



Magnetic Island
Community Development
Association



The Latest MICDA Working Groups News July 2022

Hi <<First Name>>>,

Welcome to the latest news from our dedicated MICDA Working Groups. We have a jam packed issue, so you may want to grab a cuppa and sit down for a fascinating read!

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Ecosystems Monitoring:** CAP Project, Mangrove Monitoring, Trek for Trash, Reef Monitoring and Maggie On Tap
- **Transport:** What are the future transport needs of Magnetic Island?
- **Zero Waste:** Your voice matters, Threads collaborative work, plus the latest recycling news and tips
- **Muso's:** Supporting first timers and 'old' timers
- **Reef Assist Project:** Replanting and fostering natives in Maggie Island Creeks, plus Tree Planting Day
- **Energy:** Objectives that reflect what our community needs
- **Sustainable Development Planning and Water Working Groups Update**
- **Sustainable Tourism:** Ecotourism highlighting our World Heritage natural, cultural and social values
- **West Point Cemetery Project:** Highlighting our heritage
- **Beach Scrub Project Update**
- **Marine:** Removing coral eating Drupella snails, protected Humphead Maori wrasse and MINT update
- **MOUA:** Will GBRMPA assess the latest MOUA proposal for Alma Bay?
- **Townsville Port Update**
- **Wallaby Refuge:** Thank you Steve Melvin
- **MIFCO Update**
- **National Park Volunteers:** Fields of weeds are a big challenge for our volunteers

- **Community Garden Update**
- **School and Community Pool Update**

DIARY DATES:

- **Friday 15th July: Mangrove Monitoring**
- **Sunday 17th July: Trek for Trash** 9am to 2pm
- **Sunday 17th July: Bush Poets Fundraiser for MIFCO** 2pm to 4.30pm
- **Thursday 28th July: Maggie On Tap Island Pub Talks - Cultural Awareness of Yunbenun** 6.30pm
- **Sunday 31st July: Tree Planting Day, Nelly Bay** Time TBA
- **Sunday 7th of August: Meet the Zero Waste Team** at the HSB Markets
- **Saturday 10th September: Sounds of Kearney Youth Talent Quest**
- **September (Date TBA): Reef Monitoring**

Congratulations to all of our hard working teams and happy reading! We look forward to seeing you at the some of the fun events above.

Les Sampson - MICDA President

*P.S.: If you have anything that you need to discuss with MICDA, send an email to Les Sampson at micda.president@gmail.com or a letter to **MICDA President, PO Box 133 Magnetic Island QLD 4819.***

EVENTS & DIARY DATES

A MAGGIE BEACH
CLEAN-UP

Trek

FOR TRASH
FLORENCE BAY

Sunday 17 July
9am - 2pm

Meet at The Forts
Walk carpark

LEARN HOW TO
IDENTIFY MICRO-PLASTICS
FROM A HANDFUL OF SAND
THANKS TO AUSMAP AUSTRALIA

THE MORNING

Enjoy the walk from The Forts to
Florence Bay - grade 3 moderate
walk, approx 3km one way

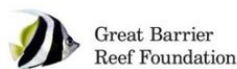
Join in a beach clean-up, help
sort & identify rubbish for the
Australian Marine Debris
Initiative Database

Jump in for a swim or snorkel
Refreshments & gloves provided

Return walk to The Forts
BYO hat, snacks and water



A Community Action Plan event - Our World Heritage Island
To join, email your name to ecosystemsMI@outlook.com






FUNDRAISER

Townsville Bush Poet Mates MIFCO Fundraiser


Townsville Bush Poetry Mates presents an afternoon of Bush Poetry in aid of the Magnetic Island Fauna Care Organisation (MIFCO) on **Sunday 17th July from 2pm to 4.30pm at Amaroo on Mandalay**. Light refreshments will be available, with a raffle drawn at 3pm.

Tickets are \$20 adults and \$15 concession, available at:

- Island Fever Surf Wear (Horseshoe Bay)
 - Smuggler's Wine Bar, Nelly Bay
 - Ocean Jewels Nelly Bay
-



Maggie on Tap
Island Pub Talks



**Cultural
Awareness**
on Yunbenun
Magnetic Island
Working with Wulgurukaba
Let's have the conversation

Thursday 28 July
Join Troy Johnson and share in culture
Up the Garden Path Bar, Amaroo On Mandalay
Starts at 6.30pm - It's Maggie on Tap!

MAGGIE ON TAP - ISLAND PUB TALKS

Cultural Awareness on Yunbenun Thursday 28th July

NOTE: Please check back at [EcosystemsMI Facebook page](#) closer to the date to confirm the venue for the above event.



