



Magnetic Island
Community Development
Association



The Latest MICDA Working Groups News February 2023

Hi <<First Name>>,

Welcome to the latest news from our dedicated MICDA volunteer Working Groups.

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

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- Membership - Are you due to renew?

DIARY DATES:

- **Thursday 23rd February:** Maggie On Tap Island Pub Talks - Our History With The Reef
- **Saturday 5th March:** Nelly Bay Beach Clean Up
- **Saturday 11th March:** Muso's Night


Here's to a prosperous year ahead for 2023, and congratulations to all of our hard working

teams. Happy reading!

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



Maggie on Tap
Island Pub Talks

Our History with the Reef




Lent for copying by Nick Shalton
MHCC Magnetic Museum

An insight into the history of Yunbenun, it's reefs and the way people think about them. Presented by Rohan Lloyd

Thursday 23 February
Arcadia Village Hotel, Arcadia

SEALINK Starts at 6.30pm - It's Maggie on Tap!



MAGGIE ON TAP - ISLAND PUB TALKS

Our History With The Reef - Thursday 23rd February

Great news Maggie on Tap is back with an exciting new series of Island Pub Talks for 2023! To kick off, join Townsville historian Rohan Lloyd as he shares his research on people's interactions with the Great Barrier Reef over time, and learn all about our reef's fascinating and intertwining human story.

Next Maggie on Tap: 'Our History With The Reef'

Thursday 23rd February at Arcadia Village Hotel - starting at 6.30pm.

If you have not yet joined a Maggie On Tap Island Pub Talk, come along on the last Thursday of the month and hear from local scientists and professionals about fascinating Island topics on our precious ecosystems and marine life. We have a different venue each month, so check out our Facebook page for details at: [Our World Heritage Island](#)



Nelly Bay Beach Clean Up - Saturday 5th March

It's a Beach Clean Up in Nelly Bay! As part of the Clean Up Australia weekend, Nomads (formerly Base Backpackers) are holding a beach clean up on Saturday 4 March. It's a great opportunity for locals to get hands on with the team from [Tangaroa Blue](#) and help sort and weigh rubbish and microplastics. Join in at Nomads from 8.30am for a feel good day on Nelly Bay.

For more information on any of these events, follow our [Our World Heritage Island Facebook page](#).

NEW 'What's On Magnetic Island' Facebook page!

We have created a new [What's On Magnetic Island Facebook page](#), after the previous one was hacked late last year. Stay up to date with events, meetings workshops and music and more, by liking our [new page](#)!

MICDA WORKING GROUPS UPDATE



INVASIVE WEEDS PETITION

Protect World Heritage Magnetic Island from invasive weeds
Petition closing date Monday 5th June 2023

Christine Finlay has submitted a petition to Townsville City Council:

"To list poisonous invasive weeds such as leucaena and yellow oleander as prohibited invasive weeds and impose penalties if intentionally grown on Magnetic Island."

If you would like to sign the petition, visit: [epetitions.townsville.qld.gov.au/petition/view/pid/44](https://petitions.townsville.qld.gov.au/petition/view/pid/44)



OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

You're invited to be part of our sustainable future

The [Magnetic Island \(Yunbenun\) Community Sustainable Development Plan](#) (MICSDP) is moving ahead with our community-led Working Groups focusing on solutions to decarbonisation, managing climate risks, improving climate resilience and sustainable development.

The Groups are working with relevant stakeholders, such as Townsville Council, QPWS, local scientists and professionals, as well as community organisations such as MINCA, MIRRA and MINT.

"We aim to make Yunbenun the leading sustainable island community in the world!", said Aniko Papp the MICSDP coordinator (*pictured*).

To recap, there are [11 Working Groups](#) in total which are: Business, Ecosystems Monitoring, Energy (Totally Renewable Magnetic) Health, Sustainable Planning, Sustainable Tourism, Traditional Owners, Transport, Water, World Heritage Values, and Waste (which includes Zero Waste).

You're invited to be part of our sustainable future.

