



INFO-FLOW NEWSLETTER

SPRING / SEPTEMBER 2019 EDITION

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CATCHMENT CO-ORDINATOR'S COLUMN:

Sonya Schmidtchen

Happy Spring! (But where's the rain?!)

To start, I would like to give a "shout out" to Jan Sked, who is a local bushland guru. Jan has offered to do a piece in our quarterly newsletter showcasing some of our beautiful local native species. Many thanks, Jan! (See her first piece on page 2...)

We have finalised the recent round of the Riparian Management Incentive Scheme, and I thank all those landholders who participated in this project. I would also like to thank Moreton Bay Regional Council for their support in this project.

We are now underway with our project in collaboration with Seqwater around Lake Samsonvale; this project is ongoing, and we thank Seqwater for their partnership in this project.

Please check our Events page too, as we have another clean-up event on the Pine River soon, on Saturday 2nd November at Acacia Park, Murrumba Downs. We hope to see you there! ... Sonya.

KEY SUPPORTERS OF

PRCA:



Moreton Bay
Regional Council

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.prca.org.au>

Catchment Coordinator
Phone (07) 3325 1577
Mobile 0438 199 102 or
email catchmentcoordinator@prca.org.au
or finance@prca.org.au

We thank Moreton Bay Regional Council & Kumbartcho for providing us with office space at our address:

***The Cottage at Kumbartcho Sanctuary,
15 Bunya Pine Court, Eatons Hill QLD 4037***

PLANT OF THE MONTH: RIVER LILY or SWAMP LILY by Jan Sked of 'Native Plants Queensland'

Crinum pedunculatum (pronounced 'CRY-num ped-unk-you-LART-um')

Derivation: *Crinum*, from the Greek 'crinon' meaning a lily;
pedunculatum, from the Latin 'pedunculatus' meaning with a peduncle, referring to the long flowering stalk. (Family: *Amaryllidaceae*).

This plant has thick, leafy stems with tough, mid-green, strap-like, fleshy leaves. In a favourable situation it can grow to over a metre in height. Over time it will produce a small trunk.

In spring it carries large heads of flowers about 10cm across in clusters of 10-25 on long, thick, upright stems, which are produced in the axils of the lower leaves.

Fruits (pictured below) are large ... 2-5cm across. They are quite fertile and new plants grow readily from seeds produced in January after a spring and early summer flowering. They should be kept moist. Seeds sometimes germinate while still attached to the parent plant.

This plant is native to the coastal areas of Queensland and New South Wales, where it grows along stream banks, around swamps and in tidal areas. [However, they're hardy and adaptable to drier conditions too—try them!].

Sources: Jan Sked to PRCA via Sonya Schmidtchen, 30 August 2019.



Above right: The bulbous perennial *Crinum*/River/Swamp Lily.

Right/below right: The smooth, black and white caterpillar of, and the adult Lily Moth, *Spodoptera picta*

Below left: The large head of white lightly-perfumed flowers and shiny, pale green, globular fruiting bodies of the *Crinum* Lily...



PRCA SUPPORTS 'CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE'

Our Catchment Association's ID under the 'Containers for Change' scheme is **C10062514**. If you'd like to support us in looking after the environment, you can do this by using the ID number above to donate your containers' refunds to us when you recycle them...

WE THANK YOU VERY MUCH IF YOU DO THIS!

**KUMBARTCHO / PINE RIVERS COMMUNITY
NATIVE PLANT NURSERY**

www.kumbartcho.org.au/nursery
(Stock list available)

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 retail tubestock
(discounts available for larger quantities/wholesale...)

EFTPOS AVAILABLE: Bank fees and charges may apply

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*, *water* and *scientific discovery*)!

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

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

MORE FROM JAN SKED ABOUT THE RIVER LILY & AN ASSOCIATED PEST (PICTURED OPPOSITE) —

I planted my first River Lily about 32 years ago and I now have several from seed from the original plant, which was grown from seed collected along Siding Creek in the Pine Rivers area.

River Lily is a hardy plant and responds well to watering and moist conditions, but it will still grow well in dry conditions, although the flowering is reduced. None of my plants receive additional watering and I have not lost any because of this. It can be grown in sun or partial shade, and can be used as a container plant.

These plants are susceptible to few garden pests, but one problem is that a plant can sometimes be decimated by the voracious black and white caterpillars of the Lily Moth*, *Spodoptera picta*, which chew away the leaves and defoliate the plant. However, it recovers quite readily from this attack and will soon regrow; so don't let this deter you from planting them. When planted in clumps of three or five they make excellent feature plants in the garden.

