



Society for Growing Australian Plants (Queensland Region) Inc.

Cairns Branch
PO Box 199
Earlville Qld 4870

Newsletter No. 75
MARCH 2008

Society Office Bearers

Chairperson	Ing Toh	40 310 551
Vice Chairperson	Mary Gandini	40 542 190
Secretary	Greg Keith	40 981 130
Treasurer	Robert Jago	40 552 266
Librarian	David Warmington	40 443 398

Membership Subscriptions- Qld Region- Renewal \$35.00, New Members \$40, each additional member of household \$1.00

Cairns Branch Fees -\$10.00 Full Year

To access our Library for loan of books, please contact David Warmington

Dates to remember

Cairns Branch Meetings and Excursions – third Saturday of each month.

NEXT MEETING is the 2008 AGM. It will be held at Ann Mohun's house in Redlynch on 15th March. Lunch will be at 1200 followed by the AGM then a walk behind Ann's property.

Directions below

Tablelands Branch – Sunday following the meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Any queries please phone Ian Evans 4096 5770.

Townsville Branch - 8.00pm Wednesday 12 March at the Community Centre– Annandale Shopping Centre. Guest speaker will be Dr. Gregor Calvert who will give us an entertaining talk on “ Dangerous Plants”.

How to get there

At the Harley St traffic lights on the Cairns Western Arterial Road, turn South (left from the city or right from Smithfield) then right into Lomandra Close. Ann's is the last completed house on the right hand side of the street. There is plenty of on-street parking around the cul-de-sac.



Route Map to Ann Mohun's house, Lot 128 Lomandra Close, Redlynch



Route Map to Ann Mohun's house, Lot 128 Lomandra Close, Redlynch

Trip Report

Our first adventure for 2008 commenced after lunch and a brief General Meeting at the Cairns Botanic Gardens. The meeting was ably chaired by Mary, the vice chairperson, due to the absence of Ing.

February's outing was a visit to the Jack Barnes Bicentennial Mangrove Boardwalk; apt as our focus theme for the year is Mangroves of the Greater Cairns District. Armed with copies of Norm Duke's Mangroves of Australia, Catherine Lovelock's Field Guide to the Mangroves of

Queensland and Lear and Turner's Mangroves of Australia, we headed north along the Mangrove Boardwalk, identifying and mapping the mangrove species present.

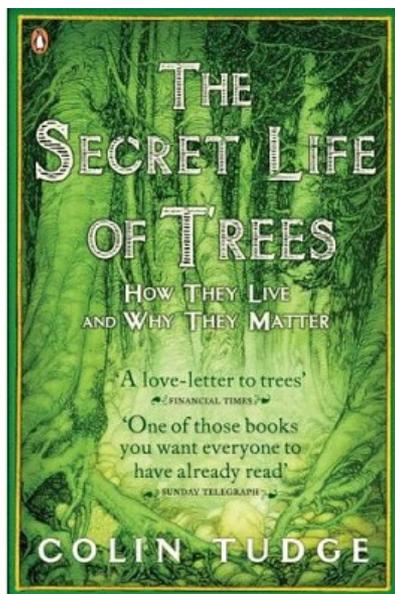
The principal aim of the day's outing was to investigate the distribution of mangrove species along the boardwalk and to suggest appropriate locations for species identification signs to David, who is responsible for the maintenance of the boardwalk. In the longer term it is David's aim to label the mangrove species on the boardwalk, increasing the educational value of the resource.

After recording the eleven or so species of mangrove and several other plants along the northern section, with black storm clouds looming, we performed a high speed recon of the southern section. Although less diverse, the mangroves were taller, more dense and the canopy almost closed. We took our notes and made it back to the vehicles before the cloudburst.

Below is a list of species recorded thanks to Rob Jago

Book Review

The Secret Life of Trees: How they live and why they matter



“At Boscobel in Shropshire stands the Royal Oak, where the future King Charles II was alleged to have hidden from Cromwell's men. There are redwoods in California that would have been ancient by the time Columbus first landed, and there are pines still alive which were germinated around the time that humans invented writing. There are Douglas firs as tall as skyscrapers and one banyan tree in Calcutta as big as a football field.

From the tallest to the smallest, trees inspire wonder, and in *The Secret Life of Trees* Colin Tudge travels from his own back garden right round the world. He brings back the stories and facts behind trees: from how they live so long, and how they really work, to how they talk to each other, and why they came to exist in the first place. Full of rich and surprising stories, *The Secret Life of Trees* will make everyone fall in love with the trees around them.”

This is a book that everyone should read. Within its covers is enough information to pass first and second year botany at university. Colin Tudge writes beautifully and his insightful analysis of the world in relation to trees is quite thought provoking. For the amateur this read will enlighten enormously, and those in the know will be reminded of forgotten facts, brought up to date with current taxonomy and be introduced to some novel ideas on how to heal many the world's current woes.

If you have any book reviews, pictures, notes on growing tropical Australian plants or trip reports you'd like published in this newsletter, please send them to me: Tony Roberts – email travelling_botanist@yahoo.com.au

Cattana Wetlands Rehabilitation Project

Communication from **Margaret Lowry**,
Public Consultation and Communications
Officer, Cairns City Council

Dear Sir/ Madam

Cairns City Council wishes to update its stakeholders on the progress of the Cattana Wetlands Rehabilitation Project.