We'd love to have your input into our sustainable future. The Working Groups meet once a month, and any contribution, both large and small, is appreciated.

For more information contact Aniko Papp Coordinator - Magnetic Island Community Sustainable Development Plan on **0400 305 714**, email misdpc.coord@gmail.com or visit [Magnetic Island \(Yunbenun\) Community Sustainable Development Plan](#)



REEF ASSIST PROJECT

Reef Assistance is full steam ahead for 2023

2021 and 2022 of Reef Assist have been incredibly rewarding and the team has grown in skills and knowledge. Using [syntropic principles](#) (Regenerative Agroforestry), sections of land have been transformed back to native sites, where the soil has been reinvigorated with the addition of [Humisoil](#) and Activa8 a liquid fertiliser **made from Magnetic Island food waste**.

Areas of re-vegetation have been maintained and have grown well, self-seeding a new generation of native plants and starting to restore the canopy. Over the wet season these areas have proved they can assist with erosion control. Although non-native weeds still regrow in these areas, the balance is slowly moving in favour of the natives. Further maintenance of these areas will be required to continue the native plants on-going survival and self-propagation.

Two more years of funding secured from TCC

It is with great excitement that MICDA recently signed a new agreement in partnership with the Townsville City Council for a further two years of funding, so that Reef Assist can work

on new areas on our Island! We also watched TCC complete the Native Nursery for growing plants for the Reef Assist program at the Horseshoe Bay School. So it's full steam ahead into 2023!

For more information on the Reef Assist Project, please visit micda.com.au/reef-assist

Photo: New cage for growing and protecting Reef Assist seedlings



ENERGY

Solar Grant Program - goals and strategies for our future

Approximately 60 islanders attended the very successful community launch of Totally Renewable Magnetic (TRM) at Amaroo on 26 November 2022, where TRM explained its goals and strategies for the future.

TRM alerted a number of Island community groups about the Queensland Government's Community Solar Grant Program, and with the help of TCC, assisted The Men's Shed to apply for their proposed premises at Picnic Bay.

TRM also consulted with a number of Island residents and businesses to assist them to understand the benefits and process for obtaining quotes to instal solar panels.

For more information or to join TRM, contact Joe Niven at: joseph.niven@gmail.com
or call Joe on 0414 285 214



“Alone, we can do so little;
together, we can do so much!”

- Helen Keller

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Choosing the best place to put down our roots

Meetings with council have been positive, with general support for our proposal to develop a site at Nelly Bay. Due to the complexity of the site, Council have suggested additional sites around the Island which might be easier to get up and running initially.

Our plan at this stage is to begin with one of these sites while continuing to work with Council on gaining access to the larger site in Nelly Bay.

We looked at one suggested site in Horseshoe Bay and have talked through a draft plan. Once we have more detail we will begin a community information campaign. We are also preparing to develop a logo for our garden and plan to work with the community to ensure we come up with a unique and community supported image.

The Magnetic Island Community Garden committee has expanded to include the following people:

Katrina Goudencamp - Coordinator

Brian Everingham - Council liaison

Gay McCosker - MICDA liaison

Susan Zann - Fundraising and grants

Georgina Haworth - Treasurer

Colleen Mandris - Minutes secretary

For more information contact Katrina Goudkamp at: micggroup2021@gmail.com



WALLABY REFUGE

Capping your paling fence can save lives

In early February this little Allied rock wallaby was found hanging from a paling fence. Brought into care at the [Wallaby Refuge](#), we determined that there was extensive damage to it's leg. We were also aware of the various effects of this entrapment and are treating for the serious effects of the condition 'capture myopathy'.

We bring this case to light and ask residents to please consider capping their paling fences. Unfortunately this is not the first case like this, and hopefully this message will help prevent more in the future.

Along with our orphaned joeys we also have two injured wallabies in care at the moment. Darrie has had feedback from Islanders with an interest to learn new ideas on how we can live with our wildlife's safety in mind.

Living Safely with Wildlife - Brochure

We have now started work to produce a 'Living Safely with Wildlife' brochure, similar to our 'Proper Feeding of Rock Wallabies' brochure. We will keep you posted when it is finalised.