*Sounds of
Kearney*

YOUTH TALENT QUEST
Saturday 10th September 2022

MUSIC CONTEST

Sounds of Kearney Youth Talent Quest

On Saturday 10th September the annual Sounds of Kearney Youth Talent Quest will be staged at Mens' Shed before the monthly gig. Open to all school students in any genre (other than dance) the Kearney family continue to support this event. Anne Kearney was a great supporter of Musos' and is still missed. She acted as Treasurer for a number of years. Look out for posters in late July explaining how to enter or visit [Magnetic Island Musos' Club on Facebook](#).

MICDA WORKING GROUPS UPDATE



ECOSYSTEMS MONITORING

Ecosystems Monitoring - CAP Project

Thank you to everyone who joined the Monitoring on Magnetic Presentations and Workshop. We were delighted to have 16 local organisations join us to share valuable information on their monitoring efforts on Yunbenun. The following day at the Workshop we came together to work through six main topics of interest to begin developing new community activities for local ecosystem monitoring. The six topics included:

- Water quality (creeks, lagoons, bays)
- Marine monitoring (coral, seaweed, marine life)
- Lowlands (bird surveys, weeds, erosion)
- Marine debris (beach clean-ups, microplastics)
- Invasive species (Crazy yellow ants, Cane toads, weeds)
- Mangroves monitoring (long plot training, crab cameras, boat surveys)

We now have three initiatives underway and we invite you to register your interest to join.

1. Mangrove Monitoring - Friday 15 July

Join us for a day out with MangroveWatch and learn techniques in long plot monitoring to help protect our mangroves on Maggie. [Contact us](#) for more information on how you can get involved now or further down the track. Opportunities will continue throughout the year.

2. Trek for Trash Beach Clean-up Adventure: Sunday 17 July

It's a beach cleanup! Enjoy a bushwalk first as we trek along The Forts Walk, down the new QPWS track and out to Florence Bay (grade 3 - moderate/hard). Learn how to identify, sort and analyse marine debris with Tangaroa Blue and AUSMAP. **For event details or to register, email your name to Jo Marks at: ecosystemsMI@outlook.com**

3. Reef Monitoring - This Spring

Join in a guided snorkel at Alma and Nelly Bays as we identify and begin monitoring a range of corals and marine life with the team at GBRMPA. These September holidays, learn how to be a marine biologist for a day and discover some of the wonders of our fringing reefs.

Maggie on Tap Island Pub Talks are a hit! Last Thursday of the month

Each month we're very happy to see more and more people joining us for our Pub Talks. Enjoy a presentation on a different topic at a different venue every month. Local researchers and experts are invited to share their insights across a range of Island topics right here on Maggie! So far we have enjoyed learning about our turtles, seagrass, fringing reefs and sea mammals. Come along for an educational and fun evening with Maggie on Tap. The last Thursday of the month from 6.30pm.

For more information on any of these events, email Jo Marks at: ecosystemsMI@outlook.com and follow our [Our World Heritage Island Facebook page](#).



NEW TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

What are the future transport needs of Magnetic Island?

The Transport Working Group with the working title MIYGT (Magnetic Island Yunbenan Group for Transport) commenced deliberations 5th June 2022. The group has arisen as one of the directions recommended in the decarbonisation study completed in 2021.

The group is open to more participants from our community to join the 10 interested community members leading the considerations.

The group has listed issues that, in our opinion, require consideration in driving (no pun intended) change in Island transport to better address current and future needs, whilst improving sustainability of the island.

One of the first actions of the group is to canvas the Island community for the key transport issues, as more input will provide focus and efficiency. **An online survey will be published shortly, so keep an eye out on the [MICDA Group Facebook page](#).**

The group is considering issues in:

- Transport infrastructure
- Modes of transport
- Transport systems
- Planning approaches that address immediate, mid term and long term outcomes.

MIYGT is just getting started and we are keen to hear as many voices as possible in our transport deliberations. **If this is something that interests you, get in touch with Rob Dorgelo at: robert.dorgelo@gmail.com**



ZERO WASTE Your Voice Matters!

Feel free to come forward with feedback, stories, and links you find that can reduce our rubbish for landfill. You can voice your opinion on the [Zero Waste Facebook page](#). If you want to get information from us, please go to our MI Zero Waste website at: zerowastemi.org.au

Threads update - A collaborative work

The final triton size is huge at 3m and will be suspended from the ceiling. We have been very busy with weekly workshops in support of the Australian Institute of Marine Science 50th Anniversary. For more details on the ghost netting background, check out last [Newsletter in April 2022](#).

