

May 2008

Mountain News

Community news from Mt Nebo and Mt Glorious
<http://gloriousnebo.org.au/MTN/>

Now with active links!



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Health Fund Rebates - ATMS Member

Letters

Dear Mountain News Committee Members,

I have felt that the underlying premise of the Mountain News becoming "Green" (i.e. environmentally sustainable, online newspaper) has merits in theory. However, it is my strong preference that the MN continue in its current format of being printed and distributed in PO Boxes. My belief is that it limits access to those without the resources to access on-line or to print copies. I expect that a lot of people may be at risk of not reading the content, including young people and the many busy people who, like myself, enjoy reading the MN whilst relaxing, or cooking dinner at home and away from the computer. I guess the MN is less "environmentally sustainable" if we all have to print it anyway. I also wonder if this means that exposure for advertisers is lessened as a consequence. It is my wish that this decision be reconsidered. I wonder if others feels the same?

Regards

Sue Marshall

On days like this, in spectacular Autumnal radiance I awaken to remember the privilege of taking shelter within this beautiful forest.

I humbly wish to thank Maggie Scattini for her incredible dedication and back-breaking efforts to preserve the integrity of the nature of this microcosm. Thank you to Terry Bradford, to all the rural bushfire brigadiers, thank you to the MEPA members who make their crucial contributions, thank you to Vic Calthorpe & Matt Tilling for their part in the care-taking of this landscape, thank you to every member of the community who bends down and picks up the discarded bottles and hamburger packaging left on the roads. Thanks Venus and Roma for enriching our children's education about environment.

I wholeheartedly support the Mtn News committee's decision to implement positive change in how we access our local news, in order to preserve the lifespan of trees and their inhabitants. Thanks to all the members of the community who have taken the time to encourage, question, challenge and ultimately support the decision towards championing a greener breath of fresh air. Thank you for every creative, social, collaborative and private effort from our community to initiate, care and preserve this haven in the changing face of an uncertain future.

TR

Please include the associated article, *Forestry's Climate Change Contribution Visible For All To See And Breathe*

REMEMBER IN CASE OF FIRE:

Telephone **000**

then **Terry Bradford: 3289 8181** or
Bob Snowdon: 3289 0150

Forestry's Climate Change Contribution Visible For All To See And Breathe

Posted April 22nd, 2008

TASSIE BURNS

A weekend of statewide smoke haze from annual forestry burn-offs has left a sour taste in the mouths of many Tasmanians and continued the logging industry's massive contribution to annual greenhouse gas emissions.

Claims by the logging industry that the burns 'mimic nature' and are a necessary part of the regeneration of forests ignores scientific evidence and snubs the overwhelming community desire to see an end to the logging of oldgrowth and high conservation-value forests.

"Many of the areas the industry is currently burning are so precious that they should not have been logged at all," said Vica Bayley, spokesperson for The Wilderness Society. "They were once habitat for endangered animals, an important protector of domestic water catchments, and massive stores of carbon, collected from the atmosphere over centuries and safely stored by the intact forest."

Industry claims that clearfelling and burning of native forest mimics nature directly contradict scientific evidence. A 2003 study looked at the carbon stored in forest soils and analysed the carbon loss after a natural bushfire event and the loss after logging and burning.

Dean, C., Mackey, B.G., and Roxburgh, S.H. (2003), Growth Modelling of Eucalyptus regnans for carbon accounting at the landscape scale, In: Amaro, A., Reed, D., Soares, P. (eds.), Modelling Forest systems, CABI Publishing, Wallingford, U.K

The results are below.

Forest status: Soil carbon stored

Unlogged: 670 tonnes per ha

Natural stand fire: 654 tonnes per ha (16 tonnes or 2.4% lost)

Harvested: 97 tonnes per ha (573 tonnes or 85% lost)

"Nature doesn't clearfell an area, leave it to dry out for a summer and then artificially ignite it to create a high intensity burn," continued Mr Bayley.

