

Bunya Mountains Community Association Inc (BMCAI)
Newsletter
Issue 20- November 2023



Welcome to BMCAI Newsletter-Issue 20



Bunya Mountains Dinner Under the Stars 2023

Welcome to the Bunya Mountains Community Association Inc (BMCAI) Newsletter -Issue no 20, our fourth and final for 2023. Our previous Newsletter (Issue 19) was circulated in August 2023, and a copy can be found on our website at <https://bunyamcainc.wixsite.com/mysite/news>.

These Newsletters are produced following every BMCAI Quarterly Meeting.

*The BMCAI Newsletter also provides the latest news from our two partner community organisations in the Bunyas, **The Bunya Mountains Rural Fire Brigade** and the **Bunya Mountains Natural History Association Inc**. We also share the latest information from the **Bunya Mountains Local Disaster Management Sub-Group**. It is lovely to be able share all this news in one newsletter and be able to give you updates about the community-based activities happening here in the Bunyas.*

*The BMCAI Social, Events and Fundraising Sub-Committee has been very busy this quarter catering for the Official Opening of the Mountain Bike Trail, facilitating a Working Bee in Allan Stirling Park, coordinating a Life Flight First Minutes Matter Workshop and preparing for, and delivering, the **Bunya Mountains Dinner Under the Stars 2023**. Another great event this year! You can read all about it on page 10.*

Thank you again to our very generous contributors who have taken the time to provide information and articles for this Newsletter. There is a wide variety of topics for you to explore. This issue covers the period from August 2023 to November 2023 and leads us into the Christmas New Year break. Thank you for your interest in the Bunya Mountains and the work of BMCAI.... Enjoy the read.

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News from the 3rd Quarterly BMCAI Meeting held on 4th November 2023

The 4th Quarterly meeting for 2023 was convened at Rice's Log Cabin Restaurant

Highlights from the 4th Quarterly meeting for 2023

National Park Report

- It has been a very busy time for local National Parks staff who have been away fighting bushfires from Carnarvon National Park through to the South West. Staff are still busy with everyday work in the Campgrounds and in the Park and continue work on their feral pig management program.
- On 18th October 2023, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service facilitated a public consultation regarding future upgrades of the day use area at Dandabah.


A copy of the presentation can be found on the links below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/2k4tizggemyvtzynr2aga/h?rlkey=q0bizn8i2y4251l8k9ujennww&dl=0>

OR the QR Link

**Dandabah Day Use Area & Campground Concepts –
Community Consultation**

Want to download today's presentation? Follow the QR link:
If you have any questions, please contact the Southwest Queensland
Regional team (qpwsouthernswr.corro@des.qld.gov.au), citing "Bunya
Mountains – Dandabah" as a subject line.



- Following the meeting (6.11.23) Holly Urquhart, Department of Environment and Science, advised
"Questions/feedback are open any time. You can send them directly to me, or to the email address on the last slide of the presentation."

Bunya Mountains Dingo Management Stakeholder Group Meeting Report:

This meeting was convened on 9th September 2023, and was attended by representatives from WDRC, SBRC, QPWS, BPAC, BMT and Rainforest Estates, business operators and residents.

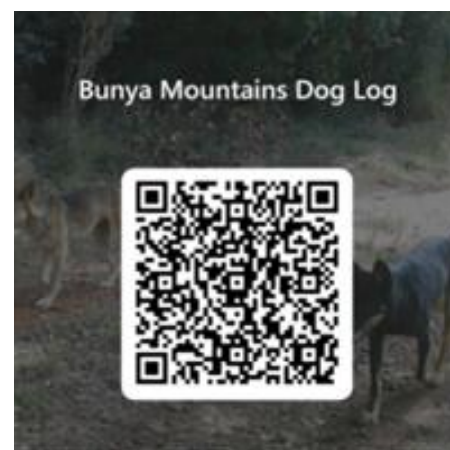
The following topics were covered:

- i. Terms of Reference for the Group were finalised
- ii. Reports provided by each agency and participants on any issues
- iii. The development of a Risk Management Framework template
- iv. Communication and public education: a small Community Education Working Group was formed
- vi. WDRC have developed "A Dog Log" and that was demonstrated at the meeting.