Consultants have finalised the master plan for this project and it is now in the detail design stage. Construction work is expected to start in May 2008 with stage one completed by December 2008.

Please find attached a fact sheet with a copy of the master plan (Not attached here *Ed.*). The master plan can also be accessed from Council's website at www.cairns.qld.gov.au (at the Community Engagement page).

If you have any queries regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Margaret Lowry

Public Consultation and Communications
Officer
Cairns City Council
PO Box 359
Cairns Qld 4870
Tel 07 4044 3303
Fax 07 4044 3830
Email m.lowry@cairns.qld.gov.au
Web www.cairns.qld.gov.au

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Report to Branches

Regional Council Meeting 28 February 2008

- A good high-resolution photo for use in the production of a large poster for use at Region displays has not been found yet, but enquiries are now being made at the Museum.
- The late Jan Heisler, who was Secretary of Caboolture Daytime Branch, had an enormous collection of books covering a broad range of horticultural, botanical, environmental and Australian books. Her husband, David, says there must be a thousand books in the collection, some quite valuable. As David is intending to move to a smaller place he needs to find homes for the books and he would like anyone who is interested to come and see the collection or contact him and make an offer on any books they may like to have. He would like to see them go to people who would really appreciate them. This information was received too late for the March Bulletin, so please pass it on to your members, as the books will have to be removed fairly quickly. Contact David Heisler, 72 Ningi Esplanade, Ningi, Ph 5494 6273 or email heisler@caboolture.hotkey.net.au
- The Constitution Review committee met in February and a detailed report was presented to Council. This will be discussed at the next RC meeting and if the proposals are accepted then the motions necessary to change the constitution will be put to all members in the Bulletin, and will be voted on at a general meeting. Most of the proposed changes are necessary because of the changes to the Associations Incorporation Act and the Model Rules. One of the main changes is limiting the number of voting members on Regional Council to 17, so that some of the present appointed

positions will become non-voting ones, and the branch delegates will be non-voting positions.

- Librarian, Margaret Greer, has been very busy in recent weeks organising the changes to the classifications of books in the library. When these changes are completed a new library list will be printed and sent to all members. This should make it much easier for members to find the type of book that they need.
- Publicity Officer, Jane Fountain, reported that she was still organising a certificate of appreciation to be sent to organisations or persons who had been especially helpful in publicity for the Society.
- The March Bulletin has been received from the printers and will be sent out as soon as the membership renewal forms are enclosed.
- Tentative plans are being made by Excursions Officer, David Hockings, for an excursion to Gurulmundi on the weekend of 27-28 September, the weekend after the Flower Show.
- Property Officer, Ray Baxter, presented a list of the stored Region property with suggestions of items that should be disposed of.
- It was agreed that 2 new books be purchased for the library, the Census of Queensland Plants and Rainforest Climbing Plants.
- Council has been advised that it may be possible to obtain storage space and a small meeting room at Peace Hall, Albion. Several Councillors will be meeting at the hall in the near future to look at the situation there.
- Logan Branch Delegate, Kerrie Rathie, advised that the new edition of their book, Mangroves to Mountains, will soon be available, and the branch will be applying for another loan from Region to fund part of the initial cost. On this run 3000 copies

are being printed.

- The next RC meeting will be held on Thursday 27 March 2008.

Lorna Murray
Branch Liaison Officer
SGAP Qld Region Inc.

Species List - Mangrove Boardwalk Cairns Airport

Class	Family	Code	Taxon	Common Name
A FERNS & ALLIES				
	Polypodiaceae		<i>Drynaria rigidula</i>	Basket Fern
			<i>Platynerium hillii</i>	Northern Elkhorn Fern
			<i>Pyrrhosia longifolia</i>	
FLOWERING PLANTS-DICOTYLEDONS				
	Apocynaceae		<i>Cynanchum carnosum</i>	
			<i>Gymnanthera oblonga</i>	Harpoon Bud
	Avicenniaceae		<i>Avicennia marina subsp. eucalyptifolia</i>	Grey Mangrove
	Chenopodiaceae		<i>Sarcocornia quinqueflora subsp. quinqueflora</i>	Samphire
			<i>Suaeda australis</i>	
	Combretaceae		<i>Lumnitzera racemosa</i>	White Flowered Black
Mangrove	Loranthaceae		<i>Amyema glabra</i>	Mistletoe
	Lythraceae		<i>Sonneratia alba</i>	Pornupan Mangrove
	Meliaceae		<i>Xylocarpus granatum</i>	Cannonball Mangrove
			<i>Xylocarpus moluccensis</i>	Cedar Mangrove
	Plumbaginaceae		<i>Aegialitis annulata</i>	Club Mangrove
	Rhizophoraceae		<i>Bruguiera gymnorhiza</i>	Orange Mangrove
			<i>Bruguiera parviflora</i>	
			<i>Ceriops tagal</i>	Yellow Mangrove
			<i>Rhizophora apiculata</i>	
			<i>Rhizophora stylosa</i>	Stilt Mangrove
	Rubiaceae	V	<i>Myrmecodia beccarii</i>	Ant Plant
FLOWERING PLANTS-MONOCOTYLEDONS				
	Cyperaceae		<i>Fimbristylis acicularis</i>	
	Orchidaceae		<i>Dockrillia rigida</i>	
			<i>Dockrillia teretifolia</i>	Pencil Orchid