like this are about much more than a haircut. They can provide dignity, choice, confidence and a sense of connection. The trust that has developed between community members and the Centre made these moments particularly special. Overall, the hairdressing component of Homelessness Week was an incredibly positive experience and one of the Centre's favourite events to date.

Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre would like to sincerely thank Ursula and Rebecca for generously donating their time and skills, Anglicare for their contribution towards the shower, community donations of towels and shampoos and everyone who came along, participated and helped create such a welcoming atmosphere.

Homelessness Week highlighted something that is at the heart of the Kuranda community: sometimes a simple act of kindness, a conversation, a haircut or a place to connect can make a meaningful difference. The Centre looks forward to building on the success of the week and continuing to explore practical, sustainable ways to support people experiencing homelessness in our community.



Thank you to volunteer hairdresser Ursula.

WHAT'S ON

There's plenty happening at Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre this September!

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON

Thursday 10 September | 2:30pm–4:30pm
Come along for a fun afternoon for the whole family, with a jumping castle, glitter tattoos, craft activities and afternoon tea.

ADULT LEARNERS WEEK – MOSAIC TILING WORKSHOP WITH COLLEEN

Wednesday 2 September & Thursday 3 September | 10am
Join Colleen for a relaxed and creative mosaic tiling workshop as part of Adult Learners Week. Come along, learn something new and enjoy connecting with others.

MALARA WEAVING GROUP

Tuesday 1, 15 & 29 September
Come along to the Malara Weaving Group for a relaxed and welcoming opportunity to weave, yarn, learn and connect with others.

LITTLE SPROUTS GARDEN & PLAY

Thursday 17 September | 2:30pm–4:30pm
A fun afternoon of gardening, arts, play and nature-based activities for children and families.

MAHJONG – EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 1:00PM

Come along and enjoy a friendly game of Mahjong every Wednesday at 1pm at the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. Mahjong is a traditional tile-based game that combines strategy, skill and a little bit of luck. It's a great way to keep your mind active, meet new people and enjoy some social connection. Beginners and experienced players are welcome. Everyone is welcome. We'd love to see you there!



What a wonderful treat. Photos KNC

Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC)

Operated by Kuranda Information & Support Centre Assoc. Inc.
Monday to Thursday 9am–5pm | Friday 9am–1pm



MOSAIC TILING WORKSHOP

with Colleen

Join us for a 2 day workshop and create your own mosaic terracotta pot to take home.

FREE

WED 2ND SEP
THURS 3RD SEP
10AM

LIMITED SPOTS

ADULT LEARNERS WEEK 1–8 SEPTEMBER 2026

Bookings essential:
community@kurandanc.org.au | 0740 938 933



CHILD PROTECTION WEEK EVENT

FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON

THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2026
2.30PM TO 4.30PM

FREE EVENT

JUMPING CASTLE **GLITTER TATTOOS** **RAFT ACTIVITIES** **AFTERNOON TEA**

Let's work together so every child feels **safe, heard, and valued**, this week and every week.

All families and community members welcome!



Little Sprouts Garden and Play

ALL WELCOME

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

Thursday 17 September
2:30pm – 4:30pm



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 COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Ngoonbi plays a key role in delivering many Kuranda community events and activities in strengthening the Social, Emotional and Well Being of individuals and families to build resilience and strong foundations for members of our community. Activities such as facilitating workshops and sessions such as Mental Health First Aid, drug education, fortnightly Mens' and Womens' Group, parenting and playgroup, NAIDOC Week, a Talent Quest, Deadly Funny in collaboration with the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, weekly sporting, youth support and outings, cultural events and school breakfast assistance to name a few.

The common theme for all these activities is clear, simple messages to promote strong families, mental and physical health, education and learning, and the value of family cohesion and community support.

This is community engagement which is about education, empowerment, resilience and developing healthy relationships. Ngoonbi wants our community to know we are here to support the community wherever we can.



Silva Rose won the NAIDOC talent quest with her original song

For example, the Sport and Recreation program runs numerous activities focused on youth and the idea that exercise is good for mental and physical health. Sporting events include during school activities, after-school touch footy, tennis, and soccer in the communal spaces at Kuranda, Mantaka and Kowrowa. There are school holiday outings to try a range of sports and skills such as skating and innovative ball games with the John Moriarty Football Program on Cairns Esplanade.

The connection between exercise and health is made clear and reinforced in the discussions with participants. This is of considerable value on its own but this is not the only thing happening here.



Tennis skills at after school sports, Mantaka. Photos Ngoonbi

Sporting and other community events are a means of connecting with and gaining the trust with individuals and in the community. This trust allows Ngoonbi to identify and develop relationships with vulnerable children, youth and families whether at school or in community to strengthen the social, emotional wellbeing, health outcomes and to minimise substance abuse.

Specialist staff at Ngoonbi will engage, assist and walk alongside of individuals and their families. Our resident Social Worker is also available for sessions from Monday to Thursday by appointment only. We encourage individuals to seek support and link in with Ngoonbi, relevant agencies and NGOs. Ngoonbi offers to stand with families on their journey in attaining their aspirations, to creating life opportunities for a better future.



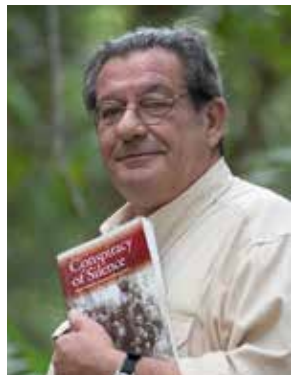
Young participants in a soccer game Kowrowa

Ngoonbi's mission is to support the First Nations community and those most vulnerable in whatever way we can. We also act as a service provider for government funded programs, providing various community services and support. For example, the Commonwealth Emergency Relief Fund is available to provide crisis funding if you are on income support benefits and/or experiencing extreme circumstances. This may include help in buying food, paying utility bills, transport assistance or assisting with unexpected costs during a crisis. Ngoonbi can help you access this support.

You can contact our Kuranda office at 2/40 Coondoo St, Kuranda or phone 07 40937177 for further assistance or to make an appointment with our friendly staff.

