

Community for Coastal and Cassowary Conservation

# BULLETIN

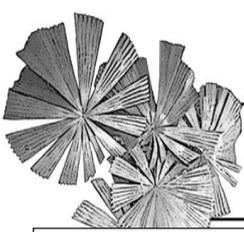


## HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE



May the spirit of hope that Easter brings,  
Help you find contentment in little things,  
And restore your faith in the Lord above,  
Who gave His life for the ones He loves.





## C4 President's Report

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My best wishes to all in the wake of Yasi. The damage to the forest and beach has been severe. It is part of nature and the forest will recover though it is just 5 years since Larry and will take time. The beach is a major concern with severe erosion of the beach and devastation of the foreshore. While we need make an effort to assist recovery I feel the clean up has been severe with too much emphasis on aesthetics and less on saving the foreshore from future erosion. In places all the vegetation and some of the top soil has been removed. We are in a tropical climate where the fertility lies in the fragile surface of the soil and is supported by microbial and fungal activity both of which require organic matter; that is mulch, for continued fertility. The removal of the organic matter also removes the seed bank in that area. The transportation of mulch from the area is in effect the transportation of fertility. However CCRC have agreed to bring mulch back to the foreshore ready for revegetation.

The temporary huts placed in the council caravan park at North Mission mean the community has lost a valuable park at a time when normality and community association are desperately needed. I am sure the local accommodation facilities would have welcomed the opportunity to provide accommodation for tradespeople.

With the damage to the halls in the area the C4 theatre has been in demand. The facility was used by Community Recovery, then many community meetings and now regular yoga and meditation sessions. We are pleased to be able to support the community in this small way.

The nursery was severely damaged and, at a working bee on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February, some dedicated people cleared the fence and other areas to gain partial access. This was a big effort, thank you all. On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 24 volunteers from the Centre for Rainforest Management Studies of the School for Field Studies in Yungaburra came and carried, shoved, pulled and pushed the nursery into a semblance of order. The transformation and energy was amazing and gave me great heart to tackle the task ahead.

We have applied for a Commonwealth Bank grant to help with restoration of the nursery and since then Peter Trott applied to QRAA for a grant, which has been approved. We have commenced the process of rebuilding the nursery, as it is essential to our rehabilitation efforts. The regular Friday sessions can now resume in earnest and all are welcome. Nina is continuing to handle current grants and associated plant-outs but will not have time to be coordinator.

We are currently negotiating with Max Employment Agency for 10 local volunteers with National Green Jobs Corps to learn about environmental values in the Mission Beach area through work experience. They will work in the nursery, around the Centre, along the foreshore, tend existing plant outs and plant new ones. This will be great for the community and the environment. This project will involve input and cooperation from CCRC, Terrain, and Parks and Wildlife. We, along with the other agencies are eager to begin revegetation of relevant areas. We look forward to the arrival of the Green Corps.

We have new volunteers and a new Secretary (Edwina Leach). We now have the basis of an excellent group to manage and run the centre on your behalf. We still need a Treasurer, Display coordinator, Nursery coordinator and a Minute Secretary.

I am grateful and appreciative of the talent and dedication of members of the community, and this organization, who have come forward and helped. My sincere thanks, on behalf of all the members, to those who have helped so well while coping with their own personal pressure.

Maurice Franklin  
President

PS: Many small creatures, including bandicoots, ground birds and possums hide in piles of dead branches stacked up for burning. When burning rather than lighting around the whole pile, start at one end which allows those small animals at least some opportunity to escape



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## C4 NURSERY, POST CYCLONE YASI RECOVERY

Our nursery, like the surrounding rainforest, suffered significant damage on February 2.

The green canopy of Calophyllum trees, which had created such a picturesque backdrop, was transformed during the hours of darkness into a mess of smashed branches, overturned pots, trays and benches and shattered roofing.

The 12m by 4m germinating greenhouse was destroyed, solarweave cover ripped, steel frame twisted and trays of plants tipped over and covered with pumice and debris from the beach.

The storage shed in the nursery area was demolished.

Part of the polycarbonate sheeting over the potting area was broken away or cracked and the shadecloth was blown off.

The nursery fence adjoining the greenhouse was damaged by falling trees.

The potting mix bin was filled with pumice and beach debris.

Interpretive signs and posters around the centre were water damaged or disfigured from being hit by flying debris.

On the bright side, frequent showers of rain and some hand watering kept most of the surviving seedlings alive. C4 members and volunteers, some of who lost roofs or had major damage to their homes, gathered for a series of working bees to begin the recovery.

On Saturday February 19 the chainsaws whined while willing hands dragged debris away from the growing area. The next Wednesday, February 23, saw a team of 24 volunteers from the School for Field Studies at Yungaburra attack the debris like an army of ants, armed with shovels, rakes, barrows, buckets and gloved hands, moving the damaged remains of greenhouse, shed and heaps of pumice, sticks and other rubbish, for council collection.

The potting area was cleared, trays and pots stacked and things were almost back to normal.

Applications for Cyclone Recovery Grants have been made and a new greenhouse has been ordered. It should be delivered as freight backlog when the Bruce Highway flooding eases.

Council workers have removed dangerous hanging limbs from over the nursery and cleared debris from potting-mix bins.

The next challenge is to source seeds to recommence planting and to move some of the older stock into local revegetation projects.

It is hoped that the regular Friday morning working bees will continue and volunteers are most welcome.

Peter Trott



God made rainy days so gardeners could get the housework done.

## POST-YASI GARDEN BIRDS

Dr Helen K. Larson, 65 Reid Road, Wongaling Beach 4852

We've now been Wongaling Beach residents for 17 months, watching our "garden birds" list slowly increase as we planted more shrubs and flowers. The garden has slowly changed from lawn, palms and heliconias (seems to be the default for the area) to something more attractive to birds, reptiles and bandicoots (of course), with more native flowers and fruit. Twenty-eight bird species were on our garden list, which did include those travelling in the airspace above – such as osprey and kites.

Then Yasi arrived and wrecked the garden but thankfully left our house intact. We could not get back into the house until 7 February as I was in Palau (for IUCN threatened species workshop, not a diving holiday!) when Yasi hit and Jeff got marooned by flooding in Ingham. But there were six species of bird moving around our house on the 7<sup>th</sup>, then we recorded 11 species more over the next couple of days. Some we know are the same individuals – such as the black butcherbird with broken upper bill tip (who was the first bird to adopt our bird bath when it was first installed in 2009). And the male figbird who has a distinctive choppy song. And the Mistletoebird that had been regularly visiting the Macaranga in the front garden – it was seen on the 8<sup>th</sup> searching on the ground but has not been seen since.

I would really like to know where all these birds sheltered. Did they use our verandahs? The abandoned sunbird nest at our kitchen window is almost intact, while a couple of palms in our yard close to the kitchen were felled.

Now we have just added Barred Cuckooshrike and Leaden Flycatcher to our list – species that we had not previously seen in the area before. Most mornings the Cuckooshrikes have been moving through the big paperbarks along the creek behind us. Does this mean that some species have been forced to go farther afield for food?

There are still some "missing" birds but I am sure they will return as the forest regrows.



Photo by  
Jeff Larson

One of "our" Helmeted Friarbirds on pink powderpuff *Calliandra*.



**Many of us have been traumatised by the damage and/or loss of our homes and businesses by Cyclone Yasi, our everyday life changed.**

**Our wildlife has also been traumatised by the damage and/or loss of their homes (habitat) which means most of their food source is gone. The wildlife struggle to survive has been made much harder so now more than ever we need to preserve what is left of the natural vegetation and not take advantage of cyclone damage to do unnecessary and rampant clearing. Now, more than ever we need to slow down and be mindful of the wildlife crossing our roads in their search for food.**

**Wildlife are fighting for survival — speeding isn't.**

## What Now For Clump Point and Boat Bay?

In the wake of Cyclone Yasi, there has been a search for projects to receive funding to revitalise the life of the Mission Beach community. A number of community-driven projects including the Aquatic Centre have rightfully been put forward, but it seems that the wish-list concept of a marina has again been proposed under the guise of a “safe boating haven”.

While there is an obvious case for improvement in marine infrastructure in the Mission Beach area, there must be community discussion and proper planning to determine the actual needs and costs of appropriate development in environmentally and culturally sensitive locations.

The ecological importance of Clump Point and Boat Bay is widely acknowledged and protected in the following array of legislation and statutory plans – Wet Tropical Coast Regional Coastal Management Plan, GBRMPA Zoning Plan, State Coastal Act, Marine Parks Act and the FNQ2031 Regional Plan. The dredging, reclamation works and rock walls necessitated by the building of a marina in Boat Bay would be contrary to all of these.

In addition to the destruction of marine and coastal habitat (and further erosion of the Mission Beach lifestyle which values the natural environment), the proposed marina would not necessarily provide the benefits claimed. We have all seen the photos of Port Hinchinbrook after Yasi. The developments at Oyster Point/Port Hinchinbrook and Nellie Bay on Magnetic Island produced protracted division within their respective communities and did not deliver the wealth for the whole community as promised.