* *Spodoptera picta* attacks Crinums, in particular *Crinum pedunculatum*, during early to mid-autumn. This pretty moth lays eggs in batches of over a hundred that hatch into a mass of caterpillars that can devastate even the largest Crinum plant. I was horrified when I first saw these caterpillars on my *C. pedunculatum*. They also attacked other lily-type plants in the garden. —Jan Sked.

HAPPY TO HELP PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF BUNYA'S OLD SCHOOL & ENVIRONMENT

The Bunya Residents Association Inc has been involved in bush care at Bunya Old School Reserve, 550 Bunya Road, Bunya since 10th September 2016: this has involved twenty-four volunteers from Bunya together with thirteen from the 'Men of The Trees' group and, when time permits, Crs Matt Constance and Mark Furner MP.

The Bunya School (No. 147) was established in 1875 and closed in 1965. Brisbane North District of the Australian Boy Scouts leased this site in 1967 and the lease was still current into the early 1990's. The site, then called 'Bunya Pines', was used for Scout camps, giving the city kids a wonderful experience of being in the bush. Unfortunately, most of the school's buildings needed to be disposed of, as the Scouts did not need them on this site. The school itself was sold to another scout group and the teacher's house was given to a local resident—a past pupil—for removal. The last structure, the lunch shelter shed, was demolished in the last few years due to white ants and asbestos being located in the materials of the buildings. The site is owned by the State Government but the Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC) is trustee for the site.

The Bunya Resident Association wish to build a replica of the school Lunch Shelter shed and erect a memorabilia wall to allow the Bunya residents to preserve the history of the site. The last teacher and nine past pupils travelled from near and far to give more information about the school, some memorabilia and also give their support to our future plans. Unfortunately MBRC that an Archaeological Report and Management Plan was required. At a cost of close to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000!), the Bunya Residents Association had to seek a grant and needed an auspicing body for Public Liability Insurance purposes; the Pine Rivers Catchment Association have been generous enough to be our Auspice. Cameron Stanley, the Community Engagement Officer at the Arana Leagues Club, also assisted.

Bunya Residents really appreciated the help of both these organisations, having successfully received a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund for \$9530 which will cover the full cost of the report. The report should be completed by the end of September and then hopefully planning for the shelter shed will begin.

We look forward to these organisations being able to work together toward similar ends in the future.

Source: Bunya Residents to PRCA/Trudi Young via email to Lainie Peltohaka, 21 August 2019.

NEWS FROM JANET MANGAN—POPPING IN TO APPRISE US OF NEWS FROM OLD PETRIE TOWN

Old Petrie Town Bushcare has a new tool called a 'Popper'. Simply designed, it uses a grasp and lever technique to pull out woody weeds. The smallest gauge (around 2 centimetres) works very successfully on most woody weeds like Ochna and Snake weed. When it works well, this tool eliminates the use of chemical. Members commented, "Wish we had known about this tool 10 years ago!"



Above: Trish and Popper in action!

OLD PETRIE TOWN

NATIONAL TREE DAY 2019



Sunday 28th July 2019 was the **4th National Tree Day** planting at Old Petrie Town. Fifty people helped plant and water 240 plants. Trish Humphreys supported the groups activity and gave out thirty (30) certificates to the children who participated. *[Well done to all who attended and planted out on the day!]*

Source: Janet Mangan forwarded to Lainie Peltohaka via email, 08 August 2019.

TINCHI TAMBA — 28TH JULY 2019

CATCHMENT CLEAN-UP EVENT

Also on 28th July 2019 was the **Pine Rivers Catchment Association's** most recent catchment clean-up event, held at Tinchi Tamba Wetlands (in the Brisbane City Council area of the Pine Rivers Catchment).

Although it was a very small gathering of members (as expected due to the National Tree Day plantings everyone else likely committed to) – and possibly occurring only days after a Brisbane City Council crew had been through (grounds were freshly mown) – a couple of bigger items (e.g. car wheel) and much of the most problematic rubbish (cigarette butts and fishing line) were removed from the area. Even with the clean-up being land-based only (that is, without the added benefit of the canoes we sometimes have access to), a total of 47 kilograms of waste was gathered in two or three hours, protecting the precious wildlife in the area.

Keep an eye out for our next catchment clean-up event (advertised as per usual on our Facebook page).

Source: Lainie Peltohaka, 27 July and 08 August 2019.

NATIONAL PARKS ALERT:

Due to current fire weather and potentially other related reasons around our region, there are a number of national parks currently closed; see <https://parks.des.qld.gov.au/park-alerts/#aroundbrisbane> for further information and updates.