NEW TITLES RELEASED BY CAIRNS HISTORIAN & AUTHOR, THE LATE DR TIMOTHY BOTTOMS

From the author of *Djabugay Country*, *Conspiracy of Silence* & *Cairns History*



In the week before Dr Timothy Bottoms passing on 25 May, 2026, he had received the final print proofs of his new book series and was very excited for the upcoming book launch. Tim's Memorial will be held at Cairns Botanic Gardens, Saturday 29 August, 4 – 6pm. There will be speakers and a slideshow. Refreshments will be served. Books will be available for purchase. Everyone welcome (see QR code)



Scan for more information

Dr Timothy Bottoms re-compiled and re-mastered his 4 decades of research and writing into the *Bama Bulmba* book series – *An Aboriginal History of Tropical North Queensland*. There are four titles in the series with *The Tribes of the Wet Tropics* a shorter, more general overview of the tribes of the Wet Tropics, and of the broader Cairns region. The other three titles detail the tribes in Bottoms' study area and reflect his communications with the Aboriginal Elders of the time: Buluwanydji, Djabuganydji, Yidinydji, Yirrganydji. Dr Bottoms compiled the *Bama*

Bulmba series as an essential educational resource for families, libraries, schools, higher education, government agencies, and for future historians to reference this time and place in Queensland history.

Get your copies locally at Kuranda Visitor Information Centre!

BAMA BULMBA SERIES

An Aboriginal History of Far North Queensland

“Building on over 40 years of familiarity with North Queensland's cultural landscapes and its First Nations peoples, Dr Timothy Bottoms offers an exquisitely produced series, covering the history of the Buluwanydji, Djabuganydji, Yidinydji and Yirrganydji peoples. It is rare to see ethnography and history blended in such a tasteful yet informative manner. Bottoms' histories reach back to the archaeological record but also up into the current day, showing the continuity between the distant past and current peoples. This is a rare feat, as most Australian First Nations histories concentrate on specific epochs, sometimes barely acknowledging the living descendants. This series is highly digestible, and contains a rich assortment of ingredients. It provides compact components of referenced data on local resources, Missions, Dreaming stories, major Indigenous sites, Frontier War massacres and more - richly illustrated and complemented with maps and charts. I was especially struck by the manner Bottoms provided detailed explanations of the content of historical photos and paintings. This is rarely done in history books to this extent. Bottoms' four books will become an important resource for anyone wishing to understand the North Queensland Rainforest region and its rich Indigenous context.”

Associate Professor (Adjunct) Ray Kerkhove,
School of Social Sciences, University of Queensland

BAMA BULMBA
An Aboriginal History of Far North Queensland

THE TRIBES OF THE WET TROPICS
* 31 PAGES, 2 MAPS
21 PHOTOGRAPHS & ILLUSTRATIONS

BAMA BULMBA
An Aboriginal History of Far North Queensland

BULUWANYDJI TRIBE & DJABUGANYDJI TRIBE
* 246 PAGES, 10 MAPS
125 PHOTOGRAPHS & ILLUSTRATIONS

BAMA BULMBA
An Aboriginal History of Far North Queensland

YIDINYDJI TRIBE
* 69 PAGES, 3 MAPS
45 PHOTOGRAPHS & ILLUSTRATIONS

BAMA BULMBA
An Aboriginal History of Far North Queensland

YIRRGANYDJI TRIBE
* 65 PAGES, 3 MAPS
32 PHOTOGRAPHS & ILLUSTRATIONS

From the author of *Djabugay Country*, *Conspiracy of Silence* & *Cairns History*

New titles from Dr Timothy Bottoms

BAMA BULMBA SERIES

An Aboriginal History of Far North Queensland

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- ONLINE www.cairnshistory.com.au

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MEETINGS & CONTACTS

10am – 12pm, Saturdays @ Kuranda Amphitheatre

2026: 12 September, 10 October

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.

日本語版あり

MAPS INCLUDED!

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

Restoring the Weir: Local Expertise Helps Revegetate a Kuranda Landmark

By Mark Fields and Andrew Horn

The Weir above Kuranda's Barron Falls was severely damaged during Cyclone Jasper in 2023. Its destruction left a visible scar on the area and disrupted the balance of the surrounding ecosystem. Now, thanks to a collaborative restoration project, the site is being carefully revived with the help of local expertise and native plants.

As part of the restoration works, Andrew Horn and GGI Landscape Architects were engaged as consultants to design erosion control measures and enhance the natural beauty of the Weir precinct. Their approach focuses on using native plants with local provenance — species that thrive in the unique conditions of the Wet Tropics and support biodiversity.

In September 2025, Kuranda Envirocare (KEC) was engaged by CleanCo to contribute plants for the project. KEC was selected for its deep local knowledge and long-standing role as a community environmental

group. Volunteers from Kuranda grew the plants from locally sourced seeds, ensuring that the revegetation effort reflects the region's natural heritage.

The chosen species include those that provide food and habitat for local birds, animals and butterflies, as well as endangered plants such as the Myola Palm. This careful selection helps restore ecological connections while strengthening the area's resilience against future weather events.

Kuranda Envirocare is proud to be part of a project that not only restores a treasured local site but also supports CleanCo's clean-energy initiatives through hydroelectric generation. The Weir restoration stands as a testament to community cooperation, environmental stewardship and the enduring spirit of Kuranda.



Revegetation works. Photo Credit: Andrew Horn



Frog Monitoring: 22-30 September

6:45pm - Details via group texts and emails

Contact Cathy, on 0419 624 940

Friends of the Kuranda Tree Frog

info@envirocare.org.au

Plant of the Month:

Cape Tamarind - *Toechima daemelianum*

A small rainforest understory tree found from the Torres Strait Islands to Tully (0–550 m). It bears fragrant mid-year flowers and bright capsules from September to December. Reaching up to 13 m, it provides important food for many birds, including Eclectus Parrots and Metallic Starlings.

We are the invasive resist-ants

HOW MUCH DO YOU REALLY KNOW ABOUT OUR INVASIVE ANTS?

You've probably heard about invasive ants in Kuranda, but how much do you actually know about the two unwelcome stow aways already living our vulnerable part of the world? Would you recognise an Electric Ant if one crossed your path?

Could you name three ways a Yellow Crazy Ant differs from one of our familiar Green Ant friends?

And here's one for the backyard experts: if a Yellow Crazy Ant and an Electric Ant met head-to-head — which do you think would win?

The answers might surprise you.

Both Yellow Crazy Ants and Electric Ants are still present and spreading in our region. Keeping them from spreading matters — not just for our wildlife, but for our gardens, pets, properties and the outdoor lifestyle we enjoy. You might also be surprised by how they get around. THEY DON'T FLY. THEY STOW AWAY.

A little soil on machinery. A pot plant moved to a friend's garden. A load of mulch or garden waste. Ants can hitch a ride without anyone knowing and turn up somewhere completely new. That means some of the most ordinary things we do around our homes and properties can accidentally help them travel. But there's good news. There are some surprisingly simple things we can all do to make that much less likely.

Over the coming months, Kuranda Envirocare will be sharing some curious facts, local stories and practical tips about our two invasive ants.

We'll show you how to recognise them, where they've been found, the clever ways they travel and what residents and the people who work on our properties can do to help stop them spreading. We'll even show you how to find out whether they might be living near you.