So what would be a better alternative – one that would work for locals and visitors, recreational and commercial users? A modern well-designed jetty would cater for the regular needs of tourist operators as well as being a drawcard for both visitors and residents of Mission Beach. The existing jetty has lost its usefulness through a lack of maintenance and upgrading over the last few decades.

Now is the time for State and Federal Governments to show their commitment to helping Mission Beach survive as an economically, ecologically and socially sustainable community by providing the funding for the planning and building of a modern jetty.

Now is also the time for the whole community to push together for a better jetty rather than being divided over the pie-in-the-sky promise of a marina.

Peter Rowles 28.03.2011



Photos by Robert Tidey  
( before Yasi )

# LOT 66— — GARRETT CORRIDOR

**Lot 66 decision soon – last chance to inform Minister of the importance of this block as a Cassowary corridor.**

On the 21<sup>st</sup> July, Peter Garrett, then the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, disallowed a development on Lot 66 on the basis that it would have “clearly unacceptable” impacts on the endangered Cassowary at Mission Beach. The new development application is not significantly different to the original, still situated in the middle of a landscape-scale corridor connecting critically endangered littoral rainforest to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

The corridor is now known as ‘Garrett Corridor’.

The current Federal Minister for the Environment is soon to make a decision on the new development application. To address the concerns contained in the submissions received during the public comment period, the final decision date has been extended to 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011. This leaves a short time to add your support to the campaign to inform the Minister of the importance of Lot 66.

You can write a letter to the Minister asking him to use his power under the EPBC Act to protect Garrett Corridor by denying the new development proposal. Encourage the Federal Government to show their support for Cassowary conservation in Mission Beach by contributing funding for the voluntary buyback of Lot 66.

Alternatively go to the website below and sign the petition. Please encourage others to sign as well.

<http://www.petitionbuzz.com/petitions/missioncassowaries>

## Address for letters

Hon. Tony Burke, Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

## Voluntary buyback

The Mayor and local CCRC Councillors, community groups and a growing number of community members have shown their support for a buyback of Lot 66. To add your support, contribute to the C4 Habitat Buyback Fund. For details of how to do this, ring (07)40687197

Peter Rowles



Photo by Robert Tidey



During a one day field survey, 28 bird species, 11 frogs and six mammals were recorded

187 plant species were also recorded



Bottom section of Garrett Corridor, wet season 2011.



Cyclone Larry and Cyclone Yasi required extensive cleanup after winds brought down trees near roads and powerlines. Fallen or damaged trees are unsafe and often need to be cleared. However, clearing must not go beyond what is reasonable to maintain an area and ensure safety. Under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, vegetation clearing that is not necessary to maintain infrastructure or ensure public safety must be authorised by a development permit.

After Cyclone Larry there were reports of illegal vegetation clearing, where vegetation that wasn't posing a threat to property or personal safety was being cleared. It's easy for this to be overlooked when everyone is trying to clean up.

If you notice vegetation being cleared which doesn't need to be, please report your concern to Department of Environmental and Resource Management at their **Townsville office on 4799 1266** or **Rockhampton office on 4938 4615**. If you feel the matter wasn't adequately dealt with please contact the Environmental Defenders Office, our contact details are 4031 4766 or email [edonq@edo.org.au](mailto:edonq@edo.org.au) for further advice.

## Impacts of TC Yasi on Coastal Vegetation

Dr Dan Metcalfe, CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences, Atherton.

[dan.metcalfe@csiro.au](mailto:dan.metcalfe@csiro.au)

Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi caused significant damage to coastal vegetation between Ingham and Innisfail, with thousands of trees felled, stripped of vegetation or washed away. However, the impacts were not uniform, and with the help of Thierry Fanin, a MSc student from James Cook University, I have started trying to untangle the different effects of wind strength and direction, the storm surge, and of species-specific differences in determining what impacts different communities and areas have suffered.

Mangroves seem to have stood up well to the cyclone generally, losing a few leaves but otherwise being sufficiently resilient to the wind to remain undamaged, but north of Cardwell the mangroves have suffered extensively. This appears to be the effect of the storm surge, with *Rhizophora* spp. snapped off at the stem where prop roots meet, while species such as *Avicennia* and *Xylocarpus* have been ripped from the ground. The storm surge at Cardwell was meters above the normal high tide mark, and so had significant impact on foreshore vegetation, including the erosion of tens of metres of beach and the forest standing upon it. Similar erosion has taken place on exposed beaches further north, including Hull Heads where again mangroves were affected, and at Wongaling Beach where tens of metres of littoral rainforest have been lost. The old beach *Calophyllum* trees at Wongaling have been tipped over, as at many other beaches, but while they have a substantial proportion of their roots still in the sand they appear capable of surviving. Tipped over *Calophyllum* trees at Etty Bay, for example, have new branches growing vertically which are 40-50 cm in diameter, suggesting the impact of cyclones some centuries ago. Other species which survived well include the much faster-growing beach almonds (*Terminalia*) which were completely defoliated by the cyclone, but had re-grown a full set of new leaves within a fortnight. *Hibiscus tiliaceus* also survived well – the branches of this species root whenever they touch the ground, and old clumps become massive inter-twinned complexes which also anchor the sand well. Coconut palms, ever contentious, have either delighted or appalled different sections of the community. Their feathered fronds and flexible trunks survive the wind well, and their dense root balls hold them up while the ground beneath them is stable. Small close-packed groups of them even help to protect each other against erosion, but once water gets around individuals the lack of wide-spreading roots allows water to erode sand around them, and individuals were frequently toppled, and provide little protection to the land behind them.

For the future, it firstly needs to be recognised that this cyclone and the associated storm surge are entirely natural processes, and the coastal communities have long been adapted to cope. Some individuals and communities will be damaged or removed, but for others the disturbance provides a catalyst for new growth. Sand deposition on north-eastern facing parts of the coast will allow new communities to establish, and damage to fragile *Casuarina* canopies will allow sub-canopy littoral rainforest species to grow. The coastal systems are all essentially dynamic, as are the sediments they grow on, making long-term management challenging. The greatest threat to their continuity is not natural events such as TC Yasi though, but human impacts such as fragmentation, efforts to protect hard landscaping, and 'tidying up' of the impacted communities which removes biomass and nutrients which would mulch the sand, inhibits recovery in many species, and frequently introduces weeds.

Thierry and I hope to be able to provide a detailed quantitative assessment of how different communities stood up to the combined impacts of sea surge and wind, and we will feed this information back to you in a later edition of this magazine. We hope that the data we provide will be able to support management and legislative approaches to further protect valuable remnant coastal systems, and to use vegetation to best protect coastal infrastructure where possible.

North bank of Hull from boat ramp



The relative lack of damage to mangroves compared to the rainforest behind them,

Wongaling Creek



The roots of littoral rainforest sticking up from sand where the coastal vegetation has been pushed back by about 30 m

Brown's Beach



Casuarina woodland at Brown's Beach, 4 years after TC Yasi destroyed the Casuarina trees, showing littoral rainforest species recruiting very densely

# Top 10 NQ Trees for Cyclone Survival

We have owned 12 acres of absolute beachfront rainforest since 1985 so have watched it progress through three severe cyclones: Winifred (Cat 3 1986), Larry (Cat 4 2006) and Yasi (Cat 5 2011).

Observing stands of different species on this land and on beachfronts nearby gives us an idea of what trees best survive severe cyclones. Ultimately, unless you count the number that survive, the number dead and the number severely damaged then the list is flawed yet in some cases we do have sufficient data to substantiate the rank of our nominated cyclone survivors:

Our number one cyclone survivor is *Arenga australasica* a clumping palm (Native honey palm). We have thousands of these and have not seen one killed by a cyclone. Sometimes the mature ones will have a stem tumble but they have many stems and invariably endure. Their large fronds drop like wings to a vertical position in a severe cyclone and create a strong windbreak for the house. They are also handy for preventing erosion on sloping unstable land (anchors) and attract many beautiful fruit doves as they fruit heavily. They are categorized as semi-endangered but are easily propagated and will grow in wet areas yet endure long dry periods as well. Their fruits and, to a lesser extent leaves, are somewhat irritant to the skin so they may not be ideal for school yards.

Next is *Syzygium forte* (White apple). Almost none of these are rolled by cyclones and few lose many branches. Their leaves are stripped bare but come back quickly. Most grow naturally near the beachfront. Mature stands at Rotary Park Wongaling and at McInnes Creek on Narragon Beach are testimony to their fabulous cyclone endurance: of 102 in these two stands only two small ones had significant damage and very few branches were broken on the mature trees. They are often grown close to houses and are ideal for that because they do not tower above the house and they have dense foliage so provide strong shade and shelter. They flower profusely for the native birds and have a large white fruit that many critters (and Cassowaries) dine on.

Third is Golden penda (*Xanthostemon chrysanthus*) but this is based on observations of many mainly mid-sized or small trees (age 15 years or less) as they are mainly grown in gardens here rather than living in natural stands as grand old trees. There is one mature age tree nearby and it was untouched by Yasi in an exposed position. The thing that amazes us is how their leaves remain intact and they flower profusely within a month of being near beaten to death so they are important to help retain our many nectar eating birds after a cyclone.