THE PRCA COMMITTEE WELCOMES OUR NEW PRESIDENT

We welcome our new President, Mr Andrew McMicking, to the Pine Rivers Catchment Association. Andrew joins us (at least in the interim, until committee roles are again filled at our upcoming AGM) with a vast background of community experiences including obtaining extensive fundraising opportunities and being involved on various Board positions within our community. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree, Bachelor of Economics Degree, and a Master's Degree in Public Administration.

Source: Andrew McMicking via Pine Rivers Catchment Association committee, August 2019.



COMPOSTING & WORM FARMING

RECYCLING / CONTAINERS

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

**Pine Rivers Catchment Association would like to invite you along to our
Community Forum on Sustainable Waste Management Practices.**

Together we can increase our knowledge of waste management through sustainable practices including worm farming, the container refund scheme and the new waste levies. Together we can fight and win the war on waste, to protect our environment and wildlife.

**Join us here at Kumbartcho Sanctuary Environment Centre on the
17th September at 6:30pm for 7:00pm start.**

Numbers are limited so please

RSVP to finance@prca.org.au or

Phone 3325 1577 (Tues–Thurs, or leave a message).

Tea and Coffee will be provided.



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR UPCOMING COMMUNITY FORUM & AGM

The Pine Rivers Catchment Association is holding its **Annual General Meeting on September 17** – we're hoping you may wish to come along to support the wonderful work we do on the Pine River.

We also hope that you might be interested in joining our environmentally-active Not-For-Profit association.

If you *are* interested please come along and meet us, and have a chat about our group... but please contact Sonya or Trudi (contact details below) before the meeting/s.

Catchment Office—3325 1577
Sonya—Mobile 0438 199 102

Source: Anita Christian to Richard Clarkson and Trudi Young, email to Lainie Peltohaka and Pine Rivers Catchment Association committee, 6 August 2019.

OUR 'BIRD OF THE MONTH'

Our wonderful volunteers have been out and about the South Pine River again :) Among other birds, they've seen *this* beauty:

Azure Kingfisher - *Ceyx azureus*

The Azure Kingfisher is relatively small (17-19cm) compared to the more familiar and frequent Sacred (20-23cm) and Collared/Mangrove or Torresian (24-29cm) Kingfishers. Males and females are both beautiful coloured glossy azure/blue above and deep orange/rufous below. They have long slender black bills and short tails.

Despite its brilliant colours, this bird is relatively shy and inconspicuous and can be hard to spot as they frequent overgrown and root festooned banks of both fresh and tidal water creeks, rainforest streams and rivers.

Your first sighting of this beautiful bird is likely to be a flash of vivid blue hurtling through the air like an arrow, followed by a splash from a shallow dive and then a return to its perching post to feed on its prey of fish, crustaceans or aquatic insects. Their perch is usually a log, root or low branch overhanging a freshwater stream or dam and they will often bash their prey against the perch before swallowing it head-first. Anglers on lonely rivers are sometimes surprised to find an Azure Kingfisher perched quietly on their fishing rods instead of a branch.

Their call usually in flight is a loud high pitched "seeeeepp".

Azure Kingfishers are monogamous and nest in small burrows in creek banks and lay 5-7 white rounded glossy eggs. The nest can be lined with fish bones and scales.

Sources::

Birdlife Australia [<http://www.birdlife.org.au/bird-profile/azure-kingfisher>]; Pizzey G. and Knight F. (2014). *The Field Guide to the Birds Of Australia* (9th Edition) (Edited by Pizzey S.) Harper Collins; The Cornell Lab of Ornithology (eBird) [<https://ebird.org/species/azukin1/AU-QLD-MRB>] as compiled onto Pine Rivers Catchment website, www.prca.org.au/resources [accessed 9 September 2019].



Call 1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625) for injured wildlife (24hr RSPCA hotline for support, retrieval or treatment).

Photo Source: Volunteer of the 'Birders of the South Pine River.

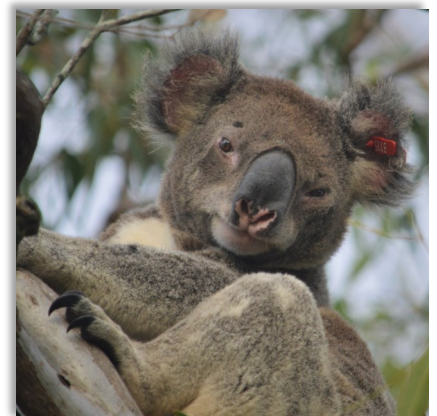


SEPTEMBER IS 'SAVE THE KOALA' MONTH!

Please heed all traffic warning signs around koala habitat areas, keep dogs away, and call **Pine Rivers Koala Rescue Association Inc.**

—Ph: 0401 350 799— or **Moreton Bay Koala Rescue** on 0401

Urban koala (tagged), right: Photograph by Halle Peltohaka, 22 May 2019.