And yes... we'll answer that Yellow Crazy Ant versus Electric Ant question too. Keep an eye out for the next instalment.

You may be surprised by what's travelling around Kuranda without buying a ticket!



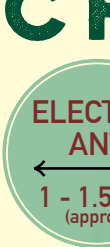
Join the invasive resist-ants

PROTECT YOUR PATCH

Our community campaign to stop Yellow Crazy Ants and Electric Ants from spreading



YELLOW CRAZY ANT
2.5 - 3mm (approx.)



ELECTRIC ANT
1 - 1.5mm (approx.)

THEY DON'T FLY. THEY STOW AWAY

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YOUR LOCAL ELECTRICIAN



Ode to the tamarind tree

Those familiar with Townsville will know that in the streets, vacant spaces and backyards of the older suburbs of that lovely dry old town, you will find alongside bougainvillea vines, the ubiquitous Bowen mango and frangipani trees, the dense rounded crown of the tamarind tree (*Tamarind indicus*). Of all those introduced species, tamarinds look so at home. So right to me.

During the hot often dry summer months, the branches of this slow growing tree are weighed down by sticky brown pods up to 200 millimetres long each containing six to eight seeds surrounded by an acid-sweet brown pulp which can be eaten raw but is more familiar when used as chutney or curry base. Its usefulness doesn't stop there. The leaves, seeds and flowers can also be eaten, the pods have been used as medicine and the red wood is a fine-grained timber.

But here is the interesting thing. The tamarind tree was native to tropical Africa before being naturalised in India, Malaysia and Indonesia where it became highly valued. Between three and four hundred years ago, the trees which can become very large started to appear right across northern Australia from Arnhem Land, through the Gulf of Carpentaria and into North Queensland often just above high water on coastal foreshores and river estuaries.

Returning to Townsville, some particularly large, old tamarinds grow in a grove on a salt-pan just behind the mangroves to the north of Townsville's Bohle River as it empties into the Coral Sea on the lee side of what is now called Cape Pallarenda. Here amongst these trees, protected from the buffeting south easterlies, Macassan seamen would beach their wooden-hulled, two-masted schooners called pinisi boats and sit out the wet-season in well-established camps. Using charcoal that they had previously prepared they would dry and cure the trepang or sea cucumber that they had caught on the adjacent coral reefs.

The Macassans were seafaring traders from the region of Makassar on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. They learnt that the Chinese thought of trepang as a delicacy and began to fill a market niche with this trade. It was they who were responsible for the spread of the tamarind tree. Whether by accident or by plan.

There is still much to be understood about exactly when it was that the Macassans first began travelling regularly to northern Australia. However, what is now not in dispute, is the rich interaction that occurred between them and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people. From this mutual arrangement the visitors obtained a valuable resource in trepang, and the Indigenous people traded for steel tools, tobacco, food items, fibres and materials.

This relationship was particularly profound and fruitful for the Yolngu people of Arnhem Land. What started as trade slowly turned into a two-way exchange with reflections turning up in language, dance and stories of both cultures. Rock art sites show significant points of contact particularly boats, tools and weapons. At some point mixed marriages occurred with both men and women returning with the Macassans back to their villages in Sulawesi. Yolngu influences are still strongly evident in those places today while traces of Macassan song, dance and language are remembered locally.

But here is the second interesting thing. The Macassans in common with most other people from that part of the Indonesian Archipelago were Muslims. So not only did this relationship represent one of the first examples of indigenous people reaching beyond the continent upon which they lived but it also established an ongoing relational and transactional Muslim interaction with this landscape and its people well before Christian European settlers arrived.

In the publication *Histories with traction: Macassan contact in the framework of Muslim Australian history*, author Regina Ganter says, "At the turn of the twentieth century there were Yolngu people who were circumcised, polygamous, well-travelled, enmeshed in transnational trade and family relationships, who spoke using vocabulary used by the Macassans and carried Macassan names. Such was the nature of some of these interactions that some Yolngu had made room for Muslim ceremony in their own rituals and appear to have been on a path of natural, unforced conversion when the Christian missionaries arrived."

Of course, we know that none of this ended well for either locals or the traders. At the beginning of the nineteenth century after being alerted by explorers who had observed these trade arrangements, the British began to conquer the northern regions of the continent with an eye towards setting up their own trade opportunity and tapping into untold wealth. The standard *modus operandi* here was to forcibly oust the Muslim visitors and introduce Christian missionaries using maximum force when required to control the indigenous people. The newly formed Commonwealth used its emerging navy to see off the last of the trepang fleets in 1906, thus ending a successful trade operation, and by 1911 had usurped the Northern Territory. But by then the dreams of riches had dissipated into a string of ruined ventures and disappointments for the hapless colonisers. For the Yolngu people a positive, relational interaction was violently oppressed and replaced with years ofwell we all know what happened then.

This early Muslim history of Australia remained respected but relatively unappreciated even when compared to the Malays coming to work the pearling industry from the mid-nineteenth century and the well-known Afghan cameleers coming here between 1830 and 1930. However, in the lead up to the bicentennial celebrations in 1988, historians were determined to use a bottom-up approach, honouring normal lives and celebrating the real cultural diversity that was Australia. After the stultifying years of the White Australia policy, people of Asian ethnicity were being celebrated for their ongoing contribution.

What rich symbolism the tamarind tree represents to me. I look through its branches to see and smell interconnected lives crossing continents, going back centuries. Proud sovereign peoples meeting each other on equal footing, blending stories, songs and words. That's Australia. Multicultural.





PERMACULTURE

A Paw Paw's perspective

FRIENDS OF CAIRNS BOTANIC GARDENS TALK

Wednesday 9th September 2026
by PERMACULTURE:

A PAW PAW'S PRESPECTIVE by David Caspar.

David will discuss transforming a suburban plot into a thriving edible garden with permaculture as the perfect framework to help you do it, giving plenty of simple real-world examples and ideas from a tropical perspective. A chance to ask questions and hear from an expert.

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre
(Behind Tank 64 cafe)

6pm light supper - 6.30 talk

\$5 FOBG members
\$10 non-members



ASTROLOGY

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Let's jump to 10 September, a wonderful day to begin any new project, relationship or line of communication: balanced intensity with co-operation, and long-term benefits and rewards. Why?

Well, for a start, it's leading in with the Moon in the magical "darks" as the new moon in Virgo approaches on 11 September. A time to bring magic, rituals and intentions in focus and act. Especially if it relates to your work and/or your health. Balancing acts can succeed.

Then, again on 10 September, Mercury moves into Libra, and Venus moves into Scorpio, putting the midpoint at 15 degrees Libra. Does that resonate with your birthchart? 15 degrees Aries is also activated. Briefly, this midpoint brings "a sense of beauty, joy and thoughts of love" with a strong emphasis on beginnings, intensity, communication and learning.