Chris Gaschk, WDRC, provided a presentation on "the Dog Log", how it works, how to access the site, what information can be recorded and how the data will be used

The Dog Log

The QR Code and weblink: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=LaCAPjdyrE259D01h-wDYzJlVDh3r9IiYK83dVcuTNUNEI1VUdHQzJUUDkwQTNUTzdWSkICT0VOQi4u>



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Social and Events Subcommittee Report -Presented by Chair, Brett Mason:

Key Points:

Official Opening of the BM Mountain Bike Track- 2nd September 2023

The Subcommittee provided the catering in the form of a Sausage Sizzle followed by delightful Bunya Nut Cookies (supplied by Poppies).



Life Flight First Minutes Matter Training 27th September 2023:

20 participants had the opportunity to learn new or refresh their knowledge and skills in how to respond when first person on the scene of a medical emergency. This excellent training was provided by Wendy Sullivan, Medical Course Trainer, Life Flight.

A huge thank you also to the Bunya Peoples Aboriginal Corporation (BPAC) for the use of their facilities.

Life Flight have again included Bunya Mountains as a venue in their 2024 training schedule (possibly in October 2024) and we are extremely grateful to them given the relative isolation and distance from emergency response services. Let us know if you have missed

out on this training over the last 2 years but would like to be notified when the date for the 2024 training becomes available. Places are limited to 20 participants.



Allan Stirling Memorial Park Working Bee 13th October 2023-

The South Burnett Regional Council kindly delivered a truck and dog trailer of local mulch at 7am on that morning.

There were plenty of keen workers and much was achieved on the day. We had 2 expert Dingo operators, Greg and Kieran, who moved all of that mulch into place. BMCAI members then raked it into place. There was also lots of tidying up the Bunya Avenue entrance to the Park, seedlings watered and picnic tables scrubbed clean.



Our amazing volunteer wonder workers

Before & After images of the entrance to the Park



Following the Working Bee, the South Burnett Regional Council (SBRC) provided a crew to remove some half fallen and potentially dangerous trees. They also lowered the tree identification/ information signs, so everyone can read them. We have seen an increased number of families picnicking and walking in the Park since the clean-up.

THANK YOU SBRC for your assistance in ensuring that Allan Stirling Memorial Park is a lovely place to visit and thank you to our hard-working volunteers who assisted at the Working Bee.



Bunya Mountains Dinner Under the Stars 2023-18th November 2023 -see full report on the event on pages 10-12.

Roads/ Parks Maintenance Update:

Munro's Camp Hygiene (Footwash) Station: Western Downs Regional Council (WDRC) have advised that the budget for the purchase of the replacement hygiene station for Munro's Camp, has been approved. The Station has now been ordered and will be fitted upon arrival (expect a long lead time due to slow manufacturing of the stations).

Bunya Mountains Road speed reduction signage from Department of Transport and Main Roads (DMRT):

DTMR will be implementing a 40km zone on Bunya Mountains Road between Tolmie Street to the entrance for Rices Log Cabins. This new speed zone signage will be undertaken in the near future.

Western Downs Regional Council: Bunya Mountains /Dalby Road

A Snap, Send, Solve report was submitted in early 2023 regarding the constant flooding of the road. On 2.11. 23, a WDRC Council staff member advised that the pipes under the floodway have been cleared but he feels more pipes are needed. The staff member advised that the camber on the road is wrong and a potential cause for the damming of the storm/ flood water. Council has logged the defects with the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Extremely poor visibility on this road at night, in rainy, thick fog or cloudy conditions.

Side markers and cats eyes are missing so at times you simply cannot see if you might run off the road.

BMCAI will utilise our previous letters to WDRC and TMR (and RACQ) plus any updated information re this matter and again prepare a letter to inform these agencies of the risks to road users and seek remedial action.

BMCAI Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held **2pm Saturday 3rd February 2024**. This will be followed by the first Quarterly Meeting for 2024. The Venue will be advised closer to the date.

A business item for the upcoming AGM: is the additional Management Committee positions:

- Chair of the Social, Events and Fundraising Sub-Committee- Given the pivotal role of this position in the work of BMCAI, the Management Committee extended an invitation to this position to temporarily join the Management Committee in early 2023. To make this position a permanent position on the Management Committee requires the agreement of 75% of Members in attendance at the AGM, so this will be put to the vote;
- Separate the Secretary position into 2 roles, that is, the Secretary and the Publications Officer, to assist in meeting the Associations needs in areas such as the Website, Facebook page, Newsletters, promotion of events etc. Again, this requires Member approval and will be put to the Vote at the AGM.