A WONDERFUL UPCOMING WORKSHOP – BEESWAX WRAPS AT GYMPIE LANDCARE



Photograph from needpix.com

Do you want to lessen your environmental impact by reducing your reliance on single use plastic wrap and plastic bags to cover and store food? Do you prefer using more natural products? Then why not come along and learn a simple way to make beeswax wraps?

Beeswax wraps are washable, reusable over a long time, can be used in the fridge and freezer and lunch box and when they have reached the end of their usable life, they can be added to the compost. They are inexpensive to make, very cute, and can be custom-made to size.

The workshop will include all other materials and equipment needed, a take home simple instruction sheet for future reference, tips to maintain your beautiful wraps and ideas on how to use them.

Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own water bottle, a small snack if needed and a positive attitude. At the end of a fun interactive 3 hours you will have made at least 3 beeswax wraps to take home...

What you need to bring:

Fabric: At least ½ metre, 100% cotton (NOT polycotton), lightweight and tightly woven. When choosing your fabric, patterned or darker colours are recommended because beeswax will give a slightly yellowish finish. The fabric does not have to be new but it does have to be 100% cotton. *You will need to wash and dry your fabric before use.*

Pencil and ruler: Everyday pencil is fine or a fabric marker if you have one.

Scissors: Dressmaking scissors is fine or pinking shears are even better if you have them.

Note: This workshop is unsuitable for children due to the use of hot liquids

Session Times: 9.00am – 12.00pm, Saturday 26th October 2019 or Wednesday 13th November 2019

Where: Gympie Landcare conference room – 5 Groves Road, Araluen, QLD, 4570

How to Register: Refer to source—Lavina Shaw (Ph: (07) 5483 8866 Wed–Fri),

www.gympielandcare.org.au

OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE FIRES (AND ALSO THE DROUGHT) ACROSS OUR REGION AND THE WIDER STATE AND COUNTRY. PLEASE CONTACT US IF WE CAN HELP IN ANY MEANINGFUL WAY.



FIRE BANS NOW IN PLACE

QFES has advised that fire bans have been extended in a number of local government areas, **INCLUDING MORETON BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL area**, due to the current heightened fire conditions.

Fire bans will remain in place for residents in these areas until further notice (check https://www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au/Using_Fire_Outdoors/Pages/Fire-Bans-and-Restrictions.aspx for details)

This means that open fires are prohibited and all Permits to Light Fire have been cancelled. Extreme care should also be taken with operation of machinery such as lawn mowers and power tools that may cause a spark in dry weather...



Source: <https://www.facebook.com/QldFireandRescueService/> [accessed 8 September

2019]. *[Editor's Note: Suggestions that fires are being deliberately lit by children or from careless disposal of cigarettes, are extremely concerning!]*

Community Catchment Event Calendar

WHEN	WHAT AND WHERE
General Public Forums 2019—6.30pm for a 7pm start, on the following Tuesdays: 17 September (AGM), and 10 December (TBC) (Next Management Committee Meeting will be 3pm on 8 October 2019).	PRCA Committee Meetings 15 Bunya Pine Court, Eatons Hill. Members and Guests welcome. (Guest speakers at General Meetings) Contact Trudi on 3325 1577 (use this number for information on other events also). 
(Generally) Second Sunday of each month from 2:00pm-4:00pm; next date 13 October (Please check Facebook or email—at right—for upcoming dates or further info).	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.  
Saturday 26 October 2019, Wednesday 13 November 2019.	Gympie Landcare Beeswax Wrap Workshop \$30-\$40. Gympie Landcare conference room – 5 Groves Road, Araluen, QLD, 4570 (see page 7 for further information). Bookings essential—Phone Lavinia Shaw (07) 5483 8866 (Wed–Fri).
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/
Ring for further information...	Redcliffe Environmental Forum Bushcare. Phone Alexandria on 0407 964 666. <i>All ages welcome!</i>
 <p>KUMBARTCHO'S PLAYGROUND has a covered BBQ facility for your family gatherings, meetings, kids' birthday parties, or any other get-together you might want to hold here!</p> <p>While you can't actually book the space, please do call Kim on 0417 627 039 to give her a heads-up that you're coming ☺</p>	Upcoming PRCA Clean-up event: 02/11/2019—Acacia Park, Murrumba Downs  <p>Event details are posted on our Facebook page and on the Clean-Up Australia website well in advance, and we'd appreciate RSVPs to Trudi or Sonya for catering purposes <i>(We provide morning tea for all willing workers after they put in the effort for us and the environment!)</i></p> <p>Don't forget your hat, long sleeves, long pants, closed-in shoes ... gloves, sunscreen and water bottle too!</p>

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