Also on 10 September, Neptune and Pluto make an exact sextile – 60 degree aspect in Aries (Neptune) and Aquarius (Pluto) at 3 degrees respectively. That's a long-term promise of willing letting go, of dissolving situations and a powerful surge into the next cycle. That's for everyone, but if these degrees, 3 degrees Aries and 3 degrees Aquarius, are active for you then it's even more powerful. Anyone with a 3 degrees Aries or Aquarius birthday (that would be 20-21 March or 20-21 January)? You're on your way. Catch the wave!

Also on 10 September Uranus makes a station at 5 degrees Gemini, coming to a stop before going retrograde... such a collision of ideas, people and situations bouncing about, and perhaps a brilliant breakthrough if you're prepared to break the rules and jump outside the square.

If you have 5 degrees Gemini active, you will be bouncing about and dodging the bullets. Take a jump into the unknown. That 5 degrees Gemini is the midpoint between my Saturn and Uranus, so there is a double Uranus influence challenging the status quo. Okay I'm ready. Breakthroughs! Midpoints are a fascinating way of using astrology to see patterns, prospects, outcomes. Worth checking out...

Then there is the Spring Equinox here in the southern hemisphere. The point of absolute, perfect balance as the Sun aligns with the Earth's and celestial equators at 0 degrees Libra. All is in balance, all is poised for us to tip the scales with our actions and intentions. Occurring on 23 September, coming up to a full moon at 3 degrees Aries (remember the Neptune 3 degrees Aries placement): so what is coming to fulfilment is the "letting go", the dissolving of illusions, activating spirit magic as that Neptune – Pluto aspect takes hold. Mars moves into Leo on 28 September. Fire, action. The lion roars and the call to arms is loud. How this plays out on the world stage is very confrontational! Stand proud.

One last observation about 10 September: with great synchronicity the movie Practical Magic 2 opens in cinemas on that day!

Blessings, Rob.



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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.



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



- BANDIN
BANGGAN
BIDA
BIDAGARRA
BINA
BINIL
BINIRR
BIRINY
BIWUY
BULUMAY
BUNDJURR
BUNUL
DANDJARR
DANGGAL
DIGARRA
DJADJINYDJI
DJARA
DJARRUWAY
DJINIL
DJULMBURRAN
GAMAY
GULBUL
GUMAY
GURRIDJA
GURRIYALA
GUYU
MADJAY
MILGA
MILGARA
MILI
MIYAMIYA
NGAWUYU
NGUNANGGARRA
NUGU
NYINGGARRA
WANGALDJUNGGAY
WARRDJAN
YIRRMBA
YULAL
YURRBING

WORD MEANINGS

- BANDIN Oyster. Bandin gurii buga-ynngu. Oysters are good for eating.
BANGGAN tail of fish or eel.
BIDA a bark tray, canoe
BIDAGARRA Barron River mouth to Bida, near Freshwater Creek (Storywater).
BINA ear/gills of fish
BINIL scales on fish
BINIRR shell
BIRINY salt water
BIWUY dolphin
BULUMAY mullet
BUNDJURR seaweed
BUNUL a float/outrigger
DANDJARR sea urchin
DANGGAL fin of fish/wing of bird
DIGARRA sand, shore/sugar
DJADJINYDJI shark. Djadjinydji-nggu bama bugang. Sharks eat people.
DJARA slime on fish or eel.
DJARRUWAY island.
DJINIL whiptail stingaree/spear point

- DJULMBURRAN dugong
GAMAY sucker fish
GULBUL sea
GUMAY string for fishing line/cat's cradle
GURRIDJA octopus
GURRIYALA hill at Port Douglas
GUYU fish
MADJAY shield.
MILGA cowrie shells (valued in ceremonial exchange)
MILGARA paddle
MILI jellyfish
MIYAMIYA nautilus shell (valued in traditional exchange)
NGAWUYU sea turtle
NGUNANGGARRA whale Ngunanggarra-nggu bama wungang. Whales swallow people.
NUGU bait
NYINGGARRA eel
WANGALDJUNGGAY Palm Island (running boomerang)
WARRDJAN a raft
YIRRMBA a fishing spear
YULAL dugout canoe/boat
YURRBING sound of grinding teeth, the Barrier Reef.



Photo: Mantas Sinkevicius - unsplash

DJABUGAY
A guide to the pronunciation of Djabugay words

Vowel Sounds

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

Consonants

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

- pronounced simultaneously e.g. nyurra (you) as in the word "singer" e.g. bungan (sun)
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. ganyarra (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. ganyarra – 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 14 September - 10am-12 noon

at Kuranda Library, Arara Street

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

All welcome!

Friends . . . just what is the essence of friendship? What makes some endure, sometimes for life? Yes, ‘Friends’ was the focus of the August meeting, with members bringing their own reflections to share aloud.

Toni shared her charming story about an isolated girl in the outback whose only outside connection was her daily School-of-the-Air lessons. But Josephine was not lonely. She had her best friend, her horse. On their long walks she told Jasper absolutely everything. Telling her online school mates about Jasper, she was surprised when a bunch of letters arrived from them, showing that connections can be made from afar. The surprise for us at the meeting was that with this story, Toni had ventured from the comfort zone of her usual real events, into fiction.

Roberta also took a leap away from her usual personal poetry and dared to write prose, describing a fictitious but fractious family as they feuded with their feisty daughter. It was great to witness both writers courageously extending themselves into new (for them) territory.

Magda chose animals to explore the topic of friendship in a highly philosophic search titled *The Question of Friends*. A magpie, a cat and a mouse are friends of sorts as they observe the small human and the tall human. The magpie, known as Beaky Mondrian, is the great oracle and sage who proposes a taxonomy of six distinct types of friendships – The Friendship of Purpose (functional), of Circumstance (shared time and place), of the Eternal (enduring, transcendent), of Self (mirroring), of the Sun (just is, without reciprocity, awesome but indifferent), of the Almost (what might have been). Magda intends to put her story up on YouTube, with illustrations.

Eve told of friends being ‘longstanding’ rather than ‘old’, even if they are now mostly sitting down. Why do some friendships last 30, 40 or 50 years? Some began as work colleagues, involving shared explorations, experiences, and mutual problem solving in parallel journeys that built respect, admiration and trust to know each other at the deepest core level, our authentic selves.

Others began as lovers, that on reflection were exactly the right partners needed, at the time. Now they visit with new partners and even bring their newly minted children, observe birthdays, stay in regular touch on social media, or phone occasionally. In this way there continues to be many experiences shared over great distances, all based on love.

Writers can bring their current work to share. Roman is writing a screenplay. As a visual media defined by action rather than narration, it is a step-by-step process – a series of scenes, log-lines (short summary), outline, plot points, treatments, and fleshed out character bios needed before you can even begin to write dialogue.