New website!

The Wallaby Refuge would like to announce their new website at:

wallabyrefugemagneticisland.com We invite everyone to visit it and see our set-up, some of our patients over the years, and our community activities.

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



PLAYGROUP

Come and join our fun family!

Magnetic Island Playgroup finished last year with a lovely Christmas celebration, including a visit from Santa who was travelling in our very own Rural Fire Brigade truck! It was a fantastic afternoon with plenty of food and laughs.

Our weekly meetings are a great opportunity for families to meet and play in a relaxed and safe environment. **We will continue to meet at the Uniting Church in Nelly Bay, Mondays from 9:30am - 11:30am** this year. New members are always welcome and visitors too! It was wonderful to connect with so many different families around the island, and we are looking forward to another enjoyable year with our kids!

For more information contact Rosalie Tennent, Playgroup Coordinator at: rosalietennent@gmail.com



ECOSYSTEMS MONITORING

Mangrove Monitoring

Our World Heritage Island Community Action Plan projects are developing into 2023 with new citizen science activities and events for our community. One of these is the Mangrove Monitoring project which is being continued by a dedicated group of locals to help monitor our beautiful mangrove systems in Picnic, Geoffrey and Horseshoe Bays.

To help protect our Island mangroves and record valuable baseline data, new surveys are underway for 2023, and are being supported by [MangroveWatch](#).

If you're interested in learning how to help monitor our mangroves, contact Jo Marks at ecosystemsMI@outlook.com and/or follow our [Our World Heritage Island Facebook page](#).

Photo courtesy of MangroveWatch.



MINT

A quiet season for turtle nesting

Turtle nesting season has been quiet this year, with only three known nests (one in Geoffrey Bay and two in Nelly). This year the nests have been from our Australian Flatback turtles.

Responding to sea turtle strandings is another key area of MINT business. MINT has trained volunteers on the Island and is supporting volunteers in Townsville to respond to sea turtle strandings. This important work allows us to collect valuable data for conservation and to help understand the impacts on sea turtles in our region.

The MINT clinic currently has no patients, which allows us time to upgrade our systems with some much needed new equipment provided by a grant from the Port of Townsville.

Mobile emergency facility coming soon!

Despite rising costs, our mobile medical facility is progressing well funded by a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. We will be taking possession of it in the coming weeks. This facility will provide a much-needed workspace for treatment of the Island's wildlife in need of emergency care.



MUSOS

Local and live music - all welcome

Everyone is welcome, and we love first timers! So why not come along, bring your own everything (seats, drinks, nibbles, instruments and dancing shoes), and Musos will supply the PA including a drum kit.

Gigs are at the Men's Shed outdoor stage from 7-10pm, on the second Saturday of each month. If you'd like to play, speak to President fREEk on arrival, or phone beforehand on 0401 080 434.

Saturday 11th March will be our next Muso's Night. [Like Magnetic Island Musos' Club on Facebook](#) to keep up to date with our activities.

MARKETS

[The Magnetic Island Markets](#) return to Horseshoe Bay on Sunday 26th March 2023.



YUNBENUN-MAGNETIC ISLAND NATIONAL PARK VOLUNTEERS

Come and join our weeders when they return in March

With our volunteers having a well deserved break over the wet season, the first session for 2023 will be in March. We welcome new members who can be assured of an 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](#)

Is your membership up to date?

It's easy. Go to micda.com.au/become-a-member, fill in your details and then pay online.



MEMBERSHIP

Are your friends receiving our Newsletter?

Some members may be missing out on receiving this newsletter. If you're chatting with them over a coffee, just ask them if they're up with the news. If they aren't they can register their details:

Online at micda.com.au/become-a-member or,

Email our Membership Officer at micda.info@gmail.com or,

Simply forward them this newsletter and they can use the above links.

Where can you find the latest news for MICDA?

Like our 'MICDA Group' Facebook page to stay up to date with the latest MICDA news between our quarterly newsletters!

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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