"Forestry Tasmania's own figures show that over 13 years to 2020, logging will release at least 26% of the carbon stored in the commercial forests they manage—that's 13 million tonnes from state forests. Only when they reduce logging will the carbon balance begin to recover."

"Protecting forests is the quickest, cheapest and easiest way to begin the fight against climate change," concluded Mr Bayley.

<http://sydney.indymedia.org.au/>

Weed 'em out and whip 'em in

Part 6 - in a series of MEPA's (Mt Glorious/Mt Nebo Environment Protection Association) monthly profile of a problem weed — with details about a native plant or two that could replace it in the same habitat.

The D'Aguilar Range is a beautiful natural region, and is a very important reservoir of a particular type of biodiversity: subtropical rainforests and wet and dry eucalypt forests—as well as many other different types of vegetation. But there are certain well-recognised threats to the area, and one is invasion by weeds. Happily, this community is already making very active efforts to 'weed 'em out'! Please see what you can achieve in your backyard and nearby street frontage.

Problem weed: *Senna pendula* var. *glabra* – Easter Cassia
['Senna' comes from New Latin and from Arabic 'sana', meaning 'mountaintop'; 'pendula' means 'drooping' as in 'pendulous'. The varietal name 'glabra' means 'having no hairs, smooth'.] The common name comes from its Easter flowering time.

Easter Cassia is a large shrub with compound leaves that are identified by their very thin yellow margins. The yellow flowers are vivid and showy, and seen from a distance as a beautiful yellow mass. The species comes from South America and has escaped from gardens to be a rapidly spreading weed in areas such as the D'Aguilar Range.

To control Easter Cassia, cut it at the base and dab with glyphosate (undiluted or diluted as 50% glyphosate to 50% water). Take care with herbicides in terms of human health and minimal damage to the surrounding environment.

Desirable native (for Mt Nebo and drier areas): *Acacia fimbriata* – Brisbane wattle, fringed wattle

['Acacia' is derived from Greek 'Akakia' which is the name of a thorny Egyptian tree. This in turn came from 'ake' – 'point, thorn' which seems to come from a Proto-Indo-European base of 'ak' meaning 'sharp' (as in 'acid'). 'fimbriata' means 'fringed'.]

Many people feel they should dislike Acacias, but these trees do provide food for native animals (sap for sugar gliders and grubs for black cockatoos). *Acacia fimbriata* is a beautiful small tree to about 6 m.

Desirable native (for wetter, higher altitude areas): *Acacia irrorata* – Green wattle ['irrorata' comes from Latin 'irroratus' and means 'bedewed', referring to pale spots].

Acacia irrorata occurs throughout SE Qld and through to central NSW. It is rare in Victoria and probably introduced in Tasmania. It was noted at a regeneration site at Draper, near the South Pine River, as the fastest growing of the natives there

For further information, call MEPA: 3289-0093

Sarah Lowe

Qld Art Gallery

Due to the massive amount of work involved in producing a major art exhibition, it is rare for an art gallery to hold back to back blockbuster exhibitions, but this is what the Queensland Art Gallery are about to pull off. With the closure of the Warhol exhibition (attendance numbers now verified as 232,389, setting a new record for GoMA) there is not time for staff to rest on their laurels as it is full steam ahead with the up and coming Picasso exhibition. Unfortunately this does mean that for a short time visitors will notice that some of the gallery spaces are closed to the public.

A new installation by New Zealand artist Michael Parekowhai has been placed on display on level three of GoMA for a short time. 'The Horn of Africa' seems at first glance to be a very real example of the meeting of art and engineering. Made of wood, fiberglass, steel and brass, the installation is in essence a full size grand piano being balanced on the nose of a seal. The work's title refers to an area of land where it is thought that man may have originated. Parekowhai has previously used the grand piano in his art work and perhaps some visitors recall seeing displayed in the QAG building, a beautiful mother of pearl inlaid grand piano covered with glossy black lilies.