Fourth is *Eucalyptus grandis* (Flooded gum) and these live in fine harmony among the *Syzygium forte*'s at Rotary Park and on several beaches, especially Lugger Bay Beach, in great numbers and seldom fail or lose many branches. Of 25 at Rotary only two small trees were significantly damaged – all survived. This is quite a big tree but reliably stable and of great beauty and high value for bird life.

Of very similar standing and often living alongside Flooded gums is the *Melaleuca leucadendra* (Weeping paperbark). We have not done a study of the numbers surviving or laying down but there are large numbers in the area in dense stands and we estimate that no more than 5% would be lost in any cyclone. Most those are upturned and are smaller trees; the mature trees are seldom lost.

Alexandra palms are next (*Archontophoenix alexandrae*). We have countless Alex palms on this land and the main causes of failure in a cyclone are larger trees falling over them: few trees survive a collision with a huge Milky Pine. There are 14 mature trees (up to 15M tall) on the beachfront at Brookes Beach and none were toppled or damaged by any of the three cyclones.

*Grevillea baileyana* (White silky oak) are also stable and in great numbers here. Most the trees are not very old (15 years or younger for some odd reason – maybe the mature ones failed in earlier cyclones). Very few fall or break perhaps because they are flexible.

*Flindersia braleyana* (Queensland maple) is also strong. We only have one very large Maple but we planted several 15 years ago and none were toppled by Yasi or Larry. Their leaves are not entirely stripped so they recover quickly to their full foliage

*Syzygium luehmannii* (Cherry satinash) is another strong survivor. They lose some branches but are seldom huge and have prolific flowers, pretty red berries and lovely small leaves with a bright red flush on the new growth so they are ideal near homes. We do not have large numbers here but those facing the heaviest winds survived well.

*Agathis australis* or Kauri Pine probably deserves a top 10 spot nomination. The young trees were sometimes felled or bent over but a stand of mature trees at the old Mission Beach State primary school site almost all survived the three big blows unscathed. They are not endemic to this area and are too big to put against your house but they are really good if you have the space

Of the endemic trees that tower over others in our forest, milky pines (*Alsotonia scholaris*) are among the most stable yet we have lost many large ones (one three metres plus in diameter in Larry), usually due to heavy vines pulling them down. Some old milky pines are almost untouched by all three cyclones (these ones have crooked branches and open structures) while others are severely pruned every time and around 10% are uprooted or snapped in two. During Yasi and Larry there were cases where these trees caused bad roof damage due to heavy branches falling so this is not a wise choice for trees near houses.

Pencil cedars are among the most stable of the very large trees (*Polyscias murryi*) as they seldom lose many branches or even leaves. We probably have 10 of these nearby that are almost fully intact after these 3 cyclones. We have not identified the species accurately (it has tiny fruit) and are relying on the observations of an experienced timber getter who covets them greatly. There are many trees on our ridges that do not even lose leaves – some are probably Pencil cedars others we are unsure of.

We had seven beautiful big Damson trees (*Terminalia sericocarpa*) at the house before Larry and six died yet remained standing. Only one survived Yasi. This species is not at all cyclones proof; even young trees are often broken or bent double.

Mahoganies (*Dysoxylum* species such as Rosewood, Spurwood, Cape mahogany and Spicy mahogany) are given a bad rap by some observers (no doubt referring to imported mahoganies: an entirely different species). We lose the odd one but there are too many giants remaining in our forest for this tree to be left out.

Flame trees (*Brachychiton acerifolius*) are also strong survivors and not excessively large. Acacia cedars (aka Mackay cedars) are a real find as well: we have only four of these (planted 15 years ago) and all survived Larry and Yasi without branch losses. They did not even lose their beautiful soft Wattyl-like foliage which surprised us pleasantly. They provide fine hardwood timber (if you can live with yourself when you cut them) and grow naturally between Mackay and Cooktown.

There are no guarantees in cyclones for survival depends not only on the species but on the soil type, vines and epiphytes hanging on, slopes, moisture and a host of factors that help or hinder their survival. The trick is to choose species that usually survive and plant a variety of them if you have the space to do so.

We also plant many trees that are not great cyclone survivors such as Blue quandongs (*Eleocharpus grandis*) for their iridescent blue Cassowary fruit and their occasional cherry-red deciduous leaves that light up the forest floor, Brown pines (*Podocarpus grayii*) for their fine weeping foliage or Queensland nutmegs (*Myristica insipida*) as our fruit dove magnets. We cannot plant trees merely for cyclone stability; let's face it, Mission Beach is due for another cyclone free (cat 3+) period as we had from 1918 to 1986 so we are optimistic and can go for diversity once more.



Ken and Thelma Gray

Here is a shot of our (now cleared again) private road on a ridge between Bingil Bay and Brookes Beach. Beachside ridges test trees most. See the two milky pines snapped off like match sticks (LHS) and the massive branch loss on the Onionwood (*Syzygium alliligneum*, centre). Trick is to discover what trees stand up best to cyclones - some trees on the ridges lost almost no branches or even leaves - which were they? Our top 10 offers some clues

MISSION BEACH RAINFOREST LANDSCAPING GUIDELINE written by Terrain NRM has a list of the trees suitable for individual areas. Lists are available at C4 Environment Centre and we also have a variety of native tree for sale @ \$2ea.

A fortnight after Cyclone Yasi, 50 people came to a public meeting organised by Terrain to help cassowary habitat recovery. DERM, Main Roads, Council, etc were there to address peoples' concerns. It was good to see everyone working together.

DERM have installed 100 cassowary feeding stations in Cassowary Coast, including 32 authorised on private property. Local people have given DERM tremendous support by reporting cassowaries that are hungry (ph 1300 130 372) or near roads (cassowary.sighting@derm.qld.gov.au) and by cutting up fruit (ph 4091 8102). Native fruit shortages are likely for eight months. Feed stations are located away from roads, dogs and backyards.

CSIRO, Birds Australia and DERM are collectively monitoring cassowaries following Yasi, including at feeding stations. Analysing dung collected in the cyclone area will help understand the cassowary population and diet. Mission Beach people are welcome to help collect dung, except from feed stations. Contact Adam McKeown on 4091 8840 or [adam.mckeown@csiro.au](mailto:adam.mckeown@csiro.au).

A big healthy adult female cassowary with a stomach full of native fruit was killed in March by a motor vehicle on Tully-Mission Beach Road in the 100k zone. Cassowaries are more likely to use roads following cyclones. Please don't speed, especially heavy vehicles that take longer to stop. Drive to the conditions, which might be below the speed limit where there is roadside debris. Collision with motor vehicles was the number one cause of cassowary death post-Cyclone Larry.

Many dog owners are being responsible post-Yasi, with less complaints and sightings of roaming dogs for this time of year, despite increased Council patrols. Dog attack was the number two cause of cassowary death post-Larry.

Endangered littoral rainforest was battered by Yasi, with some beachfront rainforest washed out to sea and further impacts in the subsequent clean-up. Council has acknowledged the need for careful management of natural foreshores following cyclones. Future mapping of littoral rainforest locations at Mission Beach by CSIRO and an expert panel could help land managers protect this EPBC-listed ecological community.

Council is preparing a Cyclone Yasi Recovery Plan. The process includes a Natural Environment Recovery Group. Terrain produces a fortnightly bulletin for the recovery group, available from [kathrynd@terrain.org.au](mailto:kathrynd@terrain.org.au). Terrain is coordinating the endangered species section of the Yasi Recovery Plan to ensure that cassowaries, mahogany gliders, bats and littoral rainforest are addressed.

We learnt from Larry that we need a more resilient landscape to handle cyclonic winds, subsequent weed invasion, etc. Resilience is increased by maintaining big areas of habitat connected by wide corridors. If you're near habitat and rebuilding fences, please consider a wildlife-friendly fence. See [www.wildlifefriendlyfencing.com](http://www.wildlifefriendlyfencing.com) or ph 4091 2683.

Terrain will hold a field day at Mission Beach soon regarding management of remnant, regrowth and plantation forest on private land. The purpose is to assist rural landholders understand the legislation and benefit from vegetation on their property. Enquiries to [gavink@terrain.org.au](mailto:gavink@terrain.org.au).

Ecofund is a Queensland government initiative that raises funds for voluntary habitat buyback. Terrain is writing to Ecofund requesting that their buyback targets include Mission Beach cassowary corridors such as Lot 66. Hopefully many organisations will sign the letter, including C4.

Queensland government has drafted a biodiversity strategy. It might result in greater protection of species such as cassowaries and their habitat. Comments close 8<sup>th</sup> April. Enquiries phone 13 74 68.

It would be good if we could all agree on a definition of ecotourism that works for Mission Beach. What do you think?

For more information on any of the above, please contact Tony O'Malley at Terrain on Ph 0437 728 190 or email [tonyo@terrain.org.au](mailto:tonyo@terrain.org.au).



The struggle to save the global environment is in one way much more difficult than the struggle to vanquish Hitler, for this time the war is with ourselves.

We are the enemy, just as we have only ourselves as allies.

~ Al Gore ~

### Changes in pig trapping to better protect the cassowary – Terrain NRM

Following Cyclone Yasi, timing is critical for the reintroduction of pig trapping and baiting across the Cassowary Coast area. Terrain NRM is committed to working with the community and industry to continue to coordinate pig management and announces its improvements to trapping procedures.