The meeting was followed by a Social Gathering and Sausage Sizzle. **Many thanks to Annette and Greg Sprenger for the use of their facility for the meeting.**

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Report from the Bunya Mountains Rural Fire Brigade

Fire Brigade Report to 20th BMCAI Newsletter November 2023

We are currently facing the worst fire season since 2019 when the community was concerned about fire cutting off the access roads. The Brigade is as ready as it can be with 4 fully trained fire fighters and 7 trainee fire fighters living on the mountain and another 5 trainees a few hours away.

During the past 2 weeks there has been a total fire ban in the Burnett region.

You could receive a **PREPARE TO LEAVE alert** on your mobile phone. If you are in the area defined in the alert, then take appropriate action. It defines the danger area by the names of roads that border it. The alert is sent to all mobile phones in the danger area but sometimes the message can go to phones outside the danger area because the message system is not pinpoint accurate.

For some good news, I recently signed a new 30-year lease on the Fire Shed and there is some positive news about the toilets. See the report below.

Membership:

Our members continue to battle the challenges of age. 3 members are recovering from serious illnesses and are back helping.

I have spoken to some potential new members. I have more membership application forms on hand.

Training:

We recently had training on the new P3 masks and carbon monoxide detectors that will soon receive. 11 fire fighters and 3 support members attended.

Lynne has organised First Aid training for the weekend of 10th and 11th of February.

Burning:

We attended fires at Bell and Alice Creek (27th October 2023). Peter Taylor, Brett Mason & John Paynter assisted.



Toilets:

The WDRC has agreed to issue a 'Trustee Permit' to allow a toilet block to be positioned behind the Fire Shed, subject to a number of conditions. ASCO has been requested to start the build.

I thank the Rural Fire Brigade Association and particularly David Black for support in achieving this.

Community Involvement:

a. The Brigade attended the Community Resilience & Preparedness Day last Saturday, organised by the Bunya Mountains Local Disaster Management Sub-Group. We took a Fire Truck and erected the gazebo from Area Office. Six BMRFB firefighters handed out pamphlets and spoke to the public about the need to be ready for any emergency and to have a plan and evacuation kit ready.

b. Peter Taylor and I attended a meeting at BPAC hall about future Fire Management on and around the Bunyas. Landholders, BPAC people and QFES representatives also attended.

Fire Shed & Trucks:

a. The Fire Shed now has air conditioning in the bay where the kitchen is located. Shed Manager, Peter Weekes, is preparing to close off this bay from the other bay. Kingaroy Plumbing Works installed a gas stove and gas bottles



cage, so food can be cooked if there is an emergency and a power outage. Our generator can be plugged into the power board for a limited amount of power.

Breakfast prior to the September meeting successfully tested our ability to cater for a group.

b. Trucks and equipment are maintained ready to go with different members sharing the load.

I thank all members of the Brigade for your support.

John Learmont, Chairman and First Officer,

Bunya Mountains Rural Fire Brigade

Thank you Furies. Your efforts are appreciated by all of us!

Report from the Bunya Mountains Natural History Association (NHA)

The deciduous trees are waking up

Have you noticed? The Bats-wing Coral Trees on the 3 roads up to the Bunyas, have flowers on them. This does not happen every year. The little leaves are now beginning to appear. This is how it happens on most deciduous trees. The pollinators get a better view of the flowers before the leaves appear.

The Lacebark trees are adorned with beautiful pink flowers. The Flame trees are a brilliant red colour. The Silky Oak trees are covered with flowers like the gold at the end of the rainbow.

The White Cedar trees had their delicate mauve flowers in early spring and now have a coat of new leaves.

The Giant Stingers are dropping leaves now and in December the flowers will appear.

This is a lovely time to be at the Bunyas.

By John Learmont

Bunya Mountains Natural History Assoc Inc



WEEKEND LAMINGTON NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION (LNHA) MEMBERS' 26-27 AUGUST 2023

Bunya Mountains Natural History Association members were invited to the LNHA members' weekend themed - Fire in Wet Sclerophyll Forest. Sandy and John Learmont and Ruth and Graeme Wright attended this weekend.