This artist's work often refers to the intertwining of Pakeha and Maori histories which make up contemporary New Zealand. The installation also more obliquely resembles the cartography of New Zealand, the South Island being represented by the seal which prefers to live in wild uninhabited places, and the North Island being represented by the piano which can be translated as a symbol of human culture and sophistication. The juxtaposition of the two disparate objects addresses the precariousness of nationhood.

Also to be shown upstairs in GoMA from 10th May will a comprehensive retrospective exhibition of work by internationally acclaimed artist Gordon Bennett. This is a National Gallery of Victoria Touring Exhibition.

Until 9th June the QAG building is hosting a delightful exhibition of Chinese art entitled "Mountains and Streams". The amazing landscape of China is depicted on ancient scrolls and ceramics. Living surrounded by mountains as we do, it is not difficult to appreciate the mystical nature of these carefully detailed works of art which create a link between ourselves and scholars from the 14th century. A curator's talk will take place in the lecture theatre on 3rd May at 2.30pm. No booking is required for this free lecture.

Till next month, keep painting printing and pottering about,

Janette Bailey



Memories are forever, why not keep a snapshot of those special people in your life?

Whether you are looking for a nice posed family photo, a natural photo of the yourself or the kids in the great outdoors or even a portrait of your favourite pet, I am happy to oblige.

All photo's include your choice of location (within the mountain), CD of images and delivery/postage.

Call 3289 8136 for a Quote or email me at jmbradford@bigpond.com



Hoon Line

If you see hoons or other dangerous road users call the police (The Gap 3511 0077, Ferny Grove 3851 4499 or). If it's possible and safe, get a description of the vehicle and number plates. If they have resources available at the time, police should respond.

Bob Millar
Councillor - Division 1
Pine Rivers Shire Council



Working with the Community

Council Services: **3480 6666** Fax: **3205 7305**
Mobile: 0409 890 203 AVH: 3289 5560
Email: bob.millar@pinerivers.qld.gov.au
Website: www.pinerivers.qld.gov.au
PO Box 5070, Strathpine Qld 4500



The Wilson Report

Mt Glorious Road

I am continuing to liaise with the Department of Main Roads and Mt Glorious Residents regarding safety works along Mt Glorious Road. This is an important undertaking and I am committed to achieving the best outcome for residents who are concerned about the environment, while not compromising on road safety.

Western Bypass Didn't Stack Up

Over many years I have said that those who want a Western Bypass through the Ferny Grove and Samford areas have to prove their case. The Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation's (WBTNI) study was undertaken in two stages, with the first stage investigating whether the evidence showed a need for a major bypass across Western Brisbane. Following that, stage two would have begun to look at possible locations. The study undertook to answer these questions in light of financial and engineering issues, taking account of environmental and social impacts. Stage one of the investigation has shown us that the case for a major western bypass of Brisbane does not stack up. The study indicated that traffic volumes would be too small to make a bypass viable. The WBTNI has shown that there are other potentially feasible options available and the study will continue to examine those alternatives. The State Government is looking at a range of projects including new tunnels, new public transport options and new roads on preserved corridors in the long term. This will mean that over time there will essentially be a ring road system - most of it underground - that will help keep vehicles out of the inner suburbs. It will also mean better public transport options and better connections for pedestrians and cyclists. For more information about the Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation, visit www.wbtni.net.au

New Mines & Energy Telephone Hotline

As Minister for Mines & Energy, I recently announced the establishment of a new free call telephone hotline to take inquiries about electricity, gas and mining matters. Callers can simply dial 1800 657 567 and an operator will be able to help them with their inquiry.

With just one phone call, callers will be able to get the right response from the right person without being transferred between departments. It's streamlined and it's free.