Terrain has worked closely with DERM and community groups to review operating guidelines since the unfortunate death of a male Cassowary last year as a result of being caught in a Pig trap.

Pig trapping is intended to recommence on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April in the Mission Beach area with the following improved procedures:

- \* Updated and extended induction process for landholders wishing to undertake trapping. This will include a kit with new written procedures and training. The kits will include information on best practice trapping guidelines as well as procedures for dealing with non-target captures. Terrain intends to run two trapping workshops for landholders in the Cassowary Coast through the year to increase and share expertise within the community.
- \* Develop a triage process for non-target captures in consultation with QPWS and local veterinarians. This will provide information for trappers on how to release non-target animals and who to call if there are issues.
- \* Terrain will be trialling new technology to improve response times to trapped animals; this will include electronic trap alerts and wireless remote cameras. A trap alert is an electronic device, which sends a signal to a mobile phone or computer when the trap door is activated. The organisation currently has access to both radio and mobile phone based trap alerts, which are under trial. This will allow us to evaluate the effectiveness of each system in decreasing response times.
- \* Terrain will also be looking to support research into new pig trap designs; formally trap designs have not progressed much since the late 1990s. There has been discussion locally about new trap designs that are more effective at excluding non-target animals whilst still catching pigs. Terrain would be keen to hear from people that have ideas regarding this. Communications have commenced with Bio-security Qld and Research institutions about the development of new traps as well as the incorporation of new technologies into trapping systems.

The program continues to be effective in managing pig numbers across the region and seeks to further improve relationships and partnerships in delivery. Please contact the Program Manager **Bart Dryden** on **4043 8000** or e [bartd@terrain.org.au](mailto:bartd@terrain.org.au) with further queries.



## A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

Seeing the cyclone (Yasi) hit Mission Beach and then discovering your Bulletin, I thought you might like a little bit more history of the area.

My family were one of the first settlers to Clump Point. My uncle Len Mackness was a drover in gidgee country out west and then at Silkwood in sugarcane. The family were at Clump Point when Banfield was writing about Dunk Island and the ship Lassogowrie sailed down the coast.

The workers from the South Johnstone Sugar Mill [where my father Ted Mackness was the Electric Fitter] had a camp built on the southern end of Narragon or Mackness's beach. I remember as a little boy going to their camp and seeing their 12 gallon drums with fishing lines on trying to catch gropers.

One time a war plane crashed on Mission beach and myself, sister Phyllis and brother Teddie all walked to look at it and I remember getting very chafed about the groin from the swimming trunks I was wearing.

My grandparents lived there James and Alice Mackness, later to be buried on the hill of the 168 acre property that ran to the mountain. My uncle Len later sold the land between us and Les Campbell to a Perry Harvey who had the tourist boat The Barrier Princess.

There was a real to-do as the graves were on that block of land.

My aunt Constance who was the Principal of the Presbyterian Girls College in Warwick, southern Qld used to come up on her holidays. She used to make us some wonderful biscuits called "Fats and Sugars".

Uncle Len had one of the best Concology displays in Australia with trays and trays of different shells, also butterflies and beetles.

Then Frank Rixon built a general store on Mission beach and half-way from our place lived an old couple, J.B.Perrier.

Harold Holt (late Prime Minister )and his wife Zara later bought land and built at Bingil Bay. I later came and lived at Clump Point and became the secretary of the Nth Qld Fruit growers, growing pineapples and small crops. I used to go spearfishing during the heat of the day and was joined one day by Harold Holt.

My cousin Sadie Dixon and her husband Jim built a house on the beachfront of our property. Jim had been a policeman in Coen Nth Queensland, and Sadie became the postie and general carrier from El Arish to Mission beach, in her Chevrolet truck.

I had a "pet" Cassowary that used to walk behind me on my farm, and with the wallabies and other wildlife, it was all so beautiful and we all respected each other and enjoyed the marvellous environment together.. The jungle on Clump Mountain was virtually untouched except for a small amount of logging.

One had to work to survive while the crops grew and produced. I worked at the Hull Ply Timber mill at El Arish and also on the tip of the Tully Sugar Mill. There was a Poultry Farm at Bingil Bay owned by Dick Verhey a dutchman. I also did farm work for another banana farmer at South Mission, a Greek, Epanimious Nondas Stathatis and his Irish Defacto. It was a very close-knit community.

I remember there were huge schools of Barrmundi and Rays and Dugongs in our Bay,

And lots of Pandanus and Tropical coconut palms, making the whole area picturesque.

The Jetty was built later by Perry Harvey to moor his tourist boat, and after Harold Holt became a resident, we suddenly had bitumen roads appear along the foreshore.

When Koongal Canning Factory at Rockhampton went bust, 600 of us Pineapple growers went bust, because after years of waiting for crops and then casing them and sending them to the Cannery, we got back bills instead of any income.

I remember a smaller cyclone that hit Clump Point. Les Campbell, who with his sons, Doug and Ken had a banana farm next door, had a large launch moored under the point, and I remember it took us ages to row an small boat out to it in the wild weather and then haul the anchor in raging weather to sail the boat round the Garner's Beach creek to safety.

Sometimes we had dances down at the Mission Beach Hall, and I remember once I played a button accordion and the drums on the night.

My Aunt Connie later wrote the history of the area before she became very ill and passed on in Hopetown Nursing Home in Corinda in Brisbane. She received the MBE for her meritorious services to education.

I retained two blocks of ground on the foreshore of our property. I built a home on the side of the mountain at Wulguru in Townsville and when cyclone Althea hit us on Christmas eve, my house sustained major damage. Mike Kenny who was a builder in Townsville had built my home and I foolishly gave him the two blocks to restore the house in Townsville.

We had a creek running through the middle of the property and Marjorie James a cousin, and sister of Sadie nee Pope] was given the land on that side and built herself a home for her and son Len.

It was so pristine and untouched in any major way, that the whole area was really a hidden heaven at that time. Wildlife was thriving and marine life and the native vegetation. We had a large Callophyllum Tree on our beach and two fresh water Creeks running into the sea.

Nowadays, I understand it is very inhabited with even a Woolworths store and Police Station there, and luxury Hotels, etc.

The property was to be left to my brother sister and myself, but after Aunt died, Uncle Len who always took massive seizures through epilepsy, was nursed and befriended by my other cousin Bob and Thelma Kelly and daughter Andrea, and Len changed the will and bequeathed it to them. Aunt Connie and my father has mostly subscribed over all the years to rates and upkeep, and I remember when I was farming there the very strong influence that Aunt Connie had over all .

I have so many memories of the beautiful area and sometimes feel sad that in time people discover these areas and it is never the same.



Me in my pineapple farm ,about 1953 at Mackness, when Len and Connie were also in residence. I was also secretary of The Far Northern Fruitgrowers.



Beach looking to Clump Point ( no jetty yet)



Geoffrey Mackness

On the coast about 24km from Tully lies Mission Beach which was named after an Aboriginal mission which was here in 1914. Its history is linked to the efforts of the Cutten family who found a tropical plantation here at Bingil Bay in the 1880s. Using Aboriginal labour they cleared the rainforests that grew here down to the shore and planted tea, coffee, mangoes and coconut palms and a host of other crops. In 1918 disaster struck in the form of a severe cyclone and its accompanying tidal wave which wiped out the settlement. This cyclone also flattened the Aboriginal mission which had been established just four years earlier near the mouth of the Hull River.



## EDIBLE BAMBOO

After leaving the port of Townsville, tropical fruit grower, WILLOUGHBY SMITH, 14 Pacific Islanders and a team of carpenters followed the coastline up to Dunk Island, landing in a sheltered cove across the bay in the Spring of 1888.

At CLUMP POINT they erected a stylish, two storeyed home under contract to Townsville's number one builder, MATT ROONEY, whose music teacher daughter

TERESA, had just married CHRISTIE PALMERSTON, THE PRINCE OF PATH FINDERS. Australia's foremost rainforest explorer is well remembered for blazing the trail from Mourilyan Harbour through impenetrable wilderness in 1882, to THE GREAT NORTHERN TINMINES of HERBERTON.

There was precious little room to move on the crowded deck as their little paddle-steamer SS PALMER docked just south of BINGIL BAY TEA AND COFFEE PLANTATION on high-tide. At least they would have the luxury of sharing a fresh "cuppa" with THE FATHER OF AUSTRALIAN TEA, HERB CUTTEN and his three pioneering British brothers who arrived on April Fools Day 1882 in a borrowed boat belonging to Australia's first millionaire James "Hungry" Tyson on the Tully River.

The windbreak of **edible-bamboo** is all that has survived from the destructive cyclone that destroyed their hopes and aspirations in 1890 and they were forced to flee. Today, enterprising locals such as conservationist John Busst have utilised the bamboo to build with.

Lawrie Williams

**Running bamboos** originate from cold areas of China, Japan and Korea. They send out long, underground stems (or rhizomes) every year. Each rhizome is capable of producing many new shoots along its length. Running bamboos spread so successfully that they soon invade areas where they are not wanted, including neighbouring properties. This has led to lawsuits between neighbours, and local government bodies in some areas banning all bamboos.