We arrived on Friday 25th August and stayed at Suzanne and Steve Noakes home. On Saturday morning at The Pottery Shed, John Learmont introduced our group and we were warmly welcomed by Members of LNHA. Rod Fensham was the leader and guest speaker. Rod is an ecologist who has published extensively on the flora and vegetation of Queensland. He is also a Professor at the University of Queensland and a Principal Botanist at the Queensland Herbarium. He spoke on Fire in Wet Sclerophyll Forest (see more detailed article below). Rod has published the ACE Guide to Eucalypts Brisbane which is designed to make it as easy as possible to identify species.



Suzanne Noakes, vice president of the LNHA gave the introduction.

After Rod's talk on Saturday we had lunch and this was followed by a walk to look at and identify some of the local eucalypts. We had drinks and nibbles at Coomera Terrace, then moved back to the Pottery Shed for dinner followed by a LNP Themed Games Night. The next morning breakfast was provided, and John and Sandy did a wonderful job as BBQ chefs.

It was a great weekend thanks to the generous hospitality of the Noakes and the LNHA. We really appreciated Rod Fensham for his talk and later conversations which were informative while entertaining and led to many



interesting discussions. It was also inspiring to see what a great community there is at Binna Burra and the hard work (mostly volunteering) put in by locals to fight the 2019 fires and help to rebuild after the devastation. Resilience and teamwork at its best!!



Rod Fensham giving his presentation.



John Learmont talked about Bunya Mountains NHA.



Steve Noakes, spoke about the community and the recovery process since the fires.

Summary of talk on Fire and Rainforest/Eucalypt Dynamics by Professor Rod Fensham

Rod gave a stimulating talk on his recent research into fire and rainforest ecology which was initiated following the recent 2019 fires that decimated the Binna Burra Lodge at Lamington National Park (LNP). Over many years it has been an active field of research to explain how fire-sensitive rainforest and fire-tolerant eucalypt forest can co-exist in a fire-prone landscapes such as LNP and indeed our own Bunya Mountains. He described the existing forest types present at LNP which consist of the pure rainforest, the pure Eucalypt Forest, and the transitional zone where both rainforest and Eucalypt species co-exist (called Wet Sclerophyl Forest -WSF). Rod's research has shown that the rainforest is a lot more fire retardant than the WSF owing to the lower flammability of leaf material, lower fuel loads, very high turnover of the leaf litter, higher humidity, and lower wind speed (especially during extreme fire events). The coexistence of Eucalypt canopies with rainforest mid-stories to form WSF is possible by recognising that rare fire events facilitated by higher fuel loads are essential to the formation and existence of the 'giant' Eucalypt emergents present in the WSF. Interestingly, Rod showed rainfall and daily Fire Hazard Index data which indicated that the Sept 2019 event at LNP was no more extreme than for other extreme fire events dating back some 120+ years. While some of the pure rainforest was burnt at LNP, he also believes that the severity of damage was exaggerated owing to inclusion of WSF as rainforest in older mapping surveys.

From my observations of the Binna Burra lodge area, it was evident that it was located in the middle of a large segment of WSF and hence was more prone to damage from extreme fire conditions. The pure rainforest area (where many of the walks are located at LNP) is adjacent to the Binna Burra lodge and was not affected by the 2019 fires.

Rod is a very interesting character and a fountain of knowledge on rainforest ecology and botany. We found out he has also done a lot of research at the Bunya Mountains back in the 1990's-early 2000's where he looked at reasons for the existence of the Balds adjacent to the BM rainforest. We have invited Rod to visit the BM sometime soon to share some of these experiences with the NHA and BMCAI groups.



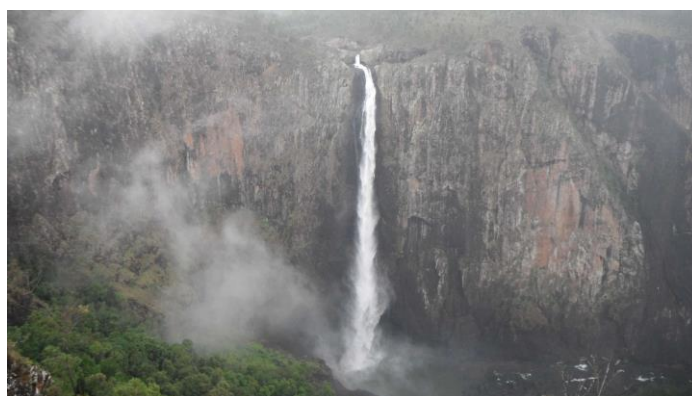
Graeme, Rod and John engrossed in tree discussions.