Working with our local community

Geoff WILSON MP



**State Member for
Ferny Grove**

ELECTORATE OFFICE:
Nepean Centre
Unit 3/6 Nepean Ave
Arana Hills

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm
Tuesday night by appointment

Tel: 3851 1570 Fax: 3851 1261
Email: fernyn.grove@parliament.qld.gov.au

Out & About in the Electorate

I recently joined with the Samford Bowls Club as they celebrated their 60th anniversary. This is a great achievement for the Club and I congratulated them on their many years providing recreation to our community. I also had the opportunity to meet some of our electorate's most inspiring young people, when I presented awards at the Golden Valley/Keperra Lions Club's Children of Courage Awards Ceremony. It was a great opportunity to affirm the achievements of these children and I congratulated each of them on their accomplishments.

Out & About in Queensland

On March 28, along with my colleague the Minister for Education and Training and the Member for Everton, Rod Welford, I launched the State Government's \$300,000 EnergyWise Schools project at Albany Creek State High School. It includes teacher training and resources for schools to develop energy action plans, and appliance meters will show students how to audit their own classrooms to find out how much energy their computers and other appliances are using. Schools can then develop an action plan to save energy and save money.

The following evening, Saturday March 29, I represented the Premier at a function at Kangaroo Point cliffs to mark Queensland's participation in Australia's Earth Hour. Residents would be no doubt aware of Earth Hour, and I would like to congratulate all those who switched off their lights. Climate change and saving the environment are very big challenges that we must face together.

In closing, I welcome people contacting me with their views, as well as seeking information or help with any State Government matter. Telephone me on 3851 1570, fax me on 3851 1261, email me on fernyn.grove@parliament.qld.gov.au, or check out my website, <http://geoffwilsonmp.com>. My Electorate Office is at 3/6 Nepean Avenue, Arana Hills - next to the Caltex Service Station (office hours 9:00 am to 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm to 5:00 pm week days).

FORESTRY ROAD YOGA - Mt NEBO

Beginning, Re-visiting & Practising

Monday - 6.30 pm - General session

Tuesday - 9.30 am - Yoga/Pilates

6.30 pm - Beginning session

Wednesday - 6.30 pm - General session

Thursday - 8.00 am - Beginning/revisiting
(Third age: 65+ years)

Thursday - 6.30 pm - Restorative session
(all ages/levels)

201 FORESTRY ROAD, MT NEBO.

Call Helen: 3289 8018

D'Aguilar Range National Park News

New volunteer group fights weeds

After two years of independent community action against weeds, a small but determined group of Mount Nebo residents — Jenny Leask, Helen King, Paul Devereaux and Dan Kilman of Forestry Road — have officially been inducted as Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) volunteers. Being inducted, the group will now benefit from EPA resources, allowing them to be better equipped and supported.

The group meets on the third Sunday of every month to fight weeds along Double Break just below Forestry Road and has achieved extraordinary results. Native regrowth in the area has flourished — a huge thanks to Jenny, Helen, Paul and Dan!

If you are interested in joining the Forestry Road volunteer group or any other 'weed work' in the park, please phone EPA Ranger Matthew Wiseman on 3289 2644.

Good conditions for weed control

Moist soil conditions over recent months have provided a great opportunity to effectively combat weeds on roadsides and other invaded areas in the park. These conditions enable rangers and volunteers to wipe out extensive weed infestations with minimal spraying.

Track improvements at Greene's Falls

Recent months of storms and heavy rain have kept rangers hard at work with track repairs and maintenance right across the range. On Saturday 23 February, a crew of 10 EPA volunteers and rangers focused efforts along the Greene's Falls track to treat the boardwalk and look-out platforms and improve drainage. Work included resurfacing the first 50m with road base, installing new rock drains at the track entrance and repairing existing drainage along the track.

Massive water saving at Brisbane Forest Park

Eight massive rainwater tanks, with a total capacity of more than 300,000 litres, have recently been installed at the Brisbane Forest Park (BFP) Information Centre. Supplying water for Walkabout Creek Wildlife Centre, staff offices and public facilities, this rainwater system is one of the largest of its kind in Queensland.