**Clumping bamboos** are shallow-rooted, and most of them are suited to tropical and subtropical climates. Their growth is limited because each rhizome produced develops into a single culm, or hollow jointed stem, located very close to its mother culm. This makes the plant predictable and genetically non-invasive. There are hundreds of species of clumping bamboos, including the ones shown in our segment:

### **Bambusa multiplex 'Alphonse Karr'**

This plant features golden culms striped with green. Edible shoots are green striped pink. It reaches its full height (10m or 30') only when grown in shade.

### **Bambusa textilis 'Gracilis'**

A dense, cold tolerant bamboo. It has nodding culm tops and no leaves on the lower half.

### **Gigancochloa atter**

An Indonesian species with vigorous, erect culms and large, light green leaves. The young edible shoots are covered in purple/black hairs. It grows about 15m (50') high.

### **Giant Buddha's Belly (Bambusa vulgaris 'Wamin')**

This bamboo has spectacular bulging culms and long, narrow green leaves.

### **Schizostachyum 'Murray Island'**

A small, erect bamboo native to Murray Island in the Torres Strait. It forms a dense clump with light green, rough-textured leaves. Best in the tropics and subtropics.

## Climate

All are best suited to warmer parts of Australia. Outside these warm areas, particularly in frost prone areas, most clumping bamboos will grow but need a warm microclimate. A severe frost may kill above ground foliage, but in most cases the clump will reshoot in spring.

**Two Caterpillars were chomping on grass in a garden when a large butterfly went overhead.**

**One Caterpillar looked at the other and said, "You'd never get me up in one of those!"**



Clumping bamboo has long fibres that are as strong as mild steel. This makes it excellent for building. The young shoots of many species are edible, and the leaves and culms can be used to make cooking and eating utensils, furniture, baskets, rope, lamps and lampshades, roof tiles and musical instruments. Clumping bamboos make great garden feature plants, screens and hedges, and they look spectacular planted in tropical or Asian style gardens.

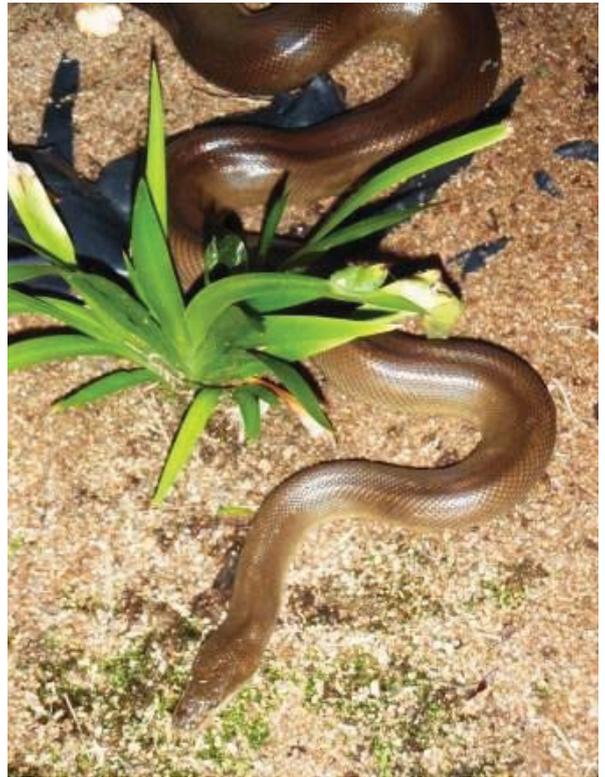
## Wet conditions drawing snakes closer to homes (2)

A few weeks ago, early evening, we heard a loud noise outside our house, sounding like a repetitive banging. We went outside with a torch and discovered a quite large snake sliding out of the wall of our house, South-West of El Arish.

The snake was a water python (*Liasis fuscus*), a nocturnal, non-venomous snake. It belongs to the Boidae family – which includes the boas and the pythons, containing the largest living snakes.

Pythons are non-venomous constrictors, which means they kill their prey by coiling around it and squeezing until it suffocates. Kinesis (movement occurring between the various bones of the skull) is very great and this, together with its extensible skin, allows a python to swallow prey with a diameter much greater than that of its own body.

Valerie Boll



- Young estuarine crocodiles' inherited hunting skills are demonstrated almost as soon as they hatch, with small insects, crabs, prawns and shrimps being among their favourite foods. As they get larger so does the range of potential food items.
- When fishing, always stand a few metres back from the water's edge and never stand on logs or branches overhanging the water and never clean fish or discard scraps near the waters edge around campsites or boat ramps

Crocodiles are potentially dangerous. Never take unnecessary risks in crocodile habitat. You are responsible for your own safety, so please follow these guidelines and be croc wise in croc country.

Obey crocodile warning signs - they are there for your safety and protection. Never swim in water where crocodiles may live even if there is no warning sign present.

## Where do butterflies go in a cyclone?

A few days after cyclone Yasi I saw perfectly formed butterflies, with no wing damage, searching for nectar in the few flowers that were left in my garden.

As the clean up from cyclone Yasi continues, it is important to remember that animals use tree hollows and fallen logs wherein to take shelter and build nests.

Cyclone Larry left a number of broken trees on my property and in the last five years, I have been delighted to watch fig parrots burrow a hole into the dead trunk of an old sarsaparilla tree. A broken branch on a paperbark has left a hollow and a family of sugar gliders now makes it their home.

A family of frogmouth owls have found hollows in one of the trees on the hill behind my house and have had several successful breeding seasons over the last few years. For some unknown reason they often perch on the tall gatepost at night; they are there to greet me when I come home after an evening out.

After TC Yasi I searched for my animal friends and found them all safe in their hollows. These trees that were damaged by TC Larry miraculously survived Yasi.

Alan and Stacey Franks who build nest boxes for wildlife say that "in Australia there are approximately 114 different species of birds, 83 mammal species, 79 reptile species and 27 amphibian species that use tree hollows for nesting and or shelter."

When cleaning up after a cyclone like Yasi, it is not necessary to remove broken or fallen trees from forested areas. In fact, the debris is integral to the resilience of the forest. Rain and humidity will work with fungi and micro organisms to convert leaves, branches and fallen tree to humus. This is a vital part of the nutrient cycle in the rainforest. Small trees which are saplings of primary rainforest species, sometimes dormant on the forest floor for over 100 years, will be stimulated into growth by the sunlight and the changed micro climate: they will start to reach for the sky no longer inhibited by the dense shade of their parent trees. Clearing tree debris in the forest will damage these sapling trees.

Seed held in the branches of the trees that fell to the wind will sprout and be nourished by the abundant nutrients released from the cyclone debris. In a few years seedlings and saplings will grow to form a new forest canopy. It only takes that long.

Clearing by machine or fire will break the natural cycle and the subsequent rainforest will not have the resilience or diversity in tree regrowth or animal habitat that the natural system would recreate if left alone.

Some branches will fall into rivers and creeks and create a habitat for aquatic fauna. A few branches in a creek will slow the flow of water in flash flood events. However too much debris in waterways may dam the water and cause flooding upstream. Always seek council advice before clearing streams or waterways.

Vegetation management laws still apply to cyclone-damaged forest however when uncertain, contact the appropriate authority before you get started.

Yvonne Cunningham



Photo by Robert Tidey

## The Butterfly Project

The concept of a Butterfly Trail is to educate people about our most prolific species to this region and to lead them around to the points of interest around Mission Beach, so that they identify where walk trails, historic sites, monuments and lookouts are located. It is a free Eco friendly activity that tourists and locals can participate in.

### The Concept

Create signs that have scientific pictures of our local butterflies, it's scientific name and Generic name and a small spiel detailing it's life cycle, food sources and plants it is attracted to.

Strategically place the numbered signs at points of interest around Mission Beach ie.. Bicton Hill, Clump point Jetty, Kennedy Trail, Ulyses Trail, Lacey's Creek, Licuala, Tourist Information Centre, The Dijuru Monument, C4, The Arbortorium etc.... so can follow the trail.

Involve different groups where appropriate to participate in the project. For example C4 to provide information and scientific pictures, Rotary or Lions for the installation, Mission Beach Business and Tourism for promotion, various council and government bodies for funding.

### Benefits of the Butterfly Trail

Educational

Eco friendly

It's a free activity

It promotes our points of interest that people can visit that are also free.

5. Mission Beach may benefit from people staying a bit longer which supports

businesses and thus the community

Kim Badcock



Photo by Robert Tidey

## Where The Wild Things Really Are?

tales of our rescued feathered and furry friends

by Sal Badcock

### Adopt A Critter



### ~ Sugar Mungarru, the Sugar Glider ~

A tiny baby Sugar-Glider was found alone and shivering on the ground. With no way of knowing where he had come from, the people picked him up and took him home. They were advised by phone to keep him warm and snug overnight until I could get to him. The next morning I took delivery of a tiny cute bundle of fluff. He was pretty chilly, so I did what every good carer does, I poked him down my t-shirt next to my skin, where he proceeded to curl up and go to sleep.



Our tiny baby "Moo", weighed in at 28g. He should have still been tucked up in his den or nest with his Mummy and family colony.