As a technique, we took a leaf out of Edwina Shaw’s recent memoir workshop in Kuranda. Write fast for ten minutes as aged 7, then 14, then 21 years old, the latter in third person to observe the details of your own character from a distance. Next, stand back and ask, “Is there a theme or pattern between the three? Taken together, is there a central question? Using these insights, go back to rewrite those passages. And so, the prompt for the next meeting of the Kuranda Writers Group at Kuranda Library on Monday 14 Sept. from 10.00-12 noon is to rewrite our ‘Friends’ pieces in much more depth. If you wish to join in, just turn up and you will be welcomed.

Eve Stafford

"A writer only begins a book; a reader finishes it."

– Samuel Johnson

KURANDA BOOK CLUB

Come Along to the Kuranda Book Club

Love a good book — or just enjoy a good chat?

The Kuranda Book Club is a friendly group of locals who get together once a month to talk about books, share different perspectives and enjoy each other’s company. Everyone is welcome, whether you’re an avid reader, getting back into books, or simply curious to come along and see what we’re about.

Best of all, it’s free and you can read in whatever format suits you. The wonderful team at Kuranda Library organises our book club sets, so printed copies of each month’s book are available for members. Prefer to read or listen digitally? Library members can also access eBooks and audiobooks free through BorrowBox and Libby, depending on title availability. So whether you like a traditional book, an eBook or listening to an audiobook, you can join in.

We meet at the **Kuranda Library on the second Thursday of every month from 10am. Our next get-together is 10 September**, when we’ll be chatting about:

A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman, a warm, funny and moving story about grief, love, loneliness, community and finding purpose again. While it touches on some serious themes, Backman balances them with humour and memorable characters.

Time permitting, we’ll also chat about this gripping crime thriller — *A Dark Place to Die* by Ed Chatterton, the first novel in Chatterton’s DI Frank Keane series. Set principally in Liverpool and northern New South Wales, the story moves between England and Australia as its mysteries unfold.

You don’t need to have finished every page to join the conversation, and you certainly don’t need to be a literary expert. Book club is about enjoying stories, hearing what other people thought and spending a relaxed morning with a great group of friendly locals.

So borrow a book, download an eBook, pop on an audiobook — or simply come along and meet us.

New faces are always welcome at the Kuranda Book Club!



LITERARY DATES IN SEPTEMBER

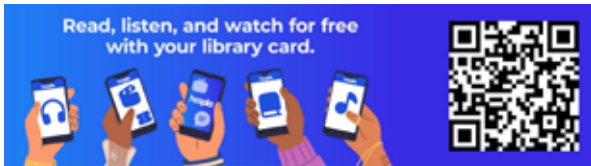
- 8 September: International Literacy Day – aims to raise awareness about the importance of literacy for individuals, communities, and societies, promoting it as a tool for empowerment and sustainable development.
- 13 September: Roald Dahl Day – the author's birthday celebrates his imaginative stories, memorable characters, and encourages a love of reading.
- 22 September: Hobbit Day – marking the shared birthday of Bilbo and Frodo Baggins from J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* books.

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Fathers Who Shaped the Story

Literature is filled with unforgettable fathers: reliable providers, absent dreamers, fierce protectors and mentors who shape the stories around them. From Atticus Finch’s wisdom and integrity to Ned Stark’s enduring influence, and the unnamed father’s unwavering devotion in *The Road*, these characters embody love, sacrifice and guidance. Younger readers have their own favourites, including *Spot’s Dad* and *Bluey’s Bandit Heeler*, celebrated for their warmth, humour and commitment to family. With Father’s Day approaching, the library is the perfect place to rediscover these memorable literary dads and the stories they help bring to life.

Fantastic Tales and Unexpected Journeys

Libraries are celebrating both Roald Dahl Day and Hobbit Day this September, inviting readers to revisit two of literature’s most imaginative worlds. Whether following the adventures of Matilda, Charlie Bucket and the BFG, or journeying with Bilbo Baggins across Middle Earth, these beloved stories continue to inspire readers of all ages. Visit the library to borrow a favourite, discover a new adventure, and celebrate the enduring magic of books.



“So Matilda’s strong young mind continued to grow, nurtured by the voices of all those authors who had sent their books out into the world like ships on the sea. These books gave Matilda a hopeful and comforting message: You are not alone.”

– Roald Dahl, Matilda



Book Review: *Opal* by Patricia Wolf

Adult Fiction, Echo Publishing, 2024

★★★★☆



Blurb: A small mining town. A brutal double murder. A killer among them. And a flood that has trapped them all.

One of my favourite genres is what I refer to as Aussie Outback Mysteries, and author Patricia Wolf slots her stories into this genre perfectly. *Opal* is set in Kanpara, a tiny Aussie outback community, where boulder opals are mined. Tensions are high in the town, with unverified rumours of a big opal find, feeding already flared tempers between the locals and the miners. Holidaying with his little sister Grace, DS Lucas Walker finds himself striving to clear his cousin Blair’s name, when Blair is accused of a brutal double murder in the tiny township. Kanara is in Channel Country, where dry riverbeds can become swollen impassable torrents overnight, even without the benefit of local rainfall. Finding themselves trapped in the town by a raging river, Lucas must act quickly

to uncover the identity of the murderer, clear his cousin’s name, and keep Grace safe.

Opal is the third in Patricia Wolf’s DS Walker thrillers, all stocked in Mareeba Shire Council library collection. Read *Opal* as a physical book or download as an eBook or eAudio book.

If you enjoy Aussie outback mysteries, you might also like authors such as Margaret Hickey, Chris Hammer, Jane Harper, Sarah Bailey, Gary Disher, Anna Downes, and Dinuka McKenzie.

Cheers, **Wendy**



RANGERS report

The U9 Green team has gone from strength to strength lately, making it two wins on the trot and playing some great football along the way.

The secret? Turning up. Players have been showing up to training week in, week out, and all that effort is paying off on game day with noticeably improved team performances.

Their most recent win was a real team effort, with four different players finding the scoresheet. A special mention to Ivy Scott and Maru Masaki, who both grabbed their first goals of the season. Moments like that are what junior football is all about.

Plenty of credit goes to coach Will, whose work with this group is clearly showing every weekend. Keep it up, Green!

Go Rangers!



U9 Green Team. Photo Anita Faloona

For more information
please contact:

kurandarangersfootball@gmail.
com

Keira: 0437 778 849

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

Follow
Kuranda Rangers Football Club
Facebook page.



KURANDA HORSE & PONY CLUB NEWS

Our July Rally Day proved to be a lot of fun in excellent weather.