The Wallaman Falls

The Wallaman Falls are in the Girringun National Park, west of Ingham in north Queensland, at an altitude of 540 metres above sea level.

They are the longest single drop waterfalls in Australia, falling 268 metres into a pool 20 metres deep.

To give the photo some perspective, the little waterfall above the main falls is 70 metres high, and the Big Falls on the Bunyas are 90 metres high.



By John Learmont,
Bunya Mountains Natural History Assn. Inc.



Townships That Went to War by BMCAI Member, Christine Howard

Each time I drive through the Maclagan township at the Bunya Mountains' foothills, I become more intrigued by its history. The township, with a population of approximately 340, has a town hall, corner store and church, and a pub in the neighbouring Quinalow. I stop at Maclagan's store on most trips up the mountain to grab a bite before making the last short leg of my journey. I love the store, and walking through the front doors, I feel transported back a few decades with memorabilia every way I look. There is a well-kept park within a short distance, and it always seems the perfect place to sit and eat what I have bought.

The front of the park is a monolith with the words 'IN MEMORIAM of the Soldiers from this District who made the Supreme Sacrifice' inscribed on one side and 'This monument was erected by the residents of Maclagan & Quinalow District in honour of the soldiers who enlisted in the Great War 1914-1918'. On each of the four sides of the structure, lists of names are carved into the stone under the headings 1914-1918, 1939-1945, Korea and Vietnam.



I took the time this trip to read and count 103 names. During the Second World War alone, 80 lives were lost in the district. Many surnames were engraved there twice, three times, or even four.

Think about that for a moment. Think about a small country town and neighbouring district who sent their men to war, and 103 never returned. Fathers and sons, brothers and cousins. The men of the town. Young men, who not only believed they were doing the right thing but wanted to go, knowing they were doing something honourable and likely wanting to prove they were men and follow in the footsteps of those they respected. I may be naive, and the loss included women, though the monument only mentions the soldiers eluding to men in the day who went to war.

Now, take a moment to think of that loss. The impact of those lives lost. The psychological grief that individuals and the community would have felt. The physical and financial impact of men who ran the properties and young men who did the manual labour. The social impact of a community without men has no way of procreating and building a future generation. The collective sadness, depression, guilt, anger and overall hurt of those left behind and the lucky few who returned. Though I imagine the few who returned felt nothing lucky about it. There is too much to bear, and I am surprised there is anything left of Maclagan eighty years on.

I now have tears in my eyes and gratitude in my heart, and I do hope the next time you drive through the towns of Maclagan and Quinalow or any other similar township, you stop to read the names and think for a moment about the sacrifice that was made.

THANK YOU CHRISTINE

Bunya Mountains Local Disaster Management Sub-Group:

The Sub-Group met on 12th October at the BPAC Hall, with representatives from Emergency Management Queensland, Queensland Ambulance Service, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, State Emergency Services, Rural Fire Service, Queensland Police Service, Queensland Parks & Wildlife Services, Bunya Peoples Aboriginal Corporation, South Burnett Regional Council, and BMCAI. The Bush fires in Western Downs, so WDRC members were unable to attend.

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Sub-Group Meeting Outcomes:

Efforts to have the Fire Shed available as a Critical Incident Control Centre, should a disaster occur here on the Bunyas, are continuing:

- Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) Area Office reassure us that the toilet is on its way
- The need for a reliable and effective power source should the Bunyas lose all power is still being pursued – SBRC willing to apply for Queensland Reconstruction Authority funds but because the Fire Shed sits in WDRC area, then the application has to come from the Western Downs. The priority will be low given the massive damage that Western Downs have had with the current fires. Carol is working with Donna Brown (SBRC and Coordinator for this Sub-Group) to consider other options.
- QFES have installed wi-fi in the fire shed

Situation Reporting Training:

- This training followed the Meeting and enabled local members to gain skills in preparing reports to go up the Disaster Management chain so as to gain access to the resources and assistance that might be needed on the ground to support and keep people safe if a disaster strikes.