What to feed a baby glider? Powdered Possum-milk; farex mixed with

honeyeater mix and insectivore; nuts, dried fruit; avocado; apple and other fruit. His goal: to gain 1g per day (whilst not getting too fat, cos fat gliders don't glide so well). Now after just over 13 weeks in care, he weighs 89g.

He started out in a nice warm fleecy bag, then graduated to a small cage with his bag inside. He is now outside in an aviary with loads of sticks and logs to run around on, and a den box.

Sugar-Gliders live in colonies, so therefore you cannot release them alone. Statistics show that there's only a 5% survival rate for solo released sugar-glidings! We now have "Kite" (74g) another sugar-glider of similar size and age from Townsville. Along with the latest addition this week of baby "Hush" (40g). All three will eventually move to Kuranda to another carer. Where they'll be introduced to her colony.

#### The most important thing to remember:

Tiny babies or injured wildlife of all species need to be kept snug, warm and secure until you can get them to a Wildlife Carer. Although critters may have fur or feathers, they will still be in shock and need to be kept warm. Small boxes with old towels or old t-shirts are perfect. Remember, smaller is better to keep the animal or bird calmer and snuggler, and keep them in a quiet, non-air-conditioned room away from scary noises. This first step is often the most important in the chances of survival for the critter.

Each year the Wildcare Volunteer carers at Mission Beach are called upon to care for orphaned joeys, birds, possums and many other creatures. Many of our orphans end up in care as a result of car strikes, unfriendly pig traps, dog attack, or other misfortunes like simply falling out of a nest. Mission Beach is a very special area with equally special wildlife.

Our animals are cared for by carer's in their own homes at their own expense, there is no funding for "wildlife care". We do receive donations from time to time and these are much appreciated and go towards subsidising the cost of wildlife food and other expenses. Possums and gliders may need to be in care for up to 18 months, wallabies for an average of 9 months, other creatures and birds are usually in care for shorter periods, but there are always exceptions to that rule. Caring for these critters is a very rewarding experience.

Now we offer you an opportunity to share some of that experience with us. For as little as \$10 you can "Adopt a Critter". For \$20 and over you will receive a certificate with a photo of the critter you are supporting & notification of the outcome.

- \* \$10 Adoption
- \* \$20 Adoption
- \* \$50 Adoption
- \* \$300 corporate adoption

#### Donations over \$2 are Tax Deductible

You can visit the Wildcare Website for more information and to view animals currently in care and use our online "Critter Chooser"

<http://www.missionbeachwildcare.org>

Or you can phone the Wildcare Hotline and your Adoption request will be forwarded & processed.

Our greatest joy is to release them back into the wild see them take that first flight, hop, jump, slither or run back into the environment where they belong. And an even greater joy if they happen to come back to visit us again. Your sponsorship will help us achieve this.

**Mission Beach Wildcare Inc. ~ 40 68 7272 ~ THANK YOU FOR HELPING US CARE**

# Wildlife Feeding



With help of funding from IFAW, Mission Beach Wildcare now have available a quantity of feeders and food suitable for feeding the hungry wildlife. These are mostly for birds (excluding cassowaries) but can be helpful for other animals also. If you are interested in helping by establishing a feeding station on or near your property, contact us on **40687272** or **info@missionbeachwildcare.org** Please be aware that these will need attention each day, so be prepared to make the effort or discuss with neighbours the possibility of sharing the responsibility.

## Food we have available:

Lorikeet & Honeyeater Wet Food for nectar eaters:  
friarbirds, honeyeaters, lorikeets, mistletoebirds, sunbirds etc.

Lorikeet & Honey Dry Food for:  
friarbirds, honeyeaters, lorikeets, mistletoebirds etc.

Complete Lorikeet for: Lorikeets only.

Granivore for hand rearing grain eaters:  
finches, mannikins, peaceful doves etc.

Insectivore for extra protein on fruit and for insect eaters:  
catbirds, drongos, figbirds, friarbirds, pittas, honeyeaters, riflebirds etc.  
cuckoo-shrikes, curlews, kingfishers, plovers, swallows & more etc.

Grain mix for small birds:  
emerald doves, finches, mannikins, peaceful doves etc.

Grain mix for larger birds:  
cockatoos, parrots etc.

We also try to have a supply of fresh fruit available, but rely on donations of leftovers from supermarkets etc. for this

FOOD SUPPLIES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE MISSION BEACH MEALS ON WHEELS KITCHEN,  
BOYETT ROAD ON FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS BETWEEN 09:00 & 12:00



## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

**PHONE:** 40687272 or 40653330

**EMAIL:** info@missionbeachwildcare.org

**WEB:** www.missionbeachwildcare.org

## PLEASE, DO NOT FEED CASSOWARIES UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.

There will be a feeding plan in effect. If you have any concerns about hungry, sick, injured or orphaned cassowaries please ring 1300 130372. If you can't contact anyone on this number and a cassowary is in need of urgent attention, please phone Mission Beach Wildcare 40687272.



## Hungry Wildlife

We are currently working on providing a supply of bird food/feeders to be distributed through cyclone affected areas. If you are interested in obtaining these, please contact us via email [info@missionbeachwildcare.org](mailto:info@missionbeachwildcare.org) In the interim, the following information may be of help.

When support feeding of wildlife is necessary due to injury or disaster:

It is essential that food is placed in a SAFE area  
**AWAY FROM DOGS, CATS, PEOPLE & TRAFFIC**

If at all possible try to feed as close to where these animals & birds would normally feed. If you live near rainforest and can set up a site in the forest area the following foods will assist some of our forest creatures.

### **Cassowaries:**

**DO NOT FEED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.** There will be a feeding plan in effect. If you have any concerns about sick, injured or orphaned cassowaries please ring 1300 130372, 4068 7183 or 40615900. If you can't contact anyone on these numbers, ring Mission Beach Wildcare 40687272.

### **Nectar eaters:**

Honey or sugar water does **not** provide sufficient nutrition for nectar eating birds. They must have protein as well.

Ready to mix Honey-lorikeet food is available from pet shops. Place in a shallow dish high above the ground away from cats. (All cats are hunters by nature no matter how much you feed them.)

### **Home made options:**

Mix high protein baby cereal and honey into a slurry.

Crush a high protein cereal (NutriGrain, etc.) into a pulp and mix with water and honey.

Mix peanut butter, honey and water.

Boiled rolled oats or rice mashed up and made into a slurry with honey and water. For fruit eaters pour any of these mixtures over chopped fresh or canned fruit—anything but citrus and pineapple. Tinned vegies can be added as well.

Fruit eating birds (fruit doves, pigeons, figbirds, etc.) should be fed as close to their original food sources as possible (if these are still alive and will eventually fruit again). Hang dishes in fruit trees or roosting trees far from houses and cats. Chopped food - berries, pawpaw, banana, grapes, apple, mango can be sprinkled with Insectivore mix for protein.

### **Grain eaters:**

Finch seed is good for finches, Peaceful doves and Emerald doves. Parrot mix is good for all seed eating parrots. These can be obtained at pet stores and supermarkets. Feed supply stores are good for purchasing large quantities.

### **Insect eaters:**

Insect eaters shouldn't be short of food but if you have to feed them meat, do **NOT** feed them mince that is not coated with something like ground eggshells, peanut butter or Insectivore mix. **NEVER** feed fatty meat to any wildlife. Lean meat lacks sufficient nutritional value unless coated as well.

### **Mammals:**

Wallabies, possum, bandicoots

Feed away from houses preferably near or in their native habitat

Raw rolled oats/Coarse grain/Parrot seed mix/Sweet potato/

Carrots/Apples/Pawpaw/Banana/Grapes

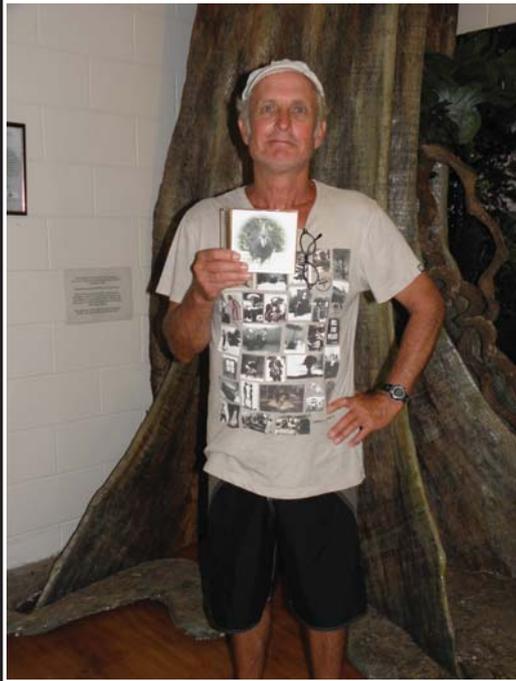
### **Gliders:**

Smear honey on food tree trunks [eucalypt, melaleuca, bloodwood] to lead them to a shallow hanging dish with high protein powder or high protein baby cereal and honey in a watery slurry.

There is hope if people will begin to awaken that spiritual part of themselves,  
that heartfelt knowledge that we are caretakers of this planet.

