

New social housing units for Kuranda

KURANDA will get four new, one-bedroom units to help with social housing needs following a Tablelands Regional Council decision.

The council, at its meeting of October 4, voted to award a tender for \$979,622 to SJ Wilson builder, for construction of two units in Harriman Street and two in Thooree Street.

The approval was subject to Department of Housing and Public Works permission to use surplus funds to address a shortfall of \$61,602 in the project budget.

A report to council on the tender process identified the winning firm as having completed several previous projects for council, including social housing developments at Yungaburra and Kuranda.

Tablelands Regional Council Mayor Rosa Lee Long welcomed the project.

“Somewhere to call home is a very basic thing and I am delighted that the TRC in combination with the State Government is able to move forward with projects such as this,” she said.

Divisional Councillor Jenny Jensen said: “Aged housing is a major need in our community and I am delighted that there will soon be four more people with a new and affordable unit.”

TRC makes detailed de-amalgamation costings publicly available

FULLER figures detailing Tablelands Regional Council’s assessment of de-amalgamation are now publicly available and they show how significant changes in several vital areas of local government, will impact on any new council.

The material made up the TRC submission to the Queensland Treasury Corporation and the Boundaries Commissioner. Both agencies are charged with assessing the prospects of a proposed separation of the former Mareeba Shire from the TRC.

It includes figures established by council staff and an independent assessment by accounting consultancy firm BDO.

“The estimated one-off costs for Mareeba ratepayers could be more than \$10 million. All of these expected expenses are detailed so everyone can see how that figure has been calculated”, Mayor Rosa Lee Long said.

Council’s submission to the QTC, supporting material and an executive summary are now available at www.trc.qld.gov.au, select the De-amalgamation Facts icon.



Caring for Kuranda’s Environment

“by standing on the shoulders of those who’ve gone before”

Nursery: 284 Myola Rd, Mon & Thu 9am-1pm, Sat 10-12pm, ph: 4093 8989 / 4093 8393

Who’s that Fly in – Fly out crew?



Wompoo pigeon – rainforest frugivore
Photo courtesy of David & Diane Armbrust

“Which rainforest neighbours will visit first and will they all come to look and to stay?” In the rainforests of Queensland, the percentage of plants with fleshy fruits has been recorded at about 85% (Wilson *et al* 1989). With a greater variety of bird species visiting our revegetation sites, as trees start seeding and start down that 500-600 year long road back to mature rainforest, we can expect additional tree species to grow as birds feed in the nearby

quality rainforest and expel the seeds, with a convenient dollop of fertilizer, as they pause and perch in our revegetated sites.

One of our Envirocare members, Dr Ray Pierce, is setting up bird monitoring in these revegetation areas. Already he has detected over 90 species in the control sites, including a cassowary on the Kuranda State School side of the river, about 500 metres downstream of Little Road, We are hoping members of the community with an interest in bird spotting will join us in monitoring the succession of birds into these areas along the Barron over the next few years. It’ll involve walking a flat cleared transect. Ray plans to monitor once a month so there’ll be lots of opportunities for people to join as a small group of recorders and spotters each month or to walk on their own and report sightings of a specific list of birds. Please let us know if you’d like to be involved. Drop an email to info@envirocare.org.au or phone the nursery on 4093 8989 and leave a message.

Date Claimer – Thursday 1st November ..7 till 9pm

Speaker meeting – all welcome

Frog Mating woes by Dr. Conrad Hoskins

followed by light supper - at Kuranda Recreation Centre

Weed spotting – Syngonium

Have you seen this in your garden or forest? Try to get rid of it if you have, because it will smother tree growth, taking over the canopy in the competition for light. A lovely pot plants when small, Syngonium is an aggressive, rapid-growing vine. Juvenile leaves are simply arrows, while mature leaves can be up to a foot long and have five or more lobes. Variegated plants tend to lose their variegation as they age. Try growing a Cairns Bird Wing vine instead. It’ll attract other butterflies besides the Cairns Bird wing, loves its roots in the cool and its leaves in the sun.



Box trailer for hire,
ring 4093 9926

Reminder – Nursery now open
10:30 till 1pm Saturdays,
ring nursery on 4093 8989 or by
appointment 4093 8393

Date Claimer – Xmas Picnic at Wha – Hae

Saturday 1 Dec 4pm →

BYO chair and drinks and a plate to share

SATURDAY morning Tree Planting 8 till 9:30am

Now it’s started raining, holes are dug in advance on the river bank so planting is easy and fast.

Meet at the nursery 8am, 284 Myola Road, to catch a lift to site. And a yummy morning tea to follow. Or ring Cathy for details 4093 9926

Give a gift that keeps growing, through our local Grow Project.
www.envirocare.org.au info@envirocare.org.au

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