We practiced some troop drill, which really helps the horses and riders to steady their pace, gauge distances and learn to work beside other animals. All horses have a 'bubble', a distance they like to keep from others, and this encourages them to concentrate on the work at hand and not react to others near them. For the riders, troop drill demands accuracy and communication with their horse and the other members of the troop. There were lots of wrong turns and laughs, but it didn't look too shabby at all by the end!

To give the horses a break from collected work and get some good forward movement, we mixed in some pole work and cavellettis (a series of raised poles or rails used in training to build strength, balance, and body awareness).



Photos: Emily Conlin



kurandahpc.wixsite.com

Kuranda Horse and Pony Club

kurandahpc@gmail.com

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

INAUGURAL COMPETITION A FITTING TRIBUTE



Mark Freeman was the 'founding father' of 8Ball in North Queensland in the 1990s, leading to the creation of local associations in Cairns, the Tablelands, Innisfail, Kuranda and now Port Douglas. Members of these associations continue to represent FNQ at local, state, national and world 8Ball championships. Mark's legacy lives on! It was also Mark's express wish that a pool competition was to be held after he passed.

He donated his very special curly cue, the 'Vestal Virgin' and \$100 as prizes. To further honour Mark, it was decided to hold an annual Tribute comp and turn the 'Vestal Virgin' into a Perpetual trophy.

The inaugural Mark Freeman 8Ball Tribute Comp was held on 8 August. It attracted 18 keen players who fronted the tables at the Barron Falls Hotel. Competition was fierce but

friendly and a fitting homage to Mark. Robert Munster won the day with Tim Riley 2nd and a commendable 3rd was Shane McMahon. Congratulations guys!

Appreciation to sponsors Mareeba Trophies and The She Shed who donated engraved medallions along with artwork and mounting Mark's 'Vestal Virgin' cue and case on a silky oak slab, which was purchased and donated by Christine Murphy, a Kuranda 8Ball Association member. Mark's family and other Kuranda locals assisted in making this inaugural event such a success. Vale Mark.



Winner Robert Munster (left) 2nd Tim Riley (right) 3rd place Shane McMahon. Photos: Christine Murphy



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Tuesday

9.00am Holy Communion

ACTIVITIES

Home Groups

Alpha

A Life Worth Living
Sunday School

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Monday to Saturday
8.30am to 12.30pm

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

St Saviour's Thought for September

This month we read a short passage from St Matthew's Gospel Chapter 22 verses 34 to 40

All of us have had the experience of listening to two people conversing and realizing that their views and assumptions are so totally different that they can never communicate with each other.

This passage allows us to eavesdrop on such a moment in Jesus ministry. By now, well into that short ministry, there is no scarcity of antagonists. Already Jesus' attitudes and statements have attracted not only attention, but also deep resentment. This resentment comes from the many established and entrenched elements which were all around Jesus and exist in every society. Even more dangerous for Jesus, we see that two such groups, the Pharisees and the Sadducees, who were usually in disagreement, have come together to put pressure on him. While it is not quite true to say that these were two political parties, it will do to help us understand the situation.

As frequently happened, someone asked Jesus a question which was really a trap. This time it was which of all the commandments in the Law was the most important. As he always did Jesus pierced through the deceit and hypocrisy of the question. There were thousands of commands in the Law. It was and still is a magnificent system which penetrates

into every conceivable area of human life. Indeed, when we are tempted to hear dismissals of the Jewish Law in the New Testament, we should never forget that its very complexity was saying that every aspect of being alive is holy and God is involved in it. That is a most important spiritual insight and we are indebted to the Jewish Law for it.

However, as with everything in life, there is a but and the but is our humanity. The Law was becoming an end in itself rather than a means to help people live. Arguments were endless, the scoring of points the objective. Human life and human need were becoming engulfed by something originally designed to serve life. That is why Jesus goes to the heart of all law when he replies. For Our Lord the ultimate criterion by which all actions are judged is that of love. Notice that in loving our neighbour as ourselves we must realize that we do not always like ourselves nor approve of our own actions. Loving our neighbour is not necessarily being uncritical. Notice too that the basis of all human loving is possessing a love for God. Experience shows that without this latter, the former, loving one's neighbour, fades out. Without the element of love all law eventually becomes cold and sterile. Our Lord, as always, expressed the realities at the heart of life. Underlying all laws and sanctions is the primary law of love.