~ Brooke Medicine Eagle ~

## COME ON IN—JOIN C4 FOR THE GOOD OF THE ENVIRONMENT



Nick Wallwork, a local of Mission Beach and a volunteer at C4 has written a song called CASSOWARY. His friend, Andy Tainsh sang and recorded the song and it is now for sale at C4 Environment Centre, with all proceeds going towards Lot 66 Buyback— Thankyou Nick and Andy, for your time, generosity and this great song.

The Cassowary song has a catchy tune and is also suitable for children. For just \$10 it would make a gift.



### VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED Community for Coastal and Cassowary Conservation

If you enjoy meeting people and care about the environment, why not consider becoming a Volunteer at the C4 Environment Centre.

We have a great display centre and nursery to become involved with and also plenty of other positions which you may like to learn or be able to help with..

This is an opportunity to become involved in a Community Organisation dealing with local environmental issues.

If you are interested to learn more, and help educate others about our unique environment, please phone the Centre on 40687179

### C4 GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be held on Saturday 16th April, 2011, in the Theatrette at C4 Environment Centre, starting time 5pm.



## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Thankyou for being interested in becoming a C4 member.

C4 activities are run entirely by volunteers and we need your help to continue this valuable work.

C4's Aims and Objectives are to:-

- \* Implement the Cassowary Recovery plan;
- \* Identify and ensure the retention of environmentally significant areas;
- \* Liaise with all levels of Government and have input into the social, economic and environmental Well-being of Mission Beach.
- \* Maintain a heightened community awareness of environmental issues through education and information;
- \* Maintain a Land Gift Fund to protect and secure essential Cassowary habitat;

C4 established groups to achieve these aims:-

- \* Habitat
- \* Education
- \* Rural
- \* Nursery

with representation and advice from local indigenous people ( Djiru ).

## Volunteer Working Groups

**The C4 Nursery** volunteers collect and germinate seed, weed, water and maintain the nursery. They organize suitable plants for the " Home Garden" and plants needed for revegetation programs.

**I would like to volunteer for the C4 Nursery**

**Public Relations** volunteers are often the first contact visitors, international and local have with C4. Volunteers meet and greet thousands of visitors each year in the Education Centre. They distribute important environmental information and sell books and other merchandise to fund the C4 initiatives.

**I would like to volunteer at the Environment Centre**

**The Bulletin** is a free publication which contains important environmental messages and other topics of interest. Bulletin volunteers can collect articles, advertising and help print and distribute publications.

**I would like to help produce the Bulletin**

**Membership and Finance** volunteers are good with numbers! They process the finances and keep track of our membership database.

**I would like to help with Membership and Finance**

**Financial Members** may not be able to volunteer for any of the activities listed but would be able to donate money from time to time to assist in important conservation work. These donations may contribute towards legal costs, working bee materials, etc.

**I would like to be a Financial Member only**

**Habitat** volunteers review the current planning applications to ensure essential rainforest habitat is protected. The group work with planners to come up with a sensible solution so that humans and wild-life can co-exist.

**I would like to help with the habitat group**

**Rural and Agriculture** C4 volunteers deal with the environmental issues like land rehabilitation and sustainable farming methods.

**I would like to help with Rural Agriculture**

**Advisory Panel** volunteers with expertise in specific areas that could help C4, eg: law, finances, town planning etc. They may be called to give advice pertaining to specific issues.

**I would like to be considered for the Advisory Panel**

**Please indicate amount of time you are able to volunteer.....**

Whether you become a volunteer (Active ) Member and join any of the working groups--or a Financial ( Non-Active ) Member, we welcome you. What you do really makes the difference in our ability to provide good quality services to the community.

**Membership Fees (inclusive of GST)**

\$25.00 - couple / family                      \$12.50 - pensioner couple

\$18.00 - single                                      \$ 6.25 - pensioner single

At the next Management Committee Meeting after the receipt of this application for membership, your application will be considered by the Management Committee.

Recommendation from existing member .....

.....

Signature .....

**Hope you enjoy your time with us, having fun and meeting lots of people while learning more and informing others about our unique environment.**

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## Iyengar Yoga at Mission Beach

Jan Watson Certified Iyengar Yoga Teacher

C4 Community for Coastal & Cassowary Conservation

Classes	Cost
Saturdays: Beginners 10:00am - 11:30am (except school holidays)	Casual \$15.00 5-class pass \$65.00 10-class pass \$110.00
Thursdays: General 6:00pm - 7:30pm	
 Helping you be mindful of your body	
 Contact Jan Watson: (07) 4068 7340 or 0438 565 423 email: <a href="mailto:yogajan@yogac.com.au">yogajan@yogac.com.au</a>	

When you do nothing  
You feel overwhelmed and powerless

But when you get involved  
You feel the sense of hope  
And accomplishment

That comes from knowing

You are working  
To make things better

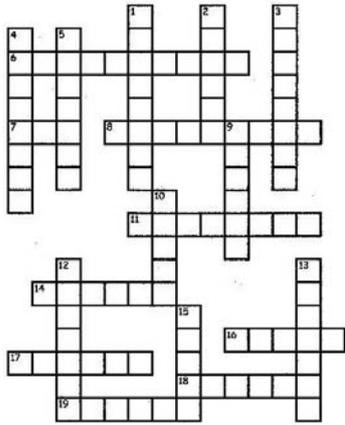


Have a safe  
and  
Happy Easter



# KIDS PAGE

Crossword: What Number Am I ?



- | Across                          | Down                         |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6. fifty more than fifty        | 1. one less than twenty      |
| 7. five and five                | 2. one more than ten         |
| 8. one less than eighteen       | 3. ten plus three            |
| 11. nine doubled                | 4. seven doubled             |
| 14. five more than seventy-five | 5. two more than sixty-eight |
| 16. twenty doubled              | 9. one more than twenty-nine |
| 17. two tens equals this        | 10. one less than sixty-one  |
| 18. six doubled                 | 12. five and five and five   |
| 19. one more than eighty-nine   | 13. one more than fifteen    |
|                                 | 15. half of one hundred      |

What part of a fish weighs the most?

It's scales

Knock Knock

Who's there?

Bean!

Bean who?

Bean fishing lately?

Knock Knock

Who's there?

Beets!

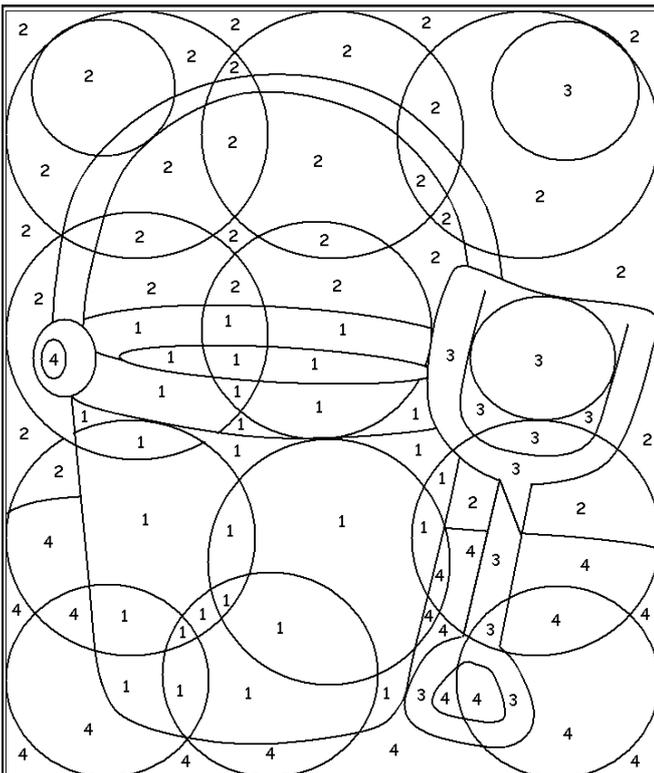
Beets who?

Beets me



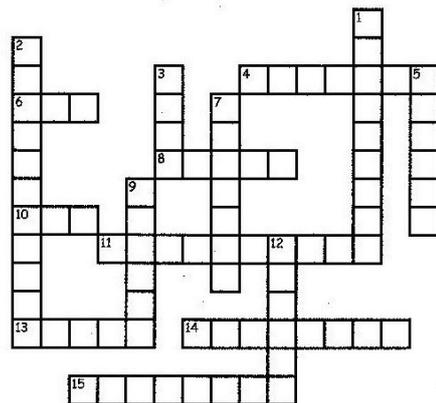
1. Which vehicle is spelled the same forwards and backwards?

race car



1 = red      2 = blue      3 = yellow      4 = light brown

Crossword: Summertime



- | Across   | Down                                      |
|--|---|
| 4. wear these on your feet to be cool          | 1. you need to blow air into this to play |
| 6. use this to fish for crabs in the pools     | 2. build using lots of sand and shells    |
| 8. place with lots of sand                     | 3. it moves sideways along the beach      |
| 10. a body of water with a beach               | 5. season after spring                    |
| 11. a game people like to play at the beach    | 7. green, brown, slimy                    |
| 13. little creatures used to live in them      | 9. use this to put sand in bucket         |
| 14. you can find lots of creatures hiding here | 12. put sand in                           |
| 15. what you wear to go in the sea             |   |

## LOCAL BIRDS

Photos by Robert Tidey



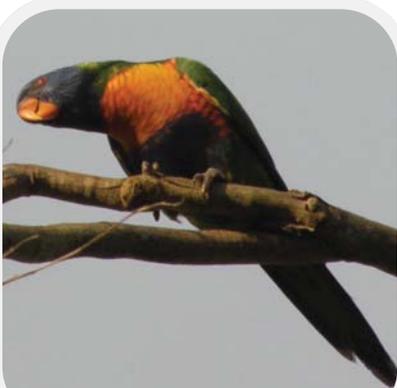
### **Wompoo Fruit-Dove** also called **Wompoo Pigeon**

A large rainforest bird with a green back, yellow belly, purple chest and grey head. One of the many birds and animals which relies on the fruits of the rainforest to survive. Normally a shy and solitary bird, feeding high in the treetops but after Cyclone Yasi, flocks of them fed on the berries of the fallen trees and branches.