Personal preparation- Bushfire Resiliency Rating:

- Recently featured on the ABC Program, "The Drum", a program featured a new app that lets you self assess your property's Bushfire Resiliency Rating in a bid to raise awareness and get people thinking about their own safety and how they can manage it better.
- The website address is <https://resiliencerating.org/>. It takes about 20 minutes or so to answer questions about your house and surroundings and then it gives you a rating and suggestions on how to improve things.

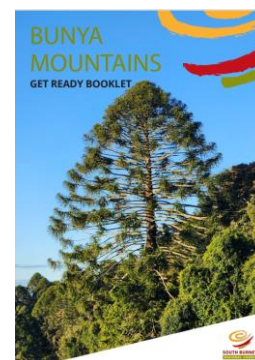
Community Disaster Resilience and Preparedness Day 18th November 2023:

The Bunya Mountains Local Disaster Management Sub-Group facilitated this event to raise awareness and enable residents and visitors to meet with emergency services organisations with the aim of assisting them to be ready and prepare should a disaster strike their area.

The Sub-Group launched the BUNYA MOUNTAINS GET READY BOOKLET

If you would like a digital or printed copy of this Booklet, then please email bunyamcainc@gmail.com. The Booklet is just 7 pages, large print, quick reference guide covering topics such as preparing for bushfires, storm and cyclones, floods, heatwaves local emergency contact numbers and Council Dashboard links.

BMCAI wish to thank members Christine and Mitchell Howard for being our representatives for the day.





Now for a Report on the Bunyas Event of the Year for 2023!



Bunya Mountains Dinner Under the Stars 2023

The BMCAI has a small Sub-Committee of just 6 dedicated and hardworking members who each year coordinate and facilitate this event. Those members are Brett Mason (Chair), Annette Sprenger, Meg Noack, Russell Sturgess, Carl Curtain and myself (Carol W). It is also important to mention that their long suffering spouses also help out prior to the event for the massive set up tasks and post the event for the equally massive pull down and clean-up of the site. So, a huge thank you to Greg Sprenger, Peter Weekes, Noel Noack and Rosie Rasmussen. We also want to take this opportunity to thank Sandy Learmont and the Sprenger family members and friends who helped set up, clean up and pack up afterwards. We wish to say a special thank you to **Janelle Petersen**, who worked with the wait staff for the evening, then donated her wages to the Association for the cause and came along and worked really hard on the Sunday cleaning up. (This is a beautiful example of community at its best!)

This is the third year of this event and the event has grown from 100 guests in 2021, to 150 guests in 2022 and 200 guests in 2023. The Sub-Committee seeks out great chefs with a focus on local food products and this year we were honoured to have a local, Chef Roberta Schablon, Locavore and amazing chef, a great band to provide the entertainment (RYZA are the best – we love you guys), the bar service provided by South Burnett Wine Industries Assoc Inc and exciting, sometimes unusual, but high quality, items for fund raiser auctions. Gavin (Spud) Jones and Scott (Hook) Henschen provide entertaining auctions as they bounce off each other to get the best price for the live auction items.

In 2021 and 2022, the Sub-Committee was reasonably sure that the weather would be fine in November and we proceeded to have our tables laid out "Under the Stars" (although anything can happen in the Bunyas!). However, by mid year 2023, we could see that the weather patterns this year were very different and far more unpredictable than usual. Therefore, to ensure the comfort of our Dinner guests, we made the decision to hire a marquee. This was a very expensive exercise and whilst it didn't rain on the night, there was partial cloud cover (and the early threat of rain) and it did shield our guests from a cold wind that came up during the evening. Most guests indicated that they were very happy with that the marquee. A couple of days later and we are now experiencing lots of the most welcome rain in the region.

There is a huge expectation that this event will continue to occur each year. It is always a great evening and is the major BMCAI fundraiser for the year as we work towards creating a community space to meet, recreate, workshop etc. The cost of hiring equipment (everything from teaspoons to portaloos and the marquee), means that it is a very expensive exercise. With the amazing sponsorship we have had across the past 3 years, we could have almost purchased (with the exception of the marquee and portaloos) all the gear we need but because the Association does not have a building/ facility to store

Our Fantastic Sponsors- Thank You for your support

stanwell Stanwell /Tarong has a genuine interest in seeing the communities in which they operate grow and thrive. They regularly provide support and encouragement to our regional communities. Thank you Stanwell/ Tarong/ Meandu Mine

RES RES (Renewable Energy Systems) is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, employs more than 2,500 people and is active in 11 countries, with the Tarong West Wind Farm development underway. Thank you for your contribution to this event.