The Information Centre's water savings have been further enhanced by the installation of waterless toilets, flow restrictors and grey-water irrigation. Thanks to both of these initiatives, the Information Centre will reduce its town water use by over 60%. This is a significant saving given the large amount of water required to support the wildlife centre's aquariums and life-support systems. Maintaining the aquariums alone requires 5000 litres of fresh water every week, a supply that will now be entirely maintained by rainwater. The system will also provide critical water storage for fire and other park operations on the D'Aguilar Range.

These initiatives at BFP meet the sustainability goals of the EPA and set a trend for visitor centres and day-use areas across the State. Stay tuned for more sustainability news as the BFP Information Centre goes solar.

Rapt in reptiles and free guided walk

The autumn Go Bush program is well underway, with a range of exciting activities to suit all interests. Bring the whole family to the Creature feature – rapt in reptiles at the BFP Information Centre on Saturday 10 May where a ranger will introduce you to a variety of turtles, lizards and snakes. Adults looking to learn more about local history, flora and fauna should tag along for the free volunteer led Enoggera Reservoir guided walk on Sunday 25 May.

Download the autumn Go Bush program online at: http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests. Make a booking or join our Go Bush email list by phoning 1300 723 684.

Michael Siebuhr, Senior Ranger, EPA.

For more information about any of the topics in this column, please contact the EPA Brisbane Forest Park office on ph. 1300 723 684.





School News

ENROLMENTS OPEN FOR PREP IN 2009

Enrolments are now open for children entering Prep in 2009. If your child turns five by 30 June next year then they can enrol in Prep. Prep is the first year of school. It develops children's independence and gives them the very best start to school by better preparing them for the transition into Year 1.

Children attending Prep at Mount Nebo State School will do lots of fun things to help them learn. They will play, draw, paint, build with blocks and story tell. Prep is five days a week and not compulsory. For further information or to enrol your child in Prep contact the school.

NATIONAL TESTING

For the first time in 2008, Queensland Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will take part in the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The program will run over three days, from 13-15 May. A series of tests will assess the areas of language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation); writing; reading; and numeracy (including number, measurement, chance and data, space, working mathematically, algebra function and pattern). Results from the tests will provide important information about children's progress in literacy and numeracy. Following the tests, schools and students will receive a statement of performance in relation to the national benchmarks.

EDUCATION WEEK

State Education Week 2008 will be held from Monday 26 to Friday 30 May. The week-long celebrations are held each year in schools across Queensland and provide an opportunity for Queenslanders to recognise the talent and achievements of students and teachers in state schools. Students and parents can nominate their Favourite Teacher by clicking on <http://education.qld.gov.au/community/events/edweek/favteacher/> Another wonderful initiative is Principal for a Day. I will be handing over the reigns on Friday 30 May to a very special guest. More details will be in the next MTN.

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM

Our school community has recently commenced Chaplaincy Program. Funding was made available for three years as a result of a successful Federal Government Grant in 2007. This program is endorsed by the P&C Association and is available, on a voluntary basis to all students. There are various models of Chaplaincy services. The model chosen by our community is a mentoring model - providing student mentoring and allowing a Chaplain to be an additional adult role model in our school.

Mrs Cookson have already proven to be an invaluable member of our team and I look forward to our students and school community benefiting from her skills and this wonderful Federal Government initiative.

Cheers

Mr Kerry Lofgren

Principal Mount Nebo State School

Ph: (07) 3289 8162

Fax: (07) 3289 8318

Email: klofg1@eq.edu.au

ROAD RAVES

The Mountain Traffic Consultation Group meets around once a month to talk traffic. We offer a forum for Mountain folk to air issues about traffic and the roads. We can pass these issues on to authorities. We usually work quietly on a range of biggish and smaller things. For instance, we worked for a long period to get the Nebo village speed down to 50km. We recently raised concerns about pot holes at Macafies, which have now been fixed. We're currently talking to BCC about clear signage from Waterworks Road to Samford via Settlement Road so that people wanting to go to Samford don't go via Nebo. A big truck did this quite a while ago and got stuck on the windy road, trying to turn back, and went over the edge.

