

**Pine Rivers
Catchment
Association**

INFO-FLOW NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2018 EDITION

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Catchment Co-ordinator's Column:

Sonya Schmidtchen

I would like to wish all of our members, volunteers, landholders, Partners and fellow Community Groups a very Happy Spring! If you would like to become a member of our Catchment Association, you will receive a voucher for 5 native tube-stock plants to start you on your way. This month one lucky person will also receive a copy of '*Mountains to Mangroves*'. We will post a copy to the lucky winner!

As you may have heard, War has been declared on Cats Claw Creeper (see page 7 for description) throughout SE Qld. For us, the focus is mostly around the upper reaches of the Pine Catchment (a few hundred square kilometres of area, with many creek lines and rivers) where there is a magnificent collaboration between ourselves, landholders/locals and our Partners collectively. (cont. overleaf).

KEY SUPPORTERS OF PRCA:



PRCA would not be able to operate without the assistance of our members. Please encourage your friends and families to assist our work by becoming a member. Contact the Catchment Coordinator (Sonya) or Admin. Support Officer (Trudi) to talk about taking up membership:

<http://www.prc.org.au>

Catchment Coordinator

Phone (07) 3325 1577

Fax (07) 3325 1588

Mobile 0438 199 102 or

email catchmentcoordinator@prca.org.au

or finance@prca.org.au

You can visit us at 15 Bunya Pine Court, Eatons Hill or find us on social media using the handle '@PineRiversCatchmentAssociation'

(continued from front page)...

I personally would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You' to our partners MBRC and Seqwater, at all levels, for making this possible. It is an absolute pleasure working side by side with you all. Collaboration is the key, and I look forward to this season.—Sonya Schmidtchen

A note from the editor:

While I love providing this quarterly newsletter to you—the valued members of the Pine Rivers Catchment Association—it is sometimes difficult to provide timely and relevant content in relatively short timeframes without unintentionally skipping all-important steps (like seeking permissions for *every single one* of the photos, logos, text, etcetera, that goes into a publication like this). For example, in our last edition, I failed to seek the permission of one of the subjects of a photo or two that I took (*my sincere apologies, Carole!* I do however stand by my view that the photos showed a lovely lady who's passionate about what she does, lively and animated in discussions about her area, and hence extremely interesting to listen to...) Notwithstanding the fact that *most* of us probably dislike photographs of ourselves, I will, of course, do my utmost to ensure such steps are not missed in future.

On a final note...we're always on the lookout for content for our *next* edition of our Info-flow newsletter (of course, in this case, being due in December/January—the upcoming Summer). If you can provide any informative articles (preferably with good-quality accompanying photographs) relating to the Pine Rivers Catchment area, *please* contact our lovely Secretary Trudi and let her know so that she can pass your details and stories on to me for inclusion...

Thanks to *all* of you for reading 'Info-flow' and doing your part (not least by being members) for the benefit of our waterways and wider environment.—Lainie Peltohaka
(PRCA Committee Member & Editor).

KUMBARTCHO / PINE RIVERS COMMUNITY NATIVE PLANT NURSERY*

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
9.00 AM - 3.00 PM*

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
8.00 AM - 12 NOON*

CONTACTING THE NURSERY:

Phone: 07 3264 3953
communitynurserypr@bigpond.com

Prices start from \$2.00* incl. GST for tubestock
(discounts available for larger quantities)

NOTE: EFTPOS unavailable, sorry (cash only) -
ATMs are situated nearby at Eatons Hill Shopping Village



COME & VISIT THE KUMBARTCHO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE!

Perfect for keeping under-school aged children (and older visitors!) occupied, there are books, puzzles, displays, craft activities, etc. all based around local environmental themes (including *weeds* and *water*!)

Staffed by volunteers, the centre (beside the Nursery) is open Tues - Fri 10 AM - 2 PM (*note different hours from Nursery)

Kids' playground, BBQ facilities, toilets, drinks available. See www.kumbartcho.org.au for more information

SAVE THE KOALA

www.savethekoala.com



PRCA WELCOMES OUR NEW CORPORATE MEMBER THE AUSTRALIAN KOALA FOUNDATION (AKF)

The AKF was formed in 1986. Since then ... and under the direction of Chief Executive Officer Deborah Tabart OAM, the AKF has grown from a small group of people interested in researching koala disease, to a well-known, global organisation with a strong track record in strategic koala research, conservation and community education with a huge focus on mapping... [please register your koala sightings]

For more information, see <https://www.savethekoala.com/about-us/about>

ADOPT. DONATE. VOLUNTEER. PLANT A TREE (NO TREE—NO ME)...



