

## Community Nursery and Landcare

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

Box trailers for hire. Members discount. All plugs catered for  
Contact Hans on 0459 978 842 to book.

### Loving this late rain – Cain Creek milestone

A milestone on the way to restoring Cain Creek as a wildlife corridor for cassowary and linking populations of Kuranda Tree frog. Just on 3,000 trees have been planted to complete the .7Ha area on Charles and Jackie Clarke's property on Monaro Close. Starting in August last year with a couple of well attended community plantings and with a number of Saturday morning planting bees we've done it!

#### How tricky is that? Rainforest plant ID



Some of the many volunteers involved: Tregan, Sue, Andrew, Amy, Emma, Beau and Tim

Our rainforest workshop day saw 25 people join Dr Bruce Wannan to start the sleuthing journey of rainforest tree identification. And even with the help of the online rainforest key, now converted to an app, its not quite as straight forward as the experts make it look! We all enthusiastically considered

ratios of length and breadth of leaves, whether simple or compound leaves and how many, learned some botanical terms we never knew existed and that having flowers or fruit in particular gave a whole lot more clues to what is a forensic search to narrow down on the recognised name for the plant. All mystery "who done it" lovers should try it. A sometimes frustrating but fun, time was had by all. And thanks to Denise we enjoyed a scrumptious lunch.

#### Plant of the month – Pink Fruited Lime Berry (*Glycosmis trifoliata*) Available now



A bushy small tree, with sweet, juicy berries, glossy leaves, in the garden to 4m, can prune to 2m. It's hardy, needing little watering, bears fruit at a fairly early age and almost all year long. Tiny white flowers followed by large clusters of translucent small pink berries. Berries are best eaten, fresh, straight off the bush. From the Rutaceae family it is the host plant for the Swallowtail butterfly *Papilio fuscus capaneus*, so grow a few if you want both fruit and butterflies.

### • Date Claimers •

**Saturdays 8–9.30am. Tree Planting at 77 Monaro Close (new site).** Yummy morning tea. Carpool from KEC nursery 8am. Call Andrew 0407 161 175. We'll text you if we're postponing due to weather. Check Facebook also.

**21–27 May. Frog monitoring fun starts after 7pm.** Check our Facebook page for dates and sites, call or email on 0419 624 940 or info@envirocare.org.au

Workshops for kids and adults – see below.

#### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

##### How do I grow this seed? Sunday 16 May

3 hours fun with local horticulturalist Mike Gaier and the Envirocare seed team learning about the various seed types and how to get those tricky ones to grow.

##### What's in my Backyard? Saturday 29 May

A fun-filled nature day for kids with lots of different activities from bird watching in the morning to frog listening in the early evening. Activities you can pick and choose from, come and go throughout the day.

Register for more information and book via email info@envirocare.org.au

Funded by Federal Communities Environment Program

### We are the invasive resist-ants



#### Russett Park infestation survey

Wet Tropics Management Authority's field teams have started surveying properties for yellow crazy ants at the Russett Park infestation area. Seven properties have been surveyed in April 2021 and no yellow crazy ants have been detected to date.



Yellow crazy ant surveys at Russett Park April 2021

#### Extended surveys on Green Forest Road

No new properties were surveyed on Green Forest Road for the month of April 2021. Extended surveys search for yellow crazy ants outside known infestation areas. Five properties at Green Forest Road have been surveyed since February 1, 2021 and no yellow crazy ants have been detected. Extended surveys at Green Forest and Oak Forest Roads are ongoing.

#### The Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce and Biosecurity Queensland deliver invasive ant presentation

On 14 April, Taskforce volunteer Tim Brown, myself and Mike Greasley from Biosecurity Queensland's National Electric Ant Eradication Program, delivered a presentation about yellow crazy ants and electric ants to Cairns Regional Council's Green Space Our Place volunteers.



Mike Greasley from the National Electric Ant Program presenting electric ants.

The presentations took place at the Cairns Botanical Gardens Visitor Centre where 21 Green Space Our Place volunteers attended. Volunteers learnt about the two different invasive ants, their impacts, how to recognise each ant species and how to report a sighting. During the break, Taskforce volunteer Tim Brown demonstrated to the group how we survey for invasive ants and



Taskforce volunteer Tim helping volunteers with the invasive ant survey.

volunteers participated in a survey by placing lures and flags in gardens nearby. The lures were later checked for yellow crazy ants and electric ants and some ant specimens were taken for identification.

The presentations were well received with some volunteers signing up for free back yard checks. People also asked about joining the Taskforce.

Thank you Cairns Regional Council Green Space Our Place Volunteer Program for giving us the opportunity to inform volunteers who have their eyes on the ground.

#### Upcoming Activities

**Yellow Crazy Ant Taskforce (not Community Taskforce) – 17 to 21 May 2021**

The Wet Tropics Management Authority and Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils are hosting the annual Yellow Crazy Ant Taskforce on 17–21 May 2021.

Taskforce volunteers are welcome to come along and participate in surveying for yellow crazy ants in sugarcane farming areas near Cairns to ensure a high level of confidence that all yellow crazy ants in the southern Cairns district have been identified. Come and receive valuable training in survey methods and network with state and local government departments, traditional owners and NRM groups. Contact Ciara at coordinator@communitytaskforce.org.au to get involved.

#### Rotary FNQ Field Days – 26, 27 & 28 May 2021

The Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce will host an information stall at this year's Rotary FNQ Field Days at Kerribee Park Rodeo Grounds, Mareeba on 26, 27 & 28 May 2021. Taskforce volunteers are welcome to join me in talking with visitors about yellow crazy ants. Carpooling can be arranged. Contact Ciara at coordinator@communitytaskforce.org.au to join.

Ciara

### Join the invasive resist-ants

Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce  
envirocare.org.au/yellow-crazy-ants-taskforce  
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