We're very concerned at the number of accidents at the bends near the Goat Track turn-off. There were four in March. Some locals have contacted us about their serious concerns and suggesting the 50km limit be pushed further back. Our group supports this. While it may not solve everything, every bit helps.

We encourage people with any traffic issues to also contact Council or police directly as the more mail or phone calls the authorities get the more likely they are to respond. We're all very busy and it's great to have the support to help make the roads safer. Next meeting of is 9.30am Saturday 3 May at Boombana Cafe.

All welcome. Contact Rob Lachowicz (3289 8250) or Ann Bateson (32893939) for info.



- 1st. Wednesday of the month - Mt Nebo Residents' Association meeting at the Hall. 7:30pm
- 2nd. Monday of the month - Mt Nebo P&C Assoc meeting at 7pm ASC Bldg. (No meetings in School Holidays)
- Every Wednesday - Playgroup every Wednesday, 10am noon at Mt Nebo Hall, \$2 per family, babies, toddlers, preschoolers welcome, please bring a plate to share.
- 2nd Saturday of the month - Working Bee at the Community Hall 10 am - 12 midday. Please come along and help maintain the hall & gardens - jobs for everyone to help with.

All Areas

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The Mountainfolk Bulletin Board...

It just keeps growing! Will it *burst*?

Join us to find out...it's all free and provides instant communication with locals. If you want to chat about anything or just lurk - reading what everyone else is saying.....then what are you waiting for? *Join up!*

email us at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mountainfolk>

(Say hello and tell us who you are in your email)



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Samford Central Shopping Centre 07 32891888

Classifieds

FREE - KINESIOLOGY - A natural healing therapy. I am a new Mt Nebo resident; studying this therapy. I am offering free 1 -2 hour 'balances' until I gain my qualifications. The balances can assist with emotional stress, physical aches and pains, poor posture and learning difficulties. Please call Simon on **0417 960 090** to arrange a time - usually weekday evenings or weekends.

SHARE ACCOMMODATION - Mt Nebo Village - Rooms to let in large, modern, comfortable, quiet house. Share facilities. Please call Simon to discuss and view on **3135 8505** or **0417 960 090**

FOR SALE - 3 dr Kelvinator frost free Fridge - \$270, Elliot trap - \$10, 2 tables - \$15ea, CD holder, holds 400 CD's - \$25, L.G. Stereo FFH886, 3 CD changer + tape deck & mic in - \$150, books, shoes, clothes. Please call Kerry on **3289 8368** or **0408 194 450**

REMEDIAL MASSAGE & release for chronic pain, and associated stress. 25 years experience, last seven years in Samford Valley, and now here in Mt. Glorious. Available weekdays, and evenings. Mobile massage also available, on request. Ph. Anne **0412 099 091**

PAINTING CLASSES - Beginner's watercolour classes by artist Janette Bailey. Easy, fun, creative. For more information please call Janette on **3289 8251**

a3 full colour posters \$1.10

a4 colour prints \$0.55

cheap flyers and postcards too!