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

**Seventh-day
Adventist Church™** *Kuranda*

Services held every Saturday
ALL WELCOME

 **Sabbath School**
(all ages)
9.30am

 **Divine Service**
11:00am
Combined Lunch

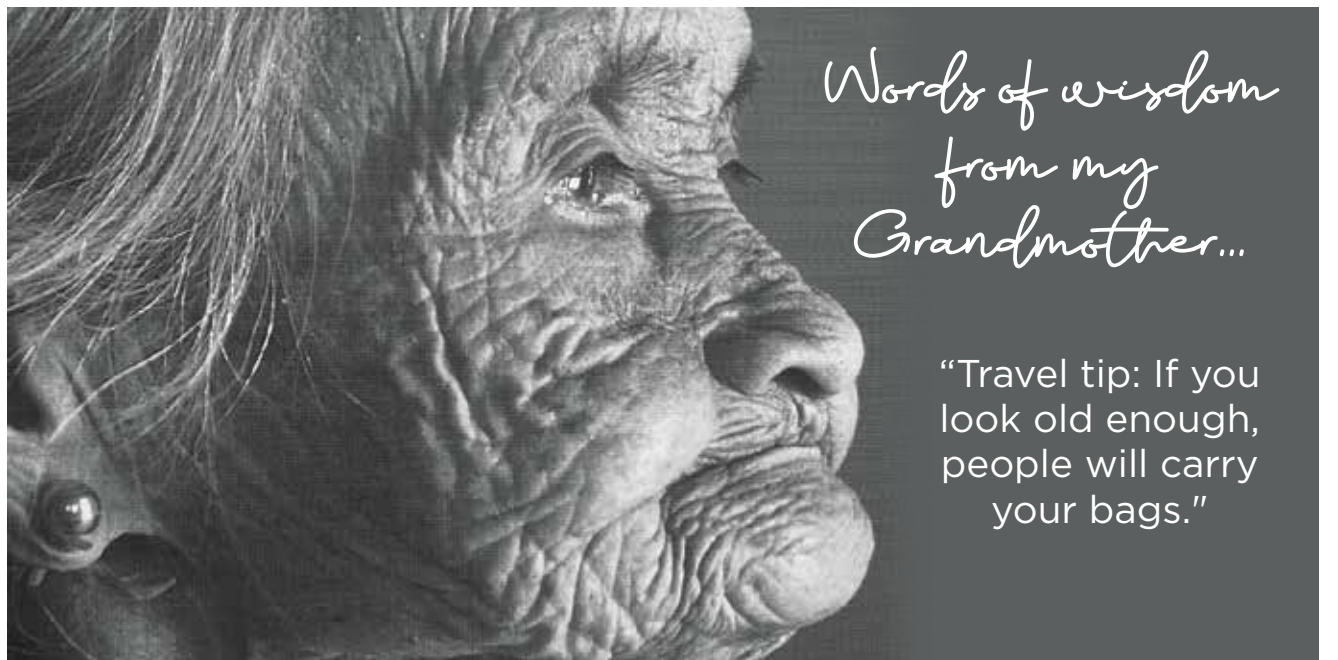
 **Bible Study**
Monday 4:30pm

 **Pastor Sione Ausage**

 0434 135 551

 SioneAusage@adventist.org.au

20-24 Wirramo Street, Kuranda QLD 4881



*Words of wisdom
from my
Grandmother...*

*"Travel tip: If you
look old enough,
people will carry
your bags."*

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THOUGHT OF THE MONTH FROM THE BAHAI FAITH

... " Bahá'u'lláh taught the Oneness of humanity; that is to say, all the children of men are under the mercy of the Great God. They are the sons of one God; they are trained by God. He has placed the crown of humanity on the head of every one of the servants of God. Therefore all nations and peoples must consider themselves brethren. They are all descendants from Adam. They are the branches, leaves, flowers and fruits of One Tree. They are pearls from one shell. But the children of men are in need of education and civilization, and they require to be polished, till they become bright and shining.

Man and woman both should be educated equally and equally regarded.

It is racial, patriotic, religious and class prejudice, that has been the cause of the destruction of Humanity."

(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, near lower Therwine Street,
come join us after checking with us first.

Study Circles:

By arrangement, please feel free to enquire.

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

All enquiries welcome.

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

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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

Barry Hodson

FCPA

**Certified Practising
Accountant**

PO Box 139 Kuranda
Queensland 4881

Tel/Fax: (07) 4093 9770

Mobile: 0418 314 532

Email: barry@hodsonott.com.au

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Lou 0411 490 843
redtailpropertymaintenance@gmail.com



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Ralf Sommer

107 Veivers Drive, Speewah

Phone/Fax 4093 0146

Mobile 0413 313 823

LONG LIST OF LOCAL REFERENCES



Kuranda Landscape Supplies & Raw Materials

House/Shed Pads, Land/Site Clearing
Rock Retaining Walls

Driveway/Roadway Excavation

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



Services
Australia



Australian Government mobile service centres

Serving regional Australia

Visit the mobile service centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

We can also help veterans and their families connect to the Department of Veterans' Affairs phone line and online services.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Thursday, 10 September 2026

9 am to 2 pm

Kuranda Post Office car park, Thooree Street

KURANDA



For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

SE156/2507

Laurie & Heather Price

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0400 669 384 | lauriesbmw@gmail.com

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- 1m tilt bucket
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Inspections & Treatments.

Do you love
your **Frogs?**

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

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

WE CAN HELP!

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

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& Atherton Tablelands
since 1991

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Brett 0408 187 995
brettdonnachie64@outlook.com



Bez

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bezgardenservices@outlook.com
- Kuranda Local -

GRATIS CLASSIFIEDS*

Boots ALL 30% - 50% off!
Just Gorgeous Open daily 10-3.

Electric Mowing & Gardening.
Blue Card. Call 0457 750 098

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

Kuranda's very own shoe store is 'Just Gorgeous'. All boots 50% off. New summer comfy sandals are in stock. Open daily 10-3. 16 Coondoo st.

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

Men's bamboo shirts for Father's Day. XS to 7XL. At Just Gorgeous. Two doors down from fire station, Coondoo Street Kuranda.

Ortho-Bionomy
Gentle pain-relief and rebalancing with Sheree 0421 102 722

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

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

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.

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

Special Occasion fashions right here in Kuranda! Visit Just Gorgeous where locals help locals look and feel great. 16 Coondoo St Kuranda.

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

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.

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.



Kuranda
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE
Connect • Support • Belong

Community Donation Drive

Support local families
struggling with the
rising cost of living.

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

Heads Up!

The Kuranda Paper deadline for
October 2026 edition is
Wednesday 23 September 2026.
Please send all submissions and advertising to...
mail@kurandapaper.com



* 30 WORDS MAXIMUM

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

YOUR COMMUNITY PAGES



WILDLIFE

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

DEFIBRILLATORS



Defibrillator locations in Kuranda region.

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

WATER AND SEPTIC

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

LAUNDROMATS

Gurii Gambi 5C Coondoo Street

FNQ Wildlife Rescue Assoc. Inc.

(Established 1994)



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

Tel: 07 4053 4467 (24 hrs)

Email: fnqwr@bigpond.com



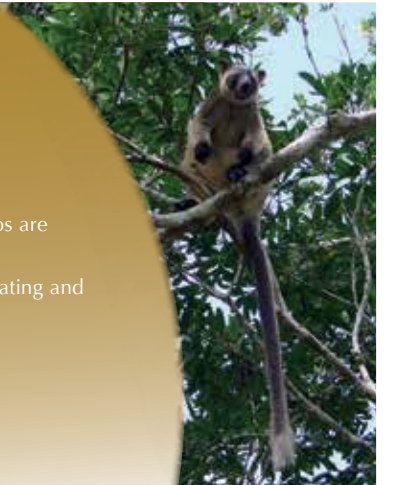
Tree Roo Rescue and Conservation Centre Ltd

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

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

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

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



Donate now and help us care for tree roos today

www.treeroorecue.org.au

Visit us on



RECYCLE

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

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



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

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

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

HELPFUL KURANDA COMMUNITY FACEBOOK GROUPS

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

Kuranda Range Updates (47,700+ members)

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

Kuranda Notice Board (14,100 + members)

Information sharing, discussion, advertising.

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)

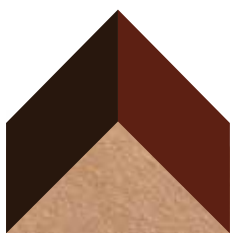
Discussion group for Kuranda district residents only.

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.



KURANDA MEN'S SHED RECYCLING

C10055234

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

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

Help your local Men's Shed to keep operating.