Some of the latest news and tips that you will find in the [Zero Waste July 2022 Newsletter](#):

1. It's easy to recycle soft plastic. (Soft plastic you can scrunch in your hand).
2. Beer drinker's recycle challenge for beer caps.
3. Plastic lids and what to do with them.

Come and join Zero Waste!

If you want to send an inquiry or are interested in joining our group, please contact **Julie** at: juliewoodlock51@gmail.com - We are currently doing a group shuffle so be patient, and if you're interested in knowing when our meetings are please let Julie know.

Happy recycling from the Maggie Island Zero Waste group - we might see you at the markets at Horseshoe Bay on the Sunday 7th of August!



MUSOS

Supporting first timers and 'old' timers in music

Musos' club has held successful gigs at Men's Shed over the last few months. Success for us is people turning up and performing to an appreciative audience.

The number of attendees continues to be (over the course of an evening) around the 30-50 count. Our costs are covered by donations on the night and the contributions via 'the bucket' go to rent and maintenance costs.

The management committee is continually encouraged by the 'first timers' who perform. For some it is their first time ever to be on a stage, and for others it's their first performance at Musos'.

Remember to put Saturday 10th September in your diaries for the annual Sounds of Kearney Youth Talent Quest!

[Like Magnetic Island Musos' Club on Facebook](#) to keep up to date with our activities.



REEF ASSIST PROJECT

Replanting and fostering natives in Maggie Island creeks

Reef Assist continues on Maggie Island as we have received confirmation that a third parcel of funding will be allocated to us. This will mean the group of 8 part time weeders will be able to continue their great work of weeding, watering and replanting and fostering natives in the creeks of Magnetic Island. While we have several sites across the Island, our main work has been at Kelly Street and a newer area near the Butterfly Walk at Horseshoe Bay.

Weeds removed from the sites are stock piled, and through the [VRM process](#) are transformed into humisoil. We now have a pile of finished humisoil which the team are using when they plant new natives and to nurture natives that we find when weeding. As part of our ongoing work we are lucky enough to work with the Arcadia Coastcare group and assist the great works that this group undertakes. Our next parcel of funding will see us working until the end of November and we hope beyond!

Tree Planting Day - Sunday 31st July

We are looking to do a small planting on Tree Planting Day, Sunday 31st July in Nelly Bay but are still working out the details with council – we will let you know when we are sure of when and where through the [MICDA Group Facebook page](#).

Thank you for all the support of the local community encouraging our efforts and donating pots to help us propagate natives from locally sourced seeds. **For more information on the Reef Assist Project**, please visit micda.com.au/reef-assist



ENERGY

Objectives that reflect what our community needs

As a relatively new group on the Island, the Energy Working Group has been meeting and discussing overall objectives and ensuring that they are consistent with community and stakeholder feedback.

The [overall objectives](#) have the aspirational goal of achieving a totally renewable energy supply for Magnetic Island within a number of years.

The group has been discussing how to increase the amount of solar generation on the Island. To this end, a brainstorming session was held and a solar generation roadmap is being worked out. The group has also been looking into what other community energy groups have achieved and has reached out to some of these to find out what worked best.

We have also been investigating energy storage and microgrid technologies with a view to obtaining funding in the future for a pilot project on the Island.

If you would like to be involved in this project, please contact Joe Niven on 0414 285 214 or at joseph.niven@gmail.com

Sustainable Development Planning & Water Working Groups

A new Sustainable Development Planning Group and a new Water Group will soon be forming. If you would like more information, contact Les on 0408 803 961 or at: micda.president@gmail.com



SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Ecotourism highlighting our World Heritage natural, cultural and social values

This project is well underway with two rounds of community consultation by the consultant company having been completed. The next step is to consult with the community on a draft Tourism Plan and the project aim is to have that plan finalised by the end of August 2022. There is a strong theme coming through highlighting our Island's World Heritage natural, cultural and social values as the attraction to our destination. Ecotourism will feature in this approach. **For more information contact Les Sampson at: micda.president@gmail.com**



Highlighting our heritage

If a trails network continues to be established, we look forward to the historic site of the old Quarantine Station and the West Point Cemetery featuring heavily in a Picnic Bay to West Point trail.