Moreton Bay Regional Council, in conjunction with a number of local environmental community groups are creating a program of community events in order to celebrate the wetland areas of Moreton Bay during the spring of 2018.

Redcliffe Environmental Forum (REF) will be hosting an event to celebrate the Ramsar convention, which is an international agreement to protect the habitat sites of international waders.

Source: <https://www.redenviroforum.org/news-and-events.html>

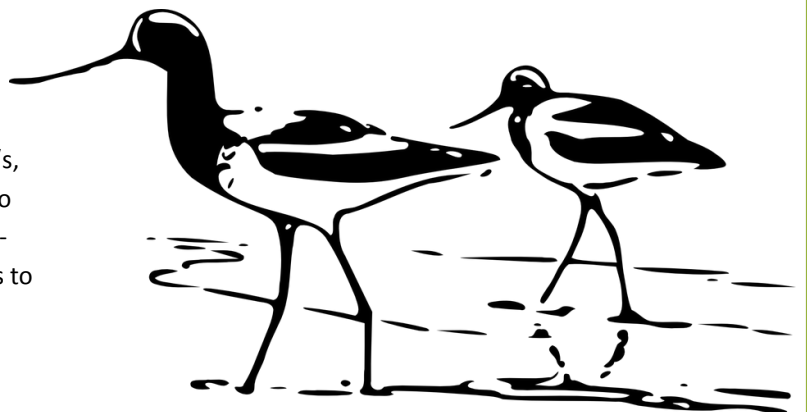
Celebrating the 25th Birthday of Ramsar Moreton Bay at our "Moreton Bay Wetlands Expo"...

There will be 14 environmental groups celebrating. Qld Parks and Wildlife Service (Marine Parks) will have their boat, The University of Queensland - UQ Centre For Marine Science's Biodiversity Roadshow will have touch tanks (with marine creatures), microscopes, marine acoustics, guided low tide walks, and talks with scientists. Dept of Environment and Science will tell us what Ramsar is all about.

You can see and hear citizen science volunteers from CoralWatch, Reef Check Australia, Wildlife Queensland, Australian Citizen Science Association, BirdLife Southern Queensland, Conservation Volunteers Australia, CSIRO Marine & Atmospheric Research, Healthy Land and Water, Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd, and much more. There will be some food and drinks to keep you going. Deception Bay State High School will be supplying some of the food as a fundraiser to send some students on an expedition (Operation Wallacia) to Indonesia...hot and cold drinks by FROOZi Bar.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/events/224186165089785/>

Editor's Tip: If you'll be attending the above event/s, or anything similar in the near future, don't forget to pack your reusable straw—a washable, foldable version, or a stainless steel option, are both great ideas to avoid the dreaded single-use plastics, which aren't great for our water-based wildlife!



Some great work being carried out by our valued Catchment Association members!

Pine Rivers Catchment Association member Janet Mangan was recently successful in gaining a grant from Moreton Bay Regional Council for Cedar Creek Rainforest Rehabilitation downstream of the bridge on Mount Samson Road in the Douglas Franklin Reserve.

Project Description:

The riparian section of Cedar Creek in Douglas Franklin Reserve accessed by Woods Road is an endangered Eco system RE 12.3.16 - Complex notophyll to microphyll vine forest on alluvial plains. Mature *Waterhousea floribunda* trees dominate the site and some understorey which has been compromised by introduced invasive plants. The dominant invasive plants include *Neonotonia wightii*, *Macfadyena unguis-cati*, *Aristolochia elegans*, *Anredera cordifolia*. The understorey is also carpeted with invasive plants and woody weeds are scattered throughout. With some careful investigation it may be possible to find patches of native rainforest grasses and emerging native seedlings. In the middle is a very open area covered in *Neonotonia wightii* which after treatment will be planted with representative rainforest species. The outside edge that faces west has a veil of invasive vine species. After treatment this area will be planted with both fast and slow growing representative species.



Maintenance will continue during the summer months. Glyphosate will be used when a Catchment volunteer with a Chemical Licence assists a local resident with an infestation of invasive vines on their property. *Neonotonia wightii* is a particularly aggressive vine with a seed bank that is long-lived in the ground.

