

Community Nursery and Landcare

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

Box trailers for hire.
Contactless pick up and return. All plugs catered for.
Text or call Sarah on 0499 588 145 to book.

Plant of the month – "Golden Everlasting Daisy" *Xerochrysum bracteatum*



Golden Everlasting Daisy

The Golden Everlasting Daisy has a scattered distribution from the wetter coastal areas to the desert around Alice Springs. Good drainage is essential to grow this plant successfully. The plant in the photo is growing on a heap of sand 30 cm deep at the centre and also staked in a triangular pattern. The plants usually branch profusely from the base and it's necessary to support these branches by tying twine around the stakes.

The Golden Everlasting Daisy is easy to grow from seed and regular applications of slow release fertiliser are applied. A large number of seeds develop at the bottom of the button-like structure in the centre of the flower. A few plants are available at nursery or come and see the glorious orchid display which is still on show with one late bloomer.

Science Bites

7pm Thursday
27 October

A special online Science Bites talk by Dr Jodi Rowley about the FrogID program and how it's helping to conserve frogs!



Dr Jodi Rowley with Red Eye Tree Frog
Photo: © Salty Dingo 2021

Frogs play an important role in our environment and provide an indicator of environmental health. Sadly, frog numbers are in decline. To help save them, we need the community to get involved. This online presentation by Dr Jodi Rowley will showcase the FrogID project by the Australian Museum, some of the ways in which the citizen science data being sent in by the Australian community is informing frog conservation, and how people in the Kuranda region can get involved. For more information visit www.frogid.net.au

Cassowary appearances

It seems we have cassowaries popping out of the forest in various places where they haven't been seen for a while. Wonder what's happening? It has been a lean wet season and food has been scarce, so they're travelling more for food. The trees seem to have been triggered by recent rain, and some that didn't flower or fruit in the usual wet season cycle, have put out flowers and immature fruit now. Maybe it's all the planting in the EnviroLink corridor and elsewhere by hundreds of volunteers, providing thousands of hours of planting and tending over the past 25 years, that has kick-

started forests which cassowaries can finally snack in?

It would be great if you could tuck a tasty food pack into the edge of your forest—maybe an elegant brown pine or a lilly pilly—for the future when a cassowary might just take a stroll through your patch. All the smaller creatures need it for food too as they aren't able to travel across open paddocks safely. If you'd like to show your support for the wildlife which this forest cover provides, there's a great free program called Wildlife Land Trust by Humane Society International you can join. They provide a beautiful large sign for a prominent place, maybe at your front gate. Get an application form from the nursery or go to www.wildlifelandtrust.org.au

• Date Claimers •

26–30 September – Creek water quality baseline checks – If interested please email Kuranda.envirocare.science@gmail.com

Sat 15, 22 & 29 October – Nursery drop in session for an "I do, we do, you do" session on use of the frog ID app, plus seed identification and potting up.

Tues 18 October AGM – Speaker – Michael Anthony – Magnificent brood Frogs, rediscovering the species.

20–27 October – Frog monitoring – fun starts at new time 6.30pm. Check FB or text Cathy 0419 624 940.

27 October – 7pm Science Bites – Dr Jodi Rowley from Australian Museum – online webinar.

5 November – 6.30 pm Moth night spotting with our local entomologist Dr David Rentz. Learn about moths and other night insects. Central Kuranda location. Contact kuranda.envirocare.science@gmail.com

On a final note

The Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce is a community-run organisation which assists the Wet Tropics Management Authority in managing the yellow crazy ant infestations in Kuranda. Volunteers are involved in all aspects of the program including undertaking regular monitoring activities, completing surveys of known infestation areas, and assisting in hand baiting.

Volunteer with the Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce by calling (07) 4093 8989 or by joining the Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce Facebook page

If you would like to get involved, please contact coordinator@communitytaskforce.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Surveys in Kuranda Tree frog habitat

Invasive ants have been found in critical frog habitat and the Kuranda Tree frog is under threat from the yellow crazy ant. Checking for invasive ants will ensure protection of this endemic and critically endangered species.

We need your help so please get in touch if you would like to assist with the survey. Lunch provided.

WHERE: Lower reaches of Kuranda creeks.

WHEN: Monthly survey 8am–12.30pm
October dates to be confirmed.

Kuranda Colour Fest




Volunteering opportunities available to help at our information stall.

WHERE: Centenary Park, Kuranda

WHEN: 10am–2pm Saturday 8 October 2022

Sylvia

Join the invasive resist-ants

 [Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce](https://www.facebook.com/yellowcrazyant)
 communitytaskforce.org.au
 coordinator@communitytaskforce.org.au



Kuranda Tree Frog Creek Survey

Our fourth survey showed great results with no presence of yellow crazy ants or electric ants found in Ripple Creek. A team of six volunteers and Wet Tropics Management Authority staff followed the creek line from the Barron River to our last survey points joining up a 500m stretch of beautiful rainforest that is home to the iconic Kuranda Tree frog.

Our next monthly survey will be in October on dates to be announced. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch. Community support is so important in eradicating yellow crazy ants from the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.



Our team preparing for the survey



Mikhaila Jacoby, Ciara Bridgland from the Taskforce, and Cassandra Parker from the National Electric Ant Eradication Program.

Steiner Spring Fair

On Saturday 27 August, the Taskforce and the National Electric Ant Eradication Program joined with a stall at this year's Steiner Spring Fair. It was a great opportunity to talk to Kuranda and Cairns locals about the invasive ants in Kuranda. We presented live electric and yellow crazy ants for recognition, booked free backyard checks, and demonstrated how to quarantine potted plants to prevent spreading invasive ants.

Importantly, we were able to show locals where electric and yellow crazy ant infestations are in the Kuranda area.

A big thank you to Mikhaila Jacoby, founder of the community Taskforce and original Taskforce Coordinator, for supporting us on the day.

Carnival on Collins

Father's Day at Carnival on Collins was a hoot. The Taskforce joined the Wet Tropics Management Authority's Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program team in spreading awareness about yellow crazy ants.

As always, it's great to engage with the community face to face about matters people are interested in when it comes to protecting our place in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers on the day, Tim Brown and Adam Walker.