Beach Scrub Project Update

This project is progressing as normal with funding still available until next year to employ workers. If you would like more information, visit micda.com.au/beach-scrub-project



MARINE

Removing coral eating Drupella snails

Coral eating Drupella snails are around in numbers and MICDA is looking into a permit from GBRMPA to enable us to remove them. Currently these snails can be collected from Blue zones such as Nelly Bay, so long as numbers do not exceed Fisheries bag limits of 30. To find Drupella, look for white scars on corals and the pink snails (see photo above left). Sightings recorded through the [Eye On The Reef](#) app can help us target removal once a permit is obtained. A permit will allow us to take these snails from all no-take Green Zone bays such as Geoffrey Bay, Alma and Florence Bays.

Protected Humphead Maori wrasse is a divers friend

Also keep an eye out for this incredible fish in Geoffrey and Nelly Bays. The fish (see photo above middle) is a juvenile Humphead Maori wrasse, and grows into those big blue-green fish (see photo above right) you often see in tourism publications. This fish is a protected species, so will hopefully hang around the bays and befriend divers over time.

MINT update

Marine turtle strandings

Marine turtle strandings have been low over the last few months and we hope it stays this way! Our last turtle Louisa has been released allowing us time to undertake

some maintenance works at the clinic. The MINT Turtle team have continued to amaze with their dedication and hard work – thanks Team Turtle!

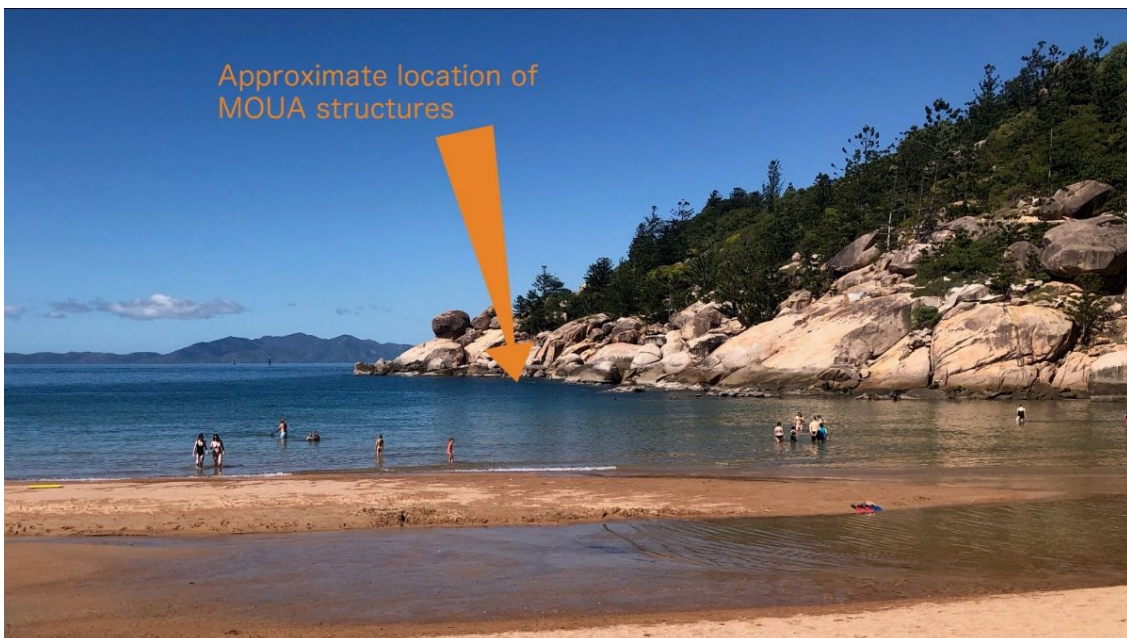
\$60,584 Queensland Gambling Fund grant success for mobile treatment facility for injured wildlife!

Through MICDA, MINT was successful in obtaining a grant for \$60,584 to purchase a mobile turtle treatment facility for injured wildlife. The grant from the Queensland Gambling Fund will be used to create a medical facility on a trailer that will be used for treating injured sea turtles. Currently turtles are treated outdoors on a folding table.

The facility will also be made available to other wildlife groups for the treatment of sick and injured wildlife and can be redeployed in an emergency to other areas where such a facility may be required. The mobile clinic will also be used for training vet students in wildlife care and treatment. MINT representatives will be in contact soon with MIFCO, the Koala Hospital and the Wallaby Refuge for their input into the mobile facility's fit out.

\$6,000 PCF grant success for MINT for additional turtle tanks and repairs!

MINT was also successful in obtaining a grant of \$6,000 for additional turtle holding tanks, pumps and filters for the Horseshoe Bay facility through the Ports Community Fund and received a donation from the Reef HQ Volunteers Association for roofing repairs at the clinic.