Source: Trudi Young on behalf of Janet Mangan, via email to Lainie Peltohaka, 24/08/2018.
Image courtesy of 'Forestowlet' via Wikipedia at https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Neonotonia_wightii_02.JPG, taken 22/10/2014. Licenced under CC-BY-SA-4.0



Janet also attended a recent demonstration by bushtekniq.org's Tali and Jono, who showed interested attendees at the Samford Eco-Corridor their approach to managing weeds with hot steam (as pictured above/above-right). For more information about this approach, contact them via email at grow@bushtekniq.org or see their website, www.bushtekniq.org [Ed's note: Tali & Jono were spotted at an excellent Eco-Expo at the RNA on Sunday 16/9/18 too!]

Source: Janet Mangan, via email to Lainie Peltohaka, 04/09/2018.

Pine Rivers Catchment Association Vice-President Ian Smith has been working with 'Keep Sandgate Beautiful Association Inc.' which is organising a wetland planting on 20 October to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Dowse Lagoon being declared a Ramsar *Wetland of International Significance*. There is also a second intent... to start the process of again allowing Dowse to deserve that label.

The site will be the margins of the lagoon directly below the Bowls Club, in an area that has recently been cleared and sprayed. The objective is to put in 1500 low-growing wetland plants that will provide food for insects which, in turn, will sustain the birds for which Dowse (pictured, far right) is renowned.

It's estimated that in excess of 30 people will be needed to run this event on the day, and it will be a long day (scheduled to run from 8am—2pm). Can you help? Email ksbainc@gmail.com or see their website, www.ksba.org.au — we would also appreciate you advertising the event to your friends.

Source: Frank Box (President, Keep Sandgate Beautiful Association, Inc.), via email to Ian Smith and PRCA, 24/08/2018.

Other options for the weekend of 20-21 October



KOALA ACTION INC. (KAI) will be holding its Annual General Meeting at the Caboolture Regional Environmental and Education Centre (CREEC), 150 Rowley Rd, Burpengary on Saturday 20th October 2018 at 10am. All those interested in ensuring the survival of koalas in this region are invited to attend.

Visual displays boards will highlight the perils koalas face and what can be done to reduce those perils. Those attending will learn what Koala Action Inc (KAI) has done to date to ensure the sustainability of the koala population in South East Queensland and what projects we will be involved with in the year ahead.

Membership forms will be available to those who wish to contribute to KAI's efforts. There will also be an opportunity to purchase koala related fund-raising items as Christmas gifts and those with many years of koala related experience will be available to answer questions after the meeting.

Vanda (aka Wanda) Grabowski,
President/Secretary,
Koala Action Inc.



KOALA ACTION INC.

Postal Address: 52 Poole Road
GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS QLD
4518

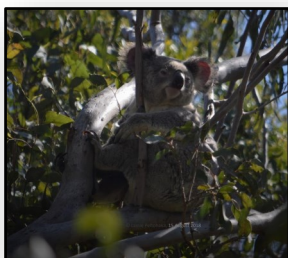
ABN: 92 282 853 793

www.koalaactioninc.org



Above: Vanda Grabowski with one of KAI's koalas, Nessie.

Source: Vanda Grabowski (Koala Action Inc.), via email to Sonya Schmidtchen, 31/08/2018.



Above: Strathpine koala
photographed by Lainie Peltohaka



Some words from Matt Moore about the SEQ Fish Passage Project: Reconnecting Aquatic Habitats Across the Greater Brisbane Urban Area

A short SEQ fish passage/connectivity video was created for the 'Re-Connecting Aquatic Habitats Across the Greater Brisbane Urban Area' project. The video includes a number of interviews from councillors, an indigenous elder and key local government environmental officers. The video shows the fish ladders (drone footage) constructed during the project including monitoring. A special thanks to all those who contributed towards the video (feel free to share and distribute the video via this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CSfJw1XYox4&t=2s>

The Greater Brisbane Fish Barrier Prioritisation report is also now up on the web, and can be located at <http://3qnaxcoipsi15t1c2jr0da50.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/files/2018/05/Greater-Brisbane-Fish-Barrier-Prioritisation-Report.pdf>

A separate document outlining the Top 50 SEQ Fish Passage Barriers, including fish barrier image, location, LGA, fish passage remediation option and cost can be found here:

<http://catchmentsolutions.com.au/greater-brisbane-top-50-priority-ranked-fish-barriers/>

Thanks again for everyone's assistance throughout the duration of this project, it has been greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding the SEQ Fish Barrier Prioritisation, Top 50 SEQ Fish Barriers or fish passage in general, feel free to give me a call. Contact details are M: 0417 083 898 | P: 07 4968 4214 | E: mmoore@catchmentsolutions.com.au

Warm regards, Matt Moore (Fisheries ecologist),
Catchment Solutions Pty Ltd. (www.catchmentsolutions.com.au)

Source: Matt Moore via email to Sonya Schmidtchen/Pine Rivers Catchment Coordinator, 27/08/2018.