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

Australian Men's Shed Association
 SHOULDER TO SHOULDER



RAINFALL

August 2026 - 90.2 mm
 (to 21 / 8 / 2026)

Annual total: 2011.1 mm
 (to 21 / 8 / 2026)

Courtesy of Kuranda Railway Station

HELP GROUPS



Kids Helpline
1800 55 1800
kidshelpline.com.au

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



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



Mareeba SHIRE COUNCIL

Community Services

KURANDA LIBRARY and COUNCIL OFFICE

Monday to Friday: 10am–5pm
(No Council business after 4pm weekdays)
Kuranda Community Precinct
18-22 Arara Street, Kuranda
4093 9185
kurandal@msc.qld.gov.au
msc.qld.gov.au/libraries

SERVICES NOT OPEN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

KURANDA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

Open 7 days from 10am
4093 9311
kurandavic@msc.qld.gov.au

KURANDA TRANSFER STATION

OPERATING HOURS
Tuesday & Thursday: 9am–4pm, Saturday & Sunday: 9am–5pm
2186 Kennedy Highway, Koah
1300 308 461
msc.qld.gov.au/water-and-waste

65 Rankin Street, Mareeba
PO Box 154, Mareeba Qld 4880
1300 308 461
info@msc.qld.gov.au
msc.qld.gov.au

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DASHBOARD

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

TRANSPORT & ALERTS

Rideshare 1300 743 374

Trans North 3036 2070

ROAD REPORTS

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

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

TRAFFIC ALERTS FAR NORTH REGION ROADS

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

LIVE KURANDA RANGE TRAFFIC UPDATES

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

KURANDA SCENIC RAILWAY (KSR) UPDATES FOR KURANDA BUSINESSES

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



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

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

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

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

Bus stops are located at:

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

Ticket Sales:

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

Emergency Contacts



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

RURAL FIRE BRIGADE WARDENS



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

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

Join your local SES

Kuranda SES Training
every second Tuesday 7pm
at Fallon Road.
Contact Caitlin **0476 772 500**



KURANDA RANGE ROAD AND BARRON RIVER BRIDGE AT KURANDA WORKS

Kuranda Range Road disaster recovery works, scheduled night closure, Sunday 2 August to Thursday 24 September 2026:

Scheduled night closures will be required as part of ongoing disaster recovery works on Kuranda Range Road. Traffic impacts will be as follows:

Scheduled night closures between 9pm and 4am

Midnight (12am) traffic let-through

No closures on Friday or Saturday night

**Kuranda Range Road safety and resilience investigations,
BRIDGEWORKS - Monday 3 August to Friday 4 September 2026:**

Night maintenance works will be undertaken on the Barron River bridge as part of TMR's ongoing bridge inspection and maintenance program. Traffic impacts will be as follows:

Single-lane traffic arrangements between 8pm and 4am

During the final two weeks, short intermittent full closures will be required

Full closures will pause during the Kuranda Range Road midnight let-through until queued traffic has cleared.

**Kuranda Range Road safety and resilience investigations,
Monday 3 August to Friday 4 September 2026:**

Road surveying will be undertaken to inform future safety and resilience upgrades on Kuranda Range Road. Traffic impacts will be as follows:

Intermittent daytime single-lane closures at various locations along the Range

Motorists should allow additional travel time

This project is jointly funded by the Federal and Queensland Governments on an 80:20 basis.

TMR is co-ordinating these works to reduce impacts on road users and maximise efficiencies on this section of the Kennedy Highway.

If you require further information about these works, please contact TMR via email at cairns.office@tmr.qld.gov.au or via phone on 1800 187 937

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

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

! SAVE THE DATE! SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER - WORKING BEE AT THE CENTRE

Many hands, one community! Help us refresh the Kuranda Rec Centre gardens on Sunday 27 September - 10am - 2pm. Food provided, then relax afterwards with the bar open and a game of 8 Ball. Come for the gardening. Stay for the community.

SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

10.30am - 12pm: Lunar Release - Rest & Release with Gemma. Start your Sunday with grounding aromatherapy, restorative yin yoga and soothing sound.

Bookings essential - Gemma 0435 085 503

SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

10am - 8 Ball Intercity Comp

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

10am - 4pm: Spring Yoga Retreat with Gemma Bookings essential - 0435 085 503

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

12:30pm-4pm:

Wire workshop with local artist Amanda. Create your very own "Kookaburra's View hanger" - all materials, tools, coffee & tea included; \$70 p/p, limited spaces.

Contact Amanda on 0461 472 618 or via email amanda@amandadesigned.com

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:

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

CONTACT US



Kuranda Recreation Centre



krc4881@gmail.com

Come join us in our air conditioned classes!

KURANDA 8 BALL

Fridays from 6:30pm - bar open - come along and join a team. Brush up your skills or learn the ropes - everyone welcome

Sundays from 3pm - Sunday sesh - casual 8Ball

For more info: kuranda8ball@gmail.com

PILATES

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

TAI CHI

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

YIN YOGA

Mondays - 7:15 pm (no class 14 September) 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.



KOAH MONTHLY MARKET SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

8AM TIL 12PM

LIVE MUSIC

Jeanette Wormald Trio

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

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

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



www.koahhall.com Koah Hall koah.hall@gmail.com

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

TUESDAYS - 1, 8, 5 & 22 SEPTEMBER FELDENKRAIS CLASS

9.30-10.30am with Justine Schlicht 0408 735 309

EVERY WEDNESDAY

PILATES

6 - 7:00pm with Jaide 0488 229 700

THURSDAY - 3 & 17 SEPTEMBER

MANKIND PROJECT MEN'S GROUP

6 - 8:00pm Open to all men. Contact Simon - 0459 755 553

TUESDAYS - 1 & 15 SEPTEMBER WELLBRIETY & SUPPORT GROUP

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

TUESDAYS - 8 & 22 SEPTEMBER

TRADITIONAL SWEATLODGE

4 - 8:30pm with James 0413 172 474

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

DRUM CIRCLE - DJEMBE LESSONS

10am -12pm - \$25 with Jeff Cotter 0449 899 503

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

KURANDA RANGERS - BREAK UP

12pm-5pm party and Fundraiser Keira Nash 0437 778 849



COMMUNITY CALENDAR



For events at the Kuranda Recreation Centre or the Koah Hall please see details in their columns above. See page 13 for CWA listings for this month.

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

EVERY MONDAY

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

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

SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

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

EVERY TUESDAY

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

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

SECOND TUESDAY

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

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Social Tennis 5pm Wednesdays and Sundays at the Kuranda Recreation Centre & Ross Common, Speewah Contact Mike 0422 050 329

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

Mah Jong 1-4pm Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre.

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

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

EVERY THURSDAY

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

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

Domestic Violence Help, Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre by appointment 4093 8933

Kuranda Rangers soccer Keira 0437 778 849 for any queries.

SECOND THURSDAY OF MONTH

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

EVERY FRIDAY

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

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

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

No sessions 11 and 18 September.

EVERY SATURDAY

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

Envirocare Nursery plant sales 10am - 12noon

EVERY SUNDAY

Social Tennis 5pm Wednesdays and Sundays at the Kuranda Recreation Centre & Ross Common, Speewah. Contact Mike 0422 050 329

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