MUSEUM OF UNDERWATER ART (MOUA)

Will GBRMPA assess the latest MOUA proposal for Alma Bay?

The Museum of Underwater Art board have published a report on community consultation responses to the Public Information Package (PIP) detailing their

proposal to install underwater sculptures at Geoffrey Bay (favoured out of the six bays considered). In response to comments expressed in the 163 submissions received, MOUA conducted further site assessments and concluded that Alma Bay was the new preferred location for sculpture installation on Magnetic Island. [MOUA's Community Consultation Report can be found here.](#)

MICDA is concerned that MOUA does not appear to intend to do further community consultation on the new site, because the information provided in the PIP and related community responses are not relevant to the new Alma Bay proposal. MICDA has written to GBRMPA requesting that they follow their own GBRMPA Assessment Guidelines when considering this new location.

We have asked GBRMPA to require MOUA to prepare a PIP for the new proposed location, and undertake a comprehensive consultation process so that cultural, social, environmental and economic issues are taken into account in the final decision.

GBRMPA have subsequently advised that they will indeed ask MOUA to undertake a community consultation process for the Alma Bay proposal, although it is unclear if this includes a requirement to prepare a detailed PIP and open consultation period, as was done for the Geoffrey Bay proposal.

If you too would like GBRMPA to require a proper analysis of the new site and opportunity for community consultation, please email the CEO of GBRMPA Mr Josh Thomas at: josh.thomas@gbrmpa.gov.au

Photo courtesy of [MINCA](#).

Townsville Port Update

The Port of Townsville are close to finalising a plan to potentially move the Maintenance Dredging placement site away from its current location which impacts on our Island. Once the Plan is ready, it will come out for wider public consultation and comment. This could be a good move but let's wait for the detail.



WALLABY REFUGE

Thank you Steve Melvin

Over the years Steve Melvin has not only helped Darrie at the Wallaby Refuge in rescues, but also climbed into various precarious places to rescue and save wildlife. Finding this little fellow without a mum, Steve rushed him to the Refuge.

He is the last of many wallaby joeys brought to Darrie over the years from this very special man whom we will miss after he moves from the Island. So Darrie has named this special little boy 'Stevie' in honour of Steve, and as a way of wishing Steve well in his future journeys.

For more information about the Wallaby Refuge or to donate your time or resources, please contact Darrie at: darrielisle@gmail.com

MIFCO Update

MIFCO are in the process of becoming an Incorporated Association in the next few months. We'll keep you up to date with the news.



YUNBENUN-MAGNETIC ISLAND NATIONAL PARK VOLUNTEERS

Fields of weeds are a big challenge for our volunteers

In the last three months we have weeded across various locations:

- Endeavour Creek
- Fort's Estate
- Nelly Bay Vine Thicket
- Florence Bay

The successive rain events this year have caused the germination of an enormous amount of weed, keeping us very busy. Areas such as Endeavour Creek are showing great recovery of natural bush, picture below of *Hypoestes floribunda* in abundance and another of pulled weeds.

Florence Bay continues to produce 'fields' of periwinkle – challenging us to double our efforts. We are looking forward to the next few months and continuing to promote a healthy natural environment on the Island.

We very much welcome new members and who can be assured of a most enjoyable morning weeding with the group. **If you'd like to join please contact Carolyn Dixon at dixonbailey@icloud.com or on 4774 1414.**

Download the **FREE** [Magnetic Island Weeds Guide](#)



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Would you like to join our Community Garden group?

The allocation of land for a community garden is being discussed with Townsville City Council. **If you are interested in learning more about the Magnetic Island Community Garden concept and/or being involved in the group, please contact Katrina Goudkamp at: micggroup2021@gmail.com**



FITNESS

School and Community Pool Update

A pool working group, including MICDA members and other community representatives, have been busy collecting signatures from Island residents regarding a proposal to re-establish community access to the school pool. To date – the petition has 1354 signatures which is an incredible indication of support! A meeting has been scheduled with Townsville City Council to present the petition and

discuss the proposal including options for funding. **For more information on this project contact Libby Evans-Illidge at: libbyevansillidge@gmail.com**

[Remember to like our 'MICDA Group' Facebook page](#) to stay up to date with the latest news between our quarterly newsletters!

What's happening on Maggie?

Join the **FREE weekly eReminder** or visit the daily calendar at whatsonmagneticisland.com.au and have all of Maggie's events, live music, community meetings and more, in one place!

Can you help?

If you have some time extra time on your hands and you'd like to be part of MICDA in any way, please contact Les Sampson at micda.president@gmail.com



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