### **Radjah Shelduck** also called **Burdekin Duck**--

Inhabits the mangrove swamps and coastline of New Guinea and Tropical Northern Australia. Their diet consists mainly of molluscs, insects, sedge material and algae. Pairs start looking for a nesting site during January and February and they nest close to their primary food source, often in the hollow limbs of trees



**Rainbow Lorikeets** mostly forages on the flowers of shrubs or trees to harvest nectar and pollen, but also eats fruits, seeds and some insects

They are found in a wide range of treed habitats including rainforest and woodlands, as well as in well-treed urban areas



**The Torresian Imperial Pigeon or Torres Strait Pigeon** is a large plump bird and is entirely white or pale cream apart from the black flight feathers, part of the tail and spots under the tail. The head can sometimes be brown, soiled while eating fruit. The birds were once present in large colonies in Cairns and [Edmund Banfield](#) wrote in 1908 that in [Dunk Island](#) "fully 100,000 come and go evening and morning", with flying colonies as wide as two miles.

**HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Webb St. Wongaling Beach  
 MASS TIMES

1st Sunday of the month 8.30 am  
 All other Sundays 7.00 am

**MISSION BEACH WORSHIP CENTRE**  
**Cassowary Drive**

UNITING CHURCH WORSHIP TIMES  
 Sundays 8.00 a.m. (with Sunday School)  
 LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP TIMES  
 1st Sunday of month 10.00 am  
**Find yourself in church this Sunday**

**MISSION BEACH FAMILY CHURCH**

Meets every Sunday at Mission Beach Primary School  
 at 6 pm  
 in FELLOWSHIP with the ASSEMBLIES of GOD

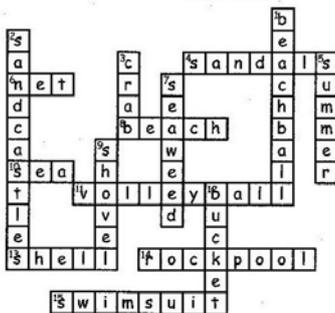
**ANGLICAN CHURCH SERVICES**

Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
 Webb St. Wongaling Beach  
 Every 2nd Sunday at 10 am  
 Dean Newman 4068 7219

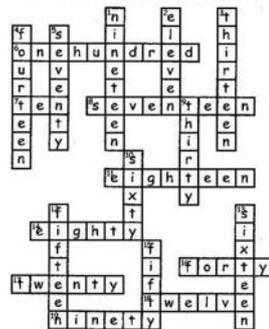
**NEEDING A REST?****Remember the Sabbath Day**

Seventh Day Adventist Church and Sabbath School Times  
 9.30 am – 12 noon every Saturday Patrick Street, Tully

Crossword: Summertime



Crossword: What Number am I?

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JETTY RESTAURANT (L) 4088 6735

CAFÉ GECKO (BYO) 4068 7390

EARLY BIRDS COFFEE SHOP 4088 6000

100th MONKEY EAT IN

OR TAKEAWAY 4088 6004

THE SHRUBBERY (L) 4068 7803

CBLU at CASTAWAYS (L) 4068 7444

FLAME CAFÉ AND TAKEAWAY 4068 7300

WONGALING BEACH

WONGALING

LE TOUR VILLAGE 4068 8401

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**"The superior man seeks what is right; the inferior one, what is profitable."**

— Confucius

## COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

**COMMUNITY FOR COASTAL & CASSOWARY CONSERVATION INC.** Phone 4068 7197 c4@cassowaryconservation.asn.au

### **MISSION BEACH EL ARISH PROBUS CLUB**

Meets 1st Wed of each month 9.30am Sth Mission Community Hall  
Prospective new members and visiting Probians welcome.

John Syme, President ph 4068 008 or Beverley Tait, Secretary ph 4088 6730

### **MISSION BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

2nd Tues every two months at the Rainforest Room, Mission Beach Resort.

### **SOUTH MISSION - WONGALING BEACH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Meets at Frogs Hollow 5 times a year 2nd of even months except February.

### **MISSION BEACH ARTISTS**

Sue Shannon Secretary Tel 4068 9246 Email: mbartists@qld.chariot.net.au

**HIRE OF MISSION BEACH PROGRESS HALL—** Tel 4068 7104

**MISSION BEACH VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE** - Tel 4068 7099

### **MISSION BEACH PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

Meets at the school on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m.

### **TULLY BRIDGE CLUB PLAYS**

Mondays and Fridays at 1:00 p.m. in the Tully Bridge Club Building  
Situating behind the Tully Bowling Club

### **MISSION BEACH LIONS CLUB INC.**

2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.  
At the Community Hall (Frogs Hollow), South Mission Beach  
Men and Women Welcome. Contact Lion Don Wheatley Phone 4068 7132

### **MISSION BEACH LIONESS CLUB**

1st Wednesday of each month for dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting at 6.45 p.m., Mission Beach Resort. Contact Sheralyn Dennis 4068 8989

### **ROTARY CLUB OF MISSION BEACH INC.**

Scotty's Bar & Grill at 6.30 p.m. Thursdays

**MISSION BEACH MEALS ON WHEELS INC—**Tel 4068 7480

### **MISSION BEACH CRICKET CLUB**

The Mission Beach Cricket Club meets at the 'Cottage' Marcs Park  
on the second Thursday of the month at 6.30 p.m.

### **TROPIC COAST BUSINESS WOMEN'S NETWORK ASSOCIATION INC.**

Last Tuesday of every month at rotating venues - Cardwell, Mission Beach and Tully. Carla Godfrey 4088 6125

### **MISSION BEACH SENIOR LADIES AFTERNOON (SILVER THREADS)**

2nd Thursday of each month at Nancy & Don Wheatley's home 90 Conch St

## MISSION BEACH VILLAGE

### MARKETS

1st and 3rd Sunday of each month

### MONSTER MARKETS

Marcs Park

Last Sunday of each month

### EL ARISH MARKETS

3rd Sat of the month.

EL ARISH HALL COMMITTEE

Contact Marie Carman 0438 288412

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

Every second and fourth Thursday  
of each month

Changing venues - please see

<http://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/council/council-meetings-agendas-minutes/>

## CASSOWARY SIGHTINGS

QPWS - 1300 130 372

C4 - 4068 7197

## SNAKE HANDLERS

QPWS - 1300 130 372

C4 4068 7197

## DOG REPORTING

40 439 140

40 302 222

## POLICE

Mission Beach 4068 8422

Tully 4068 4000



# Environment Centre



**Open Monday-Friday 10am to 4pm, Saturday 10am-1pm**

**Tel 4068 7197**

Porter Promenade, Mission Beach, next to the Information Centre

**Visitor centre, videos, school visits, meetings etc**

C4 theatrette is a community venue

C4 theatrette is an educational venue

C4 theatrette is a recreational venue

C4 theatrette is available for hire

**Everyone Welcome**

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.....realising the vision of C4



The C4 Display Centre has a wide range of books for sale. Some of these are written by local authors and a children's selection is include.

**Also for sale  
are a large range of  
postcards  
t-shirts  
locally made**

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SLARES GUIDE TO AUSTRALIAN BIRDS, 2ND EDITION  
PLANTS OF TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND  
GROW YOUR OWN BUSHFOOD  
A HANDBOOK TO AUSTRALIAN SEASHELLS  
WILD FOOD—WET TROPICS  
AUSTRALIAN CAPE YORK PENINSULA  
AUSTRALIAN TROPICAL REEF LIFE

And for the children:

KOOKABURRA SCHOOL  
CURIOSITY OF A CLOWNFISH  
NAUSTRALIAN FOODS  
AUTILUS 'PEARLOF THE DEEP'  
ELMO THE ORPHAN  
CASSY'S TALE  
GLISSANDRA THE GLIDER  
CASSOWARY COAST COUNT ON COUNTRY



## MISSION BEACH WILDCARE INC.

Provides rescue and retrieval of native animals, emergency and pre-release care, coordination of carers and access to veterinary resources. New carers and helpers are always welcome.

[www.missionbeachwildcare.org](http://www.missionbeachwildcare.org)

**24 HOUR HOTLINE - 40687272**