bargainprint@hotmail.com nathan 0405817482

Submission details

Di Clark - 3289 8309

Steve Reinthal - mountain_news@yahoo.com.au

Please submit all articles by the 20th of the month to the Mt News Box located at the Post Office at Mt Nebo or e-mail, by the 23rd of the month to mountain_news@yahoo.com.au. Please supply your e-mail article with MTN in the Subject . Put articles in the body of the e-mail, as attachments can be messy. Pictures should be in JPEG or TIFF format, with a minimum resolution of 300dpi, copy in TEXT. *Please* don't send us MSWord ".doc" attachments or even worse, fancy schmancy things done in MSPublisher. How did that software ever get allowed out?? We really mean this bit. We *hate* Microsoft Word because it should be hated, we want to hate it, and we can, oh look, now you've got us started agin on Microsoft! PLEASE just don't do it, but you are probably going to totally ignore that request anyway aren't you? Why not? Everyone else does. You aren't actually even reading this are you? We're just muttering to ourselves...The articles in the Mt News reflect the views of the contributing authors and not necessarily those of the Mt News Committee (except the bit about hating MS Word). If you are actually reading this, you're actually the third person to ever do so, or else your the 1st or 2nd reading it again!! but hey, what's up? Either you need to get a library card or you really *do* care. Thank you. (have you tried knitting?)

We use advertising as a service to the community and as a way to cover costs.

We have two levels of advertising—classified and display. Classifieds are by donation. Display advertising is still charged at the following ridiculously low rates:

1/8 page:	\$15.00 per issue	\$135 per year
1/6 page	\$20.00 per issue	\$180 per year
1/4 page	\$30.00 per issue	\$270 per year
1/2 page	\$60.00 per issue	\$540 per year

Classified ads by donation.

Date: April 23, 2008

Visit CREEC's Sustainable Living expo to pick up tips

A celebrity gardener, up to 100 stalls, entertainment for the kids, and heaps of environmentally aware lifestyle tips promise a great family day out at the Sustainable Living Expo on Saturday, May 17.

The Expo kicks off at 9am at the Caboolture Region Environmental Education Centre (CREEC), at Rowley Road, Burpengary, and activities will run until 3pm.

ABC radio gardening talkback host and Courier Mail columnist Annette McFarlane will speak from 10am about sustainable food production.

Wildlife expert Ric Nattrass will talk about attracting wildlife to backyards and other speakers will cover topics including climate change, and solar powered homes.

Organised by CREEC and the Friends of CREEC, this year's expo, with the theme Sustainability in the Suburbs, is all about showing visitors what they can do to reduce their impact on the environment.

Stalls will feature organic and environmentally friendly products, services and technology. There will be workshops on worm farms, water efficiency in the home, and composting.

Moreton Bay Regional Council will display material on some of the programs council runs to promote sustainability in the region.

A jumping castle, rides on the Ronnie K train, a chance to meet council's waste mascot Busy Lizzy and face painting will help to keep younger visitors entertained during the day.

There will also be guided tours of the 18-hectare site, which contains rainforest along Burpengary Creek.

A food court will provide visitors with some lunch options.

Entry is by gold coin donation.

CREEC is a Moreton Bay Regional Council and community partnership supported by the Friends of CREEC Association.

ENDS

Jenny Napier
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 5420 0332
Fax: 5420 0388

Date: April 14, 2008

Council foots \$1.5 million election bill, supports calls for review

Moreton Bay Regional Council, which will have to foot a bill of more than \$1.5 million for the recent election, will lend its support to calls for a review into the poll's conduct.

The Electoral Commission of Queensland, which the State Government commissioned to conduct the March 15 poll, says the estimated cost for the Moreton Bay Regional Council election was \$1,566,099.

This amount is \$620,000 more than the three merged councils of Caboolture, Pine Rivers and Redcliffe had set aside to cover election costs.

Mayor Allan Sutherland said the unexpectedly high cost of the poll was yet another burden that would ultimately impact ratepayers.

The Local Government Association of Queensland is calling for a review into the conduct of the election and council has agreed to support its bid. If a review is undertaken council will be able to make a submission.

Meanwhile, council will pay for the election over three years, by allocating \$626,440 to be paid this financial year, the same amount for financial year 2009 and \$313,220 to be paid the following financial year.

ENDS

Jenny Napier
Media, Marketing and Communications Unit
Tel: 5420 0332
Fax: 5420 0388