WAMBO WIND FARM Wambo Wind Farm is a renewable energy generation project located near Jandowae, at a site chosen for its excellent wind resources and attractive grid connectivity. The project is a 50:50 joint venture between Cubico Sustainable Investments, a major investor in the renewable energy sector globally and Stanwell, a Queensland Government-owned electricity generator.

RICE'S LOG CABINS We wish to sincerely thank Greg and Annette Sprenger from Rice's Log Cabins for opening up their home and beautiful property to host the Bunya Mountains Dinner Under the Stars 2023. Your continued support generosity greatly assists BMCAI to meet our goals for our Bunya Mountains community and the Region.

MITCHELL Mitchell Water is an Australian Company, privately owned and operated, dedicated water and energy infrastructure construction company. Mitchell has grown to be Australia's leading specialist pipeline contractor, and built some of Australia's largest water & CSG projects extending to an accumulative total of over 25,000km of pipe and pumping stations, treatment plants, dams, storages and infrastructure.

KINGAROY BODY WORKS Kingaroy Body Works is a community minded local business that contributes greatly to community organisations and events. Thank you Kingaroy Body Works for sponsoring Dinner Under the Stars 2023.

Bunyias The Bunyas Tavern is locally owned by the Curtain family of nearby Boyneside. Employing over 20 staff, the business strives to provide a unique hospitality experience to visitors from Australia and around the world.

We also wish to sincerely thank both the South Burnett and Western Downs Regional Councils and all other small businesses and members who donated goods and vouchers for our Auctions tonight. Without your valued support, we would not be able to raise funds and continue our work to improve the liveability of our community here in the Bunya Mountains.



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goods and equipment etc, we need to continue seeking sponsorship each year to conduct this event.

So, we are extremely grateful to our fabulous major sponsors and this year they were: Stanwell/ Tarong/ Meandu Mine, RES, Wambo Wind Farm, Rice's Log Cabins, Mitchell Water, Kingaroy Body Works, the South Burnett and Western Downs Regional Councils and the Bunyas.

Whilst the sponsorship funds are utilised to cover the expenses associated with delivering the event, the live and silent auctions become our fund raisers for the evening. We received many donations of items for our auctions from many local businesses, members and friends of the Association.

For the live auction, these items included 3 accommodation packages at the Bunyas and 1 at the Sunshine Coast, a beautiful octagonal Coffee Table made by Ian Harris, amazing paintings by talented artists with connections to the Bunyas, Jen Foxton, Geraldine Mackenzie, Tania Corbet, Erica Moore and Donna Glass, great wine packages, a mountain bike, a beautiful live Christmas tree along with some vintage Christmas decorations, a beautiful Antique Steamer Trunk, A Mindfulness Program, signed Astrophotography prints, fabulous camping packages and a visit to the Life Flight hanger for a family of 4.

THANK YOU to all our amazing donors- you make our fundraising easy and an absolute pleasure

Images of some of the live auction lots below.





For the Silent auction we received, for example, a wide variety of products including food and beauty hampers, a large Husqvarna tool box, hand crafted items including a handcrafted bunya wood grazing board, 2 cheese and pate knife sets, dining, meat and plant vouchers/ packages, Empire Theatre passes and a gin tasting experience. Here is the list. **A huge Thank You to these very generous and fabulous donors.** We greatly appreciated this fabulous collection of silent auction items.