Catchment River Clean-Up Activities

The *Clean Up The River* program was initiated by the Pine Rivers catchment Association in 2015 with support from then - 'Healthy Waterways' to work towards cleaning up the banks and foreshores of the Pine Rivers (primarily in the lower reaches towards Hays Inlet and Bramble Bay).

Acacia Park, Murrumba Downs, Sat 16th June:

Despite the low number of participants on the cool winter's morning, the crew of ten people (both adults *and* children) worked along the banks of the Pine River to collect over 45kg of rubbish" - some recent littering in the park and other materials that had floated in with the tides into the mangroves and along the foreshore.

While the canoes were not deployed on this occasion it was pleasing to see the amount of rubbish collected with a small crew in a couple of hours. Ongoing efforts are required to continue this program on other reaches and parts of the Pine Rivers.

Tinchi Tamba, Sat 15th September 2018:

The next event involved Tinchi Tamba (Deepwater Bend) on Saturday 15th September — a small group including Lawnton Scouts (with canoes) collected 82kg of rubbish from both the waterways and banks.

A location on the South Pine River will be next, on Saturday 10th November (from 8am to 11am, as per usual). Everyone is invited to attend and help in our endeavours.

Source: Richard Clarkson via email to Lainie Peltohaka, 13/09/2018.

Cat's Claw: Environmental Enemy



Source: Flower and leaf/claw photos (above)
© Qld Government

Cat's claw creeper is a restricted invasive plant under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* — see <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/land-management/health-pests-weeds-diseases/weeds-diseases/invasive-plants/restricted/cats-claw-creeper>

Contact the Catchment Office if you have any concerns about this weed.

Native to tropical America, cat's claw creeper is an aggressive climber that was once used as an ornamental plant in Queensland gardens. In the wild, cat's claw creeper can smother native vegetation and change soil chemistry ...



Kumbartcho Birders' September Survey

The Kumbartcho Birders met on Wednesday 12th September and spent 'a very pleasant morning out on the tracks'. As Rita reported, 'we have added two new birds to the list. The most exciting is the Spotless Crake...' (see Marie's photo, below):








Spotless Crake
Porzana tabuensis

The other bird was the Australian Reed warbler.

Source: Rita Larsen via email to PRCA, 13/09/2018.

Community Catchment Event Calendar

| WHEN | WHAT AND WHERE |
|--|---|
| (Generally) Second Sunday of each month from 2:00pm. | Samford Eco-Corridor  Call 0404 169 826 or email samfordecocorridor@gmail.com for further information/to confirm. |
| Second Wednesday of every month at 7:00am. | Birding on South Pine River  Meet at Kumbartcho Car Park 15 Bunya Pine Court, Eatons Hill. |
| Second Tuesday of every month at 3:00pm | PRCA Committee Meeting 15 Bunya Pine Court, Eatons Hill. Members and Guests welcome. Contact Trudi on 3325 1577 (for info on other events also).  |
| Last Wednesday of every month at 8:00am | Gold's Scrub Regeneration Project, at the end of Gold's Scrub Lane, Samsonvale. Before first attendance, please ring Carole on 3379 1453 (message bank available if not answering).  |
| (Generally) Thursdays/some Saturdays | Bush Regeneration activities - refer to website www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/bushcare/ |
| 20th October 2018 9:00am—11:00am | Aquatic Explorers program for kids Be a water bug detective. Explore the local creek and discover what mini creatures live in our waterways, using scientific equipment to examine what's in the water. Kumbartcho Sanctuary, Eatons Hill, 15 Bunya Pine Court. <i>Bookings essential at www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/events</i> |
| 3rd November 2018 2:00pm—4:00pm | Flying Foxes education workshop for adults, presented by leading expert on bats, Dr Les Hall Yuraba Conference Centre, 240 Church Rd., Eatons Hill. <i>Bookings essential at: https://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/events</i> |
| 10th November 2018 8:00am—11:00am | Clean up with PRCA  Join us at one of our semi-regular clean-up days, at a site near you (next one in November). Contact Sonya on 0438 199 102 for further info, and find more detail / event 'RSVP' (optional but appreciated) on our Facebook page. |

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