Item	Item/ Description	Kind donor/s
1	Foxy Fun Christmas Stocking & Go-Kart Ride & Mem Fox Book "Possum Magic"	Carol Weekes, Meg Noack & Kathy Taylor
2	Christmas Stocking, Poodle, books, game & Christmas decorations	Carol Weekes, Meg Noack & John Lobban
3	Entertaining Set: Handcrafted Cheese & Pate Knife Set & Bunya Timber Cheese Board & Ramekins	Ross Plant, Noel Noack
4	Top of the Range- Husqvarna 76l Toolbox	Ollies Mower Service
5	Half Lamb Box Voucher from Bunya Range Lamb	Shane & Nancy Nixon Bunya Range Lamb
6	Double Pass to Kitty Kats with bubbles and choccs	Empire Theatre, Meg Noack
7	Pips & Cherries \$100 Voucher	Annette & Kate, Pips' n' Cherries, Bell
8	Bunya Native Plants, 2 x \$25 Ramsea Vouchers,	Annette Sprenger, Ramsea Nursery
9	Lightforce Spotlights	Annette Sprenger
10	Royal Flying Doctor First Aid Kit	Margaret and Mark Huston

No	Item/ Description	Kind Donor/s
11	Bunya Mountain Trail Bike Kit -Apparel, Camp Chairs	WDRC, Oztrail
12	Personal Pamper Pack- bath-room supplies & Bottle of Gin	Katrina Rowe, Meg Noack & Gerald Tooth
13	Winter Wooly Warmers—Scarf, Blanket, Beanie & Port	Margaret Harris, Carol Weeks & Meg Noack
14	Creative Artists Packs - 2 art pieces, resources	Janelle Petersen, Meg Noack & Annette Sprenger
15	Gift Pack of Nut Butters and Oils	Plenty Oils
16	Gift Pack of Nut Butters and Oils	Plenty Oils
17	Gin Tasting Experience for 4 people - \$100	Clovely Estate

**And the Lucky Door Prize was →
Thank You Poppies.**



Gift Voucher

To the winner of the "Dinner under the Stars 2023"

We hope you enjoy this voucher that entitles you to Food and Drinks
at Poppies on the Hill Café



To the value of \$100

Voucher must be presented to Poppies staff to be redeemed
(no change given – running tab ok).
Valid until November 30, 2025
Signed: Sus unwin

Enjoy freshly prepared food & great coffee at Poppies on the Hill Café
Poppies on the Hill Café also serve cold, drinks, tea, breakfasts, delicious
homemade cakes, snacks, and lunches

Daily 8.00am – 4.00pm Phone 46683003

We wish to sincerely thank all our donors and contributors to the Live and Silent Auctions. All funds raised from the auctions go directly into the Community Centre "Building Fund" and this year the Auctions raised another \$12,527!





SOUTH BURNETT WASTE Management Strategy :

For those property owners on the South Burnett side of the Range, the SB Waste Management Strategy is now open for resident/ property owner input and feedback.

Here is a copy of the signs that have been installed recently.

Feedback closes on 1st December 2023, so just 1 week to provide input if you wish to do so.



Thank you for your company -we hope you enjoyed reading the latest news from the Bunya Mountains Community Organisations.

Do you have a nature story, general interest story or travel yarn to share with our Newsletter readers?

We'd love to hear it...send it to bunyamcainc@gmail.com for inclusion in a future newsletter.



We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our readers a Very Happy Christmas and Fabulous New Year 2024. Stay well and Stay Safe and we look forward to catching up in 2024.

We would also like to thank you for your support and we look forward to many more conversations and fun times in the future.

Bunya Mountains Community Association Inc (BMCAI)
Newsletter
Issue 20- November 2023



***Do you own property or reside on the Bunya Mountains?
If yes, you are invited to join the BMCAI. As our membership grows, so does our
ability to lobby Government, local Council and other organisations for improved
services and conditions on the Bunya Mountains. Your active participation will
help enhance the Bunya Mountains experience for all who live, visit, work and play
here.***

Become a member so you can have your say and become involved in future activities. All Bunya Mountains property owners are welcome to make application to become a member. Membership is just \$10 per person, \$20 per couple or \$30 per family per annum (1st January to 30 December each year. If joining between 1st July and 30 December, then it will be \$5 per person for that first part year).

If you would like to become a member, we are happy to send you an Application for Membership Form. Request a Form by emailing us at: bunyamcainc@gmail.com

It has been fun chatting with you. Please feel free to provide us with feedback and some thoughts about how we can improve/ enhance this Newsletter. Send your ideas to bunyamcainc@gmail.com

***We'll touch base with you again in February 2024 following our
Annual General Meeting and first meeting for 2024.***



"Footprints in the Dark"

Image kindly provided by Donna Glass,
Bunya Mountains